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Date: Jan 01, 1986

Volume No

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BAHRAIN

Indian Experts in Education and Sports to Visit Bahrain

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 09, 1986 on the exchange of experts in the fields of education, sports and archaeology between India and Bahrain:

The Ministry of Human Resource Development have decided to exchange experts in the field of education, sports and archaeology between India and Bahrain.

The cultural exchange programme for 1985-87, signed recently between the two countries in Bahrain, provides for wide ranging exchanges and cooperation in the field of education and sports and allied fields between the two countries.

The programme also provides for exchange of scholars and experts in various fields, including child development and welfare of the disabled. Besides, exchange of books and material on West Asian history and development of scientific knowledge, will take place.

It has also been agreed to extend scholarships to students from Bahrain for studies in Indian universities in order to promote a better understanding of our cultural heritage.

A number of arts and crafts exhibitions, dance and music artists will visit each other's countries. It is also proposed to send Indian experts in archaeological research to study excavated remains found in Bahrain pertaining to the period of 3rd millennium B.C.

Another important feature of the agreement is the exchange of sports teams and training of sports coaches from Bahrain at the National Institute of Sports at Patiala. Besides, exchange of media personnel, radio and T.V. programmes and film festivals between the two countries will take place.

HRAIN INDIA USA

Date: Jan 09, 1986

Volume No

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COMMONWEALTH

8th Conference of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers- Text of Shri Venkataraman's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 06, 1986 of the speech by the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman inaugurating the three-day 8th Conference of the Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers here today (New Delhi, January 6):

Esteemed Prime Minister, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Speakers and Presid-

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ing Officers, distinguished guests and friends, it gives me immense pleasure to inaugurate the eighth conference of the Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers. India had the privilege to host the second conference of Commonwealth Speakers and Presiding Officers in 1970-71. Once again it is our good fortune to hold the conference in our country. Some of the Presiding Officers must have visited India earlier. We are glad to have them with us again. We also welcome those who are visiting India for the first time and I wish all of you a pleasant and fruitful sojourn in our country. It is a matter of great satisfaction for us that we assemble here again in agreement with our long cherished objective of promoting the spirit of unity and cooperation.

In today's world when unity and cooperation are so essential for mankind, our effort to remain together across the six continents and seven seas is a noble assertion of this ideal. In many ways this unity is a gift of history and we not merely preserve it, but we have decided to promote and strengthen it. It is not easy to establish peace and harmony today in a world that is riven with conflicts and strife. And yet the endeavour must go on ceaselessly for the peace and progress of humanity.

Despite the tremendous progress achieved in the field of science and technology, a large majority of people are living without basic necessities of life: food, clothing and shelter. The world stands today divided into developed and developing countries and the chasm between the two is ever widening. It is not beyond human ingenuity to narrow the gap. Only determined endeavour can reduce the gap so that the earth's resources may be shared equitably.

In spite of this great task ahead, one feels sad that a certain dimension of man's work offers an unhappy picture. The very creations of science and technology are posing a danger to life on our planet. More than 50,000 nuclear warheads, capable of destroying mankind from the face of the earth several times over, are stockpiled in the arsenals of the nuclear weapons States. The development of new weapon systems is bound to lead to a further escalation of the nuclear arms race and enhance the chances of the outbreak of a nuclear war. Global military expenditure, which has reached the staggering level of one trillion dollars and is set for a quantum jump if the new weapon systems in the early stages of development are pursued, has pre-empted large amounts of resources required for combating poverty, ignorance and disease in the developing world. This has emerged as a major factor responsible for the structural malfunctioning of the world economy. We have, therefore, to urge upon the nuclear weapon States to make every effort to reach an agreement on substantial reductions in their stockpiles of nuclear warheads. They should declare an immediate moratorium on further testing and development of nuclear weapons. They should reach an understanding which would prevent the extension of the arms race into outer space which is the common heritage of mankind and should be preserved exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Another regrettable feature of our times is the practice by some States of racial discrimination depriving human beings of their legitimate political and social rights. History has shown that the tide of social revolution cannot be stemmed and that: (To quote from an old Ballad).

"Freedom's struggle once begun bequeathed from bleeding Sire to Sun Though baffled oft Is ever won".

HISTORY'S HANDIWORK

The Commonwealth fraternity is history's handiwork. When the ships of the East India Company and of other mercantile expeditions ventured from British shores to distant lands, their goal was trade. But soon they managed to get foothold in the countries visited and turned them into colonies. Thus emerged the British Empire over which the sun would not set. The dismantling of that empire and the rise of a host of sovereign States -2>

in its place is now part of history. Australia and Zimbabwe represent the A to Z of this process. Nations widely different in history, culture and tradition; in size and economic status, stand today knitted together as a brotherhood born out of our colonial past.

Within the Commonwealth there are a great many features in our political systems which make everyone of our countries unique.

But at a fundamental level we are all practitioners of parliamentary democracy. We recognise certain virtues in this form of government which place it above others. While opening the seventh conference of Commonwealth Speakers in Wellington in January, 1984, the Governor-General of New Zealand, the Honourable Sir David Stuart Beattie had said:

"Although democracy perhaps flounders in the search for new patterns and styles, new rules and disciplines, all deductions having been made, it has done less harm and more good than any other form of government". Parliamentary democracy is a system based on popular mandate. It has an in-built mechanism for providing governments that people choose and therefore it provides room for opposition. Hence its merit lies in the fact that decision-making and policy formulations can never escape deliberations and criticism and above all consultation with and accountability to people.

BED-ROCK OF DEMOCRACY

The institution of Parliament works as the bed-rock of democracy. The British left behind two institutions, one Parliament and the other cricket. These two share certain features in common. Both have to be conducted within a framework of rules that are based on fair play. And both are supervised by an unchallenged authority: one by the Presiding Officer and the other by the Umpire. In the House (and on the turf) their presence must be palpable and yet unobtrusive; they must monitor and yet not participate directly; they must judge and try to avoid being judged - at least not adversely. The finality of their decisions constitutes an enormous power but it is equally an onerous responsibility. Both sides, the Opposition as well as the Treasury benches, repose implicit faith in the Presiding Officer's judgment and impartiality. Their affiliations are to the rules of parliamentary procedure and their energies are directed to the unbiassed application of those rules to the proceedings. Presiding Officers are, indeed, the consciencekeepers of parliamentary democracy.

SUBLIME AND BEAUTIFUL

As with all matters of conscience, there is, in the role of the Presiding Officer, an unchanging still-centre. That still-centre requires and, in fact demands of the Presiding Officer, an alertness to the individual rights of members and to the collective sense of the House. Only the Presiding Officer, in his mind, knows how these two factors are to be balanced without detriment to either. In his thus balancing the two, the democratic will of the people finds articulation. This still-centre of the Presiding Officer's role is, I believe, common to all the democracies of the Commonwealth participating in this Conference. Needless to say, local factors called for and led to several variations. But these changes have been inevitable, given

the diversity of the Commonwealth countries. The value and the merit of the democratic system lies in its flexibility to adapt itself to the changing needs and times of each country. Edmund Burke, stated in his work, on the Sublime and Beautiful:

"A state without the means of some change is without the means of its conservation."

Commonwealth countries have, therefore, had to modify the Westminster model, adopt other nostrums, and fashion procedures of their own to suit the genius of their countries and the will of their people.

We feel proud that India is not only the largest democracy but also one of the

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healthiest and most vibrant democracies in the world. Adult franchise has created amongst the people of India, a renewed awareness of their right to shape their destiny. India has retained and worked - the party system. Indian electoral results have demonstrated unmistakably their ability to choose a Government for themselves and also their maturity to call parties and Government to account at the time of each General Election. No person or party can take the Indian electorate for granted nor predict their behaviour. This is a sign of maturity and wisdom.

During the last four decades since Independence, our country has, I may claim with pardonable pride, achieved spectacular progress in several fields like food self-sufficiency, industrial growth, rural development etc. all of them through the democratic process with the advice and consent of Parliament. Much remains to be done and we have faith and confidence that we shall achieve them through the same process as in the past.

DISTINCT PROCEDURE

Today the Commonwealth represents more than a third of the world's population, and the countries it represents occupy about a quarter of the world's surface and contribute a substantial share of the world's wealth. But at the same time, the Commonwealth contains a larger proportion of the under-developed and developing areas than other parts of the world. The progress of each one of us depends to a greater or lesser degree on the cooperation that may be forged between this group of countries.

I understand that you propose to discuss several subjects of relevance and importance to Parliamentary form of Government. For instance, the relative jurisdiction of judiciary and legislature on questions relating to Parliamentary privilege, with particular reference to the use of parliamentary records before courts and tribunals is one of them. Specific issues such as the working of parliamentary committee system and procedural developments and

the declaration and registration of the pecuniary interests of members are to be deliberated upon in the conference.

It is well that you propose to examine the 'Declaration and Registration of Pecuniary Interests of Members.' In several countries of the Commonwealth there is a distinct procedure in the matter of the declaration and registration of Members' pecuniary and personal interests. In India, according to the Rules of the House and Directions from the Chair, an objection can be raised to a Member's right of vote on grounds of personal, pecuniary or direct interest in the House or in a Parliamentary Committee. It is useful to frame a Code of Conduct regarding disclosure of personal or pecuniary interest in a matter arising in Parliament. But it is equally realized that a code must have a sanction and unless the political parties evolve a dependable form of sanctions, mere enunciation of a code of conduct is hardly of much value.

DYNAMIC CONCEPT

Parliamentary democracy is a dynamic concept. Parliament is a growing and constantly evolving institution. For Ministers to remain responsible to Parliament, it is necessary that the Parliament and its Members be responsible to the people. And this accountability is continuous, concurrent and not merely periodical. Under the Parliamentary system, it is the Parliament itself which is the ultimate guardian of integrity in public life. The subjects proposed for discussion reflect change of emphasis in the polity of the concerned nations.

ROLE OF SECOND CHAMBER

Also to be discussed is the role of the Second Chamber. This is a subject where large divergencies in the system from that obtaining in the U.K. can be noticed. India has had a Second Chamber since 1919, with near equal role with the First Chamber, its smaller numbers notwithstanding. In regard to the Chairmanship of the Rajya Sabha, India has borrowed -4>

from the example of the United States of America, where the Vice-President is President of the Senate. India's Second Chamber has, however, retained certain features from the United Kingdom also. The function which the Presiding Officer exercises is of a judicial character. This fusion of the executive role as Vice-President and the judicial role as Chairman is not an anamoly. Such cases are not unknown in constitutional practice. In the United Kingdom the Lord Chancellor presides over the House of Lords sitting both in its legislative and judicial capacities. He presides over the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council too. He is a member of the Cabinet and is directly concerned with the judicial administration. By and large, our Second Chambers' performance in the legislative process and the formulation of

policies have been extremely useful in governance of the country and it has worked in a spirit of cooperation, and not confrontation, with the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha's role as a revising House giving a second thought and look to legislative and executive functions of the Government and reviewing them from the point of view of the States in our federal polity, has been recognised. The old joke that it is superfluous if the Second Chamber agrees with the popular House and mischievous if it disagrees is no longer valid.

Friends, I wish you a very pleasant stay in our country. I hope that despite the heavy schedule of meetings, you will have time to see our monuments, ancient and modern, namely the institutes of higher learning and research and enjoy our lovely winter and fascinating flowers.

It is appropriate that the Government of India have issued a special philatelic cover to commemorate the historic meet of the Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth. I have great pleasure in releasing it.

I conclude with best wishes for the success of your valuable deliberations.

DIA USA AUSTRALIA ZIMBABWE NEW ZEALAND UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Jan 06, 1986

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation Between India and Czechoslovakia

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 27, 1986 on the signing of an agreement between India and Czechoslovakia on the avoidance of double taxation:

An Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income between India and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic was signed here today by Union Finance Minister, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh, and the Czechoslovak Finance Minister, Mr. Ing Jaromir Zak, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The agreement provides for complete exemption from taxation in respect of income from operation of aircraft by the airlines of

one country in the other and enunciates a combination of the exemption and credit methods for elimination of double taxation.

The agreement will come into force after the two countries notify each other

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about the completion of procedures required by law in the respective countries for bringing it into force.

It will, however, be effective in India in respect of income arising in any accounting year beginning on or after first of April, 1985 and in Czechoslovakia in respect of income arising in any accounting year beginning on or after the first of January, 1985.

While holding discussions shortly before the signing ceremony Shri Singh thanked the visiting Czechoslovak Minister for his offer to extend the terminal contract date for use of credit by India under the Deferred Economic Agreement. Under this agreement Czechoslovakia has extended a credit of Rs. 800 million to India. Mr. Ing Jaromir Zak conveyed his country's willingness to supply a medium merchant mill for the steel plant at Visakhapatnam.

RWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA

Date: Jan 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

Indira Gandhi Memorial Lecture - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 16, 1986 of the text of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's address at the inaugural Indira Gandhi memorial lecture by the Swedish Prime Minister, His Excellency Mr. Olof Palme, at New Delhi on January 16, 1986:

Indira Gandhi, throughout her life, fought basically for human rights. Sometimes it involved the right of the humanity to survive. It involved disarmament because a nuclear holocaust could and can still end all humanity instantaneously. Sometimes it involved the struggle to save the environment. Again, the alternative is a slow death for humanity. Sometimes such struggle led directly to human rights, in India during our freedom

struggle, in other countries, where human beings were being treated as less than human beings. At other times it was for a just and equitable economic order.

It is appropriate that Prime Minister Palme has delivered this first lecture because he too has struggled for the same ideals. Prime Minister Palme has had long contacts with India as he has just told us, and his contribution towards peace, towards disarmament, towards human rights, towards a more just economic order is appreciable and he is considered one of the founders of these causes in the world today.

In 1983, we held the Non-aligned Summit in India. Indiraji at that time had said, "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 all creeds". That is what we all must strive for today.

DELHI DECLARATION

An year ago, in this very hall, we proclaimed the Delhi Declaration. Six nations across the world had been working together. Indiraji was amongst the founders of this movement. Unfortunately, she could not be with us at the first meeting. The Delhi Declaration and the further declarations of the six have led to an appreciable

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recognition and an awareness in the world of the problems that the arms race is causing, and the disasters that it could lead to.

More recently, the meeting in Geneva between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev have led to a pull back from the brink, but we look forward to much more progress on disarmament. The recent statement by General Secretary Gorbachev is very encouraging and we congratulate him for it. We hope that the response will be equally positive and it will be a viable alternative to an arms race in space; it will lead to a comprehensive test ban and the elimination of all nuclear weapons. The key in fighting nuclear weapons must be with public opinion, and it is the responsibility of each one of us to build this public opinion to force the nuclear-weapon countries to disarm and to remove this sword of Damocles that they hold not just over their own countries but over the whole world.

The Palme Commission has been looking into the links between development and disarmament and has given us some very positive ideas to work on. We hope that this session will further the cause of disarmament and will further help build our civilisation into a more cohesive, stronger civilisation away from the balance of terror and the arms race that exists today.

We welcome Prime Minister Palme as a cherished friend of India, as a philosopher amongst statesmen. We are enriched today by his talk in memory of Indiraji. I thank him".

DIA USA SWITZERLAND

Date: Jan 16, 1986

Volume No

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Cultural Programme Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 30, 1986 on the programme of cultural, scientific and educational exchanges between India and FRG:

A programme of cultural, scientific and educational exchanges between the Federal Republic of Germany and India was signed today in pursuance of the existing cultural agreement between the two countries. Shri Y. N. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development signed on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Dr. E. Eichkoff, Ministerial Director of the Foreign Cultural Affairs Directorate General of the Federal Foreign Office, signed on behalf of the FRG.

The signing of this programme follows the seventh meeting of the Permanent Committee set up under the cultural agreement which was held at New Delhi from January 28-30, 1986.

The programme envisages continued cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, including environmental and agricultural education, science, art and culture, health, television, radio and cinema, sports and youth. More specifically it envisages:

- (i) exchange of scholars, teachers, academics, writers, artists, museologists and specialists in various fields, like archaeology, theatre etc.
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- (ii) development of institutional links between universities and institutions of higher learning in specified fields, especially Indian and German studies etc. and between museums, libraries and archives.

- (iii) development of teaching each other's language and literature.
- (iv) participation in each other's film festivals, book fairs etc. and
- (v) exchange of youth delegations and materials and publications on various youth programmes.

RMANY INDIA USA **Date**: Jan 30, 1986

Volume No

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GREECE

Welcome Address by Shri Venkataraman

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 25, 1986 of the speech by the Vice President, Shri R. Venkataraman welcoming H.E. Mr. Andreas G. Papandreou, Prime Minister of Greece, who delivered the 22nd Maulana Azad Memorial Lecture here today (New Delhi, January 25):

As the President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, I extend to all of you a most cordial welcome to this 22nd Maulana Azad memorial lecture. It gives me great pleasure to welcome His Excellency Dr. Andreas Papandreou who has graciously accepted our invitation to deliver the memorial lecture.

Maulana Azad, to commemorate whose memory this series of lectures has been instituted, was a unique personality. A scholar in Arabic and Persian, Maulana Saheb (as he was respectfully and affectionately addressed) belong essentially to the world of ideas and letters. Among his writings, the Tariuman-ul-Quran, a rational commentary on the Holy Book, occupies pride of place. But this distinguished literatteur and thinker was not destined to be merely a scholar. The fate of his nation and people in colonial bondage stirred him intensely and drew him into the turmoil of politics. "If you like good you have to revile evil and if you want to please God you must not be afraid of displeasing Satan". This was the quintessence of the philosophy of Maulana Saheb. Maulana Azad soon became one of the most articulate and influential leaders of the national movement. A comrade-at-arms of Mahatma Gandhi, Azad was at Pandit Nehru's side when the mantle of governing free India fell on Nehru's

shoulders. Azad became his trusted colleague in the formulation and implementation of the new Nation State's progressive policies. Azad's intellectual horizons, however, remained vast. His early eclectic training made him a powerful votary of international understanding and world peace.

This was a goal near to the heart of the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, in whose memory this lecture is being held today. In a speech delivered in 1951, Maulana Azad said "If the achievement of western science can be utilised in the Eastern spirit of man's affinity with God, science could become an instrument not of destruction but for the establishment of human prosperity, peace and progress."

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STRIVING FOR WORLD PEACE

It is befitting that we have today Dr. Andreas Papandreou to deliver the Azad memorial lecture on the subject "Striving for Peace". It would be difficult to find a world leader more qualified to speak on the subject. Dr. Papandreou acquired his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University and spent nearly twenty years in the academic world, devoting himself to teaching and research on a wide range of socio-economic issues. Yet being the son of the late Prime Minister, George Papandreou, he was never very far from the centre of political activities. He worked closely with his Greek Parliament and later as a colleague in the Cabinet. He became Prime Minister in 1981 after his party, PASOK, won a resounding victory in the elections. His mandate was renewed in the elections held in June, 1985.

Within the short period of his Prime Ministership, Dr. Papandreou has carved out a distinct role for Greece in world affairs. His emphasis on detente, peace. international cooperation and on a meaningful North-South dialogue are all too well known to need recaptiluation. A crusader against the nuclear arms race, he has actively worked towards the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans. We also recall his leading role in working with Smt. Indira Gandhi and later with our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for the "Five continent Peace Initiative" leading to the historic "Delhi Declaration".

It is gratifying that Shri Rajiv Gandhi is present at the lecture today. Dr. Papandreou and Shri Gandhi represent the emerging streams of West and East towards world peace and a just world order.

May I welcome you once again, Dr. Papandreou, as a distinguished leader from the West, a crusader for peace and a friend of India and request you to deliver the 1986 Maulana Azad memorial lecture.

Date: Jan 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

GREECE

Address by Prime Minister of Greece at Nehru University

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 28, 1986 of the address by the Prime Minister of Greece Mr. Andreas G. Papandreou at University of New Delhi on January 28, 1986:

The debt crisis is a long-term economic and political barrier to development that is slowly strangling world economic growth.

At the October 1985 meeting of the IMF and the World Bank U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker announced that the U.S. was ready to take a more active role in confronting the debt crisis.

Reasons: Protectionism is gaining advocates. This means: Restrictions of exports from debtor countries and prevention of earning of foreign exchange to pay back loans. It follows that this will have political impact in the debtor countries that adopt a strict austerity programmes.

Although efforts for a rational mangement of resources in debtor countries are clearly needed, the question is how to distribute the burden of adjustment more equitably between debtors and lenders. During the 70's as billions of petrodollars were deposited in Western banks and financial markets by oil-exporting countries, the deficits of oil-importing countries had to be financed. (Process of recycling). Only gradually did creditors and borrowers realize that this solution created a new problem ... as most countries continued living beyond their means, without recognizing the grim realities of a new external -9>

environment. Huge projects were undertaken, standards of living were given an artificial boost and imports became more attractive than more expensively produced domestic goods. Between 1972 and 1979, the indebtedness of the less-developed countries (LDCs) increased at an annual average rate of 21,7 per cent. Money loaned by banks to Third World governments was re-exported by the private sector and invested back in the United States, where real estate of other investments appeared more attractive than local

opportunities.

Credit was cheap in the mid-70's; the interest rate charged by banks on dollar loans was often less than the rate of inflation in the United States. With interest rates negative in real terms, why not borrow more? Over time, the relative debt service burden could be expected to diminish. The reasoning was not altogether flawed, providing the loans were properly invested in productive sectors that would yield a return at least equal to the rate of interest. However, as it happened, only about half the credits extended to developing nations were used in productive investments.

When the second oil shock came in 1970-80, the developing countries continued to borrow, and approximately one thousand banks worldwide were eager to oblige. After all, as one leading American banker used to say, "Countries don't go bankrupt". The only worry the banks had to face when interest rates fluctuated greatly was that they might have to pay more for deposits than they were receiving from borrowers. So, after having lent for years at fixed rates, banks began landing on a floating-rate basis during those boom years, effectively passing on the interest rate risk to the borrower.

In October 1979, with double-digit inflation raging in the United States, the Federal Reserve Board decided to adopt the monetarist remedy of tightening the growth of the money supply. As a result, interest rates soared upwards and the U.S. economy plunged into recession.

The prices of commodities, which give developing countries their main export revenues, fell sharply as the industrial countries' economies slowed and demand fell.

August 12, 1982, proved to be a fatal day. The finance minister of Mexico, Jesus Silva Herzog, announced that Mexico had run out of foreign exchange. Mexico's total debt exceeded \$ 80 billion and almost 30 per cent was due within one year. Moreover, the exposure of U.S. banks alone was enormous, equal to 44 per cent of the equity of the country's nine largest banks. It was thus clear that the Mexican crisis, if not handled properly, would create a panic in the financial markets and have serious consequences for the world economic and financial systems.

The Mexico action set two important precedents. It propelled the IMF to the forefront of the debt crisis, and it set the pattern for all subsequent reschedulings. Since 1982, 38 countries have rescheduled their debts or are in the process of doing so. South Africa is the latest to join the long list of these countries, whose combined debt is estimated at about \$ 550 billion.

The rationale for extending new credits while postponing the payments of principal is that a debtor-nation needs economic breathing space to succeed in increasing domestic savings and to accelerate the growth in production and exports needed to generate foreign exchange. But this scenario works only if one assumes a favourable world economic environment, namely three percent or more in economic growth and a standstill on protectionist tendencies in industrial countries. For debt-service burdens to become more manageable, real dollar interest rates, would have to be lower. Finally, banks would have to be prepared to provide new credits, increasing their exposure at an annual rate of five to seven percent from now until the end of the decade.

In 1984 Mexico improved the terms and conditions of its own rescheduling over

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the package of 1982, and most Latin American debtors derived some benefit from this precedent. But sub-Saharan African countries such as Senegal, despite their more difficult economic situation, did not benefit at all, and their rescheduling packages have typically been more stringent than those accorded even to small Latin American debtors. For African countries, banks have not rescheduled anything but arrears and debt payments falling due in one or two years. This means that every year creditors and borrowers must reconvene at the negotiating table. Planning becomes very difficult; the future conditions that may be required for the rescheduling of debts owed by African nations remain uncertain. It should also be noted that the Philippines and Yugoslavia, by contrast, have typically been treated more like the big Latin American debtors; developments in both of these countries could represent a threat to U.S. security interests, as well as to the international financial system, if things were to turn sour.

During 1983-84 the world economic environment proved to be somewhat kinder to Third World debtors than anticipated. Growth within member countries of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development averaged more than three percent, fuelled by very rapid improvement in the U.S. economy, which grew at 6.8 percent in 1984.

But the gains made in 1984 concealed some troubling underlying trends for the world economy. General commodity prices linger at an unprecedented low level. Typically, in a period of relatively strong economic growth, commodity prices should increase as demand becomes greater. In fact, however, dollar prices for non-oil primary commodities were about 11 percent lower in 1984 than in 1980.

Although nominal interest rates have declined from their peak in 1980-81, they remain about six percent higher than inflation, making the cost of servicing debt extremely high in real terms. Finally, the rate of increase of new credits has been shrinking

as banks have been reluctant to lend to those LDCs that are encountering debt servicing difficulties. The only exception that to this trend has been multibillion-dollar packages of credits organized under the auspices of the IMF.

Against this background, the debtors' general capacity to implement strict austerity programmes has been remarkable. Under the auspices of IMF programmes, developing countries devalued their currencies, phased out subsidies, increased prices of public utilities, restrained wage increases, tried to reduce the size of the public sector increased interest rates, and slowed down the rate of credit growth. Trade and investment practices were somewhat liberalized and more market-oriented policies were adopted. In some countries, serious efforts to convert large parts of the public sector to private ownership were taken. Some countries - Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Ghana - have done much more than others, where rhetoric and reality have not always matched.

But the record of these IMF-inspired programmes is not altogether positive. A large portion of the trade account improvement was due to sharp curtailments of imports, a step clearly unsustainable over a long period of time. Exports by debtors, which got an initial boost from currency devaluations, are beginning to contract in some countries, such as Mexico and Brazil. In others, for example Argentina, the growth is stagnant. Competition among LDCs for export markets is getting tougher, especially as world economic growth slows down.

Production in most developing countries has also been running below capacity, partly because of constraints on the importation of raw materials and equipment, partly because the private sector has been left with insufficient funds with which to operate. Huge currency devaluations, and thus costs of material, labour, and debt, have depleted working capital. In addition, investments needed to maintain infrastructure - roads, telephones and other ser-

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vices - have often been postponed, hampering production efficiency.

Within the developing countries, high inflation and slow growth have become the norm.

Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa continues to lag seriously behind the high rate of population increase, further reducing already meagre per capita income. Not until 1990, at the earliest, will Latin America recoup its 1980 standards of living. Unemployment and underun-employment are widespread. Health and education services have declined dramatically; malnutrition and infant mortality have increased. The average citizen in developing countries today consumes fewer calories daily than in

With double-digit unemployment, more than half the working population holding only part-time jobs, and no social security safety net, the governments of debtor nations are clearly sitting on a social powder keg.

On October 8, Mr. Baker took the rostrum at the IMF-World Bank annual meeting in Seoul and told 9,000 delegates from 149 countries that the debt crisis could only be solved by an even closer cooperation of all parties concerned, more money from commercial banks, an enhanced role for the World Bank and more growth in the developing world.

The Baker declaration is significant. For the first time the U.S. Administration officially recognized that the debt crisis is here to stay, and that austerity has to give way to growth.

An increased role for the World Bank is clearly needed. But unless the United States openly backs both an increase in the World Bank's capital and changes in its lending practices - which so far it has refused to do - the Baker plan will fall short.

The World Bank should take a larger role in reviewing member countries' investment strategies and advising on structural reforms needed to increase production, exports and employment in the medium and long term.

Conservative lending practices need to be relaxed, especially if increased capital contributions continue to be resisted by key shareholders. More financing could also be provided if the Bank switched emphasis from its traditional role of lending for specific projects to more structural adjustments loans.

The United States proposal encourages World Bank co-financing with commercial banks, and this is already being tried in various forms. The World Bank may participate directly with commercial banks in syndicated loans.

The fundamental point is that Mr. Baker's scheme can only work if it is lubricated with enough credit. The goals in his proposal are modest.

The United States must now show the bankers that it means business and gain in cooperation of other industrial countries. Export credit agencies need to increase their lending and guarantee programmes; bilateral assistance should be increased significantly.

Japan, which has the world's biggest current account surplus, clearly has a role to play, for its banks have the second-largest exposure in Latin America.

Mr. Baker's strategy is geared mainly toward dealing to the big debtors, those few that can hope for a resumption of voluntary credits. But what is the strategy going to be for smaller and poorer countries which should never have borrowed so much on commercial terms in the first place?

Promising though it may sound, however, this scheme does not address the fundamental problem of many debtors, that is that their debt is growing faster than their net export proceed, and consequently that they will simply never catch up. Re--12>

ducing the rate of interest to be paid, whether by setting ceilings on the percentage of foreign exchange allocated to debt service or by arbitrarily setting the interest rate below the market level, will not suffice. More drastic measures - and a realistic strategy are needed.

For these countries, the banks and industrial governments should consider writing off part of the debt. The difficulty of such an approach is to find criteria to determine where the borderline should be drawn. A write-off by the banks for some countries would obviously have to be reviewed carefully, to examine the possibility that the debtor could further reduce

imports, reshape its economy, or generate additional exports.

On balance, the United States recognition that the debt crisis is threatening the international financial and trade system as well as the political stability of debtor nations is a giant step in the right direction. Mr. Baker's bold initiative to launch a "Programme for Sustained Economic Growth", with the United States government playing a more active role, needs some time to be fully assessed. But unless funds are mobilized to facilitate the process, the appeal for some cooperation among creditors and debtors may give way to a more confrontational stance. Expectations have been raised high; now they have to be fulfilled.

EECE INDIA USA MEXICO SENEGAL PHILIPPINES YUGOSLAVIA ARGENTINA CHILE COSTA!!ECUADOR GHANA BRAZIL KOREA JAPAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Jan 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Republic Day Message

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 25, 1986 of the text of the President, Giani Zail Singh's message to the Nation on the eve of the Republic Day:

It gives me great pleasure to greet you my fellow citizens on our thirty seventh Republic Day tomorrow. On this happy occasion I convey my best wishes to you all.

The Republic Day is a joyous occasion for all of us. It reminds us that we are a sovereign people and are makers and masters of our own national destiny. It also gives us an opportunity to evaluate our achievements and to ponder over the tasks yet to be undertaken and completed. A review of this nature helps us to face the future boldly and with greater self-confidence.

Our Republic is based on democracy, socialism and secularism. Tolerance and respect for one another are the hallmarks of our democratic system. A democracy harmonises the various forces at work and takes society towards a common goal. It works through various institutions within the framework of our Constitution. It is the duty of leaders of all political parties and every citizen of the country to ensure that these institutions work properly and harmony is maintained. This will further strengthen our democratic foundations. Since we became a Republic, we have gained rich experience in running democracy successfully.

It is a matter of pride for all of us that our electorate has exercised franchise

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in a mature and fearless maner and democracy has taken deep roots in our soil. While working within the framework of our Constitution, we have to maintain and strengthen the basic unity of the country. Adhering strictly to democratic ideals, we have to accelerate our economic progress. If we develop any differences, those can be resolved through discussion and mutual goodwill.

Political differences should not assume the overtones of hostility or enmity. There should be a healthy competition among political parties to formulate better programmes for greater welfare of the masses. The verdict of the electorate in a democracy is supreme. The will of the people shall prevail. We should learn to respect the sovereign wishes of the people with grace and spirit of service.

SHINING EXAMPLE

In the year that passed, there were shining examples of the working of our democratic system. The Punjab and Assam accords

are models of democratic adjustments that have been welcomed by the people. This amply proves the existence of inner cohesion based on eternal values among the people throughout the country.

The ruling party and the opposition, whether at the all India level or at the level of States, together represent the collective will of the electorate as partners in the service of the people. Our democratic system allows for free expression of views, and this is essentially reflected through the electoral process.

The unity of India comes above all other considerations. It is not only the political unity, but the unity of the spirit, sentiment and emotion, the roots of which lie deep in our national consciousness. These have been enriched by the teachings of spiritual leaders and guides throughout our history. It is based on eternal values like truth, love, compassion, tolerance and respect for others. These values have also been enshrined in our Constitution. It is, however, unfortunate that some decline in the observance of these values has been evident. It gives rise to many undesirable consequences. For this decline in values, we can only blame ourselves. It is no more possible to escape the responsibility for this in the name of transition. People look up to the leaders for high moral standards. Let all political parties set high moral values and sustain them with their own actions and deeds.

RULE OF LAW

Rule of Law is another cardinal principle of our democratic system. It guarantees equal protection of the law to every citizen. It also means the equality of every person before the majesty of the law. It is incumbent on every one to observe the laws. It is also the duty of all law enforcing agencies to implement the laws strictly in the interests of a peace loving society.

The country's economy has done well last year and the future course is well set with the launching of the seventh Five Year Plan. The plan calls for a sustained economic growth at 5 per cent per year. For achievement of this objective, a set of programmes and policies have been outlined. It is a matter of happiness to note that the main thrust in the plan is on the special anti-poverty programmes. Continuance of poverty in any form and in any region is a threat to our stability and unity. Balanced economic growth with justice is a basic feature of our planning process. It is the only answer to meet emerging socioeconomic aspirations.

MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF SEVENTH PLAN

It is gratifying to note that a major objective of the Seventh plan is to ensure that the growth of employment opportunities is faster than the growth of labour force. The task of the government is to facilitate increased production by promoting smooth relations between labour and capital. They have a vital role to play in the implementation of the Seventh Plan. The relations between management and

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labour should be such as to minimise avoidable friction which harms the national economy. Let us adhere to our philosophy of planning with the active participation of the people. I appeal to all implementing agencies of the Plan to work whole-heartedly for its success. It should alleviate growing restlessness among the people, especially the educated youth in urban and rural areas.

India is one of those countries which are affected most by increasing population. The government and the people should keep this in sight. Measures have to be taken to plan the growth rate. At the same time perspective manpower planning is of paramount need keeping in view our economic resources, pace of development and the employment opportunities. This is a national problem and should be viewed as such by all sections of the people.

PEACE DISARMAMENT AND COOPERATION

We have continued to strive for peace, disarmament and cooperation with all countries. Our actions are based on principles of non-alignment and the Charter of the United Nations. We have made special efforts to strengthen multilateral cooperation among the countries of our region. The establishment of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation is a step in this direction. The high-level dialogue between the leaders of USSR and USA, which has been opened recently is also a hopeful sign. I hope it will help to ease tension and the threat of nuclear confrontation. I also hope that the steps taken by our government to normalise relations with Pakistan and to help in finding a solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka will bear fruit soon.

The continued policy of racial discrimination in South Africa is still a black spot on the face of the human race. I do hope there will soon be light after the dark tunnel.

Our Defence Forces deserve the nation's appreciation for performing the onerous task of guarding our borders as well as assisting the people in natural calamities like floods and cyclones. Keeping with the needs of the time they have increased their professional skills and efficiency and are always vigilant to defend the country from any possible external threat. Their welfare merits the nation's continued attention.

With these words, I conclude by appealing to all of you, my countrymen, to maintain the nation's unity, cherish and preserve our cultural values and contribute our best to the fulfilment of

the nation's commitment to secularism, socialism and democracy.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALI PAKISTAN SRI LANKA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Jan 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

NETHERLANDS

Giani Zail Singh Hosts Dinner in Honour of Queen Beatrix - Textof President's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 14, 1986 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh, speaking at a banquet hosted by him in honour of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands:

Your Majesty, Your Royal Highness, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

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It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Majesty, Your Royal Highness and Your distinguished entourage to India, to which you are no strangers. Your reputation as real friends and well-wishers has travelled ahead of you. It is, therefore, indeed a privilege to have you amongst us even for a brief span. I do hope that all that you see and experience will meet your expectations. Your State visit will be an important milestone in our shared history, a golden link in the chain of events which mark our expanding relationship.

It is one of the little known facts of history that our Dutch connection is as old as the British one. It was in 1602 that the United East India Company was established at Surat by the Dutch Republic. There are still remnants of Dutch settlements to be found in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, and traces of Dutch influence in maps and manuscripts, ornaments and furniture and the famous Delfitiles. I believe a few Dutch scholars continued with their interest in India. The Kern Institute at Leiden and the world famous Tropical Institute in Amsterdam are repositories of this interest.

UNIQUE FEATURE

There are some unique features in the history of the Netherlands, one of them being its transition from a Republic in to a Monarchy. But an enlightened Monarchy, which gives the lead in fostering republican ideals, a democratic system, freedom of conscience and equality of rights, etc. Madam, we are only too aware, that these were the ideals which your illustrious ancestor, William of Orange, had striven for throughout his life, and which in the Dutch ethos, are essential ingredients of independence.

RESPONSIVE CHORD

Naturally, this strikes a responsive chord in the hearts of the Indian people, whose struggle for independence is still within living memory. It perhaps accounts for the identity of views which exists between our two nations on so many contemporary issues; which in today's jargon are described as East-West relations; North-South dialogue; or regional conflicts that persist in South Africa, Central America, the Middle-East or even Afghanistan. When addressing such issues, while our language may be coloured by our political abliations or environment its matrix remains the same - a regard for man's inalienable right to independence and development in tune with his own culture.

Because of your habitual modesty, it is seldom acknowledged that the world owes a debt to the Dutch for their contribution in printing, cartography, navigation and alchemy in medieval times, as also today-in agriculture, in hydraulic engineering; and in chosen aspects of science and technology; so also in the sphere of ideas. And today, your remarkable nation exercises influence far greater than its size in international fora, in international finance, and in the international market place.

A notable feature of the Dutch character is its commitment and sense of responsibility towards the less fortunate nations of the world. In the sphere of development cooperation, your actions are indeed laudable and an example worth emulating by those better endowed. It is indeed remarkable that despite recession and unemployment, despite cuts in wages and budgetary deficits, your Parliament magnanimously supports increased spendings for the alleviation of want and poverty and for humanitarian causes.

India does get a substantial share out of your development budget, for which we are grateful. But we put this aid to good use. As a matter of fact, India provides a text-book example of how even a marginel input of foreign assistance, acts as a catalyst for development and growth. For the past several years, we have ploughed back as much as 25% of our Gross National Product into development project, only 2% out of which is the total

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overseas aid component. But that 2% is vital for our development as it provides technical know-how etc. Hitherto, Dutch development assistance was concentrating on the social sector-the alleviation of poverty and improvement of rural life. Very useful

contribution indeed. But with our broadening relationship, the input of development co-operation in technical and economic co-operation etc. is very welcome.

We are gratified that Your Majesty and Your Royal Highness take a keen interest in our development and progress and have an abiding confidence in our future. It is your gentle touch behind the scenes which counts.

Indeed, we recall with pleasure, Your Royal Highness's memorable visit to India in February 1981, which was the beginning of our closer co-operation. It paved the way for greater interaction in the field of agriculture, technical and economic cooperation and cultural exchanges. The three agreements, then envisaged have since been accomplished, and are functioning well. These have been followed since by two more - Memorandum of Understanding in Science and Technology and Agreement on Scientific Cooperation. What is equally important is that these agreements have been institutionalised and, therefore, in the future will have their own momentum. We have reason to be satisfied with the increased volume of trade, joint ventures and enhanced development programmes, but we are by no means complacent. There is room for further expansion and intensification of this mutually beneficial relationship.

WATER MANAGEMENT

In our Seventh Five Year Plan, there are various areas in which your expertise in water management, alternative sources of energy, etc., would be very useful. So also your experience in protection of the environment and conservation, is worthy of emulation.

During your sojourn here, there will be opportunities for seeing some of our development programmes, or sites for future projets. There will be exchanges of ideas. These may lead on to other vistas of co-operation between our two countries. I do wish to all a very happy and fruitful stay in India. This visit will be remembered in our bilateral history.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I request you to join me in a toast to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness and to India-Netherlands friendship and co-operation.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA SOUTH AFRICA AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Jan 14, 1986

Volume No

NETHERLANDS

Text of Queen's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 14, 1986 of the speech by Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands speaking at a banquet hosted in her honour by the President Giani Zail Singh here tonight (New Delhi, January 14):

My husband and I are very happy indeed to be the guests of your country. We are most grateful for your invitation. Your country is not unknown to us personally. It is, however, pleasant to note that this is the first State visit to India in the history of relations between our two nations.

Mr. President, everyone who visits even only part of your country, and meets your people, if only briefly, everybody who takes note of the fruits of India's civilization, cannot but be impressed by the extent, the richness and diversity of your country. Her richness and diversity are so great that one wonders whether the word "country" is not inadequate to describe India. In fact, we often use the geographer's term and speak of a subconti-

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tinent, a peninsula, as it were, of the huge Eurasian land mass. Like that other Cap d'Asie, Europe, your country constitutes historically and culturally a world in itself. Indeed, historians and cultural philosophers do not refer to India as a country or a people but as a civilization. Indian civilization, one of the oldest known to man, has always been a source of inspiration to your people and has given them their feeling of unity. That civilisation astonishes us by its great tolerance, by the ease with which it has contrived to absorb and integrate foreign influence without losing its own identity and recognizability. Just as the geologist distinguishes various strata in the earth's crust that give evidence of early processes, so we see in India and various strata of Indian civilization lying beside, above and below each other - a profile of her splendid past.

What is striking and fascinating is not only the historical stratification of India's civilisation, but also the diversity of present-day local and regional modes of expression. This marked linguistic and cultural diversity does not, however, preclude unity and recognizability. That unity, based on religion and philosophy is evident to Indians and outsiders alike. In this respect your sub-continent resembles Europe, which also has a great variety of national and linguistic characteristic but which nevertheless possesses a common identity. India on the other hand

also constitutes a political unity and it is in this regard that your country might serve as an example to our continent, which has for so long been struggling for deeper political unification. Your country demonstrates that unity may well go together with respect of religious, linguistic and cultural diversity.

CONTACTS AND EXCHANGES

There have been contacts and exchanges between our two worlds, the Indian and the European, from ancient times. Already Alexander the Great explored India's boundaries. He crossed the Indus, but when he wanted to travel to the Ganges his soldiers refused to follow him any further, so he failed to achieve his goal - "the ends of the world". The riches of the Orient, perfumes and spices, precious stones and silk, had appealed so strongly to Europeans that commercial traffic between East and West along Central Asian caravan routes continued from ancient times into the Middle Ages. But contacts became much more frequent and intensive when, after the great voyages of discovery the Europeans (first the Portuguese, then the Dutch) explored the coasts of India and settled in her commercial centres and seaports. This altered the nature of the East-West relationship. because it marked the beginning of Western expansion. Indeed, the great Indian historian Panikkar calls the era that commenced in 1500 and ended in 1947 with India's independence the "Vasco da Gama epoch of Asain history", the era of Western domination.

However, the Europeans were interested not only in the material products but also in the spiritual aspects of Indian culture. Merchants and traders as well as thinkers and scholars were attracted. The realization that the light of civilization comes from the Orient is firmly rooted in European thought. The fact that so many learned societies have adopted the familiar phrase EX Oriente Lux as their motto attests to this. Oriential studies have in fact since time immemorial occupied a reputable and important position in Western learning. Our country also has a long tradition in the study of Indian civilization. Indian thinking has inspired many people even outside the small circle of Oriental scholars. Particularly Western successes in the field of industrial production and the resulting material prosperity have led to doubts, and to criticism of the all too materialistic trends in our culture. This contributed to a greater appreciation of spiritual values, which is characteristic of Indian culture.

SPIRITUAL VALUES

This disharmony between spiritualism and materialism may not however, be

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exaggerated. Present day India in particular shows how well material progress can be coupled with concern for spiritual values. Names such as Gandhi and Nehru, which also command respect in our country, are evidence of this. Gandhi, the Mahatma has been a source of inspiration, a symbol of moral strength to many, both within and outside your frontiers. He led your people along the road to independence, but his struggle was a moral as well as a political endeavour. To Gandhi India's freedom was important not only for his own people but also for the whole world. This perhaps typically Indian combination of nationalism and universalism is strikingly expressed by his words:

"I want the freedom of my country so that other countries may learn something from my free country, so that the resources of my country might be utilized for the benefit of mankind". While Gandhi pointed the way to independence, it was Nehru who was rightly called "The Father of modern India". Nehru established and led "the world's largest democracy", firmly convinced that democracy was the system best suited to India's own nature. The fact that India is still "the world's largest democracy" proves that he was right.

We admire and appreciate the vitality and resilience of Indian democracy, the freedom of the press, the frankness and the high intellectual level of political discussion. Criticism is sometimes sharp and heated, but even that is a sign of strength and vitality. We in the Netherlands recognise in your concern for individual liberty, combined with your pursuit of social justice, the political ideals we, too, are endeavouring to achieve.

Your country, Mr. President has chosen to steer her own course. Without repudiating her association with the democratic nations, she is cultivating her own character and fostering her independence. So India is playing a unique role on the global stage. She is going her own way. in the domains of development and modernization. Awareness of the eminence of India's civilization and history underlies her firm resolve to continue developing in independence. On the other hand it will become more and more essential to cooperate internationally in an increasingly interdependent world. The part your country plays in what is called "the North-South dialogue" is relevant in this context. The voice of India is listened to with respect as the future economic order is discussed.

SETBACKS OVERCOME

Many people in our country and elsewhere admire both the great progress India has made in the past few years and the manner in which that progress has been accomplished. Setbacks have been overcome, the occasional inertia of advancement has been accepted and a watchful eye has been kept on the cultural and social implications of economic changes and on the vulnerability and complexity of society as a whole. Your achievements in economic development are impressive. We are pleased to see our two nations cooperating in this area, and we are looking forward to viewing some of your achievements for ourselves in the next few days.

Mr. President, relations between India and the Netherlands reach back over the centuries. First the Portuguese settled here, then came the Dutch traders. History has it that the United East India Company established its headquarters at the port of Surat on the Malabar coast as a centre from which to set up a large number of other posts. On the Coromandel coast our traders were irresistibly attracted by your famous textiles. There, too, many trading-stations were established. A large Dutch colony appeared in Bengal. We find documentary proof of these relations in the Netherlands in the archives of the United East India Company. The documents on trade and economics and also on the social life and politics of seventeenth and eighteenth century India are a most important source of information for contemporary historians. Many of your historians have already tracked these records down and issued important publications. In doing so, they have enhanced your country's

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great reputation for learning. Cooperation between historians from India and the Netherlands, and also between economists, sociologists and orientalists constitutes a major elements in cultural exchanges between our two countries. The recently concluded cultural agreement will give fresh impetus to cooperation and to mutual knowledge of our respective languages and cultures. This will represent a valuable addition to the close relations which already subsist between our nations in such a great variety and rich diversity of fields.

Mr. President, this city, where we are today, with its combination of old and new, of tradition, and modernity, is symbolical of the richness and diversity of India's culture. It is this combination that makes India what she is, a great nation, full of vitality. It is to this nation and her President that I invite you all to raise your glasses and drink a toast.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC OMAN

Date: Jan 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL

Non-Aligned Information Ministers' Conference - PrimeMinister's Message

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

on Jan 09, 1986 on the Prime Minister's message to the Non-Aligned Information Ministers' Conference:

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has called upon the Nonaligned countries to strengthen cooperation among themselves in the political, economic and cultural fields for the achievement of their objectives.

In a message on the occasion of eight session of the Inter-Governmental Council of the Non-aligned Information Ministers' Conference being held at Dakar in Senegal from January 9 to 13, the Prime Minister said that these tasks required greater exchange of information. The role of Inter-Governmental Council of Information Ministers of Non-aligned countries was to promote such exchanges, he added.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi said that the Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi listed a number of specific measures to enable Non-aligned countries to achieve media cooperation and decolonisation of information. He said that he was confident that this conference would help the movement for a New International Information and Communication Order.

Following is the text of the Prime Minister's message:

"The overriding concerns of the Nonaligned Movement are to preserve international peace, promote the freedom and sovereignty of nations still subjected to the denial of their rights, and secure economic justice for all peoples. Non-aligned countries must strengthen cooperation among themselves in the political, economic and cultural fields for the achievement of these objectives.

"Those tasks require greater exchange of information. The role of the Inter-Governmental Council of the Information Ministers of Non-aligned countries is to promote such exchange. I am glad to know that the eighth meeting of the Council is being held in Dakar.

"The Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi listed a number of specific measures -20>

to enable Non-aligned countries to achieve media cooperation and the decolonization of information. We have called for a New International Information and Communication Order. I am confident that the Conference in Dakar will help our Movement. My best wishes for its success."

DIA SENEGAL USA

Date: Jan 09, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL

Non-aligned Countries to Cooperate in Communication Technology- Shri Gadgil's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 11, 1986 on the speech by the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting at Dakar:

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Shri V. N. Gadgil, urged the Non-aligned countries to enhance mutual cooperation at this juncture when revolutionary changes were taking place in communication technology.

Addressing the eighth session of Inter-Governmental Council of Non-aligned Information Ministers at Dakar in Senegal yesterday, Shri Gadgil said that the challenges were of such magnitude that unless they mutually cooperated among themselves and absorbed benefits from those changes, they would be fighting a losing battle in their struggle for decolonisation of information to which the Nonaligned countries had committed themselves at New Delhi in 1983

The Minister reiterated India's commitment to share its expertise in the fiold of communication and media with other Non-aligned countries and India's resolve to spare no effort to enhance the flow of information among Non-aligned countries.

The Minister promised to continue to make available the facilities at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication and the Film and Television Institute, Pune to a number of experts from Non-aligned countries. India would expand the scope for such training in India.

Regarding reduction of telecommunication tariffs, Shri Gadgil said that a Joint Conference of Information Ministers and Telecommunication Ministers of countries acting as distribution centres of the Non-aligned News Agencies Pool took place in Cairo in May, 1984, and discussed practical measures for reducing telecommunication tariffs.

He said that a working group on reduction of satellite tariff for exchanges of TV programmes also met in Jakarta in July 1985.

In keeping with the decisions of the Heads of State and

Government at the New Delhi Summit, Shri Gadgil said that India had reduced satellite transmission tariff - the yearly contract rate is US \$ 450 for the first 20 minutes and US \$ 25 for each additional minute. He said that India had also introduced a Developmental Press Bulletin Service from May, 1984, at half of the concessional P.B.S. tariff.

The Minister said that the New World Information and Communication Order was no longer a mere concept. Its many practical manifestations were already evident. One such was the Non-aligned Agencies Pool. India was quite satisfied with its progress, he added.

NAMEDIA

In this context, he quoted the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. In her address to the First Media Conference of the Non-aligned (NAMEDIA) in New Delhi in December 1983, Smt. Indira Gandhi said: "It was then stated and again clarified that the main objective of the Pool was to concentrate on development news of the Non-aligned countries and not to compete with well-established news agencies. In spite of this, I vividly -21>

remember how vociferously the Western Press reacted against it."

Shri Gadgil quoted the statement of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India while addressing the UNESCO in Paris in 1985:

"Excessive power over 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".

Following is the text of Shri Gadgil's speech:

"It is, indeed, a great pleasure for me to attend this conference in Senegal, one of the leaders of NAM. May I, at the outset, express my sincere appreciation for the warm and friendly reception that I have been privileged to receive from the Government and people of Senegal ever since my arrival.

REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES

"We are meeting today at a juncture when revolutionary changes are taking place in the field of communication technology. The challenge is of such magnitude that unless we mutually cooperate, to absorb and benefit from these changes, we may find ourselves fighting a losing battle in the struggle for decolonisation of information to which we have committed ourselves at the New Delhi Summit in 1983. Some of the steps which we have taken since the Jakarta Conference of Non-aligned Information Ministers in January 1984 give us hope and confidence for the future.

"A Joint Conference of Information and Telecommunication Ministers of Countries acting as Distribution Centres of Non-aligned News Agencies Pool took place in Cairo in May 1984, and discussed practical measures for reducing telecommunication tariffs. A Working Group on reduction of satellite tariff for exchanges of TV programmes also met in Jakarta in July 1985 for further development in this direction. These developments are in line with what was urged at the New Delhi Summit.

I may take this opportunity to reiterate India's commitment to share the expertise which it has required in the field of communication and media, with other Non-aligned Countries and our resolve to spare no effort to enhance the flow of information between Non-aligned Countries. Our two training institutes in the field of mass media - the Indian Institute of Mass Communication and the Film and Television Institute - have provided training facilities to a number of experts from Non-aligned countries and it shall remain our endeavour to continue to do so and, indeed, expand the scope for such training in India.

"In keeping with the decisions of the New Delhi Summit, we have reduced satellite transmission tariff - the yearly contract rate is US dollars 450 for the first 20 minutes and US dollars 25 for each additional minute. We have also introduced a Developmental Press Bulletin Service from May 1984, at half of the concessional P.B.S. tariff which was earlier introduced in India in September 1978 to promote the growth of News Pool traffic.

NEW WORLD INFORMATION ORDER

The New World Information and Communication Order is no longer a mere concept. We see around us its many practical manifestations. One such is the Non-aligned Agencies Pool. I recall, with humility, the contribution India was able to make as the first Chairman of the Pool's Coordinating Committee during 1976-79. The purpose of the Pool is very clear. As late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, said in her address to the first Media Conference of the Non-aligned (NAMEDIA) in New Delhi in December 1983:

"It was then stated, and again and again clarified that the main objective of the Pool was to concentrate on developmental news of the Non-aligned countries and not to compete with well established news agencies. In spite of this, I vividly remember how vociferously the Western Press reacted against it.

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"It is necessary to remind ourselves how the Western Press reacted to the idea of the Pool. The Sunday Times of London described it as 'information control'. The Newsweek characterised it as an attempt at mind control on a continental scale. Before the Second World War, Sir Rodrick Jones, the Chairman of Reuters explicitly referred to working directly and indirectly for the

advancement of British influence. When A.P. broke the British monopoly of Reuters, the reaction of the London Economist was "Democracy does not necessarily mean making the whole world safe for a M.P." When the Non-aligned Nations sought to do the same things, it is hypocritically described as an attempt to convert propaganda into news.

"The usual defence of the Western media is that: "We report the news which has to be something which has happened and which people have not heard about. If the story was rightly told, the explanation of what had happened would figure itself forth in the same way that the structure of a landscape would be figured by a properly drawn map. But the trouble is that map is not properly drawn and as admitted by Stanlay, A.P's Director of world Service, "What is carried by us, the major agencies, profoundly modifies human ideas and value judgements. What is carried is crudely and distortingly sensationalist. Indeed the only way a developing country can make the front page in the West is by having a famine, a flood, an earthquake or better still a coup". The socalled factual reporting may not use an adjective, but there is bound to be a cultural shorthand. The way they treat newspapers in the developing world is vividly described by the Editor of a newspaper in Fiji. The paper was taking Australian Associated Press service for a considerable sum of money for five years. During these years, the agency paid the paper only one visit and that was to talk about money, not the quality or suitability of the service.

The Editor adds: "I would be surprised to learn that the A.A.P's Duty Editor in Sydney who selects our file knows the name of the Prime Minister of Fiji".

Our experience of the electronic media is not likely to be different. Hence the need of strengthening the Pool.

"The Pool has succeeded in a significant measure in sensitising the transnational news services into increasing the volume of their news output and diversifying the kind of news coverage on, and from, the developing countries. It has also made the national news agencies in the developing countries more aware of the need to provide fast, professionally written and balanced coverage of news events in their own countries to achieve credibility and merit publication elsewhere.

DECADE OLD

"The Pool is now a decade old. We may now like to review the functioning of the Pool over the years and consider how best to provide a stronger and cleaner thrust to its development.

"It is a matter of gratification that the India News Pool Desk has been linked with Pan African News Agency (PANA) through Tunis. We hope that the Indian News Pool Desk will further increase its news exchange in languages other than English: We have made a modest beginning with French. The media in India is showing great interest on the developments in Africa. Of late, a number of news items carrying the credit lines of African news agencies can be seen in the Indian newspapers.

The Broadcasting Organisation of Non-aligned Countries (BONAC) is another forum through which the Non-aligned are exchanging programmes. A beginning that has been made in exchanging radio and TV programmes as well as films will greatly supplement our efforts through the News Pool. We hope that the News Pool will also be able to exchange photographs in a larger number to encourage and add to the features on the life and culture of the developing countries.

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The BONAC will have to strengthen its activities especially in the field of television and video software which is a burgeoning market. The world software market is expected to expand by 30-50% annually and reach the staggering figure of 150 billion dollars. The micro-computer software, nolonger a nascent technology, will approach a turnover of 25 billion dollars by the end of 1990 from the present turnover of around 2 billion dollars. This deluge will swamp us unless we strengthen our own communication systems consistent with our respective national ethos.

As Shri Rajiv Gandhi, our Prime Minister, stated in his address to UNESCO:

"Excessive power in the means of communication on the part of a handful countries is not conducive to real freedom as it affects the right to inform and the right to be informed of people in less developed countries".

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Electronic media in the developing countries can become a very dangerous instrument in such hands, because unlike the print media, it has greater access and attraction to millions of illiterates. In the name of liberal attitudes, more and more of sex and violence is shown on the Western TV. Telecasting of actual suicides and murders have become scoops of TV journalism. The motto seems to be: "What is worthy is not news worthy." Yellow journalism of the ether has already arrived. In the structure of the Western TV, money is king and advertising is queen. Prime time was no time for development.

With the revolution in communication technology, the new TV culture of the West poses a greater threat to the personality, individuality and identity of developing countries. Unless we are careful, we will soon find ourselves victims of the neo-cultural claustrophobia.

I hope this august assembly will agree to accord our high appreciation to UNESCO and the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) for the consistent technical guidance and funding received for programme for national, regional and inter-regional nature to establish and expand the communication infrastructure of the developing countries, particularly the Non-Aligned countries. We may utilize this opportunity to discuss measures to coordinate our efforts with UNESCO, IPDC, ITU and UNDP.

Another continuing obstacle for the developing countries is the high cost of newsprint and other forms of cultural paper. Many of us are importing newsprint at a very high cost. The Jakarta Declaration of 1984 rightly stressed the need for intensifying regional cooperation among ourselves for locating and exploiting suitable alternative sources of raw materials for production of newsprint. While a few studies have been undertaken, a lot more remains to be done. In response to a recommendation of the MacBride Commission, the IPDC of UNESCO produced in 1984 a report on non-wood plant fibres for making cultural papers with special emphasis to Kenaf. As the report suggests, we have to overcome the psychological barrier of regarding wood as inherently superior raw material. We have to identify and locate and exploit alternatives so that our shrinking forest wealth is not further depleted causing environmental and ecological damage.

While we can derive satisfaction from the success we have achieved in promoting media cooperation and strengthening media infrastructure in the Non-aligned countries, we cannot but take note of the rapid developments in communication technology, particularly in the audio visual field. These developments can pose a significant challenge to our efforts not only to decolonise information but also to the destabilisation of our cultural heritage and moorings. I firmly believe that if we are to meet this challenge, then we should strive to devise modalities both at the expert and professional level to strengthen our technological abilities through increased mutual dialogue and cooperation.

It is also essential that our voice is effectively raised in unison on issues like the Palestinian problem, Namibian independence, abolition of Apartheid and establishing majority rule in South Africa, protectionism and the attempts to erode the effectiveness of multilateral endeavours. Each of them poses a threat to international peace and also to the solidarity of the great Non-Aligned Movement.

We in India have always held the great leaders of Senegal in high esteem. I am proud to recall that Dr. Senghor is the distinguished recipient of the highest honour that India can bestow to eminent persons for their contribution to peace and understanding - the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International

Peace and Under-standing for 1984. We are also aware and deeply appreciative of the signal contribution made by His Excellency Mr. Abdou Diouf as the current Chairman of the O.A.U., to the Non-Aligned Movement and to the struggle of the people of the Southern Africa against racialism and colonial domination.

During the last few years, much has been talked about the information society. A true information society will be established only when the excessive power over the means of communication in the hands of few countries is reduced. A balance in this respect can be achieved by this great movement of Non-Aligned nations. We are on the threshold of revolutionary changes. Let us, therefore, resolve to work unitedly to meet the challenge. Let our voice be not drowned in the roar of the developed countries. 1986 is going to be a crucial year. We must not miss this opportunity. With confidence in ourselves and faith in our future, let us march ahead with courage, conviction and commitment. Let it not be said about the Non-Aligned Movement by generations yet unborn that 1986 was a turning point in its history where history failed to turn.

I would like to record my appreciation to the Government of Senegal for having made such excellent arrangements for this conference and the generous hospitality extended to the delegates.

Thank you.

DIA SENEGAL EGYPT USA INDONESIA FRANCE UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRALIA FIJI TUNISIA ITALY NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Jan 11, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL

Non-Aligned Information Ministers' Call for Development of Radio and Television

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 14, 1986 on the Non-Aligned Information Ministers' Call for development of radio and television:

The eighth session of the Inter-governmental Council of Information Ministers of Non-aligned countries in its concluding session at Dakar, has underlined the need to give a fresh thrust to cooperation and programme exchanges for the benefit of electronic media in the Non-Aligned countries. According to a message received here today, the meeting of Non-Aligned Ministers has emphasised the need to develop capabilities of the Non-Aligned countries in the field of TV and Video software.

The meeting expressed its satisfaction that in the ten year period after the establishment of the Non-Aligned News Agencies' Pool a substantial increase has been recorded in the flow of news among Non-aligned countries. It underlined the need for encouraging wider use of pool material by media of the member countries.

The Inter-Governmental Council expressed its deep appreciation for the message of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The Indian delegation to the meeting was led by Shri V. N. Gadgil, Information and Broadcasting Minister.

Following are excerpts from the final document, unanimously adopted at the concluding session of the meeting:

The meeting expressed its satisfaction with the fact that in the 10 year period -25>

after the pool's establishment, a substantial increase has been recorded in the flow of news among the Non-Aligned countries and the quality of material exchanged. The meeting underlined the need for Non-Aligned countries to encourage wider use of pool material by media in their countries to accelerate the pace of progress of the Pool."

"The meeting noted the reports presented by Cuba on preparation for the holding of the fourth General Conference of the pool in Havana from March 21, 1986 and urged member countries to actively support the efforts and make the forthcoming event another major milestone in the path of development of the Pool."

BONAC

"The meeting considered it urgent and imperative to reactivate BONAC and give a fresh thrust to cooperation and programme exchanges for the benefit of electronic media in the Non-Aligned countries."

"The meeting emphasied the need to develop capabilities and strengthen the activities in the field of TV and video software. The meeting urged that BONAC should become a more effective instrument of development of radio and TV organisations of non-aligned countries by mutual cooperation so that the developing countries are able to preserve their individuality and cultural identity and do not become victims of the neo-cultural claustrophobia."

"The meeting reaffirmed what was agreed upon COMINAC in Jakarta governing the principles and professional treatment of news to strengthen mutual accord and promote understanding among the Non-Aligned countries. The meeting reiterated the commitment to the expansion of all aspects of news coverage about the struggle of the Namibian, South African and Palestinian peoples, as well as the struggles of peoples for their freedom independence and sovereignty in all other parts of the world.

"The meeting was of the view that decolonization of information constituted

a first step towards bringing to an end the current international system of information and communication dissemination which upto now tended to serve the perpetuation of the dominance of world trade, commerce and exchange by the developed nations."

"The IGC meeting expressed its deep appreciation of UNESCO and the IPDC for their assistance for programme of development of communication infrastructures at national, regional and interregional levels and thus strengthening the growing trends of mutual cooperation among Non-Aligned countries. The meeting expressed the strong support of the Non-Aligned countries for and their solidarity with UNESCO for its positive role in and direction towards the realisation of the New International Information and Communication Order. It also expressed its gratitude to other organisations within the UN system like UNDP and ITU for their help in this direction.."

"The meeting agreed that the IGC Chairman:

Develop suitable mechanism for the purpose of improving the methodology of implementing action programmes on media cooperation.

Invite member countries to initiate and host various meetings of experts, including media practitioners, managers of training institutions and other media experts in order to provide the IGC with the necessary inputs to assure the proper function of IGC and its organisation.

Make an inventory of training facilities offered by member countries, to include details on the curricula, field of study duration of study and language of instruction and so on.

That the next IGC meeting be held in conjunction with holding of COMINAC-II in Harare (Zimbabwe), serving at the same time as the preparatory meeting of COMINAC II."

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"The meeting, while expressing its gratitude to a number of Non-Aligned countries which had reduced communication tariffs following the recommendations of the Cairo Conference also recommended that other Non-Aligned countries take similar action in the near future, thereby contributing their share towards the development of the New International Information and Communication Order. The meeting also renewed its call to Non-Aligned countries which as yet have no news agencies of their own, to begin the process of establishing their prospective ones in the near future."

"Advances in information technologies have in the meantime raised new challenges even as they are holding out unprecedented opportunities for Non-Aligned and developing countries to overcome legacies of injustices and inequalities in information and communication fields. To ensure that advantages of technological revolution help them in their tasks, instead of being a new impediment, the Non-Aligned and developing countries should consider new areas of cooperation through, among other things, the creation of technology development and support centres for the media of the Non-Aligned in general and the pool in particular. Such an initiative must help strengthen technological infrastructure of National News Services of the Non-Aligned to draw upon the experiences of one another, to pool the expertise and thus help the news agencies and broadcasting institutions to further improve their performance qualitatively and quantitatively and and new vigour to the programme of collective self-reliance."

"In an attempt to redress the imbalanced flow of information, the meeting recommended that a network of national and regional centres be established in the Non-Aligned countries. Information to be so exchanged shall not be confined to actual news through the mass media only, but should gradually be extended to support information and data exchange in many sectors and areas such as education, science and technology, industry, trade, finance and banking and many other deemed necessary."

"The meeting took note of the suggestion that the Republic of Cyprus may host the session of the committee for corporation of radio broadcasting organisations of Non-Aligned and requested the Chairman to initiate early consultation with the Government of the Republic of Cyprus in this regard."

DIA SENEGAL USA CUBA INDONESIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE EGYPT CYPRUS

Date: Jan 14, 1986

Volume No

PAKISTAN

Shri V. P. Singh Received by Finance Minister in Islamabad

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 08, 1986 on the visit of the Finance Minister, Shri V. P. Singh, to Islamabad:

Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the Union Finance Minister, expressed the hope that his visit to Islamabad would result in the delineation of the broad parameters within which trade between the two countries could develop.

On his arrival here this morning Shri Singh was received by the Pakistani Minister for Finance, Mr. Mahbub-Ul-Haq. Speaking to newsmen, Shri Singh said that -27>

his discussions here would be the first in a series of meeting which would culminate in the Prime Minister's meeting with the Pakistan President Mr. Zia-Ul-Huq scheduled for later this year.

Responding to a question regarding expansion of the list of items for trade between the two countries, Shri Singh said that the current talks would focus on first spelling out the trade regime between India and Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Mahbub-Ul-Haq said that both sides would work towards building a strong foundation on which trade between the two countries could be built.

KISTAN INDIA USA

Date: Jan 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

SINGAPORE

India and Singapore to Have Joint Venture Air Services

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 03, 1986 on the agreement to operate joint venture air services by India and Singapore:

India and Singapore have agreed to operate joint venture services

of Singapore Airlines and Air India twice a week from Delhi to Singapore, thus providing a direct link between the two capitals.

This follows the signing of a new agreement here this evening between the two countries for bilateral air services.

The agreement provides that Singapore Airlines will fly two services a week between Singapore-Calcutta and viceversa, thus providing Calcutta with an important connection to South-East Asian region. Besides, the agreement provides for increase in frequency in Bombay and Singapore sector for both Air India and Singapore Airlines. Air India will further have one additional frequency in route Bombay-Madras and Singapore with option to terminate service at Singapore. This will enable the two airlines to meet the traffic demands from Bombay and Madras to Singapore and vice versa more effectively.

PUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INDIA USA

Date: Jan 03, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-USSR Protocol on Non-Ferrous Metallurgy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 24, 1986 on the Indo-USSR protocol on nonferrous metallurgy:

India and Soviet Union today signed a protocol envisaging further cooperation in

the non-ferrous metallurgical sector. Shri B. K. Rao, Secretary (Mines) and Mr. I. V. Prokopov, Soviet Deputy Minister for Non-Ferrous Metallurgy, signed the protocol on behalf of their respective countries.

The protocol was signed at the end of the four-day talks of the Indo-Soviet

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Joint Working Group on Non-Ferrous Metallurgy. A working programme of cooperation between the two countries in the field of non-ferrous metallurgy for the period of 1986-90 was also concluded.

The Joint Working Group discussed cooperation in the exportoriented bauxite mining complex to be set up in Andhra Pradesh and noted that the contract for preparation of the feasibility report will be signed shortly.

In respect of Korba aluminium plant, the two sides agreed to continue to cooperate in future development in the field of gallium, super-purity aluminium and alumina calcination. The protocol also provides for cooperation between Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML) and Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) on the one hand and the Soviet organisations on the other in the areas of high speed sinking and high speed tunnelling respectively.

The Soviet side will make available information on advance technologies developed in their country for processing nonferrous metal concentrates. Referring to the scientific and technical cooperation, the protocol noted the progress of the three working programmes under implementation by the Indian Bureau of Mines and Soviet organisations. These relate to the development of representative sampling methods and processes of selective flotation of polymetallic ores and research in the field of flotation and development of new flotation reagents.

A INDIA

Date: Jan 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

SPAIN

Cultural Programme Signed Between India and Spain

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 31, 1986 on the cultural programme signed between India and Spain:

The first ever programme of cultural and educational exchanges between India and Spain was signed today in implementation of the cultural agreement between the two countries. The programme, which covers the period 1986-88, was signed by Shri Y. N. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary Ministry of Human Resource Development on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Carlos Barcena Portoles, leader of the Spanish delegation.

The programme envisages co-operation between the two countries in the field of education and science, art and culture, radio and television, youth and sports, more particularly through:

- 1) exchange of scholars, teachers, academicians, scientists, anthropologists, archivists, museologists and specialists in different fields of art and culture;
- 2) exchange of books and publications, microfilms, art reproductions and exhibitions; and
- 3) organisation of film weeks and participation in each other's international film festivals.

The programme also envisages facilitation of contacts and fostering of relations between universities, sports federations, radio and T.V. organisations. It is also proposed to facilitate translation and publication of each others' literary works. -29>

AIN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date: Jan 31, 1986

Volume No

1995

SPAIN

India and Spain Conclude Bilateral Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 15, 1986 on the bilateral air service agreement between India and Spain:

India and Spain have agreed to commence shortly air services between the two countries.

This follows the conclusion of a bilateral air services agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries, in Madrid, Spain recently. A commercial agreement was also reached between IBERIA and Air India as the former will operate the services unilaterally for the time being.

The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Civil Aviation and the Spanish delegation was led by Sr. Mederos, Director General of Civil Aviation.

It is hoped that IBERIA will start operations during early May 1986, whereas Air India would start operating by 1987-88.

It was agreed that IBERA will operate from Spain to Bombay and further to Tokyo. Similarly Air India will operate from India to Madrid and further to South or Central America.

During his stay in Madrid, Dr. Sidhu also called on Mr. Abel Caballero, Minister of Transport, Tourism and Communications of Spain.

AIN INDIA USA JAPAN

Date: Jan 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

THAILAND

Measures for Expansion of Indo-Thai Trade Agreed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jan 22, 1986 on measures for expansion of Indo-Thai trade:

The first round of the discussions in the Indo-Thai Joint Trade Committee concluded here with the signing of agreed minutes. The Thai delegation was led by Mr. Chalaw Fuangaromya, Director-General, Department of Business Economics and the Indian delegation was led by Shri Ravi Sawhney, Director (East Asia Division), Ministry of Commerce. The two sides agreed on the need to create an institutional mechanism for promoting bilateral trade through exchange of information, identification of commodities and general activities for the promotion of trade. This was considered necessary in view of the fact that the present level of trade was low, even though the potential was high. A general review of the economic situation was made during the deliberations. The emphasis was laid by both sides on diversification of trade and a quick increase in the total volume.

India has indicated a number of items of export interest which include agricultural and related products, basic chemicals and pharmaceuticals, iron and steel products, electrical and non-electrical machinery, engineering goods and defence equip-30>

ment. During the past years, the main items of exports to

Thailand have been; cotton, oil-cakes, gems, diamonds and other precious stones, chemicals, dyestuffs and pharmaceuticals, iron and steel products, etc. Thailand has expressed interest in exporting rice, natural rubber, pulses, beans, sugar, precious stones, tin, fluorspar, fluorite and zinc ingots.

The Thai delegation has suggested that the two countries should trade directly and not through third parties. The Indian side has taken note of this suggestion. In view of the trade deficit faced by both India and Thailand, the Indian delegation has proposed that some items like natural rubber, sugar and tin could be imported from Thailand if it could be linked with exports of manufactured items from India. Quick expansion of bilateral trade could be possible in this manner which would permit long-term arrangements.

It was agreed that trade promotion measures should be taken to stimulate trade between the two countries. For this purpose a more frequent exchange of delegations and greater inter-action between the business communities was proposed. The existing Joint Business Council may be activated soon. An Indian delegation, sponsored by the Engineering Export Promotion Council, is likely to visit Thailand in February 1986. They will hold detailed discussions with their counterparts on export and import of engineering goods.

Both sides have expressed confidence in promotion of joint ventures. The Thai Government is giving priority and special incentives for export-oriented joint ventures located in rural areas in that country. They have also suggested vegetable oil, agricultural machinery, auto parts, processed food stuffs and machine tools sectors for investment by Indian companies. A joint Indo-Thai venture in deepsea fishing was also under consideration. The Thai delegation has invited Indian companies to join on a consortium basis for projects in Thailand relating to natural gas, fertilizer and petro-chemicals, etc. Indian companies like BHEL and Indian Railway Construction Company have indicated interest in taking up projects for building infrastructural facilities like railway-lines and electricity transmission lines, etc. A list of such projects has been given to the Thai delegation. -31>

AILAND INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Jan 22, 1986

February

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NGLADESH CANADA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC JAPAN KOREA MALDIVES NORWAY PAKISTAN POLAND

Date: Feb 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Meeting of Joint Committee of Experts

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 28, 1986 at the conclusion of the Indo-Bangladesh talks:

The second meeting of the Joint Committee of Experts constituted under the provisions of the Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding, dated November 22, 1985, consisting of Shri Ramaswamy R. Iyer, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Mr. Mohammed Ali, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, was held at New Delhi from 27th to 28th February 1986. The Committee was assisted by

Advisers from India and Bangladesh.

The Committee had detailed discussions in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and understanding on the schedule of activities (Work Plan) for the joint study to be undertaken to complete the task assigned to it by the Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding, November 1985.

At this meeting, some data were exchanged and the Committee made a preliminary appraisal of the data collected so far. It was also decided that the technical experts would meet again soon for a detailed review of the information already exchanged, and for the identification of additional data needed and the appraisal thereof.

The Joint Committee of Experts agreed to meet again in the fourth week of April 1986 at Dhaka.

NGLADESH INDIA USA LATVIA

Date: Feb 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Renewal of Agreement Between India and Shastri Indo-CanadianInstitute

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 17, 1986 on the renewal of agreement between the Government of India and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute:

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute was signed today by Shri Anand Swarup, Secretary, Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development and Professor Harold G. Coward, President of the Institute.

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute was set up in 1968 for promoting cultural -33>

exchange and understanding between India and Canada in various fields. The agreement has been renewed from time to time, which has a two-fold purpose of supporting and promoting the advancement of knowledge and understanding among the scholars of the two countries.

The agreement signed today will broadly cover the following activities to be undertaken by the Institute:

i)Strengthening of Indian and comparative studies in Canada by instituting prizes, awards and fellowships by seeking inputs from the Indian scholars sponsored by the Institute for visits to Canada, and by undertaking the compilation of inventory of Indian studies in Canada, and

ii)Continuance and expansion of existing programme for scholarly exchanges through fellowships for Indian and Canadian scholars.

NADA INDIA USA

Date: Feb 17, 1986

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Increased Containerisation of Cargoes in Indo-GDR Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 20, 1986 on the second session of the Indo-GDR Joint Committee on Shipping:

India and the GDR have appointed a standing Working Group consisting of representatives of the two Governments and national lines of the two countries to study concrete measures to be taken for increasing containerisation of cargoes in the Indo-GDR trade and also to monitor the various other important aspects for bilateral cooperation.

This follows discussions held during the second session of the Indo-GDR Joint Committee on Shipping which concluded here last night. The GDR delegation to this session was led by His Excellency Dr. H. Rentner, Deputy, Minister of Transport of GDR and the Indian delegation by Shri P. P. Nayyar, Secretary, Department of Surface Transport.

The Joint Committee expressed general satisfaction at the working of the bilateral shipping agreement which has been in operation from 1979 and operation of the joint shipping service. The Committee deliberated on the need for adoption of new technology for the transportation of liner cargoes in the Indo-GDR trade. The question of effective participation of both sides in

transportation of liner and bulk cargoes was also discussed.

NTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

Date: Feb 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Sports Protocol Between India and GDR

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1986 on the signing of a sports protocol between India and the GDR:

A sports protocol between India and the German Democratic Republic has been signed for the years 1986 and 1987. The protocol was signed by Mrs. Margaret Alva, Minister of State for Sports, Youth Affairs and Women's Welfare, who recently visited Berlin in this connection.

The protocol envisages wide ranging exchanges in the field of sports including -34>

exchange of sports scholars and coaches in handball, swimming, volleyball, boxing, athletics, gymnastics and football.

Under the protocol, India will send to GDR four scholars to the International Coaches' Courses (two in handball and two in swimming), two sports officials for mass sports and physical education, two athletics coaches, two swimming coaches and two boxing coaches, an All India hockey universities team and 25 Indian track and field athletes for training and competitions in 1986

The GDR side will send an expert in general training theory and methodics, one diving coach and an expert of sports psychology in 1986 to work in the National Institute of Sports.

In 1987, India will send two scholars for the volleyball course, another two for the boxing course, one for swimming and one for sports psychology course in the German College of Physical Culture.

The 1987 programme also stipulates the visit of the following GDR

experts at the National Institute of Sports Patiala: one boxing coach, one football coach, one coach in psychology, one in sports sociology, one expert in biomechanics as sports scientific advisor, one expert in handball, one in sports anthropometry, one expert in children and youth sports and one in rhythmic sports gymnastics.

The possibility of GDR helping in setting up a centre of excellence under the aegis of the NIS in one of its regional centres will also be explored.

DIA GERMANY

Date: Feb 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOLY SEE

President Giani Zail Singh Welcomes Pope

The following is the text of the welcome speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh, on the arrival of H.H. Pope John Paul II in New Delhi on Feb 01, 1986:

Your Holiness, it is my privilege to welcome you on your visit to India. Yours is the first State visit to this country by the Head of the Holy See. We recall, of course, the visit of His Holiness, Pope Paul VI, when he came to attend the Eucharistic Congress in Bombay over twenty years ago.

Your Holiness, as Bishop of Rome, you have your adherents in every continent of the globe. In this country, over 11 million Indians are Roman Catholics. For them, as much as for the rest of the people of India, your visit will be a memorable event.

India has been the birth place of many religions, and has become the house of many others. Through the ages, religious thought and enquiry have flourished here, and it is this that has encouraged the establishment and growth of religions exogenous to our land. In India, Christianity goes back to AD 52 when St. Thomas, one of the Apostles of Christ, is said to have landed on our West Coast. The advent of Islam into India came very many centuries later. But India has been able to assimilate all these beliefs and fuse them into a total Indianness. Thus, in this country, you will find, Your Holiness, that for hundreds of years now a subconscious dialogue of the most important

of the world's religions has been going on among and through the peoples of India. This interaction is the basis and the strength of India's secular polity today, where 750 million people are free to follow their chosen faith and are not subject to pressures, either that of the State or of other religious denominations.

The Holy See is sensitive to the problems that mankind faces today. Very recently Your Holiness had said "Peace is a value with no frontier". We in India share this belief. We have called for an immediate halt in the arms race and for total nuclear disarmament.

Like wars, poverty and apartheid are also an affront to human dignity. No age can call itself truly civilised, no matter what its technological or cultural achievements, as long as such economic and social deprivation continues. This is our view. It is as much the responsibility of the global community as it is of each nation where discrimination and injustice exist.

During the ten days that you would be here, you would be travelling to several parts of this country and meeting with a large cross-section of the Indian people. You would be able to see the pace of development achieved in the short time since our independence.

The Holy See has had diplomatic relations with this country almost from the time of our independence, but your visit here will establish a fresh relationship. From this encounter, and drawing from the strength of our ancient traditions and current convictions, we should be able to bring the world a renewed message of peace and freedom from want for all of mankind.

May I extend once again, Your Holiness, a warm welcome to you and your delegation.

DIA ITALY OMAN USA

Date: Feb 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOLY SEE

Pope Paul's Speech at Airport

In reply, His Holiness Pope John Paul II said:

To all of you 'Namaskar'! It gives me great joy to be in India. I thank you for your words of welcome, Mr. President and in particular I thank you for the invitation to come to this great nation so ancient and yet so young.

I wish also to express my gratitude for your presence, Mr. Prime Minister. I am honoured that you join the President in this official ceremony of welcome.

I deeply appreciate everything that has been done to prepare to this visit. I am grateful for the generous efforts on the part of so many which will make it possible for me to travel to different parts of this vast and varied Republic of India, to meet as many of the beloved Indian people as possible, and to come to a deeper understanding of the rich cultures of your country. I pray that my visit will serve and support the good of your nation and the well-being of all the Indian people.

Your invitation, Mr. President, and this meeting upon my arrival in Delhi, stand in faithful continuity with the good official relations which have existed for many years between India and Holy See. Other particularly significant moments of this history have been the visit of your first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, to Pope XII in 1955; the visit of Pope Paul VI to Bombay in 1964, on which occasion he met your highest civil authorities; and the visit of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the Vatican less than five years ago.

These good relations, to which this gives further expression, reflect at the same time the overall cordial relationship which exists between Church and State in India. I am very pleased to know of -36>

the esteem which the Catholic Church in your country enjoys, and I am well aware of the important contribution which she sees to make through her dedicated involvement in various fields of human advancement, such as education, health care and development. Since the beginning of Christianity the Church has been present in India. Thus for nearly two thousand years she has formed an integral part of the development and life of your people. And I can assure you that the Church is always desirous of offering her loyal and generous contribution to the unity and brotherhood of the nation, to the promotion of justice, love and peace, and to the authentic general progress of your country in the many aspects of her life.

PASTORAL VISIT

My purpose in coming to India has both a religious and human

dimension. I come to pay a pastoral visit to the Catholics of India, and I come in friendship with a deep desire to pay honour to all your people and to your different cultures. As I begin, I take this occasion to express my sincere interest in all the religions of India - an interest marked by genuine respect, by attention to what we have in common, by, a desire to promote inter-religious dialogue and fruitful collaboration between people of different faiths.

In this regard, I note with admiration how the Indian Constitution, through its official recognition of religious liberty, honours the dignity of each person in his or her most sacred dimension, and at the same time allows the promotion of genuine spiritual values, which are so fundamental for all social living.

It is with sentiments of fraternal love and respect for all the Indian people that I begin this visit. Through you, Mr. President, I greet the men and women of every region, the children and their parents, the aged and the young people. I am interested in meeting as many of you as possible, eager to learn from you and from your experience of life.

At the same time, I am deeply interested in the various cultures of India:in the many ancient cultural expressions contained in your art and architecture, in your literature and customs, and in those of modern India which reflect a fine blending of the old and the new, and those which have resulted in part from the inevitable and often needed social changes and in response to the challenges of modern industry and technology. All of this is a sign of a society that is living and dynamic.

OUEST FOR SOCIAL HARMONY

The many activities which characterise the internal and international life of India have for a long time attracted the deep interest of the world. These include your sustained effort to promote the practical recognition of the equality and identical human dignity of every person in society, your quest for social harmony and unity in diversity, your various initiatives to further the social-economic development of your country, especially for the sake of those most in need, and your attempts to foster an atmosphere of trust and dialogue both within and beyond the borders of your land. It was in reference to your land and us that Tagore wrote:

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;

Where knowledge is free;

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;

Where words come from depth of truth;

Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habits;

Where the mind is led forward by Thee into ever-widening thought and action;

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Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake" (Gitanjali, 35).

These many aspects of modern India are all significantly linked to the cause of peace in the international community, particularly since India is the largest democracy in the world. As I said in my 1986 World Day of Peace message: "The right path to a world community in which justice and peace will reign without frontiers among all peoples and on all continents is the path of solidarity, dialogue and universal brotherhood" (No.4).

I come to India as a servant of unity and peace. And I desire to listen and learn from the men and women of this noble nation. I look forward to deepening the admiration and friendship which I already have for the Indian people. You shall be in my prayers each day. May God bless you all! "Jai Hind"!

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Feb 01, 1986

Volume No

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HOLY SEE

H.H. Pope John Paul II Visits Raj Ghat

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 01, 1986 on the visit of Pope John Paul II to Raj Ghat:

H.H. Pope John Paul II visited Raj Ghat today. In a message he said:

My visit to India is a pilgrimage of goodwill and peace, and the fulfilment of a desire to experience personally the very soul of

your country.

It is entirely fitting that this pilgrimage should begin here, at Raj Ghat, dedicated to the memory of the illustrious Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation and "apostle of non-voilence".

The figure of Mahatma Gandhi and the meaning of his life's work have penetrated the consciousness of humanity. In his famous words, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has expressed the conviction of the whole world: "The light that shone in this country was no ordinary light" (Homage to Mahatma Gandhi, New Delhi, 1948,pp. 9-10).

Two days ago marked the thirty-eighth anniversary of his death. He who lived by non-violence appeared to be defeated by violence. For a brief moment the light seemed to have gone out. Yet his teachings and the example of his life are in the minds and hearts of millions of men and women. And so, it was said: "The light has gone out of our lives and there is darkness everywhere and I do not quite know what to tell you and how to say it... The light has gone out, I said, and yet I was wrong. For the light that shone in this country was no ordinary light. The light that illumined this country for these many years will illumine this country for many more years..." (ibid). Yes, the light is still shining, and the heritage of Mahatma Gandhi speaks to us still. And today as a pilgrimage of peace I have come here to pay homage to Mahatma Gandhi, heir of humanity.

PROFOUND CONVICTION

From this place, which is forever bound to the memory of this extraordinary man, I wish to express to the people of India and of the world my profound conviction that the peace and justice of which contemporary society has such great need will only be achieved along the path which was at the core of his teachings: the supremacy of the spirit and Satyagraha, the truth-force", which conquers without violence by the dynamism intrinsic to just action (of John Paul II, Apostolic Letter to Youth, note 41).

The power of truth leads us to recognize with Mahatma Gandhi the dignity, equality and fraternal solidarity of all -38>

human beings, and it prompts us to reject every form of discrimination. It shows us once again the need for mutual understanding, acceptance and collaboration between religious groups in the pluralist society of modern India and throughout the world.

The traditional problems of poverty, hunger and disease have not yet been eradicated from our world. Indeed, in some ways they are more virulent than ever. In addition, new sources of tension and anxiety have emerged as well. The existence of immense arsenals

of weapons of mass-destruction causes a grave and justified uneasiness in our minds. The inequality of development favours some and plunges others into inextricable dependence. In these conditions peace is fragile and injustice abounds.

CONSTRUCTION OF A BETTER WORLD

From this place, which belongs in a sense to the history of the entire human family, I wish, however, to reaffirm the conviction that with the help of God the construction of a better world, in peace and justice, lies within the reach of human beings.

But the leaders of peoples, and all men and women of goodwill, must believe and act in the belief that the solution lies within the human heart: "from a new heart, peace is born" (of Message for the World Day of Peace, 1 January 1984). Mahatma Gandhi reveals to us his own heart as he repeats today to those who listen: "The law of love governs the world... Truth triumphs over untruth. Love conquers hate... "(Young India, 23 October 1924).

In this place, as we meditate on the figure of this man so marked by his noble devotion to God and his respect for every living being. I wish also to recall those words of Jesus recorded in the Christian Scriptures - with which the Mahatma was very familiar and in which he found the confirmation of the deep thoughts of his heart:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:3-10).

May these words, and other expressions present on the fruitful soil of India be a source of inspiration to all peoples, and to their leaders, in the search for justice among people and peace between all the nations of the world.

Mahatma Gandhi taught that if all men and women, whatever the differences between them, cling to the truth, with respect for

the unique dignity of every human being, a new world order - a civilization of love - can be achieved. And today we hear him still pleading with the world: Conquer hate by love, untruth by truth, violence by suffering" (Selections from Gandhi, ed. Nirmal Kumar Bose, Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad, 1948, p. 184).

May God guide us and bless us as we strive to walk together, hand in hand, and build together a world of peace.

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DIA USA

Date: Feb 01, 1986

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Address to Parliament

The following is the text of the address by the President of India to Parliament on Feb 20, 1986:

Honourable Members, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this first session of Parliament in 1986. I felicitate the new members.

The year has seen Parliament transact its business in a purposeful manner and in an atmosphere of cooperation. I extend to you all my best wishes for the successful completion of the budgetary and legislative business that lies ahead.

In July, 1985, the Government took a major initiative to resolve the complex and difficult problems in Punjab. Our prime concern was to strengthen the forces of unity and integrity. Policy was governed by the perspective of serving the highest national interest. The democratic process triumphed over terrorism. The peaceful elections in Punjab testified to the desire of the overwhelming majority of the people for peace and normalcy in the State.

A great responsibility rests on those who have secured the mandate of the people. Their supreme task is to isolate those who are resorting to violence to disturb communal harmony and peace. In this task they will have the support of all political forces committed to the unity and integrity of India. There cannot be, and must not be, any compromise with the forces of

disintegration. It is imperative that all secular and democratic forces join hands in a mass campaign to safeguard the values enshrined in our Constitution - nationalism, secularism, democracy and socialism - the bedrock of India's unity.

The Assam settlement was followed by elections to the Legislative Assembly and the Lok Sabha. A new Government has taken office.

Government are committed to the fullest implementation of the Punjab and Assam Accords.

Government express their deepest sympathy with the families of all those who lost their lives, or were injured, or suffered loss of property in violent incidents in different parts of the country. Violence in public life is the very antithesis of the ethos of our civilization. The frequent resort to violence to settle what are perceived as grievances of one group or another should deeply disturb those who uphold democratic values. While governments must firmly put down violence wherever it may occur, it is essential that political parties committed to democratic values should deal with the root causes of violence through purposive and sustained work among the people. The temptation to seek short-term advantages from communal and other types of violence must be eschewed.

Communalism continues to pose a serious threat to national unity. It is being reinforced by religious fundamentalism and fanaticism. These trends represent a reactionary social outlook, directed against the struggle of the poor and the unprivileged against the vested interests. The reconstituted National Integration Council will have to act decisively and systematically to strengthen secularism.

In my Address on January 17, 1985, I had outlined the major policies and programmes of the Government. I recapitulate the main points:

- (i) Commitment to clean public life;
- (ii) Administrative reforms;

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- (iii) Judicial reforms;
- (iv) A new national education policy;
- (v) A new national programme for women;
- (vi) Participation of youth in programmes for promoting national integration and achieving excellence;
- (vii) Establishment of a Wasteland Development Board;

- (viii) Formation of a Central Ganga Authority;
- (ix) A new textile policy; and
- (x) Thorough examination of safety measures for industrial establishments.

My Government have fulfilled in substantial measures the tasks they had set for themselves for the past year.

The anti-defection Act is now on the statute book. Contributions to political parties by the companies have been permitted by law. Government have endeavoured to set a new tone in public life. This has strengthened national confidence. A strong sense of involvement in public affairs among all sections of the people and a buoyant spirit have characterised the year that has gone by. We have to build on these assets to raise the standards of public life.

Vigorous steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the performance of the public services. Strong emphasis has been laid on sound personnel management and training of personnel at all levels. Machinery for redressal of public grievances is in place. Its results are being continuously evaluated. A new Ministry has been set up to monitor the implementation of various programmes. All Departments of Government have been directed to formulate detailed action plans for the coming financial year, against which their progress will be judged. Administrative reform is a continuous process. Detailed exercises are underway to reorient the system to speedier decision making and better implementation.

LOK ADALATS

Government are determined to eliminate delays in dispensation of justice. The experiment of Lok Adalats has proved that an innovative approach is required to cure this malady. The establishment of Administrative Tribunals will also lighten the burden of the courts, enabling them to devote more time to the liquidation of arrears. However, these are just the first steps in tackling the basic problem of making justice inexpensive and easily accessible to the poor. Drastic changes are needed. Government have entrusted to the Law Commission the task of recommending such changes.

Government published in August 1985, a status paper entitled "The Challenge of Education". This was intended to stimulate wide and intensive national debate on issues and alternatives. Government note with satisfaction that the debate has involved all sections of the people and many useful ideas and approaches have emerged. A draft of the new Education Policy will be presented shortly to Parliament

Government have set up a new department to look after the development of women. A comprehensive national programme for women is being worked out. It will aim at enabling women to play their full part in developing a strong and modern nation.

Programmes for youth development have made considerable headway but much more has to be done in this area.

The Wasteland Development Board has been set up and has started work on an ambitious programme of afforestation. In a recent meeting, all the State Governments endorsed an integrated approach to a National Land Use Policy as well as the -41>

strategies and policies for wasteland development.

CENTRAL GANGA AUTHORITY

The Central Ganga Authority has come into existence. With the cooperation of the concerned State Governments, work has started in full swing on stopping the pollution of the Ganga.

A new textile policy was announced in June 1985. It aims at production of cheaper cloth for the people. An equally important objective of the policy is to protect the interests of handloom weavers. It is envisaged that in the Seventh Plan the entire production of 700 million sq. metres of controlled and janata cloth will be transferred to the handloom sector. The Handlooms (Reservations of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 has been passed to strengthen this vital sector which provides livelihood to millions. Steps are being taken to ensure full and efficient implementation of the policy.

Government have completed examination of issues relating to industrial safety and management of hazardous substances and legislation will be introduced in this session of Parliament.

Government will establish seven zonal cultural centres - three have already been set up - to promote a sense of cultural cohesion. These centres, cutting across territorial and linguistic boundaries, would project the rich diversity of regional cultural traditions and their underlying unity. They would take the best of our culture to the masses, harmonising it with their lives and struggles. Their essential thrust would be to break the artificial barriers created during the colonial era between the masses and the living tradition of India's age-old culture in all its forms. The centres will also aim at revitalising folk art which has enriched the country's cultural life.

MAJOR TRENDS IN ECONOMY

I would now refer to the major trends in our economy.

The Seventh Five Year Plan was approved by the National Development Council. The basic strategy of the Plan is cast in a longer term perspective of eradication of poverty and building a strong, self-reliant and modern economy. The Plan sharpens the focus on the anti-poverty programmes which will have an expanded coverage. It also envisages adequate investments in the core sectors to strengthen the growth potential of the national economy.

The fulfilment of the Plan requires total commitment and determination to mobilise adequate resources for investment. To translate the vision of a strong, prosperous, self-reliant India into reality requires unremitting toil and capacity to sacrifice and to bear hardship. Adequate savings have to be mobilised to pursue a non-inflationary path of development. More importantly, these savings have to be used effectively. The challenge has to be met. There are no short cuts to development, no alternatives to hard work.

Vigorous implementation of antipoverty programmes yielded significant results. The Sixth Five Year Plan aimed at assisting 15 million families under the Integrated Rural Development Programme; 16.6 million families were actually covered, of which 6.4 million belonged to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These programmes are being strengthened and surplus foodgrains stocks will be used in 1986-87 to expand the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme to cover one million additional families. An amount of Rs. 100 crores has been provided annually during the Seventh Five Year Plan for the construction of housing for the Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes and freed bonded labour.

By the end of March, 1985, of a total of 2.31 lakh problem villages lacking safe drinking water supply, 1.92 lakh villages had been provided with at least one source of water supply. During 1985-86 the programme was further accelerated. -42>

In 1985-86, agriculture continued to make steady progress. In November, 1985, foodgrains stocks with Government were higher by nearly 15% over 1984. This has enabled Government to launch a scheme for distributing wheat and rice at specially subsidised rates in tribal areas and to other vulnerable sections, especially the Scheduled Castes, expectant mothers, children, etc. A comprehensive crop insurance scheme has been introduced in specified areas of the kharif crop. Government are considering further expansion of such schemes.

During the first seven months of 1985-86, industrial production grew at the rate of 6.3%. The policy initiatives of Government have created a buoyant investment climate. The infrastructural industries have performed well. Compared with the first nine

months of the last year, power generation was up by 8.2%; saleable steel production by 12.9%; fertilizer production by more than 10%. Our ports handled 13.2% more cargo and the railways created an all time record in freight traffic movement.

CENTRAL PLAN OUTLAYS

In 1985-86 the Central Plan outlays were stepped up by 15% over 1984-85, specially on anti-poverty programmes, human resource development and infrastructure. There was considerable increase in the outlays of State Plans. Government will have spent in 1985-86 Rs. 1650 crores on food subsidy and Rs. 2050 crores on fertilizer subsidy. Public distribution system was strengthened and prudent management of supplies prevented shortages. It is gratifying that a significant increase in public investment was achieved.

Tax collection have been buoyant, belying gloomy forebodings. The collection of direct taxes is up by about 23% compared to the corresponding period last year. Indirect tax collection has increased by 22%. Total tax collections have increased by 22% which is the highest in the last decade. An effective drive was launched against tax evaders, smugglers and blackmarketeers. Action has also been taken against personnel found guilty of colluding with economic offenders. Government are determined to cleanse the economic life and to fight the evil of black money.

LONG-TERM FISCAL POLICY

For the first time, a long-term fiscal policy co-terminous with the Five Year Plan has been announced. A long-term direction to economic policy has been provided. Government are confident that the policy will ensure economic growth and speedier expansion of productive investment and employment opportunities.

It is necessary to focus attention on the structural problems of the economy to further our basic objective of growth with social justice. India's development depends upon steadily rising levels of public investment. How are these investments to be financed? Massive investments made in the previous Plans must yield adequate returns. Costs of production have to be reduced. Every paisa of national savings has to be put to the most productive use. Otherwise it will be difficult to find real resources for the larger and larger investments required for maintaining the tempo of self-reliant growth, for enlarging our anti-poverty programmes and for preserving our economic independence. Sooner or later, sooner rather than later, we have to face the realities of the situation. No one should be under the delusion that growth, social justice, price stability and self-reliance are achieveable without efficiency, discipline and sharing of burdens. Contemporary history warns us of such pitfalls.

We must reduce the cost of our inputs and prices of final

products and services. We cannot afford the luxury of pricing ourselves out of both the domestic and the export markets. A modern industrial society cannot rise on the basis of continuing low levels of productivity and high costs of production. New jobs cannot be created if existing enterprises incur losses year after year. Operational inefficiency increases the cost of production and is in-

evitably reflected in increased prices which are a burden on the people. It raises costs all round, reducing real investment.

PLANNING PROCESS

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The future of the planning process depends on our capacity to face up to difficult questions and to take hard decisions, decisions that may involve sacrifices but without which forward movement will not be possible. Growth is absolutely vital to raise the standards of living of the poor. Can we evade decisions that protect and strengthen this development process? Nations are built by generations that sacrifice for a better tomorrow.

The balance of payments position poses a similar challenge. Our exports have remained sluggish in 1985-86 but our imports have increased. The imports of petroleum products and edible oils are well above the limits the country can afford. The question basically is whether we want to stand on our own feet or not. If we do, there is no question that we have to curb the growth of consumption of petroleum products and we have to be selfsufficient in oilseeds. We also have to have a fresh look at our imports of capital goods. We do not want to shut out new technology because that will harm us, but we have to make sure that such technology meets the rigorous criteria of essentiality. External financial flows are needed but Government are determined that India is never at the mercy of foreign banks and institutions. Economic independence and self-reliance are central to our philosophy of development. We shall pay whatever price is required to maintain our economic independence.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF FOREIGN POLICY

The primary objectives of our foreign policy continue to be the promotion of non-alignment, advocacy of peace and nuclear disarmament, enlarging the area of friendship and cooperation and building of a just world order.

We welcome the resumption of high level dialogue between the USSR and USA.

It is imperative to take urgent steps to bring about a freeze in the nuclear arms race and a comprehensive nuclear weapon test ban treaty. The Six-Nation initiative has called for these measures. The Delhi Declaration of January, 1985 has had a good impact on public opinion throughout the world. The leaders of the six countries are in touch with one another about further steps.

During the last one year the atmosphere in the sub-continent has distinctly improved. We have succeeded in making progress with our neighbours in many fields. But we remain concerned about the ethnic situation in Sri Lanka and Pakistan's continued pursuit of a nuclear weapon capability. We remain convinced that the situation in Sri Lanka can be settled only through political means; attempts to seek a military solution will fail and will only result in the loss of a large number of innocent lives.

SAARC

The Government welcome the establishment of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) launched in Dhaka in December, 1985. We expect that it will help strengthen forces of friendship and cooperation in our region.

The Government have made untiring efforts towards the resolution of the major areas of tension. At the Commonwealth Meeting in the Bahamas in October, in which the Prime Minister participated, our delegation played a leading role in the adoption of the Commonwealth Accord on South Africa. We continue to demand comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the racist regime in South Africa. If the authorities there, and other Governments in a position to influence South Africa, do not act in time, violence on large scale will become unavoidable.

The Prime Minister also attended the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. The Nassau Declaration on World Order, adopted by Commonwealth leaders, contained a strong plea for adherence to -44>

international norms and principles and the strengthening of the United Nations. Support for the United Nations system is one of the corner-stones of our foreign policy. We are concerned at the growing threat to the multilateral institutions and the increasing tendency to resort to unilateral action. Government support international efforts to combat international terrorism, while recognising the rights of people under colonial occupation to use all means to attain their just objectives.

The Government deplore the fact that the Palestinian people continue to be denied their inalienable rights, including the right to an independent homeland of their own. Until this basic problem is tackled, West Asia will not see a lasting peace.

The Prime Minister paid official visits to the USSR, Egypt, France, Algeria, the USA, Bhutan, the UK, Cuba, the Netherlands, Vietnam, Japan, Oman and Maldives. Our traditionally close and friendly relations with the USSR have been further strengthened following the Prime Minister's discussions with Soviet leaders in

Moscow. The visit to USA has significantly enlarged the content of our bilateral relations with the USA. The Prime Minister visited Dhaka to express our solidarity with the people of Bangladesh during the cyclone disaster and participated in the meeting of Heads of State and Government for launching the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. The Prime Minister addressed the UNESCO during his visit to France. He addressed the annual conference of the I.L.O. in Geneva. We had the privilege to host visits by the Kings of Nepal and Bhutan, the Queen of the Netherlands, the President of Mexico, Maldives, SWAPO, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Indonesia and Pakistan, the Chairman of PLO, the Head of State of Ethiopia, and the Prime Ministers of Poland, Yugoslavia, Mauritius, Britain, New Zealand, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and Trinidad & Tobago. The Crown Prince and Princess of Norway and the Pope also visited India.

Let me now outline some priority areas for 1986-87 and beyond.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The need of the hour is to enable the poor to better their lives. Science and technology have to support this fundamental objective. To this end, Government are mounting technology missions in the following areas:

- (i) Drinking water for all villages;
- (ii) Eradication of illiteracy;
- (iii) Vaccination and immunisation of children;
- (iv) Production of oilseeds and manufacture of edible oils;
- (v) Improved communications.

In the course of the year more thrust areas will be identified with the object of using technology for improving productivity in industry and agriculture. In selected areas science and technology missions will endeavour to place India in the front rank of scientific activity.

AGRICULTURAL POLICY

A comprehensive agriculture policy will be formulated to promote an optimal cropping pattern, to improve water and soil management, to increase productivity of all crops, to enhance the incomes of small and marginal farmers and to enlarge our hard-won self-sufficiency in foodgrains through higher production of oilseeds and pulses. A time-bound action plan will be drawn up to take the green revolution to the eastern region.

It is gratifying that a national consensus has emerged on treating water as a national resource. Government attach high priority to the evolution of a national water policy which would optimise the use of water for agricultural, industrial and other social needs.

Government have carried out an indepth analysis of our family planning

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programmes. Profiting from the experience of the past, a more effective strategy for family planning is being worked out and will be announced shortly.

The focus on anti-poverty programmes will be sharpened. A new programme, which builds on the success achieved by the revised 20-Point Programme, is being formulated and will be announced soon. It will bring together all the elements, policies and programmes for a major national effort to tackle the problem of mass poverty in all its manifestations, specifically the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Programmes for the social, economic, educational and cultural development for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections will be vigorously implemented. The implementation of the 15-Point Programme for the development of minorities, with special emphasis on increasing economic opportunities, will be closely monitored.

INDUSTRIAL POLICY

To rapidly increase employment, to stimulate development in backward areas and to enhance the efficiency of Indian industry to serve the masses better, a more comprehensive framework of industrial policy is required. Many changes have already been made in our industrial policy which now reflects the new thrust for modernisation, absorption of new technologies and promotion of indigenous technologies. High cost and inefficient industry hurts the poor, because it absorbs resources that are needed to create new jobs for them. A vast increase in the production of goods and services for the masses in rural and urban areas is central to our strategy for the removal of poverty. This necessitates a fresh look at policies governing scale of production, capacity utilisation, the role of indigenous technology, labour productivity, the detailed regulatory mechanism, the future perspectives for small and medium industry and the existing administrative and management apparatus. Industry must serve the large masses.

To meet the challenge of maintaining a viable balance of payments position, a major thrust for promotion of exports and tourism is called for. Any slackening of progress on this front will jeopardise our overall development strategy. Government will take new initiatives in this critical area.

It is imperative to effect changes in our administrative system

to bring it in tune with the objective of growth with social justice. Management in Government has to be imbued with a new social outlook. It is not a question of imposing something from above. The impetus to reform must come from within. The national community as a whole must debate issues affecting the working of the administrative system. A concrete agenda of action will thus emerge for implementation. Our watchwords must be improvement of efficiency and enforcement of accountability.

To safeguard the health and vitality of our basic political institutions, changes will be needed in our electoral and other laws. Government will hold wide-ranging consultations with the leaders of political parties with a view to formulating concrete proposals to ensure cleaner public life.

The vision of a mighty India will be realised only in the actual lives of men and women who have strength of character, tenacity of purpose and commitment to excellence. Government's strategy for human resource development aims at developing these qualities in our national life. The new education policy will be an integral part of this strategy. It will aim at the physical, intellectual, cultural and moral development of society in a harmonious fashion.

It is not enough to state objectives. A national mobilisation is essential to ensure that the resources required to implement the education policy are forthcoming. Even more important is the involvement of the youth, students, teachers, the intelligentsia, workers and farmers in giving a new direction to the national -46>

effort in this area. Education has to be transformed from an activity in the classroom to a social process for building the India of our dreams. It has to be integrated more closely, both with production and our commitment to conserve and enhance our cultural heritage - to make us proud to be Indian.

YEARS OF CHALLENGE

The years ahead are years of challenge. Government have taken a number of measures to accelerate growth, to modernise the economy and to give new content to our programmes for achieving social justice. It is imperative to impart a sense of urgency to the task of implementation.

Much has been achieved this past year, and the hopes and expectations of our people are high. As their representatives, you have the onerous duty to fulfil their aspirations. Above all, people's representatives and organisations of all political persuasions should work together to strengthen the secular and democratic foundations of our society. The forces of violence and fanaticism have to be fought. The economic capabilities we have built up since independence have brought us to a point where

determined and concerted efforts to take us forward and to remove poverty are feasible. Now is the time to ensure greater political cohesion so that the battle against poverty and backwardness can be won. I wish you all success in the tasks ahead. Jai Hind.

DIA USA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN SRI LANKA BANGLADESH BAHAMAS SOUTH AFRICA EGYPT ALGERIA BHUTAN CUBA FRANCE THE NETHERLANDS UNITED KINGDOM JAPAN MALDIVES OMAN VIETNAM RUSSIA SWITZERLAND NEPAL MEXICO INDONESIA TANZANIA ETHIOPIA POLAND MAURITIUS NEW ZEALAND YUGOSLAVIA YEMEN NORWAY

Date: Feb 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Indo-Japanese Yen Assistance Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 18, 1986 on the signing of an Indo-Japanese yen assistance agreement:

An Indo-Japanese yen assistance agreement to the tune of yen 32 billion (equivalent to Rs. 175 crores) was signed here today. The agreement was signed by the Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Takumi Hosaki and the Finance Secretary, Shri S. Venkitaramanan, on behalf of their respective Governments.

Under the agreement, yen 30 billion (equivalent to Rs. 166.96 crores approximately) has been given as special loan assistance for the Assam Gas Turbine Power Plant (5x40 MW Gas Turbine and 2x40 MW Waste Heat Units) and Transmission Line Project; Yen 1.584 billion (equivalent to Rs. 8.8 crores approximately) as debtrelief grant aid for the year 1985-86 and yen 43 million (equivalent to Rs. 24 lakhs) approximately) as cultural grant aid to the Viswa-Bharati University for the year 1985-86.

The loan assistance of yen 30 billion for the Assam Gas Turbine Power Plant and Transmission Line Project is a follow-up of the special loan assistance announced by the Government of Japan for this project on the eve of the visit of our Prime Minister to Japan in November, 1985. This loan assistance is repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and carries an interest rate of 4.25 per cent per annum.

The debt relief grant aid is being extended by the Government of

Japan an--47>

nually since 1978-79 in terms of a UNCTAD resolution on debtrelief 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 the 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 Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The cultural grant aid of yen 48 million to Visva-Bharati University is available for import of equipment from Japan for promotion of fine arts, agricultural and adult education programmes in India.

PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Feb 18, 1986

Volume No

1995

KOREA

Science and Technology Cooperation Between Korea and India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 26, 1986 on the signing of a cooperation agreement between India and the Republic of Korea in the field of science and technology:

In a science and technology cooperation, signed here yesterday by India and the Republic of Korea, the two countries have identified seven possible areas for bilateral cooperation.

The areas are: materials science, metallurgy, nondestructive testing, high polymer chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, electronics and telecommunication, and energy and resources.

The cooperation documents were signed by the leader of Korean delegation, Mr. Sung-Tae Chang, Director General for Technical Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology, and the leader of Indian delegation, Prof. Yash Pal, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology.

The 10-member official delegation from Korea visited India between February 17 to 25, 1986 in pursuance of the agreement on cooperation in the field of science and technology between the Republic of Korea and the Republic of India.

During their stay in India, the members of the Korean delegation visited a number of institutions engaged in research and development activities in their areas of respective interest. The objective of these visits was to give the Korean delegates an opportunity to acquire first hand impression about the work being done in India as well as to discuss the scope of bilateral collaboration in areas of mutual interest.

REA INDIA USA

Date: Feb 26, 1986

Volume No

1995

MALDIVES

Prime Minister's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the State banquet in Male on Feb 07, 1986:

President Gayoom, Madame Gayoom, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have had the honour and privilege, Your Excellency, of receiving you several times in India. I was particularly touched by your thoughtful gesture in visiting us soon after we formed the Government following the last elections. You have demonstrated your affection for India and we in India think of you as a good friend.

I bring greetings from the people of India to the people of these enchanted isles. For my wife and me, it is a real pleasure to be here among friends, in this beautiful land, famed through the world for its azure lagoons, its magnificent coral reefs, its unmatched sunsets, and the warm hospitality of its people. We thank you for your gracious and touching welcome.

We are neighbours, known to each other since the very dawn of history. Ours is a friendship rooted in long tradition and nourished by a shared perception of the imperatives of development and peace.

EXPERIENCES TO SHARE

There are experiences for us to share in our efforts at economic transformation. The island regions of our country have endowments similar to yours - and problems which bear considerable resemblance. As in the Maldives, so in the islands of India, rates of literacy are high. But opportunities to diversify production and employment are limited. You have made major advances in mechanizing your fishing industry and introducing collector vessels to widen and increase your catch. You have upgraded traditional skills to make your young men into much sought-after sailors. You have emerged as an attractive tourist destination. Your experience of island development contains many useful lessons for the development of our own islands.

At the same time, we stand ready to continue and expand our fruitful bilateral cooperation. In your country, as in ours, the monsoon is the great recurring natural phenomenon. Accurate meteorological forecasting is crucial to our growth. I am glad we have extended our cooperation to this challenging new field. We have also agreed on expanding our cooperation to satellite communication, small industry, tourism and the Indira Gandhi Cardiac Centre. Our educational facilities and our expertise will, of course, continue to be available to you. And, symbolic of our links over hundreds of years, we are privileged to participate in the restoration of the Hukuru Mosque, which I will be visiting tomorrow.

COURAGE AND CONVICTION

We greatly admire the courage and conviction with which the leadership and people of the Maldives spurned the blandishments of retreating Imperialism. You refused to ransom your independence. Your commitment to Non-alignment has been unwavering and steadfast.

We have been comrades-in-arms in the protracted struggle to restore to the Indian Ocean its status as a zone of peace. The peace and stability of our region - indeed, our very independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity - are threatened by military rivalries not of our making. We seek no one's protection. Our security is diminished, not enhanced, by foreign bases, military installations and the disposition of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Indian Ocean. Instead of proceeding apace with implementing the Declaration of the Indian -49>

Ocean as a Zone of Peace, we have seen a continuing escalation of great power military presences in the Indian -Ocean.

Prevarication, and presumptions by outside powers about what is

in the best interest of the littoral States, have stood in the way of convening the Conference to give practical effect to the 1971 UN Declaration. For us littoral States, our common concern over foreign military presences in the Indian Ocean was admirably summed up by Your Excellency when you reminded us at the Dhaka Summit that historical precedents, from the Trojan horse to the most recent events in Grenada, would clearly spell out "the implications of having within one's own house, invited or otherwise, an alien military influence."

The world's most pressing need today is disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. The Six-Nation initiative we took, with the Appeal of May 1984 and the Delhi Declaration of January 1985, have contributed to building public opinion for a freeze on nuclear weapons and a comprehensive test ban treaty, as first steps towards nuclear disarmament. Your support to the Six-Nation initiative has been a valuable moral encouragement to all of us. The new year has brought with it auguries for hope. We look forward to the nuclear weapon States building on the beginning made by last November's Summit between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev. The recent Soviet proposals are a positive move in the desired direction.

SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL COOPERATION

In South Asian regional cooperation, our traditional good neighbourly relations have found a new dimension. We are working together as equal partners in the company of our other neighbours, big and small. Your constructive approach and positive attitude have helped give real content to concepts of regional cooperation.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I invite you to join me in a toast to the good health of His Excellency President Baumoon Abdul Gayoom and Madame Gayoom; to continued friendship and cooperation between our peoples; and to our common dedication to the principles of Non-alignment.

Thank you.

LDIVES INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM BANGLADESH GRENADA

Date: Feb 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

MALDIVES

Speech at Civic Reception

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the civic reception in Male on Feb 08, 1986:

Mr. Chairman, Councillors, Friends, the people of India salute the brave people of this beautiful land.

The great traveller, Ibn Batuta, described the Maldives as "one of the wonders of the world" and said: "The people of the Maldive islands are upright and pious, sound in belief and sincere in thought." Yours is the heroic tradition of the khatibs who drove out the Portuguese in the sixteenth century: Mohammad Bodu Takurufanu and Hassan Kilege. You tenaciously preserved your independence through nearly three centuries of imperial adventure. Eventually, like all of us, you too were overpowered by colonialism. But that era is happily behind us. My wife and I are delighted to be in the Maldives as you start your third decade of independence.

No one knows just how long ago the people of India first came to know your country. Some of our Jataka tales, which date back about three millennia, mention sailors from Gujarat who came upon the "thousand islands" in the Indian Ocean, perhaps modern-day Maldives.

Affinities in Languages

There are affinities in our languages and in some of our customs.

Our common

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traditions of seafaring and our skills in the construction and use of boats have had much to do with building these affinities. islam came to the Maldives and spread through India at about the same time. We therefore, greet each other as old friends, who have shared much, who inhabit the same region, and who are working towards common goals of peace and development.

Eleven years ago my mother visited Male. She expressed the hope that the intensification of our bilateral economic and technical cooperation would help more and more Maldivians build and develop their homeland.

PROMISE FULFILLED

That early promise has been fulfilled. We in India have followed with great interest your efforts to diversify the economy and make the Maldives into a modern nation. Your successes have been impressive. We have today seen a number of projects, such as the commercial harbour and the land reclamation project, which

testify to the imagination and effort that you are putting into your development.

We are proud to have been associated with this effort. We have been delighted to have your students at our schools and universities. Our technical experts have worked with yours in such areas as civil aviation, pearl culture and the prawn industry. We have participated in construction and tourism. There are many other areas in which we could cooperate. There is much that we can learn from each other.

STAUNCH MEMBER OF NAM

The Maldives has been a staunch member of the Non-aligned Movement. The old British base at Gan was a relic of colonialism and the Second World War. We applaud your steadfastness in preserving Gan as an island of peace. We hope that the joint efforts of the littoral States will prevail in making the waters that lap our shores a vast Ocean of Peace.

India is a large and diverse country. We speak many different languages, follow many different customs and profess many different faiths. We cherish this rich diversity as the source of our national unity. As I stood before the Hukuru Miskiy this morning, I reflected on the immense contribution which Islam has made to our culture. We have in India great schools of theology to which Muslim scholars and divines come from all over the Islamic world. Twelve hundred years ago, Islam came to India. It commingled with our earlier heritage, which itself was a heritage composed of many different influences. This composite culture, and the secularism which goes with it, constitutes the bedrock of our nationhood.

SAARC

South Asian cooperation has emerged as an important dimension in the foreign policy of each of the seven member-States of SAARC. We hope to see such regional cooperation reinforcing bilateral relations, even as improved bilateral ties will, we are sure, engender greater regional cooperation. The important thing is to get our peoples involved, so that there is a great awareness and recognition of ourselves as South Asians. Government-to-Government relations can only lay the foundations. It is for the people to build upon it.

We are both ancient countries but new nations. Both of us are engaged in consolidating our independence, developing our economies, and strengthening our national personality. Regrettably, the international environment is not conducive to this effort; it is at times even hostile. The role of the United Nations in matters of peace and security is being eroded.

On the economic front, we are still in the grip of the most

serious crisis since the Thirties. The persisting recession in the fishing industry and tourism, which has affected you so adversely, is one consequence of this crisis. The dialogue with the North is at a standstill. To get the dialogue moving again, we need to match persistence and perseverance with imagi--51>

nation and flexibility. The stakes are too high to allow for rigid postures of confrontation.

Three days in so lovely a setting as the Maldives is all too short a period. Our eyes have been drinking in the beauty of your islands, our hearts have been absorbing the warmth of your welcome.

Thank you.

LDIVES INDIA USA RUSSIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Feb 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Shri Venkataraman Hosts Dinner in Honour of Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Norway

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 04, 1986 of the speech by the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman at a dinner hosted by him in honour of Crown Prince Halard and Crown Princess Sonja of Norway here tonight, (New Delhi, February 4, 1986):

Your Royal Highnesses, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome your Royal Highnesses to India.

In spite of the geographical distance that separates us, the ties that unite our two countries are abiding and important. Apart from our shared faith and involvement in democracy, we are committed to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter and to world peace and international cooperation.

The bilateral relations between India and Norway have steadily grown. Our economic cooperation dates back to 1952 when the Kerala Fishery Project was launched with Norwegian aid. Subsequently, assistance was extended to health and family

welfare programmes. In more recent times, the two countries have joined hands in off-shore oil development, cooperation in electronics and in Antarctic research. A new area identified for cooperation is ocean engineering. With these developments, a new dimension has been added to the relationship, aided by the increasing exchanges of visits and direct contacts, including at the levels of Heads of Government from both sides.

As in other developed countries, India and its age-old culture have aroused considerable interest among the people of Norway. The Indo-Iranian Institute in the University of Oslo was set up in 1920 for the study of Indian languages and literature, and a chair for Sanskrit has since been established. The department of Theology and Religion in the same University also provides for studies in Indian religions, and we are happy to learn that work is underway to bring out the first Norwegian-Hindi dictionary. The bilateral cultural agreement is also proving to be a useful medium for enhancing cultural exchanges.

In the 1960's, there were just a handful of Indians in Norway. Today, there are about 1700 Indians settled in Norway including doctors, engineers and computer specialists apart from field and factory workers. These immigrants have also helped to project the new Norway in India, and to acquaint us with the many and diverse achievements of your rich country and its talented and warmhearted people. Thanks to the cultural and human interaction, today in India the names of Ibsen, Grieg, Munch, Vigeland and Ullman are becom-

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ing as familiar in circles devoted to drama music, painting, sculpture and the cinema. The names of Nansen, Amundsen and Thor Heyerdahl are already well-known to Indian admirers of the Norwegian spirit of adventure. We are aware of Norwegian prowess in sports, especially - as demonstrated in world skiing and yachting competitions and your Royal Highnesses keen personal interest in these events.

Your visit to India, the first ever by members of the Norwegian Royal family, will, I trust give Your Royal Highnesses? an opportunity to see some of our attainments in cultural, agricultural, industrial and scientific fields. We wish you a happy and fruitful stay in India.

Your Royal Highnesses, Excellencies ladies and gentlemen, I now invite you to join me in a toast to the health of His Majesty King Olav V and to the strengthening of the friendly relations between India and Norway.

RWAY INDIA USA IRAN

Date: Feb 04, 1986

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Text of the Speech by the Crown Prince

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 04, 1986 of the speech by His Royal Highness, the Crown Prince of Norway at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Vice President, Shri R. Venkataraman here to night, (New Delhi, February 4, 1986):

On behalf of the Crown Princess and myself I thank you for your warm words of welcome, and for the splendid reception you gave us upon our arrival yesterday.

This is our first visit to India, but it is no secret that we have long wished to learn more about your country from personal experience. We were, therefore, more than delighted. Mr. Vice-President, to be able to accept your kind invitation, and for both of us, it is indeed wonderful to be here at last.

Like most Norwegians we are impressed by what we have learned of your ancient culture, including your world famous architectural monuments such as the Taj Mahal and the great temples of the South. Much of your literature, too, is known and admired in translation - be it the Bhagvad Gita, the poems of Nobel Prize winner Rabindranath Tagore or the more modern writers who have made their names closer to our own time.

Mahatma Gandhi and your fight for freedom have a special appeal for us, and the recent film about his life brought India much nearer. Pandit Nehru, too, was well-known in Norway as a great international leader for third world aspirations and a champion of democracy. In fact he visited our country for the first time as a young student in 1910 and came back in 1959 as Prime Minister on a State visit. We also had the pleasure of receiving your late Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, in Norway in 1983.

FISHERY PROJECT IN KERALA

Our economic development cooperation started with the fishery project in Kerala in 1952, which was Norway's first bilateral project. Since then, our cooperation has continued and flourished.

If we look to the past, we find that our trade relations date from a long way back. Norwegian traders have been settled here for centuries. A 200-year-old church in Sarampur, dedicated to St. Olav, the Norwegian patron Saint, is existing proof of that.

In spite of this, I venture to say that, although our relations have been friendly, they have not been very active. This was largely, I think, because Norway concentrated for three decades on its own -53>

transformation into a modern industrial state and its relations with Europe.

It was in these years that we developed our large hydroelectrical potential and our power-intensive export industries, as well as a vast range of other industries producing investment goods, durables and consumer goods. Both increased competition and - on the other hand - the general liberalization of inter-European trade which took place in this period forced us to rationalize and modernize. At the same time we transformed our society into a welfare State.

Then we found oil and gas in large quantities in our continental shelf. To begin with, we had to rely on foreign help, but we were determined to build up an indigenous off-shore oil industry based on our own technology. You could say that all our resources were geared to create the new modern Norway we have today.

Population-wise Norway is a small country, 41 lacs as you call it. That is not even half the population of Bombay. Our homemarket is too small for our modern industries, particularly if it is to sustain the extensive research and development needed to keep our technology in the forefront. So we have had to internationalise by going outside our own country.

FOCUS IN NORWAY

For us, this is where India comes into the picture. You are in the process of modernizing your industry on the threshold of the 21st century. India, therefore, has lately come much into focus in Norway. This is both in conformity with a general trend in the whole Western world and a special Norwegian development. A series of seminars on India have been conducted in the course of last year.

We believe there are possibilities for active cooperation with India and Norway joining forces in future development, instead of a mere transfer of existing technology. We could even start joint ventures in third markets. The future is full of opportunities.

There can be no doubt of Norway's genuine desire to expand our relations. One proof of this is the business delegation which is

visiting India simultaneously with us and the signing later this week of a credit line agreement. But proof is scarcely necessary. I think all of us here on this occasion can sense the atmosphere of positive friendship and cooperation.

The Crown Princess and I are eagerly looking forward to all that is ahead during the rest of our tour. We are especially interested in learning about the modern India, which has more than doubled its food production through scientific research, put a satellite in orbit and become one of ten largest industrial nations in the world. We are sorry that our time is too short to give us more than just a little glimpse of your marvellous country.

Permit me, Mr. Vice-President, to propose, a toast to your health and to the health of Madame Venkataraman, to the happiness and prosperity of the people of India, and to everlasting friendship between our two countries.

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RWAY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Feb 04, 1986

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Reported Statement by Official Spokesman of Neighbouring Countryon Recent Disturbances

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 25, 1986:

The Minister for External Affairs, Shri Bali Ram Bhagat made the following statement in Lok Sabha today in response to a Calling Attention Notice by Professor K. K. Tiwari and four others to the reported statement made by the official spokesman of a neighbouring country regarding recent disturbances in India:

"In a statement made in its Senate on February 20, 1986 regarding some recent disturbances in India the Pakistan Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that the people of Pakistan "cannot remain indifferent to the plight of human beings, particularly those with whom they share bonds of religion, culture and family ties". Similar statements were made by the Government of Pakistan in its National Assembly on June 12, 1985, and in their Senate on July 9, 1985. In addition there

have also been other objectionable statements.

We have noted with concern the above tendency of the Government of Pakistan in recent years to make unwarranted references to and take an unhealthy interest in the minority communities in India. While professing adherence to the principle of non-interference, these references cannot but be regarded as a blatant interference in our internal affairs.

Honourable Members would also recall that in the historic Simla agreement, India and Pakistan mutually agreed that adherence to the principle of non interference in internal affairs is a prerequisite for reconciliation, good neighbourliness and durable peace between them. While making a statement in their National Assembly of Pakistan in July 1974 when the Sadar Bazar riots took place in Delhi, the then Government of Pakistan stated that under the Simla agreement it would be treated as an internal matter. The attitude of the Government of Pakistan is now at variance with the earlier stand.

The Government of India have on several occasions made it clear to the Government of Pakistan that such statements are contrary to the Simla Agreement and not conducive to the promotion of harmonious and good neighbourly relations. On our part, we have refrained from commenting on reports of sectarian riots, denial of democratic rights and restriction on freedom of religious worship to minority communities including the Ahmedias in Pakistan even though there has been public concern voiced on these developments in India and elsewhere. It is our hope that the Government of Pakistan will take due note of these facts and desist from such actions which cannot but adversely affect our efforts to develop friendly and cooperative relations with Pakistan."

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KISTAN INDIA USA **Date**: Feb 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Trade Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 24, 1986 on the signing of an Indo-Polish trade

agreement:

A five-year bilateral trade agreement was signed between India and Poland in Warsaw on Sunday, 23rd February 1986. The Commerce Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shankar, signed for India and the Polish Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. Andrzej Wejcik, signed on behalf of Poland.

The new bilateral trade agreement provides for all commercial and non-commercial transactions between the two countries to be paid for in non-convertible Indian rupees. During the first year of the agreement (1986), a trade turnover of Rs. 450 crores has been targeted. This is six per cent higher than the figure for 1985. Another important feature of the new Trade and Payments Agreement is the provision for invoicing imports from Poland in Indian rupees, instead of U.S. dollars, which was the earlier practice. The exports from India would continue to be in Indian rupees, as in the past. This provision will facilitate imports from Poland and help to raise the volume of exports from India. The new agreement will also include a long-term trade plan for the fiveyear period 1986 to 1990, which will cover major items of import and export. This kind of advance indication is expected to promote the growth of trade between the two countries in the coming years.

The first trade agreement between India and Poland was concluded in November 1959. The trade turnover between the two countries has since increased from a more Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 220 crores in 1985.

The major items of export from India to Poland have been bulk tea, deoiled cakes, cotton and cotton textiles, mica, finished leather and leather goods and iron ore, etc. Recently, Indian exports have also included machinery items like machine-tools, hand-tools, textile machinery and photo-copying machines, etc. India has been importing from Poland such items as equipment for power stations, ship engines, railway equipments, machine tools and commodities like cement, rapeseed oil, sulphur, non-ferrous metals, steel products and coking coal, etc.

LAND INDIA USA **Date**: Feb 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

Exploration in Cambay and Cauvery: Protocol Signed betweenIndiaand Soviet Union

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 03, 1986 on the protocol signed between India and the Soviet Union on exploration in Cambay and Cauvery:

India and the Soviet Union have, in a protocol signed here today, finalised areas in the Cambay and Cauvery basins where intensive integrated exploration will be carried out by Soviet experts.

The protocol follows the third meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on the Oil Industry which concluded here this afternoon. -56>

The Soviet delegation was led by Mr. V. M. Yudin, Soviet Deputy Minister for Oil who was in India from January 27, 1986 in connection with the meetings of the Working Group. The Indian delegation was led by the Petroleum Secretary, Shri G. V. Ramakrishna.

On the basis of Inter-Governmental Agreement between the two countries signed in May, 1985, the two sides finalised the Cambay and Cauvery basin areas in which Soviet experts will carry out intensive integrated exploration.

In the Cambay basin the Soviet team would carry out exploration in 5100 sq. kms. of area in Patan, Tharad and Sanchor depressions.

In the Cauvery basin, the area would be 3100 sq. kms. in the Ariyalur Pondicherry depression and Kumbakonam Madanam ridge.

The exploration work is expected to start in the second quarter of 1986 and 70 per cent of the cost of this turnkey project in the two basins will be covered by the Soviet Union through Rouble credit.

Regarding work over of sick wells in the Cambay basins where oil is being produced, it was agreed that activities will be stepped up to increase the recovery of oil.

The Working Group also reviewed the progress in technical assistance by way of deputation of Soviet specialists and training of Indian personnel in the Soviet Union. The Group also reviewed the seismic work carried out by the Soviet side in the eastern region.

INDO-SOVIET COOPERATION

Earlier, the visiting Soviet Deputy Minister called on the Petroleum Minister, Shri Chandra Shekhar Singh and expressed the Soviet keeness to take up work in the Cambay and Cauvery basins as early as possible. He also said that the task of workover of sick wells will be accelerated.

DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date: Feb 03, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo Soviet Protocol on 20th Century Literature Project Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 12, 1986 on the signing of an Indo-Soviet protocol on 20th century literature project:

A protocol of the third meeting of the Indo-Soviet Committee for publication of contemporary creative works under the "20th Century Literature Project" was signed here today between India and the Soviet Union. Shri Anand Swarup, Secretary, Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, signed on behalf of the Indian Delegation and H.E. Mr. I. P. Korovkin, Deputy Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Book Publishing, Printing and Book Trade signed on behalf of the Soviet Union.

The 20th Century Literature Project envisages the publication of 20 volumes each of best contemporary creative works of Indian and Soviet writers, The whole project is to be completed by 1995.

The protocol also envisages bringing out all the volumes in a uniform format and to give publicity to these books through the use of mass media. To ensure the timely implementation of the project, it has been decided to set up Working Groups which may meet once a year in Moscow and New Delhi.

It has also been agreed that the possibility of the publication of the translation of classics of the period prior to the 20th century would be examined. Further, organisation of book exhibitions, seminars, etc. as a part of the celebration of the Festival of India in the USSR in 1987 and the Festival of the USSR in India in 1987 has also been taken up.

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Date: Feb 12, 1986

March

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ANCE KOREA INDIA INDONESIA PAKISTAN USA SWEDEN

Date: Mar 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Agreement for Purchase of Dauphin Helicopters

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 31, 1986 on the signing of an agreement for 27 dauphin helicopters for Helicopter Corporation of India:

The Helicopter Corporation of India today signed an agreement with M/s Aerospatiale of France for the purchase of 27 Dauphin helicopters.

Expected to cost around Rs. 82 crores, the delivery of the first helicopter is likely in September, 1986 and all the 27 helicopters are to be delivered by September, 1987.

The agreement was signed by Wg. Cdr. K. K. Saini, Officer on Special Duty, Helicopter Corporation with Gen. H. Matre, Chairman, M/s. Aerospatiale. Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation and other senior officials were also

present on the occasion.

Dauphin helicopter package has been considered attractive on techno-economic considerations. The supply of helicopters along with related spares, engines and support equipment etc. is covered by credit offered by the French Government.

With the finalisation of this deal, the Helicopter Corporation of India has made arrangements to acquire 42 helicopters of which 25 helicopters would be deployed for oil sector requirements and 17 for other requirements.

ANCE INDIA

Date: Mar 31, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOLLAND

Rupees 80 Crores Dutch Assistance During 1986

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 05, 1986 on the signing of agreed minutes between India and Holland on development cooperation:

The Government of Netherlands will provide financial assistance of about Dfl 200 million (approximately Rs. 80 crores) to India during 1986. This amount will largely cover on-going projects with Dutch assistance in the surface transport, rural drinking water supply and agricultural sectors, including fertilizer assistance, as envisaged in the agreed minutes signed here today between the two countries.

The signing of the agreed minutes came at the end of the annual consultations on development cooperation between -59>

India and the Netherlands for 1986 which commenced on March 3. The minutes were signed by Mr. K. Sandilya, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance on behalf of India and Mr. M. Damme, Director, Development Cooperation, Department Asia of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of his Government.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS

Date: Mar 05, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Policy's Central Core to Safeguard National Interests

The following is the intervention by Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs in the debate on the demands for grants 1986-87, in the Lok Sabha on Mar 21, 1986, and reply to the debate, by Shri B. R. Bhagat, Minister of External Affairs, on March 24, 1986:

The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri K. R. Narayanan): Madam Chairperson, Hon. Members: I am very grateful to the Members of the House for the very impressive support that they have given to the conduct of our foreign policy. I would say the impressive support - almost a consensus behind our foreign policy which was established in the House today inspite of the very eloquent dissent by my Hon. friend and former colleague Shri Shahabuddin....

SHRI S.JAIPAL REDDY: He continues to be a present colleague.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: I would call him an Hon. friend. India's foreign policy has as its central core the safeguarding of our national interests. But as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said several times we have been pursuing our national interest in the context of world peace and world cooperation. In a sense this is one of the most difficult experiments in history to pursue a foreign policy which tries to reconcile and bring into harmony with each other India's national interest and the interest of the world as a whole. There is, of course, as a result many difficulties, many obstacles, some of which my friend Shri Shahbuddin has brought out very pungently, the difficulty of living with our neighbours, the difficulty of tackling the problems we have with some of our neighbours while we pursue our larger goals as well as our own national interests.

GEOGRAPHICAL CONDITIONS

I should submit that the record of Indian foreign policy has not been a failure but a magnificent success in very very difficult geographical conditions, very difficult international situation. Shri Shahabuddin talked about the armament race, about the drying up of concessional aid and about various conflicts which exist

around us. He also mentioned very patriotically and very eloquently "the manifest destiny" of India. It is a phrase which has a bad odour and, therefore, I would not like to use it.

But while he has accused India of flamboyant diplomacy, I think he has pitched our present role at such a high level that it almost amounts to be a flamboyant operation of India's diplomacy. I think we have to be a little more humble while being ambitious and bold at the same time. It is unfortunate that we cannot stop the armament race, that we cannot -60>

affect the deteriorating international economic situation. We cannot succeed in getting more aid from the North to the South. These are hard difficult problems built into the present international situation.

What is important is that we have striven boldly together with other countries, particularly the non-aligned countries, the developing countries to hold the flag of independence and Nonalignment high. And also to exert continuous pressure on the great powers for disarmament for development and for a more equal and just international order. To the extent to which a country like India with all its internal problems and with all the problems surrounding it can do, I think, we have tried our best and that is why India is held in very high esteem in the world as a whole. He talked about "soft pressure". Well there was one President in the United States who said, "Talk softly and carry a big stick". I think we do not wish to do that. We would like to operate in a different way. I think in the midst of the provocative situation existing around us our Prime Minister, our country, has shown immense restraint and a great deal of wisdom in tackling those problems.

SRI LANKA

Let me refer very briefly to what is happening in Sri Lanka. There is no doubt that this is a situation that is trying India because though it is an internal problem of Sri Lanka it impinges on us and it will impinge even on the region. We have talked boldly. The External Affairs Minister said the other day in the House about the necessity and urgent need for stopping the killings and the violence that is going on in Sri Lanka. But the same fact compels us to display all our powers of diplomacy and even our patience in dealing with that situation.

We are afraid that the killings and violence in Sri Lanka if it goes on it would be a tragedy not only for the Tamils but even a greater tragedy for Sri Lanka itself and the situation can certainly be solved only by a political approach and, if I may say so, because we are talking about Sri Lanka, with a touch of the Buddha. The situation can be solved only by such a method otherwise Sri Lanka would be getting into a knot, a very

difficult knot, which it would be impossible for it to unravel.

DR. KALANIDHI: President Jayewardene is not willing for a political solution and sought for a military solution. What is the use of ourselves talking about political solutions?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: There have been other statements from Sri Lanka. I have no doubt that the wisdom of the politicians of the leaders in Sri Lanka and even more the people of Sri Lanka will assert itself and they would realise that it is even in their narrow self-interest to pursue a political path, a peaceful path in dealing with their own people, in finding reconciliation with their own people because after all the Tamils....

SHRI JAIPAL REDDY: This is hoping against hope.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: It is not compulsions of the situation, I am not hoping against hope, There are certain compulsion of the situation. I am not saying that we have no role to play. We have a role to play and we are playing that role, We are not playing that role impatiently but with a certain degree of calculation and I am sure that the forces of peace and of good sense will prevail in Sri Lanka, We are ready to offer our good offices any time when that sense prevails, when the conditions are ripe and favourable for an effective re-activisation of our good offices.

DR. A. KALANIDHI: I am afraid the entire Tamil race there may be wiped out.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: I do not think that people can be wiped out. I do not believe that the brave Tamils can be exterminated whatever degree of violence is offered. I have faith in that. I have faith in the people of Sri Lanka. I have faith

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in the Tamil people of Sri Lanka. I think they will win with the support of the rest of the world. And India is not just sitting quiet. We are talking to other people and to other countries. We are talking to other people, to other countries, not trumpeting about it, but effectively talking to other nations in the world, pointing out the situation that exists in Sri Lanka in order to find out a solution.

DR. A. KALANIDHI: Don't you think that you have given time for them to equip themselves with the sophisticated weapons? (interruptions).

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN: I wish to say only this about Sri Lanka. It would be counter-productive if this great country adopts a highly impatient, emotional attitude towards this problem.

PATIENT POLICY TOWARDS PAKISTAN

We have patiently pursued a certain policy towards Pakistan; of course, we have lived with Pakistan ever since independence and we will live with Pakistan I am sure, amicably in the future in spite of the obstacles that are put in the way of friendship and cooperation between India and Pakistan.

I want to say something broader because India's national interest, India's position in the sub-continent and in the region is linked with our role in the world as a whole. Our power, our strength rises from our own unity, our own development, our own strength, but yet it is a world policy which in turn this strength and unity of ours.

Right from the beginning, we had opted for the policy of Non-alignment. I want to say that Non-alignment is not an abracadabra, nor is it a policy of being goody-goody or namby-pamby, but it is an effective policy for maintaining the independence of countries like India and new nations. We realised right from the beginning that there must be peace in the world, justice and equality in the world, if our independence is to be safeguarded and if India is to rise to its full stature in the world. That is the reason why from the time of Jawaharlal Nehru, we followed the policy of peace, non-alignment and peaceful co-existence.

The armament race is an issue which has pre-occupied our attention for a long time during the last one year particularly, or one and a half years, this issue has become a dominant issue in our foreign policy operations.

The call given by our Prime Minister together with five other leaders of the Third World, of five continents, was a powerful expression of the yearning for peace of not only the six nations, but of the world as a whole. We have realised that while we have to work through diplomatic channels, in the United Nations and with other Governments for nuclear disarmament, the most important thing is to organise and arouse public opinion in the world as a whole and bring it to bear upon the great powers. This has been one of our major objectives for controlling, and affecting the course of the armament race. That is why we have given this subject central position in the non-aligned forum and also in the international forums.

ANTI-COLONIALISM

Another objective of our foreign policy right from the beginning has been anti-colonialism, and in this field, in the new world of today, the classical colonialism is no more, but neo-colonialism has cropped up its head. And in places like South Africa and Namibia, colonialism has its last ugly distillation in the form of racism plus old style colonialism. We have tried to make an impact from the United Nations and from the Non-aligned Movement and we have been succeeded in reactivating the Commonwealth by

making it focus its attention on the iniquity of the racial rule in South Africa. This has been one of our special achievements to make the Commonwealth Forum apply its mind to the South African question as a major world issue. Whether the role of the Eminent Persons' Group will succeed or -62>

not, it has taken a new initiative. Commonwealth has been made to take a new initiative largely at the instance of our Prime Minister in regard to South Africa and racialism there.

Now I am going to be brief because I do not have time. I want to mention another aspect of our foreign policy, which is the South-South dialogue, the problem of South-South cooperation. Since the North-South cooperation or dialogue has been deadlocked, we are trying our best to break this deadlock. But instead of waiting for this, we have gone ahead very vigorously for organising South-South cooperation, not merely conceptually, but by economic cooperation between individual countries in the Third World and by cooperation with economic organisations in the Third World. I was recently in Africa and I found with what expectations they looked up to India for imbibing technology, especially intermediate technology and for cooperating with us in the economic field I think that this is one of the foreign policy initiatives we have taken upon ourselves in order to give new life to the South-South cooperation.

SAARC

Madam Chairperson, I would like to end by coming back to our own region and to SAARC to which my good friend Shri Shahabuddin and others referred in their speeches. The fact that SAARC has emerged is a great thing, in spite of all the troubles, all the differences and conflicts in the South Asian region. Through the crevices of these conflicts and differences the forces of cooperation which always have existed underneath, have cropped up. And this cooperation has come up in a natural way because it is not possible to force this cooperation and it has to follow an evolutionary process. It has taken place in South Asia and it is due to the wisdom of the leaders of South Asia that we are grasping this new opportunity and working for this cooperation. But we must take into account the realities of the situation and the facts in South Asia. If we try to be impatient and adventurous in going too fast forward, then this little baby may not even be able to crawl properly and grow up. Therefore, Madam Chairperson, I would like to stop my intervention by saying that India, within a very difficult international as well as regional situation, has through her wisdom tried to harness all the creative and constructive forces and played a very effective role in bringing a reconciling touch, in bringing to a touch for peace as well as for safeguarding our own national interests.

Thank you.

REPLY BY FOREIGN MINISTER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on Friday last and today the House has debated the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of External Affairs. I am happy to say and to note, after hearing the 14 Members who spoke today and the eight Members who spoke on Friday, that they were following the traditions of this House, showing the customary consensus on the foreign policy of the Government. This has been the tradition. The roots of the foreign policy of this country go back to even pre-Independence days of our national movement. Some of the basic ideas that had emerged then had been formulated by our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. There is a consensus behind it and I am happy to note that.

Although Mr. Banatwalla was the last speaker, I am again happy to note that he had the last word on foreign policy when he said - and I am quoting him - "The foreign policy of the Government of India is not only sound but is on right lines and directions". (Interruptions) When I say this, I speak of the very high level of participation from all sides and also the great support that we got from senior Members, for example, my very distinguished predecessor, Shri Dinesh Singh, the father of the House and a very senior and leading Member, Prof. N. G. Ranga, and our young Members and also the leaders of the Opposition.

The only discordant note, if I may say so, was from three very distinguished Members and good friends of mine. The remarks made by Shri Indrajit Gupta surprised me the most because he has always been down-to-earth, rational and very logical. He has said- and I am quoting him - "There is a misgiving in the House because there are illusions and euphoria in good neighbourly relations" which, according to him, are lying in shambles. He is not in very happy company when I compare him with Mr. Shahabuddin, the Hon. Member who spoke on Friday. He also used the word 'shambles' but that was about economic policy; he said, "The pursuit of international economic relations by Government of India is in shambles"; he said, "The foreign policy is a failure". Mr. Unnikrishnan has said that the policy is 'melodramatic'. My suspicion is this. For the first time I saw him reading his speech. If he had spoken extempore, he would not have said this. Somebody must have written out for him because he was in a hurry. He is brilliant when he speaks extempore. Today he was not the best self. But the fact is that I consider all this and I still maintain that there is a consensus behind the foreign policy pursued and continued by the Government of India as per the tradition of this House. These criticisms are only of some of the naunces in making a speech of style. Wrong direction is a matter of substance. I can join issue with the Hon. Members if our foreign policy has gone in the wrong direction in any

manner even on a small point. I am prepared to join issue. But I maintain that whatever the criticisms have been whether of illusion or of melodramatism or of being in shambles, I consider them all as nuances in making a speech or style.

Having said this, I would like to begin by stating the basic principles of our foreign policy briefly. Then, I can go to the points raised by the Hon. Members.

COMMITMENT TO NON-ALIGNMENT

The House is well aware of our country's commitment to Non-alignment- as a policy and as a movement - to serve as a lever in international relations and to build a safer and more equitable world order. The initiatives that the Government has taken in the field of disarmament, both within and outside the movement, have, I am sure, the full support of the Members. The renewal of the Six Nations' proposal for a verifiable suspension of nuclear tests receive a positive and prompt response from the Soviet leadership. From President Reagan a reply has also been received, which is being examined. As the reply is addressed to the leaders of the six Nations our reaction would be made known only after consultation with the other participants in the five continents peace Initiative.

However, the recent detonation of yet another nuclear device by the USA is a matter of profound regret. We urge upon the USA administration to heed the international public opinion and reconsider their policy on this crucial issue.

As India's chairmanship of Non-aligned Movement is coming to a close, we are going on the next summit, the eighth Summit, in Harare in September and we have called a Ministerial meeting at the Foreign Ministers' level of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned countries which will be a sort of a preparatory meeting for the Harare Summit. There we are going to discuss and lay down clearly the policies, the economic issues and the political issues before the Bureau.

NAM CHAIRMANSHIP

As the House is aware, in 1983, under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Indira Gandhi, the Delhi declaration, both the political declaration and the economic declaration, highlighted the basic issues that mankind faces, which my friend Shri Dinesh Singh described as global issues, the rise of globalism after the II World War and the present possible threat to it and even the threat to the United Nations' system. The fact is that India is the one and the only country - I think its record is second to -64>

none - which has pursued relentlessly without any deviation the basic foreign policy in matter of globalism. The first issue it

raised in the 1983 Delhi Summit - was disarmament and nuclear disarmament. The second issue was development, equal development and in between was the nexus between disarmament and development. All these related issues are the issue underlying the framework of the global issues. An Hon. Member mentioned about our commitment to anti-imperialism and our opposition to neocolonialism. Our commitment to this comes under this very framework. Our record shows that right from the beginning in this very difficult world, when mankind faced very critical choices, India's foreign policy was conducted with not only great clarity but also pursued on basic principles of peace and consistency. We kept the direction. We never deviated from the direction. We never made any compromises. Therefore, the charge that we build up friendship with one country and, as such, we are making compromises does not hold water. I will come to this specific matter a little later.

The point I am making is that we pursued the basic principle of India's foreign policy - Non-alignment, peace and disarmament. Non-alignment means independence of action. There cannot be any compromise. The basis of Non-alignment is independence of action and not committing oneself to either this or that military block so that one's independence is not compromised. Therefore, when a country is wedded to non-alignment it can not surrender notionally or even in an illusory manner its right to independent action. We judge all issues on the basis of its merits and decide upon it.

Sir, on the economic front also Non-aligned countries are faced with a very difficult situation. The selective recovery in some industrialised countries has not led to the much needed revitalisation of the global trade and development climate.

Now a word about the debt situation. Shri Dinesh Singh said that debt trap might prove to be death trap. Fortunately here too India followed a basically consistent economic policy of selfreliance with socialist and progressive objectives. India is the only country - of course, outside the socialist countries - which is nowhere near the debt trap. That is another basic policy. This is one of the fundamental principles that foreign policy and the domestic economic and social policies are inter-related. If you want to have an independent foreign policy - Non-alignment and independence of action - then in your domestic economic policy you must also be self-reliant. India has precisely pursued that policy. Today India is in a positioin not only to build itself on the basis of total self-reliance but also we have the lowest foreign debt - one of the lowest in the world. Only 6 per cent of our resources in the seventh plan come from external resources. Therefore, we are nowhere near the debt trap. That also goes to show the right direction and the sound foreign policy and the domestic economic policy which Mr. Banatwalla referred to.

The long-term developmental imperatives in Africa need to be addressed in an organised way. The on-going South-South cooperation should be further strengthened. This concept again came from Delhi Declaration under the leadership of our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The economic declaration spoke for collective self-reliance of the developing countries. The idea was that all the developing countries must build their economy on the basis of self-reliance and together they must provide a system or a framework of collective self-reliance.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Collective self-reliance means including foreign countries....?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Collective self-reliance means the collective self-reliance of the developing countries. Again I am referring to this because it is not an illusion. We know how imperialism is working. We know in the international arena how the major bigger powers are

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working. As I said, the entire framework of the international economic situation, economic framework, is tilted in favour of the interests of the major industrialised powers. We know how the international trading system has collapsed, the international monetary and economic system have collapsed. We were warned that we must follow a quicker progress, quicker road that some countries were following. You remember that in this House from the other benches, the Swatantra members and other were saying that we must follow the quicker road of development which some other countries were doing. I said this was not the road for us. I think in the long run it will be quicker and safer because it was built on our own basis. But this has led to the basic thing, that is, the debt problem and debt trap and the exploitation of the economy. We also know the North-South dialogue for which again initiative was taken by the then Prime Minister late Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The meetings at Cancun and various other forums in other places were held. We knew that there would not be any progress in the North-South dialogue because the economies of the industrialised countries were in such a bad shape, mainly because of the very heavy load of armaments. When industrialised countries are spending something like 800 million dollars a year, the result is that they are faced with all kinds of economic crisis. In these powerful economies, they have a high rate of inflation and have a low rate of growth. About 40% of the industrialised capacity in these countries are unutilised and they have a high rate of unemployment mainly because a very large chunk of the resources is diverted to the economies which are totally unproductive like weapons, nuclear weapons which are of no use, except the use of power because the whole theory is power and it comes from the nuclear weapons. Therefore, they are not in a position to make any concessions to the developing countries despite what has been talked of about a new international

economic order or meeting the demand of the developing countries. The Delhi Declaration said that there should be an international monetary and financial conference. That demand was rejected. Any dialogue regarding a new international economic order was rejected. There is, therefore, no progress and that is the reason we knew that we have to build the policies on the terra firma, on the basic solid foundation and that is why we have said that we must have collective self-reliance based on South-South Cooperation. And during this period we have followed this. The Hon. Member has rightly said that Algeria and India provided a framework of good South-South Cooperation. I can add many other examples to this - Indonesia and other countries. We are trying to build up this wherever there is a possibility.

CLIMATE FOR PEACE

Then, there was the SAARC Conference. I am happy to note that most of the Members have welcomed it. Even though some might have said that we must make quicker progress, but when on the international forum, globalism is, as rightly said, weakening, the regional arrangements need to be followed in the pursuit of equality of all the regional members, and mutual interest of members and creation of a spirit of cooperation. Our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi gave a call in Dhaka, Bangladesh, for the creation of the spirit of SAARC, the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation. All the seven countries working together can create a climate for peace, stability and cooperation. Although we have kept the political and contentious problems out of the SAARC, the idea is that once this spirit of SAARC and the process of SAARC proceeds further, its roots gets strengthened, we will be able to deal in a better climate with even the bilateral and other problems. Ultimately, the idea is to find a solution to the global problems, to strengthen globalism and in the process, the charter of United Nations is to create a better world with peace and stability on the basis of cooperation and peaceful coexistence. The idea is to make use of all the avenues. The point that I am making is that India has been pursuing this actively on all fronts, whether it be economic fronts, whether it be bilateral fronts, re--66>

gional fronts or in the United Nations. The United Nations is facing problems, on whose side are we? In the matter of cut of its funds, the withdrawal from and weakening of the UNESCO and other multilateral agencies, we are always on the side of the United Nations and are working hard.

MORAL STRENGTH

Hon. Members, Mrs. Meira Kumar was right in saying - she had the experience of the Foreign Office for twelve and half years, although she is new to Parliament - that we do not determine the success of foreign policy in a day or by one incident, but we

have to see its direction. Even the mightiest of powers do not achieve what they want with all the strength that they have. India's power is the correctness of its policy, the principles behind its policy and the moral strength with which she pursues those policies and not make compromises. In order to earn quick dividends, India will never make compromises. That is the tradition we have been following.

I will give you one instance. India cut off all its relations with South Africa even in 1946. At that time, twenty per cent of our trade was with South Africa, but we cut that off. Compare it with bigger countries, powerful countries, because they are continuing to do it; it is because they have certain interests; India does not have. That is the tradition of our Policy, whether it is our foreign policy or economic policy. Its root lies in the high moral values of our national movement and the quality of our leadership. Our leaders in this country gave a high level of moral values to our foreign policy. I would again repeat that we would never make any compromises.

With these general remarks, I will now come to some of the points made by the Hon. Members. I would like to deal with two subjects in detail because they have been raised by almost every Member. I am not able to deal with some of the subjects, but that does not mean that I did not pay any attention to them; that is because of the shortage of time and the length of the speech I may ultimately end up with.

These two subjects are Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Let me first take up Pakistan. Many Members have spoken about our relations with Pakistan; there have been some complimentary as also some critical references. I would like to state our policy with regard to this important neighbour. As Members are aware, our relations with Pakistan have been different in character and content to our relations with any one of the other neighbours. We have had a chequered past. We have fought three wars and an atmosphere of confrontation and distrust and sometimes even hostility had been a constant factor.

PROF.K.K. TEWARY: We had been attacked thrice. They attacked us.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Yes. I agree. But we did not run way. We fought and won.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

A major development in bilateral relations was the Simla Agreement of 1972. This has been a watershed in our relations with Pakistan, Since then, the two nations have been at peace. In spite of contradictions in Pakistan's policy, as mentioned by some hon. members, we have always reiterated our commitment to this historic agreement and we stood by it in letter and spirit. India desires cooperation, harmony and friendship with all her

neighbours. This applies equally to Pakistan. As such, while we know as to what we would like our future to be, we cannot also set aside the experience of the past and we will decide our policy on the realities of today.

On Friday, Hon. member Shri Sharad Dighe was mentioning that General Zia was taking us for a ride. I can assure him that we do only what is in our interest. No one can make us do anything to the contrary.

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NO EUPHORIA OR ILLUSION

Now much has been said about the euphoria or illusion or even melodrama of the visit of President Zia. President Zia's visit on 17th December had resulted in some understanding between the two leaders. This was the culmination of discussions which had taken place till then. In the past 16 months, our Prime Minister and President Zia had six meetings. There was one meeting with Prime Minister Junejo in Stockholm. The fact that the leadership at the top level and at the level of Foreign Ministers, Foreign Secretaries and even Finance Ministers have been meeting, talking and discussing is, itself, a qualitative change. We agreed on several measures and these were aimed at normalisation of relations and development of greater confidence and trust amongst each other. The Finance Ministers met and they opened discussions about trade. The Defence Secretaries met and discussed about the Siachin Glacier. The Foreign Secretary went to Islamabad and discussed about the No War Pact offered by Pakistan and the Peace and Friendship Treaty offered by us. There has been some progress in the trade talks. For the first time Pakistan agreed in principle that private trade would be opened. So far Pakistan has banned all trade from India. Now they have agreed to remove that ban. Details about the items and all that are to be discussed. It was decided that the Secretaries will meet and decide upon the details on that. The Defence Secretaries did not agree on anything concrete but they agreed about the basic principle. Even regarding this sensitive matter of the border, where the troops are facing each other eyeball to eyeball, it was decided that we will not resort to force in settling the dispute about the Siachin Glacier. This is the first thing. Secondly, they said that they would meet again in Delhi, discuss these things and then settle the matter. This itself is the change and this change is worthwhile. The fact of the matter is that since then the Foreign Secretaries also discussed it and they decided to meet again.

SECURITY DIMENSIONS

We did not expect that the peace and friendship treaty and the integration of the two things, viz. the Non-aggression Pact and the peace and friendship treaty will be settled in one round of talks. We need more rounds of talks. Even the discussion on non-

striking of each other's nuclear facilities has been criticised. Why have all sorts of motives been attributed. We have said it does not mean any change in our nuclear policy. It only means that both the countries will not strike each other's nuclear facilities. And so far as India is concerned, we have certainly no intention of striking. So, if there is an agreement, certainly there is no point of striking at nuclear facilities. That does not mean that there is any change in all sorts of things. So things are being said that there is a change, that they have accepted Pakistan's nuclear right to make bombs and all these things. We have not. And we have said this that it is our belief and we know that Pakistan's nuclear programme is not at all peaceful. We are prepared for it.

Once Pakistan acquires a nuclear bomb, it changes the entire security dimension in the country. We are prepared for all that. But this agreement about non-strike of nuclear facilities between the two countries is that the idea is only to create a climate of confidence. I was telling of the past conflicts, confrontation and even wars. To build up on a basis of friendship, you must first create confidence. These are all confidence building measures. What was agreed to between the two leaders on December 17 was a confidence building measure, and ultimately leading to two Foreign Ministers' meeting and deciding about the peace and friendship treaty and working out, if there is an agreement to that basic thing. The Prime Minister on the invitation of President Zia will visit Islamabad. There is neither any melodrama nor an illusion in our policies about good neighbourly relations. These are not all in a "shambles". The idea is how differently we proceed on building re--68>

lations with Pakistan. What is our objective? I would also like to mention to the Hon. Members that such developments have not been uncommon in our relations with Pakistan.

There has been no change in our policy towards Pakistan of any kind. We have to persevere in our efforts for a durable peace so that our scarce resources can be utilised for the betterment of the content and quality of life of our people and not diverted to defence. So what we are trying to build up is the durable structure - a framework of peace with Pakistan and we will seek it, but all the time, don't say that we will be failing in our duty, if we lower our guards against our defence or security. I agree with the Hon. Member when he made the point that the real difficulty comes from the outside forces operation. We have said it in this House times without number that the difficulties in this region, in the Indian Indian Ocean, in South-Asia, in the Persian Gulf, all these areas come because of the involvement of the outside power- major outside powers. This has affected the Indian Ocean on which we have unanimous declaration of the United Nations that it should be made as a Zone of Peace. But instead. there is a military presence of all kinds and this has become not

a Zone of Peace but a Zone of Conflict. This is one thing.

Then there is the outside involvement of major powers region - whether it is Pakistan or Sri Lanka or the new nexus between them. The Hon. Member said about nexus, you wanted an explanation it is there in the book itself; it says.

"the growing military nexus between Pakistan and Sri Lanka following President Jayewardene's visit to Pakistan in April, 1985 and the visit of President of Pakistan to Sri Lanka in December, 85 is being viewed with some concern."

ARMS SUPPLY

We have said times without number about involvement of major powers funds coming, and also arms' supply in some other areas of Pakistan. But, I say, if you view this in totality, you don't expect 100 per cent achievement in a day. No country, no power, as I said, the very very mighty power have not achieved their foreign policy objectives, or security objectives, or others. But the point is about the line and the directions we pursue. In this region, I can say that our relations with all the countries (Interruptions) I am coming to Sri Lanka; our relations with Sri Lanka, the bilateral relations are good; our relations with Bhutan, Bangladesh... (Interruptions) How do you say that? What problem? There is no problem.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: What do you mean? What is the content that you are putting in this statement? Sir, the Minister is making a very significant statement, that the bilateral relations between India and Sri Lanka are very good. What is the content that he is putting in his statement? It is an extraordinary statement from the Minister of External Affairs.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is not an extraordinary statement. It is a statement. It is a statement of fact. We have no bilateral problem with Sri Lanka.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Because we have diplomatic relations?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have no bilateral problem with Sri Lanka.

..SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: What is the Minister saying?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have always said, and maintained this position on bilateral relations.... it is not a problem. We have said, it in this House (Interruptions) Please hear me, and then you come to a conclusion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I think the Minister said it sarcastically. (interruption)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: In Sri Lanka, are we maintaining friendly

relations even after the genocide? -69>

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Yes, that is what he says. He says there is no problem. (Interruption)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This is a very emotional issue, I know; but let us build on certain solid basis of facts and foundation. I was saying that our relations... (Interruptions) Will you hear me now? (Interruptions) On our relations with all our neighbours, about Pakistan I have dealt with, about Sri Lanka, I said and I maintain that our bilateral relations with Sri Lanka are not bad. They are good.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are they good?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Yes, they are good. (Interruptions) Otherwise, i.e. if the bilateral relations have not been good, on a problem which is, as we have said -and all the sections of the House agree an ethnic problem, i.e. the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka is an internal problem, how will the Government of Sri Lanka ask for our good offices to be used? Which country will do it, if it does not trust you.... (Interruptions)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: On his own he is not concerned. He is taking a very philosophical attitude. It is not only a diplomatic attitude; it is a philosophical attitude.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Phrase it differently.

PROF: MADHU DANDAVATE: I feel the Minister said it sarcastically, when he said that the relations with Sri Lanka are good.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Sarcasm is for some other occasion, not for a serious matter like this. I still maintain it. I said: you take the history of it. This problem is a very emotional problem. I agree. But, you know, (Interruptions) they asked for our good offices, to help them in settling this issue. What were we doing? To which country you will go.... (Interruptions)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Are we seeking the sequence of events? Everybody in this House knows the sequence of events.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It you disturb me like this, you cannot... (Interruptions) I am going to make my own statement. (Interruptions) I maintain the position that our bilateral relations with Sri Lanka are good; and there is trust at the level of the Prime Minister, and the President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka. (Interruptions) They have asked us in the last ten months....

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI SOMNATH RATH): Allow the Hon. Minister to reply.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: For the last ten months, on their request, we were using our good offices to help them in settling the problem. (Interruptions) This can only happen if the relationship is friendly and good-neighbourly. (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: Then what happened?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Otherwise, this can never happen. You cannot ask anybody....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: At least accept Prof. Tewary's formulation: Not that it is always good, but this time it is better. But all the same, since late 1983 the Government have made their good offices available to Sri Lanka to work out a political solution. We believe that this is a problem that Sri Lanka is facing, it is a very serious problem and it has aroused the concern not only in one section, but in all sections of the House; it is in the entire country, All the Members have spoken. This matter has to be settled, but on what basis? (Interruption)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Members are concerned, but the Minister does not seem to be concerned.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: No, no. I am more than concerned. -70>

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: The Minister does not seem to be concerned. (Interruption)

AN HON. MEMBER: It is your philosophy.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI SOMNATH RATH): Let the Minister reply, no interruptions please.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The Minister is more than concerned but he should not lose perspective and the direction. In fact, firstly, what has been our direction and perspective? Now the position is, the first thing we have been saying right from the beginning is that all killings, of innocent civilians must stop. We have been saying that first we tried, after the Thimpu talks to work out a framework of cease-fire, and the cease-fire was there, but when there was any violation, we said that the violation must stop. I said it in the House that the responsibility of the Sri Lankan Government to stop the violence is there, that they must restrain their security forces. I said it.

That is our position, that if you want any solution... (Interruptions)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This, if I may say so, is immaturish or melodramatic, if we do something, anything like that.

AN HON. MEMBER: Like what? (Interruption)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: You do not want to.... (Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI SOMNATH RATH: There should not be a running commentary. Let the Minister reply.

NEIGHBOUR

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is a sovereign government, it is our neighbour, they have a problem, and it is recognised by every body that is an internal problem of Sri Lanka, it has been recognised by everybody that this problem has to be solved, and it is a problem of unity and integrity of Sri Lanka, then what do the Hon. Member want. Even if he is from my side, what does he mean when he says that, "you are not doing anything"? We are doing everything possible. So, let us know what can be done and this is what I am saying. I say that the first thing that has to be done is the killings should stop, as we have been saying. There is collapse of cease-fire. But now the killings are going on, and the killings are going on because of the reported pursuit of a policy by the Sri Lankan Government that they want to go in for a military option before they go in for a political solution.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: That is the whole point.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We are totally opposed to this. If that is the situation if the Sri Lankan Government thinks that there can only be a military solution to this problem, well, we have no role to play. Then we have no rule to play. (Interruption)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Why do you not bring an ultimatum then?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This is a very complex problem.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Now, you say you have no role to play.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I think the Hon. Members get jittery when they get the facts. Otherwise, they should not disturb me. You hear me. Hear me and tell me that you do not agree with this. I openly say. Our policy is very straightforward, very clear and very categorical.

I am the one who had got the worst from the Sri Lankan Parliament, and every body there for making a correct - absolutely correct - statement, when I was calling a spade a spade. I should not lose sight of it. We are trying to solve a great human problem. Some Hon. Mem-bers said "Do not get impatient". I agree -71>

that in this matter we have to exercise great patience and we should exercise great restraint. But all the same, you must drive on the correct path. The correct path is that the killings must stop immediately. As long as the killings of the civilians do not stop, there cannot be any political talk or anything. This is here the Sri Lankan Government has to change because first they said political option and then they said military option first and political option afterwards, meaning thereby what is happening there as a result of this accelerated killing and violence. There is, and this is the only impression we get a feeling that the Sri Lankan Government are talking of political solution to us and using our good offices, our Foreign Secretary goes there, repeatedly runs around, but they do not want to pursue that. He brings together various elements of a political solution - land settlement, devolution of powers of the zonal councils, district councils. All these are discussed and then we go back to square number one. This will not do. Therefore, I made a strong statement that now they should tell us if they are serious about finding a solution to it. We cannot keep on dragging an naseum.

The Sri Lankan Government in their last communication have told us that they want our good offices and they want a political solution. But still, as you must have seen the Prime Minister's statement - he made two statements from Baroda -he said that the killings must stop and that they should talk directly to all shades of Tamils. They have to create confidence. At this moment, they should start the negotiations directly with the Tamils. If at that moment, there is any difference which requires narrowing down or there is anything to help them, we will do that. The first condition is that the killings must stop as they still believe in the political solution.

You asked as to what we had done in the international forums and said that all are in their favour. All are not in their favour. They are losing ground internationally. Some Hon. Members said that we could not get anything in the Human Rights Commission. My colleague, Dr.Dhillon is here. He knows that we got what we wanted. Many members who spoke, condemned the Sri Lankan Government, the killings there and their policy of following a military solution. They opposed it. They said that they must settle this problem because it is the question of their own citizens. They must restore to them the dignity and honour. In their speeches, they said all this. This is what we wanted. The Sri Lankan Government in the Human Rights Commission stands condemned for the killings and for their behaviour there. I think, Dr. Dhillon, as our representative, has done a good job there. But here out of ignorance, we say that we have not achieved anything. Because of their wrong policies, pursuing military options and talking about political options, the Sri Lankan Government are isolated more and more. At the same time, they got involved in another wrong policy in calling Mossad, the most hated organisation of Israel - I should not borrow words from Prof. K. K. Tewary - and SAS mercenaries as well as those of South Africa reportedly, in order to build up the military

muscles and to deal with their own people. Wisdom requires that it is far better to talk to their own people and settle it. It is always easier, more cheaper to strike a bargain; otherwise, you cannot suppress three million Tamils, you cannot annihiliate them. This will ruin Sri Lanka.

My colleague said, the other day, that if they follow the military option - he is a very experienced diplomat, I am a politician, so I speak very straightforwardly - they will tie themselves in knots which they will find difficult to unravel. I think, he is right in that. Therefore we say that we will help them if they want to pursue this policy. The objective is that the aspirations of the ethnic Tamils in Sri Lanka must be met. Their legitimate demands for devolution and for the autonomy and for various other things should be met within the overall framework of this policy. It should be the duty of any wise government to accommodate their own people. You see our own example how we have tried to accommodate the various -72>

sections We cannot apply different rules to Sri Lanka.... (Interruption)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: By the time you reach an accord, all the Tamils will be dead.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Right now.... (Interruption).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, I think it seems the Sri Lankan Government, in spite of the good offices of Indian Government, is not sincere and I think they want to prolong the issue and they want to strengthen their hands for some military solution. That is what everybody feels I think.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Sir, I have taken long time on this but because this is a very emotional issue... (Interruption).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Now we are convinced that our relations with that country are... (Interruption).

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: After all that he has said, we are convinced that there are very good, excellent relations with Sri Lanka.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: With other neighbours also. I think you won't challenge our relations with Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh. The ongoing relations with these countries are good. The framework of cooperation is building.

About Burma my Hon friend said that we are neglecting Burma, You cannot lay the charge that we are neglecting Burma, when we sent Prof. G. G. Swell, our Ambassador there.... (Interruption).

SHRI G. G. SWELL: The biggest joke of the century.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: If the relations are not active and not grown, Prof. Swell knows that we are not responsible for it. On our part we want to build up friendly relations with Burma.... (Interruption)

SHRI G. G. SWELL: Burma is saying we have no cognitive thinking.

RELATIONS WITH USA

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Shall I say something about USA if the House permits me? A number of things have been said. Some of the Members have referred to our relations with USA. Our relations are good and improved. Particularly with the visit of the Prime Minister in last June and his talks with President Reagan and other leaders and his subsequent talks with President Reagan in United Nations when he went there in October in connection with the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. It has given a positive momentum to our relationship. Some Members have said does it mean a shift in our policy. It does not mean a shift in our policy because our basic principle has been that we want to build friendly relations with all countries. Of course, our emphasis is with the neighbours. With Soviet Union we have a special relationship - the time-tested relationship of 30-35 years. So, that is a special relationship which we have -a treaty of peace and friendship. The Soviet Union is one country which has always stood by us in our times of crisis, in difficult times and you know a friend in need is a friend indeed and that applies to Soviet Union. If anybody thinks that our building a close relationship or better relations with United States will in any way dilute our relations with the Soviet Union, he is in illusion. If the word 'illusion' applies anywhere that applies there if anybody thinks like that. But let me put in perspective our relationship with USA. Since Independence, our 'relations with USA have followed an uneven course. We have had differences in perception. There have been occasions when U.S. foreign policy and the strategic objectives have militated against India's security and development interests in South Asia and the Indian Ocean. We want to improve relations with all countries, whether big or small, and are prepared to meet them half way. It is with this basic approach that we are trying to strengthen our relations with the United States. This is -73>

not being done either at the cost of our relations with other countries or by changing our consistent stand on various international issue.

Then, Hon. Members asked me some questions. Shri Indrajit Gupta put some questions. They are with regard to my visit to Washington in connection with the Joint Commission meeting....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Your reported speech.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Let me say this. This was a Joint Commission meeting. The relations discussed were purely bilateral.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Bilateral relations are always good.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I met the President; and Vice President; of course, also the Secretary of State and Defence Secretary. He asked me two specific questions. He said: Senator Moynihan asked you about the voting record and you said I will look into it. I did not say I will look it. This was in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee meeting. He suddenly came out. He was not a member. (Interruption) Later on I was told, he was not a member. He just came in. (Interruption) he came in as in a Parliamentary Committee where even a non-member can attend; he just came in...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No, no. How can he attend?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I was told this.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: You please exlain it a little more.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am giving all the background. I will come to that. I was told that he was not a member of the Committee.

SHRI G. G. SWELL: This thing can happen in the United States; they do happen.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: He came to attend. I think all the Senators can attend the Committee as here any member can attend the committee.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Only those who are called as witnesses can come before the parliamentary Committee.

SHRI G. G. SWELL: We walked into Senate Chamber when it was sitting.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Informally...

SHRI G. G. SWELL: ... and we were congratulated inside here.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Anyway, I don't vouchsafe, but I was told. I am only giving you the background. I was told.

SHRI G. G. SWELL: It is quite possible. It is normal practice there

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We want to know what he said.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: He came out with a study done by his committee, or some Committee in the Senate, of the voting records of all countries, India, China and others. It was 16 per cent for

and the rest against. China was 22 per cent for and rest against. All these figures he was giving. To that I said, we have not made any studies of our voting and I have no facts and when I go back I will have a look. I did not say I will look into it.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: You are Foreign Minister of a great country. You owe an explanation to him. Why? (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please.

PROF.MADHU DANDAVATE: You could have told him - mind your own business.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: What more I said also I have not said as yet.... (Interruption) -74>

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Order, order.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I think you should have.... (Interruption)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: It is much worse.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is not much worse. I said, I don't have any statistics.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: Why should you have? Who is he to ask?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: You have a very poor opinion of your Foreign Minister, - that anybody will ask questions and he will give an explanation. No. I did not give an explanation. I said, I don't have the figure. (Interruption) Please hear me. (Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him finish. (Interruption)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: This is unfair. I am angry at him that he has such a poor opinion. I don't have a poor opinion of him if he says something. He should know me.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: It is not a question of my opinion about you or your opinion about me. It is a matter of fact.... (Interruption)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I have spent my time for the freedom of the country. I would have given my life. Now he says I can barter away that.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHPAP: This is not the time to get agitated. It is not a question of.... (Interruption).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Unnikrishnan, let the Minister finish it, I don't want interruptions. You can ask later when he finishes. Let him finish. Please sit down.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT:..Firstly I have a right to admonish Mr. Unnikrishnan because I am senior to him, as a friend. I would never attribute motive and mudslinging as 'you are giving explanation'. I know how to behave. You look at what I said next. I said, 'Mr. Senator Moynihan, it is the United States which has been voting against India and the Soviet Union which has been voting with India. It is not India which has been voting against the United States.' You forget about this and don't hear all this. I said, the issues before the U.N. are all global issues. I said of South Africa, of Namibia, on the global issues, of Palestine and all these other things. I said, 'It is you who have taken a stand against the people. The Soviet Union has been with us.' This is the reply I gave. You forget about it. It is said that I have bartered away the country's honour. (Interruptions).

About the other point, Finlandisation or Austriaisation.. - I did not use this expression. It was the expression used by the press, I never used it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But you mentioned those two countries.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: No, no. I did not mention them. They used this expression 'Finlandisation'. I never used it, I am not that much good in English. Finlandisation and Austriaisation - I never used those words.

The third thing you asked is in a different context. (Interruption)

PROF. G. G. SWELL: In what context?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It will take more time, he knows it.

Then he asked me another question: 'Why are you sending, Arya Samaj delegation? Don't have any relations with South Africa. You are sending Arya Samaj delegation...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What I asked you was, the papers said that you had given some assurances to them which -75>

satisfied them so much that they agreed to give you some high technology which they have never given before to a developing country. I asked, what were those assurances.

HIGH TECHNOLOGY

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I did not discuss the high technology thing. That I never discussed with them and the question of any conditions - it was mentioned to be about the super computer they were willing to give to us, which we wanted for monsoon studies and meteorological studies. This is done by the science and technology people. I never discussed it and the question of what

conditions are there, what guarantees are there is a matter bilaterally to be settled between the two Departments. I did not give any assurance, nor was I asked because the question does not arise. The Arya Samaj delegation to South Africa - well, this was raised last time. Out of respect for Madhuji I did not say anything. (Interruptions). You did not remember, but you know....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am far from Arya Samaj. (Interruptions)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: No, no. You hear me. I did not say....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You can abuse me in any way, but don't call me as Arya Samaji (Interruptions).

SOUTH AFRICA

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: When you hear me, you will see - you know, last time I did not utter a word although all sorts of things were said. Even you came up and said, 'Why did you give it? I looked into the facts. For the first time it was decided because there are nearly 700 to 800 thousand Indians living there. For religious purposes, for discourse or something because many of them are Arva Samajis, it was decided that they should go, and for the first time it was decided - five or six, the number was decided - to send them. That was in the year 1978 when the Janata Government was there, and Madhuji was there. Interruptions). I did not say this because, I did not want to. Then, in 1980, this matter came up. I went into the matter. I also saw the anomaly and I was surprised as to how it happened. It happened in 1978. They were sending the delegation from 1978. In 1980, Indiraji came back to power, Congress - I came back to power. It was decided at the high level, "We should send it, since a decision has already been taken. But we should restrict the number". They wanted a large number. We restricted it to 3 to 5 and not more than that. This is continuing since then.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You want to allow it to continue.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Well, we will examine it. If it is the desire of the House that from next year we should not send it, we will examine it. I have no strong views on this.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Now, your permission is required to reexamine it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What about the visit of diamond merchants from Bombay who I have named and shown you that photograph?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Have they gone to South Africa?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Mp goodness. All that I had spoken, you were not listening. I gave some names of the diamond merchants who went to South Africa from Bombay, with all the photographs with

their reception there and everything. How were they allowed to go.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I am sorry. I had not looked into it.

I will look into it now. Normally, we do not have any commercial relations with them.

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SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: But people are going. All sorts of clandestine things are going on.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I will have a look into it. My Department as not briefed me on this. They have not briefed me.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They have gone to South Africa. That would create a bad image. What would the Africans feel about it - India's hypocrisy? Please do something.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Now about the two Kuwaitis who had come here, this is a matter on which I have been informed that the Ministry of Home Affairs feel that this is a case of official lapse and they are taking action against erring officers.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: You should see it. That comes under you, not under them. I did not ask it. They were refused visas

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Should I offer explanation for refusing visas?

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: This House can ask the reasons for refusing visas. (Interruptions.)

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: They came under "Visa Applied For". Their passport was imprinted, "Visa Applied For". That stamp was there on their passport. That was the status - visa applied for.

SHRI G. G. SWELL: They were allowed to come; they were received and treated as State guests.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: A point was made about the difficulty of Indian workers abroad. You have made a point about visa. You have said about the double citizenship, is it not?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I said; Indians who want to come back to meet their family here are required to get visa from Indian Embassy from that country.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is only for those who want to go to Punjab. Otherwise there is no problem.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: That is the problem.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That is the temporary phase for security reason. As soon as the situation is normal....

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: That is for more than three years now.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Now, about the Indian workers abroad, the point is, they are looked after by the Ministry of Labour and the respective Gulf country of North African country where they are working. By law, our Missions are not allowed to intercede on their behalf. They have courts. If there is any legal matter, they have court facilities. They have to go there. We cannot interfere.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: But our Mission can use their good offices.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Yes, good offices can only be used if they accept them. So, to that extent, we can do. But as a matter of right, as a matter of fact, as a missionary function, we cannot do it.

There are a number of other areas but I think the House may be tired by now.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: The training and shelter of terrorists by U.K. America and Canada, you have not touched. That is important.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That I can find there. So far, you know the House has expressed great concern about the anti-Indian activity of the extremists and the lack of action on behalf of the Governments there. So far as United Kingdom is concerned, insensitivity to India's concern has taken the form of the U.K. granting privileged entry into the United Kingdom and resident facilities to Khalistanis. There has been violence and even murder of the moderate Sikhs there some of whom are -77>

Indian nationals, by these extremists, as well as forcible seizure of Gurdwaras around 20 out of 140 seized, thus far. Inflammatory, and communally tinged writings in the U.K. based ethnic media have become a standard feature. Government have always drawn attention to this repeatedly.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Have you lodged protest you have been drawing attention for several years? You should have lodged a protest by now.

CHINA

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: With China following, as I said, the good neighbourly relations with all our neighbours, we have been trying to normalise relations with China also and there have been exchanges in other fields cultural, commercial and others. But with China, the central issue in our relationship with China, is the border and the vacation of the territories which they have

occupied. For this we have told them and we are discussing. Unless this question is settled, our relations with China cannot be normal and, therefore, we had six rounds of boundary talks with them. The last one was in Delhi and we are going to have seventh round this year, mutually convenient day. The substantive issues regarding the border have been discussed. In the first five rounds, we discussed principles. In the sixth, we discussed substantive issues and the relations stand at that point.

A INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SRI LANKA PAKISTAN SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE PERU ALGERIA INDONESIA BANGLADESH SWEDEN MALI BHUTAN ISRAEL NEPAL BURMA CHINA AUSTRIA FINLAND KUWAIT CANADA UNITED KINGDOM

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KOREA

Banquet in Honour of South Korean Premier - Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 04, 1986 of the speech made by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on March 3, at the banquet hosted in honour of Mr. Shinyong Lho, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and Mrs. Shinyong Lho:

You Prime Minister are no stranger to us. You were your country's Ambassador to India for several years. We had the opportunity of receiving you in 1982 as the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea. It is a great pleasure to welcome you back. We also extend a warm welcome to Madam Lho and the distinguished members of your delegation.

Centuries ago, Korea and India came together through the Buddha's message of tolerance, peace and compassion. Our contemporary world needs to recognise the essential truth of that message. Billions of dollars are being spent every day on manufacturing and stockpiling deadly arms of mass destruction. There is the danger of nuclear arms race being extended to new dimensions.

The six-nation initiative on nuclear disarmament has helped to alert public opinion around the world to the imperative requirement of a nuclear freeze and a comprehensive test ban treaty as immedate practical steps towards nuclear disarmament. The summit meeting between General Secretary Gorbachov and President Reagan in Geneva last November has helped decrease

tensions but there is still a long way to go to free the world of the nuclear menace. We need peace for economic development. Economic growth is fostered by cooperation and cooperation -78>

in turn engender development. Dynamic new complementarities arise out of the expansion and diversification of our economies.

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

In this perspective, the remarkable economic performance of your country in recent years and the strides that we in India have made since independence set a stage for a considerable enhancement of our bilateral relationship. It is a matter of satisfaction that commercial and economic exchanges between our two countries have increased significantly in recent years. The potential for the further development of these exchanges is considerable. Your present visit and the discussions you have had with representatives of our trade and industry will, we are sure, contribute to this end. Trade and economic relations should be promoted on a balanced basis so that both partners can look forward to a mutually beneficial growth. Both the Republic of Korea and India, have made considerable progress despite the unfavourable, even at times hostile, international economic environment. Development assistance is being curtailed and protective barriers are rising. Many developing countries find themselves caught in a severe debt crunch. Developed world is also in crisis lurching from recession to short-lived recoveries. These problems can only be solved on a global scale together recognising that in our inter-dependent world all of us have a common stake in the world's prosperity.

Unfortunately, the North-South dialogue is in an impasse. To get it started again calls for imaginative international statesmanship. In our region, we have sought to develop closer cooperation with our neighbours. The launching of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation will help promote cooperative and harmonious relations amongst -the countries of this region in which a very large segment of the world population lives.

Excellency, we wish the Korean people well in their endeavour to resolve the Korean question. We welcome the commencement of dialogue on the Korean question signalled by the North-South joint statement of the Republic of Korea and the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea on 4th July, 1972. We have since followed with interest the dialogue at various levels. We hope that the problems of the Korean peninsula will be resolved through peaceful negotiations without any outside interference.

I am confident that your visit to India will contribute further to the growing friendship and cooperation between our countries. It is our endeavour to nurture these ties and we hope increasing exchanges in all fields will take place in the years to come.

We had the privilege of hosting the Asian Games in New Delhi three years ago. You host them in Seoul later this year. We wish you every success.

May I request you, ladies and gentlement, to raise your glasses to the good health and happiness of Prime Minister and Madam Lho, to the success and well-being of the people of the Republic of Korea, friendship and cooperation between our countries.

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REA INDIA USA RUSSIA SWITZERLAND

Date: Mar 04, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

India's Foreign Policy - Shri Bhagat Addresses IndonesianForeign Affairs Forum

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 15, 1986 by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat on India's foreign policy with a special reference to the role of India as NAM Chairman at the Foreign Affairs Forum, Indonesia, on March 15, 1986:

I thank you for this privilege of addressing the present assembly of thinkers and opinion makers and to share with you some thoughts on the evolution of India's foreign policy. The increasing involvement of academics and intellectuals in the formulation of foreign policy is a global phenomenon in our century with farreaching implications. This important aspect of domestic political processes has complemented the parallel democratisation of international relations. Informed debate and rational analysis have released international diplomacy from the narrow circle of monarchs and statesmen and made it more responsive to the complex imperatives of a changing and interdependent world.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Geography and history have spawned ties between our two nations that span across millennia. Long before the dawn of the modern age, India and the picturesque islands of Indonesia were partners in a historic relationship of trade, thought and culture.

If we have shared these ties in ancient times, we have suffered equally the depredations of colonialism in a later age. The Dutch quest for lucrative trade in spices and the East India Company's exploitation of traditional Indian handicrafts were facets of the same historical process. The mutual inspiration between our freedom movements reinforced our historical affinity. One may recall with satisfaction the modest contribution made by India in the freedom struggle of Indonesia against the foreign rule.

CROSS CURRENTS OF CULTURE

The Indian sub-continent has been the scene of many invasions and a fertile meeting ground for several cross-currents of culture and religion. Over centuries the Indian people have shown an exceptional ability to adapt and assimilate and make many an invader one of their own.

This belief in synthesis, diversity and co-existence, characteristic of the Indian national ethos, naturally made a major impact on the evolution of Indian thinking vis-a-vis the modern world. It meant that we could not be indifferent to the changes sweeping the rest of the world.

TURBULENT DECADES

As early as in 1920, the Indian National Congress adopted a resolution on foreign policy emphasising our desire to cooperate with other nations and developing friendly relations with all our neighbours, Jawaharlal Nehru, throughout 1920's and 30's, campaigned ceaselessly to bring home the intimate links binding India's destiny with major convulsions rocking the globe in these turbulent decades. The Indian National Congress criticised Fascism and extended solidarity to victims of imperialist and Fascist aggression in Manchuria, Abbysinia, and Spain. In the days of the Second World War, the Congress combined this sympathy with its struggle to end British rule in India and offered support to the Allied War effort by a free India. Nehru was conscious of this duality. Writing from -80>

prison during the Quit India Movement he said: "The two parts of this dual policy did not automatically fit into each other; there was an element of mutual contradiction in them. But that contradiction was not of our own creation; it was inherent in the circumstances and was inevitably mirrored in any policy that arose from those circumstances - we emphasised the absurdity of holding aloft the banner of democracy elsewhere and denying it to us in India".

HUMANE LIBERAL OUTLOOK

In 1947, Independent India thus inherited a vision based on

instinctive sympathy for the oppressed and suppressed peoples of the world together with a humane liberal outlook, the legacy of a generation whose heroes had been Burke, Carlyle and Mill. From Nehru this vision gained an additional dimension of a concern for equality, distributive justice and socialism.

Despite the vicissitudes inherent in a democratic form of Government, this perspective has endured and forms the core of a national consensus on foreign policy which cuts across the wide spectrum of ideology in India today. The assimilative national ethos has imbued both foreign policy and the democratic development effort with the spirit of synthesis, reconciliation and co-existence in a world of diverse interests and ideologies. It has enabled India to play an effective role as the current Chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, both in pursuing objectives which were set during the period of our struggle for independence, and in tackling the newer challenges thrown up by the post Second World War world.

BANDUNG CONFERENCE

As a newly free nation we placed paramount importance on our freedom to judge, evaluate and act and sought similar freedom for others. The great movement of decolonisation whose beginnings coincided with our own independence was a natural priority on our foreign policy agenda. It is in this context that we look back with pride to the Bandung Conference of 1955 as the abiding symbol of the great awakening which has stirred and galvanised the nations of Asia and Africa Since the middle of this century. It was a great moment in our history which helped unshackle the minds of young nations and imbued them with the confidence to stand upright and seek an independent future. It was the first institutional manifestation of their determination to free themselves from the apron strings of erstwhile colonial masters and paved the way for the first Summit of Non-aligned countries in Belgrade in 1961. The powerful impetus to de-colonisation given by Bandung and the great strides of freedom that followed in every part of the world is a matter of history.

While, on the one hand, we reached across a hand of friendship to the developing nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America, we also sought cooperative relations with other countries. It is a tribute to Jawaharlal Nehru's statesmanship that he overcame the bitter history of two hundred years of British domination and opted for a search for new links with Britain within the framework of the Commonwealth. Similarly, we resolved the problem of French possessions in India through peaceful negotiations which paved the way for the full flowering of our excellent relations with France today.

PRINCIPLED CAPACITY

Our pursuit of non-alignment has sometimes attracted the label of

'neutrality', even immorality. It is a matter of some satisfaction to non-aligned countries that such charges are rarely heard these days. Through twenty five years of its existence, the movement has shown its capacity to act in a meaningful and principled way and contributed significantly to lowering of tensions globally. We have not been neutral or fence-sitters when our principles have been challenged or violated whether in South Africa, Namibia or in the denial of just Palestinian rights.

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As a movement of developing countries most of whom still carry an enormous load of backwardness and poverty, it is natural that the Non-aligned Movement should have given increasing attention to economic cooperation. The global economic crisis has seen its worst victims among developing countries. The continued impasse in the North-South dialogue on global economic issues and the receding prospects for a New International Economic Order further underline the imperative of cooperation among developing countries. In your part of the world, ASEAN is a good example of how concerted endeavour in a spirit of mutual good can help us overcome some of these difficulties.

We have also attempted a process of cooperation among countries of South Asia. Being in the centre of the Indian sub-continent and also due to its size, India stands in the centre of a complex of other interests; in a way a link between West Asia, Central Asia, South Asia and the Indian Ocean region. India has made all possible efforts to promote stability in the South Asian region.

IMMENSE POTENTIAL FOR COOPERATION

Despite some difficulties, there is a much greater realisation in South Asia today of the region's immense potential for cooperation. A momentous step in this direction was taken at the Dhaka Summit of December '85 when leaders of the seven countries of the region launched the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). This high-level political commitment to regional efforts for shared objectives has been a significant contribution to the development of a climate of trust and goodwill in South Asia.

This is not to say that we have succeeded in smoothening all our differences with our neighbours. Historical prejudices and antagonisms, which have so often in the past hindered any efforts to foster a spirit of cooperation, have not died away. Besides, the global cross currents impinging upon South Asia and drawing in the immediate vicinity into the arena of major conflicts, have generated fresh tensions and stress. Nevertheless, we see a fresh determination to transcend barriers and a new willingness to resolve differences and disputes through negotiations.

If our relations with our neighbours have been a major current

focus of Indian foreign policy, we have remained alive to difficult situations farther ashore. The continent of Africa has occupied a special place in India's external relations. As far back as the days of the great riparian cultures, archeologists have detected evidence of contact between the people of the Nile delta and Indus valley. In more recent times, generation after generation of migrant Indians has been cruelly uprooted only to find a new home in Africa. The numerous Indian community has formed the nucleus of an entreprenurial class which has made a note-worthy contribution to the post colonial development of many an African nation.

TESTING GROUND OF GANDHI'S TECHNIQUES

There is yet another reason why African concerns have so dominated India's external relations.

Africa was the testing ground of Gandhi's revolutionary new techniques of non-violent political agitation, the home of his first experiments in 'Satyagraha'.

The pernicious doctrine of racial superiority and the policy of apartheid represent a most complete negation of Gandhi's lifelong crusade for justice and human dignity and a direct assault on the values cherished by our freedom movement. India was thus in the vanguard of the international campaign against Apartheid and was the first country to bring the issue before the United Nations in 1946. We voluntarily severed all contact with the practitioners of Apartheid in disregard of considerations of commercial gain or political advantage. Through the nearly four decades of independent India this steadfast opposition has endured and gained in strength.

POPULAR UPSURGE INN SOUTH AFRICA

To the Non-aligned Movement this represents a major challenge. The unprecedented popular upsurge in South Africa witnessed over the past one year has also helped focus international attention on the plight of the majority black population and generated a national debate in many countries. Though reluctantly, selective measures have been initiated against the Pretoria regime. As we move towards the eighth Summit of the Non-aligned Movement we shall have to intensify our efforts to strengthen these forces of meaningful change inside South Africa. That the days of Apartheid are numbered is beyond doubt. What is not certain is if sense will prevail in Pretoria to help change come about peacefully, rather than maintain its stubborn attachment to privilege and intensify repression which threaten a violent explosion. Speaking in 1960, Jawaharlal Nehru had said: "The capacity of the Government of the Union of South Africa to persist in error is really quite remarkable, but I take it that if a country, as an individual, persists long enough in error retribution comes". The

nemesis of which Nehru spoke appears imminent in South Africa.

Apartheid has generated instability and repression beyond the borders of South Africa and strengthened South African compulsion to continue in the illegal occupation of Namibia. Open sabotage and destabilisation efforts against neighbouring African countries have become established features of South African policy. The commitment of the Non-aligned Movement to these victims of South African aggression is complete, as evidenced in the consensus decision at Luanda last year to hold the eighth Summit of our movement in the heartland of the arena of conflict.

The Middle East is another area where decades of struggle have failed to bring about the realisation of the just rights of the Palestinian people. Together with its unblemished record of support to anti-colonial and anti-racist movements, the solidarity of the Non-aligned Movement with the Palestinian cause constitutes the core of consensus which has given the movement its vitality and helped it overcome pressures and differences.

The preceding decades have seen the consolidation of political independence of Non-aligned countries. Through the years we have maintained a principled opposition to military blocs and spheres of influence and strengthened our capacity for independent action. In the international arena, we have achieved major successes in the democratisation of international relations and become active participants in the multilateral process on the basis of the principle of sovereign equality.

Inevitably, as we have developed and consolidated our tenuous freedom, our priorities have moved towards the economic betterment of our people. Increasingly, efforts have been directed at countering adverse international economic trends through a joint endeavour among Nonaligned and developing countries. The Non-aligned Movement has articulated a comprehensive critique of the existing international economic system and evolved the blueprint of a New International Economic Order. Simultaneously, the imperative of South-South cooperation has been addressed a far-ranging and diverse action programme for economic cooperation. Many of the economic problems faced by developing countries are common. Yet in many others, a degree of complementarity exists. While our efforts for a North-South dialogue and the New International Economic Order have to continue in order to improve the long-term prospects of growth, our existing complementarities should be adequately harnessed.

The international developmental climate remains difficult and the global economy in crisis. New protectionist barriers are blocking our exports, concessional aid flows are being restricted. The call of Non-aligned countries for a -83>

reform of the international monetary and financial system through

an international conference has not evoked an adequate response. The debt crisis has reached alarming magnitudes, making the situation of many Non-aligned countries critical. The problem needs to be addressed with due emphasis on growth and adjustment. The responses generated so far remain woefully inadequate. The agony of the famine in large parts of Africa is an all too recent event, underlining the need for concerted efforts to overcome structural and infrastructural problems.

I have tried to sketch very briefly the evolution of India's foreign policy perspective and how if fitted into, indeed called for, a policy of Non-alignment globally. Some of the more abiding concerns of the Non-aligned Movement, as I have tried to show above, have also been among the foremost issues in our national foreign policy. This harmony of perspective has been at the root of the intimate relationship between India and the Non-aligned Movement in whose shaping Jawaharlal Nehru played such a major role.

No discussion of this subject can be complete without mentioning the signal contribution made by the Non-Aligned Movement to the cause of international peace, security and disarmament. Indeed it can be argued that the desire to strengthen peace lay at the root of the rejection by the Non-Aligned countries of the logic of the cold war and of spheres of influence. Since its formative years this concern for peace, peaceful settlement of disputes and co-existence have been the guiding principles of the Non-Aligned Movement. Non-Aligned countries have lent a powerful voice in favour of the cause of general and complete disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament.

In the context of such efforts, I may mention that the six-nation initiative launched by the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania in response to an appeal by the Parliamentarians for World Order in May, 1984. The Delhi Declaration of January 1985 is a significant contribution to global disarmament efforts and has evoked an enthusiastic response world-wide.

At the seventh Summit the Chairmanship of the Movement was entrusted to India. Our efforts in the past three years have concentrated on promoting a consensus among Non-Aligned countries on the widest possible range of issues. To this end, we have engaged in a continuous process of consultations with fellow Non-Aligned countries. Even where differences have come to the surface, inevitable in an international grouping which counts under its umbrella 101 diverse nations of the world, our effort has been to keep a process of dialogue alive.

Much has been achieved by the Non-Aligned countries since the first Belgrade Summit in 1961. Much more remains to be done. As we go to Harare, our effort must be to unitedly face these challenges.

DIA INDONESIA SPAIN USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC YUGOSLAVIA FRANCE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA BANGLADESH PERU ANGOLA ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA ZIMBABWE

Date: Mar 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Third Anniversary of India's Chairmanship of NAM

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 13, 1986 of the messages of the Vice-President, Shri R. Venkataraman and the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi sent on the occasion of the third anniversary of India's Chairmanship of the Non-aligned Movement for a National Seminar on Nonalignment and Struggle for Peace and disarmament organised by the Institute of Non-aligned Studies in New Delhi on March 13, 1986:

The following is the text of Vice-President's message:

I am glad to learn that the Indian Institute for Non-Aligned Studies is orga--84>

nising on March 13, 1986, a national seminar on 'Non Alignment and Struggle for Peace and Disarmament'.

There was a time when the group of Non-Aligned Nations was viewed with condescension by the major powers, Their neutrality was taken to mean merely an unwillingness to offend those powers by partisan stances on world affairs.

Non-Alignment now has grown in stature, numbers and content. It has become a positive factor for peace and for disarmament. Indeed, the U.N. itself regards NAM as a force. This constitutes a tribute to the founders of NAM - Nehru, Tito and Nasser. It also constitutes a challenge to the leadership of all NAM countries to adhere to its principles fearlessly and unremittingly. It has been India's privilege to chair the NAM and steer its activities. NAM has carried on a crusade for a new international economic order and global disarmament and relentlessly fought against the inhuman apartheid practised by South Africa. I hope this seminar will serve a useful purpose to the cause.

The following is the text of Prime Minister's message:

Non-Alignment as a concept has always meant much more than neutrality. It has assumed the proportions of a powerful movement standing for economic development, freedom and equality among nations. India has had the privilege of nurturing this movement and being a leading partner in its growth. Today the major task before the Non-Aligned countries is to halt the arms race and establish the only kind of peace that can be enduring, a peace based on mutual respect and love. As before, India intends to be in the vanguard of this international effort, not for glory, but because of a deep conviction and belief.

I am happy to hear that the Indian Institute for Non-Aligned Studies is organising a national seminar on "Nonalignment and Struggle for Peace and Disarmament" to mark the third anniversary of India's Chairmanship of NAM. I send my sincere good wishes fo its success.

DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Mar 13, 1986

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Reported Anchorage of US Warships off Karachi Harbour - Shri B.R. Bhagat's Statement in Lok Sabha

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 20, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat in the Lok Sabha today in response to a Calling Attention Motion by Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik and four other Members on the situation arising out of the reported anchorage of some warships belonging to the United States Seventh Fleet including the world's largest aircraft carrier "US Enterprise" off Karachi harbour:

The US Enterprise accompanied by five US Naval vessels anchored five miles west of Karachi on 15th March, 1986 and departed on 19th March. Pakistan media reports indicated the presence amongst them also of a nuclear submarine. Other reports indicated two cruisers, two destroyers and another vessel. Nearly 4,500 -85>

U.S. Military personnel were believed to be on these ships. The

Government is aware of an agreement between Pakistan and U.S. permitting visits, naval activities and ports services to each other. This is, perhaps, the large contingent to have visited Pakistan in recent times. The U.S. Ambassador in Delhi had without giving details, informed us in advance of the visit of these ships.

Our concern about the continuing and significant U.S. military assistance to Pakistan which in future, is likely to be on more concessional terms, has been conveyed to both the Governments at various levels from time to time. We have been consistently against Big power presence in our neighbourhood and our stand on the implementation of the U.N. Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace has been consistent and steadfast. In addition to such naval visits, we have also taken note of the increasing U.S. assistance to the Pakistan navy which has no connection with the situation in Afghanistan and reports of facilities in Gawadar and other ports being made available to other countries by Pakistan. In this connection, Hon'ble Members are aware that in a testimony before the Senate Budget Committee on February 19, 1986, the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Shultz, included Pakistan among "military access and front line States" alongwith Kenya, Oman, Moracco, Korea and Thailand. In our draft for Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation we had made a suggestion to Pakistan that neither country should give bases or military facilities to third countries on its territory as this is important for the establishment of durable peace and friendly and harmonious bilateral relations. This continues to be our view and subsequent developments have only confirmed it.

KISTAN USA INDIA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AFGHANISTAN KENYA OMAN KOREA THAILAND

Date: Mar 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Programme of Cooperation in Computers and Electronics

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 20, 1986 on the Indo-Soviet programme of cooperation in computers and electronics:

India and USSR signed here yesterday a protocol and a working programme of cooperation in computers and electronics for the

five-year period 1986-1990.

Both documents were signed by Dr. N. Seshagiri, Additional Secretary, Department of Electronics on behalf of India and Mr. V. M. Judine, Secretary, Department of USSR State Committee for Planning on behalf of Soviet Union.

It is expected that within the framework of the programme, India will export to USSR electronic items worth Rs. 167 crores between 1986 and 1990. This includes silves mica capacitor plates worth Rs. 34 crore, peripherals for computers worth Rs. 77 crores, battery cells worth Rs. 27 crores, tape drives and associated electronic equipment worth Rs. 19.4 crore, software worth Rs. 8 crore and miscellaneous electronic components worth Rs. 1.5 crore.

During the same period, India is expected to import from USSR computers and electronic equipments worth Rs. 62.3 crores. This includes EC-1045 computers for educational applications worth Rs. 2.5 crores, EC-1061 geophysical computer systems worth Rs. 25.5 crores, large general-purpose systems of EC-1066 computer class worth Rs. 21.3 crores, minicomputers, digital instrumentation and instru-

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ments for industrial applications worth Rs. 11 crores, and radiocomponents, namely, lamps, semiconductors, etc. worth Rs. 2 crores.

In the framework of bilateral cooperation both sides agreed to create an infrastructure of maintenance, spare parts supply and software support for computers to be delivered to India and electronic equipment to be delivered to USSR.

Both sides also found it worthwhile examining the possibility of participation in joint projects in third world countries including joint activities in Indian and Soviet markets in respect of computer systems. Both sides also agreed to involve Indian organisations into installation, maintenance and operation of the hardware and software as well as system engineering.

DIA USA

Date: Mar 20, 1986

Volume No

SOVIET UNION

Agreement on Festival of India in USSR and Vice-Versa Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 18, 1986 on the agreement between India and Soviet Union on the subject of festivals:

An agreement on the conduct of a Festival of India in USSR, and a reciprocal Festival of USSR in India, in 1987-1988 was today signed between H.E. Mr. P. N. Demitchev, Minister of Culture of the USSR and Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for Human Resource Development.

The agreement lays down the basic principles for the conduct of the two Festivals and the understanding between the two countries on the same. It has further been agreed that the two Festivals would be held on the principle of reciprocity, bearing in mind that the levels of exchanges in all fields would meet the highest standards of excellence, to the satisfaction of both sides.

The timing of the reciprocal India USSR Festivals in 1987 coincides with the 40th anniversary of Indian independence and the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Festival of India will be inaugurated in Moscow in June 1987, and the reciprocal Festival of USSR in India in November, 1987. Each Festival will last twelve months from date of inauguration.

The two Festivals would be held on a large-scale and would be many-faceted in nature, covering exchanges in the areas of exhibitions of fine arts, crafts, textiles, architecture, books and archival material, science and technology etc; performing arts, including classical and folk dances and music; theatre and other areas of entertainment such as circus, puppetry, magic show, film festivals, youth, women's and children's programmes, sports exchanges, seminars and symposia, including creative meetings and exchanges between workers of culture, scholars and scientists, and in the areas of health, education etc. and media exchanges, including Radio and T.V. It is also proposed to have exchanges in the field of tourism, food festivals and sales of each other's handlooms, handicrafts, folk items, books, records, cassettes and video cassettes.

After further discussions in which the details of the events that are proposed to be held under the two Festivals are listed out, a protocol will be signed at the official level by the end of September, 1986.

Among those present at signing of the agreement from the Indian side were Smt. Sushila Rohatgi, Minister of State for Education and Culture, Shri Y. S. Das, Secretary (Culture), and Shri S. K. Misra, Director General, Festival of India.

DIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Mar 18, 1986

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Shri Rajiv Gandhi Attends Funeral of Olof Palme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 15, 1986 of the text of the funeral oration by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Stockholm on March 15:

It is given to few to be both men of vision and men of action. Olof Palme's life work was a mission dedicated to translating high ideals into noble practice.

He grew into adulthood in a world emerging from the debris of imperialism and the devastation of war. Both events profoundly influenced his thinking: development and disarmament became the central concerns of his political activity. He saw in the construction of a new world order the opportunity for a resurgence of the spirit of internationalism.

In the political sphere, this meant the strengthening of the United Nations system. International relations had to be infused with respect for the sovereign equality of nations, big or small. This nascent democracy of nations had to find expression in forums where issues of common concern were discussed frankly and without fear. Nations had to be persuaded by practice and precept, to resolve conflicts through consensus and concord. Olof Palme rejected the adversary theory of international relations in which countries with different political and economic systems get themselves locked in a struggle for supremacy. The world, he saw, has place to accommodate a diversity of systems. Change may come through internal evolution but not through external imposition. He sought to substitute rivalry and confrontation with peaceful coexistence and international cooperation. In this, embodying as it were the spirit of the Charter, Olof Palme undertook difficult and delicate missions on behalf of the United Nations, in its endeavours to reduce tensions and restore the peace.

ECONOMIC SPHERE

In the economic sphere, Olof Palme saw the End of Empire as the opportunity to redress the unjust, unequal economic order which stunts growth in the developing countries and endangers prosperity in the developed. He was one of the most articulate and impassioned votaries of development through international cooperation. He saw the interests of the North and the South as complementary - progress in the South reinforcing continued growth and prosperity in the North, even as sustained recovery in the North could help sustain the development process in the South. The dialogue must be resumed Its resumption is in the interest of all. What is required is the spirit of humanism, concern and care which so characterised Olof Palme's world view.

ACUTE PERCEPTION

I got to know Olof Palme best through my association with him in the Five Continent Peace Initiative. He brought to bear on our discussions the perspective of a European leader, representing a neutrality which is close on two centuries old and sandwiched between the nuclear arsenals of the Western Alliance and the Warsaw Pact. He had an acute perception of those debilitating emotions which are at the root of the nuclear arms race: hatred and fear. To overcome these, or at any rate to counter them, requires the elaboration of an alternative strategy of security which comprehends the concerns of the nuclear weapons States but leads them away from dangerous confrontation towards disarmament.

DEDICATION TO DISARMAMENT

Olof Palme joined my mother and four other leaders in issuing an Appeal in May 1984 to halt all testing, production and development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems. They identified verification as the key element in reassuring nuclear weapons powers that a freeze would not be used as the cover for clandestine nuclear arms activity. When, therefore, the Six Nations met together in New Delhi early last year, they offered themselves, as disinterested parties with the requisite technical abilities and geographic coverage, to monitor all aspects of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The offer to undertake verification, so as to remove all doubts about compliance and possible violations, has been reiterated in the Message recently addressed to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev by all six of us. There is a poignant symbolism to this Message, perhaps the last political testament of Olof Palme's lifelong dedication to disarmament.

When Olof Palme visited India a few weeks ago he argued eloquently in his Indira Gandhi Memorial Address:

"It has thus become possible for us humans not only to annihilate an enemy, but also all others living on this planet. We can kill animals and plants, we can destroy towns and villages, we can devastate all that has been built up over generations, all around the whole of our earth. And above all: We can destroy the future of our entire civilization, devastate the existence for our children and grandchildren, eradicate all that would have come after us. That, simply, is the role of nuclear weapons if they are used."

All nations - not just those who have armed themselves with these horrendous weapons, but all of us - have the duty to urge that weapons of mass destruction be outlawed. A comprehensive, verifiable nuclear test ban will indict the spread of nuclear arms into new dimensions and set in train a process of nuclear arms control which will, hopefully, lead to nuclear disarmament.

SPECIAL PLACE IN HEARTS OF INDIANS

Olof Palme had a special place in the hearts of us Indians. He had known us well. We shall miss his ever-cheerful smile, his warmth, his boundless enthusiasm and his generous humanity. His was a sharp intellect and a generous spirit, a love of learning and an earthbound wisdom. His life was a courageous campaign against intolerance and violence.

- We offer our heartfelt condolences to his family and his bereaved nation. We salute his memory. We pledge ourselves anew to the international causes he held dear: peace on earth and goodwill among men.

EDEN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC POLAND

Date: Mar 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Prime Minister's Tribute to Olof Palme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 02, 1986 of the condolence message, broadcast over Doordarshan last night (March 1) by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:

It is difficult to believe that so vibrant a personality as Olof Palme is no more with us.

He was a cherished colleague and friend, with ancestral family

connections in India. In his inaugural Indira Gandhi memorial lecture, delivered in New Delhi a few weeks ago, he recounted the long visit he had made to India in 1953 soon after he finished his studies. He knew India well, journeying not only to the big cities, but also to remote rural corners.

That association with India, sparked in some ways, his life-long commitment to development and disarmament. He recog--89>

nised and translated into policy the essential interdependence between the prosperity of the 'North' and the growth of the 'South'.

With persuasiveness and passion he campaigned relentlessly to save mankind from a nuclear holocaust.

Hatred and fear are at the source of the mistaken belief that security can be ensured through piling up nuclear weapons.

Olof Palme and I worked together in the six-nation initiative on nuclear disarmament.

We rededicate ourselves to ridding our planet of nuclear menace and building a new world order based on peaceful co-existance.

Olof Palme's cruel assassination leaves a void in our contemporary world. We pay tribute to his memory and extend to his family and people of Sweden our sympathy and sincerest condolences."

EDEN INDIA USA

Date: Mar 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

Upgradation of Research & Development Agreement Signed BetweenIndia and UNDP

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 12, 1986 on the signing of an agreement between India and the UNDP:

An agreement for the project "Upgradation of R&D Facilities of Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO)" was signed

here today between Government of India and UNDP. The agreement was signed by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, on behalf of Government of India and Mr. G. M. Ramdy, Resident Representative on behalf of UNDP. Against a Government of India input of Rs. 33.6 million, UNDP's contribution to the project would be \$ 3.3 million (Rs. 37 million approx.) Mr. Nicky Beredjick, Director, UN Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, also singed the agreement on behalf of the UN Executive Agency.

On behalf of the Government of India the implementing agency would be the Department of Railways, through RDSO, Lucknow. This project focusses specifically in enhancing RDSO's capability to design, test and produce, in co-operation with Indian manufacturers passenger and freight rolling stock and associated systems based on the latest technology.

While the Government of India's inputs would cover the local staff, local training, indigenous equipment, land, buildings and maintenance components, UNDP assistance would be utilized for obtaining international consultancy (44 man months), training of Indian engineers abroad (126 man months) and import of sophisticated equipment to the tune of \$ 2.15 million. -90>

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date: Mar 12, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

UNICEF and India to Enhance Services for Children - \$ 175Million Master Plan Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Mar 03, 1986 on the signing of an agreement between India and the UNICEF:

A five-year master plan for the provision of services to children in India was signed here today by the Government of India and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This formalises a UNICEF commitment of \$ 175 million for children in India for the five-year period 1985-1989.

This cooperation which was approved by the UNICEF Executive Board in May last year is the largest commitment to any single country.

An amount of \$ 52 million from supplementary resources has also been earmarked for various other programmes in India.

The plan of operations was signed by the Union Secretary for Human Resource Development, Ms. Roma Mazumdar and the UNICEF Regional Director for South Central Asia, Mr. David P. Haxton.

This programme of cooperation is UNICEF's most comprehensive attempt to date to respond to the needs of children in India. It seeks to initiate, expand and accelerate services and programmes benefitting children during the five years 1985-1989. This period virtually coincides with the seventh national development plan which accords priority to development of human resources. Priority interventions in child survival and development are firmly integrated in all components of this country programme.

It comprises three clusters of activities: convergent services; technical (sectoral) services; and awareness and capacity building.

The convergent services include Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), urban basic services, women's development, and social inputs in area development. Technical services cover education, health, nutrition, water and environmental sanitation, prevention of childhood disability, and support to destitute children. The development information, programme support communication and monitoring & evaluation form part of the awareness and capacity building.

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DIA MALI USA

Date: Mar 03, 1986

April

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RMANY INDIA KENYA LIBYA USA POLAND SAUDI ARABIA SEYCHELLES SWITZERLAND TURKEY

Date: Apr 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

The following is the speech of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, while inaugurating the Second Annual Conference of World Women Parliamentarians for Peace, in New Delhi, Apr 02, 1986:

Perhaps the most pressing problem facing all of humanity today is that of peace in the world, so that we may develop and progress as best and at the fastest rate that we can. The question no more is of an arms race or the superiority of a particular system. The question has become one of survival of the human race. It is four decades after Hiroshima. But still we have not learnt how to control or do away with nuclear weapons. We still squander our resources on self-destruction, on building arsenals that can only destroy humanity. Is is time that we concentrate using these resources for the development of the human race.

The old argument is once more reviv ed that we can learn to live with nuclear weapons and arsenals. We in India reject this argument. We have found that any acceptance of such an argument can only lead to a nuclear Frankenstein monster, a ransoming of our moral responsibilities to military-technological advances, making man a hostage to so-called scientific development. In the nuclear age, perhaps, it is most essential that technical and scientific knowledge is balanced with a wisdom based not on materialism or on science and technology, but a much deeper wisdom based on spiritual strength, on the development of the human being.

In the past decades we have seen a widening of the gap between human development and scientific development as science has been developing at an increasingly faster pace. We must close this gap if we are to control nuclear weapons and make the best use of science itself. There can be no impregnable shield. For every shield that is developed there is a weapon that can be developed which will penetrate it.

CANNOT BE LEFT TO MACHINES

The thesis of mutually-assured-destruction cannot lead to peace. The situation today is moving closer and closer to machines over complete command of the use of nuclear weapons. Already the time differences between the firing of a weapon and the weapon striking have been reduced. In some cases it is six or seven minutes, in others a mere seventy or eighty seconds. There can be no human intervention when the time-frames are so short, and most certainly there can be no political decision-making in that time-span. The decision is slowly but surely going first to the military and then to a computer or some other machine which will press the button for us. This is the real danger that we are facing today.

Machines make mistakes. We have seen numerous examples of the

most sophisticated computers and radars getting activated by birds, by airliners, by defective devices, and bringing arsenals out, armed and almost in a ready-to-fire situation. We have seen most recently in the Star Wars experiment, the space shuttle was positioned 180 degrees out and the beam went in the wrong direction. This was just an experiment. But if such an error was to happen in an actual situation -93>

where a small mistake could spark off a nuclear war, it would be disastrous. Leavit to machines will be to court disaster.

The only real answer that we have is to do away with nuclear weapons completely as a first step to further disarmament. We have seen that once the arms race is in motion, which it has been now for a number of decades, the momentumbuilds and it becomes harder and harder to slow it down and to stop it. This is perhaps one of the last chances that we will get for a long time to cut back on the arms race, to pull back from the brink, to have some serious rethinking on how we really want our world to develop. There is only one answer and that has to be the elimination of nuclear weapons - elimination in a phased manner first reduction, and then complete elimination.

The first step, perhaps, is that of suspending all tests, and seeing that new development do not take place. Fundamentally, this is a question of political will. Political will comes about if there is sufficient public opinion for disarmament and peace. I must congratulate you on your getting together to raise your voices for peace and your call for gathering all women Parliamentarians, and I am sure half the world's population will be standing behind you in this call for peace. In having a political will for stopping tests, for stopping new developments, one of the biggest problems has been that of who will verify, who will be the umpire, and who will decide that violations have taken place. We, from the Five-Continent Initiative, have offered ourselves in that role. Our countries have the necessary scientific expertise. Our geographical positions and dispersal are such that we can monitor all the countries easily and well. We are non-partisan. We are committed to nuclear disarmament and peaceful co-existence. And our offer is on behalf of all humanity.

THE DELHI DECLARATION

The Six-Nation Appeal in May 1984 took place at a very sombre juncture in our history. Talks had broken down. Confrontation between the major powers on issues was increasing. Tension was rising very rapidly. A new dimension, space, was being used for nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons were being moved closer to each other to face each other across borders, reducing the timegap between the firing of a weapon and the weapon striking, and thereby, reducing any decision-time that was available. It was

following from that Appeal that we met again in Delhi in January 1985 and the Delhi Declaration was issued.

The Delhi Declaration was a yearning for peace in non-nuclear and nuclear States. It was a coming together of minds to bring about peace in the world. Following that, the leaders of the Six Nations visited the major powers and other nuclear countries and talked to other world leaders about disarmament and going back from the brink. I myself visited Moscow and Washington. Perhaps the major spirits behind the Six Nation Initiative were Indira Gandhi and Olof Palme. It is unfortunate that two such great fighters for peace had to be assassinated at the hands of violent people. But the fight that they started for peace, for harmony, for humanity, must be continued and must be taken up by all. The pressure of world opinion on the nuclear weapon countries must be built up to push them towards disarmament, towards peace.

Last November the Reagan-Gorbachev summit raised a flicker of hope when they said that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. But unfortunately, the follow-up on that meeting is much slower than we would have liked. No specific binding arrangements are coming out. What we need is an immediate halt to all nuclear testing. Testing talks were started but they remain stalled. The Soviets came out with a substantial proposal and a unilateral moratorium on testing. We still await a reciprocal US moratorium. The reluctance again seems to hinge on verification.

The Six are examining all the suggestions that have been made with great care -94>

and diligence and we hope that we will be able to provide clarifications which could lead to a consensus on verifications. But the key is a political will to really stop the nuclear arms race. The non-nuclear countries must not miss the wood for the trees. We can very easily get bound and caught in technical arguments and jargon which take unending sessions. What must be clear is the political objective that we would like to achieve. The responsibility cannot be left just to the nuclear-weapon countries. The repercussions of a nuclear holocaust will be borne by the whole world. The responsibility for preventing such a holocaust is that of the whole world.

Twenty seven years ago in 1959, the UN General Assembly called for a general and a complete disarmament. We still await that. The USA and USSR had specific proposals but still we have not made any progress. As for non-nuclear States, their very existence is at stake, at the hands of a handful of nuclear countries. We cannot and must not allow ourselves to be held at ransom in this manner.

Any nuclear exchange today cannot be a limited, tactical nuclear exchange. It will escalate very rapidly into a full-scale war. No

nuclear exchange can be limited to an area or a zone or a battlefield. It will spread. The effects of any nuclear exchange will spread perhaps even faster across the globe - ecological effects, the poisoning effects, the deforming effects. There can only be one outcome of a nuclear engagement and that is the destruction of our civilisation, the devastation of all human effort. Thousands of millions of years of development will be destroyed in a micro-second annihilating all living beings on this earth.

CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY

Nuclear war can and must only be seen as a crime against humanity, and every effort must be made to get rid of nuclear weapons. Perhaps, one route could be to outlaw them as we have done in regard to poisonous gases and biological weapons.

Much is said about horizontal proliferation, but the dangers that have come about in these last forty years are much less from horizontal proliferation than from vertical proliferation. In the Non-Proliferation Treaty, there is a very strong clause to stop vertical proliferation. Unfortunately, the nuclear weapon countries ignore these clauses in the Treaty.

Perhaps the biggest problem comes from not accepting a different type of society to one's own. There is so much dogmatism, such a lack of democratic thinking when one comes on to the world scene. We can only survive if we accept the ways of life of other people on Earth, if we allow them to live and develop their own way. Any change can only come about by persuasion, by discussion, not by force, not by nuclear weapons, not by military strength.

Mankind has survived two major wars after the Vienna Conference. Unfortunately, the theory of balance of power cannot be applied to nuclear weapons in a nuclear age. The balance of power theory today is most definitely outdated and what we have to look for is peaceful coexistence where each system lives with the other systems, allowing each to develop, convincing each in a democratic manner of its own virtues and benefits. The dominance of no system can lead to peace in the world. In our world we must celebrate the diversity of civilisation, the diversity of cultures and while celebrating this diversity, we have to unite it into one, to strengthen our development process and to strengthen our total civilisation. Mankind is one. There are no barriers except those that we make ourselves.

No hegemony of ideas or ideologies or systems can lead to peace and development. Each has his right to exist, to develop, according to his own genius. What we need is an international discipline, an international morality. We have the UN and the UN Charter to give this to us. Unfortunately, we see too many powers deviating to unilateral action. We cannot and must not allow this to happen. We have

over the centuries, developed from small tribal groups to nations. We have under the aegis of the UN developed certain rules to go by. There are of course shortcomings in these rules. But the answer is not in flouting them, anwer is not in destroying the system. The anwer is in correcting them, in developing and strengthening the system.

Women have a very important role to play. Half the world's population consists of women and women are still, perhaps, the one single most depressed class in the world. They are not allowed to develop in the way that they should be allowed to develop. Opportunities are not given to them the way they should be given. But in the home, their voice is still very strong. And it is here that the peace-initiative must start.

From this Conference, perhaps a new voice will rise, the voice of women all across the world. There is nothing more we could do than to agree with what you have said. The concept of peace includes not only the absence of war, violence and hostilities at international and national level, but also social justice and equality for all nations and for all peoples. This was very much part of our own independence struggle. This is very much part of what Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru taught us. And this has been very much the basis of the development of India.

Let me welcome you to India. It gives me great pleasure to inaugurate your Conference. I wish you a fruitful Conference, and a pleasant stay in India. I know your contributions to international peace will be substantial.

DIA JAPAN USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRIA

Date: Apr 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Dinner in Honour of FRG Chancellor - Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 28, 1986 of the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the dinner hosted by him in honour of Dr. Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of Federal Republic of Germany and Mrs. Kohl in New Delhi on April 28, 1986:

It is a pleasure to welcome to India the distinguished Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and his gracious lady. It is nearly 20 years since we were last privileged to receive a Chancellor from the Federal Republic. Your visit, we are sure, will consolidate and strengthen our traditional bonds of friendship and cooperation.

GERMAN DISCOVERY OF INDIA

It was in the study of our civilization, of our languages, our literature and our religions that Germany discovered India. Some of your greatest minds - Schoepenhauer, Goethe, Max Mueller - found in our philosophy and the ancient wisdom of this land a ready echo in the German soul. In his famous 1882 Cambridge lecture, "What Can India Teach Us?" Max Mueller enthused - with, perhaps just a touch of hyperbole:

"If I were to look over the whole world to find the country most readily endowed with all the wealth, power and beauty that nature can bestow - in -96>

some parts a paradise on earth - I should point to India."

He went on to make a remark which is perhaps even more significant today than it was a century ago:

"You will find yourselves everywhere in India between an immense past and an immense future".

In contemporary times, the Federal Republic has assisted India in making that transition from the past to the future. Our cooperation over the years has been extensive and varied. One of the first major projects was the steel plant at Rourkela. Since then our cooperation has ranged from power stations and coal mining to irrigation, soil conservation, rural water supply and housing. Hundreds of our scientists and scholars have availed of the educational and research facilities provided by the Federal Republic. Our collaboration in science and technology, though recent, already extends to exciting new areas of high technology such as ocean development and bio-technology, solar energy and cryogenics. This month, an Indian rocket will launch a German payload at Sriharikota.

PLANNING AND SELF-RELIANCE

We have completed the first phase of our industrialisation and are embarked upon the next. Planning and self-reliance are the essence of our development strategy. We now manufacture a broad spectrum of consumer and capital goods. We have built up a variety of industrial skills and considerable management expertise. We have demonstrated our ability to absorb nd

assimilate technology. More importantly, we have shown that we can indigenously develop our own technology. Already, in certain areas of defence electronics we are at frontline. We are aware that a great deal needs to be done. We need to reduce costs and improve quality. We need to move from being one of the world's larger producers of industrial goods to one of the world's best producers of industrial goods. We look to continued cooperation with the Federal Republic to effect this transformation. You have a well-deserved reputation for efficiency, precision and reliability. We offer political stability, a large market and a consistent record of meeting our obligations. Both our private and public sectors stand to benefit from technological and industrial collaboration with your manufacturers, on terms that are in accord with our priorities and our emphasis on self-reliance.

INDO-GERMAN EXPERIENCE

The Indo-German experience in economic cooperation has been to the mutual benefit of both countries. It is the recognition of such interdependence which lies at the heart of our advocacy of a comprehensive North-South dialogue. The gravity of the development crisis cannot be adequately met by piecemeal responses in industrial sectors. Flexibility and willingness to listen will, we think, engender a similar response. We would, therefore, urge you and other participants in the Tokyo Summit of industrialised countries next week to think through afresh the need to move from rigid postures to a meaningful engagement of minds.

HUMANITY AND DISARMAMENT

In international affairs, no issue is more serious for humanity than disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. It is the very survival of the human race that is at stake. The Six-Nation Five Continent Initiative aims at mobilising and strengthening world public opinion to persuade the nuclear weapons powers to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race, leading eventually to the dismantling of all nuclear weaponry. The Federal Republic has stated that it shares our desire to reduce drastically nuclear weapons and to strive for their complete removal. We the Six have urged an immediate suspension of all tests and have offered our technical expertise and wide geographic spread to verify observance to the suspension.

Another major problem of international dimensions is terrorism. Terrorism is a negation of all human values, not justified in any way by any legitimate political objective. Your country, -97>

Mr. Chancellor, has had one of the worst experiences of terrorism. We too are suffering the ravages of this scourge. We look to your cooperation to curb the activities of those who misuse your territory and hospitality to incite violence, terrorism and separatism in India. It is this which imparts added urgency to the need to conclude a suitable extradition treaty between ourselves in the near future. As parliamentary democracies which cherish the rule of law and share a respect for basic human values, we must cooperate in combating terrorism.

INDOLOGY

When India was ruled by foreigners, Germany gave shelter to Indian freedom fighters. After the last World War, India was the first country to recognise the Federal Republic of Germany. There are few countries in the world which can match the Federal Republic's interest in Indology. The discipline flourishes in no less than twenty universities. Your visit here will add to the depth, diversity and dynamics of Indo-German relationship.

May I ask all present here to raise their glasses and drink to the health and happiness of His Excellency the Chancellor and Madam Kohl and to lasting friendship and cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and India?

RMANY INDIA USA LATVIA RUSSIA JAPAN

Date: Apr 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Cooperation in Coal Sector - Memorandum of Understanding Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 29, 1986 on the Memorandum of understanding signed between India and the Federal Republic of Germany for cooperation in the coal sector:

India and the Federal Republic of Germany today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on strengthening cooperation in the coal and lignite sector. The MOU was signed by the Coal Secretary, Shri A. N. Varma, and the Federal Republic of Germany State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Economics, Mr. Deiter Von Wuerzen, on behalf of their respective Governments.

As per the MOU, the status of the joint working group on coal of the Indo-German Commission for Industrial and Economic Cooperation has been upgraded, and it will now function on a Government-to-Government basis. A representative of the Department of Coal and a representative of the Federal Ministry of Economics of FRG will act as co-chairmen of the joint working group.

Earlier, the Coal India Ltd. represented the Indian side and the German Coal Coordinating Centre represented the German side.

JOINT WORKING GROUP

With the upgradation of the status of the joint working group, the pace of cooperation between the two countries in the coal and lignite sector is expected to be stepped up. The working group will, among other things, closely monitor the progress of projects under implementation with the FRG assistance and explore new areas for the mutually beneficial application of superior technologies from the FRG in coal and lignite industry in the country.

Besides assistance in the implementation of the second mine and second thermal power station of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, the FRG has been providing assistance in the introduction of new technologies like hydraulic mining at the Gopalichuk project and fast ploughing at the Dhemomain project.

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RMANY INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Apr 29, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOLLAND

India-Netherlands Trade to be Liberalised and Enlarged

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 30, 1986 on the signing of agreed minutes between India and Netherlands after a three-day session of the Joint Committee:

The three-day session of the Indo-Netherlands Joint Committee held from April 28-30 concluded here today with the signing of Agreed Minutes. Mr. M. M. Patijn, Director of Bilateral Affairs in the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs, signed on behalf of his country and Shri R. Dayal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce for India.

The two sides had wide-ranging discussions on bilateral trade, industrial cooperation and specialised sectors like shipping and transport, agriculture and tele-communications. The Indian and Netherlands delegations identified certain specific sectors and projects in which considerable potential existed for a special thrust for cooperation between the two countries.

AMBITIOUS TARGET

The Indian delegation specifically recalled the target of \$ 1 billion trade turnover by 1990 that had been set in January 1986 by the Indo-Netherlands Joint Business Council. It was agreed that concerted efforts should be made to achieve this ambitious target which involves an annual growth rate of about 18 per cent in commercial exchanges between the two countries.

The Joint Committee considered a reorientation of trade promotion programmes to help improve competitiveness of Indian products for export. Emphasis was laid on the integrated market development approach to be adopted for different segments of products, development and adaptation, quality control and packaging, as well as marketing, especially in identified sectors like tropical fruits and juices, edible nuts, breakfast cereals, packed spices, tea in packets and cigarettes. These products can only then attain full acceptability in the sophisticated world markets of Western Europe. The Indian delegation made a request for expert advice, training and equipment from the Netherlands for commercial production and marketing of cut flowers, orchids and live plants. The Netherlands delegation undertook to examine in detail proposals and project profiles which are conveyed to them by India. A project to market ornamental fish is also proposed to be pursued with Netherlands assistance.

TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAMMES

The Netherlands expressed willingness to consider different proposals on project-to-project basis. They would also make available additional resources for different trade promotion programmes. It was agreed that Indian business delegations in specific identified sectors would be sponsored by the Netherlands authorities for providing them an intensive exposure to the market conditions there.

A reference was also made to outstanding demands made by India to the Commission of the European Economic Community for obtaining better access of some of her commodities by way of concessions under the generalised system of preferences and relaxation of quotas and ceilings. India has been requesting improved access to the E.E.C. markets for commodities like unmanufactured virginia tobacco, tropical fruits, shrimps and prawns, leather goods, hand-knotted carpets, among other things. Similar demands have also been made by India for flexibility in the operation of textile quotas as

well as transfer of inter-country quotas fixed in respect of textile goods by the E.E.C. Commission. In addition to the request for full restoration and enhancement of the quota for export of sugar to the European Community markets under the price preference system, the Indian delegation stressed the need for harmonisation of specifications and techniques for detoxification of groundnut and cottonseed extractions to be exported from India. Indian exports of oil cakes have registered a substantial decline in these markets on account of the problem of aflatoxin.

The Joint Committee also reviewed the progress made by the Steering Groups set up for bilateral cooperation in the shipping and transport sector as well as in agriculture. Considerable interest was evinced by both sides in developing cooperation in telecommunications, especially in respect of common research facilities, exchange of technologies and training facilities. The Netherlands authorities would formulate specific project proposals in this regard for consideration by the Indian Department of Telecommunications.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Apr 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

KAMPUCHEA

India and Kampuchea Sign Agreement on Conservation of AngkorVat

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 25, 1986 on the signing of an agreement between India and Kampuchea on the conservation of Angkor Vat:

India and Kampuchea have signed an agreement to carry out conservation of the 10th century old temple of Angkor Vat in Kampuchea. The agreement was signed today between His Excellency Chheng Phon, Minister for Information and Culture, Peoples Republic of Kampuchea and Smt. Sushila Rohatgi, Minister of State for Education and Culture.

According to the terms of the agreement the conservation of Angkor Vat will be carried out by experts of the Archaeological Survey of India. The conservation work will commence in October 1986, and will be carried out over a six-year-period. The extensive conservation includes structural repairs, chemical preservation and environmental development. Each year, the Indian experts from the Archaeological Survey of India will work for a period of six months and carry out the conservation work.

A five-member team lead by the Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India, Dr. M. S. Nagaraja Rao visited Angkor Vat recently to reassess the condition of the monument and fix the priorities of conservation.

BACKGROUND

The great temple of Angkor Vat which was constructed during the 11th century A.D. by the famous Kampuchean Emperor, King Surya Varman II is dedicated to Vishnu.

Angkor Vat was sacked by the Thais in 1431 A.D. The jungles of Kampuchea thereafter marched on Angkor as a result of which this splendid monument, and the great civilization it represented, were totally lost to the world. It was in 1860 that a wandering French botanist, Henri Mohout, who discovered the grey towers -100>

of Angkor Vat which he glimpsed through the gaps in the thick foliage.

Since then but for the attention Angkor Vat received at the hands of the French, it has been subjected to neglect and vandalism. India and Kampuchea have now reached an agreement to carry out the conservation of the great temple under Indian technical expertise and assistance, on the basis of a project report prepared in 1982 by the Archaeological Survey of India for the conservation of Angkor Vat.

This is a second major project being undertaken by the experts of the Archaeological Survey of India, the first one being at Bamiyan, in Afghanistan, which earned world wide acclaim.

DIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA AFGHANISTAN

Date: Apr 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

KENYA

Indo-Kenyan Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 30, 1986 on the signing of a trade protocol between India and Kenya:

The Indo-Kenya Joint Committee ended the three-day sitting of its first session here today with the signing of Agreed Minutes. Prof. Jonathan Ng'eno, Kenyan Minister of Commerce and Industry, signed for his country and Shri P. Shiv Shankar, Commerce Minister, for India.

The two sides are agreed on substantially increasing their trade turnover in the current and succeeding years. India has agreed to step up its imports from Kenya, which are likely to include soda ash, pyrethrum, fluorsav, raw cashew, dry beans, raw hides and skins, and wattle extract.

There was agreement on the export by India of drugs and pharmaceuticals and railway wagons to Kenya. India will provide technical assistance, consultancy and training facilities to Kenya, particularly in agriculture and small-scale industry. The services of Indian technical experts have also been offered. India will also assist Kenya setting up industries of small and medium sizes for production of cement, textiles, bicycles, finished leather goods, machine tools, vegetable oils, sugar, agriculture implements and pesticides. India has also agreed to participate and assist in the construction of railway lines in Kenya and other related projects.

NYA INDIA USA

Date: Apr 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

KENYA

Close Indo-Kenyan Economic Ties Reaffirmed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 28, 1986 on the first meeting of the Indo-Kenyan Joint Committee:

The first meeting of the Indo-Kenyan Joint Committee was inaugurated here this morning. The seven-member Kenyan delegation

was led by His Excellency Prof. Jonathan Ng'eno, Minister for Commerce and Industry. Welcoming the Kenyan delegation, the Commerce Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, recalled the long tradition of friendship and cooperation between India and Kenya which began

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under the inspiring leadership of Jomo Kenyatta and Jawaharlal Nehru. He said that India had been watching the progress of Kenya with keen interest and appreciated the strength and resilience of the Kenyan economy and administration.

BILATERAL TRADE

Shri Shiv Shanker traced the development of Indo-Kenyan trade relations and said that the bilateral trade had picked up again and reached a value of Rs. 338 million after a decline in 1982-83. He expressed his confidence that there was very good scope for increasing the trade turnover and urged the two delegations to examine the potential areas and identify the measures necessary for full realisation of the possibilities. He said that the Indian public sector enterprises had been asked to explore the possibilities of increasing imports from Kenya. He suggested that commodities like raw-cashew, hides and skins, pyrethrum, precious and semi-precious stones and wattle extracts, etc. could be imported in larger quantities. He invited Kenya to participate in Indian trade fairs so that their products could be exposed to a large section of buyers in this country. The Minister commended Indo-Kenyan cooperation in industrial joint ventures which has been going for the past two decades. There was considerable scope for furthering such cooperation in the industrial field as also in agriculture. He offered all help to Kenya in strengthening their small-scale industry and in building up the necessary infra-structure. Indian help was assured to Kenya in the successful implementation of its National Food Programme which aimed to make that country self-reliant in basic foods by 1990. Indian cooperation and assistance would be available to Kenya also in the field of education, educational equipment and books,

Prof. Jonathan Ng'eno, Kenyan Minister for Commerce and Industry, praised India's achievements in science, agriculture and industry. He said that India was far ahead in various areas even as a developing country. His country, he said, was proud of the close friendship and economic ties with India which had played a major role in Kenya's economic development. Prof. Ng'eno said that they would like to learn more from India's experience in economic and scientific development. He expressed his agreement with the Indian Commerce Minister about the possible exports of raw-cashew, precious stones, hides and skins, etc. He assured the Indian side that they would do their utmost to promote a quick and substantial increase in Indo-Kenyan trade turnover.

Date: Apr 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

LIBYA

Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Statement on U.S. Bombings of Libyan Cities

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 15, 1986 on the statement issued by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on the US bombings of some Libyan cities:

India and the entire Non-Aligned Movement are profoundly shocked and

strongly deplore the US bombings of some cities of Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. These acts are sought to be justified as retaliation for terrorist acts, allegedly committed by Libya. The Non-Aligned Movement has consistently condemned all forms of terrorism., whether committed by individuals or organised by States. In these particular

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cases, Libya has declared that it had no relationship with the claims made by the USA linking it to recent terrorist attacks and has declared itself as against all terrorist operations like hijacking of airplanes and the murder of innocents. In view of this, the US attacks on the capital of Libya, including the Presidential Palace in Tripoli, are all the more unjustifiable and deserve condemnation on the part of all the members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

As Chairman of NAM, I earnestly call upon the US and all others to exercise the utmost restraint and not to do anything to further aggravate the already tense situation in the region. The Non-Aligned Movement extends its firm support and solidarity to Libya at this critical hour.

BYA USA INDIA

Date: Apr 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

LIBYA

External Affairs Minister's Statement in Lok Sabha on US Bombing on Tripoli and Benghazi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 15, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri B. R. Bhagat, in the Lok Sabha on April 15, 1986 on the recent bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi by US aircraft:

The Government of India is deeply shocked at the recent bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi by US aircraft. This action which we condemn unequivacally is in total disregard of international law and constitutes nothing less than a clear act of aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Libya. Moreover, it places regional security and international peace in grave jeopardy.

Our Ambassador in Tripoli who has been contacted has informed us that the air strike in Tripoli took place at 2.00 a.m. Libyan time. Three other centres had been attacked simultaneously by US strike air-crafts, namely Benghazi, Benina and Sibi Bilal. In Tripoli, the Palace had been attacked together with the old US Maeetiga air base nearby. Some other places had also been bombed and the casualties are said to include some foreigners. A member of the family of President Gaddafi had also been wounded in the attack on the Palace.

So far as has been ascertained, there have been no casualties among the Indian resident community and all the Embassy personnel are safe. The city of Tripoli is calm and people are going about their business as usual.

According to Naval Headquarters, the composition of the US Naval Task Force involved in the operations against Libya consisted of two aircraft carriers which are understood to be the CORAL SEA and SARATOGA and sixteen war ships along with a couple of nuclear submarines. 18 FB III Bomber/strike aircraft have been used originating from the US bases in the United Kingdom together with aircraft from the Naval Task Force. They had to take the sea route to reach Libya since France and Spain had not agreed to give overflight facilities. The entire bombing operation lasted for 15 minutes. The Libyans have claimed to have brought down three US aircraft. The US Administration has only acknowledged that one aircraft is still missing.

APPEALS FOR DIALOGUE

It may be recalled that Government had, over the last three months, repeatedly urged that precipitate action should be avoided and that problems in the area should be resolved through dialogue and not through pressure. It is most deplorable that these appeals have been ignored and Government finds it reprehensible that a Permanent Member of the Security Council having a primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and -103>

security has taken the law into its own hands and resorted to measures contrary to all norms of international conduct and the principles of the UN Charter.

As pointed out in the statement issued by the Government last evening it is imperative that tension should not be allowed to build any further and immediate steps taken to defuse the situation in the interests of world peace. All concerned should refrain from resorting to any action contrary to the norms of international conduct and the principles of the UN Charter.

BYA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE SPAIN

Date: Apr 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Prime Minister's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 16, 1986 of the address by the Prime Minister of India and Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the Ministerial meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned countries on April 16, 1986:

Distinguished Heads of Delegation, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to New Delhi. We are honoured to have you with us. We hope your stay here will be both comfortable and rewarding.

As we gather to review recent developments and prepare for the Eighth Summit of Nonaligned Countries, one of our fellow-members, Libya, has been attacked. In violation of international law, its

sovereignty has been transgressed, its integrity impugned. We cannot but condemn this. At this moment of crisis, Libya has the full support and sympathy of all her colleagues in the Non-aligned Movement.

Our Movement is founded on basic principles of universal validity: peace and peaceful coexistence, national sovereignty, abstention from force, and respect for international order. Adherence to these principles widens the ambit of peace, broadens the prospects for international co-operation, and strengthens the cohesion of our Movement.

Change is inevitable in human affairs. New challenges arise, so do new opportunities. The task of statesmen is to channel change for the welfare of humankind. In a world drawn closer by modern communication, our interdependence is increased, our responsibilities heightened, our concerns shared. However imperfect, global order becomes increasingly indispensable.

PROGRESS ASSUMES SURVIVAL

Progress assumes survival. It is for our children that we plan and build. But will they have a tomorrow? There are fifty thousand nuclear warheads already poised to wipe out the world several times over: equivalent to three tonnes of TNT for every man, woman and child. More destructive power is carried in a single nuclear submarine than was unleashed through all of the Second World War. Life is no longer safe on land, nor on water, nor in the air. Now it is threatened even from space. Our destiny is taken further and further out of the reach of human decision-making. Already, the gap between sur--104>

vival and obliteration has been reduced to a few minutes.

One single naval task force of a big power costs more than the GNP of eighty-six countries. What madness is this that puts a trillion dollars into armaments every year and leaves but a pittance for human well-being? These are well-known, oft-repeated facts. But they bear repetition because we must remind ourselves again and again of the terrible dangers that confront us. Any insensitivity to this, any sense of resignation to this, only increases the danger.

Nuclear war threatens. Nuclear war means the end of everything as we know it. It is not we, the non-nuclear States, who threaten existence. It is they, with their nuclear arsenals, who do so. Yet, equally, our survival is at stake. Are we not then to have a voice in our own survival?

In this dangerous situation, the world expects statesmanship of the highest order and a wise impulse to peace. We welcome the affirmation of the United States and the Soviet Union that the goal of their negotiations would be to prevent an arms race in space and terminate it on earth, ultimately eliminating nuclear arms everywhere. It is, however, not enough to recognize that a nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought. These perceptions need to be translated into binding agreements leading to a progressive dismantling of all nuclear weaponry.

Nuclear escalation must be staunched at the source. That is why, more than 30 years ago, Jawaharlal Nehru was the first statesman to appeal for a suspension of nuclear tests, pending the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The appeal remains unheeded as the world drifts closer to the edge of the abyss. A moratorium on all nuclear-weapons tests by all nuclear-weapons powers is essential.

KEY ELEMENT OF INITIATIVE

A halt to nuclear tests is a key element of the Six-Nation Five-Continent

Initiative. We have taken full cognizance of the problems of verification and have offered our good offices in the verification of a moratorium on nuclear tests. We have the technical expertise and geographic spread to do so. We are convinced that the technical problems are surmountable provided there is the requisite political will on the part of the nuclear-weapons States. The Soviet Union responded positively by unilaterally suspending its own testing, and twice extending the moratorium. The United States made counter-proposals aimed at continuing nuclear tests with mutual monitoring of yields.

All of us in the Movement, individually and collectively, are striving to secure a better life for our peoples. Our development is primarily our own responsibility. But we cannot do this alone. It has to be a common endeavour of humanity, in the interests of all, to the detriment of the none. The international economic situation remains disquieting. Rational debate has been overshadowed in many areas by partisan rhetoric. The impasse in the North-South dialogue can be broken only by flexibility and open-mindedness, based on a recognition of the symbiotic relationship between growth in the South and continued prosperity in the North. Deep-rooted problems in the critical and interrelated areas of money, finance and trade need to be resolved. Piecemeal solutions cannot be the answer to either the development crisis facing several developing countries or indeed the prospects for sustained recovery in the industrial economies. Cooperation is necessary to foster development, and development is in the interest of all nations. The issue is not one of abstract morality or philanthrophy. It is an issue that deeply involves the stability of all - whether from the North or from the South.

CRISIS IN WORLD ECONOMY

The crisis in the world economy has affected different developing countries and regions differently. This is the time to strengthen our solidarity, understanding our particular problems and unitedly fac-

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ing issues that affect us all. Closer and more frequent consultations are needed to co-ordinate our approaches to multilateral economic negotiations in the face of rapid changes in the international economic environment.

In addition, we must devise more effective means of pooling the experience, expertise and resources of nonaligned and other developing countries. Collective self-reliance would not only reduce our vulnerability to outside pressures but also enhance our strength in multilateral negotiations. Besides, it is for us to demonstrate by precept and example that co-operation among developing countries is feasible, of mutual benefit, and complementary to North-South co-operation. We have to get to know each other better. Our experts in different fields must meet from time to time. We must exchange experiences, fill gaps in knowledge, learn to turn to each other.

TUTU AND MANDELA

Dignity and freedom constitute the moral basis of our existence. Yet, in parts of the world, human dignity and fundamental rights do not exist. The racist regime in South Africa refuses to relinquish its abhorrent practice of apartheid. Increased repression by the authorities has entrapped the people of South Africa in violence and oppression. The wisdom of Archbishop Tutu is given short shrift. Nelson Mandela, that paragon of courage and conviction, remains incarcerated. Our hearts go out in sympathy and admiration to his brave lady, Winnie Mandela, who carries on the struggle undaunted. We are unwavering in our support to the heroic people of South Africa. We reject as nefarious all attempts to slice the integrated territory of South Africa into different segments so as to perpetuate the racist character of the present regime. Pretoria's repeated forays, overt and covert, into the territories of the Frontline States must also be thwarted. We will accept neither division in South Africa nor destabilization in Southern Africa. How long can Pretoria's friends and allies continue to drag their feet? How long will considerations of commercial gain and misperceived strategic advantage prevent them from compelling the South African regime to give freedom and dignity to all its people? Where good sense does not prevail, there can be no alternative to sanctions.

TIDE OF HISTORY

Beyond its frontiers and against the tide of history, South

Africa continues its colonial occupation of Namibia. Paralyzed by spurious difficulties and contrived "linkages", the Security Council has failed to execute its own will: the UN plan for Namibia remains unimplemented.

In the three years since we met at the Summit in New Delhi, the menace of terrorism has spread to many more parts of the world. Statesmen have been assassinated, civilian aircraft hijacked or destroyed, innocent men, women and children butchered in barbaric violence. We in India have experienced the trauma of such terrorist action.

TERRORISM AND STATE TERRORISM

The cruel irony is that some nations who have been the victims of insensate terrorism acquiesce in terrorism against others being encouraged or instigated from their soil. This must stop. All countries must join forces to combat this common menace within the framework of internationally accepted norms.

We condemn terrorism now as we did then. Equally, we cannot condone State terrorism. No more can a State arrogate to itself the right to violate international law than can terrorists violate the rule of law. The discipline of the international order must be respected. Sovereignty must never be transgressed.

The commencement of the fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq, its continuation, escalation and violations of international humanitarian law, have caused deep distress to all of us in the Non-aligned

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Movement. Tragically, neither our efforts, nor those of others, have yet succeeded in bringing about any de-escalation or cessation of hostilities. We reaffirm the fundamental principle of our Movement that all differences amongst member States should be resolved by peaceful means.

The denial of the just demands of the Palestinian people is a great tragedy of our times. Israel persists flagrantly in its repressive occupation of Arab territories and wanton violation of the sovereignty of various Arab countries. We are unflinching in our resolve that the people of Palestine, under the leadership of the PLO, will secure a State for themselves on their own national territory.

Central America is the scene of renewed pressures and threats, interference and intervention directed against the right of States to choose their own forms of social, political and economic development. There must be a restitution of respect for the norms of international law and for the principles of peaceful coexistence. The Contadora process offers a regional framework for the solution of a regional problem.

NAM COMMITMENT TO U.N.

We in the Non-aligned Movement are assertive of our independence, yet we have endeavoured to ensure that our national goals are compatible with a co-operative world order. Our commitment to the United Nations and its ideals is complete. There have been recent disturbing indications of a growing desire among some strong nations to relate their economic and military power to the decision-making structure of international organizations. This goes against the spirit of international democracy that we have assiduously tried to develop through the United Nations system. Divergent ideologies and conflicting interests will exist, but they must not override the imperative of a just international order.

In its early years, our Movement had the benefit of the wisdom and guidance of such far-sighted and towering personalities as Nehru and Tito, Sukarno, Nasser and Nkrumah. They represented the rich diversity of the world but shared a collective vision of a universal order based on equality, independence and peaceful coexistence. From Belgrade to Colombo through Cairo, Lusaka and Algiers, and from Havana to New Delhi, we have grown in numbers and we have gained in strength. No longer are our nations silent witnesses to the vicissitudes of history. Our peoples are now active participants in shaping it. As our capacity to influence events has grown, so have the pressures upon us. There are admittedly some differences amongst ourselves. This is only natural. But greater still are the bonds that unite us. Time and again we have shown our capacity to respond to crisis and challenges with resolve and togetherness.

We go from here to Harare. Zimbabwe is a beautiful and bountiful land. Its talented and industrious people embody the spirit of resurgence. We thank the people and Government of Zimbabwe for having taken this great responsibility upon themselves. We extend to them our best wishes and our full support as they commence preparations for the Eighth Summit.

Once again I welcome you to India.

Thank you. -107>

DIA USA LIBYA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC OMAN SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL UNITED KINGDOM EGYPT SRI LANKA YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA ALGERIA CUBA ZIMBABWE

Date : Apr 16, 1986

NON-ALIGNMENT

Speech by Minister of External Affairs

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 16, 1986 of the opening address of Shri Bali Ram Bhagat, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India at the Ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-aligned countries on April 16, 1986:

Excellencies and distinguished guests, May I extend a very warm welcome to you all to this Ministerial level meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned Countries.

Three years ago, at the Seventh Summit Conference in New Delhi, we had noted:

"Our world is increasingly turbulent and insecure, international economic relations continue to be characterized by inequality, domination and exploitation. The gravity of the situation is evident in the intensification of the arms race, in the resistance of the strong to the initiatives for change in favour of the weak, in great power involvement in regional conflicts and in the threat of a world wide nuclear catastrophe."

I wish I could say that the period since then has seen the lowering of tension. Regrettably, I cannot. Although the big powers have established direct contacts at the Summit level, we are yet to see a determined effort aimed at making the world a safer place to live in. The arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, continues to escalate. Politics of domination and intervention pursued by the big powers has exacerbated international tension. Disputes and conflicts in various regions of the world endanger international peace and security.

ESCALATION OF ARMS RACE

The question of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, has always been a basic concern of our Movement.

The greatest threat to human survival is posed by the existence of nuclear arsenals. We are gravely concerned at the continuing escalation of the arms race, particularly in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. How can a world armed as it is contemplate peace?

The leaders of six nations -Argentina, Greece, India Mexico, Sweden and the United Republic of Tanzania in their joint declaration of 28th January 1985 had called upon all nuclear weapon States to halt testing, production and development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be followed by substantial reduction in their nuclear forces. Unfortunately, apart from the Soviet Union, it did not evoke a positive response from any of the other nuclear weapon States. The Declaration particularly called for steps for the prevention of an arms race in Outer Space and an early conclusion of a comprehensive testban treaty. On 28th February this year, a joint message addressed to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachov by the Six reiterated their offer to assist in verifying any halt in nuclear testing. It is a matter of deep regret and disappointment that the hopes for a stoppage of nuclear weapon tests raised by the extended unilateral moratorium have been belied.

TROUBLED NATURE OF OUR TIMES

The troubled nature of our times has been aggravated by an international economic order whose problems are structural in nature. The gap between the rich and poor continues to widen. In their preoccupation with their own recovery, the developed countries have failed to grasp the significance of the low or negative rates of growth that much of the rest of the world has experienced and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. These low rates cannot make any significant dents either on the unemployment

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levels in the developing countries or on the acute poverty of the hundreds of millions in the developing world. Such a situation will have grave implications for the very stability of our societies.

From the very outset, non-aligned countries have argued that the crisis reflected deep-seated structural problems. Our leaders at the Seventh Non-aligned Summit proposed a flexible, pragmatic and comprehensive strategy which would have reactivated global economic growth. The New Delhi strategy was welcomed by the Summit of industrialized countries as constructive. However, there has been no progress towards the achievements of the objectives of that strategy. Recently there have been signs that the major industrialized countries have recognized that higher economic growth is necessary and that adjustment cannot be reached through further austerity. But the process of dialogue and negotiation between developing and developed countries has been brought to a virtual standstill. In meeting after meeting we have witnessed a retreat from past consensus and a questioning of the very fundamentals of multilateral economic cooperation.

DIFFICULT PHASE FOR AFRICA

The countries of Africa have passed through a particularly difficult phase and major tasks of rehabilitation, reconstruction and restoring development still remain. Their problems reflect the general economic malaise facing developing countries. Yet the

emergency situation in Africa also showed that with determination, goodwill and cooperation, even the gravest problems can and will be overcome. The Coordinating Bureau at its Ministerial meeting in April last year approved an action programme where developing countries could make a contribution in tackling the situation in Africa. We should resolve to do our utmost to ensure its speedy implementation. Such a broad-based multilateral effort would appropriately reflect the commitment of the entire international community to-wards Africa.

The situation in southern Africa continues to deteriorate day by day. Repression by the minority racist regime of South Africa has reached unprecedented levels, even as the struggle for emancipation and restoration of the dignity of the people enters a decisive phase. Pretoria's professions cannot conceal the fact that the racist regime remains as strongly. wedded to apartheid as before. Apartheid cannot be reformed, it must be ended.

It is now over a century since Namibia fell prey to oppressive colonial domination. The racist regime of Pretoria persists in its illegal occupation of Namibia even two decades after the assumption of direct responsibility of the United Nations over the territory. The continued non-implementation of the UN Plan for Namibia embodied in Security Council resolution 435, which constitutes the only basis for a peaceful settlement of the Namibian question, is a matter of grave concern. We firmly condemn and reject persistent attempts to obstruct the implementation of the UN Plan by the insistence on "linkage" and "parallelism" between the independence of Namibia and other extraneous issues.

SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

The situation in Central America remains a matter of serious concern. Policies of interference and intervention and threat or use of force imperil peace and security in the region. The continued denial of the right to self-determination to the Palestinian people remains a tragedy of our times. The Gulf is in turmoil. Fratricidal war wastes the energy and talents of two great peoples. The Indian Ocean has witnessed increasing levels of militarization. Tension prevails and peace is imperilled in several other areas of the world including South-West and South-East Asia. The Republic of Cyprus continues to face dangers to its sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and its Nonaligned status.

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In the Mediterranean region, we are deeply shocked over the most recent bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi by US aircraft. We find it reprehensible that the USA has resorted to use of force in violation of the sovereignty and integrity of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It is imperative that the US should stop its military actions immediately and all concerned should refrain from

resorting to any steps contrary to the norms of International Conduct and the Principles of the U.N. Charter.

FAITH IN U.N.

Faith in the United Nations is central to the Non-aligned and rooted in their world view. The newly emergent States, the vast majority of whom are members of the Movement have brought greater richness and diversity to the Organization and helped transform it into a truly universal body representing the free association of States on the basis of sovereign equality and reflecting the hopes and aspirations of people all over the world. The democratization of international relations which is implicit and inevitable in such a process has not been to the liking of some who seek to preserve privileged positions of power. The failure to accept this natural process lies at the heart of the crisis of multilateralism and more specifically the concerted attack on the United Nations. Recently this attack had taken the form of the use of financial power to impair the functioning of the Organization. The Non-aligned are firmly of the view that any withholding from the assessed contribution to the UN, represents a unilateral violation of treaty obligations which have been freely entered into and therefore undermines the basis of international order. This applies in particular to the withholding of financial obligations which seek to alter the basic character and purposes of the UN.

As developing countries the Non-aligned are acutely conscious of the need to use limited financial resources with utmost efficiency and effectiveness. We are ready to explore all possibilities within the provisions of the Charter which would enhance this process and to meet their obligations in this regard. This must however be on the basis of all members fulfilling their obligations. This Meeting provides an opportunity to coordinate our positions for the forthcoming resumed session of the UN General Assembly on this crisis so that we act unitedly to strengthen and nurture the United Nations which means so much to all of us.

Friends, in the present period of crisis in international relations, the Non-aligned can play a vital role. We have, therefore, to maintain the dynamic thrust of the Movement. At the same time, in the context of the increasing pressures on us designed to weaken our unity and to divert us from the established principles and objectives of the Movement, it is imperative that we maintain cohesion and solidarity and adhere to its basic principles and objectives. Distinguished colleagues, the next time our leaders meet will be in Harare. Let us work together and carry a united message.

I welcome you again to this historic city of Delhi.

Date: Apr 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

South-South Co-operation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 07, 1986 of the inaugural speech by Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for External Affairs, to the fifth meeting of coordinators on the action programme for -110>

economic co-operation of the Movement of Non-aligned countries in New Delhi on April 7, 1986:

Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome you to India and to the Fifth Meeting of Coordinators on the Action Programme for Economic Cooperation of the Movement of Non-aligned countries. This meeting represents an important stage in the process of South-South Cooperation and in the evolution of collective self-reliance among Non-aligned and developing nations. It is particularly important as one of the preparatory gatherings for the Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau and the Eighth Summit of the Non-aligned Movement.

COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE

The concept of collective self-reliance and the programme of South-South Cooperation have emerged as a historical response to the challenge of development of the developing countries and of the restructuring of the international economic order. Colonial domination had led to the fragmentation of the South and the separation of the nations of the South from one another, not only subjugating and debilitating each of them, but preventing them from knowing and co-operating with one another in spite of the common history, common problem and often the common geography that linked them together. In this sense, South-South co-operation is a process of rediscovery of the South by the peoples of the South and of taking up the old threads of kinship and co-operation in the post-colonial era. It is also an association in the economic, social and cultural fields of the ideas of independence, equality, peace and co-operation which constitute

the political core of the Non-aligned Movement. It is an endeavour on the part of the millions of peoples, indeed the majority of mankind, to lift themselves up in the scale of development by their own myriad shoestrings. It is a means by which the nations of the South seek to acquire the capacity to stand up against the pressure from the North and increase their counter-vailing power in negotiations with the developed countries. Finally, it is an instrument for the restructuring of international economic relations and the eventual ushering in of the New International Economic Order we all dream of. Thus, in a fundamental sense, great stakes are involved in South-South cooperation and in the Action Programme that we have been pursuing, however halting might have been our collective efforts and however limited our actual achievements in this field so far.

In the present context, when the international economic situation has become particularly harsh and unfavourable for the developing world, it is necessary for us to intensify our efforts at South-South co-operation. The recession that has beset the world economy is among the worst since the 1930s. Low rates of growth, high levels of unemployment in most countries; declining or stagnant growth rates in real terms in many developing countries; aggravation of the debt burden of developing countries to a crushing level of almost a trillion dollars; volatile and misaligned exchange rates; lack of macro-economic policy coordination among major industrialised countries; insufficient development finance, a net of outflow of resources from the South to the North; high interest rates, inadequate liquidity, rising and new forms of protectionism, adverse terms of trade, continuing collapse of commodity prices to historically low levels, characterize the world economic scene. The roots of the crisis are structural in nature requiring systematic reforms in the prevailing global monetary, financial and trading systems. It is doubtful if this declining trend in the world economy could be reversed without major structural changes involving a transfer of resources and technology to the South and the stepping up of the rate of development in the developing countries.

CORRECTION OF IMBALANCES

Industrialised countries have shirked their responsibility to help correct the im-

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balances and disparities in the world economy despite the imperatives of an increasingly interdependent world where the fortunes of the North and South are closely intertwined. Ironically, interdependence has been used as a channel for transmitting a disproportionate burden of international economic adjustment to the developing countries. And multilateral channels of co-operation, which are the most effective means of international action, are being seriously eroded. In the past, there has at least been an international consensus on

development. The focus has now been shifted to the so-called "adjustment" reflecting predominantly the interests of the North, often at the expense of growth and development in the countries of the South. As a matter of fact, whatever economic recovery took place in a few industrialized countries since 1983 was minimal and fragile, and besides it almost entirely bypassed the developing world.

RESOURCES OF SOUTH COUNTRIES

In this international context, the South is obliged to take independent, bold and concerted action to safeguard its interests as well as those of the world. Comprising the major part of the surface of the globe and the immense majority of the world population, it has the resources, raw materials, skills the manufacturing capacities and the markets which, if jointly harnessed and energized could create a vast autonomous centre of growth and development in the South.

The Non-Aligned Movement displayed vision and foresight in evolving the concept and philosophy of collective self-reliance as a prime instrument for the consolidation of our independence as well as the basis of co-operation with the rest of the world. From Belgrade, through Cairo, Lusaka, Algiers, Colombo and Havana to New Delhi the concept gradually evolved and matured into a policy of world significance. The Seventh Summit in New Delhi pledged to strengthen and deepen economic co-operation in the South and accord high priority to the harmonization of programmes of economic and technical co-operation in our national policies and programmes. This was based on the recognition that a selfreliant and rapidly developing South would provide a powerful stimulus towards the attainment of the New International Economic Order and would, indeed, form an integral part of it. For South-South Cooperation is not and cannot be a substitute for North-South Co-operation. It cannot relieve the developed, affluent countries of the North of their responsibilities and commitments in support of the developmental efforts of developing countries on the basis of equity and mutuality of interests. In the Non-Aligned vision, South-South Co-operation is an integral part of world co-operation.

Over the years, South-South Co-operation or economic co-operation among developing countries has acquired many facets and new momentum. The Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77 have succeeded in translating the aspirations of the developing countries into some concrete harmonized programmes of co-operation. A network of bilateral, subregional and regional arrangements have come about in the pursuance of this co-operative pattern of economic relationships in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The latest in the series is the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation comprising one-fifth of mankind. All these regional and sub-regional organizations and the widening network of bilateral co-operation that are emerging

in the South will have to be geared to the larger goal of South-South Co-operation and the basic objective of collective self-reliance in the context of overall international co-operation and the restructuring of the international economic order.

It was at the Algiers Summit in 1973 that the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation was given a comprehensive shape and content. At Caracas in 1981, the Group of 77 adopted a comprehensive programme of economic and technical cooperation. A large number of meetings in various sectors of economic and social activities has since taken place. However, in -112>

regard to implementation of the programmes, progress has been disappointingly slow. Political will and executive vigour have been lacking. It is now necessary to instil a new life and new dynamism into these programmes. This meeting of the co-ordinators provides an opportunity for frank and thorough review of the programmes, identifying shortcomings and obstacles and devising realistic strategies and modalities in order to inject a new sense of purpose into our programmes and endeavours. Perhaps we can adopt a selective approach according to a scale of priorities identifying specific projects which will yield rapid results. Similarly, a concentrated thrust could be imparted to programmes that have recorded progress and which accord with felt needs and matching capacities. In sum, we will have to make a rigorous stock-taking and decide how to proceed further realistically in order to reach the goals we have set for ourselves.

GLOBAL SYSTEM OF TRADE PREFERENCES

One of the most important initiatives taken in South-South Cooperation has been in the field of trade through the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) among developing countries. The objective was to expand trade among developing countries thereby contributing to their self-reliance and reducing their traditional dependence on the developed countries. It is encouraging that during the last decade intra-developing country trade had grown faster than the rates of global trade expansion, though it is still only 30% of total world trade. Can we not aim at and achieve a doubling of this quantum of South-South trade in the next decade? At the New Delhi Ministerial Meeting in July 1985, a strong political impetus was provided to the process of GSTP. We hope that at the next Ministerial Meeting in Brasilia, scheduled for May 1986, the first round of GSTP negotiations will be launched. The trade creation together with trade diversification should be our objective in these negotiations. A meaningful process of trade expansion will necessarily require an integrated approach providing simultaneously for payments and clearing arrangements as well as for investment and production strategies to underpin trade expansion.

INFORMATION SYSTEM

An effective means of communication of information directly among developing countries is a prerequisite for effective South-South Co-operation. The North has hitherto exploited its command of resources and its technological superiority to perpetuate its dominance and indeed hegemony over research, media and information. In recent decades, NAM and G-77 have attempted to correct such distortions. A new world information order has been our objective. For this, as the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, stated in his inaugural address to the Second Conference of the Research and Information System (RIS) of Non-Aligned and developing countries, we must attain "intellectual selfreliance". Our research and information is now coming of age. This offers immense possibilities. A sound research and information system which would provide intellectual inputs and enable information-sharing on a continuing basis is both necessary and possible. The second conference of the Research and Information system of Non-aligned and Developing Countries in New Delhi in November 1985 recorded progress in evolving a networking of our research and information institutions. We expect the NAM Research and Information System to develop further and provide a basis for intellectual self-reliance and liberation of the South from what Jawaharlal Nehru once called "colonialism of the mind".

The world is on the threshold of a new era of technology-driven growth. Major advances in sophisticated technologies are revolutionizing patterns of production, communication and control. Some industrialized countries are unfortunately spending vast resources in developing the destructive potential of such technologies. We believe that the latest technological advances, especially in high technologies, offer immense scope to solve many of our

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problems to provide a better life for our peoples. Should we not put our minds, resources and skill together to acquire insights into new technologies and develop the capability to use them purposefully for our requirements?

The vast availability of appropriate technologies and scientific research in the developing world must also be diffused, shared and developed through collective effort. We may take some satisfaction at the progress made in regard to the Centre for Science and Technology for Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries to be established in India. Its implementation requires some more signatures and ratifications of its statute. I hope these would be forthcoming during this meeting.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Technical co-operation requires projects in specific areas such as consultancy services, for instance. The Project Development Mechanism for Techno-Economic Co-operation can be an interesting form of establishing a consultancy consortium among developing countries. The Group of 77 are attempting to revive projects of this nature. We should encourage the G-77 to take early action to implement them.

The bedrock of meaningful endeavour in ECDC remains inadequate due to non availability of financial resources. This has proved the graveyard of several ventures in South-South Co-operation. It is unfortunate that proposals for the setting up of Funds by the Non-Aligned Movement and G-77 have not made much headway. Perhaps we could provide fresh stimulus by commencing with more modest ventures such as regional payments and clearing arrangements in the first instance, to underpin intra-South Trade and Industrial Co-operation.

The severity of the economic crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa represents a tragic gap in international economic co-operation. The Movement of Non-Aligned Countries has actively championed the cause of distressed Africa. We adopted separate Plan of Action on Africa last year. Our forthcoming meetings should consider ways and means of strengthening this Plan of Action and ensuring an accelerated pace of implementation in the spirit of solidarity and brotherhood that forms the basis of our Movement. The least developed countries amongst us also require special and preferential treatment and this consideration must continue to form an integral part of our programmes and activities.

PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATIONS

There are several interesting projects or proposals in our programmes envisaging co-operation among producers' associations, for the development and promotion of commodities, in food and agricultural production, development of energy resources, health, employment and human resources, telecommunications, sports, housing, education and so on. We have to give speedy implementation to these projects.

Above all, let us bear in mind that in preparing for the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau and the Eighth NAM Summit we have a valuable opportunity to review the overall strategies and perspectives in South-South Co-operation and provide inputs for the reshaping or re-orienting of earlier programmes in the light of past experience and in tune with new trends and developments.

While forging ahead with South-South Co-operation we have to keep a strict watch on developments in the North, keeping open our channels of communications, negotiations and co-operation with the North. The protectionist barriers that are being erected in the North force us to work for the expansion of our markets for our own inter-regional trade.

Besides, we have to be vigilant about the threat being posed to

our industries and services by the emerging service industries of the North linked to powerful multinationals. Further, when the new technological revolution threatens to pass us -114>

by, should we not combine together to pool and share the technologies we have already mastered, disseminate them widely among our people in order to create a new awareness of science and technology and provide a base for the absorption of higher technology in the future? The scope for sharing the small, medium and appropriate technologies that exist in the South among the nations of the South is very great indeed. It is necessary for us to work out a scheme for such sharing of technology, and knowledge in general, bilaterally and region-wise as well as along the entire spectrum of the South. As Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said: "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 will by creating a new order in areas in which we can act ourselves". There are several areas in which we can act ourselves almost straight away or with some preparation. That way, we can proceed along the path of collective self-reliance and thereby put ourselves in a position to negotiate effectively with the North for advancing towards a New International Economic Order.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to address you. I have great pleasure in inaugurating this Conference.

DIA USA RUSSIA ALGERIA CUBA EGYPT SRI LANKA YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA BRAZIL

Date: Apr 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

NAM Underlines Cooperation in Education and Culture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 14, 1986 on the meeting of the NAM co-ordinating countries held in New Delhi:

The Non-Aligned Movement has underlined the need to promote cooperation in the field of education and culture. The recently concluded meeting of the NAM coordinating countries held in New

Delhi has expressed strong support for developing closer cooperation among Non-Aligned and other developing countries in educational and cultural development.

The meeting fully endorsed the final report adopted by the second conference of Ministers of Education and Culture of NAM countries held in Havana (Cuba) from April 1-4, 1986. The second conference underlined the need to eradicate illiteracy as the main task in the field of education. The need for greater cooperation in the field of technical and scientific education was also emphasised. Special importance was assigned by the conference to the review and re-determining the contents of education and to foster collaboration among the institutions of advanced studies in the NAM countries.

NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES

It was further recommended that a network of universities and educational institutions in the Non-Aligned and other developing countries should be built up. The programmes of democratisation of education and education for international understanding, peace and cooperation were highlighted.

In the field of culture, it was recommended that mechanisms should be created for drawing up and implementing appropriate cultural policies. The role of democratisation of culture was emphasised as means of securing the participation of masses. Stressing the need of intercultural relations, the Conference urged that the Non-aligned and other developing countries should encourage inter-regional and joint studies on cultural developments and communication aimed at cultural interaction. In the context of the proposed world decade for cultural development, it was recommended that the Non-aligned and other developing countries should cooperate with UNESCO in the elaboration and implementation of its programmes of action.

DIA CUBA

Date: Apr 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Decisions of Second Conference of Non-aligned Ministers of Education and Culture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 10, 1986 on the second conference of Ministers of Education and Culture of the Non aligned and other developing countries held in Cuba:

A number of important decisions pertaining to India were taken at the second conference of Ministers of Education and Culture of the Non-aligned and other developing countries held at Havana (Cuba).

Among the decisions which were announced by Smt. Sushila Rohatgi, Minister of State for Education and Culture, who led the Indian delegation to the conference are that India will participate in the biennial Art Exhibition to be held in Havana (Cuba) during September, 1986. Further, India has extended full support to the World Decade for Cultural Development beginning in 1988.

With a view to extend full support to the development of common cultural institutions India has also decided to give some outstanding works by Indian artists to the NAM Gallery. Further, it has been decided on India's initiative to bring out a NAM anthology of poetry on the theme of "Awakened And The Future Man".

DIRECTORY OF CULTURAL FACILITIES

India's suggestion to prepare a directory of cultural facilities in NAM and developing countries so as to exchange and share experiences in this field, was also adopted at the conference.

India is also to participate in the Titograd art gallery concept by sending mobile exhibition to other NAM and developing countries. Also India will share expertise in the methodology of documentation and preservation of vanishing art forms with other developing countries. Another major decision taken at the Conference was the resolve by the concerned countries to consider special steps for the welfare of the creators of various artistic works.

SMT. ROHATGI'S OPENING STATEMENT

In her opening statement to the conference, Smt. Rohatgi stated that with a common historical setting of emergence from colonialism, the NAM countries are called upon to develop education which not merely trains the young men and women to understand and participate in the advancement of the country and the world, but to also transform "their attitudes and orientation so that they become the architects and builders of the world of tomorrow, and that the wedge has been driven by the colonial domination between education and culture is removed."

Smt. Rohatgi called for a more broad-based approach in which science and technology, humanities, values, arts, crafts and the

entire gamut of special development of children and women is woven into one unified pattern. "Within this conceptual framework each nation would have its own modalities and techniques, its own priorities and special concerns", she said. The Minister emphasised the urgent need to conserve the natural heritage of the NAM and developing countries. "A great part of this heritage was hunted and cut down, decimated and denuded by relentless colonial depredations," she stated. She added that "before damage to the ecological balance becomes irredeemable we have to evolve innovative and inexpensive teaching aids which typify our stake in conservation."

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DIA CUBA USA

Date: Apr 10, 1986

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Cooperation in Economic, Trade and ScientificFields Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 03, 1986 on the signing of a protocol of cooperation between India and Poland:

A protocol on cooperation between India and Poland in economic, trade, scientific and technical fields was signed here on Wednesday by the Minister of Energy, Shri Vasant Sathe, and the visiting Deputy Prime Minister of Poland, Mr. Wladyslaw Gwiazda. The protocol was concluded after a two-day session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission.

In the field of coal mining, the Polish side would submit their offer in the next few months for total electronification of the Churcha underground mine and Sudamdih shaft and washery. The two sides also evaluated the progress in the existing collaboration in shaft sinking operations at the Satgram underground mine in the Eastern Coalfields and Pootkee Balihari underground mine project of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. Reviews have been planned for delineating measures to step up sinking rate for expediting the completion of the projects.

The Joint Commission noted with satisfaction the two agreements signed on Tuesday for the preparation of project report for the Madhuband Phularitand coking coal mine project for a production

of three million tonnes a year and for technical exchange of experts in the area of underground mechanisation.

THERMAL POWER

In the field of power, the Polish side confirmed their interest in supply of thermal power plant equipments, in particular for 210 MW and 60MW units on a long-term supplier's credit basis or in cooperation with Indian manufacturers. It also evinced interest in modernising Indian power plants, particularly those which had been originally supplied from Poland. The Polish side expressed their readiness to participate in the second stage of development of Khetri Copper complex. This offer would be considered after the first stage of this cooperation materialises this year.

Agreeing to cooperate in joint ventures in third countries the two sides would keep each other informed of the possibilities of cooperation in this respect, particularly in fields like power generation, mining, railways, civil engineering, keeping in view the complementarities of the two countries in technology, equipment and technical services.

OIL AND GAS EXPOLORATION

The two sides agreed to examine the possibilities of mutual cooperation in on shore oil and gas drilling within the framework of existing Government policies.

In the field of electronics, further cooperation between the two countries has been envisaged, among others, in areas of floppy discs and their purchase from India, electronic materials and integrated circuits and in the establishment of coproduction of semi-conductor devices. The two sides noted that a bilateral programme of cooperation in science and technology for the period 1986-88 had recently been signed in New Delhi.

The Indian side noted the Polish interest in the transfer of technology for designing and construction of sewage treatment plants. The Indian side agreed to examine the Polish proposal for their

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participation in the project for purification of Ganga river.

Both sides agreed that there was scope for cooperation in the automobile industry particularly for trading in and manufacture of auto components. The Polish side expressed their readiness to collaborate with Indian organisations in the manufacture of different types of vessels and in the modernisation of Indian steel industry.

Date: Apr 03, 1986

Volume No

1995

POLAND

Indo-Polish Joint Commission on Economic and Trade CooperationMeet

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 01, 1986 on the Indo-Polish Joint Commission on economic and trade cooperation:

The two-day session of the Indo-Polish Joint Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation opened here today. The Indian delegation is led by the Minister of Energy, Shri Vasant Sathe, and the Polish side by the Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Władysław Gwiazda. Shri Sathe and Mr. Gwiazda are the co-chairmen of the Joint Commission.

In his remarks, Shri Sathe recalled the growing economic relations between India and Poland and said the trade between the two countries was expected to reach Rs. 2,200 million in 1985. A new trade and payments agreement had recently been signed providing for a rupee trading arrangements for a further period of five years upto December 31, 1990. A long-term trade protocol for the next five years had also been reached in respect of certain selected commodities.

The Minister added that India was making strong efforts to ensure further expansion and diversification of trade with Poland. Referring to the Polish role in the development of coal industry in India, Shri Sathe said, the Sudamdih and Moonidih coal mining projects in the Jharia Coalfields were being developed with their assistance. A master plan for reconstruction of Jharia Coalfields was also being prepared with Polish assistance.

UNDERGROUND MINE MECHANISATION

The Minister said that two agreements were to be signed for Indo-Polish cooperation in the preparation of the project report for the Madhuband-Phularitand underground coking coal mine project for a production of three million tonnes a year and for technical exchanges of experts between the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute and Komag in the field of underground mine mechanisation.

Mr. Wladyslaw Gwiazda said that his country was very keen to strengthen cooperation with India in economic and industrial fields, particularly in the coal mining, energy, ship building, processing of non-ferrous metals, electronics, environmental protection, chemicals and pharmaceuticals. Poland was also interested to participate in the Ganga Action Plan, he added.

Referring to India as one of the most important partners among the developing countries in the economic and industrial fields, Mr. Gwiazda said the two countries had tightened their cooperation in various economic sectors in the wake of Polish Prime Minister's visit to India last year.

The Indian delegation included among others, the representatives of Departments of Coal, Economic Affairs, Fertilisers, Electronics, Power, Mines Coal India Limited, and Ministries of Commerce and External Affairs.

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LAND INDIA USA

Date: Apr 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Investments in Hi-Tech and Export Industries Welcomed -V.P. Singh Addresses Indo-Saudi Joint Commission

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Feb 21, 1986 on the Indo-Saudi Joint Commission:

India's interest in foreign investments in areas of high technology and export oriented industries was reiterated by the Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, while addressing the second meeting of the Indo-Saudi Joint Commission at Riyadh yesterday. He said that India's fiscal and monetary policies were designed to promote modernisation and technical upgradation of the economy and greater participation by Saudi Arabia in these areas would be welcomed.

Identifying India as a major source of supply of agricultural commodities and food products, the Minister said that these items offered excellent prospects for increased trade relations between the two countries. India was also in a position to offer quality supplies of drugs, pharmaceuticals and engineering products, he

added. On the other hand, India could be a major market for primary and secondary petro-chemicals supplied by Saudi Arabia.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The need to work out institutional arrangements in the public or private sector for promoting investments in viable products in the two countries was also stressed by the Minister. He said that India was keen on posing new and improved products for consideration of investment by the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD). So far, four projects in India have been set up with assistance from the SFD. The Minister said that it would be useful to enhance links from the level of individuals to institutional levels. The Indian delegation, during the two-day deliberations will explore the possibilities of tying up collaborations of a number of public and private sector companies which have abilities for turn key projects, operation and maintenance contracts and technical support and services with their counter-parts in the Kingdom.

Expressing appreciation for the impressive manner in which Saudi Arabia has re-adjusted its industries and economic priorities without disturbing the set socio-economic objectives as a result of the fall in oil revenues, the Minister expressed the hope that the industrialised countries would so manage the economies as to enable the developing countries to reduce the burden of the imported inflation. The cost reduction in machinery equipment and capital goods imported by the developing countries should be shared between them and the developing countries, Shri Singh added.

UDI ARABIA USA INDIA

Date: Feb 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Assistance for Navasheva Port Project

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 24, 1986 on the Indo-Saudi Joint Commission deliberations:

Following deliberations of the Indo-Saudi Joint Commission, the Saudi Fund has approved co-financing of Navasheva Port Project.

Representatives of the Saudi Fund will soon visit India for signing the loan agreement. Funding of three more projects namely, Composite Health Project and Sardar Sarovar Project in M.P. and the Madras Hydroelectric Project was -119>

also discussed. The Saudi Fund will be sending a team for appraisal of the Composite Health Project in Madhya Pradesh which will be taken up first. Saudi Arabia has also agreed to remove the ban on import of marine foods and frozen meat from India.

The Indian delegation which was headed by Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh also discussed the issue of IDA-8 replenishment. The Government of Saudi Arabia supported an IDA replenishment of at least \$ 12 billion. They also expressed the hope that India's share in IDA-8 would not be inferior to that in IDA-7.

JOINT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Both sides considered the possibility of establishing a joint investment company. The issue of double taxation for income and profits of the two national airlines was also discussed. Both sides agreed that no further recovery of taxes would be enforced by either tax administration on the income or profits of the airline of the other country till the next round of discussions.

The Government of Saudi Arabia evinced interest in the Indian Technical and Economic Assistance Programme and sought further information about this programme.

In order to increase and diversify the level of trade exchanges, the Indian side indicated their ability to export agricultural products, processed foods, textiles, gems and jewellery, insecticides and pesticides, drugs and pharmaceuticals and engineerings goods. The Saudi export basket to India comprised refined petroleum products and petrochemicals and sulphur.

The need to exchange trade delegation and increase participation in fairs was also stressed in order to promote trade between the two countries.

India's capabilities both in public and private sectors in the areas of providing operation and maintenance services in refineries, petrochemicals, railways, telecommunication, hospital services etc. were noted. It was agreed that this area offered scope for greater co-operation between the two countries.

During his stay at Riyadh, the Finance Minister had detailed discussions with several Ministers of the Saudi Cabinet including Finance Minister, Planning Minister, Commerce Minister, Industries Minister and Minister for Defence and Foreign Affairs, on matters of mutual interest.

Date : Apr 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

SEYCHELLES

Giani Zail Singh Hosts Banquet in Honour of SeychellesPresident

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 22, 1986 of the speech by the President Giani Zail Singh at a banquet held by him, in honour of H.E. Mr. France Albert Rene, President of the Republic of Seychelles in New Delhi on April 22, 1986:

It is with great pleasure that I extend to Your Excellency, and the dis--120>

tinguished members of your delegation, a warm welcome to our country. This is not your first visit; we had the privilege of receiving you six years ago. Once again, we are very happy to have the honour of having you, a good friend of India, in our midst. Many changes have taken place on the international scene since you were here last, and it is our hope that your present visit will provide both sides an opportunity for a fresh exchange of views and ideas on many important issues.

NEIGHBOURS

Seychelles and India are neighbours. With the Indian Ocean linking our two countries, we have had a history of friendship born out of social, cultural and commercial contacts. We share a similar colonial past. Though most of the countries in our region are now free from the shackles of colonialism, nevertheless external interference and the resultant increase in tensions, continue to afflict the region and retard its progress. It is unfortunate that the Indian Ocean is sought to be converted into the arena of great power rivalries and militarisation, which pose a grave threat to peace and stability of the region. It is, therefore, natural that we should unite our efforts together calling for an end to the military presence of non-littoral States. India sincerely appreciates the firm and principled stand taken by Seychelles in this regard. As members of the Non-Aligned Movement, it shall be our common endeavour to turn the Indian

Ocean into a 'Zone of Peace'. India supports the view that a conference on the Indian Ocean should be convened at the earliest possible opportunity to implement the UN Declaration of 1971, and that the presence of the Great Powers at such a conference is essential.

Nuclear disarmament is a crucial issue of our times. Unless effective steps are taken to curb the testing, production, stockpiling and deployment of nuclear arms, the very existence of humanity will be threatened. The appeal of the Six-Nation Summit last year has received the support of an overwhelming majority of UN members, and of public opinion throughout the world. The recently concluded Geneva Summit resulted in a commitment on the part of the two super powers to further negotiate rather than adopt a path of confrontation. We hope that this process would continue to be carried forward leading to a significant reduction in strategic nuclear arms and a moratorium on nuclear weapons tests, as a first step towards a total ban on testing.

VESTIGES OF COLONIALISM

Unfortunately, there are still some vestiges of colonialism and racism which remain in the African continent. India views with deep concern the situation in South Africa brought about by the obnoxious policy of apartheid adopted by the racist regime. The struggle for freedom and human rights is intensifying. We have repeatedly expressed our conviction that peaceful change in South Africa can only come about with the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the racist regime by the entire world community. As Your Excellency is aware, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Nassau had drawn up a package of concrete and binding measures against apartheid with their implementation set within a time-frame. One of these was the setting up of a Group of Eminent Persons, who were to submit a report by the end of June, 1986, on whether the South African regime had started dismantling the apparatus of apartheid. We understand that this Group has visited South Africa and the Front-line States and has made suggestions to the South African Government, and we await further developments.

NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE

The question of Namibian independence remains a matter of deep concern to all of us. South Africa has so far managed to thwart the implementation of UN Resolution 435 on Namibia. The responsibility of the UN for the independence of Namibia must once again be strongly

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affirmed. We strongly oppose any effort to bypass the UN by the promotion of spurious schemes of internal settlements, as also to create extraneous linkages such as the withdrawal of foreign forces from Angola. India fully supports SWAPO, the sole and

authentic representative of the people of Namibia, in their struggle for freedom and independence.

Your Excellency, the close and friendly ties between our two countries stem not only from the fact of our geograpical proximity, but also from common ideals and aspirations. We are both fully committed to the objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement and of creating a New International Economic Order. Seychelles and India, as developing countries, are striving to raise the standard of living of their people. Unfortunately, disparities between the developed and developing countries persist and are even growing. The developed countries have turned a Nelson's eye towards urgently needed reforms in the world economic system. The North-South dialogue has failed to yield meaningful results. The only way to arrest the deteriorating situation of disequilibrium in the global economy and persisting inequality in international economic relations, is to establish a New International Economic order by promoting inter-dependence among the developing countries themselves, in the fields of economic and technical cooperation. We are confident that the visit of Your Excellency to our country will provide a timely opportunity to identify fresh areas of mutually beneficial bilateral economic cooperation.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in raising a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency President F. A. Rene, to the prosperity and well-being of the friendly people of the Seychelles, and to the further consolidation of the close and friendly relations between our two countries.

YCHELLES INDIA FRANCE SWITZERLAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA USA BAHAMAS NAMIBIA ANGOLA

Date: Apr 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

SEYCHELLES

Text of Mr. Rene's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 22, 1986 of the speech by the President of the Republic of Seychelles, H.E. Mr. France Albert Rene at a banquet hosted in his honour by the President, Giani Zail Singh, here tonight (New Delhi, April 22, 1986):

May I express, on behalf of my delegation, and on my own behalf, our happiness at being once again in the beautiful city of New Delhi and I express our sincere and heartfelt gratitude at the welcome and hospitality extended to us by the Government and people of India. We have come again to India to renew the long-standing friendship between the Indian and Seychellois peoples. The warmth and cordiality that have characterized our welcome have confirmed our mutual desire to build upon the existing ties of friendship, solidarity and cooperation.

Mr. President, nearly 40 years have passed since the midnight hour when India awoke 'to life and freedom'. Since 1947 freedom has come to over 100 new nations, following India's example, and often inspired by its great leaders, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru's gaze, however was fixed not on the past, but the future, and his dedication was not only to India and her people but "to the still larger cause of humanity". The names of these great Indian leaders will be forever remembered by many of us, inseparably associated both with the history of India and the history of the National Liberation struggle of all continents. India's voice has always been raised in the cause of the liberation of oppressed peoples, bringing hope and courage to many. It was heard beyond India's frontiers including my country. It is in this spirit that I would like to pay tribute to -122>

India for the encouragement and assistance we received during our liberation struggle.

DISARMAMENT AND PEACE

No developing country has played a more vigorous or more sustained role on development issues than has India, and in time, both the Commonwealth and the Non-Aligned Movement were to make that role their own. India has built up a major international reputation, in developing policies and popular consciousness, in favour of disarmament and peace. I would like to commend here the Government and people of India for their endeavours towards peace ad the prominent role they have played towards disarmament and, in particular, towards nuclear disarmament. Seychelles welcomes this. Indeed, we believe that all nations, big or small, have a role to play in furthering the cause of peace. In this regard, recognizing that the regional efforts to create the Indian Ocean Zone of Peace must be placed in the global context of disarmament, Seychelles has recently acceded to three major treaties pertaining to nuclear weapons. The people of Seychelles are behind the people of India in their endeavours to create conditions for a world of tolerance, peace and cooperation, where human achievements and human ends are entirely for the human good.

We greatly appreciate India's contributions to the cause of peace

and international security and to enhancing in this respect the role of the Non-Aligned Movement. The leaders of India have done much to uphold and sustain the role of the Non-Aligned Movement as an important positive factor in the strengthening of peace. I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute here to Mrs. Indira Gandhi's outstanding contribution to the cause of peace. The entire Seychellois nation sorrowed for her loss.

NUCLEAR ARSENALS

Only a few months have elapsed since we marked teh 40th anniversary of the dropping of the first nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Memories of that catastrophe make us even more acutely 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. Ever increasing expenditures are being undertaken for the qualitative development of weapons and the militarization of outer space appears imminent.

It is imperative for us to take bold action now. The tendency towards the legitimization 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 nations. A commitment by leaders of the nuclear-weapons States to follow a path of arms limitation rather than arms build-up is the need of the hour.

The massive expenditure now being directed towards perfecting and modernizing the instruments of war should be channelled towards securing more equitable and better conditions of livelihood for the peoples of the world.

DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP

If the States most responsible for creating this threat are yet unprepared to suggest urgent measures for preventing the outbreak of a nuclear war, others should take the lead. I would like in this context to praise the Government of India's dynamic leadership in convening the meeting of Heads of States or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania in January last year. This important meeting of leaders representing the six continents issued the Delhi Declaration which calls for a continuing programme of arms reduction leading to general and complete disarmament accompanied by measures to strengthen the United Nations system and to ensure the urgently needed transfer of substantial resources from the arms race to economic and social develop-

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ment. These, Mr. President, are genuine and concrete proposals towards the attainment of peace. We totally support them and

sincerely hope that those concerned will not turn a deaf ear to the proposals. This reminds me of the words of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's Great Statesman and First Prime Minister: "Without peace our dream of development turns to ashes". In this context we welcome the convening of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development which is to be held in Paris this summer.

How can we achieve our development strategies when the world economic environment continues to cause grave concern? At the 7th Summit Conference of Non-Aligned countries which was held here in this city in March 1983 and in which I had the honour to participate, we stressed that "the international community cannot be assured of durable peace so long as the economic disparities between nations are widening". Today, three years later, we note that the economic situation has not improved.

Mr. President, I know you will share my views when I say that, it is time that the international community renew 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, trade and restructuring of international economic relations. Otherwise the establishment of a New International Economic Order, which both India and Seychelles have been calling for since 1974, will lose its sense of purpose.

GOODWILL AND SOLIDARITY

India, itself a developing country, has demonstrated to the international community that goodwill and solidarity among States are not just words uttered in space. As an example, I wish to refer to the appeal launched by the 21st Summit Conference of the Organisation of African Unity last July in the face of the critical economic situation in Africa. Under India's chairmanships, the Non-Aligned Movement adopted a Plan of Action.

The people of India donated an important amount of goods in kind, followed by a large contribution to the Special Fund. Under the Plan of Action, you have identified some major agricultural projects in Africa.

Mr. President, I wish to turn to the situation in Southern Africa. As the world enters the third millenium, the regime in Pretoria refuses to accept the fundamental principle that all people are equal. Yet Apartheid continues in South Africa; Namibia remains enslaved 25 years after the United Nations Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, and seven since the Security Council unanimously spelt out steps for Namibia's independence; repeated acts of aggression against independent African States persist.

The policies of Apartheid constitute a source of tension, instability and conflict, endangering both regional and international peace and security. The Pretoria regime is beyond persuasion.

In fact India should be very proud to have led the way as far back as 1946 when you decided to impose sanctions against South Africa. Indeed, it was South Africa that enabled Mahatma Gandhi to fashion his strategy of mass defiance of lawless laws. Again, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi played an active role at the last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in the Bahamas in insisting that Commonwealth countries impose mandatory sanctions against South Africa. India has a representative on the group of six eminent persons who have been mandated by the Commonwealth to encourage through all practical ways the dismantling of Apartheid and building of democracy in South Africa.

We in Seychelles have taken some measures within our means. We have banned South African Airways from landing on our soils and have taken steps to find alternative markets for the import of manufactured goods.

SWAPO

India's recent granting of full diplomatic status to the representative of the South-West African People's Organisation in Delhi, thereby reaffirming its firm support for the Namibian cause, is a further proof of your commitment towards the eradication of Apartheid. We, the people of Seychelles welcome this development.

Equally our hearts go to suffering peoples of Palestine, Central America, the Middle East, others who continuously face the forces of oppression in their struggle for the noble cause of justice, freedom and dignity.

INDIAN OCEAN

Nearer to our shores, the destabilizing and escalating Great Power presence in the Indian Ocean causes my country great concern. I know the Indian Government shares the same concern too. That the Great Powers should choose our ocean to play their war games is unacceptable. Every effort should be made to ensure that the Indian Ocean is turned into a Zone of Peace in conformity with the 1971 Declaration adopted by the United Nations and which is universally supported by all Non-aligned States of the region. It is unfortunate that some great powers have linked some extraneous issues to the concept and are consequently delaying the much-awaited international conference. The Colombo Conference scheduled for 1987 must take place. The participation of all Great Powers at the conference is indispensable to its success.

There can be no development without peace and stability. It is, therefore, evident that those who do not wish to see developing countries attain their goals have an interest in promoting and encouraging conflicts and destabilization efforts. These days we often hear of terrorism and daily it becomes more and more evident that the word has several meanings. To encourage and train and nourish the dissidents of certain countries is not terrorism. To do the same, in respect of other countries is. Small groups openly advocating the violent overthrow of the Seychelles Government for their own selfish interests reside and even obtain financial subsistance in certain Commonwealth countries. This seems normal and even desirable. We are living in a world of double standards and more and more the developing world must depend on its own resources and unite in its efforts to seek peace and stability so essential to our development efforts.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

This leads me to comment on the state of the bilateral relations between our two countries.

I am pleased to say that our cooperation with India has been particularly fruitful. Eight years have elapsed since we became the masters of our destiny. During such a relatively short period of time, the Indian Government and the private sector have contributed largely towards the development goals of Seychelles. Trained Indian personnel are passing on their know-how to us in such fields as education, health, science and technology. Our Air Force was established with the collaboration of the Indian Air Force. The financing and technological know-how of our canning factory comes from India. We have received an important Line of Credit and Balance of Payments support which have enabled us to procure building materials from India mainly for the purpose of improving the housing situation in Seychelles and to help us overcome certain financial difficulties at a difficult moment. A shipping line has been established between Bombay and Seychelles, which will facilitate communications between our two countries and consequently attract trade between us. Only last month, we had the honour of

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receiving a delegation from the National Small Industries Commission of India that will advise us on the setting up of an industrial estate in Seychelles.

I will not go into detail of all the areas of cooperation but I am proud to say that our cooperation is a healthy one. India as a true friend of Seychelles has shared and is still sharing with us the best they have. This cooperation is free from any pressure, free from imposition of terms, free from political strings. It gives me pleasure to reiterate the people of Seychelles

gratefulness for all the assistance it has so far received from India. Our National Development Plan 1985-89 is orientated towards concentrating investment in the productive and economic sectors in order to attain greater self-reliance. I am sure that together we shall discuss and identify areas of possible bilateral cooperation and to build a strong foundation for our future relations.

APPROACH TO 21ST CENTURY

Mr. President, as we approach the 21st century should we accept the fact of the world's divisions, dangers and injustices? Let us rededicate ourselves to peace. Let us cure the world of nuclear militarism. Let us resolve to fight starvation in a world of plenty. Let us denounce the crime of racism in an age of equality and dignity. Let us launch a crusade for peace, freedom and equality.

I now wish to propose a toast. To the health of the President of India, Mr. Giani Zail Singh and Mrs. Singh and all our Indian friends, to the successes and prosperity of the people of India; to further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples; to a lasting and durable peace on earth.

YCHELLES INDIA FRANCE USA JAPAN ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA BAHAMAS RUSSIA SRI LANKA

Date: Apr 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Ferrous Metallurgy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 05, 1986 on Indo-Soviet cooperation in ferrous metallurgy:

India and the Soviet Union signed a protocol here on Friday to strengthen cooperation in ferrous metallurgy. Shri R. P. Khosla, Secretary (Steel) and Mr. L. V. Radyukevich, First Deputy Minister of Ferrous Metallurgy of the USSR signed the protocol on behalf of their respective countries.

The protocol has been signed at the conclusion of a four-day

meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Working Group on Ferrous Metallurgy which met here from April 1-4, 1986.

The Working Group noted that the experts of the two sides had identified steps required to improve the production and financial performance of Bhilai and Bokaro steel plants and to ensure that both these plants operate at full-rated capacities. It had also noted that the new facilities at the Bokaro Steel Plant for its four million tonne expansion scheme had been commissioned with the Soviet assistance. The full scheme will be completed by June, 1988 when the new rolling mill is commissioned.

At the Bhilai Steel Plant all major facilities of the four million tonne expansion scheme have been commissioned except a new blast furnace and a coke oven -126>

battery which are expected to be commissioned in September, 1987 and January, 1988 respectively.

In the field of research in ferrous metallurgy, the Working Group agreed upon greater emphasis on training of Indian experts in different technological areas, especially in iron making, raw materials, refractories, new steel products, rolling mills and thermal engineering. A joint symposium will be held in USSR in September, 1986 on the theme 'Modernisation of Steel Plants with utilisation of new technologies and equipment'.

A report on the revised rationalised project concept of the Visakhapatnam steel project was handed over to the Soviet side. This report will be further discussed in May, 1986 for early finalisation of the details of rationalised concept. Both sides agreed that the pace of construction of the project was making satisfactory progress to enable commissioning of Stage I by 1988 and Stage II by 1990.

MECON

The Working Group have noted that MECON continued to take advantage of cooperation with Soviet organisations. MECON has signed a licence agreement for transfer of technology for selective coal crushing and are carrying out negotiations for licence agreement for blast furnace stave cooling system.

Other areas of cooperation between MECON and Soviet organisations were also identified. These areas include the possibilities of installation of Benzol plants, modernisation of hot strip mills and installation of cast house granulation plants. MECON and Soviet organisation are also cooperating closely to prepare the Visakhapatnam and the Bhilai Steel plants to heat up their new seven meter cokeover batteries. This size of battries are being installed for the first time in the country.

Date: Apr 05, 1986

Volume No

1995

SWITZERLAND

B. R. Bhagat Hosts Dinner to Swiss Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 02, 1986 of the speech by the External Affairs Minister, Shri B. R. Bhagat at the dinner in honour of the Swiss Foreign Minister in New Delhi on April 2, 1986:

Excellency and Madam Aubert, Distinguished Guests, it is indeed a great pleasure to have you and Swiss delegation amidst us this evening. I hope that during your visit to our country, you will be able to have the opportunity to see some of the efforts that we, as a large developing country, are making in the economic and social fields, in order to raise the living standards of our people.

WARM AND CORDIAL RELATIONS

Happily, India and Switzerland share warm and cordial relations. Our friendship has been strengthened by regular exchanges of visits between the peoples and leaders of our two countries. In this context, I am confident that Your Excel--127>

lency's visit to India will result in further strengthening the ties which bind our two countries together.

We in India have long believed that sustained all round growth in our country, as indeed in the world at large, can be best brought about in an atmosphere of peace and cooperation.

To bring about such an atmosphere, we have consistently urged that urgent steps should be taken to reduce the threat posed to the very survival of mankind by nuclear weapons. We have called on all nuclear weapons States to dismantle their nuclear arsenals. We hope that the voice of reason and sanity will prevail, so that our planet is not destroyed by the catastrophe of a nuclear war.

Along with disarmament, we are committed to the idea of inter-

dependence among developed and developing countries as the only solution to the diverse problems facing the world economy today. We have, time and again, called for a serious beginning to be made in the process of the North-South dialogue. It is indeed as much in the interest of the developed as the developing countries to engage in such a dialogue. At the same time, we have initiated the idea of closer cooperation among developing countries themselves, seeing in South-South cooperation the potential for alleviating part of the immense problems facing us today.

It is in this spirit of cooperation that we have committed ourselves to the improvement of relations with all our neighbours. We have consistently endeavoured to strengthen bilateral relations with them on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual benefit. India has always held that friendship and cooperation with neighbouring countries would contribute to peace, stability and economic development of the region.

SAARC

In this context we believe that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), formed in December 1985, is a harbinger of our future hopes and aspirations.

We admire the important role your country plays in international affairs. Since 1976, Switzerland has been a "Guest" in the Non-aligned gatherings, and it is but natural that with its policies of permanent neutrality, Switzerland finds a lot of common ground with India and other Non-aligned countries in promoting objectives which are important to all of us.

I am confident that in the years to come we will see a greater degree of involvement between neutral and Non-aligned countries in international relations, which will greatly help in defusing tensions throughout the world and bring about the peace that all of us so dearly wish for.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to raise your glasses in a toast of His Excellency Mr. Pierre Aubert and Madame Aubert, and to the continued prosperity and well-being of the people of Switzerland.

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ITZERLAND INDIA USA

Date: Apr 02, 1986

Volume No

Banquet in Honour of Turkish Premier - Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 09, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at a banquet hosted on April 9, 1986 by Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Smt. Sonia Gandhi in honour of the Prime Minister of Turkey and Madame Ozal in New Delhi:

My wife and I extend to you a most cordial welcome to India. We have been looking forward to your visit and to exchanging views with you on ways and means of strengthening our bilateral relations and on regional and international issues of common concern. I hope you will have a fruitful and comfortable stay.

Our countries are the repositories of two of the oldest cultures in the world. Recent excavations have brought to light traces of Indian influence on the Hitite empire in the second millenium B. C., such as references to Indian Aryan Gods -Indra and Varuna. There are also interesting references to horse -training experts speaking Sanskrit! Through the period of the other civilizations which flourished in Asia Minor - the Persian, the Greek and the Roman - cultural and commercial contacts with India continued. Later, many of the rulers of Indian kingdoms in the 13th and 1-4th centuries had their origins in families of Turkish descent. In a formal sense, diplomatic and political relations were established by the Moghuls with the Ottoman Sultans, facilitating the further mutual enrichment of our respective cultural legacies. The Turkish language has made an important contribution to the development of our own languages. Nearer our times, during the Balkan wars, Dr. Ansari led a medical mission to give relief to Turkish soldiers.

Present-day Turkey rose Phoenix-like from the ashes of imperial depredation to secure and preserve its sovereign independence. Kemal Ataturk's struggle was followed in India with much admiration. In a letter to my mother, who was then fifteen years old, Jawaharlal Nehru recounted how the news of Ataturk's victory at the Battle of Afium Qarahisar in August 1922 was joyously received by the Indian freedom fighters:

"Many of us were in the Lucknow district jail then. And we celebrated the Turkish triumph by decorating our prison barrack with such odds and ends as we could gather, and there was even an attempt at illumination in the evening."

MODERN TURKEY

Turkey became a modern, independent nation several decades before we secured our freedom. Your efforts at modernising your country - social reform, educational progress, economic development - were seen as of significance for all countries, including ours, attempting to modernise a great tradition. In particular, Kemal Ataturk's belief in the secular ideal found a ready echo in India: the separation of religion from politics and the equality of all citizens whatever their religion.

Independence did not, however, draw us, sufficiently close together. Our exchanges have remained few and far between, well below the level which our historical connections would have led us to expect. We feel there are many areas in which we can cooperate to mutual advantage. More frequent exchange of visits, at all levels, will lead to greater understanding and the strengthening of our relations. Let us hope your visit, which is the first official visit by a Turkish Prime Minister to independent India, augurs an intensification of our bilateral relationship.

There are prospects of giving greater content to our economic relationship. Till the onset of the Industrial Revolution in Europe, both India and Turkey were in the vanguard of the world's economic and technological progress. The Industrial Revolution opened up a gap which we are determined to close. We in India have established a broad industrial base and manufacture a very wide range of consumer and capital goods. We are now engaged in the next phase of industrialisation which is the upgradation of technology, management and quality. We would be happy to share and exchange with friendly countries like yours the experience we have both gathered in the process of industrial modernisation.

CORE OF FOREIGN POLICY

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The core of our foreign policy is Non-Alignment. Non-Alignment stands for the right of every country, big or small, to decide for itself on issues of international importance and contribute to global peace and prosperity without fear or pressure. Non-Alignment stands for a democracy of nations in which all nations are equal in their attribute of sovereignty and resolve problems through discussion, without recourse to the threat or use of force. We believe that a durable peace can be based only on peaceful coexistence, not on a dangerous and illusory search for a balance of power which, in this nuclear age, translates into a balance of terror. Disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, is for us a matter of great concern and high priority.

The Non-Aligned Movement has welcomed the initiative taken by Six-Nations drawn from five continents to bring a halt to the nuclear arms race, prevent the extension of nuclear confrontation to new dimensions, and proceed with all deliberate speed to the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. The Summit meeting last November between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev constituted a welcome beginning but has to be persisted

in so that substantive measures are taken to ensure that a nuclear war, which can never be won, is never fought.

IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT

The tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq escalated in the past few months. We are in constant contact with the leaders of the two countries and our efforts to restore peace are complementary to initiatives being taken by others to the same end. We are aware of your concern as you have common borders with both countries. De-escalation and cessation of hostilities is desired by all.

The denial of an independent State to the Palestinian people in their own homeland is another source of tension in West Asia, indeed in the world. Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab lands. We have consistently and uncompromisingly supported the just Arab cause. We reaffirm our support for the struggle of the Palestinian people, led by the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

Peace in that region is also threatened by tension in Cyprus. We stand for a unified, sovereign, independent and Non-Aligned Cyprus in which all communities live together in amity and goodwill. To this end, we reaffirm our strong support to the good offices mission of the UN Secretary General.

Once again, we welcome you and Madame Ozal to India. Ladies and Gentlemen, would you please join me in raising your glasses to the health of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Turkey and Madame Ozal, and to lasting friendship between the peoples of Turkey and India."

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RKEY INDIA OMAN USA RUSSIA IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL CYPRUS

Date: Apr 09, 1986

Volume No

1995

TURKEY

Text of Mr. Turgot Ozal's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 09, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Turgot Ozal at a dinner hosted in his honour by the

Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi here tonight, (New Delhi, April 9, 1986):

I wish to express my appreciation for the warm welcome extended to me and to my delegation, since our arrival in India.

My wife and I are touched by your hospitality this evening and your kind and gracious words about us and our country.

I am delighted to be in your beautiful country and feel privileged to be the first Turkish Prime Minister paying an official visit to India. This, in itself, marks the significance of my visit, which, I believe, would contribute to strengthening the relations between Turkey and India.

HISTORICAL VISIT

A long time has passed since your grandfather, great statesman, Jawaharlal Nehru, visited Turkey in 1960. We still cherish the vivid memories of This historical visit. It is my sincere hope, Mr. Prime Minister that we will soon have the privilege of welcoming you and Mrs. Gandhi in our country. For this will give the opportunity to the Turkish people to host the young and dynamic leader of India, representing in your distinguished self, the grand tradition of statesmanship of your family.

Indian civilisation has always been a subject of interest for us Turks. With its past of five millenium. Indian civilisation is one of the oldest sedimentary civilisation of the world. Through the ages your religious tolerance has been exemplray. Now-where else in the world have so many different religions flourished side by side as they did in India. You have one of the most original, refined and creative concept of aesthetics, particularly in plastic arts. You enjoy an extremely profound, inquisitive and systematic philosophy in your way of life.

Historically speaking, the first contacts between our peoples date back to the tenth century, when the Turkish populations started their westward and southward emigrations. But the real phase of our common history has started in the early 16th century with Babur and continued with the glorious Indian Empire consolidated by Akbar. The Turks offered one of their best sons to the Indian sub-continent. A man of genius like him was a perfect match for the cradle of magnificent civilisations like India. I believe that the cultural interchange between Turkish and Indian peoples left deep imprints. Allow me here to mention the words of Madame Indira Gandhi, your illustrious mother, to whose memory we pay homage. She said during a speech in Austria in 1983. "Throughout history, India's contacts with outgoing cultures of Arabs, Iranians, Afghans and Turks, ushered in new heights of achievements in our music, architecture, literature and philosophy"...

FRIENDLY CONTACTS

Friendly contacts between the two peoples took place also during the time of the Ottomans, our close ancestors. In the sixteenth century, military cooperation was established between the Ottoman Empire and the Indian Kingdoms of Kalikat, Diu and Gujarat. At the request of India an Ottoman fleet set sail to Diu in 1540. We don't know exactly what they did against the common enemy. But when their ship sank off the Indian coast in a storm, Captain Seydi Ali and his crew had to take a long walk back to Turkey, this took three years and seven months exactly.

Well, Sir, as soon as we arranged our trip back home in a slightly more efficient manner we came to visit India. Later on, as of the 17th Century the Ottoman and Indian Empires began exchanging envoys.

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The first resident Ottoman Ambassador to Delhi was appointed in 1744

Turkey was one of the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with India in 1947. Our Embassy in New Delhi was opened in 1948

The Turkish War of Independence under Kemal Ataturk's leadership marked a special chapter of our past relations. We, in Turkey, still remember with gratitude the moral and material support, so readily and generously provided for our national struggle by the peoples of the Sub-Continent. We also take a certain pride that the Turkish national liberation made an impact on the Indian emancipation movement, as the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, your grandfather, architect of modern India, explained so vividly and emotionally in his famous book "Glimpses of World History".

Beside these examples of strong historical links between our peoples, there are other points of convergence.

Our countries are strongly attached to democratic principles. We are both determined to achieve our economic and social development through the democratic process.

India rightly and justly deserves praise of being the largest democracy in the world. You proved to the world that democracy can flourish in a country which has nothing to do with the Judeo-Christian, Graeco-Roman, civilisation and not yet industrially advanced by Western standards.

PRINCIPLE OF SECULARISM

Although originated from different necessities in our political systems, the principle of secularism is yet another common

element to both countries.

Despite important differences both Turkey and India are developing countries. As such, they face similar problems internationally and domestically.

All these facts rally for promoting our bilateral relations, our economic and cultural cooperation.

We in Turkey have followed with interest and appreciation great strides India has made towards economic and social development since its independence in 1947.

On the other hand, I should like to point out that India also deserves praise for its historic role in, and sustained support for the Movement of Non-Alignment since its inception and, since the last three years, the effective manner in which it has chaired the Movement. We also observe with keen interest, Mr. Prime Minister, the efficient policies of Your Government since it came to power, for accelerating the march of India towards progress and modernization.

Mr. Prime Minister, during the last decade 'Turkey has passed through an internal crisis. Anarchy and terror which were greatly instigated from abroad reigned in the country and damaged its economic structures and political institutions. With the general elections held on November 1983 a new era was inaugurated in Turkey.

PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

I believe that in our case parliamentary democracy goes hand in hand with a more liberal economy. The economic programme of our Government is designed to create a modem market economy. We have gone a long way in this path, in quite a short time. We gradually liberalize our foreign trade in order to open our economy to international competition. The growth strategy has given much greater role to exports. As a result our exports have increased four times since 1979 and the share of the industrial products in our exports has risen almost to 80 per cent from 35 per cent five years back. This is yet another sign that Turkey is rapidly becoming industrialized. Turkish contractors have been encouraged to expand their activities abroad and to form joint-ventures with their foreign partners. Free trade zones -132>

are being established in Turkey for the service of Turkish and foreign industries aiming at mid-eastem markets. These efforts have brought about a rate of growth quite superior to other members of the OECD and created conditions conducive to cooperation with other countries. We hope, our countries will seize this opportunity with their vast potential in almost every productive sector.

Mr. Prime Minister, we live in a highly difficult world, torn up by strife and conflict, where race of armaments, regional conflicts, racial discrimination, arbitrary interventions and policies as well as economic crisis continue to aggravate human misery and suffering. In this difficult age Turkey finds herself located at the crossroads of three continents in a turbulent area where she is compelled to play a key role in both global strategic and regional balances.

Turkey has a direct stake in the peace and stability of the Middle East region. The most destabilizing factor in this part of: the world is undoubtedly the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We had supported the initiative undertaken by King Hussein of Jordan. We believe that this initiative which offered a gleam of hope in the present sombre atmosphere, should be reanimated.

The war between Iran and Iraq is a source of deep concern for Turkey. Its continuation can only bring more destabilization in the region. These two neighbouring countries, with which we have historical ties of friendship, owe it to themselves as well as to the region as a whole to end this tragedy.

The Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Namibia problems await a just and peaceful solution.

We know, of course, of our traditional relations with Pakistan. We share emotional and historical ties and cultural heritage with Pakistan. In today's world, threat to national independence of developing countries is well-known. The only way they can ward off dangers is to resolve conflicts among themselves through peaceful means in order to prevent exploitation by foreign powers. I assure you that Turkey rejoices most at seeing steps taken towards the establishment of mutual understanding in- the Sub-Continent.

The crisis situation in the international economy, the debt problem of developing countries and the pervasive protectionism by industrial countries continue to be causes of grave concern for us all.

We must cooperate hard among ourselves to overcome or at least alleviate these difficulties if we want to achieve self-reliant and sustained economic development, and to create a more just and efficient new international economic order conducive to growth and development.

International terrorism reached a stage to be treated as a common foe by all nations. The promotion of effective international cooperation to prevent and punish all forms of terrorism has become an urgent task. We observe with appreciation that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation has included

this matter in its working programme.

In view of all these problems, it becomes urgent and imperative for all. countries to promote their relations and to join forces for closer cooperation. We come to your great country, conscious of this responsibility and desirous of building new bridges of friendship between our countries.

Allow me, Mr. Prime Minister, to propose a toast to the health and happiness of Your Excellency and Shrimati Gandhi, to the prosperity of the people of India and to the friendship and cooperation between our nations.

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Indo-Turkey Protocol on TV

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on April 10, 1986 on the signing of a protocol on T-V. between India and Turkey:

India and Turkey today signed a protocol for cooperation in the field of television.

The protocol was signed by Mr. Tunca Toskey, Director General of Turkish Radio and Television on behalf of Turkey and Shri Harish Khanna, Director General, Doordarshan on behalf of India.

According to the protocol, both the countries will exchange free of charge on a reciprocal basis or by way of purchase or lease, TV programmes produced by their respective organisations.

Within one month after the signature of this protocol both the countries will send each other a list of programmes they wish to offer free of charge or on a commercial basis, stating conditions of offer and also details of programmes offered. Such lists of programme offers will be exchanged at least twice a year.

The protocol says that the explanatory notes or synopsis of programmes thus exchanged will be in the English or French language.

The protocol envisages that both parties assume obligation in using TV materials exchanged in their national programmes only. Both parties are free to use the programmes exchanged in whole or in part without altering the original meaning and content, or not use any at all in their broadcast.

COPYRIGHT

It says that all claims of copyright and broadcasting rights arising from the use of the programmes exchanged in conformity with the terms of this protocol, shall be settled by the originating organisation.

According to the protocol, both the countries will make a separate offer for each co-production giving specific information on the content, text, budget and limits of programme and technical participation. Each co-production will be dealt with under a separate protocol.

Both the countries will participate on a reciprocal basis and within the limits of their possibilities, in the TV contests, festivals and other cultural events organised in their respective countries.

With the aim of exchanging expertise the parties may exchange personnel on a reciprocal basis. The purpose, duration and conditions of the personnel exchange will be decided upon separately.

This protocol shall be effective for a period of one year from the date of signature and shall be automatically renewed for every following year, unless terminated by either party with a written notification sent at least three months before the expiration of the current period.

RKEY INDIA USA AUSTRIA IRAN OMAN ISRAEL JORDAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN NAMIBIA PAKISTAN

Date: Apr 09, 1986

Volume No

1995

TURKEY

India and Turkey Sign Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 10, 1986 on the signing of an air services agreement between India and Turkey:

India and Turkey today concluded an air services agreement which make available, for the first time, direct air services between the two countries. The agreement was signed by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Transport for the Government of India and by Mr. Ihsan Pekel, Perma--134>

nent Under Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Communication, for the Government of Turkey. The agreement was signed in the

presence of Shri Jagdish Tytler, Minister of State, Civil Aviation, and Mr. Vahit Halef Oglu, Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The air services agreement provides for operation of two services per week to/ through India by the Turkish Airline by ts310 type of aircraft. The designated airline of the Government of India is likewise entitled to operate two services per week tolthrough Turkey. During the period when Turkish Airline will operate unilaterally from Turkey to India, a commercial agreement shall govern its operations. The commercial agreement was also signed today by the representatives of Air India and the Turkish Airline..

The bilateral air services agreement between Indian and Turkey shall promote aviation relations, and also develop economic, trade and tourism contacts between the two countries. It will, for the first time, make available direct air services between the two friendly countries of India and Turkey by Turkish Airline.

RKEY INDIA

Date: Apr 10, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED IUNGDOM

Indo-British Cooperation in Coal Sector

The following is the text of a press release is&ued in New Delhi on Apr 11, 1986 on the Indo-British cooperation in the coal sector:

India and the U.K. today signed agreed minutes on furthering cooperation in the coal sector. The minutes were signed by the Coal Secretary, Shri A. N. Verma, and Mr. C. Benjamin, Under Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry of the U.K. Government at the conelusion of a two-day session of the Indo-Joint Steering Group on Coal here.

The U.K. has agreed that a coal sector grant of 01 million would be made available to India. While the major portion of the grant would be disbursed for equipment purchase for specific projects, some amount would be made available for covering the purchase of items not tied to these specific projects.

The Indian side has posed the Ghusick underground coking coal mining project in the Raniganj Coalfields to the U.K. for technical and financial assistance. It has been decided that the funding of the Ghusick project, if taken up, would form a separate aid package outside the fresh coal sector grant.

The J.K. Nagar coal mining project in the Eastern Coalfields has been identified for total electronification to make it a model mine with British assistance. The British side would submit a package offer including detailed specifications of the equipment. The Indian side emphasised the need for timely installation and implementation of the electronification system within an agreed time frame. The Indian side expressed their interest in acquiring soft-ware packages which would be compatible with the VAX-11780 computer system proposed to be installed at Central Mine Planning and Design Institute.

A firm proposal for British involvement in Radha-Madhavpur coal mining project would be jointly worked out. On the supply of draglines, the Indian side stated that it would like to have a long-

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term arrangement with the manufacturers to ensure that spares were available in time. It also desired that suitable provisions for after-sales service for maintenance, repair and training facilities at the manufacturers-end should be arranged. Both sides agreed that performance of longwall equipment at Moonidih and Patherdih underground mines have shown marginal improvement.

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date: Apr 11, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

Agreement on Food Export Quality Control Signed With F.A.O.

The following is the tert of a press release issued in New Delhi on Apr 09, 1986 on the signing of an agreement between India and the Food and Agriculture Organisation on food export quality control:

The establishment of a new project on food quality control for

export is the subject of an agreement signed between the Government of India and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) here today. On behalf of India, the agreement was signed by Shri D. P. Bagchi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce. Dr. E, Bojadzievski, F.A.O. Representative in India and Bhutan, signed for the F.A.O. Two F.A.O. experts in quality control and export inspection and a legal consultant will assist India in the preparation of local training programmes for ensuring high quality in food items to be exported. The legal consultant will analyse and prescribe the legal requirements for the export of food products from India to various countries. The agreement also provides for the visit to the U.S.A. and the Netherlands by two Indian officials for examining food inspection procedures at principal ports of entry. The technical cooperation programme of the FAO will finance the project. It has already allocated 134,000 for the project.

It may be recalled that the Government of India had enacted the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963, for ensuring the sound development of India's export trade through strict quality control and pre-shipment inspection. An Export Inspection Council was set up under the provisions of this Act. Represented on this Council are eminent technologists, trade and industry, India Standards Institution, the D.G.T.D. and the Agricultural Marketing Organisation of the Government of India. Out of the 870 items so far covered under the Act, certain food and agricultural products including cashew kernels, fish and fish products, various processed fruits and vegetables, Basmati rice and spices are subjected to compulsory quality control and pre-shipment inspection. There are five export inspection agencies located at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi and Madras working under the Export Inspection Council. Indian food products are exported to highly advanced industrial countries like the USA, Japan, the Soviet Union, Canada, various European countries and Australia. Indian food products enjoy a fairly good status in these markets. -136>

DIA BHUTAN USA JAPAN AUSTRALIA CANADA

Date: Apr 09, 1986

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Date: May 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

AFRICA DAY

Prime Minister's Address on Africa Day

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 25, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi in New Delhi on May 25, 1986 on the occasion of Africa Day 1986:

We are honoured to have with us on Africa Day one of Africa's bravest free-dom fighters; Sam Nujoma. He personifies the qualities for which the African struggle has earned renown throughout the world: unflinching courage and unwavering commitment; dedication, endurance, discipline; and the will to

victory.

President Nujoma, we have with us today a few hundred of our own freedom fighters and I would like to say a few words to them in Hindi.

We have with us today the great free-dom fighter of South Africa Sam Nujoma. Today is Africa Day and on this occasion we are naturally reminded of our own struggle. When we think of all that inspired our freedom movement, our attention goes to South Africa only. Gandhiji started a satyagrah in 1906 in Johanessburg. Gandhiji carried out the struggle in India on the basis of the experiments he had started in South Africa. We do not know what the history would have been had Gandhiji not been thrown out from the train in South Africa. But the spirit which originated in South Africa and which got us freedom, is once again gaining momentum in South Africa.

When Panditji, Gandhiji fought for freedom, they did not think of the freedom of India only. They were concerned about slavery and oppression wherever it was present in the world. Their aim was to get freedom for all these people. India got freedom and, thereafter, gradually all other countries got freedom one by one. But it is a matter of deep distress that Namibia is still oppressed. Even today the people of Namibia have not been able to get freedom. The way in which the struggle is being carried out in Namibia, the way they are beaten up, they are fired upon, they are oppressed and the way, the big forces of the world are trying hard for oppressing them, it has not been done in any other country.

COURAGE AND DETERMINATION

We remember when we were fighting for our freedom, a similar struggle was carried out. At that time perhaps no country in the world was as strong as England, but our struggle was no less powerful. Satyagrah is not meant for a weak man, it is not meant for a weak-hearted man. It required a lot of courage and determination. But the freedom fighters of Namibia are facing the situation as bravely as our freedom fighters had done and they will also get freedom as we had got it.

We should have welcomed Namibia to the community of free nations many years ago. The termination of the South African mandate should have led to your immediate independence. The intransigence of Pretoria blocked your path. The International Court of Justice ruled that the block be removed. Pretoria contemptuously flouted the ruling. Then the Security Council resolved unanimously in 1978 that Namibia be freed immediately and unconditionally. There was a flicker

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of hope. It was snuffed out when the Security Council failed to

carry through its own plan on pretexts that bear no relevance to your untrammeled right to freedom. But freedom for Namibia will dawn, ending forever the long night of colonialism in Africa. We can all take heart from these lines which Gandhiji liked to recite:

Rise like Lions after slumber In unvanquishable number -Shake your chains to earth like dew Which in sleep had fallen on you - Ye are many - they are few.

ANNIVERSARY OF O.A.U.

On this auspicious day, which marks the twenty-third anniversary of the establishment of the Organisation of African Unity, we salute our brothers and sisters in Africa. We recall the sacrifices they have made to win their freedom and forge unity among themselves. Africa has made a notable contribution to freedom and peace in our world.

No continent suffered so severe a disruption in the continuity of its civilization as did Africa. In much of the continent, especially south of the Sahara, imperialism stamped out every vestige of its great heritage, often without leaving a trace. But history lives on in the collective memory of peoples, in their indomitable will to preserve and assert their identity. Neither the inhuman horror of slavery, the ravaging of her resources, nor the iniquities of racism could wipe out the pride of her people, their inner strength to triumph over adversity. Resurgent Africa marches forward with confidence.

We have been deeply immersed in Southern African affairs in recent weeks. These figured largely at the Ministerial meeting of the Non-aligned Coordination Bureau in New Delhi last month. We then had a visit from our friend, Oliver Tambo. We are now honoured to have no less a personage than the President of SWAPO at our celebration of Africa Day. We will soon be together at the Non-aligned Summit in Harare. I have just returned from a journey through the Front-line States, where I had gone to express our solidarity with them. We were enthused by the vibrant-vitality of the people, impressed with their determination to consolidate their nationhood, impart fresh vigour to their culture, restructure and develop their economies. The odds they have to contend with would daunt any people of lesser cheer or weaker will.

EVIL FROM PRETORIA

The evil from Pretoria looms over southern Africa. Apartheid in South Africa underpins colonialism in Namibia, the occupation of parts of Angola, subversion in Mozambique, the overt and covert destabilization of all the Front-line States. The solidarity of the people of Southern Africa is heart-warming. Their readiness to assist each other, their fearlessness and their refusal to be

cowed down is an example to all of us. We pledge to them our continued backing and support.

At the very birth of the struggle against colonialism, Mahatma Gandhi linked the destinies of Africa and India. He said of his political awakening there:

"When I went to South Africa (1893), I knew nothing about that country. Yet, within seven days of my reaching there, I found that I had to deal with a situation too terrible for words."

South Africa was for Mahatma Gandhi a searing experience. He was shocked to discover that "as a man and an Indian I had no rights. More correctly, I discovered that I had no rights as a man because I was an Indian.

There followed Gandhiji's work in an ambulance corps during the Boer War. "I witnessed," he said:

"Some of the horrors that were perpetrated on the Zulus during the Zulu rebellion. Because one man, -138>

Bambatta, their chief, had refused to pay his tax, the whole race was made to suffer. I was in charge of an ambulance corps. I shall never forget the lacerated backs of Zulus who had received stripes and were brought to us for nursing because no White nurse was prepared to look after them. And yet those who perpetrated all these cruelties called themselves Christians. They were 'educated', better dressed than the Zulus, but not their moral superiors."

GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

It was from humble African railway porters that Gandhiji learnt that generosity of spirit towards the culprit which taught him the beginnings of satyagraha. Gandhiji recalled that these porters would say to White passengers who insulted them:

"My brother, God will forgive you your rudeness."

Almost all colonies are now free. We must now reinforce political freedom with economic independence. We have to consolidate our economic strength: within each of our countries, among ourselves regionally, across the broader spectrum of South-South cooperation.

Large parts of Africa have suffered prolonged drought in recent years. People all over the world have responded to the call of Africa. Musicians and sports personalities have touched the finest sentiments of solidarity in the human soul. The response has been to some extent symbolic. But it represents a generosity that is not to be found in ledgers and budgets but in the larger

vision of a common humanity.

GREEN REVOLUTION

Only two decades ago, we in India were in a similar position. We were compelled to import food to survive. By marshaling the latest in agricultural technology, we carried it to our farmers through a network of extension services. Their heartening response has come to be known as the Green Revolution. Wheat production has risen seven-fold, rice has trebled. We are now bringing to bear on dryland farming the best available in science and technology so that we see a greening of even the arid zones of India. We have a fund of experience and expertise which, perhaps with some modification, would be relevant to the African drive for self-sufficiency in food and a massive increase in cash crops. Agriculture is a priority area in the development plans of most African countries. It is in that area that we have valuable skills and technology to offer. It would be a privilege to be associated with this thrust sector of Africa's development.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Physical assets become inputs for development only through the application of human skills. We in India are particularly well-placed to share with our friends in Africa the fruits of four decades of human resource development. Africa can with assurance draw upon our reservoirs of talent wherever technical and managerial skills need to be established, spread or upgraded. We welcome African students to our institutions of learning and training. We are aware of some of their problems and are, therefore, giving special attention to improving facilities for their stay and their studies here. We can complement places in Indian institutions with the establishment of similar institutions in African countries. The prospects appear to be particularly interesting in key sec-tors such as agriculture, rural development, small industry, irrigation, power, railways and telecommunications.

With vision and foresight, the Organization of African Unity adopted Non-Alignment as the sheet anchor of the OAU membership's foreign policy. It led to quantum jump in membership of the Movement between the Belgrade and Lusaka Summits. The unity of Africa, its commitment to Non-Alignment do come under strain from time to time. There are pressures from within, often inspired from -139>

without. But through a turbulent quarter of a century, Africa has held together.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Regional political cooperation has to some extent-but a much lesser extent- been reinforced by regional economic co-operation.

Within the larger framework of pan-African cooperation, subregional arrangements have been worked out, not-ably the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC). The Non-Aligned Movement must examine how we can give practical expression to our solidarity with Southern Africa by helping them build up their self-reliance and strengthen their economic defences.

We must by the same token greatly promote wider South-South cooperation. Amongst themselves, the countries of the South have all the resources required for development - land, natural endowments, investible surpluses of capital, people and skills. Colonialism and continuing distortions of the world economy have orient-ed the uses of these resources in the direction of unequal North-South exchanges to the detriment of South-South flows. Tentative beginnings in cooperation amongst ourselves have led to some successes, but the full potential has nowhere near been tapped. Perhaps the most important reason for this is our insufficient knowledge of each other. Direct trade links would be of benefit to all of us producers and consumers. There are any number of areas in which direct contacts between professionals, technicians, scientists, artists and others would provide a strong basis for South-South cooperation. Perhaps at the forthcoming eighth Non-Aligned Summit in Harare we could further explore how to strengthen South-South contacts at all levels.

ONE WORLD

Technology and economic interdependence have shrunk the vast globe. But our minds still remain imprisoned in outmoded concepts - developed and developing, North and South. The perspective is lacking that we belong not to two worlds or three but to One World. We seek a dialogue which will lead to a restructuring of the international economic order. We want to knit together stability for the prosperous and growth for the less prosperous. The dialogue has not even begun. Meanwhile, the economies of many countries in Africa and elsewhere have gone into a wholly unnecessary crisis which enlightened international cooperation could have avoided. We seek a principled dialogue, flexible on approaches but firm on the objective of giving all countries a fair opportunity in the common interest of all.

Pretoria has demonstrated once again its contempt for civilized behaviours and good sense. The bombing of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe is of a piece with its nefarious designs of destabilisation. We know that the Front-line States will not be deflected from the cause of freedom and will continue to assist the freedom fighters and victims of apartheid. We will not accept cosmetic modifications to apartheid. The brave people of South Africa have not waged their relentless struggle for freedom to see pass laws replaced by identification cards. Nelson Mandela has not suffered a lifetime of incarceration only to leave the smaller prison of Robbens Island for the larger prison of South

Africa. There is still time - but only a little time - to forestall an explosion of violence in South Africa. The sure way of doing so is the immediate imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions. Let there be no mistake about it - the alternative is a terrible bloodbath.

Confronted with hunger in Africa, people's organizations have shown how the conscience of humanity can be roused by raising the level of consciousness of the problem. We must wage a systematic campaign against apartheid. People every where should be made even more aware than they now are of the inhumanity of -140>

apartheid, so that each person might decide how best he or she might contribute to ridding South Africa of this appalling institutionalised affront to human dignity.

We send greetings to our friends in Africa on this day that is theirs. We wish them success in their struggle against colonialism and racism. We wish them peace and progress.

DIA USA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE ANGOLA MOZAMBIQUE LATVIA YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA BOTSWANA

Date: May 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

ANGOLA

Prime Minister Condemns Attack on Angola

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 26, 1986 of the message of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Mr. Jose Eduardo Dos Santos:

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has condemned the South African attacks on Angola and assured Angola of the fullest support of the people of India and the Non-Aligned Movement to Angola.

In a cable addressed to Mr. Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, President of the People's Republic of Angola, he has said:

"We condemn the recent attacks by South African forces against Angola in which many brave Angolan soldiers lost their lives. The racist Pretoria regime continues to violate the sovereignty of Angola in defiance of United Nations resolutions and international public opinion. Its aggression against Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia last week has been condemned by all the countries. I pledge to you the continued support and solidarity of the Government and people of India and of the entire Non-Aligned Movement."

GOLA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA BOTSWANA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

Date: May 26, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement Extended Till 1989

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1986 on the extension of the Indo-Bangladesh trade agreement:

The three-day talks between India and Bangladesh on trade matters ended today in New Delhi with the present Trade Agreement between the two countries getting extended by three years until October 1989. The talks which were held in a cordial and frank atmosphere covered extensive ground in regard to bilateral trade, projects, trade generating joint ventures and related issues. The Indian delegation was led by the Union Commerce Secretary, Shri Prem Kumar and the seven-men

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Bangladesh delegation by their Commerce Secretary, Mr. A.B.M. Ghulam Mostafa.

India has agreed to import additional quantities of urea, newsprint, leather, books and bamboo pulp, etc. It is likely that long-term framework arrangements for procuring commodities of interest to India will be entered into. Similarly, export of coal, refractories and wheat were also discussed during the talks.

India will organise a special exhibition in Dhaka from 18-27 September 1986. Bangladesh was requested to participate in the India International Trade Fair 1986. The Government of India raised the question of regulation of motorised vehicular traffic and inland water transport with the Bangladesh delegation. It is likely that direct dialling facilities for telephone and telex

between the two countries will commence shortly.

The Indian delegation expressed interest in several industrial projects being set up in Bangladesh. The Bangladesh delegation invited Indian industrialists for joint collaboration in textiles, spare parts, electrical goods, industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals, sports goods, leather processing, fish processing, pesticides, tools and instruments, cement, gas cylinder manufacture and deep-sea fishing.

NGLADESH INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date: May 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1986 on the signing of an Indo-Bulgarian trade protocol:

The trade talks between Bulgaria and India, held here from May 19 to 22, were concluded today with the signing of 'agreed minutes' by Mr. Spas Geovgiev, Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Trade and Shri B.K. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary in the Indian Commerce Ministry. The new trade protocol for 1986 provides for an additional bilateral trade turnover of about Rs. 145 crores (120 million U.S. dollars) during this year. This would be over and above the normal trade between the two countries, which was valued at Rs. 86 crores in 1985.

The additional trade envisaged during 1986 would be on a balanced basis. It would be monitored through "reporting arrangements" between the State Bank of India and the Foreign Trade Bank of Bulgaria. Under the new agreement, India will export oil-cakes, raw cotton and cotton yarn, leather and leather goods like fashion gloves, iron ore, tobacco, jute products, mica and mica products, hosiery and knitwear and engineering goods, etc. Imports from Bulgaria will include urea, steel products, nonferrous metals, soda ash, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, newsprint and machinery items, etc.

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LGARIA INDIA USA

Date: May 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

West German Aid to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 20, 1986 on the financial agreement between India and West Germany:

A financial agreement for DM 35 million (Rs. 18.8 crores) was signed today between the Government of India and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. Shri S. Venkitaramanan, Finance Secretary and H.E. Goenther Schoedel, Ambassador, Republic of Germany in India, signed on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has made available an advance amount of DM 35 million for import of capital goods under the 1986-87 programme. During the recent visit of Chancellor Kohl, it was announced that this amount would be in addition to the normal bilateral assistance. This is a significant 9 per cent enhancement in FRG's financial assistance to India which has stood still around DM 360 million since 1977. This enhancement has been earmarked entirely for the import of capital goods from the FRG this year, which is welcome in view of the big shopping list drawn up by Indian importers for capital goods from the Federal Republic of Germany.

RMANY INDIA

Date: May 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Long Term India-GDR Trade Agreement Concluded

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 20, 1986 on the long-term India-GDR trade agreement:

India and the German Democratic Republic have agreed to a long-term trade arrangement which will come into operation on 1st January, 1987 and will continue up to 1990. The accord was signed at a meeting in Berlin on May 5 and 6, 1986. The Indian delegation was led by Shri B. K. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and the GDR delegation was led by Mr. F.A. Quaps, Director General in the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

Under the new trade agreement, India will import from the GDR a number of important items like urea, newsprint, steel products, equipments for planetaria, mining and metallurgical equipment, capital equipment, muriate of potash and textbook printing presses, etc. Among the items of exports from India would be a larger quantity of shoe uppers, mica and mica products, groundnut extractions readymade garments and knitwear, cotton fabrics and tobacco. There would also be a sizeable growth in the export of electronic goods and components. The total trade turnover is likely to grow up to twice the present volume. With the signing of this agreement, India now has long-term -143>

trade agreements with all the rupee trading countries.

IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER

The GDR has been an important trading partner of India from amongst the East European countries. Since the signing of the first Trade and Payments Agreement with the GDR in 1954, bilateral trade has made a spectacular growth from the modest level of Rs. 2 million in 1954 to Rs. 2418 million in 1984. For 1985, the two-way trade is valued provisionally at Rs. 2010 million. The growth was most spectacular in 1981 when it doubled over the level of the previous year and achieved the objectives set in the Long-term Agreement on Economic Cooperation signed during Chairman Honecker's visit to India in 1979 of doubling the 1978 trade turnover by 1985. While the trade turnover in 1982 did not maintain the level of 1981 and showed some decline over the trade turnover of 1981, the momentum again picked up in 1983 and 1984, with a rise of 23 per cent over the 1982 level and 50 per cent again over the 1983 level. The bilateral trade thus stood at around Rs. 240 crores for 1984. In 1985, the trade has been somewhat lower than the 1984 level.

DIA GERMANY USA **Date**: May 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

H.B.J. Pipeline Contract Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 11, 1986 on the signing of the H.B.J. pipeline contract:

The Gas Authority of India Limited and the Spie Capag led Consortium of Nippon Kokan K. K. and Toyo Engineering Corporation signed last night a contract for execution of the 1758-kms Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur Pipeline Project scheduled to be completed by January, 1989.

The contract for laying the high pressure gas pipeline along with installation, erection and commissioning of related equipments for distribution of natural gas to fertilizer and power plants and other industries is expected to cost Rs. 722.5 crores, including Rs. 457.5 crores in foreign exchange.

The contract was signed by GAIL Chairman and Managing Director, Shri H. S. Cheema and the Spie-Capag Chairman, Mr. C. Portmann. Mr. Kokichi Hagiwara, Senior Managing Director of N. K. K. and Mr. Takashi Matsuda, Executive Vice-President of Toyo Engineering Corporation also signed the contract.

Under the contract the Consortium will complete and handover the pipeline for commercial operation in time to match the commissioning of gas-based fertilizer plants. Adequate provision has been made in the contract to ensure timely completion of the project. The contractor will have to pay liquidated damages upto 10 per cent of the contract price for delay in completion schedule. The contract also provides for performance guarantee.

It is expected that pipeline construction would begin soon after the coming monsoon.

GAIL has already acquired a 30-metre strip of land all along the pipeline
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route on 'right of users' basis in 1113 villages of 30 districts in the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The compressor stations, repeater stations and intermediate pigging stations along the line would be located

away from the populated area and a green belt would be provided around these installations.

INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION

The contract concluded with Spie Capag provides for technology transfer and adequate indigenous participation in areas covering telecommunication, telesupervisory, cathodic protection and compressor stations. In addition, for specific general engineering items and for civil engineering and erection, Indian sub-contractors both from the public and private sectors will be associated with the project. Leading Indian companies including BHEL, HSL, TCIL, ITI, ECIL, HAL, Dodsal Larsen & Toubro and Punj Sons would actively participate in the project work.

The HBJ pipeline system originating from Hazira in Gujarat will provide feed stook to six gas-based fertilizer plants one each in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and four in Uttar Pradesh. It has also been decided to establish three gas based power plants which will be fed by the HBJ Pipeline.

PIPELINE CAPACITY

The pipeline will, at present, have a capacity to transport 18 million cubic metres of gas per day to the fertilizer and power plants. Provision has, however, been made in the pipeline design for capacity expansion to 33 million cubic metres of gas per day. When fully operational, the fertilizer plants would be able to produce 13500 tonnes of urea. Similarly, the power plants would be able to generate 1400 MW of power per day.

The 3-inch diameter first section of the HBJ pipeline system will be 640 km in length upto Bijaipur in Madhya Pradesh. At Bijaipur, part of the gas would be tapped off and supplied to the fertilizer plants at Bijaipur (Madhya Pradesh) and Sawaimadhopur (Rajasthan).

The balance natural gas will be transmitted to Auraiya and then distributed to four fertilizer plants in Uttar Pradesh to be set up at Aonla, Jagdishpur, Babrala and Shahjehanpur.

The gas pipeline will be given a protective coating and will be buried one metre below the ground. It will pass through six major river crossings, 69 smaller river crossings, 52.09 km of forest land and approximately 350 km of rocky terrain, besides a large number of rail, road and canal crossings.

LINEPIPE IMPORTS

GAIL has already received at Kandla port 19 shiploads of line pipes carrying approximately 2,50,000 or approximately 55 per cent of the total line-pipes to be imported. GAIL construction headquarters have been established at Baroda and satellite

construction offices have been set up at Sawaimadhopur, Ujjain, Lucknow, Hazira, Guna, Jhansi, Auraiya and Bareilly. -145>

PAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: May 11, 1986

Volume No

1995

NAMIBIA

International Conference on Namibia -- Text of Message fromShri Rajiv Gandhi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 05, 1986 of the message sent by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to the international conference on Namibia opening in Brussels today (May 5, 1986):

The era of colonialism is over. Namibia must be free. It is shameful, even scandalous, that this last bastion of colonialism should be held by a regime discredited everywhere for its repugnant racism.

The Security Council is frozen into inaction. Twenty years ago, the UN General Assembly terminated Pretoria's mandate. Fifteen years ago, the International Court of Justice declared Pretoria's continued occupation of Namibia illegal. Eight years ago, the Security Council drew up a plan for the independence of Namibia. Yet, nearly a decade later, Namibia remains occupied, its occupation prolonged indefinitely because the Security Council is unable to give effect to the will of the international community.

The twin evils of racism and colonialism persist only because the inhuman Pretoria regime receives sustenance and support from some Western powers who, in a misguided pursuit of narrow strategic and economic interests, are allowing their consciences to be mortgaged to other considerations.

The UN plan for the independence of Namibia was unconditional. Its implementation too must be unconditional. It cannot be linked to irrelevant issues impinging upon the sovereignty of Namibia's independent neighbours. We fully endorse the joint stand of the Frontline African States as set out in their statement at Luanda last month.

Next week, I will be visiting the Front-line States to pledge the

continued support of India and the Non-aligned Movement to the heroic struggle for independence of the Namibian people and their sole legitimate representative, the South West African Peoples Organisations (SWAPO). It was in South Africa that Mahatma Gandhi started the struggle for human dignity and freedom. It was a struggle for the people of South Africa, the people of India, and people in bondage everywhere. His struggle will not be fulfilled until South Africa and Namibia are free. They shall be free.

I am honoured to associate myself with this international conference on Namibia as one of its patrons. I send my warm and fraternal greetings to all the distinguished persons assembled at this Conference and, in particular, to my friend, President Sam Nujoma. I am convinced that no power on earth can prevent the ultimate success of such a dedicated struggle for so just and noble a cause.

MIBIA INDIA BELGIUM USA SOUTH AFRICA ANGOLA

Date: May 05, 1986

Volume No

1995

NAMIBIA

Banquet in Honour of Sam Nujoma -- Prime Minister's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet in honour of His Excellency Sam Nujoma, President of SWAPO, here today (New Delhi, May 22, 1986):

Your Excellency President Nujoma, Madame Nujoma, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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it is a privilege to welcome you to India, appropriately enough on the eve of Africa Day, a day of great importance and significance. We welcome you as the sole, authentic representative of a brave people who are valiantly struggling against racial exploitation and colonial repression. We welcome you as one of the heroic generation of freedom fighters who was present in Belgrade at the historic first summit of Non-aligned Movement. Twenty five years later, yours alone remains the country to be freed. It shall be freed.

Independence is being denied to Namibia for reasons that have

nothing to do with your right to freedom. Action is stalled because human rights and human dignity have been made hostage to conflicts which should have no place in Non-Aligned Africa. How can there be a nexus between the Security Council implementing unconditionally its own plan for unconditional independence to Namibia and Angola's sovereign right to take such measures at it deems fit to preserve its freedom and integrity? Puppets are propped up in Namibia. Traitors are encouraged in Angola. There is gross interference and intervention in the internal affairs of countries who offer succour to Namibians fleeing terror in their country. The right of the Front-line States to grant sanctuary to the freedom fighters of South Africa and Namibia cannot be abridged or abrogated.

THREAD OF EVIL

There is a common thread of evil which runs through apartheid in South Africa, colonialism in Namibia, the occupation of parts of Angola and the brutal State terrorism of Pretoria. The bombing of Makeni, Harare and Gabarone is but an extension of the dogma of racist arrogance. It is not enough to condemn the bombing without also recognizing the linkage between racism in South Africa and its depredations abroad. Those who compromise with apartheid taint their hands inevitably with all of Pretoria's other iniquities.

Nor is compromise with apartheid going to safeguard narrow commercial or strategic interests. If the present unrest in South Africa is not quickly contained, it will boil over into a terrible explosion which will rip apart all that compromise seeks to preserve.

A peaceful solution to the problems of Southern Africa is still a possibility -- but only if we act swiftly. The Commonwealth Eminent Persons' Group has been exploring this possibility. Even while the Group was in Southern Africa, it witnessed the insolence of Pretoria's aggression against Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. A regime which suppresses its people with brute force also brutalizes itself. Apartheid cannot be modified or altered or redesigned. It must be dismantled -- immediately and entirely. To this end -- and there can be no other -- comprehensive mandatory sanctions constitute the inescapable necessity. To do anything less would be tantamount to acquiescing in racism, prolonging colonialism and condoning aggression.

WORLD ORDER BASED ON FREEDOM

Out of the moral and material debris of the second World War, the international community set about constructing a world order based on freedom for all peoples, respect for the sovereignty of States, and the peaceful settlement of disputes. There are many deficiencies that still need to be rectified but, for the best part of four decades, the thrust has been in the correct

direction. Recent actions have tragically started undermining the world order we have been trying to build. Evil regimes like Pretoria's take heart from the flouting of international norms and become even more wanton in their violation of the canons of international order. We must restore respect to the principles of peaceful coexistence and the provisions of the United Nations Charter. We must strengthen multilateral institutions. We must reinforce the democracy of nations.

The people of South Africa and Namibia are not going to wait indefinitely for -147>

their independence. They have abundantly demonstrated their spirit of defiance. They will wrest their inalienable rights, whatever the cost. The members of the Non-Aligned Movement are one with the people of Southern Africa in their struggle. We will continue to extend to them our moral and material support. They can count on us.

We reiterate our total commitment to the cause of Namibian independence. We believe that every remnant of colonialism will have to go. Freedom, like peace and prosperity, is indivisible. The continued colonialisation of Namibia is an affront to the conscience of humankind. We see your struggle as our struggle. We see that the tide of public opinion everywhere in the world is surging forward in the direction of freedom. Victory cannot be far away. History has seen many a tyrannical regime. None has been able to perpetuate itself. They have collapsed, confronted with the moral force of truth and freedom, their vain posturing relegated to an inglorious footnote of history.

Ladies and gentlemen, I request you to join me in a toast: to the health of His Excellency Sam Nujoma and Madame Nujoma; to the freedom and prosperity of Namibia; to the inevitable victory of the heroic fighters of the South West African Peoples' Organisation; and to the restitution of human dignity and human rights to all those who are deprived of them.

MIBIA INDIA YUGOSLAVIA USA ANGOLA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE BOTSWANA ZAMBIA

Date: May 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

NAMIBIA

Text of H.E. Sam Nujoma's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1986 of the speech by the President of SWAPO H.E. Mr. Sam Nujoma at the banquet hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi here tonight (New Delhi, May 22, 1986):

On behalf of the Central Committee of SWAPO and on my own behalf, I bring to you fraternal and warm greetings from the oppressed but struggling people of Namibia.

May I also seize this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to the Congress (I) Party, the Government and brotherly people of India for concrete material, political and diplomatic support and above all, for extending full diplomatic recognition to our Movement. SWAPO considers this recognition as a genuine expression of solidarity and support to the oppressed people of Namibia by the Government and people of India. This gesture of immense solidarity is a source of overwhelming encouragement to us. We can only really express our appreciation by pledging ourselves to you, Honourable Prime Minister, that we will leave no stone unturned in our determination to intensify military and political actions in Namibia in order to ensure a speedy and complete liquidation of colonial oppression and foreign domination in our country.

Honourable Prime Minister, my visit to India takes place just after your successful visit to four Front-line States. We in SWAPO join the Front-line States in thanking you and your Government for such a timely visit, particularly in view of the forthcoming Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement to be held in Harare, next August. At this point, allow me, Honourable Prime Minister, to pay special tribute to India for the leadership it has provided to our Movement for the past three years. We are looking forward with confidence that the handing over of the Chairmanship of Non-Aligned Movement to Zimbabwe, a Front-line State, will help to accelerate the decolonisation of Namibia and the dismantling of Apartheid in South Africa.

OUTRAGE OF APARTHEID

We were extremely outraged that shortly after your visit, the Apartheid regime launched barbaric simultaneous attacks on three of the Front-line States: Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. These aggressions clearly demonstrate that the Botha regime is not prepared to implement UN Security Council Resolution 435 and the elimination of Apartheid. That the attacks were carried out while the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons was in South Africa trying to promote dialogue between the ANC, the authentic representative of the people of South Africa and the Botha regime, clearly shows how contemptuous South Africa is about

international public opinion. We in Namibia have bitter experience of South Africa's resort to military force whenever efforts are being made to find negotiated solutions. For example, on May 4, 1978, while SWAPO and the Front-line States on one hand and South Africa and the Contact Group on the other, were in New York trying to reach final agreement on Resolution 435, South African racist troops attacked a Namibia refugee Camp at Kassinga, People's Republic of Angola, killing thousands of people, including women and children and maiming many more. Again in January 1981 while SWAPO and the South African delegations were attending pre-implementation talks in Geneva organised by the UN Secretary General aimed at signing a cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa, the racist troops of South Africa invaded and occupied some parts of Southern Angola. I am citing these examples to illustrate the fact that racist South Africa is not interested in a negotiated settlement of the problem of the independence of Namibia and South Africa itself. SWAPO strongly condemns the aggression against the Front-line States.

USE OF JET FIGHTERS

In these last attacks SWAPO knows that the jet fighters used to bomb the suburbs of Lusaka came from a huge South African airbase at Mpacha in the Caprivi Strip, Eastern Namibia. It is also not surprising that the South Africans have committed these aggressions when Unita bandits have started receiving sophisticated weapons including Stinger missiles from the United States. It is a tragedy that the United States is directly involved in the conflict in Southern Africa by openly collaborating with South Africa through the so-called policies of constructive engagement and the linkage issue, and the support to Unita bandits. Unita is nothing but an extension of the South African army, financed and trained in South African bases in Namibia and transported into Angola to terrorise and kill the people as well sabotaging the economic infrastructure of that country. We vehemently condemn the use of our country as a springboard for aggresion against and destabilisation of the Front-line States by the Apartheid regime.

In Namibia, the Apartheid regime is daily increasing acts of atrocities and repression against the civilian population by extending to our country its barbaric laws such as the Suppression of Terrorism Acts of 1967, State of Emergency of 1972 and Marshal Law of 1982 re-inforced by a chain of other Draconian laws such as AG 8, AG 9, AG 25, etc. and the so-called District Security Act which prohibits people, especially journalist, from travelling from one area to another. These deliberate restrictions are imposed in order to prevent the people from seeing atrocities such as killings and torture that are daily committed against our people. The racist regime has also transferred the so-called South African Defence Act to Namibia. This measure empowers the colonial governor to forcibly conscript Namibians into the South African army of occupation. Today there

is the so-called South West Africa Territory Force, Koevoat, etc. which are daily committing atrocities against innocent civilians.

ARMED LIBERATION STRUGGLE

In the face of the persistent intransigence of the South African racist regime, the people of Namibia under the leadership -149>

of SWAPO have no other alternative but to intensify the armed liberation struggle. It is 20 years now that we have been engaged in the heroic armed resistance against the illegal occupation of our country and we will persevere in our resolve until our country is genuinely independent and our people truly free.

Only two weeks ago, the Combatants of PLAN have shot down two enemy jet fighters and one helicoptor in the so-called operational area. Our combatants also successfully ran over two big enemy bases killing and wounding many enemy soldiers. Also, due to political consciousness of our people and the unshakeable support for SWAPO, the enemy's attempts to impose illegal institutions, like the interim Government have been frustrated.

INSPIRATION FROM INDIA

Honourable Prime Minister, we are greatly inspired by the Indian freedom struggle and its great leaders, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. We are further inspired by the fact that Mahatma Gandhi started his non-violent resistance to oppression in South Africa, and when he returned to India he led a protracted struggle against British colonial domination until India gained her independence.

Allow me also Honourable Prime Minister, to express our gratitude to the role played by India right from the formation of the United Nations when India strongly opposed attempts by the racist Prime Minister General Smuts to annex Namibia as a fifth province of South Africa. We also remain grateful for the consistent generous material, diplomatic and political support given to our people by successive Indian Governments from Pt. Nehru through to the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was a great friend of our people and more eloquently by Your Government, Honourable Prime Minister.

Honourable Prime Minister, the international community has a responsibility to help bring a rapid end to the colonialism in Namibia and the abolition of Apartheid in South Africa by imposing comprehensive mandatory economic sanctions against Apartheid South Africa. No amount of moral persuasion will force South Africa to relinquish its illegal occupation of Namibia and abandon the obnoxious system of Apartheid in South Africa. Only concerted internal actions and international pressure will bring South Africa to its knees.

SWAPO, therefore, rejects with contempt the argument by certain Western Governments, especially the USA, FRG and UK that sanctions will hurt the black majority in Apartheid South Africa and occupied Namibia. The African peoples of Namibia and South Africa have nothing to lose as a consequence of economic sanctions and they themselves call for punitive measures against the Apartheid regime.

Finally, Honourable Prime Minister, dear friends, I once again want to say how humble I felt at the warmest reception I have ever received anywhere and the greatest honour such a reception has been conferred on our people.

Honourable Prime Minister, the victory of India over the forces of colonialism, is the victory of the people of South Africa, Namibia and the victory of the entire progressive people of the world. The struggle continues, victory is certain. -150>

MIBIA INDIA USA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA BOTSWANA ZAMBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ANGOLA SWITZERLAND UNITED KINGDOM

Date: May 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech at the State Banquet in Lusaka

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 15, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the State banquet in Lusaka on May 14, 1986:

President Kaunda and Madame Kaunda, Secretary-General Zulu and Madame Zulu, Prime Minister and Madame Musokotwane, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, a visit to Zambia is always a special delight for an Indian. Sonia and I thank you for the friendship you have lavished on us.

We thank you in particular for arranging at such short notice to take us to the magnificient Victoria Falls. It was a sight of awesome majesty -- the cascading waters, the spray rising to the skies, the gentle curve of the rainbow in the gorge -- an unforgettable spectacle.

I bring to you and the people of Zambia the greetings and good wishes of the people of India.

Zambia and India both cherish freedom and equality of all human beings. We are staunchly opposed to colonialism and racism. We have together endeavoured to build a peaceful and equitable world order. India has known and admired you, Mr. President, ever since you fought against imperialism and led your country to independence. We have watched you build a united, progressive Zambia. Your resonant voice, with its message of humanism, reverberates in distant lands. Your admiration for Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru and your close friendship with Indira Gandhi have shaped for us a common outlook.

We share your concern for the spiritual rekindling of humankind. In a material sense, we are perhaps poor and economically weak. But we are heirs to a great and glorious heritage which we must conserve and develop even as we push forward to economic growth and social progress. It will avail us nothing if we inherit the earth but lose our souls. There is an inner strength which has sustained us and you through periods of prowess and prosperity as well as through times of deprivation and bondage.

STRENGTH FROM PAST

Drawing strength from our past, we are facing up squarely to present challenges, and look to the future with confidence. We shall, through our own efforts, seize the tools of science and technology to close the gap that was created by the first industrial revolution. Our people are our great resource -- and through education, training and the cultivation of a scientific temper we shall restore the balance which colonialism tipped in favour of the few and against the many. Our development will come through the involvement of all our people. Progress is achieved when the people as a whole push the cart over the hump. We believe, as you do, not in three worlds but in one.

The affluence of today's advanced nations is a result of technological innovation fuelled by the capital and through raw materials wrested from the colonizer. Exploitation has not ended with political independence. Primay commodities fetch less in real terms. Technology to modernise our economies costs more. The terms of trade are weighed in favour of the few. This must be corrected.

We must speak and act in unison. Only with self-reliance, individual and collective, we can secure what we want for our people. We must develop closer economic and technological links. We must

get to know one another better at every level.

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HEARTBEATS OF AFRICA

No one can be free till everyone is free. At the Lusaka Summit, my mother spoke of the heart-beats of Africa. She urged us to push ahead with the unfinished revolution. Sixteen years have passed. Yet we hear the swish of the whip of Apartheid. But louder grow the freedom drums of the wronged, the exploited, the oppressed and the dispossessed of South Africa.

Apartheid is an abomination. Apartheid rests on inhumanity. Humanity is the triumph of principle over profit. Could it be avarice which sustains Apartheid? Is it from the swelling coffers of commerce that Apartheid receives sustenance? Is it not those who glean a profit from exploitation who support Apartheid? Time is fast running out for those bent on holding back the forces of justice, equality and freedom. Nassau saw many nations join our ranks in the forefront of the anti-Apartheid movement. This solidarity must be maintained. Can those who struggled for their independence be indifferent to the yearnings of others for freedom and equality? Abraham Lincoln asked: "What constitutes the bulwark of our own liberties and independence?" and replied: "Our defence is in the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands everywhere."

UNIVERSAL JUSTICE

In the name of universal justice, we call upon all nations of the world to hasten equality and freedom in South Africa. Delay will mean only terrible bloodshed. The only peaceful method is to apply comprehensive mandatory sanctions.

The Pretoria regime has indulged in unabashed subversion, promoted destabilization and committed aggression against the Front-line States. India is with the Front-line States, in their heroic endeavour to safeguard their independence and integrity. We extend our full support to them for the attainment of majority rule and social justice in South Africa.

Nelson and Winnie Mandela, Oliver Tambo and thousand upon thousands of South Africans have faced prison, batons and bullets. Their sacrifices will be crowned with success.

Despite the U.N. Declaration of Decolonization, despite the termination of South Africa's mandate, despite the pronouncement of the International Court of Justice, despite the Security Council's plan for the independence of Namibia -- Namibia remains enslaved. Irrelevant issues are being linked to Namibia's right to immediate, unconditional independence. The UN plan, untrammelled by any conditions, must be implemented without delay.

AWESOME STOCKPILES

No sensitive person anywhere today can be complacent about the future of the world. The awesome stockpiles of nuclear armaments positioned round the globe are an unmitigated evil. Yet nuclear-weapons powers are daily spending billions on new research in death-dealing technology and on the development of new delivery systems. All this is sought to be justified in the name of peace. We who care for peace cannot allow the word to be mocked and perverted. We want peace and nuclear disarmament because a nuclear war will kill our peoples no less than the combatants. For us the survival of humanity is a bigger cause than the anxiety of some nations to perpetuate their own preeminence.

Right from our advent as soverign nations, Zambia has chosen to keep away from the contest between the rival power blocs. As Non-aligned countries, we are not interested in belonging to either camp. We have reiterated this from Lusaka to New Delhi.

Non-alignment is the assertion of our right to live beyond the nuclear age. We have held nuclear war to be a crime against humanity and pressed for nuclear -152>

disarmament. The six-nation five-continent peace initiative has carried this message of Non-alignment across the world and directly to people living in nuclear weapon States.

DYNAMIC ZAMBIA

A dynamic Zambia is most essential for Africa's progress. We admire your remarkable achievements in the face of formidable odds. We have no doubt that the Zambian people, under your Excellency's inspiring leadership, will be successful in the gigantic task of restructuring and diversifying Zambia's economy. As always we shall be by your side in this endeavour.

In our talks today we discussed these and other matters at length. There has traditionally been a common approach between Zambia and India. We have not only consolidated our bilateral relations but also enhanced our existing cooperation for international peace, order and freedom, in the cause of justice and humanity.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast:

- -- To the good health and happiness of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia, Dr. Kenneth David Kaunda, and Madame Betty Kaunda,
- -- To the happiness and prosperity of the Zambian people,
- -- To the everlasting friendship between the people of Zambia and India, and

-- To the triumph of human dignity and freedom of South Africa and Namibia.

A ZAMBIA INDIA MALAYSIA SEYCHELLES CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA BAHAMAS NAMIBIA

Date: May 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech at the State Banquet in Harare

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 16, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the State banquet in Harare, Zimbabwe on May 15, 1986:

Prime Minister and Madame Mugabe, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, my wife and I are delighted to be here in this beautiful capital of your beautiful country. We are touched by the warmth of your welcome and your gracious hospitality.

In the six short years of your independence, we have been honoured to receive you thrice in India. My mother was here to participate in your Independence celebrations. I have had the honour of meeting you, Prime Minister, in several world capitals and am now visiting Zimbabwe on the eve of your hosting the eighth Non-Aligned Summit. These exchanges reflect the close relationship between our countries. They are also indicative of our joint search for a world at peace with itself, in which all people are assured of their basic human rights, a world in which the international order is based on justice and cooperation.

For many years after the liberation of most of Africa, racism continued its stranglehold here. Your struggle for freedom was a saga of indomitable courage and unremitting persistence, you emerged triumphant. We rejoiced in your victory.

For us in India, freedom in Africa has a special significance. Moved by the terrible plight of the people of South Africa, Mahatma Gandhi began evolving his strategy of satyagraha, or nonviolent noncooperation, in that country. Freedom came to India. It followed elsewhere around the globe, wiping out the stain of imperialism, but, by tragic irony, the flag of freedom is still to be planted in the Phoenix Settlement near Durban from where

the Mahatma set out to liberate his people. -153>

RACIAL BIGOTRY

Racial bigotry is the negation of our common humanity. There can be no acquiescence in racism or collaboration with racist regimes. Our opposition to Apartheid is total and unflinching. Zimbabwe is showing the road to building a multi-racial society. South Africa too will tread that road. But only after institutionalised racial discrimination is dismantled and majority rule established.

How does Pretoria flout every canon of civilized behaviour? Can it do so on its own? Some advocate dialogue. Is dialogue possible? A regime which proclaims its belief in racist dogma is a regime without any sense of shame, without any sense of human decency. No form of Apartheid is acceptable to us. Institutionalised racism must be abolished. It must be abolished now. There is no alternative to comprehensive mandatory sanctions under the United Nations Charter.

DEPREDATIONS OF PRETORIA

The depredations of Pretoria extend well beyond the boundaries of South Africa. They spill over into colonialism in Namibia, aggression in Angola, and destabilization in all of Southern Africa. Zimbabwe and the other Front-line States, have had to contend with sabotage, infiltration of mercenaries, and other violations of their sovereignty and integrity. Those who continue to deal with the perpetrators of Apartheid both facilitate the continuing inhumanity of racism and leave unpunished the transgressions of the Charter Rights of the Front-line States.

LAST BASTION OF COLONIALISM

Namibia's independence is being stalled by a paralysis of international will. The Security Council, frozen into inaction fails to execute its own plan for bringing down this last bastion of colonialism. The agony of the people of Namibia is prolonged. Irrelevant matters, impinging on the sovereignty of other countries are illegitimately linked with the central issue of Namibia's right to freedom. We affirm again our solidarity with the courageous people of Namibia and South West African people's organisation.

In a few months from now, you will be assuming the Chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement. In the last three years, we have seen the Movement grow further in strength, unity and cohesion. We raised our voice against the subversion of the security of small States. We focussed world opinion on the urgent need for nuclear disarmament. We pressed for the convening of the conference on the Indian Ocean, in which both you, as a

hinterland State, and we, as a littoral State have a vital stake. We demonstrated our solidarity with those afflicted by drought and famine in Africa. We sought flexibility in encouraging a principled dialogue between the North and the South. We promoted cooperation amongst the Non-Aligned. And we have stood four-square behind the forces of peace and peaceful co-existence the world over.

These issues will be discussed when we meet here in Harare again at the eighth Summit. We thank you for having taken this heavy responsibility on yourselves -- a recognition by the Movement of the immensely important place that Zimbabwe occupies in world affairs.

Excellency, we have been discussing ways of imparting greater content to our bilateral relationship. We share a common philosophy of peace, self-reliance and Non-Alignment. The possibilities are considerable and we shall work together. Exchanging our experiences, availing ourselves of complementarities in our economies, and bringing our people closer.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let us raise our glasses in a toast: to the health of President and Madam Banana; to the health of Prime Minister and Madame Mugabe; to the growing cooperation between our two countries; to the solidarity, unity and cohesion of the Non-Aligned Movement; to freedom and human dignity everywhere. -154>

MBABWE INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ANGOLA

Date: May 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Banquet Speech in Luanda

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 19, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the State dinner in Luanda (Angola) on May 16, 1986:

Your Excellency President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, Madame Dos Santos, Hon'ble Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, the heroic people of Angola have earned our admiration and respect for their valour and fortitude, their courage and

commitment. It is a privilege to be amongst you.

Your fight for freedom began with the epic resistance of Queen Jinga, ours commenced with the war of Independence launched by Queen Laxmi Bai of Jhansi. It was in Southern Africa that Mahatma Gandhi came face to face with the evils of racism and colonial subjugation. His response was to fashion the instruments of nonviolence, based on truth and justice, with which we went on to bring down the most powerful empire the world has known. The imperial power which captured your land colonized part of our country as well. Our freedom struggle was part of a world-wide movement to end political and economic imperialism. Long before our independence, we were the first to raise our voice against racial discrimination in international organisations. India was again the first to raise the issue of racial discrimination in the United Nations in 1946. We were also the first to sever all diplomatic, trade and economic relations with the Pretoria regime. Our solidarity with our African brothers and sisters in their struggle against colonialism and apartheid has been total. Oppressed for centuries, you fought the terrible but necessary fight for freedom and human dignity. We were with you and rejoiced in the proclamation of independence by President Dr. Agostinho Neto. So shall we stay with Swapo, to whom we have accorded full diplomatic status in recognition of our solidarity with the people of Namibia. The Pretorian racists, in cynical violation of the Lusaka accord of 1984, have repeatedly destabilised and invaded their neighbours. The armed forces of Apartheid are at present on the soil of Angola, abetting subversion, raiding your homes, killing your men, women and children. No norm of international law or civilized behaviour is left inviolate. This is unabashed state terrorism.

Insurgency by South African puppets is being fuelled from outside. Angola is sought to be drawn into the vortex of rivalries not of her making.

STAUNCH VOTARY OF NAM

Your country is a staunch votary of the principles of Non-alignment, an honoured member of our Movement, host to last year's Non-aligned Ministerial Conference. We cannot stand by as your sovereignty is undermined, your independence jeopardized. The people of India and the Government of the Non-aligned countries condemn the occupation of Angolan territory.

In South Africa, there is unremitting violation of fundamental human rights. Thousands have been detained without trial. And some, like Nelson Mandela, have been languishing in jail for the best part of their lives. In every sphere of life, gross inequality prevails. Millions have been forced into the so-called Bantustans -- ghettoes in the most impoverished areas. The human spirit is indomitable and the people of South Africa will wrest for themselves their freedom.

The world will not be duped by the well-publicised claims of the racist government to reform. Can Apartheid be reformed? Apartheid must be exterminated. Everyone condemns Apartheid, but some say they can use their leverage to argue the regime into seeing reason. To compromise with Apartheid is to compromise with evil. Tom Paine, the great freedom fighter, said "Moderation in principle is

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always a vice." No such compromise will secure the economic and strategic interests which some countries have in view for Apartheid cannot and will not last. Where persuasion fails to restore basic values and human dignity, can there be any alternative to compulsion? Comprehensive mandatory sanctions will bring Pretoria to heel. Institutionalised racism persists only because Pretoria survives through the economic lifeline to its powerful allies. Cut that lifeline and recism dies.

Colonialism in Namibia persists because of a lack of will in the Security Council. There were no preconditions to the UN plan for Namibia's independence. Attempts are being made to introduce conditions which bear no relationship to the central issue of Namibia's liberation. Neither extraneous happening in other soverign countries nor the extension into Non-aligned Africa of East-West rivalries can justify the thwarting of immediate freedom of Namibia.

Angola and India have always enjoyed the most cordial and close political relations. We need to give more content to this relationship. Four decades of development effort have yielded a wide variety of experience and significant results. These we place at your disposal.

I thank you, Mr. President, for the warm welcome you have extended to my wife and me and the members of my delegation.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency, President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos and Madame Dos Santos; to the prosperity and well-being of the brave Angolan people; to the growing friendship between the people of the Republic of India and the People's Republic of Angola; and to the victory of human rights and freedom for all people.

GOLA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZAMBIA

Date: May 19, 1986

Volume No

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech at the State Banquet in Dar-Es-Salaam

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 19, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the State banquet in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania on May 17, 1986:

President Mwinyi, Prime Minister and Ministers, Excellencies and Friends, my wife and I are happy to be in Tanzania. We and the members of our delegation are grateful for the gracious hospitality extended by your Government and people. I bring you the greetings and good wishes of your friends -- the 750 million people of India.

We are neighbours across the Indian Ocean. Scientists tell us that in the early ages of the earth's history, Africa and India were together as one land mass. Over the centuries, cultural and trade links between our two countries have left their imprint on our ways of life. Many of our people have made your country their home. Warriors from Zanzibar were part of many Indian armies. Where would Indian cuisine be without cloves from your country? India, in turn, has played a part in your economic life in the last few decades.

Our freedom movement brought Africa and India emotionally together. Mahatma Gandhi's political weapon of Satyagraha was forged in South Africa. At the Congress of the Anti-Imperialist League in Brussels in 1927, Jawaharlal Nehru sought out leaders of resurgent Africa. We championed the cause of freedom everywhere and at every session of the Indian National Congress resolutions supporting African independence were passed. Reflecting on the glorious heritage of Africa, my grandfather observed: "Unfortunately, not many are acquainted with the past of Africa. I confess that my own knowledge was -156>

largely limited to the recent two or three hundred years. Gradually, I learnt something more of its previous history and found, as I expected, that that history was a rich history, rich in cultural achievements, rich in political organisation and rich in forms of democracy and state socialism."

With India's freedom, Africa's independence would not wait. We saw Africa awakened. In sixtyone, we hailed your entry into the family of free nations. We are fortunate to have had Jawaharlal Nehru to guide us. You are fortunate to have Julius Nyerere. The man you affectionately call Mwalimu is Mwalimu to many beyond

your land. He is a leader of extraordinary wisdom. It is my privilege to count him as a family friend. I know how greatly my mother valued his counsel. The Non-aligned Movement, the Commonwealth and the Six-Nation-Peace-Initiative owe an enormous debt to Chairman Nyerere. The world recognises that on issues of colonialism and racism, oppression and tyranny, the gentle voice of Nyerere is always heard firmly on the side of freedom and justice, equality and peace.

JOINT QUEST FOR PEACE

I reiterate our desire to maintain the closest possible relations with your Government and work together in our joint quest for peace, security, social and economic progress and, above all, a certain moral dimension to our development.

Many a century of history coexist in India today. We have made a conscious effort in our development plans to preserve our heritage, while bringing to our people the best of modern science and technology.

UPLIFT OF THE WEAKEST

The new is not necessarily better than the old. True development should be an essay in conserving what needs to be conserved, adopting what deserves to be adopted, and rejecting what must be rejected. We want to impress this particularly on our youth, who sometimes are misled by the glitter of materialist societies. To us, the essence of development is the uplift of the poorest and the weakest. We want to nurture the moral and spiritual strength of our people to face the challenges of modernisation.

Both Tanzania and India have worked for the eradication of all vestiges of imperialism, colonialism, and manifestations of racial arrogance. It is outrageous that, flouting the expressed will of the international community and against all dictates of conscience, the Pretoria regime continues to persecute the people of South Africa. The powerful vested interests supporting Pretoria should know that history cannot be reversed. How much longer should we wait for the resolutions of the United Nations to be implemented?

India firmly supports the just struggle of the people of South Africa to attain their human rights and political freedom. We shall resist efforts of the racist regime to destabilise the Front-line States. We shall continue to support, SWAPO, the sole, authentic representative of the people of Namibia.

Mr. President, we admire the courage and concerted efforts of the Tanzanian leadership and the Tanzanian people to overcome the grave situation created by the failure of rains. We know that we in India too suffered the ravages of drought and depended on food imports for our survival, but our farmers, scientists and

officials pooled their skills and efforts to convert deficit into surplus. We have even been able to offer food assistance to our brethren in Africa. We are ready to share with you our experience in rural development.

WILL TO VICTORY

We come to Tanzania at the end of a journey that has taken us through Zambia, Zimbabwe and Angola -- Frontline States in the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa, colonialism in -157>

Namibia, aggression in Angola and destabilisation in every independent Southern African nation. It has been a moving experience. We have seen principle and morality pitted against cruelty and barbarism. We have seen courage and tenacity. We have seen the people of Southern Africa infused with the will to victory. The evil of Apartheid shall be exterminated. Namibia shall be free. Sovereignty shall be respected. We reaffirm our solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Africa. We pledge to them our continued support. We demand comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the Pretoria regime. We demand the unconditional grant of independence to Namibia. We demand an immediate end to aggression, subversion and outside interference in Southern Africa. We make these demands to forestall a terrible bloodbath. We make these demands in the name of humanity, justice and peace, in the name of those great values for which people everywhere for centuries have fought against colonialism, exploitation and foreign domination.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Ali Hussan Mwinyi; President of the Republic of Tanzania; to the welfare and prosperity of the people of Tanzania; to the furtherance of Indo-Tanzanian friendship; and to freedom, justice, human rights and human dignity.

DIA TANZANIA USA SOUTH AFRICA BELGIUM NAMIBIA ANGOLA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

Date: May 19, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Ministerial Meeting on Women in Development -- Prime Minister's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 18, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, while inaugurating the Ministerial meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation on 'Women in Development' at Shillong on May 6, 1986:

Let me officially welcome you to India, and I hope that you will have an interesting and productive stay in India and in Meghalaya. Meghalaya is wedged between Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and thus, has a very South Asian ethos, and perhaps it is the appropriate State for us to talk about women's rights because it is one of the few States in India which still has a very powerful matriarchal system.

For any development to take place perhaps the most important need is first of peace -- peace in the region, common attitudes to solving mutual or common problems. Perhaps, with SAARC we will be able to tackle our problems in this manner.

Women and the place of women in our society has become a problem in most of our countries. Theoretically, in our countries women have the place of honour, a great respect, but there is tremendous difference between the ideal, the aspirations, and the reality and practice, as we see it today. Women are discriminated against at every stage. Poverty and illiteracy increase this burden. Some segments of women in the middle classes are better-off because they have access to education, urbanisation and changing social norms. But still, the accomplishment is very small. Yet so much can be done.

Traditionally, throughout our history, in our mythology, women have been the moral force in our society. They have held a very prime position in each family and they have really developed the culture, the soul of our civilisation as it has developed. The changing values with new systems coming in, with the pressure of modernisation, these old values are slowly disappearing. Unfortunately, we are not able to replace them with the correct values. Women are getting left behind in our society for various reasons, but perhaps most of all because of a lack of education, not just because it is not available but also because of the pressures in each household -- the pressures to take girls out of school early to help look after the house. We have to somehow counter these. This cannot be just by providing the facilities, making easier access to schools and colleges, but it can only come about if the parents themselves bear this responsibility and understand the value of education for a woman.

India and in other South Asian countries, women have risen to the highest levels, perhaps before women have risen to such heights in any other country. And we have women in every walk of life -- as entrepreneurs, industrialists, civil servants, police officers, airline pilots, scientists, engineers, the field is

wide open. But the fact is that although there are no legal barriers, it still takes a woman perhaps double the effort to achieve these heights than it does a man. This is what we must change for the coming generations.

EDUCATION BASIC TOOL

As long as women have an inferior status in our society we cannot pretend that our societies are truly developing in the right direction. It is a moral blot on our societies, and perhaps also a self-inflicted economic wound. If we are to develop, and each of our countries wants that development, the raising of the basic living standards of our people should be one of its major thrusts. We cannot achieve this if half of our population is not mobilised in this effort. Women are half of our population and they too must be mobilised towards contributing to national development and growth. We have to break the prejudices in the minds of men. Perhaps some of this prejudice has even gone into the minds of women, and we have to break it from there as well. Education has to be the basic tool that is available to us for this. Education of values, tolerance, compassion, egalitarianism, to build in a scientific temper, so that women are able to cope with technology, whether it is in the household or whether it is at their work, a confidence in girls and a respect in boys.

Girls' education has too often centered around teaching girls how to cook or make Achaar or how to make jams, and we think we have done a very great job, we pat ourselves on our backs, and it is our duty which has been done. But unfortunately this is not enough. We have to do very much more, and girls must be educated in the same way as boys are educated, to be able to contribute in their lives, to strengthen their own social positions and to give them a certain independence so that they do not get easily suppressed. At the same time while we look for this, we cannot lose our traditional heritage of giving a certain respect to women, holding them in high esteem. In certain countries this has got lost in bringing about equality. A respect for chivalry has got lost. We would not like this to happen in our part of the world where in some corners there still is some chivalry left.

REPOSITORIES OF CULTURE

Women are repositories of our culture and when we talk of development today most often our minds go immediately to economic development. Only economic development destroys all the values and ideology that we have been brought up with and that our heritage has given us. We must look much further to broaden our cultural horizons, to look at heritage and not lose our traditional values. Again women must play a key role in preserving these values as we progress and develop.

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This task cannot be a task for Government alone. Government can

do many things and create an atmosphere but the real task has to be that of the people, perhaps even more of women.

We have to galvanise society, we have to see that the Government creates the means and the people and society avail of these opportunities for bringing women out of what is perhaps the largest group of backward people in the world. For this, community leaders, voluntary organisations, bureaucracies, and the peoples interface. With Government action we will set a stage and create the mood for such action. The people should react in a manner that would almost make Government action in such areas redundant. Growth does not echo automatic, equitable benefit for the women. Two approaches have been talked of in India. The first is to take a very positive action, earmark funds, perhaps reservations in jobs. We have traditionally not taken this route, because we thought it would be almost demeaning to treat women in this manner. The other route is to induct women into the remunerative production processes, to give more job opportunities, to remove discrimination. We have done much in these areas but perhaps a mix of both approaches is what we are really looking for.

This conference could be a good forum to think of thrust areas in which we can really work for the uplift of women in our area, to break them out of the traditional bondages. Special areas of attention must be children and women as child-bearers, mother and child-care, supplementary nutrition, creches, the problems that women in most of our rural areas have to face daily, fuel wood, fodder. We have seen in one experiment that we have done which has been very successful; where we have involved women in a cooperative in Anand in Gujarat, there has been tremendous development. The women from the most backward societies, most backward families, have been able to come out and actively participate in the economic development process in the area. Dairying cooperatives such as these are some areas that can be catalysts for such a change. We have to make resources available for women so that they are able to deploy these for their own development and for the development of our countries and our region. Legal anamolies can inhibit certain economic independence. We have to deal and treat very carefully in such areas where old customs and traditions are still interwined with modern day life. But at the same time we must give a definite thrust for a change in the backward ideas, in the backward thoughts which still prevail in our society.

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation might think of ideas and positive action programmes that we could undertake for women, programmes where we might be able to interact with each other which would help break some of the barriers that we have built between us, programmes that will help for women in our country to progress and help our countries develop. Such programmes will give us tremendous experience, expertise in defferent perspectives; yet similar perspectives and steps that

are successful in one area could well lead to a break in other areas. We have to improve our cooperation for the true development of women in our countries. Perhaps, we could come with a time-bound programme for women's development in the South Asian Region and give a direction to women all over the world. I hope that you will have good deliberations. The important work that is in front of you will lead us into a new phase of our cultural development and our economic progress.

Lastly, I would like just to correct something that Margaret has said. She had said that where women lag behind countries cannot progress. I will reverse that: countries cannot forge ahead if women lag behind.

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DIA BANGLADESH BHUTAN NEPAL USA OMAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: May 18, 1986

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Ethnic Problem in Sri Lanka and Outcome of Recent Visit ofIndian Delegation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 13, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv Shankar in Rajya Sabha today (May 13, 1986) in response to Calling Attention Notice regarding the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka and the outcome of recent visit of Indian delegation to that country.

An Indian delegation led by Sri P. Chidambaram, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions visited Colombo from April 29 to May 4, 1986. The delegation included Shri Romesh Bhandari, special representative for Sri Lanka.

The delegation had extensive and detailed discussions with President Jayewardene, the Minister for National Security, Mr. Lalith Athulathmudali and the Minister for Lands and Land Development and Mahaveli Development, Mr. Gamini Dissanayake. The delegation also exchanged views with the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, Mr. A. C. S. Hameed, the leaders of all political parties including Mrs. Bandaranaike, as well as representatives of ethnic minority groups in Sri Lanka.

As a result of these discussions, the delegation returned with

some more detailed formulations on the extent to which the Sri Lanka Government is willing to meet Tamil political aspirations. While there has been some movement on issues like the overall structure for devolution of power and land settlement policy, there are still a number of crucial gaps in the formulations on core issues like law and order and on the nature of the relationship between the present Northern and Eastern provinces which are issues to which Tamils attach great importance.

The Government are evaluating the formulations received from the Sri Lanka Government. The Sri Lanka Government has also been requested to communicate their views on certain alternative formulations. In our view, what can be put to the Tamil side is only a package of proposals which are evaluated as constituting a fair and reasonable basis for a negotiated settlement. Since the process is continuing, it would be premature to draw any firm conclusions.

It is our clear position that unless the Government of Sri Lanka takes decisive steps to accommodate the Tamil aspirations, the political process which has been re-started after a gap of time may suffer a setback. The Government are of the firm view that the process towards a political solution must be carried forward urgently and that there can be no military solution to the ethnic dispute. The basic and urgent objective which India has in mind is to find a peaceful and durable political solution to the longpending ethnic problem of Sri Lanka. The Government are keen to ensure that a solution is arrived at within a compressed timeframe so that the agony and sufferings of the people of Sri Lanka, and particularly of the Tamils in the Northern and Eastern provinces, are brought to a quick end. The Government condemn the continuing violence in Sri Lanka which is vitiating the atmosphere for working towards a peaceful solution. The return of normalcy to Sri Lanka is not only essential for the further wellbeing of that country but also for the stability and peace in the region.

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I LANKA INDIA ITALY USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: May 13, 1986

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Assistance in Leprosy Eradication Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 22, 1986 on the agreement for Swedish assistance for Rs. 5 crores:

Sweden will contribute 27.6 million kroners (equivalent to Rs. 5 crores approximately) in the National Leprosy Eradication Programme in India. An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, and His Excellency Mr. Axel Adelstam, Swedish Ambassador, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The agreement provides for Swedish support to on-going Indian multi drug regimen programme (leprosy) by financing the cost of drugs, equipment and programme support in the districts of Chingleput in Tamil Nadu, Puri in Orissa and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. Swedish funds are to be channelled through UNICEF and used in principal accordance with the project document "Multi-Drug Therapy Project for Leprosy Control -- India 1985-89".

Swedish contribution to the project would amount to Swedish kroners 27.6 million (Rs. 5.0 crores approx.). It will be used for financing of the following activities: supply of Rifampizin and Clofazimine drugs, supply of adhesive, waterproof and occlusive tape, containing zincoxide, resin and gem, supply of vehicles, microscopes and office equipment, local cost subsidies including drugs, health, education additional Petrol Oil Lubrication (POL) and maintenance costs and incentives at district level and below, programme monitoring including consultants and participation of research institutions, reviews and evaluations.

The period of the agreement is July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1988.

EDEN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date: May 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

Shri K. R. Narayanan on the Critical Situation in Africa

The following ii the text of a press release of the text of the speech made by Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for

External Affairs at the Special Session of UN General Assembly in New York, May 27, 1986 on the critical situation in Africa:

Mr. President, May I at the outset express the pleasure of my delegation at seeing you preside over this historic session. We have every hope that your wisdom and experience would enable the session to find a way of harnessing International support for launching the continent of Africa on the path of self-sustained development.

It is for the first time that the General Assembly of the United Nations is meeting

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in a special session to consider the economic situation of a particular continent. It is a recognition of the fact that in the Interdependent world of today, every nation and every region is inescapably involved in one another and that solutions to the major and fundamental problems afflicting them can be found only in the international context and through concerted supporting action by the world community. I venture to believe that this session marks the beginning of a new era in International Cooperation for development so that a tragedy such as the one that Africa has been through recently should never again befall any people anywhere in the world.

I consider it a particular privilege to address this distinguished assembly on behalf of my country and the Movement of Non-Aligned Nations. India, Mr. President, has been bound with Africa by ties of cultural affinity and friendship almost from the dawn of history, and in modern times the leaders of our nationalist movement have gone to the extent of asserting that the Independence of India would not be complete without the independence of Africa. The Movement of Non-Aligned countries with about half of its far-flung membership drawn from Africa and with its dedication to the objective of the development of developing nations through international cooperation and individual and collective self-reliance, has been intensely concerned with the ongoing economic and social crisis in Africa. The Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned countries which met in New Delhi in April 1986 welcomed the holding of this special session of the General Assembly and emphasized that "while the development of the African continent was the prime responsibility of the African Governments and peoples themselves, it was essential that their national efforts should be fully supported by the international community. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who is the current Chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, in the course of his recent visit of the Frontline States, declared the solidarity of India and the Non-Alignment Movement with the efforts of the African States and peoples for economic rehabilitation and development and also with their heroic struggle against apartheid, colonialism and destabilisation represented by the Pretoria regime.

CRITICAL ROLE

Mr. President, the U.N. system as a whole, and the U.N. Secretary General in particular, played a crucial role in alerting and sensitizing the world community to the African economic crisis and in mounting a massive relief effort by the international community and by the African countries themselves. Thanks to these efforts the situation facing Africa today is not as tragically sensational as images of starving populations and parched fields which hit headlines in newspapers until recently. But the race against time will not have been won until the gains of the relief and rehabilitation wok have been consolidated and the developmental process in Africa revitalised and restructured in order to ensure continuous self-sustained growth.

There has been considerable discussion of an appropriate policy framework for the development of Africa. It is important that instead of trying to impose a framework from outside, the African Governments should be enabled to determine their own priorities in accordance with their own social, economic and political circumstances. In the past, far too many resources have been wasted in projects which were inappropriate and efforts which were uncoordinated. Fortunately, now a general consensus in the International community exists on the broad spectrum of the efforts required. And, African Governments have themselves put forward a well-thought-out priority programme for the economic recovery of Africa, a programme which would need for its successful implementation the mobilisation of all the domestic resources of Africa and the active material support of the International community. In this context, the Organisation of African Unity and the Economic Commission for Africa deserve to be complimented for the vision -163>

as well as the sense of realism shown by them. I also note with appreciation the very thorough preparatory work done by the preparatory committee of this conference.

PRIORITY PROGRAMME

Africa's priority programme for economic recovery 1986-1990 is a massive but a minimum programme dictated by the magnitude of the problems confronting the continent.

A fundamental point in this programme is the need to bring about a structural transformation in the respective economies of African countries suffering from problems of historic distortion and arrested economic development, diversification of the economy, strengthening of inter-sectoral links, increasing productivity, reducing dependence of imports and controlling the rate of growth of the population are some of the key elements in the programme. It is noteworthy that the African countries have

expressed their determination to mobilise a substantial portion, over 64 per cent of the estimated resources, required for the implementation of the priority programme.

Mr. President, India is greatly impressed by the special role assigned to food and agriculture in this programme. We believe it is an emphasis of strategic importance for the developing countries of Africa. In the developmental history of my country where the immense majority of the people, just as in Africa, live in rural areas and are dependent on agriculture, primary emphasis was placed on food and agriculture. In 1954 Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, had said that "everything else can wait but not agriculture." The green revolution that took place in India was a result of this particular priority in development. We are today in position to share the knowledge and technology we have acquired in food and agriculture with our African brethren. As a matter of fact, a number of collaboration projects are underway between India and several African countries in the field of agriculture. This is indeed a field in which South-South Cooperation can be pursued.

Constructively with maximum results promoting collective self-reliance in the developing world in general and in Africa in particular, it may be mentioned here that only a few weeks ago the Government of India hosted a workshop food council. The workshop, which was attended by 20 top level food policy makers from different countries in Africa and by representatives of International organizations, had noted the relevance of the Indian experience in food and agriculture to African development. The Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned countries had adopted a plan of action for Africa focussed on the food and agriculture sector which was calculated to supplement international programmes operating in the same field. The plan of action is a concrete expression of the principle of collective self-reliance and the promotion of economic cooperation among developing countries.

While stressing the primary role of food and agriculture, the simultaneous need to accelerate industrial development cannot be overlooked. Even for bringing about a stable growth in agriculture, it is essential to have supportive industrial sector that provides for agriculture implements and tools, fertilizers and pesticides as well as the processing of food and other agriculture products. Transfer of methods and technologies in these fields is eminently practicable. It is with this in view that India will be hosting, in collaboration with UNIDO, an Afro-Asian Industrial cooperation meeting in November this year within the framework of the industrial development decade for Africa.

Although a developing country, India has endeavoured to contribute to the fullest extent towards meeting the critical economic situation in Africa. Last year we had provided 100,000 tonnes wheat to African nations affected by drought and famine.

contribution of US dollars 10 million to OAU Special Emergency Fund for the purchase of wheat and cereals from India. India was the first country outside Africa to have made such a contribution. Further, we made available the services of teams of doctors and other relief supplies to certain African countries. Under the Indian economic and technical cooperation programme, we provide training facilities for about 500 trainees from Africa every year. The programme also funds more than 80 Indian experts working in various African countries. A large number of feasibility studies and consultancies have been conducted with Indian funding in the past year. In several cases equipment and materials have been provided. India currently has 48 joint venture enterprises in Africa in such wide ranging areas as paper, textiles, tyre, machine tools, chemicals, pharmaceuticals etc.

Education and training is another area where we have been able to be of some assistance. A large number of African students are pursuing higher studies in Indian technical and academic institutions, many of them under Indian fellowship grants. Many bilaterial and multilateral donar agencies are also making use of Indian training facilities for training African nominees, particularly in fields such as forestry, soil conservations, irrigation and water management, agriculture research and extension, and foreign trade.

At the multilateral level, India is providing assistance to specific projects through the Economic Commission for Africa. This very year, we have committed ourselves to implementing a small scale industrial project for ECA at a cost of US dollars 400,000. India also has worked out a programme of cooperation for the next five years with the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, the main feature of which are the offer of 300 training fellowships, services of 100 Indian specialists, setting up joint pilot projects in agriculture, and a grant of Rs. 15 million for the setting up of an Indo-SADCC Industrial Service Centre.

I have enumerated these items of cooperation in order to emphasise India's commitment of African development. I am aware, Mr. President, that in the face of the enormous needs of Africa, these may not be of a major magnitude. But they are an important part of South-South cooperation and are designed to promote self-reliant development in Africa, which is also the objective of the larger international assistance for Africa.

Mr. President, in the current as well as the medium and long-term crisis facing Africa, it is evident that Africa is helping itself and the countries of the Nonaligned and the developing world are also extending help to Africa to the best of their ability. But

the dimensions of the problem are enormous.

The crisis, that is in the case of developing countries in general, is to a large extent the consequence of external forces beyond its control. In fact, the international economic situation has become particularly harsh and unfavourable for all developing countries, especially Africa. The international recession, the collapse of commodity prices to historically low levels, rising and new forms of protectionism, adverse terms of trade, high interest rates, inadequate liquidity, currency fluctuations, reduction in official development assistance and occasional loan from multilateral agencies as well as the heavy burden of debt servicing obligations, have imposed unbearable burdens and accentuated the economic crisis in Africa. Improvement of the external environment and structural changes in the global economic system are, therefore, essential for tackling the critical economic situation in Africa. Particularly, relief from debt burden is fundamental and urgent. It is equally important that concessional assistance from Governments and multilateral financial institutions are increased sufficiently for implementing Africa's priority programme. We hope that forward -looking statesmanship in the great developed countries of the world will rise to the occasion and find ways and means of providing the level of assistance -165>

required for overcoming the present crisis and launching Africa on the path of self-sustained development. For the States involved in the economic and social development and the consequent political stability of Africa are indeed incalculable for the world.

I should Mr. President, like to end by reading out a message from Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, to this special session on the U.N. General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa.

The people of Africa are engaged in an epic struggle which compels the attention and the respect of the world. It is a gigantic effort to overcome centuries of poverty, neglect and underdevelopment, while fighting to eliminate the scourge of racism in South Africa and colonialism in Namibia.

I have recently visited some of the Front-line States in Southern Africa. I have seen the reality as well as the potential of Africa. Though faced with political challenges and the disruption caused by the world economic crisis, the people and the leaders of Africa have emerged stronger and more determined.

Much has been achieved through international cooperation to alleviate suffering caused by famine. In this task all have contributed. Much more now needs to be done. We must build on the spontaneous sympathy and fellow-feeling which the crisis in

Africa has evoked and lay the foundation for self-reliant and sustained development.

The Non-aligned have a keen sense of solidarity and participation with the countries of Africa in their struggle against poverty as well as their struggle against the tyranny of Apartheid.

Member countries of the Non-aligned Movement have contributed enormously within their limited means towards meeting the emergency situation. They stand ready to do whatever more is possible for the rehabilitation and longer term development of the African economies.

By working together in a spirit of partnership, the international community has a great opportunity and challenge to contribute towards building a modern and prosperous Africa. An economically strong and dynamic Africa will be an important factor for world peace and stability.

I hope that the special session of the General Assembly will be a landmark of Africa's development and a turning point for international cooperation in general."

A INDIA SOUTH AFRICA LATVIA NAMIBIA

Date: May 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

VIET NAM

India to Supply on Loan One Lakh Tonnes of Wheat to Vietnam -- Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on May 15, 1986 on the signing of a loan agreement of one lakh tonnes of wheat between India and Viet Nam:

The Government of India has extended a loan of one lakh tonnes of wheat to the Government of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to be supplied during the years 1986 and 1987. The loan agreement has been signed here today by Shri K. P. Geethakrishnan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. Hoang Anh Tuan, Ambassador Extra-

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ordinary and Plenipotentiary, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on behalf of their respective Governments.

This is the fifth commodity loan being extended by the Government of India to Government of Viet Nam. The earlier four loans were given in 1977, 1978, 1980 and 1985 for 70,000 tonnes of wheat flour, 3,00,000 tonnes of wheat, 50,000 tonnes of rice and 50,000 tonnes of wheat respectively.

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DIA VIETNAM

Date: May 15, 1986

June

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NGLADESH JAPAN INDIA MALAYSIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE PAKISTAN SOUTH AFRICA THAILAND UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Jun 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

IRCON Contract

The following is the text of a Press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 07, 1986 on the contract signed by India to set up a railway concrete sleeper plant in Bangladesh:

India will set up a pre-stressed concrete sleeper plant (metre gauge) in the Sylhet district of Bangladesh. A contract to this effect has been signed in Dhaka, between the Indian Railway Construction Company Limited (IRCON), a public sector unit of the Department of Railways and the Government of Bangladesh.

The contract, worth Rs. 2.73 crores, envisages setting up of a concrete-sleeper plant at Chatak Bazar in Sylhet district in Bangladesh with an annual capacity of producing 75,000 nos. of sleepers. Supply of all the equipment including commissioning of the plant will be done by IRCON. IRCON will also supply elastic fasteners for one year and will also train the Bangladesh Railway personnel in manufacture of concrete sleepers. They will also supervise manufacture of the first 12,000 nos. of sleepers.

IRCON has already set up similar concrete sleeper plants in Iraq and Algeria.

NGLADESH INDIA RUSSIA IRAQ ALGERIA

Date: Jun 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

India and Japan Agree on Trade Promotion Measures

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 23, 1986 on trade promotion measures between India and Japan:

India and Japan have agreed on a programme of cooperation for trade promotion and joint ventures which will facilitate diversification of trade between the two countries.

The programme envisages export promotion of engineering, electronics and chemicals and allied items.

Japanese experts will assist in the development and adaptation of Indian products for the Japanese market in the engineering sector, especially bicycle components, machine tool accessories, hand tools and building hardware. A similar programme of technical assistance is currently being implemented for garments.

This follows from the official level trade talks between India and Japan held last week in Tokyo.

The Indian delegation at the talks was led by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Prem.

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Kumar and included Shri Ravi Sawhney, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce besides senior officials of MMTC and TDA.

Japan has also expressed keen interest in the setting up of export-oriented joint ventures to be located in India. The Commerce Ministry is taking steps to identify about 15 to 20 items which could be considered for such ventures in engineering, chemicals and processed foods.

The possibility of joint promotion of Indian software and Japanese electronic equipment also figured in the talks.

About 80 per cent of India's exports to Japan have so far been in the form of raw materials and primary products. The trade promotion measures agreed at the talks will help in diversifying India's exports to Japan by opening up avenues for exports of value-added engineering items.

Improved access into the Japanese market for on-going export items like marine products, tea, jute and leather footwear and suggestions for improvement in Japan's GSP scheme for some items were discussed.

The Indian team had detailed discussions on trade promotion with officials of the Japanese Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Agriculture Ministry on the prospects for agricultural exports.

The Commerce Secretary also had meetings with Indian trade organisations based in Tokyo, viz. State Trading Corporation, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Indian Investment Centre, TDA and HHEC to discuss promotional programmes.

PAN INDIA USA

Date: Jun 23, 1986

Volume No

1995

MALAYSIA

Indo-Malaysia and Indo-Singapore Air Talks

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 10, 1986 on the air talks India had with Malaysia and Singapore:

India and Malaysia have agreed to increase the frequency of services on the Madras/Kuala Lumpur route with effect from July 10, 1986 in view of the high load factor being achieved on these sectors by the designated airlines.

This follows air talks held in Kuala Lumpur recently between an Indian delegation led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation and their counterparts in Malaysia.

Air India will start operations between Delhi and Kuala Lumpur from January, 1987 thereby establishing a direct airlink between the capitals of the two countries.

The Indo-Singapore air talks which were held in Singapore agreed that the frequency of operations between Madras/Singapore will be increased with effect from July, 1986 to cater to the high growth in traffic that is being experienced. It has also been agreed that the two designated airlines will evolve a suitable mechanism for implementation of the future increases in capacity to meet traffic requirements and submit their recommendations to the -170>

Governments for approval by the end of July, 1986. Since Air India will be starting operations between Delhi and Singapore with its own aircraft from Winter, 1986, the two designated airlines will also agree on the revisions that are required to be implemented in the joint services agreement presently applicable to operations with Singapore Airlines aircraft between Delhi and Singapore.

LAYSIA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE INDIA

Date: Jun 10, 1986

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

India and Pakistan to Continue Dialogue on Siachen: JointStatement on New Delhi Talks

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 13, 1986 on the second round of talks between the Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan:

The second round of the talks between the Defence Secretaries of India and Pakistan took place in New Delhi from June 10 to 12, 1986.

The Pakistan delegation comprised the following:

Syed Ijial Haider Zaidi, Defence Secretary ... leader; Dr. M. Humayun Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan; Raja Mohd. Iqbal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Defence; Maj. Gen. Nishat Ahmed, Joint Staff Headquarters; Mr. Riaz Khokhar, Director-General South Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Javed Talat, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence; Brig Jamshed Malik,

Director, Military Operations; Mr. Mohd. Ashraf, Deputy Surveyor General and Brig. M. R. Beg, Defence and Army Attache, Embassy of Pakistan.

The Indian delegation comprised the following:

Shri S. K. Bhatnagar, Defence Secretary, leader; Lt. Gen. P. N. Hoon, Chief of Staff, Western Command; Lt. Gen. R. N. Mahajan, Director General Military Operations; Shri S. K. Lambah, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri S. K. Misra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence; Shri Ajai Vikram Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defence; Brig. V. Raghavan, Dy. Director General Military Operations; Brig. D. K. Khanna, Defence and Military Attache, Embassy of India, Islamabad and Col. I.P.S. Dhillon, Army Headquarters.

The Defence Secretaries held constructive talks in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. They reiterated their resolve to find a negotiated settlement of the Siachen issue in accordance with the Simla Agreement. In this context, they discussed various ideas for an amicable resolution of the problem and agreed to report these to their respective Governments.

The Defence Secretary of India accepted an invitation to visit Pakistan to continue the dialogue at a mutually convenient date. -171>

KISTAN INDIA MALI USA

Date: Jun 13, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOUTH AFRICA

World Conference on Sanctions: Shri E. Faleiro's Speech

The following is the text of the address by the representative of the Chairman of the Movement of Non-aligned countries, H.E. Shri Eduardo Faleiro, Minister of State for External Affairs of India, on the occasion of the opening session of the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa on Jun 16, 1986, in Paris:

Mr. President, may I thank you, at the outset, for the opportunity to address the opening session of the World Conference on Sanctions again Racist South Africa on behalf of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries. I am certain that under

your able guidance, we will arrive at a fruitful outcome of our deliberations and further strengthen the international campaign against apartheid and colonial occupation of Namibia. The association of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries with the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity testifies to our common commitments and shared ideals.

PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I now have the honour to read to this Conference a message from Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Chairman of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries:

"Today is the tenth anniversary of the brutal massacre of hundreds of innocent school children in Soweto. It is a sombre reminder of the nature of the monstrous regime in Pretoria.

It is only appropriate that the World Conference on Sanctions against South Africa should meet today to raise its voice against the continuing inhumanity of apartheid.

The time for verbal denunciation is over. The time for concrete, immediate action has come. There should not, and cannot, be any encouragement to efforts for the so-called reform of the evil system of apartheid. It has got to be totally uprooted and destroyed.

India has been in the forefront of the struggle against racism, even before its independence. We have consistently held the view, in common with the Non-aligned countries and with the enlightened sections of World opinion, that the only peaceful way to end apartheid is to enforce mandatory sanctions against Pretoria. The alternative is violence and bloodshed.

We cannot wait indefinitely and helplessly in the face of daily destruction of the moral values of civilization. Freedom and racial equality cannot be sacrificed at the altar of economic and commercial interests.

In the me of humanity, I urge that we forge at this Conference, an united will to enforce immediate and effective mandatory sanctions against South Africa. The freedom battle in South Africa and Namibia is raging with unbounded intensity. This Conference must be seen by the patriots in South Africa as an important stage in their march to victory."

SIGNAL SERVICE

I would also like to express our appreciation of the signal service rendered to the cause of freedom, dignity and justice by the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid. India does feel privileged to have been associated, since the Committee's inception, with the untiring crusade waged by it to

attention to the continuing scourge of apartheid with a view to its elimination.

We are assembled here today to consider what we in the Non-aligned Movement have always regarded as one of the most important moral issues of our time. The inevitable process of the collapse of apartheid has acquired formidable momentum over the past two years. An unprecedented popular unheaval is rocking the foundations of the racist Pretoria regime. The goal of emancipation has moved millions in South Africa to risk imprisonment and bullets in order to wrest back their freedom for dignity from the clutches of an oppressive minority. The spirit of sacrifice has galvanised the overwhelming majority of the South African people.

As the bastions of apartheid have been besieged, the inherent violence of racism has spilled with renewed fury to destabilise and sabotage neighbouring African States. The brazen South African raids into independent and sovereign states of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe and the most recent action in Angola have outraged the entire international community. Over the years, such wanton South African violations of all norms of civilised conduct among nations have acquired a depressing familiarity.

Namibia remains enslaved. The United Nations Plan for Namibian independence, which was expected to presage the dawn of the post colonial era in Southern Africa, has remained a dead letter. Extraneous elements have been introduced to obfuscate the real issue of decolonisation and to deadlock the efforts to secure the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978.

Mr. President, we should however not despair at the situation in Africa today. In a historical awakening following one hundred years of colonial oppression and plunder, the African people had experienced a unique renaissance in the middle of this century. From the chaos left behind by retreating imperialism, the African people built new state structures, viable national communities and launched a vast effort to tap the continent's enormous economic potential. We have witnessed, unfortunately, some setbacks in this onward march in recent years. If natural calamities have struck vast territories in sub-Saharan Africa resulting in enormous suffering, in Southern Africa, we see the devastation caused by human callousness and avarice.

Yet the magnitude of the continuing human tragedy in Southern Africa itself contains hope and the seeds of resurgence. There has been little doubt that the brave struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa against racism and injustice will triumph. The Namibian people's will to freedom shall prevail. The task before the international community is to facilitate this outcome

and to minimise its human and material costs.

CONCRETE MEASURES

This is why we have gathered here today to act unitedly against the racist regime and to come out with a programme of concrete measures to intensify international pressure on South Africa for restoration of human dignity to its people and freedom to Namibia. Many of us present here today would recall the World Conference on Sanctions against South Africa held in this very city five years ago. We had resolved then to intensify the international campaign against apartheid and adopted a programme of action. We had reaffirmed the feasibility and effectiveness of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The Paris Conference had also stressed the urgency of unilateral measures by Governments to isolate the racist regime and compel it into dismantling apartheid.

The principle of sanctions is conceded by most people even in countries which are friends and allies of South Africa as international public opinion has become increasingly sensitised to the realities of -173>

apartheid. Yet some Governments shy away from the full application of the logic of sanctions and there is continuing opposition to the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. Some nations plead the need for restraint so as not to disrupt the process of peaceful change supposedly underway in South Africa under official auspices. Strong measures abruptly taken, it is argued, can only push the racist regime into a fortress mentality and induce it to set its face against reforms. Even the demonstration last month of South Africa's arrogant disregard of international opinion did not persuade these countries to allow effective action by the Security Council.

VALIANT NELSON MANDELA

Mr. President, we do not question these good intentions or indeed the expressed commitment to democracy and non-discrimination. But the proposition that apartheid can be reformed or that the Pretoria regime is sincere about effecting meaningful change stretches credibility to a point where this position appears merely self-serving. The clever constitutional schemes that have emanated with increasing frequency from Pretoria in recent months have failed to carry conviction with the people. The facts speak for themselves. There is no end in sight to the chain of snowballing public unrest, repression and violence. Thousands of young men and women are languishing in the prisons of the apartheid regime. The African National Congress remains a banned organisation. The acknowledged leader of the people, the valiant

Nelson Mandela is still behind bars and Winnie Mandela is subjected to continuous harassment and intrigue. Instead of initiating meaningful negotiations with the true representatives of the South African people to seek a way out of the crisis engulfing the country, the racist regime is pursuing a doomed policy of divide and rule. In a last-ditch attempt to retain its stranglehold on power, the minority regime has resorted to the elementary precepts in the colonialist's rule book; that is to emphasise differences among the ruled and create them where they do not exist.

MARTYRS OF SOWETO

Over the years, the Pretoria regime has used carrot and stick to sell its fraudulent constitutional schemes in an unsuccessful attempt to deflect the popular struggle. The resolute rejection by the South African people of the regime's cosmetic tinkering with the edifice of apartheid establishes the futility of such attempts. The mask of reasonableness and statesmanship donned by the South African leadership will not deceive the South African people or the international community. Now, however, even this pretence has been abandoned and the racist regime has appeared, yet again, in its true colours. The state of emergency declared on June 12, the arrests of hundreds of freedom fighters and those courageous enough to oppose apartheid and the assumption of unlimited powers by the Pretoria regime to implement measures so draconian that they were opposed even by its own rubber stamp institutions, has finally given lie to the propaganda that the regime is ready to negotiate reforms. However, this imposition of emergency, timed to choke the demonstration of people's solidarity with the martyrs of Soweto on the 10th Anniversary of their sacrifices for the principles of liberty and equality, will not succeed in restraining an awakened people; it will only serve to strengthen their resolve to struggle harder for attainment of their birth right. The message is loud and clear; Soweto was not in vain and shall not be forgotten. Even those who normally plead for understanding for the racist regime and its actions have been constrained to condemn this blatant and ruthless clampdown. The world will watch if they are now ready to give a concrete shape to their words by agreeing to impose comprehensive sanctions against the Pretoria regime to make it see the light. -174>

Those who still drag their feet on the imposition of comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa have also suggested another reason for their inaction. We are told that sanctions would hurt black interests, both within South Africa and across its frontiers in the Frontline States. It was Bishop Desmond Tutu who gave the rejoinder to this implausible argument: 'the higher you are on the ladder, the greater the fall hurts". It is the privileged practitioners of apartheid who stand to lose the most and that is why we strongly feel that sanctions would be effective. The Frontline States by standing up to the racist

regime's continuous acts of aggression and sabotage, despite their geographical disadvantages, have shown a commendable will to make sacrifices in the cause of freedom and justice. Their vulnerability cannot be made an excuse for withholding effective sanctions. On the contrary, it is imperative for the international community to minimise the disruptive effects of sanctions on the Frontline States and show its wholehearted support for them in all possible ways. The Non-aligned Movement is fully conscious of its responsibilities in this respect and the Frontline States can count, as in the past, on its unfailing solidarity with them.

VALUABLE INSPIRATION

While the solidarity and support of their African brethren is a valuable inspiration to the people of South Africa, the world beyond cannot remain passive in the face of continuing assaults on human dignity in South Africa. Freedom, dignity and justice are indivisible. Their denial anywhere constitutes a peril for the moral foundations of our entire civilisation.

The Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons, which was established at the summit meeting of Commonwealth leaders at Nassau in October 1985 to promote a process of negotiations in South Africa, with a view to establishing a nonracial and representative government, has just submitted its report after visits to that country and intensive meetings with leaders of the South African regime, the opposition and various other interested parties. The Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, played an important part in the working out of the Commonwealth Accord on Southern Africa, which established the Group and envisaged various measures against South Africa in the event that the Group's efforts did not result in meaningful progress. The Group of Eminent persons has come to the conclusion that the racist regime has no genuine intention to dismantle apartheid and that there is no present prospect of a dialogue that would lead to the establishment of a non-racial and representative government. The Group has reached these conclusions not only on the basis of the responses it has received from the regime, but also from its actions. Indeed, the attacks by South Africa on neighbouring countries, which took place while the Group was there for discussions, were an eloquent testimony to the regime's attitude to the Group's efforts at promoting a genuine dialogue. The Group's report makes a poignant plea for immediate concrete measures. Coming from a group which includes previous Heads of State and Government, Ministers and other dignitaries from Nigeria, Australia, United kingdom, Canada, Tanzania, Barbados and India, their plea for action is of particular relevance to this Conference. They said:

"If (South Africa) comes to the conclusion that it would always remain protected from (effective economic measures) ... the descent into violence would be accelerated ... the cost in lives

may have to be counted in millions. The absence (of such measures) and Pretoria's belief that they need not be feared, defers change ... Such action may offer the last opportunity to avert what could be the worst bloodbath since the Second World War."

ELIMINATION OF RACISM

Elimination of racism and the struggle against colonialism have been at the

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heart of the principles of the Non-aligned Movement. Since its inception, our Movement has identified with and supported the cause of racial justice in South Africa. In a few months from now, the Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned countries will meet in Harare, Zimbabwe, in the Eighth Summit Conference carrying the message of freedom, dignity and justice into the heart of Southern Africa.

India's own links with the situation in South Africa have been intimate. Colonial oppression bound our peoples in a common destiny. Out of common suffering grew the bonds of solidarity which were made unshakable by Mahatma Gandhi who tested the weapon of Satyagraha first on the South African soil. We in India have had a special place in our hearts for the people of this part of the world and have shared their triumphs and tragedies. Since 1946, we have championed the cause of justice and racial equality in South Africa in every available forum. Apart from the comprehensive economic sanctions unilaterally imposed by the Government of India soon after independence, we have not hesitated to take other steps which have affected even members of the Coloured and Asian communities in South Africa when they have acted against the interests of the majority.

We have recently banned the entry into India of any member of the Coloured and Asian legislatures which form part of the so-called "constitutional reforms" introduced by the Pretoria regime in 1984. We do not believe that such persons are representatives of the Coloured or Asian communities and their participation in this sham exercise only serves to divide and weaken the struggle against apartheid.

LOUD AND CLEAR VOICE OF NAM

Mr. President, the Non-aligned Movement has raised its voice, loud and clear, against the racial tyranny practised by the minority regime in South Africa. It should be our determination, to ensure that this Conference adopts a concrete and effective plan of measures against South Africa to pressurise her into dismantling apartheid. The international community has reposed great faith in all of us assembled here in hastening the total eradication of this heinous practice. Also, South Africa must be

compelled to vacate her illegal occupation of Namibia. We, on our part, are prepared to make every effort to ensure that this Conference comes up to the expectations aroused in the International Community.

Thank you, Mr. President.

UTH AFRICA INDIA FRANCE NAMIBIA USA BOTSWANA ANGOLA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BAHAMAS AUSTRALIA CANADA NIGER NIGERIA TANZANIA

Date: Jun 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Shipping Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 04, 1986 on indo-Soviet cooperation in shipping trade:

Possibilities of increasing the Shipping Trade between India and the USSR were discussed at the eighth session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Committee on Shipping which was held in Moscow recently. The Joint Committee had met there from May 26 to June 1, 1986.

The Indian delegation to the committee meeting was led by Shri P. P. Nayyar, Secretary, Department of Surface Trans -176>

port and the Soviet delegation by its Deputy Minister Mr. V. N. Nikoloi Chek.

The meeting also considered the report of the Joint Working Group set up by the committee on containerisation in bilateral trade and also exchanged views on increased participation in the carriage of liquid and bulk cargo. The Committee also considered measures for increased cooperation in the field of chartering and discussed settlement of problems relating to income tax.

The eighth session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Committee on Shipping was held at a time when the Indo-Soviet Shipping Agreement completed 30 years of its working and also at a time when Soviet 11th Plan had been just finalised.

The next meeting of the Joint Committee will be held in India in 1987.

Date: Jun 04, 1986

Volume No

1995

THAILAND

Avoidance of Double Taxation Convention between India and Thailand Notified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 28, 1986 on the avoidance of double taxation convention between India and Thailand:

The Government of India have entered into a Convention with the Government of Thailand for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income. The Convention and the Memorandum of Understanding which have been notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary on June 27, 1986 shall have effect in India, in respect of income derived for any accounting year beginning on or after January 1, 1987.

Under this Convention, business profits of an enterprise of one country shall be taxable in the other country only if it maintains a permanent establishment like a branch, office, factory or place of management in that other country. It has also been provided in the Convention that in the determination of profits of a permanent establishment, all reasonable expenses, wherever incurred, would be allowed as deduction. Thus, Indian enterprises operating in Thailand 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.

It has been agreed 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, it has been agreed that the tax chargeable in the country of source shall be reduced by an amount equal to 50% thereof. With regard to dividends, interest and royalties primary right to tax these incomes has been given in the country of residence. The country of source will limit its tax on these incomes to certain specified percentage; for example tax in the country of source in the case of income by way of royalties shall not exceed 15 per cent of the gross amount of such royalties.

Under the Convention, double taxation on income shall be avoided by the

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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 also been agreed that the country of residence will also allow credit for the taxes spared in the country of source for purposes of its economic development.

AILAND INDIA USA

Date: Jun 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Indo-UK Public Officers' Pension Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jun 12, 1986 on the Indo-U.K. public officers' pension agreement:

An agreement was signed here today between the Government of India and the Government of United Kingdom. According to the agreement the Government of UK will take over control, administration and payment of pension on certain categories of non-Indian pensioners. The agreement envisages reimbursement by the Government of UK to Government of India from April 1, 1971 the proportion of pension attributable to pre-independence survey of the pensioners to Government of India. The Government of India will pay to the Government of UK capitalised value, with reference to the date of take over, of the proportion of pension attributable to the post independence survey of the pensioners. Indian Income tax will be deducted from the net amount payable to the Government of UK. The agreement will take effect from a date to be mutually agreed upon between the two Governments.

The Finance Secretary, Shri S. Venkitaramanan and the Acting British High Commissioner, Mr. N.H.R.A. Broomfield, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments. -178>

ITED KINGDOM INDIA

Date: Jun 12, 1986

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Date: Jul 01, 1986

Volume No

ALGERIA

Major Expansion of Indo-Algerian Trade and Industrial Ties: Joint CommissionIdentifies New Areas

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 23, 1986 on the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission meeting:

Algeria has agreed to consider award of contracts to India in respect of industrial projects in Algeria amounting to Rs. 200 crores covering consultancy in cement, railway track renewal, blanket factory and technical assistance projects to be undertaken by Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) in the machine tools sector. This was amongst the major highlights of the third session of the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission which concluded recently in Algeria under the co-chairmanship of Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs and Commerce and Mr. Balkacem Nabi, Minister for Chemicals, Energy and Petrochemicals, Government of Algeria.

In addition, projects likely to fructify in the near future relate to collaboration in pharmaceuticals, fertilisers, hydraulics and consultancy in several other areas and collaboration in the field of auto-components and auto-ancillaries, in respect of which specific interest has been expressed by Algeria and for which details will shortly be worked out by the Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT).

India and Algeria have also agreed to increase their annual trade turnover to US \$ 100 million which is four times the level attained in 1985.

In the past six months, commodity contracts of the value of about US \$ 40 million have already been concluded which is almost double of India's annual trade with Algeria.

Major contracts have been finalised by the State Trading Corporation (STC) for export of soyabean extractions, jute bags, black pepper and pharmaceuticals while Algeria has also expressed interest in Indian coffee, wheat, rice, tea, computer software and light engineering goods.

A delegation of State Trading Corporation and Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation will visit Algiers in September this year to establish contact with their counterparts with a view to promote two way trade.

Likewise, a delegation of Algerian buying organisations will also visit India before the end of the current year.

It was also agreed to explore the possibility of entering into

long-term contracts with Algeria for the purchase of methanol, ammonia, lead and zinc.

The deliberations of the Commission showed that India and Algeria share a common approach on major issues and have agreed to work together for the success of the Harare meeting as well as for strengthening the unity and cohesiveness of the Non-aligned Movement.

During his visit Shri Shiv Shanker called on the Algerian Prime Minister, Mr. Abdel Hamid Brahimi, and had separate meetings with the Algerian Commerce Minister, Mr. Mustafa Beramar and the Foreign Minister, Dr. Talib Ebrahimi, in addition to his meetings with the Algerian Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission.

Shri Shiv Shanker had wide ranging talks with these leaders on matters of regional and international cooperation. The talks were marked by cordiality and understanding as well as close identity of views in various spheres between the two countries. -179>

India and Algeria have also agreed to shortly conclude a New Cultural Programme (CEP) which will include cooperation in mass media

The Indian delegation, headed by Shri P. Shiv Shanker also included Shri N. P. Jain, Secretary, Economic Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, Mr. J. N. Renjen, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Satish Chandra, Joint Secretary (WANA), Ministry of External Affairs and Private Secretary to the Commerce Minister, Shri T. K. Chacko.

GERIA USA INDIA ZIMBABWE

Date: Jul 23, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Banquet Speech by President Zali Singh

The following is the text of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh, at a banquet hosted by him in honour of His Excellency President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in New Delhi on Jul 14, 1986:

Your Excellency, Begum Ershad and distinguished guests, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Mr. President, in our midst today. You are of course no stranger to this country. Not only have we had the pleasure of welcoming you to this country on more than one occasion, we also recall the time you spent in this country in one of our important institutions. But on this visit we feel doubly privileged as you come in a dual capacity - as the leader of a friendly, brotherly, neighbour, and as the first Chairman of the SAARC - the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

There are perhaps few countries in the world who have so much in common as India and Bangladesh. Not only have we shed our blood together in the cause of liberation and national independence, but we are bound together by common strands of history and culture. Whether it is the Bengali language or the heritage of Rabindra Nath Tagore, whether it is the inspiring message of Nazrul Islam or the folk songs of Fakir Lalan Shah, the bonds that tie us together are strong and enduring.

Since her liberation, Bangladesh has played an important role in our region and in the world. We are all indebted to Bangladesh for the inspiration that led to the formation of SAARC. We are faced with an unjust international economic order and our future lies in cooperation with each other on the basis of complementarities in our economies. By cooperating with each other we can help each other develop and reduce our dependence on the developed world. This process has already started with the formation of SAARC, with its goal of building collective self-reliance. In a hostile international environment, it is in these efforts at fostering regional cooperation that our hope for the future lies.

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

In political terms the international environment is equally depressing. The escalation of the nuclear arms race continues unabated and new dimension has been added by the hectic efforts to develop and deploy outer space weapons. The global military expenditure is soon expected to reach a trillion dollars a year. In a world faced with starvation and deprivation, the largest share of the world's resources continue to be devoted to developing new weapons of mass destruction.

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The security situation in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region is unfavourable for all of us. Despite our earnest desire to have the military presence of outside powers removed from the area, they continue to increase their presence in the region. We cannot but feel apprehensive at these developments. To our dismay, the Conference on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace has been postponed again, now to be held some time before 1988.

Excellency, the relations between our two countries are close, friendly and cordial. Of course there are some differences in perception as there are between any two brothers, but these are more on matters of detail. There is a basic realisation that history and geography necessitate cooperative and friendly relations between our two countries. May I take this opportunity to assure you, Excellency, of the earnest desire of my Government to work for further improvement of our relations with your country and to seek to resolve all remaining problems in this spirit. We have no doubt that your government on your part has the same approach.

Both our countries must redouble our efforts to further expand and diversify our relations. Expanding bilateral cooperation, as also regional cooperation under SAARC, will be of great mutual benefit and will contribute to the efforts of both our countries to build a better life for our peoples. I am confident that your present visit will make an important contribution in this direction.

May I now invite all of you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Lt. Gen. Hussain Muhammed Ershad, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Begum Ershad and to the continued progress and prosperity of the people of Bangladesh and to friendship between our two countries.

NGLADESH USA INDIA

Date: Jul 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Speech by President Ershad

The following is the text of the speech by His Excellency President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the banquet hosted by His Excellency President Giani Zail Singh of the Republic of India in New Delhi on Jul 14, 1986:

Your Excellency President Zail Singh, Your Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Excellencies and Distinguished Guests, I am most grateful, Mr. President, for the gracious words that you have addressed to me and for your laudatory references to my country. May I also avail of this occasion to express our sincere

appreciation for the cordiality and warmth of the welcome that was accorded to me, my wife and the members of my entourage on our arrival in New Delhi as well as for the care and attention that we have been receiving since then. Hospitality and care of guests are a tradition and a way of life in India. Truly, the spirit of the Upanishadic dictum "Atithi devo bhava" exists even today.

Mr. President,

I am no stranger in India. I have spent a very memorable and professionally rewarding period of my life in your country. I visited India a number of times in bilateral and multilateral contexts. And the last time I visited was in November of 1984, at a time of national tragedy for India, to condole and mourn with you on a loss that was not India's alone.

Each time I have visited India, I have been struck by her innate strength and dynamism and resilience. We have been following with profound interest and admiration, the efforts of your Government under the inspiring and dynamic leadership of His Excellency the Prime Minister

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Rajiv Gandhi to lead the country into the 21st century.

Mr. President,

Friendship between our two nations is a geo-political imperative. There is so much that we have in common and so much that we can achieve, working together in close cooperation. India was a staunch ally in our time of trial and adversity. Today we continue to be friends and sovereign equals, committed to the cause of peace with development and wedded to the same general concept of foreign policy, namely Non-alignment and adherence to the principles and purposes of the United Nations.

We are often asked, at home and abroad, about our unresolved issues with India. People have wondered how can we achieve a meaningful and enduring relationship when some important issues are still outstanding. I do not wish to gloss over the differences or problems that exist between us. Problems are a concomitant of the human race and human relations. It is quite unexceptional that differences or problems may arise between neighbouring countries. The pivotal question is how best can such problems, or differences be tackled and resolved. Does the answer lie in confrontation, acrimony or pressure? Or will it not be far more effectual to approach them in a spirit of amity and accommodation? Surely there cannot be any two opinions about the second option.

Friendship may not always be able to preclude the emergence of problems. But it can certainly ensure that the best of goodwill

is brought to bear in seeking solutions. It can prevent existing problems from becoming intractable and is the surest insurance that peace and mutually beneficial cooperation will not be jeopardised. Indeed, with imagination and a modicum of reciprocity, problem areas could even be transmuted into areas of fruitful cooperation. This is the manner and spirit in which we would like outstanding issues to be resolved.

Mr. President,

The international environment today is far from reassuring. In West Asia, the obduracy of Israel is frustrating the most earnest efforts of the world community to bring about a lasting peace and a settlement of all outstanding issues. In Southern Africa, we find the unedifying spectacle of a people deprived of their most basic and inalienable rights in their own country. Nearer home the situation in Afghanistan and Kampuchea is a matter of deep anguish for us. Globally, the spirit of detente is still in retreat and the spiral of the arms race continues to mount, consuming billions of dollars and adding to man's more than adequate capacity for selfannihilation. In the international economic sphere there is perhaps a greater awareness in the North of the aspirations of developing countries. We are, however, no nearer to the launching of global negotiations and a genuine North-South dialogue. These are pressing issues that must be tackled and resolved before it is too late.

Mr. President.

Just over four years ago, I assumed the reins of Government when chaos and disintegration of legal authority seemed imminent and at the express urgings of public opinion. I was very clear in my mind, right from the start, about our priorities. We addressed ourselves to issues and areas that could brook no delay. Our basic objective, however, had been the establishment of a polity that would endure, one that would be responsive to the needs and aspirations of our people.

Since 1982, we have taken the Government closer to the people, through a process of decentralisation and public participation and involvement. The event that has afforded me the greatest satisfaction is, of course, our parliamentary elections held in May last. The inauguration of our newly elected Parliament has been a very important milestone on our journey to democracy. Personally for me, it was a gratifying event.

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SAARC

Mr. President,

As I said earlier, I visited India before, but this visit assumes a special significance. This is the first time I am visiting

India not only as a Bangladeshi but also as a co-leader of SAARC which has given us a common identity. We, in Bangladesh, are indeed conscious of the singular distinction that was conferred upon us by choosing Bangladesh as the first Chairman of SAARC.

SAARC has underscored the commonalities and affinities that would bring the seven Member-States closer to one another. We have historical and cultural ties; we are faced with common problems of poverty and under-development and our one billion people have the same goals, hopes and aspirations. Working in close concert, we can tackle our common problems with greater vigour and strength and march towards our common goals with more confidence and speed. Our endeavour now should be to consolidate what has already been accomplished and to prepare the ground for a second and more dynamic phase of cooperative action.

SAARC is a symbol, an expedient and a vehicle which can only be what we wish it to be. It is for us collectively to realise its full potential. A harmony of views may not be practicable; but we may surely strive for a symphony of hearts and aims. Personally, I am convinced that in December of 1985 in Dhaka, we had collectively initiated a process whose path would only lead onward and upward.

Mr. President,

There is just one more thing that I wish to say before I conclude. Each time I have visited India, I have been overwhelmed by the love, affection and care that I have received. I sincerely hope, Mr. President, that you will visit Bangladesh soon and allow us to reciprocate in some measure the affection and care that have always been extended to us here.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to join me in raising your glasses to the health and long life of President Giani Zail Singh; to the health and long life of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi; to Indo-Bangladesh friendship; and to the overgrowing spirit of SAARC.

NGLADESH USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL AFGHANISTAN

Date: Jul 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

BENIN

Bilateral Co-operation between India and Benin

The following are the agreed minutes of discussions between Mr. Frederic Affo, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the People's Republic of Benin and Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs and Commerce of India, on bilateral cooperation:

On the invitation of Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs and Commerce of India, Mr. Frederic Affo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the People's Republic of Benin, made an official visit to India from 5th to 10th July, 1986. With a view to strengthening bilateral cooperation between India and the People's Republic of Benin, the two delegations had detailed discussions of which a summary is given below.

The examination of the text of the draft Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation still being in progress on the Indian side, both sides agreed to sign this on the occasion of the official visit of the Minister of External Affairs and Commerce of India to the Republic of Benin, at a date to be mutually agreed.

Both sides agreed to exchange delegations, in order to reactivate trade, through Chambers of Commerce and businessmen, with a view to acquiring a better understanding of markets and products, as well as the more precise identification of trading partners. The dates will be fixed by mutual consultations.

The Indian side confirmed to the Benin delegation its readiness to make available to the People's Republic of Benin the achievements of its technological expertise in the following areas:

(i) Agriculture (improvement of seeds, productivity, pest control, irrigation, agro-based industries, etc.); (ii) fisheries; (iii) animal husbandry; (iv) establishment of small scale industries; (v) prospecting and exploitation of petroleum reserves (on-shore and off-shore); (vi) railways; (vii) feasibility studies; (viii) exchange of experts.

Both sides agreed to exchange delegations of experts to determine the modalities for implementing these decisions.

A delegation of Indian experts would visit the People's Republic of Benin with a view to identifying in consultation with Benin experts, specific projects and to work out methods for their implementation. A delegation of Benin experts would, in its turn, visit India in order to better understand, at first hand, the accomplishments of the Indian experience in similar projects.

Concerning training, the Indian side confirmed its readiness to

consider favourably the request of the Benin side for training fellowships/scholarships in nine areas. It explained to the Benin side the procedure to be followed. In addition, the Indian side confirmed its readiness to consider favourably other such requests.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction over the positive results of their discussions and they resolved to work towards the reactivation and strengthening of their cooperation.

These agreed minutes were signed in New Delhi in the presence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the People's Republic of Benin and the Minister of External Affairs and Commerce of the Republic of India on the 10th of July, 1986.

(N. P. JAIN)
Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Government of the Republic of India.

(Coffi M. RANDOLPH)
Director of Asia
Department,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation,
Government of the People's Republic of Benin.
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DIA USA LATVIA

Date: Jul 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

BENIN

Cultural Agreement Signed between India and Benin

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 01, 1986 on the signing of a cultural agreement between India and Benin:

With a view to reinforce the friendly relations between India and Benin and to promote cultural exchanges between them a cultural agreement was signed today between the Government of India and the People's Republic of Benin. Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Human Resource Development, signed on behalf of the Government of India and H.E. Mr. Frederic Affo, Foreign Minister

of Benin, signed on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Benin. Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs and Commerce also graced the signing ceremony.

The agreement provides for exchanges in the field of culture, education, science, public health, sports, youth activities, publishing, press broadcasting, cinema and television.

In the field of artistic and cultural cooperation the agreement provides for writers, sportsmen, artists and artisans, undertaking visits and study tours in each other's countries. It also provides for mutual exchange of performing troupes and cultural or artistic exhibitions.

The two countries have agreed to cooperate in the fields of education, arts and culture. It has also been agreed to translate and publish outstanding literary and artistic works. The exchange of sportsmen, coaches and sports teams for visits to each other's country for friendly competition have also been provided.

Exchange of experiences in the field of museum and public health also figure in the agreement. Further, cooperation in the areas of the press, broadcasting, television and cinema has also been provided. Exchanges and cooperation between the libraries, archives and the museums of the two countries will also be encouraged.

The agreement will remain valid for a period of five years.

DIA USA

Date: Jul 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Chinese Intrusion into Indian Territory - Shri P. ShivShanker's Statement in Parliament

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 18, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, in both the Houses of Parliament on the recent Chinese intrusion into Indian territory:

Hon'ble Members are by now aware of the Chinese intrusion in the Sumdorong

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Chu valley area of Tawang District of Arunachal Pradesh. In mid-June 1986, it was learnt that about 40 Chinese person -nel, some in uniform, had intruded approximately 2-3 kms as the crow flies into the area of the Sumdorong Chu valley, where our graziers had been going peacefully without any interference. After verification of the intrusion, we protested strongly to the Chinese Government on 26th June, 1986. We stressed that the area of the Sumdorong Chu valley is clearly South of the McMohan Line and well within Indian territory. We rejected the Chinese response received on 8th July, 1986 that this was a disputed area and on their side of the McMohan Line. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, the McMohan Line constitutes the international boundary in this sector. The Chinese have conveyed that the matter could be discussed "intensively" at the forthcoming seventh round of official level talks in Beijing. We propose to do so.

In our official level talks with the Chinese, which commenced in 1981, both sides had accepted the principle that peace and tranquility should be maintained along the border and that any problem that arose should be solved through friendly consultations. With both sides having accepted this principle, we on our part have consistently endeavoured to settle such problems through discussions. We are, therefore, surprised that the Chinese should have intruded into our territory in this manner. I would like to inform the Hon'ble Members that we are keeping a close watch on the situation. We are conscious of the concern of the Hon'ble Members on this issue and shall take the House into confidence whenever such an occasion arises.

The seventh round of official level talks are due to begin from 21st July, 1986 in Beijing. Our delegation is being led by the Foreign Secretary who will be meeting the Acting Premier Wan Li as well as the Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian in Beijing. The Foreign Secretary, in his meetings with them, will be taking up the issue of intrusion in the Sumdorong Chu area.

INA INDIA USA **Date**: Jul 18, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mizoram Memorandum of Settlement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 03, 1986 on the Mizoram Memorandum of Settlement:

A Memorandum of Settlement was signed on June 30 1986 by the Union Home Secretary, Shri R.D. Pradhan, the Mizo National Front leader, Shri Laldenga, and the Chief Secretary, Government of Mizoram, Shri Lalkhama, to bring to an end the disturbed conditions in Mizoram and to restore peace and harmony there.

The following is the text of the Memorandum of Settlement:

"Government of India have all along been making earnest efforts to bring about an end to the disturbed conditions in Mizoram and to restore peace and harmony.

Towards this end, initiative was taken by the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. On the acceptance by Shri Laldenga on behalf of the Mizo National Front (MNF) of the two conditions, namely,

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cessation of violence by MNF and holding of talks within the framework of the Constitution of India, a series of discussions were held with Shri Laldenga. Settlement on various issues reached during the course of the talks is incorporated in the following paragraphs.

RESTORATION OF NORMALCY

With a view to restoring peace and normalcy in Mizoram the MNF party, on their part, undertake within the agreed time-frame, to take all necessary steps to end all underground activities, to bring out all underground personnel of the MNF with their arms, ammunition and equipment to ensure their return to civil life, to abjure violence and generally to help in the process of restoration of normalcy. The modalities of bringing out all underground personnel and the deposit of arms, ammunition and equipment will be as worked out. The implementation of the foregoing will be under the supervision of the Central Government.

The MNF Party will take immediate steps to amend its Articles of Association so as to make them conform to the provision of law.

The Central Government will take steps for the resettlement and rehabilitation of underground MNF personnel coming overground after considering the schemes proposed in this regard by the Government of Mizoram.

The MNF undertakes not to extend any support to Tripura/Tribal National Volunteers (TNV), People's Liberation Army of Manipur (PLA) and any other such groups, by way of training, supply of arms or providing protection or in any other manner.

LEGAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER STEPS

With a view to satisfying the desires and aspirations of all sections of the people of Mizoram, the Government will initiate measures to confer Statehood on the Union Territory of Mizoram, subject to the other stipulations contained in this Memorandum of Settlement.

To give effect to the above, the necessary legislative and administrative measures will be undertaken, including those for the enactment of Bills for the amendment of the Constitution and other laws for the conferment of Statehood as aforesaid, to come into effect on a date to be notified by the Central Government.

The amendments aforesaid shall provide, among other things, for the following:

- (I) The territory of Mizoram shall consist of the territory specified in Section 6 of the North Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971.
- (II) notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution, no Act of Parliament in respect of
- (a) religious or social practices of the Mizos,
- (b) Mizo customary law or procedure,
- (c) administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Mizo customary law,
- (d) ownership and transfer of land, shall apply to the State of Mizoram unless the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram by a resolution so decides:

provided that nothing in this clause shall apply to any Central Act in force in Mizoram immediately before the appointed day.

(III) Article 170, Clause (1) shall, in relation to the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram, have effect as if for the word 'sixty', the word 'forty' has been substituted.
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Soon after the Bill for conferment of Statehood becomes law, and when the President is satisfied that normalcy has returned and that conditions conducive to the holding of free and fair elections exist, the process of holding elections to the Legislative Assembly will be initiated.

(a) The Centre will transfer resources to the new Government keeping in view the change in status from a Union Territory to a

State and this will include resources to cover the revenue gap for the year.

(b) Central assistance for Plan will be fixed taking note of any residuary gap in resources so as to sustain the approved Plan outlay and the pattern of assistance will be as in the case of special category states.

Border trade in locally produced or grown agricultural commodities could be allowed under a scheme to be formulated by the Central Government, subject to international arrangements with neighbouring countries.

The Inner Line Regulations, as now in force in Mizoram, will not be amended or repealed without consulting the State Government.

OTHER MATTERS

The rights and privileges of the minorities in Mizoram as envisaged in the Constitution, shall continue to be preserved and protected and their social and economic advancement shall be ensured.

Steps will be taken by the Government of Mizoram at the earliest to review and codify the existing customs, practices, laws or other usages relating to the matters specified in clauses (a) to (d) of para 4.3 (II) of the Memorandum, keeping in view that an individual Mizo may prefer to be governed by Acts of Parliament dealing with such matters and which are of general application.

The question of the unification of Mizo inhabited areas of other States to form one administrative unit was raised by the MNF delegation. It was pointed out to them, on behalf of the Government of India, that Article 3 of the Constitution of India prescribes the procedure in this regard but that the Government cannot make any commitment in this respect.

It was also pointed out on behalf of the Government that as soon as Mizoram becomes a State,

- (i) the provision of Part XVII of the Constitution will apply and the State will be at liberty to adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State as the language to be used for all or any of the official purposes of the State;
- (ii) it is open to the State to move for the establishment of a separate University in the State in accordance with the prescribed procedure;
- (iii) in the light of the Prime Minister's statement at the Joint Conference of the Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers held at New Delhi on 31st August, 1985, Mizoram will be entitled to have a High Court of its own, if it so wishes.

- (a) It was noted that there is already a scheme in force for payment of ex-gratia amount to heirs dependents of persons who were killed during disturbances in 1966 and thereafter in the Union Territory of Mizoram. Arrangements will be made to expeditiously disburse payment to those eligible persons who had already applied but who had not been made such payments so far.
- (b) It was noted that consequent on verification done by a joint team of officers, the Government of India -188>

had already made arrangements for payment of compensation in respect of damage to crops; buildings destroyed damaged during the action in Mizoram; and rental charges of buildings and lands occupied by the Security Forces. There may, however, be some claims which werepreferred and verified by the above team but have not yet been settled. These pending claims will be settled expeditiously. Arrangements will also be made for payment of pending claims of rental charges for

lands/buildings by the Security Forces. Sd/-Sd/-(LALDENGA) (R. D. PRADHAN) On behalf of Home Secretary Mizo National Front Government of India

Sd/-(LALKHAMA) Chief Secretary Government of Mizoram Date: 30th June, 1986. Place: NEW DELHI.

DIA USA

Date: Jul 03, 1986

Volume No

1995

LIBYA

Indo-Libyan Cooperation Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 05, 1986 on the Indo-Libyan Cooperation agreement:

The Indo-Libyan protocol for further development of trade, commerce and industrial cooperation was signed here between the Libyan Industry Minister, H.E. Mr. Hussan Abdul Atti Al Barghashi and Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Minister for Industry.

The Libyan Government has suggested for expertise by the Indian companies for training in administration, designing and implementation of projects, designing and planning of small-scale industries.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the conclusion of Libya-India cultural Agreement and exchange of the instruments of ratification.

Both sides also indicated that there was a great scope for raising the level of trade on a balanced basis between the two countries.

Shri Tiwari said that as fellow members of the Non-Aligned Movement, Libya and India were committed to the cause of creating a more equitable world order in which the people's voice prevails and no nation is exploited by another . Libyan-Indian friendship was a reminder of how countries with different histories could work together for mutual benefit as well as for the larger ideal of global good.

Mr. Barghashi strongly reiterated Libya's commitment to strengthen relations at all levels with India. He also referred to the valued contribution made by the Indian companies in the development process in his country.

At present, there are 15 Indian companies operating in Libya executing 62 projects valued at Rs. 1610 crores. The work completed amounts to Rs. 1200 crores upto April 30 this year which equals 74.5 percent of overall contract value.

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BYA INDIA USA

Date: Jul 05, 1986

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister's Banquet Speech in Mauritius

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 04, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi while replying to the toast at the State banquet at Port Louis in Mauritius on July 4, 1986:

Your Excellency, the Governor General and Lady Ringadoo, Prime Minister and Madame Jugnauth, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have journeyed across the vast expanses of the Indian Ocean, crossed the Equator and landed on a distant isle, set in the resplendent sea, to find an endearing familiarity, sense of common purpose and the vision of a common destiny for humankind.

As in India so in Mauritius there is a dazzling diversity of cultures, an enthralling variety of languages, a mixture of races, a spectrum of many of the most important religions of the world - all imbued with a deep and abiding sense of unity. Both of our countries are a living refutation of narrow definitions of nationhood. Neither of us believes in petty parochialisms or limited loyalities. We see our countries as having place for all our people-living together in equality, in harmony, with reverential respect for all creeds and beliefs. We exult in the rich diversity of our heritage. We are firm in our conviction that the unity of a nation is best reinforced by the enhancement of each of her cultures, not by compressing the creative genius of her people into a dull uniformity.

India and Mauritius also share a common belief in parliamentary democracy as the political system best suited for pursuing national development while enhancing personal liberty. Free elections, lively debate, consensus through the common consideration of issues, the assurance of civic rights and the guarantee of equal opportunity constitute the principles and values which underpin the polity in both our countries.

DEMOCRACY OF NATIONS

Our sovereignty is assured and enhanced by our adherence to Nonalignment. We believe in a democracy of nations. We believe in the right - and the necessity - for non-aligned countries to make their contribution to peace, unfettered by alliances, unblinkered by preconceptions and prejudice. We believe in peaceful coexistence, not in the vain and dangerous pursuit of confrontation and domination.

Peace in our region is the precondition for us to leap the lag which colonialism created between us and the industrialised countries. That peace requires keeping the Indian Ocean free from great power rivalries. These rivalries are not of our making. We are not party to them. But they threaten to intrude upon our concern with the progress and development of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean. It was in the context of commercial rivalries between European powers that four centuries ago Mauritius was first captured by the Dutch. As the fortunes of

these outside rivals ebbed and flowed, the strategic significance of Mauritius for dominance in the Indian Ocean led to these islands changing hands from the Dutch to the Portuguese, to the Corsairs, to the French, to the English. Indeed, the political fate of India in the 18th century was tied in with the joint efforts of La Bourdonnais in Mauritius and Dupleix in the Deccan to drive the English out of Madras. If Admiral d'Ache had not holed up the French Navy in Mauritius, who knows what the outcome might have been?

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History has moved on but geography remains the same. The vital strategic significance of these islands to peace in the Indian Ocean remains unchanged. That is why we demand the dismantling of military bases in Diego Garcia, the restoration of the Chagos Archipelago to Mauritius, and the immediate implementation of the 1971 UN Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

GRIT AND DETERMINATION

We visited several of the Front-line States a few weeks ago. We saw their grit and determination. We saw their courage and dedication. We saw their unbending solidarity with their oppressed brothers and sisters of South Africa. The report of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group has endorsed in every important respect the assessment of the situation in South Africa given to us by the leaders of the Front-line States. The findings of the Eminent Persons Group are unambiguous. The Pretoria regime:

"... is in truth not yet prepared to negotiate fundamental change, nor to countenance the creation of genuine democratic structures, nor to face the prospect of the end of white domination and white power in the foreseeable future."

The end of the era of Apartheid is imminent. The only question is whether the end will come in explosion of violence and a welter of bloodshed, or whether hundreds of thousands of innocent lives can still be saved by a more peaceful transition to majority rule. The answer to that depends, in turn, on whether Pretoria is pressured into an immediate dismantling of Apartheid, or is sustained and supported in its losing battle against the forces of human rights and human dignity. What possible alternative can there be to comprehensive, mandatory sanctions under the Charter of the United Nations?

HARARE SUMMIT

We will shortly be meeting in Harare for the eighth Non-aligned Summit. A major area of concern there will be the stalled negotiations on a new international economic order. The extraordinary efforts which countries like Mauritius are putting into diversifying their monoculture economies are seriously

handicapped by an unfavourable international economic environment. When we succeed in diversifying, the developed countries place restrictions on imports from us precisely in those areas where our efficiency of production and competitiveness of price have been most clearly established. Meanwhile, the inputs for development become increasingly expensive or are rendered unavailable. Where the management of the world economy should be based on the pursuit of interdependence, what we are witnessing is a tragic faltering of the will to cooperate for development. The strongest countries resort to protection and perpetuate distorted structures of trade. For us to overcome these hurdles requires self-reliance and increased cooperation among developing countries.

PRECIOUS ASSET

Cooperation between Mauritius and India is a good example of what South-South cooperation can achieve. Our most precious asset is our human resources and it is in human resource development that our co-operation has been most fruitful - in education and culture, in training and the establishment of institutions of learning. We have welcomed hundreds of your students, technicians and technologists to India. Our experts have worked with yours in many fields. We have also been proud to associate ourselves with the development of your infrastructure, the small industries and handicrafts sector, and the diversification of the rural sector of your economy.

CULTURAL LINKS

Our cultural links stretch back, of course, to a century and a half to the -191>

indenturing and immigration to Mauritius of hundreds of thousands of Indians from Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh and elsewhere, But in truth the links are much older and much more comprehensive. They include the message of the Buddha drawing together the people of India and China to the Middle Path of compassion. They incorporate the great Indo-Islamic heritage developed over a thousand years of interaction between India, the Arab world, Turkey, Iran and Central Asia. They extend to the seafaring traditions which took sailors from Gujarat, Maharashtra and Malabar to explore the islands of the Indian Ocean and the Eastern seaboard of the African continent. In more recent times, our anguish at the evils of indenture found expression in the poems of Subramania Bharati:

"O wind - have you heard their anguish? O wind - have you seen their pain? O wind - whisper to me their message, Or have they lost their strength to wail?" The Indian and Mauritian struggles for freedom were joined together when a renowned Mauritian of Indian origin, Thambi Naidoo, became an early and close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, who said of him:

"The name of Thambi Naidoo must ever remain as one of the front rank in the history of satyagraha in South Africa."

Gandhiji visited Mauritius in 1901. Later, Seewoosagur Ramgoolam became President of the London branch of the Indian National Congress and played a prominent part in making arrangements to welcome Gandhiji when he went to London for the Round Table Conference. After your independence, we built close and friendly relations with this "great little country" as my mother fondly called Mauritius. As she said at the public rally in Port Louis during her last visit here in 1982:

"To us, the people of Mauritius are rather special."

We have come to renew and reinforce our friendship with you. We thank the people of Mauritius for the warmth of their welcome and their gracious hospitality. Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in raising a toast to the good health of the Governor General of Mauritius, His Excellency Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo and Lady Ringadoo; to the health and happiness of Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth and Madame Jugnauth; to the prosperity of the people of Mauritius; and to friendship between our people.

URITIUS USA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE CHINA IRAN TURKEY UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Jul 04, 1986

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister's Address to Mauritian Legislative Assembly

The following is the text of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the Mauritian Legislative Assembly in Port Louis on Jul 05, 1986:

It is always a privilege to address a nation's legislature - the chosen guardian of its ideals. I bring you the greetings of the Parliament and people of India, and their assurances of deep friendship.

I have made a discovery: that Mauritius is a small island country with a big heart. Since my arrival yesterday in your enchanting country the people of Mauritius have enveloped me in their affection. Their warmth is a reminder both of the old bonds between us and a reaffirmation of our resolve to work together in pursuing our shared objectives.

As I stood at the samadhi of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, I recalled the respect he commanded in the international community and the close bonds of esteem

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and trust that bound him to my mother, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It has been a privilege to make the acquaintance of His Excellency Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, a comrade-in-arms of Dr. Ramgoolam, his successor as Governor General, a statesman of long experience, a man of profound humanity and dedication.

VALUED FRIEND

Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth is for me a valued friend and coworker. He has enhanced the reputation of Mauritius through his dedicated and dynamic efforts to raise the country's economic status and his steadfast adherence to, and enunciation of the principles of the Non-alignment Movement.

Common experiences bind the people of India and Mauritius. Bled by colonial rule, we both yearned and strove for liberty. We are today engaged in the exacting task of building our nations. We subscribe to the same fundamental democratic values - representative Government at home and Non-alignment abroad. Regular high level exchanges have strengthened our ties. What bring us even closer are our historical and cultural links and a common world perspective.

Mauritius is a world in miniature -with its rich diversity of race, language and religion. What happened here in Mauritius over the last two hundred years happened in India over a much longer stretch of time and on a much larger geographical scale. Through the millennia, diverse people mixed and mingled in India to build a vibrant civilisation. The endurance of this civilisation is due to the manner in which it has embraced all segments and imbued them with a sense of common destiny.

NATIONAL REBIRTH

It is not as if the civilisation of India was without its weaknesses. It allowed itself to stagnate. The result was colonial subjugation. But the men and women who dreamed of freedom knew that the eradication of social injustices was a prerequisite for national rebirth.

SELF-PURIFICATION

Mahatma Gandhi declared: "I am not interested in freeing India merely from the English yoke for me the movement for Swaraj is a movement of self-purification." To the Mahatma and his great contemporaries, the spiritual and political equality of all human beings was an axiom, an unalterable article of faith. They regarded freedom as the birthright of all, and not of any elite section. We fought against internal as well as external injustice. India's freedom movement became history's greatest open rebellion.

We lost Gandhiji soon after winning our independence. But we had Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to speak his language and continue his work. Jawaharlal Nehru was a democrat every inch of his being and every moment of his life. He built and nurtured institutions through which the people of resurgent India could realise their hopes and aspirations. He also reminded us that liberty found fulfilment only through equality. "The avatars of today", he had declared as long ago as 1928, "are great ideas which come to reform the world. And the idea of today is social equality." As Prime Minister he set about giving social and economic content to political freedom.

The great democrat was also the great moderniser. Under Jawaharlal Nehru's guidance, India adopted planning. The application of technology to agriculture, systematic industrialisation and the cultivation of a scientific temper were chosen as the path to the ending of poverty and of mass unemployment. Jawaharlal Nehru laid the secure foundations of self-reliant development, He built wisely and well.

After him it was India's good fortune to have another great builder, Indira Gandhi. Under her inspired leadership, our farmers and scientists wiped out food deficits and built up surplus stocks. India -193>

achieved notable successes in nuclear technology, space science and the capital goods sector. We still have problems. We know their magnitude only too well. But we know also that we have the strength and resilience to overcome them. We appreciate help, welcome cooperation, and yet we have the capacity and the will to be on our own.

FORCES OF CHANGE

Both Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi understood and befriended modern technology and the forces of change. But what marked them out was that they were deeply rooted in Indian values and the Indian ethos. They knew the limitations of a materialist view of life. They alerted our people to be on guard against greed and violence, two ancient evils aggravated by the technological advances of our age. It is in stressing that our actions should

be guided by self restraint and respect for others' opinions, by compassion and nonviolence, and above all by reverence for the eternal values, that there is a grand continium between Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi.

The world has never been in such dire need of tolerance as it is today. Distances have shrunk. Communications are instantaneous. Engines of death have been devised and stockpiled. Nuclear catastrophe stands at every nation's doorstep.

The irony is that along with forging weapons which can wipe out life, man has for the first time acquired the power to eradicate hunger and the diseases of poverty. Misery can be erased. Fear can be extinguished. If only the world wants to if only man wants to as Indira Gandhi declared at the last summit of the Non-aligned Movement: "Our world is small, but it has room for all to live together and to improve the quality of the lives of our peoples in peace and beauty."

PROTECTION OF PEACE

Peace has to be protected against conflict; beauty rescued from ugliness; national sovereignty defended against external pressures. Most countries are subjected to pressure of many kinds - whether it is a sub-continental nation like India or an island country like Mauritius. But if our resolve is strong none can dictate to us.

The essence of Non-alignment is that independent nations be themselves. We seek friendship with all. Mauritius and India are totally committed to Non-alignment. We each have paid the price of our conviction.

Immediately on attaining independence, Mauritius was subjected to the blandishments of the powers who wished to establish and expand their military presence in the Indian Ocean. For a small country, dependent largely on a single crop, the market for which was substantially located in the West, it took courage of conviction and a sturdy independence of mind to firmly resist those blandishments. Three years later, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The declaration has regrettably been honoured mostly in the breach. Instead of diminishing outside military presences with a view to their elimination, both in number and sophistication, there has been a substantial increase in foreign naval presences. New command structures have been put in place. The Non-aligned States of the Indian Ocean, littoral and hinterland, are sought to be dragged into the very cold war which the policy of Non-alignment has been designed to protect us from. Through much of this difficult period, Dr. Ramgoolam and you, Mr. Prime Minister have courageously joined hands with your Nonaligned brethren to insist on the immediate convening of the conference for the implementation of the Declaration on the

Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The Chagos Archipelago, which is your territory by right, has been prised loose to make Diego Garcia into a base. You have insisted on its restoration to your sovereignty. We firmly support your demand. The policy of having bases on

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foreign soils is nothing but the same old imperialism in a new garb. The new forms of imperialism are no less repugnant than the old.

ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Mauritius assumed the chairmanship of the Organisation of African Unity at a particularly difficult juncture in the life of this premier regional organisation. Your painstaking efforts helped promote the Unity of Africa. African unity owes much to the quiet diplomacy and deft handling of delicate issues which the Prime Minister and his colleagues displayed during your crucial Chairmanship of the O.A.U.

Not far from your country, in South Africa, we find a combination of the worst perfidies that have disfigured history - racism, colonialism, militarism and tyranny. Under the yoke of Pretoria, the vast majority of the people of South Africa are subjected to unimaginable torture and debasement. Namibia is held in thrall in defiance of the expressed will of the international community.

Only a few weeks ago I visited the Front-line States and received first-hand accounts of the aggressive activities of the Pretoria regime. Since then the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons have submitted their report. None who has read the document can fail to be impressed by the force of the evidence they have gathered, and the historical inevitability of the downfall of the Apartheid regime. "As we proceeded with our work", the Group of Eminent Persons say, "we became convinced that not only was it a matter of the utmost urgency to dismantle Apartheid and erect structures of democracy in South Africa in terms of Non-racial representative Government, but that it was essential to break the cycle of violence in that country." If this is not done peacefully - which means mandatory sanctions - the world might witness the worst bloodbath since the Second World War.

MAN'S QUEST FOR FREEDOM

Through India's long history, her people have always made sacrifices to uphold the fundamental moral and spiritual values that underlie man's quest for freedom. The battle of the people of South Africa today is the battle of the whole of humanity. They have shed their blood and borne much suffering in defence of principles and values they hold dear above everything else. India stands solidly with them. It is for all of us who love freedom and abhor colonialism and racism to see that the South African

people emerge victorious at the earliest and without further bloodshed and violence.

Mr. Speaker, Hon'ble members: our bilateral relations have been consistently marked by mutual esteem and affection. Mauritius has the resilience and the inner reserves of strength to face any challenge. India will always be with you - with you in building a prosperous and strong Mauritius: with you in working for a peaceful world community. Thank you.

URITIUS USA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date: Jul 05, 1986

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

President's Speech at Royal Banquet in Nepal

The following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh at the banquet hosted in his honour by His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal on Jul 21, 1986:

Your Majesty King Birendra, Your Majesty Queen Aishwarya, Excellencies -195>

and Distinguished Guests, it is a great pleasure for me to be here today in your beautiful land. A few months ago, we had the pleasure of welcoming you in India and I am delighted at this opportunity to renew our contacts. I am also deeply appreciative of the warmth and the cordiality of the reception and hospitality extended to us by Your Majesties and the friendly people of Nepal. My presence in your midst today is further testimony, if such were required, of the enduring bonds of friendship, cooperation and goodwill that bind our two countries together.

India is committed to the maintenance of friendly relations with all countries based on the time-tested principles of Panchashila and on the recognition of the need for inter-dependence, co-existence and cooperation for mutual benefit. However, in the case of our relations with the Kingdom of Nepal, even these well-recognised aspects of our foreign policy are transcended by other factors that have tied us together for centuries: the age-old relationship between us based on geography, history, culture,

religion, customs and so many commonly shared experiences of our peoples that diplomacy and other attributes of our bilateral relations in modern times constitute only a small fraction of the total relationship.

CRUCIBLE OF GREAT TRADITIONS

Located in the very heart of the subcontinent and in the shadow of the magnificent Himalayas, to me Nepal is the crucible of the great social, cultural and religious traditions of Hinduism and Buddhism. We in India regard Nepal with a certain reverence and affection as the holy land of Lord Pashupatinath, from which our great sages have drawn spiritual inspiration since time immemorial. My own visit here is also a pilgrimage which has given me immense spiritual satisfaction.

More than with any other neighbour, our people have enjoyed deep, abiding and unhindered contact with the kindred people of Nepal. This relationship is symbolised by our own open border, which is a border of peace and friendly interchange. It is these permanent underlying bonds that provide a firm foundation for a stable relationship between us, allowing mutual understanding to be safeguarded and overcoming any temporary problems or issues that might arise between us.

SOLID BEDROCK OF TIME-TESTED TIES

Relations between India and Nepal have continued to grow in modern times, adding new dimensions to the solid bedrock of timetested ties. The leaders of our independence movement took pride in the fact that Nepal had successfully remained outside the tentacles of imperialism and colonial rule. Our relations with Nepal were being strengthened even as we fought for the freedom of India. The influence of Mahatma Gandhi, Father of our Nation, did not fail to touch Nepal even as it spread to the four corners of India. As we gained independence, and Nepal launched itself into modern times, our common bonds grew with the realisation that both our countries were faced with the awesome problems of economic development. It has thus become the endeavour of both our governments to raise the standard of living of our peoples, to meet their basic wants and to bring them happiness and prosperity. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that we have shared a similar outlook on economic development in our countries while joining hands in striving for peace in the international arena.

Since the days of our first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, we have consistently conducted our relations with Nepal on the basis of sovereign equality and mutual benefit. However, given the uniqueness of the bonds which tie us together, we have also remained conscious of the intimate relationship which so happily exists between our two countries. Like our shared frontiers, the policies and actions of our two Governments continually impact on

each other. As Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said nearly three decades ago: "The relations between us, -196>

based on love and bonds of culture, are deep-rooted and when the roots go so deep, any happy event in our country has its effect on you, and similarly if you progress, we feel elated."

India has been happy to contribute in every possible way to the development of Nepal and, over the years, has cooperated with Nepal in a wide variety of fields ranging from roads, power, irrigation and communications to health and education. It has been our endeavour to strengthen Nepal's economic infrastructure and to facilitate its progress on the road towards self-reliance. In the recent past, the new Bir Hospital complex has been constructed under the Indian aid programme. Other major projects are in hand. We take pride in the contribution which we have been able to make in bringing about progress and prosperity to your country. We look forward to its continuance.

ECONOMIC LINKS

Your Majesties, our two countries share a fundamental interdependence in virtually all areas that touch upon the well-being our peoples, economic, political, social, religious and ecological. Progress and stability in Nepal under your wise leadership helps us, just as our own progress and strength can only be to the advantage of Nepal. The possibilities of joint collaboration in harnessing our natural resources are vast and require organised efforts on both sides before benefits can be passed on to our peoples. We share common rivers which can, to mutual benefit, be utilised for irrigation and electrification and speed up the pace of the progress in our economies. I am confident that in the coming months, the momentum of progress on cooperation over the utilisation of water resources and in other areas will accelerate and further strengthen our economic links.

Tensions and conflicts continue to mark the international environment of today, and despite urgent appeals from the international community for peace, disarmament, and an end to the barbaric apartheid regime in South Africa, little progress is made on these critical issues that will determine mankind's future. As Chairman of NAM, India has raised its voice consistently for peace and co-existence, and for reducing the inequalities between the developed and the developing. The Nonaligned Movement provides a voice to the weak and the poor, and India's commitment to its principles underlines our respect for the sovereign and equal status of all nations, irrespective of their size and strength.

FRIENDSHIP WITH NEIGHBOURS

India is determined to expand its friendship with all its

neighbours. Like Your Majesty we are convinced that an atmosphere of peace and stability in our region is necessary for its economic development and prosperity. Regional cooperation among the nations of South Asia has taken root and become a well-established concept which has been welcomed by all the countries of the region. It is only by strengthening the framework of cooperation among the SAARC nations that we shall be able to speed up the process of economic development and provide a brighter future for our peoples, while at the same time building mutual understanding and confidence among regional States without which outside powers will always continue to exploit our differences.

Under Your Majesty's enlightened leadership, your country has recently gone through its Second General Elections held on the basis of adult franchise. The people of Nepal have enthusiastically gone through the process of selecting their representatives to the Rashtriya Panchayat. We in India have witnessed these developments with interest. The Government and the people of India would like to wish the new Prime Minister, Mr. Marich Man Singh, and his Cabinet colleagues all success in their efforts to tackle the difficult tasks of all round economic development. It is our belief that the new Government, under Your Majesty's guidance, will also further strengthen the already firm ties of friendship and cooperation between Nepal and India. -197>

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev and Her Majesty Queen Aishwarya, to abiding and ever increasing friendship and prosperity of the fraternal people of Nepal.

PAL INDIA USA LATVIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Jul 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

President's Speech at Banquet by Prime Minister of Nepal

The following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh at the luncheon hosted in his honour by the Prime Minister of Nepal:

Your Excellency Prime Minister Marich Man Singh Shrestha, Excellencies and Distinguished Guests, I bring to the Government and people of Nepal greetings and good wishes from the Government and people of India. I shall carry back with me very happy memories of the warm and friendly reception I have received here.

Our neighbour Nepal is so close to us that formal utterances seem out of place. Since time immemorial our people have had great regard and affection for each other because of age-old ties of culture, religion, race, philosophical traditions and geographical proximity. To Indians Nepal is the land of Lord Pashupati Nath to which they come in pilgrimage. With no other country of the world does India share such depth of association and friendship. This historical experience is now a part of our modern day reality, the base on which our dynamic relationship can grow. The legacy of history has been further strengthened by our common endeavour to improve the living conditions of our people through mutual cooperation and trust. Through economic cooperation we have together gained valuable experiences and further cemented the bonds of our friendship.

Our commitment is for peace and cooperation with all peoples of the world. Closer to home our common endeavours culminated in the historical SAARC Summit in Dhaka in December, 1985. In South Asia we have now graduated from having a programme of cooperation to forming an Association for cooperation. SAARC shows us the way to work together with determination and find solutions for common problems in a spirit of friendship, trust and mutual understanding.

HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Though India and Nepal are two independent nations, we have been a part of each other's historical consciousness. In modern times our common cultural consciousness has been broadened to encompass a consciousness of each other's economic realities. India is proud to be associated in the development of a friendly neighbour. During the last year, the Central Sector of the Mahendra Raj Marg has been completed. We have together started work on the Western Sector and with its completion Nepal would have a reliable artery of communication from Mechi in the East to Mahakali in the West. The Out Patient Department of the Bir Hospital was completed in November, 1985 and equipped with highly sophisticated nuclear medical equipment. We have been continually associated with the expansion of medical facilities in Nepal. In the three odd decades since our independence we have continually shared the benefit of our experiences for assisting in the rapid development of Nepal. The future well-being of the peoples of India and Nepal lies in strengthening the bonds of an already multifaceted cooperation with each other and in moving ahead together.

Some time ago, my Government expressed its shock and concern on

reports of acts of terrorism that have occurred in -198>

Nepal. India has always opposed terrorism in all forms, which is to us doubly heinous when it occurs on the soil of a country with which we have enjoyed the closest and most friendly relations. I would like to assure the people of Nepal that India will never permit itself, to be used for any undesirable activities aimed at Nepal.

Under the dynamic leadership of His Majesty, Nepal has recently gone through General Election. We in India have followed these events with interest, and wish Your Excellency, your Cabinet colleagues and the friendly people of Nepal all success in tackling the difficult tasks of allround economic development. The best wishes of the Government and people of India are with you, and we shall never lag behind in lending our helping hand and providing whatever assistance is possible for your efforts.

PAL INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA BANGLADESH

Date: Jul 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

NEPAL

President's Speech at Civic Reception

The following is the text of the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh at the civic reception by the Kathmandu Nagar Panchayat:

Pradhan Pancha Shri Kamal Chitrakar, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, on my first visit to your beautiful country I am overwhelmed by the spontaneity of your welcome; and am honoured by this opportunity to address the people of Kathmandu today. I bring with me the warm wishes of my Government and the Indian people for the citizens of Nepal.

Kathmandu has for centuries been a place of pilgrimages for Indians. The sacred Pashupatinath Temple attracts thousands of people from India who seek solace in worship of the sacred deity. Our shared links of religion are a mere fragment of the depth and closeness of our relationship. There is so much that binds us and keeps us together. While cultural, linguistic and geographical ties have brought our peoples together, we now continue to build

on this strong base the edifice of our continued cooperation. India is committed to cooperation with Nepal for its development. We are proud of our contribution in making Nepal accessible to the world. The Tribhuvan Rajpath and the Tribhuvan Airport were among the earliest projects undertaken in Nepal with Indian assistance. Since then many other projects have been started and completed. Very recently the Bir Hospital Out Patient Block was completed and inaugurated by His Majesty. We remain committed to assisting Nepal in providing her people with better medical facilities. In the last year the Central Sector of the Mahendra Raj Marg was completed linking Butwal to Nepalganj. Work has started on the construction of the Library and Museumcum-Documentation Centre at the Forestry Institute in Hetauda. A major scheme for rural electrification is in progress in Nuwakot district. We are two independent nations, but with cooperation we can jointly devote our energies to eradicate poverty and hunger and improve the living standards of our peoples.

BINDING RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL LINKS

India is committed to friendship with all peoples of the world, especially her neighbours. With Nepal the task is an easy one. We have binding religious and cultural links. There is an abundant feeling of goodwill and friendship between our countries. We must not remain content with the legacy of history, but must add continually to the substance of our relationship.

I once again thank you, Mr. President, and the citizens of Kathmandu for organising this reception.

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PAL INDIA USA

Date: Jul 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Seminar of Parliamentarians on Apartheid - Text of ShriVenkataraman's lnaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 24, 1986 of the speech by the Vice President, Shri R. Venkataraman while inaugurating a two-day national seminar of parliamentarians on Apartheid in South Africa and Namibia in New Delhi on July 24, 1986:

Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha Dr. Balram Jakhar, Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Faleiro, Distinguished Parliamentarians, Members of the Diplomatic Corps, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have gathered here today to discuss one of the greatest moral imperatives of our time: the struggle against Apartheid in South Africa and Namibia. The struggle is being conducted, in the main, by the people in those lands. But such is the justice of their cause that the conscience of the world has been roused in an expression of indignation.

At a time when the civilized world has overcome considerations of race, South Africa has given the sanctions of law to racial bigotry. We all know that education is withheld from black children so that they may grow up as slaves of the white man. Nowhere in the world is slavery encouraged and organised by the State; nowhere is the enjoyment of human rights made dependent on the colour of the skin. This happens in South Africa alone. And this is not all. People conducting peaceful demonstrations are shot down; blacks are whipped on the streets for mourning the death of colleagues in the struggle. The son of South Africa's soil cannot cross the street outside his home without a "passport".

The black South African and Namibian has been reduced to the role of a beast of burden. But even as, from within the bosom of its earth, emerges the purest gold, so has emerged from the depths of South Africa's agony a great and noble dignity, a dignity surpassing the might of arms. We salute that dignity. On December the 10th, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This historic document states: "whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.... Now, therefore the General Assembly proclaims this Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations." Articles 1 and 2 of the Declaration state that "all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights" and are entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration, "without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status".

CRIME AGAINST CONSCIENCE

Articles 3 to 21 of the Declaration set forth the civil and political rights to which all human beings are entitled, including: - the right to life, liberty and security of person; freedom from slavery and servitude - freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment And inspite of this, South Africa has persisted in Apartheid. Both

the General Assembly and the Security Council have declared Apartheid incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly has condemned Apartheid as a crime against humanity, and the Security Council, which has considered the question since 1960, has termed Apartheid a crime against the conscience -200>

and dignity of mankind. Parliamentarians the world over, as bearers of democratic opinion, have similarly been sensitive to the Apartheid question and to South Africa's illegal colonial occupation of Namibia. The organizing of this seminar reflects the passionate concern of India's parliamentarians to the issue of human rights that is involved here. They are aware that in South Africa and in Namibia the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights stands violated, every day and every hour.

INDIA'S PRIVILEGE TO JOIN STRUGGLE

It has been India's privilege to join the struggle against racist oppression and Apartheid in South Africa. The first mass movement against racism in South Africa, as you all know, was led by Mahatma Gandhi during his stay in that country from 1893 to 1914. The South African experience left a profound impression on Gandhiji, imbuing his outlook on our own struggle for freedom with a humanist dimension. The concept of satyagraha was derived from his first experiments in organising opposition to racial tyranny in South Africa. The humiliations and indignities to which the people of Indian origin were subjected in South Africa provided Mahatma Gandhi with the spark that ignited the fire which then became a raging conflagration leading to the freedom of our nation.

INDIVISIBILITY OF FREEDOM

The solidarity of the Government and people of India with the freedom movement in Africa is, therefore, more than an expression of shared perception. Its roots lie in India's struggle for its own freedom, self-expression and moral identity. Under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, independent India began with an internationalist outlook, recognising the indivisibility of freedom. Aware that her own emancipation was only part of the process of liberation that awaited all people under colonial and racist domination, Pandit Nehru declared at a Press conference in September, 1946: "The kernel of our policy is the ending of colonialism all over Asia, or for that matter, in Africa and elsewhere and racial inequality and the end of domination or exploitation of one nation by another."

Even before the establishment of the interim Government, the pressure of public opinion obliged the Government of India to request the United Nations General Assembly to consider the question of the treatment of Indians in the Union of South Africa, making India a proud pioneer in international action

against Apartheid in South Africa. As early as July 1946 India took the lead in initiating unilateral sanctions against South Africa, prohibiting all trade with that country and recalling our High Commissioner from South Africa. We have not hesitated even to take steps directed at the coloured and Asian communities in South Africa when, in our perception they have gone against the interests of the majority. Jawaharlal Nehru declared, as early as in 1950:

"We do not want any Indian vested interest to grow in Africa at the expense of the African people."

The most recent action taken by India in this direction is the ban on entry into India of any member of the coloured and Asian legislatures established under the so called "reforms" and tricameral Constitution established by the Pretoria regime in 1984.

CORNER-STONE OF FOREIGN POLICY

Since our independence, India's commitment to freedom and justice in South Africa has grown consistently and been a cornerstone of her foreign policy. Our opposition to Apartheid has been a major facet of India's profile in such multilateral organisation as the Non-aligned Movement, the United Nations and the Commonwealth. Apart from our initiative in 1946 in the United Nations and then again in 1952 when India and 12 other Asian and Arab States called on the General Assembly to consider the issue of Apartheid in South Africa, India also took a leading part -201>

in securing South Africa's exclusion from the Commonwealth in 1961.

CRUCIAL STAGE

Through long decades of suffering, anguish and agony, South Africa has today arrived at a crucial stage in its tormented history. The past two years have witnessed an unprecedented popular awakening that is threatening the system of Apartheid. Thousands have laid down their lives and many more suffered imprisonment and torture as the struggle against Apartheid has entered a crucial, decisive stage.

In the contest between forces of repression and privilege and those of sacrifice and freedom, there can be only one outcome. Apartheid must and shall have to go. What is incumbent for the international community is to facilitate the inevitable and minimise the frightful human and material costs that would follow futile attempts to resist the tide of history. Unfortunately, self-interest and mistaken notions of strategic advantage are standing in the way of the only practicable course open to the international community to bring about the eradication of

Apartheid in South Africa, viz. the imposition of comprehensive sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime.

IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS

A variety of reasons, mostly selfish, are being advanced against imposition of sanctions against South Africa. It has been argued that sanctions would harm the black population of South Africa and the Front-line States. A true example of shedding crocodile tears. This reasoning ignores the enormous human and moral cost of the daily indignities suffered by the black people and the staggering economic costs to the African Front-line States of South Africa's continuing acts of aggression and sabotage against them. Attempts have been made at giving Apartheid a more "human face". Nobody is taken in by this. Cosmetics can paint the face; not the soul. The African people have rejected these subterfuges as they know that Apartheid cannot be reformed, but must be eradicated.

FIGHT TO THE FINISH

In recent months, repressive actions of Pretoria have acquired a new intensity. The country-wide clampdown following the imposition of emergency and the Draconian measures of detention and censorship have dismayed even Pretoria's friends and allies. The African National Congress has been banned and the brave Nelson Mandela remains in prison. Yet the popular unrest has shown no signs of abating. It is clear that what is hapening in South Africa today is a fight of the people against Apartheid to the finish; the crisis cannot be defused by repression and sham constitutional schemes. Instead of entering into a dialogue with the genuine representatives of the people of South Africa, the Pretoria regime has chosen repression, duplicity and deceit.

The report of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group, a major diplomatic effort to break the cycle of violence and to promote dialogue towards establishment of a non-racial Government in South Africa, constitutes a severe indictment of the Apartheid regime. Its unanimous conclusions should convince those who, for one reason or another, have stood in the way of effective international action against South Africa. In recent years, we have been witness to an ever stronger world-wide public campaign against Apartheid. In many countries, public opinion has asserted itself so as to become a crucial determinant of Government policy. The increasing sensitisation to Apartheid is a welcome development.

NAMIBIA

We cannot at the same time lose sight of the plight of the people of Namibia still bound in chains by racist South African colonial occupation. South Africa's subjugation of Namibia at a time when the decolonisation of African and Asian countries is proceeding apace, is an open challenge to the U.N. and to the progressive -202>

forces of the world. The experience in Namibia is a negation of the tremendous achievements of Africa in the political and economic domain since the middle of this century.

The failure to bring about Namibian independence, eight years after the international community agreed upon the U.N. plan for Namibia constitutes a challenge to the authority and credibility of the United Nations. Anti-colonialism was a basic impulse in shaping the philosophy of the Non-Aligned Movement and has remained at the core of the objectives and principles pursued by Non-Aligned countries. It is only natural, therefore, that the Non-Aligned Movement should have kept the Namibian issue in the fore-front of its agenda and agitated the matter consistently in various international forums.

India's own record in support of Namibia's struggle for liberation testifies to the strength of our feelings for the people of Namibia. We have been associated with the U.N. Council for Namibia, the only internationally recognised legal administering authority for Namibia, since its inception. In April 1985 India played host to an Extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of Non-Aligned countries devoted to the issue of Namibia. We also became the first country to extend full diplomatic status to SWAPO, which has recently opened its first embassy in New Delhi.

LUSAKA ACCORD

Regrettably, after arousing hopes of a new dawn in Namibia, the international consensus on Namibia embodied in the U.N. plan has run into unforeseen and artificial difficulties which are responsible for the present stalemate in Namibia. The Lusaka Accord of February, 1984 between South Africa and Angola had envisaged negotiations to achieve the withdrawal of South African forces from Angola. Not only has the Pretoria regime dragged its feet in these negotiations through linking up its own withdrawal from Angola with the removal of Cuban troops from that country, but it has also subjected Angola to a constant aggression causing enormous damage to life and property. South Africa's real intentions with regard to the implementation of the U.N. plan became plain once again with the installation of a puppet "Interim Administration" in Namibia in June, 1985, a transparent attempt to circumvent the international consensus and perpetuate its neo-colonial dominance of Namibia.

While duplicity and prevarication are familiar features of the policy of the racist Pretoria regime, the support extended to these efforts by some countries who carried the primary obligation to implement the U.N. Plan, has dismayed the international community. Instead of compelling South Africa to

abide by its undertakings under the U.N. Plan, some of these countries have in effect, aided the indefinite postponement of such implementation through promoting unacceptable linkages with extraneous issues.

As Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said in his recent message to the International Conference on immediate Independence for Namibia held in Vienna earlier this month under the auspices of the U.N.: "The United Nations has decreed immediate independence of Namibia. Its unconditional plan of action cannot be held hostage to the global political and economic designs of some powers, and the convenience of a universally condemned regime."

The agony of the South African and Namibian people has continued for far too long. This mutually reinforcing stranglehold of the racist regime in South Africa on the destiny of millions struggling for dignity and emancipation must be broken. The valiant South African people and the freedom fighters of Namibia are in struggle against the same evil system. The international community must rise up to the twin challenges of Apartheid and South Africa's colonial occupation of Namibia and through adoption of effective and com--203>

prehensive measures, bring about its compliance with the overwhelming sentiment of the world. We owe this to the basic moral foundations of our civilisation and to future generations. We must bequeath a tomorrow free from racism and colonialism.

With these words, I inaugurate this Seminar and wish it all success.

DIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA USA ZAMBIA ANGOLA CUBA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRIA

Date: Jul 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Speech by Shri Faleiro

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Shri E. Faleiro, Minister of State for External Affairs, at the inauguration of the Seminar on Struggle against Apartheid in New Delhi on Jul 24, 1986:

Mr. Vice-President of India, Mr. Speaker, distinguished guests and my colleagues in Parliament: As a parliamentarian myself, I am very happy to be associated with this meeting, organised by Members of our Parliament and of our State legislatures, to discuss an issue of concern to entire mankind. Parliamentarians are spokesmen of the people they represent; and they are leaders who make, mould and influence public opinion. That our parliamentarians should have joined together to voice their concern over the continuance of the evil system of Apartheid is a measure of the support of the people of India to the people of South Africa in their struggle against a system of Government entirely based on racial discrimination and domination. The Hon'ble Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha have, by coming to this function underscored the importance of this occasion; their presence shows how much importance India - its people and all their representatives attaches to the issues that will be discussed in this seminar.

We are meeting at a particularly difficult time for the antiapartheid struggle. The racist regime has, once again, through the imposition of Emergency, shown its contempt for world opinion. The Eminent Persons' Group, appointed after the Commonwealth Summit of Nassau, has reported failure. It has also said that the Pretoria regime has no intention to introduce genuine reforms in the system of apartheid, let alone dismantling it. It describes in sharply etched lines the repressive and dehumanising nature of the system. The E.P.G. Report has said that Nelson Mandela and other leaders of the African National Congress are nationalists interested in ensuring the survival of their country as one independent democratic and multiracial entity.

PRETORIA'S REFUSAL TO ENTER INTO DIALOGUE

Pretoria refuses to enter into a dialogue with the leaders of the black majority of South Africa on the ground that they are interested only in a complete transfer of power and not in sharing power. In Pretoria's view sharing power means retention of all essentials of the Apartheid system and total control in the hands of the white minority while trying to transfer peripheral jurisdiction within narrowly defined limits, to representatives of the black majority. One such exercise was the so called "constitutional reforms" establishing Houses of Parliament representing the coloured and the Asian communities. The vast majority of people of both these communities rejected this fradulent attempt at dividing the oppressed majority and isolating the black population.

NATIONAL TRADITION

When parliamentarians give expression to their revulsion against the Apartheid system, they place themselves in a national tradition which began with Gandhiji's experience in South Africa. Gokhale lent support to Mahatma Gandhi. Pandit Nehru saw the struggle against -204>

Apartheid as part of the global struggle against the colonial system in Asia and Africa with which he wanted us to identify ourselves. Similarly, all self-respecting people of Asian origin in South Africa joined hands with their black brethern. The names of stalwarts like Yusuf Dadoo and Monty Naiker come to mind. In a letter from prison, Nelson Mandela sums up the support of the people of India to the anti-Apartheid struggle and I quote:

"It would be a grave omission on our part if we failed to mention the close bonds that have existed between our people and the people of India and to acknowledge the encouragement, the inspiration and the practical assistance we have received as a result of the international outlook of the All India Congress."

STEADFAST COMMITMENT

The Government of India has a proud record of support for this just struggle. We were the first country in the world to sever all trade, diplomatic and consular relations with South Africa, as early as in 1946. Since then, the Government of India has and shall continue to remain steadfast in its commitment to the anti-Apartheid struggle until the odious system is dismantled and majority rule prevails in South Africa.

The majority community in South Africa is not going to wait indefinitely while the South African Government increases its repressive activities against them. There have been outbursts of violence: there have been protests. These can no longer be dismissed as sporadic events. The question before the international community is whether it should watch the situation deteriorate, till the final holocaust comes or whether instead it should seize the initiative and intervene while there is still time.

TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE

If the international community wishes to preserve peace and to ensure that the inevitable transition to majority rule in South Africa is peaceful, it should find ways of forcing the racist regime to discard Apartheid, free political prisoners, put an end to all repressive measures and enter into a meaningful discussion with the leaders of the majority community towards the establishment of a democratic, non-racial society. The international community has the means to do so through the mechanism of the United Nations. Most of the Member-States support the application of universal, comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa. Yet concerted economic measures against South Africa cannot be taken because some countries, few

in number but economically powerful, do not agree. In the interest of peace and stability in Southern Africa, it is however, urgent and imperative that such action be taken. The Report of the Eminent Persons' Group which incidentally had among its members a member of the British Conservative Party, Lord Barber, concluded its report with these ringing words and I quote:

The question in front of Heads of Government is in our view clear. It is not whether such measures (effective economic measures) will compel change; it is already the case that their absence and Pretoria's belief that they need not be feared, defers change. Is the Commonwealth to stand by and allow the cycle of violence to spiral? Or will it take concerted action of an effective kind? Such action may offer the last opportunity to avert what could be the worst bloodbath since the Second World War.

Large sections of opinion even in those few countries whose Governments oppose economic sanctions against South Africa, support such action. Within South Africa itself, there is a growing, though still a small number of whites who do not approve Botha regime's policies. If opinion makers, such as parliamentarians and other leaders all over the world join together in their campaign against Apartheid, they will have a better chance -205>

of persuading reluctant Governments. Mr. Speaker has mentioned the very distressing attitude.

The United States Congress recently adopted a resolution on economic sanctions against the racist regime. Similarly the British Labour Party has demanded that the Government in that country join the other Commonwealth Governments and agree to effective economic measures against the Pretoria regime.

This initiative of Parliamentarians action for removal of Apartheid is timely and most welcome. I have no doubt that the entire people of India fervently applaud you in your noble endeavours.

Thank you.

DIA USA SOUTH AFRICA BAHAMAS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Jul 24, 1986

Volume No

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Apartheid must go and Apartheid will go: Prime Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 25, 1986 of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to a group of parliamentarians who had called at his residence on July 25 to present the Declaration, adopted at the National Seminar on Apartheid:

Let me first congratulate you on the setting up of PARA -Parliamentarians Action for Removal of Apartheid. Perhaps, this is the first such step anywhere in the world. It is the first time that parliamentarians have united in raising their voice against a horror that is being perpetuated in the last corner of the world. There is no doubt in anybody's mind that Apartheid must go and that Apartheid will go. The only question that is being debated is how soon will it go and in what way will it go. Will it end amicably in a settlement which avoids bloodshed, or will it end with tremendous bloodshed, with tremendous trauma in that nations? We are very clear that Apartheid must end soon and Apartheid must end peacefully. Any bloodshed, whether it is black blood or white blood, is to be avoided and must be avoided. But the route that the Pretoria regime is taking, to us it seems as if they do not see a peaceful negotiated solution as a solution, that they are really going to hang on till the bitter end, and the longer they hang on, the more bitter that end is going to become.

India has shown its bona fides not today, but in 1946. Forty years ago on the 17th of July we brought in sanctions against South Africa. At that time our trade with South Africa was substantial, but we put principles ahead of monetary or fiscal gains or trade advantages, and we were to make sacrifices to stand for our principles. Today, South Africa stands belligerent as it does today because it has the support of certain nations. It has political backing, it has economic backing. Unless this support is broken or threatened, South Africa - the Pretoria regime - will not come round to positive discussions to end the Apartheid, and we must bring about this pressure on the Pretoria regime. The nations that are supporting the Pretoria regime, the Governments of those nations must be brought to understand the significance and the dangers of their lines of action. The best forum for this is through parliamentarians - parliamentarians across the world and more specifically parliamentarians in those specific countries. We hope that your association will be able to bring about this good mood amongst the parliamentarians. We have to see that positive steps to end Apartheid are taken, and pending that, we must see that positive pressure is brought upon

the Pretoria regime to take those steps.

MAJORITY MOOD IN COMMONWEALTH

When we met at the Bahamas, a doubt was expressed by two countries about the actions that we were taking. In spite of that, the majority mood in the Commonwealth was that certain specific steps must be laid down. We put those -206>

steps down in the paper that we all unanimously agreed to in the Bahamas. Para six was steps that were to be taken from that date onwards. Para seven was steps which were to be taken if the Eminent Persons Group gave a negative report to the steps that Pretoria regime was taking. Then para eight was beyond that. We have seen that some of the countries, although everyone has taken the steps mentioned in para six, one or two of the major countries were very slow in actually doing that, and, what could have been done in a matter of one or two months, took six or seven months and a lot of time was given for adjustments and things to happen in that time. So, this attitude established the bona fides behind the thinking in those countries.

Now, in a few days we have a meeting in London of the seven nations that put forward members for the Eminent Persons' Group. We are very clear in our mind. There can be no going back from what was resolved in the Bahamas. That must be the very bottom line.

While we were discussing the South African situation in the Bahamas, the situation in South Africa was in no way near as turbulent as it is today. The chances of a major explosion, tremendous bloodshed that we see today, were much further away when we were in the Bahamas. So, what we envisaged in the Bahamas as the minimum steps to be taken must remain the minimum steps; in fact, we should try and go beyond that because the situation has moved well beyond what it was when we were talking about this in the Bahamas.

We will need all the support to bring about this change, all the support from parliamentarians all over the world, and I am looking forward to your building up this movement, to making it one of the front-line fighters against Apartheid, for human rights, for human dignity, and to remove one of the last vestiges of distortion that remains in our world today. Our civilisation has progressed and history has shown that tyranny cannot prevail. We must see that the tyranny that is taking place in South Africa today ends as soon as possible, amicably with a peaceful settlement, without bloodshed."

A INDIA SOUTH AFRICA BAHAMAS UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Jul 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Suo Moto Statement on Commonwealth Games

The following is the text of the Suo Moto statement by Shri Eduardo Faleiro, Minister of State for External Affairs, in Lok Sabha\Rajya Sabha on Jul 21, 1986, regarding the Commonwealth Games:

The Hon'ble Members have no doubt been following recent developments regarding the Commonwealth Games scheduled to start in Edinburgh from July 24, 1986.

The Government kept in close touch with the Governments of the Front-line States. I may say that the Prime Minister was himself personally in contact with leaders of some of the Front-line States in an effort to work out some formula whereby the Games could be salvaged.

The Government's endeavour was to explore every possible avenue so that our athletes, could have the opportunity to compete in the Games. Unfortunately, Sir, some of the recent statements of the British Government have left no doubt in our mind that they are not immediately prepared to implement even the minimum measures which all the Commonwealth countries had agreed to at Nassau, in case there was no progress in the direction towards the dismantling of Apartheid in South Africa.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE OPPRESSED

Under the circumstances, the Government decided, with great regret, not to -207>

participate in the Games. Our decision is an expression of our solidarity with the oppressed people of South Africa and with the Front-line States. However, Sir, it is still our hope that concerted action by the Commonwealth to implement necessary economic measures to end Apartheid in South Africa will follow soon.

HAMAS SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Jul 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Racism and Apartheid in South Africa - External Affairs Minister's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 28, 1986 of the following statement made in both the Houses of Parliament on July 28, by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv Shanker:

India has consistently opposed the policy of racialism and Apartheid practised by the Government of South Africa. Over 80 years ago Mahatma Gandhi raised his voice against the immorality, inhumanity and injustice of Apartheid. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru spearheaded the international struggle for racial equality and majority rule in South Africa. This tradition has remained the sheet anchor of India's policy against Apartheid.

From the very moment the people of India gained control over their destiny, the opposition to Apartheid began to be manifested in specific decisions of the Government of India. The Interim Government of India in July 1946 banned all trade with South Africa even though it meant a loss of 5% of India's export trade at that time. We withdrew our High Commissioner in the same year and finally closed down our trade office in South Africa. This was followed by other decisions such as banning of overflights of its territory by South African registered aircraft, severance of shipping links, cutting of economic, cultural and consular links. In 1977 India acceded to the Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid and in 1981 enacted the Anti-Apartheid Act.

Our national actions against Apartheid have been matched by our efforts to mobilise the international community against Pretoria's policies. India was the first country to take the issue of racial discrimination in South Africa to the United Nations as early as 1946. We sponsored, along with other countries, the first Resolution in the UN General Assembly in 1962 calling for sanctions against South Africa. Similarly, India has consistently campaigned in other fora, notably the Non-Aligned Movement and the Commonwealth. The Non-Aligned Movement today stands solidly behind the call for universal, comprehensive mandatory sanctions. Within the Commonwealth, largely due to efforts of India and other like-minded countries, some progress has been made towards the acceptance of the principle of

sanctions, even though the movement is slower than we would have wished.

PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST PRETORIA

At their meeting in the Bahamas in October 1985, the Commonwealth Heads of Government adopted the Nassau Accord which calls upon the Pretoria Government to declare that it would dismantle the system of Apartheid, terminate the existing state of emergency, release immediately and unconditionally Nelson Mandela and others, establish political freedom and to initiate a process of dialogue across lines of colour, politics and religion. Besides, the Accord prescribed a certain number of economic and other measures against South Africa to be adopted and applied by all the members of the Commonwealth. In pursuance of the Accord, the President of Zambia and the Prime Ministers of Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, India, U.K. and Zimbabwe appointed a sevenmember group known as 'Eminent Persons Group'. It included distinguished individuals from India, Australia, U.K., Canada, Nigeria, Tanzania and Barbados. Its specific task was to contact -208>

all the parties in South Africa and initiate a process of dialogue which might eventually lead to the dismantlement of Apartheid. This group visited South Africa and a number of Frontline States and submitted its report in June this year. The report was unanimous. It admitted failure to initiate the process of dialogue and concluded that the Government of South Africa was not genuinely interested in dismantling the system of Apartheid. The report clearly brings out the intransigence of the Pretoria regime and its rejections of the reasonable suggestions made by the EPG to initiate the process of negotiations.

After the publication of the 'Eminent Persons' Group report, public opinion all over the world has become convinced that stronger measures against Pretoria are the only peaceful alternative to violence in South Africa. In May, the EEC Summit discussed this question and decided, inspite of the desire of several members to apply sanctions, to send its Council President, Sir Geoffrey Howe, to South Africa and some neighbouring countries. This step has led to serious disapointment and apprehensions among the leaders of the Frontline States and the liberation movements in South Africa. President Reagan in his latest statement, as the British Prime Minister earlier, has taken a clear position against sanctions characterising them as ineffective.

At the mini-summit of the Commonwealth in London from August 3-5, 1986, which is being held in pursuance of the Nassau Accord, the Eminent Persons' Group report will be discussed. The Nassau Accord stipulates that in the event of lack of progress towards any of the objectives mentioned in para 7 of the Accord, the

leaders will meet to discuss the next stage of action. It is, therefore, inevitable that the question of application of further measures and sanctions against South Africa will come up.

India's opposition to Apartheid, her belief in the imperative of mandatory comprehensive sanctions against South Africa in order to pressurise it to dismantle the system and her support for the struggle of the people of South Africa is constant, steadfast and unwavering. "Apartheid", as our Prime Minister has said, "cannot be reformed. It must be eliminated." The peaceful means to do it is to apply comprehensive universal mandatory sanctions against the South African Government. The alternative is violence, bloodbath and destruction in the region. These are articles of faith with us and we shall continue to articulate these beliefs on every occasion. We hope that we shall succeed in persuading all over the nations of the world that sanctions against the racial regime of South Africa is imperative and urgent."

UTH AFRICA INDIA USA BAHAMAS AUSTRALIA ZAMBIA CANADA UNITED KINGDOM ZIMBABWE NIGER NIGERIA TANZANIA

Date: Jul 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Trade with Africa - Official Team Identifies New Possibilities

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 02, 1986 on an official team's identification of new possibilities of trade with Africa:

New possibilities of trade and economic cooperation with the Front-line African States have been identified by an official delegation which recently visited Angola and Zimbabwe. This was a follow up to the recent visit of the Prime Minister to Front-line Africa when talks on cooperation were initiated.

Referring to Shri Gandhi's visit, the Angolan Industries Minister expressed the hope that the recent initiatives would lead to the development of specific commercial and industrial ties between India and Angola and help in enlarging South-South cooperation.

Following the discussions held by the official delegation, it has been agreed that India will supply to Angola a number of consumer items including textiles, agricultural implements, kitchenware, and medical and survey equipment. This is on the basis of specific requirements indicated by the Angolan officials during the discussions. In this connection, it was also agreed that India would be in the approved list of suppliers in accordance with the Angolan Economic Plan.

The Indian delegation, which was led by Shri D. P. Bagchi, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and included representatives of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) and the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), assured the Angolan officials of full cooperation in the field of mining and industrial development including the possibility of assistance in developing iron ore mines in Angola.

The possibility of promoting trade with Angola in diamonds and other precious metals was discussed.

It was indicated that Indian expertise would be welcome also in drawing up a suitable strategy for developing the transport sector in Angola.

ZIMBABWE

In Zimbabwe, the talks covered cooperation in the mining and marketing of emeralds, including a proposal for joint marketing of emerald by India and Zimbabwe after refining in India. The possibility of long-term contracts for the marketing of emeralds also figured in the discussions.

The other areas of cooperation discussed by the delegation related to development of small scale industries, manufacture of paper, utilisation of bagasse and the possibility of cooperation in the setting up of a steel re-rolling mill, kyanite calination plant and a drugs and pharmaceuticals unit in Zimbabwe. India will assist Zimbabwe in the setting up of a State Trading Corporation in Zimbabwe and a two-member team from Zimbabwe has recently visited India to study the State trading system here.

The setting up of a Joint Commission to promote trade with Zimbabwe is also under consideration.

Although India's overall exports to Africa were of the order of Rs. 363.16 crores in 1984-85 and Rs. 371.06 crores in 1983-84, her trade with Front-line Africa, especially Angola, Zimbabwe and Botswana, has so far been negligible.

DIA ANGOLA ZIMBABWE USA RUSSIA BOTSWANA

Date: Jul 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Indo-UAE Cable Project

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 28, 1986 of the statement made in the Rajya Sabha on the Indo-UAE cable project:

A project for the establishment of a wide-band submarine telephone cable link between Bombay (India) and Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates has been approved. The cable will have an approximate length of 1969 KM and is planned to have a capacity of about 1380 voices grade channels for telephony, telex, voice band data, fascimile services etc.

This was stated by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, Minister for Communications, in -210>

reply to a question in Rajya Sabha today.

The Minister added that the cable link will be owned in equal proportions by the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited of India and the Emirates Telecommunications Corporation Limited of UAE. The link is expected to be ready for service by end-August, 1987.

ITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA

Date: Jul 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

UNDP-Aided Agricultural Education and Research Project Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 29, 1986 on the signing of an UNDP-aided agricultural

education and research project:

The agreement for the project (Advanced centres on post-graduate agricultural education and research' was signed here today by Mr. Gamil M. Hamdy, Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Mr. M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, Mr. E. Bojadzievski, FAO Representative in India also signed this agreement on behalf of the Executing Agency. Against the Government of India's input of Rs. 48 million, UNDP's contribution to the project would be US \$12 million (Rs. 150 million approximately). This is the single largest project ever assisted by the UNDP the world over.

This 'umbrella' type project is to be coordinated and implemented at the apex level by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Eleven Agricultural Universities/Institutions will participate in the project. The field of project activities would be agricultural education and research management, plant biotechnology, animals biotechnology, immuno-biotechnology, irrigation management, land resource management, soil fertility, agricultural mateorology, agro-forestry, seed technology and inland fisheries. The UNDP assistance will help in the transfer of technology by establishing linkages with international agricultural institutions and by disseminating research findings to and through national institutions as part of India's sustained national agricultural and food production development programme.

While the Government of India's inputs will cover the local support staff, local training, indigenous equipment, land/buildings and the maintenance component etc., the UNDP assistance will be utilized for obtaining international consultancy (249 man months), training of Indian personnel abroad (918 man months) and import of sophisticated equipment to the tune of US\$ 6.0 million. -211>

DIA UNITED KINGDOM USA LATVIA

Date: Jul 29, 1986

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Banquet in Honour of Yugoslav Premier - Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 28, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet in honour of Mr. Branko Mikulic, President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia:

Your Excellency the President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, Madam Mikulic, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, India warmly welcomes you and Madame Mikulic. We hope that you and your delegation will have a pleasant stay here and see something of our endeavours and of our heritage.

Yugoslavia has always been close to our hearts. We have admired the saga of your people's heroic sacrifices for national liberation and your fight against Nazism. The story of Yugoslavia and India is full of vicissitudes through the centuries. But we are young as free and independent nations. We both are multiethnic, multilinguistic and multi-religious societies, proud of our diversities and vigilant about our unity. Our friendship is characterised by deep sincerity and mutual trust. It transcends the fact that we belong to two different continents and follow different socio-political systems. We work together for peace and equality among nations.

SUPREME FIGHTERS

Three great personalities built and sustained the close relations between us - Josip Broz Tito, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. They were supreme fighters who faced and overcame stupendous challenges. They fought for the independence and integrity of their nations. What distinguished them, however, was their capacity to see beyond the battle. All three shared a vision of a peaceful humanity, in which nations lived in trust and strove together to wipe out want, fear, injustice and disparity. They pointed out that true liberty can be achieved only in peace, and peace in our time could be best realised through Nonalignment.

IMPERATIVES OF HISTORY

Josip Tito, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi understood the imperatives of history and stressed the need to befriend change. "Any movement in history which attempts to perpetuate itself becomes reactionary," said Josip Tito. "You don't change history by turning the faces of portraits to the wall," declared Jawaharlal Nehru. "The process of history is relentless. We cannot flout it. Else we shall be bypassed and left behind," warned Indira Gandhi. It is this deep insight that made them champions of co-existence and cooperation among peoples. I am sure that Yugoslavia and India will be always inspired by the precept and example of these three makers of history.

FIRST MEETING OF NAM IN BELGRADE

Twenty-five years have passed since Tito and Nehru, with Nasser,

Soekarno, Nkrumah and other leaders of emerging humanity, gathered together in Belgrade at the first meeting of the Non-aligned Movement. They set out the reasons why they wanted to keep themselves out of the conflict between the power blocs. Nonalignment is not a ritual incantation. It symbolises the sovereignty which nations achieved after fighting against imperialism and domination. It connotes the democratisation of international relations. While opposing military blocs, the Nonaligned Movement refuses to act as a bloc. While seeking unity of purpose and consensus on aims and programmes, it does not impose any solutions on constituent -212>

members. The Non-aligned Movement underlines the community of interest among the big and the small, between the developed and the developing. Its watchword is cooperation. Little wonder that it has become history's largest peace movement.

If we looked back at the agenda of the Belgrade Summit of 1961 the problems of the world do not appear to have changed much! The two blocs are still ranged against each other. Many nations continue to be driven by a desire to dominate and to exploit. But the balance of terror has risen to a much higher level. And the peril to the world has become more dire. The nuclear armaments that have been developed endanger all life on land, the seas and the air. The threat is now being extended to outer space. The line between survival and annihilation is very thin. All this makes Non-alignment more relevant than ever.

At the 1961 Belgrade Summit, the Non-aligned gave a call for the suspension of nuclear testing, pending the conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. That vital step is yet to be taken. The halt of nuclear testing is a key element of the Five-Continent - Six-Nation Peace Initiative. We hope that the nuclear weapon powers will even now heed our voice. They and we have a collective interest in the preservation of the human race.

GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS

While survival is threatened by nuclear war, human well-being is threatened by the global economic crisis. The worst hit are the developing countries, whether in Asia, Africa, Latin America or Europe. What they lose through the fall in raw material prices and in debt servicing is many times larger than what they get from the rich countries by way of credits, aid and investments. It should be the common endeavour of all to pull the world out of this morass. Can the North prosper while the South dwindles or decays? The issue is not one of philanthropy. The very basis of the human family is involved.

While hoping that the North will see reason, we in the Nonaligned Movement must learn to help each other better and to pool our knowledge, experience and resources. Collective self-reliance will make us less vulnerable to outside pressures. South-South cooperation and interchanges among the Non-aligned must receive priority in our endeavours.

Our two countries have worked hand in hand to strengthen the Nonaligned Movement and make it more effective in dealing with vital international issues. The chairmanship of the Movement will soon pass from India to Zimbabwe, which is located in the very heart of a major arena of our work for freedom, equality and progress. The struggle for these objectives is sharpest in Southern Africa, where colonialism and racism are obstructing the March of history. The people of South Africa, who are carrying on their heroic battle against Apartheid, and the people of Namibia, who are fighting for independence, seven years after the Security Council unanimously spelt out the steps for it, are fighting the battle of all of us. Those who abet the Pretoria regime, those who oppose sanctions, stand condemned by their own people for apathy towards freedom and human dignity. India will not rest until Apartheid is ended. Nor, I am sure, will Yugoslavia and the entire Non-aligned Movement.

Excellency, our discussions have confirmed our common approach to most international issues. We must continue our endeavours to strengthen even further our bilateral cooperation in every field - political, cultural, cultural, economic and technological.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, I request you to raise your glasses to the health of His Excellency Mr. Branko Mikulic, President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, of Madame Mikulic and of the other members of the Yugoslav delegation, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Yugoslavia, and to everlasting friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

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GOSLAVIA INDIA USA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date: Jul 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

speech by Mikulic

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 28, 1986 of the speech by Mr. Banko Mikulic at the

banquet hosted by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:

Mr. Prime Minister, Esteemed Mrs. Gandhi, Dear Friends, may I thank you, on behalf of my associates, my wife and in my own name for the warm words of welcome and friendship you have addressed to us.

This is my first visit to your country. However, I do not feel I have gone away from home, as I have taken a well-known, steady path. That is the path of friendship, respect and understanding, a path envisaged together, by the two great men of our nations - Jawaharlal Nehru and Josip Broz Tito.

For already three decades now - along these same lines - we have been in close communication and carrying out a broad, mutually beneficial cooperation, to which Prime Minister Indira Gandhi rendered a great personal contribution.

Throughout this period we have been profoundly aware how close our nations are. The long heroic struggle of the Indian people, led by Mahatma Gandhi and a generation against colonial exploitation, for freedom and independence, is similar to the challenges that the Yugoslav peoples had to deal with, under different circumstances. Under Tito's leadership, we resolutely fought against foreign conquerors, and through the National liberation struggle and socialist evolution we strived to achieve our national and social aspirations. A vision of a new, more just world naturally stemmed from such a concept. Quarter of a century ago the policy of Non-alignment and the Movement of Non-aligned countries grew out from this vision. Everything that bound us together - from the very outset - on this long path that we traversed together remains as an objective we share, as a commitment to continue in the same spirit.

TRADITION AND PROSPECTS

Therefore, our cooperation has its tradition and its prospects. It is precisely with those prospects in mind that I came on this mission. When I say that I have not come as a stranger, I am expressing the feeling that in your beautiful country, I am experiencing something that I have long been familiar with, as when one first enters the house of a close friend. My first meetings and the talks we had today corroborate that feeling.

I am happy to be visiting this great country - the ancient soil of India which gave a lasting contribution to world civilization and where there are now - in full harmony with the past - ever more achievements of modern times, which show an all-round dynamic development.

TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE

India's accomplishments in the fields of modern technology and

science, her industrial potentials and vast human resources, as well as everything that we have achieved in Yugoslavia to date, indeed provide a new and even broader basis for the promotion of economic cooperation. There is a realistic foundation for introducing new substance and higher forms of cooperation in mutual interest, tailored to meet our actual possibilities and needs. We have achieved quite a bit, but with concerted efforts we can do much more.

Such a commitment includes far wider dimensions of our relations, as well as our common awareness of a world of growing interdependence. We live in an age when a feeling of one's own security cannot be separated from the destiny of all, or individual well-being from global prosperity.

PRECONDITION FOR SURVIVAL

Such a perception, in world proportions, becomes a precondition for survival, a way out of a vicious circle of unfathomable dangers. This is also a world of new forms of domination and exploitation, of attack on independence, of bloc rivalry and confrontations, of an arms race, a world ever more sharply divided into developed and developing parts.

It is understandable that an enormous part of mankind - the Non-aligned developing countries, and even countries which are under bloc umbrellas - is vitally interested in finding a way out of this vicious circle. By his innermost nature man has been made to create rather than destroy. Therefore, we call for controlling the self-destructive arms race, for initiating the process of disarmament, and for an accommodation of views between the blocs, and for renewing the dialogue between the Great Powers - in paramount global interest, and not at the expense or to the detriment of third parties.

It is in that context that we appreciate the appeal of the six, which was co-signed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. After all, by its substance and goals, it naturally builds upon the action which the Non-aligned have carried out since the first conference in Belgrade, when the same kind of appeal was addressed to the Great Powers.

POLITICAL PRESSURE

Mr. Prime Minister, Dear Friends, the differences between the world of the rich and the world of the poor are assuming dramatic proportions. The prices of raw materials and primary products, which are exported by developing countries, have fallen to their lowest post-war level; debts have become an unbearable burden for many; the protectionism of developed countries is increasingly limiting the already constricted possibilities for their development.

Developed nations turn a deaf ear to almost all the constructive proposals of the developing countries. Dialogue is being replaced by the imposition of one-sided solutions, upon which a very narrow circle of industrialized and most developed countries decides. Economic relations are ever more frequently being used as instruments of political pressure.

These are challenges of vital importance for the developing world. Facing them and responding to them - for one's own good and for the well-being of the world at large - means strengthening mutual solidarity, unity and action within the Group of 77, in the United Nations and other international fora.

Despite the indubitable results achieved in an historically relatively short period, Yugoslavia shares the fate of developing countries. We are also facing serious economic difficulties now. We are trying to find a way out of them. In that context we are strategically committed to wider and more versatile cooperation with Non-aligned and developing countries, to more efficient economic South-South relations. By strengthening the reliance on their own resources-which are not negligible - developing countries can, through their mutual cooperation, more easily resolve their own economic problems, eliminate external pressures and enhance their international position. We expect that this orientation shall be given due attention by the forthcoming VIII Summit Conference in Harare and that it will give new impetus to mutual cooperation among developing countries.

Mr. Prime Minister, there is no doubt that under India's chairmanship - and with the personal contribution you gave - the Movement grew stronger and became even more aware of its own power and its possibilities under the circumstances imposed by the present international situation.

The development of world relations since our last Summit in New Delhi gives little encouragement. That is what we -215>

feel in Europe, divided along bloc lines, and you, in the Indian sub-continent, as well as every other region in the world, in its own way.

The majority of non-aligned and other countries of the world today have focussed their attention on the troublespots which, regrettably, still persist, with unforeseeable consequences.

The VIII Summit Conference will be held in Zimbabwe, one of the Front-Line states which are exposed to constant aggression and destabilization on the part of the South African racist regime. That is to say, that the Conference will be held in the immediate vicinity of South Africa, in which, day after day, the resistance of the majority population grows against the system of Apartheid,

racial hatred and exploitation.

Yugoslavia has always advocated the peaceful settlement of all world flash points of crisis, as well as the strict observance of the principles of equal rights, sovereignty and independence, territorial integrity and non-interference. Regardless of whether it is the case of the crisis in the Middle East, in the Mediterranean, in Southern Africa, in South or South-East Asia or Central America, that is our principled stance, based upon the Charter of the United Nations and in the spirit of the declarations we adopted at all meetings of the Non-Aligned. It is the duty of Non-Aligned countries to be most consistent in these matters - both in respect of mutual conflicts and in cases of the use of arms and threats anywhere in the world.

By the very logic of its inception and position Yugoslavia could have opted for nothing but Non-Alignment. We are in Europe, a part of the Balkans and on the shores of the Mediterranean. In such turbulent suroundings, by proceeding from the positions of Non-Alignment, Yugoslavia does not only express its own interest and convictions, but she is also a most necessary factor of stability in this part of the world. The maintenance of dialogue on the European continent - even in most difficult conditions - proves the vitality of the principles promoted by the neural and Non-Aligned countries of Europe, while affirming the policy of Non-Alignment in the old continent.

The policy of Non-Alignment has proven time and again that it is not a mere passive commitment to well-known principles, but that it implies an effective action inspired by them. In September, at the VIII Summit in Harare, we shall once again reach agreement on the course of our action which will call for full mobility, as essential matters of the present-day world, security and stability are at stake. I am confident that Yugoslavia and India shall give a major contribution to the fulfilment of these objectives through their cooperation, both at the Summit and thereafter.

Mr. Prime Minister, Esteemed Mrs. Gandhi, Dear Friends, may I thank you once again for your hospitality and propose a toast to the good health of esteemed President Zail Singh, to your good health, to the health of your lady wife and all our Indian friends present here tonight, to the happiness and prosperity of the people of India, and to new heights in Yugoslav-Indian friendship and cooperation.

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Jul 28, 1986

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

India and Yugoslavia Initial an Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Jul 22, 1986 on the initialling of an air services agreement between India and Yugoslavia:

India and Yugoslavia have initialled a bilateral air services agreement.

This follows discussions held recently in Belgrade (Yugoslavia) between the two countries. The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation. The Yugoslavia delegation was led by Mr. Vla--216>

dimir Lekio, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Civil Aviation).

The bilateral air services agreement which was initialled by the leaders of the two delegations, is subject to ratification by the two Governments.

The leaders of the two delegations also signed a Memorandum of Understanding which would allow air services between the two countries to commence pending ratification of the agreement. Under the Memorandum of Understanding, JAT, the Yugoslav Airline, would be entitled to operate two services per week to through India. The first of these would be to Calcutta and the second to Bombay. These services would be run with aircraft of capacity not exceeding 600 seats per week. Reciprocally, Air India would also be entitled to operate the same number of services to through Belgrade and Dubrovnik or Ljibljana. For the present, JAT would operate services unilaterally to India. A commercial arrangement has been agreed to by the two airlines covering the period of unilateral operations by JAT.

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GOSLAVIA INDIA USA

Date: Jul 22, 1986

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Date: Aug 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Fourth Meeting of Joint Committee of Experts

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 05, 1986 on the Indo-Bangla Joint Committee of Experts

Meeting:

In pursuance of the Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding of 22nd November, 1985, the fourth meeting of the Joint Committee of Experts, consisting of Shri Ramaswamy R. Iyer, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Mr. Mohammed Ali, Secretary, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was held at New Delhi on 4th and 5th August, 1986. The Committee was assisted by advisers from India and Bangladesh.

The Committee had detailed discussions in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding on the data exchanged regarding water availability and water requirements. It was agreed to update the water requirements data and apprise the same at the next meeting.

Regarding the possibility of augmenting the flows of the Ganga-Ganges at Farakka, the Committee noted that a joint approach had been made to HMG Nepal seeking their cooperation in making available the necessary information and data and extending other facilities. While the response was awaited from Nepal, it was agreed to undertake the exploration and examination of other possible options for the augmentation of Ganga/Ganges flows at Farakka.

It was agreed that Ministerial review meeting will take place at Dhaka on 27th and 28th August, 1986 and this will be preceded by JCE and Technical Experts meeting.

NGLADESH INDIA LATVIA USA NEPAL

Date: Aug 05, 1986

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Chinese Intrusion into Indian Territory - External Affairs Minister's Statement in Lok Sabha

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, in the Lok Sabha on August 1, in response to a calling attention notice from Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik and three others regarding the situation arising out of the Chinese intrusion into Indian territory and construction of helipad in the Sumdorong Chu Valley area of

Tawang District in Arunachal Pradesh:

Hon'ble Members will recall that I had made a Suo Moto statement in this House on 18th July, 1986, on the Chinese intrusion in the Sumdorong Chu valley area of Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh.

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I had also informed the Hon'ble Members that the 7th round of official level talks were due to begin from 21st July, 1986. During his visit to China, the Foreign Secretary who led the delegation was instructed to take up the question of the Chinese intrusion in the Sumdorong Chu valley area both with the Acting Premier Wan Li as also the Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian.

During the meetings, both with the Acting Premier Wan Li and the Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, the Foreign Secretary expressed our grave concern over the Chinese intrusion. They were informed that since both sides had agreed to maintain peace and tranquility on the border, such intrusions added tensions and vitiated the atmosphere for finding a satisfactory and just solution to the boundary question. The issue of the Chinese intrusion in the Sumdorong Chu valley area was further discussed intensively in the Boundary Subgroup.

The Chinese, while expressing their desire for an early settlement of the boundary question did not respond to our concerns in a satisfactory manner.

As regards the matter of existence of a helipad said to have been built by the Chinese in the area, our information is that no such helipad exists as on today. However, Government are keeping a close watch on developments.

We shall continue to strive for a peaceful settlement of the boundary question. We shall also persevere to resolve through peaceful negotiations the question of Chinese intrusions. We hope that peace and tranquility will prevail on the border and that pending a final solution, the status quo will be maintained.

INA INDIA USA MALI **Date**: Aug 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri K. R. Narayanan, in the Lok Sabha on August 8, on the Chinese intrusion in Sumdorong Chu Valley:

The House will recall that in response to a Calling Attention Motion in the Lok Sabha on August 1, 1986, on Chinese intrusion in the Sumdorong Chu Valley area of Arunachal Pradesh, the External Affairs Minister stated that "as regards the matter of existence of a helipad said to have been built by the Chinese in the area, our information is that no such helipad exists as on today. However, Government are keeping a close watch on developments."

It came to the notice of Government on August 4, 1986 that the intruding Chinese personnel had improvised a helipad in Wandung in the Sumdorong Chu Valley and that a Chinese helicopter had actually landed there. The Hon'ble Members would be aware that there is relatively easy accessibility of the area to the Chinese from the Tibetan side of the international boundary. Besides the nature of the terrain being such that it is also not difficult to clear the ground to serve as a make-shift helipad. It has also been noticed that the Chinese are setting up tents and building huts in the area.

These developments are a cause for deep concern to the Government of India. As the House is aware, we had taken up diplomatically the issue of this intrusion with the Chinese authorities both in New Delhi and in Beijing and intensively during the seventh round of official talks held recently in Beijing.

We have continually stressed that both the sides should maintain peace and -220>

tranquility on the border and that any problem that may arise should be resolved through consultations. The Government of the Peoples' Republic of China has also accepted this approach. It is the intention of the Government of India to seek a solution to this latest intrusion through consultations and negotiations in pursuance of our policy of finding a peaceful and negotiated settlement to the border question with China and to improving relations between the two countries.

INA USA INDIA

Date: Aug 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

EGYPT

High Level ECDC Meeting

The following is the address by the representative of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, at the inaugural ceremony of high level ECDC meeting, Cairo, on Aug 18, 1986:

Mr. Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, it is a privilege for me to address the second High Level Meeting on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries and bring the good wishes for its success from the Chairman of the Non Aligned Movement, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. The NAM has always attached the greatest importance to Economic Cooperation among developing countries and the development of collective self-reliance. This High Level Meeting in Cairo comes at a particularly apposite moment to review the progress of ECDC five years after Caracas and on the eve of the 8th NAM Summit.

Egypt and this historic city of Cairo have played an important role in the evolution of human civilization in the past and, in modern times, in the growth of Asian-African nationalism, the non-aligned movement and the developmental process in the third world. It was in this city in 1961 that the Preparatory Meeting was held for the first NAM Summit at Belgrade. Cairo was also the venue of a special conference in July 1962 of 36 developing nations which adopted a pioneering Declaration on cooperation among developing countries. The Second Non-Aligned Summit held in this city declared its support for the developmental initiatives taken by the Group of 77 and spelt out the need for close cooperation between G-77 and the Non-Aligned Movement. It is, therefore, appropriate that Egypt should be hosting this High Level Meeting, extending to us all the warmth and friendliness of its people and Government.

South-South Cooperation has become almost a historical necessity. It is a logical response to the challenge of development in a grossly unequal world economic order. It is a method of pooling our own abundant but unutilized resources and developing and sharing them. It is an adventure in collective self-reliance by which we lift ourselves on the scale of development by our own bootstraps. It is a strategy for withstanding the pressures of the rich and the powerful by banding ourselves together in constructive cooperation. And it is an organized attempt to pave

the way for broader international cooperation and for the ultimate goal of establishing a New International Economic Order. Thus cooperation among developing nations has become not only necessary but indispensable from the short term as well as the long-term.

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PRECEPT AND EXAMPLE

We in India, Mr. Chairman, have always stressed the importance of economic co-operation among developing nations. For us it is an extension of our concept of national self-reliance pursued in the context of international co-operation. "It is for us to demonstrate by precept and example," said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the NAM Ministerial Bureau meeting at Delhi in April 1986, "that cooperation among developing countries is feasible, of mutual benefit, and complementary to North-South co-operation. We must exchange experiences, fill gaps in knowledge, learn to turn to each other."

It is all the more important that we should turn to each other at a time when the North-South dialogue is in deadlock and when the world economic order is confronted with a structural crisis. The period since the first High Level Meeting of the Group of 77 at Caracas in 1981 has been one of great stress for the world economy. The structural imbalances and inequities of the international economic system have accentuated and have imposed a heavy burden in terms of lost opportunities, lost growth and lost welfare. Developing countries, being especially vulnerable to external shocks, have borne a disproportionate share of the burden of adjustment, particularly through the collapse of commodity prices and the deterioration in their terms of trade. Unfortunately, although the conditions in the world economy have worsened, the multilateral system which should have been mobilized to address these problems has been eroded and weakened. In fact, there has been a perceptible retreat from the spirit of multilateralism particularly in a few major developed countries. The objectives set out in the International Development Strategy for the 1980s remain largely unfulfilled.

The Non-aligned Movement at its 7th Summit in New Delhi foresaw the dangers of leaving these problems unattended. The NAM Heads of State or Government, recognising the inter-dependence of developed and developing countries, proposed a coherent and pragmatic set of measures to address the world economic crisis such as Global Negotiations for the longer term goal of restructuring international economic relations, a Programme of Immediate Measures including an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development and the intensification of efforts at Collective Self-reliance among Nonaligned and other developing countries.

STRONG ENDORSEMENT OF GROUP OF 77

These proposals of the Non-aligned Movement received the strong endorsement of the Group of 77 at their 5th Ministerial Meeting in Buenos Aires in 1983. However, though the NAM proposals were recognized to be realistic and pragmatic even in the developed countries, there has been little concrete response from the latter. The problems have thus remained unaddressed and the consequences are visible in developed and developing countries alike. A recovery in the industrialized countries has proved skewed and too weak to make any substantial dent on high unemployment rates or on the reduction of the unsustainable commercial imbalances among them. Little has been done to promote an international adjustment process that would facilitate a balanced growth of the world economy. The international trading system has been brought under severe strain. Financial flows to developing countries have stagnated while interest rates they have to pay on their debt have reached historically high levels.

The development process has been brought practically to a halt in parts of the developing world and many developing countries have lower per capita incomes today than at the beginning of the decade. The debt crisis continues to be a threat both for the prospects of the indebted countries as well as to the stability of the international financial system. Lately developed countries appear to show a new awareness of the inadequacy of the existing monetary and financial system -222>

and have taken some initiatives to strengthen their economic cooperation to try to overcome these shortcomings. But these initiatives need to be extended. Partial and limited efforts to solve the global imbalances can only have very partial and limited success. To tackle them effectively requires an approach at the multilateral level commensurate with the scale of the problems. The Non-aligned Movement and the Group of 77 will have to keep working for a global dialogue for achieving this.

During these last turbulent years the one positive feature has been the steady growth and reinforcement of economic cooperation among developing countries. South-South Cooperation in the present international economic situation has acquired particular importance. It not only helps to safeguard the development process from the economic fluctuations and shocks coming from the developed countries but is also calculated to give a greater measure of stability to the growth of the international economy as a whole. It is noteworthy, for example, that trade among developing countries has given a much better showing during these years of crisis than their trade with the developed countries. This has helped in moderating the slowdown in world trade.

CATALYTIC ROLE IN ECDC

The Non-aligned Movement has always played a catalytic role in

promoting ECDC. Even at the first Summit in 1961 the need to have cooperative linkages and actions among developing countries were recognized and subsequent meetings and summits have elaborated these ideas into a well articulated Action Programme for Economic Cooperation. The Declaration on Collective Self-reliance adopted at the 7th Summit brought a new clarity to the conceptual framework of ECDC, underlining its importance while making clear that it is not intended as a substitute for cooperation between developed and developing countries.

The need to harmonize the Nonaligned Action Programme with the Caracas Programme of Action has always been of central concern to the NAM. The 7th Summit took important decisions in this regard and at the latest Ministerial Coordinating Bureau Meeting in New Delhi in April the Chairman of the 77 and the NAM Coordinating Bureau in New York submitted a joint report regarding the measures taken to ensure that the implementation of the two programmes was mutually supportive and complementary. The same Bureau Meeting has recommended a restructuring of the Nonaligned Action Programme by regrouping the number of spheres of cooperation to give the programme a more concentrated and effective thrust. This should also help to make its interaction with the Caracas Programme of Action even more complementary and supportive in the future.

The High Level Meeting here in Cairo provides us with a valuable opportunity not only for assessing the past successes achieved under our ECDC programme, but also towards identifying some of the obstacles and shortcomings. The Report of the Chairman, reviewing ECDC, speaks of the need for liberating ECDC from "the paralysis of excessive thrust" and the need for outlining a scale of priorities. This Meeting gives us an opportunity to consider proposals which offer the greatest promise in the years ahead.

Perhaps the most significant such initiative is the Global System of Trade Preferences. Last year a Ministerial Meeting was convened in New Delhi which gave a political thrust to GSTP negotiations and established an ambitious timetable to work out the legal framework for their launching.

It is a matter of satisfaction that this timetable has been kept and, at the Ministerial Meeting in Brasilia on GSTP in May, it proved possible to reach agreement to launch the negotiating phase of the GSTP by January 1987. The GSTP opens up for the first time the real possibility of restructuring international trade relations to make them more balanc--223>

ed and equitable for the developing countries. It is an opportunity which requires determination as well as imagination on our part. Towards this end, we will also need to give thought to measures in complementary sectors which will permit the GSTP to rise up to its full potential. Strengthened cooperation in the

monetary field, particularly through payments unions and clearing house arrangements and other related forms of cooperation could play a significant role in this regard by reducing our dependency on reserve currency resources to finance the expansion of our mutual trade.

The 8th Summit of the Non-aligned Movement is taking place very shortly in Harare, Zimbabwe. The fact that both the G-77 and the NAM meetings are being held in Africa underlines the importance that Africa now plays in international economic and political relations. At the recent Special Session of the General Assembly on the Critical Situation in Africa, the African countries underlined their determination to address the serious problems they face through a well-thought out recovery programme. Their courageous efforts have the full sympathy and support of the NAM which has undertaken a Plan of Action to help meet the critical situation. The African Recovery Programme deserves the maximum cooperation from the international community through the UN system to enable the Programme to be carried out effectively.

The choice of venue for the Summit equally underlines our deep concern and sense of urgency for completing the process of liberation in Southern Africa by achieving full independence for Namibia and eliminating the immoral Apartheid regime in South Africa. Our solidarity is crucial for victory in this struggle for human dignity and the enduring values of human civilisation, a struggle in which we are all on the frontline. Our unity on the political side must be under-pinned by equal commitment on the economic front. Each will reinforce the other and make it clear that when developing countries act collectively we can overcome all obstacles or threats to our sovereignty and our independence and ensure the uninterrupted progress of our social and economic development.

May I conclude by conveying to this High Level Meeting the good wishes of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India and the Chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

YPT INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC VENEZUELA YUGOSLAVIA USA ARGENTINA BRAZIL ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA

Date: Aug 18, 1986

Volume No

Foreign Minister of Iran Visits India - Text of Agreed Minutesof Talks

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 22, 1986 on the visit of the Foreign Minister of Iran to India:

The agreed Minutes of the talks between Iran and India during the official Visit of His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Foreign Minister of the Islamic

Republic of Iran were signed here yesterday (August 21, 1986).

The Minutes have been signed on behalf of India by Shri K. S. Jasrotia, Joint Secretary and on behalf of Iran by His Excellency Seyed M. Arastou, Director General for Economic Relations. The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv -224>

Shanker, and the Minister of External Affairs of Iran, His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati were present on the occasion.

The agreed Minutes are as follows:

"H.E. Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, visited India from 20-22 August, 1986 at the invitation of H.E. Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs and Commerce. Dr. Velayati was accompanied by a high level Iranian delegation. The talks were held at the Ministerial level in a warm and cordial atmosphere characterising Indo-Iranian friendly relations.

Talks covered issues relating to NAM in the context of the forthcoming Harare Summit and the state of bilateral relations. The two Ministers reviewed briefly implementation of the decisions of the last Indo-Iranian Joint Commission and the prospects for cooperation in the future.

The following agreements on bilateral cooperation were reached:

- (i) It was decided that the fourth session of the Indo-Iranian Joint Commission will be held in Delhi in end 1986 or early 1987 as per mutually convenient dates to be finalised through diplomatic channels.
- (ii) A high level and comprehensive Iranian economic delegation will visit India in early September to negotiate an oil linked trade deal and to work out banking arrangements to facilitate lifting of Iranian oil by India and counter purchase of Indian goods by Iran.

- (iii) Iranian side expressed interest in the import of commodities and goods such as wheat, rice, meat, corn and different types of steel. Indian side took note of the request and it was agreed that the list of commodities will be provided in advance and finalised during the visit of the economic delegation to India.
- (iv) Secretary (Steel) will visit Iran in September, 1986 to discuss and review progress relating to Kudremukh Iron Ore project.
- (v) Both sides agreed that there are good prospects for industrial collaboration and cooperation between the two countries particularly in fields of: power, steel, transport, telecommunications and railways. An Iranian delegation will visit India to explore cooperation in cement industry. Projects and Equipment Corporation of India (PEC) has recently made a proposal for supply of passenger rail coaches to Iran in pursuance of earlier discussions in the Joint Commission. The Iranian side took note to give sympathetic consideration to this offer.
- (vi) During discussions pertaining to consular matters Indian side expressed its serious concern over recent expulsions of Indian nationals from Iran. Iranian side will look into this matter urgently and take remedial and preventive steps as necessary.
- (vii) Both sides reviewed media coverage of events in each other's country. It was agreed that the media and particularly the official media should project events in each other's country in a constructive and positive manner".

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AN INDIA USA ZIMBABWE UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Aug 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Yen Credit Assistance to India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 13, 1986 on the Japanese yen credit to India:

Notes were exchanged today (August 13) between Shri S.

Venkitaramanan, Finance Secretary and Mr. T. Hosaki, Ambassador of Japan to India, concluding agreement for 26th ODA Loan to India which provide for Japanese yen credit assistance of yen 48.443 billion equivalent to Rs. 356.60 crores approximately for the year 1986-87. This loan assistance will cover the Hazira-Bijaipur gas pipeline project (Rs. 139.20 crores approx.), Aonla fertilizer plant project (Rs. 43.0 crores approx.), telecommunication network expansion project at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore etc. (Rs. 87.50 crores approx.), Teesta canal hydroelectric project (Rs. 59.0 crores approx.) and Haldia port modernisation project (Rs. 27.90 crores approx.).

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 per annum. The Japanese assistance for 1986-87 represents an increase of 23 per cent over the assistance pledged by Japan to India for 1985-86 (which was yen 39.231 billion). For the first time this year Japan would extend its assistance to cover local cost components under gas pipeline, Teesta and Haldia port modernisation projects.

Speaking on the occasion the Finance Secretary, Shri S. Venkitaramanan, expressed his appreciation that for the first time Japanese assistance was available for modernisation of an Indian Port.

The Japanese Ambassador Mr. T. Hosaki said that Japanese Grant Aids to India was reaching out to new fields with the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Science Project. A Japanese mission was currently visiting India to survey the basic design study of the project, he added.

PAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Aug 13, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOLLAND

Cultural Programme Signed Between India and the Netherlands

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 29, 1986 on the cultural exchange between India and the Netherlands:

The first-ever programme of cultural and educational exchange

between India and the Netherlands was signed today. Shri Manmohan Singh, Joint Secretary, Government of India in the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development, signed on behalf of India and Mr. Maarten Mourik, Ambassador for International Cultural Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands, signed on behalf of his country. This exchange programme is under implementation of the cultural agreement between the two countries and the outcome of the meeting of the Indo-Netherlands Joint Committee which met in New Delhi from August 25 to 28, 1986.

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The programme envisages co-operation between the two countries in the field of education, art and culture, radio and television, youth and sports, more particularly through:

- (1) exchanges of scholars, teachers, students, anthropologists, archivists and specialists in different fields of art and culture:
- (2) exchanges of books and publications, art reproductions and exhibitions; and
- (3) organisation of film weeks and participation in each other's international film festivals.

The programme also envisages facilities of contacts and fostering of relations between universities, radio and television and youth and women's organisations etc.

It is also proposed to facilitate translation and publication of each other's literary works.

The two countries have also agreed to encourage the study and the teaching of the language, literature and culture of the other country at universities and other institutions of learning and higher education in order to contribute towards a better knowledge of their respective countries.

Further, the two countries shall promote close cooperation between organisations and institutions of their respective countries in the field of culture in its broadest sense, including museums, public art galleries, libraries, archives, socio-cultural institutions, mass-media and film organisations, and organisations and institutions for adult education, archaeology, nature and urban conservation, public health, sports and youth.

DIA THE NETHERLANDS USA

Date: Aug 29, 1986

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, 1986 of the text of the President, Giani Zail Singh's broadcast to the Nation to night (August 14) on the eve of the Independence Day:

On the occasion of the thirty-ninth anniversary of our Independence tomorrow, I greet you all my countrymen and, extend to you my best wishes.

This is an occasion for us to remember with gratitude the great sacrifices made by our people during the freedom movement. I pay my respectful tributes to all those who participated in the freedom struggle with exemplary courage and devotion.

We have reason to be proud of our achievements in various fields since Independence. We have reached a stage in our development and growth, where further sustained efforts will ensure accelerated progress. Our aim should be to become a strong and prosperous nation in the near future.

Unfortunately, in the recent past, disruptive forces have been at work, which seek to threaten our unity and integrity. This diverts our attention from the mighty task of development. It is extremely painful for us to witness the growing trend of violence in the country. Whether the people inciting or indulging in violence are driven by religious fanaticism or are per -227>

suaded by any other concept, they are striking a serious blow at the very foundation of our national existence. I express my profound grief over the loss of many innocent and precious lives owing to senseless violence.

In a democratic society, there is ample scope for people to press their legitimate demands in a peaceful manner. Unless the people concerned are willing to tackle the issue in a spirit of give and take, it will be difficult to arrive at a lasting solution to any problem that may be agitating the minds of any section of the society. Let us ask ourselves if we have been doing our duty to the country without narrow or selfish considerations. Also whether we have subordinated our self or sectarian interest to the overall interest of the country.

India has been passing through a phase full of threats and dangers. The dark forces of communalism, casteism, regionalism and chauvinism have been trying to have their sway. Taking a cue from these disruptive elements, some external powers have been taking unhealthy interest in our internal affairs. Their intention is to further endanger our unity. This calls for alertness and vigilance. Our countrymen have always demonstrated complete solidarity at critical moments of our history. But it is very important to anticipate such events without complacency and to always remain united. Our sovereignty and integrity are paramount. We have to ensure that, no quarter is given to any outside power to directly or indirectly encourage or promote fissiparous tendencies, in our country. Our own strength should be the best guarantee for safeguarding our dignity and honour.

I call upon all citizens of the country, whatever their ideological or political affiliations, whether they belong to the ruling parties in various States or support the opposition, they should all apply their energies in seeking solution to problems in a peaceful and constructive manner.

SECULAR DEMOCRACY

The people of India have given themselves a socialist and secular democracy.

This democracy has shown its inner strength and efficacy to the world. It is the most important duty of everyone to inculcate a sense of honesty and integrity in social and political life. Corruption at all levels has to be ruthlessly eliminated. There is a special responsibility cast on leaders, public men and administrators to maintain an honest image. Democracy also calls for fairness and tolerance in interaction among political parties and social groups. The Prime Minister has shown statesmanship in rising above party interests in dealing with some long-standing issues of national concern. National problems call for solutions based on national consensus. The spirit of mutual accommodation should be strengthened and everything should be done to eradicate the feelings of mutual mistrust.

UNITY AND GOODWILL

Our younger generation has to defend and protect the Independence and promote unity and goodwill among people. I am happy that during the past year the student community by and large has shown a sense of discipline. But their exploitation by opportunists, whether political or religious, is detrimental to the interests of the country. The elements who try to exploit the impressionable minds of our younger generation not only impair their future but also do great disservice to the nation. The energies of our youngmen and women should be channelised towards reconstruction and development.

PLANNED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our strategy of planned economic development has worked successfully over the years. We have made appreciable progress in many directions. But the fruits of development have still not reached large sections of the society. Economic growth with stability and social justice is our objective. But we are yet to reach a reason able degree of satisfaction in the provision of even the minimum needs of the poorest people.

Apart from the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, there are other backward -228>

classes, accounting for approximately half the population. A large number of them are politically, socially and economically weak. A major endeavour is needed to provide the opportunities to these people for the growth and development.

Economic offenders and tax evaders undermine the effective implementation of economic policies. The Government have taken several measures to contain the activities of these anti-social elements. It would need determination, rectitude and impartiality on the part of law enforcing authorities to bring the genuinely guilty to book.

India stands for peace and friendly relations with all countries. In pursuance of this objective we are continuously endeavouring to reduce tension in the world. We have been trying for the establishment of a new international economic order based on justice and equity. Under the stewardship of India, the Non-Aligned Movement has taken long strides towards cohesion and unity of purpose among the third world countries. The Movement has been striving hard for disarmament. Only disarmament can ensure the survival of mankind. We are greatly concerned over the super power rivalry in the Indian Ocean and are making determined efforts to free it from their military presence.

The continuance of policies of discrimination, based on colour, is a great blot on civilisation. India is committed to extend every possible support to the struggling majority in South Africa to attain emancipation from racial discrimination.

We are closely bound to countries in the South Asian region by geo-political and historical links. SAARC, no doubt, has emerged as a symbol of regional cooperation. India extends its whole-hearted support to this Association. At the same time, there has to be progress in our bilateral relations with our immediate neighbours.

Our Defence Forces have served the nation with a sense of duty and utmost devotion. They are a symbol of national unity and discipline. The nation appreciates their excellent services and expresses its gratitude for their dedication and sense of patriotism.

I would like to conclude by appealing to all my fellow citizens to bear in mind that the unity and integrity of the country are supreme and no sacrifice is too big to preserve our independence and sovereignty.

JAI HAND.

DIA USA TUNISIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Aug 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

NAMIBIA

Prime Minister's Message to SWAPO President

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 26, 1986 of the message sent by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to His Excellency Mr. Sam Nujoma, President of SWAPO:

Twenty years ago today SWAPO's heroic fighters confronted South African forces at Omgulumbashe. That day remains imprinted upon the conscience of man. Through delays and manoeuvres, Namibia has been subjected to continuing bondage to the Pretoria regime. Those with the means to act lack the courage. Those with a power to transform lack the will. But the people of Namibia shall be the victors yet.

Every value inscribed to the Charter of the United Nations stands challenged -229>

and brutalised in Namibia. Where freedom should prevail, colonialism continues. Where human dignity should be upheld, its denial in Namibia is countenanced. The exploitation of Namibia continues to impoverish its wealth.

We in India learnt from Mahatma Gandhi that the single power that can persuade and change is a resolute and unified popular will. That is what SWAPO represents today. To the Namibian nation and people, our fraternal greetings.

Date: Aug 26, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Preparatory Meetings for Non-Aligned Summit - Prime Minister's Message

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 25, 1986 of the text of the message of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, telecast over Zimbabwe TV on the eve of the preparatory meetings beginning on August 26 for the Non-Aligned Summit:

My greetings to the Government and people of Zimbabwe on the eve of the preparatory meetings beginning tomorrow for the Non-Aligned Summit. This is a great responsibility they are undertaking.

Non-Alignment is the expression of the democracy of nations. We have nurtured a world order in which all countries - big or small, populous or sparsely populated, developed or developing - have an equal and honoured place. In the attribute of our sovereignty each one of us is equal. Non-Aligned ensures that this equality finds practical manifestation in international forums.

Non-Alignment is the underpinning of our independence. It gives us the possibility of retaining our options in foreign affairs. We bring to bear on international questions an open mind, freedom of thought, and the urge to reconciliation and harmony.

The history of the last 25 years has shown that Non-Alignment is the natural foreign policy of the newly-independent, emerging countries. Two-thirds of the world community has chosen to eschew both blocs and keep open the non-aligned path to peace, stability and development.

Non-alignment, as a prescription for peace, is even more valid today than it was 25 years ago. Over the last quarter century, the Non-Aligned Movement has kept a large proportion of the international community out of the rivalries of the power blocs. We have moderated areas of conflict and forestalled a scramble for allies. Without the Non-Aligned Movement disaster might well have already overcome the world.

Our philosophy of peaceful coexistence shows the sane way out of the dangers of unbridled confrontation in this nuclear age. We reject the view that the peace of the world is best maintained by a balance of power, meaning a balance of terror. With over 60,000 nuclear warheads poised for committing world suicide, any breakdown in the balance will lead to consequences that are irreversible and from which there is no retreat. So long as nuclear weapons exist, there is the omnipresent danger of their being used. Non-Alignment argues that the alternative to this awful prospect is friendly cooperative relations between countries with different social and economic systems.

HUMAN DIGNITY

Non-alignment stands above all for human dignity and human rights. That is why we have been in the forefront of the struggle against colonialism and racism. When we first met at Belgrade at Summit level in 1961, a large part of the world was still under subjugation. The exertions of the Non-Aligned Movement have brought freedom to many of those countries who are today members of the Movement. But the struggle is by no means over. Areas of primary concern to the Non-Aligned Movement are Apartheid in South Africa, colonialism in Namibia, and the destabilisation of the Front-Line States by the depredations of Pretoria.

The Harare Summit will, I am sure, make a notable contribution to the struggle against oppression in South Africa. Our brothers and sisters in the Front-line States deserve all our support and assistance in this last phase of the fight for freedom. Practical ways of extending such support must be a matter of high priority in our discussions in Harare.

We must also give high priority to strengthening economic cooperation among the member-States of the Non-Aligned Movement. We seem to know far too little about each other. There is inadequate appreciation of the vast resources which we in the Non-Aligned Movement collectively possess of human skills, experience, expertise, natural endowments and technology. Such inadequate appreciation is in part a reflection of distortions in international channels of communication and information. It is in part a reflection also of our failure to organise ourselves to inform our member-States better of the potential and possibilities of cooperation with other member-States. This we must do. While cooperation among the countries of the South is no substitute for a New International Economic Order, progress in our mutual cooperation need not wait upon a resumption of the North-South dialogue.

FUTURE LINES IN UNITY

Our strength and our future lie in the unity, solidarity and

cohesion of the Non-Aligned Movement. We look forward to emerging from the Harare Summit with even greater influence in world affairs, with determination in our goals and purposefulness in our endeavours.

DIA ZIMBABWE USA YUGOSLAVIA NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Aug 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Speech by Foreign Minister in Harare

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv Shanker on Aug 28, 1986 in the plenary meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Countries at Harare:

Distinguished Ministers of Foreign Affairs, distinguished Ministers, distinguished Delegates, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries on the eve of the 8th conference of the Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries.

It is a privilege to be in Harare, the beautiful capital of a country whose name is synonymous with the revolutionary struggle of peoples' fight for freedom and independence. The very name of Zimbabwe brings to one's mind the saga of a brave and courageous people who fought against heavy odds, against colonialism and imperialism, who preferred to sacrifice lives in thousands to living under continued subjugation.

LAST VESTIGES OF COLONIALISM

Zimbabwe, after winning her cherished independence, has assumed an active role -231>

in the struggle against the last vestiges of colonialism and racism in the African continent. Under the inspiring leadership of His Excellency Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe has achieved remarkable results in the task of nation-building as well as in the active pursuit of the policy of peace, independence and Non-Alignment in its external relations. I take

this opportunity to salute the Government and the people of Zimbabwe for their great achievements and ardent aspirations.

Harare is hosting the 8th summit at a time when the struggle against racism and Apartheid is entering its crucial and final phase. It is only appropriate that the Chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement for the next three years will be with Zimbabwe - A Front-line State. Our presence here is an eloquent testimony of our solidarity and support for the people of Southern Africa in their relentless struggle for equality, justice and human dignity.

The international situation is characterised by tensions, conflict and instability in many parts of the world. Arms race continues unabated and there is a long way to go to achieve meaningful nuclear disarmament. Despite superficial signs of recovery in the developed world, the international economic environment continues to be depressing for the developing world.

BULWARK OF PEACE

In the crisis-ridden world, the Non Aligned Movement has come to represent the voice of the overwhelming segment of humanity. In the last 25 years since its inception, it has emerged as the bulwark of peace, a shield against external pressures and a catalyst of a new world economic order based on equity and justice. The Movement comes to the heart of Africa with its members united in their pursuit for peace, progress and stability for their own peoples and for all the world. Much has been achieved and yet much more remains to be attained. Challenges confronting us are manifold. Tasks facing us are enormous.

Ever since the Ministerial meeting in New Delhi in April 1986, we have been engaged in the preparatory work for the Harare Summit at the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York and through extensive consultations among member-States of the Movement. The meeting of the senior officials that has just concluded its two-day deliberations has reviewed the work done so far and has forwarded its recommendations to us. It will be the task of this conference to consider the report of the senior officials and to give final touches to the preparatory work for the 8th Summit which is scheduled to commence on September 1. On behalf of you all, I should like to compliment the senior officials for a job well done.

It is a time honoured tradition in the Movement to have the benefit of the wise leadership of the host country in our deliberations at all stages. I deem it a great privilege, therefore, to propose the name of His Excellency Dr. Witness Mangwende, the distinguished Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe, for the Chairmanship of this meeting.

His Excellency Dr. Mangwende is eminently suited to guide our deliberations. He has been active in the national liberation struggle, has been a keen student of international affairs and is known for his diplomatic acumen and commitment to the cause of peace and freedom. In his capacity as the Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe, he has taken an active part in the Non-Aligned Movement. With his rich and varied experience, we are confident that under his guidance the deliberations of this conference would attain a great success.

I have no doubt that my proposal meets with the unanimous approval of this assembly. I, therefore, propose that we elect His Excellency Dr. Witness Mangwende, Foreign Minister of Zimbabwe for the Chairmanship of this conference by acclamation. -232>

MBABWE USA INDIA **Date**: Aug 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Vice-President's Speech at Seminar

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 01, 1986 of the address of the Vice-president of India at the inauguration of the Seminar on "Non-alignment: Retrospect and Prospects" on August 1, 1986 at Vigyan, Bhavan, New Delhi:

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Speaker, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentle men, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the Indian Institute for Non-Aligned Studies for this initiative to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Non-Aligned Movement. Over the years, the Institute has done a signal service to the cause of Non-Alignment through its sustained efforts to disseminate, analyse and popularise the ideals and objectives of the Movement. In a significant sense, the Non-Aligned Movement is an assertion of human dignity by the peoples of the developing countries even more than the frame work of the foreign policies of their Governments. The constant interaction between policy makers and public opinion, the sine qua non of a democratic policy like ours, has been greatly facilitated by the Institute in the vital area of international relations and foreign policy.

VITAL AND POSITIVE FACTOR

May I also welcome the distinguished foreign guests many of whom have travelled great distances across the globe to participate at this Seminar. Their enthusiasm is testimony to the ever increasing role and influence of the Non-Aligned Movement as a vital and positive factor in the maintenance of world peace and cooperative relation among nations. It is indeed heartening that the appreciation of this important phenomenon in contemporary international relations has spread among nations and peoples beyond the geographical frontiers of the Non-Aligned Movement. The boundaries of the Movement have also expanded enormously and today encompass 101 member-nations and organisations in addition to those associated with it as Observers and Guests.

Friends, you are aware, that before the World War II, the nations of the world were divided into belligerents and neutrals. This categorization was the product of contemporary history and typified the positions adopted by different nations at that time. Neutralism, was, basically, a passive stance. But when the world split into two camps after the World War II newly independent nations sought to follow an independent policy of judging international issues on the merits of issue. They did not wish to predetermine their attitude on the basis of alignment with power blocs. Mere neutrality could not have satisfied us. There were questions of human rights and of values on which mere nonpartisanship could not have sufficed. Jawaharlal Nehru, with his sensitive perception of these compulsions therefore went one step further. And that proved to be a decisive step. The step forward from Neutralism to Non-Alignment was a step from the negative to the positive, from the passive to the dynamic, from the moderate to the revolutionary. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru enunciated some of the major ideas that coalesced into the philosophy of Non-Alignment as early as in 1946, in the wake of the crystalisation of the global of the cold war. He said:

"We propose, as far as possible, to keep away from the power politics of groups, aligned against one another, which have led in the past to world wars and which may again lead to disasters on an even vaster scale. We believe that peace and freedom are indivisible and the denial of freedom anywhere must endanger freedom elsewhere and lead to conflict and war We are particularly interested in the emancipation of colonial and dependent countries and peoples, and in the recognition in theory and practice of equal opportuni -233>

ties for all races. We repudiate utterly the Nazi doctrine of racialism, wheresoever and in whatever form it may be practised. We seek no domination over others and we claim no privileged position over other peoples."

BELGRADE SUMMIT

Several of these ideas reflected fundamentally similar aspirations and views of countries that later jointed together in the first Non-Aligned Summit at Belgrade. The anxiety to avoid entanglement in bloc confrontations found its first dramatic expression during the war in Korea. A number of founder nations of the Non-Aligned Movement refused to become involved in the conflict and acted from the beginning for the re-establishment of peace and withdrawal of both forces to their original positions - the term Non-Alignment' also came into general usage around this time and context.

URGES AND ASPIRATIONS OF MILLIONS

In an institutional sense, the Asian Relations Conference held in New Delhi in 1947, the five-Power Colombo Conference of 1954 and the Bandung Conference of 1955 paved the way for the Belgrade Summit of 1961. The formal launching of the Non-Aligned Movement took place at Belgrade in September 1961 when leaders of 25 nations came together to mark the beginning of institutionalised coordination among the Non-Aligned countries. What Belgrade lacked in numbers, it made up in the strength of its commitment to independence, peace and disarmament and its determination to herald a new area of cooperative relations among nations. Yet, like all major movements in history, the seeds that bore fruit at Belgrade had been sown earlier, in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War when emerging leaders across Asia and Africa began articulating a nationalist, anti-colonial and independent vision of the future of their peoples. These gatherings were not merely regional or narrow nationalistic conclaves but represented the urges and aspirations of millions of suppressed peoples and of newly emerging nations for freedom, independence, peace, equality, cooperations and a just international order.

The conditions which led to the embracing of Non-Alignment by a large majority of newly liberated Asian and African countries, as well as the Caribbean, Latin America and Europe in the wake of the Second World War, are well-known. One common determinant in the evolution of the foreign policy perspectives of these countries lay in their history of colonial rule, racial oppression and domination by the big powers. Their experience naturally imbued them with a firm determination to chart out their own path of political, economic and social development without foreign interference and pressure and to make global decisions affecting their future. Fundamental to the pursuit of these objectives was the necessity to maintain independence and freedom from military alliances as well as the acceptance of peaceful co-existence as an instrument for achieving economic and social reconstruction.

MAJOR PLANK OF MOVEMENT

An intense commitment to decolonisation and achievement of full independent nationhood for countries under colonial and imperial domination thus emerged as a major plank in the political platform of Non-aligned countries. Indeed, in its formative years, nothing distinguished the Non-Aligned countries more than their common commitment to the cause of anticolonialism, liberation and independence. The anti-colonial momentum generated by the great strides made by the process of de-colonisation in the middle of this century was sustained and strengthened by Non-Aligned countries through their collective efforts. The massive support which Non-Aligned countries gave in recent years to the freedom struggle against Portuguese empire in Africa is yet another instance of the collective solidarity of the movement. In our own era, the sustained efforts of Non-Aligned countries to secure the liberation of Namibia from the clutches of the illegal racist regime and the all-round sup -234>

port extended to remaining dependent territories in other parts of the world have kept up this basic commitment.

Apart from support to anti-colonial and anti-imperialist struggles, the commitment to peaceful co-existence has been another major plank of the Non-Aligned Movement. The division of the world into antagonistic blocs and the threat posed to mankind's survival by expanding nuclear arsenals have been matters of paramount concern to the Non-Aligned Movement. The Belgrade Summit devoted special attention to questions of peace and disarmament. The Belgrade Summit also proclaimed the goal of general and complete disarmament which has been assiduously pursued by Non-Aligned countries in all available forums to this day.

In the same spirit, the Non-Aligned Movement played an active role to strengthen and encourage the limited detente initiated between the East and West in the late 1960's which reached its apogee in the early 1970's. The Non-Aligned countries realised that the motivation for detente stemmed mainly from perceptions of national self-interest, that it was by no means irreversible and that it was not global. Despite the rapprochment between the Great Powers, several hot beds of crisis persisted with growing military competition and confrontation, whether it be in the Indian Ocean or in the Mediterranean or other parts of the world. We, therefore, declared that world peace was indivisible and that detente must be universalised and consolidated. These fears were fully vindicated with the setback to detente and a return to cold war postures in the late 1970s.

It was realised early on by the leaders of the new nations that political decolonisation represented only one side of the medal that freedom would have meaning only when poverty and misery were eradicated from the people. Iniquitous international economic relations, where the dice is loaded in favour of the developed industrialised countries, can only perpetuate relations of dependence. The first step in this direction was initiated at the

Lusaka Summit which gave a strong impetus to the concept of self-reliance.

The emerging economic dimension of the Non-Aligned Movement and a relative shift in emphasis from East-West issues to North-South issues was consolidated at the Algiers Summit of 1973 which adopted an Economic Action Programme. The struggle for the establishment of a New International Economic Order has since been gaining rapid momentum. Parallely, the non-aligned countries have not been oblivious to the imperative of South South cooperation to achieve collective self-reliance and the Action Programme for Economic Co-operation now spans a wide range of fields.

Thus it is clear that the scope and horizons of Non-alignment have greatly expanded over the years. From a concept of non-involvement or non-partisanship with either of the power blocs in the context of a bipolar world, it has now become synonymous with real national independence and justice and equity in international relations, both economic and political. Yet, while new perspectives have opened up in response to the changes in the world around us, there has also been all along an underlying bedrock of principles and objectives, dynamically applied to an evolving world situation. In the words of President Tito, one of the architects of the Non-aligned movement.

".... Non-alignment was no longer looked upon as a means of protecting one's own interests and a way to overcome bloc divisions but rather as a policy which advocated democratisation of international relations in general It has become a dynamic factor which is mobilising increasingly broad forces and inspiring them to action and struggle for independence and equality, against colonialism and racial discrimination, against every form of domination and interference in the internal affairs of other countries, a struggle for the settlement of acute international problems, for the promotion of interna--235>

tional co-operation, and for peace and progress in the world."

As we approach the threshold of the Harare Summit and as the Movement nears its 25th anniversary, it would be worth examining the tasks confronting the Nonaligned countries. Its agenda and responsibilities are vast.

The international situation affords little cause for optimism. Though a dialogue has been underway between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union, we are still far from seeing any concrete progress towards disarmament or the slowing down of the arms race, especially in the frenetic build up of nuclear arsenals. There is no let up in threats or pressures on the weaker countries, especially Non-aligned, to secure the alignment of their policies with the geo-strategic perspectives of the Big Powers. Peace and

security remains under threat in many regions of the world. Central America, the Gulf and the Middle East are only some illustrative examples of the persistence of conflicts and tensions globally. The right of every nation to pursue its own form of social, political and economic development free from outside interference and pressures is far from being realised.

Even the goal of universal decolonisation remains hampered in some parts of the world, nowhere more stubbornly than in Namibia where the racist regime of South Africa has long frustrated Namibian independence.

ASSAULT ON WORLD CONSCIENCE

The persistence of Apartheid in South Africa represents a continuing assault on the conscience of the world and has entrapped the entire Southern African region into an unending cycle of violence. Inevitably its violent fall-out has been experienced repeatedly by African Front-line States who have constantly been victims of South African aggression.

The denial of the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to a homeland has been at the core of the Middle East question where demands of peace and justice are continually trampled by Israeli intransigence.

BLEAK ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE

The outlook on the economic front is also far from satisfactory. The New Delhi Summit had underlined the link between peace and development and identified the factors behind the continuing crises in the world economy. Waste of scarce resources on armaments, barriers and obstacles created by developed countries, the crushing debt burden of a large number of developing countries, the increasing rigidity in the norms of assistance, falling commodity prices and inadequacies of the international monetary and financial system have to gether produced a bleak economic landscape for the developing countries. The call of Non-Aligned countries for a North-South dialogue on global economic issues has remained unheeded in the face of the unhelpful attitude of the developed countries who have failed to show an adequate appreciation of North-South interdependence. No initiatives have emerged in response to the call of Non-Aligned countries for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development to redress the deficiencies of the Bretton Woods System.

While problems and crises have mounted, both in the economic and political spheres, the multilateral framework to address them in a spirit of co-operative endeavour, especially the U.N. system, has come under a tremendous strain. Efforts by some powerful countries to dilute the principle of sovereign equality enshrined in the U.N. Charter, threaten to negate the impressive

achievements of Non-Aligned countries in democratising international relations.

The agenda before the Non-Aligned countries is truly impressive. With unity and solidarity, the Movement can, as it has in the past, continue to make its positive contribution to international peace, prosperity and the creation of a co-ope--236>

rative world order. The Non-Aligned Movement has come to embody the hopes and aspirations of millions of people across the world for a just, peaceful and secure future free from the twin scourges of war and want. Non-aligned countries must take up this challenge and find solutions for saving posterity from the scourge of poverty, ignorance, desolation and disease. The Movement has the vitality to achieve these objectives and the necessary resolve and faith to achieve success.

I wish the Seminar all success.

DIA USA YUGOSLAVIA KOREA SRI LANKA INDONESIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA ECUADOR ZAMBIA ALGERIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA ISRAEL

Date: Aug 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Meeting of Second Summit for Peace and Disarmament - Shri RajivGandhi's Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the 2nd Summit-meeting of the Six-Nation Five-Continent Initiative on Peace and Disarmament, in Ixtapa, Mexico on August 7, 1986:

From five continents we come to Mexico on a pilgrimage of peace. We represent the hopes of our peoples - indeed the hopes of all peoples - for a world free of nuclear weapons. I thank President de la Madrid for inviting us to beautiful Ixtapa.

We greatly miss our dear friend Olof Palme - his wisdom, his humour, his warmth, his winning smile. He worked for peace and harmony with untiring tenacity and clarity of vision. It is for us to continue his task.

Forty-one years ago the atom bomb was first dropped; the city of Hiroshima was devastated. The 6th of August, 1945 was a turning point in history. Until then, wars could kill only a small part of humankind. With the bomb came the technology for human annihilation. "The atom bomb has come to blast the world", said Jawaharlal Nehru. "But no bomb has yet touched the minds of statesmen and men of authority," Mahatma Gandhi reacted in a most unusual manner. He did not move a muscle, he said, when he first heard that the atom bomb had wiped out Hiroshima. He told himself: "Unless now the world adopts non-violence, it will spell certain suicide for mankind."

FALLACY OF DOCTRINE OF DETERRENCE

With the insight of a prophet, Mahatma Gandhi saw at once the fallacy of the doctrine of deterrence. He declared: "The moral to be ultimately drawn from the supreme tragedy of the bomb is that it will not be destroyed by counter-bombs."

The very existence of nuclear weapons spells doom. If they exist, they will be used - by design, by error, by accident, by malfunction. All life will cease to be.

Once, statesmen spoke of wars to end all wars. We know wars do not end wars. The atom bomb came as the weapon to end all, weapons. We know there can be no weapon to end all weapons. Now we are told of shields to deter, deflect and neutralise. But we know this cannot be.

The first nuclear explosion reminded Oppenheimer of the phrase from the Bhagavad Gita: "Brighter than a thousand suns." Yet, not all this brightness has enabled statesmen to see the light.
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PROCLAMATION OF PRIMARY RIGHTS

Humanity has the right to live, the right to hope, the right to a future. The Six-Nation Five-Continent Initiative is a proclamation of these primary rights. If nuclear weapons denote the world's death wish, our Movement represents humanity's will to survive.

The basic obligation for nuclear disarmament rests on those that have nuclear weapons. But we the non-nuclear-weapon States have an equal stake. A nuclear war cannot be confined to the combatants. Its fall-out will embrace all. Nuclear weapons make no distinction between the aggressive and the peaceful: They have no eyes, no heart, no mind. It is, therefore our duty as non-nuclear-weapon States to exert unremmitting pressure on the nuclear-weapon powers to negotiate and to disarm.

President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev declared, when they met in Geneva, that their objective was "to prevent an arms race in space and terminate it on earth, ultimately to eliminate nuclear arms everywhere". A nuclear war can never be won, they said, and so it must never be fought. The last ten months have seen little practical progress towards this objective. The decision to continue the dialogue is welcome. The next meeting of the two leaders must result in specific and effective steps towards nuclear disarmament.

SAFEGUARD FOR SURVIVAL

Challenger and Chernobyl remind us of the fallibility of technology. Annihilation by error is no less total than annihilation by design, The only sure safeguard for survival is the dismantling of nuclear weapons.

Nuclear weapons are a crime against humanity and must be so branded. Our Declaration has called for a binding international agreement which would outlaw every use of nuclear weapons. With the

United States of America and the Soviet Union having jointly stated that their objective is the elimination of nuclear weapons, we look forward to their subscribing to such a binding obligation. A moratorium on nuclear testing, followed by a comprehensive ban, will be a far-reaching step in the right direction.

In response to our call, the Soviet Union unilaterally accepted a moratorium on nuclear tests and twice extended it. We commend them and deeply appreciate the earnestness they have shown.

Unfortunately, nuclear testing continues. It is contended that a ban on tests is not feasible in the absence of a mechanism for verification which would inspire confidence. That is why our Six Nations have put forward a proposal to undertake the verification of a moratorium. Our geographic reach, technological competence and independence of bloc rivalries should command acceptance.

While the nuclear dragons on the ground multiply, there are attempts to lodge them in outer space. Outer space is the common heritage of all humankind We cannot acquiesce in its privatisation, certainly not for the purpose of destroying the Earth. Weapons in space would be an irreversible extension of the danger.

I was three years old when my country became free. Since then a hundred more nations have become independent. I was a year old when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Since then the destructive power of nuclear weapons has grown enormously. We live, as Indira Gandhi reminded us, under the spread hood of the cobra. What world shall we bequeath our children? Can the tree of hope bear fruit when fear blights it?

Each one of us has a duty - to do everything we can to turn the face of humankind from darkness towards light, from death towards life.

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DIA MEXICO USA SPAIN JAPAN SWITZERLAND

Date: Aug 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Mexico Declaration

The following is the Mexico Declaration issued on Aug 07, 1986:

We are meeting today to proclaim Humanity's Right to Peace, and to reiterate our commitment to the task of protecting this right so that the human race may endure.

Exactly forty-one years ago, death and horror descended upon Hiroshima. The most dreadful war in history came to an end, and the world's nuclear nightmare began. Since then we have lived on borrowed time. All that is precious and beautiful, all that human civilization has reached for and achieved, could, in a short time, be reduced to radioactive dust.

For four decades the nuclear weapon states have had almost sole responsibility to end the nuclear arms race, while the rest of the world has been forced to stand anxiously on the sidelines. The nuclear arms race has continued and become more intense. In the face of the consequent danger of common annihilation, the distinction between the powerful and the weak has become meaningless. We are therefore determined that countries such as ours which possess no nuclear arsenals will be actively involved in all aspects of disarmament. The protection of this planet is a matter for all the people who live on it; we cannot accept that a few countries should alone decide the fate of the whole world.

The recent tragic accidents at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and at the launching of the Challenger space shuttle have shown once again how fragile is any security based on complex technology alone. And when an accident at a peaceful nuclar power plant has such great international repercussions, everyone can see very clearly the terrible consequences which would result from the use of even a small fraction of the nuclear armaments

which now exist in the world. If a repetition of Hiroshima on a global scale is to be prevented, it is not merely more knowledge or new technologies which are needed, but more wisdom. We call for a binding international agreement which outlaws every use of nuclear weapons.

NEW DELHI MEETING

In January 1985 our group met in New Delhi to consider the perilous development of the nuclear arms race. We called for an immediate halt to nuclear testing preparatory to a comprehensive test ban treaty, for a cessation in the production and development of all nuclear weapons and delivery systems as well as for a prohibition on the testing, production and deployment of space weapons. We also expressed our hope that the United States and the Soviet Union would make rapid progress in their bilateral negotiations towards the abolition of all nuclear weapons. We have since welcomed the declaration of President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in November, 1985, that " a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought". How is the time to ensure that such a war does not occur. We are, therefore, deeply concerned about the lack of evident progress so far in these negotiations.

We are aware, however, that both powers have recently taken different steps that could help to overcome some obstacles and serve as a new framework for reaching agreements. We are convinced that security is not improved by increasing the capacity for destruction through the accumulation of weapons; on the contrary, true security is better ensured through the reduction of armaments. Nuclear disarmament, and ultimately the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, is an absolute priority. However, in this context, the problem of a balanced reduction in the conventional weapons must also be given appropriate attention.

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We remain convinced that no issue is more urgent and crucial today than bringing to an end all nuclear tests. Both the qualitative and the quantitative development of nuclear weapons exacerbate the arms race, and both would be inhibited by the complete abolition of nuclear weapons testing.

ARMS ADDICTION

Furthermore, it is clear that continued development of nuclear weapons by those who already possess them is detrimental to the efforts to prevent the acquisition of nuclear weapons by other States which have until now refrained from acquiring them. We must recognise that, just as a drug addict cannot be cured by injecting him with more and more drugs neither can be arms-addicted world be saved from war by an infinite accumulation of weapons. The time to stop is now.

In October, 1985 and February, 1986, and again in April this year, we have exchanged correspondence with President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev. We urged them to undertake a fully verifiable suspension of nuclear testing, at least until their next summit meeting. We also proposed that this suspension should be immediately followed by negotiations for the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. We offered our assistance to help ensure adequate verification of such a halt in tests.

We have been encouraged by the consideration which has been given to our approaches and by the international attention which the nuclear test issue has been accorded. We continue to urge that what has so far been a unilateral moratorium by one of the two major nuclear states should soon become at least a bilateral moratorium.

VERIFICATION

To facilitate an immediate cessation of nuclear testing we are presenting in a separate document a concrete offer of assistance to achieve adequate verification agreements. We are prepared to participate in cooperative efforts together with the US and the USSR to establish temporary measures. These could greatly enhance confidence in a US-USSR moratorium and constitute important steps towards the establishment of an adequate verification system for a comprehensive test ban treaty. Such measures could include the establishment of temporary monitoring stations at existing test sites, arrangements for utilizing existing stations in the US and the USSR for monitoring their territories outside the test sites, as well as inspections of large chemical explosions. We welcome that the US and the USSR have started bilateral talks recently on nuclear testing issues. We have decided to propose to the leaders of the US and the USSR that experts from our Six Nations meet with Soviet and American experts. The purpose should be to explain in detail our proposals, to discuss how they could be implemented, and to explore other possible ways in which our Six countries could facilitate test ban verification. We are further strengthening our mutual cooperation with a view to monitoring and announcing on-going test activities. And our Six Nations will also consider steps by which the non-nuclear weapon States may cooperate in international verification arrangements related to future nuclear disarmament agreements.

OUTER SPACE

We reiterate our demand that an arms race in outer space be prevented. Space belongs to humanity, and as participants in this common heritage of mankind, we object to the outer space of our earth being misused for destructive purposes. It is particularly urgent to halt the development of anti-satellite weapons, which would threaten the peaceful space activities of many nations. We urge the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union to

agree on a halt to further tests of antisatellite weapons, in order to facilitate the conclusion of an international treaty on their prohibition. Our New Delhi warning that the development of space weaponry would endanger a number of agreements -240>

on arms limitation and disarmament is already proving to be justified. We stress that the existing treaties safeguarding the peaceful uses of outer space, as well as the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, be fully honoured, strengthened and extended as necessary in the light of more recent technological advances.

Unfortunately in recent times respect for international law has reached one of its lowest ebbs. Rights of weaker nations are being trampled upon with impunity. Treaties are being violated to suit the convenience of nations, especially the strongest among them. It is imperative, if the efforts to move towards nuclear disarmament are to make progress, that the United Nations must be strengthened and its Charter as well as treaties relating to disarmament be observed in both letter and spirit.

The squandering of the world's limited resources on armaments stands in sombre and dramatic contrast to the permanent malnutrition leading to a life in misery and an early death -- to say nothing of the ever-present threat of famine -- which is the lot of millions of people on earth. Poverty and economic hopelessness also constitute a threat to international peace and security. This threat is aggravated in many developing countries in which the external debt problem reduces still further their ability to allocate sufficient resources for dealing with the urgent and fundamental needs among their people. The transfer of resources from military expenditure to economic and social development is, therefore, a fundamental necessity of our times.

MESSAGE FROM MEXICO

Our message from Mexico is to urge the leaders of the United States of America and the Soviet Union to continue and to reinvigorate the dialogue which they started last year; to set a firm date for a new meeting between them; and by an approach of mutual compromise and conciliation to ensure that such dialogue leads to practical results in the field of disarmament. Each side has the capacity to destroy the world many times over. There can be no suggestion that either would be showing weakness by a willingness to be conciliatory. The spirit of Geneva must be revived and strengthened. And we stress again our determination to try to facilitate agreement between the nuclear weapon States, and to work with them, as well as with all other nations, for the common security of humankind and for peace.

Once again, we urge people, Parliaments and Governments the world-over to give active support to our appeal. Every individual

has a right to peace and a responsibility to strive for it. Neither together nor separately can the peoples of the world remove the horror of Hiroshima and Nagasaki from human memory; but together we can and we must remove this looming horror from our future.

Raul Alfonsin President of Argentina

Andreas Papandreou Prime Minister of Greece

Rajiv Gandhi Prime Minister of India

Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado President of Mexico

Ingvar Carlsson Prime Minister of Sweden

Julius Nyerere First President of Tanzania -241>

XICO JAPAN USA INDIA SWITZERLAND ARGENTINA GREECE SPAIN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC SWEDEN TANZANIA

Date: Aug 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Verification Measures

The following is the document issued on Aug 07, 1986 at the Mexico summit on verification measures:

- 1. It is the responsibility of the nuclear powers to halt nuclear testing as a significant step to curb the nuclear arms race. The USA and the USSR, being the two major nuclear powers, have a special responsibility to initiate the process of nuclear disarmament by immediately halting their nuclear testing. To facilitate such an immediate step the Six Nations of the Five Continent Initiative are prepared to assist in the monitoring of a mutual moratorium or a test ban.
- 2. We are prepared to participate in co-operative efforts together with the USA and the USSR and also to take certain steps

on our own to facilitate the achievement of adequate verification arrangements.

VERIFICATION OF A MORATORIUM IN COOPERATION WITH THE USA AND THE USSR

3. In our view, some temporary measures could greatly enhance confidence in a USA-USSR moratorium and would constitute important steps towards the establishment of an adequate verification system for a comprehensive test ban treaty.

POSSIBLE MONITORING OF TEST SITES

- 4. To provide assurance that the test sites, which are well equipped for nuclear testing and where the effects of nuclear explosions are well-known, are not used for clandestine testing, we consider the establishment of temporary monitoring facilities at existing test sites to be an important measure.
- 5. The three test sites recently used, Nevada in the United States and Semipalatinsk and Novaya Zemlya in the Soviet Union, are quite small geographically and could be monitored by a limited number of seismic stations placed in these two countries at or close to each test area.
- 6. Rapidly to establish temporary stations at the test sites, available portable seismic equipment would have to be used. 5-8 interconnected stations placed around each test area would be adequate. Some of the stations at the test sites could also be equipped with instruments interchanged between the USA and the USSR to enhance mutual confidence.
- 7. In connection with a mutual halt in nuclear testing, our Six Nations are prepared to establish promptly and in co-operation with the USA and the USSR, temporary monitoring stations at existing test sites and to operate them for an initial period of one year. All data should be available to the Six Nations, the USA and the USSR. Data analysis could be a joint undertaking and preliminary analysis would be done at the sites. Monitoring of test sites by instruments installed on site would provide an extremely high sensitivity down to small fractions of kiloton and even tons of explosives.
- 8. It is expected that a number of earthquakes would be detected at the test sites. The numbers and sizes will vary between the three sites. To reduce the risk of misinterpreting such shallow earthquakes as being nuclear explosions, a scheme of on-site inspections at the test sites could be envisioned. This would be most important during the initial period while experience is gained at the actual sites. Our Six Nations are prepared to participate in such inspections conducted in cooperation with the host country.

POSSIBLE MONITORING OF THE TERRITORIES OF THE USA AND THE USSR OUTSIDE THE TEST SITES

9. To provide assurance that nuclear explosions are not conducted and that natural earthquakes are not misinterpreted as -242>

clandestine nuclear test explosions, events all over the USA and the USSR would have to be monitored.

- 10. There are areas of the two countries, in addition to the test sites, that might be considered to be more important to monitor than others. The possibilities of conducting un-noticed tests are for example increased by the availability of large cavities for unconsolidated rock which reduce the strength of the seismic signals. Other possible areas of importance are regions of shallow seismicity. It might be desirable to establish specific verification arrangements in some of these areas, and our Six Nations are prepared to co-operate with the USA and the USSR on this issue.
- 11. There is today a large number of seismological stations, established to record local earthquakes, both within the USA and the USSR. Some of these stations might not be equipped at present with the most modern or high sensitivity instruments and they might not be sited in an optimal way to monitor a moratorium or a CTB. They are, however, operational today and could initially be of great value in rapidly improving the present monitoring capability. A major question is to assure the authenticity of the measurements obtained at these stations.
- 12. This could be achieved by "internationalizing" a number of selected stations, tentatively 20-30, in each of the two countries by placing observers from our Six Nations at these stations. Their task would be to verify that the instruments are properly operated and that all information obtained is reported without omission. We are prepared to work out the necessary arrangements, which could be made with little delay and to contribute observers for an initial period of one year.
- 13. To replace these temporary measures with permanent arrangements, our experts are ready to co-operate with experts of the USA and the USSR in the development of permanent verification facilities at test sites, and also in the development of an optimal network of internal stations in the USA and USSR.

POSSIBLE INSPECTION OF LARGE CHEMICAL EXPLOSIONS

14. To ensure that large chemical explosions conducted during a moratorium are not misinterpreted as nuclear tests, we are prepared to establish, together with the USA and the USSR, procedures for on-site inspections of large chemical explosions and to take part in such inspections.

ACTIVITIES BY OUR SIX COUNTRIES INDEPENDENTLY OF THE USA AND THE USSR

- 15. In order to pave the way for the establishment of efficient verification measures, our Six countries will take a number of technical actions independently of the USA and the USSR. We shall be strengthening our mutual co-operation with a view to monitoring and announcing on-going test activities. This will involve rapid exchange of data related to presumed explosions as well as informal technical consultations about the nature of observed events. Our countries will jointly publish yearly statistics on test activities in the nuclear weapon states. To this end, efforts are also being made further to improve our national verification facilities to achieve an even higher and balanced monitoring capability with regard to existing test sites.
- 16. We will also support the establishment of an international verification system by actively participating in the ongoing work on such a system by the Group of Scientific Experts at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. Our Six Nations will also consider steps by which the non-nuclear weapon States may cooperate in international verification arrangements related to future nuclear disarmament.

EXPERT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE USA AND THE USSR

17. We have proposed to the leaders of the US and the USSR that experts from our Six Nations meet with Soviet and -243>

American experts. The purpose should be to explain in detail the proposals put forward in this document, to discuss how they could be implemented, and to explore other possible ways in which our six countries could facilitate test ban verification.

XICO USA SWITZERLAND

Date: Aug 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech by President of Mexico

The following is the text of the address by the President of Mexico, Miguel De La Madrid, at the dinner offered in honour of the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi in Mexico on Aug 07, 1986:

Your Excellency, the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Distinguished Madame Gandhi, Ladies and Gentlemen, just a few hours ago, in Ixtapa, Six National leaders from different parts of the world issued a responsible and serious call for the preservation of life on this planet. There, we were also echoing the message of the many peoples of the world who yearn for peace and deserve the benefits of development, equity and justice.

SHARED HOPE

Today, on receiving Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, we renew that shared hope, which in the case of India and Mexico represents the active and militant voice of some nine hundred million human beings. It is, therefore, a great privilege to offer our distinguished guest a most cordial and sincere welcome on the occasion of his first visit to Mexico and to Latin America.

We have been acquainted for some time past with the political sensitivity of the Prime Minister of India. He possesses the attributes of a young and forward-looking generation, combined with the qualities of a mature and serene intelligence. His insight and capacity for profound reflection are complemented by a deeply instinctive sense of political reality. This is a characteristic of his brilliant family history, beginning with his grandfather, Pandit Nehru, one of the fathers of national independence; continuing with the unforgettable Indira Gandhi, and culminating in the person of our distinguished guest.

We hope that your visit to our country, Mr. Prime Minister, will prove not only pleasant, but also stimulating. You will have an opportunity to observe the ongoing and active work of the Mexican nation, as well as social phenomena that resemble those of your own country. You will find nothing strange, for example, in our efforts to deal with the enormous difficulties involving in living in the world as it is in these final years of the twentieth century.

Actually, no nation finds it easy to handle these hard, times of crisis. In every corner of the Earth, countries have been faced for years past with numerous different probems that appear to cast a dark shadow upon their horizon and jeopardize their possibilities of development.

COMPLEX PANORAMA

It is a complex panorama that we face. In Mexico's case, we have established a domestic policy of far-reaching adjustments designed to protect the economy and the levels of social and cultural progress attained by its people. This has signified an enormous effort and a selfless spirit of sacrifice on the part of all Mexicans.

One of our basic postulates is the integrated growth of the nation. Without that, any attempt at modernization will be doomed to failure and end by sowing the seeds of social frustration.

Our strategy combines, in a rational manner, the reordering of public finances and promotion of the development of our strategic industrial plant. It also contemplates the restructuring of financial commitments undertaken with other countries in accordance with our capacity to pay.

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This will allow us to increase the availability of financial resources in order to sustain an overall growth of the economy that will allow us to meet the demands of the different domestic sectors.

In addition to these efforts of economic reordering, we Mexicans are promoting significant structural changes designed to improve efficiency and raise productivity in our economic system and thereby make it more competitive in the international economy.

NATIONAL IMPULSE

Above all, Mexico has the potential born of its revolutionary origins. The State that arose out of a national impulse cannot but recognise itself in its own sources. Therein lies its legitimacy and its great capacity for the accommodation of varying political currents. Like all processes of this nature, ours is open to democratic participation and must respond, on the basis of irrevocable ideological principles, to the demands and limitations imposed by the world situation in our times. It is a task that we must face with realism and responsibility so as to strengthen the national project that gives us cohesion.

The nature of the numerous measures of adjustment and structural change that I have pointed out cannot be separated from the international actions of Governments. It is, therefore, necessary to orient the course of economic reordering and carry it forward in world forums.

There, special emphasis must be placed on the joint responsibility of all nations, without exception, in solving current problems.

Just yesterday we were commenting with our counterparts and colleagues from Argentina, Greece, Sweden and Tanzania on the extraordinary potential for well-being that could be channelled to the peoples of the world if the vast resources destined to financing the absurd, unrestrained arms race were freed in their

favour.

Hegemonic confrontations and regional conflicts tend, additionally, to encourage a succession of absurdities: the best of human endeavour is devoted to man's own annihilation; underprivileged peoples are condemned to hunger and disease, whilst wealth and technological research are concentrated on the endless accumulation of arsenals.

CONCEPT OF NEW ORDER

The world has certainly changed, and the very concept of a new order must be enriched and broadened. We should not insist, for example, on rhetorical rallying cries in the search for guilty parties. That would not only lead us down the dead-end alleyway of monologues, it would also lead us into repeating processes and schemes that industrialized nations have already discarded, without giving due recognition to the capacity for original work existing within our nations, while ignoring the specific realities of each people.

What is needed, on the contrary, is to insert the aims of international justice within a framework that takes both political plurality and the safeguarding of sovereignty into account. It is the specific responsibility of individual States to determine their own system of life and to pattern their economic reordering efforts on the needs dictated by their own interests and by genuine, legitimate national security.

Circumstances have conferred a great urgency on the participation of developing countries in international affairs. It is important to point out that they have put forward new alternatives, giving priority to such initiatives as cooperation, concerted action and efforts to obtain a consensus of opinion.

South-South dialogue and cooperation are likewise urgently required, and an agenda should be drawn up which would allow the most relevant topics to be identified and placed in order of importance, so that actions taken by States may be center -245>

ed on those aspects that most seriously jeopardize the destiny and independence of our peoples.

LANGUAGE OF REASON

The above implies a persevering task of unification which can only be carried out by placing priority, above all, on political activity, which is the language of reason and conciliation. A world incapable of practising politics would be an easy prey to violence and chaos.

The search for greater economic integration actually strengthens

the political dialogue between the industrialized North and the developing South. In order to promote it even further, forums of consultation and concerted action, such as the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the Group of 77 and the Cartagena Consensus, must be consolidated.

Those platforms have constituted a favourable political milieu in which to raise many vitally important questions. All the more so, since it is already impossible to separate issues of apparent domestic concern from the external factors affecting them.

In India, Mexico finds a mirror which to a large extent, reflects its own experiences. In their respective hemispheres, both countries have achieved the kind of prestige that stems not only from their qualities as nations, but also from their active efforts in the world to further the principles of law and coexistence, of cooperation and peace.

PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGES

In view of the many things we have in common, and of the visits between our two countries at the highest level that have been made over the past 25 years, our relations should now be given a new impetus that will broaden and consolidate them. We should take advantage of the regularity of our communications to establish a mechanism of consultation involving a more precisely defined Governmental activity and other areas of national representation. Parliamentary exchanges, because of their scope and range, can foster coordinated activities and joint programmes, both in public affairs and in the realm of international action.

Science, technology and culture represent priority areas of bilateral cooperation. We are persuaded that art and knowledge can express the truest creative and peace-loving vocation of peoples.

Few manifestations of human ingenuity exert a greater attraction and command greater respect than the friendship created between peoples through their cultural relations. Human feelings and intelligence are the surest and firmest roads to peaceful coexistence between peoples.

AUTHENTIC TRADITION OF THOUGHT

In drawing upon their age-old civilizations, marked by an authentic tradition of thought and an unmistakable inclination towards improving their knowledge of the universe, India and Mexico cannot remain on the fringe of the major advances occurring in modern technology. Our two countries are faced with the need to move ahead in this area by utilizing their own material and human resources.

India has earned substantial world prestige through its advances in these fields.

India's vigorous dynamism is attested by its many activities on behalf of peace and its outstanding role as a member, and currently President, of the Movement of Non-aligned countries. In that forum it has expressed its support of the Contadora Group, which is seeking a negotiated settlement of the conflict in Central America. We greatly appreciate India's support of the efforts of Latin America to resolve this regional conflict, which, like others that persist in various parts of the world, is a threat to world peace.

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RATIONAL DIALOGUE

Given this situation, it is essential to provide new options for establishing a rational dialogue, constrained only by the imperative that all countries must adhere to the principles and norms of international law.

Mr. Prime Minister, our international life is based on historical experience. We stand for pluralism, because we are the product of a rich commingling of many different peoples. We believe in unity as the necessary sum total of the creative contributions of the component parts. We invoke peace, and the security it brings, as against the insecurity of war, since only in peace can solutions be found to the major problems of the world.

The principles and values of India and of Mexico have much in common. This is explained by the works of those who, with their tenacity and their intelligence, have forged our present.

It is only just that we should remember them today as symbols of a productive future for our nations. Allow me to express my sincere hope for their enduring memory among us and among all peoples who love peace and concord.

I am certain, Mr. Prime Minister Gandhi, that your visit to Mexico will represent a new link in the friendship between our peoples, who together will go on striving for peace, development and justice amongst all nations.

XICO SPAIN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ARGENTINA GREECE SWEDEN TANZANIA COLOMBIA

Date: Aug 07, 1986

Volume No

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Banquet Speech in Mexico City

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the banquet in Mexico city on Aug 07, 1986:

Your Excellency President de la Madrid, Senora de la Madrid, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have come from half a world away to a welcome so warm it dissolves distances and diminishes the vast expanse of the oceans. My wife and I would like to thank you and the people of Mexico for having made our stay in this country such a memorable experience.

Scholars tell us that many millennia ago it was hardy pioneers from the Asian mainland who crossed the Bering Strait to North America and spread southward to Mexico and other parts of Latin America. The explorer Thor Heyerdahl established that these same people then sailed the seas to the islands of the Pacific, from where they ventured back to the continent from where they had come. Much of this is lost to recorded history. The Mayan civilization developed largely in isolation from the civilizations of Asia. We have no proof of any contacts and yet there are interesting coincidences which might open up a stimulating line of enquiry. For instance, it is intriguing that the archaic Sanskrit word for the sun, Mahaksha, should bear a resemblance to the word Mexico -- the land of the sun worshippers. Consider the time cycle of the Mayans -- 48,000 years -- corresponds almost exactly to the yugas of Hindu lore. And the period of the lunar month calculated by our ancient astronomer, Varahmihira, approximates the Mayan calculation -except that modern astronomy has demonstrated the Mayans to have been the more accurate!

TRIUMPH OF REASON

Situated as we are at opposite sides of the globe, our emergence into the modern world took place at different times and in different ways, but the culmination bears striking resemblances. Your struggle started with Hidalgo, Morelos and Benito Juarez in the 19th century about the time India was being amalgamated into the British Empire. Your revolution attained fruition during the period Mahatma Gandhi was taking over the leadership of -247>

the final phase of our freedom movement. The underlying significance of the Mexican revolution was that it represented the triumph of reason and the scientific temper over superstition

and bigotry. In much the same manner, our struggle for political independence was part of a wider struggle for social and cultural emancipation. Your revolution ushered Mexico into the era of modernisation -- as much of the mind as of the means of production. Ours has done the same. Your revolution bequeathed to Mexico a tradition of people's rule. We have consolidated our freedom with institutions which make us the largest democracy in the world.

On international issues, we hold a broad similarity of views. Our foreign policy of Non-alignment is designed to preserve the external attributes of our sovereignty, and our independence to express our views on international issues in full freedom and as equal members of the international community. We admire your singlemindedness in standing up for your beliefs, in refusing to be deflected by outside pressures, threats or blandishments. Mexico has played an important role in international affairs -- especially in such key areas as disarmament, development and peace in your region.

POETRY MOVES INTO ACTION

We share a common concern at the implications for international peace of recent developments in this region. Central America is convulsed with profound political, social and economic change. You recognise, as we do, that the impulse for change comes not at the behest of foreign ideologies but from the people's need to rid themselves of oppressive, outdated social structures. For a long time, history lay frozen in much of the Central American isthmus. Now it is moving. And as it moves, we hear the echo of your renowned poet, Octavio Paz:

"When History sleeps, it speaks in dreams: on the forehead of the sleeping people, the poem is a constellation of blood. When History wakes, image becomes act, the poem happens: poetry moves into action."

To resist the forces of change by invoking or imposing outside intervention is doubly wrong: wrong because external intervention arrests political evolution, and wrong because external intervention violates international law. There must be a resumption of negotiation and dialogue to achieve a just and lasting settlement based on respect for the right to self-determination of each country of the region and ensuring the security, sovereignty and independence of all States of the region. The region must not be dragged into East-West bloc rivalries.

AUTHENTIC REGIONAL INITIATIVE

We support the efforts of the Contadora Group to restore and preserve peace and stability in this part of the world. You belong to this region, you appreciate the problems of the region,

and you have initiated an authentic regional initiative. We share with you the perception that the urge to change in Central America is the same urge to a larger freedom for the human spirit which underlay the revolutions in France and America in the 18th century. It sparked the great Mexican revolution in the early decades of this century. It brought India and scores of other countries out of the dark night of colonialism.

In recent years, India and Mexico have been closely associated in trying to persuade the developed countries that interdependence provides the only durable basis for the continued prosperity of the North and the steady development of the South. The New International Economic Order is neither aimed at robbing the rich North to pay the poor South, nor at leaching the economic well-being of the developed countries. On the contrary, it is our belief that the limits to growth in the North can be transcended by availing of the opportunities for growth which the South presents. There is a growing realization of this in the developed countries but, sadly and ironically, even as aware -248>

ness of the potential of multilateral co-operation grows, there is a retreat from cooperative international action. Where the world economy should serve the entire community of nations, it is rendered parochial, divided by narrow domestic walls. Complementarity is neglected and compartmentalisation encouraged. We urge a restoration of the will to cooperate. We call for a new consensus on international cooperation for development.

KEY TO JOINT ENDEAVOUR

We need not, however, wait upon a change of heart in the North to push forward our own plans of South-South co-operation. If the key to our national endeavour is self-reliance, then the key to our joint endeavour must be collective self-reliance. The Nonaligned Movement and the Group of 77 have interesting programmes in hand. However, our record of achievement on the ground falls far short of the potential. We seem to know too little about one another to recognise when we might with advantage turn to a fellow developing country rather than to an expensive, recalcitrant supplier from the North. This lack of familiarity is in turn a reflection of distortions in international channels of information and communication. We would, therefore, like to see the establishment of South-South information grids that will enable professionals, experts and entrepreneurs from our countries to know one another, to sensitize each to the possibilities and potential of the other, and to share experience and expertise.

India and Mexico have demonstrated in the crucial sector of agriculture how much we can achieve by working together Straddling as we do the same Tropic of Cancer, we share a similarity of climatic characteristics and natural endowments.

This makes our respective experiences of development relevant to each other. Thus, it is no mere coincidence but a reflection of how similarly we are placed that the hybrid strain of wheat developed in Mexico brought about the germination of the Green Revolution in India. As a result, within two decades we have transformed our economy from one dependent on food imports to one which is self-sufficient in food, self-reliant on all fronts, and self-confident in the future. We look forward to exploring many more fields of common interest where India and Mexico can enrich each other. We have hardly tapped the potential for trade and industrial exchanges. This is a sector to which we must devote particular attention.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in a toast to the good health of His Excellency the President of Mexico and Senora de la Madrid; to friendship between the peoples of India and Mexico; and to peace, goodwill and prosperity for all.

XICO SPAIN USA INDIA FRANCE PERU

Date: Aug 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Speech at Civic Reception in Mexico

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 08, 1986 of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the civic reception in his honour in Mexico on August 8,1986:

I am deeply honoured that you have presented to me the key of the beautiful city of Mexico. I am touched by this gesture of goodwill and your warm words of welcome.

I am in Mexico on a journey of friendship. I bring to you the greetings and good wishes of the 750 million people of India. My grandfather was here a quarter of a century ago. My mother came for the Cancun Conference. She was looking forward to paying an official visit to Mexico. It is my proud privilege to fulfil that commitment,

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INHERITORS OF A GLORIOUS PAST

The geographic distance that separates our countries is considerable, but modern communication has made the world small and brought us together. We are, each of us, inheritors of a glorious past and rich cultural legacy. We can both lay claim to having produced some of the greatest architects and sculptors that world civilization has known. As a people, we were both fascinated with the cosmos and the relationship of the earth to the stars and the planets. Our interest in astronomy brought about an interest in mathematics which led to the Indians and the Mayans being among the first to identify the numeral zero. There are other interesting parallels. When danger and disarray overcome the Aztecs, many of the magnificent temples of the Yucatan disappeared under the lush vegetation of the tropical forest, to be preserved for the prying eyes of a more tranquil age. So, did some of our magnificent temples disappear into the jungle. And if Indian gastronomy is renowned the world over, some of the credit must go to Mexico from where the chilli was first brought to India.

Your country and ours fell victims of the same colonialism which burst from Europe in the 16th century and spread like a stain across the world over the next 300 years. Even after you had shaken off the shackles of direct Spanish rule, you had to contend with the no less sinister machinations of invisible imperialism. As Jawaharlal Nehru wrote in a letter to my mother in 1933:

"The latest kind of empire does not annex even the land. It only annexes the wealth or the wealth-producing elements in the country... Imperialism has perfected in the course of time and the moderm type of empire is the invisible economic empire."

Standing this morning before the national monument of the Ninos heroes, we recalled the long and heroic struggle of the Mexican people to rid themselves of foreign rule to wrench justice and equity from the large landed interests and pervasive commercial combines, to enshrine in the polity of your country liberty, individual freedom and the people's will. Who cannot but thrill to the romance of Emiliano Zapata and Pancho Villa?

Who cannot but be moved by the profound patriotism of Benito Juarez, the statesmanship of Calles, the military genius of Obregon?

MONUMENT TO MAHATMA GANDHI

You have honoured our struggle for independence through the monument you have raised to Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Indian nation. In doing so, you have recognised that the Mahatma's message was not for India alone but for the whole world. He pitted non-violence against the most powerful empire the world has known. He enthused hundreds of thousands of

ordinary men and women to stand upright in the face of injustice, to be unflinching in the face of insult and injury, to assert truth, simplicity and humility in the face of arrogance and brute force. He taught us that true courage lies not in responding to a bullet with a bullet but in overcoming tyranny by showing the tyrant the error of his ways.

There is a continuing validity to the essential truth of this message which found expression in our recent deliberations on nuclear disarmament at Ixtapa. In this nuclear age, it is not through a balance of power, a weighing of evil against equal evil, that either the peace of the world or the survival of humankind can be guaranteed. Any breakdown of that balance by error or design, by misperception or misapprehension, will spell a doom from which there is no retreat and after which there is no second chance. We appreciate the contribution made by Mexico's Nobel Laureat, Garcia Robles, spreading world awareness of this.

EXULTATION OF DIVERSITY

Then, there is the shame and inequity of Apartheid. Both in Mexico and India -250>

we celebrate the marvellous diversity of the human race, its differences of texture and hue, its variety of song and dance, its multitude of languages and religions. In opposition to this life-enhancing exultation of diversity, we have a tiny minority of racists in Pretoria squeezing the soul of South Africa. Apartheid is an abomination of human rights. It can neither be modified nor reformed. It must be dismantled - entirely and immediately.

MIRACLE OF SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Mr. Mayor, apart from a close identity of views on international matters, both our countries are deeply committed to democratic values and the institutions of popular rule. We are both engaged in preserving our independence and consolidating our nationhood. In recent decades, India and Mexico have embarked on a process of mutual discovery. Mexican scholars like Prof. Preciado Solis and your distinguished Ambassador in India, Dr. Graciela, De La Lama, have made lasting contributions to Indology. El Colegio De Mexico, is emerging as one of the world's leading institutions in Indian studies. We owe much to your great poet-philosopher Octavio Paz who, as your country's envoy in New Delhi, enriched our lives even as he enriched Mexico's knowledge of contemporary India. We recall with pride his moving tribute to the unity of India: "When we ponder Indian history how it was split for centuries by internecine struggles, the preservation of national unity seems a miracle. But even as I say this I have second thoughts: There are no miracles in history.... The unity of India is neither an accident nor a miracle. The true name of this

supposed miracle is social dialogue, political democracy."

We must work with enthusiasm and dedication towards building our cooperation in the arts, education, science, technology and trade. India and Mexico have much to learn from each other. Much to give each other.

MUSUEMS AND MURALS

I am delighted to be with the friendly Mexican people in this grand and historic city. The splendid museums, murals and monuments of this ancient city show the richness of its great history, a confluence of three great cultures. We admire the fortitude you showed in pushing ahead with the organization of the world football tournament despite the terrible natural disaster which struck your country. Hundreds of thousands of football fans in my country sat up for nights on and watching live television transmission the exciting matches so efficiently organized. Our shared enthusiasm for football has drawn the peoples of our countries closer together.

For your hospitality, you warmth and friendship, my wife and I would like to say a big thank you, Muchas Gracies.

XICO INDIA USA CHINA OMAN SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Aug 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Statement in Parliament on His Foreign Tour

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1986 of the text of the statement of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in the Parliament today (August 14) on his visit to London and Mexico:

I attended the Commonwealth Heads of Government Review Meeting in London from 3rd to 5th August, the Summit Meeting of the Six Nation Five Continent Initiative at Ixtapa in Mexico from 6th to 7th August, I also paid an official visit to Mexico from 7th to 9th August.

DISMANTLING APARTHEID

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Review Meeting took place in the light of our decision at Nassau last October that concerted pressure must be brought to bear on the Pretoria regime to dismantle -251>

Apartheid. Our aim is to facilitate a peaceful transition to majority rule in a united and non-fragmented South Africa on the basis of universal adult franchise.

We had decided at Nassau to form an Eminent Persons Group to facilitate a political dialogue on South Africa. The broadbased Group included Sardar Swaran Singh. As many of us had anticipated, the Group could not make the Pretoria regime see reason. But its work represents a significant in the fight against Apartheid. Its report is a moving and authoritative portrayal of the horrors of Apartheid. It has stirred the conscience of all nations.

We were personally briefed in London on this report by the two Co-Chairmen of the Group - General Obasanjo, former President of Nigeria, and Mr. Malcolm Fraser, former Prime Minister of Australia. This briefing confirmed the clear and unanimous finding of the EPG Report, namely, that only concerted pressure by the international community can forestall a bloodbath in South Africa.

MEASURES AGAINST PRETORIA

At Nassau, we had unanimously decided upon a common programme of action which included a number of economic measures against South Africa. We had agreed that if these measures and the efforts of the Eminent Persons Group failed to promote a dialogue within six months further measures, as envisaged in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Accord, would be considered.

In London, all except Britain, decided to adopt the measures listed in paragraph 7 of the Nassau Accord and three additional measures. The British Government dissociated itself from the measures agreed to by the others. It was willing to implement only a a few limited measures, one of which would be subject to a future EEC decision. Because of Britain's unfortunate stand, the rest of us decided to go ahead with sanctions rather than compromise on a diluted package which would destroy the credibility of the Commonwealth and go against the wishes of the overwhelming majority of its members.

India was one of the first countries to break off all relations with racist South Africa. We are of the firm view that sanctions, properly enforced, will compel South Africa to adopt the path of dialogue. We sincerely hope that the lead given by the Commonwealth will be followed by others.

The Communique issued after our meeting in London recognises that the Pretoria regime might take retaliatory steps against neighbouring States, which would only strengthen our resolve to take further measures. According to news reports, the racist regime has already displayed its defiance by enhancing customs tariffs and creating other difficulties for Front-line States. It has also carried out a raid on Angola. The next step for us in the Commonwealth and international community would be to take collective action in extending a helping hand to countries which are vulnerable to the South African regime's pressure. We will do whatever is in our power to assist these countries and to mobilise international support for this effort.

SIX-NATION INITIATIVE

I joined my colleagues from Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania at Ixtapa in Mexico from 6th to 7th August for the Summit meeting of leaders of the Six-Nation Five-Continent Initiative for peace and disarmament. This meeting took place on the 41st anniversary of the Hiroshima tragedy. The Mexico Declaration expressed deep concern at the lack of progress in nuclear disarmament since the New Delhi Declaration of January 1985. We emphasised the crucial importance of immediate suspension of nuclear tests, followed by negotiations leading to a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. We urged that what had so far been a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests by the Soviet Union should at least become a bilateral moratorium between the United States and the Soviet Union. Since we have the geo-252>

graphical spread and the technical expertise, we presented a separate document containing a concrete offer for verifying the suspension of nuclear tests by the United States and the Soviet Union. We firmly believe that verification is not an insurmountable technical problem. A nuclear test ban requires only the political will.

We have addressed a joint letter to President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev proposing that experts from the Six Nations meet with their Soviet and American counterparts to discuss our offer for facilitating a test ban verification. We await their response. In the past the Soviet Union has responded positively to our proposals. We hope that the American response will be helpful.

At Ixtapa we also reiterated our call for the prevention of an arms race in outer space and emphasised the urgency of halting the development of anti-satellite weapons.

SPIRIT AND CONTENT ENDORSED

Our meeting was enriched by the participation of several eminent personalities from a number of countries. All of them endorsed the spirit and content of the Mexico Declaration. We had occasion to exchange views with several of these eminent people, including Prof. Carl Sagan, Dr. Alfonso Garcia Robllos, Prof. John Kenneth Galbraith, Mr. Allan Boesak, Madame Silvia Hernandez, Prof. Aleksander Grilichkov and Prof. Jerome Wiezner. Public opinion and Governments in a number of countries are becoming increasingly aware of the import of our message. There is a greater need to enlist the support of Parliaments, the media, universities and other organisations to give active support to our initiative. They could help in mobilising public opinion, particularly in nuclear weapon States. Prior to our next meeting we shall also consider other measures to enable us to project an independent viewpoint on issues related to nuclear disarmament and prevention of an arms race in space, by compiling and disseminating unbiased data and studies.

BILATERAL TIES

My visit to Mexico from August 7-9 was the first bilateral Prime Ministerial visit, since my grandfather's visit to that country in November, 1961. We were received with great warmth and cordiality My talks with President De La Madrid, reflected shared perceptions on major international issues and our common concern for peace, disarmament and development.

We recognised that the level of our economic relations was not commensurate with our close political ties. Both of us decided to give more content to our relationship through a time-bound programme of enhancing trade and economic collaboration. We exchanged lists of items of export interest to each country and decided on reciprocal commercial credits of \$ 20 million to facilitate trade exchanges. The fields identified for industrial collaboration include textile machinery, machine tools, pharmaceuticals and railway equipment. The possibilities of collaboration in the oil sector would be explored during the visit of a Mexican delegation to India later this year. We also decided to have annual consultations at the Ministerial-level on bilateral matters and international issues

At the conclusion of these visits, I made a transit halt for about two and a half hours in Prague on Sunday, August 10. We were warmly received. I had useful talks with Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal. These revealed an identity of views on a number of international issues of mutual concern. The Czechoslovak Prime Minister reminded me of the pending invitation for me to pay an official visit to Czechoslovakia and I invited him to visit India.

On my return journey from Prague, the aircraft had some engine trouble and we were forced to make an unscheduled halt in Moscow. We spent over six hours at the airport shortly after midnight on 11th August. The Soviet Government graciously provided us with an aircraft for my return journey to Delhi and ex-

tended all courtesies. The first Deputy Prime Minister Geiodar Aliyev was good enough to come to the airport. We had a useful exchange of views.

We have good reason to be satisfied with the results of the Commonwealth meeting in London, the Ixtapa Summit and the visit to Mexico.

The Communique of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Review Meeting has been laid on the Table of the House earlier. I now place the Mexico Declaration and the Document on Verification Measures on the Table of the House, for the perusal of Hon'ble Members.

DIA USA MEXICO UNITED KINGDOM BAHAMAS SOUTH AFRICA NIGER NIGERIA AUSTRALIA ANGOLA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ARGENTINA GREECE SWEDEN TANZANIA JAPAN ITALY SPAIN CZECH REPUBLIC NORWAY SLOVAKIA RUSSIA PERU

Date: Aug 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Foreign Minister's Speech at First Session of Council of Ministers

The following is the text of the statement by Shri P. Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs and Commerce at the first meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers at Dhaka, on Aug 12, 1986:

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates, I am extremely happy to be here in this beautiful city of Dhaka to participate in the first session of the SAARC Council of Ministers. On behalf of my delegation and on my own behalf, I wish to convey my sincere thanks to the Government and people of Bangladesh for the warm and cordial welcome and hospitality extended to us and for the excellent arrangements made for our meeting.

I am particularly happy to meet my colleagues from other SAARC countries. For me, this is the first opportunity of this kind. I am sure the formal and informal exchange of views that we are going to have would not only influence our deliberations in this Council, but would also have a positive bearing on our mutual

relations.

GUIDANCE AND INSPIRATION

I would also like to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, our warm felicitations on your assumption of the position of the

Chairmanship of this important meeting. This is a fitting tribute to the brilliant and efficient manner in which you have carried forward the work of SAARC under the able guidance and inspiration of its current Chairman, His Excellency, Lt. General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, the President of Bangladesh.

India and Bangladesh have very close and warm relations with each other. This is based not only on our shared history, culture and literature, but also on our current common concerns. New vigour and impetus has been injected in this relationship with the frequent exchange of visits of our leaders. Just about a month ago, we had the honour of receiving in India His Excellency the President of Bangladesh along with you Mr. Chairman, and now I find myself in your beautiful country within a fortnight of my last visit.

Mr. Chairman, the external environment for pursuing our cooperative endeavour under SAARC has further deteriorated since we last met in Dhaka before the Summit. The nuclear arms race has continued unabated. As though the present nuclear arsenals of more than 50,000 warheads were not enough, third generation weapons and outer space weapon systems are being developed. This has brought mankind to the brink of the ultimate disas--254>

ter and has deprived us of our right to live. This has also resulted in a quantum, jump in the resources devoted to military purposes. The diversion of about a trillion dollars towards military purposes has been mainly responsible for the inadequacy of resources for conquering hunger, squalor, disease, malnutrition and literacy in the developing world. It has also emerged as a principal factor responsible for the continuing crisis in the world economy. It was in this background that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi joined the Presidents of Mexico and Argentina, the Prime Ministers of Greece and Sweden and ex-President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, in a Summit Conference held a few days ago in Mexico, to launch an appeal to the nuclear weapons powers to take immediate measures for halting and reversing the nuclear arms race and to enter into a binding commitment for swearing the use of nuclear weapons. They have attached the highest importance to the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty and the prevention of an arms race in the outer space.

The world economy is yet to recover from the crisis of the early 1980s. The rate of growth in the developed countries in 1985 was

much lower than what was projected earlier and the projections for 1986 have already been revised downwards. Imbalances continue to persist in the fiscal, monetary and balance-of-payments positions of these countries. There is now a growing realisation on the part of the major industrialised countries themselves, as reflected in the Tokyo Declaration, that these problems are of a structural nature and have to be tackled on a long-term basis.

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

These developments have had disastrous effect on the economies of the developing countries. The development process in many of these countries has had a severe setback. Their import capacity necessary for reactivating and sustaining growth is seriously impaired.

The international monetary, financial and trading systems continue to be in disarray. There is continuing decline in the availability of concessional finance and virtual drying up of the flows from private banking sources. The perpetuation and intensification of protectionist measures in spite of frequent reiteration of the commitment of the developed countries to observe standstill and take action to reverse protectionism, constitutes the gravest threat to the international trading system. The outcome of the recent negotiations on Multi Fibre Agreement has dealt another severe blow to GATT. No agreement could be reached on bringing trade in this sector into line with the GATT rules and no tangible evidence was given of doing so even in the near future. As a matter of fact, with the new MFA, the trade in this sector has become even more restricted.

The demand by developed countries for the inclusion of services, investments and intellectuals property in the proposed new round of trade negotiations has to be viewed in this background. Our recent experience, including that in the negotiations of MFA, gives us no confidence that we would emerge better off from the New Round of Trade Negotiations.

In this connection, the Declaration issued at the end of the Ministerial Meeting of SAARC countries on international economic issues, in which I had the honour of participating, still remains valid. As you are aware, the formulation of this Declaration, relating to the New Round of Trade Negotiations, became the basis for consensus both at the Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Coordinating Bureau held in New Delhi in April 1986 and the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 on GSTP held in Brasilia in May 1985. During the next few weeks very important decisions are going to be taken on this subject. It is, therefore, important for us to stand firmly by the Islamabad Declaration at this critical Juncture.

The present situation makes it all the more necessary for us to rely upon our own resources for solving our individual and common

significance and urgency to our regional cooperation. Our cooperation is, above all, for improving the lot of our people and for enriching their life. At the same time, it is a means for contributing to world peace and security and to the growth and stability of the world economy. We are trying to raise the voice of sanity and reason in this troubled world. There is no doubt that our cooperation imparts, resonance and strength to our voice.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION

We are happy that the follow-up action on the decisions of the SAARC Summit, has been prompt and effective. Apart from the Islamabad Ministerial Meeting on International Economic Issues, India convened the Ministerial Meeting on the role of women in development. The Study Group on Terrorism convened by the Government of Bangladesh has also done very useful work. That we are seized of the problem of terrorism is a matter of satisfaction to all of us.

Cooperation under SAARC is confined to the nine agreed areas of activities. However, in the evolutionary process of South Asian Cooperation, it is but proper to extend our cooperation to new spheres. Here I am reminded of my recent visit to Urir Char in Bangladesh. This brought home to me the similarities of our problems and the scope for joint effort, in coping with the natural disaster which frequently strike our countries. Mutual cooperation in this sphere can play a very important role in mitigating human sufferings We have, therefore, suggested a cooperative approach towards the management of natural disasters. Similarly, considering the crucial role of education in social and economic development, we can initiate cooperation in some specified areas in this field such as primary education, adult literacy, and book production.

The conference on child development and survival proposed by UNICEF and supported by all the member countries of SAARC, is also likely to come up with recommendations for cooperation in this vital sector of human welfare and development. Finally, we should also consider the question of extending regional cooperation to hard core economic areas of trade, industry, money and finance. So long as these areas remain outside the pale of regional co-operation, SAARC cannot be fully effective and its credibility will leave much to be desired.

Mr. Chairman, we have the mandate to consider different issues relating to the establishment of a Secretariat for SAARC. In considering this and other important matters before us, our task has been greatly facilitated by the commendable work done by the Standing Committee in its meeting yesterday.

HISTORIC EVENT

Mr. Chairman, after the historic event of the first SAARC Summit in Dhaka, India has the honour to host the second SAARC Summit. We have decided that its venue will be in Bangalore, one of our most beautiful cities. We are still consulting member governments on the dates for the Summit. In the meantime, we are actively engaged in the preparatory work. As agreed by the Heads of State or Government in Dhaka last year, the Summit is going to be a businesslike affair. We shall spare no effort in the preparatory work to ensure that our distinguished guests have a pleasant and comfortable stay in Bangalore and that the Summit achieves success. Nothing will contribute more to the success of the Summit than the progress that we are going to make in regional cooperation between now and the Bangalore Summit.

ABIDING FAITH

Mr. Chairman, before concluding I would like to reiterate once again India's abiding faith and unstinted support for South Asian Cooperation. We will march side by side with our partners in the region on the chartered path for regional cooperation. SAARC is destined to emerge as a great force in our region and in the -256>

world at large. To ensure this, we must, in the meantime, keep it insulated from the inevitable vicissitudes of our bilateral relations and from contentious international issues. In this, context, I only recall what our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had observed at the Dhaka SAARC Summit:

"We have not sought to melt our bilateral relationship 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."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

NGLADESH USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA MEXICO ARGENTINA GREECE SWEDEN TANZANIA JAPAN BRAZIL PAKISTAN

Date: Aug 12, 1986

Volume No

Development of New Sources of Energy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 22, 1986 on the finalisation of action plan for the development of new and renewable sources of energy in SAARC Countries:

The SAARC countries have decided to strengthen their cooperation for the development and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy in the region to their mutual benefit.

An Action Plan has been finalised to coordinate their activities in this field at the end of a three-day meeting of experts from the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation countries held here this week. Besides India, experts from Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in the meeting.

The Expert Group also drew up a calendar of activities to be carried out in this field for the years 1987-88.

It has been decided to identify institutions in the SAARC countries for exchange and dissemination of technical information. Focal points for biogas and solar energy will include the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Dhaka (Bangladesh), Department of Science and Technology and National Urban Development Corporation, Thimpu (Bhutan), Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Ministry of Energy, New Delhi(India), and Research Centre for Applied Science and Technology, Tribhuwan University, Kathmandu (Nepal).

A central coordination committee consisting of one representative from each country will meet at least once a year to review, monitor and plan activities in these fields.

Among other things, the focal points will exchange information on specifications of equipments and hardwares, sources of their supply and availability, compile on-going activities indicating the title of the projects, institutions involved, status of the projects, results achieved and strengthen training programmes.

The Expert Group consisting of one person from each SAARC country will be formed on biogas. This group will study different models on biogas plants and suggest measures for optimisation of designs and conducting field trials. Study visits and on-site training of selected users and grass-root functionaries will be organised in the field of biogas in India, Nepal and Bangladesh and in the field of solar cookers, solar water heating systems and photovoltaics in India. Study visits on solar houses will be organised in Bhutan.

The expert group suggested that the cooperative joint programme on microbiology of biogas fermentation and cold weather biogas plants should be developed. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal will pool their expertise in this direction. Similarly, a cooperative research project in the solar energy will be initiated which will consider solar salt production, solar stills, solar dehydration of food materials and timber drying, solar hot boxes and photovoltaic systems and performance testing.

The experts noted that the SAARC countries had vast potential for harnessing new and renewable sources of energy. Adequate expertise, experience and hardware had already been developed in the field of biogas, solar cookers, solar water heating systems, solar houses and photovoltaic systems. The group felt that the experience gained so far should be exchanged and pooled together wherever feasible for mutual benefit.

The participants were informed that a new thrust had been given to the programmes of biogas, improved cookstoves (chulhas), and solar cookers for large scale implementation in India in the past two to three years. Steps had also been taken to develop photovoltaic systems for decentralised small power application in remote areas. Over 200 villages had been electrified with the use of solar photovoltaic units. Over six lakh family based biogas plants and twenty-one lakh improved chulhas had been installed in the country.

DIA BHUTAN BANGLADESH NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date: Aug 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Dinner in Honour of Deputy Chairman of the U.S.S.R. - Vice-President R. Venkataraman's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 14, 1986 of the text of the speech by Shri R. Venkataraman, Vice-President, at the dinner in honour of H.E. Mr. S. B. Tatliev, Deputy Chairman of the U.S.S.R.:

Your Excellency Mr. Tatliev, Distinguished invitees, Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me immense pleasure to extend a most cordial welcome to you, Excellency, and to other distinguished members of

your delegation. It is a pleasure, always, to welcome our friends from the Soviet Union. You bring with you the warmth and friendship which are growing and deepening with passage of years.

May I, at the outset, express the hope that you, Your Excellency, and others in your delegation will have a pleasant and fruitful sojourn in our country.

Excellency, coming from the beautiful Republic of Azerbaijan on the Caspian Sea, you represent a great country. The Soviet Union has been our trusted friend. The foundations of this friendship were laid long before our own Independence when the Soviet Union gave sympathy and support for our struggle for freedom. Likewise Indian patriots supported the struggle of the Russian working people during the first Russian Revolution of 1905-1907 and spontaneously welcomed the victory of the world's first socialist revolution. We cherish the hand of friendship extended to the people of India by your great leader Lenin. Our own great leaders, Mahatma Gandhi and -258>

Jawaharlal Nehru shared the same passion for freedom from exploitation as Lenin. Our great poet Subramanya Bharati sang in praise of Russian revolution when the rest of the world was looking askance at it.

MAJOR LANDMARK

With the liberation of our motherland from colonial rule the friendly relations between our two countries matured into State level co-operation. A new era began with the exchange of visits between Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to Soviet Union in June 1955 and of the Soviet leadership to India in November 1955 The development of this relationship has been of immense benefit to our two countries and has been a stabilising factor for peace in the region and the world. Indo-Soviet cooperation encompasses virtually all spheres of human endeavour - economic, scientific, social and cultural. Economic co-operation has a pride of place in our multi-faceted relationship. Beginning with Bhilai more than three decades ago, this co-operation now stretches to many vital sectors of our economy. It has helped us considerably in building up a strong industrial infrastructure and a self-reliant economy. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the Soviet Union has become the leading trade partner of India. Over the years the growth of trade between our two countries has increased substantially. From a modest Rs. 450 million in 1953, it has increased to Rs. 450 million in 1985. The Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation signed in 1971 constitutes a major landmark in the development of our relationship. This Treaty, as you are aware, was followed in 1973 by the setting up of the Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation between our two countries. In the scientific and technological fields, the scientists of our two countries are

fruitfully working together. With the Indo-Soviet Joint space flight on April 3, 1984, the spirit of Indo-Soviet mutuality soared higher and higher. The agreements signed between India and Soviet Union during the visit of our Prime Minister to the USSR last year have given a new impetus to the expansion of two-way trade between our countries and to scientific and technological research. Indo-Soviet relations have attained a unique position in contemporary political life. In our friendship and cooperation, extending over three decades, we have always respected each other's sensitivities and susceptibilities. Indo-Soviet relations have withstood the test of time and pressures of all kinds. They have steadily grown with the spirit of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation signed by our two countries in 1971. That spirit continues, auguring well not only for India and the Soviet Union but also for the whole world.

PLEA FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

We are now keenly looking forward to receiving His Excellency Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU to India later this year.

We in India have appreciated the statesmanlike attitude of General Secretary Gorbachev on the subject of nuclear testing and nuclear disarmament. India has always appreciated well-intentioned efforts towards a reduction of international tensions. India has strongly pleaded for disarmament and more particularly for the elimination of nuclear weapons in the U.N. and all international gatherings. We are, therefore, gratified that General Secretary Gorbachev's enthusiasm for these ideals continues unabated. The future of the human race requires that success attends the effort.

I cannot but mention the identicality of the views of our respective nations on the issue of Apartheid and the situation in Namibia. We look forward to an early vindication of justice in these two areas.

Excellency, as you are aware, the Soviet Union and India are to host a Festival of India in the USSR and a Festival of the USSR in India, next year. This would be the first occasion when two reciprocal Festivals of this magnitude are -259>

being planned by our nations. These Festivals will articulate the heritage of our countries, enabling the common people of the two countries to glimpse the greatness of the two countries. I am confident that these two Festivals would open up new vistas for further enriching and deepening mutual understanding. This would be a unique and massive step in the path of friendship not only between our two countries but more specifically between our two peoples.

Excellency, allow me now to raise my toast to your good health, to the success of your visit to our country, and to the evergrowing friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

A INDIA AZERBAIJAN RUSSIA NAMIBIA

Date: Aug 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Protocol on Trade Co-operation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Aug 22, 1986 on the Indo-Soviet protocol on trade cooperation:

India and the Soviet Union have signed a Protocol on trade which envisages expansion of mutual trade and the development of new forms of trade cooperation between the two countries, including cooperation in production.

The protocol was signed earlier this week in Moscow by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Prem Kumar and by Mr. E. P. Bavarin, leader of the Soviet delegation, at the end of the third meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Trade which took place on 18th and 19th August.

Both sides have agreed that mutual trade in machinery and equipment conducted both on the traditional basis of exchange of goods and on the basis of production cooperation holds considerable promise for expanding bilateral trade and it was decided that measures would be taken to promote trade in machinery and equipment by both the countries.

Indian and the Soviet delegations also discussed possibilities for the setting up of joint ventures, particularly industrial joint ventures, in India and have decided to identify specific areas and sectors for promoting production cooperation.

The Working Group reviewed the implementation of the decisions taken at the second meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group.

The Group noted with satisfaction that contracts were fully concluded in accordance with the Trade Plan for 1986 for Soviet goods and commodities such as oil and oil products, urea,

chemicals (polyethylene, napthalene, napthalic anhydride, DDT) and non-ferrous metals. As regards Indian exports, full contracting had been done for shoe uppers, knitwear, handicrafts, perfumery and cosmetics, alumina, shellac, barytes, castings and forgings. Contracts for machinery and equipment have been concluded in excess of the provisions of the Trade Plan. Contracting for Soviet export of machinery and equipment has been for Rs. 680 crores against Trade Plan provision of Rs. 450 crores.

It was also noted that an additional contract for importing 220,000 tonnes of urea from USSR had been finalised.

The high level Indian delegation, led by the Commerce Secretary, also included Shri B. K. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Shri S. V. S. Raghavan, Chairman, MMTC.

The two sides agreed to hold the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Trade in New Delhi during the first half of 1987. -260>

DIA RUSSIA USA

Date: Aug 22, 1986

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Date : Sep 01, 1986

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1995

ATOMIC ENERGY

Special Session of International Atomic Energy Agency - Dr.Raja Ramanna's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 25, 1986 of the statement made on September 24, 1986 in Vienna at the Special Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency by Dr. Raja Ramanna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission:

I would like to express India's appreciation of the way in which the Agency and member States have focussed their work, during the past few months, on all aspects of reactor safety. This has, of course, been triggered by the unfortunate accident at Chernobyl as well our review of previous accidents in other parts of the world. We have expressed our profound sympathy to the Soviet people who rose heroically to the occasion in the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident. It appears from the discussions that it was caused principally due to a series of wrong operative decisions. In fact, certain experiments were undertaken at Chernobyl and had these been done with greater care, information of value would have been acquired. Unfortunately, since these experiments were conducted without the necessary precautions the accident took place.

It is, however, clear from the reports and the discussions that have been held at various meetings recently that nuclear power reactors have reached a stage of development which ensures that they can serve as a source of stable and economical supply of electricity, The safety and environmental aspects of such systems are also well under human control. It is a relatively new technology and has to learn from the accidents that have taken place.

VIABLE AND DEPENDABLE

Some people around the world have had misgivings regarding the safety of nuclear systems and their impact on the environment. This has been compounded by the few nuclear accidents that have taken place. There has been a rise in anti-nuclear movements in a few countries and some countries are understood to be considering winding down their nuclear programmes. This trend is very unfortunate as it is already known that nuclear power is economically viable and dependable, as also one of the cleanest sources of power. I think the Agency and member countries should pay greater attention to rectifying this negative trend.

It is a right step that the Agency has taken, that in the wake of the Chernobyl accident it has geared itself to meet all problems of safety amongst its Member States. The Agency has more or less reactivated itself and our country would like to support this development so that the work of the Agency is directed on technical lines. It is for this reason we have welcomed the various steps taken by the Agency during the last few months. We specially note that two conventions have been proposed for all countries to sign. This has been arrived at through prolonged discussions held at the Board and elsewhere. Though there has not been total agreement for the actual scope of the Convention on early Notification in the case of a nuclear accident, all countries have agreed to abide by it in a spirit of compromise. However, I would like to express India's view that it is unfortunate, that while accidents involving any nuclear -261>

installation have been included for purposes of notifying to the Agency, accidents involving nuclear weapons have not been explicitly included. We know that accidents do not differentiate between nuclear weapons and peaceful nuclear installations. But it seems that due to the opposition of defence institutions in various countries, nuclear weapons have been excluded. It is a pity that reaching a consensus in this way has resulted in a convention which has congenital flaws.

We are happy to note that agreement has been reached on the text of a Convention providing a framework for mutual assistance in case of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency, which is complementary to the Convention on Early Notification of a nuclear accident. The countries which are involved in nuclear programmes have been convinced of the need for an international framework which will facilitate the provision of assistance in the event of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency to mitigate its consequences. The IAEA has been involved in developing guidelines in this regard for the last few years.

The Agency has an important role to play in coordinating all the work connected with such assistance when requested by a State and to the extent that the requested State is willing to offer the same. We are particularly pleased to note that the Convention has been drafted, taking into account the importance of mutual assistance, with due cognizance to national sovereignty both in the context of requesting and providing assistance. This aspect has been further reiterated by the fact that the overall direction, control, coordination and supervision of the assistance will be the responsibility of the requesting State.

EVOLUTION OF REACTOR DESIGNS

It may not be out of place to say that while all steps be taken to improve the safety of nuclear systems, the IAEA should also look ahead in the evolution of reactor designs. Studies should be carried out on inherent safety of power reactor, such as a negative reactivity coefficient under all circumstances, limitations to excess reactivity, choice of material to reduce hydrogen hazard, availability of head sinks, better control

responses, multiple containment, etc.

I would like to emphasise that the most dangerous aspect of nuclear technology is not power reactors, but nuclear weapons that use the same principle for destroying people and cities. The after effects of a nuclear weapon explosion are very much more dangerous and far-reaching. Radioactive transboundary effects are not new. They have been with us and will remain with us as long as nuclear weapons testing take place. This should not be confused with a power reactor accident the nature of which is so very completely different.

Today the whole world is discussing nuclear disarmament and we from India have expressed great unhappiness with the division of the world into countries which have nuclear weapons and countries which do not. It is a great pity that we have not been able to agree to the inclusion of nuclear weapons in the Conventions even in the context of safety. I can only hope that this is a temporary situation and we will all agree not only to reporting on accidents from all nuclear causes but we will also do away with the differentiation of weapon States and non-weapon States. In that way mankind would survive with the benefits of the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, particularly nuclear power. We in India see no other alternative and are going ahead with our programme of producing 10,000 MW of nuclear power. -262>

DIA AUSTRIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

ATOMIC ENERGY

Dr. Raja Ramanna Elected President of 30th General Conferenceof IAEA

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 29, 1986 on the election of Dr. Raja Ramanna at the IAEA General Conference:

Dr. Raja Ramanna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, has been elected as President of 30th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna today. Dr. Raja Ramanna has taken over from Mr. Adonit Manouan of Ivory Coast. Dr. Ramanna's name was proposed by Bangladesh and supported by USA, Mexico, France, Poland, Indonesia, Tunisia and Japan. This

is the third time since the establishment of the Agency that India is presiding over this Conference.

The General Conference of IAEA is the highest decision making body of the agency which has a membership of 113 countries. India has been a founder member of IAEA.

DIA AUSTRIA BANGLADESH FRANCE INDONESIA JAPAN MEXICO POLAND TUNISIA USA

Date: Sep 29, 1986

Volume No

1995

ATOMIC ENERGY

Safety Standards a Must for Nuclear Energy

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 30, 1986 of Dr. Ramanna's address at the IAEA:

Addressing the 30th General Conference of International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Dr. Raja Ramanna, newly elected President, said that despite a number of problems it was well within human capability to reach necessary safety standards for making nuclear energy serve the mankind. He said that everything should be done to make nuclear energy totally safe.

Dr. Ramanna pointed out that it was a paradox that while the development of atomic energy was a gift of modern technology, developing countries would probably benefit more by its utilisation.

In this connection, Dr. Ramanna also made reference to an "obnoxious social problem" which still existed in the world. "This particular problem", said Dr. Ramanna, "destroys the very purpose of international cooperation in all its aspects, be it social, technological or economic. I refer to the inhuman Apartheid laws which exist in South Africa ... I am, therefore, in sympathy with those who feel that even the IAEA should take part in the fight against such inequities".

Referring to the utility of nuclear power, Dr. Ramanna observed that all countries should jointly or singly have the benefit of nuclear power and the IAEA should take steps to achieve this as early as possible.

Date: Sep 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

ATOMIC ENERGY

India Signs two Conventions at Vienna

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 30, 1986 on the signing of two conventions by India in Vienna:

Two Conventions were adopted at the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. The Conventions relate to (i) early notification of a nuclear accident, and (ii) assistance in the case of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency.

The Conventions were proposed consequent to the concern expressed by member-countries of the IAEA on safety and security related issues connected with nuclear energy.

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The Conventions were made open for signature by member countries of the IAEA. Dr. Raja Ramanna, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, signed the two Conventions yesterday on behalf of India.

At the time of signing, Dr. Ramanna made the following statement:

"While signing the two Conventions that were approved by the Special Session last week, I would like to express disappointment of my Government that the Convention on Early Notification of Nuclear Accidents does not cover all kinds of accidents. It should have been a full scope convention covering accidents from whatever source - civil or military, including accidents emanating from nuclear weapons or nuclear weapons tests, since the transboundary effects of radiological safety significance from any source would be equally damaging. Nevertheless, we have decided to sign both Conventions, subject to ratification in view of the solemn assurance that has been given by the five nuclear weapons States to the effect that they undertake to notify all accidents. This is in keeping with our policy of according to public declarations of state policy equal validity with other international commitments.

While ratifying these conventions, it is our intention to indicate our reservations with respect to certain Articles of the two Conventions, as already provided for in them".

STRIA INDIA

Date: Sep 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

CANADA

Avoidance of Double Taxation between India and Canada -Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 16, 1986 on the signing of double taxation avoidance agreement between India and Canada:

The Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Canada for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect of taxes on income has entered into force with the exchange of instruments of Ratification here today. The agreement was signed by Shri C. K. Tikku, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Gary J. Smith, Acting High Commissioner of Canada, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The provisions of the agreement, other than that relating to shipping profits, will apply, in the case of India, in respect of income assessable for any assessment year commencing on or after April 1, 1987. In the case of Canada, these provisions will apply to income for taxation years beginning on or after January 1, 1987.

In respect of shipping profits, however, the agreement shall have effect for assessment years taxation years beginning on or after September 16, 1980.

With the coming into force of this agreement, it is expected that economic and technical cooperation between the two countries would develop further and benefit both the countries.

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NADA INDIA

Date : Sep 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

India-Japan Cooperation in Science and Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 12, 1986 on India-Japan Cooperation in science and technology:

India and Japan have identified the following areas of possible bilateral collaboration:

- i) Disaster prediction and prevention including earthquakes, cyclones and floods,
- ii) Monsoon research with special reference to satellite imageries,
- iii)Tissue culture,
- iv)Utilisation of biomass,
- v) Metallic corossion,
- vi)Research on standardization,
- vii)Recycling technology.

These decisions were taken at the first meeting of the India-Japan Joint Committee on Science and Technology; established in accordance with Article III of the Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Japan in the field of science and technology, held in New Delhi on September 11, and 12, 1986.

The Japanese and the Indian delegations were headed by H.E. Mr. Takumi Hosaki, Ambassador of Japan in India, and Dr. V. R. Gowariker, Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Science and Technology, respectively.

Because of their close familiarity with the scientific and technological scenes in Japan and India, the Joint Committee had the benefit of participation of Prof. M.G.K. Menon, Member, Planning Commission, and Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister, as a special invitee and Prof. T. Mukaibo, as Special Adviser to the Head of Japanese delegation.

It was noted that interaction in science and technology between the two countries had so far taken place either on the basis of contacts between individual scientists mostly in the areas of basic research, or through exchange of visits under the Agreement concluded between the Indian National Science Academy and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. It was recognised that the Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Japan on cooperation in science and technology had for the first time paved the way for bilateral cooperation in a wider spectrum of activities of common interest.

Discussing the envisaged modus operandi for future programmes, both sides shared the view that the following modalities of interaction would be appropriate:

- exchange of information,
- visits of scientific personnel,
- meetings and seminars of experts,
- formulation of joint projects and programmes for collaboration.

The follow up action on the deliberations of the Joint Committee would be taken through diplomatic channels between the two countries.

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PAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Sep 12, 1986

Volume No

1995

NICARAGUA

Giani Zail Singh Hosts Banquet in Honour of Nicaragua's President

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, in honour of the President of Nicaragua, in New Delhi on Sep 09, 1986:

Excellency, I should like to once again extend a very warm and cordial welcome to you and to Senora Murillo and members of your delegation on the occasion of your first official visit to India. We are delighted that India is the first country in Asia that you

are visiting. This indicates our strong mutual desire to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation already existing between our two countries which has been confirmed by the fruitful discussions held since your arrival on matters of mutual interest. As two active members of the community of nations constituting the Non-aligned Movement, we both share mutuality of interests and close similarity of perception of the international scene.

VOICE OF VAST MAJORITY OF MANKIND

Excellency, foremost among the many problems facing humanity today is that of the imminent threat of global nuclear holocaust. Since its inception, the Nonaligned Movement has persevered with efforts to achieve disarmament and eliminate the threat of nuclear war. Recently, leaders of six nations, including India, met in Mexico in their second Summit Conference and issued a responsible and serious call to the nuclear powers to heed the concrete proposals made as a first step towards this worthwhile goal. The recent NAM Summit in Harare has endorsed the call and represents the voice of a vast majority of mankind. It cannot be ignored.

Among the major crisis areas of the world is your own region of Central America where tension has sharply aggravated recently, giving rise to grave concern to the world. Central America is in the throes of profound political and social change. It is a great mistake to see these historic changes as inspired by foreign powers, ideologies or intrigues. It must be recognised that the impulse for change is deep-rooted and comes from the people's need to free themselves from oppressive and outdated social structures. To resist these forces of change by invoking or imposing outside intervention is wrong both because such intervention arrests healthy political evolution and also because it violates international law. There must be negotiation and dialogue aimed at achieving a just and lasting settlement based on the respect for the right of self-determination for all countries of the region and ensuring their security, sovereignty and independence without dragging the region into East-West bloc rivalry.

We have supported the efforts of the Contadora Group to achieve lasting peace and stability in Central America. Their determined and painstaking work offers a viable and practical solution to the basic problems of the region. You belong to the region and have initiated a positive response aimed at resolving differences bilaterally and peacefully. It is imperative for all concerned to respond constructively with a view to attaining a lasting peace on the basis of mutual respect, sovereignty and the right of self-determination. In this context, it is perhaps appropriate to recall that the first Summit meeting of the Non-aligned Movement at Belgrade 25 years ago had resolved that "no intimidation, interference or intervention should be brought to bear in the

exercise of the right of self-determination of people, including their right to pursue constructive and independent policies in the attainment and preservation of their sovereignty."

CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS

Though situated at opposite ends of the globe, India and Nicaragua enjoy close -266>

and friendly relations. It is our desire that our bilateral cooperation should grow and be an example fulfilling the concept of South-South cooperation. Various fields of economic activity have already been identified and we look forward to early implementation of a concrete programme of cooperative action. The Agreement on Cultural Cooperation signed during your visit will, I am sure, bring our people even closer in the years to come.

Your visit to India, Mr. President, is all too brief. However, even in this short period you will have, I hope, an opportunity to have a glimpse of our past as well as to acquaint yourself with our devotion to international peace, understanding and cooperation.

On our part we admire your single-mindedness in standing up for your beliefs and resolutely leading your country along the nonaligned path.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now invite you to join me in a toast to the good health of His Excellency the President of Nicaragua and Senora Murillo, to friendship between the peoples of India and Nicaragua, and to peace, goodwill and prosperity for all.

NTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA INDIA USA MEXICO ZIMBABWE YUGOSLAVIA

Date : Sep 09, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Prime Minister's Address at Eighth Summit of NAM in Harare

The following is the text of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the eighth summit of NAM in Harare on Sep 02, 1986:

Twenty five years ago, at Belgrade, the leaders of the Nonaligned Movement declared:

"Imperialism is weakening. Colonial empires and other forms of foreign oppression are gradually disappearing from the stage of history."

Our gathering today reflects the truth of that perception. We meet in a nation younger than the movement itself. In congratulating you, Mr. Chairman, on assuming the leadership of our movement we felicitate your young nation and the ancient resurgent continent you represent.

We are deeply touched by the tribute paid to the memory of Indira Gandhi. Indira Gandhi was a child of the Indian Revolution. Her love for her country did not limit her love for the world. She said at the New Delhi Summit: "Nationalism does not detach us from our common humanity."

CAUSES OF COMMON HUMANITY

The causes of common humanity are the causes of Non-alignment. We seek human dignity and human rights. We work for survival in this nuclear age. We believe in peaceful coexistence. We are pledged to equality and democracy among nations. Our goal is independence and security for all. We strive to alleviate poverty and suffering.

South Africa is a cauldron coming to the boil. Ever since Belgrade, the Nonaligned Movement has urged the immediate dismantling of Apartheid. Racism cannot last. A people's aspirations cannot be encaged in a prison. Nelson Mandela and his people will be free.

Pretoria remains obstinate, intransigent, obdurate. They think Apartheid can -267>

be given an acceptable face. It cannot. Their legislative amendments and administrative changes do not end racial domination. They prolong it. Freedom in South Africa will brook no further delay. The question starkly is: liberty now, with innocent lives saved, or liberty later, in a welter of blood?

At the initiative of the Movement and the Organisation of African Unity an international conference on sanctions against South Africa was held last June. Its recommendations are clear, the will of those who must implement them is not. Outside economic sustenance only reinforces Pretoria's intransigence. Sanctions will compel Pretoria to relent, sanctions can yet secure a relatively peaceful transition to racial equality and majority rule. Else, unprecedented violence will mow down a multitude of

the finest flowers of South Africa.

SANCTIONS

We the Non-aligned should press ahead with sanctions whether others are prepared to do so or not. Three of our member-States, including two of the Frontline - Zambia and our host, Zimbabwe - participated in the Commonwealth initiative which agreed on sanctions now.

Pretoria retaliated - swiftly and immediately. The Front-line States have been subjected to subversion, economic agggression and armed attack. Their security is jeopardised by a regime which suborns their stability, arms and finances mercenaries, abets puppet rebels, bombs neighbours with impunity, and even invades them with its troops. It is guilty of interference, intervention, subversion and outright aggression. The actions of the Pretoria regime constitute a clear and present threat to international peace and security within the meaning of Chapter-VII of the United Nations Charter.

Legally and morally, the imperatives of international order impose on the international community the obligation to collectively enforce comprehensive, mandatory sanctions.

The Front-line States and some others will be bearing the brunt of Pretoria's retaliation. Our colleagues will be among the most seriously affected. Therefore, our solidarity should find practical expression in a package of measures which will buttress their courageous commitment to the cause. The Movement must help them. India will. We shall be holding discussions with our brothers here on specific areas, ways and means of our standing together against the dying whiplash of Apartheid.

REAGAN-GORBACHEV SUMMIT

The other great issue before this Assembly - an issue which has been with us since Belgrade and before - is the survival of humankind. The world bristles with sixty thousand nuclear warheads. The New Delhi message adopted at our Seventh Summit, urged the nuclear weapon powers to negotiate an international convention precluding the use of nuclear weapons in any circumstances. The Reagan-Gorbachev Summit recognised that a nuclear war cannot be won and must not be fought. That perception must be translated into a treaty.

VERIFICATION

The New Delhi Message also called for a halt to all production and deployment of nuclear weapons. Three of our members - Argentina, Tanzania and India - have participated in the sixnation/five continent initiatives. We have urged an immediate moratorium on all nuclear tests. The problem of verification has

sions. The pursuit of technological chimeras only takes the decision over life or death out of human hands. It devours resources which could be put to infinitely more human use. Nothing but nuclear disarmament and peaceful coexistence can guarantee our survival.

Non-alignment is, in essence, the assertion of our right as independent countries to make up our minds on international issues from the preoccupations and prejudices of the power blocs. We believe in a democracy of nations. Each of us, irrespective of size or wealth or military strength, is the equal of every other nation. We speak with an equal voice and are heard with equal respect. The Non-aligned Movement has shown the world the alternative to disastrous confrontation and destructive rivalry. Because we have kept out of the scramble for allies, the balance of terror has not yet tipped towards collective death. Just by being ourselves - Non-aligned - we have probably preserved the peace of the world.

As our influence has grown in world councils, we come under greater pressure from those who believe their prosperity or power gives them a presumptive right to dominate. The United Nations was founded on the sovereign equality of all member - States. Its Charter is a constitutional guarantee of international democracy. The three and a half years since New Delhi have seen an attempt to undermine the system to international order so painstakingly built over four decades. The danger is the attitude of mind which says that if we cannot prevail, we will withdraw. How can the penalizing of countries for speaking their minds be reconciled with the sovereign right of nations to express themselves freely? An international democracy rests on an agreed code of conduct. If some powerful countries arrogate to themselves the right to unilateral action which transgresses international law, how can international order be preserved?

ALIVE AND VIBRANT

Where we seek consensus, others seek to browbeat us. We are prepared to consider, deliberate, negotiate. But we shall not submit. We cannot allow the foundations of international order to be eroded from within. It was the anarchy of power over principle which led to fifty million deaths in the fifty years that

preceded the establishment of the United Nations. Recourse to unilateral actions can guarantee neither peace nor security, only the danger of total annihilation. The Non-aligned must pool together their resources - of manpower, money and determination - to keep alive and vibrant the principles and purposes of the Charter, and the United Nations system.

Representing two-thirds of the international community - recently liberated from colonialism and domination - we rejoice in the contribution we have made to freedom. We rededicate ourselves to ridding the world of the vestiges of oppression which remain.

First and foremost is our pledge to Namibia. Eight long years ago, Namibia was on the doorstep of freedom. It was eight years ago that the Security Council unanimously agreed on a plan for freeing Namibia. Power bloc rivalries and Western interest brought extraneous issues to the fore. The Security Council was placed in the tragic predicament of failing to execute its own will. Pretoria has thwarted in Namibia the will of the Trusteeship Council the International Court of Justice, the General Assembly and the Security Council. This outrage has been possible only because imported rivalries have been given preference over human dignity and the right of the Namibian people to self-determination.

ANGUISH AND ANGER

Since the last summit, India has had the proud privilege of according full diplomatic status to the representative of SWAPO in New Delhi. The Non-aligned -269>

solidarity fund for Namibia is the earnest of our commitment to freedom for our comrades in that beleagured land. Two international conferences have been held to promote Namibian independence. A special session of the General Assembly is scheduled to take place shortly. Our Movement has sponsored in the Security Council draft resolutions which commanded the support of all members save those with strong economic interests in South Africa. As Chairman of the Movement, I have written to the UN Secretary General and discussed with him our anguish and anger at the delay in granting immediate, unconditional independence to Namibia.

Elsewhere, the forces of oppression operate more insidiously but with no less effect. The valiant Palestinians, bloodied but unbowed, are denied an independent state in their homeland. We met in New Delhi in 1983 in the shadow of the invasion of Lebanon and genocide in the refugee camps of Beirut. Israel's responsibility and complicity were clear, as was the undeterred resolve of the dispersed and heroic people of Palestine to preserve their identity and their future. The Non-Aligned Movement piloted the passage of the UN General Assembly

Resolution which called for an international peace conference of the Middle East, with the participation of all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO. Israel and its friends refuse to participate. The agony is prolonged. We shall stand by the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole representative of Palestine, in their struggle to secure for their people their inalienable national rights - as inevitably they will.

"Unhappily, Cyprus still remains divided with part of its territory under foreign occupation. We reiterate our support to its people and affirm our determination to work for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a Non-aligned and unified Republic."

In Central America and the Caribbean the right of nations to follow national policies of their choice is being challenged.

There is outside intimidation and interference. Sovereignty is encroached upon, national independence abridged. The Nonaligned Movement has extended its full support to the Contadora process. The forces of change are not inspired by alien powers or ideologies. Their aim is to dismantle oppressive, obsolete social structures. These are problems of the region. They must be looked at in a regional perspective. They must be resolved in a regional framework, through dialogue and negotiation. We stand by the people of Nicaragua whose unflinching bravery and passionate commitment to freedom is an inspiration to all.

Our clear and unambigious position on the situation in South-West Asia was stated in 1981, reiterated at New Delhi in 1983 and again in Luanda last year. We endorse and support the initiative taken by the UN Secretary-General.

INDIA URGES DIALOGUE

Conflict and tension persist in South-East Asia. Members of our Movement have, over the past few years, had their individual perceptions and assessment of the situation in the region. The position of our Movement has been enunciated in our documents. India has urged all the States in the region to undertake a dialogue which would resolve their differences establish a durable peace and eliminate the involvement or threats of intervention by outside powers.

Fifteen years ago, the United Nations declared the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace. Fifteen years later the Ocean has been transformed into a theatre of heightened tension and potential conflict. This has not happened at the behest of the littoral or hinterland States. Nor is it in their interests. It is outside powers who are polluting the waters of the Indian Ocean with warships and nuclear submarines, erecting new command structures and establishing naval bases. Meanwhile, the conference to implement the United Nations declaration remains a distant harbour light.

The Indian Ocean must be saved from the depredations of those -270>

whose military presence detracts from our security. Why should we be dragged into rivalries which are not of our making, to which we are not party? The convening of the conference is an imperative necessity. It is being blocked only by the recalcitrance of some of those who inducted their forces into the Indian Ocean.

Let us also look within. Nothing has so saddened us as the tragic six-year old conflict between two of our members. It has affected our movement. Death, destruction, suffering and misery have fallen on so many. As Chairman of the Movement, and as a country enjoying the friendliest of ties with Iran and Iraq, we had said at New Delhi that we could continue consultations with both countries. We have done so on numerous occasions. Tragically we have not met with success - nor have the efforts of others.

BROAD-BASED COOPERATION

It must also give us cause for concern that we have achieved so little in our efforts at South-South Cooperation. The dialogue between the North and the South is at standstill. Meanwhile, should we not be revolutionizing the existing international economic order by tangible, broad-based cooperation among ourselves. We comprise nearly two billion of some of the most talented people in the world. We are inheritors of great civilization which made pioneering contributions to humankind's knowledge of the universe, science and technology. It is to our countries that the colonialists came ferreting our natural resources which their own countries lacked. We possess skills aplenty, vast indigenous experience, and a reservoir of technology that has hardly been tapped. Finances too are available.

INFORMATION GRID

Why then has progress in mutual cooperation among developing countries been so slow? Perhaps it is because we still know so little about each other. At no professional level - be it engineers or doctors, architects or town-planners, industrialists or traders, economists or administrators - is their any widespread knowledge of what other developing countries are doing or what they can contribute. Our information antennae are oriented to the occident. We should organise an effective information grid along which information about ourselves flows quick and efficiently.

And while the information grid is being put in place, let us form groups of countries with pronounced complementarities to demonstrate the feasibility and advantages of cooperation among ourselves. This might set the pace and act as an example for the

hesitant North. Meaningful economic cooperation among developing countries would also impart greater significance to multilateral schemes of cooperation such as the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP). Finally, strengthened cooperation among ourselves would strengthen our negotiating power in parleys with the North.

The emphasis I am placing, as outgoing Chairman, on South South Cooperation must not be construed as down grading or devaluing the need for resumption with verve of international cooperation for development. If the dialogue is in an impasse, it avails us little to reiterate well-worn positions. There must be imagination and flexibility in bringing the North to the negotiating table.

UNJUST ECONOMIC ORDER

This is not an invitation to compromise on principles or to lower our sights. The world economic order is unjust, iniquitous, Governments which profess a doctrinal adherence to free trade retreat into protection in the face of our exports. New rounds of liberalisation are pursued while the unfinished business of a decade is neglected. Not surprisingly, the unfinished business is our business. They seek to widen the ambit of GATT. But when it comes to our products, GATT rules are bypassed and our products, and "temporary derogations" are sought to be made quasipermanent. Technology is withheld or transferred not in response to development requirements but at the behest of ulterior motives.

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The monetary system is devised to the advantage of those with economic power - and weighted against those in real difficulty. Official development assistance is down to trickle. Aid is in danger of becoming a quid pro quo for political complicity. Meanwhile, austerity measures conceived in narrow perspectives, ignoring social compulsions and political reality, place intolerable strains on recipient countries.

Development was once recognized as the common concern of humankind. Institutions were fashioned to give expression to this concern. These are now in neglect. Bilateral programmes are promoted as a substitute for international cooperation.

A new international economic order will remove the irrationality and constraints which keep the developing countries poor and inflict instability, unemployment and bankcruptcies on the North. Yet, for want of a bold vision, the North South dialogue remains frustrated. Businessmen, intellectuals and workers in developed countries know better. Ours is an interdependent world. Continued prosperity in the developed countries is contingent on growth in the developing. Our prospects for development hinge crucially on stability in the advanced economies. Realization will dawn.

Eventually, the dialogue will commence. We must keep ourselves in readiness for that day.

The debt problem of the developing countries has been particularly onerous in Latin America and Africa. We can only regret that the developed countries seem, by and large, to have opted for bilateral political persuasion and pressure. We place much greater faith in multilateral options based on harmonised thinking and concerted effort.

Famine and adverse trade circumstances have combined to aggravate an already critical situation in Africa. Tremendous efforts are being made by African Governments and the people to overcome these adversities. We in the Non-aligned Movement have already extended to Africa our fullest cooperation. We will continue to make available to them our experience, our expertise and our technologies.

It is with satisfaction in the progress made and pride in our achievement that I lay down the Office of Chairman of the Movement. The relevance and influence of the Non-aligned Movement have grown with the years. Our role in the world derives not only from our numbers - although there is no denying that our numbers make us as my mother said "history's biggest peace movement." Non-alignment matters to the world because we are the conscience keepers of humanity. We are the voice of sanity. We are the refuge of the small State in an insecure world. We are custodians of freedom and human dignity. We offer co-existence not co-destruction. We offer consensus not confrontation. We reject all domination and seek none ourselves. We are pledged to a world free from fear, free from hatred, free from want.

This gauge for humankind I pass on to Your Excellency. The courage and tenacity of Zimbabwe's fight for freedom was thrilling proof of the will to prevail. We are sure that under your leadership the unity, cohesion and solidarity of the Nonaligned Movement will grow from strength to strength.

MBABWE YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA ZAMBIA ARGENTINA TANZANIA MEXICO NAMIBIA LEBANON ISRAEL CYPRUS CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA ANGOLA IRAN IRAQ ECUADOR

Date: Sep 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

25th Anniversary of NAM - Prime Minister's Address

The Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi made the following speech on Sep 01, 1986 at the ceremony of the 25th anniversary of NAM in Harare:

Mr. Chairman, Majesties, Highnesses, Presidents, Prime Ministers, Excellencies, we are drawn together by a shared view of the world. We come from more than a hundred nations, but we belong to one human family. We want our family to live better. We want it to be not half affluent, half deprived, but to be vivified by a sense

of equality. We want all to have access to knowledge, growth and fulfilment. We want to live not in fear but freedom, not in the shadow of war but in peace.

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This, indeed, is Non-alignment. Nonalignment is an idea, a reality, a movement, a major force transforming history. As we gather to celebrate the completion of 25 years of our Movement we pledge ourselves anew to its central idea of coexistence and codevelopment in peace, honour and equality.

I thank our hosts the Prime Minister and the people of Zimbabwe for their warm welcome and cordial hospitality. The Chairmanship of our Movement now goes to Prime Minister Mugabe who has led his nation to freedom through a heroic struggle. Robert Mugabe and Zimbabwe represent the spirit of daring and determination which animates Africa and the Non-aligned community as a whole.

Our Movement arose out of our fight against foreign rule, imperialism and colonialism. Its purpose is to give body and shape to our vision of freedom and equality. To this dream, so many have offered their breath and blood, their toil and tears and borne limitless pain and suffering. It is these heroes who made us free.

On the eve of India's freedom Jawaharlal Nehru declared:

"The only possible real objective that we, in common with other nations, can have is the objective of cooperating in building up some kind of world structure, call it one world. If we think of that structure, and our cooperation with other countries in achieving it, where does the question of our being tied up with this group of nations or that group."

COLLECTIVE OPTION FOR PEACE

After the Second World War, as India and other nations of Asia and Africa emerged into freedom, the nations of Europe and America grouped themselves into rival power blocs. The advent of

nuclear weapons coincided with these two developments. The new nations perceived with clarity that their dreams of a better life would be lost if they were trapped in contending military alliances. One after another they opted for Nonalignment. Individual nations' choices coalesced into our collective option for peace.

The Non-aligned Movement has gained momentum and become the force that it is today. Many even within the blocs have begun to think like us. They have lost faith in militarist philosophies and the politics of the balance of terror. They recognise that Non-alignment represents an alternative world view - a way out of the impasse in which conventional international politics and civilisation find themselves.

Our Movement's compelling appeal is one of the reasons for the pressures on our countries to abandon the path of Nonalignment. We have withstood the weight of the blocs. We have kept faith with the approach of friendship with all, irrespective of political ideologies.

COURAGE TO BE OURSELVES

We adhere to Non-alignment because Non-alignment symbolises the courage to be ourselves, because it proclaims our faith in a new kind of world - a world of equals - and because it is a compact with peace.

No more is Non-alignment derided as airy, ineffectual and immoral. The powerful might think that they alone know what is good for us. We have resisted the blandishments and guarantees. We who asserted our right to make our own choices could not again agree to decisions being made elsewhere. We have persevered in our path. No other community of nations has continued its search for peace and justice with such unwavering commitment. No one has so consistently pointed that though our world is small, there is room enough -273>

for all - as Indira Gandhi put it. The world can survive only by giving up confrontation and by eradicating fear, hate and disparity. This is the trust of our Movement.

Wars earlier were limited and localised. World wars and even 'total wars' as they were called, touched only a portion of the globe. A war today involving nuclear weapons, would leave no nation untouched. No form of life would survive.

At our first Conference in Belgrade, our far-sighted founding fathers - Nehru, Tito, Soekarno, Nasser, Nkrumah, with their colleagues - called for halt to the nuclear race. Suspension of testing was to be the first step. Our Movement has worked continuously for nuclear disarmament through dialogue. Last year,

six nations met in New Delhi and took an initiative for disarmament and peace. This initiative, which was endorsed by our coordinating bureau, reflects the will of our Movement. The Soviet Union readily responded to our call to adopt a moratorium on testing. This moratorium has been once again extended in response to the new declaration of the six in Mexico. We welcome the Soviet decision and we seek a like response from the other nuclear-weapon States.

A great responsibility rests on the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union. We hope they will meet before the end of the year and take specific measures to reduce, and eventually eliminate, nuclear weapons. Nuclear confrontation must not be allowed to move into new dimensions.

Apart from the looming nuclear war, there is a constant threat to the independence and integrity of nations, to our right to use our resources for our people's good and to the unity of our Movement.

We have withstood pressures for twenty-five years. We must stand united. We will stand united - not in our interest alone but in the interest of all humanity.

"The outward freedom we attain," Mahatma Gandhi cautioned, "will only be in exact proportion to the inward freedom to which we may have grown at a given moment." No man loses his freedom except through his weaknesses.

DRIVING FORCE OF ENDEAVOURS

Independence and Non-alignment carry with them the imperative to strengthen ourselves politically, economically, technologically. This should be the driving force of our domestic efforts and of our collective endeavours.

Science has unlocked the treasurechest of plenty. Yet two-thirds of humanity lives in want. The international economic scene is irrational, unequal and chaotic. The benefits flow only to a few affluent nations. Our efforts at self-reliance are undermined by the rising cost of technology and the deteriorating terms of trade. Many developing countries stagger under debt burdens, having paid back colossal sums. The technological haves are no less beset by anxieties. They too are in crisis. Their growth has slowed. Their policies force millions of their own people out of jobs. Most shut their eyes to the fact that the world is one, that the world's economy is integral, and that the interests of the developed and the developing are intertwined. Habituated too long to exploitative relationships, they too do not seem to realise that the development of the poor countries will offer greater opportunities for themselves. All that the developing countries ask in calling for a new international economic order is simple economic sense.

The stronger we are economically the more respect we shall get from the economically strong. We the Non-aligned, we the developing, are not without scientific and technological knowledge. By sharing our skills and resources, we will be in a better position to bring the developed to the table of dialogue.

Here in Southern Africa, in Zimbabwe, we are face to face with the basic issues -274>

of freedom and human rights in our time. We are within ear shot of South Africa and Namibia, where the fighters of freedom are hunted and harassed, persecuted and punished, exiled and executed. The toil and travails of Chief Luthuli, Nelson Mandela, Robert Sobukwe and Yusuf Dadoo, and the ultimate sacrifices made by Steve Biko and thousands of men, women and children remind us of the epic struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa. The Pretoria Regime combines the worst forms of imperialism, racism and aggression. Our freedom is incomplete so long as Apartheid and tyranny continue in South Africa, so long as Namibia remains occupied and subjugated. No man is free until every man is free.

Our success in Harare will be judged by the extent to which we can hasten the liberation of the people of South Africa and the emergence of Namibia as a sovereign nation.

We reiterate our solidarity with the much persecuted, intrepid Palestinians who are fighting for a State in their homeland.

We support the right of Nicaragua to remain independent, free of foreign intervention.

We extend our sympathy and support to nations and peoples who are defending their sovereignty, resisting intimidation and intrusion, interference and intervention.

Consider the task our Movement set for itself a guarter century ago - to remedy the political and economic consequences of more than two centuries of colonial exploitation. We have made a firm start and covered considerable distance. We are in the vanguard of the transition from domination to democracy among nation. We are engaged in enhancing the human resources of our own countries and in restructuring international economic relations in such a way that they are based on equitable sharing.

The twentieth century has been a century of political upheavals and scientific revelations. The most remarkable development of our age is the awakening of human consciousness. The souls of long suppressed peoples have found utterance. They will not tolerate injustice and deprivation. These aspirations and the possibilities opened up by technology have to be matched. It is only a universal vision and a compassionate heart that can

achieve this correlation. Our Movement represents that universal vision and that compassion. We must succeed: We shall succeed.

MBABWE USA INDIA YUGOSLAVIA MEXICO CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA UNITED KINGDOM NICARAGUA

Date: Sep 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Harare Agricultural Show

The following is the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, while inaugurating the Harare Agricultural Show on Aug 30, 1986:

I am deeply honoured by this invitation to inaugurate the Harare Agricultural Show. This invitation is really a tribute to the Indian farmer who, in two decades, has transformed our economy from one critically dependent on food imports to one which is self-sufficient in foodgrains and even able, in some small measure, to assist others in need.

The colonial period in India began in the latter half of the eighteenth century with devastating famines which wiped out a third of the population of Bengal. It ended with the famine of 1943 which claimed three million lives in Bengal alone.

Agricultural stagnation was both the cause and consequence of the oppressive social structures on which imperialism based itself. The underpinning of British rule in India was provided by the feudal maharajas and the zamindars - or reve--275>

nue farmers. The former bartered their external sovereignty for a virtually unfettered right to do what they willed with the people. The latter guaranteed the Government fixed revenues in good times and bad, and were rewarded in exchange with the authority to squeeze the cultivator without let or hindrance.

Thus, the India of fabled riches, which drew the European conqueror across the seas, was reduced to an India where food production in 1947 was virtually the same as it was fifty years earlier.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL EMANCIPATION

The independence of India marked not merely the end of foreign rule but also the beginning of the economic and social emancipation of all Indians. Within a year of the departure of the British, over six hundred principalities and princedoms were merged into the Union of India. Land reforms quickly abolished the pernicious system of revenue farming, ceilings were imposed, land redistributed, holdings consolidated and tenancy rights assured. Debts accumulated over generations were commuted. Extortionist rates of interest were reduced. Cooperatives were formed for credit and marketing. An infrastructure was built for the supply of inputs and the training of cultivators. Pricing policy was designed to reward hard work and higher productivity. Unlike in many countries, no attempt was made to squeeze agriculture to find the capital resources for industrialisation. Indeed, in addition to investing in agriculture, the best of scientific talent and the thrust of the R & D effort was directed at making agriculture more productive. After two hundred years of stagnation, food production started increasing along a rising curve. In the first fifteen years of planned economic development, foodgrains output was raised one and a half times.

But the pressure of population, the in creasing monetization of the economy, and the growth in incomes of the working class pitched the galloping rise in demand well over the rise in supply. We were left with no alternative but to turn to the affluent

QUANTUM JUMP

The crisis of the mid-sixties saw ships laden with grain clogging the ports of India. Disaster was staved off. No one died for absolute want of food. But we learnt the lesson that it was not enough to get the agricultural sector moving. It had to be galvanised into a quantum jump - the leap we called the Green Revolution.

The mainspring of the Green Revolution was research, technology and extension. A hybrid strain of wheat developed in Mexico was brought to India. Government moved in with a package of seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, credits, warehousing and remunerative procurement prices -all backed by thoroughgoing extension services, sound water management, and purposeful soil conservation. In twenty years, there has been a five-fold increase in wheat in areas covered by the Green Revolution. Yields are comparable with the best in the world. The new prosperity has percolated to the landless and the rural poor.

We are now engaged in spreading the Green Revolution to new areas and new crops. Agricultural science has opened up exciting new vistas for biotechnology, tissue culture, genetic engineering. Indian scientists have made a major contribution, at home and

abroad, to the development of these remarkable new technologies. We have invested \$ 20 billion in irrigation to increase three-fold the irrigated area and taken electricity to hundreds of thousands of villages. We have now the potential to dramatically increase the output of irrigated crops like rice, fruit and vegetables as also dryland crops like coarse grain pulses and oilseeds.

Our challenge now is to move from food self-sufficiency to nutritional adequacy. There is no more sure way of wiping out the curse of poverty than increased agricultural productivity and making cheap food available to all. We be -276>

lieve that goal is within our grasp. It can be accomplished within the foreseeable future.

In an interdependent world, cooperation between nations can and must reinforce the domestic drive to development. One aspect of such cooperation is that between the North and the South. The other -- and, in our view, more relevant -- type of cooperation is what is possible in agriculture between developing countries themselves. We place our experience and expertise at the disposal of Africa. Ours is the experience and expertise of an independent, Non-aligned, developing country which chose the hard path of self-reliance. We have had our ups and downs. We have gazed with longing into the merciless sky seeking the monsoon cloud and delighted in the first downpour of welcome rain. We have known both unforeseen obstacles and the thrill of pushing past them. We have faced serious pressures, from within and without. Ours is not a saga of unimpeded triumph but of trial and error, learning, adjusting and trying again. It is our endeavours which we would want to share with you. The remarkable resilience shown by Zimbabwe in bouncing back with a record crop after two successive years of severe droughts shows your immense potential.

The Harare Agricultural Show is proof of the grit and determination of the people of Africa to attain agricultural self-sufficiency. Your success is assured. Your brothers and sisters in India are with you in this task.

It is with great pleasure that I inaugurate the Harare Agricultural Show. We thank you for offering us the opportunity of participating in this Show. Our pavilion is probably the largest on the theme of agriculture we have mounted anywhere outside India. We also hope you will enjoy our troupes of tribal dancers who have come to you from different parts of India.

MBABWE INDIA USA MEXICO LATVIA

Date: Aug 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Indo-UK Grant Agreement Signed for Rupees 640 Million

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 23, 1986 on the signing of the Indo-UK agreement for Rs. 640 million:

A Grant Agreement was signed here today under which the Government of U.K. will provide a grant of Rs. 64.3 crores (æ34.03 million) for financing local costs of mutually agreed projects. This amount is available in lieu of debt relief for the year 1986.

In addition, the Government of UK will also provide grant assistance for œ2.562 million (Rs. 4.8 crores) during 1986-87 for financing local cost of mutually agreed projects and for this amount the arrangements would be finalised separately.

The major projects to be financed are Captive Power Plant of Bharat Aluminium Company, Amlori Coal Mines, Health Care Project in Orissa, Forestry Projects in Karnataka, Primary Education Project in Andhra Pradesh etc.

This agreement is ninth in the series of annual local cost grants, against the total amount of & 564 million (Rs. 1065 -277>

crores) to be available during 1978-79 upto 2000 A.D. Total British assistance since 1975 todate amounts to α 1923.83 million (Rs. 3636.00 crores).

Shri K. P. Geethakrishnan, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance signed on behalf of Government of India and Mr. N. H. R. A. Broomfield, Deputy High Commissioner, British High Commission on behalf of Government of United Kingdom.

ITED KINGDOM INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Sep 23, 1986

Volume No

UNITED NATIONS

Foreign Minister's Speech in Namibia Session

The following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. Shiv Shanker, delivered in the UN General Assembly in the 14th special session on the question of Namibia on Sep 17, 1986:

Mr. President, let me, at the outset, extend to you my heartiest congratulations and best wishes on your assumption of this prestigious office. You preside over a historic special session of this Assembly. The hopes of an enslaved people are focussed on our deliberations here. We are confident that under your skilful guidance, our proceedings will achieve meaningful results.

It is now more than seventy years that South Africa has come to occupy Namibia. Four years thereafter South Africa had the affrontery and the audacity to suggest the annexation of the territory as a logical extension of its perfidy. The mandate given to South Africa at Versailles was grudging and hesitant. It specifically and unambiguously requested South Africa to promote to the utmost the material and moral well-being of the inhabitants of the territory. This obligation was not only not fulfilled but the actions of the Pretoria regime were designed to obliterate the Namibian entity. Twenty years ago, the General Assembly terminated the misconceived and misused mandate exercised by South Africa and fifteen years ago, the International Court of Justice declared the South African occupation of Namibia as illegal.

Mr. President, all this is known to us, but the hateful hegemony of South Africa still continues. In this context, it is apt to recall the arrogant declaration of General Smuts in 1925 that he did not think it necessary to annex South West Africa. He said: "The mandate was enough. It gave South Africa complete sovereignty, not only administrative but legal". Smut's interpretation was extended with impunity by his successors even to the mandate of the United Nations.

At a time when India was not yet independent, in 1946, the Indian delegation, acting under the instructions, of the interim Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, forcefully lent its voice in the rejection by the General Assembly of South Africa's preposterous claim to incorporate South West Africa into its Union. Twenty years later, in 1966, Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, gave clear and unambiguous directions to our delegation which were reflected in the decision of the General Assembly terminating South Africa's mandate. After another twenty years,

in 1986, the Indian delegation has come to this special session with the firm commitment of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv -278>

Gandhi, to spare no effort to expedite the much delayed emancipation of the oppressed people of Namibia.

This commitment was affirmed by Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the Harare Summit earlier this month. He declared:

"First and foremost is our pledge to Namibia. Eight long years ago Namibia was on the doorstep to freedom. It was eight years ago that the Security Council unanimously agreed on a plan for freeing Namibia. Power bloc rivalries and extraneous interests brought extraneous issues to the fore. The Security Council has been placed in the tragic predicament of failing to execute its own will. Pretoria has thwarted in Namibia the will of the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, the General Assembly and the Security Council. This outrage has been possible only because imported rivalries have been given preference over human dignity and the right of the Namibian people to self-determination."

Mr. President, the faith placed by the people of Namibia in the United Nations all these years has been betrayed. The commitment of the United Nations to its own Charter has been infringed. The actions of a regime we have condemned have been allowed to continue with impunity. The territory for which the United Nations has assumed direct responsibility has been used as a base for aggression against members of the United Nations. The chasm between professions and actions by certain powers has widened. Acquiescene seems to have replaced action.

THREAT TO PEACE

The issue of Namibia's independence transcends the demands of decolonisation, central as that dimension is to the entire question. It is a threat to peace and security in the South African region and, indeed, in the whole world. Every effort to implement the professed will of the Security Council has been frustrated. The infamous doctrine of linkage seeks to establish relationship between the sovereign right of a free nation to ask for assistance and the illegitimate presence of an international outlaw on international territory. We reject this. doctrine completely and totally. We also reject the puppets positioned in power by Pretoria. There are only two parties to the Namibian issue: the people of Namibia under the leadership of the South West African People's Organisation and the racist regime in Pretoria.

Mr. President, we recognise that many efforts, well intentioned, have been made to contribute to the peace process in Namibia. Unhappily, their failure has only hardened the intransigence of

the Pretoria regime. It became emboldened to create self-styled interim Governments which the Security Council has categorically rejected as being illegal. It has had the impudence to open so called "Namibia Information Offices" in the capitals of certain Western countries which seek to confer legitimacy to institutions they themselves have held as devoid of legal sanctity or moral authority. We urge that these be closed and any further efforts by the South African Government to claim to represent Namibia externally be given the shortest of shrifts.

NAMIBIA'S FORTITUDE

Even as Pretoria continues to enslave Namibia, it pursues a simultaneous and far more sinister plan of trying to ensure that Namibia, when independent, will be crippled economically and otherwise. The fortitude of the Namibian people will call Pretoria's bluff, but the world community cannot allow the territory to be so impoverished that it begins freedom's arduous journey, bereft of the rights given to it by nature, by history and by geography. The resources of Namibia belong to its people. They are being plundered by South Africa. Friends of South Africa are no less active in helping themselves, while the going is good. Decree number 1 of the United Nations Council for Namibia protects these resources and we urge all members of the international community and all entities, individual or corporate,

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national or multinational, to respect it. Namibia and its people are entitled to full compensation for the loss that they have suffered through such illegal exploitation of their resources.

POPULAR DIMENSION

The Council for Namibia has done commendable work in the area of enhancement of public awareness. The selfless and dedicated work carried out by numerous non-governmental organisations has given the international quest for Namibia's freedom the critically needed popular dimension. No Government can remain immune to the sensitivities and the anger of its people. No Government can, for long, pursue policies at variance from those sought by their people. The General Assembly and the Council for Namibia must offer encouragement, support and alliance to these popular sentiments the world over. The General Assembly is more than a democracy of nations. It is a global democracy of people. And it is to the world citizens that we must reach out.

CRUCIAL ROLE

Mr. President, the United Nations has played a crucial role in trying to ensure to the people of Namibia the freedom that is rightly theirs. The personal efforts and single mindedness of purpose displayed by our distinguished Secretary General

personify this. But as he himself has said in his most recent report to the General Assembly, the work of the Secretary General cannot be considered as distinct from that of this body itself. Our goal must be a united effort, our solidarity firm. The United Nations Council for Namibia and the Special Committee on Decolonisation have been tireless in their articulation to get over the crisis. They have consistently suggested the means for its resolution. The Council, and its executive agent, the Commissioner for Namibia, have not wavered in the discharge of their obligations. Their efforts, I am sure, would ensure at the earliest that this mandate remains temporary and that Namibia's freedom becomes a reality and no more remains an illusion.

Only recently a delegation of the Council visited SWAPO Settlements in Zambia, following a similar visit to the camps in Angola last year. The community of action and purpose witnessed in these settlements personifies the future society of a free Namibia. A systematic synthesised development of all aspects of the human being: educational, vocational, cultural and spiritual can be discerned in these settlements.

Mr. President, I have already referred to the dimension of threat to peace and security which the unresolved question of Namibia presents. The Security Council has been put into the most macabre of situations. Where consensus has been evolved, its will has been allowed to lapse. Where action is suggested, the initiative is bludgeoned and destroyed by the veto. For 40 years India has pleaded for the imposition of comprehensive and compulsory sanctions to isolate the racist regime of South Africa and to provide its oppressed people the opportunity to join the world's main stream of freedom, liberty, equality and dignity. The Nonaligned Movement has espoused this cause. The Organisation of African Unity has endorsed it. And so indeed has this very Assembly. But those who are bent upon plundering and ferretting the Namibian resources have refused to heed the call for such sanctions. Ere long I am sure they will realise the efforts of their ways lest they should get isolated and lost.

MOST QUOTED AND LEAST IMPLEMENTED

The Security Council must meet and set itself a clear, finite target and a straight course. It must make clear to itself and to the waiting world that it will not accept alibis, distortions and outright procrastination to frustrate its collective will. This it has failed to do so far. Resolution 435 has the sad distinction of being perhaps the most quoted and the least implemented one of the Council's history.

Mr. President, we seem to have become accustomed to the continued arro-

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gance of the Pretoria regime. Let us no more yield to the

calumny, the insults and the affronts flung at this organisation. When the Security Council demanded in 1968 that South Africa stop the trial of 37 Namibian freedom fighters, South Africa responded by commencing a second trial. Let us not forget the deadline of October 4, 1969, once set by the Security Council for Namibia's freedom. Again, even as the 'Western Contact Group' was pursuing its diplomatic efforts, 600 Namibians were butchered at Kassinga by South African Forces on May 4, 1978. How can we forget the contemptuous indifference with which South Africa spurned the gestures of good faith by SWAPO?

Mr. President, eight years have elapsed since Resolution 435. In these critical years the world has been waiting even as South Africa continues to entrench itself in Namibia. Let us not be fooled by the saccharin of sweet reasonableness with which we are promised evolution and reform. Let us not be under an illusion that the mere convening of this special session and our journeying to New York alone will deliver the goods. Together, we must find the means to redeem the pledge that we made 20 years ago.

Mr. President, a group of eminent persons participating in the International Conference for the Immediate Independence for Namibia had issued an appeal in July this year. With your permission, I should like to quote its conclusion which sums up, I am sure, our collective feelings here:

"Our final remarks are addressed to the Namibian people who have made great sacrifices in their struggle against injustice and oppression. We appeal to them not to lose hope but rather to summon new reserves of strength in the face of adversity. It would be comforting to believe that a good cause can triumph by dint of its inherent justice. That however would be illusory: History has shown that only sustained human effort can guarantee victory. If we redouble our determination, it cannot be long before the Namibian people finally win the freedom and independence for which they have struggled for over a century."

But what of our own responsibility -- that of the international community? We must channel world opinion and concern into specific means the General Assembly and the Security Council have the power to translate into action.

Mr. President, I should, at this stage, like to mention some of the elements we consider essential to an effective programme of action to be undertaken by the international community and the United Nations.

These are:

1. A categorical reaffirmation of the responsibility of the U.N. for achieving the independence of Namibia.

- 2. An urgent meeting of the Security Council to define with precision the time table for the implementation of its resolution 435.
- 3. Firm rejection of linkage of the Namibian question with any extraneous issue.
- 4. Collective recognition by member States of the United Nations of the necessity of sanctions against the South African regime.
- 5. Concerted determination by member States not to recognise or lend credence to institutions created by that regime in Namibia and outside which profess to represent the Namibian people.
- 6. Reiteration of solidarity with SWAPO and increased and more concrete support to it in its struggle.

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- 7. A thorough and coordinated programme of public information to enhance awareness of the Namibian situation the world over and mobilisation of international efforts at all levels, involving among others, individuals, institutions and Non-governmental organisations.
- 8. An approach to the International Court of Justice to seek relief against all foreign exploitative activities in Namibia and for the protection of her natural resources.
- 9. A demand for full compensation to the Namibian people for the losses they have incurred as a result of South Africa's illegal occupation and control over the territory.
- 10. Unified endeavour to assist the Security Council and the Secretary General of the United Nations in the quest for security the immediate independence of Namibia.

MIBIA USA SOUTH AFRICA INDIA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZAMBIA ANGOLA

Date : Sep 17, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

Statement by Shri P. Shiv Shanker at U.N. General Assembly

The following is the text of the statement delivered by Shri P.

Shiv Shanker, Minister of External Affairs, at the U.N. General Assembly on Sep 26, 1986:

Mr. President, may I, at the outset, extend to you once again the felicitations of my delegation on your assumption of the Presidency of the 41st session of the United Nations General Assembly. It is a matter of immense pleasure for me and my delegation that a distinguished diplomat from a close and friendly neighbour is elected to this high office. You bring to your position rich and varied experience. We are confident that you will guide the deliberations of this Assembly with distinction.

I also take this opportunity to express our appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Jaime De Pinies, for his skilful leadership during the deliberations of the 40th General Assembly.

I should like to extend our greetings to the distinguished Secretary General whom we are happy to see once again in the active discharge of his many onerous responsibilities. I hope that our organisation will continue to have the benefit of his experience and guidance for many years to come.

Mr. President, in the past year, the United Nations, indeed the entire multilateral system, was subjected to severe strain and challenge. I am glad that in his report on the work of the organisation, the Secretary-General found a "notable unanimity" in the recognition of the continuing validity of the principles of the U.N. Charter and the need to strengthen the United Nations so that it may better meet the needs of the future. As a founder member India's allegiance to the organisation and her commitment to the principles of the Charter remain firm and unswerving.

As all of us are aware the United Nations came into being in the wake of unparallelled death and destruction. The founding of the U.N. reflected the hopes and aspirations of humankind who saw the need for a more rational world order. That vision is even more relevant today.

The international situation remains tense. The nuclear arms race and its extension into outer space, conflicts around the world and the world economic crisis endanger peace and international security. Nuclear weapons no longer threaten only states and nations but the very survival of man. In her address at -282>

the Seventh Summit of Non-aligned Heads of State or Government in New Delhi in March 1983, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had warned: "Never before has our earth faced so much death and danger. The destructive power contained in nuclear stockpiles can kill human life, indeed all life, many times over and might well prevent its reappearance for ages to come". What is at stake is civilisation itself.

GENEVA SUMMIT

Last year, at the Geneva Summit, the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States, declared that a nuclear war cannot be won and must not be fought. We call upon these two nations, who bear the major responsibility for disarmament, to reinvigorate their dialogue and take the logical follow up steps from that assertion. We are glad that after a period of anxiety, the two countries appear to have resumed their efforts to make progress in this vital field. Their decisions would have consequences not only for their own peoples but for humanity as a whole. We trust that at their next meeting, President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev would reach important and meaningful agreements.

Other nuclear weapon States also must not shirk their responsibility. A decision on their part for nuclear disarmament would only have a positive effect. They should no longer take shelter behind positions that they would disarm only if the two super powers did.

The desire for peace is universal. There is increasing articulation of that feeling around the world, including in nuclear weapon States -- in legislatures and deliberative bodies, in universities and peace movements amongst scientists and professionals - indeed amongst all citizens.

Early this month, Heads of State or Government assembled at Harare for the 8th Summit of Non-aligned Nations appealed to the two most powerful nuclear weapon States to arrest the trend towards confrontation and conflict. Earlier the leaders of the Six Nation - Five Continent Peace Initiative urged an immediate moratorium on nuclear tests and have offered a concrete programme of verification. A large number of Governments have welcomed this, many Parliaments have expressed enthusiasm and support. We welcome the positive response of the Soviet Union to the appeal by the six in the Mexico Declaration in extending its unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing for the third time, now till January 1987. We hope the United States will respond positively.

The United Nations has a singular role to play in all issues of disarmament. Regrettably, the negotiations in the Conference on disarmament have failed to bring about any positive steps on the vital issues of nuclear test ban, cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament and prevention of nuclear war. There is thus greater urgency for the General Assembly to put forward new ideas and mobilise support for disarmament measures.

Mr. President, many issues that were before the United Nations at the time of its inception continue to linger on its agenda. Our pride in the freedom realised by formerly dependent peoples is abridged by the failure to remove the last vestiges of colonialism in Africa and the still unrealised promise of a homeland for the Palestinian people.

SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA

Last week, we focussed on Namibia at a Special Session of the General Assembly. Namibia, which is solely the responsibility of the United Nations mirrors a situation where every value enshrined in the charter stands challenged. Efforts towards freedom there have been continually frustrated by those who had concurred in the plan for independence of Namibia charted in Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978. This is the bitter twist of irony. Necessary consequent action by the Security Council has received support from all members except those with direct commercial stakes in the area and who also have -283>

the power to annul collective will with their veto. It is not Namibia that is isolated. It is those who have sought to isolate Namibia that are.

In South Africa, Apartheid survives and is the root cause of violence and instability in the region. Every initiative for a peaceful resolution has been rejected by the Pretoria regime. Since the last session of the General Assembly a major effort was made by the Commonwealth to bring about a dialogue between the minority who rule and the majority who are ruled in South Africa. An Eminent Persons Group comprising of distinguished personalities from seven Commonwealth countries visited South Africa for this purpose. However the authorities in Pretoria live in a world all their own. Every meaningful proposal was spurned. The international community has no option but to impose comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa in accordance with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter as the only peaceful means to compel the South African regime to dismantle Apartheid. The alternative would be too ghastly to contemplate.

RACISM CANNOT LAST

South Africa cannot withstand the tide of history. The abhorrent system of Apartheid will collapse. In the words of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi -"Racism cannot last. People's aspirations cannot be encaged in a prison. Nelson Mandela and his people will be free".

The presence of great powers continues to increase in the Indian Ocean. Formation of command structures and other forms of outside military presence and pressures negate the decision of the Assembly to declare the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The convening of the conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo has been inordinately delayed because of the unhelpful attitude adopted by some. The Non-aligned Movement has suggested 1988 as a finite target at which we must aim and we hope the early

convening of the conference no more remains an illusion.

We remain deeply concerned over the situation in West Asia. The people of Palestine continue to languish without a homeland of their own. Israel's arrogant defiance of the will of the international community, the consolidation of its strangle-hold over the occupied territories, all constitute sad chapters in a seemingly endless tragedy.

We call for the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem. We support the exercise of the right by the people of Palestine, under the leadership of the PLO, to self-determination and the establishment of an independent sovereign State in Palestine. The right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and recognised borders, including the independent State of Palestine, must be assured.

We would like to underscore once again the importance of the early convening of the International Conference on the Middle East in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 38/58C which would constitute a major contribution by the United Nations towards the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The continuing conflict between Iran and Iraq causes us deep concern and anguish. Both these nations are heirs to great and proud civilisations. Both are endowed with the riches of nature and talented peoples. Yet for six long years death and destruction have prevented the channelling of their resources to productive activities. As a country which has friendly ties with both, we have had and will continue to have close consultations with them to bring this tragic conflict to an end.

Of late, we have seen a disturbing trend of violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States by powerful nations. Nicaragua has the right to follow its national policies without outside inti-

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midation or interference. All differences must be settled through negotiations. We have extended our full support to the Contadora process. Whether in Central America and the Caribbean or in the Mediterranean, the security and independence of Non-aligned countries must be respected. No nation has the right to take the law into its own hands. Policies of domination must give way to greater understanding and respect for the aspirations of the States.

Cyprus remains divided with part of its territory under foreign occupation. We reiterate our solidarity with her people and reaffirm our support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a Non-aligned and unified Republic. We have noted

the efforts made by the Secretary General to bring about a satisfactory resolution of this issue.

In relation to Afghanistan and South West Asia, I reiterate that the situation can be resolved only through an overall political settlement based on the principles set out in the New Delhi Declaration. We support the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

The differences in South East Asia call for a political solution. There can be no military solution. What is needed is balanced approach that takes into account security and other considerations of all the countries in the region and eliminates outside interference. We urge all States in the region to undertake a dialogue to resolve the differences and establish durable peace.

MENACE OF TERRORISM

Mr. President, the menace of terrorism is spreading, assassinations, hijackings, bombings have meant the death of hundreds of men, women and children and have resulted in the loss of innocent lives, the mindless destruction of property and the jeopardising of fundamental freedoms. I wish to reiterate the total opposition of my delegation to all acts of terrorism whether committed by individuals, groups or States. All countries must cooperate in fighting this common scourge within the framework of internationally accepted norms.

At the same time, we support the struggle of people under colonial and racist regimes and all forms of foreign domination and occupation and of the National Liberation Movement against their oppressors. Their struggle is legitimate and must not be confused with terrorism.

SAARC

The process of regional cooperation in South Asia, with which you, Mr. President, have such close personal involvement, culminated in the formation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. The seven nations of the region, who face similar problems are determined to nurture and foster this process of regional cooperation. SAARC will provide a vehicle for this purpose. India will have the privilege to host the Second Summit of SAARC leaders this November.

Mr. President, tensions and instability can arise also from the unsatisfactory state of the world economy. The economic situation continues to cause concern and is fraught with uncertainties which carry grave implications for the future. Expansion of world output and trade has slowed considerably and developing countries in particular continue to be confronted with exceptionally difficult circumstances. Mechanisms of international cooperation

which might have helped to mitigate their problems have been rendered largely ineffective. The international economic system remains inherently iniquitious.

The developing countries have been urged to undertake drastic adjustments in the face of an unhelpful international economic environment. Their efforts are hampered by intensified protectionist barriers. Sharply declining prices of commodity export end in an increasingly intolerable debt burden. The severity of adjustment measures demanded of them has <ppg-285>

not only affected development prospects, but has in many cases led to social and political tensions and unrest. Such adjustment to an adverse environment, which the developing countries have had no hand in shaping, really means accommodation by them to the policies and national interests of developed countries. There is thus a real danger that outside pressures may lead to an infringement of the economic sovereignty and be inimical to the political stability of developing countries. While it is obviously necessary for the developing countries to implement economic policies which will restore momentum to their economic growth, they must resolutely reject so-called solutions which would have the effect of undermining stable, democratic political structures.

ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN

Mr. President, along with the economic slowdown which has characterised the first half of this decade, there has been a marked change in the attitude of the developed countries to the detriment of the interest of the developing countries. This attitude can be described as apathy to the fundamental problems of poverty and development. It is therefore necessary to restate the basic consensus that has guided the international community in the post war period: viz. the development problem is a common concern of mankind and requires the cooperation of rich and poor nations alike. A retreat from the consensus and from the responsibilities associated with it will lead to an even deeper economic crisis. Enlightened cooperation in our interdependent world is no longer a luxury of choice but a necessity.

Mr. President, the uncertainties of today can be turned into the opportunities of tomorrow. This would, however, require breathing new life into mechanisms and modalities of economic cooperation. On their part, the developing countries are ready in the most pragmatic and constructive spirit to resume such a dialogue. In this context, we have noted with interest the proposal of the Secretary-General to convene a Ministerial-Level Meeting of the Economic and Social Council to reach an agreement on the issues which need to be addressed most urgently. We are willing to explore all avenues which can lead to a resumption of meaningful dialogue and cooperation in the areas of vital economic concern.

IMAGINATIVE MEASURES

The major economic imbalances which exist in the world economy, also reflect the choices before us. If traditional approaches are continued, the vast surpluses and the corresponding deficits which are accumulating in some parts of the world could have a dangerous destabilising effect. Alternatively, with bold and imaginative measures, they can be used to expand the productive capacity and the potentially vast markets of the developing countries which could lead to a quantum increase in trade and growth rates around the globe.

Low inflation rates and the benefits which industrial countries derive from the low commodity and energy prices should make it easier for them to undertake such measures. It is our firm belief that sustained growth in the world economy for the benefit of all would not be possible without a reactivation of the development momentum of developing countries. It is not sufficient to merely promote growth in the developed countries. Any significant improvement in the material conditions of life - which is the fundamental purpose of development - cannot come about entirely through the trickle-down effect of growth in industrial countries. We have to face the development issue squarely and evolve cooperative action to deal with it.

for monetary improvement and reform. Such an examination could be an important preparatory process towards the convening of an international conference on money and finance for development. The forthcoming meeting of UNCTAD would also provide an important opportunity to consider in an integrated and comprehensive manner the inter-related areas of money, finance, trade and development: and we would urge all countries to cooperate fully in reaching an early agreement on the agenda and other issues related to it. It is particularly important that the role and mandate of UNCTAD to deal with trade and development policies should be pursued and further strengthened.

In Punta Del Este last week agreement was reached on the launching of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations to be called the Uruguay round. We hope that these negotiations would result in the removal of protectionist barriers against the export products of developing countries.

One of the most critical issues for the development problem in the years ahead was highlighted by the 1986 report of the UN Committee on Development Planning, namely, that developing countries face a serious financing gap over the next decade and that without the restoration of development finance, prospects for growth would remain negligible and unable to satisfy even minimum aspirations for employment creation and higher living standards. We fully support the proposal of the Eminent Persons comprising the committee on development planning for the doubling of development finance for an additional dollar 25 billion per year, which they have contended is the minimum necessary condition for restoring moderate sustained growth in the developing world.

EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. President, the General Assembly has decided to inscribe a separate agenda item entitled "external debt crisis and development". This is an appropriate recognition of the severity of the debt and development crisis. In our search for a solution to this important issue, we believe that measures to prevent the recurrence and spread of this problem should form an important element.

The developing countries and the Non-aligned Movement remain deeply concerned over the critical economic situation in Africa. Within their capacities, the developing countries including India, are doing their utmost to help the African countries overcome the critical situation. On earlier occasions my delegation had outlined the concrete steps that we have taken. These are being continued and further expanded. In the context of the UN plan of action adopted by the 13th special session of the General Assembly, we shall continue to do our utmost to support the efforts of the African countries in areas where the skills and capabilities that we have acquired in our development experience have particular relevance.

Mr. President, we are concerned that the current financial crisis facing the UN remains acute despite the efforts made by many member States to expedite their payments. Thus the UN faces a situation where it will not be able to carry out the work programme mandated by its legislative bodies. This crisis is above all a political crisis, arising from disregard for obligations flowing from the charter and from lack of agreement among member States on how to finance the organization and its activities. We hope that wisdom will prevail and a consensus achieved. At the same time, it is also necessary to pay due heed to economies which can be effected without undermining the organization. itself. In this context we would like to express our appreciation for the work that has been undertaken by the group of high level inter-governmental experts to review the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the

United Nations. The UN must continue to play its vital role in the maintenance of International Peace and Security and in the promotion of development and interna-<peq-287>

tional cooperation. We pledge our full cooperation to this end.

STABLE WORLD ORDER FOUNDED ON ETHICS

Mr. President, in his very first address to the U.N. General Assembly, Jawaharlal Nehru had warned that it was becoming increasingly apparent that if we did not move with speed towards a world order, we would be left with no order in the world. Secretary General Perez De Cuellar, in his first report to the General Assembly, had similarly warned of the approach of a "New International Anarchy". Nearly 40 years separate us from Jawaharlal Nehru's warning, only four years from the caution addressed to us by the Secretary General. But their strength and relevance endures. A stable world order can only be one which is founded on ethics and international morality. Political stratagems divorced from morality may hold out promise of shortterm advantage but they cannot provide the basis of any enduring settlement. The durable world order to which we aspire must be based on justice and mutual advantage. This is the goal to which the United Nations and all countries individually must dedicate themselves.

Thank you Mr. President.

A INDIA SWITZERLAND ZIMBABWE MEXICO NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA SRI LANKA ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC NICARAGUA CYPRUS AFGHANISTAN URUGUAY

Date: Sep 26, 1986

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Banquet in Honour of Zambian Premier - Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Sep 22, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet in honour of Mr. Kebby Musokotwane, Prime Minister of Zambia here today (September 22, 1986):

I warmly welcome you and the distinguished members of your delegation. I am delighted that you have been able to respond to

the invitation I extended when I was in your country recently.

Zambia and India are bound together by the unbreakable threads of friendship, mutual esteem and shared ideals. We have shared our history, having experienced the agony of colonial exploitation and the exultation of winning freedom. We are both committed to democracy, development, peace and human equality. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, the maker of new Zambia, is known and respected the world over as a symbol of resurgent Africa and as a spokesman of struggling peoples all over the world. India admires his courage and compasion. Indira Gandhi and Kenneth Kaunda have placed Indo-Zambian friendship and cooperation on firm foundations. I greatly value Dr. Kaunda's friendship and wise counsel. I have no doubt that India and Zambia will always move together as brothers in the journey towards peace and justice.

Only a few days ago, we had a gathering of the Non-aligned family in Zimbabwe, your neighbour. We took stock of the major challenges confronting the world and renewed our resolve to continue our fight against racism, aggression and exploitation. Next door to you, in South Africa, millions of Africans are gagged and humiliated. They are denied their basic rights as human beings - the rights to move about, to speak, to choose, to work,

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to live. Hundreds of thousands of them are bludgeoned, tortured and jailed.

The outrage has gone on too long. It must end. The majority in South Africa will themselves put an end to it. The internal protest is reaching the decisive point. With it, the Pretoria regime has intensified its repression at home and its belligerency and economic pressure against the neighbouring States of Africa. Hearteningly, international public opinion against Apartheid is also growing in strength. This is happening even in those countries whose Governments are reluctant to apply sanctions against the South African regime.

CONTINUATION OF FREEDOM FIGHTS

As for Non-aligned nations, we are firm in our abhorrence of Apartheid, and in our resolve to wipe it out. We know that mandatory sanctions will hasten the process. We also recognise that the response of Pretoria will be more harassment of the people at home and more aggression against the Front-line States. The valiant Front-line States will withstand the challenge. There need be no doubt about it. To them, the victory of the majority in South Africa and the freedom of Namibia are a continuation of their own freedom fights.

The entire Non-aligned Movement is and will be with the freedomloving peoples of South Africa, Namibia and the Front-line States in their battle against brute force. The Harare Summit has adopted a set of measures for giving effective help to the freedom fighters in South Africa and Namibia and to the Frontline States in foiling Pretoria's military and economic counterthrusts. India and Zimbabwe have been entrusted with a special responsibility for the Africa Fund - the Fund for Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid. We should ensure that the Fund gathers speedy momentum.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Over the years, both our countries have taken care to strengthen bilateral relations in the economic, technological and educational fields. Both Zambia and India are developing countries. What is development? It is concerted action to remove the weaknesses of a nation - poverty, ignorance and disease. Development means more and better food and shelter, more and better jobs, more and better education and health facilities. But development is much more than mere economic growth and improvement in material conditions. It is essentially the strengthening the spirit of a people and enabling them to deal better with life's challenges. In your distinguished political career, Prime Minister, you have handled finance, education and culture. You know how intimately related all these are. Natural resources are important and have to be developed. But the biggest resource of all is human beings and their inner strength. All nations, including those economically developed, must give attention to the development of human beings in their splendid manysidedness.

Today humanity is in peril of losing its soul. The militarily powerful say that their nuclear weaponry will give them security. But in their heart of hearts they know it won't. Affluence has not led to contentment. Violence is growing everywhere. We must mobilise our spiritual strength to ensure that mankind does not lose control over what it has created. We must unite to make the earth, our only home, a more habitable, hospitable place.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: I request you to join me in a toast to the health of our guests, the Prime Minister of Zambia and his delegation, and to well-being of the people of Zambia. cpg-289>

MBIA INDIA USA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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Date: Oct 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

ANGOLA

India and Angola Sign Agreements on Trade and EconomicCooperation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 04, 1986 on the signing of agreements on trade and economic cooperation between India and Angola:

India and Angola have today signed an agreement on economic, technical, scientific and cultural cooperation and an agreement on trade. A Protocol of Understanding reflecting the consensus arrived at during discussions between the visiting Angolan delegation and India has also been signed.

The agreements were signed here by the Union Minister of External Affairs and Commerce, Shri P. Shiv Shanker on behalf of the Government of India and by the Angolan Minister of External Commerce, Comrade Ismael Gasper Martins.

Describing it as a historic occasion, Shri Shiv Shanker said that the signing of the two agreements and the Protocol of Understanding would usher in an era of mutual cooperation which would be of benefit to both the countries in the best spirit of South-South cooperation. He said that these agreements had put the relations between India and Angola on a very strong footing and the ties forged through these exchanges would go a long way in promoting the economic development and prosperity of the two countries.

The Angolan Minister said that the signing was an occasion of overwhelming importance as an expression of a Common political will and would guide for years to come cooperation between India and Angola in various fields. He remarked that India had the capacity to be one of Angola's strongest partners in development and his visit to India had reinforced this impression.

Following wide-ranging talks between the two delegations, which

began here on October 1, areas of mutual cooperation between the two countries were identified. These are trade and commerce, agriculture, energy, construction, transport and communication, industry, petroleum, manpower development, health and cultural cooperation.

The trade agreement provides for most favoured treatment being extended to the goods originating between the two countries in matters of customs and taxes and customs formalities. Lists of illustrative items in which trade could be promoted have been identified and made part of the trade agreement. This is expected to provide definite direction to bilateral trade. Items for exports from India include automobiles, bicycles, sewing tools, small and large scale industries, chemicals and drugs and pharmaceuticals. Items identified for possible imports from Angola include rough diamonds, crude oil and phosphate.

India has offered to send experts in rural development and in mining for identifying specific projects in Angola which could be developed with Indian help. Similar delegations will be sent in the fields of agricultural research and training and transport and communications.

As a follow up of the discussions the Angolan Government would be deputing a delegation to have further discussions re--291>

garding specific fields of cooperation in the field of energy.

The Government of India has further offered to send a delegation which will study the existing facilities in the Angolan National Museum and devise scheme for the proper preservation of the national artefacts of Angola.

During their visit to India, the Angolan delegation visited the National Small Industries Corporation, the National Dairy Research Institute, Central Electronics Ltd. and the Indian Agricultural Institute to have a first hand view of the developments taking place in India.

GOLA INDIA USA MALI

Date: Oct 04, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh JCE Meeting Concludes - Joint Press Release

The following is the text of a Joint press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 05, 1986 at the conclusion of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Committee of Experts meeting:

In pursuance of the Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of Understanding of 22nd November, 1985, the sixth meeting of the Joint Committee of Experts, consisting of Mr. Mohammed Ali, Secretary, Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh and Shri Ramaswamy R. Iyer, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India was held at New Delhi on 3rd and 4th October, 1986. The Committee was assisted by Advisers from Bangladesh and India.

The Committee had detailed discussions in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding on a long-term scheme or schemes for the augmentation of the flows of the Ganga/Ganges at Farakka and also on the study of the possible alternatives for sharing the common river water resources.

The JCE took note of the response received from HMG Nepal on the joint approach made by the Governments of Bangladesh and India and agreed to suggest the dates of the proposed visit to Nepal from October 27 to 30, 1986.

The different aspects of other possibilities for augmentation of the Gangal Ganges flows were also discussed by the JCE. It was agreed that the technical experts would immediately undertake intensive studies assuming certain scenarios as discussed in the meeting towards accomplishing the objectives of submission of concrete proposals to the next Ministerial-level meeting scheduled before the summit level meeting in November, 1986.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the JCE at Dhaka immediately after the Nepal visit to finalise the report for submission to the Ministerial level meeting to be held at Bangalore immediately prior to the SAARC Summit in November, 1986.

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Date: Oct 05, 1986

Volume No

BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission Tool for Development

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 06, 1986 on the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission meeting:

The Agriculture Minister, Shri G. S. Dhillon today called for a new thrust and a new focus to be given to the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission on economic, technical and scientific cooperation to make it a tool of development for both India and Bulgaria.

The Minister who was speaking at the plenary session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission meeting in Sofia said that there was great scope of cooperation between the two countries in the areas of agriculture, trade, industry and tourism and hoped that the balance of trade, which had mostly been unfavourable to India, would be set right.

The Minister, who is also the Co-Chairman of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission, said that while India had attained self-sufficiency in foodgrains with food production in 1985-86 reaching 150.5 million tonnes, there were different problems in the agriculture sector, particularly regarding oilseeds.

Shri Dhillon said that what was required was fully tested quality seeds to multiply high breeding varieties of sunflower. The two countries could also develop cooperation in the horticulture sector.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Referring to India's economic growth, Shri Dhillon said that the performance of infrastructural sectors like energy and transport had shown improvement. Industrial production had shown a growth of 6.8 per cent in 1984-85 and in 1985-86 it had registered an increase of 6.3 per cent over the previous year's production. Rate of inflation in terms of wholesale prices had come down in 1984-85 and since then there had been further improvement on the price front. The industrial policy had been liberalised and licensing procedures streamlined to create a competitive environment.

Shri Dhillon particularly referred to the growth of Indian chemical industry and said that Joint Commission could consider export of such items as dyestuffs, perfumery compounds and essential oils from India apart from drugs and pesticides as well as petro-chemical products.

TOURISM PROMOTION

The Minister referred to the increasing importance of tourism in developing countries and expressed his happiness that a protocol to encourage tourism was to be adopted during the current session of the Joint Commission. It would be the first such protocol India would be signing with this region.

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LGARIA INDIA USA

Date : Oct 06, 1986

Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

Initiative for Peace and Development

The following is the text of a press release issued by the six leaders of the initiative for peace and development warmly welcoming the meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in Iceland on Oct 11-12, 1986:

When we met in Mexico in early August, we called for a halt to all nuclear testing and offered our assistance in the verification of any such halt.

We have since received replies from General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan. We are glad that both leaders have reaffirmed their conviction about the need for nuclear disarmament.

We welcome the fact that the Soviet Union has extended its testing moratorium till 1987 and that the Soviet Government has stated that it is willing to enter discussions with our experts on a verification arrangement.

The Government of United States has said that while a comprehensive test ban treaty remains a long-term objective, for the time being it believes that it is necessary to continue nuclear testing.

We remain convinced that a moratorium on nuclear testing is a most effective first step in halting the nuclear arms race and in establishing a climate of confidence. We stand by our detailed offer of assistance in the verification of a testing moratorium which we presented in Mexico. We hope that the day will soon come when the two major nuclear weapon states will agree on a mutual suspension of testing. The next US-Soviet summit meeting will present an excellent opportunity to reach such an agreement.

ELAND MEXICO USA PERU

Date: Oct 11, 1986

Volume No

1995

GREECE

Indo-Greek Cooperation in Joint Ventures to be Promoted

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 01, 1986 on the first meeting of the Indo-Greek Joint Committee:

The first meeting of the Indo-Greek Joint Committee concluded here today, with the signing of the agreed minutes by the two delegations.

The minutes were signed by Shri Prem Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce on behalf of India and Mr. George Kandalepas, the Executive Secretary of the Greek Ministry of National Economy.

The Joint Committee was established in January, 1984 following the Indo-Greek agreement on economic, scientific and technical cooperation signed in September, 1983.

The Joint Committee considered co-operation in commercial and industrial -294>

fields, agriculture and fisheries as well as in tourism.

In industrial cooperation the Joint Committee identified specific areas that offered scope for collaboration in joint ventures such as commercial vehicles, agricultural equipment, electronic components, hand tools and machine tools, electronic medical equipment, deep-sea fishing, etc. Exports of projects to third countries was also discussed in areas such as power engineering, petrochemical projects, construction projects, sugar and cement plants, consultancy services, etc. Possibilities of cooperation

in shipping and non-conventional sources of energy will also be explored.

Cooperation in the field of agriculture is to cover areas such as agricultural inputs, irrigation projects and research and development. The Joint Committee also identified areas such as cotton cultivation, olive cultivation, citrus fruit production techniques for such cooperation, as also joint ventures for manufacture and export of agricultural machinery and implements as well as of pesticides and insecticides.

In fisheries the Joint Committee felt there was considerable scope for Indo Greek cooperation in the field of postharvest processing technology and marketing of marine products.

It was also agreed that intensive trade promotion would be necessary to promote exports in both directions, and that as a first step trade delegations in specific products could be exchanged. The Joint Committee also drew up lists of products that each country could export to the other.

In the field of tourism, the Greek delegation welcomed Indian investment in the hotel industry of Greece. Cooperation in this sector is to be discussed, in depth in Athens during the visit of an Indian delegation to be scheduled shortly.

The leader of the Indian delegation, Shri Prem Kumar expressed the view that the historic and traditional ties between India and Greece have been strengthened by the agreements reached in the Joint Committee. It is expected that trade flows between India and Greece would increase significantly as a result of the decisions taken by the Joint Committee so that Indo-Greek commercial exchanges adequately reflect the political goodwill between the two countries

EECE INDIA USA LATVIA RUSSIA

Date: Oct 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission Meets in New Delhi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 27, 1986 on the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission

meeting:

The Minister of Industry, Shri Vengal Rao, has called for practical measures to expand and diversify the bilateral trade between India and Hungary.

Addressing the 6th session of Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, the Minister, Shri Vengal Rao said that -295>

growth of trade between India and Hungary was yet to attain a stable position. "Our trade and economic relations are not commensurate with our close and friendly relations" he told the leader of the Hungarian delegation, H.E Dr. Istvan Hetenyi, Minister of Finance.

India has 55 collaborations with Hungary. The Industry Minister said it would be useful to identify areas of collaboration which could be put into viable commercial propositions. He hoped that there will be some Indo-Hungarian joint ventures in Hungary. Another area where a breakthrough could be made was in the field of third country projects, and the endeavour should be on selecting a few specific items and work on them to find a valuable result, Shri Vengal Rao said.

The Industry Minister expressed the hope that in the present Joint Session a firm foundation would be laid for further collaboration

The Hungarian delegation leader, Dr. Istvan Hetenyi outlined four important areas in which Hungary would welcome collaboration and joint ventures - power generation, chemical industry, electronics and transport systems. Dr. Istvan Hetenyi said his country would be willing to collaborate in power projects - lignite or hydel and in the field of chemical industry. There could be cooperation in oil, rubber and pharmaceutical industries, he said.

NGARY INDIA USA **Date**: Oct 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 30, 1986 on the signing of the Indo-Hungarian protocol:

A protocol agreement was signed today between India and Hungary enlarging the ways of trade between the two countries. The Minister of Industry, Shri Vengal Rao and Dr. Istvan Hetenyl, the Finance Minister of Hungary, signed the agreement.

The draft contract was initialled, providing for shipment of 500 Maruti cars by middle of the next year. Dr. Istvan Hetenyi who had earlier visited Maruti factory said that he was impressed with the standards of sophisticated technology in the factory. The export of 500 Maruti cars will be the starting point which will be further expanded later. The final agreement in this regard is expected to be signed next month.

The agreement provides for import of electrical equipment, sunflower hybrid seeds and export of drugs and pharmaceuticals.

The Industry Minister said that agreement will improve the two way trade turnover, which will go a long way to strengthen economic relations between the two countries. "The conclusions of this Joint Commission also point to greater technical collaborations and production cooperation between the firms of our two countries. Signing of the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement between our two countries today is an important landmark in our relations and is bound to improve the prospects of joint ventures and joint operations," he said.

NGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Oct 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

HUNGARY

Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement betweenIndia and Hungary Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 30, 1986 on the signing of an agreement on avoidance of double taxation between India and Hungary:

A convention for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to

taxes on income was signed here today by the Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh and H.E. Dr. Istvan Hetenyi, the visiting Hungarian Minister for Finance on behalf of their respective Governments.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Singh indicated that there was great scope for setting up Indo-Hungarian joint ventures in both countries. He particularly stressed the great scope for cooperation in the field of energy.

The Finance Minister also expressed appreciation for the longterm credit offered by Hungary.

The Hungarian Finance Minister, during the course of discussions suggested that any Indian delegation visiting Hungary to plan improved industrial and commercial relations should include a representative from the Ministry of Finance because planning and finance were closely connected in their country. Shri Singh appreciating the idea said that planning and finance have ultimately to be married because they have a close relation in our country too.

The avoidance of double taxation, pursuant to the signing of this Agreement will greatly encourage free flow of technology between the two countries as well as investment flows. After the convention comes into force, the enterprise of one country will be, taxed in the other country in respect of its industrial and commercial profits only if it carries on business in that country through a permanent establishment.

Income from royalty, fees for technical services, dividend, and interest will also be taxed at concessional rates after the treaty comes into force.

The Convention will come into effect only after the two Governments notify each other that requisite procedures in this regard have been completed.

NGARY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Oct 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Indo-Iraq Protocol on Tourism Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 25, 1986 on the signing of a protocol on tourism between India and Iraq:

India and Iraq today reaffirmed the desire to strengthen mutual cooperation between the two countries when Shri Brahm dutt , Minister for petroleum and

Natural Gas, and the Iraqi Minister of Oil, H.E. Mr. Quassim Ahmed Al-Uraibi, signed agreed minutes at a ceremony here at the conclusion of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation.

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The agreed minutes incorporated agreements reached in the three Sub-Committees relating to trade and projects, industrial and economic cooperation and technical and cultural cooperation.

A protocol on Indo-Iraqi cooperation in tourism was also signed on the occasion by Shri Nitish Sen Gupta, Director-General of Tourism on the Indian side and Mr. Abdul Khammas, Director General of the Iraqi Department of State Enterprise for Tourism.

An Indo-Iraqi cultural exchange programme is being separately finalised. by an Indian delegation presently in Baghdad.

The two-day session of the Commission on October 24 and 25 was preceded by the Commission meetings at the official level from October 21 to 23, 1986.

Indo-Iraq economic relations are substantial. Iraq has been India's largest market for project exports with Indian companies having executed contracts of over Rs. 5,000 crores. Presently over 30 Indian companies and around 30,000 Indians are in Iraq. Iraq is also a major supplier of oil to India and India has bought around 2.5 million tonnes of oil from Iraq in recent years.

The Joint Commission considered issues relating to Indian projects in Iraq, bilateral trade and financial arrangements with Iraq, deputation of Indian experts, Iraqi use of training facilities in India and other issues of bilateral cooperation. India and Iraq have entered into financial agreements starting in 1983 which govern deferred payments by Iraq of projects executed by Indian companies.

India expressed its interest in participation in operation and managements areas in Iraq in the years to come.

A specific list of Iraqi requirements for Indian experts in the year 1986-87 as well as their requirement of training facilities has been handed over to the Indian side during the Joint Commission.

Speaking on the occasion the Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission, Shri Brahm Dutt said that while cooperation in the field of projects would continue, a major new area of cooperation had been identified. This was in the field of operation and management. The Indian firms like Oberoi Hotels, Associated Cement Company and Indian Railways Construction Company have already proven their worth in this field and the two sides agreed that the scope in other areas was tremendous.

Shri Brahm Dutt said that the two countries agreed to improve their trade further and proposals were made in this regard. India would try to send a trade delegation to Baghdad in the next few weeks to continue discussions on the matter.

The Minister expressed the confidence that decisions taken to improve the position regarding payments and cooperation in the industrial, scientific and technical fields etc. would go a long way in consolidating further the close bilateral relations between India and Iraq.

AO INDIA USA

Date: Oct 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Continued Cooperation with Iraq Reiterated

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 24, 1986 on the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission Meeting:

Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister, Shri Brahm Dutt, today reiterated India's commitment to continuing cooperation with Iraq and expressed the hope that the Joint Commission of the two countries will have satisfactory discussions regarding implementation of various deferred payment agreements concluded by India in -298>

view of the temporary constraints faced by Iraq.

The Minister, who was addressing the Ministerial level plenary session of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission as its Co-Chairman said that as a developing country India had limited financial resources and was faced with serious balance of payment difficulties.

The Minister referred to the economic dimension added to the bilateral relations of the two countries following ambitious plans drawn up by Iraq for its development and said that India was greatly gratified by its record of participation in the economic development of Iraq.

Shri Brahm Dutt said that Indian construction companies had been involved in a wide variety of projects ranging from railway lines to bridges and shopping centres to water works. Similarly, Indian expertise had been at the disposal of the Government of Iraq for operation and management of important enterprises such as hotels, cement plants or operation of railway systems.

The Petroleum Minister said that there were a number of sectors in the Iraqi economy in which Indian expertise and experience could be useful. Indian companies were already involved in various areas of operation and management in Iraq. Avenues of expanding such cooperation should be expanded and enlarged, he added.

Expressing India's concern at the continuation of the tragic Iran-Iraq War, Shri Brahm Dutt said that India would continue its earnest endeavours for an early resolution of the conflict and for the restoration of peace so that the nations of the region could use their resources for the urgent task of development.

AQ INDIA USA IRAN **Date**: Oct 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Cooperation in Education and Culture

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 30, 1986 on Indo-Iraqi cooperation in education and culture:

An Indo-Iraq, three-years cultural exchange programme has recently been signed at Baghdad (Iraq). The programme provides for cooperation in the fields of higher education, information and culture, youth affairs and sports including in the fields of

adult education and performing and plastic arts. It also provides award of scholarships to Iraqi scholars for studying in India; collaborative arrangements between the institutions of higher education in India and Iraq, exchange of scientific publications, visual aids and research findings etc., exchange of delegations to acquaint them with development of educational processes in the two countries etc.

Shri R. C. Tripathi, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development, signed the three-years cultural exchange programme on behalf of Government of India and Dr. Kanan M. Jameel, Director General, Mission of Cultural Relations, Ministry of Higher Education, signed on behalf of the Government of Iraq at Baghdad on October 27, 1986.

AQ INDIA

Date: Oct 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Yen Assistance for Sanjay Gandhi Post-graduate Institute, Lucknow

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 08, 1986 on the Yen assistance for Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute, Lucknow:

Grant aid agreement of Yen 1,973 million (equivalent to Rs. 15.90 crores) for the implementation of Sanjay Gandhi Post-graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, was signed here today between India and Japan. The agreement was signed by Shri S. Venkitaramanan, Finance Secretary, and Mr. Takumi Hosaki, Ambassador of Japan, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The grant assistance will be utilised for the import of medical equipment and services from Japan for the S.G.P.G.I., Lucknow during the year 1986-87. The grant assistance of this project from Japan is likely to be continued during the year 1987-88.

It may be recalled that during the visit of our Prime Minister to japan in November 1985 the Government of Japan had announced a special grant aid for this project.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Venkitaramanan said that the

project envisaged the establishment of a multidisciplinary research and superspecialities hospital complex in three phases. Each speciality was expected to grow to such an extent that they would be centres of excellence in their own right. The first phase of the project is expected to cost Rs. 143.60 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 34 crores for import of equipment. The centres to be established in the Institute with Japanese assistance are neurology and neuro-surgery, cardiology and cardio-vascular surgery, gastro- entrology medical and surgical, nephrology-urology, endocrinology (metabolism) medical and surgical and genetics\immunology.

In the first stage of the project, the Institute proposes to create 600 beds.

PAN INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

JORDAN

President Hosts Banquet in Honour of King of Jordan

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 06, 1986 of the speech by the President, Giani Zail Singh at a banquet hosted by him in honour of Their Majesties King Hussein I, King of the Hashemite Kingdom, of jordan and Queen Noor Al-Hussein, here tonight (New Delhi, October 6, 1986):

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Majesties and distinguished entourage to India. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and India are bound by ties of long standing. India's contact with the Arab world goes far back into history. Arab culture and language has interacted with and contributed richly to the development of India's composite culture. From ancient times India has had regular contacts with the Arab world resulting in an interchange of ideas and concepts. We recall with pride and satisfaction the invaluable contribu-300>

tion of the Arab world and India to the development and achievements of world civilization in the diverse fields of science and technology, pure mathematics, religion and philosophy, literature and medicine. Despite historical upheavals this age-old relationship happily continues to this day.

Your Majesty, Jordan and India have both embarked on ambitious and accelerated programmes of economic development. We note with great admiration Your Majesty's efforts to bring the fruits of development to your people and your striving to create in Jordan an area of scientific and technological excellence in West Asia. In India since our Independence in 1947, we have made concerted efforts to move forward in the fields of industry, agriculture and science and technology. I am sure that during your visits to different parts of our country, you will gain a first-hand impression of our programmes of economic development. We are convinced that a process of sharing our experiences in the spirit of South-South cooperation can and should be carried forward to our mutual benefit. We have already embarked on a number of cooperative endeavours and the area of such collaboration can usefully be further expanded.

WEST ASIA

Your Majesty, West Asia continues to be an area of conflict and tension. We firmly believe that for progress and development to take place peace must prevail. The continuation of hostilities between Iraq and Iran and the consequent loss of human and material resources is a matter of deep concern and regret. We have been doing our utmost within the Non, aligned Movement and bilaterally to bring about an immediate end to the fighting. We are deeply aware that Your Majesty has made concerted efforts towards the same end.

The denial of an independent State to the Palestinian people in their own homeland is another pressure point in West Asia threatening world peace. Israel must withdraw from all Arab lands of which it is in illegal occupation. We have consistently and uncompromisingly supported the just Arab cause. We reaffirm our support for the struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO as their sole legitimate representative. Your Majesty, Jordan has a vital role to play in the search for a West Asian settlement and we are aware of Your Majesty's efforts to support and sustain the Palestinian cause.

Peace in the West Asian region is also threatened by the continuing tragic conflict in Lebanon. It is essential that through a mutually acceptable negotiated solution peace and order be restored there.

APARTHEID

The arrogant and inhuman system of Apartheid continues in South Africa. The racist regime has refused to listen to the call of reason and ignores the march of history. The struggle for freedom and human rights in South Africa is intensifying. We fully support the gallant people of South Africa in their struggle to dismantle the abhorrent apparatus of Apartheid. The only means

available to bring pressure on the white minority regime in South Africa is through the application of mandatory economic sanctions. The will of the international community in this regard must be respected by all States. It is our solemn duty to come to the support of the Front-line States which are being subjected to increasing economic and military pressures by the South African regime. The question of Namibia's independence remains a matter of deep concern to us. The South African regime with external support it enjoys has been systematically preventing the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia. India fully supports SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia, in its struggle for freedom and independence.

DISARMAMENT

Disarmament and nuclear disarmament in particular is no longer merely a -301>

question of war and peace but one with a direct bearing on the very survival of the human race. The Six-Nation initiative reflects the deep concern of non-nuclear States about the stark dimensions of the nuclear peril. This initiative has underscored the vital and urgent importance of concluding a comprehensive ban an nuclear weapon tests and of preventing an arms race in outer space. The Special Harare Appeal on Disarmament underlines the urgency attached to this issue by the great majority of the peoples of the world. It is imperative that the nuclear weapon powers, should heed our appeal and proceed expeditiously to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race and achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Your Majesty, Jordan and India are both active members of the Non-aligned Movement, the greatest peace movement in human history. The recently concluded Summit Meeting in Harare demonstrated only too vividly the relevance of our Movement as a force for international peace. The cohesion of the Movement was further strengthened at Harare and the Harare Summit declaration undoubtedly constitutes a pragmatic blueprint for action calculated to promote disarmament, peace and development. We look forward to continuing cooperation with Jordan within the Non-aligned Movement and bilaterally.

Your Majesties, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen may I now request you to join me in raising a toast to the health and happiness of His Majesty King Hussein, Her Majesty Queen Noor, to the prosperity and well-being of the friendly people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and to the further consolidation of the close and friendly relations between the peoples of our two countries.

Date: Oct 06, 1986

Volume No

1995

JORDAN

Text of Speech of Jordan King

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 07, 1986 of the speech by His Excellency King Hussein I, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at a banquet hosted in his honour by the President, Giani Zail Singh, here yesterday (October 6, 1986):

It gives me great pleasure to be with you this evening. I avail myself of this happy occasion to extend my sincere thanks to you for inviting me to visit your great country. Your gracious invitation is a source of pride and satisfaction not only for me personally but also for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

This auspicious opportunity permits me, Queen Noor and the accompanying Jordanian delegation to express our deep appreciation for the cordial hospitality accorded to us since our arrival in your friendly country. It brings to mind happy memories of my first State visit to India in 1963, when I met one of your country's great leaders, the late Jawaharlal Nehru. His foresight and experience have been an inspiration to me ever since. Above all the present occasion enables me to convey the greetings of the Jordanian people, who have the highest regard for you personally, your esteemed Government, the friendly people of India and the ideas for which you stand. For India's unwavering principles have commanded the respect of the entire world. I am confident, Mr. President, that the ties that bind us will grow stronger in the days and years to come, because they are based on lasting spiritual values and noble human principles, as well as on legitimate national and cultural aspirations that guide the planning and implementation of our domestic and external policies.

Permit me, I proceed, to extend to your Excellency, to his Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, to his family and to the Indian people, my own and Queen Noor's personal congratulations, as well as -302>

Those of the people of Jordan, on Mr. Gandhi's survival of the heinous attempt on his life a few days ago. We wish you all every happiness and success in serving your country and the aspirations of mankind.

TAGORE, GANDHI AND NEHRU

Mr. President, I recall with pleasure our meeting three and a half years ago when I participated in the seventh Nonaligned Summit in your beautiful capital. I would like to pay tribute to the effective role played by the late Indira Gandhi in ensuring the success of that conference. Not only did her efforts complement those of the distinguished Indian leaders who preceded her, but her actions were a true reflection of the ideals promulgated by Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. The peoples of the world will remain indebted to those leaders, to the principles and values which they embodied and to India's outstanding contribution over the centuries, to man's universal heritage. The peoples of the Non-aligned Movement are inspired by India's impressive experience with plurality, democracy, development and modernization.

Mr. President, the contemporary concerns of humanity near the close of the 20th century are becoming increasingly complex. At a time when famine is rife in more than one region of the globe, we witness the testing and deployment of the weapons of destruction. As countries or the Third World strive to develop themselves, the gap seems to widen between the North and the South. As science advances and more opportunities for education and cultural growth become available, civilian aircraft, cars and department stores are being blown up and individuals are being murdered. As communications bring people closer together, discrimination is practised or fed on the pretext of colour, race or religion. Efforts to strengthen world peace are thwarted by those who fuel local strife. While some try hard to contain regional conflicts, others seek to expand them to the international area and impede their resolution.

GLOBAL EFFORT

The arms race, regional conflicts, the occupation of the territory of others by force, racial discrimination, economic imbalances between North and South, desertification, famine, drugs, and the faltering pace of development in the Third World are evils that threaten the stability and security and, perhaps, the future of the world in which we live. No less than a global co-operative effort is required to stamp them out. During the last few years, a new evil has reared its head, causing great concern because it is of such recent inception. This evil is terrorism. It is an evil in its own right. To combat it is as necessary as combatting all other threats. At the same time, fighting it should not bind us to the struggle against other forms of human inequity. Just as the call to fight

desertification does not annul the need to combat racial discrimination, combatting terrorism should not cancel the call to fight the evil of occupation.

Mr. President given this prevalent atmosphere, which could shake the confidence of some believers in the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, we believe it to be more imperative than ever before to hold fast to these principles and preserve their integrity. Indeed, cooperation rooted in these principles - with the great powers and within the framework of the United Nations, which merits our support and respect - has become even more insistent for the sake of humanity's present and future.

SOURCE OF HELP AND INSPIRATION

Your great country, Mr. President, is a source of help and inspiration to us all. Its past struggle for freedom and independence is an example worthy of emulation. Its present - and distinguished - experiment with internal construction and socioeconomic development through self-reliance, utilization of available resources and co-operation with countries of similar circumstances, is a true application of the principles of South-South co-operation.

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You should be justly proud of your firm and unwavering stand on global issues of lasting concern to the present and future of humanity: disarmament, peace and stability, putting an end to the occupation of the land of others, fighting terrorism and establishing a more equitable international economic order. In taking such an honourable position, you have earned the respect of my country and my Arab nation, and have strengthened our desire for greater co-operation to the mutual benefit of our peoples.

I am also duty-bound, Mr. President, to express our appreciation and gratitude for the continued understanding and support extended by your country to the just causes of the Arabs. Your firm stand by the side of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and the termination of Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories is in conformity with international legitimacy and the principles enshrined by your glorious heritage. It will undoubtedly bolster efforts aimed at putting an end to this regional conflict, thus rendering a service to peace and stability in the Middle East and the world at large. The Israeli occupation of Arab lands has entered its 20th year. Yet peace efforts are still faltering. Hate and bitterness are on the increase and the dangers inherent in this explosive situation are gaining momentum. With each passing day, it becomes abundantly clear that international legality should be respected, including the prevention of the occupation of the territory of others by force and the need to settle conflicts by peaceful means on the basis of the United Nations Charter and in accordance with

international law. Since the cause of peace is a global one, we in Jordan, have continuously called for and worked towards the convening of an international conference for peace in the Middle East based on the Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the achievement by the Palestinian people of their legitimate national rights in their ancestral homeland. Such a conference should be attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council together with all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization.

In the same vein, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the sustained efforts by your country to put a stop to the dreadful agony of the Iraq-Iran war. We earnestly hope that you will persist in this selfless endeavour until such a time as Iran agrees to end the fighting and a just peace is established between the two neighbouring Non-aligned States, safeguarding the legitimate rights of the two parties and leading to neighbourly relations based on the principle of non-interference in each other's internal affairs. We have no doubt that you will continue to use your international standing for the cause of peace and the termination of tension afflicting parts of the region in which we live.

Mr. President within the context of the friendly relations that exist between our two countries and nations we note with satisfaction the progress of bilateral relations between India and Jordan. Cooperation between us in the economic, commercial and cultural fields is growing steadily. Hundreds of students are pursuing their studies at Indian universities and educational institutions. There are constantly expanding horizons in the field of technical co-operation. The totality of mutual relations affirms the ties of friendship between our two countries and leads us to look forward to greater cooperation. We also look to benefit from your experience in implementing our economic and social development plans for our mutual benefit and as an expression of joint commitment to South-South cooperation emphasized by the principles and resolutions of the Non-aligned Movement, to which we both belong.

Mr. President, allow me to reiterate my thanks for affording me this renewed -304>

opportunity to visit your great country and engage in discussions with your excellency. I call on this distinguished gathering to rise with me in salute to President

Singh and the continued friendship between our two countries and peoples. May God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you.

RDAN INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ

Date: Oct 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

MOZAMBIQUE

Prime Minister's Tribute to Samora Machel

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 20, 1986 of the condolence message sent by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, on the death of President Samora Machel of Mozambique:

The Government and the people of India are deeply grieved over the tragic death of President Samora Machel and offer the people of Mozambique their profound sympathy. I have lost a good friend and Africa and the Non-aligned world a dynamic leader.

Through his courage and outstanding organisational abilities, Samora Machel led Mozambique to freedom and guided its march to the modern age. All of us who had so recently seen this indefatigable fighter in Harare at the Non-aligned Summit find it hard to believe he is no more.

Samora Machel's example will inspire us all in our fight for equality and justice.

ZAMBIQUE INDIA USA ZIMBABWE

Date: Oct 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech at Official Dinner in Jakarta

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 15, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the official dinner, hosted in his honour by the Indonesian President, H.E. Mr. Suharto at Jakarta on October 13, 1986:

In a dim, distant, unrecorded age we had met, thou and I When my speech became tangled in thine and my life in thy life.

That is how our great poet, Rabindranath Tagore, described his feelings when he visited Indonesia sixty years ago.

President Suharto, Madame Suharto, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: That is how I feel today.

This is my second visit to your country of fabled beauty. I was barely six in 1950 when I came with my grandfather and my mother. The years have helped me to appreciate better the strands of silk and gold which have gone into the rich brocade of our friendship.

Argosies plied between the shores of our two countries carrying not just valuable merchandise but arts and ideas, philosophers, poets and sculptors. Two great -305>

civilisations flourished in close proximity, flowering their own genius, yet sharing a common view of life, common epics, common personifications of courage and truth, and uncommon spiritual insights.

Then came the encounter with the West. We were both subjugated. Colonialism cut our connection. It was in the beginning of this century that our Continent regained its confidence. Political resurgence brought with it a rediscovery of old links and a recognition of a common future. "A new panorama opened up before me", wrote Jawaharlal Nehru: "New perspectives of history Champa, Cambodia and Angkor, and Vijaya and Majapahit suddenly rose out of the void, vibrant with instinctive feeling which makes the past touch the present."

ASIAN RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Leaders of our two liberation movements came together at antiimperialist conferences. We convened an Asian Relations Conferences in New Delhi in March 1947 even before we attained freedom. It was there that Jawaharlal Nehru proclaimed in ringing tones that the people of Asia no longer were the playthings of others. Not long after, came an imperialist attempt to undermine the new Republic of Indonesia. Your leaders were taken prisoner. Jawaharlal Nehru called an 18-nation conference in January 1949 to meet this challenge to newly awakened Asia and express the region's solidarity with your country. The Afro-Asian Conference of 1955 in Bandung marked another milestone in the history of modern Asia and the modern world.

In four decades of independence, Indonesia and India have evolved an enduring national unity out of extraordinary diversity. We have both registered impressive progress in agriculture, industry, education and public health. With loving care, we have nurtured our cultural and spiritual roots. We see the old with new eyes and the new with ancient wisdom.

We are waging a battle for technological development in an unhelpful -- perhaps even hostile -- international environment. The industrial countries, ranged in rival blocs, tend to judge every international issue in terms of narrow advantage to the one or the other. Obsessed with the politics of power, most of the developd attach little importance to the human concerns of the economically weak. The response of India and Indonesia to this challenge is the strategy of Non-alignment. Indeed Non-alignment is more than a strategy -- it is a way of life. Non-alignment ensures our independence. It enables us to withstand pressures. It puts us on friendly terms with both blocs.

The Non-aligned Movement, of which our two countries are the founders, has consistently believed in coexistence, noninterference, peace and nuclear disarmament. We have firmly rejected military entanglements and opposed the extension of outside presences and the establishment of bases. We believe in dialogue for the peaceful resolution of differences.

We are concerned at the breakdown of the talks between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev in Reykjavik. Reports indicate that substantial arms cuts and a halt to nuclear testing were being seriously considered when the talks stalled over the question of the tension of the nuclear arms race to new dimensions. It is reassuring that the proposals made have not been withdrawn and we hope a time-table for the continuation of comprehensive negotiations will yet be agreed upon. In the light of these developments, the six-nation five-continent peace initiative assumes a new urgency and even deeper significance. We urge an immediate global moratorium on all nuclear testing -- a moratorium which the six-nations are able and believe to verify -- as the essential step to meaningful negotiations on the reduction and elimination of all nuclear weapons. The future of human race depends on this.

INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

Our two countries share the Indian Ocean. At our initiative the United Nations -306>

has declared it a Zone of Peace. That was fifteen years ago. But the ocean continues to be an arena of rivalry and military build-up. We the littoral States demand the convening of an international conference to give practical effect to the 1971 UN Declaration on the Indian Ocean. We want it to be a Zone of Peace.

Neighbours who share a region face similar problems. A

cooperative approach helps to solve them more effectively. It is this objective which led to the establishment of the Association of South East Asian nations, of which you are a member, and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, to which India belongs. Both are important initiatives. The South Asian region embraces a billion people who are engaged in building a better life for themselves. I am sure ASEAN and SAARC will contribute significantly to Asia's progress.

The people of Kampuchea suffered a terrible genocide at the hands of the Pol Pot regime. The conscience of the world must never allow those responsible for this genocide to ever again return in any guise. We believe that the problems of the region can be resolved only through dialogue and negotiation leading to the withdrawal of foreign forces from Kampuchea and safeguarding all States of the region from interference, subversion and coercion. Thus will the Kampuchean people be assured the right to determine their destiny themselves and all States of the region their right to sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

INHUMANITY OF PRETORIA

A major issue in the world today is the persistence of racism. Unfortunately, some Governments that swear by human rights condone the barbaric inhumanity of Pretoria. The Blacks of South Africa, who form the majority, have long been asking the outside world to withhold economic support from the Apartheid regime. Only sanctions can compel Pretoria. But some still oppose sanctions. Their plea is that the Blacks will suffer. But we who won our freedom from colonial rule are familiar with this specious argument. Imperialists used to claim that independence would hurt the poor people of our lands. Nothing is so odious as sham sympathy. Just as we won our freedom, so will the oppressed millions of South Africa triumph. It is our duty to ensure that more blood and suffering are not exacted from them.

The recent Non-aligned Summit at Harare reflected the best instincts of humankind in demanding immediate action to wipe out Apartheid. The Non-aligned Movement has entrusted to me the chairmanship of the AFRICA Fund -- the Fund for Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Aggression. I count on Indonesia's support.

Mr. President, we missed you in Harare. But this visit has enabled me to share with you my assessments of the decisions of the Non-aligned Summit and carry forward our Delhi discussions. Our exchange of ideas also further strengthens our bilateral cooperation. It imparts a new impetus to an old friendship. Thank you for this invitation which has brought me here. I give you and the people of Indonesia the warm good wishes of the people of India.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I invite you to join me in wishing long

life and happiness to President Suharto and Madame Suharto, prosperity to the people of Indonesia, and ever growing friendship between our two countries.

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DONESIA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA CAMBODIA ICELAND SOUTH AFRICA ZIMBABWE

Date: Oct 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Banquet Speech at Canberra

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 14, 1986 of the speech bp the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the banquet hosted in his honour at Canberra today (October 19,1986):

Prime Minister, Mrs. Hawke, Ladies and Gentlemen, the tone for our visit here was set, as is only appropriate, by a sensational test series: the cricketing equivalent of peaceful coexistence being, perhaps, a tied Test! Thank you for the warmth of your welcome and your firm clasp of friendship.

I am repeatedly asked by the Australian media what there is to the special relationship they see between you and me, Bob. Of course, you're a delightful person, but there is much more to it than that. We discovered at Nassau that there are remarkable similarities in our approach to many international issues. Despite the particularities of our preoccupations, the distances that separate us, the differences in our origin as nations, we seem to see the world in a similar sort of perspective. We also seem agreed that problems are there to be solved, not left to fester. I also much appreciate your direct and straightforward manner, your standing up for your convictions.

DESTINIES TIED IN INDIAN OCEAN

Beyond personalities, this is a turning point in the consolidation of contacts between India and Australia. In earlier years, it was perhaps not entirely clear whether Australia was an antipodal outpost or belonged to our part of the world. Australia's policies and influence are now centrestage in international affairs. We see that the destinies of our countries

are tied in with the Indian Ocean which laps both our shores. Arising out of our shared democratic values, we have a common interest in justice, fairplay and human rights.

There are important lessons for us to learn from your pioneering, spirit. You have turned vast arid lands into pastures and green fields. Your mineral wealth and industrial development have placed you among the most economically advanced nations of the world. Your potential is immense. You have developed an authentic Australian culture. It has given us not only Patrick White, Wandjuk Marika and Joan Sutherland, but also Olivia Newton-Joan, Mel Gibson -- and Waltzing Matilda!

INDIAN ETHOS

The Indian ethos is reflected in our policy of Non-alignment. Non-alignment has its roots in our freedom movement. Mahatma Gandhi taught us that non-violence is not passive acquiescence. It is the assertion of our convictions. The path to peace cannot lie through uneasy balances struck between contending powers, but through peaceful coexistence and cooperation between different economic and social systems. In this age of nuclear weapons, human survival requires that adversary relationships, armed force and the drive for dominance give way to pacific settlement of disputes. The route we chose at Independence is the same route which almost all countries emerging from colonialism and other forms of domination have chosen over the last four decades. Nonalignment is the projection of our national independence and of our quest for international peace. We need to enlarge the scope of conciliation, consensus and concord.

NAM IS DEMOCRACY OF NATIONS

The Non-aligned Movement is a democracy of nations. Every nation, irrespective of size or wealth or military power, speaks with an equal voice. In this, the Movement mirrors the United Nations, which was conceived as a forum of sovereign equals. Colonialism having almost run its course, the United Nations has become -308>

increasingly representative and universal. Far from welcoming this development, some powers have resorted to dangerous derogations damaging to the system of international order. Australia and India must continue to stand fast together in building upon, and preventing the erosion, of a system so painstakingly erected.

The United Nations Charter provides a mechanism for united international action against regimes which pose a clear and present threat to the peace. This is the mechanism of comprehensive mandatory sanctions provided for in Chapter-VII of the Charter. No regime more merits being proceeded against than Pretoria. The Non-aligned Movement has long been urging action to

end Apartheid. The Movement has mobilised the solidarity of 2/3rds of the international community behind the courageous freedom fighters of South Africa, helping set the stage for the final denouement. When the six of us -- drawn from North America, from Africa, from Asia, the Atlantic and the Pacific -- joined hands at the Commonwealth meeting in London last August, we sent a signal that has echoed around the world.

The Non-aligned Movement has set up the Fund for Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid: the AFRICA Fund. The United States Congress has obliged the Administration to proceed with sanctions. The momentum in favour of sanctions is gathering in the European Community and will ineluctably spread even to those who are resisting the tide of history. There is still time -- but very little time -- to pull South Africa back from the brink of conflagration. The need of the hour is to concert the will of the international community to take determined action. It is this endeavour of epochal significance that has brought India and Australia together as colleagues and comrades in a larger human cause.

HUMAN SURVIVAL

We welcome the support which Australia has extended to the Six-Nation Five-Continent Peace Initiative. Technology has equipped man with awesome devices of destruction. Human passions, often expressive of perceptions of an earlier era, have yet to be conditioned to the responsibilities imposed by the new technology. By a strange twist of logic, the powerful presume that the use of nuclear weapons can be prevented by escalating their destructive power, stocking them in larger numbers, and deploying them eye to eye. This they call "deterrence"! Human survival is far too important to be left in the hands only of those who have the power to destroy the world. They may have a monopoly of power, but they do not have a monopoly of wisdom. We urge an immediate global moratorium involving all nuclear weapon States, which the Six-Nations are prepared to verify as nonpartisan observers with the required technological skills and global reach. The unilateral Soviet moratorium is now more than a year old. The others must follow suit. We do not believe there are any significant technological gaps to be bridged. We look to Australia to join hands with men and women of goodwill everywhere to mobilize world opinion against the Gadarene rush to nuclear suicide.

We share the Indian Ocean, you at its south-eastern edge, we at its northern rim. The peace of our region, our security and our commerce depend on freeing the Ocean of outside rivalries. In 1971, the United Nations declared the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace. The Declaration has remained a dead letter while the Ocean has been transformed into a theatre of tension by the induction of foreign naval presences and their panoply of nuclear war. The United Nations General Assembly is once again considering at its

current session the question of convening the Conference to give effect to that Declaration. I hope our discussions here will contribute to a congruence of Indian and Australian positions in New York. The vast riches of the Indian Oceans will be denied as if the Ocean is usurped by the war machines of others.

ANTARCTIC TREATY

We are working together as members of the Antarctic Treaty. That Treaty is -309>

based on keeping Antarctica free of military rivalries, so that its resources might be tapped for the common benefit of humankind. There is a general validity to this perception. We must expand to other areas the principle of freezing military rivalries to promote cooperation in the interest of all.

While there is growing convergence in our global perspectives, there should be more to our bilateral relationship than a shared passion for cricket, especially as you have committed the unpardonable sin of beating us in hockey! Cooperation grows out of the habit of looking towards each other. We have not figured much in our consciousness of one another. This despite the efforts of that great Australian scholar, A. L. Basham, who unveiled The Wonder That Was India to Australia and, indeed, to the world.

A country that has produced such eminent scientists as Cornforth and Birch surely has much to contribute to India's efforts at pressing technology into the service of our people. The Australian market is still largely a closed book to us. As neighbours across an ocean, we would like to see much more of your theatre, your ballet, your cinema, music and plastic arts than we have had the opportunity of doing so far. Equally, the glorious diversity of India must be brought to the Australian doorstep. In sport, our jousting on the competitive field could perhaps be backed by coaching and training camps.

Sonia and I would like to thank you and Hazel for your warmth and gracious hospitality. We hope to see you both in India soon.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in a toast to the health and happiness of our hosts and growing friendship between our two countries.

STRALIA INDIA USA BAHAMAS UNITED KINGDOM SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Oct 14, 1986

Volume No

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Banquet Speech at Sydney

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 15, 1986 of the text of the speech of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet hosted in his honour by the Government of New South Wales at Sydney:

Premier, Mrs. Unsworth, Ladies and Gentlemen, my wife and I are delighted that our first visit to Australia includes this visit to Sydney. We did not want to miss one of the world's most famous cities, known for its old and new vistas. We are not able, unfortunately, to see more of New South Wales. But it is good to keep some things for the future.

Ever since the discovery of Australia it has had links with India. For decades, the Europe-Australia voyage included a halt in Bombay and sometimes Calcutta. I am told that until 1840 the Anglican Bishop of Calcutta was also the Bishop of Sydney. It must have been the advance of spiritual self-sufficiency here rather than any decline in virtue in Calcutta that led to Sydney having its own Bishop.

The distance between us has shrunk. Our cricketers visit each other more frequently. Your own players are now in India winning our hearts, though not all their matches.

Travel is easier these days. Communication is instant. But understanding does not seem to have improved. We imagine that we comprehend an event in depth just because we see it for 15 or 20 seconds on our television sets. Instant viewing is no substitute for the effort and reflection which are essential for better understanding.

This is where visits and meetings help. Summitry and personal diplomacy on the part of leaders have increased not because -310>

travel is easier but because it is important to cut through the thick undergrowth of extraneous detail that our much-trumpeted age of information produces.

I should like to see greater contacts between the people of our two countries in all fields and at all levels -- business, scholarship, art, the media and sport. There should be more trade between us. It should not be limited to your drinking more Indian tea and our wearing more Australian wool. Over the years India has been building an industrial base, besides modernising its

agriculture. There is great scope for technological cooperation.

DOWN UNDER IS UP ON TOP

On this visit to Australia's largest city, I want to say how glad we are at your increasing understanding of India's policies and those of other newly-independent nations. There was a time when Australia did not involve itself in the concerns of the developing. But that phase, happily, is well behind you. We in India appreciate your support to the Delhi Declaration. You have taken a clear and spirited stand against the monstrosity that is Apartheid in South Africa. Today the world regards Australia as a country which thinks independently and speaks straight. Evidently, in matters of international morality, Down Under is up on top.

My wife and I thank you, Premier, Mrs. Unsworth and the Government and people of New South Wales for your warm hospitality.

STRALIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Oct 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Prime Minister's Address to Sydney Meeting of Economic Planningand Advisory Committee

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 16, 1986 of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the Economic Planning and Advisory Committee at Sydney on October 16, 1986:

Prime Minister, Members of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you for your warm words of welcome. It is a particular pleasure to have this opportunity to share my thoughts on economic policy issues with this distinguished gathering.

Economic policy is very much on the top of the political agenda in most countries today, both developed and developing. Our economic situations are very different. In fact they are not really comparable. Nevertheless, Governments everywhere have a common preoccupation: How to provide better economic and social conditions and wider opportunities for their people?

They have to do this in a world which is becoming increasingly interdependent, which adds some degrees of commonality to otherwise divergent situations.

INTERDEPENDENCE IS SOURCE OF STRENGTH

Interdependence is a source of strength to the world economy. It provides opportunity for mutually beneficial exchange and cooperation. Economic events in one part of the world affect other parts of the world.

No country can solve its economic problems without regards to developments in the world economy. Movements in world trade, international exchange rates and international financial markets all have powerful effects on our domestic economies, whether rich or poor. These are beyond our individual control. Our collective ability to regulate them to our mutual benefit is demonstrably inadequate.

TWO DIMENSIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

Economic policy in an interdependent world must, therefore, be seen in at least

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two dimensions. First, there is what each of us does with domestic economic policy at home. This is naturally the challenge that preoccupies each one of us at any time. Collectively, however it is for us to consider what we can all do together to create a better functioning world economy, with greater economic justice for all nations. I would like to tell you a little of how we in India view both these issues. From the early days of our independence, our domestic economic policy was fashioned as the economic counterpart of political independence. We had inherited a weak and stagnant colonial economy. We wanted to build a modern India, strong, dynamic, self-reliant, dealing with the world on equal terms. And we wanted to build it on democratic foundations.

It was with this vision that India embarked on her development Odyssey with the first Five-Year Plan in the early fifties. We are now in the middle of the Seventh Plan. In these three and a half decades there has been a sea change in India's economic conditions and prospects.

Perhaps our most important achievement is the transformation we have brought about in Indian agriculture. In the early years of our Independence, we had to import large quantities of grain on concessional terms from many countries, including Australia. Successive Five-Year Plans contributed to a strategy which has slowly but visibly changed our agriculture from what was a stagnant, low-productivity sector to one that is a dynamic sector which is a major source of strength to our economy today. This change is the result of sustained efforts made by the Government

in land reform, expanding irrigation, providing access to high yielding varieties of seeds, supplying other inputs, building a network of support institutions for extension, marketing, credit and procurement at remunerative prices. Equally important was the enthusiastic response of millions of Indian farmers, belying earlier pessimistic predictions that they would be slow to respond to modernising influences. In region after region, Indian farmers have shown that given the right conditions they are fully competent and indeed eager to absorb and implement modern cultivation practices which bring substantial increases in productivity.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD

The results are evident in India today. Our agriculture is much less vulnerable to the vagaries of the weather. We no longer have the recurring food shortages of the past. In spite of a succession of unfavourable monsoons, we now have a situation of food self-sufficiency. In fact there is an emerging prospect of potential exports, but at home we must increase our levels of consumption.

Rising incomes in the countryside, combined with special programmes aimed at helping the weaker sections, have contributed to a distinct improvement in the conditions of living in the villages. In 39 years of Independence, we have increased life expectancy by 30 years, or nearly one year of life for every sixteen months of Independence. The growth of rural incomes has also begun to provide a growing market for Indian industry. Our planners rightly saw that the prime weakness of the Indian economy was inadequate industrial development. They assigned a major place to industry in the war against poverty. We have made substantial progress towards building a modern industrial economy. At the time of Independence, our industrial sector produced only a limited range of goods. Today its product range spans a wide spectrum from simple consumer goods to sophisticated machinery, in many cases embodying high levels of technology. We have developed a capability for indigenous R and D with a broad supporting base of scientific and research institutions. We have a large pool of skilled man-power, managerial, technical and on the shopfloor. We have also seen a tremendous development of entrepreneurial talent in the country. India's industrial sector today has attained a degree of strength and maturity, which is a precondition for rapid industrial growth. -312>

An aspect of our strategy of which we are particularly proud is that our development has been achieved almost entirely through our own efforts. The rate of saving has been raised from less than 10 per cent of the GNP in 1950 to well above 20 per cent -- no small achievement in a low-income economy. Over 90 per cent of the investment in the economy has been financing accounts for only about 10 per cent of our total investment, and concessional

assistance is only about half this amount. India has always welcomed external assistance from our friends in support of our development effort and this assistance has been put to very effective use. But our reliance upon external assistance has seen a troubled time for the world economy. Most countries, both developed and developing, have seen a prolonged interruption in the pace of progress.

Many developing countries have suffered serious setbacks. Their per capita income and consumption levels have declined considerably in real terms. Several of them have experienced a collapse in external payments. It is a matter of satisfaction that India has performed relatively well during this difficult time. The Sixth Plan covering the period 1980 to 1985, saw the Indian economy achieve all its major targets. GNP grew at an average annual rate of over 5 per cent. Foodgrains production reached a record of over 150 million tonnes. The balance of payments remained under effective control. The rate of inflation was brought down to an average of about 6 per cent in the past five years.

PROCESSED FOOD INDUSTRY

Our strategy for agricultural development has worked well in the past and has tremendous potential for the future. We will continue with this strategy. The Green Revolution must be spread to areas which have not yet benefitted from it, including areas dependent on dryland agriculture. We need to pay more attention to achieving a better crop mix, increasing sugarcane, pulses and oilseeds. Looking behind crop production we need to develop the processed food industry which has great potential and provides the basis for long term agricultural diversification and rural employment generation.

We have developed an impressive industrial base. This base was created through a process of conscious direction of investment by the State in desired channels through a system of controls and regulation. This system was necessary at that time, and has achieved its objective of developing a broad industrial base, with regional dispersion and a substantial public sector. In the process some problems have also arisen. Very often, controls have proliferated into excessively directed regulations which are dilatory and inefficient. Parts of industry have received too much protection from competition leading to high costs of production. Some industries are locked into technologies that are not the most efficient.

We have to solve these problems. Indian industry is at a watershed. It must be made internationally competitive. Our costs of production must be brought down. Quality must be improved. Technology must be upgraded.

INITIATIVES

A number of initiatives have been taken. We have introduced a greater measure of competition in the system to put pressure on producers to reduce costs. Licensing regulations which restricted investment and expansion in several fields have been liberalised. Industry is being encouraged to modernise and upgrade quality, through better technology, indigenous and imported. I am confident that these initiatives will reduce costs and improve competitiveness.

Rapid industrialisation will make heavy demands upon the transport, energy and communications infrastructure. This is another area of high priority in our Seventh Plan. Large investments are being made in sectors such as oil, coal, power, -313>

railways and tale-communications. Most of this investment is in the public sector, which has traditionally borne the burden of building the infrastructure in India. However, we have also allowed a large role for the private sector in many of these areas.

INVESTMENT PLANS

These ambitious investment plans will require the mobilisation of additional resources. I mentioned earlier that most of our investment has been financed through our own effort. This will continue to be the case. To this end we have undertaken major fiscal reforms aimed at stimulating and channelling private savings into productive investment. Rates of personal taxation have been produced and restructured to encourage greater compliance with tax laws and to promote savings and investment. This experiment is succeeding. Tax rates have been lowered and tax revenues have increased sharply. There has been greater vitality in the domestic capital market. The total amount of new capital raised by industry in the domestic capital market used to be of the order of 600 million a year. Last year the figure exceeded to 4.5 billion. This year we expect to raise about 6 billion.

Industrial modernisation necessarily requires a larger volume of imports, especially of capital goods, essential raw materials and components. But this volume of imports is sustainable only if we can expand our exports to pay for them, or get external capital on suitable terms. Unfortunately, the external environment on both counts is not encouraging.

EXPORTS

We are making a strong effort at increasing our exports. We are promoting new products for export, and improving our competitiveness in existing lines. But these efforts can only succeed if our trading partners keep their markets open. It is

disappointing to note that this is not always the case. Even here in Australia our exports are already affected by the trade barriers which have been raised. We must jointly explore ways of rectifying the balance of trade which is heavily weighted against us.

The temptation to raise barriers against the exports of developing countries to protect uncompetitive industries in developed countries is shortsighted and must be resisted. And existing barriers, which have been put up in contravention of GATT, must be rolled back. These are the minimal steps needed to restore confidence in the multilateral tradings system. We hope the international community has the wisdom and the political commitment to take these steps in the GATT negotiations which are now under way.

Another feature of the international economic environment which is of concern to India and other developing countries, is the state of the international financial system, especially the multilateral financial institutions. Multilateral financial flows have played a crucial role in the total flow of finance to developing countries. The need for such finance has increased and not diminished in the current state of the world economy. Most developing countries face large payments deficits and these are likely to be prolonged rather than temporary. India has fared much better than most, and has avoided the debt trap which has engulfed many developing countries but we are conscious of their problems and the need to find equitable solutions. All sources of finance have to be expanded, private and public, bilateral and multilateral

Unfortunately, there has been a weakening of the will to strengthen multilateral sources of finance. It is imperative that this trend be reversed. Most developing countries are going through a difficult process of adjustment. If adequate finance is available, this adjustment will blossom into a process of steady growth, which will give a much needed impetus to the world economy as a whole. If thwarted it will interrupt the process of development

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in many countries, and will in turn depress the developed economies.

The financial and technological dimension cannot obscure the essential human context of development. The test of development is the making of a better individual. Economic development is but part of the large endeavour of creating conditions in which the capacities and the inner resources of the individual can fully flower.

India is a new republic, but an old civilisation. Our objective is to enable our people to have what science and technology can

give while preserving and cherishing the higher values of our heritage.

Many areas you have mentioned are areas in which we ourselves are interested. We look forward, as you do, to the work of the Joint Business Council.

We will take up your suggestion of cooperation between New South Wales and a state or region in India. Maharashtra seems to be the obvious choice. I will have someone contact you.

STRALIA INDIA USA LATVIA

Date: Oct 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Sylvan Islands and a Sub-Continent

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 22, 1986 of the speech made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the Luncheon hosted by the Auckland Chamber of Commerce on 17th October, 1986:

Few countries could be as similar as India and New Zealand. You are a nation of sylvan Islands, we a sub-continent. Mercator, is his wisdom, projected New Zealand at the far edge of the map, while placing India at the centre. You have carved a prosperous paradise, we are engaged in the gigantic task of development.

What then is it that draws us together, how is it that we have been here only a few hours and yet feel so much at home?

Foremost is perhaps our shared commitment to democracy and the values that it implies. We are on the same side in matters of human rights and human dignity.

Next to our adherence to democracy is the growing recognition in New Zealand that you are not Surrey down under, but integral to the Asia-Pacific region that comprises close on half the world's population.

To shared values we add shared concerns - and that gives India and New Zealand sense of common purpose.

SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

Then there is the spirit of adventure, symbolised by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay atop Mount Everest. It took courage and versatility for your ancestors to sail thousands of miles from home to start a new life here. Modernising our ancient tradition is a pioneering Odyssey of its own kind. We need faith in our capacity to do it. Self-reliance to match self-confidence, and the will to persist in the face of odds.

You David, have captured the hearts of our people. You restored the Resident High Commission of New Zealand in New Delhi and sent as your envoy the much-loved and much-respected Sir Edmund, famed not only for Everest but the Ocean to Sky expedition that had millions of us waiting with bated breath for the next obstacle on the Ganga to be crossed. We remember you watching the Dussehra celebrations with my mother, where the flaming arrows of Lord Rama reduce the effigy of the Demon-King Ravan to ashes. Your enduring image in the minds of our people is that of a good friend, warm,

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affectionate, informal. The affection with which we have been received in New Zealand shows that your fond feelings for India have spread wide among your countrymen and women.

HIGHEST NATIONAL PRIORITY

Our highest national priority is the war on poverty. It is a war we are winning. In the last five years, over a hundred million people have been raised above the poverty line. At the pace we are progressing, we are sure to attain the perspective plan target of ridding ourselves of abject poverty by the turn of the century. The eradication of poverty is being achieved by combining a quantum jump in agricultural productivity with poverty alleviation programmes aimed at the poorest of the poor. In North-West India, the Green Revolution has brought about a seven-fold increase in wheat output and a three-fold rise in rice. By spreading the Green Revolution package eastwards through the Gangetic plain and the Bengal delta, which is the most heavily populated part of the country, we should be able to break the back of poverty. In the arid zones of the country, the technology mission we have established for oilseeds should bring a new prosperity within the next few years.

The essence of the Green Revolution is the harnessing of the highest technology - genetic engineering and tissue culture - to produce the hybrid seed which has dramatically increased the productivity of the smallest, least literate farmer. Similarly, technology has transformed the dairy industry from a subsidiary, unremunerative adjunct of agriculture into a dynamic cooperation movement, run largely by women, and supplying milk across thousands of kilometers from Anand in Western India to as far

afield as Calcutta and New Delhi. The Anand venture owes much to the generosity and expertise of New Zealand, which we gratefully acknowledge.

Of all the developing countries, we probably produce the widest range of manufactures. Much of this industrialisation has been achieved in the decentralised small-and medium-scale sector, through the enterprise and enthusiasm of over a million units. But we are not satisfied with being a developing industrialised country. We aim at reaching the front rank of the world's advanced economies in as many sectors and as soon as possible. We are, therefore, working towards a massive transformation of our industry from the mere production of goods to high quality, cost-efficient production. Our concentration is on securing the technology, building the management and technical skills, and evolving the work ethic on the shopfloor and in the boardroom which will make us an internationally coveted source of supply.

PRAGMATIC COUNTRY

In international economic forums, New Zealand and India have found themselves on the same side surprisingly often. On commodity questions and international financial issues, there is a certain similarity in our approach. We hope you will be able to help pull the development world out of the corner into which they have painted themselves. The global economy is interdependent, and autarchic survival no longer possible. Growth in the South stimulates growth in the North. There is no conflict, there is indeed a self-evident complementarity of interests, between us. Yet rationality, equity and progress are all being sacrificed to a doctrinaire refusal to countenance change to a more just and balanced international economic order. New Zealand is a pragmatic country with a stake in inter-dependence. In cooperation with other like-minded forward-looking countries, let us make the world economically congenial for all.

When the nuclear non-proliferation treaty was signed there were a few hundred nuclear warheads in existence. Now there are 60,000. We do not see the logic of nuclear escalation in the pursuit of deterrence, where mutually assured retaliation will be swift, reducing civilisation to cinders in seconds. There should -316>

be cooperation between India and New Zealand in stopping tests, dismantling arsenals and eliminating the nuclear threat.

With courage and conviction, New Zealand has demonstrated that the environment and people must not be made prey to the nuclear ambitions of others. Yours is the kind of action in deed which gives heart to the millions in all countries, including the nuclear weapon States, who are striving for nuclear sanity.

We in India have shown that nuclear restraint is possible. Twelve

years ago we exploded a peaceful nuclear device. We had the potential but deliberately rejected translating that into nuclear weapons capacity. We are perhaps the only country in the world to do so. In contrast, all nuclear weapon States in blatant disregard of the obligations in the non-proliferation treaty, have escalated vertical proliferation without let or hindrance. The nuclear weapon powers seek to ensure that all non-nuclear weapon States become party to the treaty. At the same time they have not honoured their treaty obligation to undertake effective measures for nuclear disarmament. Thus the 'NPT' becomes a euphemism for nuclear weapons oligopoly.

DELHI AND MEXICO DECLARATIONS

We commend to you the Six-Nation Five-Continent declarations of Delhi and Mexico. An immediate moratorium on nuclear tests by all nuclear weapon states, not just by the two but also by the other three, is the essential prerequisite for creating an atmosphere conducive to disarmament negotiations.

Non-alignment postulates peaceful co-existence as the alternative to the balance of power. Military alliances that breed false complacency or, worse, foster the desire to dominate have through history repeatedly plunged the world into death and destruction. The pursuit of peace through a parity of power was always a delusion. In this nuclear age, it is a dangerous delusion. Jawaharlal Nehru kept India out of military alliance because he wanted to enlarge the area of peace. This has been followed by a hundred countries. The votaries of the balance of terror are now in an international minority. Doubt has begun gnawing at the edges of the camps. In that lies a new hope for humankind. We in the Non-aligned Movement would always be prepared to extend our hand to anyone who wishes to better understand us. With understanding, conviction could arise and through conviction adherence to the principles of Non-alignment.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMAN DIGNITY

The Non-aligned Movement has played a catalytic role in pushing forward the process of colonisation, thus restoring human rights and human dignity to nearly two billion people who had earlier suffered colonialism and other forms of domination. The climax of our struggle will be ridding South Africa of Apartheid. The final phase of the struggle has started. Within South Africa, the people have risen as never before. The Commonwealth initiative, begun at Nassau and carried forward from London, has proved crucial. The report of the Eminent Persons Group has persuaded men and women of goodwill all over the world that further actions brook no delay. The Commonwealth has proved stronger, more united and more influential than ever before, notwithstanding the marginal dissidence of one or two members. The demand for sanctions is snowballing and will, inevitably, roll forward, expanding and gathering speed as it does so. Till the report of

the Eminent Persons Group, the demand for sanctions was largely articulated within the Non-aligned Movement, now, we find friends everywhere. David Lange and New Zealand are in the vanguard of the struggle for sanctions.

The people of South Africa cherish your support at this decisive hour. We thank you for helping us realise the dream of Mahatma Gandhi, who started in South -317>

Africa nearly a century ago the movement for the emancipation of humanity.

Sonia joins me in thanking you and Naomi for the friendly welcome we have received in Auckland. You have personally taken a great deal of trouble in setting up a programme which will leave on our minds lasting memories of New Zealand, despite the very short time we have been able to spend here. Our special thanks also to Sir Allan Hellaby and his colleagues for arranging this pleasant gathering.

DIA NEW ZEALAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA TOTO RUSSIA MEXICO PERU SOUTH AFRICA BAHAMAS UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Oct 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Banquet Speech in Bangkok

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 19, 1986 of the speech made by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, at the banquet hosted in his honour in Bangkok today (October 19, 1986):

Thailand has the proud distinction of being one of the few Asian countries which did not succumb to foreign rule during the colonial era. It is an honour to be on a soil which has so bravely held high its independence through the turbulent vicissitudes of history.

My grandfather saw in Thailand's independence a beacon of hope for all of Asia. Writing from prison on New Year's Eve 1933 to his daughter - my mother, Indira Gandhi - who was then a girl of fifteen, he described the establishment of the Rama dynasty in

1782 and its continuity over a century and a half. He pointed to the good Government of the dynasty under which "very wisely an effort was made to cultivate good relations with foreign powers."

PROPHETIC WORDS

Jawaharlal Nehru concluded:

"...a part of Siam has escaped European domination, and that is the only country to do so in this part of Asia. The tide of European aggression has been checked now, and there is little chance of Europe getting more territory in Asia. The time is soon coming when the European Powers in Asia will have to pack up and go home."

Prophetic words, indeed.

To be in Thailand is to capture the flavour of that cultural heritage which is common to us. Yet, that heritage has been so transformed by local colour and local tradition that it is fascinatingly different while remaining endearingly familiar. The distinctive characteristic of our civilization has been their capacity to absorb, assimilate and synthesize.

It is this quality which today's world needs above all. Frozen attitudes of hostility and hate need to give way to understanding and compassion. We have to recognize that there is no purpose in trying to cast the diversity of the world into a single mould. History, geography, culture and civilization have endowed different nations differently - and these differences are reflected in their present economic and social systems. Change from within is possible but imposition from without will be resisted. To live in harmony with diversity, exchange experiences and perceptions, learn to share and share in learning that is the essence of peaceful coexistence.

The Dhammapada says:

Not at any time Are enmities They are appeased through non enmity That is the eternal law.

We have, perhaps, somewhat different perspectives on some international issues. But the way of the Buddha is the way of dialogue. We would like to continue our -318>

dialogue with you so that we achieve a greater awareness and a deeper understanding of each other's policies.

DURABLE PEACE AND STABILITY

The question of Kampuchea is of concern to all. The people of that unfortunate country suffered the ravages of the most cruel genocide known to history. They have the right to determine their destiny free from all foreign interference, subversion and coercion. We urge a process of negotiations to secure the withdrawal of all foreign forces and to ensure the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region. Cooperative friendly relations among all your neighbours would be the surest guarantee of a durable peace and stability in the region.

It is to foster cooperative friendly relations among the countries of our region that we have launched the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. Successful regional cooperation has to be tailored to the requirements of each region. There are some lessons to be learnt from your experience of consolidating ASEAN, but each of us has to essentially base ourselves on the compulsions and the genius of our respective regions. SAARC brings together countries of very diverse size. We seek through SAARC the additional common dimension of regional cooperation. We adhere in our decisions to the principle of unanimity and eschew contentious bilateral questions. Since the first Summit last year, good progress has been made in the identified fields of cooperation. We are well set for a further impetus at the forthcoming Summit in Bangalore.

ENCOURAGING BUOYANCY

Economic relations between India and Thailand have demonstrated an encouraging buoyancy. We have many successful joint ventures with Thai entrepreneurs. A programme of technical cooperation has led to exchanges of relevant development experience. We welcome your students in our institutions of higher learning. Your scholars are making a valuable contribution to the recovery and preservation of our ancient traditions. Most recently, we had His Serene Highness Prince Subhadradis Diskul Rector of Silpakron University, and other Thai scholars participate in a seminar in Lucknow on Ramayana Traditions and National Cultures in Asia. We are keenly looking forward to the visit to India next year of Her Royal Highness Princess Mahachakri Sirindhorn, renowned as a world authority on Sanskrit studies. It is through the intensification of relations in all fields that we can in contemporary times be true to our millennia-old heritage of close interaction.

My wife and I would like to thank you and the people of Thailand for the cordiality of the welcome extended to us."

DIA THAILAND USA

Date: Oct 19, 1986

Volume No

1995

PRIME MINISTER'S TOUR ABROAD

Doctorate of Political Science Conferred on Prime Minister

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 20, 1986 of the address by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, after the Chaulalongkoran University, Bangkok conferred Doctorate of Political Science Honoris Causa on him on October 19, 1986:

Chairman of the University Council, Rector, distinguished scholars, ladies and gentlemen, I greatly appreciate this honour. I regard it as a demonstration of the esteem that has bound the minds and hearts of our two ancient countries through the centuries.

Both our peoples cherish harmony and wisdom. Our cultures give a high place to the scholar and the seeker. Knowledge is sometimes pursued in solitude,
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often in the midst of kindred souls. The wise person knows how to be alone in a crowd. When alone he has the company of the best minds of all times. The fellowship of scholars transcends geographical and chronological divisions.

MANY ARE THE SPURS TO KNOWLEDGE

Many are the spurs to knowledge -personal betterment, individual salvation, collective advance, the adventure of ideas. Education enlarges knowledge. The essence of education is sharing; Through division it multiplies. The teacher nurtures the sapling that is his disciple. The disciple grows and in time makes his own contribution. The good teacher hopes to be bettered by his pupil. That is his greatest fulfilment. Knowledge always has a social aim - the enlargement of the prosperity, integrity and tranquility of society as a whole.

Thailand and India have had great universities in earlier times. Modern universities all over the world have adopted patterns that evolved in Europe. None of us can afford to deny ourselves the knowledge generated in the last three hundred years in Europe and America - whether in science or political thought. These discoveries and ideas have given humankind the ability to overcome hunger and drudgery. They have substituted the concept of human equality for that of birth-determined hierarchy.

In the beginning of the 19th century, some of our great savants of classical learning in India came forward to demand the establishment of Western schools and colleges. They knew that classical learning no longer sufficed and India could not do without Europe's science, medicine and ideas of political and economic organisation. Our first modern universities were established in 1857. They came up in three cities which had also been founded by the British - Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The aim of the British was to get persons who would fill the lower and middle rungs of their administrative and legal bureaucracy. But the spirit of freedom triumphed over the constraints of the system. Some of the products of the system became the leaders of our cultural renaissance and our movement for political independence.

INTELLECTUAL SELF-RELIANCE

Since our Independence in 1947, there has been a vast expansion in the reach of our education. Along with adult franchise and planned development, the expansion of education has given a great fillip to social mobility. We have 120 million children at school and 3 million students in our universities. Vast sections of the population who were outside the pale are now beneficiaries of the opportunities opened by education. Through emphasis on research we have also laid the foundations of intellectual self-reliance.

Despite all this, we are not wholly satisfied with our educational system. We feel that it must make a greater contribution towards building our nation. We want it to shake off its derivative nature, its outlook of dependency. We want it to produce not just while-collar job seekers, but persons of ideas, enterprise and creative capacity who will generate a new prosperity and a new pride in India. We want people who have the capacity to give, not the urge to get.

We have taken up the task of overhauling our educational system. It is not an easy challenge. The aims of our new educational policy are to enhance freedom, equality, self-reliance, to promote national cohesion and the spirit of excellence, and to implant a larger vision in our young people. It is not enough if they acquire knowledge accumulated in the past. They should be attuned to the challenges of the future. We hope, particularly, to foster a rational attitude and a scientific mind.

SPIRITUAL WISDOM

At the same time we want our young to be deeply rooted in our ancient spiritual wisdom. The Indian civilisation has always laid emphasis on serenity, self-control, -320>

tolerance and the sense of duty. They were the virtues taught by

the greatest person to walk the Indian earth - the Lord Buddha. In our own days Mahatma Gandhi worked for compassion and inner freedom. The message of India is that human beings should identify themselves with the rest of creation - practising an attitude of non-attachment to material possessions. We must rediscover this message in the current phase of human history when a person's or a nation's worth is measured in terms of per capita income and Gross National Product. Material parameters are not enough to save humankind in this hate-filled, weapon-infested world. In the old days, saints used to ask "How many square feet of land does a man ultimately need." All of us have to ask ourselves today: "Beyond food and cloth, beyond cars and TVs what gives the individual inner contentment?"

Our wise men said that knowledge, vijnana, must result in vinaya, humility. I accept your honour with vinaya."

CITATION

The following is the text of the citation at the ceremony for conferment of Doctor of Political Science Honoris Causa on the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, by the Chulalongkorn University:

"The Chulalongkorn University Council, at its 450th meeting on August 28, 1986, unanimously agreed to confer the Degree of Doctor of Political Science Honoris Causa upon His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. A great friend of Thailand His Excellency truly merits, through his statesmanship and righteousness, recognition by this University. Overwhelmingly supported by the Indian people to administer this largest Asian democracy, he is an ardent advocate of science and technology as a foundation for India's national development. He has been acclaimed by the international community the leader of the Nonaligned countries. All this testifies to a most remarkable success in his political, administrative, diplomatic and social development initiatives. Moreover, he has been interested in higher education in Thailand and his Government has substantially contributed to the advancement of engineering at Chulalongkorn University. The recognition accorded him by the University today is a testimony to his achievements worthy of emulation as well as to the friendship and goodwill the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of India have nurtured and maintained through long years of association.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

His Excellency, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi underwent his schooling in India before entering Trinity College, Cambridge University, and later the Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London, where he pursued his study in Mechanical Engineering. He has since his student days developed and maintained a keen interest in science and technology. He attaches great importance

to these fields and has enthusiastically acknowledged their contribution to the development and modernisation of the Republic of India. This interest in science and technology also played a part in his decision to become an airplane pilot and contributed to his success in his flying career as a qualified and licensed pilot. He worked for the Indian National Airline and later as a Flight Examiner. Even though at that time he had no particular interest in politics, when it became necessary for him to do so he decided to sacrifice his private interests and take an active part in Indian political life in 1980 by signing as a Congress party candidate in a bye election in the Amethi constituency of Uttar Pradesh. That decision fully launched him into politics. He initially participated in formulating the party's foreign policy in 1982. On one special occasion he was assigned the urgent task of overseeing the construction of stadiums and other facilities in preparation for the Asian Games which India hosted that year. He successfully fulfilled this important assignment. In 1983 he introduced a computer system for the party thus streamlining its day-to-day operations. Meanwhile he made -321>

significant progress in his political career by assuming the Congress Party's Secretary Generalship. With such attainment he indeed showed political acumen matched only by his previously proven engineering expertise.

Since His Excellency Mr. Gandhi assumed the Congress Party's Chairmanship and became India's youngest ever Prime Minister in October 1984 his political talent has become even more evident. He ordered a General Election two months later. Through tireless effort on his part to get into close and direct contact with his people everywhere together with his own charisma and reputation for honesty and determination to preserve India's national unity and push forward with national progress and prosperity in the coming century, the Congress Party registered an overwhelming victory winning more seats in the Lok Sabha than in any previous elections. This victory clearly demonstrated the unquestioned confidence the Indian people had in him to form a new Government capable of leading India into the age of modernisation and development. India has taken a new direction in her political life, transforming from traditionalism to modenism, placing her faith and hope in the leader of a newer generation.

Through his undisputed ability, His Excellency Mr. Gandhi has succeeded in consolidating his Congress Party. He has brought into his Government in optimal proportion, people both of older and newer generations. He has made a highly commendable effort to settle the internal conflicts in his country through compromise and reconciliation. He strongly opposes, and has vigorously fought, all kinds of corruption. He energetically supports with his own personal encouragement the role of women in politics more than any leader has at any other time in Indian history. He has given a new impetus to economic development by encouraging the

private sector's role and cooperation therein. He promotes extensive energy resource development without losing sight of the need for ecological balance and environmental conservation. In brief his underlying philosophy is to raise the quality of life of the Indian people in foreign affairs. He has in true Indian character pursued a policy of Nonalignment which was originally inspired by his own country. His assumption of the Chairmanship of the Non-aligned Conference roughly at the time he became Indian Prime Minister, was thus of considerable symbolic importance. India under his leadership has strengthened relations with her neighbouring countries and has become more receptive to foreign trade and other international economic transactions. He has in this respect, paid particular attention to increasing the role of science and technology in industrial development in the Republic of India.

An energetic and creative Head of Government, highly successful in his political, administrative, diplomatic and social development initiatives with remarkable sincerity and devotion to the cause of the people of the Republic of India, active in promoting the use of science and technology in national development and strongly determined to strengthen peace and to deepen India's friendly relations with other countries and peoples of this world, His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi should be highly acclaimed. This is not to mention his keen interest in the academic progress of Chulalongkorn University, which he has shown through his support of the study of Electrical Engineering at this institution and his desire to enhance educational cooperation between the Thai and Indian peoples. In witness whereof, Chulalongkorn University has thus decided to confer upon His Excellency Mr. Rajiv Gandhi the Degree of Doctor of Political Science Honoris Causa, in his honour and as a testimony to the long standing friendly relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the Republic of India." -322>

DIA USA THAILAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Oct 20, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Shri Narasimha Rao Calls for Exchange of Experience and Cooperation Among SAARC Countries

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

on Oct 27, 1986 on the inauguration of the SAARC Conference on South Asian Children:

In his inaugural address at the first SAARC Conference on South Asian Children which opened here today, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Human Resources Development, called for an exchange of experience and mutual collaboration among the SAARC countries in view of the many similarities in the nature of the problems affecting the children of the region. "We must aim at the outreach of basic services to all our children within this century. This requires full political, technical, logistic, communication and management support," he said.

The Minister pointed out that child development programmes, which essentially imply coordinated focus on children and mothers, should be viewed as socially and economically productive investments for the well-being of coming generations. About one third of our children do not enjoy an essential minimum of health care, nutrition, learning opportunities and environmental protection.

The Minister added that material health and nutrition is the key to the infant's growth and development. In our South Asian region, about 40% of pregnant women suffer from iron deficiency anaemia. Protein-energy malnutrition affects a large proportion of them. Hardly one third of them get some professional antenatal care and protection against tetanus. Most of the deliveries are conducted by ill-trained persons, often in unhygienic conditions. Fertility rates are high and about one third of the new born have birth weight of below two and a half kilogrammes.

Early childhood constitutes the base of human resource. But the situation of young children is marked by high levels of wastage and deprivation. Infant mortality rates are above 100 in most parts of the region. A very large proportion of children suffer from varying degrees of protein-energy malnutrition. Some parts of the region have endemic iodine deficiency and iron and vitamin A deficiencies are wide spread. Delayed supplementation of breast-feeding adversely affects the nutritional status of infants and toddlers in most parts of the region. Diarroheal disorders, respiratory infections and skin diseases are fairly common. Levels of protection from preventable childhood disease are unacceptably low.

Speaking on the experience in India regarding child development, Shri Narasimha Rao said during the last ten years, we have developed a massive programme of Integrated Child Development Services from an experimental phase in 1975. It provides an integrated package of early childhood services, including health care, nutrition and preparation for school, covering about one fourth of the country's population. This year we have adopted a national policy on education which looks at the needs and development potential of the child from conception to productive

adulthod as one continuum.

Shri Rao expressed the view that educated mothers constitute the strongest support for child growth and development. We should, therefore, collectively act for rapidly raising the educational status of girls and women. Experience within the region shows that this is possible.

Mrs. Margaret Alva, Minister of State for Women and Child Development, in her -323>

welcome address said that through children humanity transmits the values, knowledge and skills which ensure its survival. When we speak of children's survival, we are really safeguarding our own future and that of our planet.

She further said that the development implies an all-out effort encompassing every child and totality of children's needs. This requires a synthesis of various sectoral activities bearing on children and of well-connected, sustained action, escorting the child from its conception to adolescense. Above all, it necessitates harmonizing the socio-economic and health status, as well as child rearing competence of the mother with enhanced quality of services for the child.

Mrs. Alva pointed out that the child itself cannot isolate its hunger for food, from its hunger for affection or its hunger for knowledge. The same unity extends to the child's perception of the world. The child's mind is free of class, religion, colour or nationality barriers, unless we wish it otherwise. It is this intrinsic strength in the unity of the child, that we need to exploit, for building a better world, and a more integrated development process.

Mrs. Margaret Alva was elected Chairperson of the Conference and Bagem Akhtar Raza Qizinbaksh, Minister of State for Health and Social Welfare of Pakistan was elected Vice-Chairperson of the Conference.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN

Date: Oct 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 21, 1986 on the inauguration of the SAARC technical committee on "Women in Development":

Inaugurating the first meeting of the technical committee on "Women in Development" of the SAARC countries here today, Smt. Margaret Alva, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, women and Child Development, stressed the need to "bond the nongovernmental and governmental efforts at regional cooperation". Pointing out that the International Women's Decade has brought all communities and groups of women both inside and outside the Government close-up together, the decade has also seen the emergence of many women's groups and a spreading for women's network both at the national level and regional level, as well as at the international level. "We must involve this vital resource that we have in this region in all our SAARC activities," Mrs. Alva emphasised.

The Minister also said that involvement of professional women's groups, be they lawyers or scientists, environmentalists or women development specialists, should be encouraged in the SAARC activities.

Mrs. Alva pointed out that the time is now ripe for operationalising the programme of action and further refine the modalities of formulating and implementing regional projects of different types, whether it is information sharing or planning regional training programme or action projects.

Referring to the Indian context, the Minister told the participating countries about the substantive policy programme measures for women included in the 20-point programme, 1986. Elaborating she pointed out that enhancement of the status of women, creation of mass consciousness of women's rights, greater involvement of women in nation building, launching of a campaign against dowry and better implementation of anti-dowry laws, are some of the issues which have been emphasised.

Mrs. Alva drew the attention to the important role of women played in promot--324>

ing peace efforts. "With the new found confidence in her own strength, and in her own potential to change and shape the world, woman can no longer be kept out of global issues of war and peace. We have seen, both in our own part of the world and elsewhere, that while women suffer the most during times of violence, war and strife, women are also in the fore-front in healing the wounds and bringing solace to those affected," she said. Concluding Mrs. Alva added that women can and must take up

peace efforts as a major plank in their movement for a new order.

DIA USA ITALY OMAN

Date: Oct 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Calendar of Activities of Technical Committee on "Women inDevelopment"

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 24, 1986 on the calendar of activities of technical committee on Women in Development:

The first meeting of the SAARC Technical Committee on "Women in Development" was held in Delhi from 21 to 23 October, 1986. The delegates from the seven contries took part in the deliberation. The technical committee on Women in Development is the tenth technical committee to be set up under the aegies of SAARC. It was set up in pursuance of the recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting on Women in Development held at Shillong earlier this year, which was endorsed by the meeting of the SAARC Foreign Ministers held in Dhaka in August 1986.

The technical committee drew up a calendar of activities for the years 1986 to 1988. During 1986, a workshop on women and the law is to be organised by Bangladesh. During 1987, two workshops one on Women and Environment and one on Women's Employment will be held in Pakistan and Sri Lanka respectively. An exhibition of handicrafts and designs by women will be held in Maldives and a women's training programme in rural management will be hosted by India. In 1988, two workshops, one on agriculture and extension for women and the other on women's education will be held in Bangladesh and Nepal respectively. An exhibition of women's handicrafts will be hosted by Bhutan. Two seminars, one on utilisation of research in women's issues and the other on media and communiation for women will be hosted by Pakistan and Sri Lanka respectively.

In addition, it was decided that study tours of professional and other groups of women would be arranged amongst the SAARC countries. India would also be hosting a workshop on women in social forestry and wasteland development.

The technical committee has made a strong recommendation to the

standing committee and the Council of Foreign Ministers of SAARC to set up a women's cell in the proposed SAARC Secretariat in order to ensure effective coordination amongst the SAARC countries as well as amongst the various technical committees to integrate and highlight activities and issues relating to women. The technical committee also recommended that the broad sector of agriculture and allied occupations (including fishery) should be given priority for regional projects.

In addition to the above, the technical committee recommended various other activities to be taken up on regional basis such as information sharing, preparation of directories, biographies, information booklets etc., on various aspects relating to women. It was decided to initiate action on the preparation of a status report on women in the SAARC region. It was also decided to bring out an annual SAARC journal on women.

DIA BANGLADESH USA PAKISTAN SRI LANKA MALDIVES NEPAL BHUTAN

Date: Oct 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Festival of Films of India in USSR to Commence in August 1987

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 08, 1986 on the agreed minutes of discussion between India and the USSR on the Festival of Films of USSR and India.

The Festival of Films of India in USSR will commence in August 1987 and the Festival of Films of USSR in India will start in India in November, 1987.

According to the agreed minutes of discussions between the officials of Information and Broadcasting Ministry led by its Secretary, Shri G. N. Mehra and Soviet delegation led by Mr. P. K. Kostikov, Dy. Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography - both the countries agreed that at least 80 films will be screened on either side.

The number of short films to be supplied will be 60 inclusive of the new ones specially under production. Of these in Soviet package at least 20 films would be animated films. Soviet short films will cover such subjects as sports and athletics, dance, music, folk traditions, architecture, adventure and other subjects oriented towards youths. While India should in particular, include films on architecture of ancient India and subjects which would be of tourist interest, it was agreed in the meeting that the Soviet side should include at least 25 children films.

Both the sides agreed that the films will be shown in each country at least in 20 places. As far as possible English or Hindi version prints of Russian films will be supplied to India. In cases where it is not possible films with English sub-titles will be supplied.

It was decided that there will be two seminars during the Festival period, each comprising five delegates from the other country. The subjects in USSR and India should be the same so that the discussions will be in continuation. Two different subjects can then be handled in these seminars. It was agreed that the subjects should be associated with peace/culture and films.

The Soviet side informed that they were bringing out a 500 page book on Indian cinema in Russian in 1987 and that the English version would be ready in 1988. The Indian side informed that they are also examining the possibility of bringing out a pictorial history of Indian Cinema.

It was agreed in the meeting to have a mobile exhibition to deal with development of cinema and cinematography in the respective country.

Each side will gift a package of selected feature and documentary films to the film archives of the other country.

Each side will produce a 50-60 minutes film on the festival of the other country to be celebrated in the respective country and make a print thereof available to the other side for screenings in that country.

According to the minutes, it was agreed that the Soviet side will send a team of experts for a workshop on animation films for a period of one week. The workshop will be arranged in collaboration with the Films Division, Bombay.

Both sides reiterated their faith in the festivals being organised and expressed happiness that this was an excellent opportunity for the people of both the countries to know through the film section of the Festival of India about the cultural manifestation in the other country in greater detail.

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DIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Oct 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Protocol to Modernise Railways

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the signing of a protocol between India and the Soviet Union:

India and the Soviet Union have signed a protocol under which the Soviet Union will assist India in modernisation of its railways, and collaborate in the production of machine for coal mining, chemical industries, agriculture and computerised X-Ray machines.

The protocol was signed here on September 30 following two weeks of deliberations of Indo-Soviet sub-working group for cooperation.

The Indian side was led by Shri A. Prasad, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Industries. The Soviet side was led by Deputy head of the Machine Building Department of the Planning Committee.

Under the protocol, the two countries will co-operate in developing deep water boring drills for which Soviet technology and parts of machinery will be made available.

The Soviet side has responded favourably to India's interest in seeking Soviet technology in agricultural machinery especially for sowing and harvesting of cotton, rice and potatoes.

The Soviet Union will also assist in developing such machines in India.

Measures have been planned for promoting co-operation in manufacturing tractors, bulldozers and machines.

Under the protocol, the Soviet Union will help India manufacture powerful turbo-hydro-generators and heavy excavators.

The two sides have also agreed to cooperate in designing and setting up sintering plants of big capacity for disposal of wastages, which pose an acute problem to thickly-populated cities.

Date : Oct 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

UGANDA

Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Uganda for 1987-89 Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 17, 1986 on the signing of a cultural exchange programme between India and Uganda:

An Indo-Uganda Cultural Exchange Programme has been signed here today between Shri Manmohan Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture, on behalf of the Government of India and by H.E. Dr. S. C. Chebrot, High Commissioner of Uganda, on behalf of the Government of Uganda. The Union Minister of State for Education and Culture, Smt. Krishna Sahl -327>

and H.E. Mr. Mayanja Nkangi, Education Minister of the Republic of Uganda were also present at the signing ceremony.

The Education Minister of the Republic of Uganda, Mr. Mayanja Nkangi is at present on a visit to India on an invitation from the Government of India to finalise the first ever cultural exchange programme between the two countries. The cultural exchange programme between India and Uganda provides for exchanges in the fields of education, art and culture, sports and information and mass media. The Indo-Uganda cultural exchange programme will be valid for the years 1987-89 and promises to be a landmark in Indo-Ugandan cultural relations. Earlier a cultural agreement between India and Uganda was signed in November, 1981.

ANDA INDIA

Date: Oct 17, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

India Signs Food Aid Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Oct 22, 1986 on the signing of a food aid agreement by India:

India and the World Food Programme, a U.N. Organisation today signed an agreement for providing food aid to the Irrigation and Command Area Development Project in Karnataka that will accelerate the pace of economic development in the area.

The agreement was signed by Smt. Usha Vohra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. G. M. Hamdi, Representative of the World Food Programme (WFP).

Under the agreement, WFP will supply food aid comprising 45,720 MT of wheat/rice, 1372 MT of vegetable oil and 2744 MT of pulses at an estimated cost of \$ 12.34 million (about Rs. 15.3 crores) for a period of three years.

The WFP supplied commodities will be distributed at subsidised rates to workers engaged on project works such as earth excavation, lining of canals, construction of dam and irrigation networks, and land development on Malaprabha, Ghataprabha and Upper Krishna Projects.

About Rs. 7 crores is likely to accrue from the sale proceeds of food rations at subsidised rates. This will be used for infrastructural improvements, the provisions of social and medical facilities and creation of income-generating opportunities in the project area.

The WFP aid will help in ensuring adequate supply of labour at the project, increasing level of their income and nutrition and creation of social and economic infrastructure in the area.

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DIA LATVIA USA

Date: Oct 22, 1986

November

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Date: Nov 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

AUSTRIA

New Export Possibilities in Austria Identified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 06, 1986 on Indo-Austrian Joint Commission Meeting:

The Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the Federation of Austrian Industrialists will assist Indian entrepreneurs in the engineering and electronic sectors for manufacturing export products according to technical specifications and standards in Austria to facilitate Indian exports to Austria. They will also encourage specified sectoral delegations of Austrian wholesalers and importers to visit India.

Among the items of special export interest to India identified at the second meeting of the Indo-Austrian Joint Commission are several agro-chemical and petro-chemical products, drugs and formulations, engineering and electronic components and intermediates, cotton, alumina, leather products and jewellery.

These are among the highlights of the protocol signed last evening in Vienna at the end of the three-day meeting of the Indo-Austrian Joint Commission by Shri R. Dayal, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce and Dr. Gerhard Waas, Director General in the Austrian Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry.

It was also decided in the meeting that Austria would identify possible areas of technical cooperation to manufacture in India items like ski gear, winter sports equipment and sports wear. For consumer goods like shoes and other leather products, carpets, home furnishings, apparels, gift ware to be imported from India in larger quantities and range the Trade Development Authority of India will organise a special promotion campaign in Austrian departmental stores with the assistance of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber.

For an impetus to be provided to Indo-Austrian cooperation in third country projects, including joint bidding and subcontracting in international tender, an institutional framework was agreed upon by way of the Engineering Export Promotion Council in India coordinating the exchange of information and follow-up action with the Federal Economic Chamber in Austria. Some of the joint contracts are being executed by Indian and Austrian firms in Iraq, Indonesia and Thailand.

In his opening remarks earlier at the inaugural session of the Joint Commission, Shri J. R. Hiremath, Ambassador of India to Austria, emphasised that, in addition to the volume of bilateral trade, its composition and structure needed to be diversified and expanded.

Since the first meeting of the Joint Commission held in New Delhi in December, 1983, there has been a steady improvement in Indo-Austrian trade as well as industrial collaboration. The main items which have shown improvement include leather goods and readymade garments exported from India.

The Austrian delegation at the Joint Commission specially pleaded

for technology transfer in the fields of hydro power for which they claimed they have develop--329>

ed sophisticated tunnelling technology which they can offer to India together with special financial packages. Austria also showed interest in the supply of Haflinger horses and Karakul sheep, a number of which Austria has already supplied for the Indian Army and the State of Jammu & Kashmir, besides participating in the special breeding programme of Karakul sheep in India.

STRIA USA INDIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDONESIA IRAQ THAILAND

Date: Nov 06, 1986

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1995

CHINA

Indo-China Agreement on Films

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986 on the India-China agreement on films:

The China Film Import and Export Corporation and the National Film Development Corporation entered into an agreement on November 1, 1986 for a period of three years for import and export of films by the two countries.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Ajit Panja in Rajya, Sabha today in a written reply to a question by Shri J. P. Goyal.

The Minister said that the agreement was renewable on mutually acceptable terms.

INA INDIA

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

NON-ALIGNMENT

Group of Non-aligned Foreign Ministers' Visit - Shri Tiwari's Statement in Parliament

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 10, 1986 of a statement by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri N. D. Tiwari in both the Houses of Parliament today (November 10) on his visit as Member of the group of Non-aligned Foreign Ministers on comprehensive sanctions against South Africa:

The Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned countries decided, at their 8th Summit meeting in Harare, to mandate the Foreign Ministers of Zimbabwe, India, Yugoslavia, Peru, Argentina, Nigeria, Congo and Algeria to visit key industrial countries to press them to agree to the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa.

As a member of this Group of Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers, I visited Rome, Brussels, Paris, London, Bonn and Tokyo to carry out the Harare mandate.

In each of these European countries we visited during the last week of October, -330>

and in the first week of November, 1986, we had prolonged meetings with their Foreign Ministers. In Japan, we were received by Prime Minister Nakasone in addition to our meetings with the Foreign Minister of Japan.

In all our discussions, we indicated that we bring a strong and unanimous message from 101 Heads of State of Non-aligned countries to press them to consider imposition of comprehensive mandatory economic sanctions on South Africa. While we recognised that each of those countries had moved some way towards imposing a few sanctions, we did not think that the package adopted by those countries was sufficient to meet the demands of the situation.

NAM ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION

We conveyed the NAM assessment that the situation in South Africa and Namibia was deteriorating rapidly. To arrest this deteriorating situation and to achieve the objective of eliminating Apartheid, the Non-aligned Heads of State believed that urgent efforts should be made by the world community to bring about an end to Apartheid in South Africa. Since all other attempts to end Apartheid had failed, and there was increasing pressure to seek military solutions, the only peaceful alternative left for the world community was imposition of

comprehensive economic sanctions. We urged the Governments of these industrialised countries to immediately impose comprehensive sanctions and to agree to make them mandatory under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. We told them that continuance of Apartheid was the key moral issue facing our generation. We emphasised that their commitment to human rights and dignity, and their attempts to bring about human rights in different parts of the world, would remain hollow and motivated if they do not take immediate steps to end the pernicious doctrine and practice of Apartheid. We pointed out that comprehensive sanctions would need to be imposed immediately if a disaster of gigantic proportions in Southern Africa was to be averted.

BAN ON TRADE

I emphasised to them that India banned all trade with South Africa long ago in 1946 at a time when India's exports to South Africa were 5.6 per cent of its total exports. Even though the ban on trade involved considerable sacrifices on our part, we were willing to shoulder its consequences because of our commitment to fundamental human rights, to democracy and to freedom everywhere and our support for the struggling people of Africa.

We found that there was a coincidence of similarity in the responses given by the Foreign Ministers of the countries we visited. They share our abhorrence for Apartheid and agree that it cannot be reformed and must be abolished. Their assessment regarding the deteriorating situation in South Africa and its potential for violence and bloodshed were similar to ours. While the goals were similar, they differed with us on the manner in which these goals could be achieved. They had not given up hope of arranging a political dialogue within South Africa through persuasion and felt that limited voluntary sanctions would nudge the South African regime to negotiate with the majority. They said that they opposed mandatory sanctions under the United Nations Charter as a matter of principle. They argued that comprehensive sanctions could make the white South African regime more intransigent and much less willing to negotiate.

Some of them tried to argue that comprehensive sanctions would be unworkable. We pointed out that in the face of overwhelming evidence that sanctions had worked in other situations and with other countries against whom some of the Western countries had not hesitated to impose sanctions, this argument should not be pressed.

VESTED INTERESTS

There are strong vested interests within the industrialised countries wishing to maintain trade and economic links -331>

with the white South African regime. The initiative of the Heads of Governments of the Non-aligned countries and the visit of the Group of Foreign Ministers has undoubtedly focussed attention on this most important issue of our times. I believe that our efforts will strengthen not only those within the governments who have a more liberal outlook on human rights and who show greater concern in regard to the situation in Southern Africa but will also encourage the strong public opinion which exists in Europe in favour of definitive action to end Apartheid.

The decision of the Prime Minister to send me to join the delegation even though I had just taken over as External Affairs Minister symbolises our country's decisive commitment to Nonalignment and the principled unanimous stand of our Parliament on the South African issue.

Our policy in regard to Apartheid remains clear and firm that it is absolutely immoral and has to be demolished at the earliest. The world community must not allow itself to be diverted by short term economic or political considerations from availing itself of the only peaceful option now left by imposing comprehensive mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to bring about an early end to Apartheid. The Non-aligned Movement has, for the first time, opened a dialogue with the industrialised countries on this key moral issue. It is our firm belief that this dialogue should continue and the Non-aligned Movement should play its due role in bringing about a peaceful change in South Africa and Namibia. I am sure that these efforts will continue to have the full support of the Hon. Members of this august House.

DIA USA ZIMBABWE PERU YUGOSLAVIA ALGERIA ARGENTINA CONGO NIGER NIGERIA SOUTH AFRICA BELGIUM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC FRANCE GERMANY ITALY JAPAN UNITED KINGDOM NAMIBIA

Date: Nov 10, 1986

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

Indo-Norwegian Collaboration in Computer Technology

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 22, 1986 on the agreed minutes signed between India and Norway:

The agreed minutes between India and Norway was signed here at the end of three-day consultations between the delegations of the two countries. Dr. B. H. Lund, Secretary General, Royal Norwegian Ministry of Development Cooperation and Mr. M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, signed the minutes on behalf of their respective Governments.

The two countries agreed to extend cooperation to new areas such as transfer of technology, computer based structural analysis and the manufacture of 16 bit computers in India. Norway will also transfer technology for the production of super mini computers in India with Norwegian collaboration.

Development Cooperation between the two countries presently stands at Norwegian Kr. 175 million. Norwegian aid is mainly concentrated in programmes for women and children, social and educational programmes, fisheries development and in the field of health. In addition there is a commodity programme and research cooperation in oceanography and marine geology between the two countries.

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RWAY INDIA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

Date: Nov 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Inaugural Address by Shri Rajiv Gandhi

The following is the inaugural address by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, at the second meeting of Heads of State or Government of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in Bangalore on Nov 16, 1986:

Mr. Chairman, Your Majesties, Excellencies, Distinguished Colleagues and Friends, we met in the capital of Bangladesh a little less than a year ago and launched the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. We meet today in a major city of India, beautiful Bangalore, to reaffirm the faith on which SAARC is based. I extend to you a warm welcome on behalf of the people and Government of India.

Geography has cast us together; history binds us closely. We draw sustenance from several common sources. We share religions,

languages experiences, aspirations. Each of us has something of the other. This interaction has enriched the texture of our societies and endowed similarities to our outlook and values. Today, we celebrate a deepening of that consciousness.

Our region was one of the early nurseries of civilisation. Remarkable were our achievements in the arts, philosophy, mathematics, medicine and commerce. Then we came under foreign rule. The scars of the colonial era are still upon us. Our economies are warped and stunted by years of exploitation. Even after attaining independence, we have allowed aloofness, even suspicion to inhibit us. We must get over the trauma of the past.

MAJOR SOURCE OF STRENGTH

An ancient political thinker of our region, Kautilya, listed friendly neighbours as a major source of strength. The aim of SAARC is to build such a relationship amongst the Seven of us.

Ours is not a political association. We have much to gain from peace, progress and stability in our neighbourhood. This is the logic of our working together.

Bilateral relations have their difficult moments. SAARC reminds us that at such moments we should seek what unites us and not what divides. We have consciously decided not to burden SAARC with our bilateral concerns. Yet, by providing a framework for forging a cooperative set of relations among our countries, SAARC can help us positively in growing out of these problems.

South Asia is rich in resources. A fifth of humankind lives here. Our traditional skills have long been famous. We are now acquiring the technological skills that the contemporary world requires. In the current global economic crisis, we have shown that we can judiciously manage our economies. We have each achieved progress in food production and gained greater self-reliance. We have maintained reasonable rates of growth.

The people of South Asia, particularly the poor and disadvantaged, expect us to lead them out of poverty and deprivation. We are determined to mobilise our resources to achieve this.

SAARC is the expression of our belief that national effort should be complemented by regional cooperation. We must rely on our own effort and at the same time find common solutions to common problems.

The year that has passed since our Summit in Dhaka has been a year of consolidation, of real sustained progress.

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Regional cooperation cannot emerge merely from the fiats of

leaders. It has to grow from contacts between professionals at all levels. The gap in cooperation is a gap in mutual acquaintance. Our engineers and doctors, our farmers and weathermen, our pilots and master-mariners, our intellectuals and artists, have had so little knowledge of each other, so little opportunity to meet, so little familiarity with each other's capacities and capabilities, that the first step in regional cooperation has necessarily had to be just getting to know each other.

NETWORK OF CONTACTS

It is only through building a network of contacts at all levels among professionals of many disciplines that we can start giving real content to regional cooperation.

Nearly 150 meetings - averaging 3 a week - of experts drawn from various fields have been held in the last 12 months. The lacunae in knowledge are getting filled. A habit of cooperation is growing. Sound foundations are being laid on which to erect the structure of mutual self-help and collective self-reliance.

South Asian cooperation has also started contributing to the development of human resources in the region. Economic man is an abstraction, the holistic human being the reality. The growth of our economies and the progress of our societies rest on training the people engaged in various fields of activity, upgrading their skills, orienting their thought in new directions.

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND COURSES

The workshops, seminars and courses organised by SAARC in the identified areas of cooperation have combined together to add up to a whole which is larger than its constituent parts.

The surveys undertaken on regional capacities and regional resources are not only an invaluable compendium of information not otherwise available, but also an insurance against each of us wasting time and resources reinventing the wheel.

Yes, the work undertaken has been commendable. The effort must continue.

The identified areas of cooperation cover a gamut of some of our most important concerns. Agriculture is the mainstay of our economies, meteorology the basis of decisions on agriculture. With the vast majority of our people living in villages, rural development is a crucial common concern. The strengthening of postal, telecommunication and transport links is both an integral aspect of regional cooperation and the essential precursor for intensifying such cooperation. And, as inheritors of one of the greatest civilizations which humankind has known, it is through art, culture and sports that our people most readily recognise

each other.

We decided at Dhaka to broaden the areas of cooperation by considering a few more subjects. Women, who constitute disadvantaged sections of our people in each of our countries, have particular problems and specific needs, which must be integrated into the development process. We have started a regional dialogue on this.

MENACE OF DRUGS

The menace of drugs - a menace which spills over national boundaries in weaving its evil net - is to be tackled through regional initiatives which will reinforce national measures.

We are agreed that terrorism must be severely condemned, that each of us must do nothing that condones terrorism or gives aid and comfort to terrorists. As responsible members of the international community and as good neighbours within our region, each of us must ensure that our territory is never used as a sanctuary or launching pad for terrorism anywhere in the region. -334>

In the area of international trade, the Ministerial meeting in Islamabad was a notable contribution to concerting positions on the New Round of Trade Negotiations. It is important that we continue to hold consultations so that joint positions are evolved and maintained.

SOLID FOUNDATIONS OF COOPERATION

Much of the credit for our achievements in regional cooperation goes to the stewardship of His Excellency H. M. Ershad, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. It was his country that blazed the trail of regional cooperation and his leadership that has nourished our fledgling Association. For having helped lay the solid foundations of cooperation among the Seven, we thank him for his historic contribution, for the wisdom and maturity with which he has guided SAARC in the crucial first year of its existence.

At this Summit, we will be taking stock of the progress in agreed areas of cooperation and developments in regard to the additional areas provisionally identified. We will also, I hope, agree on deepening and further enlarging the scope of regional cooperation.

Development hinges on peace. The arms race among the militarily powerful distorts their economies and ours. It wastes resources that could be used to ameliorate the human condition. The insatiable quest of the powerful for new areas of influence retards our development, which is our foremost priority. All SAARC countries belong to the Non-aligned family, and we are

unanimous in our opposition to any escalation of the nuclear arms race. I hope that our Summit will be unanimous in demanding a stoppage to all nuclear weapon tests.

This is the first time that the Heads of State and Government of South Asia meet in India as members of this Association. We are honoured to receive you. I hope that your stay here will be pleasant and comfortable and our discussions fruitful.

A historical imperative has brought us here. Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore wrote: "If life's journey be endless, where is its goal? The answer is, it is everywhere. The world is not a mere road but a home. With our road the gain is at every step, for it is the road and the home in one." Let our road be smooth and our homes happier.

Thank you.

DIA BANGLADESH USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN

Date: Nov 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Concluding Statement by Shri Rajiv Gandhi

The following is the concluding statement by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, at the second meeting of Heads of State or Government of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, at Bangalore on Nov 17, 1986:

Your Majesties, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen, Bangalore, renowned for its pioneering role in Indian science - home of C. V. Raman, India's first Nobel Prize winner for Physics - and the centre of some of India's most sophisticated modern industry, today adds another feather to its cap. The Declaration we are adopting will henceforth be associated with the name of this capital city of Karnataka, which has played host to us with its traditional gaiety, colour and warmth.

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation has moved rapidly from intention to action. We are today endowing the Association with an institutional structure which will help serve its ever-growing activities. We will shortly see also the

establishment of regional institutes in the key sectors of agricultural information and meteorology, sectors closely related to the economic well-being and welfare of the vast majority of our -335>

peoples. We expect preparatory work in other areas - such as drug trafficking and abuse - to lead to additional links in the institutional network for regional cooperation.

COMMENDABLE SUCCESS

Under the leadership of Bangladesh, commendable success has been achieved in the last twelve months in fostering contacts among professionals on a wide scale. It will be India's endeavour during the period of its Chairmanship to further intensify this work. Information and knowledge, acquaintance and familiarity, an instinctive turning to each other are bricks with which an enduring structure of cooperation can be built.

There can be no devaluing of the importance of forums which bring together our experts from a myriad disciplines and fields of activity. Like embroidery, regional cooperation will have to be fashioned patiently, stitch by stitch. The strength of the fabric will be determined by the weakest of the threads. There are hundreds of South Asians who in the last year or so have discovered each other for the first time in decades of independence. The hundreds must grow to thousands and more.

Attention was drawn at the ceremonial inauguration yesterday to the SAARC region comprising a billion people, the most populous regional association the world knows. Tangible regional cooperation which impacts beneficially on the lives of people everywhere must, therefore, involve not thousands but millions of our citizens. We have to devise programmes and events which raise our peoples' consciousness of their identity as South Asians. Sports is a ready medium for mass participation - as the sports events in Kathmandu and Dhaka have already testified. During the year to come, let us explore how we might use culture and the mass media as vehicles for enhancing our awareness of each other without detracting in any way from our individual national identities.

FEASTS OF ART AND CULTURE

For example, at the national level, we in India are currently organising popular festivals, both in Bangalore on the occasion of this Summit, and in Delhi. These are feasts of art and culture in which hundreds of thousands of children, youth and adults from every segment of society and every walk of life, are being encouraged to avail of the opportunity to participate in the panorama of our heritage, brought to their very doorstep. Perhaps our officials could explore how we might participate in such

cultural festivals in each other's countries, or jointly mount manifestations that draw in all our people.

The essential point is that for regional cooperation to become a palpable, living reality, we have to move out of government offices and bureaucratic channels of communication. Scientists and technologists, entrepreneurs and social workers, academicians and athletes - the list is endless - have to be drawn into these exchanges, reinforced by popular participation at all levels. With your cooperation, we hope, during our Chairmanship, to explore various possibilities in this regard.

The year to come must also be a year of achievement in regard to specific programmes, projects and institutions of regional cooperation. Consideration of issues at expert, official and Ministerial level has in many cases matured to the point where we will, I hope, before we meet in Kathmandu next year, be able to find developments on the ground which take us beyond meetings and seminars. What we must do is to so reorient our priorities that we concentrate on areas with the greatest promise where results can be achieved without additional funds.

DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

This Summit has identified several new areas where work is to be undertaken during our Chairmanship to concretise the modalities of cooperation. We will examine how the electronic mass media might be -336>

utilised for evolving radio and television programmes conceived on a South Asian basis. We shall examine how tourism by organised groups might be facilitated to make all of South Asia familiar ground for people drawn from different disciplines. We will consider the establishment of a documentation centre and data bank which will provide ready access region-wide to information germane to our economic, scientific and technical development.

Our planners will be meeting again. The intellectual underpinning to regional cooperation can only come through exchanges of students and scholars among our countries - which will mean seeing how to fund scholarships and fellowships. We shall also consider the establishment of Chairs for SAARC studies and studies relevant to the most pressing needs of South Asian countries.

We will also examine how the idealism of youth might be harnessed to volunteer work in rural areas. We will endeavour to have studies in all these areas completed in time for decisions by the Council of Ministers at their meeting next Spring.

Some Technical Committees have gone further than others in giving concrete content to schemes of cooperation. Our effort will be

push forward where we can deepen consideration where appropriate, and allow full reign to the imagination and innovativeness in each of us to think up additional dimensions to our multifaceted cooperation.

The important statements made by each of you yesterday, and the discussions that followed at Nandi Hills, showed that, even as the mechanisms of regional cooperation are meshing into gear, matters of grave national import have impinged upon and permeated our deliberations - peace, stability and security, confidence-building and the nuclear threat, nonviolence and coexistence, the unmitigated evil of terrorism. The lesson to be drawn is that the patient building of regional cooperation in identified areas of cooperation must take place in an atmosphere of good neighbourliness and responsible international behaviour.

PRECEPTS OF BUDDHA AND MAHATMA

No cause which tolerates terrorism can be high or noble, no violence which engenders hatred is compatible with the precepts of the Buddha and the Mahatma. Regional cooperation cannot be reconciled with acquiescence in, or encouragement to, acts directed against the sovereignty, unity and integrity of neighbours. Our annual meetings at Summit level not only help to underline the importance we attach to SAARC but also afford opportunities for intimate informal discussion, both among all Seven of us and bilaterally. Whether we will it or not, there is a symbiotic interchange between intensified regional cooperation and cordial bilateral relationships.

Thank you for having done us the honour of inviting us to host our second Summit. The citizens of Bangalore and the people of India have been delighted to have you among them. We have been able to give you only a brief glimpse of the many-splendoured riches of this part of India. We hope that as our cooperation grows there will be many more opportunities of welcoming you in all parts of our country. Of the seven, India alone shares a land border or maritime boundary with each of the other Six. It gives us a special sense of commonality, of rapport, brotherhood and good fellowship with each of you individually and all of you together.

Our people look forward to meeting yours at many different levels and in many different places around our region. In southern India, one does not say farewell bluntly; one says, we part now to meet again. It is in that spirit that we take leave of you here and look forward to our being together again next year in the lap of our common sentinel, the mighty Himalayas.

Thank you. -337>

Bangalore Declaration

The following is the Bangalore Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation:

The President of Bangladesh, the King of Bhutan, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Maldives, the King of Nepal, the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the President of Sri Lanka assembled at the second SAARC Summit in Bangalore on 16 and 17 November 1986.

The Heads of State or Government reiterated their desire 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 disputes.

The Heads of State or Government reaffirmed the will of their peoples and Governments to work together in accordance with the SAARC Charter to devise common policies and approaches for finding common solutions to the shared problems that all of them face. They stressed that mutual trust, goodwill and understanding must animate their co-operative effort under SAARC. Progress and prosperity in each country would redound to the benefit of others. This was what constituted the SAARC spirit.

The leaders reaffirmed that the principal goal of SAARC was to promote the welfare of the peoples of South Asia, to improve their quality of life, to accelerate economic growth, social programme and cultural development in the region and to provide all individuals the opportunity to live in dignity and to realize their full potential.

The Heads of State or Government recalled that the countries of South Asia had been linked by age-old cultural, social and historical traditions. These had led to enriching interaction of ideas, values, culture and philosophies. These commonalities constituted solid foundations for regional cooperation for addressing more effectively the economic and social problems.

MOST POPULOUS REGIONAL GROUPING

The Heads of State or Government recalled that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation was the most populous regional grouping in the world. The countries of the region had large, rich and varied human and natural resources. They expressed their determination to achieve the optimum utilization of these resources by intensifying their cooperation, bearing in mind the immense present and potential complementarities among their economies. They recognized that this would require

increasing exchange among their countries, on the basis of mutual benefit, of ideas, experience and technology as well as goods and services, which utilize and enhance the productive capacity of each of their countries and build their collective self-reliance. They were convinced that the countries of South Asia which had been the cradle of human civilization and culture could, acting together co-operatively and cohesively, once, again play their due role in the comity or nations.

The Heads of State or Government reiterated the great importance of the increasing involvement of the people for ensuring the success of regional co-operation. They emphasized the need for promoting greater contacts among the peoples of the region through such action as regular and frequent interchange of scholars, academics, artists, authors, professionals and businessmen as well as facilitation of tourism.

SAARC INTEGRATED ACTION PROGRAMME

The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that considerable -338>

progress had been achieved in the implementation of the SAARC Integrated Programme of Action. They expressed their firm commitment to consolidate and streamline further the implementation of the IPA. They agreed that a progressive movement towards more concrete and action-oriented projects and programmes was essential to ensure more tangible benefits from SAARC to the peoples of the region. The Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of expanding cooperative endeavours under SAARC. They welcomed the establishment of the Technical Committees on Women in Development, and on the Prevention of Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse.

The Heads of State or Government welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of the SAARC Secretariat by the Council of Ministers and their decision to locate the Secretariat in Kathmandu and appoint Ambassador Abul Ahsan of Bangladesh as the first Secretary General of SAARC. They were convinced the the establishment of the Secretariat would assist in the coordination of SAARC activities and more fruitful implementation of its programmes and projects.

The Heads of State or Government recognized that the meeting of needs of all children was the principal means of human resources development. Children should therefore be given the highest priority in national development planning. The Heads of State or Government underlined the importance of enhancing public consciousness and building a national political consensus on the rights of the children. In this context they called for an early conclusion and adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. They subscribed to the goals of universal immunization by

1990, universal primary education, maternal and child nutrition, provision of safe drinking water and adequate shelter before 2000. They also believed that it should be possible to ensure at the end of the century, that no child need die or be denied development, for reasons of material poverty in the family. They directed the Standing Committee to undertake annual reviews of the situation of children in the SAARC countries, monitoring of programmes and exchange of experience.

The Heads of State or Government agreed that co-operation among SAARC States was vital if terrorism was to be prevented and eliminated from the region. They unequivocally condemned all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and deplored their impact on life and property, socio-economic development, political stability, regional and international peace and co-operation. They recognized the importance of the principles laid down in UN Resolution 2625 which among others required that each State should refrain from organizing, instigating, assisting or participating in acts of civil strife or terrorist acts in another State or acquiescing in organized activities within its territory directed towards the commission of such acts.

CRISIS FACING UN SYSTEM

The Heads of State or Government expressed their concern at the crisis facing the United Nations system. They reiterated their deep commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and their support for and faith in the United Nations as the most important international forum for addressing issues of peace, disarmament and development and an essential instrument for bringing about justice and equity in international political and economic relations. They resolved to concert their efforts in all multilateral fora within the United Nations system to preserve and strengthen the Organization and to prevent erosion of its role, functions and principles.

The Heads of State or Government reiterated their deep commitment to the principles and objectives of the Non-aligned Movement and underlined the historic role the Movement had been playing in strengthening international peace, promoting development, establishing equitable and just economic relations and strengthening international co-operation in all fields. The -339>

success of the Harare Summit of the Non-aligned Countries was yet another demonstration of the strength and unity of the Movement and the increasing respect that it had come to command in the international community. They affirmed full suport for the decisions adopted at the Summit and called for their early implementation.

ENVIRONMENT OF PEACE

The leaders of the South Asian countries were convinced that an environment of peace, security and respect for international law was essential for their growth and stability. Unfortunately, this environment had become increasingly adverse for the pursuit of their cherished goals. The international political scene was marred by strife and tension due to Great Power policies and practices of domination and intervention as well as the increased resort to the threat or use of force, aggression, occupation, pressure, economic coercion and interference in flagrant violation of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. The arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, had escalated to a point where it jeopardizes the most fundamental of all human rights - the right to live.

The Heads of State or Government noted with deep disappointment that the promise held out by the Reykjavik Summit could not be realized. They, however, noted with satisfaction that the proposals made at the Summit were still on the table. They expressed the earnest hope that the negotiations would be resumed without delay so that a decisive step could be taken towards realizing the ultimate goal of eliminating nuclear weapons altogether. The Heads of State or Government called for the early conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

The Heads of State or Government were deeply concerned that the world economy continued to be in the throes of crisis, with particularly harsh and severe consequences for the economies and development prospects and aspirations of the developing countries. They endorsed the Declaration of the SAARC Ministerial Meeting on International Economic Issues held in Islamabad and its analysis of the exceptionally adverse external economic environment which retards the development of the South Asian and other developing countries. These negative factors include: depressed commodity prices, rising protectionism, global recession, lower export earnings, net outflow of financial resources from developing countries and an aggravated debt crisis.

GROWTH RATES

The Heads of State or Government noted that the rates of growth in the developed countries had turned out to be much lower than what was earlier projected and that the projection for future growth in these countries were not at all encouraging. They expressed their concern at the implications of these trends for the development prospects of the developing countries. They welcomed the recent recognition by the developed countries that the chronic problems of massive payment imbalances, high interest rates, unstable exchange rates and high unemployment are structural in nature. In view of global interdependence, the coordination of macro-economic policies, contemplated at the Tokyo Summit of the seven major industrialized countries, cannot be effective in achieving sustained global economic growth unless it

encompasses the developing countries.

MULTILATERALISM

The leaders urged that the recent retreat from multilateralism should be urgently reversed through a revival of the North-South dialogue which is responsive to the changed circumstances in the world economy. This must include a process of reform of monetary and financial system, through an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development, and urgent measures for preserving and strengthening the multilateral trading system. In the search for revived global growth, priority must be accorded to exploiting the vast potential for expanded production, consumption and trade which exists in the developing countries. In all these endeavours, high priority should be accorded -340>

to supporting the development of the least developed countries, in particular, through the full and effective implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1980s.

The Heads of State or Government noted with satisfaction that at the SAARC Ministerial Meeting on International Economic Issues a number of priority objectives of the SAARC countries have been identified. These include: enlarged concessional assistance, the doubling in three years of the financial flows for the development of developing countries, amelioration of official debts, trade liberalization, especially in textiles and agriculture, commodity price stabilization, transfer of technology and special treatment for least developed SAARC countries. The Heads of State or Government agreed that the SAARC members should closely and regularly consult and co-operate in relevant international economic conferences and institutions in order to promote the above mentioned objectives. They recognized that an important opportunity in this context would be provided by UNCTAD VII.

MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

The Heads of State or Government were of the view that the forthcoming New Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations posed a challenge for their countries as well as an opportunity to accelerate their development through the expansion of their exports. They underlined the importance of the effective implementation with immediate effect and continuing until the formal completion of the negotiations, of the commitment to observe a standstill on protectionist measures and to roll these back under multilateral surveillance. They also expected that the principles of transparency and differential and more favourable treatment for the developing countries would be applied systematically and in concrete terms in the negotiations. They decided to concert their positions in these negotiations with a

view to deriving maximum benefits from them in accordance with their national objectives and priorities.

The Heads of State or Government reiterated their determination and will to expand and strengthen their cooperation under SAARC. They underlined their belief that SAARC reflected a resurgence of the South Asian consciousness which had inspired the peoples of this region over several millenia. The leaders expressed their deep conviction that South Asian regional co-operation would not only have a salutary effect on bilateral relations between the countries of the region, but also impart strength and stability to these relations.

The Heads of State or Government of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka were deeply appreciative of the exemplary manner in which the Prime Minister of India discharged his responsibilities as Chairman of the Meeting. They expressed their profound gratitude for the warm and gracious hospitality extended to them by the Government and people of India and for the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting.

DIA USA BANGLADESH NEPAL BHUTAN MALDIVES PAKISTAN SRI LANKA ZIMBABWE ICELAND JAPAN

Date: Nov 17, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of the Secretariat

The following is the Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of the Secretariat:

I

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SECRETARIAT

In pursuance of Article VIII of the SAARC Charter the Governments of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have agreed on the following arrangements with regard to the establishment of the SAARC Secretariat.

П

LOCATION

The Secretariat shall be located in Kathmandu, Nepal. -341>

III

ROLE OF THE SECRETARIAT

The role of the Secretariat shall be to co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of SAARC activities and to service the meetings of the Association.

ΙV

STRUCTURE

The Secretariat shall comprise a Secretary General, and Professional and General Services Staff, and contain an appropriate number of functional units to be called Divisions.

V

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY GENERAL

- 1. The Secretary General shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers upon nomination by a Member State on the basis of the principle of rotation in alphabetical order. The appointment of the Secretary General shall be for a non-renewable tenure of two years. He shall hold the rank and status of Ambassador.
- 2. In the event of the Secretary General being unable to serve his full term, the unexpired portion of his term shall be filled in by the nominee of the Government of the country from which the Secretary General comes upon the approval of the Council of Ministers. Until this arrangement is made the Director from the country next in alphabetical order shall be the Officer-in-Charge.

VI

APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF

- 1. The Professional Staff of the Secretariat shall be appointed by the Secretary General upon nomination by Member States.
- 2. Each Member State shall nominate one officer at the level of Director who, on appointment shall take charge of a Division/Divisions to be assigned by the Secretary General.
- 3. The appointment of a Director shall be for three years. In special circumstances the Secretary General may, in consultation with the Member State concerned, extend the tenure for a period not exceeding another full term.

4. A Director shall be of the rank of Counsellor.

VII

APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES STAFF

- 1. The Secretary General shall employ such General Services Staff as are necessary for the normal functioning of the Secretariat.
- 2. The General Services Staff shall be nationals of the Member States recruited through open competition after advertisement, and shall be appointed by the Secretary General.
- 3. The General Services Staff on satisfactory completion of one year's probation shall be confirmed in their appointments.
- 4. The appointment of the General Services Staff shall be subject to the proviso that no objection is raised by their respective Governments.

VIII

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General, as head of the SAARC Secretariat, shall:

- 1. Be responsible for conducting the work of the Secretariat including co-ordination and monitoring of SAARC activities;
- 2. Submit Staff Rules and Financial Regulations to the Standing Committee for approval of the Council of Ministers; -342>
- 3. Act as the channel of communication and linkage, when so empowered by the Standing Committee, between SAARC and other international organizations on matters of mutual interest. In doing so, the Secretary General shall be guided by the decision of the Council of Ministers that initiatives for collaboration with external agencies should stem from SAARC itself based on its own determination of priorities and keeping in mind the relevant provisions of the SAARC Charter;
- 4. Assist in organization and preparation of SAARC meetings at the levels of Standing Committee, Council of Ministers and the Summit and such other meetings as directed by the Standing Committee. The Secretary General shall attend those meetings or nominate a member of his Professional Staff to do so;
- 5. Submit the Annual Budget of the Secretariat to the Standing Committee for approval of the Council of Ministers;
- 6. Act as the custodian of all SAARC documents and publications;
- 7. Report periodically to the Standing Committee;

8. Perform such other functions as the Standing Committee and Council of Ministers may assign.

IΧ

FUNCTIONS OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors shall perform such functions as may be assigned to them by the Secretary General.

Χ

LANGUAGE

English shall be the working language of the Secretariat.

ΧI

FUNDING AND BUDGET

- 1. Nepal as the Host Country shall provide the following facilities for the Secretariat :
- i) Accommodation with initial decoration and furnishing and provision of basic utilities and services including power, water, gas, air-conditioning, telephone, telex and major maintenance of the same; and
- ii) Machines, equipment and vehicles for the initial stage.
- 2. The Annual Budget of the Secretariat shall contain two main components :
- i) Capital expenditure, including all capital costs on such items as procurement of machines, equipment and vehicles; and
- ii) Recurrent expenditure, including all expenses associated with the running of the Secretariat during the Budget Year including payment of salaries, allowance and perquisites of all Secretariat personnel, utility charges, office requisites and stationery, minor maintenance and any other regular expenses.
- 3. The Annual Budget of the Secretariat shall be shared by Member States on the basis of a formula agreed upon by the Council of Ministers.

XII

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES

The salaries and allowances of the Secretary General and Professional and General Services Staff of the Secretariat shall be determined by the Council of Ministers.

PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

- 1. The Secretariat, the Secretary General and members of the Professional Staff of the Secretariat shall enjoy such privileges and immunities as are admissible to diplomatic missions/envoys and as detailed in the Headquarters Agreement to be reached between the Secretariat and the Host Country.

 -343>
- 2. Other SAARC States will take steps to accord immunities and privileges to the Secretary General and other members of the Professional Staff when visiting their territories on official duties, consistent with local laws and practices.

XIV

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS

The accounts of the Secretariat shall be audited annually by a Panel of Auditors comprising three qualified members nominated by three Member States by rotation and appointed every year for a contract period of three weeks by the Standing Committee. The Report of the Panel of Auditors along with the annual accounts shall be submitted to the Standing Committee for approval of the Council of Ministers.

ΧV

AMENDMENT

An amendment to this Memorandum will require approval of the Council of Ministers.

XVI

GENERAL

- 1. The Secretariat shall commence functioning from a date to be determined by the Council of Ministers.
- 2. Signed this Seventeenth Day of November of the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Six at Bangalore, India.

HUMAYUN RASHEED CHOUDHURY Minister of Foreign Affairs People's Republic of Bangladesh

NARAYAN DATT TIWARI Minister of External Affairs Republic of India

SHAILENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA Minister for Foreign Affairs and Land Reforms His Majesty's

Government of Nepal

DAWA TSERING

Minister of Foreign Affairs Kingdom of Bhutan

FATHULLA JAMEEL

Minister of Foreign Affairs Republic of Maldives

SAHABZADA YAQUB KHAN

Minister of Foreign Affairs Islamic Republic of Pakistan

A. C. SHAHUL HAMEED

Minister of Foreign Affairs Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

NGLADESH BHUTAN INDIA MALDIVES NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA USA

Date: Nov 17, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Joint Press Release

The following is the joint press release issued at the end of the Second Summit at Bangalore on Nov 16-17, 1986:

The President of Bangladesh, the King of Bhutan, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Maldives, the King of Nepal the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the President of Sri Lanka met in Bangalore on 16 and 17 November, 1986.

They issued the Bangalore Declaration. A Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of the SAARC Secretariat was signed by the Foreign Ministers of the SAARC countries in their presence.

They welcomed the announcement by His Majesty's Government of Nepal that the Secretariat would be inaugurated in Kathmandu on 16 January, 1987. They decided that the first Secretary General of the SAARC Secretariat, His Excellency, Mr. Abul Ahsan, would assume charge of this office from that date.

They also considered several new ideas for expanding and strengthening the co-operative programmes under SAARC. While approving the following ideas in principle they directed that these be elaborated and concretized through expert level -344>

examination to be completed by March 1987, so that the reports thereon could be considered at the next Meeting of the Council of Ministers:

- a) A South Asian Broadcasting Programme covering both radio and television should be launched.
- b) In keeping with the emphasis that the Heads of State or Government have laid on people-to-people contacts, concrete steps should be taken to facilitate tourism in the region, including facilities for limited convertibility of national currencies for tourists from SAARC countries.
- c) The Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance they attach to students, scholars and researchers in their countries having ready access to reliable and upto-date information on technical, scientific and developmental matters. This need could be best met by a SAARC Documentation Centre as the repository of such information.
- d) The Heads of State or Government considered that it was essential to promote increasing cross-fertilization of ideas through greater interaction among students, scholars and academics in the SAARC countries. They, therefore, directed that a concerted programme of exchange of scholars be formulated and action taken for an early institution of SAARC scholarships, SAARC Fellowships and SAARC Chairs.
- e) The Heads of State or Government stressed that the idealism of youth must be harnessed for regional cooperative programmes. Nothing would be more conducive to the resurgence of South Asian consciousness than the involvement of the youth of each country with the development programmes of the others. An Organized Volunteers Programme should be established in SAARC under which volunteers from one country would be able to work in other countries in the fields of agriculture and forestry extension work.

The Heads of State or Government recalled that the planners of the SAARC countries had met in 1983. This had provided a useful opportunity for an exchange of ideas and experience in the formulation of development strategies and methods of plan implementation. They directed that another meeting of the planners of the SAARC member countries be convened at the earliest.

The Heads of State or Government took note of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on the financing of the institutional costs of regional institutions. They decided that for regional institutions where all the member States are directly involved

and benefit, the formula proposed by the Standing Committee should be used. However, in the case of projects which affect only a certain number of member States, the formula should be used as an indicative one, which could be suitably modified on the basis of consultations among the member States.

The Heads of State or Government also decided that the next Meeting of the Council of Ministers would be held in India in May 1987. They directed that this Meeting should undertake a detailed review of the proposals for the establishment of regional institutions. The member countries which have undertaken to prepare concept papers, pre-feasibility or feasibility studies on these proposals, should complete them well before the convening of the Meeting. The SAARC Secretariat should establish and submit to the Ministers, an order of priority among these proposals having regard to their costs, benefits, readiness for implementation, and other relevant factors.

The Heads of States or Government gratefully accepted the offer of the King of Nepal to host the Third SAARC Summit in 1987.

They also accepted with gratitude the offer of the President of Sri Lanka to host the Fourth SAARC Summit in Sri Lanka in 1988. -345>

NGLADESH BHUTAN INDIA MALDIVES NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA USA

Date: Nov 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Foreign Minister's Speech

The following is the statement by Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India at the second meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers, Bangalore, on Nov 14, 1986:

Distinguished Foreign Ministers and delegates, at the very outset, I must thank you for electing me Chairman of this meeting of the Council of Ministers. Let me welcome all of you to Bangalore, which is a city well worth exploring. I hope that you will have the time to see a bit more of what this beautiful city and its neighbourhood in our state of Karnataka with its historic past have to offer. Even if the pleasures of negotiations keep

you away from more normal attractions, I trust your stay with us will be comfortable and our common work crowned with success.

I am glad that I have this opportunity to meet my distinguished colleagues from other SAARC countries, so soon after taking over as Minister of External Affairs. We place very high priority on relations with our neighbours, bilaterally and through this Association. I look forward to working closely with you at this meeting, to prepare for the forthcoming Summit, and for the future, to reinforce the mutual trust and understanding on which we base our bilateral relations.

I am particularly happy to welcome in our midst Mr. Humayun Rasheed Choudhury, the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, who has taken a few days off from his responsibilities as the President of the current session of the UN General Assembly, to attend this meeting. It is to the leaders of Bangladesh that we primarily owe this organization. Mr. Choudhury's presence here gives me the opportunity to compliment him in person for the work done in SAARC under Bangladesh's Chairmanship.

Excellencies, we are here to ensure that the momentum generated at the Dhaka Summit last year is not only maintained but accelerated. The work done by the Technical Committees and ad hoc Meetings held since we last met in Dhaka, and by the Programming Committee and the Standing Committee in their meetings during the last three days, will assist us in our task.

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT

In the short period since we met in Dhaka, a number of highly significant developments have taken place which affect the SAARC countries. Here, I shall refer to two events - the Reykjavik Summit, between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union, and the launching of a New Round of Trade Negotiations in Punta del Este.

It is disappointing that the promise of the Reykjavik Summit has not been realized. The Summit, however, demonstrated that the elimination of nuclear weapons, which the Summit leaders as well as all others want, is within our grasp. It also showed that the massive arsenals of nuclear weapons that these and other nuclear weapon powers have, are not necessary to safeguard security interests. We are reassured to learn that the proposals made at Reykjavik are still on the table. We sincerely hope that the leaders of the United States and the USSR would pick up the threads from where they left in Reykjavik and reach agreement soon.

The nuclear arms race must be halted and reversed. It threatens our survival and squanders, for destructive purposes, resources that must be used to solve the problems of poverty, hunger, disease and illiteracy in developing countries and many of the deep-rooted structural problems faced by the developed countries.

The world economic situation continues to be a source of profound concern. The global crisis of the 1980s persists, leaving in its wake problems of debt and dis--346>

ruption or stagnation of the development process in many developing countries. The South Asian countries have withstood this crisis somewhat better than many other developing countries, but we too are seriously affected. Unfortunately, precisely at this moment developed countries have sought not only to bypass the multi-national institutions but also to weaken them.

HARARE NAM SUMMIT

The Eighth Non-aligned Summit in Harare addressed a number of vital political and economic issues, including the global economic crisis, reforms of the international monetary and financial systems and revitalisation of the North-South dialogue. It is a matter of satisfaction that the SAARC countries were able to act together on the economic issues in Harare and other major international forums recently. As a result of the common position that we formulated in the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting on International Economic Issues held in Islamabad, the South Asian countries played a significant role in Harare in shaping consensus on several important questions, particularly on the proposal for a New Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

The forthcoming trade negotiations will be the most complex and ambitious negotiations held so far. They will vitally influence international trade relations. We face the challenge of adjusting our policies and regulations in the field of trade and industry, while maintaining our national development strategies and the objective of self-reliant growth. We have also to ensure that there is no erosion of the benefits that we get under GATT system and that we take the maximum advantage of the opportunity of the negotiations to accomplish unfinished tasks. Of particular importance here is the implementation, at a very early stage in the negotiations, of the commitment on a standstill and roll-back of protectionist measures.

We shall succeed in our objective better provided we approach the forthcoming negotiations in a coordinated and concerted manner and if we agree on a common strategy. There is, therefore a strong case for another SAARC Ministerial Meeting early in 1987 on international economic issues. Subsequently, we could consider institutionalizing this mechanism by deciding to convene such meetings on a regular basis every year.

PLANNING STAGE TO IMPLEMENTATION

Co-operation under SAARC is rapidly moving from the conceptual

and planning stage to implementation. New areas and forms of cooperation are regularly being brought under the SAARC umbrella. In this connection, we must keep in mind that the overall objective of our co-operation is to improve the prospects of the development of our countries and to achieve collective self-reliance in an atmosphere of stability and friendship. This consideration underlines the need to ensure that SAARC programmes and projects are carried out mainly on the basis of the mobilization and effective use of our own resources. This would emphasize the self-reliance that we seek, and earn for SAARC respect and credibility not only among our own peoples but also in the international community at large.

The activities under SAARC require to be viewed in a dynamic context. As we gain experience and acquire confidence, our activities must be expanded. We started in nine sectors. Now we have added a tenth one - Women in Development. We should now look ahead and move to new ones. There are already proposals for bringing under the SAARC umbrella, cooperation in the field of disaster management and certain activities in the area of education. I hope that we can agree on these proposals.

It is clear, however, that SAARC will start to make a substantial impact on the economic prospects of our countries, and on the life of the common man, only when it moves to the core areas of trade, industry, energy, money and finance. There are sectors that generate the economic ex -347>

change, increase in productivity, and the flow of technology and finance, which provide the spur for development. There are also the activities where there is real scope to harmonize policies and reap comparative cost advantages. As our co-operation grows and we gain greater experience and confidence, we should bring these sectors also within the scope of SAARC so that our cooperation can reach its full potential.

One of the most important events during this Summit will be the signing, by the Foreign Ministers of SAARC countries, of a Memorandum of Understanding establishing the SAARC Secretariat. We are pleased that agreement has been reached on the composition, functions and financing of the Secretariat. The Secretariat will be compact, which is important in view of the scarcity of resources which all our countries face. The setting up of the Secretariat constitutes the most important step towards establishing the institutional framework of SAARC. This will undoubtedly lead to better co-ordination of the activities that we mandate.

The question of financing the various units under SAARC is assuming increasing importance. We should bear in mind a few basic principles in any formula that we devise. First, we have to assume our own responsibility and mobilise our own resources for

carrying out programmes and projects under SAARC. Secondly, the core activities under SAARC should be put on a stable basis and should not become dependent on voluntary contributions, either from within the SAARC countries or from outside. This would necessitate that as large a part of the budget as possible should be financed on the basis of assessed rather than voluntary contributions.

I am glad that the Standing Committee has considered and made recommendations on the application of uniform procedures and practices for conducting SAARC meetings. This will go a long way towards ensuring fuller participation of member countries in SAARC activities. The various suggestions made by the Programming and Standing Committees for applying uniform practices and procedures would, we hope, contribute significantly to the streamlining and strengthening of the SAARC institutional machinery.

We have before us in the next four days, intense work of great significance. Our peoples have high expectations from SAARC. SAARC is based on a vision and an ideal. We have the duty to keep SAARC dynamic and vibrant. We must use it to forge unity and cohesion among our nations and bring benefits to all our peoples. As Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi observed at the Dhaka Summit: "Our cooperation tempers enthusiasm with pragmatism and initiative with consensus".

In conclusion, I welcome all of you again to Bangalore and hope that our discussions here will be constructive and pave the way to a successful Summit. I thank you.

DIA USA BANGLADESH ICELAND ZIMBABWE PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 14, 1986

Volume No

1995

SAARC

Shri Tiwari's Statement in Parliament on Bilateral Discussionsat SAARC Summit

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on the Suo Moto statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari in both the Houses of Parliament today (Nov 24, 1986) on the bilateral discussions at the SAARC Summit in Bangalore:

Hon'ble Members will recall the statement by the Prime Minister on November 19 regarding the outcome of the Second SAARC Summit held in Bangalore. In -348>

addition to the meetings which were held in the context of SAARC, the Prime Minister also exchanged views with other Heads of State Government in Bangalore as well as during the retreat at Nandi Hills. I had separate bilateral discussions with Foreign Ministers from the other SAARC countries.

In discussions with the Prime Minister of Pakistan, a serious concern on their nuclear weapon programme, assistance to terrorists and their arms build-up was conveyed. Consequent to the meeting between Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Pakistan, it was agreed that the two countries would work out detailed measures of cooperation in controlling illicit crossing, drug trafficking, smuggling and terrorism along the border. A meeting of the concerned officials of the two Governments at the level of Secretary to Government would be held at Lahore in the first week of December, 1986 for this purpose. It was also agreed that the Foreign Secretary would visit Islamabad before the end of the year to continue discussions with his Pakistani counterpart on various aspects of the normalisation process. This agreement, not withstanding the series of negative steps taken by Pakistan, reflects India's earnestness in promoting the normalisation of relations between our two countries. Prime Minister Junejo assured our Prime Minister that the trial of hijackers would be expedited. We look forward to concrete manifestations of Pakistan's recognition of our vital concerns. This would facilitate the process of normalisation of relations.

The Prime Minister also held extensive discussions with the President of Sri Lanka, Mr. J. R. Jayewardene. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was present in Bangalore and had consultations with our Prime Minister. During the discussions, it was reaffirmed once again that the resolution of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka must be found on the basis of a negotiated political settlement without compromising the unity and territorial integrity of Sri Lanka. It was also agreed that every effort will be made, within the limits of the Sri Lankan Constitution, to improve modify the latest set of proposals to try and meet Tamil aspirations to the maximum extent possible. These refer especially to the question of linkage, the powers of the Governors, the question of law and order etc. Discussions were continued in Bangalore on November 18 between the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Mr. A. S. C. Hameed, and the Indian delegation consisting of Minister of State, Sri K. Natwar Singh and the Minister of State for Internal Security, Shri P. Chidambaram. The package of proposals was discussed further on November 19, when Mr. Hameed visited Delhi for a day. The response of the Sri Lankan Government in this regard is expected to be conveyed shortly.

In Prime Minister's discussions with the President of Bangladesh, there was a general review of developments in the bilateral relationship between the two countries since President Ershad's visit to India in July, 1986. It was decided to extend the mandate of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Committee on River Waters by another six months, namely, upto May 21, 1987. It was recognised that the work of the Joint Committee of Experts had been carried out at much too slow a pace and this should be completed in a time bound programme.

The Prime Minister had a warm and friendly meeting with the King of Bhutan during the course of which there was an exchange of views on bilateral and international issues of mutual concern. Prime Minister's tete-a-tete with the King of Nepal was held in a cordial atmosphere and contributed to closer understanding and friendship between the two countries. Prime Minister's talks with the President of Maldives gave the opportunity of reviewing progress in our bilateral cooperation -349>

since Prime Minister's visit to Male in February and also on matters relating to SAARC. The discussions with the Heads of State of Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives helped to enlarge the areas of mutual understanding and to further strengthen the traditional friendly ties that exist between India and these countries.

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Date: Nov 24, 1986

Volume No

1995

SPAIN

New Areas of Indo-Spanish Economic Cooperation Identified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 02, 1986 on new areas of Indo-Spanish cooperation:

India and Spain have identified several areas of bilateral cooperation in economic and commercial relations, particularly for increase in two-way trade at the Indo-Spanish Joint Committee in Madrid from 29th to 31st October, 1986.

The Joint Committee analysed bilateral trade and industrial cooperation and examined the prospects of further intensifying

and enlarging the commercial and economic relations between the two countries. At the concluding session held in Madrid on 31st October, a protocol was signed by Shri R. Dayal, leader of the Indian delegation and Mr. Apolonio Ruiz Nigro, Director General in the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Spain. India's Ambassador, Shri K. D. Sharma, has been maintaining close liaison with the Spanish authorities and has had detailed discussions with the Secretary of State Mr. Luis Velasco for a special impetus to be lent to Indo-Spanish economic and commercial relations.

It was decided at the Joint Committee meeting that a Spanish fisheries business delegation would visit India in pursuance of the interest generated by an Indian delegation for fisheries in September, 1986. The Spanish industry could participate in Indian schemes for exploiting deep sea fishing resources as well as in technology for harvesting, processing and marketing of deep-sea fishing products.

SCOPE FOR EXPORTS

Based on the global import of Spain, it was analysed that there would be scope for India's export of tea, coffee, tobacco, shellac, cotton and fabricated mica to Spain.

In order to foster trade and technical cooperation especially in engineering and electronic sector, specialised Spanish business delegations would visit India for product adaptation and compliance of technical specifications of Indian products.

In the area of chemicals and petrochemicals, where India's well diversified chemical and petro-chemical industries offer vast scope of exports of pesticides, organic and inorganic chemicals, petrochemicals, bulk drugs and formulations, dyes and dyestuff intermediates, paint and rubber products, business and industry representatives of the two countries could profitably maintain close contact for boosting the two-way trade and technical cooperation. India is also seeking basic technologies for some of the bulk drugs and in respect of anticipated imports of petrochemicals.

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRADE

There have been infrastructural services established during the last few -350>

months which will be conducive to bilateral trade and commerce. The Joint Committee realised the importance of direct air service having been established between Bombay and Madrid with effect from 1.5.1986. There is also direct container vessel service offered by the Shipping Corporation of India for a direct shipping link with the Spanish port of Algeciras. These

facilities will help bring the two markets closer.

In the area of technical and industrial cooperation, the Joint Committee noted that the Indo-Spanish collaboration in regard to only 22 industrial projects in India during the last 23 years signify only the limited area of bilateral cooperation. There was scope for intensifying cooperation in certain important sectors like the rejuvenation of citrus orchards for improving productivity and growing special varieties immune to pest diseases.

After joining the European Economic Community on 1st January, 1986, Spain is to align its tariff structure to the EEC's common external tariff and extend concessions under the EEC's GSP scheme. Spain has withdrawn from the GATT Preferential Agreement for trade among developing countries and any concessions that were allowed for exports to Spain from India would not apply with effect from 6th February, 1987. Spain's withdrawal from the GATT is as a result of its having become a member of the European Community.

AIN INDIA USA

Date: Nov 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Prime Minister's Airport Welcome to Mr. Gorbachev

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's welcoming remarks at the airport on the occasion of the visit of the General Secretary of CPSU, His Excellency, Mr. Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev on Nov 25, 1986:

General Secretary Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev, Madame Raisa Gorbacheva, our friends from the Soviet Union:

I greet you on behalf of the people of India. You represent a country and a people who have been with us through times of trouble and times of triumph. The Soviet Union has remained a tried and trusted friend in our hours of need. We welcome you also as friends who have helped us build modern India. We hail you, Mr. General Secretary, as a crusader for peace.

The miracles of science and the marvels of technology have knit

together the destinies of the human family as never before in history. Through three decades, India and the Soviet Union have shown the world how a warm kinship can be established between neighbours, whatever the differences in their domestic economic and social systems. Our friendship is testament to the historical imperative of a world order based on coexistence and cooperation.

In India, as in the Soviet Union, change is being pushed forward without continuity being disturbed. In both our countries, the principles and values of our national endeavour are firmly rooted and well-established. Therefore, with confidence and conviction, we have each been able to give new direction and new dimensions to our policies. Nation-building is a continuous process. There must be an adaptation of past perspectives to present realities. Innovation, imagination and an alert awareness of evolving circumstances

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constitute the lifebreath of a dynamic society.

The searing experience of war in this century has seasoned the Soviet Union's stake in enduring peace. India's heritage of tolerance, harmony and non-violence has cast us in the role of pioneers of peace. You respect our Non-alignment. We respect your consistent commitment to peace. We share a firm belief in nuclear disarmament as the essential precursor of a peace that is durable and guaranteed.

For thirty years we have worked together for harmony in the world and the welfare of our peoples. We are delighted to have you with us. We hope this glimpse of Delhi will bring you back to us often and to many different parts of India.

Long live Indo-Soviet friendship.

Jai Hind.

MR. GORBACHEV'S REPLY

In reply, H.E. Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev said: "My first words on Indian soil are the words of gratitude to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi for his invitation and to all of you - for your warm welcome and good wishes.

In this moment of my meeting with India I wish to convey to the great Indian people friendly greetings from the peoples of the Soviet Union.

My visit is above all an indication of the consistency of our fundamental policy aimed at developing friendship and cooperation with your country. Relations between India and the Soviet Union already have a long history and well-established traditions. They are mutually enriching and serve the interests of our two peoples. Our relations have followed an ascending path of development, being at all stages a factor of international stability and peace. This is the way it was in the past - and this is the way it is today.

The creative energy inherent in Soviet-Indian cooperation derives from the fact that it is built of trust, equality, respect and careful consideration of each other's special needs and interests. Moreover, and this is also very important, our relations do not seek to counter or challenge genuine and legitimate interests of other countries.

At the present stage, when the Soviet Union and India are tackling momentous, historic tasks of their national development, Soviet-Indian relations and contacts are in need of still greater dynamism.

Indeed, this is something that international politics needs too, given the current complex and dangerous situation in the world.

Mankind is facing huge problems and grave dangers such as the nuclear threat and the problem of survival, the plight of the developing countries; East-West and North-South contradictions - contradictions between different socio-political systems and levels of their development, regional and international crises and conflicts, and the problems of food supply, energy and environment.

I think that all those complexities of today's world will be addressed, to some extent, in our discussions and talks. Of course, we shall focus on questions of Soviet-Indian relations in all their aspects and the pressing problems of Asia and the Indian and Pacific Oceans in the context of efforts to prevent nuclear war and create a healthier international environment.

We have already played host to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi in the Soviet Union, and now I am paying a return visit. I highly value the dialogue between us which for all practical purposes has become continuous, although it is not very often that we actually see each other. It enables us to keep each other constantly informed about the most important areas of our international activities and bilateral relations.

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I have no doubt that continuation of this dialogue here in Delhi will impart even greater dynamism to the very diverse relations between the Soviet Union and India and further enhance the role that cooperation between our two great nations plays in world politics as a factor for peace and universal security.

Once again let me thank you most sincerely on behalf of all those who have come with me.

Thank you for this welcoming ceremony and for the garlands of flowers which we regard as being much more than a mere tribute to an ancient tradition.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Banquet Speech

The following is the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at the banquet in honour of the General Secretary of the CPSU, His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in New Delhi on Nov 25, 1986:

Esteemed General Secretary Gorbachev and Madame Gorbacheva, Distinguished Soviet Guests, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, when friends come calling, our hearts light up. The people of India are delighted to have you in their midst. On their behalf and on behalf of the Government of India, I welcome you on your first visit to this ancient, yet evernew city. We are glad India is the first Asian country you have chosen to visit. I look forward to resuming the dialogue we began in Moscow last year. It is a continuation of the dialogue which started with my grandfather over three decades ago.

You have just celebrated the 69th anniversary of the October Revolution led by the great Lenin. He had a clear vision of the Soviet Union's glorious future. He foresaw the inevitable triumph of the struggle over imperialism.

It was about then that India's struggle against colonialism entered a new phase under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. We took the path of non-violence. Nevertheless the October Revolution had a profound impact on India's mind. Jawaharlal Nehru, whose birthday we have just celebrated, spoke eloquently of the historic significance of your Revolution. He often reminded Indira Gandhi that she was born within a few days of that great event.

Indo-Soviet friendship owes much to Jawaharlal Nehru and to Indira Gandhi. They understood the crucial role of the Soviet

Union in the history of the world. Your leaders recognised India's key contribution to the making of an equitable world order. Indo-Soviet friendship is characterised by a deep appreciation of each other's aspirations, interests and concerns. It has gained depth and maturity with the passage of time; it has remained firm and steady through the twists and turns of international politics.

MAHATMA GANDHI AND NEHRU

There must be something deeper than mutual gain to explain the endurance and vitality of this friendship. Indeed there is. It is our abhorrence of imperialism, our struggle against colonialism and racism. It is our shared commitment to the principles of human equality and social justice. These principles transcend the differences in our historical background and in the political and social systems built by Lenin in your country and by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru in ours.

The October Revolution marked the beginning of the end of the old order in Europe. India's independence 30 years later tolled the death-knell of classical colonialism all over the world.

With the advent of nuclear weapons, peace became the foremost question before humankind. Peace was essential for the development of all newly independent countries. We had to fashion a strategy which would safeguard our freedom and -353>

enable us to progress in peace. From the very moment of independence, we took the position that military alliances and foreign bases would compromise our new, hard-won freedom. Non-alignment has grown out of our historical experience and necessities. We have nurtured an alternative vision of world stability and security based on co-operation among all nations and the renunciation of force.

The circumstances and challenges faced by the Soviet Union have been different from ours. Your historical experience since the Revolution has led you steadfastly to pursue the goal of peace. Your strong commitment to peace and disarmament has found concrete expression in various proposals. Under your leadership the last 20 months have witnessed a most impressive contribution to the peace process. You have identified yourself with the noble vision of a world without weapons, of the human family working and flourishing in peace.

I recall your moving reference to the folly of burning more resources in the furnace of the arms race. We welcome your energetic and earnest efforts to break the deadlock on nuclear disarmament. At the recent Summit in Reykjavik you made constructive and bold proposals in the spirit of the celebrated affirmation in Geneva that a nuclear war cannot be won and should

not, therefore, be fought. It was unfortunate that the Strategic Defence Initiative blocked agreement.

Never before had the prospects for peace looked so bright - a new beginning was so near and yet so far. The divergent perceptions at Reykjavik must not deflect the world from pursuing the proposals that were put forward at the Summit. We must persevere.

MILITARISATION OF SPACE OPPOSED

We resolutely oppose the militarisation of outer space. It does not matter that the SDI is described as defensive. Security is not enhanced but dangerously jeopardised by creating yet another deadly and extremely sophisticated weapons system. The logic of a shield in outer space is deeply flawed. The speed and complexity of systems of nuclear warfare eliminate human intervention. Disaster may never be willed. It might just happen "one lazy afternoon".

When the first atom bomb wiped out Hiroshima, Mahatma Gandhi observed, with a prophet's passion: "Unless now the world adopts non-violence it will spell certain suicide for mankind." At the dawn of the nuclear age. Jawaharlal Nehru pointed out that "the way of the atom bomb is not the way of peace or freedom." India has been true to their teachings. All these years we have laboured to make the world safe from nuclear disaster. India, with the Non-aligned countries, has been in the forefront of the movement for abolition of nuclear arsenals. In January 1985, six nations from five continents met for the first time in Delhi to propose a series of concrete and realistic measures to halt the destructive arms race and to eventually banish the spectre of nuclear death. The Soviet Union responded promptly and positively by declaring a unilateral moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. At Ixtapa, the six-nation initiative carried forward the argument for sanity. You have listened to the anguished cry of humanity. We hope others will too, sooner rather than later.

APARTHEID WILL CRUMBLE

At the recent Summit of the Non-aligned Movement at Harare, a notable achievement was to focus world attention on the continuing outrages of the Pretoria regime in Southern Africa. The Summit extended full support to the valiant freedom fighters of Southern Africa. It established the AFRICA Fund to support the Front-line States in their determined struggle. One way of limiting future bloodshed and dismantling Apartheid is through comprehensive mandatory sanctions. There is world wide popular support for sanctions. But action is slow and halting on the part of those governments who are in a position to make sanctions -354>

effective. The march of history cannot be halted. Apartheid will crumble. Freedom and racial equality will triumph.

There are threats to peace, stability and security in several parts of the world. Some stem from old national rivalries. Many are the result of the relentless thrust of those who seek to extend their presence through alliances, bases, arms supply, and other arrangements. Yet others arise from some countries exploiting the politics of global confrontation to acquire weapons beyond their legitimate needs. The aggravation of the threat to our security is compelling us to divert scarce resources from development to defence. We should endeavour to remove or lessen such tensions. Bilateral mechanisms must be given a chance to work without outside interference. Regional arrangements should be encouraged to enhance trust, stability and co-operation. The UN system should be strengthened for global peace.

The Pacific Ocean has traditionally been an arena of rivalry. The Indian Ocean is now being rapidly turned into a theatre of conflict. Efforts to demilitarise the Indian Ocean under the UN auspices and to ensure its status as a Zone of Peace have been frustrated by vested interests. The threat to the independence and integrity of the littoral and hinterland States is real and is increasing.

For decades the people of India cherished the vision of a resurgent, prosperous Asia, no longer the plaything of others but an active and equal partner in the shaping of history. This vision began to acquire reality with the countries of Asia achieving independence. National independence brought new responsibilities, especially the task of rebuilding economies shattered by exploitation. Our leaders stressed the need of peace for development - peace in the entire world, peace in our region and peace with our neighbours.

1947 ASIANS RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Jawaharlal Nehru convened an Asian Relations Conference here in New Delhi in March 1947, in which the Asian Republics of the Soviet Union also participated. He declared:

"In this atomic age Asia will have to function effectively in the maintenance of peace. Indeed there can be no peace unless Asia plays her part. There is today conflict in many countries, and all of us in Asia are full of our own troubles. Nevertheless, the whole spirit and outlook of Asia are peaceful, and the emergence of Asia in world affairs will be a powerful influence for world peace."

Since that time we in India have endeavoured to fashion concepts which would regulate relations between nations states in a peaceful, friendly and co-operative manner. Panchsheel, the Bandung principles and the vitality of Non-alignment provide the intellectual and political framework for a new pattern of

international relations, both in Asia and in the world.

Nationalism is a tremendous force in the countries of Asia today. It fills them with new energy to realise their aspirations for a better life. But we know from history that excesses of nationalism produce tension and conflict. To build a co-operative and peaceful world order, we have to progress beyond narrow local loyalties and learn to regard the world as one family.

This is the great political concept that has shaped the Indian outlook through the ages. This century has seen Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi repudiate narrow nationalism.

The profound richness and diversity of the Asian tradition, the ancient wisdom of our societies, and our vital urge to transform our social and economic conditions for the welfare of our peoples give us a promising starting point for a new pattern of peace and stability, development and co-operation of our continent. The Soviet Union, which stretches across Asia, has naturally to be a part of this endeavour.

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In this context, it is fitting to recall your thought-provoking reflections on this theme at Vladivostok. The fundamental postulates of Panchsheel, Bandung and Non-alignment, to which you referred, provide a framework for thinking through the complex and historically specific problems of peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific region. What is important is a process of breaking through the fears, the inhibitions and the unhappy experiences of the past. Greater exchange of ideas at all levels is needed to work out a basis for co-operation in diverse fields. Step by step, we may move towards our objective of harmonious relations based on freedom, equality and justice. Towards this end, you have made a major contribution.

1971 LANDMARK

Indo-Soviet friendship has been a factor for global peace and stability. The Soviet Union has consistently supported India's efforts to consolidate its independence and safeguard its national interest. Our friendship is not directed against anyone. True friendships never are. A major landmark in the evolution of our friendly relations was the signing of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation in 1971. It remains a source of strength for our respective countries. Its importance has increased in the context of the current world situation and recent events in our part of the world.

India sees in the Soviet Union a trusted friend who has stood by us in moments of trial and anxiety. We value the help we have received from the Soviet Union in completing the first phase of our industrialisation. We are now poised for the next phase of technological modernisation. We seek higher productivity, greater efficiency and speedier eradication of poverty. We have always envisaged increased economic cooperation with other countries while pursuing self-reliance. Co-operation with the Soviet Union in the current phase of our development could be even more significant for both countries than in the previous phase. New vistas beckon, specially in the exciting field of frontier technologies. We should not remain satisfied with the established patterns of co-operation, valuable as they are. We must reach out to new horizons. Imagination and innovation are required. While the agreements we have reached are good and useful, we should rise to still higher levels of co-operation.

BOLD APPROACH

General Secretary Gorbachev, we have watched with admiration your efforts to bring about deep and revolutionary changes in Soviet society. Your tireless energy and your bold approach to the accumulated problems have released new forces of change and creative endeavour. You are building on the success of the past and giving a new orientation to the entire process of development in keeping with the rising aspirations of your people. We are confident that the qualitative changes taking place now in the Soviet Union will bring our two peoples still closer.

May I say how enthused we are by your emphasis on new political thinking to cope with the problems that beset humanity in the closing years of the 20th century? Nations, firm in their own political belief, must reach out to one another in good faith. We must break out of stereotyped responses. We must recognise that the future cannot be hostage to the past. Confrontation must yield to peaceful coexistence. Coexistence itself must lead on to co-operation. Let us strengthen existing international institutions. Let us be innovative in building durable structures of peace, stability and progress.

Ours has been a friendship of two warm-hearted peoples. The kinship between the people of Soviet Central Asia and India goes back many centuries. The great masters of Russian literature have made a profound mark on our own literary renaissance. Our languages have been studied by Soviet scholars. We respond enthusiastically to each other's music and dance. This cultural interaction will be taken to new heights through the Cultural Festivals we have planned. These cele--356>

brations will open new doors in the hearts of our peoples.

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 Madame Raisa Gorbacheva, to the further prosperity and progress of the great Soviet people,

to ever growing friendship and co-operation between the Soviet Union and India, to friendship, to freedom, and to peace.

DIA RUSSIA USA ICELAND SWITZERLAND JAPAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA INDONESIA

Date: Nov 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Dinner Speech by Mikhail S. Gorbachev

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the dinner hosted in his honour by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, in New Delhi, on Nov 25, 1986:

Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear friends, Comrades, I have already had an opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Government of India and to the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, for the invitation to visit your country.

I also thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, for the kind words you have just said, addressed to our people and our country. We are grateful to India's leaders and its official and public figures for the high assessment of Soviet efforts and initiatives in the cause of peace. We know that this is more than just an expression of courtesy.

Efforts to ensure a steady development of friendly relations with India have been and will remain, a priority area in our entire foreign policy. Regular Soviet-Indian summit meetings are a major factor in our relations. Such meetings are invariably marked by an atmosphere of genuine trust, of understanding each other's concerns and intentions, both domestic and international. My meeting today with the Prime Minister confirms this assessment. I hope that we are being equal to the task of continuing the good tradition started by Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, imparting to it new content prompted by the imperatives of our time.

And the time we live in is difficult, and I would even say critical. Will mankind continue along the road of power confrontation, as, regrettably, it has done before a road that

would eventually lead to a catastrophe, or will it have enough wisdom, courage and strength to break this inertia and steer the world to a road of continuous survival, of progress and elimination of social evils and maladies?

POTENTIAL FOR PROGRESS

My recent meeting with President Reagan in Reykjavik has brought into sharp focus both the potential for progress toward a nuclear-free world and the obstacles and forces that block that progress.

Indeed we are witnessing an exponential growth of scientific and technological discoveries, and innovations. The potential for peace and social progress is, in objective terms, also growing and gaining momentum.

At the same time, the nuclear threat continues to hang over mankind. Peaceful coexistence is being subjected to harsh tests. Every day armed conflicts and acts of terrorism take a toll of human lives. Suffering and devastation have become an everyday reality for many peoples. The chains of militarism hold up progress. The arms race devours the resources that are so badly needed to solve the burning problems affecting the lives of hundreds of millions of peoples.

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The situation urgently calls for a new approach to security issues, a new thinking in politics and a new philosophy in international relations. Survival of mankind must be placed above all other interests, and the security of any one State is inconceivable without security for all.

A few words about Soviet-Indian co-operation. Last year in Moscow Mr. Prime Minister and I laid the groundwork for its further development in all areas. Today we have continued this work and agreed on important things. There is every reason for Soviet-Indian relations not only to remain good but to make constant headway on the solid foundation of mutual respect, mutual benefit and common aspirations for peace. There is every possibility to make our mutual trust and friendship a still more influential factor in international life for the benefit of peace, disarmament and development.

Ladies and gentlemen, friends,

We are following with great interest current developments in the life of new India. We are gratified to see your accomplishments. But we also see our difficulties and problems.

MOMENTOUS TASK

The Government of India has put before its people a momentous

task: to assure that the country enters the 21st century as a highly developed nation with a powerful economic, scientific and technological potential. The Soviet people sincerely wish you success. They wholeheartedly welcome the fact that the role of peace-loving India in world affairs is steadily growing.

May I express the confidence that this Soviet-Indian meeting will produce many positive results for the peoples of our two countries and for the strengthening of international security in Asia and in the world.

In conclusion, I would like to wish good health and success to the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and to Mrs. Gandhi, and well-being and prosperity to the great people of India.

May the friendly Soviet-Indian relations strengthen and develop for the benefit of our peoples and peace in the whole world!

DIA USA ICELAND RUSSIA

Date: Nov 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Text of Shri Venkataraman's Welcome Address

The following is the welcome address by the Vice President, Shri R. Venkataraman, at a meeting held in honour of His Excellency Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU in the Central Hall of Parliament House, in -New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986:

Gathered here to welcome you in this historic Central Hall of the Parliament of India, Mr. General Secretary, are Members of the Lok Sabha - the House of the People - and the Rajya Sabha - the Council of States. Together, these Members of our Parliament represent 750 million people. They extend on behalf of the people of India, to you Mr. General Secretary, and to other members of your delegation, a most hearty and cordial welcome. They do so, not out of a sense of customary courtesy, but a deeply-felt affinity for your people and your nation. Members of the Indian Parliament have had the privilege of welcoming the Soviet leadership in this very hall more than once. The late Prime Ministers Khrushchev, Kosygin and the late President Brezhnev

have honoured us by their visits. Likewise, Indian Prime Ministers, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi returned these visits to the Soviet Union, each visit strengthening the bonds of friendship and furthering the area of co-

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operation. The recent visit of our Prime Minister, Sri Rajiv Gandhi, and your current visit to India are additional links in the chain of friendship and co-operation not only in our bilateral relationships but in global affairs.

India fondly remembers the support offered to the Indian struggle for freedom by your great leader, V. I. Lenin. The immortal Russian writer Leo Tolstoy through his letters to Mahatma Gandhi made us feel that in the justness of our cause and in its quest for the dignity of man and true freedom, India did not walk alone

Our admiration for the Soviet people dates back to the time of your Revolution. Our great poet Rabindranath Tagore who visited the Soviet Union in 1918 called your Revolution "a new era". Almost at the same time, our Tamil poet Subramanya Bharati, who hardly travelled beyond his native place, had the vision to write a poem describing your Revolution as "a new civilization". This poem has been rendered into Russian and read widely in your country. Our beloved Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, visited your country in 1925 and came back fully impressed with your planned economy. Long before Independence, he was instrumental in establishing a National Planning Committee in the Indian National Congress. Nehru saw in the Soviet Union a process in operation which his sense of justice and his sense of history told him, needed to be studied in India. It was on this visit that the concept of Five Year Plans, the famous 'piatiletka' as the Russians called it, caught the imagination of Nehru. Nehru wrote then (and I quote):

Everybody talks of 'planning' now, and of Five Year Plans. The Soviets have put magic into these words.

What Jawaharlal Nehru wished for India was not just a change of political structure, important as that was, but a transformation of a despondent society into a sanguine one combining the pride of its past with a vision of its future. In this journey on which Nehru initiated us, we have received from the Soviet Union, constant and consistent support.

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

We in this House of the Parliament of India derive particular satisfaction from the fact that Parliamentary delegations have come to India from the Soviet Union at regular intervals and similar delegations of our Parliamentarians have visited the Soviet Union. These exchanges have cemented the bonds of friendship between our peoples and enriched the mutual awareness of our socio-political structures.

Indo-Soviet economic collaborations constitute an altogether unique and exemplary saga. These are based on the principle of mutual respect for each other with no strings attached. They cover a wide field like steel, coal, engineering, oil, power generation, transport and communication, besides agriculture. Likewise, in the realm of science and technology, our joint enterprises are based on mutual trust and respect. India is a country of ancient monuments, but modern temples of progress are no less numerous. Dotted all over the country there are standing monuments of Indo-Soviet cooperation in every one of the fields I have detailed earlier.

CULTURAL EXCHANGES

The complementarity between our two countries has not been confined to inter-Governmental activity alone. Cultural exchanges on a people-to-people basis have given to the profile of Indo-Soviet relations, the features of human warmth. We are looking forward to the great cultural manifestations that lie ahead, the Festival of India in the Soviet Union and the Festival of the Soviet Union in India. These will re-articulate the spirit of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship signed by the two nations in 1971. When the conclusion of the Treaty was announced in our Parliament, there was tremendous applause and response. That Treaty marks a moment in time. It also -359>

represents the confluence of the mighty Volga and the sacred Ganga.

Our shared perceptions of the global problems have helped draw us together closer and closer. The leaderships of both countries are firmly set against the nuclear arms race that threatens the human species with annihilation, star wars that seeks to pollute even outer space and escalation of tensions. We also share the view that peace and progress are indivisible and that there can be no progress without peace. The ready and spontaneous response of the Soviet Union to the six-nation initiative and your own positive proposals at Reykjavik for nuclear disarmament, fill the world with hope that these efforts will not go in vain.

Mr. General Secretary, your visit to India is of immense significance; not just to our two countries but to the cause of world peace. May the spirit that has brought us together permeate our relations for ever. I am reminded of the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, who said:

"The Soviet Union has given us many precious gifts; the most precious gift of these is friendship."

With these words, Mr. General Secretary, I welcome you once again. May I now request you to address the Members of our Parliament.

A INDIA RUSSIA ICELAND

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Mr. Gorbachev's Address to Members of Parliament

The following is the speech made by His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the Members of Parliament in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986:

You have accorded me the honour of speaking from India's main rostrum. This rostrum remembers Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, and other great leaders leaders elected by the Indian people. In the minds of mankind the teachings of peace and non-violence that have been preached here for several decades now are identified with the country itself and the philosophy of life espoused by this ancient nation.

On behalf of my country I would like to share with you our vision of the world, bridging it with the thoughts and aspirations of millions of people in your country.

I shall speak of things that are equally cherished by our two peoples and of things that are equally disturbing to them. And since our two great nations make up a substantial portion of mankind, I would like to believe that this time, too, what I am going to say from this rostrum will be heard not only in India.

SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN WORLD POLITICS

Joint action and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India constitute a significant factor in world politics and performs a constructive function in the system of international relations.

The proximity of positions held by the Soviet Union and the great India on the fundamental problems of our time is indisputable as is their commitment to peace and equitable cooperation, to disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war.

Nor is there any doubt that at this alarming juncture in the life of mankind we are equally determined to work persistently for saving the peoples of the earth from a nuclear Apocalypse, for building a world order that would rule out diktat or violence and enable every people to choose freely its own road of development.

GUIDING EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS

To me personally, it is quite obvious that much of what we call new political thinking manifested itself internationally for the first time in relations between the -360>

Soviet Union and India. And the fact that differences of sociopolitical system and ideology and our national, cultural and other distinctions have not hampered our dialogue is extremely important as a guiding example for others.

Without yielding the smallest bit of its national pride, its values and interests, every people and every country today must be able to channel them towards the main goal, that of saving human civilization.

TRUTH OF OUR TIMES

In this respect, I trust, we are of one mind. And so I am pleased to recall the wise Indian saying that truth makes friends closer. The truth of our times is the truth of our responsibility to achieve equal security for all. This is what makes us close as never before.

The truth of the nuclear and space age urges all of us, whatever our political allegiance, ideological beliefs or religion, whatever our other differences, to reflect on the problem common to all mankind, the problem of survival, and act accordingly.

It is from this obvious reality that we draw our optimism. And although this reality is not yet quite indisputable to the leaders of some countries, we are not discouraged. Sooner or later they will have to reckon with this truth and this reality. What is important, however, is that their awakening should not come too late.

TRAVEL ACROSS THREE SEAS

Our ancestors "travelled across three seas" to reach India and reveal to their countrymen the treasures of India's soul and mind. Today we come to India to reinforce the principles of our diversified bilateral cooperation and open up new vistas for it.

A new Agreement on Economic and Technological Cooperation, the largest in the history of Soviet-Indian relations, has been signed. We have come here in order to promote, together with the

leaders of India, the reaffirmation of the concept of peace as the supreme and universal human value.

The Declaration of principles for a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world signed this morning by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and myself serves this noble purpose. Yes, it does serve this purpose since our two great powers are not merely proclaiming the principles of a world free from nuclear weapons or violence, but are already implementing those principles in practical international action.

The Soviet programme for a phased elimination of all nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction before the end of this century, announced on January 15, the concept of building a comprehensive system of international peace and security, our moratorium on nuclear explosions, our various other peace initiatives - all this, as we see it, is consistent with the positions of the Delhi Six and with India's belief in the power of common sense and the possibility of ensuring peace and progress for the present and future generations.

REALITY WITHIN REACH

What the world saw six weeks ago in Reykjavik was not a mirage of a nuclearfree world looming on the horizon, but a reality within reach, which the two sides could attain even tomorrow, if they have the will and act responsibly.

A great deal was accomplished in Reykjavik to build the bridge of a historic accord.

Regrettably, that did not prove possible - the Strategic Defense Initiative stood in the way.

I do not think, however, that mankind will accept this.

Whatever the situation may appear now, the fact remains that in one year we -361>

have made a huge step forward in our thinking and in our perception of what is necessary, what is realistic and what is possible.

This year has been marked by our two meetings with the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. Our discussions with him, the ideas and information we shared make us confident that a break-through can be made and that the nuclear threat can be removed.

We highly appreciate the position taken by the Government of India on the issue of the complete cessation of all nuclear weapons tests. Both on its own and in the Group of Six first

convened in Delhi, India supported the Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions.

We are gratified to note that the Soviet Union and India share the same approach to the idea of establishing a comprehensive system of international security. The Delhi Declaration is a new step in promoting this concept of a durable, assured peace, peace with a new quality.

To us it is an indivisible and integral whole, which also implies that conflicts and explosive situations in any given region must be settled in the interests of the entire international community. The fact is that a fuse smoldering in one part of the globe might cause an explosion that would tear our planet apart.

Universal peace for every nation begins at the threshold of one's home. That is why stability and security in Asia are a common concern for both India and the Soviet Union.

Let me emphasize - for the Soviet Union too. Over one third of Asia's territory is in the Soviet Union, and important sea lanes that link the East and the West of our country stretch across the Indian Ocean.

PEACE IN EUROPE AND PEACE IN ASIA

Peace in Europe and peace in Asia are of equal significance, in our policy. In this context the title of Rabindranath Tagore's remarkable novel "The Home and the World" conveys an apt image to describe our actions. For our national homes to be strong they need peace, and for peace in the world to remain undamaged we must reinforce all the supports on which a house is built.

India is an acknowledged leader of the Non-aligned Movement; what is more, it is a member in high standing of the world community.

Therefore, today we intend to make some suggestions here, addressing them both to India as a major world power and to most other countries which want to bring international affairs to a more constructive level.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

First. In the nuclear age, when the threat to people's lives had become universal, when the realization of inter-relationship and mutual responsibility is becoming vitally important for everyone, international institutions and organizations, such as the Non-aligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation and others, acquire greater significance. And, obviously, in these circumstances the work of the United Nations becomes even more important.

Lately the community of nations has grown. In the United Nations

the voice of independent States, which have matured and gained experience, has become more firm and independent, and the attempts to tell them how to vote and what to support are largely no longer successful, while arbitrary international behaviour is being unequivocally condemned. Some people find this not to their liking, and talks are now being heard about the UN "in crisis". What is more, they are acting in order to actually hamper the normal functioning of the Organization. But our view is that, on the contrary, the role of the United Nations is bound to increase due to the significant growth of its membership and -362>

independent attitudes of its members. We are convinced that in the nuclear and space age the United Nations, which comprises 159 member-States, can and must increase its contribution to strengthening peace, as envisaged at the time it was founded, and for this purpose contribute above all, to shaping new political thinking and behaviour.

The Soviet Union wants the potential of this universal international organization to be used more effectively than in the past, which must be achieved, inter alia, by making its proceedings and its main bodies more democratic.

Specifically, we support the proposal of the UN Secretary-General to set up within the Organization a multilateral centre for reducing the risk of war.

We consider it also important to work for the full use of all the methods of peaceful settlement of disputes between States which are provided in the UN Charter - through negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements.

STRENGTHENING OF U.N.

In general, we are in favour of enhancing in every way the authority of the United Nations, of strengthening its political, legal and moral standing. The Soviet Union will do all it can to help the Organization overcome its financial problems.

Second. Outer space above the earth surrounds the whole mankind and no one should be indifferent to how it is used. It is our profound conviction that space, this common property of mankind, should be exclusively peaceful and that what we need is Star Peace and not Star Wars. We are prepared to cooperate with any country in exploring outer space. We can, for that matter, cooperate with the United States, with which we have recently negotiated a draft bilateral agreement to that effect, calling for the implementation of 16 specific projects that can bring invaluable benefits to mankind. The Soviet Union has already submitted to the United Nations a proposal to launch, jointly by all its member States, a programme of Star Peace, a programme for

the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. This should not be a prerogative of the developed countries alone.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTRE

We think that the developing countries, with their authority, their desire to cooperate in coping with these tasks and their interest in putting space exploration on the track of peace and broad-based international cooperation, are to play an important role in this endeavour. Therefore, today we make a proposal to establish, with the help of the leading space powers, an international centre to carry out joint research and develop space technologies at the request of developing countries, for example satellites, to explore natural resources. A part of such a centre would be a school for the training of specialists from developing countries, including cosmonauts, and it would also have a facility for launching spacecraft.

If India were to express readiness to host such a centre in its territory, we would welcome it.

Third. As you know, the Soviet Union and India support the United Nations decision to convene not later than in 1988, an international conference for the purpose of implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. Demilitarization of the Indian Ocean must finally get under way.

Calling for enhanced military and political stability in the Indian Ocean area, the Soviet Union is prepared:

- at any time to begin with the United States and other nonlittoral States which have naval vessels on a permanent basis in the Indian Ocean negotiations on substantially reducing the size and activities of naval forces there; -363>
- to hold negotiations with the United States and the Asian countries concerned on confidence-building measures in the military field related to Asia and the adjacent waters of the Indian and Pacific Oceans. In particular, we have in mind notification of transfers and exercises of ground (amphibious), naval and air forces of those countries;
- to take part in multilateral negotiations involving all States which are maritime users of the Indian Ocean to work out guarantees of the safety of sea lanes, including the Persian Gulf and the Straits of Hormuz and Molucca, as well as guarantees of the sovereignty of littoral countries over their natural resources:
- to take part in working out a long overdue multilateral agreement on the safety of air traffic over the Indian Ocean,

- to participate in drafting, and to become a party to, an international convention to combat terrorism on the seas and in the air.

Of course, this is not an exhaustive list of problems related to ensuring peace in the Indian Ocean area, and we are prepared to discuss proposals of other countries to this effect. But the implementation of our aforementioned proposals would undoubtedly contribute to an improvement of the situation in the region.

SPIRITUAL CULTURES

Distinguished Members of Parliament, the peoples of our two countries have much that brings them closer together. But among the reasons for this noble mutual attraction I would especially single out the continuous and profound search for the meaning of existence, which is common to our spiritual cultures. The question of what a human being should be like is not a trivial one. Reflections on man's mission and on the right path to take in life, on the individual's quest for perfection have dominated the thinking of the great men of genius in our two countries. In their popular traditions the search for the meaning of life formed the eternal triad: human being-humanism-humanity. It may be for this reason that creeping pragmatism is not typical of our people's national character.

A high degree of humanism is also evident in the policies of our two countries: both the Soviet and the Indian people tend to think not only in terms of their own security or interests, but also to relate them to universal security and the aspirations of the whole mankind.

And today, when we are working to abolish nuclear weapons and to build a non-violent world, we regard the well-being of man as the primary and preeminent objective in the evolution of our civilization.

Today, the danger of war means more than heavy stress, a burden injurious to mental health. The arms race diverts enormous material, intellectual and various other resources and consequently denies people the necessary means to improve their existence, and hence limits their ability to enrich society through creative work.

If the life of billions of people is to be changed for the better in a most radical way, the resources required for this should be derived from what is now spent on the military. In other words, it is necessary to pare down the material wherewithal for the arms race and to channel resources to development.

We cannot fail to recall in this context that Indira Gandhi, the great daughter of the Indian people, was among the first

political leaders who realised that this is the way to meet the global challenges facing mankind. The Soviet Union too has been consistently emphasising that disarmament would lead not only to a more secure world, but also to a higher standard of living.

DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Our positions on this matter coincide with the positions of India and of the Delhi -364>

Six. We support an early convening of the UN Conference on the relationship between disarmament and development. Regrettably, it has not yet been possible to hold this conference because of the opposition essentially of one country, which spends on the arms race more than any country in the world.

Only the elimination of nuclear arms, a ban on space weapons, the destruction of chemical weapons and the principle of sufficiency in defence needs would provide the necessary resources for improving the life of nations.

Should this be achieved, it would be possible in the life-time of the present generations to come to grips in a practical way with the task of abolishing hunger, poverty, illiteracy and other social and economic ills.

When millions of people suffer, when they are deprived of the essentials of life, one cannot go on living as if this is not his concern.

Ending the arms race would also effectively promote the implementation of the idea of a new world economic order. It would also make it easier to solve the problem of foreign debt, which for many countries is now not only a grave economic challenge but also has political consequences.

Therefore, the problem of disarmament has many dimensions, each of them accentuating the need for its solution. But what is particularly unacceptable is replacing the race in some types of weapons with a race in other weapons. If we were to disarm in one area only to build up weapons of mass destruction in another area, that would not be disarmament but a fraud.

I am referring to the SDI which, according to world-famous experts, threatens to leave yet another enormous hole in the pockets of people in many countries. World public opinion is being told that besides being a defensive programme the SDI also stimulates the development of non-military economies and would bring about higher employment and even greater prosperity. This is not the place to engage in polemics. I would just say that the cynical proponents of this programme make no secret that with the help of the SDI they not only intend to dictate to other

countries how they should live but also want to increase their national product by impoverishing others.

May I in conclusion once again turn to Soviet-Indian relations. They rest on the reliable foundation of our Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

The Treaty has not just opened broad prospects for a steady development of mutually beneficial ties and contacts.

FAITHFUL TO COMMITMENTS

Its supreme meaning lies in the reciprocal commitment to act should a complicated situation arise for one side or both.

Such situations did arise. Both the Soviet Union and India have remained faithful to their commitments and acted in accordance with the spirit and the letter of our Treaty.

Friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Republic of India have stood the test of time. Instrumental in this have been the ties and contacts between our Parliaments, which should be further developed. I am saying this on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

"The greatest victory is one in which nobody is defeated and all can share in that victory." Jawaharlal Nehru quoted these words of Buddha in his September 1961 speech in the Kremlin. This great maxim, which was proclaimed on Indian soil more than two and a half thousand years ago, turns out to be even more relevant today. In the age of nuclear arms -365>

the only possible victory is the victory of reason. Let us jointly work for it.

Distinguished Members of Parliament, I wish you success as you apply your minds and efforts for the benefit of the Indian people and for the sake of universal peace.

Let friendship between the people of the Soviet Union and India grow further.

DIA USA ICELAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

SOVIET UNION

Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Speech in Parliament

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi's speech in Parliament on the occasion of the visit of the General Secretary of the CPSU, His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on Nov 27, 1986:

Mr. Vice-President, Mr. Speaker, General Secretary Gorbachev, Members of Parliament, Distinguished guests, we are honoured to have in our midst the great and dynamic leader of a great and friendly country. Few statesmen have caught the world's imagination in so short a time as our eminent guest. His address has given a glimpse of the man and his mission, of his vision, and of his determination to devote the vast power of the Soviet Union to the great objective of peace.

General Secretary Gorbachev is the inheritor of a great legacy: the legacy of the Great October Revolution. He is today in a hall which has integral associations with another revolution - the Indian Revolution led by Mahatma Gandhi. Our Revolution, which trod the path of nonviolence, brought down an empire and freed a people, was unique in world history. In this very chamber Jawaharlal Nehru proclaimed the advent of Independent India and dedicated it to the service of the millions who suffer. There are amongst us some who witnessed that tryst with destiny.

Even since our independence, we have borne in mind the fact that freedom, prosperity and peace are indivisible. We have laboured for India's economic development, for India's strength. At the same time we have striven for peace and co-operation throughout the world. Our policy of nonalignment is an expression of the spirit of reconciliation that animated our nonviolent struggle for freedom.

Reconciliation and peace are what the world needs today. Mahatma Gandhi observed that the record of history from the time man was a cannibal down to our time shows a steady progress towards non-violence. Science has generated undreamt of additions to power. Only the vision of peace will enable the human race to save itself from the consequences of all this power.

General Secretary Gorbachev cherishes just a vision of peace. We were heartened by his ready acceptance of the successive proposals of the Six-Nation Five-Continent Initiative for disarmament. His own proposals at Reykjavik go far beyond what we attempted. They are remarkable for their sweep and boldness. In the interest of humanity, all nuclear-weapon countries must come together in a binding compact to eliminate nuclear weapons and prevent the spread of confrontation to Outer Space.

Soviet domestic policies and initiatives are breaking fresh ground. We wish you success in your quest of peace. You personify innovation and boldness.

Your visit shows the importance that the Soviet Union attaches to friendship with India. It gives us an opportunity to demonstrate how greatly we value the friendship of your great country. It is a friendship which has supported us in our moments of anxiety and helped us in building a modern economy.

Addressing the Soviet people during his historic visit in 1955, Jawaharlal Nehru said in Moscow:

"Countries make pacts and alliances often through fear of some other country or countries. Let our coming together be because we like each other and wish to co-operate and not be-366>

cause we dislike others and wish to do them injury."

I was touched by the warmth of the Soviet people. I hope you will carry back with you the warmth and affection of the Indian people.

We thank you for your memorable address.

DIA USA ICELAND RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Speaker's Speech

The following is the speech by Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar, Speaker, Lok Sabha and president of the Indian Parliamentary Group in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986 at the meeting in honour of His Excellency Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU in the Central Hall, Parliament House, New Delhi:

Your Excellency Mr. Gorbachev, Esteemed Prime Minister, Vice-President Venkataramanji, Members of Parliament and Friends, it is with great pleasure that I rise to thank on behalf of the

Parliament and people of India and on my own behalf, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union for his inspiring address, vibrant with endearing friendliness and refreshing originality.

We in India are heirs to Mahatma Gandhi's vision of world peace based on non-violence, respect for others' ways of life and universal brotherhood. Our first Prime Minister and the architect who shaped India's world outlook, Jawaharlal Nehru translated the abiding human values for which Gandhiji lived and died, into practical aspects of foreign policy. Panchsheel, Non-Alignment, peaceful co-existence between different systems and nuclear disarmament are the firm foundations of our eternal relations.

Ever since our independence, we have in this Parliament, endeavoured to provide impulses and ideas which would promote peace, friendship and cooperation between nation States across continents and would lead to the emergence of a new pattern in international relations in Asia and in the world.

Our late Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi made weighty contributions to strengthening and consolidating the Non-aligned Movement and for shaping of an Asian identity.

CHAIRMANSHIP OF SAARC

India has just assumed the Chairmanship of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation which is a concrete expression of our common intention to pool the experience and talents of the countries of this region for bettering the lives of one of the most populated parts of the world.

The address you have just delivered is yet another confirmation that Indo-Soviet relations are founded on deep mutual common respect for the well defined principles of international relations. We welcome your understanding of Non-alignment which is a recognition that a country's independence of thought is a sound basis on which to build a similarity of approach to current international issues. Your speech shows your deep faith, Excellency, in preserving world peace, creating the necessary conditions for it, and bringing about of a new world order both political and economic, which would assure equity, justice and independence. Let me assure you, Excellency, that our distinguished Parliamentarians contribute actively through the established national and international institutions to the objectives of attaining international understanding, peace, cooperation and development.

Indo-Soviet friendship has grown from strength to strength, and as a natural corollary, this friendship has found practical -367>

expression in almost all fields of human endeavour - economic,

social and cultural, scientific and technological. Economic and technological cooperation extended by Soviet Union has helped us considerably in building up a strong industrial base and a self-reliant economy. In the realms of science and technology, the scientists of both our countries are fruitfully working together. The Indo-Soviet joint space flight on April 3, 1984 marked a great leap in the history of our common effort to reap the benefits of exploration of a new frontier, where we want peace to prevail. Our relations have stood the test of time and withstood pressures of all kinds. The Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation signed by our two countries way back in 1971 has promoted the development of the traditional friendship between our two countries in all spheres and it truly reflects our strong commitment to global peace.

INTERNATIONAL FORA

Both our peoples are of the firm conviction that in the present era the most pressing question confronting humanity is to stop the nuclear race, beginning with stopping nuclear tests and to prevent the extension of weapons to outer space. The Indian people have studied with appreciation the many imaginative proposals made by Your Excellency with a view to ridding the world of the nuclear weapon menace by the turn of the century. We also have welcomed your practical action in ordering a moratorium on nuclear weapon testing and we hope that other major nuclear weapon nations join in this significant action. As you are no doubt aware, our Parliamentarians play an active part in several international fora dedicated to bringing about a world which would be free of nuclear weapons and where outer space would be used only for peaceful purposes. These shared objectives find a resounding echo in the Declaration on a Nuclear weapon free and Non-violent world which Your Excellency and the Indian Prime Minister signed this morning.

May I take this opportunity to reiterate how happy we are to have His Excellency Mikhail S. Gorbachev in our midst and say that we look upon his visit as yet another significant step in further strengthening the ties of Indo-Soviet friendship. I also take this opportunity to request him to convey to the distinguished members of the Supreme Soviet and the great people of the USSR the friendly and fraternal greetings and good wishes of the Members of the Parliament of India.

DIA USA

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

SOVIET UNION

Speech by Mikhail S. Gorbachev at Dinner in Honour of RajivGandhi

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the dinner hosted by him in honour of Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, in New Delhi, on Nov 27, 1986:

Mr. Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, Dear Indian friends. Comrades. I warmly welcome you to the Soviet Embassy. These last three busy days flew by rapidly. Our visit is drawing to a close. Now we can already draw up a tentative balance sheet and share our views and impressions.

First of all, I would like to express our gratitude to the Government of India, and to the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, for the attention and hospitality accorded to our delegation.

We have felt like staying at the home of good, true friends. These days India has in fact, been our home. We wish it peace and prosperity!

In one of his stories Leo Tolstoy wrote: "If one sets out from the heart of Russia and heads straight to where the Sun rises in winter, walking some ten thousand miles and crossing over the highest snow mountains in the world. one will enter the land of India..." First lines from the story "Siddhartha Called Buddha." Today, it
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takes one just a few hours to make the same journey.

Scientific and technological progress has shortened distances and made mankind an interrelated community. However, it has also generated new dangers and menaces which are common to all. The main danger is that of thermo-nuclear annihilation of civilisation.

The current situation urgently requires a new approach to security issues, a new thinking in politics. Whatever differences divide the East and the West, the North and the South, there is one common human concern that is uppermost in the minds of all nations and peoples.

In the nuclear and space age, they will either survive or perish together. We must not allow anyone's imperial ambitions, nationalistic egoism, political thickheadedness, or adventurism to plunge our civilisation into the "Black Hole" of cosmic void.

WIDE-RANGING TALKS

My colleagues and I are profoundly gratified by the meetings and exchanges with India's leaders. The talks have been wide-ranging, frank, meaningful and aiming at long-term prospects.

A realistic view of present day world and its problems, mutual trust and a sincere desire to expand and deepen our co-operation have helped us to make our visions of the present and the future better known to each other.

For quite understandable reasons, we, the representatives of two great States, have given priority attention to international problems, and, among them, to that which is the main issue for all peoples and States - big or small, no matter which system they belong to, namely, how to remove the nuclear threat, terminate the arms race on earth, prevent its extension to outer space, defuse tensions and unblock conflict situations.

In this connection, an active participation of all these peoples and states in the accomplishment of that common task is predicated upon the recognition of the right of each of them to follow their chosen path of economic, social and spiritual development.

The Soviet Union and India are two major Asian States. And, therefore, it is natural that the issues related to the situation in Asia and the adjacent zones of the Indian and Pacific oceans have figured prominently in the negotiations.

Both our States, respectively, are making eforts to unravel tangles of conflict and to take the edge off military confrontation in this region, thereby helping to create prerequisites for a fruitful and free cooperation.

And I must say, in this context, that we highly value the responsible positions and concrete steps by the Indian leaders to improve the political climate in South Asia. Nothing can be a substitute for the advantages of good relations with one's neighbours.

The impressions of India are indelible. People from all over the world are fascinated by the famous iron column near Qutab Minar. For 15 centuries it has been exposed to rain and wind. But it still stands untouched by rust.

We feel that our two peoples share the wish and the aspiration not to allow the Soviet-Indian relations to be tainted by any rust, or to be ever marred by anything.

These days we have seen how good a service is rendered to our two states by the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the Soviet Union and India.

Drawing upon the experience gained and proceeding on the basis of our common desire to raise the level and broaden the framework of cooperation in all areas, we have agreed to substantially develop our economic, scientific and technical relations.

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The agreement we have signed gives formal expression to the accords reached in this regard.

We have agreed on new forms of economic contacts involving small and medium-size firms.

We have reaffirmed the great significance that the festivals to mark the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution and the 40th anniversary of the independence of India will have for Soviet-Indian friendship.

I would like to make a special mention of the Declaration Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and I have signed - and have called the Delhi Declaration.

In the Declaration we on behalf of our two peoples urge all countries and peoples to become aware of the dangers looming over the world and to do everything necessary for a radical improvement in the international situation.

We hope that our appeal will be heeded and will evoke a broad response in the world.

Mr. Prime Minister, Dear Indian friends,

May I in conclusion assure you that the Soviet Union sincerely wishes to see the friendly nation of India strong, prosperous and modern

The peace-loving and independent India may continue to count on the Soviet Union's support and understanding.

I want to thank you once again, Mr. Prime Minister, for your kind cooperation over these days. We are now looking forward to seeing you in Moscow.

I would like to wish to you, Mr. Prime Minister, to Mrs. Gandhi, and to all Indian Government and Party figures good health and every success, and to wish the great people of India progress and prosperity, stronger Soviet-Indian friendship and, of course, lasting peace.

DIA USA RUSSIA PERU

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

H.E. Mr. Gorbachev Hosts Return Banquet - Text of Shri RajivGandhi's Speech

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986 of the speech by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi at a Return Banquet hosted in his honour by His Excellency Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev here tonight (New Delhi, November 27, 1986):

Although we signed an agreement today to hold a Festival of India in the Soviet Union and a Festival of the Soviet Union in India, our people have in fact been celebrating a festival of Indo-Soviet friendship for the last three days.

You have seen, how readily the people of India have taken you and Madame Raisa Gorbacheva to their hearts. They see you and the Soviet people as friends - warm-hearted friends, - reliable friends.

Our two countries are large countries, with the widest imaginable diversity of climate, language and culture. We have each made a distinctive contribution to human civilisation, through the wisdom and achievement of our sages, our thinkers, our artists, our scientists and our statesmen. Two of the most arresting figures of this century come from our countries - Lenin and Mahatma Gandhi.

It is good for us and good for the world that a close relationship of trust and cooperation for peace has grown between us. The Joint Declaration we signed this morning embodies our two peoples' unshakeable resolve to work unceasingly for non-violence and peace.

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THEME OF OUR TALKS

Jawaharlal Nehru had made peace his passion. It is our passion today. Peace has been the theme of our talks over the last three days. I immensely value this exchange of views. I can assure this gathering that every minute we spent together, every word that was spoken, was actuated by the thought of how to make the world a more peaceable and friendlier place, how to reduce tension, how to discourage militarism.

Our wide-ranging talks have raised our bilaterial relations to a qualitatively higher level. In trade and economic relations, in science and technology, in culture and in our combind endeavour for peace, we will move forward much faster. We are determined to stretch to the full our vast potential for mutually beneficial cooperation. We shall cooperate in new ways. We shall ensure that bureaucratic constraints and rigid attitudes do not retard the momentum of growth. We begin a new chapter in our long story of co-operation, a chapter that will bring happiness and fulfilment of millions.

You rightly remarked yesterday that 24 hours are not enough for the work before us. A billion people who live in India and the Soviet Union strive for peace - for themselves and for entire humanity. All nations aspire for stability and greater cooperation. Freedom from fear and from want is a universal need.

We are deeply honoured and delighted to have you in our land. This visit of yours has been devoted almost entirely to talks. The people of India and I look forward to the pleasure of having you again to see something of India.

I wish you and Madame Gorbacheva good health and success. I wish peace, progress and prosperity for the great Soviet people. Let Indo-Soviet friendship prosper and serve the greater cause of world peace.

DIA PERU USA

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Speech by Mikhail S. Gorbachev at the House of Soviet Science, Culture and Art

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the meeting with the Activists of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society and "Friends of the Soviet Union" Society, at the Soviet House of Science, Culture and Art on Nov 27, 1986:

Dear friends, all of us from the Soviet Union who are present here are deeply moved by this meeting with you. Our people know well how much you have done to develop and strengthen the ties of friendship and affection between our peoples, which have now become unbreakable. I thank you for your kind welcome and for the joyful atmosphere in this meeting.

For Soviet people India is a land of ancient culture and rich spiritual life, which has given the world many great and inspiring ideas. The deep interest towards India, the sentiments of affection and friendliness are part of our people's historical memory.

And, I would say, that is quite appropriate and natural. The bonds that unite us span many centuries and long distances. You may have heard of Afanasy Nikitin, a Russian who travelled to India as early as in the 15th century. Our famous historian and writer Nikolai Karamzin, who early in the last century discovered the diary of Nikitin's travels of India, wrote: ". . . At a time when Vasco da Gama was just contemplating the possibility of finding a way from Africa to Hindustan, our man from the town of Tver was already on the Malabar Coast."

Our relations are deeply rooted in history. However, the 20th century has revealed a new important feature in the -371>

affinity between Russia and India. The Great October of 1917 and India's independence played a crucial role in this.

CHAMPIONS OF FREEDOM

The initial Soviet-Indian ties of the new era were formed in the common struggle against imperialism and colonialism. At their source stood the champions of India's freedom and her national leaders, who hailed the victory of the October Revolution. At their source also stood Lenin.

The young revolutionary Russia made its policy choice once and for all, resolving to support the people in their efforts to combat imperialist oppression and in their pursuit of independence and national and social renaissance.

The Soviet people welcomed India's independence and statehood. They stood behind India when it began the arduous and great work to rid itself of the consequences of colonial rule. They supported India when it firmly resisted the attempts to infringe on its sovereignty and to make it abandon its independent foreign policy of peace.

We also worked together when India was laying the foundations of its own national economy.

SYMBOLS OF FRIENDSHIP

The fruits of our economic, scientific and technical cooperation

are there for everyone to see and our joint projects have become symbols of Soviet-Indian friendship.

And, of course, we are profoundly gratified to see that today, in the efforts now under way to prevent nuclear war and ensure the survival of mankind the Soviet Union and India are making their indispensable, major contribution to this noble cause.

In the rich fabric of our relationship sealed by the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, summit meetings are a crucial element and a long-established tradition. Soviet people, both old and young, recall the visits to the Soviet Union of Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. Our predecessors worked together to build Soviet-Indian friendship. It is due to their wisdom and far-sightedness that the first stones were laid in the foundation of this building of Soviet-Indian friendship and fruitful cooperation.

The Soviet people will never forget the contribution Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi made to this historic endeavour. Yesterday we have visited the memorials associated with India's outstanding personalities.

PRECIOUS CAUSE

Rajiv Gandhi and I have taken over from the statesmen of that generation to carry on their precious cause, to build on and give new substance to what was achieved over the decades. Our relations with the leader of today's India are sincere and trustful. The nature and content of our dialogue are determined by the level of our responsibility to our peoples and by the complexity of the problems of world development.

New important documents have been signed following the Soviet-Indian talks held over these days. They will be published and you will be able to read and analyse them. But the main point is this: we were talking as friends - frankly, sincerely, instantly understanding each other. The dialogue with your Prime Minister is always an enriching experience, reassuring that Indo-Soviet relations are in reliable hands. We have emphasised once again that the 1971 Treaty is fully consistent with the national interest of both countries and serves as an instrument of peace and stability in Asia - and beyond it. It is an example of how relations in the entire Asian-Pacific region could be developed. We have noted with satisfaction that our economic, scientific and technical cooperation is going ahead in a dynamic manner. It is mutually bene-

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ficial, it is steadily expanding and diversifying. Its prospects are favourable.

Spiritual ties between our two peoples will also expand. I have

in mind, in particular, the forthcoming Cultural Festivals - the Festival of India Culture in the USSR and the Festival of Soviet Culture in India, dedicated to the 40th anniversary of India's independence and the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution and the formation of the Soviet State.

We have discussed with Rajiv Gandhi and other Indian leaders a broad range of major international problems. We have seen once again that we have much in common in our attitudes towards those problems and in the search for their solution. The fundamental importance of the fact that the Soviet Union, a socialist State, and India, one of the founders of the Non-aligned Movement, have such a high degree of mutual understanding and trust can hardly be overestimated.

What does that fact imply for us, for the whole world, and for the future? It implies that by virtue of their example our two countries promote the principles of peaceful coexistence, pave the way to international security, resist the tendencies that may result in a nuclear catastrophe and demonstrate that it is indeed possible to counter imperial claims and ambitions and to thwart the selfish neo-globalist schemes. The high degree of interaction between the USSR and India makes for greater potential of the forces of peace and for a more secure future in the world.

Today, no international task is more important or more urgent than that of abolishing the nuclear danger.

We are not idealists. We understand that the obstacles we will have to overcome are truly enormous. At the same time, we firmly believe that this is a realistic goal, that it can be attained. It is in this that we see the significance of the Reykjavik meeting.

FAR-REACHING PROPOSALS

We brought to Reykjavik new, farreaching proposals. At the very first session with the US President we put before him the entire package - and I emphasise this, the entire integral package of inter-related measures concerning strategic arms, medium-range missiles, the ABM Treaty and nuclear testing. The same day, the text of those proposals, translated into English, was handed over to the US side. They formed the basis for the negotiations.

We reached agreement on the 50 per cent reduction of all strategic offensive nuclear arms within five years, that is by 1991, as well as on their total elimination in the subsequent 5 years. As you of course understand, this would be a tremendous achievement in the main area of the entire process of disarmament.

Within the package we proposed, we made some very important concessions. We agreed not to include American medium-range missiles in the category of strategic arms, although they can reach our territory, as well as the US forward-based forces. With respect to medium-range missiles, we accepted "the zero option" that calls for the elimination of American and Soviet missiles in Europe, without regard for the nuclear arsenals of Britain and France. Agreement was reached on limiting to a very low level the medium-range missiles to be retained in the Asian part of the Soviet Union and in the US territory.

It was not easy for us to decide to make such major concessions. But we were guided by an honest desire to break the deadlock at the Geneva negotiations, to pull them out of the quagmire of endless and sterile arithmetic with all those limits, sub-limits, levels and sub-levels in which the negotiators themselves have bogged down.

I will say without any exaggeration that our new, simple and easily understandable proposals opened the way to -373>

agreement. Unfortunately, everything stumbled on the SDI or, to be more precise, on the unwillingness of the US Administration to accept our proposal on strengthening the ABM Treaty, instead of undermining it. I may recall that we proposed that both sides assume a mutual obligation to observe it strictly for a period of ten years required to eliminate nuclear arms, so that during that period SDI related activities should not go beyond laboratory research and testing. And then, following that ten-year period, the entire problem would have been considered in negotiations to decide what to do next.

ATTITUDE TOWARDS SDI

I have had more than one occasion to describe our attitude towards the SDI. A few days ago, I explained to your journalists why we regard that programme and nuclear disarmament as incompatible. Nevertheless, the issue is so important that I feel I have to address it in my remarks to you.

We have no doubt that the SDI is a manifestation of the fallacious concept of power politics. However, the arrogance of power is known to result inevitably in political sterility. Indeed, those who rely on power politics are reluctant to seek solutions to complicated problems, are totally opposed to compromises and are unwilling to treat seriously their partners' interests.

The SDI as a concept is fundamentally inhumane and anti-human. It is the main obstacle to disarmament. If implemented, it would extend the arms race to a new sphere, initiating another spiral in the arms race, with extremely dangerous and unpredictable consequences. It would destabilise the military strategic situation. It undermines trust in international relations.

diminishing rather than enhancing security, including that of the United States itself. The SDI frustrates efforts to improve the situation in the world. It is a destructive policy.

Many people everywhere are legitimately wondering why, by virtue of what right, should the whole world be held hostage to the SDI.

Of all militaristic projects, the SDI is the most voracious monster. One may ask where will the United States, with its 2-trillion dollar national debt, obtain the resources to finance it. From the pocketbooks of ordinary Americans - but not only there. In the final analysis, both Western Europe and the developing countries would have to foot the bill for that wasteful programme to the tune of hundreds of billions of dollars. This is intolerable.

The SDI is the reason why the meeting in Reykjavik failed to live up to the expectations of the world public. However, we have enough political will, perseverance and patience to continue to seek far-reaching, radical agreements on the reduction and elimination of nuclear arms. But the agreements we have in mind must ensure mutual stability and equivalent security.

Let me now address the subject of regional problems and conflicts. All of us are now witnessing the emergence on the national and international arenas of hundreds of millions of people, with their own identities, diverse interests and abilities, different historic and spiritual backgrounds, their own merits and flaws.

Having won political independence, the peoples naturally want to strengthen their economic independence as well and to place under their control the resources they possess. This, however, strikes at the interests of those who have for decades profited from exploiting the others, of those who would not accept that times have changed.

Therein lies the root and the principal cause of the so-called regional problems.

We gave this problem much thought prior to the 27th Congress of the CPSU -374>

and set forth our views in the Political Report. Basic to them is the respect for every people's right to independent economic and political choice. This is a matter of principle. Either this or chaos in international relations.

We do not conceal what our positions are and where our sympathies lie. We - the Soviet Union and the countries of the Socialist community - are on the side of the peoples and nations that defend their right to independent, sovereign and equitable participation in world politics and in world affairs.

PATH TO BETTER FUTURE

It is my conviction, and this is what our philosophy teaches us, that every people will itself ultimately find and pursue its own path to a better future, even if it has to overcome decades of resistance. The peoples themselves will decide how to live, what to learn from other peoples and what to reject, how to use the experience of, and generally how to build relations with, other nations. Huge, tremendous and dramatic difficulties exist now, and are bound to arise, along this path of independence and progress. There will be conflicts, even armed conflicts, as we see even now. There may be - and there are - reverses, delays and dead ends; this is also reality. However, they can and will be overcome. Social and political forms consistent with national conditions are evolving or will be found, as well as the parties, organisations and leaders capable of discerning what people need, reckoning with their will and living up to their hopes.

But there is one central point that bears repeating: There should be no interference with the peoples' right to choose their own way, to search for, test and uphold their chosen goals and their options.

And what do we see now? Let us put things bluntly, and I am going to do so here. Imperialist is doing everything to impede this process. It is for this purpose that the concept of neo-globalism has been devised. In fact, it epitomises the policy of modern colonialism and militarism, which relies on the activities of transnational corporations - its prime movers. What is more, it is a policy that stops at nothing. It pits some nations against others, fuels emerging conflicts and launches military actions and acts of state terrorism against undesirable regimes. It is a policy that includes the training, arming and financing of every stripe of "Contras", separatists and terrorists, economic blockades and debt bondage, all sorts of political and ideological subversion and intrigues, interference in domestic politics and other attempts to undermine progressive regimes from within.

We are witnessing all this in Central America, in South America, in the Middle East, and in South-East and South Asia. This is also being done against the Frontline States in Southern Africa and against the small states of the Pacific and Indian Oceans. You in India are well aware of all those methods and devices. This is neo-globalism in action.

Whether the younger States succeed in developing rapidly enough, in overcoming the difficulties inherited from the past and in tackling emerging challenges depends, to a large extent, on their ability to adequately resist neo-globalism - the principal evil standing in the way of global progress. Similarly, finding a

solution to the global problem of disarmament and development hinges on this, as well as the prospects for realising the idea of a new world political order.

UN AND NAM

The United Nations, the Non-aligned Movement and regional organisations in Asia, Africa and Latin America, with their tremendous international potential, as well as other progressive groups, forums and forces capable of mobilising the peoples' civic and political energy and duty-bound to protect their rights and defend their sovereignty, should all play their role in this process.

As for the prospects of the vast developing world, we have no doubt that its -375>

capabilities are enormous and that its contribution to world development will grow inexorably. We in the Soviet Union welcome this and will continue to act on the basis of our principles.

At this meeting, it is natural that I wish to speak on the problems of Asia and the Pacific even though I have already discussed them this summer in Vladivostok.

Of course, we do not have a universal quick remedy that would rid this massive portion of humanity inhabiting a vast region of our planet of its problems. But I would guess that no one has this magic key. That is why we call upon all peoples of Asia and the Pacific to join their efforts in a search for peace, revival and prosperity.

Evidently, this work should proceed in many areas, including economic relations placed on a new basis. But the principal obstacle is the building-up of nuclear and conventional arms in the region. That growing trend is not only fraught with military and political dangers, but would also have an economic impact, with its inevitable social consequences.

We believe that a radical improvement of the situation in Asia is not just necessary - it is possible through the reduction of arms, including nuclear arms, through limitation of naval activities in the Indian and Pacific Oceans and through devising and implementing confidence-building measures. I will address this subject in a few hours speaking before your Parliament.

The peoples and governments of Asian countries have their own experience - the five principles of "Panch Sheela" and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference.

OVERALL ASIAN SECURITY

Of special importance for the overall Asian security are bilateral relations between the nations of this continent. In fact, they also provide the initial and highly effective approach to addressing international problems. The Soviet Union is prepared to cooperate on an equal footing and constructively with any state, strictly observing the principles of equality and mutual interest. It is prepared to make its contribution to the overall process. Indeed, this is the political essence of the philosophy outlined in the Vladivostok address. It is an invitation to a common quest and to equitable cooperation.

Let me also emphasise that we do not seek improved bilateral relations with anyone at the expense or to the detriment of our relations with other countries. In the context of Soviet-Indian relations, I have already said that for us they represent an important asset in their own right and that we shall not make a single step in our foreign policy that could damage India's real interests. I would like to reiterate this once again speaking here before you.

Soviet people are well aware of the efforts that the people and the Government of India have to make to defend their sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. But one thing is noteworthy in this respect. The louder India's voice in the world, the more attractive the example of its independent foreign policy which rejects imperialist diktat and interference, the higher its standing in the Non-aligned Movement, the more vicious become the attacks against it.

The Soviet Union strongly condemns all those intrigues and plots against your country as well as any attempts to undermine India's integrity and unity.

We are deeply convinced that no one will be able to call in question, let alone diminish India's real and tremendous contribution to the contemporary development of Asia and of the world civilisation.

GREAT REGARD FOR NAM

The Non-aligned Movement was among the major subjects we discussed with Rajiv Gandhi. I listened with great interest to his account of the Harare conference.

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I would like to note that we in Moscow regard this forum as an event of world significance.

We attach special importance to the fact that more than ever before the call of the Non-aligned countries to end the arms race and eliminate nuclear weapons was heard loud and clear and that those countries established a strong link between disarmament and development. In my reply to the Harare Appeal I have already had an opportunity to speak highly of that conference.

The Non-aligned Movement represents a unique force in modern times. A great deal of credit for this belongs to India and its leaders, to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

We know very well and duly appreciate that India was one of the architects of the doctrine and the policy of Non-alignment.

At this meeting, I have elaborated not only on Soviet-Indian matters but also on very important problems of international affairs. I did so intentionally, for it is my conviction and belief that friendship and links between our countries and peoples effectively serve today and will serve in the future the cause of peace and security, of preventing a nuclear catastrophe.

In conclusion I feel it is my duty to say a few words about the current concerns of the Soviet people.

Earlier this year, the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union approved a programme for a radical reorganisation in all spheres of Soviet society's life, a programme of perfecting socialism on the basis of what we achieved over 70 years and in line with the requirements of its new stage and of the scientific and technological revolution.

Perestroika - reorganisation - is the word on everyone's lips now. In the West they do not even translate that word but borrow it from the Russian using Latin letters. What is the meaning of that word?

What is the meaning of our reorganisation if one is to put it in the most simple terms?

We want every Soviet citizen to feel more strongly that he is in charge everywhere - at the factory, in the office, in his town, settlement, village, region and republic, to feel that he is in charge of the country. It is for this that the Revolution was made, it is for this that people fought for Socialism and defended it in pitched battles.

We want our economy to function more productively, more efficiently. This is necessary in order to meet fully people's reasonable needs in housing, food, clothing and footwear, in various services, leisure and education facilities, to satisfy cultural needs - in a word, in all that modern man, his family and his children, need to live a full life.

Of course, this is a formidable challenge. Hence, our efforts to bring about a broad democratisation of Soviet society: the people must know everything, they must participate consciously and voluntarily in all the affairs of society and the State. Hence, strict enforcement of social justice and of the principle "from everyone according to his ability, to everyone according to the work he has put in" - you get as much as you have earned.

Generally speaking, we want to tap the potentialities of our socialist system, the tremendous potential of socialism, for the benefit of Soviet man. For socialism puts man, the working man, above all.

In brief, this is the meaning of the Russian, Soviet words "perestroika", "uskorenie" (acceleration).

Before saying good-bye, I would like to wish all those present here, those who give the concept of Soviet-Indian friendship concrete, substantive, comprehensive -377>

and rich meaning, those who dedicate all their energy, intellect and the warmth of their hearts to the strengthening of this friendship, and through them to wish all Indians - from the snow-covered foothills of the Himalayas to the ever green fields of Kanyakumari, from the scorched sands of Rajasthan to the Bay of Bengal - to wish the entire people of the great friendly India happiness and every success. And, in the first place, to wish you peace.

A INDIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ICELAND FRANCE SWITZERLAND INDONESIA ZIMBABWE

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Dinner in Honour of Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR -Shri N. D. Tiwari's Speech

The following is the text of the speech by Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Minister for External Affairs at the dinner in honour of His Excellency Mr. E. Shevardnadze, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Nov 26, 1986 at New Delhi:

Excellencies, Mr. Shevardnadze, Mr. Dobrynin, Mr. Kamentsev, Mr. Vorontsov, distinguished Soviet and Indian guests and friends, I have great pleasure to once again greet His Excellency Mr. Shevardnadze and other senior and distinguished colleagues from the Soviet Union. I welcome this opportunity to receive you in

Delhi so soon after our recent meetings at Moscow. I venture to add the hope that in these few days in Delhi our initial acquaintance would mature into close personal friendship.

This is the second time that I have the pleasure of meeting His Excellency Mr. Dobrynin who as we all know is one of the most distinguished diplomats on the international stage today. It was a treat to hear him and discuss matters of mutual interest with him in Moscow.

I would also like to greet His Excellency Mr. Kamentsev, my distinguished colleague as co-chairman in the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission. We trust that all our Soviet friends will carry back pleasant memories of the affection and regard that we Indians have for the Soviet Union, its leaders and its people.

We have had very useful, friendly and cordial discussions on a wide range of issues since yesterday. These discussions have taken place in an atmosphere of warmth and understanding and fully reflect the personal relations of trust and confidence which our two leaders have so happily established. Their further conversations, during His Excellency Mr. Gorbachev's current visit to Delhi, is yet another major building block in the growing structure of Indo-Soviet relations.

The strength of Indo-Soviet relations derives from identical or similar assessments of complex world issues and is based on profound mutual respect for well-known principles and a mutuality of interests. Our friendship, which is not directed against any third country, is firm and steady which is in itself a valuable contribution to the maintenance of global peace, including in our region and in Asia.

The steady development of relations during the fifties and the sixties led to the signing of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation in 1971. That was a significant milestone in our relations which has raised them to a qualitatively higher level. The strength of our relationship lies in its capacity to take into account the changing realities of the world situation.

1985 has seen new leaderships emerging in both India and the Soviet Union. Both our countries have also embarked in their respective ways on modernisation programmes as we prepare to enter the 21st century. The vision of development projected by our dynamic leaders and the urgent demands of our peoples pose challenges to which both our Governments and -378>

societies must respond energetically. In this connection, the carefully prepared agreements to be reached during the present visit of the General Secretary, as was the case in 1985 when our Prime Minister visited Moscow, will undoubtedly give a

significant boost to the further strengthening of relations in all fields. They are completely in accordance with India's desire for self-reliance in which the Soviet Union has played a constructive role. We are grateful for this.

The quality of our friendship has been consolidated through many agreements in the economic and other fields. There is, however, need for refinement in the trade field so that we can, while keeping up the appreciable momentum already established, take it to new heights, which would be mutually beneficial and take account of the emerging trends in the domestic and world scene. We could considerably enhance our cooperation in frontier areas of science and technology, in order to realise the great potential in our countries, for the benefit of our two peoples.

Tomorrow our leaders will be signing a historic document followed by the signing of other important documents. They will echo around the world as a vivid testimony of our common commitment to peace, peaceful co-existence and cooperation. We can achieve this only if the threat of nuclear destruction, the build-up of nuclear arms, use of force and the idiom of force are removed once and for all. Today, Non-alignment is a growing and influential force in the world. It is a matter of satisfaction that Soviet Union has a deep understanding of this "biggest peace movement in the world", which is how our late leader Shrimati Indira Gandhi described the Non-aligned Movement.

The difficult times that we are living in demand bold and original approaches in foreign policy. We fully share the view of General Secretary Gorbachev that the nuclear age demands a new political thinking in the conduct of inter-State relations. The basic principles underlying Panch Sheel, and the Declarations of the Non-aligned Movement exemplify the contributions made by our leaders towards specific problems of peace and stability in Asia and its adjoining regions. We have carefully studied the views expressed so eloquently by General Secretary Gorbachev at Vladivostok. There is need for exchanging views and ideas within regions and between regions to evolve cooperation in diverse fields. We in South Asia are making a modest beginning through the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. An evolution of a common approach would help in the quest for the lofty objectives of peace, security and stability in Asia.

Indo-Soviet friendship is firmly rooted in the lives and hearts of the Indian people. Contacts at the people's level nourish and deepen the roots of this friendship. In this connection the holding of the Festivals of India and the Soviet Union on a massive scale in each other's country to mark the 40th anniversary of Indian independence and the 70th anniversary of your great Revolution will be outstanding events, adding richness and diversity to our relations.

In conclusion, I would like to propose a toast to the health and

happiness of General Secretary Gorbachev; to the health and happiness of Mr. Shevardnadze; to the health and happiness of Mr. Dobrynin, Mr. Kamentsev, and Mr. Vorontsov, to the health of our other Soviet guests; to the further prosperity and successes of the great Soviet people, and to growing Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation in the interests of our two peoples and for furthering the cause of world peace.

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JOINT DECLARATION

A INDIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Nov 26, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Delhi Declaration on Principles for a Nuclear-Weapon Free and Non-violent World

The following is the text of the joint declaration signed by H.E. Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986:

Today humanity stands at a crucial turning point in history. Nuclear weapons threaten to annihilate not only all that man has created through the ages, but man himself and even life on earth. In the nuclear age, humanity must evolve a new political thinking, a new concept of the world that would provide credible guarantees for humanity's survival. People want to live in a safer and a more just world. Humanity deserves a better fate than being a hostage to nuclear terror and despair. It is necessary to change the existing world situation and to build a nuclear-weapon free world, free of violence and hatred, fear and suspicion.

The world we have inherited belongs to present and future generations and this demands that primacy be given to universally accepted human values. The right of every nation and every person to life, freedom, peace and the pursuit of happiness must be recognised. The use or threat of use of force must be abandoned. The right of every people to make their own social, political and ideological choices must be respected. Policies that seek to establish the domination by some others must be renounced. The expansion of nuclear arsenals and the development of space

weapons undermine the universally accepted conviction that a nuclear war should never be fought and can never be won.

On behalf of the more than one billion men, women and children of our two friendly countries, who account for one-fifth of mankind, we call upon the peoples and leaders of all countries to take urgent action that would lead to a world free of weapons of mass destruction, a world without war.

Conscious of our common responsibility for the destinies of our two nations and of mankind, we hereby set forth the following principles for building a nuclear weapon free and non-violent world:

1. Peaceful coexistence must become the universal norm of international relations:

In the nuclear age it is necessary that international relations are restructured so that confrontation is replaced by cooperation, and conflict situations resolved through peaceful political means, not through military means.

2. Human life must be recognised as supreme:

It is only man's creative genius that makes progress and development of civilization possible in a peaceful environment.

3. Non-violence should be the basis of community life:

Philosophies and policies based on violence and intimidation, inequality and oppression, and discrimination on the basis of race, religion or colour, are immoral and impermissible. They spread intolerance, destroy man's noble aspirations and negate all human values.

4. Understanding and trust must replace fear and suspicion:

Mistrust, fear and suspicion between nations and peoples distort perceptions of the real world. They engender tensions -380>

and, in the final analysis, harm the entire international community.

5. The right of every state to political and economic independence must be recognised and respected:

A new world order must be built to ensure economic justice and equal political security for all nations. An end to the arms race is an essential prerequisite for the establishment of such an order.

6. Resources being spent on armaments must be channelled towards

social and economic development:

Only disarmament can release the enormous additional resources needed for combatting economic backwardness and poverty.

7. Conditions must be guaranteed for the individual's harmonious development:

All nations must work together to solve urgent humanitarian problems and cooperate in the areas of culture, the arts, science, education and medicine for the all-round development of the individual. A world without nuclear weapons and violence would open up vast opportunities for this.

8. Mankind's material and intellectual potential must be used to solve global problems:

Solutions must be found to global problems such as shortage of food, the growth of populations, illiteracy and environmental degradation through the efficient and appropriate uses of the resources of the Earth. The world's oceans, the ocean floor as well as outer space are the common heritage of mankind. A termination of the arms race would create better conditions for this purpose.

9. The "balance of terror" must give way to comprehensive international security:

The world is one and its security is indivisible. East and West, North and

South regardless of social systems, ideologies, religion or race must join together in a common commitment to disarmament and development.

International security can be guaranteed through the adoption of integrated measures in the field of nuclear disarmament using all available and agreed measures of verification, and confidence building; just political settlement of regional conflicts, through peaceful negotiations; and cooperation in the political, economic and humanitarian spheres.

10. A nuclear weapon free and non-violent world requires specific and immediate action for disarmament:

It can be achieved through agreements on:

- complete destruction of nuclear arsenals before the end of this century;
- barring of all weapons from outer space, which is the common heritage of mankind;
- banning of all nuclear weapons tests;
- prohibition of the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction;
- banning of chemical weapons and destruction of their

stockpiles;

- reducing the levels of conventional arms and armed forces.

Pending the elimination of nuclear weapons, India and the Soviet Union propose that an International Convention Banning the Use or Threat of use of Nuclear Weapons should be concluded immediately. This would constitute a major concrete step towards complete nuclear disarmament.

Building a nuclear-weapon free and non-violent world requires a revolutionary transformation of outlook and the education of people and nations for peace,

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mutual respect and tolerance. The propaganda of war, hatred and violence should be forbidden and hostile perceptions with regard to other nations and peoples abandoned.

Wisdom lies in preventing the accumulation and aggravation of global problems which, if not solved today, would require even greater sacrifices tomorrow.

The danger that threatens mankind is grave. But mankind has the power to prevent a catastrophe, and to pave the way to a nuclear weapon free civilisation. The gathering strength of the Coalition for Peace embracing the efforts of the Non-aligned Movement, the Six-Nation Five Continent Initiative for Peace and Disarmament, all peace-loving countries, political parties and public organisations gives us reason for hope and optimism. The time for decisive and urgent action is now.

R. Gandhi Prime Minister of the Republic of India

M. Gorbachev General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

DIA USA

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement between India and USSR

The following is the text of agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics placed by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri N. D. Tiwari, in the Parliament on Nov 27, 1986:

The Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Recalling the close and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in diverse fields of industry, economy and commerce.

Desirous of strengthening this cooperation in the interest of the peoples of both the countries and in accordance with objectives of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of August 9, 1971.

Guided by the agreement on main directions of economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the period upto 2000, dated 22 May, 1985.

Striving to further develop and strengthen economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Attaching great importance to the expansion of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries, both in existing and new areas, the Parties to this agreement have agreed to cooperate in:

- 1. The construction of Tehri Hydro Power Complex comprising:
- A Rock Fill Dam with a concrete spillway on the terms and conditions of rendering technical assistance, specified in Articles 2 & 3 of the present agreement;
- Implementation on the turnkey basis of 1000 M/W Hydro Power Plant at Tehri (4 units of 250 M/W each), 400 MW down stream plant at Koteshwar (4 units of 100 MW each) with a concrete dam, 1000 MW pump storage plant at Tehri (4 units of 250 MW each) and the power transmission system required for evacuation of power from the Hydro Power Complex.
- 2. The reconstruction and modernisation of the two converter shops along with the construction of steel continuous -382>

casting departments and modernisation of hot rolling mill 2000 at Bokaro Steel Plant on the turnkey basis.

- 3. The setting up of four underground mines (Kapuria, Mahal, Parbatpur, Kharkharee-Dharmabad) of the total annual capacity of about 8 million tons of coking coal at the Jharia coal fields on the terms and conditions of rendering technical assistance.
- 4. The intensive and integrated exploration for hydrocarbons in a mutually agreed on-shore area in West Bengal on the turnkey basis.

Provided, however, that alterations may be made in the aforesaid list of projects and or forms of cooperation by agreement between the Parties, within the framework of the credit granted under Article 5 of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 2

For the purpose of implementing the cooperation provided for in Article 1 of this Agreement, the Soviet organisations shall:

- I(a) When constructing the projects and executing other works on the turnkey basis:
- carry out necessary design and survey works, including preparation of feasibility reports, detailed projects reports and working drawings;
- deliver equipment and materials manufactured in the USSR including construction and erection machinery and equipment;
- carry out construction, erection, adjustment commissioning of the projects.

For these purposes Soviet specialists shall be sent to India in the number, for periods of stay, of specialities, and on terms and conditions to be agreed upon by the organisations of the Parties.

- employ, if necessary, Indian organisations and firms, as well as on a mutually agreed basis organisations and firms of third countries, for carrying out certain works on the basis of subcontracts, local building and other materials, lease of storage and other premises and rendering of other services.
- (b) Carrying out integrated exploration of hydrocarbon deposits on the turn key basis:
- drill exploratory wells in the required number in mutually agreed locations proposed by the Soviet organisations on the basis of the geophysical work carried out by them and analyse the data obtained;

- assess recoverable carbon reserves and design and development of reservoirs.
- II. When rendering technical assistance to Indian organisations in the construction of the Rock Fill Dam and four mines mentioned in Article I thereof:
- Carry out the required design and survey works in setting up the above mentioned mines;
- provide expertise on the Dam project Report to be prepared by the Indian organisations;
- render consultancy service to the Indian organisations in the course of their design work;
- deliver equipment, machinery and materials manufactured in the USSR, in the quantities to be agreed upon between the Indian and Soviet organisations;
- send Soviet specialists to India to exercise the designers' supervision and render consultancy services in the course of construction work, as well as assist in the erection, adjustment and putting into operation of the equipment delivered from the USSR.
- III. Prepare and deliver to Indian organisation schemes and plans of industrial and technical training of Indian citizens, so as to train technicians and skilled wor-383>

kers required for the erection, commissioning and operation of the projects.

Send to India, Soviet specialists-instructors in the number, for periods of stay, and on terms and conditions to be agreed upon with the Indian organisations, with a view to rendering assistance in the training of technicians and skilled workers in India to be employed at the projects. Such assistance shall be rendered both by training Indian citizens in the training centres to be set up with the assistance of the Soviet organisations and by on-the-job training at the projects in the course of their construction.

Receive in the USSR, Indian technicians and skilled workers in the number, of specialities and for periods of stay to be agreed upon by the organisations of the Parties, for industrial and technical training at appropriate enterprises.

The technical documentation delivered to the Indian Party shall be used only at the Indian enterprises and shall not be transferred to other countries without prior consent thereto of the Soviet organisations.

Render technical assistance to the Indian organisations in attaining the design capacities of the project after they are put into operation, by sending Soviet specialists to India in the number, of specialities, for periods of stay, and on terms and conditions to be agreed upon by the Parties, as well as delivering spare parts.

ARTICLE 3

With a view to implementing the cooperation provided for in Article 1 hereof, the Indian organisations shall:

- I. When constructing the projects and executing other works on the turnkey basis:
- submit to the Soviet organisations all necessary initial data and memoranda of instructions required for the elaboration of detailed project reports and working drawings for the projects stipulated herein, and prepare detailed project reports and working drawings of all off-site installations, including townships, access and other roads, power and water supply, sewerage, etc. necessary for the construction, as well as on-site auxiliary facilities, in the scope within the time to be agreed upon between the Indian and Soviet organisations concerned;
- put at the disposal of the Soviet organisations free of charge land plots free from any encumbrance or installations hampering the construction, as well as ensure the connection of the projects under construction to the off-site installations, where necessary.

The equipment, machinery, materials and articles left over after completion of the works may be disposed of by the Soviet organisations, sub-contractors, sub-suppliers and or taken out from India unimpeded without payment of any duties and laws of the Republic of India.

- II. When constructing and setting up the Rock-Fill Dam and four mines on the basis of technical assistance:
- carry out design, survey and research works for the Rock-Fill Dam;
- carry out all constructions and erection works, and provide all facilities and services for such works in conformity with the recommendations and technical specifications of the Soviet organisations concerned, including the construction of necessary access ways and roads to the Project within the time to be agreed upon by Indian and Soviet organisations;
- purchase in third countries certain equipment and materials not

manufactured either in India or in USSR as per specifications and in quantities to be agreed upon between the Indian and Soviet organisations concerned. The Soviet organisations shall inform the Indian organisations concerned of such cases in good time; -284>

- be responsible for all technical solutions stipuated in the project reports to be prepared by Indian organisations.
- III. Purchase, if necessary, licences for technological processes and equipment. The Soviet organisations shall inform the Indian organisations concerned of such cases in good time.

Pay Income-tax, leviable in India on Soviet juristic and physical persons as well as customs duties on equipment, machinery and materials imported into India under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4

The Indian and Soviet parties, when implementing the present Agreement, shall promote the maximum possible participation of Indian organisations in the execution of design works, and in deliveries of equipment and materials of the construction of projects and works stipuated in this Agreement.

The volumes of supplies of equipment and materials as well as design works to be carried out by the Indian and Soviet organisations shall be determined in the relevant contracts.

ARTICLE 5

With a view to implementing the cooperation in the construction of projects and execution of works stipulated in Article 1 hereof, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall extend to the Government of the Republic of India a credit to the amount of upto 1200 million Roubles at 2.5 per cent interest per annum.

The said credit shall be used by the Government of India for the payment of;

- design and survey works carried out by the Soviet organisations as well as technical documents required for the operation of projects stipulated in this Agreement;
- equipment, machinery, spare parts (as per the norms of the USSR manufacturing plants to be used in the guarantee period of operation) and materials delivered from the USSR, on the terms of c.i.f. Indian ports when shipped by Soviet vessels and f.o.b. Soviet ports when shipped by Indian vessels. The prices for equipment, machinery and materials shall be fixed by the relevant Indian and Soviet organisations in the course of mutual negotiations of the contracts on the basis of world market

prices;

- expenses incurred in connection with the upkeep of Indian citizens in the USSR, sent for industrial and technical training at the respective Soviet enterprises;
- Soviet equipment, materials, facilities and services required for fulfilling the obligations of Soviet organisations on the turnkey basis, stipulated by the present Agreement, except such expenses of Soviet organisations in India, as may be agreed upon between the concerned organisation of the two parties to be paid in Indian rupees.

ARTICLE 6

The Government of India shall repay the credit extended under this Agreement in accordance with the following procedure:

The amounts of the credit utilised for each project shall be repaid within 17 years in equal annual instalments. The first instalment shall be paid in three years after the year of utilisation of the corresponding portion of the credit.

Interest on the credit shall accrue from the date of the utilisation of the corresponding portion of the credit, and shall be paid within the first quarter of each year, following the year of their accruing, while the last instalment shall be paid simultaneously with the last instalment payment of the principal debt

The date of credit utilisation shall be considered:

- for payment of equipment, machinery and materials the forty-fifth day from the date of the Bill of Lading; -385>
- for payment of design and survey works as well as other expenses on account of the credit the last day of each quarter within which these expenses were incurred.

ARTICLE 7

Repayment of the credit and payment of interest accured thereon shall be effected in Indian Rupees to Special Account No. 2 opened with the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, in the name of the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR.

For this purpose the conversion of roubles into Indian rupees shall be effected in accordance with the Indo-Soviet Protocol of November 25, 1978 on the Establishment of the Exchange Rate between rouble and Indian rupee.

Amounts received at the said account can be utilised by the

Soviet organisations for purchase in India of the goods on the terms and conditions of the Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement in force and or can be converted into US Dollars.

ARTICLE 8

The Ministry of Finance of India, on behalf of the Government of Republic of India and the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR, on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in the shortest period possible but in any case before the commencement of deliveries or execution of design works as well as preparation of technical documents required for setting up the projects stipulated in Article 1 of this Agreement, shall establish the technical procedures relating to payments out of the credit granted under this Agreement, shall open special credit accounts in roubles for keeping records of the utilisation of the credit and settlement of accounts towards repayment of the principal debt and payment of interest under the credit.

ARTICLE 9

For financing a part of local expenses connected with construction of the "Tehri"

Hydro Power Complex the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall extend to the Government of the Republic of India a credit in the amount of upto 300 million roubles bearing 1.5 per cent interest per annum over and above the rate against 91 days Treasury Bills of the Government of India.

The credit shall be extended out of the repayments of the Soviet credits in Indian rupees available in the Central Account of Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR with the Reserve Bank of India.

Utilisation of the credit shall be accomplished by remitting the amounts from the Central Account to the Special Credit Account in Roubles to be opened by the Banks of the Parties in order to keep records of utilisation, repayment and accrual of interest.

The amounts to be utilised from the credit shall be specified annually as agreed upon by the organisations of the Parties based on the planned scopes of the works.

The date of remitting the amounts from the Central Account to the Special Credit Account shall be considered as the date of utilisation of the credit.

The interest on the credit shall accrue in roubles once in a quarter as from the date of utilisation of the credit. The Government of the Republic of India shall repay the accrued interest by remitting the amounts in Indian rupees to the Central Account not later than on the 15th of the month following the

quarter, for which the interest in accrued.

The Government of the Republic of India shall commence repayment of the credit utilised in accordance with this Article in five equal annual instalments commencing from the year of commissioning of the first hydro unit, but not later than January 1, 1994.

Repayment of the credit shall be effected by the Indian Side by remitting -386>

the amounts in Indian rupees to the Central Account.

The conversion of India rupees into roubles during utilisation and roubles into Indian rupees during repayment shall be effected in accordance with the Indo-Soviet Protocol of November 25, 1978 on the Establishment of the Exchange Rate between rouble and Indian rupee.

The amounts received in the Central Account can be utilised by Soviet organisations for purchase in India of the goods on the terms and conditions of the Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement in force.

The Ministry of Finance of India and the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR shall establish the technical procedure for keeping the Special Credit Account and settlements under the credit.

ARTICLE 10

The Government of India shall reimburse the Soviet party for the expenses of Soviet organisations for deputation of Soviet specialists to India (monthly rates of reimbursement for services, life insurance expenses and transfer allowance) at the rates and on the terms and conditions stipulated in the Inter-Governmental Letters of Exchange dated the 29th March, 1984 and such subsequent Inter-Governmental Letters of Exchange that may be concluded between the two Parties.

ARTICLE 11

The Soviet organisations shall guarantee the following:

- 1. The detailed project reports prepared by them for enterprises and projects will conform to the production capacities stipulated in the present Agreement or which may be determined by mutual agreement of the Parties.
- 2. The equipment supplied by Soviet organisations shall be in conformity with project reports for the enterprises and projects provided for by this Agreement.
- 3. The performance of the plants, machinery, and equipment shall

be in accordance with their stated capacities and efficiencies.

The periods of guarantees, the order of their fulfilment and other terms and conditions will be stipulated in the contracts to be concluded separately in respect of each enterprise and project under the present Agreement.

Should the guarantee not be fulfilled in accordance with the accepted detailed project reports and the contracts for the supply of plants, machinery and equipment to the satisfaction of the Indian authorities, the Soviet organisations will undertake at their own expense to rectify the defects or to replace such plants, machinery and equipment as may be found unsatisfactory or alternatively will reimburse to the Indian authorities the cost of such rectification or replacement as the case may be.

ARTICLE 12

The Government of the Republic of India shall ensure the implementation by respective Indian organisations of all measures required for:

- a) necessary recruitment and training of all technical personnel;
- b) arranging supplies of raw materials, semi-finished products, power and creation of other necessary conditions;
- c) marketing of finished products so that the projects established in accordance with this Agreement could be commissioned and reach their complete design capacities and other rates of production of efficiency provided for in design documents in conformity with time limits agreed upon in each case.

ARTICLE 13

The conditions of executing obligations by Soviet organisations under this -387>

Agreement shall be determined in relevant contracts to be concluded between the competent Indian and Soviet organisations.

Contracts for implementation of the projects both on the turnkey basis and on the basis of technical assistance shall be concluded, ordinarily, within a period of upto 3 months from the date of presentation of relevant proposals by the Soviet organisations.

Defined in the contracts shall be volumes, time limits, prices, advance payments, and other detailed terms and conditions of cooperation provided for herein. Besides, determined in the contracts shall be obligations of Indian organisations for

accommodating Soviet specialists in premises with necessary public utilities, medical service, transport facilities for business trips as well as specific time limits for fulfilling these obligations.

ARTICLE 14

If the implementation of this Agreement is suspended for some period of time by wars, hostilities, embargo, blockades or any other cause beyond the control of any of the parties, the representatives of the Government of India and USSR Government shall immediately consult each other and agree upon the measures to be taken.

If such agreement cannot be reached within an acceptable period of time, the Indian organisations may complete the designing and construction of projects and the execution of other works in the manner which may be considered necessary, but even in such a case the rights and obligations of the parties arising from the present Agreement shall remain in force.

ARTICLE 15

In case of any dispute arising between the Indian organisations and the Soviet organisations on any matter arising from this Agreement or connected with its implementation, the representatives of the Government of India and the USSR Government shall consult each other and make efforts to reach mutual settlement.

ARTICLE 16

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signing.

Done in New Delhi, November 27, 1986 in two originals each in the Hindi, Russian and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic, the English text being the operative one.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Note on Consular Convention Between India and the USSR

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 27, 1986 on the note on consular convention between India and the USSR:

A consular convention between India and USSR was signed today, 27 November, 1986 at 10 A.M. in New Delhi by Shri N. D. Tiwari, Foreign Minister of India and Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, Foreign Minister of U.S.S.R. The signing took place in the presence of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Mr. M. Gorbachev, General Secretary of CPSU.

The Consular Convention covers the following functions:

- i) The mode of opening consular establishment and appointment of members of the consular establishments.
- ii) Acquisition of land property for the consular establishments. -388>
- iii) Privileges and immunities to be enjoyed by the Head of the consular establishment and other Consular Officers.
- iv) Tax exemption etc. for consular establishments and Consular Officers.
- v) Types of consular functions that can be performed.
- vi) Assistance to ships and aircraft of the sending State within the territorial jurisdiction of the receiving state.

The Convention will enter into force on the 30th day after exchange of instruments of ratification by the two contracting parties. It will remain in force for a period of 5 years and will be extendable for another five years.

The Convention reflects the warm friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union. It will help strengthen the commercial and cultural relations between the two countries. India proposes to open two new Consulates in the Soviet Union in the near future, one in Tashkent and the second in Nakhodka.

Consular relations among different nations are normally conducted in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 1963. About 117 countries, including India, are parties to this Convention. India acceded to the Vienna Convention on 28 November 1977. The Soviet Union and several East European countries have not joined this Convention.

In order to regulate consular relations between India and USSR, a bilateral Consular Convention was signed by the two countries on 29 November 1973. This was to be in force for a period of five years from the date of its ratification and further extendable

for an additional period of 5 years on mutual agreement. This Convention finally expired on 30 July 1986 but has been kept in operation through exchange of Notes Verbale between the Governments of India and the USSR, until the signing and ratification of a new Convention.

India has signed bilateral Consular Conventions with two other East European countries viz. the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia. The Soviet Union has also entered into similar conventions bilaterally with a number of countries including USA, UK, China, etc.

DIA USA UZBEKISTAN AUSTRIA NORWAY SLOVAKIA CHINA UNITED KINGDOM

Date: Nov 27, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Joint Statement

The following is the text of the Indo-Soviet joint statement released in New Delhi on Nov 28, 1986:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Government of India, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev paid an official friendly visit to India from November 25 to 28, 1986.

The distinguished Soviet guest and the persons accompanying him were accorded a cordial welcome testifying to the feelings of sincere friendship and regard of the people of India for the people and leadership of the USSR.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev called on the President of the Republic of India, Giani Zail Singh and had a friendly discussion with him.

Talks were held between the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, in which the participants were:

From the Indian Side:

1) Shri N. D. Tiwari, Minister of External Affairs,

- 2) Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Human Resource Development, -389>
- 3) Shri V. P. Singh, Minister of Finance,
- 4) Shri K. C. Pant, Minister of Steel & Mines,
- 5) Shri T. N. Kaul, Ambassador of India to the USSR,
- 6) Shri K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs,
- 7) Shri Arun Singh, Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence,
- 8) Shrimati Sarla Grewal, Secretary to the Prime Minister,
- 9) Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, Foreign Secretary,
- 10) Shri H. Y. Sharada Prasad, Information Adviser to the Prime Minister,
- 11) Shri G. K. Arora, Additional Secretary to the Prime Minister,
- 12) Shri C. V. Ranganathan, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Moscow,
- 13) Shri Y. M. Tiwari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs,
- 14) Shri R. Sen, Joint Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, and other senior officials.

From the Soviet Side:

- 1) Mr. Eduard A. Shevardnadze, Minister for Foreign Affairs,
- 2) Mr. Anatoly F. Dobrynin, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee,
- 3) Mr. Vladimir M. Kamentsev, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR,
- 4) Mr. Yuly M. Vorontsov, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs,
- 5) Mr. Sergey F. Akhromeev, Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, First Deputy Defence Minister & Marshal of the Soviet Union,
- 6) Mr. Anatoly S. Chernyaev, Assistant of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee,
- 7) Mr. Vassily N. Rykov, Ambassador of the Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics to India,

8) Mr. Anatoly I. Valkov, Head of South Asia Division, USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other senior officials.

Mr. M. S. Gorbachev had, in addition, separate discussions with Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU received the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India.

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev, addressed the Members of the Indian Parliament who listened to him with great interest and attention.

All the meetings and discussions were held in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding.

During his stay in New Delhi, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev paid homage to the memory of outstanding leaders of India, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi by laying a wreath at Rajghat and visiting the Nehru Memorial Museum and the Indira Gandhi Memorial

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The meetings covered a wide range of issues concerning Indo-Soviet . bilateral relations and perspectives of their further comprehensive development. Both sides expressed their profound happiness at the relations of close friendship and wideranging cooperation between India and the Soviet Union which are characterised by mutual respect, warmth, and trust between the peoples and leaders of the two countries.

STABLE AND HIGH LEVEL RELATIONS

Stable and high level relations in the political field are complemented by wide, -390>

deep, multi-faceted and mutually beneficial cooperation in economic, commercial, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields, Relations between India and the USSR are a model of peaceful co-existence between States with differing socio economic systems based on the principles of equality, mutual respect, strict observance of sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation constitute a factor of peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world.

Both sides noted with deep satisfaction the successful passage of over fifteen years of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between India and the USSR, which symbolizes the strong bonds of friendship between their Governments and peoples. The Treaty contributes significantly in all spheres towards strengthening and deepening their mutual trust and confidence in the context of the changing world situation and characterises their common commitment to international peace and cooperation.

Both sides highly assessed the dynamic development of mutually advantageous economic, commercial, scientific and technological cooperation between India and the USSR on a planned and long-term basis. The Agreement on Basic Directions of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technological Cooperation for the period upto the year 2000, as well as the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation signed on 22nd May, 1985 have enriched their cooperation with new form and content and have further strengthened their ties.

SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS

Noting the significant progress made by the organisations of the two countries in implementing these agreements, both sides emphasised the need for timely fulfilment of mutual obligations and identifying further possibilities for expanding industrial, scientific and technological cooperation.

Determined to sustain and enhance mutually beneficial ties the two sides. signed a new Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation in New Delhi under which the Soviet Union has agreed to render assistance to India in the following projects: (i) construction of the Tehri Hydro Power Complex, (ii) reconstruction and modernisation at Bokaro Steel Plant, (iii) the setting up of four underground coking coal mines in the Jharia coal field, and (iv) intensive and integrated on-shore exploration for hydrocarbons in West Bengal.

Both sides expressed their desire for growth and improvement of Indo-Soviet trade, for further increasing its effectiveness, for diversifying its structure and expanding the range of commodities exchanged by making use of all existing opportunities. Implementation of the new longterm trade agreement for 1986-1990 which envisages continuation of the high momentum of growth of bilateral trade, will help achieve these goals.

MOMENTUM

India and the USSR attach an ever growing importance to the further strengthening of bilateral scientific and technological ties in order to impart the necessary momentum for accelerating the development of their economies for the prosperity and well-being of their two peoples. The two sides believe that there exists a sound basis for dynamic, long-term cooperation till the end of this millenium and beyond, particularly in frontier technologies. They expressed their determination to take

effective measures to realize this objective.

MULTI-FACETED COOPERATION

The two sides positively assessed the role of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation in laying down guidelines for developing multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries. They expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the tenth session of the Joint Commission held in New Delhi in April, 1986.

India and the USSR expressed their determination to continue to develop and strengthen cooperation in the fields of culture, health, education, mass media, tourism and to intensify ties in sports.

FORTHCOMING FESTIVALS

The two sides stressed that the forthcoming Festivals of India in the USSR and of the USSR in India to be held in 1987-1988 have a major role to play in the development of Indo-Soviet relations, and in further strengthening understanding and friendship between their countries and peoples. Conscious of the special significance of these events, the two sides agreed that the Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. Mikhail S. Gorbachev, would be the Honorary Chairman of the respective National Organising Committee of the Festivals in their countries.

The two sides expressed the hope that the new Indo-Soviet Consular Convention would facilitate further development of relations between the two States.

The Indian side expressed its appreciation of the role of the Soviet Union in strengthening the economy and in accelerating the scientific and technological progress in India which is aimed at self-reliance. The Soviet side emphasised that the the USSR is pursuing a consistent policy of developing cooperation with peace-loving and independent India in all areas.

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An extensive exchange of views on a wide range of international issues once again demonstrated the coincidence or similarity in the positions of India and the USSR on major world issues.

RENUNCIATION OF USE OF FORCE

The two sides reiterated their conviction that relations between all States should be based on such universally recognised and fundamental principles as renunciation of the threat or use of force, mutual respect for sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and noninterference in internal affairs. Disputes between States should be resolved through peaceful means.

India and the Soviet Union are of the firm conviction that the most important objective facing mankind today is to strengthen peace and remove the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

Proceeding from this conviction and determined to contribute towards the realization of this great objective, the Prime Minister of India and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU signed the Delhi Declaration on Principles For a Nuclear Weapon Free and Non-Violent World. The two leaders commend it to all nations of the world and urge them to do their utmost in the interests of nuclear disarmament and universal peace.

The two sides expressed grave concern over the deterioration in the international situation, continuing escalation of the arms race, specially in nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, the growing danger of it being extended to outer space, as well as the persistence of existing hotbeds of tension and emergence of new ones. They are convinced that all States, irrespective of their size and regardless of differences in their socio-economic systems have a role to play in the search for realistic solutions that would halt and reverse the nuclear arms race and reduce tensions in the world.

The Soviet side drew attention to its programme of complete phased elimination of nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction by the end of this century. The Indian side welcomed this major initiative. In accordance with the Delhi Declaration signed by the leaders of the two countries, both sides called for an early conclusion of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

IMPORTANCE OF FREEZE

The two sides stressed the importance of a freeze on nuclear arsenals on a global -392>

basis beginning from a specific date and under effective verification. This should be followed by substantial reduction in nuclear arsenals. 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 annihilation.

India and the USSR supported immediate suspension of all nuclear weapon tests and the speedy conclusion of a Treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests. The Indian side positively noted the Soviet Union's readiness to sign

such a Treaty at any time and at a place and welcomed the unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing till 1987 by the Soviet Union.

India and the USSR considered important in this context initiatives taken by the Heads of State or Government of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Sweden and Tanzania which are aimed at the termination of production and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, prevention of an arms race in outer space and the cessation of all nuclear testing, and making the Soviet unilateral moratorium at least a bilateral one.

POLITICAL WILL.

The two sides are convinced that given political will, the elaboration of a reliable system of verification of the cessation of nuclear testing does not present any serious difficulties. Such a system could be based in particular on the recommendations of the Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Nonaligned Countries at Harare and the relevant proposals by the countries participants in the Six Nation Initiative.

The Soviet side informed the Indian side about the outcome of the Soviet-American meetings at the highest level in Reykjavik where proposals aimed at complete liquidation of nuclear weapons were put forward by the Soviet Union. These proposals remain on the table. India and the USSR were of the opinion that the

experience of the Reykjavik Summit demonstrated that given a constructive and realistic approach, far reaching agreements for nuclear disarmament could be achieved.

The two sides called for transfer of resources, currently directed to military expenditures, to meet the needs of socioeconomic development. A part of the funds which will be released in the process of disarmament should be channelled towards rendering assistance to developing countries.

India and the Soviet Union emphasized the necessity for early elimination of hotbeds of tensions in the world and the prevention of emergence of new ones. They believed that given goodwill acceptable solutions can be found on the basis of principles such as respect for sovereignty and independence of nations, and right of peoples to independent choice of ways of development. To this end the two sides are prepared to make their contribution towards the peaceful settlement of conflict situations.

India and the Soviet Union expressed their grave concern over the escalation of acts of terrorism, including state terrorism. They resolutely condemn all terrorist activities whether committed by individuals, groups or States and believe it necessary to counter them by every legal means.

NEW POLITICAL THINKING

The Soviet side drew attention to the proposal put forward by the Soviet Union concerning the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security. The Indian side noted that this proposal is an expression of the need for new political thinking in the nuclear era.

In the course of discussions in New Delhi special attention was paid to the situation in the Asian continent, in the Indian Ocean and its adjoining areas where the process of militarization and military threat is mounting. The two sides noted the urgent need for improving the political climate in the Asian Continent and its ad -393>

joining areas, and search for ways of ensuring lasting peace, stability and development of economic cooperation. Progress in this direction could gradually be made, in particular, through normalising the situation, creating an atmosphere of confidence and constructive cooperation at bilateral and regional levels.

ASIAN PACIFIC REGION

In this connection the Soviet side explained in detail the Soviet Union's concrete programme for maintaining peace and security and establishing cooperation and interaction in the Asian Pacific region. The Indian side elaborated on its consistent policy of reducing tensions, promoting good neighbourliness with all countries in the region, and the steps taken by India alongwith other countries in building cooperation at the regional level through the South Asia Association of Regional Cooperation without outside interference.

The two sides expressed their concern over the tense situation in West Asia as a result of Israel's expansionist policies, condemned the continued occupation of Arab territories and acts of aggression by Israel in the region which pose a grave threat to international peace and security. The two sides emphasised the urgent need for a just, comprehensive and durable settlement of the West Asia problem based on the total and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories. the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, whose sole and legitimate representative is the Palestine Liberation Organisation, including the right of selfdetermination and right to establish their own sovereign State on the basis of existing UN resolutions, as well as ensuring the right of all States in the region to independent existence. They strongly supported an International Peace Conference on West Asia under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation of all parties concerned including the PLO on an equal footing. The convening of such a Conference could be facilitated by

setting up an appropriate preparatory committee.

The two sides declare that it is necessary to preserve the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, to ensure complete and immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon.

India and the USSR expressed their serious concern at the hostilities between Iran and Iraq and urge the leaders of these countries to put an end to the fratricidal war and to settle the conflict by peaceful political means.

The two sides expressed serious concern over the continuation of the hotbeds of tension in South-West Asia and reaffirm their conviction that the problem 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 called 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 reiterated 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 expressed their concern at the persisting tensions in South East Asia. They reaffirmed their conviction 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 their sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and without outside interference in their internal affairs. They support the desire of these States for normalisation of the situation in the region and for making it an area of durable peace, stability, good neighbourliness and cooperation.

India and the Soviet Union expressed their concern over the further aggrava--394>

tion of the situation in the Indian Ocean and called for dismantling of all foreign military and naval bases in the area and for preventing the creation of new ones. Both sides condemned the attempts to build up foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean. They called for speedy implementation of the 1971 UN Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and supported the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to convene, without delay, an international Conference for this purpose. They noted that this Conference has been inordinately delayed and believed that it is necessary to ensure that it is held at the earliest possible date, not later than 1988.

The two sides reiterated their support for the just demand of Mauritius concerning the restoration of its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago including Diego Garcia.

India and the Soviet Union strongly condemned the racist South African regime for its obnoxious policy and practice of Apartheid and State terrorism being conducted by it against the Frontline and other African States. Both sides demanded that South Africa scrupulously respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of these states, and an end to South Africa's illegal occupation of and an unconditional withdrawal of its troops from Namibia. They called for full and prompt implementation of all the relevant UN decisions on granting independence to Namibia, including Security Council Resolution 435. The two sides reaffirmed their abiding support for the just and heroic struggle of the people of Namibia under their authentic, sole and legitimate representative, the SWAPO. India and the Soviet Union resolutely support the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the racist South African regime and welcome the relevant initiatives of the Nonaligned countries taken at Harare.

The two sides expressed their support for a just, political settlement of the situation in the region of Central America and the Carribean, specially around Nicaragua, based on ensuring the security of all the states of the region and respect for their sovereignty, national independence and right to self-determination without outside interference in their internal affairs. India and the Soviet Union called for the cessation of all forms of external pressures and acts of aggression against the independent and Non-aligned countries situated there. They voiced their support for the constructive initiatives of the Non-aligned countries and the efforts of the Contadora Group towards a negotiated settlement of the situation in that region.

The two sides called for the restructuring of international economic relations in a just and equitable basis and the establishment of a New International Economic Order. The solution of this pressing task would serve the interests of all mankind, especially of the developing countries. They condemned manifestations of the policy of neocolonialism and discrimination, and coercion and blackmail in inter-state economic relations. Both sides favoured the ensuring of fair and equitable prices for the exports of developing countries and the dismantling of artifical trade barriers.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

The Soviet side noted it regards economic security as an integral part of a comprehensive system of international security, under which it would be possible to establish a fund of assistance to developing countries and to elaborate, under the United Nations

auspices, a global programme of scientific and technological cooperation. The Indian side stressed the importance of an integrated approach on the part of the international community on the key inter-related issues of money, finance, trade, commodities and development.

INFLUENTIAL FORCE

India and the Soviet Union were unanimous that the Movement of Non aligned countries has evolved into an -395>

influential force in the relaxation of international tensions, promotion of peace, disarmament and peaceful co-existence. They took note of the Movement's vitality in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, aggression, racism and apartheid, interference, and hegemony and for the realisation of the New International Economic Order.

The Soviet Union reaffirmed its high evaluation of the Nonaligned Movement and of the constructive role played by India in that Movement and in the international arena in general, of its efforts to improve the international situation and to ensure equitable political and economic cooperation among States.

Both sides reaffirmed their abiding commitment to the United Nations, to preserving and strengthening this organisation as an effective instrument of peace and security and peaceful settlement of international disputes and crises, and to the objectives and principles enshrined in its Charter. They expressed their readiness to take necessary steps in order to ensure that the just and democratic principles on which the United Nations was founded become firmly rooted in the practice of international relations.

India and the Soviet Union highly valued the well established tradition of maintaining regular contacts between their leaders which have become an important mechanism for nurturing and strengthening the relations of friendship, mutual understanding and confidence between the two countries. The two sides affirmed their determination to continue to further develop contacts and have consultations between them at the political and other levels and further expand and strengthen their bilateral cooperation in various fields. Both sides are convinced that relations of close friendship and cooperation between India and the USSR enhance the effectiveness of their efforts for the preservation and consolidation of peace and security in the world.

The two sides expressed their profound satisfaction at the results of the official friendly visit of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev to India. This visit is a new landmark in the development of friendship and fruitful cooperation between India and the Soviet

Union. It has further strengthened mutual trust between the leaders and ties of close friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

Mr. M. S. Gorbachev expressed sincere gratitude to the leadership and people of the Republic of India for the warm welcome accorded to him and his party. The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of the Republic of India Shri Rajiv Gandhi to visit the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

DIA USA RUSSIA ITALY CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ARGENTINA GREECE MEXICO SWEDEN TANZANIA ZIMBABWE ICELAND PERU MALI ISRAEL LEBANON IRAN IRAQ MAURITIUS SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA NICARAGUA

Date: Nov 28, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Indo-Soviet Trade Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 12, 1986 on the signing of an Indo-Soviet trade protocol:

India and the Soviet Union have signed a trade protocol for 1987 here today.

The protocol, which was signed by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Prem Kumar and mr. E. P. Bavrin, the Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, envisages a growth of 5.5 per cent in the level of bilateral trade over 1986.

The trade protocol for 1987 has planned for a trade turnover of Rs. 3800 crores. Of this Indian imports from USSR would be Rs. 1850 crores and Indian exports to USSR Rs. 1950 crores. -396>

A delegation led by Mr. E. P. Bavrin, Deputy Minister, USSR, Ministry of Foreign Trade is visiting India to review trade between India and USSR in 1986 as well as to finalise trade protocol for 1987. The negotiations have been held as usual in a spirit of mutual understanding, mutual goodwill, friendship and cooperation.

Review of the results of 1986 have shown that total level of Indian exports during the year to Soviet Union are expected to be Rs. 2100 crores. The level of Soviet exports to India is expected to be around Rs. 1500 crores by the end of the year. The trade balance would, therefore, be in favour of India. These trade levels have been achieved in spite of the sharp decline in oil prices which have adversely affected the purchasing power of USSR in the Indian market to the extent of Rs. 500-600 crores.

The trade plan which has been finalised for 1987 is not able for the wide range of new commodities and additional quantities of existing commodities which have been added to the list of commodities to be exchanged. The value of these commodities is estimated at around Rs. 300 crores. In 1987 India would be importing a number of essential requirements of its economy for the first time from Soviet Union. These items include coking coal, abrasive goods, selenium, antimony, soda ash, xelen, PVC, polystyrene, sawn goods, wood pulp, waste paper, raw hides, etc. In addition, India would be importing additional quantities of crude oil, urea, methenol, polyethylene, synthetic rubber and newsprint, etc. It may be mentioned that these items have been identified as a result of intensive efforts in the last few months by the two sides when detailed discussions were held and India's requirements of various essential items of import were projected. It may be recalled that as a part of this exercise, the Working Group on Trade had discussed these questions in Moscow in August, 1986. This was later followed by the visit of GOSPLAN delegation to India led by Mr. V. P. Lakhtin, Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Committee with whom detailed discussions were held by various Ministries of Government of India and representatives of public and private sector companies.

In 1987 Indian exports are likely to show significant growth in the case of shoe uppers, readymade garments, cotton hosiery and woollen knitwear, automobile storage batteries, electronic instruments and components, automobile ancillaries, freight containers, etc.

DIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Nov 12, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 10, 1986 of the statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri N. D. Tiwari in Parliament on November 10 1986 on his visit to Moscow from November 1 to 3, 1986:

In connection with the upcoming visit to India of General Secretary Gorbachev, I visited Moscow on the 1st-3rd November. My delegation included the Foreign Secretary, Shri A. P. Venkateswaran, the Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister's office, Shri G. K. Arora and the Deputy Chief of Mission in our Embassy in Moscow, Shri C. V. Ranganathan. Our Ambassador in Moscow, Shri T. N. Kaul, accompanied me on my calls on the General Secretary and on Foreign Minister Shevardnadze.

I arrived in Moscow on the 1st evening and was immediately received by Foreign Minister Shevardnadze who gave a working dinner in my honour. It was good of him to have arranged this at very short notice and particularly in view of the fact that he was leaving for Vienna next morning. My delegation and I had three hours friendly and warm discussions with Mr. Shevardnadze and his colleagues. Our discussions covered a wide range of sub-397>

jects both of bilateral interest and international importance.

Mr. Shevardnadze expressed the Soviet Union's high appreciation of India's policy of peace, peaceful coexistence, Non alignment, and its important role through the Six Nation Five Continent Peace Initiative, NAM and in its own capacity for bringing about peace, disarmament in general and nuclear disarmament in particular. He expressed complete satisfaction with the arrangements being made for the visit of General Secretary M. S. Gorbachev to India.

The talks were held in a very warm and friendly atmosphere and both of us expressed our conviction that the historic visit of Mr. Gorbachev and his meetings with our Prime Minister would be another landmark in the further development and strengthening of our bilateral relations and through them produce a positive and healthy influence both in the region and help in reducing international tensions.

I had the honour and privilege of meeting General Secretary, Mr. M. S. Gorbachev for two hours on the morning of 3rd November. The meeting was held in a very warm, friendly and fruitful atmosphere. Mr. Gorbachev praised the role of India and that of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi both at Harare and through the six Nation Five Continent Peace Initiative in support of bringing about peace and nuclear disarmament throughout the world. He expressed his high appreciation of the great and important role being played by Non-aligned India under the leadership of Prime

Minister Rajiv Gandhi in international affairs. He was keenly looking forward to his visit to India which would enable both countries to raise their bilateral relations to a higher level and also enable them to exercise a positive and healthy influence on the various pockets of tension in Asia and throughout the world.

I conveyed to the General Secretary the greetings of the Prime Minister, the Government and the people of India and told him that we were looking forward to his visit which would have a historic character and be an important landmark in the development of our relations. I also apprised him of my talks in Western Europe regarding the application of comprehensive sanctions against the Pretoria regime. I also referred to the situation in various regions of Asia and the world and India's efforts to promote peace, friendship and cooperation with its neighbours. Mr. Gorbachev told me categorically that the Soviet Union's friendship towards India is not a subject of expediency or a result of outside pressure. It has its own high intrinsic value. Our relations are deeply rooted in our hearts and minds. I expressed to Mr. Gorbachev our high appreciation of Indo-Soviet collaboration in the economic, commercial, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields. We agreed that India and the Soviet Union would go ahead with accelerated cooperation in science and technology.

Sir, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my high appreciation of the cordiality, hospitality and the free, friendly and warm exchange of views which I had with Soviet leaders. I also had talks with Mr. Katyushev, Chairman of the State Committee for Economic Relations and Mr. Kamentsev, Deputy Prime Minister, with special reference to our economic, technical, and scientific relations. There was full understanding on all issues and I am glad to state that we look forward very keenly to the visit of General Secretary Gorbachev and his delegation and I am confident that the visit will prove an important landmark in the further development and strengthening of our bilateral relations as well as producing a healthy and positive influence in international affairs.

SSIA INDIA AUSTRIA USA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Nov 10, 1986

Volume No

UNITED NATIONS

Afro-Asian Industrial Cooperation Meeting Concludes

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 21, 1986 on the five-day Afro-Asian Industrial cooperation meeting:

The five-day Afro-Asian Industrial Cooperation meeting ended here today with the signing of 45 memoranda of agreements covering 123 projects.

Winding up the discussions after adopting the recommendations, the Secretary of the Ministry of Industrial Development, Shri S. D. Srivastava urged the participating countries and UNIDO Secretariat to strive to translate the resolve shown during the Meeting into a reality. This would call for the formation of special cells in each of the Governments and within UNIDO for monitoring the progress of implementation. Negotiations will have to be conducted with international finaning system and with national funding Agencies for locating the required resources. Experts and training for personnel will have to be arranged. In many cases, resources may have to be found from out of the country IPF and the Special Purpose Contribution to UNIDO. In order to achieve effective coordination amongst all the variables, it is necessary to lay down a time-frame and to spell out specific action points. The participating countries would do well to finalise the institutional arrangements on the follow-up. the Secretary added.

Shri Srivastava said that "the meeting has helped us to take a giant step forward towards a more meaningful pattern of industrial cooperation amongst developing countries. We have moved from concepts into concrete action. The two large Continents have discovered new areas of cooperation and opportunities. I hope that this will be the beginning of an exciting phase in the unfolding a saga of industrial cooperation between Asia and Africa."

The meeting was inaugurated by the Industry Minister, Shri J. Vengala Rao, on November 17. In his speech, the Minister said there was considerable scope for developing countries pooling and sharing their skills, expertise and experience for their mutual benefit.

A INDIA

Date: Nov 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

India Takes up Major Trade Issues With USA - Indo-US TradeTalks Held

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Nov 16, 1986 on Indo-US trade talks:

Bilateral official level trade talks between India and the United States were held here on 13-14 November. The talks have covered a wide range of bilateral trade issues relating to India's exports in several important sectors such as engineering and textiles.

During the discussions, the Indian side took up very strongly the damage being caused to India's trade interests in engineering products by the repeated use of countervailing duty and antidumping investigations which constitute a major nontariff barrier against India's exports to -399>

USA. For example, one product, namely, certain iron castings had been subject to countervailing duty review, anti-dumping investigations and proceedings for escape clause action. This raised concern for India that the proceedings being used by the US industry were causing harassment to exporters and disrupting trade flows from India to USA.

GATT CODE ON SUBSIDIES

Further, Government of India felt that many of the actions taken were not in conformity with the GATT Code on Subsidies. In the recent preliminary determination in the anti-dumping investigations on iron metal castings, the International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) rebates had been treated as a countervailable subsidy in disregard to the provision of the GATT Code. The Government of India was concerned at this action as the IPRS is a key element of India's export incentive programme and is proposed to be extended from engineering to other sectors. In recent cases of anti-dumping investigations the US authorities have been imposing duties on firms which had not been investigated. As these firms had not been given the opportunity of presenting their case and the information regarding them had not been verified, there was no basis on which anti-dumping duties could be levied on them. The practice of the US authorities to regard the difference between the packing credit rates and the highest rate of interest prevailing in India as a subsidy was also not in conformity with the definitions contained

in the GATT Code.

The practice of cumulation of imports in the determination of injury had nullified the protection afforded to the small suppliers by the GATT law which requires that the existence of material injury is a pre-requisite for levy of countervailing or anti-dumping duty.

Another important issue taken up by India was of trade in textiles. The Indian side expressed disappointment and concern at the extension of fibre coverage of MFA and stated that it was its hope that the opportunity provided by the New Round will be fully utilised to work out modalities for return of the international trade regime in textiles to the GATT framework. On Indo-US bilateral textile agreement, the Indian side stated that it had entered into an Article 4 agreement with USA in the hope that security of access would be provided. However, stability had been repeatedly disturbed by frequent calls for consultations. In all 17 calls had been made forcing the Government of India in some cases to go to TSB which in some instances had upheld India's stand. When there was already an aggregate limit for garment it was not fair and reasonable to put restrictions on specific items. It was noted that India's share of US market for clothing had fallen from 3.25 per cent in 1979 to 2.46 per cent in 1984. On textiles, the access provided during MFA II was not taken into account while considering restraints on specific items.

HANDLOOM ITEMS

Another contentious issue that had cropped up related to certification of handloom made-up items. The US had raised the needle-and-thread argument in July 1985, thus upsetting the original understanding. Although temporary reprieve was given, much uncertainty had been caused. The Indian side urged the US to provide better access to Indian exports through larger base rates as well as increased flexibility and growth rates in the new agreement for which negotiations are commencing in Washington next week.

The Indian side also expressed its concern on the effect of some of the health and sanitary regulations of US on India's exports of shrimps and handicrafts. The long standing problem of automatic detention of shrimp consignments from India had not been resolved thereby placing Indian exporters at a disadvantage in price negotiations. Further, brassware items supplied from Bombay had to undergo mandatory fumigation at the destination thus raising the cost.

Another important point raised by India was the possible effect of the General -400>

Review of the US GSP on India in view of the requirement in the

US Trade and Tariff Act, 1984 for consideration to be given to reciprocal measures taken by the beneficiary country. The Indian side also pointed out that in its view the provision of the US law in this regard was not in conformity with the UNCTAD and GATT decisions on GSP which required adherence to the principle of non-reciprocity.

COUNTERVAILING DUTY

The US side took note of the Indian concerns on the countervailing duty and anti-dumping investigations as well as on textiles trade. On health and sanitary regulations, the two sides discussed possibilities for minimising the adverse effect on Indian exports, On GSP, the US side indicated that it did not appear likely that India's contained eligibility for GSP or the composition of Indian products eligible for GSP would be affected.

Other issues discussed at the request of US side were the Uruguay Round, India's export incentive programme, evolution of import and tariff policy in India, motion pictures, procurement policy of ONGC, intellectual property and shipping issues.

The latest trends in Indo-US trade were reviewed. There has been a sizeable increase in the non-oil exports from India, particularly in diamonds, pepper, cashew nuts, coffee, petroleum products and readymade garments. Imports from USA declined from US \$ 1084 million in Jan-Aug 1985 to 1005 million in the corresponding period in 1986. The main product accounting for the fall was fertilisers the imports of which fell from US \$ 278 million to US \$ 92 million during the above period. However, imports of India from US have increased in specialised industrial machinery, office machines, electrical equipment, aircraft and spacecraft equipment, scientific and control equipment etc.

The Indian side was led by Mr. A. Hoda, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and the US side by Mr. Peter Allgeier, Assistant US Trade Representative for Asia and the Pacific. -401>

A INDIA URUGUAY **Date**: Nov 16, 1986

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Date: Dec 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

AFRICA FUND

Senior Officials' Meeting of AFRICA Fund - Statement inParliament

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 08, 1986 of the text of the statement made by Shri Eduardo Faleiro, Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, in Parliament on December 8, 1986 on the senior officials-' meeting of the AFRICA Fund Committee held in Lusaka from November 24 to 26, 1986. This statement was read by the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Smt. Sheila Dikshit:

It would be recalled that the eighth conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned countries, held in Harare in September, 1986, had resolved to establish the "AFRICA Fund" (Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid Fund) to strengthen the economic and financial capability of the Frontline States, to fight the Apartheid regime of South Africa, to support the liberation movements in South Africa and Namibia in their struggle against racist and colonialist oppression, to assist the Front-line States to enforce sanctions against South Africa and enable them to cope with any retaliatory action by the racist Pretoria regime.

Pursuant to this resolution, senior officials of the Fund Committee Member States, viz. India, Zambia, Algeria, Argentina, Congo, Nigeria, Peru, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe met in Lusaka from November 24 to 26, 1986 to draw up a Plan of Action for the Fund. The leader of Indian delegation who chaired the Meeting in India's capacity as Chairman of the Fund Committee conveyed on behalf of the Prime Minister of India, cordial greetings and good wishes for the success of the meeting.

The meeting expressed its concern at the deteriorating situation in Southern Africa. It condemned the Pretoria regime for having stepped up its oppression and subjugation of the disenfranchised and dispossessed people of South Africa through several repressive measures, continued illegal occupation of Namibia and its policy of destabilisation and State terrorism against the Front-line and other neighbouring countries. The meeting reaffirmed that Apartheid, a crime against humanity, was the root cause of conflict in the region and reiterated the commitment of the Non-aligned countries for its complete eradication.

The meeting discussed the priority areas of assistance to the Front-line States and the liberation movements in Southern Africa, which will constitute the action of the Fund. The meeting further discussed ways and means for the mobilisation of public opinion and the raising of resources for the Fund. It also considered the modalities for the management and operation of the Fund. The discussions, were based on the working documents circulated by India in its capacity as Chairman of the Fund Committee which had been prepared following intensive consultations with the leaders of the Front-line States and the liberation movements in Southern Africa. During my visit to the Front-line States in September-October, 1986. India's initiative in having undertaken these consultations less than a month after the Harare Summit and -403>

effort in having prepared useful working documents was widely appreciated.

The recommendations made by the meeting are to be submitted to the Ministerial meeting of the Fund Committee followed by a Summit meeting of the Committee for consideration.

In the meantime, the Committee has authorised India as Chairman, to take necessary action for operationalising the Fund, including the holding of consultations with the Governments, Organisations and institutions concerned.

It is hoped that the draft Plan of Action would be approved at a Summit meeting of the Fund Committee to be held early next year in New Delhi. The appeal of contributions would also be launched on that occasion.

DIA USA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ALGERIA ARGENTINA CONGO NIGER NIGERIA PERU YUGOSLAVIA

Date: Dec 08, 1986

Volume No

AUSTRIA

Nine Crore Austrian Capital Goods Credit for India

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 16, 1986 on the agreement for a nine crore Austria capital goods credit for India:

India will receive capital goods credit of 100 million Austrian shillings (approximately equivalent to Rs. 9 crores) from Austria. This credit was formalised by an agreement which was signed here today by representatives of both countries. Shri S. Kannan, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Dr. Erich M. Schmid, Austrian Ambassador to India, were the two signatories to the agreement. This credit has been extended under the "Soft Credit Scheme" and is within the framework of the Aid India Consortium. The repayment of the loan will be spread over 20 years after a grace period of 10 years and will bear a yearly interest of 2 per cent.

The credit will be utilised for import of capital goods relating to power projects and chemical plants, railway equipment and iron and steel goods.

India, has so far, received approximately Rs. 27 crores as part of capital goods credit from Austria.

STRIA USA INDIA MALI

Date: Dec 16, 1986

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

Rs. 25 Crore Government Credit for Bangladesh

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 25, 1986 on the Rs. 25 crore Government credit for Bangladesh:

The Government of India has approved a fresh line of Government credit of Rs. 25 crores to Bangladesh. This credit line will be utilised for setting up a diesel locomotive workshop and a product prototype and technology development centre in Bangladesh and supply of Indian buses and truks to that country.

In the past too, Indian has exported buses to Bangladesh which has led to a -404>

steady demand for these buses in the private sector. It is expected that the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation will place an order for the purchase of Indian buses in the near future.

The total Indian credits extended to Bangladesh amounts to Rs. 243 crores. This is in addition to approximately Rs. 170 crores given to Bangladesh by way of grants, subsidies etc.

NGLADESH INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA

Date: Dec 25, 1986

Volume No

1995

BURMA

Maritime Boundary Agreement Between Burma and India - JointPress Release

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 23, 1986 of the text of the joint press release made available after the signing of the Maritime Boundary Delimitation Agreement between Burma and India in Rangoon on December 23, 1986:

The agreement between the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma and the Republic of India on the Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary in the Andaman Sea, in the Coco Channel and in the Bay of Bengal was signed today at (10:30) hours at the Annex of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His Excellency U Ye Goung, Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed on behalf of Burma, and His Excellency Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, Minister of External Affairs, signed on behalf of the Republic of India.

Present on the occasion were His Excellency U Saw Hlaing, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma, and responsible officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Naval Hydrographic Depot, Ministry of Defence, on the Burmese side, and Shri L. Keivom, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of India in Burma, Shri K. Sahdev, Joint Secretary and other responsible officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and of the office of the Chief Hydrographer to

the Government of India on the Indian side.

The Maritime Boundary between the two countries in the Andaman Sea, in the Coco Channel and in the Bay of Bengal is formed by a single continuous line whose course has been determined on the basis of the equidistance principle. The Agreement stipulates that the extension of the Maritime Boundary in the Andaman Sea up to the Maritime Boundary trijunction point between Burma, India and Thailand will be done subsequently after the trijunction point is established by Agreement between the three countries. The Agreement also provides that the extension of the Maritime Boundary in the Bay of Bengal beyond 200 nautical miles shall be done subsequently.

The Agreement recognizes the sovereignty of each party over all islands falling on its side of the Maritime Boundary, including those that may emerge in the future. It further recognizes the sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdictions of the parties in their respective Maritime Zones in accordance with the relevant provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The Agreement is subject to ratification, and the Instruments of Ratification are to be exchanged in New Delhi as soon as possible.

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The two parties are convinced that the conclusion of this Agreement establishing a Maritime Boundary that is just and fair for both parties will further strengthen the existing historical bonds of friendship between Burma and India.

RMA INDIA USA THAILAND

Date: Dec 23, 1986

Volume No

1995

CANADA

India-Canada Sign Air Services Agreement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 15, 1986 on the signing of an air services agreement between India and Canada:

India and Canada signed here on December 12, 1986 an air services

agreement between the two countries, thus culminating week-long negotiations between high level delegations of the two countries.

All outstanding, issues relating to landing points, frequencies, capacity entitlement, payment of compensation by Air Canada to Air India for unilateral operations during the period of suspension of air services by Air India in the wake of Kanishka's disaster, were resolved during the course of these wide-ranging and difficult negotiations.

It may be recalled that such discussions had earlier on two occasions remained inconclusive. This paves the way for resumption of Air India's operations to Canada sometime in 1987.

The nine-member Canadian delegation for these talks was headed by Mr. A. R. Gherson, Chief Air Negotiator of Canada and the Indian delegation was led by Dr. S. S. Sidhu, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The agreement was signed by Mr. A. R. Gherson and Dr. S. S. Sidhu on behalf of their respective countries.

NADA INDIA USA

Date: Dec 15, 1986

Volume No

1995

CANADA

India and Canada Finalise Five-Year Bilateral Agreement on Textiles

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 10, 1986 on the finalisation of a five-year bilateral agreement on textiles between India and Canada:

A new five-year (1987-91) bilateral agreement on textiles was finalised by India and Canada in New Delhi late last evening after a week long negotiations. At the negotiations the Indian delegation was led by Dr. J. K. Bagchi, Joint Secretary (Textiles) and the Canadian delegation by Mr. T. A. MacDonald, Director, Import Control Division, Government of Canada.

Under the new agreement the number of specific restraint products exported to Canada have been reduced from eight to six. While tailored collared shirts, trousers, jackets and worsted fabric will continue to be under specific restraint, blouses and dresses

will be within a group limit. Two products, namely terri-towels and work gloves have been exempted from restraint. Handloom garments will continue to be outside restraint for all categories except tailored collared shirts. The quota level for the export of these shirts to Canada has been increased from 4.02 lakh pieces to 15 lakh pieces.

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Indian items and other handloom products will also continue to enjoy exemption from quota restrictions under the agreement.

The new agreement provides for 10 per cent increase in export of garments during 1987, the first year of the agreement. For the subsequent years, the growth rates for all products under specific restraint will be six per cent per year and for worsted fabric 4.5 per cent per year. Total flexibilities provided under the agreement are upto 15 per cent for all categories of export. Conversion of adult garments to children's garments has been permitted in the ration of three adult garments to 5 children garments.

The agreement also provides that the Canadian Government will not undertake any unilateral trade measures that restrict access of Indian exports provided under this agreement.

At present, textiles exports to Canada are around Rs. 60 crores per annum. These are likely to increase steadily under the new agreement.

NADA INDIA USA

Date: Dec 10, 1986

Volume No

1995

CHINA

Statement by Official Spokesman in Delhi

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 12, 1986 of the text of the statement of the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs:

The conferment of full Statehood to the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh, which is an integral part of the Indian Union with an elected legislature is entirely a matter for the Parliament of India to decide. We deeply regret the statement made by the official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC which constitutes a clear interference in the internal affairs of India. The statement of the official spokesman is totally unacceptable.

The Government of India has been constantly making efforts to normalise relations with the PRC. Since 1981, when the Chinese Foreign Minister visited India, seven rounds of official level talks have been held between the two Governments covering the boundary question as well as other areas of bilateral relations. There has been considerable progress made in developing cooperation in commercial, economic, scientific and technological fields. Although progress in regard to boundary question has been slow, agreement had been reached between the two sides on maintaining peace and tranquility on the so-called Line of Actual Control in the Eastern as well as Western Sectors. We, therefore, sincerely regret that a statement has been made levelling baseless allegations regarding the so-called occupation of Chinese territory through domestic legislation in a manner which is entirely contrary to China's professed desire for a peaceful settlement of the boundary question. The Government of India sincerely hopes that the five principles of peaceful co-existence to which both countries subscribe will guide the relations between the two countries.

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INA INDIA MALI

Date: Dec 12, 1986

Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

Five Continent Initiative for Peace and Disarmament

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 31, 1986 of the text of the statement made by the leaders of the Six Nation Five Continent Initiative for Peace and Disarmament:

On the eve of the New Year, we wish to call attention once again to the threat of nuclear war which would affect all the inhabitants of our planet. But we also wish to underline the opportunities which 1987 provides for agreements which can strengthen our common security.

At Reykjavik, President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev came very close to reaching agreements which would have been historic in their sweep and significance. These could have paved the way for the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons. There was widespread disappointment that, although both leaders went far in initiatives and responses, these agreements floundered on differences over the space systems issue.

However, the Reykjavik meeting demonstrated that it is possible, given political vision and commitment, to go beyond old doctrines and to break new ground in nuclear arms control and disarmament. It is heartening that the proposals from Reykjavik are still on the table and have not been withdrawn. 1987 therefore provides an opportunity for the Soviet Union and the United States to agree on a number of important disarmament measures, including deep cuts in nuclear arsenals. We urge the leaders of these two nations to take advantage of that opportunity and to build on the understanding of Reykjavik, without any weakening of commitments made there. As long as agreement is not reached, the nuclear arms race will ineluctably continue to escalate and the survival of all of us will become more and more precarious.

For these reasons, over the last two years, in Delhi, in Ixtapa and on other occasions, we have called for an immediate halt to nuclear testing, cessation in the production and development of all nuclear weapons, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. These priorities not only remain valid, but have assumed greater urgency in the light of recent developments. In this context, the problem of balanced reduction in conventional forces in Europe must also be given appropriate attention.

In Ixtapa, we drew attention to the unfortunate and dangerous trend of erosion of existing treaties to suit the convenience of nations. We reiterate at this critical juncture that treaties, especially those relating to disarmament and arms limitation, should be honoured both in letter and spirit. We urge in particular the Government of the United States to reconsider its decision to exceed the SALT II ceilings.

We have noted the recently announced decision of the Soviet Union to terminate its unilateral moratorium and to resume nuclear testing following the first U.S. test in 1987. We regret this decision, which we hope is not irreversible. At the same time we recognise that there is still room for a bilateral moratorium. There is no justification for nuclear testing by any country. We appeal once again to the United States to reconsider its policy on nuclear testing so that a bilateral moratorium can be established. Our offer to help ensure adequate verification of such a moratorium remains valid. We are ready to start implementing it at any moment.

We have stressed that the development of space weapons would

trigger off a new arms race of unprecedented scope and increase the danger of a nuclear war. Negotiations should focus on the elimination of nuclear weapons, rather than on programmes based on the assumption that nuclear weapons will threaten us all indefinitely,

In these closing days of 1986, we urge the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States to recommence comprehensive talks, as soon as possible in the New year, to fulfil their stated objective to prevent an arms race in space and terminate it on earth and ultimately to eliminate nuclear arms everywhere. The entire international community expects them to live up to their obligations.

DIA ICELAND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date: Dec 31, 1986

Volume No

1995

DISARMAMENT

KEADEA Conference on Peace and Disarmament - Text of PrimeMinister's Message

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 13, 1986 of the message to the KEADEA Conference on Peace and Disarmament being held in Athens from December 13-17 1986 by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:

The world is today poised on the brink of a nuclear precipice. The stockpiles of nuclear weapons and their destructiveness have reached such stupendous proportions that the outbreak of a nuclear holocaust does not have, to be planned or willed any more. It may just happen. And, if it does, it is certain to engulf us all, whether we are parties to the conflict or not. The very future of human civilisation and of our planet is at stake. It is necessary for people from every part of the globe to raise their voice and make known their concern.

India and Greece have joined Argentina, Tanzania, Sweden and Mexico under the Six Nation Initiative, in an attempt to achieve nuclear disarmament. A large number of groups all over the world have been working actively for the same objective. The Six Nations have from the beginning concentrated their efforts on a few most important initial steps in this direction: a comprehensive ban on the testing, development and deployment of nuclear weapons and prevention of an arms race in Outer Space.

Over the last year, we have been intensively pursuing the objective of a moratorium on all nuclear testing by the nuclear weapon States.

Not all the nuclear weapon States have so far heeded the appeals of the Six Nations, but our voice has commanded their attention. What is especially encouraging is the tremendous support we have received from non-Governmental organisations and people all over the world.

We are, therefore, determined to continue our efforts.

The struggle for nuclear disarmament will not be an easy one. It will have to be waged both at the governmental and popular levels. It is in this context that the KEADEA Conference, which is appropriately taking place to mark the International Year of Peace, assumes special significance. I wish the Conference all success.

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DIA GREECE USA ARGENTINA SWEDEN TANZANIA MEXICO

Date: Dec 13, 1986

Volume No

1995

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Increased Trade Planned - New Items Identified

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 30, 1986 on the trade protocol signed by India and the German Democratic Republic:

Under the Trade and Payments Agreement between India and Government of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), a trade protocol has been signed for the year 1987 which envisages a trade turnover of the order of Rs. 490 crores representing a 20 per cent growth over the trade plan provisions for the year 1986.

The protocol was signed recently in Berlin (GDR) by an Indian delegation led by Shri B. K. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Mr. F. Quabs, Director-General in the GDR Ministry of Foreign Trade. The GDR Deputy Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Claus Gaedt and Ambassador P. K. Budhwar were present at the signing ceremony.

The major items of imports from the GDR would be muriate of potash, urea, steel products, organic and inorganic chemicals, newsprint and a number of machinery items like printing machinery, machine tools, mining equipment, foundry equipment, diesel generating sets, power equipment etc. As a part of the efforts to diversify the structure of trade new items such as sulphate of potash, food processing and packaging machinery, rail mounted cranes, hydraulic machinery and components have been added in the list of exports from GDR.

The trade protocol also envisages technology transfer and provision of consultancy services in India. The GDR is proposing to hold a symposium in India in February 1987 on high technology transfer.

As regards exports from India, the major items would be coffee, spices, deoiled cakes, iron ore, mica and mica products, finished leather and shoe uppers, textiles including garments, knitwear and cotton grey cloth, jute manufactures, engineering items including machine tools, hand tools, roller chains, automobile parts etc.

On the list of exports from India to the GDR new items like raw cotton, footwear, Maruti cars, photo copying machines, conveyer and conveyer belt system, mica paper, mica tapes and micanites, computers, electrical and household appliances have been included.

The growth in the trade plan provision for 1987, which is about 20 per cent, is part of the programme to double up the trade over a period of five years. The current year's trade plan provision envisages a turnover of Rs. 414 crores.

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DIA GERMANY USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

GREECE

India Signs Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 22, 1986 on the signing of a cultural exchange programme between India and Greece:

An Indo-Greek cultural exchange programme was signed at Athens on Friday last. Shri Manmohan Singh, Joint Secretary in the Department of Culture, signed the programme on behalf of India and Mr. Spiros Chrisosphathis, Director of Cultural Relations of the Greek Foreign Ministry, on behalf of Greece.

The Indian delegation, led by Shri Manmohan Singh, was in Greece from December 16 to 20, 1986 to sign the Indo-Greek cultural exchange programme. During the visit, the Indian delegation also called on Madam Melina Merkouri, the Greek Minister of Culture, who evinced keen interest in the promotion of cultural ties between India and Greece.

EECE INDIA

Date: Dec 22, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Visit to Yugoslavia

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh at the banquet in Belgrade on Oct 30, 1986, during his visit to Yugoslavia:

Your Excellency Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I bring you greetings from India. I thank you for your kind words of welcome and for the warmth and generosity of your hospitality.

It is indeed a privilege for me to visit friendly Yugoslavia, a great country at the historic crossroads of Europe. The love for freedom of your people and the saga of their heroic resistance under the leadership of Marshal Tito against Fascist aggression, strike a responsive chord in the hearts of our people who also won their battle for freedom, at about the same time.

There is much else that the people of India and Yugoslavia share, apart from their struggle for freedom. Yugoslavia,

like India, is a rich mosaic of multiplicity of races, religions and languages welded into a modern nation.

Since the early days of the founding of our young Republics, our

two countries have forged a close relationship, under the guidance of Marshal Tito and Pandit Nehru, which has been marked by warmth, sincerity and cooperation.

Our adherence to the policy of Nonalignment is another major bond between us. In Yugoslavia, it was Marshal Tito's indomitable spirit of independence that led your country to shun military alliances. In India too, it was the projection of our country's national ethos under the leadership of Pandit Nehru that led us to the concept of Non-alignment. Thirty years ago, three great statesmen - Presidents Tito and Nasser and Prime Minister Nehru - met in Brioni and issued a Declaration calling for rapid progress in

global disarmament, for peaceful co-existence and economic justice. The Brioni Declaration was the foundation stone of the Non-aligned Movement which had its first Summit Conference in Belgrade five years later.

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

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The Non-aligned Movement has since gone from strength to strength. Today, it encompasses two thirds of mankind and more than a hundred nations. It has been a matter of satisfaction to us that our two countries have worked hand in hand to strengthen the Non-aligned Movement and to make it more effective in tackling urgent international issues and we will always remember the cooperation rendered by your country during India's Chairmanship of the Movement.

The most urgent crisis facing mankind today is the threat of a nuclear holocaust engendered by the nuclear arms race. As if this was not enough there is the looming spectre of its spreading to outer space. The first Non-aligned Summit of Belgrade gave the call 25 years ago for a suspension of nuclear tests pending conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. This vital step is, however, yet to be taken. In recent years intiatives have been taken by Heads of State Government of six countries, including India, spanning five continents calling for a halt to the testing and development of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, to be followed by a phased programme of reduction of the existing stockpile of nuclear weapons and the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction.

Yugoslavia has warmly welcomed the efforts of the Group of Six. The endorsement by friends like Yugoslavia gives us courage and sustenance in our belief that all countries have a role to play in this elemental question of life and death. The Non-aligned Movement has also underlined the linkage between disarmament and development. We hope that the nuclear weapon powers will heed these appeals. We are greatly heartened by the bold initiative of General Secretary Gorbachev to rid the world of nuclear weapons

by the year 2000.

Escalating arms race consumes a heavy share of the global budget, especially of the industrialised states, causing structural weaknesses in their economies. Prolonged global recession, high interest rates, massive imbalances in balance of payments and unemployment are some of the ills facing even the industrialised world. The developing countries are faced with the outcome of these problems and now face the phenomenon of net financial flows to the developed world, crushing debt and repayment burden and decline in prices of commodities which they produce. Peace and security in the world is indivisible. There can be no progress in the industrialised North, while the South decays. There is great urgency, therefore, to work actively, unitedly towards the New International Economic Order. The developing countries must also work towards collective self-reliance by strengthening South-South Cooperation in all fields.

OBNOXIOUS VESTIGES OF COLONIALISM

The obnoxious vestiges of colonialism and racism which continue to fester in Southern Africa are a blot on the consicience of mankind. India, like Yugoslavia, views with deep concern the attempts of the racist Pretoria regime to perpetuate the evil system of apartheid and to destabilise the Front-line States. The tragic loss of President Samora Machel adds a new dimension to this distressing situation. We urge the international community to stand beside the brave and heroic people of South Africa, Namibia and the Front-line States and take all possible measures, including mandatory sanctions, to bring about the dissolution of the apartheid system and ensure freedom and liberty for the people of South Africa and Namibia. I am happy to note that India and Yugoslavia are amongst the eight countries whose Foreign Ministers have been mandated by the NAM Summit to visit U.K., FRG, Japan and the USA to press them to agree to the imposition of com

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prehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa. Both our countries are also members of the committee for AFRICA Fund, set up by the last NAM Summit. We must jointly work relentlessly towards the complete elimination of the abominable and criminal system of Apartheid and the establishment of a non-racial democratic society in South Africa.

Excellency, our discussions have once again confirmed our common approach to important international issues and mutual determination to work together in tackling them. We have followed with sympathy and interest your courageous efforts to overcome your internal problems caused by the global economic crisis. We wish you well in your task of economic stabilization and are confident of your success.

ECONOMIC EXCHANGES

We note, with pleasure, the recent and rapid increase in our economic and commercial exchanges and the prospects for enhanced scientific and technological cooperation between our countries. All this will give concrete content to our already excellent bilateral relationship.

May I request Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen to raise your glasses in a toast to the health and happiness of H.E. Mr. Sinan Hasani, President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to the progress and prosperity of the people of Yugoslavia, and to abiding friendship, growing cooperation and lasting understanding between our two countries.

GOSLAVIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA UNITED KINGDOM JAPAN

Date: Oct 30, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Speech at Brioni

The following is the speech by the President at the banquet in Brioni on Nov 01, 1986:

Your Excellency Mr. Markovic, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, this visit to your beautiful country and, above all, to this lovely island of Brioni, has been not only heart-warming by its evidence of warm friendship between our countries but also a sentimental remembrance of the Declaration signed here three decades ago by three of the greatest statesmen of our times Josip Broz Tito, Jawaharlal Nehru and Gamel Abdel Nasser.

The tradition of warm and sincere friendship between India and Yugoslavia which Marshal Tito and Pandit Nehru established is being continued by the enlightened leaders of both our countries.

When I see this lovely land of yours with its splendid variety of traditions, languages and peoples I am reminded of India. It is thus natural that we rejoice in your success in the great endeavour of nation building as we do in our own.

Excellency, I bring to you and the people of your Republic the greetings of the people of India with the hope and conviction

that our countries will be linked ever closer together in friendship and mutually fruitful cooperation.

I would now like to request your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Croatia, for the well-being and prosperity of the people of Yugoslavia, and for abiding friednship between our two nations.

DIA YUGOSLAVIA USA CROATIA

Date: Nov 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Speech at Golden Plaque Award

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, on the occasion of the presentation of Golden Plaque of the City of Belgrade on Nov 01, 1986:

Honourable Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel deeply honoured this morning in receiving the golden plaque of the heroic city of Belgrade. During my brief stay here I have had a glimpse of the panoramic beauty of your great city perched on the confluence of two mighty rivers - The Danube and the Sava. Its very name Belgrade or The White City makes -413>

me feel beholden to it since in the Indian tradition whiteness signifies purity. I have seen something also of your heroic spirit through the course of centuries, Belgrade was destroyed thirtysix times to rise again and again like a phoenix from its ashes. In recent times under the leadership of Marshal Tito it challenged the twin forces of Fascism and Nazism with historic success, thus becoming the very epitome of freedom and independence. It was here too that a quarter of a century ago, the first summit of the Non-aligned Movement took place. Non-alignment has since become the largest movement of peace. Nothing could be a greater tribute to the creativity of the citizens of Belgrade and of the country of which it is the Chief Metropolis.

I bring to your Lord Mayor and through you to the warm and friendly citizens of Belgrade the most affectionate and cordial greetings of the people of India.

Thank you Mr. Mayor.

DIA YUGOSLAVIA USA

Date: Nov 01, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Banquet Speech in Athens

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh, at the official banquet in Athens on Nov 03, 1986:

Your Excellency, Mr. President, Madame Sartzetakis, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish to express my deep appreciation for the warm welcome extended to me and my delegation since our arrival in Greece. I am particularly touched by your warm hospitality this evening, and your kind and gracious words.

I am delighted to be in your beautiful country and feel privileged in being the first Indian President to pay a State visit to Greece. I hope this visit will contribute to the further development and strengthening of the very friendly relations already existing between our two countries and peoples. Greece and India are situated far from each other, but only in the geographical sense. Contacts between our two countries from time immemorial are well known and there are references to colonies of Indian merchants and philosophers in old Grecian cities and theories about an Indian element in Pythagorean thought.

It is well known that Greek Art and Sciences have influenced India in many ways. These ancient contacts between our two countries have been renewed in more recent times in various ways and through high level visits. Your distinguished predecessor His Excellency President Constantine Karamanlis visited our country in March 1982, and the visit to Greece of our former Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, in 1983 as well as the visit of His Excellency Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreou, in January this year to India, are links in this long chain of history.

DEEP EMOTIONS

"India" and "Greece", these two words, when spoken in the same breath, immediately stir deep emotions in the hearts and minds of all those who think about human history, civilisation, and roots of culture for the world as a whole. Indo-Greek cultural contacts are very ancient and the two peoples interacted in various ways in the past. Philologists have established that the Greek "Zeus" is actually nothing different from the Indian "Div". Athens has produced giants of intellect and men of genius. The word democracy originated here. Village and town Republics have been known in other civilisations also. In my own country, there are records of them durig and after the Buddha's time. But the idea of all citizens meeting at one place and taking decisions of state was refined in Athens and other Greek cities.

Apart from the fact that Greece and India are both ancient civilisations with deep roots, we have other common factors in that both our peoples had to suffer from foreign domination at the hands of more aggressive forces of various kinds and we have both successfully overthrown such dominations. Having emerged into freedom and independence, both our countries are determined to work for peace and freedom in the world. This determination comes naturally to us in view of the long history, lessons of which have sunk deep into the consciousness of our peoples. In this context, I might mention that the fact that India and Greece are members of the Five Continent Peace Initiative, which has had a great impact on world public opinion, is not a coincidence, but a natural outcome of our historical experience and cultural ethos.

DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM

Mr. President, we in India are committed to the principles of democracy, as you are in Greece. We also believe in socialism and are striving to improve the lot of the people in every possible way. In the international arena we have similar views on all major problems.

The core of our foreign policy is Nonalignment. Non-alignment stands for the right of every country, big or small, to decide for itself on issues of importance and contribute to global peace and prosperity without fear or pressure.

We believe that a durable peace can be based only on peaceful coexistence, not in a dangerous and illusory search for a balance of power, which, in this nuclear age, translates into a balance of terror. Disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, is for us a matter of great concern and high priority. The six countries from Five Continents which launched the initiative for nuclear disarmament in May 1984 are linked together in a noble cause, indeed, the most important single issue facing the mankind today. I say this because one may ask what use can other human rights have, when the very right to life is threatened by an unprecedented massing of weapons of destruction. Scientists all over the world have pointed out that the consequences of a nuclear catastrophe will not be limited to any one part of the world regardless of where such nuclear explosions may take place but will affect humanity as a whole. There is, therefore, absolute justification for all countries, big and small, to demand an end to the nuclear arms race. It is very natural that the Six-Nation Initiative has got a response from people throughout the world.

BEYOND WAR AWARD

The presentation of the 'Beyond War Award' to the Six authors of the Delhi Declaration of 1985, and the simultaneous satellite relay from all six Capitals as well as headquarters of the Beyond War Organisation in the U.S., had focussed world attention on the dangers of nuclear holocaust. Recently, the six countries have on receipt of replies to their approach to the two super powers after their meeting in Mexico, again issued a statement on October 3 reiterating their belief in the need for a halt on nuclear testing and have also repeated their offer to provide assistance in verification. The recent Summit in Reykjavik has belied the hopes and aspirations of humankind. We hope that agreement to reduce the arsenals will be reached before long.

Mr. President, I am conscious of the fact that the arms race is linked closely with the existence of various political and social conflicts in the world. While in the short term we have to take urgent steps to halt the dangerous arms race, in the long run we have to work hard in solving the various political problems which bedevil relations between countries big and small. I am glad to know that the leadership of your country has always taken a positive and progressive view in this regard in various international forums. I should like to mention only a few issues this evening.

The tragic conflict between Iran and Iraq has defied solution in the last six years. De-escalation and cessation of hostilities are desired by all countries and a way has to be found to bring an end to this unfortunate conflict.

The denial of an independent State to the Palestinian people in their own homeland is a source of tension in West Asia, indeed in the world. Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab lands and we have consistently and uncompromisingly supported the Arab cause. We reaffirm our support for the struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

CYPRUS

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Peace in this region is threatened by the tension in Cyprus. We have always supported a unified, sovereign, independent and Non-

aligned Cyprus in which all communities live together in amity and goodwill. We hope that ongoing efforts to find a solution will fructify soon.

The situation in Southern Africa is explosive. The South African regime persists with its abhorrent apartheid policy. This is a blot on the dignity of the human race and potentially a dangerous factor for world peace. The international community has to put necessary pressure on the South African regime to alter its present policies.

In this context, I must refer to the problem of terrorism which poses a serious threat to peace and tranquility in many parts of the world. We in India condemn all forms of terrorism and appeal to all countries of the world to do their utmost to overcome this problem. There are cases where certain countries aid and abet directly or indirectly acts of terrorism, and this practice should come to an end. The Non-aligned Movement has also consistently condemned all forms of terrorism, whether committed by individuals or organised by States.

Excellency, I am aware that on all these issues you have similar views and I am confident that we can work together in all these spheres. Our bilateral relations are developing steadily and apart from the close political cooperation and cultural exchanges there are good prospects for economic cooperation. I am hoping to visit tomorrow a joint Indo-Greek project here and am confident that there is considerable scope for many such projects in the future in both our countries for our mutual benefits.

I have special pleasure in proposing a toast to the personal health and happiness of Your Excellency and Madame Sartzetakis, to the well-being and prosperity of the friendly Greek people and to the further consolidation of relations between our Governments and peoples.

EECE INDIA USA MEXICO ICELAND IRAN IRAQ ISRAEL CYPRUS SOUTH AFRICA

Date: Nov 03, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Speech at Luncheon by President

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail

Singh, at a luncheon hosted in his honour by H.E. Mr. Andreas Papandreou, Prime Minister of Greece on Nov 04, 1986:

Your Excellency, Mr. Prime Minister, Madame Papandreou, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to express my sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the Government and people of Greece for the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to me and to the members of my delegation; and to you, Excellency, for your kind remarks.

Greece, with its ancient civilisation and long tradition of democracy, is not unfamiliar to India. In fact, India and Greece have a relationship dating back to ancient times when there were frequent contacts between our merchants, philosophers and seafarers. We have built upon these traditional links an edifice of warm and -416>

friendly relations which need to be carefully nurtured and further strengthened at the government level through frequent and periodic exchange of visits. Your Excellency's visit to India earlier this year and my present visit should thus be seen in the context of our joint endeavours.

PRIMORDIAL EFFORTS

Mr. Prime Minister, since we achieved independence our primordial effort has been to combat poverty and want and to strive for self-reliance based on a modern and buoyant economy. To achieve these goals we launched our Five Year Plans. With planning as our guiding light and determination in our hearts, we have been able to rise from an essentially agrarian economy to the threshold of an industrialised and technologically advanced country. We do not claim to have overcome all problems as many still remain; nor have we exploited the full extent of our potential. Yet, the long strides that we have taken in the fulfilment of the aspirations of our people give us confidence and hope for the future.

Indo-Greek experience in economic cooperation and trade belies the extent of our bilateral relationship. There are prospects of giving greater content to our economic relationship. We in India have established a broad industrial base and manufacture a wide range of consumer and capital goods. We are now engaged in the next phase of industrialisation which is the upgradation of technology, management and quality. There are several areas in which we could co-operate, as identified at the first meeting of the Indo-Greek Joint Committee held in New Delhi. With the necessary follow up we should be able to raise the level of and intensify our economic and trade relationship.

SIX NATION INITIATIVE

In international affairs, no issue is more serious for humanity

than disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. It is the very survival of the human race that is at stake. The danger to the human race is compounded by the perception that a nuclear war can be limited in scope and that it can be fought and won. A nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. In the aftermath of the Reykjavik Summit which has belied the hopes and aspirations of mankind, the Six Nation Five Continent Initiative of which Greece and India are members, assumes greater significance. More now than ever before world public opinion must be mobilised to persuade the nuclear weapon powers to halt and reverse the nuclear arms race, prevent the extension of nuclear confrontation to new dimensions and proceed with all deliberate speed to the reduction of arsenals and the conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty.

The deterioration of the situation in South Africa too calls for urgent action by the International community. Nothing less than the complete eradication of the pernicious system of apartheid and the establishment of a free democratic, non-racial majority rule can be acceptable to the people of South Africa. While the international community is wavering on half-hearted measures the front-line states are bearing the brunt of vicious attacks from South Africa. It is essential that they receive financial and economic assistance to combat apartheid, to enforce sanctions against South Africa and to cope with that regime's retaliatory actions.

Peace in this region too is threatened by the tension in Cyprus. We have always supported a unified, sovereign, independent and Non-aligned Cyprus in which all communities live together in amity and goodwill. To this end, we reaffirm our strong support to the good offices mission of the U.N. Secretary General.

Excellency, it is indeed an honour and a pleasure to be in this beautiful and historic city. I look forward to seeing more of this great country. I am confident that we can expand and intensify our bilateral relationship and should explore ways of further developing co-operation between our two countries. -417>

May I ask all present here to raise their glasses and drink to the health and happiness of His Excellency the Prime Minister and Madame Papandreou and to lasting friendship and co-operation between Greece and India?

DIA GREECE USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA ICELAND SOUTH AFRICA CYPRUS

Date: Nov 04, 1986

Volume No

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Speech by President in Poland

The following is the banquet speech by Giani Zail Singh, the President of India at the dinner hosted by H.E. General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Chairman of Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, on Nov 06, 1986:

Excellency, Distinguished guests, it is a great honour and privilege to be in your beautiful country. I thank you for the gracious words of welcome and for the generous hospitality we have received. It is my first visit to Poland and I was told to prepare myself for the cold climate but the spontaneous warmth of the hospitality showered on us has more than made up for the slight chill in the air.

Since historical times, Poland and its great people have been known for their creativity and energy as well as for their valour and love of freedom. Its soil has produced the most eminent of philosophers, scientists and musicians. Though apart in geographical terms, India and Poland are close in spirit and there are deep affinities between us. We in India have great admiration for the heroic antifascist struggle waged by Poland during the Second World War. In our fight for national liberty, we drew inspiration from the manner in which the indomitable spirit of Poland and the Polish people prevailed against overwhelming odds.

In more recent times, we have followed with interest the achievements of modern Poland in building a strong, prosperous and independent State. In your earnest endeavours for national reconstruction and economic recovery, our sincere best wishes are with you - today as always.

The tradition of high level contacts has imparted a significant impetus. to the development of Indo-Polish ties over the years. Your Excellency's visit to India in February last year was a landmark and provided and excellent opportunity for a review of our wide-ranging relations.

COMMON CRUSADE

Our two nations are united in a common crusade for enduring peace which is a basic precondition for human existence and development. The problem facing us today is not merely of war and peace; important though it is. We are actually hovering between life and death with the nuclear sword of Damocles poised over our planet. We must, therefore, all direct our efforts toward the

elimination of the threat of a nuclear holocaust. Poland's commitment and contribution to disarmament are well known. We greatly appreciate the continuing support extended to the Sixnation initiatives by the Polish People's Republic and other socialist countries. It is only through common endeavours that we will be able to save this planet - the only one we have.

SAARC

We, in India, believe in peace and cooperation. It is this simple belief which underlies our attempts within the framework of the Non-aligned Movement as well as outside, to prevent the emergence of new conflicts and diminish existing tensions as far as possible. We must arrest the deterioration in the international climate. Within our own region, we have embarked on the path of intensified wideranging cooperation through SAARC. The results have been encouraging so far and the forthcoming summit in Bangalore will hopefully further accelerate the process.

Poland and India have worked together towards reduction of international

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disparities and we fully endorse Poland's efforts to promote cooperation between East and West. We welcome Poland's support of North-South cooperation. Both our countries remain dedicated to the establishment of the New International Economic Order. We look forward to continuing our excellent cooperation with Poland in various international forums.

TRADITIONAL FRIENDS

Poland and India are traditional friends. Our mutually beneficial cooperation is based on a solid foundation of understanding, respect and mutual trust. We can derive satisfaction from the overall development of our bilateral relations. We have tried to take advantage of each other's strengths to grow strong together. There is keen interest in each other's culture and traditions. A vast scope exists for mutual enrichment through further developing our cultural exchanges. Contacts between peoples add a fuller meaning and substance to relations between States.

The Indo-Polish Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation which met earlier this year in New Delhi evaluated positively the progress achieved and indicated the areas where substantial potential exists for further fruitful cooperation. We hope to double the volume of bilateral trade by 1990. Both countries stand to gain from an expansion and diversification of our ties, particularly in science and technology, trade and in economic fields.

May I request all the distinguished guests present here to join me in a toast to the health of H.E. General Wojciech Jaruzelski, Chairman of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic; to the health of all the distinguished guests; to the progress and prosperity of the friendly Polish people; to friendship and cooperation between our two countries; and last but not the least, to world peace.

LAND INDIA USA PERU

Date: Nov 06, 1986

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Speech at Indo-Polish Friendship Society

The following is the speech by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh at the meeting of the Indo-Polish Friendship Society in Warsaw on Nov 07, 1986:

Dear Friends, it gives me great pleasure to be present here and to meet the members of the Indo-Polish Friendship Society. The Society is a true reflection of the traditional friendship and cooperation which exists between our two countries, as also of the long and abiding interest and admiration our peoples have for the history, culture and achievements of each other.

SANSKRIT STUDIES

I am aware of Polish interest in India which goes back to the times of Gaspar da Gama of Poznan, who had taken up service of the Ruler of Bijapur towards the end of 15th century. Walenty Majewski had studied Sanskrit alphabet and summarised Ramayana by 1809, while Joachim Lelewel had written the 'Ancient History of India' which was considered one of the most standard works on India in those days. Contributions of pioneers like Leon Mankowski, who is considered the first Polish scholar in Sanskrit and had published a treatise on Panchatantra and Kadambari, have been remarkable. His successor Andrzej Gawronski published many a dissertation on Mrichchhakatika, Kalidasa, Bhavabhuti, and others, and this noble tradition has been successfully pursued upto modern times. I am not at all surprised to hear that there are well established Indology Departments which also teach Indian languages in the Warsaw University as well as in the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. -419>

In India the Indo-Polish Cultural Society was established in Calcutta in 1939 with poet Rabindranath Tagore as its Honorary President and Dr. S. Radhakrishnan as its President. The Indo-Polish Friendship Society was set up in Poland on 25th June, 1957. Its first President Oskar Lange, former Vice President of Poland and an eminent economist, was also known in India having participated in the drawing up of our Second Five Year Plan.

We have just completed a short tour of your historical and magnificent city and I am deeply impressed by the strength and resurgent spirit that the Polish people have displayed in rebuilding Warsaw from the rubble. I congratulate you, as citizens of this great city, on your achievement.

TIME-TESTED

Friendship between our two countries is traditional and time-tested. It is not merely between the leaders but also between the peoples. These links between our peoples have been forged by those in Poland who have known our country and have loved her. These people took great trouble to study our philosophy, culture, music and art and found the eternal human values which appeal to the Polish soul. The members of your Society are following these traditions. It is a measure of your active interest that the Indo-Polish Friendship Society has 17 branches in Poland with more than 5000 members.

We in India fully reciprocate the warm feelings and sincere friendship of the Polish people towards India and we appreciate greatly the work done here and in other branches of the Society. I take this opportunity to wish you all success in your endeavours.

DIA POLAND USA

Date: Nov 07, 1986

Volume No

1995

MAURITIUS

India-Mauritius Cultural Exchange Programme Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 12, 1986 on the India-Mauritius cultural exchange programme:

India and Mauritius signed a three year cultural exchange programme at Port Louis today, according to reports received here. The programme was signed by Smt. Krishna Sahi, India's Minister of State for Education and Culture, and Mr. A. Parsuraman, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture of Mauritius, in the presence of the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Mr. Aneerod Jugnauth. The cultural exchange programme covering the period 1987 to 1989 includes activities in the fields of education, arts and culture, youth and sports, mass media and cooperation in the field of women's rights and family welfare.

On this occasion, Smt. Sahi made a symbolic presentation of two sets of musical instruments to Mr. Parsuraman. India has already agreed to supply one thousand sets of musical instruments on a costsharing basis to the Government of Mauritius. Earlier, Smt. Sahi called on the Governor-General of Mauritius, Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, and Prime Minister Jugnauth. The Governor - General conveyed his appreciation of the growing Indo-Mauritian cultural relations. Prime Minister Jugnauth also lauded the excellent relations between the two countries which are bound by close cultural ties and ethnic bonds.

The Mauritian Minister of Housing, Lands and Town-planning, Mr. Herve Duval, handed over to Smt. Sahi a letter offering, on a 99-year lease basis, a threeacre plot of land for the construction of Indira Gandhi Centre for Promotion of Indian Arts and Culture.

Later, addressing a press conference, Smt. Sahi said that India and Mauritius had covered good ground under this programme and had incorporated items in the field of education, art and culture, information, women's welfare, exchanges with various tertiary institutions like the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, the Mauritius Institute of Education and the Mauritius College of Art. India's participation in the forthcoming International Festival of the Sea to be held in Mauritius during September-November 1987 had also been incorporated in the programme.

URITIUS USA INDIA

Date: Dec 12, 1986

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

India and Norway Sign Convention to Avoid Double Taxation

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 31, 1986 on the signing of a convention between India and Norway for the avoidance of double taxation:

A convention for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital between the Government of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway has been signed here today. This will replace the existing agreement entered into in 1959. Shri C. K. Tikku, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and ex-officio Addl. Secretary to the Government of India signed on behalf of the Government of India and Mr. Kaare Dashlen, Ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy, signed on behalf of Norway.

The new convention lays greater emphasis on the principle of source taxation. Accordingly it incorporates the changes in our tax laws in relation to taxation of investment incomes. It also restricts allowance of head office administrative expenses of Norwegian enterprises in India to limits laid down in our law. The avoidance of double taxation pursuant to the signing of this convention will greatly encourage free flow of technology between the two countries as well as investment flows. After the convention comes into force the enterprise of one country will be taxed in the other country in respect of its industrial and commercial profits only if it carries on business in that country through a permanent establishment.

Income from fees for technical services, dividends and interest will also be taxed at concessional rates, under this convention.

The new convention will come into force only after the two Governments notify each other that requisite procedures in this regard have been completed and shall have effect in respect of income arising in India from April 1, 1987 and in Norway in respect of income arising from January 1, 1987.

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RWAY INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 31, 1986

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Joint Press Release on Visit of Home Secretary

The following is the text of a Joint Press Release issued on Dec 21, 1986 on the visit of a delegation to Pakistan led by Shri C. G. Somiah, Home Secretary:

In pursuance of the decision reached by the Prime Ministers of Pakistan and India at their meeting in Bangalore in November, 1986, the representatives of the Governments of Pakistan and India met in Lahore on 20th and 21st December, 1986 at Secretary's level to discuss and work out detailed measures to cooperate in controlling illicit crossings, drug trafficking, smuggling and terrorism along the border of the two countries.

- 2. The Indian delegation was headed by Mr. C. G. Somiah, Home Secretary and comprised the following:
- (i) H.E. Mr. S. K. Singh, Ambassador of India; (ii) Mr. M. C. Mishra, Director General, Border Security Force; (iii) Mr. M. L. Wadhawan, Director General, Economic Intelligence Bureau; (iv) Mr. B. V. Kumar, Director General, Revenue Intelligence and Narcotics Control Bureau; (v) Mr. M. C. Trikha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs; (vi) Mr. Arun B. Patwardhan, Minister, Embassy of India, Islamabad; (vii) Mr. Satish Chandra, Joint Secretary (AP) Ministry of External Affairs.
- 3. The Pakistan delegation was headed by Mr. S. K. Mahmud, Secretary Interior, and comprised the following:
- (i) Maj. Gen. Hakeem Arshad Qureshi, Director-General, Pakistan Rangers, (ii) Mr. Obaid-ur Rahman Khan Director-General, PIA; (iii) Mr. Dilshad Najmuddin, Chairman, PNCB; (iv) Syed Aqeel Rizvi Member (Customs), CBR; (v) Mr. A.R. Siddiqui, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Interior; (vi) Mr. Shamshad Ahmad, Director-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; (vii) Mr. Aziz Ahmad Khan, Minister, Embassy of Pakistan, New Delhi.
- 4. The talks were held in a cordial and frank atmosphere with both sides reiterating the resolve of their respective Governments to establish good-neighbourly and cooperative relations between the two countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence, namely, sovereign equality, independence, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, territorial integrity, justice and mutual benefit. They also reaffirmed the commitment of their Governments to the Simla Agreement. They agreed that the problems discussed could find resolution on the basis of good faith and mutual trust.
- 5. On an issue raised by the Home Secretary of India; the Interior Secretary, Government of Pakistan affirmed that his Government is opposed to all forms of terrorism in Punjab and elsewhere. In this context the Government of Pakistan reiterated that it does not and will not provide any support to terrorist activities directed against India. The Home Secretary, Government

of India gave similar assurances in this context.

- 6. The two sides discussed the entire range of illegal crossborder movements and specific remedial measures such as joint surveillance of the border and a joint mechanism with solemn and binding obligations, on a reciprocal basis, against allowing the use of their respective territories for any acts or activities directed against internal peace, stability and territorial integrity of the other state. They recognised the need for evolving a common approach to resolve this problem.
- 7. It was further recognised that illegal crossings and terrorism have become closely inter-linked with each other. While agreeing to hold further discussion on these issues, both sides decided, as an immediate step towards controlling illegal -422>

border crossings, to strengthen cooperation between their Border Security Forces.

- 8. The two Secretaries reviewed the situation on the ground as it exists along the border, and agreed that the Ground Rules evolved in 1960-61 need to be reformulated. They agreed to constitute a Committee consisting of representatives of the two Ministries of External/ Foreign Affairs, two ministries of Home Affairs Interior, the Director General, Border Security Force (India) and the Director General, Pakistan Rangers. This Committee will study the two draft proposals in this behalf which had been exchanged in 1981-82 by the two sides, take into account the developments and evolution between then and now and expeditiously draft new ground rules for the consideration of the two Governments.
- 9. Both sides welcomed the decision taken at the Second SAARC Summit for the establishment of a Technical Committee on Prevention of Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking in the region. They also reaffirmed their determination to combat this evil on a bilateral level, within the framework of the Joint Ministerial Commission. Both sides agreed to implement the decision taken at the last meeting of Sub-Commission IV in this regard.
- 10. It was decided to constitute a Committee to combat narcotic trafficking

and smuggling with the following membership:

INDIA:(1) D.G. Narcotics Control Bureau; (2) D.G. Revenue Intelligence; (3) Representative of Border Security Force; (4) Representative of Finance Ministry; (5) Representative of Ministry of External Affairs.

PAKISTAN: (1) Chairman, PNCB; (2) D.G. Intelligence & Investigation, (Customs) and Central Excise); (3) Representative from Pakistan Rangers; (4) Representative from CBR (Member

Customs); (5) Representative from Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Both sides agreed that the Committee will meet periodically in order to evolve a common strategy to undertake concerted action to counter and eliminate these activities and to exchange information relating to drug traffickers and smugglers operating from either side of the land border. The two sides agreed, in this context, to exchange operational information and intelligence. They agreed that information would be supplied which may require follow-up action in either country on a basis of urgency.

11. It was agreed that the two Secretaris shall continue to remain in touch.

KISTAN INDIA USA

Date: Dec 21, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Gorbachev's Visit to India - Prime Minister's Statement

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 02, 1986 of the statement made in Parliament on December 2, 1986 by the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi on the visit of H.E. Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary to the Central Committee of the CPSU:

The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, visited India from the 25th to the 28th November at my invitation. The visit was in keeping with the established tradition of exchanges at the highest level between India and the Soviet Union. It was an important milestone in our bilateral relationship. It contributed significantly to stability in the region and peace in the world.

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I held long and intensive discussions with General Secretary Gorbachev on a wide spectrum of issues, bilateral, regional and international. Talks were held simultaneously at the senior Ministerial level. These exchanges took place in a very warm and friendly atmosphere, characterized by mutual confidence and trust. We discussed the broad outlines of our future cooperation in a longer term perspective. The rich experience of our past cooperation enabled us to explore new avenues to raise our bilateral cooperation to a qualitatively higher level. Several bilateral agreements were signed. Statements have been laid on the table of the House. The Agreement on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation encompasses the Tehri hydro-electric complex, the modernization of the Bokaro steel plant, the setting up of new coking coal mines and oil exploration in West Bengal. One important element of this agreement is the provision of local cost financing by the Soviet Union. The agreements in the economic, commercial, consular and cultural areas reflect the growing strength and dynamism of our relationship.

General Secretary Gorbachev and I agreed to restructure the pattern of our commercial and economic exchanges to realise the vast untapped potential for economic collaboration. Our Finance Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Kamentsev are working out the details. We also decided to give a major thrust to our cooperation in science and technology. Large research and development projects are being identified in frontier technologies. A Soviet teamled by Academician Marchuk, President of the USSR Academy of Sciences, will visit India shortly to discuss with our scientists the specific projects to be undertaken.

I had a very useful exchange of views with Mr. Gorbachev on the security environment in our region. We reaffirmed the continuing validity of our Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation. The joint statement issued at the conclusion of the visit reflects the close proximity or identity of perceptions of the two countries on international issues. Above all, the visit demonstrated the firm commitment of our peoples to world peace.

India has always stood for non-violence. India, in the United Nations, in the Non-aligned Movement, and through the Six-Nation Five Continent Initiative, has consistently worked for disarmament and peace. During Mr. Gorbachev's visit, the Soviet Union joined India in a common vision of a nuclear weapon free and non-violent world. The ideals of Gandhiji and Lenin have found expression in the Delhi Declaration. The Delhi Declaration is a vitally important initiative. It sets forth principles which must find universal acceptance if there is to be a peaceful future. The Declaration is being circulated as an official document by the United Nations. We commend the Declaration to the world community for acceptance.

The visit of General Secretary Gorbachev to India was memorable. It will have enduring significance for the further development of Indo-Soviet relations and the contribution of our two countries to peace and stability.

Date: Dec 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

New Areas of Cooperation in Health - Indo-Soviet Memorandum of Understanding Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 17, 1986 on the Memorandum of understanding signed between India and the Soviet Union on new areas of co-operation in health:

India and USSR signed here today the Memorandum of Understanding in the field of health. The Memorandum was signed by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, on behalf of India and by H.E. Dr. S. P. Bourenkov, Minister of Health, USSR on behalf of his country.

Shri Narasimha Rao referred to the recent discussions between the Indian -424>

Prime Minister and the General Secretary of the CPSU which had lifted the level of cooperation to new heights.

The Soviet Minister reciprocated the sentiments expressed by Shri Narasimha Rao and emphasised the need for closer cooperation in the field of scientific and medical research. He admired the work of young Indian scientists whose work and potential could be compared with any scientist in the world.

The delegation visited a number of health institutions in Agra, Bombay, Bangalore and Delhi. They held discussions with heads of these institutions. They were particularly impressed by their visit to the Naval and Air Force Medical Centres in Bombay and Bangalore respectively.

The two sides agreed to develop cooperation in space and aviation medicine; naval medicine; traditional systems of medicine (drugs of Indian systems of medicine, herbal remedies and yoga); transplant surgery and community care and control of diabetes melitus.

Recognising the need for development of joint collaboration programmes in the area of medical bio-technology, the two sides

agreed to collaborate in the areas of medical bio-technology: development of new improved vaccines, e.g. hepatitis B, influenza, malaria, etc. on the basis of genetic engineering and other advanced methods; development of immuno-diagonstics in communicable and non-communicable diseases, e.g. malaria, influenza, hepatitis A and B, AIDS, cardio-vascular, oncologic and endocrine diseases etc.; development of drug delivery systems based on liposome carriers; studies of function of immunological system on molecular and cellular level, development of methods and means of regulation of immune response; formulation of plans for establishment in India of production units for oral polio vaccine (30-50 million doses per annum capacity) with Soviet scientific assistance.

The two sides agreed to identify the coordinators for the new areas of cooperation by February 28, 1987.

Keeping in view the fact that the scope of cooperation in areas of medical sciences and public health has considerably increased, the two sides agreed to enhance the limit of exchange visits to 25 man months per year for each side from 1987 onwards.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 17, 1986

Volume No

1995

SOVIET UNION

Protocol on Long-Term Cooperation in Oil

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 19, 1986 on the Indo-Soviet protocol on long-term cooperation in oil:

India and the Soviet Union today signed a protocol on long-term programme for economic, scientific and technical co-operation in the field of oil industry which will stretch to the year 2000 AD.

The protocol was signed by the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Brahm Dutt on behalf of India and by the visiting Soviet Minister for Oil Industry, H.E. Mr. V. A. Dinkov on behalf of the USSR.

The protocol has identified for cooperation between the two countries areas of geophysics, geology, drilling, intensive

integrated exploration of hydrocarbons in Cambay, Cauvery and West Bengal and the development of oil fields.

The protocol provides for carrying out seismic surveys in West Bengal, Himalayan Foothills, Cambay, Cauvery and Tripura.

In the area of geology the protocol provides for development of geological prospecting and exploratory activity techniques and estimation of oil and gas pros--425>

pects of certain geological deposits in the western region of the country as well as in the Himalayan foredeep.

The protocol also provides for drilling in complicated geological conditions and also for transfer of technology.

The protocol also covers intensive integrated hydrocarbon exploration in North Cambay, Cauvery and West Bengal basins in accordance with the existing intergovernmental agreements.

In the area of oil fields development, the protocol provides for carrying out analysis of operating well stock and preparation of recommendations on its rational utilisation.

During his stay in the country the Soviet Oil Minister visited areas in Cambay and Cauvery basins where Soviet seismic parties have already started work and expressed his satisfaction at the progress of work in both the basins.

H.E. Mr. Dinkov also visited the BHEL's Hyderabad plant which manufactures drilling rigs. It is expected that the possibilities of Soviet Union purchasing oil rigs from the Hyderabad plant as also the possibilities of exports to third countries would be explored further.

Another group led by the Soviet Deputy Minister for Oil Industry visited West Bengal to assess areas where intensive integrated exploration is to be taken up. It is expected that after an agreement is reached over the areas to be taken up for such exploration, actual drilling would start during the later half of 1987.

DIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date: Dec 19, 1986

Volume No

Indo-Swedish Grant Aid Agreements Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 08, 1986 on the signing of an Indo-Swedish grants aid agreement:

Sweden will be an important partner in Government of India's Universal Immunisation Programme for Children and expectant mothers. The Swedish Agency For International Development has underwritten to contribute S. Kr. 70 millions during the year 1987-88. This amount is 100 per cent grant with no repayment liability and will be channelised through UNICEF.

Following the Indo-Swedish biannual consultations on December 3 and 4 agreements were signed here today between Mr. Borje Ljunggren, Assistant Director

General, Swedish Agency for International Development and Shri M. S. Mukherjee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance on behalf of their respective Governments. According to the agreements reached, Sweden has agreed to an annual allocations of SK. 370 millions equivalent to (Rs. 684.50 million) for the year 1987-88 to India for various projects.

It was agreed during the consultations that Swedish support would be intensified in the areas of forestry, health, rural drinking water, sanitation and the energy sector. Both parties noted with satisfaction the implementation of integrated rural water supply, health, education, environmental sanitation and guinea worm control project in Banswara and Durgapur districts of Rajasthan for which the -426>

Swedish side indicated an estimated allocation of 65 million Swedish Kroners equivalent to (Rs. 120.25 million) during 1987-88. The possibility of extension of this project to Udaipur district was also discussed.

The Swedish delegation also agreed to extend upto 40 million Sw. Kr. equivalent to (Rs.74.00 million) to the Tamil Nadu social forestry project and 50 million Sw. Kr. equivalent to (Rs. 92.50 million) to the Orissa social forestry project which would also be extended further. It was agreed that the social forestry project in Bihar would be extended by another three years and a total outlay of 85 million Sw. Kr. equivalent to (Rs. 157.25 million) was pledged for the year 1986-89 period. The progress made in the agro-forestry silvipisiculture project in West Bengal was also reviewed. The Swedish side expressed their desire to support Indian Institute of Forests Management, Bhopal. The

Indian side expressed its thanks to the Swedish delegation for the support received by the Logging Development Institute, Dehra Dun.

In the field of health, where the Swedish aid has been utilised for control and eradication of Malaria, Leprosy and T.B., it was agreed that the National T.B. Programme would be extended to support equipment requirements of the remaining 65 districts and the Swedish side pledged 60 million Sw. Kr. equivalent to (Rs. 111.00 million) for this programme for the next three years. The Swedish side also agreed to allocate 15 million Sw. Kr. equivalent to (Rs. 27.75 million) for a blood fractionation unit during the next year.

EDEN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA GUINEA

Date: Dec 08, 1986

Volume No

1995

UNITED NATIONS

First Asian Regional Conference - Foreign Minister's Inaugural Address

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 09, 1986 of the speech by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri N. D. Tiwari while inaugurating the First Asian Regional Conference of Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA) here today (New Delhi, December 9, 1986):

I look upon it as a culmination of the seminars IFUNA has already held in Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad and Chandigarh. Let me at the outset take this opportunity to commend the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations for the good work they are doing to disseminate the U.N. ideals among the intelligentsia and the general public in our country. I consider it a privilege to inaugurate this conference on the theme of "Peace, Security and Regional Co-operation in Asia and the Pacific" being organised by the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA). This conference is indeed an appropriate way to commemorate the International Year of Peace.

India's commitment to the cause of world peace and international co-operation and security is deep and strong. There is a continuity between India's freedom struggle based on peaceful and non-violent means and India's role since its independence of promoting international peace and co-operation. A country which

abjured violence and bloodshed in its struggle for its own freedom knew that to best maintain its independence in a divided world it had to continue a principled and moral struggle internationally for peace and co
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operation. India, under the wise leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, played a crucial role in evolving the concept of Non-Alignment and the Bandung principles of peaceful co-existence which aim above all to establish a just and equitable world order in which all nations big or small, rich or poor, can live in peace and amity and inter-act with each other on the basis of equality and dignity.

From the time that Jawaharlal Nehru on the eve of our Independence proclaimed India's determination to work for the establishment of One World, the Government and the people of India have striven consistently not merely to play an active role within the U.N., but also to strengthen the processes of multilateralism and democratisation of international system which the U.N. system represents. It is precisely because this process has gone forward with the growth and expansion of the Nonaligned Movement, whose voice is being increasingly felt in the U.N. General Assembly, that those who wish to arrest this process of democratisation of the international system have in recent years been placing obstacles in the path of its natural development and have posed a challenge to the international institutions. Democratisation at home will not be complete unless it is accompanied by democratisation on the world stage. The current challenge to multilateralism has to be overcome not only by the concerted actions of Governments, but also by a people's movement for creating better conditions of life for the vast majority of the people on this planet who are at present disadvantaged. This is where the United Nations Associations can and are playing a useful role in bringing about a greater public awareness to realise the ideals of the U.N. In India, the Government has consistently supported the efforts of the Federation of United Nations Associations in this endeavour.

The only alternative to universal destruction is universal peace. The large arsenals of nuclear weapons in existence today can destroy human civilisation many times over. Peace and security anywhere in the world cannot be guaranteed unless the threat that these nuclear weapons pose to humanity is removed. India has, therefore, always stood for total and complete destruction of nuclear weapons in order to achieve international peace and stability. India's commitment to disarmament has been one of the principle pillars of its foreign policy. Our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi reiterated this in a statement to Parliament on 2nd December, 1986 when he declared 'India has always stood for nonviolence'. India in the United Nations, in the Non-aligned Movement, and through the Six Nation Five Continent Initiative, has consistently worked for disarmament and peace.

It would be useful be to look at the Text of Indo-Soviet Declaration issued after the recent visit to India of Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, Secretary General of the Soviet Community Party. Our ideas on peace and security find eloquent expression in this Declaration, the preamble of which, among other things, says "Today, humanity stands at a crucial turning point in history. Nuclear weapons threaten to annihilate not only all that man has created through the ages, but man himself and even life on earth. In the nuclear age, humanity must evolve a new political thinking, a new concept of the world that provide credible guarantees for humanity's survival'.

The Declaration goes on to say 'Peaceful co-existence must become the universal norm of international relations'.

"Resources being spent on armament must be channelled towards social and economic development. Only disarmament can release the enormous additional resources needed for combating economic backwardness and poverty." Finally, "The balance of terror must give way to comprehensive international security. The world is one and its security is indivisible. East and West, North and South regardless of social systems, ideologies, religion or race, must join together in a common commitment to disarmament and development. International security can be guaranteed through the adoption of -428>

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integrated measures in the field of nuclear disarmament using all available and agreed measures of verification and confidence building."

But peace is not threatened by armaments alone. The prevalence of injustice, oppression and colonialism in several regions of the world and the grinding poverty of million militates against the objective of international peace and security. The wide range of the U.N.'s activities spanning economic, social, cultural and humanitarian spheres itself recognises many dimensions of peace. Its momentous contribution towards promotion of independence and national self-determination for peoples under colonial domination and the creation of an elaborate system of international cooperation for social and economic development testifies to this integrated perspective. Yet, much remains to be done. The abhorrent doctrine of apartheid, the denial of basic human rights, the exploitation of the less privileged by the more powerful and the refusal of some nations to act in the face of injustice, which we witness in Southern Africa, West Asia, Central America and other regions of the world, necessitate a more co-operative and multilateral approach to the solution of these and other problems that face humanity today.

The concepts of peace, security and regional cooperation are not limited to their political content alone. The economic

underpinnings required for international peace and stability are equally important. That is why India's quest for international peace and security has always gone hand in hand with its stress on promotion of international co-operation, especially among the developing countries. During the Seventh NAM Conference held in New Delhi, it was declared that disarmament, peace, independence and development were interlinked. The NAM looked upon itself 'as a catalyst in the efforts to transform the structure of international relations from that of imperialist subjugation and colonial domination and exploitation towards equitable world order based on independence, equality, justice, cooperation and development.'

International peace and cooperation cannot be delinked from the need for a reformed world economic order. India has recognised since a long time that the present world economic order is unjust and discriminates against the poorer developing countries. India has always been calling upon the developed countries to open their markets to exports from the developing countries and for lowering of trade barriers on exports from the developing world to the developed as it has always believed that prosperity of the world is indivisible and increase in world trade would bring benefits for all. It has always been advocating the strengthening of bonds of cooperation among developing countries in order that they may be able to negotiate with the developed world from a position of greater strength so as to ensure that their just demands are realised.

In fact, India was among the first developing countries which recognised the necessity of stepping up economic cooperation among themselves in the framework of what is now called South-South Co-operation. This idea goes back at least to the Bandung Conference of 1955 of which India was a Founding Member. India has also been one of the most energetic members of the Group of 77 which came into existence in 1963, sparing no efforts to advocate the common cause of developing countries in various world forums.

In the quest of a stable international order, the developing countries have become more and more aware of the advantages that would flow from increased economic, monetary and commercial cooperation among them and these espirations were given a concrete shape during the Seventh Summit held in New Delhi in March, 1983 which envisaged economic cooperation among developing countries in 22 spheres ranging from raw materials, trade, transport and industry, monetary -429>

and financial cooperation, scientific and technological development.

In our region efforts are being made in favour of greater cooperation and understanding within the framework of SAARC. The

SAARC Summit held in Bangalore recently is carrying the momentum in this direction further. For us SAARC is yet another forum for greater cooperation between nations in which India is actively participating.

Under the leadership of our esteemed Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, India continues to play an active role in the promotion of international peace, security and cooperation. India's support for the North-South dialogue, South-South Cooperation as well as for strengthening of multilateralism and international institutions, particularly the United Nations system, contribute to achieving these cherished objectives of its foreign policy.

We appreciate the consistent efforts made by IFUNA to disseminate the ideals of internationalism and One World and will continue to support the good work it is doing in this field. I wish IFUNA all success.

DIA USA INDONESIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date: Dec 09, 1986

Volume No

1995

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

India Signs Memorandum of Understanding with Yemen

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 02, 1986 of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and the Yemen Arab Republic:

India has offered technical know-how and expertise to Yemen Arab Republic to strengthen its communication and satellite systems.

A Memorandum of Understanding, to this effect, was signed here last night. The Union Communications Minister Shri Arjun Singh, signed the Memorandum of behalf of India and the visiting Yemen Minister for Communications and Transport, Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Anesi, signed the Memorandum on behalf of Yemen.

Indian technicians are already working in Sanna to help the Yemen Government to build telephone exchanges and television receiving centres. The Yemen Minister, who had long discussions with Shri Arjun Singh, expressed the hope that the two countries would cooperate in the areas on Telecommunication expansion, educational training and rural telephone exchanges.

Mr. Al Anesi also visited various communication installations in India, during this visit, including the electronic switching factory at Mankapur in U.P., the Hindustan Teleprinters Factory at Madras and Keltron in Trivandrum.

The Minister also lauded the role played by the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd., in the expansion of communication system in Yemen Arab Republic.

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MEN INDIA USA

Date: Dec 02, 1986

Volume No

1995

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 31, 1986 on the signing of a double taxation avoidance agreement between India and the Yemen Arab Republic:

An agreement for avoidance of double taxation of income derived from international air transport between India and the Yemen Arab Republic was signed here on December 30, 1986. Shri C. K. Tikku, Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes and ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Government and H.E. Mr. Naser Aalway Alsaman, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance, Yemen Arab Republic signed on behalf of their respective Governments.

Under this agreement, the designated airlines of the two countries will be mutually exempted from income tax in respect of income arising to them from operation in the other country, from the beginning of such international operation by the airlines.

MEN INDIA

Date: Dec 31, 1986

Volume No

ZIMBABWE

India and Zimbabwe to Step Up Trade

The following is the text of a press release issued in New Delhi on Dec 16, 1986 on the Ministerial-level trade talks between India and Zimbabwe:

Ministerial level trade talks between India and Zimbabwe were held in New Delhi on December 16, 1986 with both sides expressing keenness to enlarge trade and economic relations on a mutually beneficial basis.

Initiating the three-day talks, the Commerce Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shanker said that the range and volume of commodities and equipment being supplied to Zimbabwe gave one the hope that Indo-Zimbabwe trade was poised for a steady increase while trade under credit and counter trade deals had been serving a very useful purpose in introducing Indian equipment, machinery and consumer goods to Zimbabwe, the Minister said the time had come for both the countries to step up bilateral trade to higher levels.

In this context, Shri Shiv Shanker announced that the Export-Import Bank (EXIM) of India had proposed the offer of Rs. 100 million (equivalent to Zimbabwean \$ 13 million) as a line of credit to facilitate trade between India and Zimbabwe. He indicated this would be discussed and finalised during the current talks.

Shri Shiv Shanker said India could be a dependable source of supplies for a wide range of commodities, equipment and machinery that could meet Zimbabwe's consumption and production requirements. In the case of supply of capital goods, machinery or complete plants India, he said, was keen to complement the trade aspect with government to government assistance in the form of transfer of technology involving deputation of experts, transfer of technical know-how, training of indigenous cadres and other elements of software assistance. Such assistance is offered either on a cost-free -431>

basis or on terms of technical cooperation among developing countries. India already has such arrangements for preparing feasibility studies on calcination of Zimbabwean Kyanite, manufacture of refractory bricks and for the cultivation of rubber in the Eastern highlands of Zimbabwe under such cooperation arrangements.

Shri Shiv Shanker said India would like to offer her experience

and expertise to Zimbabwe for cooperation in the fields of power generation, hydro-electric projects, development of mines including mining equipment and machinery and transport.

In his response, the Zimbabwean Minister of Foreign Trade, Dr. Oliver Munyaradzi, who is leading a seven-member Zimbabwean delegation at the trade talks, said Zimbabwe was keen to expand its economic and trade ties with India as one of the most industrialised of the developing nations and emphasised that India could emerge as a major source of imports for Zimbabwe. He indicated, in this connection, his country's interest in importing rice and jute from India.

Dr. Munyaradzi said Zimbabwe attached great significance to trade talks with India in the context of the setting up of the AFRICA Fund following the Harare Non-aligned Summit and expressed his country's appreciation of the support and solidarity expressed by India in the struggle against Apartheid.

He said his country would look forward to India playing an active role in developing state trading organisations in Zimbabwe and indicated that his delegation had had useful discussions in this regard with the State Trading Corporation (STC) of India here yesterday.

Development of small industries was another area where Zimbabwe would welcome Indian assistance.

It was mentioned that the National Small Industries Corporation (NSTC) and its counterpart had entered into a dialogue for the setting up of 13 small industries in Zimbabwe.

On the question of State Trading Organisations, Shri Shiv Shanker said India would be happy to render all forms of assistance to the State Trading Organisation of Zimbabwe. He indicated that State Trading Organisations in India could be associated with the Zimbabwean trading organisation in joint bulk procurement of any of Zimbabwe's requirements so as to effect economies of scale and also join hands with them in exports of Zimbabwean products to new markets.

Shri Shiv Shanker said the State Trading Organisations of the two countries could maximise trade among themselves with the added advantage that government organisations like the state trading bodies would be more sensitive to the developmental needs of Zimbabwe when contemplating transfer of technology from India.

The average annual trade turnover between India and Zimbabwe is of the order of about Rs. 12.40 crores (based on 1984 figures). The level of Indian exports is about Rs. 4.9 crores.

Shri P. R. Dasmunshi, Minister of State for Commerce, was present at today's talks.

The meeting was also attended by the Commerce Secretary, Shri Prem Kumar, senior officers of the Ministries of Commerce, Industry, Finance, and External Affairs as well as representatives of NSIC, HMT, MECON, NRDC, STC and MMTC. -432>

MBABWE INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date: Dec 16, 1986