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INDIA AUSTRIA USA BANGLADESH FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN CHINA
JAPAN SWEDEN

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

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AUSTRIA

Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Prime Minister Mrs. Indurate Gandhi at the dinner given in honour of Dr. Bruno Kreisky on January 31, 1980:

This is the first visit of the Head of the Government of Austria to India. I have pleasure in welcoming you on my own behalf, on behalf of my Government and the people of India. But you are not a stranger to India. Your acquaintance and friendship with my father dates back to the "Conference against Imperialism" in Brussels in 1927.

CREATIVE TEMPERAMENT

The elegance and warm spontaneity of the Austrian spirit is reflected in your fine arts. Vienna has inspired some of the most beautiful poetry and music and charms all who get to know this enchanting city. Apart from this aesthetic response, there is appreciation of the creative temperament evident in the original work of your countrymen in psychology, medicine, genetics and philosophy and respect for your technological advance. Today, Vienna houses the headquarters of important international organisations, including the UNIDO which has brought you here. The value of Austria to the world community goes far beyond its size.

Located as it is in Central Europe, and with its sad experience of Nazi domination followed by the conflicts of the post war era, it was natural for Austria to assume the position of an alert and positive neutrality. Our own circumstances were and remain very different; hence our commitment to non-alignment, which means not aloofness or blindly following any power or bloc

but assessing each issue on its merits.

THEATRE OF CONFLICT

Europe was the battlefield of two world wars. The fear of a third far more destructive war led to truce albeit a somewhat uneasy one. But even that detente is now being abandoned, for the theatre of conflict is no longer in Europe but in Asia. We feel the reverberations and hear the clash of rival powers around us. Nations are being asked to stand up and be counted, as if partisanship were the test of rectitude. Not by such simple drawing of lines can right and wrong be judged, nor peace and stability restored to troubled regions. Human beings would not be seen as geo-strategic zones on maps. They deserve to be treated as people struggling against the inequities of centuries, struggling for justice and equality.

We admire your efforts to preserve Austria in tranquil prosperity. Because we appreciate your concern for certain values, we expect greater understanding of our own aspirations and fears. We have experienced colonialism. We see once again the interference of powerful elements. We may be a long way from riches, but India is not amenable to manipulation. We must strive for stability in our region by the only feasible approach, by attempting to lessen tensions. The intrusions of others in this process, however well-meant will be futile if not malignant. We resist them.

ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST

All these years we have endeavoured to create an atmosphere of trust and to im-

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prove mutual relationships. Our policy is independent and dynamic aimed at peace and active cooperation with all countries, including in particular our neighbours.

Mr. Chancellor, we hold you in esteem for your zeal to redress the inequalities of the global economy and the imbalance of the Present world economic system. Austria

has endeared itself to us by giving of its expertise and technology. More can be done to further our cooperation. We look forward to continuing our bilateral consultations and to enlarging our cooperation to mutual benefit.

AUSTRIA USA INDIA BELGIUM MALI

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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AUSTRIA

Dr. Kreisk's Speech at Prime Minister's Dinner

Replying to the toast H.E. Dr. Kreisky said.

I am most grateful for the warm welcome and sentiments you Madam Prime Minister have just expressed in respect of my country. I am very grateful for the time you have taken because I am well aware of your many commitments and pressing issues.

Earlier this month, the Indian people have exercised their democratic right. India, indeed is the most populous democracy of the world. Only a few days ago, you have been celebrating the 30th anniversary of your Republic and I should like to extend my very best wishes to the Indian people on this occasion.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

My visit to India coincides with the deterioration of international situation which is with all its potential consequences of greatest concern to all of us and of course in particular to yours immediate region.

As I have already stated today, it is my conviction that the need for policy of detente is indispensable in order to maintain peace and security. In my opinion, all must exercise utmost restraint and meticulous observance of internationally recognised principles which permit us to achieve again an international climate conducive to now progress in the process of detente.

Under the able leadership of your distinguished father, Madam, whose memory I recall with great respect, India was one of the first nations to oppose division of world between super-powers and interference in the affairs of other countries. Non-aligned Movement emanating from these efforts has in the mean-time become an important factor in world politics. As a permanently neutral country Austria's views and interests coincide with those of non-aligned countries. It is therefore, for many years, I attended the conferences of the Movement as a guest.

If I turn to our bilateral relations only until now, it is because I have been free of problems and then very friendly over the years, but we are also very much aware of the great achievements India has already attained.

BONDS OF CONTACT

In the year when we celebrate the 25th anniversary of regaining our full independence in Austria. I should like to recall once again Prime Minister Nehru, whose Government's willingness to assist us in 1953 during the international negotiation for conclusion of Austrian State Treaty, is still very much in our mind. India was also amongst the first who recognised our neutrality. I am glad to note here that it was possible to intensify since our last meeting. Our cooperation in particular in economic, but also in agriculture and recently in scientific field.

On the political level, India's significant role in non-alignment and also its per-

manent neutrality offered, as I mentioned before many bonds of contact for closer working together in the international field, mainly at the United Nations.

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It is now nine years that you Madam, have paid your last visit to Austria. And I would therefore, appreciate if you would accept an invitation for an official visit to Austria.

May I now ask Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join me in a toast to the friendship between India and Austria, to your personal success and well-being.

AUSTRIA USA INDIA PERU

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

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BANGLADESH

President Sanjiva Reddy's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet given on January 21, 1980 in honour of the President of Bangladesh, Mr. Ziaur Rahman:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome His Excellency President Ziaur Rahman of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Begum Zia and the member of his delegation.

Your Excellency is among our first guests after the recent elections. This is our seventh general elections. It is a matter of immense satisfaction to us that democracy has taken deep roots in our country.

Our people have time and again demonstrated their will in clear and unmistakable terms.

Excellency, my Government is committed to friendly relations with all countries of the world. But we are clear that harmony and cooperation with our neighbours must form the bedrock of our policy. The pattern that we have jointly evolved to resolve our bilateral problems through peaceful discussions has served us well and we are confident that if we continue to use it with patience and goodwill there is no problem which is unsurmountable.

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Both our governments are dedicated to the task of building the economy for the good of our people. To this end, we have to harness the natural resources which may be available to us. The most effective and most efficient utilisation may well transcend borders and we have therefore sought the cooperation of all our neighbours in this gigantic task. One of the most important priorities for countries heavily dependent on agriculture like Bangladesh and India is the utilisation of water resources. We have made a start in the establishment of a co-operative framework in this direction. It now only needs the impetus of the joint will of the two governments and the two peoples to make this dream of utilising our common river resources for mutual benefit and to the advantage of both our countries. In like manner there are many possibilities for the collaboration and cooperation which would enrich both Bangladesh and India if we were to implement them together. Our Governments have taken up some of these proposals and we hope that we can see our way to a positive and constructive era of bilateral cooperation and progressively strengthening ties.

Excellency, our sub-continent has witnessed many tides of history. Many greatmen who have sprung from our soil have made significant contributions to human civilisation. On this occasion, I would like to recall some of the teachings of the Father

of our Nation Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhiji stressed the vital importance of facing reality with courage and without fear. Only when reality is faced without fear can solutions be found to difficult problems.

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The traditional ties between India and Bangladesh are derived from our common history, language and culture. Both of us face similar problems. Both our peoples firmly believe in democracy. As members of the Non-aligned fraternity of nations, we share many common approaches to world problems. We can work together for the benefit of all mankind.

Excellency, your present visit has been much too short. We would very much like you to come again and see more of our country. We would like to show, Your Excellency, the developments in science and technology which have taken place in India over the past three decades of our independence. I have no doubt that Your Excellency would try to find the time to pay us a longer visit in not too distant a future.

BANGLADESH USA INDIA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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BANGLADESH

President Ziaur Rahman's Speech at President's Dinner

Replying to the toast, H.E. Mr. Ziaur Rahman said:

It gives great pleasure and satisfaction to myself and my wife and the members of my delegation to be here tonight. My visit

to Delhi, though very brief, has afforded me an excellent opportunity to meet and exchange views with Your Excellency, Her Excellency the Prime Minister and other leaders of India. The warm welcome and generous hospitality received by us since our arrival this afternoon reflect not only the traditional Indian hospitality but also the close and friendly relations that happily exist between our two countries.

Bangladesh and India have many close ties rooted in history and our shared values. As close neighbours the relations between our two countries are marked by efforts for peace and stability in the region and increasing cooperation in various fields for the benefit of our peoples in a spirit of mutual respect, trust and understanding. It is also a matter of satisfaction that both of our countries, committed as we are to the democratic way of life and the principles of non-alignment hold similar views on many of the international issues.

I am grateful to His Excellency President Reddy for the courtesy, kindness and hospitality extended to us. I am particularly happy to have the opportunity of meeting Her Excellency the Prime Minister so soon after her assumption of office and I avail myself of this opportunity to offer her once again our warmest congratulations and to wish Her Excellency all success. I am confident that the useful exchange of views in Delhi would contribute to further consolidation of the existing friendly relations between Bangladesh and India.

Distinguished guests, may I now invite you to join me in a toast: to the health and happiness of His Excellency President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and Mrs. Reddy; to the health, happiness and well-being of Her Excellency Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi; to the health of the distinguished guests present here; to the continued progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Republic of India; and to the ever-growing friendship and continued cooperation between Bangladesh and India.

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FRANCE

President Sanjiva, Reddy Welcomes President and Madame Giscard d'Estaing

Following is the text of President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy's welcome speech at Delhi Airport on January 25, 1980:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome President and Madame Giscard d'Estaing and other distinguished members of the French delegation as our guests.

Your Excellencies are among the first distinguished guests visiting India so soon after our recent elections. It gives us a great pleasure that you, Mr. President and Madame Giscard d'Estaing, will grace the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of our Republic Day. Our people have admired and in turn been inspired by the rich democratic and republican traditions of France. We share with your people the ideals of Liberty, Fraternity and Equality which along with justice have been deeply enshrined in our Constitution.

Today in welcoming you we hail a statesman of vision who is deeply reflective of the currents of our time and perceptive to the challenges faced by developing countries.

The initiative you have taken for promoting a dialogue between the developed and developing countries was bold and imaginative. We value your continued efforts to reduce tensions between the nations of the world community.

We are confident that your visit will provide an opportunity for further consolidation- of the spirit of cooperation and understanding which exists between our two countries.

On behalf of the Government and people of India, and on my own behalf, allow me to wish you a very pleasant stay in India.

FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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FRANCE

President Giscard d'Estaing's Speech

Replying to the welcome accorded by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the French President, H.E. Mr. Valery Giscard d'Estaing said:

I wish to salute to India, a historic country with religious traditions which date back to thousands of years and whose thoughts and art are a part of the great treasures of humanity.

I wish to salute to India with its powerful industry, its ever-developing agriculture, its scientific and intellectual elite, which is among the most brilliant in the world.

I wish to salute to the greatest democracy in the world, at a time when it has once again proved its vigour.

To India I bring greetings from France. My visit is placed under the sign of our regard and esteem.

I am convinced that our meetings will confirm these sentiments, to which India and France bear witness from time imme-

morial and will enhance the reasons to strengthen our ties in the world of today.

As they are taking place at a difficult time for the world, and particularly for your continent, these talks will enable us to seek together the means to make the causes of peace, freedom, human dignity and social and economic development prevail.

It is in this spirit that as the first President of France to visit your country. I today am delighted to be your guest and that of the Indian people, to which the French people address through me, their feelings of friendship and high regard.

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FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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FRANCE

President Sanjiva Reddy's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy at the banquet given in honour of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France, on January 25, 1980:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you and Madame Giscard d'Estaing to India along with your delegation, which we are happy to note, includes your distinguished Foreign Minister and Minister of Trade. It is our privilege that you have chosen India as the first country in Asia for a State visit. We know you had visited India as Finance Minister in 1973, but this time you have given us the distinction of receiving you as

the first President of France ever to visit India. We are confident that this visit will provide a unique opportunity for the establishment of close bonds between the newly-elected Government of India and your administration. It will also consolidate and strengthen the growing bilateral relations between our two countries.

RICH CULTURE

The people of India have always held France in great esteem. Having recently been through the great participatory experience of a general election, we recall with admiration the ideals of French democracy and institutions. Equally, we admire your free and progressive society, your innovative genius and intellectual life, the beauty of your art forms and the legacy of your rich culture.

As we enter the decade of the eighties, we cannot but be conscious of the dangers menacing the world. The security of countries big and small, powerful and weak, seems to be undermined by a range of intractable forces, such as mistrust and power-play between great powers, economic inequalities and shortages, inflation and terrorism. In our own environment we are gravely concerned by the return of the chilly blast of cold war. We oppose intervention, whether overt or covert, by great

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powers, into the affairs of other countries especially small and non-aligned countries.

PEACE AND STABILITY

It is our firm view that the Indian sub-continent could develop as a bastion of peace and stability if left to itself and if great power rivalry is kept far hence. We are vitally concerned in the security and integrity of the countries of the region. But if others take a hand in it out of a desire to establish their own pattern of global strategy and thereby make our efforts for peace and stability in our region more difficult, we shall lose no time in safeguarding our interests. As a non-aligned country, India feels that this policy is more than ever rele-

vant with return of the acerbities; of cold war. Our nonalignment is not a curtain to conceal what is happening around us. On the other hand, it allows us to take a positive stand on all issues. We greatly appreciate that France maintains independence of judgement and upholds the right of all nations to decide the course of their own internal affairs. France's interest in safe guarding detente and globalising its scope is identical with ours.

India has always opposed exploitation in any form or garb. We are committed to the establishment of a just international economic order. Much has been said about this, but so little has been done. We feel it should be the ambition of like-minded people like the French and the Indians to cooperate in creating a world free of its present glaring inequalities. The UNIDO Conference which is taking place in Delhi is a sign of our earnest desire for international cooperation in these fields.

France and India have also much to share in the great global task of disarmament. It is obvious that world peace cannot be realised by balancing one missile against another. You have taken some interesting initiatives in this regard and we would be glad to know more about you thinking.

VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

France is a founder member of the European Community and, under your leadership, has emerged as a sane and liberal voice in West Europe. The vision of France, of building a united and constructive Europe making its valuable contribution to the adventures of the human mind and spirit, will be an inspiration for the world. Our own relations with the European Community have increased in scope and value. We look forward to their developing greater maturity on the basis of a better perception of the interests and needs of India and other developing countries. France can play an important role in shaping the policies of the European Community in this direction. We are confident that, as a result of your visit

many new exchanges in the economic, technological and cultural fields will be initiated between the two countries and energetically pursued.

The only note of regret I have tonight is that your visit to India is so brief. We would have wished you to see something of the variety of India, both the age-old and the ultramodern, and all the stages in between. But we understand the pressing nature of your responsibilities. We must content ourselves with the pleasure of your being our chief guest at the Republic Day tomorrow and hope that the pageant of India which you witness there will tempt you to come again at leisure.

FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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FRANCE

President Giscard d'Estaing's Speech at the President's Banquet

Replying to the toast, H.E. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing said:

Mr. President, about five thousand years separate us from those who on the shores of Eurasia gave birth to the tribes and people from whom we are descended. Since then, as we must admit, our acquaintance needs to be renewed.

As the first President of the French Republic to be received in India, I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to further our friendship which is based in our Common origin and strengthened by a common love of democratic principles.

As one of the oldest and most admir-

able civilisations which has the advantage of having lasted so long, India has a privileged relationship with eternity., Nowhere else, has man sought to the same extent, to bridge the boundary of time and to resist through the permanance of culture and his living conception of the world, which summarises the basic concept of Hinduism: that is the illusory succession of events.

STRUGGLE FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Indian tradition obsessed by eternity is in no way less concerned with humanity. No other civilisation can take the credit for having so early recognised and respected the difference between human beings, considered all forms of life as being on an equal plane, and cultivated tolerance, in short preached "Non-Violence" - this Ahimsa - that Gandhi epitomised until his death.

The conciliation between the eternal India, and modern India now engaged in struggle for development may not be a matter of course.

The greatness of India is to take her place in the modern world without losing any of her identity. Thus undoubtedly she would find in this tension the familiar conflict between meditation and action that the heroes of the Bhagavad Gita as well as the founders of modern India: Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru had experienced.

Thirty-three years after her Independence, India, thanks to the foresight and energy of her leaders and to the work of her people, can be proud of having made standing achievements.

These were first of all the political unification of the nation. Through her attach-

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ments to democracy India has just give us striking evidence of her political maturity.

Afterwards one saw the emergence of a modern state. Within three decades India

has become an industrial power, she has endowed herself with scientific research of renown. The presentation of the Nobel Prize to India bears witness to this. At the cost of great effort she has managed to attain an agriculture production which fulfills the basic needs of a population of over 600 million people.

If as a matter of course all the problems are not solved indeed made more acute due to the primary problem - the population - through determination to carry out the more adaptable and restrained solutions, that the more rational solutions, they will all in turn be solved.

POLITICAL COOPERATION

The friendship and confidence that exists between India and France is a precious asset? It is our task today, to enrich our relationship. This is the purpose of my visit.

First of all let me speak on the level of political cooperation.

Given the present circumstances particularly in this continent, India and France, with respect to world affairs, show the same attachment to the principles that guarantee the security of relations between nations. This principles do not constitute for us and abstract code skirting the reality of the present situation.

On the contrary we view them as the necessary oil to lubricate the cogs of our international life. If this oil is lacking or dries up these cogs will wear away and eventually break down and cease function.

On the political level these bring themselves to mind: The build up of tension in the world, disarmament and development.

For the several months one has seen the build up of tension in the world. Certainly, the preceding period has not been exempt neither from tension, nor from external interventions on the Asiatic continent. But the world community has reacted to this by circumscribing these tensions or

limiting the effect of these interventions, sometimes by imprudently affecting ignorance.

Today, the reaction is different. In the presence of interventions which French finds unacceptable, as each time they tend to take the place of the legitimate rights of the peoples to have their independence respected and to choose their own destiny, it is as if the international community was resigned to embarking on a new competitive struggle for power, accompanied by a hardening of international relations, reorganised around two blocks.

Of course while France wishes to remain true to her allies, her role will be to continually explore ways of reducing international tension. She will do this without illusions or complaisance seeking carefully to ensure her own security and without ignoring the responsibility she incur? She feels that her mission lies in never giving in to the irrevocable and in supporting all measures which will lead to a peaceful organisation of the world.

And with this role and mission in mind with which country can she achieve this better than with India?

WORLD BLOCS

As a major asiatic power and founder of the non-aligned movement, has not India been among the first nations to oppose the division of the world between blocs and to struggle for the maintenance of the balance of power which preserves independence and liberty? This I propose a common research to find ways of reducing these tensions and restoring confidence in the concrete respect for these principles to which we adhere. My visit perhaps offers us the possibility to lay the foundations for this research.

The second subject which we will take up is disarmament. Accumulations of arms poses risks for our society and for governments. These risks are far more dangerous than any we have known in the past. Any action taken in this regard is subject to two

"musts" which must be reconciled. The must be mutual trust without which it would be vain to seek an affective limitation of arms: the security which each of us countries is entitled to.

When new tensions appear mutual trust naturally wanes and it is the pre-occupation with security that prompts governments to raise their arms stocks, the supply of which they consider necessary. It is for this reason that disarmament and security go hand in hand with a reduction of tensions. This mutual trust is also the reason for which detente cannot be considered in isolation: as detente is by its very nature and all embracing phenomena. The world of today is ample proof of this.

I know the interest that India has shown in such problems in international forums and the support she has given to our efforts in the United Nations. We should persue and further develop the dialogue which has started and is necessarily related to the one which I suggested earlier.

Development will be the third subject to which we will give our attention.

In this sphere India can legitimately point to her own experience, which will make her one of the great economic powers of the future. On the other hand France, moving in a spirit of solidarity, which has led her to pursue an unparallel policy of cooperation, is sensitive to the aspirations which are being expressed the world over for more justice and welfare. She is also conscious of the threat of disordered economic relations which looms at large. Thus France took a major initiative in the North South dialogue to which India has concurred with from the very beginning. This is a task which requires a great deal of imagination and determination, specially in order to find and suggest new concepts with a view to a more rational and just organisation of relations between our two countries. I invite India to ponder with us over

these problems which are crucial for the future of mankind.

Such a political dialogue can only attain its true dimensions if it is based on the rock of economic and cultural relations between our two countries.

INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATION

During the last ten years, the volume of our commercial exchanges has gone up six fold. More than a hundred technical and industrial agreements have been concluded, important projects have permitted French industry to use to their fullest the complementarity of our resources and our technology.

What is necessary now is that these results correspond to the respective importance of our two countries.

France is desirous of going ahead. The first-task at hand is to explore new sectors in the industrial as well as in the agricultural spheres. It then behoves us to expand our cooperation in spheres where it already exists such as metallurgy, chemicals and petrochemicals, energy, electronics and tele-communication in accordance with our priority.

It is also necessary to reinforce our cooperation and to exchange our experiences in spheres which are relatively new: such as spatial science, nuclear energy, computer sciences and new energy sources: technological spheres which will determine the future of our planet towards the end of the twentieth century.

French authorities are desirous of making a substantial contribution to this Programme through encouraging the initiatives made by the private sector and through the pursuit of their own activities, as well as their policies of assistance and financial cooperation in order to ensure the implementation of common projects.

Mr. President, France wishes to strengthen its political dialogue and its co-

operation with India. A further strengthening of relations between our two countries has become the pressing need of the hour taking into consideration the perspective positions that they hold in their continents as well as in the world.

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Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to raise your glasses to drink a toast to the President of India and Mrs. Reddy, to the Prime Minister of India and to the prosperity and happiness of the great Indian people and to the friendship that I hope will never cease to grow between our two countries.

FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA INDIA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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FRANCE

Joint Declaration by the Prime Minister of India and President of Republic of France

Following is the text of Joint Declaration by the President of the Republic of France and, the Prime Minister of India released in New Delhi on January 27, 1980:

The President of the Republic of France
Valery Giscard d'Estaing
and

The Prime Minister of India
Indira Gandhi

Gravely concerned at the deterioration of the international situation which could endanger world peace;

Convinced of the necessity of basing international relations on respect for the universally recognized principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

Conscious of the special responsibilities which devolve in the present critical times, on France and India because of their respective policies of detente and non-alignment;

1) Solemnly declare that:

(i) Any situation arising out of the use of force in international relations and intervention or interference in internal affairs of sovereign States is inadmissible;

(ii) In order to stop further escalation, all States should refrain from any action which could intensify great power rivalry and bring back the cold war, especially through dangerous arms build-up liable to threaten peace and stability in sensitive regions;

(iii) It is necessary to restore conditions in which the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States can be preserved and the right of their peoples to freely determine their own destiny without outside interference assured;

(iv) Respect for and implementation of these principles do not prejudice any State's legitimate security interests and would, in fact, go a long way towards safeguarding them.

2) Accordingly, the President and the Prime Minister have decided to take all necessary initiatives to defuse present tensions and to help create a climate of mutual trust and confidence. To this end, they will remain in close consultation with each other.

3) The President and the Prime Minister appeal to all States, Particularly the most Powerful ones, to recognise the gravity of

the danger and to bend all their efforts to avert it.

FRANCE INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA PERU

Date : Jan 01, 1980

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FRANCE

Joint Communiqué

The following is the text of Joint Communiqué issued by India and France in New Delhi on January 29, 1980:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the Republic of France and Mrs. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing paid a state visit to India, from January 25 to 29, 1980, during which they attended the Republic Day celebrations as guests of honour. This visit, which was the first state visit by a President of the Republic of France to India, took place in the warm and friendly

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atmosphere which has always characterised the relations between India and France.

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India held extensive talks on the whole range of international issues. They also reviewed the relations between the two countries in all fields as well as ways to further develop them in consonance with the desire for co-operation which exists on both sides. These talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, trust and understanding.

In these talks, the French side consisted of Mr. Jean François-Poncet, Minister of

Foreign Affairs; Mr. Jean-Francois Deniau, Minister of Foreign Trade; Mr. Jacques Dominati, State Secretary to the Prime Minister; Mr. Jacques Wahl, Secretary-General of the Presidency; and Mr. Andre Ross, Ambassador of France to India.

The Indian side consisted of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs; Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce; Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary; and Shri M. Rasgotra, Ambassador of India to France.

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India affirmed that a deeper and more comprehensive dialogue was highly desirable. To this end, they agreed on the need to increase consultations between the two countries at all levels in order to keep each other informed of their respective view points and to determine through such consultations the contribution which India and France could make to peace and international co-operation. Therefore the President and the Prime Minister have agreed to hold periodic consultations alternatively in France and India. These meetings will be arranged to suit mutual convenience.

DEMOCRATIC VALUES

They stressed the importance of democratic values which the peoples of both countries cherish. They believe that these values should find expression in the relations between nations and particularly in the scrupulous respect for the sovereignty of all countries and the right of all nations to determine their own destiny. This respect constitutes the very basis of peace and security among nations. Any other path can only lead to the aggravation of tensions and all the consequences which map follow.

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the international situation in the light of the developments which have occurred in the past year in different regions of the world, in particular, Asia.

Concerned with these tensions, they have deemed it necessary to adopt the solemn declaration which they have signed in New Delhi on January 27, 1980.

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed that in West Asia only an overall settlement of the conflict with the participation of all interested parties, is capable of establishing a just and lasting peace. This settlement implies the withdrawal of Israel from occupied territories, the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and, in particular, their right to a homeland and the right of all the countries of the region to live in peace within secure, recognised, and guaranteed borders. These principles, which form an indissoluble entity, apply to all interested parties, including the Palestinian Liberation Organisation.

The situation in Africa was carefully examined. The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their abhorrence of the system of racial discrimination, including apartheid and reiterated their adherence to the principle of self-determination of non-self-governing territories. In this respect, they noted with interest and hope the evolution initiated in Rhodesia-Zimbabwe. Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing recalled the main outlines of France's African policy and underlined the importance which it attaches to a close and continuing consultation with the Governments of Africa as witnessed by the Franco-African Conferences. The Indian side took note of this useful exposition with interest.

MEASURES FOR DISARMAMENT

Concerned by the intensification of the arms race in all its aspects, notably that of

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the most heavily armed powers, the President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India confirmed their determination to pursue efforts to bring about effective and verifiable measures for disarmament. They consider that a realis-

tic approach to disarmament must be founded on the recognition of the right of all countries to security as well as of regional conditions. They believe that the task of disarmament cannot remain the prerogative of some powers alone.

They expressed satisfaction at the cooperation between the delegations of their two countries in the new bodies created in Geneva and New York, following the debates of the Tenth Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly devoted to disarmament and agreed to pursue it. They expressed the hope that real progress would be achieved at the Disarmament Committee and the Disarmament Commission of the United Nations.

The Indian side recalled with appreciation the French President's personal interest in promoting the North-South Dialogue. The president of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India noted that the present state of the world economy calls for a new effort of cooperation on the part of developing countries as well as industrialised countries. This would underscore their inter-dependence and ensure their solidarity. In such a spirit and recognising that much remains to be done, they stressed their common determination to work for the success of the forthcoming Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly which could set the stage for a new and fruitful round of North-South global negotiations. Noting that UNIDO-III was currently in session in New Delhi, they expressed the hope that the conclusions reached there would fulfil its objectives.

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India recorded with satisfaction the intensification of Indo-French economy relations in the past few years. This is notable in the increase of trade in the development of industrial and technological cooperation agreements between firms from the two countries, and in the implementation of joint projects in India.

With a view to furthering this positive trend, they agreed to take appropriate measures so that the volume of trade would better reflect the economic importance of the two nations.

In this spirit, they reached agreement on the need to deepen economic cooperation in several sectors corresponding to the priorities of India's economic development where French industry with its technological capacities, can make a sizeable contribution.

They expressed satisfaction at the signing, during the President's visit of the following protocol and Memoranda:

1. Protocol on Indo-French industrial and Commercial cooperation.
2. Memorandum of Understanding on Coal Mining.
3. Memorandum of Understanding on the Aluminium Complex. in Orissa.
4. Indo-French Protocol for cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Rural Development.
5. protocol in the field of Petrochemicals, Fertilizers, Drugs and Chemicals.
6. Protocol in the field of renewable energies.
7. Protocol in the field of Ocean Science and Technology.

In addition, the following sectors were given special attention:

- Steel industry
- Telecommunications
- Audio-Visual Techniques
- Electronics
- Automobile and truck industry.

The two sides decided to pursue with vigour the exploration of the acknowledged potential for joint collaboration in projects

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in third countries for the common benefit of all parties.

PUBLIC SECTOR

In order to implement this programme, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing and Smt. Indira Gandhi noted that it would be appropriate to draw on the resources of the private sector particularly on technological and financial arrangements between firms, as well as the facilities which the public sector could provide for project implementation. In this respect particularly attention will be given to the possibility of promoting co-operation between small and medium-scale enterprises of both countries.

In this spirit, the President of the Republic of France, having recorded the interest shown by the Indian Government in the implementation of various projects - and particularly the project for an aluminium plant in Orissa - indicated that the French Government would as an exception, make available to India financial facilities (Treasury loans and guaranteed commercial credits) for mutually agreed projects and import of commodities totalling one billion French Francs, a part of which will constitute the first stage in France's participation in the Orissa project.

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India stated that the development of cultural exchanges between the countries with great and ancient civilization such as India and France, is appropriate and natural. They agreed that an Indo-French University Institute of higher learning should be established. The two sides will hold further consultations to work out the details. They also noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in such areas as the teaching of languages and artistic events.

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

The President of the Republic of France and the Prime Minister of India displayed a special interest in the pursuit and development of scientific and technical cooperation between India and France. The agreement signed in July 1978 for such coope-

ration is contributing towards the further strengthening of links between the two Scientific Communities which have reached a high international level in fields such as applied mathematics and data processing, solid state physics, micro-electronics, biophysics and electrical engineering.

They expressed satisfaction at the extension of this cooperation to new fields such as renewable energies and ocean science and technology. They agreed that this cooperation should be effectively integrated in the development of economic exchanges between France and India.

The President of the Republic of France expressed his deepest gratitude for the warm welcome which the people and the Government of India extended to him during his visit.

FRANCE INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA UNITED KINGDOM ISRAEL ZIMBABWE
SWITZERLAND

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Industrial and Commercial Coo

A protocol of the Development of Indo-French Industrial and Commercial Cooperation was signed in New Delhi on January 28, 1980 by Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Commerce Minister and Mr. Jean Francois Deniau, Foreign Trade Minister on behalf of Governments of India and France respectively. Following is the summary of protocol:

Reiterating their common commitment to the objectives of the New International

Economic Order and a liberal and orderly trading system, the two Governments pledged to promote trade and development of economic, agricultural, industrial and technical collaboration between the two countries. For implementing this commitment they have decided to promote industrial and commercial contacts between organisations of the two countries especially in the small and medium scale sectors, exchange delegations facilitating flow of information and promote technical assistance and cooperation for trade promotion.

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They agreed to examine the possibilities of joint manufacturing programmes on the basis of comparative advantage and relative production costs. Operation in promoting third country ventures would also be explored.

With a view to achieving a significant expansion in the industrial and commercial cooperation between the two countries it was decided to further activate the Indo-French Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation and entrust it with the task of identifying appropriate promotional measures and solutions to specific problems by setting up ad hoc Working Groups. The progress of implementation of this protocol would be kept under review by the Indo-French Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation.

FRANCE USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Farewell Speech

The following is the text of the President's speech on January 29, 1980:

At this moment of our ceremonial farewell on behalf of my Government and people. I would like to express our happiness over the State visit of Your Excellency and your delegation to India. It has also been our pleasure to have you and Madame Giscard d'Estaing to share with us the festivities of our Republic Day. I am sure that your visit will go a long way towards consolidating the bonds of friendship that already exist between the peoples of our two countries.

We are particularly happy that your visit materialised at a time when our new Government had just assumed office. We have greatly benefited from our discussions with you and the distinguished members of your delegation.

During your brief visit to this country, you would have seen the deep-rooted commitment of our people to democratic values and traditions and to world peace and stability.

Excellency, we appreciate the interest you have consistently shown in India's culture and heritage, which was again evidenced in this visit. We value the understanding and sympathy with which you have viewed our efforts at development. Our future cooperation will, we are confident, intensify to our mutual benefit. In you, France has a statesman with a vision for the future and an enlightened understanding of the problems which bedevil the world. In you, India has a wise friend.

We wish you a pleasant journey back to your country and send through you our warm sentiments of good wishes and fellow feelings for the people of France.

FRANCE INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

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FRANCE

President Giscard d'Estaing's Farewell Speech

Thanking the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, before his departure for Bombay on January 29, 1980, the president of the Republic of France, H. E. Mr. Valery Giscard d, Estaing, said:

Mr. President, I should first like to say how deeply grateful I am for the welcome that India, thanks to her President, and her Prime Minister, has extended to the first Head of the French State to visit here.

There can be no better illustration of your country than the Republic Day ceremonies. I was able to see India in her traditions, her diversity, her immensity, but also in her unity, in the vitality of her youth and in the splendour of her national events.

I had designed two goals to my visit. First, to establish between our two countries a dialogue corresponding to the role in world affairs; second, to give our cooperation the necessary impetus to bring it to a level that is appropriate for countries such as, ours. I am deeply convinced that on both scores we have started in the right direction.

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Having noted that our views on the present situation, on the actions that are called for, are similar, we have decided to make this known. That is the purpose of the Declaration we have signed. Our aim is to join our efforts so that our countries become a force for peace, for the good of the whole of the international community and in accordance with the principles we

adhere to. I express the wish that the work we have undertaken be continued in the future and that our two countries become accustomed to see each other as important, active and friendly partners.

Mr. President, I had the good fortune yesterday to be able to go to the remote historical and religious sources of India. Long shall I keep this memory as evidence of what India has given the world in the quest for peace and the healing of human suffering. For all that I wish to thank you, Sir, the President of India.

FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President's Address to Joint Session of Parliament

The following is the text of the President's address on January 23, 1980:

It gives me pleasure to welcome you to this first joint session of the seventh Parliament. I extend my felicitations to the members of the new Lok Sabha.

THREAT To SECURITY

The sixth Lok Sabha was elected in March 1977. But it could not last its full term and had to be dissolved less than half-way through. After its dissolution, the governance of the country had to be carried on for some months without a Lok Sabha. Happily the uncertainty of these last few months has been resolved. The people of India have through the democratic process unambiguously rejected philosophies based

on regional, linguistic, sectoral or communal differences and have chosen to be governed by those who derive their mandate from all parts of the country and all sections of the population. The result of the elections has made it possible for the country to look forward to a period of stable government at the Centre.

It is a matter of regret that today we do not have amongst us here representatives from a number of constituencies of some of the north-eastern states. The problems of this region and more especially of Assam at the moment, require to be dealt with urgently and in a spirit of understanding and mutual accommodation on all sides. The government will spare no pains to secure speedy solutions to these problems and to put an end to violence. The government appeals to all sections of the people to help in creating conditions conducive to this.

Anti-national forces have become active on our borders posing a fresh threat to our security. Communal and other divisive forces have also reared their ugly heads in different parts of the country causing serious prejudice to our ideals of national integration and national unity. The confidence of linguistic and other minorities, Harijans and weaker sections of society has been seriously eroded. Increase in crime and inadequacy of measures to detect and prevent crime have created a sense of insecurity in the minds of law-abiding people. Disrespect for law and widespread indiscipline have slowed down the wheels of productive endeavour.

The economic situation which the present government has inherited is a matter of grave concern and anxiety. The last year has witnessed a vicious inflation-

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any spiral with prices registering a rise of about 20 per cent. There has been a severe setback to agricultural production while industrial production has remained stagnant.

The breakdown of infrastructure, particularly in certain parts of the country has led to sharp reduction in output in key sectors such as steel and cement. This has necessitated costly imports from abroad while domestic capacity built at considerable cost has remained idle. There has been virtually no increase in the production of coal. The rate of growth of exports has slackened and the balance of trade is seriously in deficit. Lack of effective management has resulted in a deterioration of the national economy. There has been a worsening of industrial relations and a loss of morale in the entire industrial sector.

MASSIVE CONFIDENCE

The massive and broadbased confidence reposed by the people in the new government reflects a keen desire that the deterioration in the law and order sector as well as in the economy should be halted and reversed. The government would like to assure the people that this is indeed what it proposes to do with determination and speed.

The government will do its utmost to put down lawlessness and restore confidence amongst all people, especially those belonging to the weaker sections. The law enforcement agencies at the Centre and in the states will be activated so that problems are dealt with promptly and effectively.

Honourable members, the new government has taken charge just over a week ago. The budget will be presented in the next session when the socioeconomic measures proposed to be adopted in the furtherance of government's broad objectives will be spelt out. However, there are certain matters which require to be mentioned.

The government would like to reaffirm its commitment to planning as an essential tool for engineering social and economic changes. The great task of nation-building will have to be resumed with redoubled vigor so that coming generations can hope for a fuller and better life.

The government will devote immediate attention to restoring the economic health of the nation. Measures for the control of prices will be initiated. Stringent action will be taken against anti-social elements such as smugglers, hoarders and black-marketeers.

20-POINT PROGRAMME

The government is conscious of its duty to the weaker sections of society. The 20-point economic programme, which had proved a boon to the poor, the landless, the artisans, handloom weavers, scheduled caste and scheduled tribes and other socially backward sections, will be revitalised and implemented in a dynamic manner. The minimum needs programme started during the fifth Plan will once again be accorded high priority, with special stress on education and health.

Agriculture and rural development, with special emphasis on assistance to small and marginal farmers as well as agricultural labourers, will receive the highest priority in the government's strategy. Immediate attention will be given to alleviate the distress to farmers to achieve maximum production by ensuring proper and timely supply of inputs like fertilisers, credit, water, electricity, diesel and kerosene etc. For this the cooperation of the state governments will be secured in full measure.

It will be the government's endeavour to ensure proper remunerative prices to the farmer for his produce. While providing for sustained growth of agriculture the government will devote greater attention to the production of commodities such as oilseeds to eliminate our dependence on foreign sources for such vital necessities.

Infra-structural facilities which had deteriorated leading to transport bottlenecks and inadequate supply of crucial inputs like steel, cement, coal and power will be strengthened and given very high priority. The efficiency of movement by railways and by ships as also prompt clearance of goods at ports will be ensured by close monitoring

and timely remedial action.

On the industrial front emphasis will be laid on the rapid increase in industrial

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production through better utilisation of existing capacity, improved labour relations and better management, particularly of public sector undertakings. Efforts will be directed to systematic expansion of our exports through better management of both the agricultural and industrial sectors.

INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY

The country is faced with a massive energy crisis. We are entering a period of rising energy costs and likely shortages in supplies. The government proposes to evolve a comprehensive national policy on energy with emphasis on fuller utilisation of renewable energy sources, both traditional and non-traditional.

The steady deterioration of the environment threatens the present and future well-being of the country and the people. Afforestation, flood control, soil conservation, Preservation of flora and fauna, proper land use planning, water and air pollution controls, and judicious location of industries must be undertaken urgently. The government is setting up a specialised machinery with adequate powers to incorporate in all Planned development measures to maintain the ecological balance.

The role Of science and technology will be strengthened. Steps will be taken to ensure that research and development get their due place in all important sectors of national endeavour.

The government reiterates its commitment to the freedom of the press. It believes in providing all possible encouragement for the development of small and medium newspapers including those in regional languages.

An independent judiciary is a necessary concomitant of the democratic process.

The government is anxious that our legal system should provide speedy justice and that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. Measures for this purpose and other allied matters are proposed to be initiated.

The government is committed fully to secularism and will take steps to ensure that the minorities, while preserving their distinct cultural identities, enjoy a sense of full and equal participation in all spheres of national life. Legislation for assuring the minority character of the Aligarh Muslim University will be introduced in the next session.

In a polity like ours, healthy relations between the Centre and the states are essential for effective functioning. It will be the endeavour of the Central government to maintain and foster such relations.

In international affairs, the government will follow the path of nonalignment. India has always stood steadfast in the independence of its judgement in the making of her foreign policy. Neither pressures nor blandishments have swayed us from the pursuit of our own national interests. Consistent with the above principles, the government intends to promote our essential goals without fear or favour. The government will pursue a dynamic, positive and unifying policy. It will endeavour to narrow the gap between the developed and developing nations so as to ensure enduring peace and equitably distributed prosperity. On the basis of sovereign equality, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs, it will maintain and strengthen friendly relations with all countries.

POLICY OF PEACE

The intervention of outside forces and the induction of armaments in the region as well as in our neighbourhood have created a dangerous situation not only for ourselves but for the entire area. Recent developments in Afghanistan highlight the re-emergence of the cold war. This is a matter

of grave concern. The countries of the region should be allowed to devote their energies to the promotion of region stability and co-operation with one another. The resources of the region are enormous and should be utilised for the welfare of the people there. To subject these countries to big power rivalries is totally unacceptable to us. The government intends to initiate

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consultations and action to foster co-operation for the well-being of the entire region.

With our neighbours, the government intends to follow a policy of cooperation and friendship. With Pakistan our relations are in the process of normalisation and the government proposes to continue on the course set in motion by the Simla agreement of 1972. We hope that the government's policy will be reciprocated in ample measure.

Sino-Indian moves towards normalised relations, a potentially stabilising factor, were inevitably affected by the Sino-Vietnam conflict. India remains willing to discuss all issues with China including the boundary question in search of a peaceful solution based on equality. We hope to progress also as regards bilateral exchanges.

Our friendship with Vietnam remains a constant factor in our policy. We stand for a Kampuchea able to seek its own destiny free of outside pressure. We intend to continue to improve our relations with ASEAN for whose members we have good will and understanding. The need in South-East Asia is for mutual confidence and relaxation of tensions.

Distance has been no bar to our forging close and friendly relations with the countries of Latin America or the far-flung countries of the Commonwealth. Our relations with Japan and the countries of Europe are comprehensive in nature and are mutually satisfying.

With our brethren in Africa we have stood shoulder to shoulder in the struggle against colonialism and racialism. Our solidarity with the Arab cause is based on principles and we believe that a solution to the problems of West Asia cannot be found without conceding the legitimate demand of the Palestinians for their homeland.

Our relations with the Soviet Union have expanded, based on an abiding friendship which demonstrates the virtues of reliability and mutual understanding. We intend to deepen and extend this cooperation.

We have many-sided relations with the United States. These will be further consolidated in the context of the common values we cherish as sister democracies. We hope we can both co-operate in our efforts to establish peace and stability with development and co-operation in our region.

RAHMAN'S VISIT

President Zia-Ur-Rahman of Bangladesh has just concluded his visit to India. President Valery Giscard d'Estaing of France will be our chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations this year. Chancellor Kreisky of Austria and President Castro of Cuba are visiting us shortly. We are confident that such exchanges significantly strengthen our relations with other countries.

Honourable members, the present session will be a short one. You have to attend to urgent legislative business, the most important being the amendment of the Constitution to continue reservations in the legislatures in favour of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and Anglo-Indians.

During the course of your five year tenure, many issues will come before-you for consideration. A healthy and functioning parliamentary democracy proceeds according to well laid down rules of the game. Mutual respect has to be shown by the government and the opposition for each other. The harmonising of differing points of view in a spirit of accommodation and conciliation rather than conflict and con-

frontation is a necessary condition of democratic functioning, I urge all sections of the House to lay the controversies and conflicts of the past behind them and approach the urgent tasks confronting the nation in a spirit of co-operation and harmony, keeping in mind the need to serve the people and to uphold all that is in the national interest. I wish you all success for your efforts.

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN MALI CHINA VIETNAM
JAPAN FRANCE AUSTRIA CUBA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

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FRANCE

Statement in the Lok Sabha on Arms Aid to Pakistan by U.S.A. by Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on January 23, 1980 regarding the tense situation created in the region as a result of the reported arms aid to Pakistan by the United States of America in the context of the recent developments in Afghanistan:

The Government of the United States of America announced on December 29, 1979 the resumption of military assistance to Pakistan on which they had earlier placed an embargo in accordance with American legislation. According to reports that have come to the attention of Government, the US Government has decided to expedite military supplies to Pakistan worth \$ 150 million as part of cash sales already in the pipeline. The US Government has further announced a package aid of \$ 400 million

for the next 20 months - \$ 200 million in economic aid and the other \$ 200 million in military aid.

INDUCTION OF ARMS

Government have expressed their grave concern at the moves to step up military supplies to Pakistan as well as our apprehension that induction of arms into Pakistan could convert the South-Asian region into a theatre of great power confrontation and conflict. Government have also expressed their apprehension that the induction of arms has a potential of decelerating the process of normalisation which the government of India and Pakistan have fostered in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. These views have been impressed upon the Government of USA, Pakistan and other concerned countries.

Sir, the developments in the region around us in the last few months have rightly given rise to much concern in this country, which is shared by the Government. The underlying causes are not far to seek. Tensions and problems have existed between neighbours, and even inside nations. A dangerous dimension is added when the great powers start using these nations in their quest to gain advantage in their global strategy, or to seek to secure their perceived interests or again when governments in the region render themselves amenable to this strategy for some short term gains and in the process defeat the very objectives they are seeking to achieve. The need of the hour is to stem this ominous process and return to the tried and tested path of settling problems in an environment free of great power influence or confrontation.

AFGHANISTAN

In this context, Sir, recent developments in Afghanistan have naturally been engaging the serious attention of the Government. India has close and friendly relations with the government and people of Afghanistan and we are deeply concerned and vitally interested in the security, indepen-

dence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of this traditionally friendly neighbour of ours; and we believe that they have every right to safeguard them.

It is our hope that the people of Afghanistan will be able to resolve their internal problems without any outside interference. As the Prime Minister has clearly indicated; we are against the presence of foreign troops and bases in any country. We have expressed our hope that Soviet forces will withdraw from Afghanistan.

Our entire stand is consistent with our commitment to peace and non-alignment. All the countries in the South Asian region are members of the Non-Aligned Movement and, consistent with the principles of non-alignment, it is our hope that the entire area will be free of tensions.

DANGERS OF CONFRONTATION

The induction of arms into the region and the introduction of great power confrontation would further threaten the peace and stability of the region including the security of India. In this evolving situation our effort has been to take steps to defuse it rather than permit its further escalation.

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The Government of India has been in touch with the countries of the sub-continent, the Soviet Union, USA, China and other countries to stress that no action should be taken that could lead to an enhancement of the dangers and heightening of confrontation as we feel no worthwhile solution is otherwise possible. In this context, I may inform the House, the Foreign Minister of the USSR and the representative of the President of the United States are expected to visit India in the near future. The Foreign Secretary of India will also visit Islamabad shortly at the invitation of the Government of Pakistan.

We deem it important to have continuing dialogue with Pakistan as indeed with the other countries of the region, to ensure

that this region does not become the theatre of great power confrontation. It is vitally important that the Government of India and Pakistan have a clear understanding of each other's perceptions and that nothing is done in the meantime that could damage the interests of our region or cause a set back to the process of normalisation between India and Pakistan.

SIMLA AGREEMENT

We welcome President Zia-ul-Haq's reference to the Simla Agreement in his message to the Prime Minister. This Agreement, in our view, is the basis of the efforts to normalise relations between India and Pakistan. The Agreement states that relations between the two countries shall be governed by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. Both countries have further committed themselves to peaceful co-existence and respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty. There are, in our opinion, positive and obvious advantages in cooperation between our two countries through the process of normalisation. It must be our hope that we will jointly be able to travel further along this path of reason.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, our region and our neighbourhood has been in turmoil over a long period. Working together in harmony and cooperation, we can do much to establish a climate of peace and stability in order to Promote development for our collective benefit. Let it be clearly understood that in pursuit of this vision, we will steadfastly Oppose all attempts by any power to turn the clock back and revert to an era of confrontation and cold war. Government is confident that the House and the people of India stand united behind it in supporting their efforts to gain these objectives.

FRANCE PAKISTAN USA AFGHANISTAN MALI INDIA CHINA PERU

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

FRANCE

Minister of External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha, Rao's Statement in Rajya Sabha on Arms Aid to Pakistan by USA and China

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri p. v. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in the Rajya Sabha on January 24, 1980 regarding the serious developments arising out of the decision of the Governments of the United States of America and China to extend massive arms aid to Pakistan in the wake of the Russian intervention in Afghanistan:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to reports that have come to the attention of Government, the US Government has decided to expedite military supplies to Pakistan worth \$150 million as part of cash sales already in the pipeline. The US Government has further announced a package aid of \$ 400 million for the next 20 months - \$ 200 million in economic aid and the other \$ 200 million in military aid. Further, following the recent visit to Peking by the American Defence Secretary, Mr. Harold Brown, and the just concluded visit to Pakistan of the Chinese Foreign Minister, Government have seen press reports that China also may be considering increasing the supply of military equipment to Pakistan.

INDUCTION OF ARMS

Government fully shares the serious concern of this House over the moves to augment Pakistan's military capability. It is our apprehension that induction of arms into Pakistan could convert the South-

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Asian region into a theatre of great power

confrontation and conflict and threaten the security of India. Government have also expressed their concern that the induction of arms has a potential of decelerating the process of normalisation which the Governments of India and Pakistan have fostered in the spirit of the Simla Agreement. These views have been impressed upon the Governments of USA, China, Pakistan and other concerned countries.

Sir, the developments in the region around us in the last few months have rightly given rise to much concern in this country, which is shared by the Government. The underlying causes are not far to seek. Tensions and problems have existed between neighbours, and even inside nations. A dangerous dimension is added when the great powers start using these nations in their quest to gain advantage in their global strategy, or to seek to secure their perceived interests or again when governments in the region render themselves amenable to this strategy for some short term gains and in the process defeat the very objectives they are seeking to achieve. The need of the hour is to stem this ominous process and return to the tried and tested path of settling problems in an environment free of great power influence or confrontation.

AFGHANISTAN

In this context, Sir, recent developments in Afghanistan have naturally been engaging the serious attention of the Government. India has close and friendly relations with the government and people of Afghanistan and we are deeply concerned and vitally interested in the security, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of this traditionally friendly neighbour of ours; and we believe that they have every right to safeguard them.

It is our hope that the people of Afghanistan will be able to resolve their internal problems without any outside interference. As the Prime Minister has clearly indicated, we are against the presence of foreign troops and bases in any country.

We have expressed our hope that Soviet forces will withdraw from Afghanistan.

Our entire stand is consistent with our commitment to peace and non-alignment. All the countries in the South Asian region are members of the Non-aligned Movement and, consistent with the principles of non-alignment, it is our hope that the entire area will be free of tensions.

TREAT TO PEACE

The induction of arms into the region and the introduction of great power confrontation would further threaten the peace and stability of the region including the security of India. In this evolving situation our effort has been to take steps to defuse it rather than permit its further escalation. The Government of India has been in touch with the countries of the sub-continent, the Soviet Union, USA, China and other countries to stress that no action should be taken that could lead to an enhancement of the dangers and heightening of confrontation as we feel no worthwhile solution is otherwise possible. In this context the Foreign Minister of the USSR and the representative of the President of the United States are expected to visit India in the near future. The Foreign Secretary of India will also visit Islamabad shortly at the invitation of the Government of Pakistan.

We deem it important to have a continuing dialogue with Pakistan as indeed with the other countries of the region, to ensure that this region does not become the theatre of great power confrontation. It is vitally important that the Governments of India and Pakistan have a clear understanding of each other's perception and that nothing is done in the meantime that could damage the interests of our region or cause a set back to the process of normalisation between India and Pakistan.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

We welcome President Zia-ul-Haq's reference to the Simla Agreement in his

message to the Prime Minister. This Agreement in our view, is the basis of the efforts to normalise relation between India and Pakistan. The Agreement States that relations between the two countries shall be governed by the principles and pur-
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poses of the Charter of the United Nations. Both Countries have further committed themselves to peaceful co-existence and respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty. There are, in our Opinion, positive and obvious advantages in cooperation between our two countries through the process of normalisation. It must be our hope that we will jointly be able to travel further along this, path of reason.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our region and our neighbourhood have been in turmoil over a long Period. Working together in harmony and cooperation, we can do much to establish a climate of Peace and stability in order to promote development for our collective benefit. Let it be clearly understood that in pursuit of this version, We will steadfastly oppose all attempts by any power to turn the clock back and revert to an era of confrontation and cold war. Government is confident that the House and the people of India stand united behind it in supporting their efforts to gain these objectives.

FRANCE CHINA PAKISTAN USA RUSSIA AFGHANISTAN INDIA MALI PERU

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS

Minister of External Affairs, Shri p. v. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri

P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following speech at the banquet given in honour of His Excellency Dr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General Of the United Nations in New Delhi on January 20, 1980:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Mr. Secretary-General, and Mrs. Waldheim, Once again to India. You are visiting us after an interval of almost seven years. These seven years have seen momentous changes in MY country. There have been moments of hope and promise, of performance and achievement interspersed with periods of drift, anxiety, and concern. We stand today once again on the threshold of a future to which we can look with determination and confidence.

ECONOMIC ORDER

Mr. Secretary-General, You have arrived in New Delhi on the eve of the Third Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. We look forward to your guidance, which, I am sure, would inspire and motivate the deliberations of this Conference. It has long been recognised that the international economic and financial structure is grossly unfair to the developing countries which are sustained by the fact that the world community has at least realised that this system needs to be changed. The progress in bringing about the desired change has, however been disappointingly slow. Almost five Years ago, at the Second UNIDO Conference in Lima, certain targets and goals were set for the industrial Progress of the developing countries. At the beginning of the decade of the 80s we are nowhere near those targets and if the present unbalanced and discriminatory economic structure continues, we would still be far away from the Lima targets even at the end of this century. It is our fervent hope that UNIDO-III. will take meaningful steps in this direction and towards the establishment of a new and just international economic order.

Another problem facing the international community is in the field of energy conservation in industry and the use and

development of alternative and renewable sources of energy. We hope that those issues will also be adequately reflected in the deliberations of the UNIDO-III.

DANGER OF ESCALATION

The international environment has changed dramatically in the past few weeks. The process of detente has come under severe strain. Tensions have sharply increased and there is today increasing danger of further escalation. While welcoming East-

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West detente in Europe and across the Atlantic, we had all along cautioned that detente, in order to be enduring, must be extended to all other areas of the globe. It is unrealistic to expect that you could have pockets of tranquillity surrounded by large areas of turmoil and conflict. Unfortunately for world peace and stability, no serious attention was given to our appeal.

The adverse consequences of a selective approach to detente are all too visible today. The region of West Asia continues to simmer with the possibility of conflict. Arab territories continue to be under Israeli aggression and occupation and the people of Palestine remain deprived of their national identity and basic human rights. Racial bigotry and apartheid continue to perpetrate monstrous crimes against the vast majority of people in Southern Africa. Our own Continent of Asia continues to be tormented by the embers of conflict.

PEACE AND AMITY

Recent developments in our own region have brought some of these tensions to a flashpoint. This situation is causing us grave concern particularly since it has opened the possibility of great power involvement. The realignment and rearming of countries in our region can only further aggravate it as our past experience has shown. As non-aligned countries live in peace and amity if there is no interference of outside powers conceived in the framework of great power

global strategies. India for its part seeks to develop its relations on the basis of mutual trust and respect for independence and territorial integrity.

I would like to take this opportunity to compliment you, Mr. Secretary-General on the skilful and statesmanlike handling of numerous international crises and delicate issues which from time to time, have confronted the United Nations. I wish you success in the tasks which you may have to undertake in the future in the cause of international peace and security and the economic- well-being of the world.

I hope Your Excellency, that you will enjoy your visit to India and carry back pleasant memories of your stay in my country.

May I now request you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink a toast to His Excellency, Dr. Waldheim. and Mrs. Waldheim, to their health and prosperity, to the United Nations and to peace and cooperation among all nations.

INDIA USA PERU ISRAEL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS

President Sanjiva Reddy's Inaugural Speech at Third UNIDO Conference

The following is the text of the inaugural address by the President, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, at the third general conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation in New Delhi on January 21, 1980:

I am happy to be with such a distinguished gathering and to inaugurate the Third General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation. On behalf of the people of India and myself, I extend to you all a cordial welcome to this country. I trust that your stay will be enjoyable, meaningful and memorable. It is significant that this distinguished International gathering is meeting in the New Year of a new decade, at a time when economic issues have acquired prime focus and when new strategies have to be devised and fresh dynamism given to the coming development decade.

HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS

It is also significant that you have chosen India as venue for your deliberations. Here you find a sympathetic understanding of the hopes and aspirations of the newly emerging developing countries as well as of the varied and complex problems facing them. We have attempted, in our own modest way, to place at your disposal facilities which could enable you to participate effectively in the challenging and urgent tasks on which you are engaged.

Four years ago, when the Second General Conference of UNIDO ended at Lima, a historic declaration and charter of action

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was agreed upon by the member countries. The Lima Declaration and its Plan of Action was a watershed in international economic development incorporating, as it did, a categorical manifesto for a restructuring of the global system of industrial production. More important than just the shift in industrial capacity which the Lima Declaration called for was the underlying spirit of the declaration: the acceptance by the world community that the vast majority of the poor living in developing countries should have a just and fair share in international economic assets in order that they may be able to enjoy the benefits of a richer and more varied life. It was not just a question of introducing minor modification in a system

which had been perpetuated over the last two or three centuries. There was need for a fundamental metamorphosis, for a radical change in the basic relations and for a complete reordering of economic priorities. The rationale was not whether this was morally right or desirable. It arose, instead, from the basic need to raise the living standards of nearly two thirds of the world's population as well as for the future stability of the global economic system. A heavy and onerous responsibility is cast on you distinguished delegates, to carry forward the work of UNIDO-II in order that, through concrete and pragmatic measures the vision enshrined in the Lima Declaration may become a practical reality.

CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE

The world has witnessed many significant developments on its economic scene since you last met. World-wide inflation, industrial recession, financial instability, a continuing crisis in productivity and a lowering of the buoyancy in international markets have come to plague not only the industrialised world but exert their pernicious influence on the economies of the developing countries as well. There is everywhere a crisis of confidence and the fear that perhaps material events are operating beyond the control of mankind. This crisis stems in a large measure from the innate instability of an economic order which is not capable of responding to the stimulus of change. This Conference would appropriately be addressing itself to a review of the process of industrialisation in the last decade and identifying suitable strategies for industrialisation for the 1980s and beyond. It is our sincere hope that this exercise will locate all the factors which have proved to be of hindrance to the establishment of the new international economic order and evolve avenues of international co-operation to the mutual advantage of all concerned.

In this broad setting what are the options which are open to us to surmount the challenges we are confronted with? Mahatma Gandhi, who left an indelible print

not only on India but the entire world community, based his life and philosophy on the need for restoring human values in everyday life. His humanistic approach placed the dignity of man as the supreme consideration. If mankind is to achieve its salvation, if the pressures and weakness of the existing system are to be rectified, if the world is to move towards a new era of enlightenment and prosperity, human dignity and moral virtues will have to be restored. We in India recognise the essential divinity of man as a factor which transcends national or political barriers or even narrow economic boundaries. We believe that man has an inexorable destiny to move towards freedom-intellectual and material freedom social emancipation and a fullness of being. Today if India has to offer a message to the world it is this: Restore man to a place of primacy; lift him above all considerations or systems and you will find that the new world is at hand.

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Nowhere is the need to restore human values more necessary than in the field of industry and the process of industrialisation. History has borne witness to the immense social and economic trauma which attended the course of the industrial revolution in most of the developed countries. Sub-standard conditions of working in archaic factory systems, displacement of rural and cottage craft by modern machine and technology, suppression of individual initiative and the breakup of traditional manufacturing activities, and above all, the replacement of human norms and ethical relations by the dichotomy between capital and labour

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are spectres which must never be repeated again. Industrial development should not be taken to imply the destruction of traditional skills and viable modes of production of the imposition of unnatural alien systems on the factor endowments of the land. A synthesis between the traditional and the modern, between the machine and rural and cottage craft, between science and the needs

of the common man has to be achieved. It is only then that the benefits of industrialisation would be shared by the people and the developing countries enabled to join in a fullsome manner in the main stream of economic progress.

This Conference has an arduous and complex task in front of it. What you should seek is cooperation not confrontation. The problems we seek to solve are of a universal nature affecting almost all the member countries. The solutions would also benefit not just a few but have a universal impact. Let us, therefore, attempt to find new vistas for cooperation based upon a spirit of goodwill and understanding. May this spirit be a guiding beacon for your deliberations.

I have pleasure in inaugurating the Third General Conference of UNIDO.

INDIA USA PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Address to UNIDO Conference

The following is the text of the Prime Minister's address to the Third UNIDO Conference in New Delhi on January 21, 1980:

Only a few days ago, the Indian people took part in a stupendous process of political action through what were the biggest elections in the world. It was an act of faith, this spectacle of millions and millions all over the country, with sound commonsense and keen awareness of their own particular problems, as well as of the wider national and international scene, asserting their right

to install a government of their choice. It was a reaffirmation of their abiding belief in our political ideals and our unshakable resolve to achieve economic and social justice as rapidly as possible. Political freedom and socioeconomic emancipation go hand in hand, each reinforcing the other.

You have come to India when a new government has just taken over and has yet to get on its feet. We are distressed to find that the sound and stable economy which we had left only three years ago and which we had built with such hard labour and the cooperation and sacrifices of our people is in shambles. Outside our borders, a situation has developed which threatens our security and is a cause for concern in the entire region.

ECONOMIC EVOLUTION

That is why for us the Third General Conference of UNIDO has special significance. The tasks which lie ahead of this Conference are precisely the furthering of those objectives which we have demonstrated to be close to our hearts: the removal of the barriers to progress in order that man may achieve a brighter future.

You are meeting at a crucial period in the world's economic evolution. The inherent inequities and weaknesses of the present economic order are felt more deeply and resented more strongly than ever before. The existing system, with the world divided between the industrialised haves and the developing have-nots no longer commands acceptance. Industrial production cannot now be sustained on the basis of domination over raw material sources, preservation of captive markets, or the exploitation of unresisting labour. For centuries, the colonial concept of comparative advantage was pursued with great vigour to preclude the industrial output of the developing countries. It is ironical that the same concept in a new and dynamic situation is being ignored. The industrialisation of the developing world is an inevitable process of history. To keep it peaceful requires the redeployment of industrial capacity from the developed to developing countries. It is a chal-

lenge to our collective wisdom to ensure that

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this takes place in a global environment of harmony and cooperation.

When we speak of accelerating industrialisation in developing countries, it is not our intention to imitate western standards, or seek shortcuts to a consumers' paradise. We must guard against the luxury-oriented approach, with its rising spiral of advertising and salesmanship and a wastage of national resources for the repetitive production of goods catering to the affluent. Nor should we try to adopt forms of industrial organisation which are entirely alien to the natural genius of the people. The development and absorption of technology must be in tune with the economic ethos of the society. Hence the special relevance of productive sharing of technologies amongst developing countries.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Industry has to bridge the gulf between the rich and the poor between the city and the village between the traditional and the new technology. It has to provide adequate linkage to other sectors of the economy: to agriculture, which is the major vocation of the people, to irrigation and rural development, to health and family welfare and, finally, to the programme of basic minimum needs essential for the eradication of unemployment and rural poverty. Above all, it must ensure that the ecological balance is not disturbed. The process of industrial growth must not sacrifice our future, or the immediate need for a harmonious habitat for all living beings.

Industrialisation, then, has to be viewed not just as a question of installing a few factories here or there, or tinkering with the modalities of production to increase commodity flows. It has also to be seen as an ethos in itself a way of thinking and action embedded in a process which takes society as a whole towards commonly accepted objectives. There are some who argue

about the primacy of agriculture over industry, or the relative merits of different scales of industrial techniques. These arguments are hardly relevant. Each sector has its own importance and its own part in changing and strengthening the social fabric. Mutual reinforcement rather than mutual exclusion is called for.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY

A review of past trends of industrialisation in developing countries makes dismal reading against the background of the projections worked out at UNIDO II. There has hardly been a 1% increase in the share of world manufacturing activity by the developing countries against the 5% - 6% increase envisaged. This is a sad reflection on international cooperation and shows that, despite definite commitments made in various forums, most developed countries have yet to translate precept into practice. If the share of the developing countries has to exceed 13%, by the year 2000, which is all they will get if the past trends of growth continue, the process must be accelerated. What is urgently needed is a reaffirmation by the world community that the New International Economic order will not remain a distant illusion but that, through a more determined political will on the part of industrialised countries, pragmatic measures will be taken to attain the Lima Target within a well-defined time-frame.

In the discussion on the global dimensions of economic cooperation to facilitate increased financial and technological flows, you will have to consider the creation of new mechanisms where at present there are clearly established vacuums. The question is not just of generating purchasing ability in the developing countries by improving their balance of payment position or offering them import credit. Developing countries must themselves produce industrial goods to meet the increasing demands of their peoples. The continuing monetary instability in the world is in a large measure due to the destabilising existence of uninvested surplus funds. These must be put to productive use. The proposal of a North-

South Global Fund, endorsed recently by the Group of 77 at Havana seems to merit sympathetic consideration. It incorporates the principles which a new financial arrangement should consider - such as, contributions from financial markets which have surplus liquidity, the challenging of funds through national financial institutions,

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credit on soft terms of interest, and effective control of the mechanisms by those in whose interest the Fund is to be established.

EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPMENT

Since our independence in 1947, we have made a conscious attempt to follow a development strategy designed to lessen disparity and to take us towards self-reliance. In so doing, we have increased our capacity for cooperation with other developing countries. As regards our installed capacity, we are among the first ten of the most industrialised countries in the world, and among the first three in terms of manpower, expertise, and capabilities. We feel it our duty and privilege to share with others the knowledge which we have gathered and the experience which we have accumulated in the process of development, and to allow others to avail of our institutions and capacities. We hope that this Conference will share our enthusiasm and our optimism for future avenues of international cooperation.

We in the developing countries are understandably obsessed with the problem of economic backwardness and its attendant ills. Yet this cannot and does not overshadow our nationalism. The vivid memories of the years and experiences of colonialism sharpen our sensitivity, and our aversion to any attempt by other countries to influence our policy or impose their views on us. Our policies must be formulated in the light of our history, our culture, and our vision of our future. If we seek help, it is not at charity but rather as part of a process to undo the injustice of ages, and bring greater equality and security, thereby creating conditions for stable and enduring peace

in the world, which all countries earnestly seek.

This is a crucial meeting, a necessary coming-together of all nations to try to evolve practical measures to further industrialisation. and increase the world's material progress: Let us remember that material progress is only one dimension of our lives, and we can utilise and enjoy it fully only if we develop in other directions also.

My good wishes to the conference.

INDIA USA LATVIA RUSSIA PERU CUBA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Aid to India

The following is the text of Press Release issued at New Delhi on January 14, 1980:

The Governments of India and Japan exchanged on January 14, 1980 notes on a Japanese loan to India of an amount of Yen 2.7 billion (equivalent to Rs. 92 million) for the telecommunication project and on another Japanese grant assistance to India of an amount of Yen 50 million (equivalent to Rs. 1.7 million) at the current exchange rates for the promotion of archaeological research in India.

The notes to this effect were exchanged between Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) and His Excellency Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India on behalf of their respective Governments.

The loan of Yen 2.7 billion is in accordance with and part of the pledge of Yen 27.6 billion made by the Government of 27

Japan at the Aid India Consortium meeting at Paris in June 1979 with a view to further contributing to the economic development of India.

The grant assistance of Yen 50 million will be utilised for the supply of science laboratory equipment to the archaeological Survey of India.

JAPAN INDIA FRANCE

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

SWEDEN

Economic Assistance to India

The following is the text of Press Release issued at New Delhi on January 21, 1980:

Sweden will provide financial assistance of 75 million Swedish Kroner (Rs. 140 million) to India's national programme for non-formal education. An agreement to this effect was signed in New Delhi on January 21, 1980 by Shri P. Sabanayagam, Union Education Secretary, and Mr. Lennart Finnmark, Swedish Ambassador to India.

The funds to be provided through the Swedish International Development Authority will be utilised for procurement of paper for the production of educational materials. The contribution will be made available in annual instalments from

January 1980 to June 1984.

The signing of the agreement has been preceded by a two-member UNESCO appraisal mission that visited India in April-May 1979 to study the non-formal education programme and to assess the quantity of paper required for mounting it.

Universalisation of elementary education has been given a high priority in the field of education in the current plan. The strategy includes covering the half of total additional enrolment of 32 million of 6-14 age group by 1982-83 under a massive non-formal part time education programme.

SWEDEN INDIA

Date : Jan 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Lunch Hosted in Honour of Lord Carrington

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Foreign Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, on the occasion of his lunch in honour of Rt. Hon. the Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom on January 17, 1980:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Lady Carrington and you along with your delegation to our country. Your last visit to India in July, 1979 followed soon after your assumption of office. It is a happy coincidence that this visit comes a few days after I took over charge as Foreign Minister.

MUTUAL CONFIDENCE

We congratulate you on the success of

your determined efforts and patient negotiations at the Rhodesia Conference in

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London. There were many who were sceptical of the Lusaka process getting off the ground. We are now in sight of independent elections in Rhodesia to be held under British auspices, and in the presence of Commonwealth observers. We look forward eagerly to the transformation of Rhodesia from colonial status to genuine independence and majority rule. There still remain many hurdles to cross. We trust that the mutual confidence and agreement of all parties, which was the assent of the London agreement, will be preserved.

We benefited much from our exchange of views on this and other issues in the troubled world we live in. We appreciate Britain's interest in the well-being of the countries of the sub-continent. You are better fitted than most other countries, by virtue of long association with us, to interpret our concerns faithfully to your allies. The security and stability of the sub-continent is naturally of greater concern to us than to countries distant from this region. Our perceptions may differ, but we would, I hope, be entitled to your understanding, if not your agreement. We are deeply disturbed that the bitter contentions of the cold war have been revived close to our country and that tensions have been escalated through efforts to align and arm countries of the sub-continent to the detriment of confidence building and the evolution of stability through mutual cooperation among them. We would be grateful if Britain could use its influence to halt and reverse these dangerously disturbing trends so that India and its neighbours can pursue their efforts at cooperation in a more congenial atmosphere. This is the only way to strengthen non-alignment, which is in the regional and global interest.

TRUSTFUL SPIRIT

It is a happy circumstance that our two countries can look forward to strengthen our relations which spread across diverse fields.

The people of Indian origin who have settled in Britain are considered by us a link in our friendship. We are sure that we can confide our thoughts to each other in a trustful spirit and that we can both hope to see the ideals of racial harmony and non-discrimination flourish in our countries.

We thank Britain for the help you have rendered to us in our economic development. Our government has resumed the unfinished task of fighting poverty. We are strengthened by your goodwill and your assistance as a vastly more advanced economy.

I now request all present here to join me in a toast to the health of Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, Lady Carrington and the members of his delegation.

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA ZAMBIA

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Date : Feb 01, 1980

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AFGHANISTAN

Afghan Government's Statement

The following is the text of Statement issued by the Afghan authorities on February 11, 1980 following talks between the Afghan concerned authorities and Shri S. K. Singh, Special Envoy of the Government of India:

Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan were happy to receive in Kabul Ambassador S. K. Singh, Special Envoy of the Government of India. He brought and handed over a message from H.E. the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi addressed to Babrek Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan. President of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Shah Mohammad Dost and other members of the Afghan Government also held discussions with the Special Envoy from India.

The Special Envoy of the Government of India and the concerned authorities of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan discussed the international situation and regional and bilateral issues.

DANGEROUS SITUATION

During the discussions it was stressed that every effort should be made to defuse the dangerous and tense situation in the

region created due to the disturbing reaction of some powers over developments in Afghanistan which are internal matters of that country.

The Afghan side reiterated its commitment to strictly adhering to the policy of active and positive nonalignment the principles of UN charter and continuing its all sides efforts for maintaining friendly relations with all peace-loving countries, particularly its neighbours, the USSR, India, Pakistan, Iran and others on the basis of mutual respect for independence, national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.

The Afghan Government has no desire or intention whatsoever to threaten or provide any of its neighbours and therefore expects that the recent internal developments in Afghanistan cannot and shall not constitute any cause for alarm or concern on the part of its neighbours inviting involvement or interference of foreign powers.

ARSENAL OF ARMS

The attempts of certain countries to transform the neighbouring country of Pakistan whose people are linked to Afghan people by history, culture, religion into an arsenal of foreign made arms ammunitions and aggressive and offensive armaments, which is now being transformed into a base for armed aggression against Afghanistan and turning as a bridgehead posing threat to the states neighbouring Afghanistan in general was viewed with grave concern.

The Afghan side reiterated its desire to solve all its problems with Pakistan through peaceful and amicable negotiations without resorting to the use of force, provided that Pakistan in conformity with the aspirations of its people reciprocate with similar intention and adopt a more responsible attitude towards the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The Afghan side reiterated that the limited contingents of the armed forces of the Soviet Union stationed upon the request

of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in conformity with the

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provisions of the Afghan-USSR Treaty of Friendship Good Neighbourliness and Co-operation dated 5th December, 1978 and the relevant provisions of the United Nations Charter would be withdrawn from the Afghan soil as soon as the cause which necessitated the request for such military assistance namely the continued armed aggression from abroad aimed at fighting the new Afghan state system ceases to exist under a credible guarantee.

TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP

The Afghan side requested the Special Envoy of the Government of India to convey to his Government the sincere thanks of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the understanding it demonstrated following the recent developments in Afghanistan which reflect the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between the Afghan and Indian people. In this context mutual contacts at different levels are expected to further consolidate these amicable ties.

During talks the desire of both governments and peoples for the further strengthening of friendly relations and the expansion of cooperation between the two countries in various fields particularly in economic and technical fields was reiterated with full satisfaction.

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA IRAN PAKISTAN

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ALGERIA

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

The following is the text of speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner given on February 26, 1980 in honour of His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Seddik Benyahia, Member of Political Bureau of F. L. N. Pariy and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria:

Your Excellency, Friends, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome Your Excellency to India. Your visit comes soon after the recent elections in India and affords us a welcome opportunity to exchange views on subjects of mutual interest in keeping with the tradition of Indo-Algerian Friendship and Cooperation.

The close bonds existing between India and Algeria have been strengthened by our common desire for development and world peace. Both of us have realised that for any substantial development in our way of life, peace is essential. This realisation has been reiterated on every occasion when different leaders of our countries have met.

BENEFITS OF PEACE

India and Algeria have close cultural and commercial ties, both are non-aligned countries and have close proximity of views on important international issues. Non-alignment is the way both our countries have chosen as their path to development. It ensures for each nation the independence of thought and freedom of expression so important in our endeavour to build a better and meaningful world. Only through non-alignment have nations ensured that the benefits of peace and prosperity are not nullified by the spillover of big power confrontation in different regions of the world.

Occasionally, however, nonaligned countries do get drawn into the vortex of

such confrontations. This is what has happened in our region foreshadowing an undesirable super-power confrontation in the area. Our stand in the matter is clear: all countries of the region concerned should

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channelise their energies towards seeking measures that contribute to the maintenance and strengthening of peace and stability in the region. Countries which do not belong to the region should not impose their views or solutions favoured by them. India's stand is consistent with her view that intervention or interference by one country in the internal affairs of another is impermissible. We are at the same time convinced that a crisis such as this should not be met by the countries concerned succumbing to an apparently simple but potentially dangerous option of external military assistance.

In this context and in the interests of peace, India counsels all countries concerned to exercise the utmost restraint and to take urgent steps to defuse the situation.

MUTUAL SELF-RELIANCE

Excellency, it is with admiration that we have watched the rapid progress you have made for uplifting the living standards of your people under the leadership of the late President Boumediene and now under H.E. President Chadli Benjedid. India and Algeria both believe that developing countries can cooperate and promote mutual self-reliance amongst themselves. India has played a modest role in the various developmental programmes being launched by the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. New avenues of economic cooperation have been identified, commercial exchanges and industrial collaboration proposals are underway and a large number of Indian firms and technicians are taking part in the developmental plans of Algeria. India attaches high importance to a multi-faceted relationship and mutually beneficial cooperation with Algeria.

ARAB CAUSE

India's consistent and principled support to the Arab cause is well-known. I can only reiterate our firm conviction that a just and lasting solution to the West Asian problem lies in complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands and the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their right to have a nation State of their own.

Excellency, I am sure that your visit will enable us to come to a still closer understanding on various matters of mutual interest both in the economic and political fields. With this understanding our two countries will be able to cooperate together in different world forums for the collective benefits of our peoples.

Friends, may I now request you to join me in raising a toast to His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Benyahia, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to distinguished members of his delegation and to lasting friendship between our two countries.

ALGERIA INDIA USA CHAD ISRAEL

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

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ALGERIA

Algerian Foreign Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast the Algerian Foreign Minister said:

I wish, at the outset, to convey to you my feelings of utmost gratitude for the warm and brotherly welcome which you have extended to me, as well as to the delegation accompanying me. In this welcome, I see the living testimony of the legendary

hospitality which is the trade mark of your country and the intangible proof that relations of exemplary quality are binding us.

On this land of India, the womb of millennial civilisations, our meeting today. Mister Minister, highlights the sustained companionship of both our peoples throughout contemporary history. When the world was swayed by colonial domination, both India and Algeria, during the phases of their respective national liberation struggles, brought to the fore front the indomitable surge of colonial peoples, and made their emancipation the foundation of their solidarity. Such a fruitful dialogue and such a

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staunch confidence have been nurtured in a common struggle towards restoring their collective identity and towards taking in their hands their own destinies.

Even since then, such dialogue and such confidence have been bolstered by our peoples' conviction that the sacrifices entailed by the struggle for national independence had to be pursued in the form of a global mobilisation for the liberation of Third World countries, and within the general framework of the history of our age, a history to be made, a history which should no longer be submitted to, for the emergence of the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Our memory will indeed forever bear the imprint of the exemplary contributions made by both our countries in their persisting action, from Bandoeng to this day, towards imposing the existence of a democratic international order. Thus, with each passing year, our relations have been stamped by a quality and a density commensurates with their deep attachment to the same principles and with their relentless determination to reach the same objectives. In rejecting the harsh law of exploitation and domination in their various aspects, both our developing countries found, and are still finding, in non-alignment an opportunity to promote the type of relationship widely open towards the horizons of genuine friendship and effective solidarity, as required by the equal

progress for all human societies.

STRUGGLE FOR EQUITY

In a world subjected to major changes during the process of decolonisation, it was indeed our duty to enable ourselves to break those yokes that hamper or block any march towards progress, and at the same time to work out a response to the situation created by underdevelopment. Now, more than ever, non-alignment, which placed us at the forefront of militant action, appears to be the most efficient instrument and an unmatched political tool for our struggle towards a more equitable and more human world. In a universe dominated by big power rivalry and block policy, by economic blackmail and interference in domestic affairs, our adherence to the principles and objectives of the non-aligned movement projects our refusal to put up with the inescapable conditions likely to be imposed by use of force or threats bound to bring about injustice in the distribution of prosperity among nations.

EXPLOITATION AND BONDAGE

Both India and Algeria are concerned by the reactivation of military bases and the return to the policy of military pacts, which are part of the game of rivalries, which create zones of tension and put the policy of detente in serious jeopardy. In facing such situation, it is our duty, there is no doubt about it, to strengthen together with all the non-aligned countries, our cohesion and to coordinate our action. Only a steadfast will to promote a consistent policy geared towards ensuring peace in the world can consolidate our dependence, since we have. to recognize that the Non-Aligned countries themselves stand to be most likely threatened in their existence. India and Algeria, convinced that the circumstances prevailing in the present international juncture require such a determination, are called upon to assume a greater responsibility. Such a responsibility compels them to engage in sustained concertation with a view to affirming forcefully their constant non-alignment, and to contribute at the same

time to the consolidation of the non-aligned movement through the rejection of the policy of blocks and foreign interference.

Both our countries are so rightly concerned by the rekindling of international tension. The Non-Aligned countries have many reasons to see behind it the spectres of exploitation and bondage, and to fear that they could still be exposed to foreign powers' greed.

In fact it is easy to observe that in our fast changing world, the developing countries' aspirations to full emancipation and genuine equality in international economic relations lack the political will to put an end to the unbalance that is typical of their relationship with the Third World. Worse still, new factors of worry and new motives for concern, bound to jeopardize international peace and security, are emerging. Such elements resulting from the developed countries' delaying tactics clearly account for the fact that multilateral negotiations towards

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the restructuring of the international economic relations are now bogged down or doomed to failure.

Your country, Mister Minister, very early distinguished itself among the tireless architects of such a major change, as evidenced in the many conference, negotiations and dialogues which accompany our slow and arduous progress of our world towards a new, better, and more equitable one. The impact of India's voice in the forums held to prepare the world of today towards this necessary mutation, reverberates, cono-like, the aspirations of the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Likewise, my country, which considers its action in the field of international economic relations as the natural extension of the objectives and ideals of the Algerian Revolution, fully appreciates the importance of an approach which, within the framework of Third World solidarity and cooperation,

would engage our two countries to strive together towards the emergence of a new and equitable order, through its manifold economic, monetary, financial and commercial components.

The Third World on its part is feeling more and more acutely the surviving of an obsolete and unacceptable order; it takes the true measure of things at stake and understand the importance that it should give to the international negotiation, particularly to the global negotiations soon to be opened within the framework of the United Nations.

Yet, while demanding a North-South dialogue based on equality, we ought to overlook the pressing and grave issues which many developing countries are facing. We must therefore promote at the same time intensive relations among the countries of the South and strive towards the establishment of a dense and many-faceted cooperation among developing countries, a cooperation that would comprehend commercial exchange, scientific and technical fields, as well as economic and financial matters, while bringing our human resources up to their rightful value.

EXAMPLARY COOPERATION

On this day, I wish to reiterate Algeria's readiness to develop, together with India, a broad current of exchanges, commensurate with both our friendship and with the ambitions we hold in common for the sake of the Third World. Such a stream of cooperation should be made to stand as an example for the countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Indeed, it is self-evident that it is in the South-South dialogue that we shall find the foundations of equitable and balanced exchanges with the countries of the North. This development of our exchanges would naturally fall within the framework of international development strategy for the forthcoming decade, and highlight the prospects for unity and solidarity among developing countries on the basis of their faithfulness to the principles of non-alignment.

Indeed, Mister Minister, now, more than

ever, we ought to apply our efforts and draw the utmost from our potentialities by imparting to our cooperation in all fields the impetus that could raise it to the level of our hopes. More than ever, the democratization of international relations is a necessity because the block policy has demonstrated, through recent events, its singular harmfulness. It is the duty of both India and Algeria to reaffirm their commitment to seek such ways and means as to place the Third World countries in a position to shake themselves free from any kind pressure of and to consolidate their own ties of solidarity and friendship. By such action, countries will ensure onwards the triumph of the principles and objectives of non-alignment.

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ALGERIA USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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AUSTRIA

Austrian Credit for Import of Capital Goods

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on February 1, 1980 on Austrian credit for import of capital goods to India:

An agreement was signed here today between Dr. Manmohan Singh, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and the Austrian Ambassador in India, Dr. Georg B Hennig, for Austrian assistance of Austrian Schilling 127 million (Rs. 8.43 crores) for import of Austrian capital goods to India.

This assistance would be in the form of a loan to be repaid over a period of 20 years with a grace period of 10 years and an annual interest rate of two per cent.

As a member of the Aid-India Consortium, Austria has been extending financial assistance to India since 1962-63. The credits extended by Austria have been in the nature of Government credits and suppliers credits. The major items of equipment which have been imported so far under Austrian credits include iron and steel items, equipment of power projects, gas cylinders, railway and chemical plant equipment, roller and ball bearings, microscopes and injection moulding machines. The terms of Austrian credit have gradually softened over the years both in terms of the period of repayment and rates of interest.

AUSTRIA USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

President Sanjiva Reddy's Banquet Speech in Honour of King o' Bhutan

The following is the text of the speech by the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, at a banquet given by him on February 22, 1980 in honour of His Majesty Jigme Singhye Wangchuck, the King of Bhutan: It gives me genuine pleasure in welcoming you in our midst this evening. We recall Your Majesty's earlier visits to our country which have not only helped further consolidate the extremely close and friendly relations between our two countries but have also demonstrated the high degree of mutual understanding, trust and confidence between us. Your visit to India therefore

reaffirms the special nature of the relationship that has always existed between our two countries.

MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

Your Majesty's visit to India on this occasion within a few weeks of our elections, which have given our government a massive mandate, is also a manifestation of our mutual recognition of the importance we both attach to frequent exchange of views for the further consolidation of our friendly relations and the deepening of mutual understanding between our two countries.

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Our age-old relations have been conditioned by immutable bonds of shared history, geography, culture, tradition and mutuality of interest. Both countries recognise the imperative need of preserving and further developing these relations of mutual interdependence. Your Majesty's visit, even though short, gives us yet another opportunity to reaffirm the unique links that bind us and to give an added momentum and content to our relations.

SIGNIFICANT STRIDES

We have followed with admiration, Your Majesty, the leadership you have provided to your country and the significant strides made by Bhutan in the field of socioeconomic development. It has been our privilege to have been associated in this dynamic task of socioeconomic transformation. I am confident that Bhutan will continue to face the new challenges that await her and the rising expectations of the Bhutanese people with determination under Your Majesty's wise and dynamic leadership. In this task, it is gratifying to note that Bhutan continues to draw inspiration and strength from the teachings of Lord Buddha and the firmly rooted Bhutanese traditions of love, tolerance, simplicity and the recognition of the value of the individual - values which we ourselves deeply respect and share.

Volume No

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BHUTAN

His Majesty Wangehuck's Speech

Replying to the toast, the King said:

I have been deeply touched by the welcome and hospitality which the Government and the people of India have shown to me. I have come here to reaffirm and strengthen the friendship and close cooperation which exist between India and Bhutan and further perpetuate the atmosphere of trust and understanding which has been the most important base on which Indo-Bhutan friendship has developed.

COMMON BONDS

India and Bhutan are not only neighbours, but we also share many common bonds of history, culture and religion. The visit of the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to Bhutan in 1958 ushered in a new era in the evolution of Indo-Bhutan relations. As a result Bhutan decided to end her traditional policy of isolationism and accept Indian assistance for socioeconomic development. Due to your Government's generous assistance and cooperation, substantial progress has been achieved in providing basic social amenities and in building the necessary infrastructure for the development of a self-reliant modern state, retaining at the same time all that is good in our traditional values.

Mr. President, with your Government's unstinted friendship and assistance we have become members of the Colombo Plan, the

United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement. We are now taking a more responsible role in the world community of nations. My Government and people value and appreciate the enlightened thinking of the Indian leaders, which has enabled Bhutan to take a giant leap from the past into the twentieth century in such a short span of time. We shall always remain grateful to India for the generous assistance and enlightened cooperation extended to us at a crucial period of transition in our history.

TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIP

The enlargement of Bhutan's role both internally and externally has added new dimensions to the traditional relationship between India and Bhutan. In addition to the large assistance provided for Bhutan Five Year Plans, India is also providing financial and technical cooperation to the development of roads and telecommunication facilities, to geological and mineral surveys and to important projects like the Chukha Hydro-Electric Project. Such projects are concrete symbols of the close cooperation between India and Bhutan.

The decade of the 1980's has started with unhappy developments in our region. We are deeply concerned with precarious situation which has emerged. India is one

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of the founders and a champion of the Non-Aligned Movement, and we look to India for playing a major role in defusing the situation and ensuring continued peace and stability in our region.

AFFECTION AND GOODWILL

During my stay here, I shall have a wide range of discussions on matters of mutual concern and interest. These discussions will not only cover bilateral issues, but also matters affecting our region and the world at large. My meetings with the Indian leaders will give me an opportunity to reaffirm the abiding feelings of affection and goodwill which my Government and

people have for the Government and people of India. I am confident that I shall receive full understanding and cooperation from the leaders of India.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, may I request you to join me in a toast to His Excellency, the President of India and the friendship between the peoples of India and Bhutan.

BHUTAN INDIA USA SRI LANKA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

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FRANCE

Cooperation in Indo-French Audio Visual Techniques

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on February 25, 1980:

A protocol for cooperation in audio-visual techniques between India and France was signed here today.

The protocol was signed on behalf of India by Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, and on behalf of France by His Excellency Mr. Norbert Segard, Secretary of States to the French Posts and Tele-Communications.

The protocol is aimed at utilising the modern techniques of communication for strengthening technical, industrial and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

The protocol provides that the two countries will identify the possibilities of application of the new audio visual techniques to meet the needs of the communi-

cation media in India, including direct broadcast by satellite, use of Teletext System, and Television via Cable. They would also examine the possibility of furthering such cooperation through exchange of know-how, technology, equipment and personnel, and promotion of joint activities in third countries.

According to the protocol, both the countries will facilitate the exchange of visits of their personnel with a view to acquaint themselves with the requirements and capabilities in the field of mass media.

FRANCE INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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FRANCE

Accord on Telecommunications

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on February 28, 1980:

A memorandum of understanding in the field of Post and Telecommunications between India and France was signed here today. The Minister of Communications, Shri Bhishma Narain Singh, signed the agreement on behalf of India and Mr. N. Segard, Minister of Communications of France on behalf of his country.

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The objective of the agreement is to set up scientific and technical cooperation in the field of Post and Tele-communications between the two countries on a continuous basis. This is in order to ensure the deve-

lopment and application of new techniques in commercial and industrial operations for mutual beneficial use of both the countries, taking into account techno-economic consideration of each country.

An annual working programme will be drawn up to implement the objective, which include:

i) Exchange of data relating to new techniques and definition of operation and maintenance procedures;

ii) Exchange of Engineers, Administrators, technical and managerial staff and teachers for short or long period;

iii) Training of technical personnel from Network Operation Departments, either in France or in India;

iv) Exchange of research workers between the "Centre National d'Etudes des Telecommunications" (CNET) and the "Telecommunications Research Centre";

v) Exchange of teachers and students between Post and Telecommunications Training centres;

The scientific and technical cooperation envisaged in this Memorandum will cover more Particularly the following:

i) Digital Transmission and Switching systems and integrated digital networks.

ii) Stored Programme Controlled Switching Systems.

iii) Rural Communication Systems.

iv) Transmission media and systems including satellite communications.

v) Telecommunications networks planning, management and operation.

vi) Traffic and subscriber networks measurement systems.

vii) New services -teletext and facsimile - radiotelephony.

- viii) Planning and design of postal buildings.
- ix) Mechanisation of postal services.
- x) Handling of International mails.
- xi) Marketing of post office services. (agency functions)

A Working Group each for Postal and Telecommunication subjects will be established to study and define the outlines of the annual cooperation Programmes including financial requirements for their implementation. The Working Group will also define the methods of implementation and to review the Progress of such programmes and also to deal with issues which may arise in the implementation of the programmes drawn up pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Memorandum of Understanding shall be valid for a period of five years and may be renewed thereafter by mutual agreement.

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FRANCE INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Message of Greetings to Mr. Kosygin on 25th Anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation

The following is the text of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi's message of greetings to Mr. Kosygin on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Indo-Soviet Econo-

mic Cooperation:

Excellency, I have great pleasure in extending to Your Excellency, and through you to the Government and the friendly people of the USSR our cordial greetings on the 25th anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation which is being observed both in India and the Soviet Union.

On this happy occasion it is but natural that we should look back with considerable satisfaction over what our two countries have been able to achieve together during the last quarter century.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The foundations of Indo-Soviet Cooperation were laid by Jawaharlal Nehru during his visit to the Soviet Union. From modest beginnings Indo-Soviet economic cooperation has grown so extensive that today it covers a wide range of industrial and economic activity in India. Over 70 joint projects set up through Indo-Soviet collaboration bear eloquent testimony to this cooperation. We are particularly appreciative of the valuable contribution made by the Soviet Union in India's efforts to build a strong industrial infrastructure.

We have every hope and confidence that the many sided cooperation between India and the Soviet Union will develop still further, as envisaged in the Long Term Programme of Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation signed in March 1979 in consonance with close and cordial friendship which has brought mutual benefit to the peoples of the two countries.

USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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Shri Narasimha Rao's Message to H.E. Mr. Arkhipov

The following is the text of External Affairs Minister Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao's message of greetings to H.E. Mr. Arkhipov on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation:

On the happy occasion of the 25th anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation, I have great pleasure in extending to you my cordial greetings.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS

Economic and Commercial Cooperation between India and the Soviet Union has played a great role in the rapid development and consolidation of close and friendly relations between our two countries. It is, therefore, but natural that the peoples of India and the Soviet Union should be observing the Silver Jubilee of this Economic Cooperation with great enthusiasm.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to assure Your Excellency that it shall remain India's endeavour to further develop this cooperation in the years to come imparting it new dimensions so that it can bring greater mutual benefit to our two peoples.

In my capacity as the Co-Chairman of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation I look forward to working closely with you, dear colleague, to foster even more dynamic and closer cooperation between India and the USSR.

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INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Kosygin's Message to Mrs. Gandhi

The following is the text of Mr. Kosygin's message of greetings to Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation:

On behalf of the people and the Government of the USSR I am sending to you and in your person to the people and the Government of friendly India congratulations and wishes of further successes on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Soviet-Indian economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

On February 2, 1955 our countries concluded the first intergovernmental agreement for the construction of the Bhilai Steel Plant in India with the economic and technical assistance of the USSR. This initiated the cooperation which nowadays covers actually all the most important spheres of life of our countries and is based on the Long-Term Programme.

Today there are more than 70 industrial and other important projects on Indian soil constructed or being constructed by the joint efforts of our countries and playing an important role in India's national economy. We are also working jointly in such advanced fields as space research, study of the atmosphere's structure seismic sounding.

The Soviet-Indian relations successfully developing on the basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation convincingly prove what multi-faceted and fruit-

ful ties may unite the states with different social systems if their policies are inspired by the ideals of peace and security of the peoples, by the common interests in opposing forces of aggression and war, if their relations are based on the principles of mutual respect sovereign equality and non-interference in the internal affairs.

STRENGTHENING OF FRIENDSHIP

Your meetings with L. I. Brezhnev, Madame Prime Minister, were of decisive significance for the strengthening of Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation.

The Soviet people are happy with the achievements of the people of India in their struggle for the economic and social progress. We are deeply satisfied by the fact that the Soviet people following the behests of great Lenin contribute to the efforts of the friendly Indian people aimed at the strengthening of the economic independence of their country on the basis of industrialisation and scientific and technical progress. Steel of Bhilai and Bokaro, oil of Anklesvar, modern machinery of Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar, electrical energy of Neyvely and Bhakra became the symbols of unselfish friendship and fruitful cooperation of our great nations.

We are deeply convinced that further development of many-sided relations between the USSR and India will promote progress and prosperity of the peoples of both countries, will serve the interests of peace in Asia and in the whole world.

USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The following is the text of Mr. Arkhipov's message of greetings to the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation:

Accept, please, most cordial and sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Soviet-Indian economic and technical cooperation which has been started with the signing on the 2nd February 1955 of the intergovernmental Soviet-Indian agreement on cooperation in the construction of the Bhilai Steel Plant.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

For the past period the economic ties between the Soviet Union and India, based

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on the principles of friendship, respect for sovereignty, non-interference into internal affairs of each other and mutual benefit, have steadfastly broadened and deepened. The Soviet-Indian economic cooperation has been widely developed in such important branches of industry as ferrous and non-ferrous metal industry, heavy engineering industry and energetics, oil and coal industry and in a number of other branches, which serves the cause of strengthening and developing the independent national economy of India.

The Long-Term Programme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of India opened new ample opportunities for further development of economic ties between our countries on a planned basis. It allows to make them still more effective and fruitful.

NEW SUCCESSES

Allow me congratulate in Your person

on the occasion of an important jubilee - the 25th Anniversary of the Soviet-Indian economic cooperation Indian specialists and workers who work at the Bhilai Steel Plant and other projects of the Soviet-Indian co-operation and wish them new successes, good health and happiness.

I express confidence that the traditional relations of friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and India based on the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation will continue to strengthen and develop for the benefit of the peoples of both countries, in the interests of strengthening peace and stability in Asia and in the whole world.

INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Protocol on Cooperation in Agriculture

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on February 11, 1980:

The Governments of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) on February 11, 1980 signed a Protocol for Scientific and Technical Cooperation in the field of Agriculture, for the years 1980 and 1981. This is in accordance with the 1971 Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation in the field of Agriculture, between the two governments.

Dr. O. P. Gautam, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education, Government of India, and Director-General,

Indian Council of Agricultural Research signed the Protocol on behalf of the Government of India and His Excellency Mr. A. A. Goltchov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of the USSR, signed on behalf of the Soviet Government.

The major areas of cooperation covered under the Protocol, include exchange of scientific information, literature and research methodology of crop science, soil science, animal science, plant protection, agricultural engineering, post-harvest technology, solar and other sources of energy and recycling of agricultural wastes. Leading agricultural research institutions in India and in the USSR would be collaborating in all these areas.

The Protocol also provides for mutual exchange of agricultural scientists and specialists in different fields.

There would be four Indo-Soviet symposia (during 1980 and 1981), two of which will be held in India and two in the USSR.

The Protocol was finalised after discussions between the delegates of both the Governments. The 11-member Indian Delegation was headed by Dr. O. P. Gautam., Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education, Government of India and the 5-member USSR team was led by His Excellency Mr. A. A. Goltchov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, USSR.

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INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The following is the text of statement by Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member, Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, on arrival in New Delhi on February 12, 1980:

I am happy to take advantage of the invitation extended by the Indian Government to visit once again friendly India.

In the course of the forthcoming talks with Indian leaders, we intend to discuss questions of, bilateral relations and also international problems that are of interest to the Soviet Union and India. Our relations have become an important factor of ensuring peace and stability not only in South Asia but also on a broader international plane, a factor militating against hegemonistic and imperialist designs.

NORMALISING OF SITUATION

We feel that in the present circumstances, when the forces of imperialism and reaction are attempting to bring about a turn in international situation away from detente and towards tensions and a dangerous confrontation, joint efforts by the USSR and India can play an important role in normalising this situation.

It is my hope that the forthcoming meetings and the exchange of views with Indian leaders will serve these lofty goals in the interests of the Soviet and Indian peoples and in the name of strengthening peace in Asia and in the whole world.

INDIA USA MALI

Date : Feb 01, 1980

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner held in Honour of Mr. Gromyko

The following is the text of speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner given on February 12, 1980 in honour of His Excellency Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics:

Your Excellency Mr. Foreign Minister, Madame Gromyko, Excellencies and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you, Mr. Foreign Minister, and the distinguished members of your delegation to our country. Your visit, coming soon after a new Government's assuming office, is in keeping with the tradition of high level exchanges between India and the USSR which has strengthened the close and cordial relations existing between our two countries.

You have already had one useful session of talks and a meeting with our Prime Minister and I look forward to continuing our discussions tomorrow.

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in April 1947, our bilateral cooperation has progressed rapidly and in the interest of our two peoples, on the basis of mutual trust and a mature understanding of each other's point of view. While discussing various issues, global or regional, we have been sustained by an unwavering commitment to work for world peace.

Over these years our two countries have developed strong cultural ties. The exchange of visits both by scholars and performing

artistes from either country has substantially contributed to the enrichment of our multifaceted' cooperation.

Indo-Soviet cooperation in the economic, technical and scientific fields bears eloquent testimony to how two countries, notwith-

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standing their different socioeconomic systems, may strengthen their bilateral relations to their mutual benefit on the basis of Pancha Sheela of Peaceful Co-existence.

Such beneficial cooperation has reflected the common endeavour of our two peoples to build a better world. Both of us have striven to raise the standards of living of our people through economic development and have always recognised that such development can best take place in an international environment of peace. India has never tired of reaffirming its strong conviction, both bilaterally and in various international forums, that nations have no alternative except to live in harmony, guided by the principles of peaceful co-existence.

Indeed, this belief has firm roots in our different historical experiences. India recalls with pride her long struggle against colonialism, racialism and apartheid, which conspired, and still do conspire, to shackle the aspirations of a vast mass of people. The Soviet Union, too must have similar memories of her valiant fight against fascism, which extracted such a massive sacrifice from her great people.

We greatly appreciate the contribution made by the Soviet Union to initiate and develop the process of detente in Europe, for it is a process which has considerably eased the tensions which threatened the peace of that continent. We had looked at this development as the first positive step towards peace. We had hoped that this process would spread to other areas of the world.

Of late, however, such a hopeful prospect seems to have been clouded over by the shadows of growing suspicion. Our fer-

vent hope is that the recent setbacks prove to be temporary and do not blight the prospects of international peace, bringing the world to the brink of another 'cold war'. We know that the Soviet Union, too must share this hope.

FORCES OF PEACE

Recent developments in our region have caused as much concern. Their first effect has been to threaten the stability of the region and affect the prospects of international peace. Our conviction that each country must be free to develop according to its own genius and tradition is central to any solution which we might consider. Such a solution alone will strengthen the forces of peace, contribute to stability of the region and encourage nations to work for constructive cooperation among themselves. All countries of the region are members of the non-aligned movement and should be permitted to live in peace and amity without being dragged into a confrontation.

At this crucial hour we call for exercise of utmost restraint, both by countries of the region, and outside powers, in the best interests of regional peace. We urge all countries concerned to refrain from any action contributing to a further escalation of tension in the region and to accept that problems between countries can and must be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

We are convinced that inter-state relations must be governed by the principles of peaceful coexistence, namely, sovereign equality and independence, non-use of force, inviolability of frontiers, respect for territorial integrity and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other. 'Ale, on our part, have always believed that this practice is in keeping with the spirits of non-alignment and is the surest way of achieving national self-reliance and fulfilment of peoples aspirations.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

We in India stand committed to pursue

the policy of normalising and strengthening relations with our neighbours. However, we must reiterate at the same time that any improvement of our relations with one country will not be at the cost of our established and time tested friendships with other countries. We reaffirm our readiness to seek greater participation in regional economic cooperation. We are conscious of the limitations of our resources yet we are prepared to make a modest contribution as a beginning. We are confident that we shall have your support in this.

Eruption of local tensions in one part of the world or another often leads us to forget that today more than ever before

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there is an urgent need for resolving major issues of development which confront mankind. The vast majority of the world's population still lives in hunger and want, poverty and illiteracy. Man can ill afford to expand his scarce resources on fuelling the self-defeating and wasteful machine of war.

NOBLE CAUSE

We are happy that Your Excellency's visit, the first of a series of visits from Soviet leaders to India, comes at a time when we are celebrating the silver jubilee of our economic relations. In ten days from today my colleague the Co-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission will visit Delhi to participate in the joyous celebrations of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation which are being held throughout the country. We are sure that these visits will give us an opportunity to renew our pledge to the noble cause of yet closer bilateral cooperation for the benefit of our peoples, and enable us to continue the fruitful dialogue on important issues which face the world today.

Friends, may I now request you to join me in raising a toast to His Excellency Mr. Andrei Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet

Union and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR; to Madame Gromyko; to the distinguished members of his delegation; and to the further strengthening of Indo-Soviet friendship which has served the cause of world peace and will continue to do so in the years to come.

INDIA USA MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. A. A. Gromyko's Speech

The following is the text of Mr. Gromyko's speech at dinner in his honour by Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao:

Esteemed Mr. Minister, Dear Indian Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all I would like to express my gratitude for hearty welcome given to us and for the kind words addressed by you, Mr. Minister, to the Soviet Union.

The talks we have started today continue the established practice of Soviet-Indian political contacts. These contacts enable us to consider and to successfully solve matters of bilateral relations, they give the Possibility to understand each others stand more deeply, to outline the directions Of Our cooperation in international affairs for the benefit of peace.

POLITICAL CONTACTS

The level of development of contacts between states in the sphere of politics is always the sure indicator of the relations

between them in general. That is why we note with satisfaction, and I think you will agree with this. that political contacts, doubtless, play an important political role in the whole set of Soviet Indian relations.

The character of Soviet-Indian cooperation in our times is Precisely defined by the words of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, and the President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR L. I. Brezhnev: "Our friendship has been tempered in the flames of Bhilal blast-furnaces, it acquired a new content as a result of joint efforts of the Soviet Union and India on international arena, efforts aimed at the triumph of peace, justice and freedom of peoples".

Great credit in this respect goes to L. I. Brezhnev and Prime Minister of India Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

The present talks are being held at a time when the international situation has visibly become complicated and the process of detente is undergoing serious trials.

BALANCE OF FORCES

The responsibility for this rests entirely with the forces of imperialism, first of all

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with certain circles of the USA, which are possessed with the idea of military superiority which would like to change in their favour the balance of forces in the world, revive the time of "cold war". In other words, they would like to start speaking the language of diktat with the purpose to impose their will on other countries and peoples, to lay their hands on someone else's oil and on the whole, on the resources belonging to other countries.

To disguise their designs, the authors of the Washington's such policy are trying to fan the fiction of so-called "Soviet threat", which has happened many times before.

This device is old stuff which smells of

flake moth balls. But this fact does not embarrass them.

Now they have chosen its the target of their attacks the Soviet action in support of the people of Afghanistan, which defends its democratic achievements in the struggle against the aggression unleashed from outside. While doing this, the imperialists are trying to present the matter in such a way as if this step of ours is the initial cause of those complications that have recently emerged in international affairs. This is an absurd and dishonourable version.

Organized by the forces of imperialism, aggression against Afghanistan was obviously needed by them. to use it for just another blow against the world detente. They could not but know that Afghanistan would defend her independence with might and main and that the Soviet Union would respond to her request for help.

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP

The act of assistance to Afghanistan, which fully corresponds to the Treaty of Friendship, Good-neighbourliness and Co-operation between the USSR and the DRA and also to the UN Charter is not aimed against the adjacent countries, does not harm their interests and surely does not constitute any danger for the security and stability of this area of Asia and of the world at large.

When asked when and under which conditions the limited Soviet military contingents would be withdrawn from Afghanistan, L. I. Brezhnev has given an exhaustive answer in his recent interview to the correspondent of the newspaper "Pravada". All other statements and guess-work on this account mean deception of people which is being abundantly cooked in the Washington political kitchen, especially in connection with the events around Afghanistan.

The anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan camouflage of her politics was needed by Washington to cover the course of increasing international tension, of subversion of world

detente and escalation of arms race which has been pursued by her for quite a long time.

As far back as two years ago, the NATO countries had decided to sharply increase their military budgets. This was followed by a decision to deploy new American nuclear missile arms in Western Europe. Setting the fashion, the United States has made and is making unprecedented efforts to increase its military potential.

The same is the implication of the forming of the so-called "quick reaction corps" by Washington which is destined for military interference into internal affairs of peoples in the different regions of the world.

SEARCH FOR BASES

And take such activities of the USA as its crude pressure on Iran to the shores of which an American naval armada has been sent as US military preparations on the island of Diego-Garcia in the Indian Ocean and the feverish search by Washington of places for the setting up of her new neval bases.

Similar to these activities are the schemes meant to convert Pakistan into a hotbed of tension, as springboard for further escalation of aggression against Afghanistan.

Pakistan, if it goes along the same road in future, will get nothing good and will undermine its position as an independent state. Its interests would imply the strengthening of its independence and maintaining good, friendly relations with all neighbouring countries.

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The actions of those forces which have unleashed the aggression against Afghanistan can be qualified in no other way but as an immediate threat to the security and independence of the peoples of the Middle and Near East and the peoples of South Asia.

And we understand these peoples' concern. It is fully justified, especially if we take into account the fact that the same road is being followed by the Peking leadership which is pursuing the course of the great-power hegemonistic policy. They, as it is said, have taken to treading on their heels particularly recently to catch up with Washington.

The peoples of the world can well recognize those who are really devoted to the interests of peace and cooperation and fight for it, and those, who only sport peace-maker togas.

HOTBEDS OF TENSION

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, its policy - the policy of struggle for peace and international cooperation, for the freedom and independence of the peoples - was and remains a consistent one. It has been bequeathed to us by V. I. Lenin. Our country will steadily follow this policy in future, actively promoting the preservation and strengthening of the cause of detente, putting an end to arms race, and achieving disarmament, the elimination of hotbeds of tension in various regions of the world, the eradication of the remnants of colonialism and pockets of racialism.

As everywhere in the world, we pursue the same policy towards the states of the Middle and Near East and South Asia.

The Soviet people know what deserved authority the peace-loving Policy of India - great Asian power - has in the international arena. We are firmly convinced of the fact that there are possibilities for the further deepening of cooperation between our countries whose positions in many respects are either close or coincide, with the aim of solving urgent international issues and exerting positive influence on the development of the political situation in the world.

COMMON EFFORTS

The Soviet-Indian Treaty of 1971 serves as a reliable foundation for our com-

mon efforts to this end. It serves well Soviet Indian relations and the world as a whole.

Allow me in conclusion to express the confidence that the present meetings and negotiations will serve the cause of further development of fruitful cooperation and strengthening of friendship between our two countries for the sake of the Soviet and Indian peoples, in the interests of peace all over the world.

May I propose a toast to the health of Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of India; to the health of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India; to the health of Mr. Narasimha Rao, the Minister of External Affairs of India; to the great Indian people; and to friendship and new successes in the development of cooperation between our countries.

INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN IRAN PAKISTAN

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Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India-USSR Joint Statement

The following is the text of Joint Statement issued at New Delhi on February 14, 1980 on the conclusion of Mr. Gromyko's official visit to India:

At the invitation of the Government of India, H.E. Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, paid an official visit to India from February 12 to 14, 1980.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. A. A. Gromyko was received by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy and the Vice-President of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah.

Mr. A. A. Gromyko called on the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi and conveyed to her a message from the Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme

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Soviet of the USSR, H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev and had a detailed exchange of views with her.

He held official talks with the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

The talks, which were held in an atmosphere of mutual trust and cordiality, reviewed the international situation, including the developments in the region and around it.

They also reviewed bilateral relations in the perspective of their long and traditional friendship and in the spirit of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation of August 9, 1971.

The two sides reaffirmed their determination not only to persevere but also to develop further and strengthen the mutually beneficial relations between the two countries.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the visit of the Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, Mr. A. A. Gromyko to India.

They also noted that the talks and discussions had helped the two sides to strengthen their mutual understanding.

The two sides expressed their agreement, to maintain the exchange of opinions

between the two countries on issues of mutual interest on a continuing basis.

INVITATION FOR VISIT

On behalf of the Soviet leadership and H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Mr. A. A. Gromyko extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union. He also extended an invitation on behalf of the Soviet Government to the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union.

The invitations were accepted with pleasure. The timing of the visits will be agreed upon later.

Mr. A. A. Gromyko expressed his thanks to the Indian leaders for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to him during his stay in India.

INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Lunch Hosted in Honour of Mr. Arkhipov

The following is the text of speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a lunch given on February 22, 1980 in honour of His Excellency Mr. I. V. Arkhipov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR:

Your Excellency, Mr. Arkhipov your Excellencies, Mr. Goldin, Mr. Litvinenko and Mr. Zvizhulev, esteemed Ambassador Vorontsov, distinguished guests and friends,

I am indeed very happy and privileged in welcoming Your Excellency and your colleagues here to take part in the celebrations we are holding in India in connection with the 25th Anniversary of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation. The BMW Steel Plant which was set up 25 years ago is a vibrant symbol of Indo-Soviet Economic Cooperation and is a significant landmark in the development of India's steel industry. I am particularly happy that the tradition of Indo-Soviet cooperation in the field of ferrous-metallurgy will be further strengthened by the setting up of the steel complex at Visakhapatnam, an agreement on which was signed in Moscow in June 1979.

INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION

May I take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the help and cooperation which the Soviet Union has extended to us in the past, particularly in the crucial sectors of heavy industry, ferrous metallurgy, oil

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prospecting and pharmaceutical industry. Thanks largely to this cooperation we are now well on the road to self-reliant development in this and other sectors.

Excellency, today we can look back with satisfaction and, if I may say so, with pride, on the wide range of Indo-Soviet cooperation and what has been accomplished. The warm friendship and understanding between our two countries have provided a solid foundation for these impressive achievements.

It has been the tradition of Indo-Soviet relationship that leaders of the two countries and members of the Governments exchange views on a bilateral basis in a free and cordial atmosphere. Very recently I had the pleasure of welcoming your Foreign

Minister and discussing with him matters of mutual interest.

The Soviet Union is our third largest trading partner and the second biggest customer for our products. I am happy that the estimate of the total trade turnover for 1979 has exceeded the target of Rs. 12000 million envisaged in the trade protocol for 1979 by over 30%. This is indeed a significant achievement. The Trade Protocol for 1980 signed recently provides for a total trade turnover of Rs. 19000 million.

TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE

Commerce between our two countries has been diversified over the years and our mutual cooperation covers a large number of fields not only in basic industries but also in increasingly sophisticated branches of technology. I am sure the first exhibition of Indian goods which was opened by Your Excellency in Moscow in May 1978 has given a glimpse of modern India, in the building of which the Soviet Union has been a very important partner even at times when some other countries were reluctant to do so.

The Long Term Programme of Indo-Soviet Trade, Economic and Scientific Cooperation, which is the first document of its kind entered into by India with any country, is another significant land-mark in our continuously growing economic relations. This Programme, apart from providing for expansion of cooperation in the traditional fields, breaks new ground by identifying projects for cooperation in such areas as agriculture, food processing, building materials, light industries and pulp and paper.

ECONOMIC COLLABORATION

I am also happy to have taken over as Co-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission in the year when we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of our economic cooperation. The Joint Commission has played a major- role in promoting our cooperation in the economic, technical and scientific fields in a systematic and orderly way. During the 5th Session of the Joint Commission held in Moscow in June 1979, certain major projects

for cooperation such as the Visakhapatnam steel complex, to which I have already made a reference and the alumina plant in Andhra Pradesh were agreed upon. Some new projects in the field of irrigation, which would help to boost our agricultural production have also been agreed upon. We value the Soviet Union as an old and trusted friend of our country. we are inspired by the desire to cooperate with each other on the basis of sovereign equality and for mutual benefit.

In conclusion may I once again say how happy we are to welcome Your Excellency and your colleagues in our midst. May I, ladies and gentlemen, request you all to raise your glasses and join me in proposing a toast to the health of H.E. Mr. Arkhipov, to the health of all the members of the Soviet Delegation and to the ever-growing and lasting cooperation and friendship between our two countries and peoples.

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USA INDIA RUSSIA LATVIA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Ivan V. Arkhipov's Speech at Bhilai

The following is the text of speech delivered by Mr. Ivan V. Arkhipov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at the mass rally of friendship at Bhilai devoted to the 25th anniversary of Soviet-Indian economic and technical cooperation on February 23, 1980:

Your Excellencies, Respected leaders of

the Plant, Dear friends and comrades,

Allow me to express cordial gratitude to the Government of India for the invitation to the Soviet Government delegation to take part in the celebrations dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of Soviet-Indian economic and technical cooperation.

On the occasion of this silver jubilee, I am happy to convey to the Government of India and the Indian people warmest congratulations and good wishes from the Soviet leaders and from the entire Soviet people.

MESSAGE OF GREETINGS

It gives me great pleasure to read out and to handover to the staff of the Bhilai Steel Plant a message of greetings from the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev who has always had affection for India and the Indian people and has given great attention to the development of all-round relations of friendship and cooperation between our countries.

With a feeling of profound appreciation, the Soviet people take note of the successes achieved by India during the years of independent development in raising its national economy and in carrying out social transformations. During a short period of history, India has succeeded in setting up and developing such modern and important branches of industry as ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, heavy engineering, power engineering, electronics, petrochemical industry and many others. India has achieved self-reliance in many vital fields of production, including agriculture.

Soviet-Indian economic cooperation, initiated by the construction of the first stage of the Bhilai Steel Plant, has been developed and strengthened within this period. Now, 25 years later, this cooperation embraces more than 70 industrial and other projects built or being built in India by joint efforts of our countries.

MILESTONE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Today, as we mark this significant milestone, all of us are witnessing the great achievements of the staff of the Bhilai Steel Plant, which has become a flagship of ferrous metallurgy in India. The course of the construction and exploitation of the Bhilai Steel Plant shows how big and complicated a work has been done by Indian specialists and workers during this period. The first stage of the Bhilai Steel Plant was built in an unprecedented period of time, and in 1962 the plant reached its design capacity of one million tonnes of steel a year. Now you produce more than two million tonnes of steel and successfully continue to increase its production. Further extension of the plant up to the capacity of 4 million tonnes is in full swing. Sophisticated modern high production equipment is being installed - the 130 ton converters, the continuous casting- machines and the unique plate mill "3600" the output of which will find wide use in ship building, machine-building and other branches of industry.

It is well known that ferrous metallurgy is one of the most important branches promoting the development of national economy on an independent self-sufficient basis. India has rich deposits of high-quality iron ore as well as other raw materials for metallurgical industry. But the most important thing is that India has highly qualified specialists and workers, who have acquired the skills of producing iron and steel, who can handle most sophisticated up-to-date machinery. Many of them built Bhilai and later Bokaro, and now work at these and other projects of the public sector. They head plants and State corporations and give all their efforts and knowledge to the cause

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of developing their country. The Director of your Plant, Mr. Jain, is one of them.

Indian designers play an important role in developing India's ferrous metallurgy. The designing Organisation, MECON, has

carried out great work in designing the Bokaro and Bhilai Steel Plants and is now engaged in increasing their putput up to more than 4 million tonnes of steel a year each.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIES

Indian engineering workers have followed the example of Bhilai workers and are successfully tackling the problems of developing national industries to satisfy the needs of India's economy. Their participation in the expansion of the Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants as well as in the construction of industrial projects in India and abroad is steadily growing. The exports of engineering products, including to the USSR, are on the increase.

We feel great satisfaction that Soviet specialists, who work shoulder to shoulder with their Indian colleagues, take part in designing, constructing and in manning the Bhilai steel plant and other projects of Soviet-Indian cooperation. One can say that one of the major components of the steel smelters in Bhilai and Bokaro is the ardour of our hearts, the warmth of our friendship and our firm determination to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our countries to the benefit of our peoples and in the name of peace in the world.

Today, everyone sees how rich are the fruits of Soviet-Indian friendship. It has long since become one of the most precious achievements of the two great great peoples, the fruits of their minds and hearts.

PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

We are deeply convinced that further development of the multifaceted relations between the USSR and India on the basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation will facilitate progress and prosperity of the two countries and will serve the interests of peace in Asia and elsewhere.

In conclusion, may I once again congratulate you on the 25th Anniversary of

Soviet-Indian economic and technical cooperation and wish from the bottom of my heart new success to the industrious and talented people of India. Let the glow of Bhilai blast furnaces stay for-ever for the good and happiness of the Indian people, thus illuminating the path towards stronger friendship between the Peoples of the USSR and India. Let the words: "Hindi-Rusi Bhai Bhai" forever resound in our hearts!

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister's Message to President Tito

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, sent the following message to President Tito of Yugoslavia on February 20, 1980:

I am deeply anxious and distressed at the serious turn that your health has taken in the last few days. All of us in India pray that you may recover and continue to lead the Yugoslav nation and serve the cause of non-alignment. We are following with admiration the courage and confidence with which the Yugoslav people are facing these critical times. I should like to assure you of our continued friendship and solidarity.

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YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner Hosted in Honour of Mr. Vrhovec

The following is the text of speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner given on February 25, 1980 in honour of H.E. Mr. Josip Vrhovec, Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia:

Your Excellency, Friends, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome Your Excellency to India. Your visit comes soon after a new Government has assumed office in our country and affords us a welcome opportunity to exchange views on subjects of mutual interest, in keeping with the strong tradition of Indo-Yugoslav friendship and cooperation.

DESIRE FOR PEACE

This close friendship between India and Yugoslavia has derived strength from our common desire to work for world peace. Both of us realise that for socio-economic development of our countries and our people, a peaceful environment is essential. That is why India and Yugoslavia have always worked together in international forums to this end.

India attaches importance to the strengthening of her friendly ties with Yugoslavia. We recognise the significance of high level exchanges between our two countries and we are convinced that Your Excellency's visit would further promote Indo-Yugoslav relations.

The warm personal friendship between President Tito and the late Pandit Jawahar-

lal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, was of immense significance in the development of Indo-Yugoslav cooperation. Together, the two leaders laid the foundation of the Non-aligned Movement. It is, therefore, but natural that we in India should receive with concern and distress the news of President Tito's ill health. We Pray for his speedy recovery.

INNOVATIVE EXPERIMENT

Under the guidance of President Tito, the friendly people of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have enjoyed the fruits of one of the most innovative experiments of our times. Whether in the systems of worker's self-management socialism or in the realm of foreign policy, your great leader has made a deep imprint. We admire the courage and determination of your people. We are confident that Yugoslavia will continue to grow in strength,

Ever since our independence we in India have followed a foreign policy guided by an unwavering adherence to the principles of non-alignment which has enabled us to exercise our independence of judgment and freedom of action in a manner suited to our national genius. International developments of the last three decades have reaffirmed the validity of non-alignment and its relevance to countries irrespective of their socio-economic systems. India and Yugoslavia can be justifiably proud that a Movement which began with a small membership of 25 now spans all the continents of the world. There is a reason for this. The non-aligned countries share the conviction that socio-economic development in their countries can be best assured by pursuit of a policy which enables them to be free of bloc rivalry or big power confrontation.

Unfortunately, however, in recent years non-aligned countries have been frequently drawn into the vortex of such confrontations. This has threatened the very ideals of our Movement, above all, the five principles of peaceful co-existence which serve as the sheet anchor of Non-alignment.

PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS

In recent months, new tensions have developed in our region affecting countries who are all members of the Non-aligned

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Movement. It has been India's effort to work towards defusing the situation. We have embarked upon a process of consultations and we are happy to have the opportunity of exchanging views with you. In all our discussions, we have counselled utmost restraint from all quarters.

We believe that inter-state relations must be governed by certain well-recognised principles. Whatever problems exist between any two countries must be resolved bilaterally and through peaceful means. We are opposed to outside interference in the affairs of any country, big or small, and we reaffirm our conviction that countries must be allowed to develop their socioeconomic systems in a manner suited to their own genius.

Excellency, I am confident that our discussions during your visit will strengthen and deepen our mutual understanding and contribute to consolidating Indo-Yugoslav relations.

Friends, may I now invite you to join me in raising a toast to our distinguished visitor H.E. Mr. Josip Vrhovec, Federal Secretary of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and to the distinguished members of his delegation as also to the growing strength of Indo-Yugoslav friendship and co-operation.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA

Date : Feb 01, 1980

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Indo-Yugoslav Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of Indo-Yugoslav Joint Press Statement issued at New Delhi on February 26, 1980 on the conclusion of Mr. Josip Vrhovec's official visit to India:

At the invitation of the Government of India, Mr. Josip Vrhovec, the Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, paid an Official visit to India from February 24-26, 1980.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. Josip Vrhovec was received by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and the Vice-President of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Mr. Josip Vrhovec called on the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi and' handed over to her a message from the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Josip Broz Tito, relating to bilateral relations and the present international situation. He also had a detailed exchange of views with her.

Mr. Vrhovec held official talks with the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. The talks which were held in an atmosphere of mutual trust and friendship reflected the traditional close relations and understanding between India and Yugoslavia and revealed a close similarity of views.

The two Ministers held comprehensive exchange of views on the current international situation including developments in South Asia and South West Asia and other key international issues.

They also discussed various issues facing the non-aligned movement and empha-

sised the need to strengthen the solidarity and to reaffirm the principles of non-alignment.

They agreed to maintain exchange of views on matters of mutual interest.

STRENGTHENING OF TIES

The two Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the continued progress in Indo-Yugoslav relations. They reaffirmed the determination of their governments to develop bilateral cooperation by further strengthening the ties existing in the political, economic, cultural, and scientific and technical information and other fields.

The Federal Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, W. Josip Vrhovec, conveyed his grati-

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tudes to the Minister for External Affairs of India for the warm hospitality accorded to him and the members of his delegation during their stay in India. He extended an invitation to the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shir P. V. Narasimha Rao to pay an official visit to Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

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BANGLADESH INDIA BULGARIA GERMANY USA KOREA LIBYA LIBERIA NEPAL SWITZERLAND
ZIMBABWE

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

India's Reaction to Bangladesh Statement

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on March 3, 1980 in reply to the statement made by Kazi Anwar al-Haq, the leader of the Bangladesh delegation to the Indo-Bangladesh talks:

The 18th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held from February 27 to 29, 1980 in New Delhi. The meeting discussed two items out of the 4 on the agreed agenda, but could not finalise the minutes of discussions. It was, therefore, adjourned with an agreement to meet at the earliest to conclude its deliberations.

ONE SIDED VERSION

Although it was agreed during the meeting that no details of the viewpoints of either side may be given to the press since the matter was under discussions and consideration of the two sides, the Bangladesh Minister, after his return back to Dacca, is understood to have given his version of the deliberations to the official Bangladesh News Agency viz., B. S. S. He has said that the JRC meeting failed due to intransigence on the part of India. Also he has said that the Indian proposal for augmentation of the flows of the Ganga, viz., Brahmaputra-Ganga link Canal supplemented by storage in India was neither on the agenda nor was necessary as it involved inter-basin water transfer. This version is neither correct nor fair.

On the item of augmentation of the flows of the Ganga, Bangladesh has vetoed consideration of the proposal made by India as well as by itself, by bringing in the question of association of Nepal by pressing for a solution to this question on its own terms and in the manner pleaded by it before the study could even begin. Although the agreement stipulates that the JRC must complete its study within three years, 2 1/2, years have already elapsed by Bangladesh's uncompromising attitude.

INDIA'S COOPERATION

India wants to abide by the Farakka Agreement in letter and spirit but Bangladesh wants to enlarge the scope of the agreement on its own terms and has prevented implementation of an agreement on this plea. India has agreed to cooperate with Bangladesh approaching Nepal as and when necessary to facilitate study of Bangladesh's proposal. But Bangladesh wants to make Nepal a member of the JRC which is not necessary in terms of the Farakka Agreement reached between the two countries.

Due to abnormally low flows in the Ganga, the short-term agreement has been proving disastrous to the Calcutta Port during this lean season. The Bhagirathi levels have gone down and there is hardly any current in the river. Navigation has stopped and shoals have appeared at a number of places. Calcutta Port traffic is being throttled with disastrous consequences. The full impact of this will be known only after the survey is carried out in June-July this year.

India's scheme for augmentation of Ganga flows is not only within the Ganges Water Agreement, but is also within well accepted concept of optimum development of waters of the common rivers avail-

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able to the two countries which has been agreed upon by the two countries in 1974 at the level of two Prime Ministers.

OPERATION OF PROJECTS

The second item discussed was issues regarding sharing of Teesta Waters. Bangladesh has not cooperated in the study of water availability, water requirements and the manner in which these requirements can be met although this was agreed upon between the two sides. They want to resort to ad hoc sharing without any scientific basis. Such an approach can only lead to numerous problems during implementation and operation of the projects on either side.

Whether, it is the issue of the augmentation of the Ganga flows or the sharing of Teesta waters or indeed the question of the waters of any of the common rivers, the true meaning and significance of the interim Farakka Accord must not be distorted or else the future of this Agreement may be jeopardized.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA NEPAL CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the dinner given in honour of His Excellency Mr. Peter Mladenov, Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria on March 26, 1980. Proposing the toast, Shri Narasimha Rao said:

Your Excellency, Mr, Foreign Minister, Madame Mladenova, Excellencies and Friends, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Excellencies to India. Your visit offers a welcome opportunity for an exchange of views on the development of our bilateral relations and other subjects of mutual interest. Your visit is an important landmark in the development of Indo-Bulgarian friendship and many-sided cooperation.

FAITH IN PEACE

I was happy to observe in our discussions that our two countries share a common

faith in the cause of world peace and human progress, convinced as we are, that the all-round development of our two peoples can best take place in a peaceful environment. I am also happy to say that over the last several years, our two countries have worked together in various international forums towards this goal.

We have also taken note of your country's role in the evolution of detente in Europe. It is our belief that in order to be meaningful and durable, detente must not remain limited to a few countries or to a continent, but must be extended to other regions of the globe.

Excellency, we have watched with interest the efforts made by your Government to rebuild your national economy. We in India too have reaffirmed our commitment to improving the living standards of our people. Although we have made much economic progress in the 32 years since independence, we are acutely aware of how much more needs to be done. Our Government, which assumed office recently, is fully committed to re-vitalising the economy and giving our people economic progress coupled with social justice. We are confident that we shall receive willing cooperation from all sections of our society. At the same time, we are also conscious that in order to achieve our socioeconomic objectives we re-

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quire, above all, a peaceful international environment.

POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP

On our part, we have consistently pursued a policy of peace and friendship with other countries, irrespective of the differences in socioeconomic or political systems. We are, therefore, concerned at a new area of tension in South-West Asia.

Excellency, I do not propose to dwell at length on the developments that have taken place in our neighbourhood in recent months. The fact remains that in a region

which is so vital to our security, new tensions have arisen. This is a development that cannot contribute to a peaceful environment.

We are convinced that outstanding issues between two countries can be resolved on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence. Fortunately, all countries in the region of South-West Asia are members of the Non-Aligned Movement and have reaffirmed time and again their commitment to its objectives. That is why they should find it advantageous to seek solutions to their outstanding problems in their adherence to the principles of non-alignment, which are firmly rooted in the philosophy of peaceful co-existence and sovereign equality among nations. We, on our part, must reaffirm our conviction that if world peace is to be preserved, countries must resolve their bilateral problems through peaceful means and without recourse to use, or even the threat of use, of force.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Excellency, fortunately for us, we have no problems in our bilateral relations. After our discussions I am confident that in fact the prospects for further Indo-Bulgarian economic and technical cooperation are indeed very bright and would be explored further in the forthcoming sessions of the Joint Commission.

Although your stay in our country is very short, I am sure that Your Excellencies will enjoy your visit to the beautiful city of Agra and get a glimpse of the historical traditions and the great cultural heritage of our people.

Friends, may I now request you to join me in a toast to His Excellency the Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Peter Mladenov, Her Excellency Madame Mladenova and to the distinguished member of the Bulgarian delegation.

BULGARIA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

His Excellency Peter Mladenov's Speech

Replying to the toast, His Excellency Peter Mladenov said:

Distinguished Mr. Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, I should first like to convey my gratitude to the Government of India and to you personally, Mr. Minister, for the invitation extended to me to visit your country, for the warm welcome and attention accorded to us from the very moment we stepped on the hospitable Indian soil.

We hold in high esteem the democratic, industrious and peace-loving Indian people -- a people whose heroic past and ages-old traditions are infiltrated in its remarkable present-day achievements in all walks of life.

CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE

We appreciate highly the foreign policies pursued by the Republic of India, its contribution to the consolidation of peace, security and understanding among nations, its constructive role in the non-aligned movement.

At the end of last year we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries.

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In the course of this quarter of a century we have constructed a solid basis for the development of lasting and deeply rooted relations of mutual respect, confidence and cooperation.

Bulgaro-Indian relations have acquired today illustrative and qualitative dimensions in various walks of life. We carry out active political contacts, we promote economic, scientific and technological cooperation, we expand the cultural exchange. I wish to highlight here the great importance of the meetings between the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov and the Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi, as well as the role of reciprocal visits of official representatives which have already become traditional.

FRUITFUL COOPERATION

It seems to me, though that possibilities have been far from exhausted, particularly in the economic field. This visit is a link of the common desire to give new impetus to Bulgaro-Indian friendship, to a fuller utilization of the growing potential of the two countries. It is our firm belief that the Bulgarian and the Indian people will further pursue together the path of fruitful co-operation which meets their vital interests and serves the cause of peace and detente.

Distinguished Mr. Minister, in the seventies, due to the persistent efforts of many countries, a turn was made towards the policy of detente. In hopefulness and faith, nations have been looking forward during the current decade towards a promoted and irreversible detente process.

However, in the eighties, our world has stepped into a complicated and tense situation. We are now the witnesses of a broad offensive of the forces of imperialism and hegemonism keyed against peace and detente, of deliberate and irresponsible aggravation of international relations, of overt military actions in different areas of the world, of attempts to bring back the years of confrontation and "cold war". All this is accompanied by a vilifying propaganda campaign designed to delude nations about the true reasons for the growing of international tensions.

POLITICAL DETENTE

We resolutely condemn all attempts to strain the international situation. In our view, there have been and there are no objective reasons to undermine the foundations of detente, to destroy the structure of international relations. As it "as recently stated by the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov, "Our principled course remains one of consolidating and deepening detente, a course of peaceful co-existence and cooperation between countries with different social systems." In pursuance of this line of peace and cooperation, my country displays vigorous efforts for the building of confidence and friendship among the Balkan States, it views the CSCE Final Act as a long-term programme for the persistent enhancement of detente and cooperation in the European continent. We believe it urgent to complement political detente with effective measures to limit and curb the arms race with a view of arriving at a general and complete disarmament.

We are prepared to cooperate with all peace-loving and progressive forces who hold dear the cause of peace and international security. We believe that the lessons from the past will compel the most far-sighted statesmen in Europe and in the world at large to draw the necessary conclusions in the interest of their countries and nations. The Bulgarian people treasure the constructive share of India in international life and are confident that it will continue to take active part, today too, in the struggle for the consolidation of detente, peace and security throughout the world, for international cooperation and social progress.

WARM FRIENDSHIP

While thanking you once again for the warm hospitality and friendly attention which we interpret and appreciate as an expression of esteem for the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian people, I propose a toast to the strengthening of friendship and fruitful cooperation between

our countries and nations, to the good health of His Excellency President Reddy, to the good health of Her Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, and to the good health of distinguished Minister Rao and everybody present here!

BULGARIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BULGARIA

India-Bulgaria Joint Statement

The following is the text of India-Bulgaria Joint Statement issued in New Delhi on March 28, 1980:

At the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Peter Mladenov paid an official visit to India from March 25 to 29, 1980.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria was received by the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy and by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to whom he handed over messages from the President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov. He also called on the Vice-President of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah.

The Minister of External Affairs of India and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of Bulgaria reviewed with satisfaction the development of Indo-Bulgarian relations and considered ways and

means of developing them further. They also exchanged views on International issues of mutual interest. The talks between the two Ministers were held in a spirit of cordiality and mutual understanding.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Peter Mladenov thanked the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao and the Government of India for the warm and cordial welcome extended to him during his stay in India. He extended an invitation to the Minister of External Affairs of India to visit Bulgaria. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

BULGARIA INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in honour of India's Foreign Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao on March 17, 1980 in Bonn:

You are welcomed as the representative of a country with which we maintain since long close relations. These close relations are based on the firm and permanent foundation of our traditional friendship and mutual understanding.

INTEREST IN PEACE

We are keenly interested in broadening this co-operation in all areas. That applies to political co-operation, the base of which is the shared goal of keeping the peace along

with our shared interest in a world in which the nations can determine for themselves, in freedom, their political, economic and cultural ways of life.

The same applies to the intensification of our economic cooperation. The Federal Republic of Germany is one of India's main trading partners. The value of our trade in 1979, for the first time, topped the 2,000-million-Deutsch-Mark (900 Crores Rupees) ceiling. And meanwhile this trade in the past five years has nearly doubled. Especially gratifying is the steep climb in German imports from India.

India is by far our most important partner in development policy co-operation.

Intensive as in our economic co-operation the same can be said of our cultural exchange, which enjoys a long and great tradition linking our two countries. This cultural exchange gives our foreign relations the permanent foundation of mutual understanding.

The events in Afghanistan involve all of us. For in our world there is not only an economic but also a political interdependence.

LOVE FOR FREEDOM

The German Federal Government rejects any form of domination and any establishing of spheres of influence. We want a partnership, based on equal status, and beneficial for all, among the people of the world. The attempt to base international relations on the supremacy of one state over the other has no future. Such an attempt collides with the strongest force of our era: the wish for autonomy and independence.

India is one of the founders and a leading member of the Non-aligned Movement. To your country there falls an essential, irreplaceable role in the preservation of the

principle of non-alignment as for the resolution of the current crisis, a particularly important role falls to all the Non-aligned Countries.

We welcome the interest India has expressed in the European Community's proposal of non-aligned Afghanistan. That is: a really independent Afghanistan, withdrawn from its position of being an object of strife among the big powers. We would like this concept to find broad-based support.

POLITICAL BALANCE

Towards the countries of the subcontinent, the Federal Republic of Germany follows a balanced policy. We are gratified that India is going to continue and intensify the dialogue with Pakistan. A continuation of the political balance between the two most important countries of the subcontinent is an important guarantee for the region's stability.

Here is the great challenge of our epoch - a challenge to the industrialized countries of the East as of the West.

The Federal Republic of Germany is going to pursue its policy with renewed emphasis: The policy of supporting the independence and stability of the countries of the Third World via political co-operation and economic aid in the sense of a partnership of equals.

In the future, too, the Federal Republic of Germany will lend active and constructive support to the North-South Dialogue.

We are investing all our efforts in fostering peace world-wide. Detente is indivisible, and so is the wish for freedom. Humanity expects of the governments of this world that they act in awareness of this truth.

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GERMANY INDIA AFGHANISTAN USA PAKISTAN

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech

Replying to the toast, Shri Rao said:

Mr. Foreign Minister, Madame Genscher, Ladies and Gentlemen, I must confess that I feel somewhat overwhelmed by the warmth and hospitality extended to me here. May I, on behalf of my delegation and myself, thank you for this cordiality and for the gracious sentiments you have expressed.

HAPPY RELATIONSHIPS

As I said this morning, Mr. Minister, the fact that we have no problems between India and the FRG, no issues that are contentious, illustrates the happy state of our relationship. This does not mean, of course, that we can now be complacent, for, there is always room for more exchanges, for deepening cooperation and for strengthening the understanding that exists between us. It is a great pleasure for me to be able to come here and we are very eagerly looking forward to have you as our guest in India together with Madame Genscher at the earliest possible. I might mention that the last time you came, you brought a good monsoon.

Mr. Minister, it is true that the rapid development of modern communications is making the world smaller and bringing people together. But I am sorry to say that in an economic sense, the gaps have not narrowed, indeed they have become even wider. This without doubt, constitutes One of the most significant problems and one of the greatest challenges for the advanced industrialised world, of which West Ger-

many is a leading member.

I am afraid I would be less than frank if I were to hide from you my own disappointment at these widening disparities. Mr. Minister, it is one thing to vociferously endorse ideas of constructive cooperation between the north and the south, it is another to convert verbal commitments into actual practice. The divergences which emerged from the UNIDO conference in New Delhi last month impressed upon me soon after I had taken over as Foreign Minister, the indispensability of greater political will and a keener desire for concrete, time-bound results.

MEANINGFUL PROGRESS

This is also the dominant tenor of the recently released report on economic relations between north and south with which one of your most distinguished statesmen has been associated. I refer of course, to the Brandt Commission Report. Our experts are studying this with the close attention it deserves. It demands from the industrialised world the political will to face the challenge, to make the necessary sacrifice in order to ensure meaningful progress towards an equitable world economic order. This alone can create a beginning for the lasting peace on which future prosperity of all countries, developing or advanced is so vitally dependent.

Mr. Minister, this is my first visit to Bonn and unfortunately, it has to be a very brief one. I should have liked to visit some of your celebrated industrialised areas such as the Ruhr. It evokes the name of Rourkela in India where German technology is so solidly and lastingly evident. I am aware also of the many other schemes in the agricultural and industrial fields in which your investment, your enterprise and your advanced technical expertise find fruitful use in my country. It is a tribute to the German people that whether it is in the production of steel in thermal energy utilisation or in joint research in the nuclear field these schemes have been eminently successful.

When You were in India last we had set up a Joint Economic Commission in order to stimulate our industrial and commercial cooperation. This morning we briefly touch-

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ed upon the need to reinvigorate this Commission and the best way to do this is through concrete projects which I hope our two Governments will very shortly be able to review.

INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATION

Although I cannot personally meet with your famous industrial houses and business enterprises perhaps I could take this opportunity to convey how much we are encouraged by their interest in collaboration with Indian industry. My Government intends to find ways and means to canalise this interest into priority sectors of our economy. I hope therefore that the Joint Economic Commission will soon be able to specify plans and projects for our respective (Governments and industries. Mr. Minister our economic progress is of course ultimately predicated to our national stability which is in turn, linked to peace and stability in our region. It is sad to observe that in the post-war period, confrontation, conflict and war have seldom been absent from one or the other part of the non-aligned world in general and from Asia in particular. We have been witness to the disastrous results in terms of material destruction and human misery. We therefore view with grave concern recent developments in our neighbourhood. We have all along taken a consistent stand based on the principles that all nations should have the opportunity to determine their own destiny without any form of outside intervention or interference. The problem in Afghanistan has brought the cold war to our doorstep. Arms buildup and great power confrontation can be a grave threat to peace and stability of the countries of the region, all of which are non-aligned. The supreme need of the hour is to avoid escalation of tensions and to exercise utmost restraint and defuse the situation. The exchange of views we have had with you, Mr. Minister, has

confirmed this conviction.

IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRACY

Our Government, which came back to power in the recent elections after a break of three years, is still comparatively new. The democratic process has asserted itself and fulfilled the wishes of the people yet again. I am sure the significance of this has been noted by your press, which is as lively and vigilant as our own. It is a common factor of fundamental importance between our two countries.

I am happy to learn that we shall also be shortly having an exchange at parliamentary level. Parliament for us is the soul and essence of our free institutions not merely as a constitutional apparatus but as a live and effective instrument of ensuring the supremacy of the popular will and the collective good.

I greatly value, Mr. Minister, the highly illuminating and useful discussions we had with the Federal Chancellor this afternoon. I NA-as also honoured to be able to have a meeting with His Excellency President Carstens.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now invite you to join me in a toast to His Excellency Mr. Genscher, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, to Madame Genscher, and to further strengthening and development of the traditionally close relations between India and West Germany.

GERMANY USA INDIA AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

The following remarks were made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, after his talks with the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, His Excellency Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in Bonn on March 18, 1980:

We had very useful discussions on a wide range of subjects. We met in an atmosphere of utmost friendliness and cordiality and discussed many important aspects of international situation. On developments in Afghanistan, we discussed the matter in all its implications and agreed that a solution to the problem should be sought on the basis of an independent non-aligned Afghanistan, without outside military intervention. We should see to it that there are

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no tensions in the region and no danger of confrontation between the super powers.

We also discussed the Middle East question. Mr. Genscher apprised me of his discussions with the leaders of the ASEAN countries which he visited. He also touched upon the situation in Europe. On all these matters we could arrive at an understanding of each other's point of view.

We also discussed bilateral matters and decided to have further consultations and exchanges with a view to further strengthening our bilateral cooperation. Mr. Genscher was also good enough to accept, on behalf of Mrs. Genscher and himself, my invitation to him to Visit India. The visit will take place in the first half of this year.

We also touched upon the North-South Dialogue and the negotiations to take place in the forthcoming U.N. Special Session on development. We agreed that solutions should be found on the basis of general acceptability and mutuality of interests and I was happy that there was agreement on

this point.

I would like to thank H.E. the Foreign Minister and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for their kind invitation and the hospitality extended to me and my delegation.

GERMANY USA AFGHANISTAN INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs Narasimha Rao's Statement in Lok Sabha on Supply of Nuclear Fuel by USA

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on March 20, 1980 regarding the reported fresh complications in the supply of nuclear fuel by the U.S.A. for Tarapur:

The Calling Attention Notice refers to the reported fresh complications in the supply of fuel for the Tarapur Atomic Power Station by the Government of the United States. The factual position is that while the U.S. Government has not so far finally refused to make available supplies of fuel for the Tarapur Station, there have been persistent delays in fuel supplies during the past four years. Two export licence applications for 19.8 tonnes each, of enriched uranium for use as fuel by the Tarapur Atomic Power Station, are currently pending with the US authorities. One of these applications was filed nearly one and a half years ago on September 20, 1978, and the deliveries under this application were scheduled to have taken place between March and August, 1979. The other application was made on August 20, 1979, and the deliveries

under this application were scheduled to have commenced last month.

COMMITMENTS ON SUPPLIES

The essence of the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the United States, which came into force in October 1963, is that the US Government is committed to provide fuel supplies as needed through the lifetime of the Tarapur Station, limited by the period of the Agreement, namely, till October 1993, on the corresponding understanding that the Tarapur reactors would be operated on no other fuel except that made available by the United States.

The supplies of enriched uranium for use as fuel at Tarapur were being made fairly regularly until early 1976. Since then there have been considerable delays in fuel shipments.

We have repeatedly expressed our grave concern to the Government of the United

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States on the inordinate delays in approving fuel supplies for Tarapur. The terms of the Cooperation Agreement between India and the United States, which came into force in 1963 after fulfilling all statutory and constitutional requirements in both countries, cannot be changed unilaterally by either party. We have abided by this Agreement in its letter and spirit and we expect the Government of the United States to honour their obligations.

ASSURANCES ON SAFEGUARDS

Over the last three years the US Government has been making various requests for additional assurances from the Government of India regarding safeguards. In essence these amounted to our accepting full scope safeguards over all our nuclear facilities. The Government of India has consistently replied that it could not accede to these requests. On the last occasion on March 7, 1980, in reply to requests for speci-

fic assurances in connection with the two outstanding shipments, the US Ambassador as informed that we would honour all existing agreements and obligations and that our policy on the use of nuclear experiments for peaceful purposes had already been made clear on January 30, 1980 in Parliament by the Prime Minister. It will thus be seen that these are only old and reiterated requests from the US Administration which we have never been able to accept, rather than fresh complications.

We have been in constant touch with the Government of the United States regarding the continued supply of fuel on a regular and timely basis for the entire duration of the Agreement, that is until 1993, in strict accordance with the provisions of the existing Cooperation Agreement between the two Governments.

It continues to be our hope that the US Government will honour its obligations as we have always done. I would, however, like to assure the Honourable Members that we are prepared to meet any contingency arising from the non-supply of fuel.

USA INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech

The following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the dinner given in honour of His Excellency Mr. Shridath Surendranath Ramphal, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat on March

27, 1980. Proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

Mr. Secretary General, Friends, it is a great pleasure for me to welcome in our midst the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Dr. Ramphal. We have had the privilege of having him with us on earlier occasions. We could perhaps even lay some claim to him as one of our very own, by virtue of his Indian ancestry.

EXPANSION OF COOPERATION

Mr. Secretary General, your visit provides us with an opportunity to reaffirm India's cherished ties with the Commonwealth of Nations. Under your stewardship of the Secretariat, with the continued expansion and deepening of cooperation among Commonwealth countries, the Commonwealth has emerged as one of the more useful and relevant groupings of nation States in this century.

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You have come here soon after the people of Zimbabwe have elected a Government of their own free choice. The part you have played in the transition of Zimbabwe from illegal racist rule to independence and democracy merits commendation. You have thus participated directly in one of the most significant triumphs of the movement for decolonisation - an event which matches in its historical importance, the inaugural triumph of this process in 1947, namely, the birth of independent India.

This does not mean, however, that the work of the Commonwealth in Africa is over. Not until apartheid is banished from South Africa and Namibia, freed from its hold, can we afford to rest contented.

PROBLEMS OF CONCERN

Mr. Secretary-General, you are aware of India's interest in pursuing Commonwealth cooperation in our own Asian Pacific region. The Second Regional Meeting of

Commonwealth Heads of Government is to take place in New Delhi in September this year. Your vast experience and knowledge of Commonwealth countries will be invaluable to us in our preparations. We hope to discuss, at this meeting, problems of concern to us all and devise practical means to tackle them effectively. We value the enthusiastic support lent by you and your Secretariat.

Very recently, the report of the Brandt Commission has been published. Your association with this Commission is not only a tribute to your stature in the international community, but also a recognition of the role of the Commonwealth in bridging the great divide between the North and the South. The recent UNIDO Conference which India hosted tellingly brought home to us the need for sane counsel to reconcile national and communities so deeply divided on fundamental questions which impinge upon the very survival of mankind. We hope that your own sense of justice, liberality of outlook and your dynamism will help to reverse the retrograde trends in the management of the global economy.

NEED FOR RESTRAINT

Mr. Secretary-General, our Government has been at the helm of affairs for a very short while. Our attempts at resolving the serious problems within our own country and at fulfilling our promises to the people are bedevilled by a situation of crisis proportions at our very door. We have been impressing upon all 'concerned the need for restraint, for defusing of tensions, for avoidance of a short-sighted recourse to arms. Stability and peace can only be attained through level-headed negotiations. It is our own belief that the Commonwealth, even though it is a community of diverse nations, can bring about an atmosphere conducive to the lessening of tensions and the peaceful pursuit of programmes for development and welfare of the peoples of the region.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency, Dr. Ramphal and

his distinguished colleagues.

INDIA USA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Dr. Edouard Saourna's Inaugural Speech at FAO Regional Conference

The following is the text of Dr. Edouard Saourna's speech at inauguration of FAO Regional Conference at New Delhi on March 10, 1980:

Madame Prime Minister, Your Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates and Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great honour and privilege for me, to welcome you to the Fifteenth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific.

Madame Prime Minister, on behalf of the distinguished representatives of twenty

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six or our member nations, present here today, its well as Observers from other governments and from other organisations, it is my privilege to thank you for the notable honour you do us, by consenting to inaugurate the Fifteenth FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific.

PRESERVATION OF PEACE

Of all the challenges facing mankind, the alleviation of hunger and malnutrition is among the most important of the preservation of peace and the improvement of well-being.

Your honouring us, by your presence,

despite the heavy matters of state, which are your concern, is the highest testimony of the importance you personally attach to resolving the problems of world food and agriculture and to improving the lot of rural populations

Your concern for the poor will continue to inspire us in our endeavours. The measures that you have been taking to alleviate poverty give us hope that this blight can be removed with political will and determination.

Our ideals and efforts can find no more important forum for application than the region of Asia and the Pacific.

The nations comprising this region consist of some two and a half billion people - more than half of the world's population.

I also extend a warm welcome to the distinguished Ministers and high officials representing our member Governments from Asia and the Pacific.

DESIRE FOR WORK

Their presence despite their many important obligations to their countries is the most significant proof of the importance we attach to food and agriculture in this region and to our desire to work together to resolve them.

I am particularly happy that the first of all our Regional Conferences, in this biennium takes place in New Delhi.

India is a cradle of man's agricultural civilization.

it has long involved the sympathy of the world by the magnitude of its problems of feeding its population and alleviating the plight of its rural areas.

The relations between our Organisation and India have always been particularly close and valued.

I myself feel deeply attached to your country since I had the privilege of first serving FAO from 1962 to 1965 as FAO

Representative for Western Asia based in New Delhi when Dr. B. R. Sen was our Director-General.

TRADITIONAL HOSPITALITY

With my long personal experience in India I am certain that we will be greatly aided in our work and - even more - will cherish the warmth of traditional Indian hospitality combined with the efficiency of the facilities and services placed at our disposal.

I am certain that I reflect the gratitude of all Member Nations present to your Government for its generosity in hosting this Regional Conference.

I would not like to take any more of your time.

I first give the floor to His Excellency Rao Birendra Singh, Minister of Agriculture of India.

Coming from Haryana where he was Chief Minister, His Excellency brings with him the long and noble tradition of agriculture in his State.

We are particularly fortunate in being privileged with his collaboration.

After him, I would yield the floor to Her Excellency, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, for the inauguration of our Session.

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INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

The following is the text of the Prime Minister's address at F.A.O. conference at New Delhi on March 10, 1980:

Food is the very foundation of life. Today, with the help of industrial technology, we produce a myriad things but food production must remain our first concern. This concern has been summed up in the evolution, through the good offices of F.A.O., of the concept of the International Food Security System.

The realisation that man was born free but was everywhere in chains led to the great revolutionary movements of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The realization that while science has given us the power to feed all mankind, 800 million still live in hunger, must spur us onto new international arrangements to eliminate want. It is unfortunate that the recommendations of the World Food Conference of 1974 have made little headway. The developed and the developing seem to see the universe differently.

It is in this context that today's Conference assumes significance. I welcome all the Ministers and other participants attending this Conference on behalf of the people in India, who stand to benefit from your deliberations. W. Director-General, I am glad to see you in our midst. You have been a friend of this country and of this region from the days when you represented F.A.O. in New Delhi.

GROWTH IN ECONOMY

My colleague, the Agriculture Minister, has given a detailed account of the progress India has made in increasing food production and of the many unfinished tasks that still call for attention. I shall address myself to some major issues of common concern to all of us - the need to stimulate economic growth without damage to ecological harmony, and the importance of employment generation and energy manage-

ment.

The countries represented here contain more than half the world's population. The greatest incidence of poverty also occurs in our region. Our peoples are poor but many of our lands were well-known in the past for their wealth. They can be rich once again, because of their endowments of soil, water, minerals, abundant year-round sunshine and, above all, the skill and drive of their people. In the past some of these resources were exploited for the benefit of others. Even after our liberation we have been squandering our assets. For example most of the unique tropical rain forests of the region have been fast dwindling while soil erosion catches attention, because it is visible to the eye, the erosion of valuable genetic material in the form of plants and animals unnoticed.

FOOD PRODUCTION

Since the early fifties, the production of more food and the diversification of rural employment have formed the core of all our development plans. We have constructed dams and canals. Farmers have begun using Pumps in huge numbers. Our extension agencies have popularised new farming practices. We have imported and distributed fertilisers and are now producing them in substantial quantities. We have built comprehensive credit and marketing systems. Land laws have given ownership rights to millions. Our scientists have evolved new plant varieties suitable for our soil and climatic variations. The combined result of all this is that our food production has gone up 2 1/2 times. No longer is the taunt flung at us that an agricultural country has to seek food from outside.

But the battle is far from won. Hunger is far from vanquished. Many old problems Persist- New ones have arisen from the very development that has taken place. The desire to Profit out of poverty seems to be strong amongst the affluent nations and also among affluent sections of our own population. How else can we explain the enormous rise in the price of essential inputs

like fertilisers during the last one year?
Can the small farmer, who is too poor to buy inputs and too weak to take risks, afford these costs? I urge FAO to initiate a move

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for an international agreement, on the limitation of the prices of strategic agricultural inputs so that they are not beyond the reach of the average farmer.

ECONOMIC WELLBEING

We have enlarged our rural credit system, but we have not been able to assist every farmer irrespective of the size of his holding. Those in charge of agricultural development programmes must find new ways of improving the economic Wellbeing of the rural poor. In India We have been experimenting in a small way with crop and cattle insurance but we have not yet been able to develop mechanisms to protect farmers adequately from losses due to causes beyond their control.

What a farmer needs most is the assurance of remunerative marketing. As more and more small farmers grow saleable products, they find that they are unable to get a reasonable return for their labour and investment. Small increases in output frequently cause large drops in price. Conversely, small shortfalls in production lead to panic purchases by the well-to-do and thereby disproportionately increase consumer price. Agricultural growth has to be coupled with stability of production, producer-oriented procurement and consumer-oriented marketing.

Besides strengthening public agencies for procurement, we are also promoting the organisation of producers' and consumers' cooperatives. Our dairy sector has made dramatic progress largely because millions who own just a couple of cows or buffaloes have been brought into a chain of dairy cooperatives. If similar organisations of small fishermen are promoted, coastal communities can prosper. They can undertake the cultivation of prawns, oysters, mussels, eels

etc. and also plant trees like Casuarina, cashewnut and coconut along the sea coast. Such coastal shelter belts of economically useful plants would also help to minimise sea erosion and cyclone damage.

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

Although India has achieved comparative self-sufficiency in food malnutrition is still prevalent not because of lack of food in the market but because there is no money in the pockets of many people (and sometimes no pockets even!) to buy it. Hence our nutrition problem is basically a problem of providing employment. The share of agriculture in the work force is not likely to diminish during the Eighties in spite of the impressive growth of our industrial and infrastructure sectors. Out of a net addition to the labour force of about 6.7 million per year, as many as 5.3 million will have to be absorbed in the agricultural and unorganised rural sectors.

Solutions that suit one country do not necessarily suit another. The advanced countries have mechanised their farming. But India and many other Asian countries need employment-creating rather than labour-saving technology. This should be one of the aims of research. We must remember Mahatma Gandhi's warning that machinery should not "help a few to ride on the back of the millions."

There is an old saying "Paddy and poverty go together". I hope you will identify methods to sever this link and help rice farmers to improve their income through subsidiary occupations. They can be taught to process every part of the rice plant into value-added material. Fortified rice straw can support a subsidiary occupation like animal husbandry. Rice bran oil can be another source of income and de-oiled bran can be used as poultry feed. The introduction of an additional crop after rice like pulses, oilseeds or jute would add to income and employment.

VIRTUES OF THRIFT

The crucial question is that of energy

management industry and agriculture both consume vast amounts of energy for increased Production, while oil or even coal are becoming more costly and less easily available. The solution Prescribed by some experts is to limit growth. Ironically, those who practise conspicuous consumption are teaching the virtues of thrift to us poor. Most countries represented here cannot obviously think of a limit to economic growth just now. They are still struggling to provide the basic minimum needs of their

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people. Agriculture, fortunately, is a profession based on renewable forms of energy. Most crops are primarily a harvest of solar power. The so-called modern farm technology has led to a growing dependance on chemicals based on fossil fuels. There need be no limit to growth in agriculture provided we adopt techniques of organic recycling.

Recycling is important for energy-deficient countries like ours. More recycling in affluent countries would be good for them and the world. It has been estimated that in the United States of America about 300 million trees can be saved each year if the quantity of waste paper recycled is trebled.

Until a few years ago our farmers were suspicious of anything unfamiliar. But now that quick benefits have been proved, they take eagerly to the new. In 1966, when I first became Prime Minister, we initiated a high yielding variety programme in wheat, and we had hardly 40 hectares of land under it. By 1971 the area under the new varieties had gone up to 4 million hectares! Wheat production doubled within six years. Obviously such a quantum jump in wheat production could be achieved only when the official programme rapidly grew into a farmers' movement.

BENEFICIAL FALL-OUT

Let us therefore convert the difficulties caused by the rising cost of petroleum products into an opportunity to expand a movement for energy conservation and recycling.

No such event is an unmixed blessing or curse. It all depends upon how we take up challenges. Countries in this region should take full advantage of a beneficial fall-out from the increase in the price of petroleum products, namely, a spurt in demand for natural rubber, jute, cotton and other fibres.

Even among developing countries, some are blessed with mounting riches from exports of oil. Others have met with a degree of success on the food front. In order to roll back the tide of hunger and malnutrition, to raise levels of investment, production and food security for the impoverished millions and to give an earnest of our determination to help ourselves, we must pool our respective endowments and experiences, and create an enduring machinery of powerful mutual partnership. How precisely this goal can be reached is the concern of everyone in this Conference. India will play its part in such an endeavour.

I have pleasure in inaugurating the fifteenth Regional Conference of F.A.O. for Asia and Pacific and I wish success to your deliberations.

INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Shri Narasimha Raos Opening Statement at Ministerial Meeting of Group 77

The Minister of External Affairs,
Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao made the following statement in his capacity as Chairman at the Ministerial Meeting of Group 77 at New Delhi on March 11, 1980:

Distinguished Ministers, Excellencies, friends, I welcome you to this meeting of the Ministers of the Group of 77 in New York. Your presence here is evidence of the importance of this meeting. The global round of negotiations, for which we have assembled here to prepare, represents one of the most significant initiatives of our Group in the last several years. We are all only too well aware that international economic cooperation has faltered badly. The plethora of conferences, meetings and seminars has yielded little, for the developed countries have refused to exercise the political will which would permit significant advance.

HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP

The deteriorating world economic situation has brought fresh tribulations to the developing countries. Their heightened vulnerability only underlines the need for the early establishment of the New International Economic Order which would replace the present unbalanced World Econo-

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mic Order with one based on equity and justice. We are here today in a renewed quest for this objective. The global round of negotiations represents an act of faith on the part of developing countries on the possibilities of establishing just and harmonious relationships through negotiations, on the basis of mutual benefit of all countries, developing and developed alike.

I have referred to the failures in the North-South Dialogue which have created a wood of frustration among most of the developing world. Trading practices of developed countries have become more restrictive. Official development assistance to developing countries is declining in percentage terms. The antiquated monetary system calls for urgent reform, inflation plagues development, the gap between developed and developing countries continues to widen and recurrent crisis leave us farther from our development goals.

The atmosphere of International Economic Cooperation today is, therefore, very different from what it was a decade or two ago. There is lack of perception among the developed countries about the problems of under-development and of corresponding action for its elimination. In its place, we see a growing detachment, indeed even an air of indifference about the plight of the developing world.

SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS

This transformation in the international atmosphere is reflected in the failure of the various attempts at North-South dialogue during the previous decade. Successive sessions of UNCTAD, Conferences on Science and Technology, industrialisation and monetary issues have managed to produce little beyond status quo formulae and have signally failed to secure the concerns of the developing countries. This inevitably colours our approach to the global round.

In order to radically transform this gloomy scenario, we have to devise an approach that would facilitate the search for solutions to our urgent and grave problems through business-like dialogue aimed at practical results. We must also strengthen the framework for economic cooperation among developing countries - what is referred to as South - South cooperation to enhance our collective self-reliance and hence our bargaining leverage.

We need to mount our strategy on the twin pillars of serious negotiations with the North and purposeful steps for cooperation among ourselves. In the first, our intent is to concentrate attention on major issues that have either not been discussed so far or have defied solution in other fora. A certain measure of selectivity is implicit, tempered by the need for coherence and an integrated approach. If all parties at the global round show a willingness to share each other's concerns and proceed towards mutual advantage, the global negotiations would have good prospects of success.

ECONOMIC PROGRESS

In the second pillar of our strategy, namely, our mutual cooperation, our action should be based on this recognition that in the final analysis the economic and social progress of our countries must depend on our own individual and collective efforts. In the traditional model of North-South cooperation there has been an explicit assumption of the so-called "trickle-down effect".

That is to say, growth in the economies of the North is supposed to lead in the second round to accelerated progress in the South. The harsh experience of the last few years demonstrates that such linkages do not operate automatically and that this approach condemns developing countries to a position of ineffective dependency. It is all the more necessary, therefore, for developing countries to build on their own strength, individual and collective. Furthermore, the accelerated development of the developing countries is necessary for the growth and development of the world economy as a whole.

What is needed is realistic programmes for translating the acknowledged potentials of South - South cooperation into actual practice. The key constraints are not unknown. In brief, they include finance, a serious information gap about the actual capabilities and capacities of developing countries; infrastructure in agriculture and industry; technology and energy; and not least, an unfortunate want of faith in our-

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selves. For, due to the historical experience of most of us, there is not only a grave lack of knowledge about the potential for inter se cooperation, but there are some unfortunate attitudinal barriers with reflexive tendencies to look to the North to supply national requirements. Vigorous steps to promote meaningful cooperation using our own potential in the field of industry, food and agriculture, trade and technology, as well as energy, investment and transport, through the identification of complementarities are therefore, urgently required on a

continuing and effective basis. Let us now turn to the immediate issues before us.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The purpose of our meeting over the next four days is outlined in the draft agenda drawn up by the senior officials, whom I would like to thank for the hard work they have put in. We have to begin with, to apply ourselves to the kind of agenda we should recommend for the new round of global negotiations. We should also give thought to the time frame and procedures for these negotiations. We have also to consider the item on economic cooperation among developing countries. These are the major substantive issues before us. In addition, we shall consider matters connected with the Organisation of the special session of the U.N. General Assembly to be held in August-September 1980 for the launching of the global round and the adoption of the international development strategy for the third U.N. development decade. We shall also receive a report on progress in the international development strategy.

The senior officials have been good enough to put before us some very specific proposals in respect of all of these items. I trust that we can have a constructive exchange of views on the basis of these proposals and take appropriate decisions. I would also suggest for your consideration that the final document we adopt should be brief and business like, setting down the conclusions and decisions we have been able to arrive at.

INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

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KOREA

The following is the text of the Minister of External Affairs, P. V. Narasimha Rao's speech at a dinner held in honour of His Excellency Mr. Tong-Jin Park, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, in New Delhi on March 31, 1980:

It is a great pleasure to welcome to India His Excellency Mr. Tong-Jin Park, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and his distinguished delegation.

PLACE AND STABILITY

This morning, we had an extremely useful exchange of views. It made me particularly happy to observe that your objectives and ours coincide on the need to ensure that conflicts and international disputes should be solved peacefully across the negotiating table and without recourse to arms. The developing countries of Asia can only achieve our principal goals of safeguarding our independence, and securing a better life for our peoples, if we are permitted to build around us an environment of peace and stability, rather than face tensions and confrontations not of our own making.

Excellency, as you are aware our people have given us a massive mandate at the recent elections. They have thus placed on us the onus of vindicating that trust and fulfilling our promise to provide them with a better life. Unfortunately, after a period of relative tranquillity our sub-continent is

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once more faced with a situation of grave crisis. It has been and will be our endeavour to restore and indeed improve upon the earlier climate of cooperation, as without this we cannot concentrate our attention on the pressing internal problems that should be our first priority.

GOAL OF UNIFICATION

India's association with the question of Korea goes back to its very origin. We are acutely aware that the peoples and leaders of both sides, North and South, yearn for unification, It is our firm conviction that this goal can only be pursued through peaceful negotiations. It is therefore, a matter of gratification that preparations are under way for a meeting between the Prime Ministers of the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We would like to express our best wishes for the success of this dialogue.

The links between India and Korea go back almost 2000 years in history. It was at that time that the teachings of the Buddha reached Korea. Today, our relations are characterised by cordiality, goodwill and mutual understanding. It is heartening to note that there are no outstanding problems between us. It will be our endeavour to see that our cooperation in all fields will go from strength to strength.

Allow me, ladies and gentlemen, to propose a toast to the health and long life of His Excellency President Choi Kyu Hah, to His Excellency Mr. Tong-Jin Park, to all our distinguished Korean friends here, to the happiness and prosperity of the people of the Republic of Korea and to the further strengthening of the bonds of friendship between our-two countries.

KOREA INDIA USA PERU

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

LIBYA

Indo-Liberian Joint Venture Agreement

The following is the text of the Press Release issued in New Delhi on March 5, 1980:

An Agreement for setting up the first Indo-Liberian Joint Venture consisting of US \$ 9 million glass bottle factory in Monrovia was signed on February 29, 1980.

Mr. Clarence Parker,- Chairman of the National Investment Corporation of Liberia, signed on behalf of the Corporation and Shri Fatehsingh Rao Gaekwad of Baroda signed on behalf of Importex International, the Indian Collaborator.

The factory is expected to go into production by the end of 1981. It will cater to the needs of Liberia and the Mano River Union. The Indian and Liberian participation in the equity is 60 to 40.

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LIBYA LIBERIA INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

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NEPAL

President Reddy's Speech at Banquet for Nepal King

The following is the text of President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy's speech at a banquet given by him on March 6, 1980 in honour of Their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal:

It gives me great pleasure in welcoming Your Majesties and other members of your party in our midst this evening.

We had the pleasure of receiving Your Majesty in September 1979. Since then, elections have been held in our country and

a new Government, enjoying the massive mandate of our people, has assumed office. Implicit in this overwhelming expression of the people's will, is their desire to see a further strengthening of our relations without close neighbours. Our age-old ties, conditioned by permanent bonds of shared history, geography, culture and, above all mutuality of interests, derive their strength and sustenance from the imperatives of our inter-dependence, which under-scores the rationale of the relations between our two countries. It shall be the endeavour of my Government to develop and strengthen further our multi-faceted historical relations to our mutual advantage.

STABILITY AND PROSPERITY

Nepal is passing through a momentous period in her history. Your Majesty has ordered a referendum and has pledged to initiate reforms that will promote greater participation by the people in the governance of the country. We wish the Nepalese people well and sincerely hope that they will continue to enjoy peace, prosperity and stability in which Nepal can strive assiduously for the goal of socio-economic development.

In a climate of harmony and mutual trust, with no major irritants bedevilling our relations, we must now seriously consider embarking upon programmes of exploring the wealth bestowed by Nature, to translate into action our mutual desire for the prosperity of our peoples. It is our belief that these combined efforts will be in the best interests of our two countries.

We are gratified that under Your Majesty's dynamic leadership Nepal is making rapid progress. It is our privilege to have been associated in a modest way in this task of socioeconomic reconstruction. We would like to assure Your Majesty that we wish to see a stable, prosperous and strong Nepal. I am heartened to note that we both share the view that only through constant cooperation and interaction will be able to build a meaningful relationship based on trust, harmony and mutual under-

standing. It is the strong urge of our people to come closer together and open new avenues of cooperation.

COMMITMENT TO PEACE

In the recent past, our region, which has so far remained peaceful, has become an area of tension resulting from the likely induction of massive arms into it. Your Majesty has recently referred to the "shadows of cold war" which have "overtaken the region in our neighbourhood" and the dangers inherent in the "call to arms". We fully share Your Majesty's concern and are happy to "note that both India and Nepal agree that it is not conducive to peace and stability in our area. Both countries also agree that non-interference in the internal affairs of any country constitutes "the essential basis for the establishment of a climate of peace and mutual trust among the countries of the area" and have reiterated our deep commitment to peace and stability in the region.

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NEPAL USA PERU INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

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NEPAL

King of Nepal's Speech

Replying to the toast, the King said.

I wish to thank you, Mr. President, for your kind words of welcome. We are indeed impressed by the warmth of your hospitality and expression of friendship.

It is a great pleasure for us to have this opportunity to see you and Madame Prime Minister once again and to be in the company of our friends and well-wishers in India. It also gives us a welcome opportunity to renew contacts with the friendly people of this great land. We bring with us greetings and good wishes from the people of Nepal to the people of India.

BULWARK OF STRENGTH

Sharing as we do with India a manifold community of interests, values and ideals, we in Nepal have always believed that a strong and stable India can be a bulwark of strength for Nepal as I assume, a strong and stable Nepal can also be for India. Reciprocity on several scales and points together with a mutuality of interests and inter-dependence have characterized our relations through the ages, and only wish to assure you that there is no lack of goodwill on the part of Nepal for India. As these ties are close so is our destiny linked inextricably with each other.

Nepal who herself is non-aligned nation is happy to have her neighbour India a non-aligned nation, one of the principal founding fathers of the Non-aligned Movement. We in Nepal consider it to be in our interest to remain non-aligned with a solemn refusal to be dragged into any area of conflict. Indeed, it is such a consideration that has consistently propelled us to seek support to make Nepal a Zone of Peace.

Without peace at home and peace in the region, it is our considered opinion that no nation can concentrate herself fully on her economic development. Looking at the vast resources in both man and nature, in both Nepal and India, there is no reason why we should feel despondent about a brighter future for both our countries.

GESTURES OF COOPERATION

Nepal looks upon with admiration the contribution that India has made for development in Nepal. While expressing our deep appreciation for the cooperative

gesture of India, may I assure you that Nepal is prepared to take up with India bilateral as well as regional projects in the full trust that our long term interests can be served better and more fully when our interests transcend beyond the confines of our borders, based on the principles of reciprocity and optimal use of our resources for the optimum number of countries so that peace be preserved and progress achieved to the benefit of all in this region of Asia. Since people are the best judges for themselves, we should, however, never forget that in Whatever we do, we must not lose sight of either the long-term interests or the aspirations and expectations of our people. For it is in such a spirit alone that we can serve our people better in an atmosphere of peace, wider cooperation and trust between our peoples.

In conclusion, may I request the distinguished ladies and gentlemen to join me in proposing a toast to the good health and happiness of His Excellency the President of India and Madame Reddy, to all success to Madame Prime Minister in maintaining peace and bringing prosperity for the people of India, and to the ever-lasting friendship between Nepal and India.

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NEPAL USA INDIA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

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NEPAL

India-Nepal Joint Statement

The following is the text of India-Nepal joint statement issued in New Delhi

on March 8, 1980:

His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal and Her Excellency Madame Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India had a 90-minute exchange of views on March 7, 1980. His Excellency Mr. K. B. Shahi, Foreign Minister of Nepal and His Excellency Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs of India also joined the talks at a later stage.

The two leaders discussed international situation as well as situation obtaining in this region of Asia. They agreed that all efforts should be made by all the countries of the region as well as others to reduce tension in the area.

The discussion also covered bilateral relations including the political, economic and technical matters. It was agreed that Nepal-India relations were characterised by mutual trust and confidence. They further agreed that every effort should be made to increase contacts between the two countries at all levels to expand cooperation in mutually beneficial spheres.

During his visit to India, His Majesty also availed of the opportunity of renewing his acquaintances with several leading personalities of India known in the field of politics, art and culture.

NEPAL INDIA USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATION

India's Consistent Support of Palestinian Cause

The following is the text of the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi's speech at a dinner given by her in honour of Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, in New Delhi on March 28, 1980:

It is a pleasure to welcome Your Excellency in our midst tonight. Yours is a household name in the Arab world and in all countries where freedom is cherished. We greet you as a valiant fighter against aggression and oppression, and as Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation.

Our sympathy for the Palestinian Arabs has been a part of independent India's foreign policy from its very inception. Even in the thirties when we ourselves were struggling for freedom, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru spoke out against the injustices to which Arabs, and Palestinians in particular, were subjected. Thus our support for the Palestinian cause has been time-tested and consistent.

DEDICATED STRUGGLE

I recall the 1973 Non-aligned Summit in Algiers, where the non-aligned community first resolved to recognise the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Since then, through your dedicated struggle and years of patient hard work, courage, determination and sacrifice, every major international forum now recognises the PLO as the voice of the Palestinian people. Your words are heard with respect regarding others and wider questions also.

The plight of Palestinians has been one of the tragedies of history. Few people have been more systematically Oppressed and humiliated in their own land. I hope

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-- indeed I am sure - this will change soon and that achievement will be the key to harmony in West Asia. The PLO has striven to provide its people a distinct and forceful identity. The Palestinian people in turn have entrusted to you, Chairman Arafat, the

responsibility of leading them to their destiny. I assure you of the full support of the people of India in your struggle.

In India, we are grappling with enormous and unprecedented economic problems, which have been further aggravated in the last three years. International pressures and tensions are also mounting.

Recent developments in our region are causing concern all over the world. We cannot remain unaffected. For centuries there has been foreign interference. We have always opposed any attempt from outside at influencing the internal affairs of other countries, and this includes the presence of foreign troops. Tranquillity and stability can seldom be restored through military solutions or the induction of armaments. Super power rivalry and the recrudescence of cold war postures threaten peace, which is an absolute necessity for economic development. Conditions must be created, through diplomatic and political initiatives, which would enable countries of the region to retain their independence and non-alignment, and remain free from any hind of interference by outside powers.

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

Your Excellency, I am confident that your visit to India will prove to be another milestone in Indo-Palestinian and Indo-Arab friendship. We have worked together actively in international forums, and there has been notable expansion in our economic relationship. India is not a power and it is still at the developing stage. But thanks to the farsighted policy of my father, Jawaharlal Nehru, we have a large number of highly-trained scientists and technologists. We have built an industrial base and a sound infrastructure which enables us to produce a variety of industrial and consumer goods for our own needs and for sharing with others. Even now there are several impressive bilateral projects between India and the Arab countries. But there is vast scope for further cooperation, for the pooling of our resources and skills, and directing them towards recognised needs.

We know of, and are grateful for, your personal interests in this matter. Mutual help will greatly strengthen individual nations as well as the developing world as a whole.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I invite you to join me in wishing long life and success to our distinguished guest, Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation and to the cause of the Palestinian people.

INDIA USA ALGERIA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATION

H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat's Speech

Proposing the toast, Mr. Yasser Arafat said:

It is a pleasure to me, on my behalf and in the name of the P.L.O. and on behalf of the Palestinian people, to express my deep appreciation for your generous invitation. It is my great pleasure to respond to this invitation.

We still look towards the advanced position of India and its leading role in the international politics as a great support and help for the struggle of the peoples for their liberation, mainly the Palestinian people for, the liberation of their country and for the restoration of their legitimate rights and their national independence.

The victory of the great people of India in the battle for freedom and their sacrifices and unity of purpose has taught a great lesson to the humanity as a whole.

The ties that bind us together from ancient times have taken today a new turn and have taken us across a new line due to

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your support and solidarity with our people and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation.

PEACE AND STABILITY

Mrs. Prime Minister, today, our people are being subjected to another circle of a new conspiracy against our national liberation, against our national rights. These conspiracies were hatched in the Agreement at Camp David. This agreement, under the guise of peace and stability, is a call for war. Under this banner of Camp David, the enemy is carrying out the settlement operations which are no less than a fascist oppression on our land, our Palestinian and Arab territories. They are denigrating our Holy places and carrying out worst activities of terror and escalating aggression against our people and our brotherly Lebanese people in the Southern part of the Lebanon. At the same time challenging our brotherly State, Syria, by carrying on all these activities against our people with the support of the United State in the hope of forcing our people to surrender and to give up our national rights.

Our Palestinian people are fully determined to face this challenge and to continue the just struggle by all means, including armed struggle. At the same time we are determined to continue our struggle for the sake of peace and justice.

Your Excellency peace in the Middle East cannot be there except by vacating aggression and Israeli occupation of the Arab and the Palestinian territories. It can be there if the Palestinian people are allowed to carry out their national right to return and establish their independent State over their national soil. And these are the rights that have already been guaranteed by international justice. In this our struggle we are trying to work with all Peace-loving for-

ces in the world to have a new world, a world where there will be no place for occupation, confiscation, zionism, imperialism and racialism.

EXCELLENT PROGRESS

The talks we are having with you during this visit show that we are determined to continue this coordination until we reach this great goal. We greatly appreciate the Indian example. You are our eternal friend, and we appreciate your democracy and the great strides you are making in registering excellent progress. We also greatly appreciate the role India has played in the non-aligned movement of which we are very proud to be members and we highly value its support to our struggle. We are looking forward to continued cooperation to support this progressive movement.

Mrs. Prime Minister, the Indo-Palestinian relations at this stage, with hopeful future, is another new and important bridge between our two peoples as well as between India and the Arab peoples. I would like to emphasise on this occasion that our people will continue to support this bridge the bridge of friendship, the bridge of cooperation and the bridge of solidarity, long live the Indo-Palestinian friendship, long live the Indo-Arab friendship, and long live the solidarity of the people fighting the enemies of the revolutionary People. We take this toast which will lead us to a far more progress, more solidarity and more friendship among all of us.

Let us have this in the name of Mrs. Gandhi who is leading her people to a far more progressive life, who is leading her nation to victory, victory and victory.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC LEBANON SYRIA ISRAEL

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATION

India - PLO Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of the India-PLO Joint statement issued in New Delhi on March 30, 1980:

At the invitation of the prime minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, His Excellency W. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, paid an official visit to India from March 28 to 30, 1980.

The Palestinian delegation included Mr. Farouq Qadumi, Head of the Political Department, Abdul Mohsen Abu-Maizer, official spokesman of the Executive Commit-

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tee and Head of the National Relations Department, Dr. Ahmed Dajani, Member of Executive Committee, Head of Cultural Department, Mr. Abdul Fatah Ghanim Shamim, Member of the Central Council and Mr. Abu Tariq, Member of National Council and representative of the PLO in New Delhi, Mr. Facyal Aouidha.

EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS

The Indian side included the External Affairs Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Shri Romesh Bhandari, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. Shri V. K. Grover, Joint Secretary and Shri Y. R. Dhawan, Ambassador of India in Beirut.

During his stay in Delhi H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat and delegation were received by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy.

H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat called on the Prime Minister of India and had extensive discussions on bilateral issues, the explosive situation in the Middle-East and the inter-

national situation, including developments in the region. The talks were held in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The Prime Minister of India reiterated India's principled support to the Arab cause in general and the Palestinian problem in particular. The Prime Minister stated that a just peace and a comprehensive situation to the Middle East crisis can only be found with the full participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as an equal partner in any settlement. Such a settlement would have to be based on complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem, enabling the Palestinian people to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent state in Palestine. In this regard the two sides emphasised the resolutions on the Middle East question, including the question of Palestine and the Camp David accords, adopted at the sixth Non-Aligned Summit Conference in Havana. They condemn Israel's continued flouting of the United Nations Resolutions, its intarsigence, expansionism and aggression in occupied territories and South Lebanon, establishment of settlements and exploitation of the natural resources in the occupied territories.

DE-ESCALATION OF TENSIONS

Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi discussed international issues and the situation in the South Asian region. Both sides agreed that deescalation of tensions could only be achieved through political and diplomatic measures and not by military confrontation through induction of arms. Chairman Arafat expressed his appreciation for India's balanced, constructive and measured response to the critical situation in the region.

The Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat, expressed his deep appreciation for the role India had played in support of the Arab cause and the Palestinian struggle over the last three decades. He referred to India's historical ties with the Arabs and

expressed the desire for building more bridges between India and the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Arab World. The Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat also welcomed highly the role India had played in the struggle against colonialism, imperialism and racism in all its shapes and the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's positive and effective contribution to the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat, was greatly impressed by the progress achieved by India in the industrial, technological and scientific fields and the wide-ranging capabilities and infrastructure which has been established. He conveyed to the Prime Minister his conviction that Indian expertise, technology and experience could be used extensively in the developmental programme of the Arab World.

COLLECTIVE STRENGTH

Whereas both sides expressed satisfaction over the existing level of Indo-Palestinian and Indo-Arab co-operation, they felt that there was considerable scope for expanding co-operation in diverse fields. There were existing complementarities be-

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tween the economies of the Arab countries and India. These could be utilised for promoting mutual self-reliance and increasing collective strength. For this purpose, it was agreed that a suitable framework would be provided for periodic exchange of views and consultations between India and the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Arab League.

H.E. W. Yasser Arafat warmly thanked the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi for inviting him to visit India. He also expressed his appreciation for the grant of diplomatic status to the Palestine Liberation Organisation Mission in New Delhi.

INDIA USA ITALY LEBANON ISRAEL CUBA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

SWITZERLAND

Indo-Swiss Agreement on Training in Tropical Sericulture

The following is the text of the Press Release issued in New Delhi on March 5, 1980:

A protocol was signed in New Delhi on March 5, 1980 between the Government of India and the Government of Switzerland providing for technical assistance for the setting up of the International Training Institute in Tropical Sericulture as an adjunct to the Central Sericulture Research and Training Institute at Mysore. The Agreement was signed on behalf of Government of India by the Development Commissioner for Handlooms and Vice Chairman, Central Silk Board, Shri Shiromani Sharma. His Excellency Esienne Suter, Ambassador of Switzerland in India, signed on behalf of the Swiss Government.

Under this Agreement, the Swiss Technical Cooperation Mission in India will provide 1.95 million Swiss francs (around rupees one crore) to the Central Silk Board for locating the International Centre at Mysore for providing training facilities in sericulture for tropical countries who are keenly interested in the development of this cottage industry. Besides training facilities, the assistance from the Swiss Government will enable the Indian sericultural scientists to step up the research programmes relevant to the farmers engaged in sericulture.

This joint endeavour of the Indian and Swiss Governments is expected to go a long way in promoting the growth of sericulture and silk industry in India and other neighbouring countries where it provides gainful

employment to millions of people in rural areas.

SWITZERLAND INDIA OMAN USA

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-USSR Co-operation in Science and Technology

The following is the text of the Press Release issued in New Delhi on March 28, 1980:

A three-year Programme of Cooperation in Science and Technology for the period 1980-83 between India and the USSR was signed in New Delhi on March 28, 1980. Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology signed the Programme on the Indian side while Dr.

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L. N. Efremov, First Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology signed on the Soviet side. The Programme is in the framework of the Inter-governmental Agreement on Science and Technology concluded in 1972.

The Programme identifies specific projects in several areas such as Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) power generation, solar energy, power metallurgy, corrosion of metals, standardization and metrology, building materials, large-scale housing, meteorology etc. The distribution of work between the two sides and the year-wise schedule of activities have also been worked out in these areas. At present the Soviet Union is cooperating in the development and testing of Indian built components for the MHD

experimental plant based on coal with a thermal rating of 5-15 MW being built by India at Tiruchi.

Among the new areas agreed upon for cooperation are lasers, systems analysis, earthquake prediction techniques and semi-conductors. The two countries have also agreed to cooperate in several areas of fundamental sciences. Exchange of scientists and information in these areas will be carried out under a Programme between the Indian National Science Academy and the USSR Academy of Sciences.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Agreement on British Grant Aid to India

The following is the text of the Press Release issued in New Delhi on March 19, 1980:

Agreements for British grants of $\text{€ } 114.18$ million, (equivalent to about Rs. 205 crores) were signed on March 19, 1980 between Mr. Neil Marten, Minister of State for Overseas Development, United Kingdom, and Shri Jagannath Pahadia, Minister of State for Finance, Government of India.

The agreements included project grant of $\text{€ } 70$ million, coal sector grant of $\text{€ } 11.18$ million and local costs grant of $\text{€ } 33.18$ million. The first two grants are tied to imports of British goods and services and are expected to be used mainly for imports of steam generation plants for Thal and

Hazari fertiliser plants and of longwall mining equipment and walking dragline for the coal industry.

The third grant of æ 33.18 million is for financing local costs of agreed development projects. The grant, which matches India's debt liability to U.K. Government in 1980-81, is the third in the series of annual local costs grants agreed by the Government of U.K. as a measure equivalent to Retrospective Terms Adjustment (RTA) for earlier U.K. Government loans to India.

The aggregate U.K. assistance to India (including the agreements signed today) has exceeded Rs. 2500 crores. Nearly half of this is in the form of loans extended prior to June 1975. Thereafter U.K. assistance has been entirely in the form of grants.

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INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Mar 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Mrs. India Gandhi Congratulates Mr. Mugabe

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's message on March 6, 1980 to Mr. Robert Mugabe on his victory in the election:

Please accept my warmest congratulations on your massive electoral victory. The valiant people of Zimbabwe have struggled long and hard for their liberation. They have demonstrated convincingly that freedom and democracy are not the monopoly of a few. We rejoice in the imminent Inde-

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EGYPT NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA IRAN IRAQ ITALY PORTUGAL INDIA TURKEY OMAN ROMANIA
LATVIA VIETNAM ZAMBIA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

Minister of External Affairs P.V. Nsrasmha Rao's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner in honour of His Excellency Dr. Boutros Ghali, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt at New Delhi on April 2, 1980. Proposing the toast., Shri Rao said:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome this evening, Dr. and Madame Ghali and the other distinguished members of the Egyptian delegation. I do not know if many gathered here tonight are aware that Dr. Ghali is a keen student of India history and renowned not only for his statesmanship but also for his academic achievements. We value his visits to our country which provide us with an opportunity to have a fruitful exchange of views.

Excellency, we have traditionally admired the fine sensitivity of the Egyptian people, characteristic of an ancient civilisation. Our two peoples are proud of the historical bonds of friendship and cooperation that have signified our relations over the centuries. In fact, over the last three decades we have jointly worked, nationally as well as in international forums, for the shared ideal of a world free of exploitation,

war and inequality. We have, each, of us, a commitment to our peoples to build the sinews of our economies for their welfare and dignity.

DURABLE PEACE

Excellency, our respective regions in the world today keenly desire favourable conditions for unhindered progress and the task of nation-building. The Middle East has, for long, been afflicted by tension and recurrent conflict. The clouds of cold war are now gathering over our sub-continent and the immediate neighbourhood. For both our countries, these are situations we can ill-afford.

In West Asia, we have always stood for a just and comprehensive solution of the dispute without which there cannot be any durable peace. Such a settlement must ensure complete vacation of aggression from Arab lands including Jerusalem. What is more important is the necessity to restore to the Palestinian people their Inalienable rights to a homeland, and a Nation State of their own, where they can return and live in honour and dignity.

STRENGTHENING NON-ALIGNMENT

We believe that there is need, now more than ever, for strengthening the Non-Aligned movement and keeping our respective regions free from big power confrontation. We are opposed to the induction of arms and any escalation of military rivalry in our region, There is urgent need to defuse tensions. This can only be achieved through diplomatic and political measures and not by a never ending quest for access to more arms and military bases.

Before I conclude, I must place due emphasis again on our ties with Egypt. We would like our two countries to cooperate in every field of national endeavour leading to the fullest understanding of each other's abilities and aspirations. On behalf of India, I assure Your Excellency that our hand will always be extended with warmth and affection for our friends in Egypt.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I now request you to join me in raising a toast for the health and happiness of our distinguished guests H.E. Dr. Boutros Ghali and Madame Ghali and to the further strengthening of Indo-Egyptian friendship.

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EGYPT INDIA USA ISRAEL

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at the dinner given in honour of Mr. Bohuslav Choupek, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in New Delhi on April 10, 1980. Proposing the toast, Shri Narasimha Rao said:

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome Your Excellency to India. Your visit provides us with a welcome opportunity to exchange views on subjects of mutual interest in keeping with the tradition of Indo-Czech Friendship and Cooperation.

India attaches importance to the strengthening of her friendly ties and cooperation with Czechoslovakia, and this has been reflected in the economic field which has steadily expanded over the years. We have collaborated closely in diverse fields and recall with satisfaction the successes achieved in industrial cooperation. The setting up of Bharat Heavy Electricals Boiler Plant

at Tiruchirapalli, the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi, the Hindustan Machine Tools at Ajmer and Pinjore and other similar ventures are standing examples of this cooperation.

COOPERATION

Excellency, we are confident that our cooperation in the economic and industrial fields would continue to expand to the mutual benefit of our two peoples. In this context, I must mention that the cultural exchange programme between India and Czechoslovakia continues to promote substantial contacts at various levels in the fields of education and fine arts, thus helping to bring the people of the two countries closer.

We attach significance to high level exchanges between our two countries and are convinced that Your Excellency's visit would further promote Indo-Czech relations.

The close friendship between India and Czechoslovakia has derived strength from our common desire to work for world peace. Both of us realise that for socioeconomic development of all countries in the world, a peaceful environment is essential.

Excellency, we are happy to observe that India's relations with her neighbours are developing satisfactorily and we are confident that these would-be strengthened further.

DEFUSING TENSION

In recent months, however, tensions have developed in our region. It has been India's endeavour to work towards defusing this situation. We have embarked upon a process of consultations and we are happy to have had the opportunity of exchanging views with you on this matter. In all our discussions, we have counselled utmost restraint to the parties concerned and are happy to note that, despite differences in perception and approach, the desire for the avoidance of tensions in the region is unanimous. Since a situation which appears

simple to begin with could, unless attended to in time, assume problematic proportions, it is our considered view that no chances should be taken in defusing it. And may I add that India finds the situation in her neighbourhood by no means simple.

We believe that interstate relations must be governed by certain well recognised principles. Whatever problems exist between any two countries must be resolved bilaterally and through peaceful means. Inflexible positions do not take us very far.

Excellency, I am confident that our discussions during your visit will strengthen

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and deepen our mutual understanding and contribute to consolidating Indo-Czech relations.

Friends, may I now invite you to join me in a toast to our distinguished visitor, H.E. Mr. Bohuslav Chnoupek, Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, to the distinguished members of his delegation, as also to the growing strength of Indo-Czech Friendship and Cooperation.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Minister for Foreign Affairs Bohuslav Chnoupek's Speech

Replying to the toast, His Excellency Mr. Bohuslav Chnoupek said:

Mr. Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, in the first place, I would like to express my

most cordial thanks for inviting me to visit your beautiful country and for all the sincere manifestations of attention and friendship we have been surrounded with, since our arrival to India. I also want to express my profound gratitude for the invitation to this festive dinner and for the words of appreciation addressed to my country and its people.

I always come to you with the feelings of a man who is looking forward to meeting good friends. But while the friends grow older, I always see a younger, stronger and a more prosperous India.

BUILDING A NEW SOCIETY

We in Czechoslovakia are happy about this since we wish India to be all that. As the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Gustav Husak, emphasized in his personal message to Madame Indira Gandhi, "We consider the electoral victory of the Indian National Congress as a manifestation of the will of the Indian people to develop and further enrich the progressive traditions of the independent development of their country formed in the struggle for their national liberation as well as in the following years of building a new society".

It gives me a great pleasure to note that the high level of cooperation between our two countries, which we rightly consider to be a tangible example of mutually advantageous relations among states with different social systems, faces new bright horizons of its further positive development. This was fully confirmed also by our talks today held in an atmosphere of mutual confidence and cordiality.

We proceed from the fact that close political contacts between us, which have been dynamically developing since the historical meetings of Dr. Gustav Husak and Madame Indira Gandhi in Czechoslovakia in 1972 and a year later in India, play an important role in the whole complex of Czechoslovak-Indian relations.

We also consider the mutually advantageous economic relations to be of no less

importance. A number of large and medium-size industrial plants at Ranchi, Ennore, Tiruchirapalli, Ajmer, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Pinjore and other joint Czechoslovak-Indian projects are a tangible testimony to the usefulness of cooperation between the two countries. We welcome that the signing of the Trade and Payments Agreement of December 3, 1979, has resulted in providing further stimuli for such relations because our mutual possibilities have not yet by far been exhausted. The same goes for the situation in other spheres of Czechoslovak-Indian relations, too. I have in mind the fields of culture, science, health, sports, etc.

NEHRU'S WISDOM

Mr. Minister, more than twenty years have passed since the time when Jawaharlal Nehru wrote in the preface to the Czech edition of his biography:

"The most important task and the first duty of all men and women - in whatever part they may live - is to prevent a danger of war and to put an end to the terrible play with hydrogen bombs and intercontinental missiles. As long as the cold war is not replaced by peaceful methods and cooperation in international relations, there is little hope for the future."

These wise words, expressed by the great Indian humanist and statesman whose name has forever been inscribed in golden letters in the hearts and minds of our people, are most topical today. This is natural because the process of detente, always promoted by the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and by India, is at present exposed to serious tests. For this, imperialism is fully responsible, particularly certain circles in the United States which, - intoxicated by their illusions to regain military supremacy, to change the balance of forces in the world for their benefit and to renew the cold war era - are forgetting, that we have already entered the eighties.

These circles attempt to thwart the efforts of nations for peace, social progress

and independence. This is why they want to deploy new American missiles in western Europe directed against the socialist countries. This is why they carry out war preparations on the island of Diego Garcia and transform the Indian Ocean into a promenade of aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines. That is also why they lead an undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan and change Pakistan into their bridge-head. That is also the reason why they steadily get closer to the expansionist and hegemonic leadership in Peking, whose incalculable behaviour poses real threat not only to peace in Asia, but also to peace in the whole world.

We have agreed in our open and productive exchange of views that a comeback to a monologue has become unthinkable for the community of states today. The nations need a dialogue. And as we are both convinced, it is especially necessary at present to intensify the efforts of all peace-loving nations aimed to attain a further progress in detente and to solve all conflict situations peacefully in the spirit of the United Nations Charter.

INDIA'S ROLE

We highly esteem the place and the role of the Republic of India for its consistent, active and permanent struggle for peace and friendship among nations and social progress, against imperialism and neo-colonialism. We consider the role of India in the movement of non-aligned countries especially important. Not only because it is its founding country but primarily because, as its active member, it pursues the ideas forming the basis of the movement. We are convinced, that reaction will not succeed in pushing through such ideas within the movement, which would be contrary to its aims and could violate the movement's unity, so much needed in order to provide for security and national independence of all its member countries.

As to socialist Czechoslovakia, its foreign policy is based upon principles of peaceful coexistence among states with

different social systems. As inhabitants of a country in the heart of Europe, which has known the horrors of war, we strive to provide for peace for all generations.

DISARMAMENT

This is why together with other socialist countries we consistently advocate detente and its transfer also into the military field. We therefore stand resolutely for our constructive proposals including the convocation of an all-European conference on military disarmament on a political level. We are therefore interested in a constructive progress and in positive results of the Madrid meeting. We therefore also ask for an early ratification of SALT-2.

We therefore also promote the view that peace is indivisible. As far as a just peace in the Middle East is not achieved, as far as the Indian Ocean is not without imperialist bases and Asia is not a continent of friendship, it is not possible to speak of world peace. We therefore condemn the efforts of reaction to change Afghanistan into a new hotbed of tension and we stand for the assistance rendered by the Soviet Union - upon the request of the leadership of Afghanistan - for the struggle with external reaction.

Last, but not least, proceeding from these principles of our peaceful policy, we presented at the latest session of the U.N. General Assembly our initiative on disarmament, which was adopted by the great majority of votes. In this connection, I would like to thank you, Mr. Minister, for the support given by your country to this initiative.

Mr. Minister, our talks today have shown, that on all these important international issues, we share identical or very

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close positions. This strengthens even more the basis of the traditional and so happily existing relations between our friendly countries.

Let me raise my glass to the Czechoslovak-Indian friendship and cooperation, to the health of the President of the Republic of India, Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, to the health of the Prime Minister, Madame Indira Gandhi, to your health, success and happiness, Mr. Minister, and to the health of all those present here.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC PAKISTAN AFGHANISTAN

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Statement

The following is the text of India-Czechoslovakia Joint Statement issued, in New Delhi on April 12, 1980:

At the invitation of the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Mr. Bobuslav Chnoupek, paid an official visit to India from April 9 to 13, 1980.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic was received by the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. He handed over a message from the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Mr. Gustav Husak, to the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi.

The Minister of External Affairs of India and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic reviewed with satisfaction the development of Indo-Czechoslovak relations and considered

ways and means of developing them further. They also exchanged views on international issues of mutual interest. The talks between the two Ministers were held in a spirit of cordiality and mutual understanding and will contribute to further strengthening Indo-Czechoslovak relations.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak People's Republic, Mr. Bohuslaw Chnoupek, thanked the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, and the Government of India for the warm and cordial welcome extended to him during his stay in India. He extended an invitation to the Minister of External Affairs of India to visit Czechoslovakia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

NORWAY SLOVAKIA INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

IRAN

Official Spokesman's Statement on U. S. Military Attempt to Rescue Hostage in Tehran

The following is the text of statement made by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs- in New Delhi on April 25, 1980 on the U.S. military attempt to rescue hostages in Tehran:

The Government of India notes with concern and regret the reported military attempt made by the U.S. Government to rescue the U.S. diplomatic hostages in Tehran early on Friday, April 25.

While the Government of India is against the violation of diplomatic immunities and threats to the safety and life of diplomats and in this context sympathises

with the predicament of the U.S. hostages in Tehran, it cannot condone military adventurism of the type inherent in the attempt of the U.S. which can have large scale and long-term negative implications for stability and peace in the West Asian region.

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The U.S. operation has only tended to complicate the situation further and to heighten tensions. India is opposed to the use of force and military means in resolving international issues.

The Government of India hopes that all parties would still act with restraint in dealing with the critical situation that exists in the relations between the US and Iran.

The Government of India earnestly hopes that the US will desist from resorting to any further military means in dealing with the situation. The Government of India also hopes that all parties concerned will respect the imperative need for peaceful negotiations and will not act in contravention of the requirements of international law and humanity.

IRAN INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

IRAQ

Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals Veerendra Patil's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech by Shri Veerendra Patil, Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals at the dinner in honour of H.E. Mr. Tayeh Abdul Karim, Minister of Oil., Republic of Iraq on April 18, 1980 in New Delhi:

Excellency, distinguished guests from Iraq and friends, the current session of the Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission marks an important milestone in the growing co-operation between our two friendly countries. No two countries have known and dealt with one another longer than Iraq and India. Our relations go back to the dawn of history and since that time have been marked by friendship and mutual respect. As Jawaharlal Nehru pointed out, they have been a model for other nations because from ancient times, they have never been marred by conflict.

INDIA'S SUPPORT

The Indian and Arab civilizations have inter-acted beneficially in past centuries and it is but natural that, following the recession of the colonial tide in our own era, the Government and people of India have wholeheartedly supported our Arab brothers in their struggle for a just and lasting peace in West Asia, a peace that restores the rights of the Arab people of Palestine to a homeland and the restitution of their lands which have been illegally and forceably occupied by Israel.

Excellency, India and Iraq have exchanged goods and ideas to mutual benefit for over seven thousand years; yet, it is only very recently that economic cooperation in the true sense of participation in each other's development has grown between us. We in India have watched with admiration the rapid strides that you are making in Iraq under the wise leadership of H.E. President Saddam Hussain and the Arab Baath Socialist Party. We appreciate the opportunity you are giving us to participate in your massive development programme. In fact it was following the visit of H.E. Mr. Saddam Hussain to India in 1974 that he and Smt. Indira Gandhi approved the establishment of our Joint Commission to explore ways and means to expand economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

This historic beginning was given a further stimulus when my Prime Minister,

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, visited Iraq in 1975. Our two leaders have therefore entrusted us with the noble task of giving a contemporary and modern content to the age-old interaction between our two societies and cultures. With the re-election of Smt. Indira Gandhi this year, I would like to assure Your Excellency, that the Government of India is approaching this task with renewed vigour. The highest priority is being given to expanding co-operation with Iraq in every field.

INDEPENDENCE AND NON-ALIGNMENT

Excellency, this cooperation assumes particular significance at the present critical

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time. Developments in our neighbourhood have given cause for widespread concern. Revival of cold war attitudes and big power rivalries have introduced an ominous note and regional peace and stability has been threatened by the induction of foreign forces and armaments. We believe it is vital to the peace and stability of the region that all sides should exercise the utmost restraint and help create conditions which would enable all countries of the region to retain their independence and non-alignment and remain free from any intervention and interference from outside powers. We were very glad to note that similar views have been expressed by H.E. President Saddam Hussain in his eight point national charter for the Arabs. It is only in such conditions that the interests of the Arab world can be served. They would also contribute to peace, Stability and progress of the region as a Whole and the strengthening of the non-aligned movement and international co-operation generally.

EXPANDING TRADE TIES

Excellency, let me take this opportunity to convey to you personally, as Oil Minister of Friendly Iraq, and, through you to your Government and leadership, our appreciation for agreeing to make available six million tonnes of crude oil for 1980 and half a million tonnes of products which are

sorely needed for our own development programmes. Iraq is now India's foremost supplier of petroleum. I believe India continues to be Iraq's main importer of non-petroleum exports. The recent exhibition in Baghdad, Hindexhibition, which Your Excellency was kind enough to visit, has Confirmed that there is considerable scope for expanding India's trade with Iraq. Even more, it has demonstrated considerable scope for exchange of know-how and development of expertise. I believe our current session of the Joint Commission can play an effective role in making our relationship a model of cooperation among developing and non-aligned countries, in keeping with the Havana resolutions- and in accordance with our historical heritage.

Allow me, Excellency, to propose a toast to you personally, to the members of your distinguished delegation, to the success of our joint efforts to fulfil the directives of our leaders for expanding cooperation between our two countries and to the solidarity between the Indian and Arab peoples.

IRAQ INDIA USA ISRAEL CUBA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ITALY

Cooperation in Science and Technology

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New, Delhi on April 29, 1980:

A three-year Programme of Cooperation in Science and Technology between India and Italy was signed here today. The Programme was finalised during the first

meeting of the Indo-Italian Joint Committee on Science and Technology set up in pursuance of a bilateral agreement signed in 1978.

Shri Maheshwar Dayal, Adviser. Department of Science and Technology and leader of the Indian delegation signed on behalf of India while Mr. Emilio Paolo Bassi, Ambassador of Italy to India and leader of the Italian delegation signed on behalf of Italy.

The Programme identifies a number of areas including Seismology and Seismic Engineering, Automotive Engines, Polymers Research, Biological Sciences, Biochemistry, Medical Science, Hydrology and Water Resources Management, Solar Cells, Telecommunications, Metallurgy for cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides have agreed to exchange scientific information and scientific person-

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nel. The Italian side has agreed to receive two Indian surgeons for a period of one to two months for familiarisation with the techniques of laser neuro-surgery. A neuro-surgical team from Italy will also visit India to give lectures and demonstrations.

The Italian delegation for the Joint Committee which met here for three days consisted of officials of the National Research Council of Italy, the Ministry of Scientific Research and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Indian delegation included representatives of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Communications, CSIR, ICAR, India Meteorological Department, Central Water Commission and IIT Delhi.

ITALY INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ITALY

First Cultural Exchange Programme with Italy

The following is the text of a Press Release issued at New Delhi on April 29, 1980:

The first Indo-Italian Exchange Programme for cultural cooperation between the two countries for the years 1980-82 was concluded here today. The Italian Ambassador in India His Excellency Mr. Emilio Paolo Bassi, and Dr. D. N. Misra, Joint Educational Adviser, Union Department of Culture, signed on behalf of their respective Governments.

The exchange programme has been signed in pursuance of the cultural agreement between the two countries signed in Rome in 1976. It seeks to promote cooperation in the fields of education, art and culture and mass media.

The main purpose of the programme centres around cultural and artistic exchanges, cooperation in the fields of museology, archaeology, archives, and higher education. It also provides for offer of scholarships by both the countries to students from the other country for higher studies and research. In the field of art and culture, both sides will exchange dance and music ensembles and ballot troupes and exchange of art exhibitions. The two countries will also participate in the exchange of journalists, radio and T.V. programmes and will promote participation in the festivals of feature and documentary films in each other's country.

ITALY INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

First Bilateral Visit

The following is a press statement by the Minister of Education of India, Shri B. Shankaranand, at Lisbon Airport on April 6, 1980:

Indo-Portuguese relations began almost five centuries ago. History has thus already laid the foundation on which we can successfully build and expand further our mutual ties. Five centuries of contact has left a legacy of rare value. We have not only to preserve it but also explore its dimensions more fully by undertaking more active research. But our endeavour should be not only to preserve and explore the past; even more so it should be to make the past serve the present by building up goodwill and understanding based on an all-round relationship between modern day India and Portu-

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gal. India has vastly changed in the last three decades and Portugal has entered a new and challenging phase of its existence after April 25, 1974. We have a good deal to know about each other in terms of contemporary developments and realities.

This is the first bilateral visit by an Indian Minister to Portugal. I bring to the Government and the people of Portugal a message of goodwill and friendship from the Government and the people of India. The immediate purpose of my visit is to sign the cultural agreement already finalised between our two countries. This agreement envisages wide-ranging cultural exchanges in the academic, linguistic, art, sports and other fields. Such exchanges in the years to come will enable both sides to know each

other better and will firmly secure the foundations of greater understanding and friendship between our two peoples.

PORTUGAL INDIA TURKEY USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

India-Portugal Cultural Agreement

The following is the speech by the Education Minister, Shri B. Shankaranand, at the time of signing the Cultural Co-operation Agreement between Portugal and India in Lisbon on April 7, 1980. Shri Shankaranand said:

Mr. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, the Cultural Agreement signed by our two countries today, in the year when Portugal is celebrating the 4th centenary of the illustrious poet Camoens, is one more important step in deepening the content of our bilateral relationship.

In historical terms, India and Portugal need no introduction to each other as their mutual relationship spans almost five centuries. The legacy of this relationship is uniquely rich. The vastness of this historical treasure has not yet been fully seized, and without doubt, this Cultural Agreement will provide not only the framework but also the impetus to do so.

The great objective now is to fit our historical inter-action into today's context. Modern Portugal and modern India are new to each other and need to know each other better. Internally and externally, Portugal, after April 25, 1974, is a very different

nation. So is India not only in the context of its emergence as an independent nation in 1947 but also in the context of the vast progress made by the country and the great changes in its landscape in the last thirty odd years. India today is the 10th industrial power in the world, has become self-sufficient in foodgrains and has the third largest pool of technically trained manpower in the world. Under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi, India is marching ahead confidently and consolidating its position as a stable, democratic and economically progressive force.

It is a changed India and a changed Portugal that have today to build more and more bridges of understanding and cooperation.

The Cultural Agreement we have signed today will no doubt greatly facilitate this task, both of preserving the positive aspects of the legacy that history has bequeathed to us and enlarging the horizons of mutual understanding by making each other aware of the wider contemporary realities of our two countries.

The Cultural Agreement is of course merely a body. We have to give it a soul. That will be given by the earnestness with which we concretely draw up and implement Exchange Programmes. The exchange of academicians, journalists, sports teams, dance and music ensembles, films, art exhibitions, youth delegations etc. are some of the means envisaged in the Agreement to raise our mutual cultural and indeed national comprehension to a much higher level.

I am glad to note that meaningful Cultural Exchanges have already taken place between our two countries in the last few years. I have in mind the visits here of Indian dancers and musicians, of a hockey team from India, our participation in Film Festivals, not to mention the visits of some prominent Portuguese personalities to India and the holding of the first seminar on Indo-Portuguese History in Goa in 1978 to be

followed by the Second one in Lisbon in October this year.

Excellency, as the world grows smaller the need for peoples to understand each other becomes greater. One of the most effective ways to build up such understanding is through cultural awareness of each other, the lack of which often complicates other forms of relationships between nations.

The Agreement we have signed today and the Cultural Exchange Programme we shall plan and implement under its aegis will no doubt greatly contribute to furthering friendship and understanding between India and Portugal and thus add a significant new chapter to the story of Indo-Portuguese relations that began almost five Centuries ago.

PORTUGAL INDIA TURKEY USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

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1995

PORTUGAL

Portuguese Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister's Banquet Speech

The following is the speech by H. E Prof. Doutor Diogo Pinto de Freitas do Amaral, Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Portugal at the Luncheon in honour of Shri B. Shankaranand, Minister of Education and Culture on April 7, 1980 in Lisbon. Proposing the toast Prof. Doutor Diogo Pinto de, Freitas do Amaral said: Mr. Minister, Excellency, you are the first member of the Indian cabinet to visit Portugal since the reopening of diplomatic relations between our two countries in 1974.

Therefore, I should like to take this Opportunity to greet, in the person of Your Excellency, the Government of India, a country with which Portugal keeps ties dating from the 15th century and which shelters a valuable cultural and historical patrimony created by our ancestors. In this respect I should like to express to Your Excellency the gratitude of the Portuguese People for the attention given by the authorities of your country to the preservation of that patrimony which witnesses a period of maritime expansion which brought Portugal and its culture to the remotest parts of the globe.

Mr. Minister, the Agreement we signed this morning is a proof of a whole range of intentions we are determined to put into practice and will give rise to wider and more fruitful co-operation between our two countries. I believe that the reaffirmation of cultural ties is, in the turbulent world of today, the more adequate form of mutual understanding and mutual friendship between peoples.

MUTUAL ENRICHMENT

I am certain that the implementation of this Agreement will lead towards wide fields of mutual interest, if only because the very fact that our countries belong to different geopolitical areas and have different cultural and historical characteristics which, in a way, complete each other, will undoubtedly give rise to invaluable reciprocal enrichment.

I do not say, however, and by no means imply that this cultural inter-penetration will only now become effective. In fact, this mutual influence started long ago; it has been strengthened throughout the centuries and its results clearly show themselves these days, among which the permanence and popularization of the Portuguese idiom are certainly not the least important.

We find nowadays, scattered throughout the four continents, many individuals who were born in India and who express themselves in the language of Camoes, and

who are proud of their identification with Portuguese culture. I cannot help mentioning in this respect the illustrious representative of your country in Lisbon, His Excellency Ambassador Kakodkar.

Mr. Minister, we have already met this morning. During our talk you showed yourself optimistic in respect to the possible forms of co-operation which now present themselves before our two countries. I wish to reaffirm now the clear intention of the Portuguese Government: we are conscious

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of the responsibilities we accept on signing this Agreement and we are determined to implement it in all its aspects.

I trust in the future strengthening of the relations between Portugal and India and I now invite you all to join me, in a toast to His Excellency the President of the Republic of India, to the friendship between our two countries and our two peoples and to the personal prosperity of His Excellency Minister Shankaranand.

PORTUGAL TURKEY INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PORTUGAL

Minister of Education B. Shankaranand's Speech

Replying to the toast the Minister of Education, Shri B. Shankaranand said:

Mr. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, I am indeed very happy to be able to come to your beautiful country in connection with the conclusion of the Cul-

tural Cooperation Agreement between Portugal and India.

As the first ever bilateral official visit of an Indian Minister to Portugal my visit could be said to mark an important new step in strengthening Indo-Portuguese ties. The December 1974 Indo-Portuguese Treaty ended a particular chapter in our history and opened a new one. The positive legacy of five centuries of contact is there to buttress our present relations and to make the new chapter that has opened rich and diverse. The December 1974 Treaty normalised our political relations, the 1976 Agreement on Trade and Economic, Industrial and Technical Co-operation paved the way for greater economic and commercial contacts. The cultural field remained. The signature of the Cultural Agreement today now places a useful new instrument in our hands to achieve the goal of greater friendship and understanding between our two peoples. Greater exposure to each other that will result from exchanges envisaged under the agreement will without doubt contribute to making the two peoples more aware of each other's national aims and aspirations. The thrust of India's action internationally has always been in favour of peace and understanding between nations. This commitment to peace and international understanding and cooperation is more than merely political - it is culturally deep-rooted in our tradition. India's historical impact outside its frontiers has primarily been cultural. At the same time India itself has been subject to diverse cultural influence from abroad which the country has never rejected but instead absorbed into its own cultural mainstream. The Cultural Agreement we have signed today fits as an integral part into this particular Indian approach to the international environment. It is my earnest hope that it will in time yield rich harvests of good will and friendship between the Indian and the Portuguese people.

With these words I would like to propose a toast to the health of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Portugal, to the health and happiness of Your Excel-

lency and to ever closer ties of friendship and cooperation between the people and Government of Portugal and the people and Government of India.

PORTUGAL TURKEY USA INDIA MALI

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

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PORTUGAL

Shri B. Shankaranand's Speech at Banquet By Portuguese Education Minister

The following is the text of the speech by Shri B. Shankaranand, Education Minister at a dinner hosted in his honour by the Education Minister of Portugal, Prof. Pereira Crespo on April 7, 1980:

Excellency, may I share with you Excellency my great happiness in being with you this evening. History brought our two nations together when Vasco da Gama, during the great Portuguese age of explorations and discoveries, landed on India's shores. We are renewing that relationship today when, as the first Indian Minister on a bilateral official visit, it is my privilege to visit your country.

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As we all know it is in the areas of history and culture that contacts between our two nations have been the most durable. We have to preserve this legacy. It is so rich that parts of it yet remain to be searched and known. The Portuguese National Archives, I am informed, contain a considerable amount of such material of enormous interest to scholars of Indo-Portuguese history. The Cultural Agreement we have signed today will no doubt facilitate systematic research in this area.

We are aware of the fact that the present in both countries is so different from the past that it needs to be better understood and appreciated. Take the field of education in India, for instance. India's 115 Universities and 105 institutions of engineering and technology have produced a pool of trained manpower in the country which is the third largest in the world. About 85% of children in the age group of 6 to 11 years attend school today as compared to 33% only two and a half decades ago. About 100 million students attend school now as against only 23.5 million in 1951. The number of university students has increased nine times in the last 25 years and the number of colleges has registered a six fold increase in the same period. Not only in the field of education but also in the industrial, agricultural and other fields, our country, under Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi's inspired leadership, has made rapid advances.

It is my firm belief that, through exchange of academicians, journalists, artists, scholars, etc. the Cultural Agreement can help to modernise our perceptions of each other which in turn is bound to throw up new areas and possibilities of bilateral co-operation.

Excellency, I do not propose to speak in detail about the manner in which our two countries can come closer in the field of education, since such matters can be left to be settled by mutual consultations. I now have pleasure in proposing a toast to the health of the President of the Republic of Portugal, to the health and happiness of Your Excellency and to the good will and friendship between the people and Government of Portugal and the people and Government of India, which will be strengthened and made richer by the Cultural Agreement signed between our two countries.

PORTUGAL TURKEY INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Closer India, Romania Cooperation : Shri Narasimha Rao's Banquet Speech

The following is the text of the speech of the, Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao at the dinner in honour of H.E. Srefen Andrei, Minister of External Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania in New Delhi on April 26, 1980. Proposing the toast, Shri Narasimha Rao said:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Mr. Foreign Minister, and the distinguished members of your delegation to our country. We welcome you as representatives of a country with which India has had traditionally friendly relations. We are confident that Your Excellency's visit will serve to further strengthen these relations.

We have already had an opportunity of discussing at considerable length important international questions, as well as of reviewing' the development of our bilateral relations. During your meetings with other members of our Government in the course of your visit, you will, no doubt, have occasion to discuss in greater detail, questions of closer Indo-Romanian cooperation.

Excellency, the people of India blessed us with an overwhelming mandate and we are now taking steps to fulfil our commitments to them. Since assuming office in January our Government has given the

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highest priority to the revitalisation of the economy. Yet we are ever conscious that in our endeavour to improve the lot of the common man, we need a tension-free environment around us. All our efforts would come to nought if there were to be an un-

checked escalation of tension around us.

Although our two countries are geographically far separated and pursue different socioeconomic systems, they share a common commitment, indeed a common dedication, to the consolidation of world peace. We have taken note of the contribution made by Romania to the process of detente in Europe, a process which we welcomed in the conviction that relaxation of tensions is always a positive development. Excellency, I am sure you will agree that peace must be universal and indivisible. We hope, therefore, that detente will not remain confined to one particular region of the world alone.

We have watched with growing concern some recent international developments, particularly in our neighbouring region of South West Asia. The last two years have witnessed far reaching political changes in the countries of this area. Regrettably, there is a tendency to persist in moves which tend to escalate tensions with every passing day. A reckless competition seems to be emerging, not only on land but also in international waters surrounding this region. We are naturally concerned at these developments which carry in them the seeds of possible conflict and conflagration.

India has been engaged in consultations with friendly countries to explore common elements from which a solution to the regional problem could emerge. We are prepared to continue working patiently, guided by the firm belief that the countries in the region have reaffirmed their desire to pursue their programmes of socio-economic development in a manner of their own choice. All these countries are members of the non-aligned movement and are firmly committed to following the path of non-alignment in their policies.

It is with this perception that we have been impressing upon all concerned the need for utmost restraint and for seeking solutions to political problems through the process of negotiations and in the spirit of peaceful co-existence.

Excellency, it is incontrovertible that modern science and technology have contributed greatly to the welfare of mankind unfortunately, however, this has also been responsible for the creation of a destructive potential through the development of new weapons of frightening power of destruction. This makes it all the more important that we should bend our energy to prevent the horrors of a new armed conflict. It is, therefore, imperative to make renewed efforts towards disarmament, beginning with the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons and aiming at their eventual elimination.

Excellency, it is eloquent testimony to the cordiality of our relations that there are no outstanding problems between India and Romania. It is our firm conviction that contacts between our two countries shall continue to grow in strength. The exchange of visits between the representatives of our two countries acquire special significance, since they contribute to a better understanding of each other.

Mr. Minister, your visit is short and subjects you to the rigours of the Indian summer. But I hope that you will carry back memories of a happy stay and meaningful discussions. I particularly hope that you will enjoy your visit to the beautiful and historic city of Agra.

Friends, may I now request you all to join me in a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Nicolai Ceaucescu, President of Romania, His Excellency Mr. Srefen Andrei, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the distinguished members of his delegation and to the further strengthening of Indo-Romanian friendship for the benefit of our two peoples.

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Date : Apr 01, 1980

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ROMANIA

H.E. Mr. Srefen Andrei's Speech

Replying to the toast, His Excellency
Mr. Srefen Andrei said:

Mr. Minister, Dear Friends, Ladies and
Gentlemen, we have been in India for
almost one day and we really feel that we
are here, in your country, among good and
close friends.

Our visit to India ranges itself along
the line of continuing and strengthening the
Romanian-Indian friendly relations whose
foundation was laid many years ago. A role
of outstanding importance in the expansion
of the relations of friendship between our
two peoples has been played by the high
level meetings that every time have opened
up new prospects to the Romanian-Indian
cooperation. Undoubtedly, I particularly
have in mind the visits paid to India by the
president of the Socialist Republic of
Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, and the visit
to our country by India's Prime Minister,
Madam Indira Gandhi, the talks between the
leaders of the two countries, the agree-
ments concluded on those occasions that
have established the general future orien-
tation of the Romanian-Indian relations.

Mr. Minister, during the course of the
last decade and a half, the bonds between
our countries have been expanded in many
fields of activity. These new developments
are proved by the numerous mutual visits
paid to the two countries. We may say that
there has been a real favourable climate for
the expansion and diversification of the
Romanian-Indian relations. Encouraging

results have also been scored at the sessions of the Joint Commission on Economic Co-operation. We are hopeful that ever better results will be obtained at the Bucharest Session of this year. Our two Governments have understood that such cooperation between our developing countries is aimed at serving the endeavours of Romania and India for their economic flourishing, for the raising of the material and spiritual living standard of our peoples.

The Romanian people act with all their energy and creative power for the implementation of the programmes established by themselves being aware that their translation into practice means the raising of the living standard, as well as the strengthening of the country's independence and sovereignty. We follow with great interest the endeavours of the Indian Government, meant to speed up the economic and social development of the whole country, for the welfare of the friendly Indian people.

Mr. Minister, the recent strong deterioration of the international situation has caused us a great concern. We estimate that this is due to the accumulation of important complex issues still unsolved, to the intensification of the policy of spheres of influence, of domination and overlooking other people's interests, to the sharpening of the world economic crisis.

We deem it necessary that at present everything should be done in order to stop the growth of tensions in the world, to resume the policy of peace and detente underlain by fully equal rights, strict observance of the principles of national independence and sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, non-use of force or threat of force in interstate relations, for the liquidation of the tensions and conflicts and the exclusively peaceful settlement, through negotiations, of all controversial issues.

Romania acts steadily in this line, estimating that great efforts are necessary for putting an end to tensions in the world, for the final liquidation of utilization of force in the international relations, for the

firm promotion of a policy of cooperation and understanding, capable to guarantee the free and independent development of every nation as the only master of its destiny. An important role in this respect is to be played by the small and medium sized countries, by the developing countries, by the non-aligned states which are the most affected by the present course in international life.

We attach great importance to the necessity of putting an end to the irrational arms race, of doing our best to achieve the reduction of military expenditure in the world, for disarmament, underlying that disarmament and, above all, nuclear disarma-

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ment constitutes a vital need of the whole mankind.

As an European country, Romania is deeply interested in the achievement of significant progress on the way of upbuilding the security and consolidating the cooperation on the continent, for firm measures towards military disengagement and disarmament to be taken, being fully convinced that this process could positively influence the general course to detente, to peace and collaboration all over the world. In this context, we are making sustained efforts, together with other countries, for assuring a suitable preparatory work for the forthcoming meeting in Madrid next fall.

We militate steadily for the firm measures aimed at the establishment of a new international economic order that should lead to the liquidation of underdevelopment. We consider that everything should be done for the appropriate preparation of the special session of the UN General Assembly devoted to this problem.

Mr. Minister, it is well known to Romania that your country too is concerned with these issues and we express our satisfaction with the fact that Romania's and India's positions are either similar or very close as regards the great problems concerning mankind nowadays. That is why I am confident that there are really large possi-

bilities of cooperation and collaboration between our two countries both in the bilateral field as well as on the multilateral arena and their turning to good account will be in the interests of the greater development of our national economies, to the closer cooperation of our countries in the international problems.

I would like to emphasize here the good collaboration existing between Romania and India at the United Nations and within other international bodies, I am confident that in the future our countries will strengthen their collaboration within the United Nations, the "Group of 77" and the non-aligned movement, in connection with important problems of contemporary international life.

At the same time I am convinced that the visit we are paying to India, the talks already held and those which are going to take place on this occasion will lead to the finding of new opportunities of collaboration and cooperation, to the strengthening of friendship between Romania and India in the interest of our both countries and peoples for peace, detente, independence and international cooperation.

With these thoughts, I would like to propose a toast to the health of His Excellency Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President of the Republic of India; to the health of Her Excellency Madam Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India: to your health, Mr. Minister and to the health of your collaborators; to the strengthening of friendship and collaboration between Romania and India; and to the health of everybody present here at this dinner party.

Thanks to all of you.

OMAN ROMANIA INDIA USA PERU SPAIN

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Protocol on Cooperation in Irrigation

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on April 3, 1980:

A protocol on the working programme of cooperation between India and the Soviet Union in the field of irrigation for the next three to four years was signed here today. The protocol was signed by Smt. R. M. Shroff, Joint Secretary, Department of Irrigation on behalf of India, and on behalf

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of the Soviet Union it was signed by Mr. S. A. Ivanov, leader of the visiting three-member Soviet delegation and head of the Ministry of Water Management and Land Reclamation of the USSR.

The working programme envisages cooperation between India and Soviet organisations in the preparation of designs for high earth and rockfill dams, high concrete dams on non-rocky foundations and low head barrages and association of Indian engineers with the design work currently in progress in the USSR for construction of large canals by the technique of directional blasting.

On the designing of irrigation projects, it was agreed to explore the possibility of setting up an enterprise in India for the production of pre-fabricated components for the construction of canal structures and canal lining, on the basis of the technical proposals furnished by the Soviet side and after examination of all the relevant aspects of the proposed enterprise.

Another area included in the programme is the possible participation, of Indian organisations in the design and production of equipment for irrigation projects

to be constructed by the Soviet Union in third countries. The two irrigation projects identified for the purpose are in Libya and Iraq. The possibility of the Soviet participation in the joint execution of irrigation projects undertaken by Indian organisations expressed their interest in inviting Indian organisations for carrying out model testing in the designing of large scale water projects to be constructed in third countries with the assistance of the Soviet Union.

To further identify prospective projects and directions of cooperation, India and the Soviet Union have agreed to the exchange of information and documentation on reclamation of saline lands, development of arid and semi arid zones, prevention of reservoir sedimentation and design of large canal systems.

Earlier, during the final round of discussions held here today, under the Chairmanship of Shri C. C. Patel, Secretary, Department of Irrigation, Mr. Ivanov described as very fruitful the discussions his team had had with the officers of the Central Water Commission, the Water and Power Development Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) etc.

The other two members of the Soviet team were Mr. N. S. Gishanko and Mr. G. J. Kozlov.

LATVIA INDIA USA LIBYA IRAQ CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

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VIETNAM

Smt. Gandhi Welcomes Vietnamese Prime Minister

The following is the text of the Prime

Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi's speech at a ceremonial welcome to H.E. Mr. Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in New Delhi on April 7, 1980. Welcoming him the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi said:

I welcome you, Excellency, and the other distinguished members of your delegation on behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own.

Vietnam is a name which evokes deep emotion in all those who care for freedom, all those who admire courage and all those who respect the spirit of nationalism. Your great leader President Ho Chi Minh became a legend in his lifetime, for he symbolized these qualities. He was also endowed with wisdom and warm-hearted humanism. It was my privilege to accompany my father to Hanoi soon after you achieved independence. For my father it was a renewal of his old comradeship dating back to 1926.

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For me it was an experience which made a deep impact. Few visits have been so rewarding, few friendships so close, for the relationship was based on principles and shared ideals, enriched by personal affinity.

We welcome you as a close associate of President Ho but no less in your own right as a veteran freedom fighter and statesman and also as a friend.

The links between India and Vietnam are ancient. In this century they were renewed by our common ordeal of colonial subjection and our long drawn out struggle against imperialism. Our goal was similar though we followed different paths to win independence. After unprecedented sacrifices, you have achieved another of your objectives, the reunification of your country. Today you are engaged in the difficult task of economic development. We sympathized with and supported your struggle, as we do now your present endeavour.

You are visiting us at a time when the pursuance of detente has been given

up. Tensions are growing. Distrust has returned. Peace has had a set-back. It is appropriate that we should exchange views on the implications of these developments for nations which have striven to keep aloof from rivalries, and on whether and in what manner the Non-aligned can effectively meet the situation. Your visit also provides us an opportunity to review and try to strengthen the progress of our bilateral co-operation.

Once again I extend a warm welcome to Your Excellency and express our sincere pleasure at your visit. Through you we greet the valiant and gallant people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

VIETNAM INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

Vietnamese Prime Minister's Speech

Replying to the welcome accorded to him by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of Vietnam said:

Your Excellency, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, we are very happy for this opportunity to come and visit your great and peaceful land of India - the land of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, the land that has had an age-old civilisation which was a great contribution to human civilization.

The friendly greetings of dear friends of this great country of Asia show the warmest and profoundest feelings for the people of Vietnam.

India is the stronghold of peace, democracy and stability. At the same time, India is a factor contributing to peace in the world and also in South Asia. In this period, we believe that India will increase further its impact on peace and stability in this part of the world and also the world over. At the same time, our people as well as the mankind wish that the great people of India build their country into a strong, prosperous and peaceful country.

I believe that this visit will contribute to strengthening and promoting further the long-standing cooperation and friendship between our two peoples. I also wish that this visit will contribute to consolidate the friendship and solidarity between our two peoples and also contribute to peace and stability, especially in South-East Asia, and the world.

Your Excellency, I am very deeply moved by the very warm welcome accorded to us on our arrival. From the bottom of my heart, I, on my own behalf as well as on behalf of the Vietnamese people, express to you, Your Excellency, and to the Indian people, our sincere gratitude. As for me it will be a great pleasure to have this opportunity to meet you again, Your Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the great and close friend of the Vietnamese people. You have been a great friend of the Vietnamese people for long, ever since you met the late President Ho Chi Minh.

In this spirit, I believe that this visit will bear fruitful results. Once more, I would like to thank you Madame Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and all the guests present here.

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VIETNAM

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Banquet for Vietnamese Prime Minister

The following is the text of the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's speech at a banquet in honour of Vietnamese Prime Minister in New Delhi on April 9, 1980. The Prime Minister said:

Our country feels privileged to play host to His Excellency Mr. Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the distinguished members of his entourage.

For me it is a personal pleasure. Excellency, you are no stranger. You have been to India before and through the years we have been meeting in various forums. We regard you as a friend of India and we hope you think of us as a sincere friend of Vietnam.

Vietnam is not merely the name of a country. The word has found a place in the history of human endeavour and has come to symbolise the very spirit of national freedom. President Ho Chi-minh was one of the outstanding personalities of our age, providing leadership of a high calibre in its foresight and sagacity, with the rare combination of determination and gentle sympathetic understanding.

You have shown yourself a worthy successor, inspiring your countrymen and women with that basic quality - confidence in themselves and in their cause. Time and again the Vietnamese people have withstood and overcome challenges from Powers far superior to their own military strength. They have demonstrated that the might of arms and modern technology cannot subdue the soul of an indomitable and resolute people.

After liberation and reunification, the

Vietnamese leadership and people have brought the same single-minded dedication to the rebuilding of their war-torn country. This endeavour compels the same admiration as did your epic struggle. It also needs assistance from friendly countries and international organisations.

The developing countries are potentially rich. We need funds to fully utilize our resources. We need peace and stability to be able to get on with the job. Our two countries are struggling to develop mainly through our own natural resources and human endowments, keeping intact what is of value in the social, cultural and spiritual heritage of our peoples. India's experiments in planned development have shown some results. Even though our problems are gigantic and there has been opposition at every step, we have acquired the scientific and technological competence to deal with them and to find indigenous solutions. At the same time we believe that developing countries should share their skills and resources to stimulate one another's development. We are glad that it has been possible for Vietnam and India to establish a number of joint programmes for our mutual benefit.

The victory of the Vietnamese people should have been a lesson for all. Yet the same old policies of rivalry and confrontation continue. Grave problems confront the countries of South and South-East Asia. They must meet these challenges themselves. They must re-assert their right to conduct their affairs without outside interference. This right should be accepted and honoured by all. Too long have we put up with foreign influences and interference. It is time that we are left free of such presences, free from the induction of arms, free from attempts at destabilisation.

India and Vietnam belong to the non-aligned movement. We do not shirk hard choices or their consequences. Recent events in our neighbourhood strikingly underline the continuing soundness of the principles of non-alignment, especially the importance of sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference and peaceful coexistence. The

present crisis can be resolved only through peaceful discussion. We are in consultation with our neighbours and other interested countries concerning the situation that has developed in our region. We must evolve coordinated responses to help in bringing about conditions which would reduce suspicions and apprehensions of encirclement.

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The task is seemingly intractable but we are determined to persevere in our efforts on behalf of peace, for the alternative is too grim to contemplate.

I cannot but remark on the double standards that are being applied. Those who are expressing horror at events in Afghanistan were conspicuously silent when outside forces entered your own country not so long ago. The name of freedom is invoked to buttress some of the most un-free personalities and regimes. I hope that the peoples of South and South East Asia will be able to take courageous and wise decisions, singly and jointly, so as to re-establish a climate of cooperation in our area.

Your visit at the present time has enabled us to exchange views on important international issues and to strengthen our existing close and friendly bilateral relations in the political, economic and cultural fields, and also to work together to promote the larger cause of world peace.

VIETNAM INDIA USA PERU

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

Scientific and Technological Cooperation Agreement with Vietnam

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on April 9, 1980:

An Agreement to develop and strengthen bilateral cooperation in Science and Technology and Agricultural Research was signed here today between India and Vietnam. Documents to this effect were exchanged between Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and Prof. Le Khac, Acting Chairman of the State Commission for Science and Technology of Vietnam. Prof. Le Khac and other officials of the State Commission are members of the delegation accompanying the Prime Minister of Vietnam who is currently visiting India.

Under the agreements on cooperation in Science and Technology and Agricultural Research signed between the two countries in 1978, India is assisting Vietnam in the establishment of a Buffalo Breeding Centre and a Rice Research Institute. The Vietnamese side have also sent proposals for training of the experts in the fields of hydrology, survey and exploration techniques, railways and drugs research. Suitable training programmes for these experts are likely to be arranged in Indian organisations in 1980-81. Indian experts are being sent to Vietnam in several areas.

Possibilities of cooperation in post-harvesting technologies, water resources management, forestry research, flora and fauna, surveys and tropical diseases were also discussed between the Indian and Vietnamese teams. An Indian scientific delegation has been invited to visit Vietnam later this year to work out cooperative programmes for execution in 1981 and 1982.

VIETNAM INDIA USA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

VIETNAM

Indo-Vietnamese Cultural Exchange Programme

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on April 9, 1980:

India and Vietnam signed a cultural exchange Programme here today for the years 1980 and 1981 in pursuance of the Cultural Agreement concluded in Hanoi in 1976. Shri Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture, and H.E. Mr. Hoang Quoc Dung, Deputy Minister in the office of Prime Minister of Vietnam, signed the Programme on behalf of their respective countries.

The Programme envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, art and culture, media and sports. In addition to exchanges of university academics, school education experts and language teachers, performing troops and tennis and football teams will exchange the visits.

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VIETNAM INDIA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

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ZAMBIA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet for President of Zambia

The following is the text of President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy's speech. at a banquet on April 15, 1980 in honour of H.E. Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia:

It is with particular pleasure that I extend again a warm welcome to Your Excellency, and the distinguished members of your delegation gathered here tonight. We greet you as one of Africa's illustrious and most distinguished sons, as the leader of a resurgent and humanist Zambia, and as a close and valued friend of India.

The leading role played by your great country and by you personally in the liberation struggles in Southern Africa is well-known. Zambia's has been an unblemished record of selfless sacrifice in the cause of Zimbabwe's liberation. Over the last few years, your country has been subjected to criminal aggression by racist forces. We have watched with admiration as the Zambian people have faced these difficulties with dignity and calm, steadfastly maintaining their humanistic principles and support for the cause of freedom and justice. We are deeply distressed over the renewed aggression launched by South African forces against your country. You have our fullest sympathy and support. The great cause of freedom for which Zambia stands is certain to triumph over the heinous forces of racism.

India has always identified itself unreservedly with the aspirations of Africa. The liberation of Zimbabwe has opened up a new frontier of freedom in Southern Africa. We in India greet the emergence of independent Zimbabwe. We recognize at the same time that the time has now come to intensify our efforts to seek the liquidation of illegal South African rule in Namibia and the abolition of the heinous apartheid system in South Africa. We pledge our solidarity to the valiant freedom fighters and to the brave people of the front-line States who are participants in this struggle for human freedom and dignity.

Mr. President, recent developments in our own neighbourhood have caused wide-

spread concern. Revival of cold war attitudes and Big Power rivalries have introduced an ominous note. Regional peace and stability are threatened by induction of arms. We believe that it is vital in the interests of the region, and of the international community in general, for all sides to exercise the utmost restraint and to help create conditions which would enable all countries of the region to retain their independence and non-alignment and remain free from any intervention or interference by outside powers.

Mr. President, the ties between our two countries have been traditionally warm and close, reflecting common ideals and aspirations. Our commitment to the policy of non-alignment is consistent with our interest in the attainment of genuine peace and security and in the universal application of the principles of peaceful co-existence. We are both developing countries. We recognise that a lasting solution to the problems of countries such as ours cannot be achieved without the establishment of a New International Economic Order. Only thus can we become equal partners in the international economic process and attain our full developmental potential.

Our bilateral cooperation has grown stronger and even more diversified with the passage of time. This cooperation and our harmonious working together to reach our common goals is underlined by the constructive and enduring quality of our relationship. We value our friendship with you and your country, for you have been tireless champions of freedom and peace.

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May I now request you to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia, and the members of the distinguished Zambian delegation, to the progress, prosperity and happiness of the people of Zambia and to the everlasting friendship between our two peoples.

ZAMBIA USA INDIA ZIMBABWE SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date : Apr 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda's Speech

Replying to the, toast, H.E. Dr. Kaunda said:

Your Excellency, distinguished guests, my dear friends, it is a great pleasure for me to have this opportunity of a night-stop in India to renew our traditional friendship.

India occupies a special position in the annals of history. She is a shining example of the worthiness of independence struggle against colonialism. India is the most populous democracy in the world. The Indian people and we, their friends, have therefore, much to be proud of. Your democratic institutions have undergone severe tests in the last few years and they have emerged stronger at every turn. The freedom of the people to express their popular will in the choice of leaders and Government is testimony of maturity in India's splendid democratic tradition.

With great joy, we take this opportunity of congratulating the new Indian Government. We congratulate Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, whom the Commonwealth, and the Non-Aligned leadership is happy to welcome back. We congratulate the people of India for their outstanding success in maintaining unity and stability in the country. India plays a very important role in international affairs. India is an important cornerstone in the edifice of world peace and security. Consequently, peace and unity in India are crucial and decisive to the stability of this region in

particular and the world in general.

Currently, the Non-Aligned Movement is facing a number of grave crises which pose a serious threat to international peace and security. Powerful pressures generated by super power rivalry have brought about a turbulent situation in many regions of the world. Conflicts characterise many regions of the non-aligned community. Destabilising forces are undermining independence, causing untold human misery and frustrating economic and social progress- These conflicts among non-aligned nations are now the main source of tension in the world fanned by the rivalry between super powers. In West Asia, the Arab-Israeli conflict remains a dangerous source of tension. The crisis in the American-Iranian relations is worsening. The tension between the two brotherly states of Iran and Iraq is escalating. The Afghanistan situation and the world reaction to it have added new tension in the entire region.

Consequently, the Indian Ocean which the Non-Aligned Movement has declared a Zone of Peace, is now an area of intensive rivalry between super powers. There is a big military build up in the Persian Gulf which has become an area of crisis. In South East Asia, the traumatic events are a source of grave concern. The great tragedy which has followed the conflict between two brotherly states of Vietnam and Kampuchea should steer the conscience of mankind into immediate and positive action to stabilise the area. The misery and death dogging the masses of innocent people fleeing the country of their birth for refuge in foreign lands has to be stopped. The people of Indo-China have known no peace for decades. They have been victims of imperialism. They fought and won. They can now not be victims of fratricidal conflicts which only serve to further the aims of external forces. Our hope was for peace, stability and prosperity after the United States withdrawal from South East Asia. But now Indo-China is simmering with dangers of continuing regional conflicts. Let us unite to stop the human tragedy in the region.

In Africa, we also face conflicts in Western Sahara, in the Horn of Africa, in Chad and in Southern Africa. Recent events

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in Liberia add to the dangers facing the continent. Everywhere the Non-Aligned community has become the target for new tensions.

Time has come for the Non-Aligned Movement to face the challenge and to build peace in place of war, cooperation in place of confrontation and prosperity in place of poverty. The non-aligned community constitutes the main force for fighting imperialism in every shape and form and for easing tensions in a world threatened with a much wider conflict resulting from super power rivalry. The non-aligned community must be the bulwark of peace, economic and social progress. A bitter struggle against the foes of peace and human freedom still lies ahead. We must be united for victory.

We must, therefore take a sober and realistic view of the international situation today. We must work to safeguard peace and security in our regions where conflicts prevail. This calls for a major non-aligned initiative now to deal with the threats to international peace and security affecting the innocent peoples of the non-aligned community. The non-aligned community must unite in efforts to remove the fundamental cause of conflicts. We must not be pawns in the super power game. Let us give material form to our common desire for peace and security within our own nations and amongst our countries. Let us give concrete and material substance to the spirit that give birth to Non-Alignment and to ties we have forged among members of the non-aligned community in order to strengthen our brotherhood.

This is a time for solidarity among members of the Non-Aligned Movement. We cannot afford to surrender the noble principles of Non-Alignment to the interests of other countries whose nationals enjoy peace in their own lands. The future of our independence, the security, prosperity and

happiness of our peoples, depend upon unity within our own countries and the unity of the Non-Aligned Movement. This is our primary responsibility. Unless the non-aligned community unites in the common desire and purposeful action to ease the current rising tensions in our regions, we shall never fulfill the noble mission of our Movement.

Let me now take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Indian Government and people for their unswerving support in the struggle of the oppressed people in Southern Africa. Since my last visit to India, Africa has had the joy of welcoming Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau and other former Portuguese colonies into the growing family of independent nations. In the next forty-eight hours, we shall join our brothers and sisters in Salisbury for historic celebrations welcoming the birth of a new nation - the Republic of Zimbabwe. This is a glorious and historic victory. It is an epoch-making product of a long and bloody war of liberation. It is a vindication of the inestimable sacrifices paid by the people of Zimbabwe and their supporters among Frontline States. India supported that struggle. The victory of the people of Zimbabwe is also a victory for India.

Namibia is next on the agenda for international action. Namibia must be independent. The United Nations programme under the Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) exists to achieve this purpose. The South West African People's Organisation accepted the programme. The Organisation of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the entire progressive world accepted that programme. Only South Africa is the road block. The South West African People's Organisation and Frontline States have done everything possible to be flexible in order to meet her demands but to no avail.

Instead of implementing the United Nations Independence Plan, South Africa has launched more wanton acts of aggression against Angola and Zambia to frustrate that plan. We condemn these attacks

on Independent Africa. We thank all the members of the United Nations for their support in the recent Security Council debate on South African attacks against Zambia. We call upon the international community to unite in defence of human dignity and in furthering the aims of the United Nations in Namibia.

In South Africa, there are cracks in the walls of apartheid. The collapse of that iniquitous system is inevitable. It will not require external force. It will collapse

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through force from within. But the moral and diplomatic support is a source of great inspiration and encouragement to the oppressed in South Africa. It is a great source of strength in their effort-, to liberate themselves. As a result of the independence of Zimbabwe, the situation in Southern Africa is excellent for meaningful and positive change.

Our relations are excellent, within the framework of the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Commonwealth as well as the traditional friendship we enjoy. There is much to hope for. There is so much to do together as partners for peace and progress. The collapse of the colonial barriers is widening the frontiers of our co-operation. As enemies who had encircled us are gradually being beaten back, great forces have been unleashed for economic development and widening the horizons for co-operation, investment and trade. We, therefore, look forward to a happier and prosperous future in our region and in our relations with India. What is important is to face the new challenges with a greater depth of vision and determination.

Once again, let me thank Your Excellency, the Indian Government and people for everything you have done to support our cause in particular and the cause of Africa in general in the last few years. We thank you for such a warm welcome and hospitality during our very brief stop in India. I now propose a toast to the health of His Excellency the President of India; to the

health and success of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi; to the co-operation between our two countries; to the continued success of the Indian people; and to peace and justice in the world.

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ZAMBIA INDIA USA ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN VIETNAM CHINA CHAD LIBERIA ANGOLA
GUINEA GUINEA-BISSAU MOZAMBIQUE ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA ECUADOR

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YUGOSLAVIA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

BULGARIA

India, Bulgaria Cooperation in Planning

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 9, 1980:

India and the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria have agreed to develop cooperation between the Planning Organisations of the two countries in various fields, taking into consideration the fact that the two countries were developing on long-term planned basis.

A delegation led by Mr. Stoiu Kiosav, First Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria has held discussions with Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Deputy Chairman, Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shri Mohd. Fazal, Members, Planning Commission between April 26 and May 5, 1980. As a result of these discussions, it has been agreed that the cooperation between the Planning Organisations of the two countries should be developed on the following lines:

- mutual information about the economic development of the two countries and about their economic policies which they will be following during the next planning period.

exchange of experience in the field of composition of short-term, medium-term and long-term plans and rendering assistance in the field of methodology of planning, economic prognosis, - usage of computer technique in the planning;

- exchange of experts in the field of planning; rendering assistance in the training of national experts.

Agreed minutes of the talks between the delegations of the State Planning Committee of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria

and the Planning Commission of the Government of India were signed here today by Mr. Stoiu Kiosev, First Vice-Chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Peoples Republic of Bulgaria and Shri Mohd. Fazal, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India

BULGARIA INDIA USA

Date : May 01, 1980

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CHINA

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Meets Chairman Hua Guo-Feng

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 9, 1980:

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, had a meeting with Chairman Hua Guo-Feng of China in Belgrade on May 9, 1980 evening. Both of them agreed that better Sino-Indian relations were essential to peace and stability in Asia. It was felt that bilateral problems could be solved only if they avoided confrontation and resorted to mutual consultations.

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Smt, Gandhi said that India was a strong believer in Non-Alignment, which did not mean being neutral. It only meant judging each issue on its merit. Chairman Hua Guo-Feng said that China was keen on having better ties with India. He suggested that both countries should concentrate on the present and the future and put aside past differences. He also said that China had been a consistent supporter of the Non-Aligned Movement. He expressed his happiness at the emergence of a strong government in India after the recent poll

and said it would help India play a more useful role in international affairs.

CHINA INDIA YUGOSLAVIA USA

Date : May 01, 1980

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INDIA AND E.E.C.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Banquet Speech in Honour of President

Roy Jenkins of the Commission of European Communities

The following is the text of the speech by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi at a banquet in honour of Mr. Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission of the European Communities in New Delhi on May 2, 1980:

You are no stranger to India, but you come today as President of the Commission of the European Communities. This will give you and your many friends in India, who are acquainted with your wide-ranging political and intellectual concerns, an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and links.

You are experiencing the warmth of our climate, I should like to assure you also of the warmth of our sentiments.

The European Community is an important experiment in cooperation among nations. In the last five years, a great deal has changed in the European Community and in Asia. We have followed with interest the successful development of the European Community and the positive efforts it has been making in the wider community of nations. It has branched out from regional economic cooperation to political consultation consistent with the strength of its members, and has emerged as an important

political force in the world playing a constructive and noteworthy role in the great global issues of the present decade. As the Community is enlarged, its potential for such a role will be further increased. The great need in the world today is to so define national interest that it makes for greater harmony, greater equality and justice, and greater stability in the world.

We have watched the emergence of the European Parliament on the basis of direct elections. Any new developments in democratic functioning are of special interest to us in India, with our commitment to parliamentary government. European ideas have long influenced us. We do not want this important bond to languish, even as we evolve our own institutions to face our distinctive problems.

TRADE WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The members of the European Community are developed countries. There is a vast distance between them and us in economic and technological capability for India is a developing country. The European Economic Community is a major trading partner of India. The opportunity to export our products to your markets means much to our workers and artisans and to the economic well-being of our country as a whole. Negotiations through international agencies and forums should aim at reducing tariffs, and giving further impetus to developing

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countries. It is crucial that while promoting greater trade among themselves, affluent countries should encourage more trade with the developing. Whatever the differences on some current ideas regarding a new world economic order, there should be no disagreement on the need to eliminate poverty. It is for this that poorer countries should get a greater share of world trade.

We are heartened by your own enlightened views on these issues. We hope that the new Commercial and Economic Cooperation Agreement, which we shall soon negotiate, will formalise and strengthen the

relations between India and the European countries.

DEFUSING TENSION

The situation in the world and especially around our region of Asia is disquieting. We are all deeply concerned when the fires of suspicion are thus fanned, the tasks of economic management which confront some developed countries and the war against want, which is so vital for us, get pushed to the background. We can ill afford new confrontations. We must use our influence to cool down tempers. The European Community has a special responsibility. Tensions can be mitigated and confrontations avoided only if all countries, which value peace and stability, work together.

In your perceptive writings you have advised men of power to be guided by wisdom and patience. These will be greatly needed in the days to come.

The countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America want to strengthen themselves not only because of the human misery which poverty brings but because economic weakness is an invitation to intervention from outside. Interference wears many masks. It has been active in our region for years, with each new step producing further reactions. We in India are opposed to all forms of intervention and all outside military presences. Our overriding objective is peace: peace through mutual respect, reassurance and understanding, independence of judgment and action.

INDIA PERU USA MALI

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND O.A.U.

The following is the text of the speech delivered by the Foreign Secretary, Shri R. D. Sathe, on the occasion of Africa (OAU) Day organised by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations at New Delhi on May 24, 1980:

I deem it a pleasure and a privilege to have the opportunity of participating in the observance of Africa Day. Since the birth of the Organization of African Unity 17 years ago, events of great significance have taken place in Africa. The establishment of the OAU was in itself an event of outstanding importance. The African States got together then and proclaimed the principles and objectives of the OAU transcending national and ethnic differences. The political map of Africa has undergone considerable changes since. The increase in the membership of the Organization from 32 to 50 signifies this change. Also, the purpose for which the OAU was created - to have a mechanism for solving the problems of the continent by Africans themselves, in an African forum, free from outside influence and pressure - has added relevance today.

If I might strike a personal note here, I happened to be posted as Indian High Commissioner in Tanzania in the early 1960's and was witness to the birth of the OAU while I was in Dar-es-Salaam. During my

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tenure in that lovely country. I was able to study at first hand not only the horrors perpetrated by colonialism and racialism but also the valiant struggle of the African people to overcome them. Those were heady days in Africa. The world witnessed not merely the emergence of independent nations in the continent but also what I might term as African resurgence which in a variety of ways has contributed to the international struggle against all forms of unaccountable domination.

I also recall that it was around the same time that the Liberation Committee of the OAU was set up in Dar-es-Salaam. The contributions of the Committee to the liberation struggle in the African continent are too numerous for me to dwell upon here, but they remain a testimony to the faith of peoples to take their destinies in their own hands and make a success of it.

ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND GROWTH

The activities of the Organization are important not only in the context of the struggle for decolonisation but also as a pointer to the efforts of the developing countries to achieve economic independence and growth. The aims and objectives of the OAU Charter provide an example of fruitful cooperation amongst sovereign States. The Charter speaks of the promotion of unity and solidarity of the African States: coordination and intensification of efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa: defence of the sovereignty: territorial integrity and independence of African nations; eradication of colonialism and racialism from Africa; and the promotion of international cooperation having due regard to the Charter of the United Nations and the UN Declaration on Human Rights.

We in India have watched with admiration the successes that the Organization has achieved in providing a forum to the African countries to harmonise their policies aimed at cooperation in the political, social, economic and other fields. The Organization's efforts at developing Pan-African cooperation in general have also been noteworthy. The OAU can look back with satisfaction at its achievements in generating and strengthening support for the liberation struggle in the African continent against colonialism, racial discrimination and economic exploitation.

REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT

I had earlier briefly mentioned the principles and objectives of the OAU transcending national and ethnic differences.

This is a significant aspect of the OAU that not many people seem to realise. After all, Africa, a vast continent, is not really a monolithic and insipid entity with very little variations within it. It happens to be a fascinating mixture, with a variety and kaleidoscopic charm of its own. To bring such varied strains together and to coordinate policies and actions in an achievement that the OAU can be proud of. The Organization has gone beyond nations, ethnic, social, religious and other differences to create a sense of belonging in the continent as a whole without jettisoning the cardinal principle of inviolability of national frontiers. In a world where ethnic and religious differences sometimes create unbridgeable chasms, to succeed in moulding these differences into united policy and action is by any standards a remarkable achievement.

Most recently, we had the privilege of participating in the independence celebrations of Zimbabwe. The importance that we attach to this event, and the emphasis with which we reiterate our commitment to assist in the fulfilment of the aspirations of Africa, were reflected in the presence of our Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, at the Zimbabwe celebrations. We believe in particular that the independence of Zimbabwe opens out new frontiers in Southern Africa. The time has come when efforts to help the people of Namibia to liberate themselves should be intensified. The continued illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa's racist regime, with its odious racial policies, is a direct challenge to the UN and displays an insolent disregard for both world public opinion and inevitable historical change. For those who have not been subjected to racial discrimination words such as racialism, apartheid etc. remain nothing but words. Sometimes they evoke some imagery. But those who have been at the receiving end know only too well how inhuman is the

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policy of apartheid, and degrading the concept of the racial supremacy of the white minority in South Africa. I had a little taste of this when I was posted in Kenya in the fifties. There is no greater or more

flagrant violation of human dignity. In collusion with colonialism, apartheid has become an increasing menace to world peace and security. The Pretoria regime has blatantly committed aggression against its neighbours and remains a blot on the African scene. On account of clandestine disregard by some countries of UN sanctions against South Africa, the racist regime in that country has managed to hold out against world-wide opposition. We nevertheless believe that a regime that continues to flout all norms of human dignity cannot last very long by itself and that sooner rather than later it will either have to mend its ways or succumb to international disapproval and opposition.

INDIAS SUPPORT

The Government and people of India re-affirm their resolve to support the valiant freedom fighters, the brave people of the Frontline States and the OAU in liberating Southern Africa from the last vestiges of colonialism and racialism, and to secure to the people of Namibia and South Africa basic - political and human rights, freedom and dignity. India has all along subscribed to the idea of the indivisibility of the liberty of man. We believe that our own freedom and independence would not be complete until all countries under colonial domination achieved freedom.

The OAU, for various reasons, may not have been able to give its undivided attention always to some of the major problems of decolonisation and economic development in the African continent. For one thing, external involvement in certain regions of Africa has made the task of the OAU more difficult. The expeditious settlement of bilateral and regional disputes through peaceful negotiations, keeping in mind the Charters of the OAU and the UN, will help the Organisation to concentrate attention on the larger issues of the elimination of poverty, disease, ignorance, and backwardness. We believe that the member States of the Organisation are conscious of the need for a renewed thrust in their policies and

actions towards promoting unity and solidarity. This would avoid the danger of outside involvement in Africa and strengthen their efforts at mutual cooperation for the benefit of their peoples.

SOLIDARITY OF NON-ALIGNMENT

Additionally, the independence and development of African nations strengthens the Non-aligned Movement as a whole. In the present difficult international situation, the unity and solidarity of the non-aligned are vital for the sake of world peace and progress. India is committed not only to the furtherance of the Non-aligned ideals but also to making whatever contribution lies within her capabilities towards achieving a world-wide climate of peace and goodwill so that all nations may work together to fulfil their aspirations.

We have noted with hope and interest the recent efforts of the OAU at evolving a planned strategy for economic development. The holding of the first OAU Economic Summit at Lagos, in April 1980, underlines the resolve of Africa to intensify the struggle for economic independence. In this endeavour, the OAU member-States, we believe, will participate fully in the global economic negotiations for collective self-reliance and the establishment of a New International Economic Order.

HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP

I need hardly dwell on the historical relationship between India and Africa. Both are linked by the Indian Ocean and bound by age-old ties of culture and common heritage. From the beginning of recorded history, we have had cultural, commercial and other exchanges. India's consistent political, moral and material support for the struggle against colonialism and racialism in Africa needs no reiteration. We in India have fully identified ourselves with the aspirations of the African people. We share with Africa common problems and in many respects common threats as well, such as the threat to economic independence. India has always stood for political, social and econo-

mic justice in the international sphere. In this light, we have all along been conscious of not only maintaining but also broadening

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our cooperation with African countries in the economic, technical, educational and cultural fields. We, therefore, attach great importance to the expansion and intensification of our relations with the OAU and its member-States. This, we believe, accords with our ideals and commitments and also provides a significant contribution to international efforts at providing a peaceful and improved existence for mankind. Our joint effort reflects the dedication that the OAU and India believe is necessary for the purpose.

On behalf of the Government of India, and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to express our best wishes to the OAU for continued successes in its endeavours. I would also like to express the hope that the cooperation between India and Africa will continue to prosper and play an increasingly significant role in safeguarding peace and stimulating progress around the world.

INDIA TANZANIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA
KENYA PERU

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND U.N. AGENCIES

Minister of Health B. Shankaranand's Address at World Health Assembly

The following is the text of the address by Shri B. Shankaranand, Union Minister of Education, Health and Social Welfare at the Plenary Session of the 33rd World Health

Assembly at Geneva on May 8, 1980:

The eradication of small pox from all over the world is truly a historic event in the annals of medicine and public health. Small pox, a virulent disease, was prevalent in the Southeast Asia Region for many centuries and it killed one out of every four who contracted it and caused blindness and facial and limb disfigurement in many of those who survived.

Most of the countries in our region have not suffered an endemic incidence of small pox in recent years. The last cases reported from various countries in our region were: Maldives in 1879, Mongolia in 1939, Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 1951, an imported case in Sri Lanka in 1972. The absence of small pox infection for long periods in the countries of our region and strict surveillance conducted for the detection of this dreaded disease over the last five years have enabled the Global Commission to certify that they are now totally free from small pox. The last known case in our region and in the world was that of Rahima Banu who contracted the disease on October 16, 1975 in Bangladesh.

Indonesia was the first country in the region which was certified to have eradicated small pox in 1974, two years after its last reported case. From 1969 onwards increasing emphasis had been placed in this country on strict surveillance and containment strategy. Contacts were established with all sections of the population to detect cases and school children played a very vital role in this nation-wide programme. It was during this period that Indonesia conceived the idea of displaying, as an educational aid, the picture of a child suffering from small Pox. This was the origin of the 'WHO recognition card', which was subsequently used universally.

COMPLETE SUCCESS

India, with its size and large population faced an enormous challenge. However, benefiting from the experience of neighbouring countries and with the enormous success

of its 'search week' programme, India registered complete success and by April 1977

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Nepal, Bhutan and India were declared free from small pox by the Global Commission.

Burma implemented the small pox eradication campaign through the strategy of mass vaccinations. Importations from the then East Pakistan led to the occurrence of a large number of cases in Burma in 1968 and 1969. In December 1977 Bangladesh and Burma were taken up for a review of free from small pox. A member of the Commission visited Thailand in 1978 and the entire Asian Sub-continent was certified as free from small pox the same year.

The Global Commission have recommended that not more than four WHO collaborating centres should hold and handle stocks of variola virus. In our region we are indeed both quite surprised and concerned to find that there are still three additional laboratories which have not yet responded to the appeal of the WHO for the destruction of stocks of variola virus held by them. Today's commemoration ceremony would become more meaningful for all humanity if the concerned countries announce here and now that the unauthorised stocks held by them would be destroyed within the next week or so. The position of stocks of variola virus in the four recognised collaborating centres should be reviewed in 1982, as recommended by the Global Commission. Till then it is important that these centres should be inspected and reports of research activities should be obtained periodically and circulated to all concerned.

W. H. O. ASSISTANCE

India and Bangladesh have received large-scale assistance from the WHO and other bilateral agencies, mainly the Swedish International Development Authority, for implementing the intensive small pox eradication campaign. One of the most gratifying features of the eradication campaign in our region has been the well coordinated and effective way in which the World Health

Organisation and Member States have collaborated in planning and execution, national and international staff worked with enthusiasm, dedication and a high degree of technical competence to prove that with collective, organised effort even dreaded disease can be eradicated. On behalf of all the governments and peoples in our region, a billion in number, I take this opportunity of expressing our deep gratitude and appreciation of the role played by the World Health Organisation and all other assisting agencies in enabling us to become free from small pox.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

In terms of net economic benefits the contributions of the more advanced countries to the success of the eradication programme in the less developed territories is an excellent example of technical cooperation in the health sector and I hope that, now as we are building up a new international economic order, such examples will expand and increase in the coming years. Our success nationally, regionally and universally has also clearly established that a clear identification of objectives, sound planning based on utilisation of locally relevant technology, efficient management and well worked out collaborative efforts could resolve even the most serious and complicated health problems. We hope that the number of similar success stories would increase manifold, enabling all member states in achieving the all important goal of health for all by the year 2000 A.D.

On this historic occasion I would request this august Assembly to pay tribute to the numerous unknown and unnamed grass root workers in all the countries of our region. who walked from house to house, enquired about fever and rash cases, and vaccinated households where an infected case was detected. They lived and worked in the villages for long periods giving up the comforts of their homes and made possible the public health miracle which we are commemorating today. Our eternal gratitude is due to these workers and I would recommend to you, Mr. President, and through

you to this Honourable Assembly, to consider releasing an appropriate symbol to keep alive the memory of these workers and all those who contributed to the achievement of our epoch making success.

I would also like to take this opportunity to place on record our deep appreciation of the role played by our devoted. Regional Director, Dr. Gunaratne, and to our dynamic Director General, Dr. Mahler, both of whom, alongwith all the professional

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and other staff at the Regional and Global Headquarters of the Organisation, helped and assisted all the national governments in our region in dealing with the gigantic task with such historic success.

In conclusion, Mr. President, may once again thank all concerned for their cooperation and congratulate the World Health Organisation on its outstanding and universally acclaimed success.

INDIA TURKEY SWITZERLAND USA MALDIVES MONGOLIA KOREA SRI LANKA BANGLADESH
INDONESIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC BHUTAN NEPAL BURMA PAKISTAN THAILAND

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND U.N. AGENCIES

India-UNDP Agreement on "Umbrella Project"

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 24 1980:

India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed an agreement at New Delhi on May 24, 1980 to provide a framework of mutually cooperative

activities to be undertaken by India and other developing countries to promote technical cooperation among developing countries.

The agreement was signed by Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs of the Ministry of Finance, on behalf of the Government of India and by Mr. Jan P. Huyser, Resident Representative on behalf of UNDP.

Under the agreement, India will provide the needed inputs for specific activities to be selected in mutual consultation between the Government of India and other developing countries and UNDP will contribute \$ 5.8 million (Rs. 4.58 crores) from the UNDP Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) allocated to India, for technical cooperation to be provided to other developing countries by Indian institutions agencies and to India by institutions agencies of other developing countries.

JOINT DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

The project will be concerned with joint research and development schemes with other developing countries for collective acquisition, adaptation and transfer of technologies; twinning arrangements between Indian institutions and their counterparts in other developing countries; meetings, Seminars and observation tours among developing countries for mutual exchanges of experience; training in India of nationals of other developing countries; Indian expertise to other developing countries in solving specific problems; feasibility studies and technical and economic surveys as may be mutually agreed upon between India and other developing countries; strengthening of selected Indian institutions which undertake TCDC activities to the extent necessary to enable them to perform the above functions; acquisition of technical expertise from other developing countries in solving identified problems in India; and training of Indian nationals in other developing countries.

This project, to be considered an "um-

brella project", will establish the administrative basis and the general criteria for the selection and implementation of specific project activities. The UNDP assistance will be executed by the Government of India through its departments; institutions and or public sector enterprises as designated in relation to specific activities.

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION

The project is expected to contribute significantly to the establishment of long-term cooperative arrangements between India and other developing countries for their mutual and collective benefit. The exchanges of mutually relevant experiences and the practical exposure to the technical capacities of the developing countries will be helpful in removing attitudinal barriers and promoting collective self-reliance among them.

The agreement is in pursuance of the UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) held in 1978 in Buenos Aires and its Plan of Action endorsed by the UN General Assembly. The Plan of Action invites the developing countries to consider earmarking

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a percentage of their national IPF (assistance receivable from UNDP) for financing TCDC projects.

India, which has been at the forefront in the enunciation of the TCDC programme, had responded to this recommendation by pledging 10 per cent of its IPF for the last three years of the present cycle (1977-1981) for the promotion of TCDC.

INDIA ARGENTINA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

President Sanjiva Reddy's Speech on Arrival of President France Albet Rene

The following is the text of President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy's speech welcoming the visiting President Mr. France Albert Rene of the Republic of Seychelles in New Delhi on May 5, 1980:

On behalf of the Government and people of India and on my own behalf, I have great pleasure in welcoming you, Madame Rene, and distinguished Members of your delegation.

You are no stranger to India and we greet you as an old friend. Through you we also greet the friendly people of the Republic of Seychelles.

Seychelles and India are neighbours in the Indian Ocean. There has been friendly intercourse between our peoples for many generations. We share a common interest in keeping our neighbourhood, the Indian Ocean, free from extraneous interference and conflicts. We appreciate the courageous stand taken by Seychelles against the military presence of non-littoral States in the Indian Ocean. As non-aligned countries, we shall work together for converting this vast Ocean space into an area of peace and co-operation.

Mr. President, in this context allow me to say that we are meeting in the shock of a great tragedy, the passing away of President Tito, one of the outstanding statesmen of our times, the grievous loss to the Non-aligned Movement and to the world at large.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Your visit will provide an opportunity for exchange of views on important international issues which threaten world peace as well as regional stability. We also look forward for fruitful discussion of the com-

mon problems of countries in our region with a view to increasing regional cooperation.

Our bilateral relations have happily grown steadily. It is the hope of my Government that your visit will provide an impetus to them and the coming years will see further consolidation of our ties to the mutual benefit of our two countries and peoples.

During your visit we also hope to show you something of our country, our history and our present endeavours to build a new society. You will see many different faces of India. Our unity is strengthened and enriched by these very diversities.

Once again I extend a welcome to you as a friend and a neighbour. I wish you and all members of your delegation a happy stay in our country. Jai Hind.

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SEYCHELLES FRANCE INDIA USA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

SEYCHELLES

President France Albert Rene's Speech

Replying to the welcome Mr. Rene said:

I too share with deep feelings the loss of President Tito and I think the whole world will miss this great statesman who has worked very hard for non-alignment in which both our countries believe in.

I am very happy to be here.

My visit to India heralds the beginning of a new phase in the development of relations between the peoples of India and Seychelles. For if I have so readily responded to the kind invitation extended to me by the Indian Government to pay an official visit to India it is because I believe that it is in our mutual interest to enhance the friendly relations which already exist between us and to promote/greater cooperation between our two countries.

COMMON APPROACH

India and Seychelles are natural friends. Apart from our geographic proximity and the fact that our shores are washed by the same ocean we share a common approach to the problems of development in general and to many of the issues which preoccupy the world today. I am a firm believer in the need for the countries of the Third World to promote greater cooperation amongst themselves. Only in this way can we ever hope to get out of the rut of economic stagnation which centuries of colonialism has imposed upon us. My visit to India today is undertaken in this spirit. We have, during the four brief years since our independence, evolved a meaningful programme of cooperation in the mutual interest of our two countries. It is my sincere hope that we can, during the period of my visit, examine how we may usefully extend the scope of this cooperation and how we can promote better understanding and friendship between our peoples.

Throughout the two centuries of their existence the destiny of the Seychellois people has been closely linked to that of the Indian sub-continent. In spite of these historical links the colonial period precluded the development of any real friendship and cooperation between India and Seychelles. If our peoples today still know more about the history and the social conditions prevailing in the countries of Western Europe than about India and other countries of the region we can only attribute this to the missionary zeal of colonialism. There is no reason, however, why we should not endea-

vour to correct this anomalous state of affairs now that we meet as two independent states.

INDIA'S PIONEERING ROLE

Seychelles has great deal to learn from its Indian neighbour. Not only do you have almost three decades of nationhood ahead of us but the wealth of experience and knowledge accumulated through the centuries of your history is a source of continuing inspiration for the countries of the Third World and for the Republic of Seychelles in particular. India was, in many ways, the precursor of the "Winds of change" policy which brought about independence to the African continent. If Mahatma Gandhi had not braved the wrath of the mighty British Empire, Britannia would, in all probability, still rule the waves today. If the African continent and the countries of the Indian Ocean can today shape their destinies in accordance with their own wishes it is due, to a great extent, to the pioneering role played by such Indian leaders as Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. The countries of the Third World owe their freedom to the inspiration which they derived from the Indian experience. India fired the decolonisation revolution and it is only right that countries of the Third World should express their gratitude to the Indian people for their role in shaping the world as we know it today.

In conclusion, may I express my sincere appreciation of the warm hospitality extended to me and to members of my delegation since our arrival in Bombay. I hope, that we will, during the period of our stay in India, be able to learn more about your beautiful country and about its rich historical and cultural heritage. I also hope that

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we may be able to examine how we can strengthen the ties of friendship between ourselves and how we can build upon this friendship through an effective programme of cooperation. I look to the future with optimism and hope that the foundations which we will lay during the next few days

will be able to sustain the development of a fruitful association between India and the Republic of Seychelles. Thank you.

SEYCHELLES FRANCE INDIA USA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

SEYCHELLES

India-Seychelles Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of the India Seychelles Joint Press Statement issued in New Delhi on May 7, 1980:

H.E. Mr. France Albert Rene, President of the Republic of Seychelles, and Madame. Rene are on a State visit to India from May 2 to 11, 1980, at the invitation of the President of India.

The President of Seychelles is accompanied by H.E. Mr. Jacques Hodoul, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. David Thomas, Principal Secretary in the President's office, Mr. Maxime Fayon, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Planning and Development, Mr. Robert Grandeourt, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Planning and Development and other officials.

During his stay in New Delhi, the President of Seychelles called on the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy and held official talks with the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. The Indian side in the discussions included the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Shri R. Bhandari, Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri N. Krishnan, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri A. N. D. Haksar,

High Commissioner of India in Seychelles, Shri C. Dasgupta, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Gurcharan Singh, Director in the Ministry of External Affairs and other officials.

INDIA'S APPROACH APPRECIATED

The President of Seychelles and the Prime Minister of India discussed international and bilateral issues, including the situation in South Asia. They reiterated their opposition to all forms of intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign states. They stressed the importance of creating conditions in which all States in the region could freely determine their own destinies without fear of external threat or interference. Both sides agreed that it was necessary to de-escalate tensions and that this could only be achieved through diplomatic and political initiatives, not by military confrontation or induction of arms. The Seychelles side expressed appreciation of India's balanced and constructive approach in regard to developments in her neighbourhood.

The two sides agreed that development in South Asia cannot provide any justification for an escalation of great power rivalries in the Indian Ocean area, involving a search for new military and naval bases or an expansion of existing bases. They called on all concerned states to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, free of great power rivalries and tensions. They also agreed that it was necessary for Indian Ocean States to develop mutual cooperation for the benefit of their respective peoples. The Indian side expressed appreciation for the courageous stand taken by Seychelles against the military presence of non-littoral states in the Indian Ocean.

Both sides expressed their deep concern over the explosive situation in South Africa resulting from the heinous policy of apartheid and denial of basic human rights to a majority of the South African people. Condemning the repressive actions of the racist South African regime, they called for an effective arms embargo against South Africa. They also condemned the illegal

South African occupation of Namibia and expressed their solidarity with the liberation struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO.

COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE;

Affirming their adherence to the principles and objectives of the Non-aligned Movement, the two sides emphasised the

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need to strengthen the solidarity of the non-aligned countries to meet the challenge of the present international situation. In this context, they expressed the view that the non-aligned countries should work together to enhance their cooperation for building up their collective self-reliance and contributing to the establishment of the New International Economic Order.

The President of Seychelles and the Prime Minister of India expressed their satisfaction over the steady growth in bilateral relations and cooperation between their respective countries and shared the hope that these ties will be further consolidated and expanded to the mutual benefit of both countries. The Indian side proposed the establishment of a resident Indian diplomatic mission in Mahe with a view to facilitating development of closer ties. The Seychelles side welcomed this initiative and gladly conveyed their concurrence.

The President of Seychelles and his party are visiting Bombay, Baroda, Bangalore, Cochin, Trivandrum and Pune, apart from New Delhi. The President of Seychelles expressed his sincere appreciation for the warm welcome accorded to him during his visit.

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

SEYCHELLES INDIA FRANCE USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

SRI LANKA

Cultural Cooperation Agreement

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 27, 1980:

A cultural cooperation agreement between India and Sri Lanka, signed on November 29, 1977, came into force on May 27, 1980. The instruments of ratification were exchanged at New Delhi between H.E. Mr. T. B. Panabokke, High Commissioner for Sri Lanka, and Shri Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture.

The agreement envisages cooperation in the fields of art, literature, culture, education, sports and games. India and Sri Lanka will promote reciprocal visits of experts and sports teams and exchange of educational, cultural and sports publications, art specimens, exhibitions and replicas of archaeological finds.

The two countries will provide scholarships to each other's students for study in their respective higher education institutions.

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SRI LANKA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1980

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TANZANIA

Air Services Agreement Between India and Tanzania

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 21, 1980:

Air services between India and the United Republic of Tanzania will be introduced next month. Air India and Air Tanzania will be entitled to operate one service each per week between the two countries with B 707 or similar type of aircraft.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today by Mr. E. N. Ole Kambainei, Director of Air-Transport, Ministry of Communications on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania and by Air Marshal Jafar Zaheer, Director General, Civil Aviation on India's behalf. The agreement comes at the end of the 3-day talks between the two countries.

According to the Agreement Air India and Air Tanzania will have flexibility to operate their services through any two intermediate points and also to any two points beyond.

With this, Tanzania becomes the sixth country in Africa with whom India has an air services agreement. The other countries are Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Zambia.

TANZANIA INDIA ETHIOPIA GHANA KENYA NIGER NIGERIA ZAMBIA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

Joint Ventures in Paper and Pulp Industry

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 21, 1980:

A six member Soviet delegation led by H.E. Gennadij F. Pronin, First Deputy Minister in the USSR Ministry of Pulp and Paper Industry, on May 21, 1980 called on the Union Minister of State for Industry,, Dr. Chanranjit Chanana, to discuss the long term economic, commercial, scientific and technical cooperation through joint ventures in the field of paper and pulp in the Third World countries. Discussions covered areas such, as commercial afforestation, effluent treatment, recovery of chemicals and paper machine building.

Dr. Chanana pointed out that in view of the necessity to preserve Indian forests which are being depleted very fast the Government of India would welcome Soviet Cooperation in utilisation of unconventional raw materials such as straws, grasses, waste paper, etc. to produce quality paper and newsprint. He also suggested that as India had made considerable progress in the paper and pulp industry it would be beneficial if the two countries exchange the information on the advances made in both the countries in this particular industry.

Dr. Chanana, envisaged prospects of these two countries cooperating in putting up pulp and paper plants in third countries. He welcomed any assistance that USSR can give in commercial afforestation which would help not only pulp and paper industry based on these forests but also in ecological factors. As newsprint is now being exported by USSR to India, he suggested that to (hell) educational needs of the country, USSR could also consider the possibility of exporting writing and printing paper to India.

USA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Drugs

The following is the, text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 23, 1980:

India and the Soviet Union have agreed on a long-term working programme of co-operation between the two countries in the field of drugs and pharmaceutical industry.

The working programme covering the period until 1985, includes setting up of production facilities for phyto chemicals, insulin, aspirin, chloram-phenicol and codein phosphate from puppy husk.

The agreement was reached at the Fifth Session of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Co-operation and the protocol was signed at New Delhi on May 23, 1980 on behalf of India by Shri K. V. Ramathan, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Fertilisers and on behalf of USSR by Mr. V. A. Dvoryakovsky, Deputy Minister of Medical Industry.

Both India and the USSR have agreed to work jointly for the production of Rifampicin and to exchange information on the production of Vitamin B6.

The two sides have also agreed for the exchange of technological information re-

garding manufacturing of Acetylacetone from Diketene for production of Sulphadimidine at the plants in USSR.

The two sides will exchange information on technological processes for manufacturing semi-synthetic antibiotics, synthetic drugs and vitamins. The items included Riboflavine, Folic Acid, 7 ADCA Cephalosporine, Methacillin, Claxacillin, Carbamicillin, Allopurinol, Sulphamathizole, Chloropropamide and Purines (Xanthines).

The two sides will also examine possibilities of cooperation in setting up of pharmaceutical plants in South East Asia, West Asia, Africa, Latin America and information in this connection will be exchanged on regular basis.

The two countries agreed to explore possibilities of taking up production of formulations in India from bulk drugs made available by USSR for supply to developing countries.

Under the agreement, USSR will give to India requisite technology for the production of a number of latest drugs like Aninalone, Acemin and Nitroxoline.

The Soviet Union indicated a number of drugs which they were importing at present and the Indian side agreed to provide information to them about the Indian formulations which could be exported to them.

The seven-member Soviet delegation of experts during their 9-day stay here visited IDPL plants at Madras, Hyderabad, Gurgaon, Rishikesh and Muzaffarpur.

INDIA USA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 01, 1980

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The following is the text of a press Release issued in New Delhi on May 27, 1980:

The United States will extend to India loan to the tune of \$ 44 million (Rs. 35.20 crores) as part of their development assistance to this country for US financial year 1980.

A project loan agreement to this effect was signed here today.

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The agreement was signed by Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs in the Union Ministry of Finance and Mr. Robert F. Goheen, Ambassador of the United States in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The agreement is an amendment to last year's loan agreement of \$ 22 million for fertilizer promotion, to bring the total loan amount to \$ 66 million. The loan funds are intended to finance the imports of ammonium sulphate, di-ammonium phosphate and urea. The amount is a part of \$ 150 million which may be authorised by the US Government during the years 1979-82 for assisting Government of India in financing imports of fertilizers.

The loan is repayable in 40 years with a 10 year grace period, and carries an interest rate of 2 per cent during the grace period and 3 per cent thereafter.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Condoles, the Death of President Josip

Broz Tito

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, sent the following message of condolence to Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on May 5, 1980:

India is deeply grieved to learn of the passing away of Marshal Josip Broz Tito, a giant of our time.

Yugoslavia has lost its greatest son. The world will miss his towering presence and his sense of mission.

My association with Marshal Tito goes back over many years when, at a critical juncture in the post-war period, he and my father Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundations of non-alignment, providing a forum for, and giving direction to, the newly independent countries of Asia, Africa and the Americas. In my many meetings with President Tito, at home and abroad, I came to value greatly his clear vision, his profound understanding of world forces, and his sincere concern for developing countries, not merely for their economic progress but even more for their attaining and maintaining true independence, without being involved in the rivalries of the super-powers. He was no less concerned with the unity and destiny of his own country, where he aimed at elegance and excellence in all spheres.

President Tito was held in high esteem and affection in India as the leader of the friendly Yugoslav people, an outstanding world statesman, and a maker of history. His sage counsel has guided the Non-Aligned

Movement through some of its turbulent years.

On behalf of the Government and the people of India, and speaking for myself, I offer to Your Excellency and through you to the members of your Government and the people of Yugoslavia our heartfelt condolences.

May I also request Your Excellency to convey my most sincere condolences and sympathy to members of the bereaved family.

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YUGOSLAVIA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement on Passing President Josip Broz Tito

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement on the sad demise of President Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia on May 5, 1980:

We are deeply grieved to learn of the passing away of President Tito after a long illness which he fought with his legendary courage and strong will to the very end. Some of the recent medical bulletins had given us the hope that he might be able to emerge victorious in this struggle but alas, this was not to be.

The people of India held the late Marshal Tito in great esteem, not only as leader of a friendly country also as a close

collaborator of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in laying the foundations of the Non-aligned Movement. The late President Tito made no secret of the very high place which India held in his affection, a feeling which the people and the Government of India reciprocated. He had been to India several times and his last visit was in 1974 during which he received the Nehru Award for International Peace and Understanding.

In his passing away, we mourn the loss not only of a great friend of India but also of a great world statesman, an indomitable fighter for freedom and independence of his people, the builder of modern Yugoslavia and a pillar of strength to the Non-aligned Movement.

YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA

Date : May 01, 1980

Volume No

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YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Pays Homage to President Josip Broz Tito: Meets World Leaders at Belgrade

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 8, 1980:

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, reached Belgrade on May 7 to attend the funeral of Marshal Tito.

Immediately on arrival she met the Yugoslav President, Mr. Lasar Kolisevski and conveyed to him profound sorrow and sympathy of the Indian people at the passing away of Marshal Tito. She said that it was precisely at this moment of world situation that Tito's wisdom would be greatly missed.

AFGHAN SITUATION

At the hour long meeting between Smt. Gandhi and President Kolisevski, the situation in Afghanistan was discussed. Both of them agreed that the chances of a non-aligned initiative to resolve the deadlock should be explored. It was also felt that only a reassertion of Afghanistan's status could enhance the chances of peace returning to the region.

Smt. Indira Gandhi placed a wreath on the coffin of Marshal Tito and paid her homage to the departed leader.

Smt. Gandhi also had a meeting with Chancellor Schmidt of FRG. She told him that the Soviet pull-out could take place only when USSR was reassured that it was not being encircled. It was also felt that arms supply to the rebels in Afghanistan could only further delay the possibility of a Soviet pull-out from the region. In an answer to Mr. Schmidt's suggestion that India could play a mediatory role in Afghanistan, Smt. Gandhi said that India would not shirk such a responsibility. She assured Chancellor Schmidt that India's nuclear intentions were entirely peaceful.

MEETING BREZHNEV, KAUNDA

The Prime Minister had talks with Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, President of U.S.S.R. and Mr. Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia, on May 8, 1980. In her meeting with President Brezhnev, the Soviet Foreign

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Minister, Mr. A. Gromyko and Shri R. D. Sathe, Foreign Secretary of India were also present.

Responding to the Soviet leader's suggestion of a non-aligned initiative on Afghanistan, Smt. Gandhi said that such an initiative should be used only if the movement could steer clear of any divisive tendencies.... Mr. Brezhnev said that U.S.S.R. was aware of India's concern over the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. The main difficulty, he said, was Pakistan's refusal to

have discussions with Afghanistan. Mr. Brezhnev assured Smt. Gandhi that U.S.S.R. attaches importance to the non-aligned movement and he wished that India played its rightful role in world politics.

Smt. Gandhi called on the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. Mrs. Lilian Carter, mother of President Jimmy Carter of U.S.A., also called on the Prime Minister.

Smt. Gandhi also had meetings with Chairman Hua Guo-Feng of China, President Saddam Hussain of Iraq, Prime Minister Ohira of Japan and Mr. Willy Brandt.

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YUGOSLAVIA INDIA AFGHANISTAN USA ZAMBIA PAKISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CHINA IRAQ JAPAN

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Date : Jun 01, 1980

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AUSTRALIA

India, Australia Joint Collaborations

The, following is the text of a Press
Release issued in New Delhi on June 30,
1980:

India and Australia today agreed to
consult each other with regard to the sale
price of iron ore, for which, they felt a
suitable machinery should be evolved to
ensure fair and reasonable return. Australia
indicated that it would like to confer
and consult with other concerned countries
in this matter.

This followed a meeting this morning
between Mr. J. D. Anthony, Australian
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of
Trade and Resources and Shri Pranab
Mukherji, Union Minister for Commerce and
Steel and Mines. The Australian Deputy
Prime Minister is presently on a visit to
India.

The Commerce Minister informed the

visiting dignitary that 10 million people are employed in India in the Handloom Industry while total textile exports from India to Australia form only two per cent of its total textile imports from the world market. He emphasised that Australia should remove all restrictions on imports of handlooms and handicrafts from this country.

Joint collaborations between India and Australia was another subject which came up for discussion during the meeting of the two leaders. They identified that there could be co-operation in Joint Ventures, Consultancy, Equipments Supply, Construction Projects, Design Engineering etc. It was agreed that such organizations which have successfully tendered for contracts abroad or were competent to contract should meet each other and identify areas in which such cooperation could be secured. The Australian Deputy Prime Minister stated that skilled man power could be one of the promising such areas and assured that he would try to persuade representatives of business and industry in his country to visit India to discuss matters concerning such co-operation both in private and public sectors.

AUSTRALIA USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Industrial Cooperation

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 30, 1980:

Bulgaria has offered to import from India sophisticated equipments which it is now obtaining from the West. The offer

was made by H.E. Mr. Grisha Philipov, Head of the visiting Bulgarian Delegation, during his discussion with the Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, this morning. Mr. Philipov said that the Bulgarian delegation which visited various industrial plants in the country has been

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greatly impressed by India's industrial capabilities of which they had not been fully aware so far.

Dr. Chanana conveyed India's desire to expand mutual industrial cooperation between the two countries. It was agreed that specific possibilities and modalities of cooperation may be identified through detailed discussions between the experts of both the sides with a view to matching the complementarities of skills, capacities and technologies in the two countries. He felt that flit, visit of the Bulgarian delegation led by H.E. Mr. Philipov will herald a new era in Indo-Bulgarian relations.

Mr. Philipov suggested that the two countries could usefully cooperate in the field of energy in the wake of the oil crisis. Bulgaria could assist in the transfer of technology for the production of energy from coal. This would include the utilisation of lignite deposits and fossil fuel of low calorific value. Mr. Philipov also said that Bulgaria is interested in establishing a joint venture with India for the manufacture of urea. The other fields in which Bulgaria is prepared to cooperate include mining, electronics, computers. The Bulgarian leader expressed appreciation of the high quality of leather goods manufactured in India and identified the field of finished leather for the establishment of joint production units by both the countries. There is also considerable scope for mutual cooperation in the production of textile machinery.

Dr. Chanana pointed out that India has a diverse and well developed base and is also in a position to offer the latest technology in a number of areas at competitive prices. He also conveyed that India is keen on and committed to the transfer of technology and

establishment of joint ventures. He suggested that India and Bulgaria could gainfully cooperate through the joint execution of projects in third countries. The Minister of State for Industry pointed to the technologies and capacities that India has developed in the field of heavy machine building, mining, textile machinery, power generating equipment, machine tools and computer technology and emphasised the need for programmes of cooperation involving the export of technology and equipment in these sectors to other countries. India is actively involved in the industrial development of the ASEAN region and this cooperation should be extended to cover other countries.

BULGARIA USA INDIA RUSSIA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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CANADA

Canadian Man to India for Oil and Gas Exploration

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 24, 1980:

India and Canada have today signed a development assistance loan agreement between their two governments for C \$ 15.0 million (approximately Rs. 10 crores).

The loan agreement was signed by the Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Shri R. N. Malhotra on behalf of the Government of India and the Canadian High Commissioner to India, Mr. J. G. Hadwen on behalf of the Government of Canada.

The loan will be used to finance the

importation from Canada of oil and gas equipment and directly related services including training, installation, commissioning etc. The equipment and materials will be used by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited for their continuing oil exploration and development programmes.

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The loan is free from any interest, commitment or service charges and is repayable over fifty years with no payments during the first ten years.

This is the third loan Canada has provided to India in the field of oil and gas development. The earlier two loans amounting to C \$ 2 million (1969) and C \$ 15 million (1971-75) were provided for the purchase of oil well casings and equipment, material and service requirements. The new loan is aimed at assisting India, itself an important oil producer with a broadly based equipment industry, to reduce its dependence upon imported petroleum and help it achieve a greater degree of self-sufficiency through more rapid exploration and development of domestic reserves.

CANADA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

China's Military Tie up with USA and Japan

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following Statement in the Rajya Sabha on June 11 1980 in reply to the Caging Attention by Shri G. C. Bhattacharya on China's military

tie up with USA and Japan posing a great threat to peace and security of Asia in general and India in particular:

It is well known that Sino-US relations have made significant advances in recent months. In January this year US Defence Secretary, Mr. Harold Brown visited China making it the first formal contact on military matters between China and USA. During that visit US willingness to transfer dual purpose technology to China was stated. Since then several exchanges have taken place between the American and Chinese defence establishments. Recently the Chinese Vice Premier, Mr. Geng Biao, paid a return visit to USA to continue the dialogue with his US counterpart.

The US Administration has stated that no military alliance is contemplated with China, nor at present does the US Government propose to permit the sale of weapons to China. However, the two sides speak of a common strategic assessment. Further the United States Government has announced its willingness to approve licence applications for export to China of certain items which are described as support equipment. This includes inter-alia certain categories of cargo aircraft and helicopters, certain types of electronic equipment such as search radar systems, communications systems etc.

As far as Japan is concerned the Japanese Premier, Mr. Masayoshi Ohira in a speech delivered by him in Peking in the course of his visit to China in December 1979 stated:

"Japan will not extend cooperation in the military field to any country. China constitutes no exception. This policy is corollary to the cardinal importance that Japan places on its national policy of complete dedication to peace, a Policy which stems from the severe and serious reassessment, on our part of the Second World War".

These developments could undoubtedly have an impact on the security environment

of Asia in general and India in particular. All such developments are kept under constant review by the Government of India with a view to taking such steps as may be necessary to safeguard India's security.

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CHINA JAPAN USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

India's Stand on Afghanistan and Kampuchea

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 12, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, stated in the Lok Sabha today that the bonds between India and the Soviet Union remained as close as ever, and had been most recently reaffirmed by both sides, during my visit to the Soviet Union last week. This relationship had never required the two countries to take identical positions on foreign policy issues, although our judgment, on several matters was often similar.

Shri Rao said that recognition of the Heng Samrin Government was under the active consideration of Government.

The Minister further said. "Our position regarding Afghanistan is well-known. We do not approve of the presence of foreign troops or bases in another country. As such we feel that Afghanistan should maintain its sovereign, independent and non-aligned status. Afghanistan should also be assured

of cessation and non-continuance of external intervention or interference against it."

Shri Rao added: "The situation both in South West and South East Asia is laden with tensions. What we fear most is that they would escalate beyond control as a result of great power confrontation. Our efforts have therefore been directed towards improving the climate, and reversing such a trend. In pursuance of this end, we have held discussions with a large number of foreign Government representatives. Our representatives have also gone to several countries. We feel our efforts have met with some success."

AFGHANISTAN INDIA USA PERU

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Indian Territorial Waters

The following is the, text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 12, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, informed the Lok Sabha today that the territorial waters of India extend to a distance of 12 nautical miles from the baseline.

He added that India had complete sovereignty over the territorial waters of India, its seabed and sub-soil and the air space over such waters. However, all foreign ships (other than warships including submarines and other underwater vehicles) enjoyed the right of innocent passage through the territorial waters of India. Foreign

warships including submarines and other underwater vehicles might enter or pass through the territorial waters of India after giving prior notice to the Central Government.

Shri Rao, in a written reply, further added that the Indian Navy, the Coastguard and the Maritime Collective of the Department of Customs protected our interests in the territorial waters with respect to matters relating to security, the resource and other aspects. and customs and fiscal matters respectively.

INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement in Lok Sabha on His Official Visit to U.S.S.R.

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on June 17, 1980 on his official visit to USSR from June 3 to 7, 1980:

At the invitation of the Government of the USSR, I paid an official visit to the Soviet Union from June 3 to 7, 1980. During my stay in Moscow I was received by President Brezhnev and had an opportunity of exchanging views on matters of interest and concern to our two countries. I had official talks with my colleague, the Foreign Minister of the USSR, Mr. A. A. Gromyko, on a

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wide range of subjects covering both bilateral relations and international affairs.

I also had a meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister of the USSR, Mr. I. V. Arkhipov, who together with me is the Co-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Besides Moscow, I also Visited Leningrad, a city full of historic memories. During my short stay in that city, I had an opportunity of meeting with Mr. G. V. Romanov who heads the regional Communist Party in Leningrad.

MASSIVE RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT

It was my first visit to the Soviet Union, a country which had suffered great devastation in the most destructive war of our times, the Second World War. It was, therefore, a moving experience to witness massive reconstruction, efforts undertaken by that country symbolised by the rise of the city of Leningrad from the ruins.

I would like to place on the Table of the House a copy of the Joint Press Statement issued at the end of my visit. I would also like to share with the Hon'ble Members some of the impressions of my visit. Wherever I went, I was received with great warmth and friendliness which spoke eloquently of the highest esteem in which our country and our people are held. I would also like to share with the House the universal admiration for our Prime Minister and the confidence in her policies which was evident during my visit to the Soviet Union. Our Soviet friends profusely expressed their regard for Smt. Indira Gandhi and respect for her leadership of the Government of India.

CLOSE INDO-SOVIET TIES

My talks with the Soviet leaders were marked by a cordiality and openness which, I dare say, is a measure of the close nature of Indo-Soviet relationship and which admits of no inhibitions or misunderstandings. Fortunately, there are no bilateral problems between our two countries to preoccupy the Foreign Ministers. I did, however, review

in some detail the progress achieved in Indo-Soviet economic, technical and scientific co-operation, since my last meeting with Mr. Arkhipov in February this year. We agreed that the next session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission will be held in New Delhi some time during October or November 1980.

Both in Moscow and in Leningrad, I had an opportunity to visit the Institutes of Oriental Research and meet Soviet Indologists. I was impressed by the depth and breadth of Indological studies, both ancient and modern, in the Soviet Union. The fact that these great institutions, more than a century old, have been engaged in the study and research of different aspects of Indian life, including the preparation of an authoritative version of the Mahabharata - these facts at once place the abiding bonds of interest and understanding between the peoples of India and the Soviet Union in the right historical perspective.

I also visited the Progress Publishing House in Moscow which, along with many other similar Publishing Houses, is engaged in a massive and multifaceted programme of translations of literary works of Indian languages into Russian and vice versa. There is every scope to widen this exchange so as to include all the languages in the Soviet Union. The fact that the books translated into Russian run into 50,000 copies or more and are all sold out within a few days goes to show the depth of knowledge and insight of the Indian scene on the part of the vast Soviet leadership. Needless to say, these offer ample scope for greater and more diversified bilateral cooperation.

SITUATION IN SOUTH WEST ASIA

As the House may recall, the Soviet Foreign Minister had visited India from February 12 to 14 this year when among other things we had discussed in some detail the evolving situation in South West Asia. A number of important developments have taken place both in our region and in the international environment since that visit. The Presidents of the USSR and

France met in Warsaw. The Soviet Foreign Minister and his American counterpart and colleague, the Secretary of State, met in

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Vienna. Therefore, my visit to the Soviet Union, apart from being a protocol visit in return for the visit of the Soviet Foreign Minister, had deeper significance in the context of the developments I have mentioned above.

We discussed international issues generally and I am glad to say that on many of them, there was similarity of views between our two countries. I would, however, like to inform the House about the important and urgent subjects which came up for a detailed exchange of views in Moscow.

REVIVING DETENTE

The Soviet leaders were of the view that the international situation had been aggravated by several provocative moves by the USA. However, as stated above, some meetings have taken place recently between Soviet and Western leaders which appear to mark the resumption of a dialogue which was interrupted earlier this year. More meetings of the same kind are likely to take place. It is reasonable to believe that as a result of these meetings it may be possible to revive detente in Europe say by the beginning of next year. It was my assessment that the Soviet Union shared this expectation on international detente and this finds reflection in our Joint Statement.

Another problem I discussed at length with Mr. Gromyko and subsequently with Mr. Brezhnev was the regional situation in South West Asia.

AFGHAN SITUATION

The Soviet position, as we understand, it was that the Afghan issue had been artificially exaggerated by outside forces and that aggression against Afghanistan was still continuing with the help of well armed and trained insurgents based on Pakistan

territory. The Afghan Government has put forward proposals for a political settlement, the first step in which would have to be a meeting between the representatives of Afghanistan and Pakistan and similarly between the representatives of Pakistan and Iran. Only after direct contacts had been established, could other countries think or participation in the working out of a guaranteed solution. But any talk about the withdrawal of forces without furnishing of complete and reliable guarantees of an end to interference in Afghanistan and without an actual end of such interference would merely hinder the achievement of a solution. At the same time the Soviet leaders left us in no doubt on the Soviet Union's readiness to withdraw troops once a political settlement had been reached.

INDIA'S VIEWS

Our approach to the problem has been as follows: We are opposed to the presence of foreign troops in any country. The Soviet Union had announced that Soviet assistance to Afghanistan was limited in time, purpose and scale and did not present a threat to security and stability in the region. However, reports coming out of Afghanistan during the past few months, even after they are discounted for the inevitable interested propaganda element, do seem to suggest that in view of the situation there, the hope that Soviet assistance to Afghanistan could indeed remain limited in time as originally intended is not very strong.

This is naturally a matter of concern to India as indeed to the others who seek a reduction of tension and a peaceful solution to the problems of the region. It is time for us to ask ourselves the question whether the Soviet troops meant for assisting in Afghanistan have not become, or are not likely to become, a pretext for those who wish to create further instability in that country. Our fear is that beyond a reasonable time frame this could well come to pass and this is why we urge that a stage has come when ways and means, other than military, should be devised to bring about a solution to the problem while this is still

within the range of possibility. The emergence of a political solution in Afghanistan has, therefore, acquired an urgency greater than ever before.

I am sure Hon'ble Members will agree with me when I say that the situation in Afghanistan is evolving so fast that it would be rash for anyone to claim that he has an answer to the problem. For instance, after

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my return from Moscow, the 3-Member Committee proposed by the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference has met in Tehran. In regard to this Committee, while we tended to believe that it would constitute an advance over the previous position of the Islamic Conference, we did not get any clear-cut corroboration of this assessment, while we were in Moscow. On the whole, this Committee seems to have had a mixed reception so far, although allowance has to be made for the extreme nature and appearance of initial public postures on both sides. Again, I have seen press reports from Washington, quoting a Senior U.S. official which would suggest a slight but significant shift in the American position on the subject. We shall not let those uncertainties and ambiguities deter or dampen our efforts to work towards a solution. In such circumstances, it would be too early, if not also inappropriate, to make a definitive assessment of the situation. However, adverting to my visit to the Soviet Union, I must add that the Soviet Union seemed to have fully understood and respected the views held by India, recognising that it is but natural for a non-aligned country like India to have a different perspective on some international questions. I have every reason to believe that the Soviet leadership appreciates our efforts to attain normalisation in and around Afghanistan. This issue has not allowed even the slightest clouding of our bilateral relations; these have indeed grown from strength to strength during the last five months.

CONSENSUS ON DEFUSING TENSION

As the House is aware, the Government has had the benefit of holding consul-

tations with a very large number of countries, both in the region and outside, and the consensus after our consultations - and these include our discussions with the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries of 'Eastern Europe - is that there is a need to prevent escalation of tensions in South West Asia. There is also a recognition all round that the problems can be resolved only through a political solution.

Sir, since I am confining this statement to my visit to the Soviet Union, I shall conclude it with a brief outline of what appears to be the possible directions for a meaningful follow-up. It is obvious that we are too vitally interested in the region to be dismayed or disheartened by the alternating swings of over-reaction and utter scepticism which seem to characterise the opinions of some other countries. We will not give up. The immediate task is to undertake consultations for the limited purpose of getting a dialogue started, without any strict stipulation as to the outcome thereof. This will be our endeavour hereafter, although in view of the stated positions as of today, it is not going to be an easy task. This exercise will also involve a meticulous sifting of global regional and national aspects and their inevitable interaction. However, in the process several other lines of perception would open up for further probe and action leading, hopefully, to the contours of a political solution.

Before I end, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to my Soviet hosts for the warm and cordial hospitality extended to me and to the members of my delegation. This visit marks yet another important stage in the consolidation of relations between our two countries. I am confident that India and the Soviet Union will, in future, continue to cooperate closely, both bilaterally as well as in the international arena.

USA RUSSIA OMAN INDIA FRANCE POLAND AUSTRIA AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN IRAN MALI

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

India's Efforts to Defuse Tension in South Asia

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 19, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, stated in the Lok Sabha on June 19, 1980 that the Government of India had initiated and continued, through diplomatic channels and through bilateral contacts, the process of consultation with a large number of countries with a view to finding ways and means of defusing the situation in the South Asian

131 region and for moving towards creation of conditions that would facilitate a political solution.

The Minister in a written reply added: "Our consultations have convinced us that the Indian view point is well appreciated. An important outcome has been that there has been no escalation in the situation in the past few months. The initial over-reaction of some countries appears to have been modified and there seems to be a realisation that militaristic response is not the answer. Although there is no plan of action or outline of a solution visible so far, there is general agreement that there has to be a negotiated political settlement and in the meantime an observance of restraint by all concerned.

INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Fast Disposal of Visa Applications from Pakistani Nationals

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 19, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, revealed in the Lok Sabha on June 19, 1980 that during the year 1979, the Embassy of India, Islamabad, and Consulate General of India, Karachi, together received 1,90,564 visa applications from Pakistani nationals and granted visas to 1,93,255 which included 5038 visas granted by Indian Embassy, Islamabad, on the basis of applications received prior to 1979.

Shri Rao in a written reply said that with a view to minimise any inconvenience to Pakistani nationals seeking Indian visas, the Government of India constantly review ways and methods to facilitate the issue of visas, such as sending additional staff etc. when necessary to help expedite the disposal of visa applications by our Missions.

He added: "The office of the Consul General of India at Karachi, which dealt with more than 75 per cent of the total number of visa applications from the Pakistani nationals, has started granting visas to most applicants either on the same day or on the day after the receipt of visa applications. As such, Pakistani nationals are not facing any serious problems".

PAKISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

China's Attitude for Normalisation of Relations with India

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 20, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, stated in the Rajya Sabha today that in their public pronouncements and in bilateral conversations, Chinese leaders had expressed their desire to improve relations with India on many occasions. At the highest levels, during his meeting with the Prime Minister, Chinese Premier Hua Guofeng said that China was ready to continue her efforts to improve relations with India.

Shri Rao added that the Government's policy was outlined in the President's address to Parliament on January 23, 1980, in which he stated:

"India remains willing to discuss all issues with China, including the boundary question, in search of a peaceful solution based on equality. We hope to progress also as regards bilateral exchanges".

The Minister further added that as part of the exploratory dialogue on normalisation of relations the Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Eric Gonsalves, was paying a visit to Peking at present. He hoped that we would be able to receive the Foreign Minister of China in India later this year.

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CHINA INDIA MALI USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

High Credit Rating for Common Fund Urged

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 17, 1980:

The Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, has pointed out that the Common Fund, proposed to be set up for tackling the problems of price stabilisation of commodities in regard to export earnings of developing countries, can be meaningful only if it enjoys a high credit rating in the international capital markets so as to be able to borrow at the most favourable terms and lend at attractive rates to the international commodities organisations. The Minister was making a statement on behalf of India at the Fourth Session of the Negotiating Conference on Common Fund, which began at Geneva yesterday.

Shri Mukherjee's participation in this decisive phase of negotiations was preceded by a request from Dr. Gamani Corea, Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, for a high-level representation from India in consideration of this country's leadership in the Group of 77 and the initiative taken by India both in the formulation and in the negotiations relating to the Common Fund. The Indian delegation to the Session include Shri A. S. Gill, Commerce Secretary and Shri N. K. Singh, Special Assistant to the Minister.

In his address, the Minister pointed out that the role of the guarantees and guaran-

tee capital promised by the participants in the international commodities organisations, associated with the Fund was crucial. Unless these guarantees and guarantee capital were fully 'available to back the borrowing of the Fund the credit standing of the Fund was bound to be affected. He urged participants in the Session to approach this issue purely from the point of view of viability of the Fund.

NEW ORDER

Shri Mukherjee said that he was happy to participate in the Conference at a time when the negotiations for the realisations of this important aspiration of the developing countries had reached the final stages. In adopting the fundamental elements in March, 1979, the international community demonstrated its political will to give concrete shape to the Common Fund. The Minister hoped that a similar standing and cooperation would be demonstrated during the present Conference to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion.

Shri Mukherjee said that India viewed the Common Fund as a measure of the readiness of the international community to solve the global economic problems in a spirit of mutual understanding. This institution, when it emerged, would constitute a significant step towards the new international economic order.

The Minister, however, pointed out that the Common Fund would not solve all the problems of the commodities. But, if strong and effective, it would be a useful instrument in stabilising the commodity markets and for improving the export earnings of developing countries through research and development and, productivity improvements, market promotions and vertical diversification, he added.

Referring to the long and protractive negotiations for the Common Fund over the last few years, Shri Mukherjee said that now a stage had been reached when any further delay in the actual establishment of the Fund would frustrate the developing

countries considerably. There was danger that the momentum generated so far would

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be dissipated if the present Session was not concluded successfully, he said.

NAIROBI RESOLUTION

The Commerce Minister said that the developing countries had been anxious to ensure that Common Fund had the necessary capacity to inspire the formation of new international commodity arrangements. The Nairobi resolution on the Integrated Programme for Commodities had given rise to a hope that agreements in a number of commodities would be arrived at before UNCTAD-V. However, with the exception of rubber these hopes were belied.

There had been an agreement on sugar, but its coverage had fallen far short of expectations, he said.

Shri Mukherjee said that although modest progress had been made in respect of Jute and coir, the progress was insufficient in a number of commodities in which the need for stabilisation on price and other measures had been recognised. He pointed out that India believed that once the Common Fund was established, it would provide the necessary impulse for the conclusion of more Commodities Arrangements.

SECOND WINDOW

The Commerce Minister said that it was essential to start the Fund with adequate resources. The cash resources were particularly relevant for the Second Window Operations. It was hoped that the 70 million dollars to be contributed directly by the Government and the voluntary contributions aggregating at least 280 million dollars would be available to the second account very soon after the Fund was established so that Second Window to which most of the developing countries attached very great significance, became fully and effectively operational. He recalled that considering the importance of the second account for the developing countries, India had already an-

nounced a voluntary contribution of 5 million dollars for this purpose.

INDIA UNITED KINGDOM SWITZERLAND USA KENYA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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IRAN

Ministerial Level Indo-Iran Talks on Expansion of Cooperation

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 13, 1980:

India and Iran have agreed that bilateral cooperation could be further expanded in the sectors of food and agriculture, drugs and pharmaceuticals, supply of engineering goods, provision of consultancy services and training of managerial personnel. This was decided in the discussions between Indian and Iranian trade delegations held here between June 9-13, 1980.

The Indian delegation to the talks was led by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister for Commerce and Steel and Mines and the Iranian delegation by Mr. Raza Sadr, Minister of Commerce. The two Ministers signed the Agreed Minutes of the discussion between the delegations, here today.

Mr. Reza Sadr also extended an invitation to Shri Mukherjee to visit Iran at the earliest opportunity. The invitation was accepted and the dates for the visit would be decided through mutual consultation.

MEETING IRAN'S NEEDS

Iranian side has expressed interest in purchasing from India items like iron and

steel products including pipes, textiles, spare-parts, industrial raw materials, paper and agricultural products like wheat, barley, rice, maize, sugar and animal feed. The Indian side noted Iran's interests in these commodities and provided immediate in-

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formation in areas of surpluses. The Iranian delegation was assured that subject to its own domestic requirement, India would make efforts to meet the needs of Iran.

During the talks, both sides were in agreement on the desirability of strengthening bilateral commercial and economic links for their mutual benefit. It was decided in course of the discussions that a Committee on Trade, in terms of the Trade Agreement of 1974, would be constituted and it would meet at appropriate levels alternatively at Tehran and New Delhi. It was also agreed to have an exchange of delegations comprising various sectors of industry and commerce of the two countries for further discussions with their counterparts and identification of specific areas of cooperation and trade exchanges. There would also be close collaboration between industrial units and Export Promotion Councils in India and the Nationalised Industries Organisation of Iran, it was decided.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The Indian side referred to the experience acquired by India in the development and application of technology and emphasised the scope for expanding cooperation between the two countries through transfer of appropriate technologies. It was pointed out that India could supply a wide range of engineering equipment and machinery for various industrial products ranging from the small-scale sector to the heavy capital goods sector.

The Indian side offered to assist Iran in the transfer of technology, accompanied by comprehensive assistance that would include training of Iranian technical personnel in Iran as well as in India, and consultancy and management services. The Iranian side

stated that technology was required not only for new projects but also for existing industrial plants in Iran.

Both sides identified several areas of industrial cooperation, such as the automotive and commercial vehicles industry, automotive ancillaries, tyres and tubes, refrigeration systems, oil refineries and petrochemicals, machine tools and electrical equipments, power plants, the construction industry and establishment of industrial estates.

Cooperation was offered by India in the small-scale sector and for the establishment of industrial estates in Iran to cover a wide range of products. The Iranian side expressed great interest in collaborating with India in this field and stated that Iran attached priority to the setting-up of industries in the small-scale sector.

Issues relating to the Kudremukh Project were also discussed. The Iranian side stated that they would communicate the points raised by the Indian delegation on this project to the appropriate authorities in Iran. The Indian delegation which is scheduled to visit Tehran in July, 1980, would follow-up on these talks with a view to resolving the pending difficulties.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT

The two sides identified broad areas for widening bilateral cooperation in the field of shipping. Iran sought Indian assistance in the manufacture and supply of a variety of dredgers, barges, launches and other port equipment, as well as spare parts for vessels of different makes, repair facilities, development, training of port personnel and consultancy services. The Indian side agreed to extend necessary assistance, wherever possible.

Both sides agreed on the need to strengthen the Iran-o-Hind Shipping Company. The Iranian side recommended that priority should be given by the Company to transportation of cargoes between the two countries. It further stated that Iran-o-

Hind were in need of suitable additional ships and suggested that India could assist by providing appropriate vessels on charter basis.

The Iranian side indicated that it was for Iran-o-Hind, a joint shipping company, to look into the matter and take appropriate measures at commercial level. The Indian side felt that Iran-o-Hind might not only consider chartering but also acquisition of more vessels, and indicated the possibility of building of more vessels in Indian ship-yards if specific proposals were made.

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The Iranian side took note of the capability of the Indian Roads Construction Corporation and the Dredging Corporation of India to undertake consultancy in specific fields.

In the railways sector, both sides agreed that cooperation would be developed between the two countries in supplies by India to Iran of railway equipment and spares, services and maintenance, and training of personnel. A specific list of requirements of the Iranian State Railways was made available to the Indian side, including rehabilitation of ISR tracks, repair of damaged locomotives and supplies of locomotives parts. The Indian side assured immediate examination of these proposals.

AGRICULTURE

The Iranian side expressed interest in cooperation with India in the field of agricultural machinery, such as, power tillers, ploughs, threshers, combines and plant protection machinery; animal husbandry and cattle upgrading; veterinary health services, including measures adopted in India to control animal disease and sheep breeding. Iran have also evinced interest in cooperation in fisheries, including education and training of personnel, fishing processing, fisheries survey and fisheries craft and gear.

The Indian side agreed to provide whatever assistance possible to Iran in these

fields.

TRAINING IRANIAN SCIENTISTS

Iran also sought Indian assistance in the fields of planning, science and technology. The possible fields of cooperation which were considered during the meeting were training in India of Iranian scientists and engineers at post-doctorate levels with specific reference to basic research and applied science; providing expert Indian man-power to Iran for the purpose of studying the problems associated with industrial, agricultural, health and infrastructural installations with a view to recommending appropriate solutions; study by India of the existing scientific research potentials of Iran in order to recommend the most suitable manner of their utilization: and exchange of scientific periodicals and literature published in both countries.

The seventeen member Iranian delegation, which participated in the talks, include Deputy Minister dealing with economic, international and cultural affairs: foreign trade; coordination and parliamentary affairs; roads and transportation; ports and shipping organisation; Iranian State Railways and industries and mines.

The Indian delegation to the talks include Secretary, External Affairs, and Secretary, Civil Supplies, and other senior representatives from the Ministries of Commerce, Civil Supplies, Petroleum and Chemicals, Steel and Mines, Shipping and Transport and Kudremukh Project and Shipping Corporation of India.

India's exports to Iran in 1978-79 were worth Rs. 92.48 crores. India's imports from Iran in the same year were worth Rs. 348.51 crores.

Our major exports to Iran include tea and Spices, minerals, chemical elements and compounds, engineering goods, iron and steel, textiles and leather manufactures. Our imports from Iran consist mainly of petroleum and petroleum products, besides sulphur and dry fruits.

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

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IRAN

Air Agreements with Iran and North

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 12, 1980:

India and Iran have signed an air services agreement providing for two services per week between Bombay and Tehran. According to the agreement both sides will be entitled to operate the services with B 707. Iran Air will be introducing B 747 from July 1, 1980.

The agreement was signed in Tehran on June 10, 1980 when an Indian team

136 visited Tehran for the purpose. Air Marshal Jafar Zaheer, DG, Civil Aviation signed the agreement on India's behalf and General Bagheri, Deputy Minister of Road and Transportation and Administrator of Civil Aviation Organisation on behalf of Iran.

Earlier Air Marshal Jafar Zaheer had signed an agreement with Mr. Hamid Al Qumasi, Vice-Chairman of Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority of North Yemen. The agreement provides for one service per week between Bombay and Sanaa by Air India and Yemen Airways with B 707 aircraft.

IRAN INDIA YEMEN

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Loan to India

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 7, 1980:

Japan will extend to India loan for an amount of Yen 8.6 billion (equivalent to Rs. 28.76 crores at the current exchange rate) for the Bombay Offshore Oil Field Development Project.

Notes to this effect were exchanged here today between Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs of the Union Ministry of Finance, Government of India and His Excellency Mr. Tsuneo Oyake, Charge d'Affaires, Japanese Embassy, New Delhi, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The loan is in response to the request made by the Government of India and in accordance with the pledge made by the Government of Japan at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in Paris in June, 1979 with a view to further contributing to the economic development of India.

At the meeting, the Government of Japan pledged loans to India for a total amount of Yen 27.6 billion for five projects.

JAPAN INDIA FRANCE

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

Air Services Agreement between India and Pakistan

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 30, 1980:

India and Pakistan signed an agreement here today, providing for the use of wide-bodied aircraft on Delhi-Karachi and Bombay-Karachi routes. Mr. M. Y. Wazirzada, Director General, Civil, Aviation signed the agreement on behalf of Pakistan and Shri C. M. Chaturvedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation signed on behalf of India.

Pakistan International Air lines will operate three services in a week with Air Bus or D.C.-10 aircraft on Bombay-Karachi route. Reciprocally Indian Air lines will operate three services per week with Air bus. In addition to this, Pakistan International Air lines and Indian Air lines will operate one service per week with Boeing 707.

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On Delhi-Karachi route, Pakistan International Air lines will be entitled to operate two services per week by Air bus or D.C.-10. Indian Air lines will be entitled to operate four services per week with B-737 in lieu of the Air bus.

On Delhi-Lahore route, both Pakistan International Air lines and Indian Air lines will be entitled to operate two services per week with any air craft with the capacity of B-707.

The agreement comes into effect immediately.

At present Pakistan International Air lines and Indian Air lines operate nine services each per week between the two countries with B-707 and B-737 respectively.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Economic and Trade Relations

The following is the, text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 17, 1980:

H.E. Mr. Ioan Avran, Minister for Building Industry in the Romanian Government, expressed his Government's desire to promote economic and trade relations between India and Romania, when he called on Dr. Charanjit Chanana, Minister for Industry, today. The Romanian Minister was accompanied by Romanian Ambassador Mr. Niculescu and other officers. Dr. Chanana reciprocated the Romanian desire by indicating that India too was equally keen to strengthen economic relations with friendly countries.

The Romanian Minister specifically referred to machine tools industry, production of locomotives, cement, oil drilling equipment, and pumps used for the oil industry during his meeting with Dr. Chanana. The Industry Minister welcomed the Romanian suggestions and expressed the hope that wherever possible the two countries would strive to cooperate for mutual benefit and this cooperation might even include exports to third countries.

Dr. Chanana informed the Romanian

Minister that in many fields including those mentioned by the Romanian side India had attained an appreciable degree of self-reliance and India was already transferring advanced technology to third countries. The Romanian Minister extended an invitation to Dr. Chanana to visit Romania as early as possible.

OMAN ROMANIA INDIA USA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

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ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade and Industrial Cooperation

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 19, 1980:

Romania has expressed interest in assisting India in various projects such as setting up of thermal power plants, iron-ore pelletisation plant in Kudremukh, and integrated iron and steel works at Paradeep. This was said by the visiting Romanian Minister of Machine Building Industry, Mr. Ioan Avran, when he called on the Union Minister for Commerce, Steel and Mines, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, here today.

The discussion between the two Ministers covered a wide range of subjects regarding economic and trade relations between

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India and Romania. The Romanian Minister also offered to assist India in production co-operation projects in the fields of locomotives, wagon building, heavy water plant and fertiliser plant. The Commerce Minister appreciated these offers and said that the

experts of both the countries could discuss the feasibility and other aspects of these projects.

Possibilities of joint ventures between Romanian companies and Indian companies, both in public and private sectors, was also discussed during the meeting. Mr. Avran mentioned about an Indo-Romanian joint venture project in rolling mill being set up at Zambia. Shri Mukherjee said that an expert group might work out details of such joint venture projects in consultation with the chambers of commerce and industry of both the countries.

DOUBLING OF TRADE

The Commerce Minister stressed the need of renewing the Trade and Payments Agreement within the two countries on a long term basis incorporating the object of doubling the trade turn-over between the two countries. The current Trade and Payments Agreement with Romania, which was concluded in December, 1975, is valid upto the end of the year and efforts are being made to renew it for another five years. The trade between the two countries are being conducted in non-convertible Indian rupee. The two Ministers were of the view that these issues should be discussed in the next meeting of the Indo-Romanian Joint Commission, scheduled to be held during September or October this year.

India's two-way trade with Romania has increased from Rs. 3.8 crores in 1950, when the first trade agreement between the two countries was signed, to Rs. 72.1 crores in 1978. The estimated volume of two-way trade in 1979 were Rs. 131.1 crores. The trade plan provision for 1980 was worth Rs. 219.4 crores.

The commodities proposed to be exchanged between the two countries comprise of a product-mix of both traditional and non-traditional items. The main items included in the trade protocol for 1980 are iron ore, coffee, jute manufactures, pepper, engineering goods, machine tools, finished leather, mica, cotton textiles and electronic

components on the exports side and fertilisers, newsprint, cement, rolled steel products and drilling equipment on the imports side.

INDIA'S EXPORTS

India's main export to Romania consists of iron ore which accounts for almost 70 per cent of our trade with that country. Romania is, in fact, the second largest importer of Indian iron ore after Japan. During 1978-79, Romania lifted 3.2 million tonnes of iron ore upto the end of June, 1979, against a firm contract of 3.8 million tonnes. The contract for 1979-80 has already been signed under which Romania is to import almost 4 million tonnes of iron ore.

On the imports side, India's major imports item from Romania is fertilisers, mainly urea, and Calcium Ammonium Nitrate. For 1979-80 a contract has been signed for the supply of 2.5 lakh tonnes of urea in bulk and bags. As regards CAN a trial shipment of 10,250 tonnes was made under a contract signed in 1978-79. For the year 1979-80 a new contract for the import of 1.9 lakh tonnes has been signed and a shipment of 7000 tonnes has so far been made.

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OMAN ROMANIA USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM ZAMBIA RUSSIA JAPAN

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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SENEGAL

India to Establish Industrial Estates in Senegal

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 18,

1980:

A five-member Indian Industrial Delegation led by Shri Hemant Singh, Director, Department of Heavy Industry, which arrived in Dakar on 7th June had concluding discussions with the Senegalese Minister for Industrial Development Sheikh Hamidou Kane on June 13, 1980. Earlier the delegation had detailed discussions with senior officials in concerned Departments, Managers of State and Private Sector organizations and visited a large number of industrial establishments.

The delegation identified areas of concrete cooperation which, inter-alia, include establishment of industrial estates and small scale industries, handicraft centres, diversification of products to utilize installed industrial capacity etc.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

HMT has started work on feasibility report for manufacture of irrigation pumps in Senegal. WAPCOS consultancy services for projects in Senegal and for projects undertaken by OMVS authority for the development of Senegal river basin were also offered. Discussions were also held for sale of cine equipment and hessian cloth.

This is the first ever delegation of this kind to visit French speaking West Africa and was undertaken within the framework of the protocol signed after the visit of the Senegalese Minister for Industrial Development to India in April 1979. The delegation would also visit Bomako (MALI) for a few days.

SENEGAL INDIA USA RUSSIA LATVIA MALI

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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Following is the text of the opening statement made by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at his press conference in Moscow on June 6, 1980:

I would like to begin by welcoming you to this informal gathering. Now that my present visit is coming to an end, I thought that it would be useful to meet with you and have an exchange of views and ideas. I would like to recount in general terms the highlights of this visit to you and the main points of my discussions with the Soviet leaders.

As you would know, I have had fairly extensive discussions with Mr. Gromyko on the third of June on Indo-Soviet Relations and the current international situation with special reference to points of mutual concern and interest.

The General Secretary of the CPSU and the President of the Soviet Union, Mr. Brezhnev, was kind enough to receive me earlier today and we had detailed and useful discussions. I also had the opportunity of exchanging views in some detail about Soviet economic, scientific, industrial and technological cooperation with Deputy

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Prime Minister, Mr. Arkhipov, who is In counterpart as Co-Chairman of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission.

An interesting aspect of my visit was a day-long trip to Leningrad and my meetings and discussions with the leadership of the Leningrad region and specially with Mr. Romanov, Member of the Politbureau from that region.

I should like to put on record my warm appreciation and thanks for the gracious

hospitality shown and fine arrangements made for me and my delegation during this visit. This is characteristic of the tradition in which the Soviet leadership has been receiving friends from India over a number of years.

EXPANDING COOPERATION

My discussions with Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Arkhipov, covered all aspects of the Indo-Soviet co-operation and joint efforts in the economic and scientific field, and we agreed that the Governments of India and Soviet Union should continue their endeavours to improve these relations in range and content in a manner responsive to India's developmental needs and to the mutual benefit of the Indian and Soviet people. India values Soviet contributions and cooperation to its socioeconomic efforts, which has stood the test of time.

My discussions with Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Gromyko reaffirmed the enduring basis or which the edifice of Indo-Soviet friendship has been built, namely, on the principles of mutual respect, peaceful co-existence and regard for each other's concern and points of view on bilateral and international matters.

These discussions also underlined the significant contribution that Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation can make to the cause of world peace and stability within the frame work of the above mentioned principles. As far as India is concerned, these discussions re-emphasised the importance that we attach to our relations with the Soviet Union.

We are confident that our relations will continue to develop on the traditional positive lines.

An important part of my discussions with the Soviet leadership naturally was devoted to the situation in India's neighbourhood in Afghanistan and in Iran. Developments in this area are a matter of concern to India in the context of its proximity to our international borders. Recent deve-

lopments in the re-ion have resulted in an acknowledged deterioration of the overall international situation.

TOWARDS POLITICAL SOLUTION

India's concern regarding these developments has been expressed and conveyed over the last five months in public forums as well as in bilateral discussions with leaders of different countries, including the leaders of the Soviet Union. Though, it is a matter of some satisfaction that India's efforts at generating a dialogue among all parties concerned has defused the situation somewhat, the situation in the region remains tense.

My discussions in Moscow were a continuation of the process of dialogue in which India is engaged. During these discussions I conveyed our assessment of the various proposals mooted from different quarters for a political solution to the situation in Afghanistan. This included the assessment of the latest proposals put forward by the Government of Afghanistan on May 14. We have also taken note of the evaluation of these proposals given by the Soviet leadership. The Soviet Union appreciates India's constructive approach regarding the Afghan situation. These discussions have also clearly recognised that the problems of South West Asia be resolved only through a political settlement.

In these discussions as well as in dealing with the situation, I must emphasise that India's particular concern is that the countries in our neighbourhood should preserve and strengthen their independence, sovereignty and non-alignment. My discussions in Moscow have been useful and we look forward to continuing exchange of ideas with our Soviet friends.

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RUSSIA USA OMAN INDIA AFGHANISTAN IRAN

Date : Jun 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 7, 1980.

At the invitation of the Government of the USSR, the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, paid an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union from June 3 to 7, 1980.

During his stay in Moscow the Minister of External Affairs of India laid wreaths at the Mausoleum of V. I. Lenin and at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

In addition to Moscow, the Indian Minister and his party visited Leningrad.

The Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, was received by Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, to whom he conveyed greetings from the President and the Prime Minister of India.

Talks were held with Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR.

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao also had a meeting with Mr. I. V. Arkhipov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and Co-Chairman of the Inter-Governmental Indo-Soviet Commission of Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

The talks and discussions were conducted in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The two sides reviewed the development of their bilateral relations and also a wide range of international questions of mutual interest. They agreed to continue in future as well exchanging views on such questions through appropriate contacts.

Both sides noted with satisfaction that relations between India and the Soviet Union contributed to peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world. They are based on friendship, equality and mutual trust and are developing in the spirit of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation.

The two sides reviewed the progress of long-term agreements encompassing the key, sphere-, and directions of Indo-Soviet cooperation.

The two sides reiterated their determination to continue developing and strengthening in every way the close relations between India and the USSR in the interest of the two peoples.

Having exchanged views on major international problems the two sides noted with satisfaction that the positions of India and the Soviet Union on the questions discussed were close.

PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE

India and the Soviet Union reaffirmed their conviction that the process of international detente should be extended to all regions of the globe and reaffirmed their adherence to the principles of peaceful co-existence and mutually beneficial and equal cooperation among States. They expressed their firm resolve to continue and support the struggle for ending the arms race and against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism and all forms of domination.

The Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao thanked the leadership of the Soviet Union for the

warm welcome and cordial hospitality extended to him and members of his delegation during his stay in the Soviet Union.

On behalf of the Indian leaders he conveyed an invitation to Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, to pay an official visit to India. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

The Minister of External Affairs extended an invitation to Mr. A. A. Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the Central

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Committee of the CPSU and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR, to pay an official visit to India. The invitation was also accepted with gratitude.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the results of the visit to the Soviet Union by the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao and consider them a positive contribution to the development of mutual understanding and friendship between the Soviet Union and India.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Jun 01, 1980

Volume No

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Development Assistance Agreements Signed

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on June 30, 1980:

Under two agreements signed here today, the United States will extend credit totalling \$35 million (Rs. 28.00 crores) to India as part of U.S. Development Assistance to this country for US Financial Year 1980.

The agreements were signed by Shri S. N. Kao, Director in the Department of Economic Affairs in the Union Ministry of Finance and Mr. Archer K. Blood, United States Charge d'Affaires in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The first agreement will provide a loan of \$ 15 million (Rs. 12 crores) for the construction of new, continuing and upgrading of ongoing, and modernization of existing medium irrigation projects in Rajasthan over the next five years. The loan amount will be utilised to meet the local currency cost of the project.

Under the second agreement the US will provide a loan of \$ 20 million (Rs. 16 crores) which will be on-lent by the Government of India to ARDC (Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation) for support of its programme to refinance lending by credit institutions for eligible minor irrigation activities in minor irrigation schemes approved by ARDC. At least half the amount of the loan is to be utilised to refinance loans to small farmers.

The loans are repayable in 40 years including a 10-year grace period and carry an interest rate of 2 per cent per annum during the grace period and 3 per cent per annum, thereafter.

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JAPAN SENEGAL

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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AUSTRIA

Austrian Assistance to India: Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a Press
Release issued in New Delhi on July 18,
1980:

Austria will extend credit assistance of
A. Shillings 27.651 million (equivalent to
Rs. 1.76 crores) to India to be used for the
import of capital goods of Austrian origin.

An agreement to this effect was signed
here today by Shri A. G. Asrani, Joint

Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Dr. George B. Hennig, Austrian Ambassador in India, on behalf of their respective Governments.

The Austrian assistance will be in the form of a loan to be repaid over a period of 30 years, including a grace period of 10 years, on an annual interest rate of two per cent.

As a member of the Aid India Consortium, Austria has been extending financial assistance to India since 1962-63. The credits extended by Austria have been in the nature of Government credits and Suppliers' credits. The major items of equipment imported from Austria include iron and steel items, equipment for power projects, gas cylinders, railway and chemical plant equipment, roller and ball bearings, microscopes and injection moulding machines.

The terms of Australian credit have softened over the years both in terms of repayment and rate of interest.

AUSTRIA USA INDIA AUSTRALIA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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BANGLADESH

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission Meet

The following is the text of the joint Press Release issued Simultaneously from Dacca and New Delhi at the conclusion of the 19th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission in Dacca on July 11, 1980:

The nineteenth meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held in Dacca from July 8 to 11, 1980. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Kedar Pandey, Minister of irrigation, Government of India and the Bangladesh delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Kazi Anwarul Huque, Minister for Power Water Resources and Flood Control, Government of Bangladesh.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere. It was agreed to make redoubled efforts to find a mutually acceptable solution on the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga and the sharing of the Teesta waters, and so far the former is concerned particularly keeping in view the man-

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date given to Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) under the Farakka Agreement. It was further agreed to continue the discussion of the JRC and where necessary at other levels towards this objective in a spirit of understanding and good neighbourly relations.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Commission will be held by the end of August, 1980.

BANGLADESH USA INDIA LATVIA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Memorandum and Protocol Signed

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 1, 1980:

At the invitation of the Government

of India, a Bulgarian Government Economic Delegation, led by Mr. Grisha Philipov, Member of the Politburo and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Member of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria visited India from June 20 to July 2, 1980.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. Philipov was received by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the Vice-President of India, Shri M. Hidayatullah, and the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. Mr. Philipov handed over a message from the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Todor Zhivkov, addressed to the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi.

Mr. Philipov held wide-ranging discussions with the Minister of External Affairs of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, and the Ministers of Commerce, Agriculture, Shipping and Transport, Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals, and the Ministers of State for Industry and Defence and the Speaker of Lok Sabha.

A Memorandum of Discussions was signed between the Minister of External Affairs and Mr. Philipov on July 1, 1980. This Memorandum indicates the directions in which both sides will examine the possibilities of formulating certain basic guidelines for increasing bilateral cooperation in the economic, trade, industrial, scientific and technical fields. Experts from both sides will meet' in 1980-81 to identify specific areas for the formulation of these basic guidelines.

Coinciding with the visit of Mr. Philipov, the Fifth Session of the Indo-Bulgarian Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation was also held from June 21 to July 1, 1980. The Protocol of the Fifth Session was signed on July 1 by the Indian Co-Chairman, Rao Birendra Singh and the Bulgarian Co-Chairman, Mr. Toncho Chakarov, Minister of Machine Building.

NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION

This Protocol, apart from reviewing the progress of the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the 4th Session of the Joint Commission held in Sofia. In 1978 has identified certain new areas of cooperation in the fields of machine building and heavy industry, electrical engineering industry, electronics and communications, metallurgy and mineral resources, light industry and chemical and pharmaceutical industry.

In regard to trade exchanges, it has been agreed to by both the sides that there are good possibilities for further expansion

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of commercial relations and that they should strive for achieving substantial growth in trade exchanges during the period 1981-85.

Both sides had expressed an interest in entering into long-term contracts for the supply of iron ore, leather and leather manufactures, textiles, earth-moving equipment, pharmaceuticals from India and supply from Bulgaria of nitrogenous fertilisers, soda ash, chemical and pharmaceutical products, ship and port equipment, products of metallurgical engineering and electrical industries.

BULGARIA INDIA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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BULGARIA

Indo-Bulgarian Trade to be Expanded Manifold

The following is the text of a Press

Release issued in New Delhi on July 1, 1980:

India and Bulgaria today agreed to expand their trade manifold during the next few years, keeping in view the complementarities existing between the economies of the two countries. In order to achieve this, Bulgaria offered to make large scale purchases from India of items and equipments including sophisticated ones, which hitherto, it had been purchasing from the Western markets.

This followed a meeting this afternoon between Mr. Grisha Philipov, head of the visiting Bulgarian delegation and Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce and Steel and Mines.

It was agreed that the expansion of trade should be on a mutually advantageous basis, for which Long-term Trade Arrangements should be considered. Both the leaders agreed that the experts of the two countries, should meet to work out the modalities of such Arrangements.

The visiting dignitary appreciated the vast industrial infrastructure built up by India and showed his country's keen interest in getting into varied collaboration with India, which should meet not only the requirements of the markets in the two countries but may also be in a position to cater for the third country markets. Particular interest was shown by the Bulgarian dignitary in the field of Indian machinery, railway equipments, electronics, agricultural development and encouragement of tourism in each other's country. Bulgaria also showed interest in purchasing iron-ore from India.

Shri Mukherjee emphasised that besides making an effort to improve the volume of trade, attempts should also be made to diversify the trade between the two countries.

The Indo-Bulgarian trade has been characterised by the exchange of a handful of commodities. Bulgarian exports consist mainly of urea, steel and chemical products

and India's exports are largely confined to jute manufactures, pepper, groundnut cakes, iron ore, hides and skins, manganese ore and textiles. Of late, India has been able to make a break through in her exports of a variety of items, such as heavy earth moving equipment, rolled steel products, leather and leather products, machine tools and commercial vehicles etc.

BULGARIA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM USA RUSSIA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement on Reported Chinese Offer to Settle Border Problem

The following is the text of the statement by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in the Lok Sabha on July 2, 1980 regarding the reported Chinese offer to settle the border problem on the basis of the present line of actual con-

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trol. He was replying to a Calling Attention Notice by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and four others:

Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping of the People's Republic of China met an Indian journalists oil June 21, 1980. According to the official Chinese News Agency Xinhua, on the settlement of the border problem, following is an extract of his statement:

"So long as both sides are sincere, respect the present state of the border, and are tolerant towards each other, the Sino-Indian boundary question can be solved through peaceful negotiations. As a matter of fact, ever since nego-

tiations on boundary question began, China has never asked for the return of all the territory illegally incorporated into India by the old colonialists. Instead, China suggested that both countries should make concessions, China in the East Sector and India in the West Sector, on the basis of the actually controlled border line so as to solve the Sino-Indian boundary question in a package plan, thus fully demonstrating the spirit of mutual understanding and concessions".

Similar suggestions have been made to us on earlier occasions by the Chinese Government. This time it is somewhat more precise. The Government of India has never accepted the premise on which it is based, namely, that the Chinese side are making a concession in the Eastern sector by the giving up of territory which they allege is illegally incorporated into India. Nevertheless we welcome the prospect of the Eastern Sector being settled without any particular difficulty.

POSITIVE STEP

As the House is aware, the India-China boundary question is long-standing and complex. After a considerable lapse of time our two Governments have only just begun to come to grips with it once more. This itself is a positive step. It may be that ways other than the package solution suggested by the Chinese Government could prove more effective. In any event, I am sure the House will agree that we should proceed forward meaningfully while also keeping our best interests in mind.

It is our hope that we can settle the border question in the spirit of Five Principles of peaceful co-existence consistent with the national honour and interest on both sides and on a basis of equality.

In the course of the same interview Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping had also indicated a strong desire for the improvement and extension of relations between India and China as this would undoubtedly exercise

positive influence in world affairs and Asian affairs in particular. We fully reciprocate these sentiments.

VANUATU CHINA INDIA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

India Reciprocates Chinese Desire to Have Friendly Relations: Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement

The Minister Of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on July 31, 1980 regarding press reports to the effect that Peking appears to be back-sliding by disputing India's stand on McMahon Line as boundary between India and China. This was in reply to a Calling Attention by Shri Ghulam Rasool Kochack and four others:

According to press reports, the concerned Indian journalist has issued a clarification to the effect that his interview with Mr. Wang Bingnan, President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, took place on June 19, 1980, two days before his interview with Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping at which Mr. Wang was also present.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the later and more authoritative interview with Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping has already been the subject of a calling attention notice in Lok Sabha on July 2, 1980. According to the report of that inter-view carried by the official Chinese News Agency, Xinhua, it was said, "Ever since negotiations on boun-

dary question began, China has never asked for the return of all the territory illegally incorporated into India by the old colonialists". This, by necessary implication, reiterates the well known Chinese view about the legal status of the McMahon Line. Therefore, there is no essential difference in this regard between the two interviews. While dealing with this aspect, I had, in my statement of July 2, 1980, clearly stated that the Government of India has never accepted this premise.

Sir, I would like to submit to the House that my statement in response to the earlier calling attention notice thus covers both the interviews. Therefore, I have nothing more to add to that statement substantively, except to say that the Government, who keep abreast of all important research on the subject, are fully convinced that the alignment shown in our maps conforms to the true international border.

Sir, the Government with the support of the Parliament is engaged in the task of seeking to improve our relations with China. While assuring the House once again that I would always be prepared to take the Parliament into confidence on any matter relating to this process, I would respectfully submit that a delicate question like the boundary question does not lend itself to examination, and much less to solution, through repeated recourse to the medium of newspaper interviews.

May I, in conclusion note that even the interview of Mr. Wang Bingnan read as a whole does indicate Chinese desire to have friendly relations with India and this sentiment we fully reciprocate.

INDIA CHINA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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Assistance to Bhutan for Development Schemes

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 3, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, informed the Lok Sabha on July 3 that India would, extend cash assistance in grant totalling Rs. 15.375 crores to Bhutan for the Annual Plan 1980-81 which is the last year of the Fourth Five Year Plan.

In addition, Shri Rao added, during 1980-81 India would extend budgetary assistance for on-going projects as under:

	Rs. in lakhs
Chukha Hydel Projects	Loans: 760.00
	Grants: 1078.17

	1838.17

Penden Cement Project	70.00
Indo-Bhutan Microwave Link	86.68
Gaylegphug Irrigation Project	75.67
Other development aid	375.50

The Minister gave this information in a written reply to a question by Shri Krishna Chandra Pandey.

BHUTAN INDIA UNITED KINGDOM LATVIA

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The following is the text of the announcement by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in connection with the establishment of diplomatic relations with Kampuchea in the Lok Sabha on July 7, 1980. A similar announcement was made by Minister of Railways, Shri Kamlapathi Tripathi, in the Rajya Sabha: India's relations with Kampuchea go back to several centuries. The temples of Angkor Vat are a vivid testimony of the interaction between the cultures of our two countries. Indeed no other country in the Indo-China peninsula is linked to India as is Kampuchea. It is a cherished relationship. The gentle people of that highly cultured country have unfortunately suffered very greatly for no fault of their own. Our hearts have gone out in sympathy to the people of Kampuchea and India has done

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whatever it could do to alleviate their suffering. We shall continue to do so.

It is clear that the situation in South East Asia requires a reduction of tensions, and the enhancement of regional stability so that the individual States of the area can concentrate on the development of their societies and economies. In our view, which we believe is shared by many governments in the region, these problems can best be tackled by peaceful discussions between the countries concerned, and by avoiding the entry into the region of outside great power influences and rivalries with all their undesirable consequences. This is a policy whose validity has also been demonstrated in other areas around us.

FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ASEAN

We value our relations with ASEAN, and we believe that we should intensify our dialogue with them. We anticipate that the development of our relations with all our neighbours in South East Asia may enable us in our humble way to assist in the resolution of the problems that exist there.

Our Government is committed to recognise the new Government in Kampuchea, a stand which is shared by an overwhelming majority of political opinion in India. Kampuchea, after all the terrible ordeals which it has had to face, needs all the possible assistance from the international community if it is to develop its economy, restore its internal infrastructure and reestablish its status as a sovereign, independent, non-aligned nation. In furtherance of these objectives, we propose to immediately establish diplomatic relations with the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in Phnom Penh, headed by President Heng Samrin.

INDIA CHINA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Haj Pilgrimage

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 10, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, stated in the Lok Sabha on July 10 that it was not a fact that Muslims were required to obtain permission for going on Haj pilgrimage. Applications for Haj were invited by the Haj Committee, Bombay, a statutory body constituted under the Haj Committee Act 1959 and entrusted with the responsibility of making arrangements for Haj and Ziarat. The applications were received in pursuance of a public announcement which indicated the number of pilgrims for whom the Government, after due consideration, decided to release the required foreign exchange. Since

the number of applicants is normally higher than the number for whom foreign exchange had been made available, a Qurra (draw) was held on a State-wise basis. The allocation of seats was proportionate to the size of its Muslim population, as given in the last census.

The Minister informed the House that during the Haj 1979-80, the Haj Committee received 37,854 applications; of these 19,975, selected on the basis of the Qurra, proceeded for the performance of the Haj.

The Minister added that the Qurra for 1979-80 was held in May 1979 and the Haj was performed in October the same year. As such the question of considering, at this stage, the unsuccessful applicants of the previous years did not arise. These persons, however, had the opportunity of participating in the Qurra for the 1980 Haj, held in Bombay on June 5.

Shri Rao gave this information in written reply to a question by Shri Bheekhabahi.

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Date : Jul 01, 1980

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Minister of Irrigation Kedar Pandey's Statement on 19th Meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission

The following is the full text of the Statement in the Lok Sabha on July 15,, 1980 by the Minister of Irrigation, Shri Kedar Pandey, on the outcome of the 19th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers

Commission held in Dacca:

The 19th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held at Dacca from 9th to 11th July, 1980. The Indian side was led by me, while the Bangladesh side was led by Mr. Kazi Anwarul Huque, Minister for Water Resources, Flood Control and Power. The discussions were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere. His Excellency the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh kindly received me on the 11th July.

The Indian side pointed out that the deliberations have reached a crucial phase and sought the cooperation of Bangladesh in commencing the studies of the two schemes - one by India and the other by Bangladesh - for augmentation of the flows of the Ganga. The unprecedented drought of the last season resulted in totally inadequate flows being released in the Bhagirathi for the Calcutta Port and hence most speedy solution of the question of augmentation of the Ganga flows was sought for in order to meet the requirements of Bangladesh as well as full requirements of the Calcutta Port. The Commission, according to the task assigned under the November 1977 Agreement, has to complete the studies and recommend a scheme which is feasible and economical within a period of three years.

BRAHMAPUTRA-GANGA LINK CANAL

As the Members are aware, the Indian scheme for augmenting the dry seasons flows of the Ganga, envisages construction of a Brahmaputra Ganga link canal supplemented by storages on the Dihang, Subansiri and Barak rivers. The Bangladesh scheme envisages storages in India as well as in Nepal on the Ganga system.

Although only four months remain before the three year period would elapse, the Commission has not been able to commence its studies. This is because Bangladesh has been insisting on first making Nepal a member of the Joint Rivers Commission or of the study team to study the Bangladesh proposal which India has been unable to accept

in terms of the November 1977 Agreement. Indian side had been requesting Bangladesh side to commence the studies. The question of association of Nepal has been under discussion in the Commission since 1978. The differences, however, persisted on this question as well as on the question of commencing study of the two schemes.

CONSENSUS

The entire question of referring to the two Governments the issues on which the differences over the augmentation studies have persisted within the Joint Rivers Commission was discussed in the 18th and 19th meetings of the Commission. Although the minutes of the meetings were not finalised, a consensus emerged that while this matter would continue to be discussed in the Joint Rivers Commission for expeditious settlement it may also be discussed at other levels to arrive at an early solution in a spirit of understanding and good neighbourliness.

The Commission decided to redouble its efforts for resolving the differences and going ahead with the studies so far as the augmentation of the Ganga flows is concerned. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled to be held by the end of August, 1980. India also proposes to discuss the matter at Government level outside the JRC.

The Commission also decided to expedite the work of the Committee set up to make recommendations on the sharing of Tista waters.

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LATVIA BANGLADESH INDIA USA NEPAL

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Smith African Government's Repressive Measures

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 17, 1980:

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, told the Lok Sabha today that the recent reports on the situation in South Africa indicated that the repressive measures of the apartheid regime continued to result in gross violation of fundamental human rights. The South African racist regime had carried out a number of detentions without trials, restrictions under banning orders and political trials resulting in heavy prison sentences and at least one death sentence (against the young ANC activist, Mr. James Mange).

He added that the South African authorities had also reacted with characteristic harshness to the protests by coloured, Indian and black students, against the iniquitous education system. At least 42 people had been reported killed in police firings over the last two months in South Africa.

The Minister further added that the Government of India's policy in regard to apartheid, denial of basic human and political rights and repressive measures against the majority of South African people needed no reiteration. India had continued to extend political and moral support and material assistance to the struggling people in South Africa. We had rendered assistance and help to the African National Congress. The Government of India provided scholarships and training facilities to the students from South Africa. It also contributed to various UN and international Trust Funds which had been set up to help the victims of apartheid.

Shri Rao gave this information in written reply to a question by Shri P. K. Kodiyan.

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Statement on Launching of SLV-3

The following is the text of the statement by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, in the Lok Sabha on the launching to SLV-3 on July 18, 1980:

I have pleasure in informing the House that the first successful launch of the Indian Satellite Launch Vehicle SLV-3 took place this morning at 8:03:45 hours from Sriharikota range. The launch vehicle placed a 35 kg. India Satellite Rohini RS-1 in orbit around the earth. The satellite will orbit the earth approximately once every 90 minutes. Shar will see two orbits for the first time tonight. Thereafter every twelve hours two more such orbits will be seen over Shar in regular periodicity.

The four-stage all solid-propellant vehicle has been developed in India by Indian scientists and engineers. The total development cost of the SLV-3 vehicle is about Rs. 20 crores and the present experimental launch has cost about Rs. 1 crore. The Rohini satellite in orbit is intended mainly to measure the performance parameters of the vehicle and is being tracked by our national tracking network. Initial indications are that the vehicle and satellite functioned satisfactorily.

The collection of tracking data and the analysis are continuing.

This is a notable achievement of India and Indian science. I am sure the House will join me in congratulating our scientists and technicians of the Department of Space on their achievement. The nation is proud of them and wishes them further successes.

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement on His Talks with Foreign Minister of Pakistan

The following is the text of the statement of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in the Lok Sabha on July 18, 1980 regarding the outcome of recent talks held at New Delhi between the Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and India:

Sir, as the House is aware, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, His Excellency Mr. Agha Shahi paid an official visit to India from July 15 to 17, 1980. We attached considerable importance to this visit coming as it did at a time when the situation in our region has been a cause of concern to all of us. In fact, ever since this Government came to office we have had a continuing dialogue with Pakistan on our evolving bilateral relations as well as the general situation in this part of the world. The House will recall that our Foreign Secretary visited Islamabad in early February, within a month of this Government assuming office. The process was continued with a visit, in April, of our former Foreign Minister Sardar Swaran Singh to Pakistan as a Special Emissary of the Prime Minister. The

Prime Minister also had an opportunity of meeting the President of Pakistan when both of them were in Salisbury to attend the independence celebrations of Zimbabwe. These high level exchanges have been useful in giving each a clearer understanding of the other's views and perceptions. In this context, the visit of Mr. Agha Shahi was both timely and welcome.

AFGHAN SETTLEMENT

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was only natural that the situation in our region in general and in Afghanistan in particular figured prominently in the discussions that I had with my Pakistani colleague. As the House is aware, this Government has right from the beginning consistently emphasised that the difficult situation in Afghanistan could be resolved only through political means. Our effort has been to defuse tensions so that Great Power confrontation can be kept out of our region.

It was a matter of satisfaction to us to hear from the Foreign Minister of Pakistan that he too was in favour of a political settlement. In our wide-ranging consultations over the last several months we have discovered a growing consensus towards seeking a negotiated political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. We continue to hope that the efforts in this direction would lead to the emergence of the contours of a political solution that would take into consideration the genuine interests and concerns of all parties involved, notably the people of Afghanistan. What is of the utmost importance is to begin the process of consultations amongst the countries most directly involved. While sharing this, Mr. Agha Shahi expressed the constraint viz. that according to him, in terms of the resolutions of the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference of May 1980 the three-man Standing Committee set up by the Conference could not initiate any dialogue in a manner that would amount to a recognition of the present Government of Afghanistan. We reiterated our views on the urgent need for the dialogue. There was a detailed discussion on this and other aspects of a possible process of negotiations.

FURTHERING FRIENDSHIP

In my discussions with Mr. Agha Shahi I reiterated the firm commitment of the Government of India to the Simla Agreement which provided the framework for normalisation of relations between our two countries. It has been this Government's endeavour to further the Simla process and to create a climate of confidence. We have taken many steps to translate the principles laid down in the Simla Agreement into action, but some still remain to be taken.

I expressed our desire that further movement in this direction should be accelerated and hoped that the Government of Pakistan would reciprocate this desire. In this context we would like to see more cultural exchanges between the two countries and the facilitating of greater people to people contacts. In addition, I drew Mr. Agha Shahi's attention to the opportunities

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of economic collaboration between our two countries that are waiting to be explored and called for strengthening of trade links. I am glad to say, Sir, that Mr. Agha Shahi's response on these aspects of normalisation of relations between the two countries was positive.

I was assured by Mr. Agha Shahi that there were no political inhibitions in regard to the expansion of Indo-Pakistan trade. The dialogue on trade relations is to continue shortly; talks are also likely to be held to finalise arrangements which would enable tourists from each country to visit the other. There is now a distinct possibility of more places of pilgrimage in each country being thrown open for visits by people of the other and also of an improvement in the facilities for travel between the two countries.

CULTURAL EXCHANGES

The need to increase exchanges in the cultural fields was also acknowledged on both sides. Possibilities of exchange in the

near future, of Indian and Pakistan prisoners, presently under detention on both sides, are also improving. I am confident that the peoples of our two countries would heartily welcome the restoration of normalcy in our relations and establishment of an environment of peace and friendship.

During his stay in Delhi, Mr. Agha Shahi called on the Prime Minister twice. On the first occasion, he conveyed condolences on behalf of President Zia-ul-Haq and the people of Pakistan, on her recent bereavement. During his second call, there were discussions on several international and regional issues as well as on matters of bilateral interest and it was agreed, inter alia, that all possible steps should be taken to facilitate further implementation of the provisions of the Simla Agreement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan in his banquet speech made a reference to the proposal of his Government to hold talks at the level of military commanders on mutual reduction of force levels. This question had been discussed in great detail during the visit to Pakistan of Sardar Swaran Singh last April and our views, which were conveyed to the Government of Pakistan then, reiterated by me in our present talks. I impressed on Mr. Shahi once again that no question of this nature could at all arise unless and until, according to the common satisfaction of both countries, the requisite amount of trust and confidence have been created between them. Moreover, it would neither be realistic nor feasible to make it a purely military exercise, but must reflect a shared political perception and understanding of each country's security needs by the other. Exercises of this nature undertaken elsewhere in recent years corroborate this conclusion.

REFERENCE TO KASHMIR

As regards Kashmir, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan referred to it in his banquet speech in the following terms:

"We are firmly committed to the full implementation of the Simla Agreement

in all its provisions and are confident that the process would be carried to its logical conclusions with a just and amicable settlement on Jammu and Kashmir which will usher in a new era of harmonious relations and fruitful co-operation in a wide field".

It was pointed out during our talks that references to Kashmir in international fora by Pakistan, even though they state that it is in accordance with their understanding of the Simla Agreement, do not help to create a better atmosphere.

It is in the above overall context, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that one should assess the outcome of these talks. The talks did bring out the differences in perception known to exist between the two countries. Nevertheless, on several matters of common interest as well as of regional importance, the area of agreement was also not inconsiderable. In any event, the frank exchange of views was mutually beneficial. The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality. Therefore, to describe the outcome of our talks as a failure or a break down, I submit, would not be correct. We look forward, with cautious optimism, to progressive improvement of our relations.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the Government of India's conviction that a harmonious relationship between India and Pakistan is

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important for the peace and well-being of South Asia. Towards this end, we intend to continue our dialogue with the Government of Pakistan and I have gladly accepted the invitation extended by Mr. Shahi to visit Pakistan at a mutually convenient date. We have also agreed that, before my visit, the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan would visit India for the next round of regular official level consultations.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA ZIMBABWE AFGHANISTAN MALI PERU CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Special

Session of UN on Palestine

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, addressed the special session of the U.N. General Assembly on the question Of Palestine on July 22, 1980. Following is the text of the speech:

Mr. President, my delegation is gratified to see you preside over the emergency special session of the General Assembly on Palestine because given your commitment, as also that of your country to human liberty and dignity I am sure you will guide the deliberations of this session so as to make it an important milestone in the struggle of the Palestinian people to gain their national rights.

The convening of this emergency special session of the General Assembly to discuss the question of Palestine points at once to the weakness as well as the strength of the United Nations. Thirty three years ago the UN General Assembly decided that an Arab Palestine should be established as a homeland to the Palestinian people. Over these years, not only has that decision remained unimplemented, but the world body has been able to do little to alleviate the sufferings of a people uprooted from their homes and subjected to brutal atrocities and indignities. The Resolutions put forward in the Security Council to tackle the fundamental issue were set aside because of the veto or the threat of use of the veto by a permanent member of the Security Council. Even those which were adopted could not be implemented because of Israel's blatant defiance of the United Nations, whether it be the break down of the principle of Great Power unanimity in the decision making process of the

Security Council or the inability-of the world body to bring an erring member to the right Path, the inadequacy of the United Nations has been amply demonstrated by its performance on the question of Palestine, a question which directly affects international peace and security.

FAITH IN U.N.

At the same time, it is indicative of the hopes and expectations and the strength of the United Nations that an overwhelming majority of the member nations continue to put their faith in U.N. action in order to renew the, pressure on Israel and its less and less numerous friends to come to terms with the Palestinian people by recognizing their national rights. Indeed the U.N. is the only forum today which can stop the bloodshed in West Asia and uphold the principles of justice and equity and of human dignity. It was for this reason that the sixth Non-aligned Summit in Havana decided that an emergency special session of the General Assembly should be convened if the Security Council failed to remove that threat to international peace and security resulting from Israel's policies.

Mr. President, India's sympathy for the Palestinian people goes back to our pre-independence days when our national leaders, Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru spoke out against the injustice which was perpetrated against them. India's position on the question of Palestine which

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is at the very root of the conflict in West Asia has remained clear and consistent over the years, it is our conviction that a comprehensive solution of the problem entails the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national and human rights, including the right to establish an independent state in their own home land, the total and unconditional withdrawal by Israel from all occupied territories, including the Holy City of Jerusalem, and finally the guarantee of the right of all states in the region, including Arab Palestine, to live within secure borders. An essential pre-requisite for the

attainment of a peaceful solution is the full and equal participation of the P.L.O. in any peace negotiations.

INDIA AND P.L.O.

Today practically the entire world recognises the PLO as the only genuine representative of the Palestinian people. The PLO with Mr. Arafat as its Chairman has given the oppressed people of Palestine a distinct and forceful identity and renewed vigour to struggle against aggression, occupation and tyranny. It was in recognition of this pre-eminent role of the PLO that India accorded full diplomatic status to the office of the PLO in our capital. Further, Chairman Arafat was received in India as a welcome guest of Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Recent events in West Asia, especially since the General Assembly considered the question of Palestine at its 34th session, have provided further proof, if that were necessary, of Israel's continued intransigence, expansionism and aggression, some of these disturbing developments were brought to the attention of the world by the Security Council Commission when it presented its second report to the Council early this year, the Commission confirmed the well known fact that Israel was continuing its policy of establishing settlements in occupied Arab territories and permitting its citizens to purchase land in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, more revealing was the finding of the Commission that Israel was systematically diverting the water resources of the West Bank by the use of modern drilling equipment which drained off water for use in the Israeli settlements. The Arab inhabitants on the West Bank were not only restricted in the use of water, but they were prohibited from drilling wells on the western side of the West Bank. The Commission came to the inevitable conclusion that the Israeli policy of settlement was incompatible with the pursuit of peace in the area and it recommended that the Security Council should adopt effective measures to pressurise Israel to cease the the establishment of settlements. Even the unanimous adoption of a resolu-

tion in this regard has not deterred Israel from pursuing its goals. Israel ignored the resolution, treated it with contempt as it has so many other resolutions of the United Nations.

OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

The evidence in recent months of Israeli brutality in occupied Arab territories should not go unnoticed. The occupation authorities have been taking extreme measures to suppress the faintest voice of dissent on the part of the Palestinians. The elected Mayors of Hebron and Halhoul and the Sharia judge of Hebron were deported. Assassination attempts were made on the lives of Mayors of Hablus, Ramallah and Al birth, but Israeli authorities did not make any serious attempt to apprehend the criminals or to provide protection to the Arab population in occupied territories. The latest in the series of Israeli actions to perpetuate its occupation of Arab lands was the decision to declare Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. This is another attempt to destroy the historic personality of the holy city and to obliterate its sacred heritage.

All these developments were brought promptly and fully to the attention of the Security Council. At the meetings of the Council most speakers expressed their indignation, indeed outrage, at Israel's aggressive, inhuman and criminal activities. But when it came to taking concrete action, the Council faltered for the lack of political will. It took refuge in compromise resolutions. Thus encouraged, Israel continued to perpetrate untold sufferings on the Palestinians and the other Arab peoples. When the cardinal question of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people itself came up before the Council, the United States of

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America used its veto to prevent the Council from recognising those rights. Thus the Security Council was disabled from tackling the root cause of the problems in West Asia.

Some delegations have repeatedly stated that any action by the United Nations

would impede the progress of the peace process initiated with the signing of the Camp David Accords. We, however, fail to see how these accords have achieved or can achieve any progress in relation to the realisation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The Camp David Accords have not succeeded in solving the Palestinian question because they were not negotiated with the full participation of the Palestinian people as represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The Agreements, therefore, cannot presume to settle matters affecting those who are not contracting parties.

HOMELAND FOR PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

Mr. President, the time has come for decisive action by the United Nations. The problem of securing a homeland for the Palestinian people has been with us for several decades. With the lapse of time, the situation in this sensitive and vital region has been worsening. Emotions have been aroused to such a pitch and distrust has reached such dimensions that even a small incident can set-off reactions which none of us may be able to control. Any threat to peace and security in the region could have grave consequences for the whole world. Consequently, a great responsibility rests on the international community to secure a just settlement and an enduring peace in West Asia without any further delay or prevarication. The Committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, of which India is a member, has already submitted a number of recommendations to this Assembly. India, having participated in the discussions on the subject both at the Palestine Committee as well as the Non-aligned forums, fully endorses these recommendations, I would urge the General Assembly to examine those recommendations with a view to adopt and implement them.

The Arab people, including Palestinians, have suffered long enough at the hands of Israel. The aggressive and expansionist policies of Israel pose a grave threat to the peace and security not only of the region

but of the entire world. It is an illusion for Israel to hope that it can guarantee its own security in the midst of insecurity. It is futile for Israel to expect that its people can enjoy national and human rights and live with dignity while it denies those very rights to the Palestinian people and forces indignities on them. It is impossible for Israel to achieve recognition for itself from its neighbours while it refuses to recognise the Palestinian Liberation Organisation as the sole and authentic representative of the Palestinian people.

Israel was created by the United Nations in 1948. If it wishes to be secure and to prosper, it must give up its present policies and change its behaviour. The least the international community can expect from Israel is a modicum of civilised behaviour which will conform to the U.N. Charter and International Law. Its current policies may give an illusion of security for the time being due to the support of powerful vested interests. But in the long run, they are bound to prove self-defeating.

This emergency special session of the General Assembly must compel Israel to take concrete steps to:

- (i) Recognise the inalienable national and human rights of the Palestinian people and put an end to its aggressive and barbarous behaviour against them.
- (ii) Immediately stop and reverse its policy of putting up settlements in occupied territory.
- (iii) Recognise the right of the Palestinian people to organise themselves in an independent and sovereign State of their own under the leadership of the PLO.
- (iv) Withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the holy city of Jerusalem.

Thank you, Mr. President.

INDIA USA ISRAEL CUBA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Jul 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Minister of State for Industry Charanjit Chanana Meets Acting Prime

Minister of Japan

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 11, 1980:

At the reception in Tokyo, given by the Acting Prime Minister Mr. Masayoshi Ito on the evening of July 9, 1980, the Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, exchanged greetings with President Carter, Mr. Zia-Ur-Rahman, Mr. Hua Guofeng, Chairman of the Chinese People's Republic, Prime Minister of Australia, Mr. Fraser and many other Heads of Delegations. The Minister also met Mr. Zenko Suzuki.

The Acting Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Ito received Dr. Chanana on July 10, 1980. Dr. Chanana handed over to Mr. Ito a special message from Smt. Indira Gandhi. Mr. Ito was deeply touched by the courtesy and thoughtfulness of Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi in sending such a message despite the terrible tragedy she had suffered in the sudden and untimely passing away of Shri Sanjay Gandhi. He requested Dr. Chanana to convey his sincerest condolences and sympathy to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Ito also expressed his gratitude to the Government of India for sending Dr. Chanana as their special envoy at the memorial service for late Mr. Ohira.

Dr. Chanana later met the Japanese Minister for International Trade and Indus-

try Mr. Y. Sasaki. Their talks covered further development of economic cooperation between India and Japan and North-South problems.

JAPAN USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRALIA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Jul 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PAKISTAN

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

The Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, held a dinner in honour of Foreign Minister of Pakistan Mr. Agha Shahi, at New Delhi on July 15, 1980. Proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

I have great pleasure in welcoming you this evening and I hope you will have a pleasant and comfortable stay. I have heard much about the warm and generous hospitality extended by your Government to our Foreign Secretary and to Sardar Swaran Singh earlier this year and we are grateful. All I can say is that we shall endeavour to come up to the high standards set by you.

Please accept, Excellency, my congratulations on your recent appointment as the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. I am confident that under your stewardship of your country's foreign policy, the cause of peace and freedom will progress towards fulfilment. Your long association with the evolution and mechanics of Pakistan's relations with India and your profound knowledge and experience of international diplomacy

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will no doubt have a beneficial effect on strengthening Indo-Pak friendship and in

composing tensions which have lately threatened to grip our region. We value greatly this opportunity that your visit has provided us to exchange views on matters of mutual interest.

REGIONAL TENSIONS

Excellency, developments during the last seven months in our region have been a source of grave concern to us. Tensions and problems within nations and between neighbours have tended to assume dangerous proportions owing to a variety of factors, not all of which are either indigenous or germane to the immediate issues facing the region. The impulse to resort to arms and confrontation, we feared, would prove detrimental to confidence-building and to the evolution of stability through mutual cooperation amongst countries of this region and would invite great power confrontation at our very door-step. India's concern stemmed from the fact that the security of Afghanistan, as indeed the security of all our neighbours in the sub-continent, is inextricably related to our security and national interest. It has been our attempt, through bilateral consultations with a number of countries, to work for the restoration of peace and tranquillity in the region. We have impressed on all the countries concerned that inter-State relations must be governed by the five principles of peaceful co-existence, namely sovereign equality and non-interference, non-use of force, inviolability of frontiers, respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other. Our region has, in the last few years, fortunately been free of tensions and it is indeed gratifying to note that all countries of the South Asian region now belong to the Non-Aligned Movement and, therefore, are committed to conducting their relations with other countries on the basis of the above mentioned principles.

We are convinced that any solution to the tensions and problems created by the situation in our region must be worked out in a comprehensive manner, taking into consideration the viewpoints and interests of

all the countries concerned. Fortunately, there has lately been a welcome renewal of the hope that there will be a return to the time-tested path of negotiations and peaceful settlement.

TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

Excellency, we attach the highest importance to the improvement of our relations with Pakistan and to the creation of trust and confidence between our two countries. We owe it to our peoples to continue to work with determination and perseverance towards this end so that they may be better enabled to tackle the urgent tasks of economic development and nation building. The Simla Agreement, to which India remains firmly committed, laid down principles that would govern our mutual relations, established a framework for normalisation and chalked out the modalities of resolving differences bilaterally and peacefully. We, on our part, have endeavoured to implement the Simla Agreement in its entirety and, it is our belief, Your Excellency that your Government shares this commitment. We have indeed moved forward several steps since Simla but much still remains to be done. I have no doubt whatsoever that the Governments and the people of both our countries sincerely desire the strengthening of ties between India and Pakistan.

Friends, may I now request you to join me in a toast to His Excellency, Gen. Mohammed, Zia-ul-Haq, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, to His Excellency Mr. Agha Shahi, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan., to the distinguished members of his delegation, and to the friendly relations between our two countries and peace in the region.

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Date : Jul 01, 1980

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PAKISTAN

India-Pakistan Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 17, 1980:

In response to an invitation from the Indian Minister for External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Agha Shahi, paid an official visit to New Delhi from July 15 to 17, 1980. He was accompanied by Mr. S. Shah Nawaz, Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Mujahid Husain, Director-General (South Asia), Mr. Qazi Humayun, Director (India) and Mr. Niazullah from the Office of the Foreign Ministry.

The discussions between the two Foreign Ministers were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere. The talks extended over two sessions and covered bilateral, regional and international matters of mutual interest. Both sides found the discussions very useful and have agreed to continue the dialogue. Mr. Agha Shahi extended an invitation to Shri Narasimha Rao to visit Pakistan which was accepted with pleasure.

The Foreign Minister of Pakistan called on the Vice-President Shri M. Hidayatullah, and Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. He handed over a message from President Zia-ul-Haq to the Prime Minister. It was also agreed that the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan would have their next round of discussions in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date in the near future.

PAKISTAN INDIA USA

Date : Jul 01, 1980

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SENEGAL

Visit of Indian Delegation to Senegal

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on July 2, 1980:

A five-member Indian delegation led by Shri Hemant Singh, Director, Department of Heavy Industry, visited Senegal recently to identify areas of activities where India could be of assistance to that country, and share with the latter her experience in the technical and industrial fields.

Shri Singh held meetings with several personalities in Senegal including H.E. Cheikh Hamidou Kane and visited some firms such as SISCOMA, SIDEK, SOSEPRA and OMVS.

Shri Singh explained that India could render valuable assistance in setting up of certain processing industries for agricultural products, manufacture of transistor sets and irrigation pumps.

In the field of training, Shri Singh said, India was ready to receive five Senegalese trainees, whereas in the cultural field there would be exchanges of cinema and dance troupes.

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BANGLADESH

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha, Rao's Banquet Speech at Dacca

The following is the text of the speech,
by the Foreign Minister of India, Shri P. V.
Narasimha Rao, at the banquet hosted by
the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh on
August 16, 1980:

Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen, I
am most grateful for the warm and gracious

hospitality that the Bangladesh Government have extended to us. I also deeply appreciate the kind sentiments you have expressed about me and my country.

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to be here on my first visit to Bangladesh. We are linked with this great country through geography, a shared history and a common heritage of culture. We have had the proud privilege of being associated with you at a moment in recent history which was at the same time most trying and glorious. And now both our countries share the common aspiration of improving the lot of our peoples and making our social systems more just and equitable.

There is a natural desire among our peoples to maintain close contacts with each other, to help enrich each other's lives and to continue to derive inspiration from each other's achievements. Our Governments would be reflecting the wishes of the peoples by acting on these lines.

We attach great importance in our external relations, to maintaining and promoting a climate of trust, friendship and good neighbourliness and extending and broadening areas of our bilateral cooperation with Bangladesh on a reciprocal basis. Our relations are based on the time-honoured and commonly shared principles of respect for each other's sovereignty, independence and distinctive national personality and non-interference in each other's domestic affairs.

The climate of friendship and goodwill is an essential pre-condition for fostering closer relations. It has to lead to concrete actions which, in turn, further sustain and improve such relations. The true nature of our relations is reflected not merely in their climate but also in their substantive content and the manner in which we are sensitive to each other's concerns and interests.

MUTUAL BENEFICIAL COOPERATION

The vast potential for benefits to both

countries through broad-based cooperation poses at once a challenge and an exciting opportunity for the leadership-of both of our countries. The complementarity of our natural resource endowments provides us with a glorious vista for the future.

As a consequence of the broad similarity of socioeconomic conditions in Bangladesh and India, the same type of technology will often be relevant for both our countries. This provides a firm basis for mutually beneficial industrial and technological cooperation. Better communications between our two countries will, I believe, contribute significantly to the expansion of our economic relations. The consciousness that mutual cooperation will have a direct effect on the lives and well-being of millions of the people in both our countries must provide both guidance and a sense of urgency to our efforts.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

Excellency, the international situation in particular developments in our region.

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gives us cause for serious concern. In recent months, we have witnessed setbacks to the spirit of detente and the revival of cold war attitudes. There has been a dramatic increase in the military and naval presence of Great Powers in our neighbourhood. This has brought the cold war to our door-step. in this situation, it has become all the more necessary for the countries of South Asia to create a climate of peace in order to reduce tension and make it possible for us to devote ourselves to the urgent common task of economic development. Needless to say, the development of relations among the countries of South Asia itself is an important step in this direction.

DEFUSION OF TENSIONS

Our policy and actions with regard to the recent developments in our region have been guided by this belief. We have constantly advocated and worked for defusion of tensions and for restraint on the part of

all concerned so that the search for mutually acceptable and enduring political solutions can get underway. We are happy to note that we share with Bangladesh many perceptions of how these problems could be resolved.

May I now invite all of you, ladies and gentlemen to join me in a Toast to His Excellency President Ziaur Rahman of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, to His Excellency Prof. Shamsul Huq, the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, to the progress and prosperity of the friendly people of Bangladesh, and to the growth of the historic friendship and cooperation between India and Bangladesh.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA PERU

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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BANGLADESH

India-Bangladesh Joint Press Statement

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 18, 1980:

At the invitation of His Excellency Professor Muhammad Shamsul Huq, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister for External Affairs of the Government of India, paid a three-day visit to Bangladesh from August 16 to 18, 1980.

During his stay, the Minister for External Affairs of India called on President Ziaur Rahman of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. He also called on Professor Muhammad Shamsul Huq, the Foreign

Minister of Bangladesh.

The Minister for External Affairs of India also paid homage to the martyrs of 1971 at the Jatiya Shaheed Smriti Shoudha.

The two Foreign Ministers assisted by their respective aides held several rounds of talks. The talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, trust and understanding. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations, and also discussed regional and international matters of mutual interest.

The two sides viewed with deep concern the deteriorating international situation posing an increasing threat to peace and security of the region and of the world. They stressed the need for concerted action on the part of the peace-loving nations to eliminate the sources of tension and conflict and uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter and the Non-Aligned Movement.

MUTUAL TRUST

The two sides agreed that the two countries should continue their efforts to maintain a climate of mutual trust and understanding and further consolidate and strengthen the friendly relations between them.

Both sides agreed that steps should be taken for early implementation of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and that a meeting would be held in October 1980 to work out the details for such implementation.

The two sides agreed that the talks on the delimitation of the maritime boundary

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between the two countries would be held in November 1980 with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable solution as early as possible.

The question of the newly emerged island(s) (New Moore/South Talpatty/Purbasha) at the estuary of the border river Hariabhanga was also discussed. The two sides agreed that after study of the addition-

al information exchanged between the two governments further discussion would take place with a view to settling it peacefully at an early date.

DRY SEASON FLOW OF GANGA

The long-term augmentation of the dry season flow of the Ganges at Farakka was discussed. Both sides explained the difficulties that they faced. It was agreed that efforts should be intensified to find a mutually acceptable solution at an early date.

The two sides agreed that efforts should be made to ensure that continued peace and tranquillity is maintained on the border. It was reiterated that neither India nor Bangladesh would permit their territories to be used for hostile activities directed against the other. Both sides also noted the need to stop illegal movement of people across the border and agreed that the existing arrangement and cooperation in this regard would be further strengthened.

CULTURAL EXCHANGES

The two sides noted with satisfaction that a programme of cultural and academic exchange between the two countries would be signed shortly.

The improvement of telecommunications between the two countries was also discussed. Both sides noted with satisfaction that substantial progress has already been made and that further efforts in this direction would be continued.

As regards the establishment of further railway links between the two countries, the two sides agreed that a delegation from India will visit Bangladesh shortly.

It was noted that as neighbouring countries there was much scope for increasing cooperation in the economic, commercial, scientific and technological fields. The two sides agreed to intensify their efforts for cooperation in these fields for mutual benefit.

The Bangladesh proposal for a South Asian forum and the holding of a Summit Meeting to consider this proposal for regional Cooperation was discussed. The Indian side reiterated that they, welcomed the proposal in Principle and it was agreed that necessary preparatory work should be undertaken for this purpose.

The Minister of External Affairs of India expressed his gratitude to the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh for the generous hospitality shown to him and to the members of his delegation. He extended an invitation to the latter to pay an official visit to India which the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh accepted with pleasure.

BANGLADESH INDIA USA PERU

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao Initiates Discussion on Foreign policy

The Minister Of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, initiated the discussion on India's Foreign Policy, organised by a Study Group at New Delhi on August 8, 1980. Speaking on the Occasion, Shri Narasimha Rao said:

Mr. Chairman, friends, I am very happy to be with You this evening.

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The foreign policy of any country cannot be divorced from its internal policy. Any country, any government, any political party must decide what it believes in, and its policies must flow from this basic conviction. The basic strength of a country's

foreign policy is derived from the unity of its people, from the determination of its people to make their country strong and prosperous, as well as from their willingness to share their experiences and expertise with their less-fortunate fellow human beings. Only a strong and unified India can live up to her role in foreign affairs expected of her, not only by her own people but by other countries as well.

Our foreign policy is, to a very large extent, based on national consensus. Consensus does not mean identity of views on all matters; it is something with which the whole nation can live. There could be differences in matters of detail on individual issues, but, by and large, our people as a whole stand behind the foreign policy of the Government.

DECADE OF CONFRONTATION

It might perhaps be useful for me to briefly describe the international setting in which we find ourselves today. The world is passing through a critical period. While the decade of the seventies could be considered the decade of detente, the decade of the eighties threatens to be a decade of confrontation. The recent increase in international tensions has created an atmosphere surcharged with suspicion and has led to ever-increasing interference in the affairs of small countries as well as to a frantic search for new military bases and facilities. The Second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, which in any case would have been only a first preliminary step in the process of nuclear disarmament, was very nearly abandoned. Ominous decisions are being taken to develop and deploy new generations of ballistic missiles in Europe a continent which is already over-saturated with nuclear warheads.

We all read in the newspapers a few weeks back a news item which, though amusing on the face of it, was actually a most serious affair. Somewhere in the U.S., the computers gave a false alarm about an incoming attack by the Soviet ICBMs. Most fortunately for the world, the false

alarm was rectified and notified in time, otherwise the ICBMs from the U.S. side would have been flying all over the world, or wherever they were expected to fly. Thus the world runs the risk not only of deliberate nuclear destruction, but the equally real, and perhaps ironical, risk of being blown up by the error of mindless machines.

The senseless, highly dangerous and wasteful armaments race continues to escalate at increasingly dangerous levels, with the annual global expenditure on armaments reaching the astronomical figure of US \$ 450 billion.

NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Let me now turn to another subject which is also of crucial importance to the international community, namely, the international - economic relations, or what is known as the North-South Dialogue. In a few days from now, I shall be leaving for New York to chair the meeting of the Ministers of the Group of 77, which has been called to prepare for the Special Session of the General Assembly. As, I am sure, all of you are aware, the United Nations has decided to convene a Special Session from August 25 to September 5 this year to adopt an International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and to launch a new round of global negotiations on International Economic Cooperation and Development. The gap between the few industrially advanced countries and the large majority of developing countries continues to widen. With the higher level of political consciousness, growth of communications and rise in the expectations of the people in the poor two-third of the world, the task of removing inequalities and disequilibrium in the socio-economic structure of the international community has acquired urgency greater than heretofore. The position today is that the developed countries are simply not prepared to take the kind of bold decisions that they should take, not only for the sake of the developing countries but also in their own interest. The fact of inter-dependence between developed and developing countries

is recognised by everyone including the developed countries. But the sad truth is that the developed countries are not prepared as yet to translate this realisation into an effective policy. I agree that the developed world has serious problems of its own. There is inflation, unemployment, threat of recession as well as high oil prices. The problems of the developed countries, however, are infinitely less grave than those faced by the developing countries. The rich nations, for example, are in a position to absorb the shock of high oil prices. They have the means to pay such prices whereas the developing countries are faced with massive balance of payments difficulties caused by the high oil prices. Developed countries are also able to make up for the high oil prices by charging equally high prices for their manufactured goods which are exported to the OPEC as well as to the other Third World countries. Thus the developing countries have to bear the brunt on two fronts, high oil prices as well as high prices for the manufactured goods. I do hope that the developed countries would display the necessary political will and sincerity at the Special Session so that a beginning, however, small can be made for the ushering in of a New International Economic Order.

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

It would perhaps be appropriate for me to say a few words at this stage on economic cooperation among developing countries themselves, on what has come to be known as South-South Cooperation. We attach very great importance to the concept of ECDC. The Non-aligned Summit Conference at Havana last year adopted a resolution on collective self-reliance among Non-aligned and developing countries. The Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in March 1980 instructed an ad hoc group of inter-governmental experts to carry out an indepth study of the possibilities of ECDC. This group has already met once in Vienna and has come up with a set of guidelines and a tentative programme of action. I am convinced

that ECDC must assume an ever-increasing role in future in tackling the problems of the developing countries.

You might be wondering as to why I have not so far spoken about non-alignment in a group discussion on India's foreign Policy. I first wanted to outline the present international situation for you so as to give you a Proper Perspective for the functioning of our foreign policy. The broad framework of our foreign policy as enunciated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and by Smt. Indira Gandhi during her leadership of the country from 1966 to 1977, has taken firm roots in our national ethos. The policy of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence continues to be as relevant today as it was three decades ago.

NON-ALIGNMENT AND PEACE

The greatest single factor in the situation in favour of peace is the urge of humanity, the desire of humanity to live, and that is represented by non-alignment. That is how the Non-aligned Movement gets linked with the problems of the world today. It can make itself felt only because it represents the aspirations of the majority of mankind to live and not to be annihilated. I would also like to say that there is no contradiction between the policy of non-alignment and the pursuit of national interest. Indeed, it could not be otherwise, because the very essence of the policy of non-alignment is the inalienable right of a country to defend its national independence and sovereignty, without being tied to any country or a group of countries. It is true that differences emerge from time to time among the non-aligned countries on some issues or the other of international relations. However, is it not in the very nature of non-alignment that there should be occasional differences among its adherents? After all, non-alignment is not a bloc nor an alliance of the unaligned. It is not another monolith. The non-aligned are seeking unity - and not uniformity. More and more countries are expressing their desire to join the Non-aligned Movement which has reached a membership of 94 countries as

compared to 25 in 1961. It has to be recognised that the Movement has lost some of the drive and elan of the yester years. Its energies are often dissipated in the swamp of bilateral issues. It is in danger of losing at least some of the clarity, sweep and vision of its founders. A big movement must address itself to big issues; there is no other

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way to retain its bigness. The Non-aligned Movement, therefore, would do well to remind itself of its real historic mission and proceed to fulfil it. A heavy responsibility devolves on the new leadership in the Non-aligned Movement, namely to restore to the Movement the level and the loftiness which gives it the right to reflect and represent an overwhelming majority of mankind.

INDIA'S ROLE

India today occupies a place of honour among nations of the world. Our leader, Smt. Indira Gandhi, is held in high esteem everywhere. India is well-placed to play her traditional role of persuasion within the framework of the policy of nonalignment and peaceful coexistence, of promoting international cooperation and defusing tensions in various regions of the world. It is satisfying to note that the dialogue between the leaders of the East, and the West seem to have been resumed, though in a hesitant and diffident manner. We want, stability, development and peace. We believe in the path of conciliation and not, confrontation, of friendship and persuasion - and not of hostility or antagonism. In the brief period that the Government has been in power, we have already succeeded in raising India's stature anion- the international community.

I believe I have said enough to initiate the discussion on India's foreign policy. I shall be very happy to take note of the other views expressed during the discussion and give them my careful thought and consideration.

USA INDIA RUSSIA CUBA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AUSTRIA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Independence Day-Eve Broadcast

The following is the text of the message broadcast on the eve of Independence Day by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy on August 14, 1980:

We celebrate tomorrow the 33rd anniversary of our independence. It is a happy occasion when we look back with pride at the blessings of our freedom. It is also a sobering moment for taking a critical look at the gaps in our perceptions and performance, so that we can benefit from past mistakes and face the future with greater confidence.

As the largest democracy in the world, we have by and large managed to run our parliamentary system with considerable success, despite the continuing strains. But we have yet to learn the hard way, through trial and error, how to give a matching social dimension to the economic progress made since independence. Though the planning process has become a part and parcel of modern economic growth, we have to contend with the reality that it has so far benefited mainly the upper strata of our society without the fruits of development reaching the poorer sections adequately. The social ferment fomented by growing inequality has led to serious law and order situations, with an increasing tendency to resort to violence to ventilate the slightest grievance.

DEMOCRACY AND CONSENSUS

After the uncertainties of last year, there is now a stable single party Govern-

ment at the Centre with a substantial majority in Parliament. However, the stability of a Government does not depend on its numerical strength alone, but also on its ability to carry the whole nation with it on all important issues. It requires the capacity to assess and harness the national consensus by cutting across political barriers, rising above party politics and taking an elevated view of national problems. Success in a parliamentary democracy lies in giving the people a sense of close identification and a feeling of involvement in the functioning of it.

The Opposition has also a crucial role to play in the working of our democratic system. It has, no doubt, the right to question the policies and actions of the Government. However, a credible distinction has to be kept up between legitimate dissent and denunciation. We have to establish sound traditions and conventions, and learn

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to respect the basic postulates of our political life.

BRIDGING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISPARITIES

The nation remains tormented by the thought that something is missing in the Indian polity, giving the people a feeling of growing alienation from our socio-economic dispensation. The rising prices and increasing disparities, making the rich much richer and the poor still poorer, are widening the gulf between the few haves thriving on the miseries of the have-nots and the deprived masses left with little hope of any better life in the foreseeable future. The irony of our agricultural surpluses has been that the really needy sections of the people do not have enough money to buy the food-grains available. The population explosion that has added enormously to the country's economic burdens and social pressures has led to greater unemployment. No matter what we do to create more work, the heavy backlog of jobless millions will keep on increasing until we are able to revive our rural economy and reorient our approach to development.

ORDERLY SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

We are thus passing through a difficult phase which may lead to class conflicts if we do not take timely steps to avert them. The only sensible way out of this predicament is through an orderly social transformation based on a balance of sacrifice to make life more liveable for the great majority of our people below the poverty line. The attempt to infuse undue political overtones into what is essentially a human problem has tended to divert attention from the real dimensions of Indian poverty to extraneous agitations. The country is in quest of a more sustainable social equilibrium. I have every hope that we will be able to emerge from this flux with greater faith in our system, if we adhere to the Gandhian tenets of tolerance and compassion.

When I assumed office as President, I pleaded for a harmonising touch to heal the old wounds of discord, and I shall continue to exercise my moderating influence to persuade all sections of our society to adopt an equitable and enlightened approach to problems of public welfare. The government has shown great forbearance in handling the Assam agitation, and I want to make an earnest appeal to all concerned to cooperate in finding a reasonable solution without succumbing to emotions. The greatest imperative today is for a halt for such agitations which inflame passions without opening the way for lasting solutions. The future generations will not forgive us if we fail to come to grips with more fundamental issues and dissipate our energies on endless confrontations that have no relevance to the main struggle for the eradication of poverty.
Jai Hind.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman's Statement on Jerusalem

The, following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 23, 1980:

The Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement here today on the question of Jerusalem:

The Government of India have consistently held the view that Jerusalem is a part of those territories occupied by Israel which must be vacated in accordance with the relevant Resolutions of the United Nations. India has always been, and continues to be, totally opposed to Israeli attempts to make the holy city of Jerusalem their capital.

The Security Council Resolution adopted on August 20, 1980, on this subject reflects the censure and condemnation of these attempts of the Israeli Government, by the international community. The fact that this Resolution was adopted unanimously, with no negative votes and only one abstention should make it clear to everyone the strong feelings of the international community on this question.

The Government of India has condemned the enactment by Israel of their so-called

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Basic Law on Jerusalem, and Israeli refusal to abide by Security Council Resolutions on this subject. The Foreign Minister of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, had made a statement on this subject in the Lok Sabha on July 31, and informed the world from that forum, that India is totally opposed to the Israeli move to declare Jerusalem as its eternal capital. It may be recalled that India had also co-sponsored the Resolution

at the Special Emergency Session of the UN General Assembly on Palestine, calling for the adoption of effective measures under Chapter VII of the UN Charter against Israel in the event of the latter's non-compliance with the Resolution. Speaking on the occasion in the United Nations, the Foreign Minister had said: "This is an attempt to destroy the historic personality of the Holy City, and obliterate its sacred heritage".

The Government of India reiterates its continued support to the demand for the vacation of areas occupied by Israel and to the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to a nation State in their homeland.

ISRAEL USA INDIA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

India Supports UNESCO Effort on Information Order: UNESCO Chief Calls on Shri Sathe

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 14, 1980:

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Vasant Sathe, today urged UNESCO to help in strengthening the information infrastructure in the developing countries.

Shri Sathe told Mr Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow, Director-General of UNESCO, who called on him, that there was tremendous inequality in the flow of information between the developed and developing countries. He said that there was a growing

danger of a new type of imperialism, viz information imperialism. He said India strongly supported the stand taken by Mr. M'Bow on the establishment of a new international information order. He suggested that the Indian Film and TV Institute at Pune could be utilised by UNESCO as an Asian Training Centre.

Mr. M'Bow welcomed the suggestion and said that India should move a resolution on the subject in the next UNESCO meeting. Explaining his stand on the new international information order, Mr. M'Bow said that he believed that free flow of information did not mean monopoly of information by those who control the media. He said there could be no real freedom of information unless all people had the same access to information. The exchange of information between two countries should be direct and not through a third country.

Mr. M'Bow said that he did not believe in the myth that the Government-controlled media was not free and that information would be free only if it was in the private hands. He said that broadcasting organisations in America, Britain and other European countries were under the control of the Government but they were not criticised by the Western media. He said that in the developing countries the private sector did not have enough capital to set up information media.

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INDIA USA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha, Rao Addresses Meeting of Ministers of Group of 77 at U. N.

The Minister Of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, delivered the following speech at the inaugural meeting of the Ministers of Group of 77 in New York on August 21, 1980:

Excellencies, distinguished delegate and friends, I extend to you all my warm greetings and welcome you to the Second Ministerial Meeting of the Group of 77 in 1980.

This meeting, coming as it does on the eve of the Eleventh Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly, is of crucial importance in our endeavours to secure a just and equitable International Economic Order in which all the countries of the world, irrespective of their political, economic or ideological groupings, would live together on this small planet of ours in a spirit of mutual help and understanding. This year has indeed been an arduous and difficult one for those of us involved in the negotiations and preparatory work for the Eleventh Special Session, scheduled to begin next Monday. I am sure all of you would wish me to place on record our sincere appreciation of our officials who have worked tirelessly and with dedication to elaborate our negotiating platform and, indeed, to take active part in the negotiations themselves.

As all of you, Excellencies and distinguished delegates, are aware, there are three basic issues to which we have to address ourselves during the present Ministerial meeting. Firstly, we have to assess the progress, or rather the lack of it, in the implementation of the new international economic order. Secondly, we should consider the Progress report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Development strategy for the Third United Nations Development decade. And thirdly, we have to finalize our preparations for the new round of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development.

HOPES BELIED

The new International Economic Order, proclaimed by the Sixth Special Session of the General Assembly in 1974, had generated an atmosphere of hope and expectation which, however, came to be belied by subsequent developments. Hardly any progress has been made towards the establishment of the new International Economic Order. Among the meagre achievements, we have the agreement on the common fund, the setting up of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the decision regarding retroactive adjustment measures for debt relief for developing countries and the agreement reached in the UNCTAD on restrictive business practices.

As against this, we have the catalogue of failures and shortcomings in the crucial field of developmental aid, restructuring of world industry, reform of the international monetary and financial system, changes in the international pattern of production, consumption and trade for essential raw materials, transfer of technology, and assistance and support by developed countries and the international community to economic cooperation among developing countries. The developing countries continue to remain helpless when even the limited benefits resulting from concessions given in one particular field by developed countries get neutralised as a result of other developments over which they have no control. The democratisation of decision making on international economic matters has not taken place. The picture becomes gloomier when we take into account the fact that the level of Official development assistance has, in fact, declined in recent years to approximately 0.34 per cent of the GNP instead of moving towards the internationally agreed figure of 0.7 per cent. The situation has been further compounded by the rising wall of discriminatory barriers against the exports from developing countries and the inequitable and unstable financial and monetary conditions. In short, the international community, which would like to regard itself as an enlightened community, cannot possibly take

pride in the progress in the establishment of the new international economic order.

DISAGREEMENT ON 'STRATEGY'

Since we met in March this year, the Preparatory Committee on the International Development Strategy has held three sessions. Thanks to the efforts made by the Committee under the Chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Niaz A. Naik, we now have a draft strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. Important sections of the document, however, even after six long sessions, continue to be the subject of disagreement. It is true that progress has been made on the preamble and review and appraisal sections. In the Chapter on goals and objectives and on policy measures relating to the vital issues of ODA, money and finance, energy, etc., key decisions by developed countries are still awaited. The difference still remaining on several issues of crucial importance to the developing countries have to be resolved, to enable the adoption of a meaningful International Development Strategy. The strategy for the 1980s must be adopted at the Special Session itself and can brook no further delay. We hope it will be adopted by consensus and on our part, will continue to strive towards this end.

When the Ministers of member states of the Group of 77 met in New York in March 1980, we had successfully finalised negotiating positions on the agenda and procedures for the proposed new round of global negotiations. The Committee of the whole has held three sessions since then to prepare the new round of global negotiations. We approached these negotiations with earnestness and dedication, without in any way underestimating the enormity of the task, it has been our expectation that, given an equal spirit of sincerity and commitment by all participants in the negotiations, we would be able to achieve our objectives. I had hoped that at this meeting, I would be able to present the final agreements resulting from the completion of these negotiations. Instead, I have to say to you that, as in the drafting of the strategy of the Third United

Development Decade, as also in the preparations for the global round, major unresolved areas of disagreement remain. It is our task, therefore, to take stock of the situation.

IMPACT OF RECESSION

A hard-headed appreciation is necessary to understand the reasons for the failure so far. It is clear that the current recessionary trend in the international economy have had an adverse impact in slowing down economic activity in both the developed and developing countries. There has been a diminution in the commitment of developed countries to inter-dependence and mutuality of benefits that can result from the accelerated economic growth and development of developing countries. Yet the North does profess its faith in the inevitability of inter-dependence in the international economic relations. The near stalemate that we presently face in the North-South dialogue and the unwillingness of the North to accept any fundamental reforms in the international economic system founded by it, are, therefore, difficult to comprehend except as transient inhibitions resulting from sudden local setbacks, on the alternative, as indications of the inability of the governments concerned to convince their own peoples on the need to put up with short-term adjustments for the sake of long-term all round benefits. Nevertheless, it is clear that mankind, cannot afford to allow the present unjust structure of international economic relations to continue unchanged, with its concomitant disastrous implications for the developing and in the long run, the developed countries alike. The basic question, therefore, is whether the developed industrialised nations are prepared to generate, within their governments and their peoples, the political will necessary to take the decision which would make it possible, in a great measure, for world economic problems to be solved. In recent weeks, in my meetings and exchange with representatives of the industrialised developed nations, I have posed this question squarely to them. I can only hope that there will be positive achievement in this behalf at the forthcoming

Special Session.

SCOPE FOR COMPROMISE

I would, nonetheless, like to add that the deliberations of the Committee of the

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whole on the proposed global round and the Preparatory Committee on the New International Development Strategy were not altogether futile. To the extent that the central issues on which there was divergence have been identified and precise questions have been posed to which answers will have to be provided at the Special Session, the deliberations have been useful.

So far as the global round is concerned, there was a substantial and detailed exchange of views on the agenda, the procedures and the time-frame. On fundamental issues of critical importance to the developing countries, there could be little scope for compromise. One such fundamental issue is the authority of the General Assembly under which we would like the global negotiations to be conducted and decided. We are being accused by some developed countries of treating this particular aspect almost as a theological issue. I would respectfully like to submit that what is involved here is a Practical and fundamental question which has been recognised by the distinguished Secretary-General of the United Nations who has said:

"Throughout the negotiating process, the General Assembly or the organ designated by it will have a central role to play ... If these procedures are applied with the necessary flexibility and inventiveness, they should lead to the mobilisation of the United Nations system in a process of global negotiations which must, however, be conducted under the authority of the General Assembly."

I would like to underline the words "flexibility and inventiveness".

COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE

It is against this none-too-bright background that we should consider the progress made in concretising our unanimously announced determination to strengthen economic cooperation and collective self-reliance among ourselves. I am happy to report to you that we already have the first result of the decisions taken by us at our March meeting. Distinguished delegates would recall that at that meeting we had decided to set up an ad hoc Inter-Governmental Group of Experts to examine and draw up a concrete programme of economic cooperation among developing countries. The Ad Hoc Group met in Vienna from 3rd to 7th June and has proposed a practical and result-oriented programme which we ought to take up for early implementation. Whatever the outcome of our dialogue with our partners in the developed world, we should redouble our efforts to promote mutual cooperation among ourselves in the spirit of the guidelines for collective self-reliance embodied in the Havana Resolution. Let us realise that unless we succeed in our efforts at collective self-reliance, we shall always be negotiating with the developed countries from a position of weakness and the North-South dialogue is likely to remain in the impasse that we find it in today.

The case for according particular attention to the economic progress of the least developed countries among us must be given special emphasis. Economies of many of the least developed countries have either already collapsed or are on the verge of it. Special and effective measures will have to be taken for the elimination of the basic constraints facing these countries and to ensure their accelerated development. In order to achieve this objective, efforts by the least developed countries themselves as well as by the international community should be immediately and substantially expanded. The programme of action already agreed for the least developed countries must be implemented without any further delay.

TRANSITIONAL MEASURES

It is in the context of the critical situation facing many developing countries

that proposals have been made for immediate or as they are now described, transitional measures. The imminent crisis facing these countries, if allowed to precipitate would have disastrous consequences for the world economy, including those of developed countries. The Secretary General of the United Nations has outlined some proposals in his statement to the economic and social council on 3rd July, 1980. As the Secretary General himself has recognised these should not deflect our attention from

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the primary issues before the special session. Ministers might wish to consider this and other such proposals in an appropriate Manner.

The senior officials of the Group of 77 have been meeting for the last three days and have had before them an in-depth report on the outcome of the negotiations held so far on the global round and on the IDS, as well as documents elaborating the positions reached in these negotiations.

They have had a very useful exchange of views on these subjects and have arrived at useful conclusions. All this is now before you. The senior officials are also working on a draft communique which will shortly be presented to us for our consideration and adoption.

I would suggest that we utilise this meeting to exchange views on the points mentioned by me so far, as upon on any other subject that members may wish to touch upon, with a view to evolving common position on them. We have also before us some very useful reports submitted by the distinguished Secretary-General. As far as the Group of 77 is concerned, we should take a look at the positions taken by us earlier in the light of the comments made on them by the industrialised countries during negotiations in recent months. There are certain elements in our positions which are of critical importance and compromise on them might jeopardise the very usefulness of a new round of global negotiations or might render ineffective any proposed strategy for

the new decade. At the same time, on behalf of the Group of 77, we would like to reiterate that we have kept the doors open for serious negotiation, and that, as in the past, our approach at the forthcoming session will carry the hallmark of flexibility. The ball, as they say, is in the court of the developed countries. We would wait at the special session for demonstration of evidence that the appropriate decisions have been taken in the capitals of the industrialised countries.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates and friends, I welcome you once again to this second meeting of the Ministers of the Group of 77 in New York.

INDIA USA AUSTRIA CUBA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at U. N. on International Economic Cooperation for Development

Following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs., Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the plenary session of the United Nations at New York on August 25, 1980:

Mr. President, allow me to congratulate you on your election as the President of this eleventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly on International Economic Co-operation for Development. I believe I reflect the views of every one present here when I say that with your experience and wisdom, you would be able to guide the deliberations of this important session to a successful conclusion.

On behalf of the Group of 77 and of my country India, as well as on my own behalf, I would like to convey our warm greetings to the fraternal people of Zimbabwe on the occasion of their entry into the United Nations Organisation. Only a few months ago, we welcomed this country's emergence into life and freedom after decades of darkness imposed by colonial rule and exploitation. I personally had the privilege of being present in Salisbury for the independence celebrations last April and of partaking of the sense of euphoria at the momentous juncture in history. The example of Zimbabwe demonstrates once again that truth and justice will triumph. The heroic struggle of the brave people of Zimbabwe against external domination and racial tyranny has won the admiration of all those who cherish freedom and human dignity and will always serve as an example to oppressed peoples, wherever they may be. The ramparts of colonial domination and racial bigotry are crumbling. With their tradition of outstanding courage and sacrifice, the

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people of Zimbabwe stand on our side today, strengthening our relentless struggle against the vestiges of racism and colonial rule in Southern Africa. We rejoice in the fact that the ranks of freedom fighters have significantly reinforced.

The people of Zimbabwe will now have to face the task of reconstruction of their national economy, ravaged by almost two decades of war and strife. They are fortunate, Mr. President, in having as their leader the illustrious son of Africa and of Zimbabwe, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. On this auspicious occasion, we would like to extend the assurances of our wholehearted support, moral political and material, in the challenging task he and his countrymen face.

ORDERLY WORLD ECONOMY

Mr. President, the world economy is undoubtedly undergoing profound changes. But the process is haphazard, leading to great turmoil, whereas the need of the hour

is its orderly restructuring. It is, therefore, highly appropriate that a special session of the U.N. General Assembly, at a high political level, devoted to vital issues of economic development, should be meeting at the present juncture. There is growing recognition that the world economy today faces a crisis of unprecedented dimensions. But the international community finds itself unable to formulate clear-cut remedies and is still groping for ways and means to cope with the crisis. Years ago, our late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru had observed that it was a sign of maturity of a nation when it devoted more attention to economic rather than political problems. In that view, there has come about or so one hopes - a new and altogether gratifying maturity in the thinking of the international community. While the line between the political and the economic is not always clear and beyond doubt, it is time to realise that a continued pre-occupation to look for short term and narrow political gains in dealing with complex economic issues is bound to prove increasingly counter productive. The quest for the cooperative spirit that must accompany the recognition of the primacy of international economic relations has so far eluded us. As a result, we face a climate of frustration, mistrust and helplessness which is not conducive to progress, nor indeed to world peace.

REMEDIAL MEASURES

As we contemplate the critical issues of the 1980s, we need deeper awareness of the fact that they are profoundly and qualitatively different from those of the past. In the first instance, the scale of remedial measures required is truly staggering. simply because of the persistent and accumulated neglect of the crisis over the years. Secondly, the time horizon over which such remedial measures must be forthcoming needs to be telescoped to avert an imminent catastrophe. Thirdly, the differential impact of the world economic crisis, as it affects the developed and developing countries, has acquired new and more frightening aspects. On the one hand, the developed countries can no longer hope to escape the malignant consequences

of the current economic situation. On the other, the impoverished economies can no longer defend themselves further against the rising economic burdens and find themselves on the verge of collapse.

Proposals for reform of the international economic order have not been wanting in recent years. It is not surprising that one of the most recent and eloquent of these has been called "A Programme for Survival". I am referring to the report of the Brandt Commission which has underscored mutual inter-dependence between the developed and the developing world. The report has asserted that it is in the best interests even of the developed world to sustain and support the development of the developing world-through a massive transfer of real resources and a refashioning of the international economy so as to give the developing countries their rightful place in the structure of production and international trade. So far as they go, the Brandt proposals are not only reasonable; they are eminently feasible, given adequate political will to back the ideas and implement them.

When compared to the minimum requirements of the world economy, in particular of the, developing countries, to extricate itself from the deepening abyss, the various proposals put forward so far are

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modest. They would succeed in tackling only a few sectors of the world economy and that too to a limited extent. And yet, none of these proposals has gone beyond the realm of discussion. Clearly, there is need to ponder over the reasons for this state of affairs.

LACK OF POLITICAL WILL

Mr. President, an objective analysis will lead to the inevitable conclusion that it is neither lack of comprehension, nor lack of resources that is responsible for the dismal response to successive proposals for bringing about massive transfer of resources to developing countries. Clearly, it is the lack of political will which is acting as the stum-

bling block to progress in this direction. It is the same lack of political will that was responsible for the string of infructuous negotiations ranging from UNCTAD V to UNIDO III, not to mention the Paris conference on international economic co-operation. I, therefore, feel that these words - "Lack of political will" deserve closer scrutiny.

Mr. President, political will, or the lack of it, is a combination of many factors. In some cases, it is a shortsighted trade-off, where programmes and policies with immediate popular appeals are preferred to those which are in the long-term interests of the people in developed countries. In others, it is the failure to recognise that what may today seem a so called concession to developing countries will, in the near future, rebound to the benefit of the developed countries themselves through expanding markets and employment opportunities. In still other cases - and perhaps this is more widespread than many of our partners in the dialogue care to recognise there has been very little effort to educate public opinion in developed countries, to create in them the farsightedness necessary for taking hard decisions in their own long-term interest. It is doubtful whether in the developed countries today, the common man really understands and appreciates the imperatives of global inter-dependence and mutual benefit. If only he could perceive that there is more for him in the development of the developing countries than in exclusively maintaining his own country's high degree of development, there could be a real breakthrough. Normally, this process of public enlightenment could have been easily accomplished in most of the developed countries, with their constant interaction between the governments and the peoples. However, the conspicuous absence of any progress in this behalf seems to raise, once again, the question whether the conviction of inter-dependence on the part of the governments of the developed countries has really gone beyond the confines of platitude and entered the phase of action oriented thinking. For, Mr. President, who can succeed in waking up one who is pretending to be asleep.

INADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

I would like to stress that this argument is not meant as a mere allegation. Let me illustrate. Take the case of official development assistance. The record here is depressing in the extreme. As against the internationally accepted target of 0.7 per cent of GNP, the actual performance has been woefully inadequate. ODA declined from a level of 0.35 per cent of GNP in 1975 to 0.31 per cent in 1977; though it has since risen to 0.34 per cent, it is still below the level reached four years ago and, in any case, is less than half of what was targeted. Barring a few worthy examples, the developed countries have levels of ODA which do not credit to them. What is even more unfortunate, on the present indications it does not seem that ODA levels would rise to more than 0.35 or 0.36 per cent of GNP by 1985; and this, at a time when GNP growth in the developed countries is itself slowing down. In this context, it has become necessary to see what immediate steps can be taken to augment official development assistance, and to ensure that an increasing proportion of it goes to the really needy countries. Further, there is need for an assurance of the availability of assistance over a long term, so that developing countries can plan their investments in a more organized fashion. We are not belittling the difficulties of such long term commitments in relation to budgetary practices and procedures of the developed countries or the problems associated with a sudden step-up of aid programmes in relation to national budgets. But here again, given the overall capacity and resilience of developed countries, it should not be beyond them to make these

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adjustments. Similarly, we regretfully note the sluggish action with regard to putting into effect the general capital increase of the World Bank and the Sixth Replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA). The question, again, is one of political will capable of being exercised in the national context. These countries, unfortunately, have not lacked the political will to increase their expenditure on arma-

ments - expenditure which stand out in sharp contrast to the pittance that they divert to international development assistance. And ironically enough, when it comes to armaments, the climate created leaves no hiatus of approach between the governments and the peoples. There also remains the urgent need to consider non-budgetary forms of concessionary assistance like the sale of IMF gold and the link between SDR allocations and development finance and other means of automatic expansion of development assistance. These are not new ideas. The link has remained on the agenda of monetary reform for too long. The time has come when these ideas need to be implemented in some form or the other.

TRADE OBLIGATIONS

Mr. President, the crying need for massive transfer of resources on a predictable, long-term and assured basis should no longer be looked at in the conventional sense of aid given on some altruistic motives or vague moral obligations. It is an imperative necessity which is in the interest of the donor countries, if they wish to create suitable conditions for their own growth and prosperity. Mass-poverty is both degrading and de-stabilising; its eradication is no longer a matter of charity, but security against a cataclysmic future. It has been suggested, sometimes, that such a transfer of resources could be channelled through the international financial markets which are now flooded with liquidity. However, there is increasing concern that the recycling mechanism may not be as effective this time as it proved to be a few years ago. In any event, the vast majority of developing countries are effectively shut out of the process of international capital market flows. They can be brought into this orbit only through the institution of an interest subsidy scheme as a method to link the availability of funds on market terms to the requirements of these countries for funds on concessionary terms.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Mr. President, an asymmetrical rela-

tionship currently exists in the international monetary system in the matter of adjustment of balance of payments, surpluses and deficits. The deficit developing countries are subject to harsh and often uncompromising conditionality in the use of IMF resources in the higher credit tranches. Often such conditionality has imposed on the economics of the developing countries unbearable social burdens, jeopardized their developmental objectives and subjected them to external pressures on sensitive aspects of national policies. While deficit developing countries are subject to such conditionality, adequate surveillance over the surplus developed countries has been conspicuous by its absence. If arguments can be used to impose conditions on deficit developing countries, the same surveillance should extend in the case of the surplus developed countries too, not merely to exchange rate regimes, but also to more general economic policies so as to examine and ensure consistencies of national policies with international stabilisation efforts. We know that developed countries have resisted these efforts, for no rational or accountable reason.

Issues of money finance are indeed central to international economic cooperation. The International Monetary System today is in disarray. The system built on the foundations of the Bretton Woods Charter has collapsed and no coherent framework for international monetary cooperation exists. This, therefore, is precisely the time when urgent attention needs to be given to the restructuring of the international monetary system. The new system should reflect more appropriately the current economic realities. It should provide, through discretionary and collective international action, for adequate liquidity which an expanding international trade environment would need. It should also incorporate rules for an equitable and symmetrical adjustment process and, most importantly, pay adequate regard to the legitimate needs of the developing countries. The core of this exercise is to enhance effec-

the organisation of international finance acquires a broader base and does not remain the exclusive privilege of a few developed market economies. These principles form the basis of the comprehensive set of proposals for reform of the international monetary system which the developing countries have put forward.

Mr. President, the Sixth Special Session called for a just and equitable relationship between the prices of raw materials, primary commodities manufactured and semi-manufactured goods exported by developing countries and the prices of raw materials, primary commodities, manufactures, capital goods and equipment imported by them, with the aim of bringing about sustained improvement in their unsatisfactory terms of trade and the expansion of the world economy. One of the major aspects of the present disjunction in which the developing economies are placed is the sharp deterioration in the terms of trade of a vast majority of them. Take the example of primary commodities, which are of crucial interest to a large number of developing countries. The progress towards ensuring remunerative and equitable prices in real terms to the producers of these commodities, has been painfully slow. The decision to establish the common fund is a positive step of considerable significance to producers of primary commodities. But it has taken more than four years of intense negotiations to agree upon setting up of the fund. It will take several more years for it to become effective. Since the common fund is essentially a framework, it is imperative that the support and cooperation of developed countries be forthcoming for prompt follow up action, and in conclusion of International Commodity Agreements for all commodities which were agreed upon at Nairobi in 1976. Only then will producers of these commodities be assured of remunerative and equitable prices in real terms for their exports and benefit from the developmental measures under the fund's operations.

PROTECTIONISM

Mr. President, sustained world economic

growth and the accelerated development of developing countries are conceivable only in the context of expanding world trade. It is unfortunate that such growth is being thwarted by the spreading contagion of protectionism in one form or another and by impediments in the way of access, to markets of developed countries, as also by their reluctance to bring about corresponding structural adjustments. Although the Tokyo round of multilateral negotiations did represent a move towards liberalising the world trading system, the fact remains that the results of this exercise have fallen short of the expectations of developing countries and many of their crucial concerns have not been adequately taken care of. Tariff cuts for most items of export interest to them have not been deep enough. They still face adverse consequences of several barriers to the growth of their trade in the name of voluntary export, restraints, orderly marketing arrangements, etc. Measures for securing better access to the markets of developed countries for the products of developing countries, particularly for their manufactures, should be accorded high priority. In this context the developed countries should take concrete steps to improve their GSP Schemes and phase out systems like multi-fibre arrangements and quantitative restrictions. Evolution of a non-discriminatory code with regard to safeguard action is another measure requiring immediate attention. It is in this context that the institutional machinery of GATT needs to be reformed. Further, it would help if GATT and UNCTAD were to undertake joint action in these areas. That will facilitate early realisation of these objectives.

REMEDIAL STEPS NEEDED

Mr. President, there is resistance, even objection, to any serious discussion of re-deployment of world industry. While recognising that industrialisation is absolutely essential to the rapid growth of the economies of developing countries, developed countries continue to resist any movement towards restructuring of their industry vis-a-vis those of developing countries based on comparative advantage. Here is another

area where statesmanship and enlightened long-term perception of global inter-dependence are needed in ample measure, enabling the international community to undertake effective remedial steps.

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At this point, I can almost anticipate the arguments of our partners from the developed industrialised countries that the display of political will must be universal. We at once agree with this and are, on our part, endeavouring to develop procedures and processes aimed at strengthening our collective self-reliance especially in the context of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries. Important beginnings have been made and we are confident that this process will not falter for want of political will. I consider that economic cooperation among developing countries can serve as a significant vehicle for stimulating the revival of the world economy from its present stagnation.

We are also convinced that the new horizons in economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and the designing of mechanisms which would reflect their collective interests, would cement their unity and solidarity, thereby contributing both to their national and collective self-reliance as also international economic cooperation. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries is thus a key element in strengthening the role of the developing countries in the establishment of the New International Economic Order. The Group of 77 is fully conscious of this fact and would act up to it in the months and years to come.

IMMEDIATE ACTION PROGRAMME

Mr. President, the international community cannot but pay particular attention to the plight of the least developed countries among us. Their economics are on the verge of collapse. Urgent steps need to be taken on a priority basis to implement those special measures for the least developed countries which have already been agreed by the international community, like the UNCTAD Resolution 122(V) and, in parti-

cular, the immediate action programme for the period 1979-81. Further, the international community should consider special and effective measures for elimination of the basic constraints facing these countries in their economic development. We look forward to positive and action-oriented measures emerging from the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries scheduled to be held in 1981.

It is recognised that the most seriously affected, the land-locked and the island developing countries are facing unprecedented economic problems and that for their solution the assistance of the international community is indispensable. The problems of some of them are unique. While they may be having a well developed infrastructural base and relatively broad industrial economy, they do not possess the capacity to make the structural adjustments in the short term to the grave problems, particularly those of balance of payments deficits, which the world economic crisis imposes upon them. They do, therefore, have real problems arising from the linkage of conjunctural and structural issues. All these problems need to be seriously redressed. Immediate measures to alleviate their problems are called for. In addition, appropriate follow up action should be taken on the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.

Mr. President, in his address to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session for 1980, the Secretary General has made suggestions for overcoming the critical economic situation of many developing countries. It is our view that these suggestions need further elaboration. It is my expectation that after the suggestions have been elaborated, it would be possible to consider them and take appropriate action at the 35th session of the General Assembly.

I have dealt at length, Mr. President, on the theme of political will because we are, at this special session, at the decisive stage in the negotiations for the adoption of the new international development stra-

tegy and the launching of a new round of global negotiations. Both these exercises are of crucial importance to the developing countries, and, indeed to the health of the world economy as a whole. The new strategy should be comprehensive, covering all aspects of economic and social development. Similarly, the new round of global negotiations is to encompass the principal areas of developmental activity and deal with them in an integrated and concerted manner. It is universally recognised that like interdependence among nations, there is an inherent inter-relationship among problems

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and that effective solutions in one sector require parallel and supporting responses in others. What we must seek, therefore, at this special session is to provide the required impetus so as to facilitate and promote rapid progress in the forthcoming negotiations.

ENERGY RELATED PROBLEMS

Mr. President, the question of energy is intimately inter-twined with the economies of the energy exporting as well as importing countries, the inflation exported by developed market economies and the need to rationalise consumption of energy, particularly in developed countries. In particular the developing countries are facing a major problem in meeting the demand not only for their economic development but even for sustaining daily life. The international community will have to pay special attention to the requirements of the energy importing developing countries. While there is a growing awareness of this problem in the context of economic cooperation amongst developing countries, the rest of the international community also cannot shut its eyes. Here is an area where the developed countries can cooperate with energy exporting developing countries in alleviating the problems of the energy importing developing countries. In addition, this cooperation could and should undertake massive perspective plans for the exploration and development of conventional as well as new and renewable sources of energy and draw up comprehensive and time-bound programme

for immediate implementation in the interest of all countries alike.

Mr. President, if I may quote from the address of the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to the Third General Conference of UNIDO held at the beginning of this year in New Delhi.

She said:

"You are meeting at a crucial period in the world's economic evolution. The inherent inequities and weaknesses of the present economic order are felt more deeply and resented more strongly than ever before. The existing system, with the world divided between the industrialised haves and the developing have-nots, no longer commands acceptance. Industrial production cannot now be sustained on the basis of domination over raw material sources, preservation of captive markets, of the exploitation of unresisting labour. For centuries, the colonial concept of comparative advantage was pursued with great vigour to preclude the industrial output of the developing countries. It is ironical, that the same concept, in a new and dynamic situation, is being ignored".

GROUP OF 77

Mr. President, the Ministers of the Group of 77 met here last week to deliberate over the issues that face us at this special session- They received valuable assistance from the assessments contained in the analytical report of the Director General for Development and International Economic Cooperation. As can be seen from their communique, which has been circulated as an official document, the Ministers, while conscious and deeply concerned about the lack of progress towards the establishment of the new international economic order, expressed their readiness to engage in serious and earnest negotiations within the framework of the efforts of the Group of 77 towards the implementation of the new international economic order for the successful conclusion of the special session.

On behalf of the Group of 77, I would like to assure our negotiating partners of our sincere desire to reach agreement. At the same time, it is our hope that the industrialised countries and all other participants in the negotiations would also approach the special session with an equal sense of purpose and the requisite political will. We are deeply conscious that failure of the special session would have far-reaching adverse consequences for international economic cooperation and development and indeed, for world peace and stability. It is an inescapable fact of life today that lasting peace and equitable prosperity are really two sides of the same coin. The world simply cannot have the one without the other.

Mr. President, the abyss of a grave economic crisis lies in front of us. As a

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great statesman said at the beginning of this century "You cannot take two steps across an abyss". If we wish to cross it, it would demand determination, understanding,- right motivation, and above all, a far greater effort and bigger sacrifice than we have so far volunteered.

Mr. President, several ancient civilisations, including that of my own country, India, have visualised the whole world as one family. Today, more than ever before, this concept cries for fulfilment in an altogether modern context. There is no alternative whatsoever.

Thank you, Mr. President.

INDIA USA ZIMBABWE PERU MALI FRANCE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA KENYA
JAPAN

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

India Offers Cooperation to Iran In the Field of Small Industry

The following is the text of a Press case issued in New Delhi on August 8, 1980:

The Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, today had a meeting with the visiting Iranian Deputy Minister for Labour and Social Welfare, Mr. Syed Ali Sataripour. Dr. Chanana told the visiting Minister that India would be very glad to offer all possible co-operation in the industrial field to all the friendly countries to help them develop fast, especially a friendly country like Iran. India has all possible scales of industry and would extend the maximum co-operation in the field of development of Iran, especially in helping develop Iran's small scale industry and in other fields. There was so much similarity between India and Iran in the socioeconomic field and India would extend hand of friendship in developing Iran's industrial sphere.

The visiting Minister sought the co-operation of India in, the field of developing small industries in Iran. He told Dr. Chanana that he found his visit to the small industrial centres here very useful. He was also impressed by the way the Industrial Training Institute were run in India. Iran wanted India's help in the field of small industries plants and machinery, technology and training of personnel. In Iran, since the revolution, 2500 small industries have come up in a successful way, but there were not enough facilities to train technical people and also there was no technical know-how. In this field, India could offer its co-operation.

The Iranian Minister invited Dr. Chanana to head an industrial delegation to Iran at a time convenient to him.

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Japanese Loan for Expansion of Telephone Facilities

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on May 9, 1980:

India and Japan exchanged Notes here today under which the Government of Japan has agreed to extend a loan of Rs. 184.50 million (Yen 5 billion) to India for the expansion of telephone exchange facilities. Notes were also exchanged whereby Japan has agreed to give a grant of Rs. 1.85 million

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(Yen 50 million) for the promotion of archaeological research in India.

Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance signed for India and His Excellency Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India on behalf of his Government.

The loan of Rs. 184.50 million (Yen 5 billion) has been extended to India in response to the request made by the Government of India and in accordance with the pledge made by the Government of Japan at the Aid India Consortium Meeting in Paris in June, 1979.

The Grant Aid of Rs. 1.85 million (Yen 50 million) will be utilised for the supply of science laboratory equipment to the Archaeological Survey of India.

JAPAN INDIA FRANCE

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

JAPAN

Dinner in Honour of Japanese Foreign Minister: Text of Finance

Minister's Speech

The Finance Minister, Shri R. Venkataraman, held a dinner in honour of Mr Masayoshi Ito, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan in New Delhi on August 29, 1980. Proposing the toast, Shri Venkataraman said:

It is my great privilege to welcome His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Japan Mr. Masayoshi Ito and his delegation. I do this both on my own behalf and that of my colleague, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, our Foreign Minister. I know how much he was looking forward to personally welcoming and exchanging views with Your Excellency and how sorry he was that your all too brief a visit coincides with the Special Session of the UN General Assembly which has made it impossible for him to meet you here and to exchange views with you himself.

Indo-Japanese relations are based on sound and secure foundations. More than a millennium ago, the message of Lord Buddha forged profound spiritual links between our two countries. Even after all these centuries, these philosophical and cultural ties have retained their vitality.

Modern Japan has been a source of wonder and admiration to the world, and especially to us fellow Asian nations. It was symptomatic of the deep bands of sympathies which exist between the peoples of India and Japan and the high esteem in which we hold your nation that Independent

India insisted on a separate peace treaty with the post-war Japan which would restore to that country its legitimate place in the international community.

SHARED VALUES

Our respective geopolitical and historical backgrounds have led our two countries to follow somewhat different paths both in the international field and in our domestic economic policies. However, contemporary Japan and India can, with good reasons, take pride in being both democratic and stable. The fundamental strength and resilience of our respective political systems, based on certain shared values, has been demonstrated in successive Parliamentary elections, the latest of which took place in both our countries over the past few months.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to us, Your Excellency, that India is one of the first countries being visited by you after the formation of the new Government in Japan. This is indicative of the fact that we both share an abiding concern for the need to promote peace and stability in the world, and particularly in our Asian continent within a framework which ensures to all its people independence, justice and prosperity.

Both India and Japan would like to see reduction of tensions in South-East Asia and the enhancement of regional stability so that individual states of the area can concentrate on development of their societies and economies. We believe that these problems are best resolved through peaceful dis-

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cussions between the countries concerned and by avoiding the entry into the region of outside great power rivalries.

COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBOURS

Both India and Japan value our relations with ASEAN and seek to intensify our dialogue with them.

Coming closer home we continue our

efforts to improve mutual trust and cooperation with all our neighbours without exception.

Your Excellency, we are happy to welcome you at a time when despite persistence of grave problems, the efforts of the three decades have begun to bear fruit on our domestic economic front.

As a result of our heavy investments and the efforts of our scientists in the agricultural sector we have been able to achieve self-sufficiency in foodgrains in spite of our growing population. We have been able to build up an impressive reservoir of trained manpower and scientific talent. Although we face a number of problems of imbalance in the industrial sector, a vast infrastructure has been gradually built up for industrialization.

PROTECTIONISM

Unfortunately the external environment facing India today is highly adverse and present indications of likely developments in the near future point to continuing difficulties. On account of the rapidly rising costs of imports of crude oil, fertilizers and other essential requirements, we are facing the problems of rising trade and current account deficits. Our export potential in the short run is limited by the slowdown in world trade and the alarming increase of protectionism in many developed countries. There is an urgent need for augmented official and multilateral resource flows.

Thus the economic problems which still confront India are inextricably linked with the current world economic crisis. As you know the reason why my colleague the Foreign Minister has not been able to personally welcome you in Delhi is because he is attending what we regard as a crucial Special Session of the General Assembly on International Economic Co-operation for Development. These deliberations, we hope, will show a way out of the current impasse. He has special responsibility as the current Chairman of the Group of 77. The developing countries believe that we are at a

decisive stage in the negotiations for the adoption of the New International Development Strategy and the launching of a new round of global negotiations. It is our sincere hope that Japan will play a constructive and positive role in the creation of an international economic environment which is more responsive to the legitimate needs of the developing countries.

INDO-JAPAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Your Excellency, it gives me great pleasure to place on record the contribution that Japan has made to our own economic development. As you know, Indo-Japanese economic relations have a rich and varied content - trade and collaborations, credits and grants, constitute an integral whole. Japan is today one of India's three principal trading partners. Our collaborations today even extended to third countries.

Your Excellency, in conclusion I would like to reiterate an oft-noted fact about Indo-Japanese relations: There are no problems which stand in the way of the growth of all round co-operation between our two countries and there is still a vast potential waiting to be tapped by our joint endeavours.

May I propose a toast to the health, long life and happiness of the Emperor of Japan, His Majesty Hirohito; to the health

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and happiness of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Zenko Suzuki; to the health and happiness of Your Excellency; to the health and happiness of the members of Japanese delegation; and to the further growth of friendship, understanding and co-operation between the Governments and peoples of Japan and India.

JAPAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Aug 01, 1980

1995

NEPAL

India-Nepal Talks: Joint Press Release

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 2, 1980:

His Excellency Mr. Jagdish Shumshere Rana, Foreign Secretary, His Majesty's Government of Nepal, paid an official visit to New Delhi from July 31 to August 3, 1980, as a part of the continuing bilateral consultations between the Foreign Secretaries of the two countries.

Mr. Rana and the Foreign Secretary of India, Air. R. D. Sathe, reviewed regional developments, including recent developments in Afghanistan, South-East Asia and the Indian Ocean.

His Excellency Mr. Jagdish Shumshere Rana gave a brief account of his recent visits to Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan. The two Foreign Secretaries also discussed bilateral issues and other matters of mutual interest.

The discussions were held in a frank and cordial atmosphere. It was agreed that such exchange of views should continue at regular intervals.

His Excellency Mr. Jagdish Shumshere Rana held discussions with the Secretary (Irrigation) and paid courtesy calls on the Foreign Ministers and the Irrigation Minister.

NEPAL INDIA USA AFGHANISTAN BANGLADESH PAKISTAN SRI LANKA BHUTAN LATVIA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

SUDAN

Line of Credit of Rs. 120 million to Sudan

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 31, 1980:

India has agreed to a line of credit of Rs. 120 million to Sudan for exports of capital goods and engineering products. The credit will be given by the Industrial Development Bank of India to the Bank of Sudan for purchase of such items.

This agreement was reached at the Indo-Sudanese trade talks which concluded here last night. The Agreed Minutes of the trade talks were signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister for Commerce and Steel & Mines, on behalf of India and by Mr. Farouq Magboul, Commerce Minister, on behalf of Sudan.

During the talks several engineering and capital goods were identified for which the line of credit was offered to Sudan. These include handtools, spare parts, various engineering goods, buses, bicycles fans,

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building material, diesel engines, lathes machine tools, motors, pumps, agricultural equipments including tractors, flour milling machinery and electric machineries including generators.

COOPERATION

Both sides agreed to maximise trade between the two countries. It was agreed that there was considerable scope for co-operation in the industrial joint ventures and projects, hotels, multi-storeyed residential and commercial complexes, agricultural

farms industrial estates, river transport, telecommunications, establishment of better storage facilities and in the petroleum and petrochemical sectors. Sudan's decision to end monopoly of Sudan Tea Company in May 1980 also came up for discussions during the talks. It was assured by the Sudanese delegation that the decision would not affect flow of tea from India to that country.

The two sides also reviewed the list of items currently being imported from Sudan and an effort was made to identify new items for import from Sudan.

INDO-SUDANESE TRADE

Commercial relations between India and Sudan are governed by the Trade Agreement of 1965, which was based on Most Favoured Nation treatment. It provided specifically for two-way trade in defined commodities within ceiling with bilateral payment in pound sterling. In December 1976 the pattern of trade was made fully open payable in free foreign currency.

India's exports to Sudan during 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79 were worth Rs. 524.2 million, Rs. 355.7 million and Rs. 444.9 million respectively. India's imports from Sudan during the same years were worth Rs. 208.7 million, Rs. 525.6 million and Rs. 173.5 million respectively. During the four months of 1979-80, India's exports to Sudan were worth Rs. 88.8 million and imports were worth Rs. 2.9 million.

Earlier, India used to import from Sudan cotton, groundnut oil and gum arabic. However, with the improvement of its indigenous production of cotton, volume of India's imports from Sudan came down. While expressing satisfaction at India's success; in developing and producing new varieties of cotton, the Sudanese Commerce Minister called for identification of new commodities of import from Sudan so that the trade gap could be reduced.

India's exports to Sudan include mainly tea, spices, crude vegetables, chemicals, tex-

tile yarn fabrics, metal manufactures and machinery and transport equipments. For more than a decade India has been exporting substantial quantities of tea to Sudan market. Our tea exports in 1977-78 amounted to Rs. 248.8 million and in 1978-79 Rs.170.8 million. The entire 1980 tea contract of Sudan worth 25.5 million dollars has been awarded to India in April 1980.

SUDAN INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

US Development Assistance to India: Agreement Signed

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 29, 1980:

India and U.S.A. today signed an agreement under which the U.S. Government will extend a grant of \$ 23.7 millions (Rs. 189.6 million as part of U.S. Government assistance to India for the U.S. financial year 1980.

The agreement was signed by Shri R. N. Malhotra, Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and

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Mr. Archer K. Blood, US Charge d'Affaires on behalf of their respective Governments.

The grant is for financing the cost of implementation of Government of India's Model Plan for basic health and family planning services in 13 districts in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. The financing will

cover costs to be incurred on construction of primary health centres, additional sub-centres, rural family welfare centres, up-graded primary health centres etc., training of community health volunteers (CHVs), Dais, Female Multipurpose Workers etc., improvement and expansion of existing service facilities, drugs, research and certain other components of the project. The grant funds will be utilised to meet the local currency cost of the project.

With the signing of this grant agreement, U.S. economic assistance to India in 1980 total \$ 103.2 million (Rs. 830 million).

USA INDIA MALDIVES

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

VENEZUELA

External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao Meets Venezuelan President

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 29, 1980:

Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, Special Emissary of the Prime Minister, had 45-minutes audience at Caracas on August 29, 1980, with the President of Venezuela, Dr. Luis Herrera Capins, when he handed over to the President a special message from the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Shri Rao exchanged views with the President on strengthening bilateral relations and on current international economic situation.

Earlier, Foreign Minister had extensive

discussions with the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Energy and Mines and also the Finance Minister of the Venezuelan Government.

Shri Rao conveyed India's appreciation of the role which Venezuela played for defending the cause of developing countries and for strengthening of economic relations of OPEC with developing countries.

VENEZUELA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

Industrial Cooperation Between India and Zambia

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 11, 1980:

Zambia has sought India's co-operation in developing small scale industries in that country. The request was made when the visiting Zambian Minister of Agriculture and Water Development, Mr. U. G. Mwila, called on Dr. Chanana, Minister of State for Industry in New Delhi today.

The Minister of State for Industry assured the Zambian Minister that India

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would be glad to help Zambia in developing the small scale industries there. Dr. Chanana said India and Zambia were having similar socialistic pattern of societies and India would very much like to help Zambia in the industrial field especially in developing small scale industries. Dr. Chanana asked the Zambian Delegation to identify the areas in

which Zambia needed India's assistance and also to prepare a plan on the basis of which the details of co-operation could be worked out. Dr. Chanana told the delegation that the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, was very keen to develop on top priority basis the small scale industries in this country. Dr. Chanana also explained to the delegation the Industrial Policy of the Government of India with special reference to promotion of small scale industries. He suggested that the delegation visit the Okhla Industrial Estate to see for themselves how Industrial Estates were working in this country.

The Zambian Minister said his country had a lot of mineral deposits and the problem was of only utilisation adding value to the same within their country.

Both the Ministers decided to identify the areas of joint ventures in the industrial sector.

ZAMBIA INDIA USA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

India Offers Help to Zambia

The following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on August 12, 1980:

India has offered all help to Zambia in its economic development. The offer was made today by the Union Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, when the Zambian Minister of Agriculture and Water Development, Mr. U. G. Mwila called on him.

Rao Birendra Singh informed the
Zambian Minister of the advances made by
India in raising wheat and paddy production
and also in strengthening agriculture re-
search and extension facilities, particularly
the lab to land programme.

Mr. Mwila said that Zambia was at
present deficit in foodgrains and was keen
to attain self-sufficiency. He would like
India to help his country in agricultural
extension.

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ZAMBIA INDIA USA

Date : Aug 01, 1980

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Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BANGLADESH

JRC Decides to Continue High Level Political Discussions

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 1, 1980:

The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission which concluded its 20th meeting here late last night, agreed to continue high level political discussions on the augmentation of loan period flow of the river Ganga. This has been brought out in the joint Press Release issued at the conclusion of the present round of discussions. The text of the joint Press Release follows:

The Twentieth meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission was held in New Delhi from August 29 to 31, 1980. The Bangladesh delegation was led by H.E. Mr. Kazi Anwarul Huque, Minister for Power, Water Resources and Flood Control, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Chairman of the Joint Rivers Commission. The Indian delegation was led by H.E. Shri Kedar Panday, Minister of Irrigation, Government of India and Co-

Chairman of the Joint Rivers Commission.

There was a free and frank exchange of views in a friendly atmosphere. The two sides discussed the augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga/Ganges and examined difficulties that had prevented initiation of studies of the two proposals.

Both sides were confident that a mutually acceptable solution to the augmentation problem would be found in a spirit of trust and good neighbourliness. It was noted that this question was discussed recently at a high political level and that it was expected that discussions at this level would continue.

ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION

The question of the sharing of the Tista Waters was also discussed. It was decided that the Committee already set up by the Joint Rivers Commission should continue its efforts with greater vigour to find out a mutually acceptable solution and report to the JRC at its next meeting.

The Commission discussed problems of border and smaller rivers regarding water utilisation and flood protection works. There was a wide measure of agreement on the manner of approaching these problems with a view to reaching an early solution.

It was decided that the next meeting of the Commission will be held at Dacca very early at a mutually convenient date, with a view to making a renewed attempt to submit its recommendations concerning augmentation of the dry season flows of the Ganga/Ganges, within the time-limit specified in the Agreement.

The Bangladesh Delegation left for Dacca this morning and was seen off at Palam Airport by Union Minister for Irrigation, Shri Kedar Panday, Secretary Irrigation, Shri C. C. Patel, Indian High Commissioner in Dacca, Shri M. Dubey and other senior officers of the Ministry.

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INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Inaugural Address at Second Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting

Following is the text of the address made by the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, to the Second Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting in New Delhi on September 4, 1980:

I am delighted to welcome Your Excellencies, the Presidents and Prime Ministers of Commonwealth countries in the Asia-Pacific region on your visit to India. Our old friends have the freedom of our house and the new friends will, we trust, feel equally at home. Heads of Government from the new member-countries - the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Vanuatu - have our sincere congratulations and cordial thanks for joining us in this summit meeting.

For us it is particularly gratifying to host this meeting, the first Commonwealth summit in India. History will record that India played an innovative role in shaping the character of the Commonwealth. We are proud to seek to realise the noble vision which inspired Prime Minister Nehru to lead India into the co-operative community of nations which is the Commonwealth. Even the derivation of the very word "Commonwealth" points to its ideals of aspiring for the whole of mankind to prosper. There is a paramount need now to invoke this goal of universal well-being. For, we are passing through a critical period when divisions

threaten to consign whole nations into a condition of permanent poverty. It would be an ironic reversal of the anti-colonial movement if our hard-won independence from foreign rule is allowed to be eroded by the compulsions of a new subjugation to stronger power. Inter-dependence is a laudable concept, but it should not be twisted to justify the exploitation of one country by another.

COLLECTIVE EFFORT

The Commonwealth can be valuable to all of us if we persist in using the infinite potential of its dynamic framework to a better purpose. The Sydney meeting in 1978 and the special groups set up there have established that functional co-operation in the Asia-Pacific region is eminently worthwhile and deserving of greater attention by member-Governments. We are not substituting the work of other groupings but are reinforcing those links by trying to spread the benefits of our collective efforts. Regional co-operation is recognised as an essential link in global co-operation. The success of your meeting, therefore, depends upon the energy and vitality which you can infuse into this network of functional co-operation.

In recent years, Commonwealth economic co-operation has become significant and has made considerable progress. The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation is an example of an arrangement where both developed and developing countries contribute to the same objective. Your meeting will help to identify possible areas for further co-operation between the member countries. India was the convenor of the Working Group on alternative sources of energy. The importance of this subject is assuming more urgency as the world goes on depleting its fossil fuels. But it is not so easy to achieve a break through without a great deal of concerted work and the sharing of knowledge. We must make it possible for different communities in different circumstances to utilise the available energy sources in an integrated way. In India we are working to develop bio-gas plants, solar

heating systems and pumps, among other applications. We would be glad to share our knowledge and experience with others. I hope your meeting will highlight the urgency of sustaining such programmes.

TRADE PROMOTION

Another consultative group has been working on Trade Promotion in the region. Some years ago a slogan was coined, "Trade

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not aid". Unfortunately, we seem to be moving into a climate of opinion in advanced countries which seems to prefer another slogan "Neither trade nor aid". Surely, this is a negation of what the Commonwealth stands for. We must all do our best to defeat these divisive tendencies in the world between North and South.

This meeting is a fine opportunity for the leaders of the member countries to reflect on international relations from the point of view of our regional perspective. From our varied perceptions we must distil some elements of insight to comprehend the complexity of our world. This process of quiet sharing of views in an informal and secluded setting is the essence of the Commonwealth spirit. We look forward to this important phase of the Conference with a lively interest. We in India value our friendship with the three broad areas represented here - our sub-continental neighbours, the countries of ASEAN and the islands of the South-Pacific. The choice of Delhi as a venue for this meeting is, therefore, symbolic of our positive outlook and regard for the Asia-Pacific region.

You have a full Agenda and a packed programme for the next four days. But we trust that they will be days of refreshment also as it should be, when you are among friends.

I have great pleasure in declaring open the Second Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting.

[The second Meeting of Commonwealth

Heads of Government of the Asia-Pacific region was held in New Delhi from September 4-8, 1980. Heads of Government who attended the Meeting were the Prime Minister of Australia, the President of Bangladesh, the Prime Minister of Fiji, the Prime Minister of India, the President of Kiribati, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, the President of Nauru, the Prime Minister of New Guinea, the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, the Prime Minister of Singapore, the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands, the President of Sri Lanka, the Prime Minister of Tonga, the Prime Minister of Tuvalu, the Prime Minister of Vanuatu and the Prime Minister of Western Samoa. The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, was in the Chair.]

INDIA USA KIRIBATI TUVALU AUSTRALIA PERU FIJI MALAYSIA NAURU GUINEA REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE SRI LANKA TONGA VANUATU WESTERN SAMOA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Address at Opening Session of CHOGRM

Following is the text of the address made by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, at the opening session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting at New Delhi on September 4, 1980:

It is a privilege to add my words of welcome to those which the President has already extended to the eminent leaders who have gathered here from two continents and from two oceans. I extend a special welcome to the new members of our group: the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Vanuatu.

This extended family makes us especially glad for it is largely India's evolution into a Republic that gave its present form to the Commonwealth: a multi-racial group of nations with different political systems that has played a mediatory role of importance at some crucial moments.

I remember also another conference held in this city 33 years ago. Neither we nor many of the other nations represented today were then free. But empires were retreating and freedom was in the air. My father Jawaharlal Nehru had assumed office in the interim transitional government. He considered it important to bring together leaders of other Asian countries. As he said, it was a watershed of human history when, after centuries of subjugation, Asia was emerging into freedom and assuming its rightful place with other continents. Even at that stage, he had scanned the far horizon and welcomed Australia and New Zealand as observers, realising the commonality of many problems in the Pacific mid South-

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East Asia, and the need for wider cooperation to find solutions to them.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Our agenda enumerates various aspects of "functional cooperation". Australia, to whose Prime Minister we owe the impetus for the CHOGRM movement, has presented a thoughtful document on the possibilities of regional cooperation. I hope that our deliberations will also lead to greater give-and-take in assuring fair prices for raw materials, industrial development, lowering of tariff barriers, transfer of technology and Sharing of experience and training facilities. We are particularly conscious of the special problems of the island economies and of the least developed countries.

I should like to repeat another of my father's sentiments which I fully endorse. "In this conference and in this work there are no leaders and no followers. We meet on an equal basis." Without such equality not only the substance of freedom but the world's

survival is at stake. Insistence on predominance has wrought havoc enough. It has led to the carving out of spheres of influence and balances of power which hold peace to ransom. Professed ideologies may differ but pursuits of power seem to be similar.

We believe in true interdependence. But, this has no meaning unless there is a mutuality of interest. Such mutuality of interest between different nations and peoples which an interdependent world demands can be achieved only when we succeed in establishing a new world order based on justice and equality. But omens for the realisation of such a new order are discouraging. The affluent seem reluctant even for small adjustments which cannot really be considered sacrifices for them but which would make all the difference to us. We seldom get fair prices for our raw materials. Technology marches on, opening up fascinating vistas. But we still cannot reach out to them because at every step, we are hampered by restrictive practices. As a result, the gap in the material levels of living of the rich and poor nations is widening. On the other hand, each passing day sharpens our people's own expectations. Development is a promise of material and social well-being. How can we persuade people to wait for the fulfilment even of their basic needs, to say nothing of their just aspirations for a fuller life?

IMBALANCE IN GLOBAL ECONOMY

Grave and basic structural imbalances have developed in the global economy. A Special Session of the United Nations is currently devoting its attention to this question. We can only hope that there will be an earnest North-South dialogue which will come to terms with the root causes of our ills. The Brandt Commission, of which our distinguished friend the Commonwealth Secretary-General was a member, has had the mortification of seeing its report pushed aside by countries of the North. The report of Commonwealth experts has also confirmed in substance the findings of the Brandt Commission.

Oil has become the major focus of tension. It has added to the burdens of developing countries, vastly aggravating our task of re-construction. More than three-fourths of what India earns by exports, in a none-too favourable international market, goes to import petroleum and petroleum products.

OIL CRISIS

But the oil crisis has also affected the advanced and affluent countries which consume a disproportionate share of this dwindling resource. Their obsessive concern to ensure ever-growing supplies of oil has had an adverse impact on international relations. It has led to a military build-up in our region and added to the tensions. To me it seems imperative that an international conference be called by the producers to work out a scheme by which all consumers, big and small, are assured their necessary supplies. Obviously, preferential treatment should be given to the needs of countries which are most seriously affected.

The common concern for peace, understanding and development has brought us together. But the outlook for peace has deteriorated and we see uncertainty all around. The decade of the eighties has begun ominously. The collision of interests between powerful nations has imperilled the stability and peaceful development of coun-

tries in our vicinity. No part of the globe is remote. No countries can feel sheltered from the pressure of these strategic conflicts or be beyond the reach of the flames of war. When the strongest feel insecure, what can we say of the security of countries like ours?

GREAT POWERS RIVALRY

The crisis in Afghanistan continues unabated. We are against any kind of interference in the affairs of others. But partisan postures or impromptu get-togethers are no substitute for statesmanship in solving such complex problems, which can have far reaching repercussions. No single power can claim a monopoly of wisdom or moral supe-

riority. To condemn intervention in one place while tolerating it elsewhere does not carry conviction. Fortunately there is increasing awareness of the need for a political solution which takes care of all legitimate security concerns.

South-East Asia has been the arena of battle and is still in turmoil. Here again is the clashing of great power interests. We have always believed that each nation in the region must preserve its personality and relate its interests to the welfare of the region. Groupings produce counter groupings. India's view point may be different from those of some others here, but we hope that our sincere efforts to promote understanding in the region will eventually bear fruit.

The ocean has brought conquerors to India in the past. Today we find it churning with danger. Even the Pacific hardly lives up to its name. The frantically increasing pace of militarisation in the Indian Ocean makes the 3,500 miles of our coast more vulnerable. How can we acquiesce in any theory which tries to justify the threat to our security environment or condone the existence of foreign bases and cruising fleets? Independence implies the responsibility of deciding what is good and safe for ourselves and of charting our own course. Any big power conflict in our oceans or neighbourhood will hit us hard. AU this tension has built up because of the collapse of detente and the resultant renewal of the cold war with all its severity. Great powers have great responsibilities. It is up to them to turn away from the pursuit of power, which is in any case illusory, return to the negotiating table, and come to an understanding to dismantle the apparatus of confrontation. They can thereby make a decisive contribution to the reduction of tensions and set the world on the path of peace and progress, Cannot the Commonwealth build a bridge of understanding between them? Let us work together to harvest our marine zones for the benefit of our own people and riches of the open sea for the welfare of all mankind.

CRISIS OF HUMAN VALUES

Whether we like it or not, the problems of the future compel our attention, for they are already upon us. There are many aspects of the human condition which trouble thoughtful people. The crisis that we face goes far beyond political and economic rivalries. It is a crisis of the spirit. For the first time in the story of our world, the human species and the values of civilisation, which have enabled man to rise above his circumstances, are threatened because we have lost sight of the vision of our ancient sages and are obsessed with the immediate discontent.

If we in India are impatient with the lack of will to solve present day problems, it is not only because of their significance to us here and now, but because I feel that the sooner we get them out of the way the sooner we shall be able to get down to what is of deeper and more lasting consequence. Marvellous knowledge is being unfolded by adventurous minds, never daunted, forever seeking. We must all combine to make the maximum use of it to help man to rise above himself to a new stage of evolution.

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INDIA KIRIBATI TUVALU VANUATU USA AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC AFGHANISTAN

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND COMMONWEALTH

President N. Sanjiva Reddy Hosts Banquet in Honour of CHOGRM

The, President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy,
hosted a banquet in honour of the Heads of

Government of the Commonwealth countries of the Asia-Pacific Region, in New Delhi on September 4, 1980. Speaking at the banquet, the President said:

It is indeed a rare privilege to be host to so distinguished a company as we see around this table tonight. On behalf of the Government of India and my own personal behalf, I would like to express our deep gratification to the Heads of Government of Commonwealth countries in the Asia-Pacific who have taken the time and trouble to be with us. We have had the pleasure of receiving some of your Excellencies on earlier occasions and we hope that the first visitors to India among you will feel free to come again whenever opportunity permits.

Your meeting is already well under way. The informal and friendly atmosphere of a Commonwealth get-together is very much in tune with our own nature as a people. In such an atmosphere, your task will we trust, seem lighter as you ponder weighty issues of international importance.

The Commonwealth has adapted itself to the changing priorities of our times. This is the secret of its relevance and continuing popularity. The Secretariat was set up in London, but nobody thinks of London as the hub. We are scattered, it is true, but the member countries cherish the Commonwealth for two main advantages: first, it provides a network of consultations at every level from the summit downward among very different countries without fuss or public polemics; secondly, it promotes functional cooperation in fields that are relevant to developing countries which form the majority of the membership.

COMMON INTEREST

The countries we represent, despite their disparities, share many common interests. Situated in two neighbouring oceans and striving each in its own way to develop their resources to give their people a place in the sun, they can do a lot to help one another and to articulate the needs of

the Asia-Pacific region as a whole. This process of consultation and cooperation among us will be valuable in larger regional groupings and even in global forums.

One of the benefits of this meeting is the opportunity it gives all of us to strengthen our mutual bilateral links with other members. In an increasingly insecure world, we must learn to use the machinery of conference diplomacy to reinforce habits of confident dealing between nations. Communiques and words are not enough. We should rather communicate through positive and helpful actions. These should have the cumulative effect of building up trust. The cooperative neighbourhood will then ripple out in a widening circle of confidence. The Asian continent, which is the most populous in the world, needs especially to build on regional linkages in order to promise a better life for its people. We, therefore, welcome this meeting which we expect to bring out in better focus our friendship for all the countries you represent.

REGIONAL INFLUENCE

When leaders of your stature confer, the influence you exert on the climate of opinion in the world is real, although, intangible. In the two-and-a-half years since your first meeting in Sydney, the world situation is worse from both the political and economic points of view. Some of our countries have coped with fortitude and luck, but the prospects appear hostile to stability, equitable growth and peace. As we all know, diagnosis is easier than cure. All bemoan the lack of Political will in the countries which should show the greatest sense of responsibility. There is no question that the efforts will have to be global in scale and scope. Yet as a region we can exert a considerable influence in the right direction.

INDIA'S PROGRESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

India today is at a crucial stage of development. We have falsified gloomy

predictions which doubted our ability to produce enough food. What we have achieved is, we realise, quite modest in comparison with the potential of a country of India's size and resources. We are in a position to establish the basis of a dynamic and prosperous economy which will help the sub-continent to become a reliable region of peaceful progress. We face some heavy odds, but we shall not be found wanting in courage and a sense of iron determination. It is not for nothing that India has come through countless centuries as a continuity, an idea, a culture of blending influence and tolerance. We feel that the Commonwealth and the world have a stake in the success of our efforts.

India likewise is aware of its obligations as a developing country which has made up some leeway in the long voyage towards prosperity. We are happy to reiterate at this meeting our wish to contribute our utmost to the efforts of other countries which are also struggling to develop their economies. Even our failures may have some lessons for others. We have found by our own experience that technology is not something portable even if it is transferable. It requires an apprenticeship. We are ready to offer our training facilities in professional fields, especially to those countries which are facing even more disadvantages than we are. I am sure that the Heads of Governments will come up with ideas and suggestions to keep alive and strengthen the spirit of cooperative friendship which inspired you to set up this group. The Asia-Pacific is acknowledged to be one of the important regions in the world. We who belong to it have an obligation to strive sincerely to keep it free from all tensions which may invite outside intervention and to promote the welfare of our people through all means available to us. Let us look forward and out-ward rather than dwelling on what has gone wrong with the world.

Excellencies, I sincerely hope that your stay here will be both fruitful and pleasant. When you return, I hope you will have a sense of satisfaction at the results of your meeting. More than this, I hope that the

memory of your visit to India will leave a glow in your minds from the warmth of our friendship.

INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM PERU AUSTRALIA FRANCE

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND U.N. AGENCIES

Minister of Information and Broadcasting Vasant Sathe's Inaugural Speech at South Asian Meet on MacBride Report

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 8, 1980:

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Vasant Sathe, said here today that communication for developing country was a tool for education and motivation and should accelerate positive social action.

The Minister was inaugurating the three-day Conference of Communication Specialists and Administrators from South Asia on the MacBride Commission's Report. The Conference has been organised by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication at the instance of UNESCO. It is being attended by representatives from five South Asian countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, besides India.

Shri Sathe said that while elsewhere communication media were perhaps a toy for entertainment, even amusement, for the developing countries information should accelerate positive social action. The media should create awareness of the tasks that lie ahead of us. Shri Sathe, however, emphasised that entertainment could not be

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separated from communication. It was in-

dispensable in communication.

MEETING NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS

Emphasising that information should contribute to social development, Shri Sathe said that the concept of free flow of Information had to be considered in the context of national aspirations. He said that the tasks ahead of the developing countries were two-fold. Firstly to develop and expand media and information capabilities within our own country and secondly endeavour to remove the imbalances in access to information, education and entertainment activities. The second objective, he said, had to be achieved through international cooperation without sacrificing national dignity and honour.

Referring to the technological aspects of mass media, Shri Sathe said that while the developing countries had to be extremely cautious not to fall a prey to salesmen of sophisticated communication technologies, they could ill afford to lag behind. He said that our interest was in ensuring that communication should be complete and fruitful and should bring back to the policy maker the responses generated by the media at the receiving end. He welcomed the growing interest the UNESCO was taking in the problems of mass communication. The MacBride Commission's Report, he said, was an indicator of the direction of communication development particularly in developing countries.

Mr. Khorshed Alam, Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of Bangladesh, who presided over the inaugural function, said that Bangladesh was equally concerned about the imbalance in the flow of information between the developed and developing countries. He said that there should be an equitable, if not equal, exchange of information. Mr. Khorshed Alam said that the developing countries should work together to achieve the common goal of a new international information order.

INDIA AFGHANISTAN BANGLADESH NEPAL PAKISTAN SRI LANKA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

Prime Minister's Special Emissary Shri Swaran Singh's Meeting with President Soeharto

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 9, 1980:

President Soeharto received Shri Swaran Singh, Special Emissary of the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, on September 8, 1980 for 75 minutes.

The Special Emissary handed over a personal communication from the Prime Minister and explained at length the adverse effect on India's economy by the special hike in oil prices since July 1979. The President was most sympathetic and expressed his full understanding of India's position.

There was also discussion on the regional situation and India's approach to it, and the President expressed satisfaction at the developing relations between the two countries.

Speaking to the Press immediately after the audience with the President, the Special Emissary refuted Press reports to the effect that India was opposed to the regional groupings like ASEAN. He informed the Press that President Soeharto had shown understanding and support for India's position on the oil issue.

A detailed review of international developments took place during the 90 minutes'

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long meeting with Vice-President, Dr. Adam

Malik, who showed support for India's stand on the oil issue and recalled the recommendations of the Brandt Commission of which he was a member.

Earlier, the Special Emissary had 50-minute long call on the Foreign Minister, Professor Mochtar Kusumaatmadja when the issues were briefly reviewed.

INDONESIA INDIA USA MALI

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

KIRIBATI

India and Kiribati to Exchange Teams

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 7, 1980:

India and Kiribati have agreed to exchange teams for identifying prospects of industrial co-operation and mutual trade. This formed the subject of discussion when the Union Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, called on the visiting President of Kiribati, Mr. I. T. Tabai.

Dr. Chanana suggested that in order to identify the projects for development of the resources of Kiribati, a techno-economic survey of the Islands should be conducted at the earliest.

On specific items of trade, the President of Kiribati pointed out his interest in bicycles, kerosene-stoves and scooters from India which were now being imported from developed countries at very high prices. Dr. Chanana. told him that India was in a position to Supply these items at a much less cost and arrangements could soon be

worked out to implement it.

KIRIBATI INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

KUWAIT

Indo-Kuwait Industrial Cooperation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 10, 1980:

Ways and means of increasing and diversifying Indo-Kuwaiti trade and possibilities of joint industrial ventures in India were discussed when the visiting Kuwait Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Abdulwahab Al Nefisi called on Union Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, here last night.

Expressing satisfaction at the gradual growth in the trade between India and Kuwait, the two Ministers agreed on the need for further efforts for identifying new areas of industrial and commercial cooperation. Shri Mukherjee said that the possibilities of setting up joint venture projects in India with Kuwaiti collaboration in fields like petrochemicals, fertilizers, power, cement and paper and paper pulp could be looked into. He also explained to the visit-

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ing Kuwaiti Minister the rules regarding foreign investment in India.

The Kuwaiti Minister said that his country would welcome projects which were mutually beneficial and suggested that areas of such cooperation could be identified and the feasibility and profitability of these pro-

jects could be studied by experts. It was mentioned that a high powered technical team from Kuwait could visit India shortly to explore the possibilities of increasing co-operation between the two countries.

TRADE FAIRS

The Kuwaiti Minister stressed the need for bridging the information gap between the traders and industrialists of the two countries and suggested that India could consider organising trade fairs and exhibitions in Kuwait for this purpose. Shri Mukherjee welcomed the suggestion and said that this could be looked into. The Kuwaiti Minister also suggested that an Indian team could visit Kuwait to study the requirements of that market.

India's exports to Kuwait increased from Rs. 112.80 crores; in 1977-78 to Rs. 120.37 crores in 1978-79. India's imports from Kuwait also increased from Rs. 68.73 crores in 1977-78 to Rs. 103.58 crores in 1978-79. India's exports during April-December, 1979 were placed at Rs. 90.73 crores as compared to Rs. 88.06 crores during the corresponding months of 1978. India's imports from Kuwait went up to Rs. 115.40 crores from Rs. 63.20 crores over the same period. (1 crore = 10 million).

Our major items of exports to Kuwait were spices, iron and steel, manufactures of metals and non-metals, machinery, meat and meat preparations, rice, vegetables and fruits, coffee, tea, cork and wood manufactures, transport equipment, clothing, etc. Our main imports from Kuwait were petroleum and petroleum products, urea, ammonia, copper waste and scrap, sulphur, etc.

KUWAIT USA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM RUSSIA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

Indo-Kuwait Joint Ventures

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 10, 1980:

Wide ranging co-operation in the industrial field was discussed between the Union Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, and the visiting Kuwaiti Minister of Industry and Commerce, Mr. Abdul Wahab Yusaf Al Nefisi.

The two Ministers discussed possibilities of India's participation in the industrial development of Kuwait, Kuwaiti investment in India and joint ventures in third countries with Kuwait giving the financial support and India providing technical know-how, software and hardware. The subject of Kuwaiti investment in India was discussed in detail, and the Kuwaiti Minister disclosed that a delegation from the Gulf Corporation, which looks after the industrial development in Kuwait, was likely to come to India in October.

Dr. Chanana told the Kuwaiti Minister that India had achieved an advanced stage of technical know-how, and that it was in the mutual interest of the two countries to set up Joint ventures not only in either of the countries but also in third countries. Dr. Chanana pointed out to the Kuwaiti Minister that India had been providing infrastructural support to various developing countries of Asia and Africa, consistent with its policy of promoting economic development of friendly countries.

The Kuwaiti Minister evinced great interest in setting up of petrochemicals and machine tool industries in his country with Indian assistance and undertaking investment in India.

The two Ministers discussed the present position of Indian projects in Kuwait and agreed to speed up their implementation.

They also agreed to identify more areas of industrial cooperation based on economic viability and mutual interest.

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KUWAIT INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

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KUWAIT

Indo-Kuwait Joint Press Statement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 11, 1980:

At the invitation of the President of the Republic of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of Kuwait paid an official visit to India from September 9 to 11, 1980.

His Highness the Amir of Kuwait and the accompanying delegation were accorded a warm welcome which reflects the profound friendly and brotherly relations existing between the Republic of India and the State of Kuwait.

The Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi - and H. H. the Amir of Kuwait had detailed discussions on matters of common interest and concern which were not only bilateral but also regional and international. These talks were held in an atmosphere of great warmth, friendship and mutual understanding in conformity with the age-old relations between the two countries. The leaders were deeply gratified that they hold a very close similarity of views on issues discussed by them. The

Ministers accompanying H. H. the Amir also held fruitful discussions with their counterparts.

While viewing the global political situation, the two sides stressed the need for all countries to increase their efforts aimed at promoting and strengthening international peace and security. They expressed their grave concern at growing instances of foreign intervention in the internal affairs of other states. They strongly opposed the use of force in the settlement of disputes between States which should only be resolved peacefully, bilaterally and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and within its framework.

They reaffirmed their adherence to the basic principles of the policy of non-alignment which render the Movement of Non-aligned countries an independent, authentic and irreplaceable factor for peace and progress in the world.

INDIAN OCEAN

The Prime Minister and the Amir viewed with grave concern the growing escalation of Great Power rivalries in the region which lead to increasing tensions and heightening conflicts and hostilities. They therefore called on all concerned states to convert the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and keep the Gulf free of Great Power military presence and rivalry. In this connection the Indian side expressed its appreciation for the courageous stand taken by Kuwait against foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean.

The Prime Minister of India and the Amir of Kuwait viewed with gravity the developments in the Middle East. Israel's expansion and aggression in occupied territories and South Lebanon, its establishment of settlements and exploitation of natural resources in the occupied territories, the move of Israel to perpetuate its annexation of Arab Jerusalem, changing its cultural identity, the establishment of the Israeli capital in that city, Israel's intransigence, continued flouting of international opinion and relevant

U.N. Resolutions, have all contributed to escalation and heightening of tensions and endangering peace and stability in the region and in the world.

The current situation has now assumed ominous dimensions. The two leaders therefore, emphasised the urgency of finding a just and durable solution based upon the complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Arab Jerusalem since June 1967. They also re-endorsed the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under the representation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and, to the establishment of an independent State in Palestine. The Kuwaiti side expressed its appreciation of

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the consistent and solid support given by India to the Arab cause.

SITUATION IN SOUTH ASIA

The Prime Minister of India and His Highness the Amir of Kuwait also discussed the situation in South Asia. Both sides emphasised the necessity of countries in the region living in a spirit of peace and cooperation. They reiterated that the presence of foreign troops contributed to instability and heightened tensions. Solutions, however, would have to be found through political and diplomatic measures and not by military confrontation.

The two sides fully supported the just struggle of the peoples of South Africa and elsewhere against colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination.

BILATERAL SELF-RELIANCE

The two leaders underlined the growing importance of strengthening bilateral exchanges and cooperation. These would be mutually reinforcing and would strengthen both individual and bilateral self-reliance. While expressing satisfaction at the present state of cooperation and exchanges between India and Kuwait, they agreed that there was considerable potential and scope for

both deepening and diversifying them.

The Prime Minister and H.H. the Amir placed particular emphasis upon the importance of Energy not only in regard to their national economies, but also in the global context. As such, they felt that possibilities of increased cooperation between India and Kuwait in the area of oil, its exploration, exploitation, conservation and substitution and in the field of petro-chemicals hold out promises of mutually beneficial cooperation. Specific possibilities in this regard would be further pursued at ministerial and official levels.

The two sides agreed that Kuwaiti participation in the development and industrialisation of India on an investment basis and for mutual benefit would be studied.

The Prime Minister of India expressed her appreciation of the financial assistance to India under the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. The Fund will attach importance to the programmes of development that fall within its specialisation, particularly those relating to the Energy sector.

EXPANSION OF TRADE

Prospects for further expansion of trade between the two countries were also reviewed. It was agreed that various Steps needed to be taken including exchange of delegations and holding of exhibitions.

His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah expressed his appreciation for the cordial reception and warm hospitality accorded to him, and members of his party by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Government and the people of India.

His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait, extended an invitation to the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and to the Prime Minister of India, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to visit Kuwait. The invitations

were accepted gratefully and the dates of the visit will be determined through diplomatic channel.

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KUWAIT INDIA USA ISRAEL LEBANON SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

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MALAYSIA

India-Malaysia Joint Press Release

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 11, 1980:

On September 10 and 11, 1980, India and Malaysia held the senior officials level bilateral talks and the first meeting of the Joint Committee set up under the India-Malaysia Economic and Technical Cooperation Agreement. The Malaysian delegation was led by Tan Sri Zakaria bin Haj Ali, Secretary-General in the Malaysian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Indian delegation by Shri E. Gonsalves, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

During the bilateral talks views were exchanged on regional and international issues of mutual interest and concern. The talks were held in the traditional atmosphere of warm friendship and cordiality which characterize the relationship between the two countries. The talks showed a broad identity of views and perceptions. It was agreed by the two sides to continue the exchange of views at various levels, including in the respective Capitals and at the U.N. The two sides also considered the ways and means of promoting further cultural and scientific exchanges between India

and Malaysia in the context of the India-Malaysia Cultural Agreement signed in March 1978 between the two countries.

The Joint Committee meeting considered ways of further promoting beneficial programmes Of cooperation. In such fields as industry' agriculture and science and technology. It also reviewed the trends of bilateral trade, with a view to give it a more equitable direction. Possibilities of further strengthening the bonds of industrial collaboration through joint ventures were also discussed.

The next round of bilateral talks including the meeting of the Joint Committee would be held in Kuala Lumpur.

MALAYSIA INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

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NAURU

India-Nauru Joint Venture Fertiliser Plant

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 6, 1980:

The possibility of setting up a joint venture phosphatic fertiliser plant was discussed between India and Nauru when the Minister for Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers, Shri Veerendra Patil today called on the visiting Nauru President, H.E. Mr. Hammer DeRoburt, now in the capital in connection with the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting.

The Pacific island state of Nauru is one of the world's major exporters of rock-phosphate, the raw material for the manu-

ufacture of phosphoric acid used for phosphatic fertiliser production.

India produced last year 7.57 lakh tonnes of phosphatic fertilisers. The consumption during that year was estimated at 11.62 lakh tonnes. The demand for phosphatic fertilisers is expected to grow further and it is estimated that by 1982-83 the demand may be around 16 lakh tonnes. (10 lakh = 1 million).

Studies in regard to additional phosphatic fertiliser projects to be taken up for

199 implementation during the Sixth Plan period have been undertaken and it is expected that the first of these projects would be taken up for implementation during 1981-82.

The Government is already considering a proposal to set up a 3,00,000 tonne capacity phosphatic fertiliser unit at Paradeep in Orissa. The Madras Fertiliser Ltd., a public sector undertaking of the Ministry of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers, has submitted a detailed project report to the Government.

A decision regarding Nauru's participation in a joint venture plant in India is likely to be taken by the year-end.

NAURU INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

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NAURU

India and Nauru Discuss Development- Oriented Co-operation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 7,1980:

The possibilities of development-oriented co-operation between India and Nauru were discussed in New Delhi today when the Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, called on the visiting President of Nauru, H.E. Mr. Hammer DeRoburt. Dr. Chanana. told the Nauru President that India was in a position to help promote need-based industries in Nauru.

Dr. Chanana said small industries in India had made big strides and India now had small industry-towns. He said small industry in India was a growing industry and was adopting the latest technology.

Dr. Chanana told the Nauru President that an effective technological and economic co-operation between the two countries could develop if both the countries identified projects based on the availability of local raw materials and infrastructural facilities. He said that India could help set up industrial training centres in Nauru as it was doing in other friendly developing countries.

NAURU INDIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

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SINGAPORE

Indo-Singapore Trade

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 7,1980:

The Trade and Industry Minister of Singapore, Mr. Gohch Chok Thong, called on Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister of Commerce and Steel and Mines at New

Delhi on September 6, 1980. Shri Charanjit Chanana, Union Minister of State for Industry was also present.

During half an hour long discussion, the two leaders discussed ways and means of increasing and diversifying the Indo-Singapore trade. Commerce Minister pointed out that India was generally having a deficit trade balance with Singapore and its share of Singapore's total imports was less than one per cent. The Singapore Minister of Trade and Industry said in this regard that his country would welcome a visit by an Indian business delegation to explore possibilities of increasing India's exports and co-operation in other fields of trade and industry. Shri Mukherjee said that India would

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also welcome a similar sales mission from Singapore.

JOINT VENTURES

Joint ventures between the two countries was another subject which came up for discussion and it was pointed out by the Industry Minister, Shri Chanana, that India has had always encouraged such ventures with other countries and that some of them are already in operation in several South Asian countries. As far as Singapore is concerned, at present there are six joint ventures in production and five in various stages of implementation in collaboration with India.

India's exports to Singapore during 1978-79 are provisionally estimated at Rs. 78.21 crores whereas imports are estimated at Rs. 87.11 crores. This country's exports to Singapore include iron and steel, metal manufactures, machinery and transport equipment, crude, animal and vegetable materials, mixed vegetable oils and fats, spices and feeding stuff for animals. Our major imports from Singapore include non-ferrous metals, chemicals and related products, metalliferous ores and metal scrap. (1 crore=10 million).

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Agriculture

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 1, 1980:

The Union Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, has said that there is much scope for further exchange of scientific and technological know-how in the field of agricultural development between India and the USSR. The relations between India and the Soviet Union are already very close in agriculture, as in other fields.

In an interview to 'Soviet Land' on the eve of his departure to Moscow, on an eight-day goodwill visit, on September 1, 1980, Rao Birendra Singh added that Soviet Union has made rapid progress in the agricultural sector and farm production has special importance for us, India being an agricultural country.

The Minister referred to the Soviet assistance in setting up of model agricultural farms like Suratgarh and in the development of high-quality seeds, and said: "We are very much satisfied with Indo-Soviet cooperation in the field of agriculture. It is useful and mutually beneficiary."

SHARING OF EXPERIENCE

Rao Birendra Singh said that Indo-Soviet cooperation includes exchanges of specialists, scientists and technical information and experience of animal breeding. The sharing of experience has been a signi-

ficant factor in the development of friendship between the two countries. There are regular reciprocal visits and personal contacts between the agricultural specialists of both countries are growing. These contacts will undoubtedly lead to the increasing use in India of scientific methods of farming which are indispensable for any country in our age of science and technology.

The Soviet Agricultural Minister visited India in April this year. The Soviet Union has gifted valuable machinery for our state farms, he said.

India is a country of small land-holdings and our conditions are different than those

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in the Soviet Union. But we can learn a lot from that country as regards technology and scientific methods of farming, he added.

About his programme in the Soviet Union, the Minister said that he would be visiting the USSR's cotton-belt and state farms in Moscow, Leningrad and other places. He added: "I am sure our study will be very valuable for us. Another area of cooperation is the food industry, particularly the processing of fruits and vegetables. During our visit we will see how far we can develop cotton cultivation in our country with Soviet assistance."

When asked about the warm references about India made in his recent speech by Soviet President L. I. Brezhnev, the Minister said: "Close and mutually-advantageous relations have existed between India and the USSR for the last several years. I am sure this cooperation will develop further for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries."

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Indo-US Sub-Commission Meets

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 23, 1980:

The first meeting of the Indo-U.S. Sub-Commission on Agriculture constituted under the over-all Indo-U.S. Joint Commission began in New Delhi today. It will continue for three days. The Sub-Commission will identify sectors and areas in which Indo-US cooperation and collaboration in agriculture and allied activities would be beneficial to the two countries. Shri S. S. Puri, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and Dr. Dale E. Hathaway, Under Secretary for Agriculture in the U.S. Department of Agriculture are the Co-Chairmen of the Sub-Commission.

In his opening remarks, Shri Puri said that not only had we recovered from the set-back of the last year but were also hoping that our kharif production would touch 80 million tonne mark and the overall production of foodgrains in 1980-81 would be about 132 to 135 million tonnes.

Giving details of expected production of different important crops, Shri Puri further said that sugarcane production may be of the order of 145-150 million tonnes representing an increase of about 15 per cent over the last year's level. The production of groundnut in the current kharif season will also be higher than last year. The outlook for cotton crop was quite favourable. At present, the indications are that the current year's cotton production would be around 8.2 million bales as against 7.7 million bales in 1979-80.

GREATER COLLABORATION POSSIBLE

While summarising the agriculture scenario, Shri Puri observed that there were

a number of areas of Indian agriculture in which a great deal of further development is necessary and US experience and know-how would be particularly relevant. In the sector of crop husbandry, he mentioned the possibilities of collaboration and cooperation in seed technology, aerial spraying equipment for plant protection, bio-based management and rock phosphate application.

Several other areas of animal husbandry and fisheries also offer potential for fruitful cooperation. India would also look forward to learning from US a great deal of experience in regard to wildlife management and

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the use of remote sensing technology for the protection of forest resources. In the irrigation and flood control sector and post-harvest technology, the American knowhow would help to augment the agricultural development in India.

Dr. Dale E. Hathaway, Under Secretary of State in the US Department of Agriculture and leader of the US delegation said that the US recognised the great advances made by India in the agricultural field. He felt that there was a solid base for cooperation in agriculture and allied fields between the two countries. He further observed that India had developed its agricultural science and technology to the point where both countries can benefit through direct contacts between scientists.

USA INDIA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Yugoslav Prime Minister

Following is the text of the prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's speech at a dinner in honour of Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, President of the Federal Executive Council Of Yugoslavia, in New Delhi on September 26, 1980:

It is a privilege to have in our midst His Excellency Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, and the distinguished members of his delegation. Their country has many notable achievements to its credit and we value our close bonds of friendship and trust with it.

Excellency, I met you last on the sad occasion when President Tito, that outstanding warrior, maker of modern Yugoslavia and greatly respected world statesman, was laid to rest. It was my privilege to have known President Tito closely. I had high admiration for his deep love for his country and concern for its freedom and unity, and his contribution to peace.

Yugoslavia and India had not been thrown together by history until our own days, when Jawaharlal Nehru and Josip Broz Tito became co-workers and good friends. But there have been similarities in our respective national experiences and achievements. We have both known what it is to lose freedom and regain it. We have woven the strands of diverse races, religions and languages into the rich fabric of national unity. President Tito once described the strength of Yugoslavia as arising from the morale of its people, from their "consciousness of unity which grew like a fire", and from the clarity with which they saw their perspectives. That indeed is how our own Indian nationhood was forged. The national genius for adaptation and synthesis predisposed our countries towards the concept of coexistence. Realising that international stability and the domination of any one group over others is incompatible, we chose non-alignment.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

The history of the Non-aligned Movement is too well-known to be repeated. It has withstood attempts and attacks to divide its ranks. In spite of the weaknesses which have crept in, it remains a force in international life. Its conceptual relevance is as valid as in the early fifties. Indeed, so long as the great powers continue to seek vassals and forge military alliances, so long must the non-aligned persevere in their struggle against the carving of the world into blocs and spheres of influence.

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We cannot but be dismayed by the deterioration in the international situation. With what enthusiasm President Tito and we welcomed detente! Now the direction is reversed. There are new confrontations. On the military side the nuclear arms race has acquired an autonomous momentum of its own. If the action and reaction to which we are witness continues, can a nuclear confrontation be avoided? It is said that war is too important to be left to generals and politics too important to be left to politicians. But is the survival of mankind not important enough to be the concern of all countries, can we allow certain powers to play around with our fates? I don't doubt for a moment that people all over the world, in every country, want peace. Can we not harness this will towards concrete action by governments?

We are deeply distressed by the old and new developments on our continent, some are close to us geographically and directly affect us economically.

I don't want to dwell on these various crises in different parts of the world. Our views have been clearly and repeatedly stated and we are discussing these issues. We are against any kind of foreign interference or subversion. We welcome all efforts aimed at removing present dangers while taking into account the legitimate interests and security concerns of all the involved parties. I hope that non-aligned nations will make their customary construc-

tive efforts to reduce tensions and create conditions for peaceful resolutions of problems.

GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS

The global economic crisis is equally threatening. The economies of many small and vulnerable nations are near collapse. The future of all countries, big or small, is closely interlinked. Inflation, the increasing cost of oil, and growing protectionism in the industrialised world have vastly aggravated the problems of development in the developing world. Affluent countries which consume a disproportionate share of all resources, cannot remain untouched. Fundamental changes are required in international economic institutions. We have a plethora of reports and recommendations. Let us now have bold and concrete action.

The struggle for a more equitable international economic order is, in a way, the big challenge for the Non-aligned Movement in the 80s. We have the ability to resolve differences which might today appear irreconcilable and to evolve a common approach which ensures a better economic future for us all. Let us not be disheartened by setbacks in the process of negotiations. The struggle must go on in the spirit of co-existence and cooperation which are central to the philosophy of the non-aligned. As a beginning, we can perhaps help one another in solving our economic difficulties and giving practical shape to the ideals of economic and technical cooperation among developing countries. Each can profit from the other's experience.

Excellency, your visit to India has provided us with the opportunity to discuss in detail some of the more important issues of our times, as also the steps that our two countries can take to extend and strengthen our bilateral relations. I am glad that you are accompanied by the Federal Secretary for Foreign Trade of Yugoslavia, H.E. Mr. Rotar with whom we can discuss and identify new areas of economic and commercial cooperation.

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Text of Yugoslav Prime Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast, Mr. Veselin Djuranovic said:

Esteemed Madame Prime Minister, dear friends, I should like, first of all, to thank you for the kind invitation to visit your beautiful country, and to express my pleasure as well as that of my associates, in being here today. I also wish to express my thanks for the warm welcome which you have accorded us and for the feelings of friendship surrounding us from the very moment we arrived in India. Your thought-

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fullness and attention reflect the long-standing bonds of friendship and cooperation subsisting between our two countries for a number of decades.

All of us in Yugoslavia were deeply moved by the sincere sympathy displayed by the people and Government of India at the moment of our great sorrow at the loss of President Tito. I avail myself of this opportunity to express once again our gratitude, especially to you, Madame Prime Minister, for manifesting by your personal presence on that occasion also your friendly sentiments towards Yugoslavia. I wish to point out that the nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia will consistently and unflinchingly continue to pursue the policy of non-alignment followed by President Tito - its

visionary architect.

We all know how much the profound mutual respect and personal friendship between President Tito and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, the great leader of the people of India, fighter for independent and free India and its architect, and a great humanitarian of the modern world, contributed to the development of friendly relations between our two countries. This friendship was further developed and strengthened by you, Madame Prime Minister, and by the late President Tito. Hence we can rightly say that it represents a precious achievement of the peoples of our two countries.

Esteemed Madame Prime Minister, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to exchange views with you on the most important international issues and on our bilateral relations.

DETERIORATING INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

I trust you share my view that the present international situation is very difficult and complex, and that the world is experiencing a serious crisis. We are faced with the exacerbation of the relations between the big powers and blocs, which also affects the overall international situation and could have unpredictable consequences. We are particularly concerned over the ever more frequent recourse to the use of force, military intervention, interference in the internal affairs of other states, and the unabated arms race. The crises in the Middle East and in Southeast and Central Asia remain unsettled while independent and autonomous development of peoples and sovereign countries is constantly being threatened by the rivalry between the big powers and blocs which are trying to gain new sphere of influence. This most frequently affects non-aligned countries. We are faced with a situation in which attempts are being made to impose solutions by the force of arms and by the policy from a position of power rather than by way of negotiations and cooperation on a footing of equality.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

However, in spite of this, we see that peoples are longing for peace and national political and economic emancipation, for full respect for the principles of independence, equality and the right of the peoples to decide by themselves on their internal system and foreign policy without outside interference. It was precisely as a reflection of these authentic aspirations that the Non-aligned Movement came into being and developed as an independent, non-bloc force and an irreplaceable factor of peace and stability in the present-day international conditions, a movement whose great architects were President Tito and Prime Minister Nehru.

We in Yugoslavia highly appreciate India's major role and contribution, as well as your outstanding personal efforts, Madame Prime Minister, aimed at further asserting the policy of non-alignment as an irreplaceable and increasingly influential factor in the present day international relations.

We are firmly convinced that the policy of non-alignment, reflecting objective aspirations of mankind, can offer realistic and acceptable alternatives for transcending the present dangerous situation in the world. That is why we keep emphasizing, and I am glad to note that in this we are in full agreement, that today intensified action by the Non-aligned Movement is necessary more than ever before, since the current development in the world calls for our resolute struggle to eliminate the causes underlying this dangerous situation and to find solutions to key international issues. We expect the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, scheduled to be held in New Delhi early next year, to take concrete steps towards that end, because only in this way can the Non-aligned Movement fulfil its historical mission and justify the hopes of the large majority of mankind.

We are convinced that in the present situation it is indeed of essential importance that the non-aligned countries, proceeding from the original principles and objectives

of non-alignment, should wage even more resolute struggle for active peaceful coexistence, revitalizing and strengthening detente as a universal process, initiating genuine disarmament, eliminating the existing crises by peaceful political means and for building up democratic and equitable international, political and economic relations.

IRAQ AND IRAN

We are deeply concerned with the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran, the two non-aligned countries. We hope that they will end their conflict and seek a peaceful solution to the controversial questions by political means, proceeding from the principles of the policy of nonalignment and the United Nations Charter.

The absence of any progress towards the solution of pressing international economic problems, especially the ever more complex problems of developing countries, constitutes a great danger to peace and political stability in international relations. The crisis of the present system of world economic relations is becoming ever more profound. The gap between developing and developed industrial countries is widening. In such conditions, the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations was recently held. Unfortunately, the results achieved leave much to be desired, because they fall short of the real needs of the present moment in the world economy and international economic relations, and particularly of the needs and expectations of the developing countries. Nevertheless, we hope that, by transferring global negotiations and the international development strategy to the regular session, and by continuing the dialogue and negotiations between industrially developed and developing countries, conditions for reaching a decision on launching the global negotiations early next year will be created. We believe that only by way of global negotiations is it possible to find solutions to major economic problems of the contemporary world and gradually to introduce the new international economic order which is in the interest not only of developing but also deve-

loped countries and indeed of the entire international community. We are aware of the fact that in this regard self-reliance to an ever greater extent must be the orientation of the non-aligned and other developing countries and that they should display still greater mutual solidarity and cooperation in conformity with the recommendations of the Sixth Conference of Non-aligned Countries, in order to accelerate their own development in this way also.

COOPERATION

Madame Prime Minister, I am particularly pleased to note the continuing successful development of the traditionally friendly relations between Yugoslavia and India and steady upward trend of our mutual cooperation. The identity or great similarity of views on key international issues has resulted in an on-going dialogue between responsible personalities of our two countries and constitutes a substantive contribution to the development of our bilateral relations as well as to the cooperation of our two countries on the international scene. The exchange of a number of state delegations, regular consultations on current issues, contacts between our parliaments, cooperation in the fields of culture, science, technology and in the field of information have further strengthened the ties between our peoples and countries and contributed to a better mutual understanding.

We attach exceptional significance to economic cooperation, since we believe that through more extensive linkage of our economies, on a longterm basis, we are contributing to the promotion of overall relations between our countries and to greater mutual benefits. In the economic field, however, there exist considerable unutilised possibilities. In addition to the need for achieving a more dynamic and more balanced trade at a considerably higher level than in the past, I wish to stress particularly the need

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for expanding industrial production cooperation, long-term and planned development of cooperation in the execution of specific

projects of Interest to the economies of Yugoslavia and India, as well as the need for intensifying cooperation and undertaking joint ventures on the markets of third countries.

I wish to point out that Yugoslavia will continue to invest comprehensive efforts with a view to promoting long-term cooperation with India in all areas. We are convinced that this is in the interest of our two countries, the Non-aligned Movement in general, as Well as in the Interest of peace, equitable cooperation and security in the world.

Madame Prime Minister, dear friends, I now invite you to join me in raising this glass to the health of His Excellency Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President of India, to your health, Madame Prime Minister, to the further progress of the friendly people of India and to the all-round development of Yugoslav-Indian relations.

YUGOSLAVIA USA INDIA IRAN IRAQ

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

India-Yugoslavia Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 27, 1980:

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, the President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, H.E. Mr. Veselin Djuranovic paid an official friendly visit to India from 26 to 28 September, 1980.

During the visit, the President of the Federal Executive Council of the S.F.R.Y., His Excellency Mr. Veselin Djuranovic was received by the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy.

During his stay in Delhi, the President of the Federal Executive Council of the S.F.R.Y. also paid tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru by laying wreaths at Rajghat and Shantivana.

The Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, and the President of the Federal Executive Council of the S.F.R.Y., Mr. Veselin Djuranovic held a wide ranging exchange of views on the current international situation as well as on the role and the activities of the Non-aligned Movement in international relations. The two leaders also devoted special attention to the further strengthening of bilateral relations and all-round Indo-Yugoslav cooperation. The talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual trust and cordiality, characteristic of the traditional friendship between Yugoslavia and India.

INTERNATIONAL SITUATION SURVEYED

The two sides expressed their concern over the deterioration of the international situation and noted with regret the setbacks to the process of detente and the failure of efforts to universalise it, caused by rivalry between Great Powers for areas of influence in different parts of the world. They felt that the continuation of the arms race, particularly nuclear, and a growing tendency to use force and to interfere in the internal affairs of other states, represents a serious threat to peace, stability and security in the world. They fully supported more energetic efforts being made in the United Nations towards halting the nuclear arms race and expressed their readiness to make together with other non-aligned countries their full contribution to the realisation of this aim.

The two Prime Ministers expressed serious concern over the growing aggravation of the situation in some parts of Asia.

In addition to the continuing crisis in West Asia, in which the key to a comprehensive, lasting and just solution is to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights including the right to establish their own state, new areas of crises have emerged in South East and South West Asia. In this context, the two sides stressed their conviction that such crises can and should be resolved only through political solutions

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based on well-recognised principles of non-alignment, peaceful coexistence and the U.N. Charter implying full respect and support for the sovereignty and independence of all countries in these regions as well as the right of their people to live in their own way without interference from outside.

APARTHEID AND RACISM

The two sides condemned the persistence of the policy of apartheid and racism in South Africa and reaffirmed their full support to SWAPO in the struggle for the national liberation of Namibia. They expressed their satisfaction with the emergence of Zimbabwe as an independent member of the world community and expressed their readiness to cooperate fully with that country.

The two sides affirmed that the Non-aligned Movement, towards whose creation and political philosophy Jawaharlal Nehru and Josip Broz Tito had made such a vital and lasting contribution, had demonstrated its validity as an irreplaceable and independent factor in the democratization of international relations and ensuring of peace and stability in the world. They emphasized the need for the non-aligned countries to strengthen the common bonds which unite them and to pledge themselves through concerted action towards reversing the present dangerous trends in international relations in conformity with the fundamental principles and objectives of non-alignment. They also affirmed that the struggle for a more equitable international economic order was the big challenge for the Non-Aligned movement in the eighties. Recognising the

importance of the Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries to be held in New Delhi in 1981, the two sides agreed that they, together with other non-aligned countries, should exert every effort to ensure success of this conference.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

The two sides devoted special attention to the pressing international economic problems, the position of developing countries and the efforts exerted by them for the establishment of the New International Economic Order. Recognising that in the ultimate analysis, the political stability of international relations depended to a great extent upon the solution of these problems, they expressed their regret over the absence of substantial progress in the establishment of new and more just economic relations in the world, first and foremost over the lack of political readiness on the part of the developed countries to make necessary and active contribution to the solution of this key problem. They pointed to the need for intensified concerted efforts of non-aligned and developing countries for the establishment of the New International Economic Order and the implementation of the Strategy for the Third Development Decade and the initiation of the Global Round of Negotiations. They pledged themselves for the implementation of the decisions of the VI Conference of Heads of States and Governments of Non-aligned Countries as well as for the great solidarity of all countries in the realisation of the objective of their development.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the development of traditionally friendly, close and mutually beneficial relations, the foundations of which were laid by Jawaharlal Nehru and Josip Broz Tito between Yugoslavia and India and confirmed their readiness to further promote these relations. In this context, the two sides recognised the importance of strengthening economic relations as well as of encouraging measures to stimulate closer trade and economic cooperation such as in the fields of industry, energy and agriculture including through

joint ventures, both in their respective countries as well as in third countries. In their opinion the Agreement on the Long-Term Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation concluded on 26th September 1980 provides an affective framework to achieve this objective. The two sides reaffirmed their determination to further expand and strengthen bilateral cooperation in diverse fields. They also agreed to consider modalities for developing institutional contacts between the National Planning Authorities of the two countries.

The President of the Federal Executive of the S.F.R.Y., H.E. Mr. Veselin

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Djuranovic, expressed gratitude for the friendly sentiments and the hospitality extended to him and to the members of his delegation during the visit, The President of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA USA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

ZAMBIA

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

Kaunda

Following is the text of President N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at banquet hosted in honour of Dr. Kenneth D. Kaunda, President of Zambia and Madame Kaunda in New Delhi on September 12, 1980:

I have great pleasure in extending once again a warm welcome to you Mr. President, Madame Kaunda and the distinguished members of your delegation gathered here tonight We greet you as a valiant leader of a front-line State, an illustrious son of Africa and a renowned world champion of human values. As a close and cherished friend of India, you have the freedom of our house.

I recall that your last visit to us was on the eve of the emergence of independent Zimbabwe. That momentous event opened a new frontier of freedom in Southern Africa. The time has now come to forge ahead and to intensify our common efforts to secure the vacation of the illegal South African occupation of Namibia and the dismantling of the system of apartheid in South Africa. India has always identified itself wholeheartedly with the struggle against racialism and colonialism We pledge our continuing solidarity with the noble struggle in which your country, other front-line States and the oppressed people of South Africa are currently engaged.

Zambia's own record of selfless sacrifice and steadfast support to the causes of freedom and equality in Southern Africa is well-known. We have no doubt that the Zambian people, under your leadership, will continue to display the same fortitude, dignity and calm in the times to come. You can count on our sympathy and support as in the past.

REVIVAL OF COLD WAR

Mr. President, we cannot fail to note that the global outlook for peace has deteriorated in recent times. The present decade has begun ominously and there is a perceptible revival of cold war attitude and big-power rivalries in different parts of the world. Detente is in shambles and the nuclear arms race is assuming new and more menacing dimensions. In the Indian Ocean, there has been an alarming increase in military build-up by the great powers threatening peace and stability in the region, Our renewed calls for the elimination of great-

Power military bases and competition have not been heeded so far.

The crisis in Afghanistan continues unresolved. Fortunately, there is increasing recognition on all sides that a political settlement, taking into account the interests of all concerned, is indispensable. India, for its part, has urged the exercise of utmost restraint and the avoidance of any action which may further exacerbate present tensions.

CLASH OF BIG-POWER INTERESTS

In South East Asia, we are witnessing continuing turmoil aggravated by the clash of big-power interests. We trust that the path of restraint and dialogue may yet prevail and create the necessary conditions in

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which the sovereignty and independent personality of all the countries can be fully safeguarded.

The situation in West Asia has become more critical with the increasing intransigence of Israel. Durable peace in the area cannot be achieved until Israel vacates all occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people have secured their full rights in a homeland of their own.

Mr. President, I have no doubt that in the present disturbed world. India and Zambia as non-aligned countries, can make a positive contribution towards world peace and stability. Our joint efforts are based on shared ideals, common interests and mutual benefit.

WORLD ECONOMY

The world economy is passing through an unprecedented crisis which poses a serious threat to the growth - indeed survival - of many developing countries. We live in an interdependent world. Unfortunately, the present international economic order makes for continued exploitation of the poorer countries to the benefit of the richer ones. The necessary political will

must be generated through patient North-South dialogue for the restructuring of this unjust and increasingly untenable economic system. At the same time, we must also intensify economic cooperation among developing countries like India and Zambia, particularly in the fields of trade, industry and technology.

The economics of India and Zambia have some complementarities. While Zambia has vast mineral resources, India has the necessary expertise and technology to assist in developing them. While Zambia has large areas which can be brought under the plough to produce needed foodgrains, India possesses the required agricultural technology as well as the necessary implements. Fortunately, our relationship, historically has been entirely free of mutual fears and suspicions. I am informed that during your Excellency's visit, Practical arrangements for cooperation in the fields of small scale industries, agriculture, rural development, trade and joint ventures will be worked out by our respective experts. This is as it should be. India is always ready to share with Zambia whatever expertise we have developed.

ZAMBIA USA INDIA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA AFGHANISTAN ISRAEL

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Zambian President's Speech

Replying to the toast, the Zambian President said:

I bring to you, Mr. President, the Government and the people of India warm

fraternal greetings, best wishes and love from the people of Zambia.

My delegation and I are happy to be back with you in India once more. A few months ago we were privileged to be so well received during a brief stop-over here in New Delhi.

To us in Zambia India is a very special place. We look at India just like a second home. It is a place from which we draw a unique spiritual strength for the life we must live, the service we must render to the basic struggles of man.

Each time we are in India we are overwhelmed by the touching reception which you, our brothers and sisters, give to us. I want you to know, Mr. President, that we return fully this friendship and warm feelings. These mutual feelings between us are a spontaneous demonstration of the genuine closeness of the peoples of Africa and the peoples of India.

DEEP BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP

Zambia and India enjoy deep bonds of friendship which go back to the independence of Zambia. From those times to this day, our two countries have maintained a close identity of views on many international issues. At home we have pursued similar objectives in the fight to improve living standards and raise the quality of life of our people.

In our determination to work more effectively together we have signed various

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agreements to promote our co-operation in all the five areas of human endeavour. As a result, we are carrying out mutually beneficial tasks in the political, economic, social and cultural fields, as well as in the sharing of science and technology and in building and strengthening the defences and security of our common national interests.

For a long time now we in Zambia have increasingly come to rely on the excellent

services of qualified personnel from India in many sectors of our life and development. Young men and women from India work side by side with Zambians in maintaining and expanding Zambia's development in health, engineering, banking, accountancy, mining, trade, manufacturing, industry and other lines of endeavour. There is hardly a field of action in which Indian personnel are not participating in Zambia.

INDIAN EXPERTS LAUDED

I can report to you, Mr. President, that these young men and women from India serving our people across the country are putting in their very best and performing a great task. They are doing a most commendable job for our nation. Working in Zambia at this point in time means working for a developing country climbing from the very bottom of the development ladder. It calls for dedication and personal sacrifice.

It is to the credit of the young workers from India that they have been able to face up to these strong challenges. Through them India is contributing an important input to the humanist socialist revolution in Zambia and in Africa.

May I, therefore, take this opportunity, Mr. President, to thank you, the Government and the people of India and in particular the families which have supplied the men and women at work today in our country. In this, of course, I include also those who have returned home to India. I want you to know that Zambia appreciated this service from India greatly.

I am also aware, Mr. President, that we have here in India Zambians training in various fields. These young Zambians must in due course be the experts who must take over the development tasks now being carried out by their Indian colleagues working in Zambia. As we embark on new programmes to accelerate the development of agriculture, mining and industry, it is my desire that Zambia and India study more closely the necessary flow of technical skills from India to Zambia. I want Zambia to

make the best use of this flow of skills, training and technology. We must develop a scientific management of this vital input by India into Zambia's development programme.

WIDE-RANGING COOPERATION

The co-operation between Zambia and India is not limited to personnel. It is wide and runs across the full board of all the five areas of human endeavour. For a long time Zambia and India have worked together in the political field, in many areas of the economic field and we continue to co-operate socially and culturally. We share experiences in science and technology and are co-operating even in the sensitive field of defending the security of the national interests and achievements of our peoples.

The purpose of my present visit to India is to strengthen our ties, relations and co-operation in all these fields. We must consolidate the existing arrangements and open new ground upon which we can build new programmes. It is now the intention of my Party and its Government to expand to the full Zambia's co-operation with India.

This desire follows a new decision of the party to focus attention on accelerated development of our economy. The Party is determined to make up for the times and development opportunities the nation lost to the liberation wars in Southern Africa. We believe there is no better way of acknowledging and celebrating the heroic victories of liberation in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe than for Zambia to produce more material welfare. We accept this as necessary for Zambia and for all our friends, comrades and allies in Southern Africa.

We are acutely aware, Mr. President, that revolution can win freedom by the gun, but once won, freedom has to be defended by bread. We know that freedom matures

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in the maize and wheat fields, in the mines, in the factories and scientific laboratories and workshops. It is in this way Zambia must now defend and expand her own free-

dom and contribute to the consolidation and expansion of the freedom of the newly independent States in Southern Africa and the peace of our continent.

INDIA'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

Our Party, its Government and people have made a decision to bring about a transformation of Zambian agriculture, mining, industry and science. We want India to participate fully in this programme. With liberation victories in Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, we believe this programme in Zambia is now feasible and imperative.

Meanwhile, Zambia will continue to fight as before for the liberation of Namibia and for the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa until our brothers and sisters in these territories win liberation. As you know, Mr. President, when that inevitable happens, it will signal the final end of foreign domination of the continent and the birth of Africa as a self-determining political and economic force in the world.

I hope also to use the present visit to India to compare notes with your nation's leaders on current international issues in the world, especially the present hot beds of crimes which threaten world peace. In this regard, I want to pay special attention with my colleagues here in New Delhi to the Non-aligned Movement and exchange views on the role it can and should play in the world situation of today.

INDIA'S ROLE

India has a decisive role to play in giving new strength to the Non-aligned Movement. Indeed here in New Delhi will be held the next meeting of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned Countries. That meeting should help to rally up and guide the Non-aligned Movement on the great role it must play for world peace and the lowering of tensions in the world.

Mr. President, Madame Prime Minister, Honourable Ministers, Your Excellencies, distinguished guests, brothers and sisters,

may I now propose a toast to His Excellency President Sanjiva Reddy and Madame Reddy, to the excellent relations between the people of India and the people of Zambia, to the growth and expansion of the mutual co-operation between our two countries, to freedom of the peoples of the world in peace, love, justice and fair play, to the strengthening and further growth of non-alignment, and to all of us friends present here.

Thank you.

YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA ANGOLA
MOZAMBIQUE ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

Indo-Zabian Protocol on Agriculture

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 13, 1980:

An Indo-Zambian portocol relating to cooperation in agriculture and rural development was signed this afternoon. The Union Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh, signed on behalf of India and Mr. U. G. Mwila, Minister of Agriculture and Water Development, for Zambia.

The six-point protocol envisages increased scientific, technical and economic exchanges between the two countries in the field of agriculture and rural development. It has been agreed that both sides will promote cooperation between the institutions concerned with agriculture and rural development in the two countries on the basis of (i) exchange of scientific and technical material and (ii) exchange of germ plasm

and breeding material.

Both sides will endeavour to promote programme of cooperation in agricultural technology and industry, more specially in the areas of power driven and manually operated agriculture machinery, including tractors, power tillers and earth movers; dairy machinery and equipment; sugar plants and machinery.

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India will provide training facilities for Zambian personnel in various disciplines of agriculture, specially in agricultural extension.

The two countries will cooperate in establishing joint ventures in Zambia for production and processing of tea and coffee.

YUGOSLAVIA INDIA ZAMBIA USA

Date : Sep 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

YUGOSLAVIA

India-Zambia Joint Communique

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on September 15, 1980:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the Republic of Zambia and Mrs. Betty Kaunda paid a State visit to India from September 12 to 15, 1980. The visit took place in the warm and friendly atmosphere which has always characterised the relations between India and Zambia.

The President of the Republic of Zambia and the Prime Minister of India

held extensive talks on the whole range of international issues. They also reviewed the relations between the two countries in all fields as well as ways to further develop them. These talks were held in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, trust and understanding.

The President of Zambia and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the situation in Southern Africa. The Prime Minister reiterated India's identification with the aims and aspirations of the struggle for liberation in Southern Africa. The two sides noted that the liberation of Zimbabwe from minority rule has opened up a new frontier of freedom in Southern Africa. They welcomed the entry of free Zimbabwe into the Commonwealth, Non-aligned Movement and the United Nations.

LIBERATION OF NAMIBIA

The President of Zambia and Prime Minister of India agreed that tension and confrontation in Southern Africa could not be abolished and peace established until the liberation of Namibia from the illegal South African occupation and the dismantling of the structure of apartheid in South Africa is achieved. They re-affirmed their total support for the Namibian people's inalienable right to freedom and also their solidarity with the struggle led by the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), the sole, legitimate and genuine representative of the Namibian people. The Prime Minister of India expressed India's strong condemnation of the acts of unprovoked armed aggression carried out by the South African regime against the front-line States. They also deplored South Africa's dilatory tactics regarding holding of UN-supervised elections in Namibia. President Kaunda expressed his deep appreciation of India's support for the cause of liberation in Southern Africa and the solidarity and assistance extended by India to Zambia as a front-line State.

TENSION IN INDIAN OCEAN

The President of Zambia and the Prime

Minister of India expressed deep concern over the escalation of great power military presence and rivalry in the Indian ocean including, in particular, the strengthening of the Diego Garcia base. Despite the expressed wishes of the littoral and hinterland States, the great powers are intensifying their military competition with serious consequences for peace and stability in the region. They noted with regret the suspension of the bilateral talks on arms limitation in the Indian Ocean between the Soviet Union and the United States. They urged the great powers as well as other major Maritime users of the Indian Ocean to cooperate with the littoral and hinterland States in preparing for UN Conference on the Indian Ocean in Sri Lanka in 1981 with a view to implementing the UN Declaration of 1971 on the Indian Ocean as a 'Zone of Peace'.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

The two sides were of the view that recent developments in the South West Asia have aggravated tensions and increased the

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prospects of great power confrontation. However, they regarded the emerging consensus on the need for a peaceful and negotiated political resolution of the situation in Afghanistan as a positive development. The two sides hoped that efforts in this direction would lead to the emergence of a political solution which would respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and nonaligned status of all the countries in the region.

The President of Zambia and the Prime Minister of India noted with concern the deterioration in the situation in West Asia. They called for the immediate withdrawal by Israel from all the Arab territories occupied since June 1967. Both sides re-affirmed that the Palestinian question was at the core of the problem and unless it was resolved satisfactorily with the PLO as an equal partner in negotiations, no attempt towards a settlement could succeed. The Palestinian people should be restored their inalienable

rights to their homeland and to a nation-State of their own.

The current situation in South-East Asia was reviewed. Both sides expressed the hope that the path of restraint and dialogue may still prevail and create the necessary conditions in which the sovereignty and independent personality of all countries could be fully safeguarded.

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

NON-ALIGNMENT

The President of Zambia and the Prime Minister of India re-affirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment and noted that the Non-aligned Movement which now represents the hopes and aspirations of millions of people all over the world has become an independent and positive force for world peace. They expressed the hope that through strict adherence to the principles of Non-alignment and by stressing the common bonds which unite nonaligned countries, the Movement would be able to forge a common strategy to strengthen international peace and security and to build a more equitable international order. The two sides agreed to work together for the success of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned Countries to be held in New Delhi in 1.981.

The President of Zambia and the Prime Minister of India agreed that the world economic situation has deteriorated for the developing countries. They called for effective and urgent steps for improving the international economic climate and for the establishment of a new International Economic Order. In this context, they welcomed the decision of the UN General Assembly to set up in 1981 a new global

Round of Negotiations on International Economic Cooperation.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

The President of Zambia and the Prime Minister of India noted with satisfaction that bilateral relations between India and Zambia in the economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields had been progressing smoothly. They expressed their mutual satisfaction that agreement had been reached to cooperate more closely in the fields of small scale and other industries, agriculture and rural development, and trade and joint venture. They felt that such cooperation reflected the principles contained within the Economic Declaration of the Sixth Non-aligned Summit that economic cooperation for development among the non-aligned and other developing countries was an important part of the struggle for the establishment of a new International Economic Order.

In response to the request from the Zambian side, it was agreed that on utilisation of the existing credits, further Government to Government credit would be considered.

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The President of Zambia expressed his deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to India.

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

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YUGOSLAVIA INDIA ZAMBIA USA ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA SOUTH AFRICA CENTRAL AFRICAN
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Date : Oct 01, 1980

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BULGARIA

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's State, Visit to Bulgaria

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 9, 1980:

The President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, accompanied by Smt. Sanjiva Reddy, arrived in Sofia on a five-day State visit on the morning of October 7.

The President and Smt. Reddy were given a warm and cordial Welcome on their arrival in Sofia by His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Her Excellency Lyudmila Zhivkov. Thousands of Sofia residents greeted the President at the Airport and all along the drive to his official residence at Boyana. On the way, the President was handed the key to the city of Sofia by the Mayor of Sofia.

In the afternoon, the President had official discussion with His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. During these discussions, the President was accompanied by his official delegation to the talks which centred on Indo-Bulgarian relations and some aspects of present-day international relations.

In the evening, His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and Mine. Lyudmila Zhivkov hosted a banquet in honour of the President of India and Smt. Sanjiva Reddy. Official speeches were made on the occasion by the President of India and Bulgaria.

President Reddy mentioned that both

countries were united by their common efforts in the cause of peace and international understanding. As countries making efforts for the fulfilment of the tasks for national reconstruction, India and Bulgaria naturally valued the preservation and strengthening of peace and development of the process of detente. President Reddy added that these ideals had been learnt from the sacrifices of people like Mahatma Gandhi and Georgi Dimitrov. Mentioning that modern science and technology had opened on the one side possibilities for the improvement of the standard of living of the people and, on the other side, the technology of destruction, the President said that it was particularly important that relations between peoples should be strengthened and that tensions should be reduced.

ECONOMIC RELATIONS

President Reddy also added that cooperation between countries could be strengthened by the establishment of a new economic order. He also said that India was contributing in a constructive way towards the solutions of all these complicated problems. Dwelling on Indo-Bulgarian economic relations which had manifold prospects, the President mentioned about many visits of the Bulgarian leaders to India. President Reddy concluded by mentioning the dynamic leadership of Smt. Gandhi and saying that the Government of India was sparing no efforts to secure economic development and social equality for the Indian peoples.

President Zhivkov had earlier praised Indo-Bulgarian relations as a proof of the possibilities for co-existence between two states with different social systems. He added that Bulgaria highly appreciated India's positive and peaceful foreign policy. He praised Smt. Gandhi's leadership and

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also mentioned that Indo-Bulgarian relations could develop further and added that the visit of the President was a manifestation of Bulgarian-Indian friendship and an expression of the common zeal of both countries for a still closer rapprochement between the

two nations and of a still more efficient co-operation.

BULGARIA INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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CUBA

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Visit to Cuba

Following is the text of the Press Release issued in Havana at the end of an official and friendly visit of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao to Cuba from October 5 to 7, 1980:

At the invitation from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, Comrade Isidoro Malmierca, the Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, paid an official and friendly visit to Cuba from October 5 to 7, 1980.

The Indian Government delegation also included Shri Eric Gonsalves, Secretary to the Government of the Republic of India, Shri C. R. Gharekhan, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India in charge of United Nations Affairs, Shri Deb Mukharji, Director in charge of the Americas Division in the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and Shri Ashok Mubayi, Special Assistant to the Foreign Minister of the Republic of India, and Shri Preet Mohan Singh Malik, Ambassador of India to Cuba.

Shri Rao was received by Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Re-

public of Cuba. Talks were held which showed the closeness of views on the main world issues and the interest of both sides in the continued development of the good relations existing between both countries.

The Foreign Minister delivered to the President Fidel Castro a letter addressed to him by the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Foreign Minister Rao was received by Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Vice President of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Shri Rao also met Comrades Rene Anillo, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Recardo Cabrisas, Minister of Foreign Trade, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, Minister President of the State Committee for Economic Collaboration and Pelegrin Torras, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

The talks took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere and dealt with various issues on the international situation, and included the bilateral relations between both countries and on issues of interest within the movement of Non-aligned countries and preparations for the Ministerial Meeting to be held in New Delhi early next year.

Particular attention was placed on discussion of the possibilities of developing commercial and economic exchanges between both the countries, and of increasing cultural relations and scientific and technical collaboration.

The two sides expressed their desire to hold regular exchanges between both Foreign Ministers as an effective means to foster mutual understanding and pool efforts in order to contribute to the attainment of common aims at the easing of tensions in areas of conflict as well as the strengthening and consolidation of world peace.

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Likewise, they expressed their satisfaction at the results achieved during the visit, which helped to strengthen the ties

between both countries and broaden the perspective for further developing the bilateral relations between the Republic of India and the Republic of Cuba.

PEACE AND STABILITY

Both the Foreign Ministers agreed that strengthening and consolidating peace and stability as well as the defusion of tensions, particularly in areas of conflict was vitally important in the present world situation for all the peoples of the world, especially for the developing countries. They stressed the need to pay particular attention to the international economic relations so as to remove the inequities suffered by developing countries and to usher in the new international economic order. In the above context they emphasized the desirability of strengthening economic co-operation amongst developing countries. They recognised the importance of the role that the Non-aligned Movement could play in finding ways and means to resolve all these problems. They jointly expressed the hope that progress towards implementation of the decisions taken at the Sixth Summit Conference of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-aligned countries held In Havana would be speedily achieved as they would contribute significantly to the above objectives. The Foreign Minister of India expressed his appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Cuba, especially of President Fidel Castro, in seeking to bring this about. The Foreign Minister of Cuba expressed his appreciation of the role of the Government of India and especially of the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in seeking to uphold the principles of the Non-aligned Movement and world peace.

The Foreign Minister of India expressed his deep appreciation of the cordial reception and warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to Cuba. The Foreign Minister invited the Foreign Minister of Cuba to pay a visit to India. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

CUBA INDIA UNITED KINGDOM MALI CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC USA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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CYPRUS

President N. Sanjiva Reddy Welcomes Cyprus President

Following is the text of the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech Welcoming the President of Cyprus, Mr. Spyros Kyprianou, on his arrival at New Delhi on October 23, 1980 on a three-day State visit:

I have great pleasure in extending to you, on behalf of the Government and people of India as well as on my own behalf, a warm welcome on your first visit to India as President of the Republic of Cyprus. I hope that Your Excellency, Mr. Kyprianou and the other distinguished members of your delegation will have a pleasant stay in our midst.

Cyprus and India are developing countries which have emerged from colonial domination not very long ago. However, we both represent ancient civilisations with a long history and tradition. We share many common values. We are linked by friendly Cooperation within the Non-aligned Movement, at the United Nations as also within the Commonwealth. In India we cherish the memory of the late President Archbishop Makarios and his contribution to the freedom of Cyprus. You, Mr. President, are yourself no stranger to India, having visited our country as the Foreign Minister of Cyprus in 1962. Under your leadership Cyprus has been making significant progress

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in recent years despite the heavy odds faced by your nation.

The world is passing through critical

times. Old hot-beds of tension persist and new conflicts pose a threat to peace and stability. Cyprus and India stand firm in their determination to strive for universal peace and co-existence and a new world order which can assure justice and progress for all mankind. We look forward to the opportunity of an exchange of views with you on international issues as well as on our bilateral relations.

May I once again welcome you, Mr. President, Mme. Kyprianou and all other distinguished members of your delegation and wish you a happy sojourn in our country.

CYPRUS USA INDIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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CYPRUS

President Spyros Kyprianou's Speech

Replying to the welcome the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Spyros Kyprianou said:

I would like first of all to express my gratitude to you, Your Excellency the President of India, for giving me a unique opportunity to visit your country. This is not my first visit to India. I had the great honour to accompany our former great leader, the late President Makarios in 1962.

The relations between India and Cyprus have been excellent all the time and have been strengthened and consolidated through the personal friendship of the late Prime Minister Nehru and the late President Makarios. I hope and trust that my this

visit will contribute greatly to the further strengthening of the already existing friendly ties and cooperation between our two countries.

INDIA'S SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION

India's role in the world is well-known. India, always since her independence, has been playing a very important role in international affairs, possibly because of its size, but basically, because of the wisdom of its leaders.

India has played a leading role in the non-aligned world, in the non-aligned movement and as well as within the context of the United Nations and the Commonwealth. We have been cooperating closely in many respects dedicated to the same ideals of freedom and justice, not only for our own freedom and justice, but for freedom and justice in the world.

I know very well how the people of Cyprus feel towards India and the Indian people. They have feelings of affection, feelings of friendship. Many Indians have served in peace-keeping in one way or another and for the development in Cyprus and they were always welcome and they are always welcome.

I hope that we shall be able to develop further our relations in all fields - political, economic, trade and cultural.

Again, Mr. President, thank you wholeheartedly for giving me this opportunity to visit your country and meet with you, the Prime Minister and other leaders to discuss questions of common concern whether they are in this area of the world or in our area of the world, because peace is indivisible and justice is indivisible. The world is too small to be separated now-a-days. Also, it will give us a chance to develop further our bilateral relations.

I hope and trust that this visit will prove to be useful to both countries and to both peoples and bring us, despite the geographic distance, even closer together.

CYPRUS USA INDIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

CYPRUS

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

President

Following is the text of the speech by President N. Sanjiva Reddy at a banquet in honour of Cyprus President hi, New Delhi on October 23, 1980. The President of India said:

I have great pleasure in extending once again a warm welcome to you, Mr. President, Mme. Kyprianou and the distinguished members of your delegation gathered here tonight. We greet you as the representative of a friendly country we hold in high regard.

Though we are separated by geography, Cyprus and India share a long historical tradition. Like India, Cyprus is heir to a glorious culture and civilisation dating back many thousand years. In more modern times, the links between our nations were forged by your first President, Archbishop Makarios and our first Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. I am glad to note that these relations have grown steadily since then.

Mr. President, as founder-memebrs of the Non-Aligned Movement, Cyprus and India share a common approach to problems of world peace and international co-operation. We stand for a new world order based on equality and justice. We have consistently stressed the need for all nations,

big or small, strong or weak, to follow the five principles of peaceful co-existence. We have worked together and co-operated to this end in the Non-aligned Movement, the Commonwealth and at the United Nations.

Mr. President, you have our full sympathy in your efforts to realise the vision of Cyprus as a country made whole, thus making for peace, stability and co-operation, both in your own sensitive region and in the world. India has consistently supported the independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus. We are heartened to learn that, in pursuance of the resolutions of the United Nations, the talks between the Representatives of the Greek and Turkish communities of Cyprus have been resumed under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General. We hope that they will lead to a speedy and successful resolution of differences.

REVIVAL OF COLD WAR

Mr. President, we cannot fail to note that the global outlook for peace has deteriorated in recent times. There is a perceptible revival of cold war postures. New conflicts and tensions have arisen in our region. In the Indian Ocean, there has been an alarming increase in military build-up by the great powers. Our renewed calls for the elimination of great power military bases and competition have failed to evoke any response.

I have no doubt that in the current critical situation facing the world, India and Cyprus can make a Positive contribution towards world peace and stability. The forthcoming Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned countries to be held in Delhi will give us an opportunity to make joint efforts based on shared ideals and common interests.

WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS

Mr. President, the world economy is passing through an unprecedented crisis. The present unjust and increasingly untenable economic order makes for continued

exploitation of the poorer countries to the benefit of the rich ones. We must strive to create the necessary political will for restructuring this system. The ushering in of the new international economic order will be a major challenge which the Non-Aligned Movement should successfully meet.

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

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expanding and deepening our bilateral relations and co-operation. The only note of regret I have tonight is that your visit to India is so brief. We would have wished you to see something of the variety of India, both the old and the new, and some of the massive developmental efforts our Government has undertaken.

CYPRUS USA INDIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

CYPRUS

India-Cyprus Cultural Cooperation Agreement Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 24, 1980:

A Cultural Cooperation Agreement between India and Cyprus was signed here today by Shri S. B. Chavan, Minister of Education and Social Welfare and His Excellency, Mr. Nicos A. Rolandis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus. The President of the Republic of Cyprus, His Excellency,

Mr. Spyros Kyprianou and the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, were present on the occasion.

The cultural agreement envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of culture, education, mass media, sports, art and archaeology. This will be achieved by encouraging and facilitating reciprocal visits of scientists, teachers and experts in various fields and promoting participation in the international film festivals.

Each side will also encourage the exchange of scholarships for higher studies and familiarisation with the history, literature, arts and other fields of culture of the other country.

CYPRUS USA INDIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

CYPRUS

India-Cyprus Joint Communique

Following is the text of India-Cyprus Joint Communique issued in New Delhi on October 25, 1980:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam. Sanjiva Reddy, the President of the Republic of Cyprus H.E. Mr. Spyros Kyprianou and Mine. Kyprianou paid a State visit to India from 23rd to 25th October, 1980.

During his stay in New Delhi, the President of the Republic of Cyprus called on the President of India. He laid a wreath at Rajghat and Shantivana in memory of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.

The President of Cyprus and the Prime Minister of India held extensive talks on international issues and reviewed the relations between the two countries in all fields. These talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality.

The Cyprus side consisted of H.E. Mr. Nicos A. Rolandis, Minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Mr. Andros A. Nicolaides, High Commissioner of Cyprus; Mr. Haris Vovides, Director, President's Office and Mr. Alecos Shambos, Director, Foreign Minister's Office.

The Indian side included Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs; Shri N. Krishnan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; Shri Y. R. Dhawan, High Commissioner of India, Cyprus and Shri S. K. Uppal, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

The President of Cyprus explained the situation in Cyprus since 1974 and expressed his appreciation for the support extended by India. In this context both the President and the Prime Minister welcomed the resumption of inter-communal talks under the auspices of the U.N. Secretary-General on the basis of the Makarios-Denktaşli guidelines of February 12, 1977 and the Kyprianou-Denktaş Ten-point Programme of May 19, 1979. They expressed the hope

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that the talks would be conducted in a meaningful and constructive manner and bring about an early resolution of the issue, in conformity with the U.N. resolutions relevant to the question of Cyprus as well as the aforementioned high-level agreements. The Prime Minister of India reaffirmed India's consistent stand in favour of the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-alignment of the Republic of Cyprus.

The two sides expressed their concern over the deterioration of the international situation and noted with regret the set-backs to the process of detente and the failure of

efforts to universalise it. They stressed that the continuation of the arms race, particularly of nuclear weapons, represents a serious threat to peace and security of the world. They called for more effective measures for nuclear disarmament and pledged their determination to work together with other non-aligned countries for the establishment of a world order based on justice and equality which would assure peace and progress to the peoples of all nations.

APARTHEID CONDEMNED

The two sides condemned the continuation of the pernicious policy of apartheid and racism in South Africa. They re-affirmed their total support to SWAPO in its efforts for the liberation of Namibia. They welcomed the emergence of Zimbabwe as an independent member of the world community.

The two sides noted with grave concern the situation in South West Asia and agreed that it carried dangerous implications for the peace and stability of the region. They stressed the need to de-escalate tensions and to seek a political settlement through peaceful means. They expressed their full support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan and urged the parties concerned to work towards a settlement which would ensure that the Afghan people would determine their own destiny free from any foreign interference.

WEST ASIA

The President of Cyprus and the Prime Minister of India noted with concern the deterioration in the situation in West Asia. They called for the immediate withdrawal by Israel from all the Arab territories occupied since June 1967. Both sides re-affirmed that the Palestinian question was at the core of the problem and unless it was resolved satisfactorily with the PLO, which is the sole representative of the Palestine people, as an equal partner in negotiations, no attempt towards a settlement could succeed. The Palestinian people should be restored

their inalienable rights to their homeland and to a Nation State of their own.

The two sides discussed the present conflict between Iran and Iraq. They felt that this unfortunate development and the continuation of hostilities will have adverse consequences not only for these two countries but also for others. Both sides stressed, the urgent need to bring about a cessation of hostilities and were of the opinion that the differences between the two countries should be resolved peacefully.

NON-ALIGNMENT

The President of Cyprus and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of Non-Alignment. The two sides agreed to make joint efforts for the success of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Non-aligned countries which will take place in New Delhi in early 1981.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the progress in the field of technical and economic cooperation among developing countries. They emphasised the need for expeditious progress towards the establishment of the New International Economic Order and the realisation of the International strategy for the third development decade and early launching of the global negotiations.

BILATERAL RELATIONS

The President of Cyprus and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the development of bilateral relations in various fields. The two sides noted with satisfaction India's cooperation towards the development of infrastructure of tourism in Cyprus. It was also agreed to explore other fields in which joint ventures could be promoted.

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It was noted that the appointment of a High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus, with residence in Delhi, had contributed to the development of closer ties between the two countries. The decision to appoint an Indian High Commissioner, with

residence in Nicosia, was welcomed as a further contribution to the development of these ties.

The two sides looked forward to further development of cultural relations between the two countries following the Agreement on Cultural Cooperation signed between the two Governments during the visit.

The President of Cyprus expressed his deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his visit to India.

CYPRUS USA INDIA SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA ZIMBABWE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL
IRAN IRAQ

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

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DENMARK

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Danish Prime Minister

Following is the text of the speech by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, at the dinner given in honour of Mr. Anker Jorgensen, Prime Minister of Denmark, in New Delhi on October 31, 1980:

I have great pleasure in extending a warm welcome to you, Prime Minister, to Mme. Jorgensen and to the distinguished, members of the Danish delegation. We attach great importance to this visit, for it was 18 years ago that we last had the privilege of receiving a Prime Minister of Denmark.

I remember my own visit to Denmark many years ago. The name of Prof. Niels Bohr is familiar to all who are interested in modern knowledge and in humanitarian

causes. And which child does not know and love another remarkable Dane Hans Andersen? In my childhood I had also read of the coming of Danish seafarers and traders to India along with other Europeans in the seventeenth century, but apart from setting up posts at Serampore and Tranquebar, they did not try to establish an empire here. In my mind, was created an impression of the reasonableness of the Danish people, and this was confirmed by the support you gave us at the time of the formation of Bangladesh, and the wise stand you have taken on many world issues.

Denmark's progress is a remarkable success story. You are not endowed with many natural resources, yet through education and scientific development you have been able to provide your people the blessings of technological prosperity. I am told that you have an old song "Few should have too much and fewer still too little". This is a wonderful motto for all nations - for nothing is more repugnant to true humanity or dangerous to world peace. than disparities.

COOPERATION

Over the years, some of our experts have studied and benefited from your folk schools system, and we have also learnt much from your advances in dairying. Countless Indian children thus have reason to be grateful to Denmark.

Your present visit, Prime Minister, gives us an opportunity to review the progress of Danish-Indian relations which have grown steadily over the years. There is scope for further increase in trade and cultural cooperation. The research effort that you have put into technology, in marine science and oceanography holds out opportunities for new areas of working together.

GLOBAL CRISIS

All nations, big or small in whichever continent they are situated, are in the grip

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of uncertainty and anxiety. There is erosion of detente and close to us in India

tensions and suspicions have grown. There is inadequate appreciation among the powers of the strength of feeling regarding foreign influence and presence in land or sea in this region. Both Iraq and Iran are good friends of ours. We are in touch with them both and join others in a mission of goodwill.

The global crisis is part political, part economic. In any distress the hardest hit are the weak. Developing countries are the worst sufferers in the world-wide inflation that has followed the successive increases in prices of oil and capital goods. Our endeavour to give our people the basic amenities of life have become so much more difficult because of the phenomena] rise in our import bills.

The international economic order is badly in need of overhaul. Developing nations, many of which depend on raw material exports, find their markets squeezed and their hopes for a democratically based international order confounded. In this debate, we are glad that Denmark has consistently adopted an attitude of sympathy and helpfulness towards the aspirations of developing countries. You are one of the very few countries whose understanding has taken tangible form.

We have had useful discussions this afternoon. I am glad that you have been able to find time from your heavy pre-occupations to see something of India outside Delhi. We hope this glimpse will give you some idea of our efforts to achieve technological transformation and, at the same time, to conserve our cultural heritage, the classical as well as the folk.

DENMARK USA INDIA IRAN IRAQ

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

Prime Minister Anker Jorgensen's Speech

Replying to the toast, Mr. Jorgensen said:

I want to thank you, Madam Prime Minister, for the kind words to me a moment ago and for the extraordinary welcome given to us by you and by everyone we have met. It is a great pleasure and an unforgettable experience to be here. I am grateful for the opportunity I had earlier today to discuss with you, with the President, and with the Foreign Minister a number of important international issues of mutual interest as well as our excellent bilateral relationship. I look forward very much to the first-hand impressions of Indian society and culture we shall get during the coming week.

Our countries are very far apart. They are very different in size and culture. And they have sometimes chosen different options in international politics. Yet the distance between us is not very important. In terms of time it can be overcome in a few hours. In terms of establishing mutual contact, it has been overcome long ago. In today's world, we are more and more dependent on each other. In this sense we have all become neighbours.

The first Danish Prime Minister to visit India was H.C. Hansen. He visited your father, Prime Minister Nehru in 1957 on a trip marking the beginning of regular airline traffic from Europe over the North Pole to Japan and Asia. He wrote a book about the trip, which made a deep impression on him. He called the book "Our New Neighbours".

Prime Minister Nehru paid a return visit to Denmark later the same year; a visit we still remember with affection. In 1962 Prime Minister Viggo Kampmann also visited your country and was received by your father. Now I am here.

I hope you will follow in your father's footsteps, Madam Prime Minister, and pay us a visit soon. I believe it is of the utmost importance for leader of the countries of the world to meet and discuss the issues in our interdependent world. We are all affected by the great problems facing mankind today, problems which may threaten the survival

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of our societies in many ways. We all have a responsibility to try to overcome them by negotiation and cooperation.

COMMITMENT TO PEACE

India and Denmark have chosen different options in international politics. Denmark is aligned with the Western countries in NATO. India was one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement a quarter of a century ago. Yet we share a commitment to peace among nations, to the principles of self-determination and non-interference, and to friendly cooperation to mutual benefit. I have always seen the Non-aligned Movement as an attempt to promote such principles of international behaviours and reduce the importance of military power in international affairs. Denmark fully shares these ideals. They are basic to the work of the United Nations, to which we attach very great importance.

WORSENING INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

The international situation has, unfortunately, changed for the worse here at the beginning of the 80's. The East-West relationship seems less stable today than in the 70's. If mankind is to survive in the age of nuclear weapons, the right of each country to determine its own affairs, must be respected. This principle of international law has been violated. The only way to redress the situation is to put an end to all kinds of foreign intervention.

It is my hope that detente can be preserved. The Danish Government does what it can to improve the possibilities for Detente. However, we must be aware of

the difficulties. The risk of conflict may be increasing, not only in the East-West context, but also in the developing world. Increased contact and interdependence in a world of limited resources also poses risks. It is a challenge to the statesmanship of the leaders of the world.

Recently the so-called Brandt Report has pointed out the link between the disarmament issue and the fundamental North-South problems. Development cooperation is part of this. Denmark is happy to cooperate with Indian authorities in the economic development of India. But the North-South problem also involves the much more difficult question of how to achieve a new International Economic Order and how to adapt to the necessary changes. Denmark is very interested in these questions and ready to play its part in trying to find the answers.

I have spoken of politics and economics. However, I believe that cultural and historical circumstances play as important a role in determining the quality of life. Visiting India, I have an impression of an age-old, rich and varied culture with outstanding results within philosophy, religion, art, music, and literature. Many Westerners, who have been critical of the emphasis on material growth in our societies, have turned to India for inspiration. I think there are great possibilities in further exchanges between our countries in the cultural field. I admit to having a superficial knowledge of the many aspects of Indian culture, but I do have a general sense of admiration for one of the world's great cultural traditions and an expectation, that we from our part of the world would benefit from closer contact with India in this respect also. And also in this sense, I look forward to the programme for the coming week in India.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I propose a toast to the well-being of the President of India, Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, to the Prime Minister of India, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and to the well-being and happiness of the Indian people.

DENMARK USA INDIA JAPAN

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

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FRANCE

Minister of State for Industry Dr. Chanana's Discussions on Indo-

French Industrial Cooperation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 23, 1980:

The Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, has had discussions in Paris with Mr. Andre Giraud, Minister of Industry of the French Government, on increasing technical and economic cooperation between India and France particularly in the fields of automobile engineering, cement and paper manufacturing and industrial machinery. Dr. Chanana apprised the French Government of the Industrial Policy statement of the Government of India, which aims at an industrial growth of over 10 per cent in all sectors. A*. Andre Giraud reciprocated the sentiments expressed by Dr. Chanana and assured all possible assistance in this regard. The Minister also had discussions with Mr. Prouteau, Secretary of State for medium and small scale industries, about development of such cooperation for ancillary industries in India and in third countries.

Dr. Chanana visited the factory off Renault where the latest model of Renault cars are being manufactured. He also had discussions with the top management on the question of export-oriented production of the latest family of passenger cars, pick-up vehicles, commercial vehicles and heavy

vehicles: for defence use. Machinery manufacturers of cement and paper called on Dr. Chanana and expressed their keenness in two way transfer of technology. The discussions mainly centred around not only development in India but also on buy-back arrangements and cooperation in third countries.

FRANCE USA INDIA RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman's Statement on Proposed Naval Force for Gulf Area

The Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi On October 3, 1980:

We are aware of reports indicating that certain countries, not belonging to our region, are trying to constitute an international naval, force - referred to as an Armada in certain press reports - for patrolling the Gulf Area, ostensibly, to ensure that the Straits of Hormuz are kept open for normal commercial shipping. Naturally, we too are anxious to ensure that the normal shipping routes in our region are not closed. However, we feel that the Armada idea could achieve the very reverse of what their declared objectives are. In this context, it is fair to mention that neither Iraq nor Iran has said or done anything to close these straits. Indeed Iran has specifically declared that it intends to keep the Straits open for such shipping.

In our view, any internationalisation of the unfortunate situation caused by the present conflict between two non-aligned countries, by introducing an international

naval force into our region, would be a

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dangerous move carrying with it the risk of further escalation of the conflict.

The Government of India does not accept the thesis behind this idea, and has serious misgivings about the proposal. India wishes to express the hope that the countries that are planning to send an international naval force to the Gulf area will desist from doing so.

INDIA USA IRAN IRAQ CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Message on Observance Day of Solidarity with South African Political Prisoners

Following is the text; of the message of Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, addressed to the Chairman of the U.N. Special Committee Against Apartheid, on the occasion of Observance of the Day of Solidarity with the South African Political Prisoners:

On the occasion of the special meeting of the Special Committee Against Apartheid being held in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the South African Political Prisoners, I would like to reiterate, on behalf of the Government and the people of India, our wholehearted support for and solidarity with the brave and courageous people of South Africa in their struggle against the racist regime of that country. I would also like to take this opportunity to send our greetings and good wishes

to those valiant leaders of the people of South Africa who have been languishing in the dreaded prison houses, year after year. Our sympathies go to the kith and kin of the martyrs of South Africa who have been brutally liquidated by the illegal white minority regime.

Since the International Day of Solidarity with the South African Political Prisoners was observed by the Special Committee Against Apartheid, last year, the world has witnessed the triumph of the people of Zimbabwe, after a long and heroic struggle. This momentous event has further isolated the apartheid regime in South Africa and dramatically altered the balance of forces in Southern Africa.

The writing on the wall is, therefore, clear for anyone to see, especially for those affluent and industrial countries which, in the face of opposition from the world community, continue their collaboration with the illicit regime of South Africa in the economic, diplomatic and even nuclear fields.

The government and the people of India firmly believe that the untold sufferings and sacrifice of the people of South Africa will not go in vain and that right will eventually prevail over might bringing to them their ultimate victory sooner than many people expect.

SOUTH AFRICA INDIA USA ZIMBABWE

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Statement at 35th Assembly

Session of U. N. General

Following is the text of the statement

made by the Minister of External Affairs,
Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at the 35th
Session of the United Nations General
Assembly in New York on October 3, 1980:

Mr. President, I extend to you the warm felicitations of my delegation on your unanimous election to the Presidency of the 35th regular session of the General Assembly. Your nomination to this high office is a tribute to your personal qualities as an experienced and skilful diplomat. It is also a fitting testimony to the dedication of your great country to the ideals of the United

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Nations and your opening address has amply demonstrated your personal devotion to the fundamental principles and purposes of the Charter. I wish you every success in your challenging assignment and pledge my delegation's full support in your endeavours.

It is a matter of particular satisfaction for me to place on record the sincere appreciation of my delegation for the outstanding work performed by your predecessor, Ambassador Salim of the United Republic of Tanzania. His Presidency of the General Assembly at its 34th Session as well as of the three special sessions during the past twelve months was indeed an eventful one. The patience skill, sincerity and unfailing courteousness displayed by him will long be remembered in the annals of the General Assembly.

It is a pleasure for me to greet once again our distinguished Secretary General. We admire the way in which he has been discharging the onerous and delicate responsibilities which the complexities of the international situation impose upon him. His travels and efforts straddling the globe, covering points of crisis and explosive situations, have helped defuse tensions in our troubled world.

Mr. President, I already had the opportunity at the 11th Special Session to extend my congratulations to the freedom-loving people of Zimbabwe on the achievement of their hard-won independence and on their

membership of the United Nations. I would like, once again, to welcome Zimbabwe to our midst and wish them all success in their exciting and difficult task of nation building.

It also gives me great pleasure in extending our warm and sincere felicitations to St. Vincent and the Grenadines which has now become the 154th Member of the Organisation. We rejoice with them in their hour of triumph and joy and trust that their aspirations for a better and brighter future would be amply fulfilled in the years to come. India looks forward to establishing mutually beneficial relations with the new nation.

SELF-RELIANT INDIA

Mr. President, the Indian delegation participates in this General Assembly in the context of a transformed domestic political perspective. India has had another General Election since the General Assembly met last. The people of India appraised the challenges that they faced, reassessed the nature and quality of leadership required to meet them and massively reaffirmed their conviction in the leadership of Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. The new Government in India is engaged in the difficult and enormous task of national reconstruction and regeneration of a pluralistic multi-lingual, multi-religious and diverse society and this, by democratic means. Intractable though our problems may seem, our national efforts to resolve them since our independence have borne results to a great extent. This has imbued our people with a sense of confidence and inspired them to the objective that India shall emerge as a strong, self-reliant and modern nation.

PEACEFUL CO-EXERCISE

It is also an abiding conviction of my Government and my people that India's future stability and development depends on the success of the international community to create a world order characterised by durable peace. There is a national consensus, therefore, on the content and ob-

jectives of India's Foreign Policy. There is unanimity of opinion in India about the relevance of the principles of non-alignment, and the imperative need for friendship towards all nations based on the five principles of peaceful co-existence.

Mr. President, the developments during the past one year have not been such as to bring credit to the international community as a whole. The collective behaviour of nation states in recent months has only deepened the sense of insecurity and distrust in the world. New and ever more ominous strategic doctrines are being propounded, bringing the world closer to the catalysmic outbreak of an all-out nuclear conflagration. The scientific genius of mankind is being exploited for the perverted purpose of manufacturing means of destruction perhaps in the search for the 'ultimate weapon' which, it is believed, I think quite erroneously, would enable one or the other group of states to impose its will on

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others. Increasing recourse is being made to might in a manner which has threatened the national independence and integrity of small and medium states. The principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of states has been observed more in breach in a variety of ways, covert and overt. All means are considered legitimate in the pursuit of the objective of expanding spheres of influence. International economic relations continue to be marked by inequity, selfishness and short-sightedness, particularly by those who possess the means to bring about a change and to start the process to usher in the New International Economic Order. The wisdom, which was evident last year when certain significant decisions were taken in the sphere of North-South dialogue, seems to have lost some of its momentum this year.

BIG POWER BRINKMANSHIP

Living as we do in this small and increasingly interdependent world, no one can completely escape responsibility for the current atmosphere of gloom, fear, frus-

tration, diffidence. But the primary responsibility must rest with those who literally possess the power of life and death over all of us and who do not hesitate to wield that power without caring too much for the consequences of their actions. A few powerful nations are claiming and blatantly exercising what they consider their right to cause destabilisation in any place and at any time and with any means of their choosing. It is obvious that the weak and poor nations cannot look upon this unenviable lot of theirs with equanimity. They have, therefore, to be eternally vigilant if they are to survive, if they are to preserve and promote the well-being of their peoples, if they are not to become pawns in the game of great power manipulation. They have to speak up on behalf of their dumb millions, assert that they have no intention of acquiescing in the dangerous activity of big power brinkmanship and that they do not wish to face annihilation either by the deliberate design of callous powers or by accidental efforts of mindless machines.

RELEVANCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

It is in this context, distinguished delegates, that the policy of non-alignment assumes greater validity. Non-alignment is the embodiment of the aspirations of the vast majority of nations and peoples to protect their existence, their freedom, honour and dignity. The non-aligned movement is not directed against one or the other bloc. Over the decades, it has come to represent a positive force - a force of life and not of death - in international relations which is now recognised even by those who had at one time ridiculed it. At the same time, the non-aligned movement has had to pass through certain vicissitudes. The general atmosphere of doubt and recrimination seems to have contaminated the movement to some extent. Internal problems within the movement have tended to affect its unity. We have to examine these problems closely and devise ways and means of ensuring the unity and continued effectiveness of the movement. Mr. President, while reserving these tasks to be discussed at the forums of the non-aligned movement itself,

I shall only express my confidence that both by positive determination and by sheer necessity, non-alignment shall be restored to its original content and sweep when it was devised to deal with global issues of detente, disarmament, decolonisation and development.

There is an organic relationship between these four issues. Progress in any one of them would help create the proper atmosphere for forward movement in the others. By the same token, setback in one leads to increasing difficulty in the others. The present international situation vividly illustrates their inter-relationship. The collapse of detente has led to stalemate in disarmament negotiations and absurd increases in defence expenditure which, in turn, have prevented, or at any rate tended to provide an alibi for the developed nations for falling far short of what was expected of them in International Economic Cooperation and Development.

Mr. President it is a matter of considerable anguish to my delegation that the continent of Asia, which has given to the world all its major religions and has served as the main cultural path-finder over several millenia, is at present the scene of most of the conflicts and much of the suffering caused by these conflicts - West Asia,

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South West Asia and South East Asia. The Indian sub-continent, I am happy to say, has been free from conflict for some years now and it is my earnest hope and the constant endeavour of my Government to see genuinely peaceful and cooperative relations continue to develop in this area.

WEST ASIA

In West Asia, the threat of a conflagration will continue to persist so long as the Palestinian problem is treated as a refugee problem and as long as the commitment of the United Nations to establish an independent state for the Palestinians in their home land remains unfulfilled. Far from heeding the call of the United Nations to withdraw from the occupied Arab terri-

teries, Israel has unabashedly colonised Arab lands and illegally annexed the Holy city of Jerusalem in total disregard of its sacred heritage. I firmly believe, as I said a few weeks ago during the seventh emergency Special Session, that a comprehensive solution to the problem of West Asia entails three things: The exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable national and human rights, including the right to establish an independent state; the total and unconditional withdrawal by Israel from all the Arab territories, occupied since 1967, including Arab Palestine and the Holy city of Jerusalem; and the guarantee of the right of all States in the region to live within secure and recognised borders. A peaceful solution cannot be attained without the full and equal participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation the sole and authentic representative of the Palestinian people, in any negotiations. Experience has shown that attempts at partial solutions without the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation have neither succeeded nor contributed to peace in the Region.

IRAN, IRAQ CONFLICT

The people and Government of India are saddened by the recent and continuing conflict between Iran and Iraq, two close neighbours of ours. Our cultural and economic ties with the peoples of the two countries are as old as history itself. Since our independence in 1947 these ties have become even closer and acquired new dimensions.

Iran and Iraq are both developing countries, as is India. We cannot but express regret that the conflict will inevitably lead to retarding the process of economic and social development which is so vital to the needs of the peoples of the two countries. At the same time the conflict weakens the solidarity of the nonaligned and developing countries. We, therefore, urge Iran and Iraq to settle their differences peacefully in accordance with the principles and provisions of the U.N. Charter.

VIEW'S ON AFGHANISTAN

The developments in Afghanistan have

been engaging the serious attention of the Government of India. India has historical and traditional ties with the Government and people of Afghanistan. We are deeply concerned and vitally interested in the security, independence, stability and tranquillity of our friendly neighbour.

Over the past months, the Government of India have been in touch with the countries of the sub-continent as well as other countries in order to prevent the aggravation of these dangers and heightening of tension. We have consistently emphasised the inadmissibility of the use of force in international relations or of intervention or interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states. It is also our firm belief that only by upholding the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states can peace and stability be preserved in the area. Observance of these principles would not prejudice the legitimate security interests of any state and, in fact, would go a long way towards safeguarding them. What is required is a dialogue among the parties concerned, without preconditions, so that the contours of a political settlement, acceptable to all, can emerge. I am satisfied that such a dialogue is possible since most of the difficulties are essentially national and at best technical and non-substantive. If the countries of the region are left in peace to work out their own destiny without the competitive attention of great powers, it would permit them to embark on relationships based on mutuality and a developing trust

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in bilateral negotiations as the best means of settling outstanding problems.

KAMPUCHEA

India's relations with Kampuchea go back several centuries. Indeed, the temples of Angkor Vat bear testimony to the close inter-connections between the cultures of our two countries. The gentle and peace-loving people of Kampuchea have suffered very greatly for no fault of their own. The world will not forget nor condone the calculated and heinous crimes perpetrated in

the recent post by a cruel regime against the innocent and defenseless people of Kampuchea. It is a great irony, Mr. President, that while emphatic references are made time and again to human rights. The fits', and foremost right of the Kampuchean people viz., the right to live, has been glossed over conveniently, Politically motivated callousness seems to have crossed all limits when it is realised that remnants of the very same despotic regime are representing, as it were, their own victims of Kampuchea in this Assembly.

The countries of Indo-China have been subjected to conflict, destabilisation and war for far too long and should be allowed now to concentrate on the development of their economies and societies. The Government of India has decided to establish diplomatic relations with the Government headed by President Heng Samrin and would naturally wish that representatives of this government take their legitimate place in international organisations. This is an expression as much of the over whelming majority of public opinion within India as of our general policy of recognizing the reality of the political situation inside Kampuchea.

RELATIONS WITH ASEAN

We value highly our relations with the ASEAN countries and believe that the development of our relations with all our neighbours in South East Asia will enable us to assist in the solution of the problems that confront them at the present time.

Mr. President, every objective analyst of the situations in South West and South East Asia must be convinced by now that extreme positions have not helped ease tensions in either region: on the other hand, they have only hardened attitudes and prolonged the sufferings of the concerned peoples. India's approach is based on the conviction that the search for a solution in both cases lies in political means and not through military force.

There should be no illusion that India is seeking merely momentary peace. As we have repeatedly stated, we are against the presence of foreign troops or foreign

bases in any country. But if we desire to move towards finding a positive solution, what is required is an assiduous and continued effort to devise suitable package solutions which take care of the concerns of all and succeed in eliminating outside intervention and interference. Willingness in this regard on the part of the concerned, howsoever partial, should be taken advantage of for furthering a solution and not be spurned out of hand. If only the efforts of influential countries had been bent in this direction, these problems would, I am sure, have already been well on the way to satisfactory solution. This, Mr. President, has been India's approach and I am glad to say that it has, over the months, begun to receive at least grudging approval by many. In this connection, I would like to make a special mention of the beginning of a dialogue between Vietnam and Thailand with the good offices of the Secretary General. This Mr. President, is the right direction and I hope it will proceed to ultimate success in this region as well as elsewhere.

TENSION IN INDIAN OCEAN

Mr. President, the Indian Ocean has become, over the past decade and half, the arena of increasing great power confrontation. The stresses and strains of their relationships have often been reflected in the corresponding arithmetic of their military presence here. That the littoral and hinterland states have expressed their unified and determined opposition to such military presence and called for its elimination in the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace in resolution 2832(XXVI) is a fact of history, which is often sought to be conveniently ignored.

The current uncertainties in the political and security climate in the Indian Ocean as well as its environs as evidenced by the

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frantic efforts to develop the Diego Garcia base further underline the urgency of addressing ourselves to this central preoccupation. Both in the recently enlarged ad hoc Committee where we have welcomed the participation of the great powers and major maritime users, and at the Conference on

Indian Ocean to be convened during 1981 in Sri Lanka, India will clearly identify the key concern of the Littoral and Hinterland States in securing the effective implementation of the declaration of the Indian ocean as a zone of peace. We are firmly committed to the convening of the conference in 1981 in Sri Lanka and expect that the decision of the present Assembly will contribute to this goal.

KASHMIR INTEGRAL PART OF INDIA

On October 1, 1980, the President of Pakistan in his statement before the General Assembly referred to the State of Jammu and Kashmir which is an integral part of India. This reference, attacking as it does the territorial integrity of India, was unfortunate.

Three times in 24 years Pakistan attempted to detach the State of Jammu and Kashmir from India by the use of force. It received a befitting response on each of the three occasions. In 1972, India and Pakistan signed the Simla Agreement which provides for the settlement of all issues between the two countries through bilateral negotiations. But since 1977 Pakistan has repeatedly raised the issue Of Jammu and Kashmir at the United Nations and other international forums. References are made to relevant U.N. resolutions on the subject quite oblivious of the fact that those resolutions have become irrelevant due to the action of Pakistan itself. In the face of such reference I am constrained to wonder whether Pakistan's adherence to the Simla Agreement has undergone a change. There is a clear contradiction between the expressed desire of Pakistan to normalise relations with India in accordance with the Simla Agreement and their pronouncements in various forums which attempt to set the clock back. India's stand on the other hand has remained constant and we continue to be prepared to settle all matters with Pakistan through bilateral means.

ETHICS AND POWER POLITICS

Mr. President, there is an old Indian metaphor likening the world to a frog rest-

ing in the shadow of a cobra's hood. Such is the plight of peace in our age. The question of the relationship between ethics and power in international politics has long engaged the attention of both the philosopher and the practitioner of foreign policy in the national state. Our principal concern in this nuclear age is, however, that the leadership of the most powerful nations in the world should consider not only the political appositeness of their foreign policy prescriptions but their consequences for the very survival of the world. We run the risk today of being carried on the wings of a collective paranoia. The situation calls for restraint and responsible behaviour so as to bring the world away from, the edge of a nuclear catastrophe.

Yet, judging by the current climate of international relations, the shadows of such a catastrophe have become darker. Not only have the expectations of the first disarmament decade and especially those of the special session on disarmament been belied, but there has been a staggering, almost quantum leap in the world military expenditure, which today totals nearly US Dollars 500 billion. Familiar arguments of "deterrence" and doctrines of "balance of terror" are adduced to justify the continued escalation in the build-up Of nuclear weaponry. New doctrines Of limited nuclear war are being postulated which, by making nuclear war credible, increase the risk of such a war and even to give it a semblance of respectability.

All too often we are reminded of the dangers of an accidental nuclear holocaust being triggered off by human or technological error or by computer malfunction. The very existence of such weapons makes the Possibility Of system failures resulting in outright catastrophe frighteningly real.

INDIA OPPOSED To NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Over the years India has consistently argued that the only effective guarantee

use of nuclear weapons, is the total elimination of such weapons. Their use has been declared as a crime against humanity and contrary to the Charter of the United Nations. Pending, however, the total elimination of nuclear weapons, all States possessing nuclear weapons should give a binding commitment not to use them under any circumstances.

India is firmly of the view that, like the Geneva Protocol of 1925 which completely forbids the use of biological and chemical weapons, a convention on the total prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would be a most desirable objective which should be pursued energetically by the International Community.

We understand that the United States and the USSR are scheduled to resume shortly their dialogue on some aspects of the question of curbing the arms race. This is a welcome development.

We have noted the proposals put forward by the distinguished Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union on urgent measures for reducing the danger of war. My delegation will give these proposals its most serious consideration.

It is pertinent, Mr. President, to recall that it was India which first brought the problem of proliferation of nuclear weapons to the attention of the United Nations in 1964 by inscribing an item entitled "Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons". Our approach was based on the premise that both horizontal and vertical proliferation were integral parts of a problem which had to be dealt with as a whole. This concept was endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 2028, which declared, inter alia, that any treaty should embody an "acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations on the nuclear and non-nuclear weapons States". Unfortunately, this concept was deliberately altered in the Non-proliferation Treaty concluded in 1968. If the NPT has become an unworkable document it is only because it has adopted the narrow and illogical approach of addressing

itself only to the question of horizontal proliferation. The conclusion of cartel-type arrangements, the attempts to impose full scope safeguards and discriminatory constraints on the peaceful nuclear activities of non-nuclear weapon States, are all aimed at perpetuating a kind of nuclear feudalism which is unrealistic, illogical and unacceptable.

India is opposed to nuclear weapons. On the other hand, the Government of India is firmly committed to the peaceful utilisation of nuclear energy. We would oppose any moves or measures which are discriminatory in nature and which come in the way of our programmes to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. The question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons should not be confused with the right of all States to develop, acquire and use nuclear energy, and to determine their peaceful nuclear programmes in accordance with their national priorities, needs and interests.

Mr. President, as we prepare to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the historic declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and people, the United Nations can legitimately be proud of its record of achievements in the field of decolonization. Except for a few pockets where colonialism and racism are desperately fighting the forces of nationalism, the world today is free from colonial domination and exploitation. While the independence of Zimbabwe and Vanuatu was first and foremost the result of the freedom struggle of their peoples, the contribution made by the United Nations has been significant.

SOUTH AFRICAN DILATORY TACTICS

We were hopeful that the independence of neighbouring Zimbabwe would set an example for a peaceful settlement of the question of Namibia. The United Nations plan for Namibia contained in Security Council Resolution No. 435 had established a framework for the early independence of Namibia. Its acceptance by the parties concerned had marked a step in the right direction. But the racist South African regime

has continued its dilatory tactics by raising extraneous issues and by questioning the very impartiality, of the Secretary General of the United Nations. We should certainly support every effort for a peaceful settle-

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ment of the question of Namibia which would be to the satisfaction of the people of Namibia. However, we regret to note that even the most recent communication dated September 22, 1980 received by the Secretary General from the South African Government does not indicate that South Africa has any intention to implement the U.N. plan. The only means left to the United Nations in the present situation is for the Security Council to impose mandatory sanctions against South Africa under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, so as to compel South Africa to abide by the wish of the International Community. Meanwhile, the member States should continue to provide moral and material support to SWAPO the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia, in its struggle for National Liberation.

LAW OF THE SEA

Permit me, Mr. President, to refer briefly to the Third U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea which concluded its ninth session in Geneva recently. The Conference has been in session since 1973 and before that the U.N. Seabed Committee had reviewed the Law of the Sea and done preparatory work for about six years. During this long period, understandings have been reached on a number of significant issues, including a 12-mile territorial sea, a 200-mile exclusive economic zone limits of the continental shelf, and a regime and international machinery for the exploration and exploitation of the international seabed area and its resources which have been recognised and acknowledged by all States "As the Common Heritage of Mankind".

We note with satisfaction that the Conference at its last Session was able to make progress on some more critical questions and we hope it would successfully con-

clude its work of finalising a comprehensive convention on the Law of the Sea in the near future.

Mr. President, 1980 marked the mid point of the U.N. Decade for Women. Considerable progress has been made during the first half of the decade in focussing the attention of the Governments and peoples on the need for improving the status of women. Women in India have traditionally enjoyed pride of place in our society. Long before the international Women's Year and the Decade for Women, the Indian people had enacted into law equality of women in all respects. This was no accident. For, this flows from the best traditions of our history and culture, and in particular, of our struggle for independence when men and women together incurred sacrifices and rejoiced in the dawn of freedom. I hope that the programme of action adopted at Copenhagen would provide the guidance and framework for action oriented programmes to work towards the implementation of the objectives of the Decade through the United Nations and other international forums.

LACK OF POLITICAL WILL

1981 will be the year of the disabled. There is a vast part of humanity - estimated to be around 400 million - which being handicapped in one way or another, is unable to live with the dignity which is the right of all human beings. The bulk of these unfortunate beings are in the developing countries. We in India intend to reinforce our efforts in rehabilitation of the disabled and, more important, in the prevention of disability. We have already taken several steps including the establishment of a National Committee in preparation for the International Year of the Disabled.

Mr. President, we have just emerged from the frustrating processes of the 11th Special Session and the agonising memory of its disappointing ending is still fresh in our minds. However constructively one may try to look at the outcome of the Special Session. One is unable to escape

the conclusion that the failure was not so much because of the complexity of the task but because of the absence of political will and the incomprehensible stubbornness of a few, to be precise, just three member States of this Organisation. In their incessant quest for a orderly and cooperative approach towards a new International Economic Order, the developing countries were persuaded to accept a compromise text on procedures for the global negotiations, This was the irreducible minimum for securing a process that would have provided

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hope of finding solutions to the critical problems facing the world economy as a whole and the economics of the developing countries in particular. A vast majority of the affluent nations, whose fortunes are inter-linked with the destiny of the developing world, also accepted the procedures worked out through extremely difficult negotiations during the Special Session. Not all of them could have found these procedures entirely satisfactory, but due to the imperative of inter-dependence and to the obligations implicit in it. And yet, in the final analysis, all these endeavours ended in total collapse and the international community was at the end left chasing the wisp of international cooperation and inter-dependence. It would be less than candid on my part not to affirm that those who prevented a consensus being reached must bear the entire responsibility for the failure of the Special Session.

Mr. President, it would be appropriate to ask as to why the concept of inter-dependence does not seem to have received acceptance in practice, particularly in all developed countries. There is a view that the fact of inter-dependence is either not quite apparent or is not urgent enough to be taken into account in formulating current economic policies and decisions of developed countries. The dialogue as well as the argument, based on inter-dependence, therefore, take on a rather academic and unreal character and do not seem to carry conviction with the the people of developed countries. This is the distinct impression one gets from their media, whatever the pronouncements of their political leadership. It is time that

this hiatus in understanding is taken serious note of.

Of course, the position is not the same in all developed countries or on all occasions' in the same country. It would, therefore, not be correct to Jump all developed countries together in this respect. There are distinct variations in the perceptions of the governments and peoples of these countries and it would both be relevant and prudent to analyse them closely. The extent of genuine realisation of inter-dependence on the part of the Governments and peoples of the developed countries is the real measure of success which the North-South dialogue would achieve.

ASPIRATIONS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Mr. President, until three days back, India was Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York and as such articulated the aspirations of the developing countries. India will continue to endorse the stand taken by the Group of 77 as before and contribute its mite for the success of the global negotiations. The Group of 77 have taken a reasonable and balanced stand. We hope that in due course this will find a favourable response from developed countries, mainly through a process of appraisal of their own long-term interests which can be achieved only through cooperation with developing countries. This process obviously needs a persuasive and positive effort on the part of all right-thinking and sober elements in both the developed and developing camps. The attitude of charity would be just as unreal and fallacious as the approach of obligatory expiation would be impracticable and counter productive.

The nature of the phenomenon that we witnessed at the 11th Special Session is disturbing and its consequences, Mr. President, ominous for the future of economic cooperation among nations. My delegation is concerned to hear arguments of domestic pressure inherent in a democratic set UP preventing adherence to or fulfilment of international covenants and agreements. Whether it is the Law of the Sea, where difficult negotiations over long years are

promising to come to fruition soon, or multilateral trade negotiations on which agreement was reached last year in Tokyo or other internationally binding agreements, their sanctity is being breached in the name of national compulsions and with increasing impunity. It is very difficult, I ask you distinguished delegates, to infer from all this that a wilful departure is being made by these countries from the concept of interdependence and from the process of international cooperation?

Thirtythree years ago, when we achieved our political independence we deliberately chose the democratic path of Government. Democracy to us became a way of life, per-

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meating the intricate political process as well as the methodology of development. Like most other nations, we too faced the conflict between national sovereignty and international obligations implicit in our existence as a member of the world community. To the best of our ability and belief, we have never turned away from our international obligations nor can we be accused of violating the sanctity of international agreements freely entered into my country. Such a course often involved domestic sacrifices, but our democratic structure gave us sustenance and strength in remaining true to our international or multilateral obligations. It would be particularly unfortunate if the leadership of a democratic country were to plead helplessness in fulfilling valid international obligations on the ground of opposition in its legislature. This helplessness would, in fact, detract from the credibility of the democratic system itself in international relations. So, those who are taking recourse to this argument, for whatever reason or short term exigency, are in reality undermining the validity of their own cherished system. My earnest appeal Mr. President, would be that this tendency be eschewed.

INDIA'S EFFORTS

So far as India is concerned, we are determined to continue our efforts to bring about an early resumption of the North

south dialogue, on our part, we would expect Me few developed countries who have still not accepted fully the logic of global negotiations, to join in the process that would make the resumption of the North-South dialogue possible. It is also my expectation that we would be able to see this movement in the course of the current session of the General Assembly so that the preparatory work for the launching of the global negotiations could be completed before the end of this year.

The 11th Special Session of the General Assembly did manage to reach a consensus on text of the international development strategy for the third development decade embodying the goals and objectives of an integrated process of economic and social development during the '80s and the policy measures required to achieve these goals and objectives, It remains to be seen to what extent the commitment undertaken In the strategy, when It is adopted during the session, would represent unambiguous or unanimous agreements. This is true particularly in regard to official development assistance, industrial redeployment, International trade and monetary issues. Having said this, I would like to underline our satisfaction at the consensus that exists in regard to measures to meet the critical situation in the least developed countries.

This session is expected to consider and take appropriate action in regard to the suggestions made by the distinguished Secretary General last July for overcoming the critical economic situation of many developing countries. We await the elaboration by the Secretary General of his suggestions and trust that it would be possible for him to go into all relevant details, such as the feasibility of raising the amount required for additional assistance and operational arrangements for its disbursement among low-income countries most seriously affected by the current economic crisis.

CONCLUSION

I should also like to refer to the policy measures for the most seriously affected

countries that have been agreed to in the context of the international development strategy. The General Assembly resolution on the subject last year had called upon the Secretary General to submit an analytical report to the Special Session and had called upon all donor countries, in the meantime, to consider extending relief and assistance to most seriously affected countries, while the Special Session was unable to consider the report of the Secretary General in detail, the international development strategy does refer to agreed measures that will need to be urgently considered by the international community and this Assembly.

Mr. President, many years ago Jawaharlal Nehru, reflecting the dilemma of his times over the futile attempts at Disarmament wrote, and I quote:

"The real difficulty has been that there are two classes of countries. The satisfied powers and the unsatisfied powers,

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the dominant powers and those that are suppressed, the powers that want the present, state of affairs to continue and those that want a change. Between the two, there can be no stable equilibrium, just as there can be no real stability between a dominant class and a suppressed class. Nothing proves the unreality and mockery of international politics today so much as the failure of all attempts at disarmament. Everybody talks of peace, and yet prepares for war."

These words, written more than 40 years ago, have a ring of tragic prophecy. They are symptomatic not only of disarmament negotiations, but of the entire gamut of international relations today. Sometimes, looking at great stretches of history, it is difficult to believe if the ideal of cooperation and working together for the common good has made much progress. And yet if we are to avert a catastrophe, we should resolutely continue on the path of dialogue and cooperation and turn away from sterile polemics and confrontation. All of us per-

haps; perceive the danger and recognise the challenger, but the will to act has so far been sadly lacking. Let us, therefore, so re-adjust our sights and conduct our affairs that future generations may not condemn our times as yet another barren stretch in the history of man.

Thank you, Mr. President.

INDIA USA TANZANIA ZIMBABWE RUSSIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ
AFGHANISTAN CHINA THAILAND VIETNAM PERU SRI LANKA PAKISTAN MALI SWITZERLAND
VANUATU SOUTH AFRICA NAMIBIA DENMARK JAPAN

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Minister of Information and Broadcasting Vasant Sathe's Address at UNESCO Conference

Following are extracts from the speech by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Vasant Sathe, at the 4th Commission of UNESCO (Commission on Communication and Culture) on October 13, 1980:

Allow me Mr. Chairman to share with you and members of the Commission a noble sentiment expressed by ancient sages of India which reflects a spirit of true universality of knowledge and experience which promotes human understanding, "I Aa no Bhadrah Kratavo Yantu Vishvatah" which means 'let noble thoughts come to us from all over the universe'. Mahatma Gandhi echoed the same ideal when he said: "I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed by, I want the culture of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible but I refuse to be blown off my feet by any one of them", This ideal of being receptive to the thinking of others would promote oneness of humanity. We in India have been

fortunate in having the leadership of persons like Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi who with their scientific vision laid the foundation of a sound technological infrastructure which today provides a large resource of expertise.

India aims at the promotion of social, economic and political justice enshrined in our constitution. India was one of the first among the newly free countries to embark on a course for planned development. We know that effective communication in our society alone would secure for us wide public participation in developmental activities.

NON-ALIGNED INITIATIVE

Historians tell us that there is no one immaculate pattern in the evolution of human societies. Our future will be shaped by the way in which we choose to act. Many nations in the developing world of Asia, Africa and elsewhere are striving hard to develop their mass communication media to serve the urgent need of social change. I am glad that there is a keen spirit of co-operation between the developing nations to share their experience in training of media personnel and media technology and experience as well as exchanging of audio-visual material of information value. I

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recall the initiative taken by the non-aligned nations to develop sources of collection and dissemination of information to be shared mutually between them as also with the developed world. The non-aligned news agencies pool is an association of equal partners exchanging information through a network linking a series of re-distribution centres. I am glad that the pool is functioning through 60 news agencies on the four continents. I am told that efforts are continuing for the setting up of an integrated telecommunication network for the pool. India was the first chairman of the coordinating committee of the pool which now functions under the able guidance of the Chairman from Yugoslavia. We continue to extend our sincere cooperation to make it strong and effective with a distinct identity

of its own.

Permit me, Mr. Chairman, to revert to the challenges the media in our countries have been facing in the light of the recent technological advancement. I believe that only a concerted plan of international action can help to solve these pressing problems Of newsprint scarcity, communication tariff 8 and equitable use of electro-magnetic spectrum and geo-stationary orbit. The meagre resource position of newsprint and paper has imposed severe restrictions on the growth of newspapers and the availability of print work information for larger sections of our growing generation.

MACBRIDE COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

We welcome the setting up of the international commission for the study of communication problems under the Chairmanship of Mr. Sean Macbride. The commission studied in depth communication facilities available in developing countries and the need for their expansion. We express our appreciation to the Chairman and the members of the commission for their painstaking work. We endorse the commission's basic approach to the need to work towards a new world communication order which will ensure a free and more balanced international flow of information. Many of the recommendations give an insight into the problems connected with communication within and between countries.

The Macbride Commission, you will recall, aptly mentions paper as the first of the three inputs required to strengthen the communication policies of developing countries. We feel that the requirements of the other media like the photographic and cine-films, magnetic recording tapes etc. should also be included in the wider ambit of the associated media of communication. It need not be emphasised that magnetic tapes are the essential raw material for communication through radio and television broadcasting. Manufacturing skills for magnetic tapes through transfer of appropriate technology becomes essential when we talks of development communication inputs.

Then there is the question of high tariff structures. The most exciting development in the field of broadcasting has been the introduction of satellite technology. However, prohibitive tariffs and lack of access to appropriate ground segment technology inhibits developing countries from utilising the existing global and regional satellite systems for the distribution and exchange of radio and TV programmes.

I should also like to draw the attention of this commission to another important aspect and that is the technological choices before the developing countries. We are aware that communication development, like technological development, is a continuous process. We take technology as an aid to communication in order to reach larger and wider sections of our people speedily and effectively. However, the attraction for the sophisticated technologies may sometimes have to be resisted. In saying this, I am conscious that we cannot afford to lag behind in communication technology. The thrill of novelty of new techniques, the potentiality for good as well as harmful effects have to be carefully balanced in making any choice of technology. Here, we would suggest some kind of standardisation of the high cost of components of the media hardware. Technological innovation must continue. Research and development activity must be emphasised, infrastructure and indigenous capacity to absorb technology must be developed in the developing societies lest they become totally dependent on external assistance.

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INDIA'S APPROACH

India has always stood for free flow of information, both internally and between nations. We, however, feel that the freedom of media personnel must go along the twin concepts of professional integrity and social responsibility. The plea for freedom of expression cannot be used to make information the enemy of independence and integrity of developing nations, nor should this advocacy become the basis, as it fre-

quently is, for established media networks from the advanced countries to continue their dominance in the spheres of information and communication in the less developed countries.

Mr. Chairman, we believe collective self-reliance among developing countries is an imperative. This does not mean that we exclude international cooperation: Indeed, we consider it indispensable. We in India have always stood for mutual cooperation, and would like other developing countries to draw upon the collective resources to meet their specific requirements.

Our capacities and experience are available for this common endeavour, for this struggle for progress and development. India has gained considerable experience over the years in developmental communication, information and communication programmes oriented towards the need of rural communication, in training and technical programmes related to the press, radio, television and films.

I.I.M.C.'S CONTRIBUTION

I should like to draw the special attention of this Commission to the work being done by the Indian Institute of Mass Communications. Its courses on Audio-visual Media, its news agencies training programme and developmental communications and its publications have attracted attention and evoked a positive response from a large number of developing countries. We have found this cooperation between developing countries extremely useful and would like to see it greatly expanded.

My delegation has submitted a resolution proposing that this institute be granted the status of a regional institute for the implementation of programmes and projects of UNESCO its a regional centre of training. I hope the commission will endorse this proposal.

We are convinced that there is greater scope for such Intra-regional cooperation in media technology, training and exchange

programmes through national institutes and agencies in developing countries, provided the UN, UNESCO and other concerned agencies and organisations bend their energies to further these efforts. Such support will help in garnering and allocating adequate resources for national organisations and institutes of the type I have mentioned in developing countries.

It is in this, context that my delegation attaches particular importance to the establishment of the inter-Governmental council on communication development and to the information programme for the development of information communications proposed to be undertaken by UNESCO. We will be deeply interested in the activities of the council and the programmes. I should like to inform the commission that India proposes to put forward its candidature for election to this council. We shall extend our full support to the Director-General in his efforts related to the international programme in this field. We are also willing to participate at the operational and technical levels in the implementation of the projects and programmes to be prepared by the inter-Governmental council in due course.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Having said this, I should emphasise that the developing countries in particular, and the international community in general, have been engaged in a lengthy and somewhat complex discussion about the urgent need to establish a new and just international order for information and communication. The time has now come to move on to a substantive programme of action. In this context we support the creation of an international programme for the development of communication and also the creation of an appropriate system to finance it under the aegis of UNESCO. We look forward to the early establishment of the inter-governmental council and we are happy to

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note that the Director-General has already made a specific recommendation for the allocation of funds for launching the initial

phase of international programme for the development of communication. The success of these efforts will depend on our willingness to undertake adequate programmes and the extent to which we can provide them with adequate material and financial support.

My delegation has made certain specific action-oriented suggestions for your consideration in line with the initiatives taken by the Director-General in making UNESCO and active participant - indeed the nodal point - for bringing about international co-operation in this vital sphere of human activity. We wish him all success in his efforts and assure him of our continuing support.

INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC RUSSIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Permanent Representative of India B. C. Mishra's Statement at U.N. on Kampuchea

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 14, 1980:

Shri B. C. Mishra, Permanent Representative of India at the U.N. made a statement on the 13th October, 1980 at the U.N. General Assembly on the question of the credentials on Kampuchea.

When the First Report of the Credentials Committee together with its amendment thereto, cosponsored by the delegation of India and others, was taken up for discussion, Shri Mishra said that in accordance with the decision of the Government of India according recognition to the Government

of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in Phnom Penh the Indian Delegation considered that it is legitimate, fitting and proper, for the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to assume the seat of Kampuchea in the current Session of the General Assembly and that it was prepared for the moment to disapprove of the credentials of the delegation of the so-called Democratic Kampuchea.

Shri Mishra said that in view of the Indian delegation, the delegation of Kampuchea present at the Assembly satisfied no criterion to represent the people and the Government of that country.

Shri Mishra emphasised, "We must take decision which reflect the realities of the situation within Kampuchea."

"It will indeed be a sad travesty of the lofty ideals of the United Nations if it were today to continue to recognise the remnants of a despotic regime as representing its very victims in this august Assembly", Shri Mishra added.

INDIA USA CAMBODIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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MOZAMBIQUE

India-Mozambique to intensify Economic and Technical Cooperation

Following is the text of the Press Note issued in New Delhi on October 29, 1980:

The Minister of Ports and Surface Transport of the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, His Excellency Mr. Luis Maria Alcantara Santos, led a high-

powered delegation to India from October 19 to 31, 1980.

During their visit to India, the Mozambican delegation visited Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi, Integral Coach Factory, Madras; Indian Railways Institute of

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Signal Engineering and Telecommunications, Secunderabad, Prestressed Concrete Sleepers Factory, Hyderabad; Bombay and Madras ports; Mazagon Docks, Bombay; Rubber Research Institute, Kottayam; Research, Design and Standardization Organisation, Lucknow; and Bombay Electricity Supply and Transport, Bombay.

His Excellency Mr. L. Al. Alcantara Santos held discussions with Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs, Shri Kamalapati Tripathi, Minister of Railways, Shri R. Venkataraman, Minister of Finance, and Shri Veerendra Patil, Minister of Transport and Shipping.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

During his talks with the Indian Ministers, H.E. Mr. Santos discussed possibilities of economic and technical cooperation between Mozambique and India in the context of commonality of interests based on the membership of the two countries in the Non-aligned Movement, the Group of 77, and With a common desire to work towards the New International Economic Order.

The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The two sides agreed to intensify economic and technical cooperation between India and Mozambique, inter alia, in the fields of railways, shipping, port development, agricultural research and health on the basis of the principles of mutual benefit and in the long term perspective and in accordance with the decisions of the Group of 77 and Non-aligned Movement on the subject.

MOZAMBIQUE INDIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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NIGERIA

Indian Offer to Nigeria in Rural Development

Following is the, text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 27, 1980:

India has offered all assistance in the field of agriculture and rural development to Nigeria. The offer was made today by the Union Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh to Mr. Alhaji Shahu Muhammadu Kangiwa, Governor of Sokoto State in Nigeria. Rao Birendra Singh apprised the Nigerian leader of the Progress made by the country in agricultural research, cooperative development and land reforms.

It was suggested to Mr. Alhaji Shahu Muhammadu Kangiwa, that Nigerian experts in rural development and agriculture may visit India for an on the spot study of the work done in this field. Later Indian experts can go to Nigeria.

NIGER NIGERIA INDIA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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NIGERIA

India Offers Help to Nigeria in Irrigation Development

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 27, 1980:

India has offered to assist Nigeria in the development of her irrigation and water resources. The assurance was given by Shri Kedar Panday, Union Minister for Irrigation to His Excellency Mr. Alhaji Muhammadu Kangiwa, Governor of Sokoto State in Nigeria when the latter called on him here this morning,

Mr. Kangiwa discussed with Shri Kedar Panday matters of bilateral cooperation in

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the field of irrigation and water resources development. He evinced keen interest in the work done in India in this field and sought assistance for training of Nigerian engineers and other personnel in India for water resources development. He also sought assistance for the establishment of a training institute in Nigeria for the purpose. He also wanted India's help in designing and construction of minor irrigation schemes and canal system of larger projects.

Shri Kedar Panday informed the visiting dignitary about the work being done by the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd. (WAPCOS), a public undertaking under the Union Ministry of Irrigation, which was rendering consultancy services in Nigeria and other African countries.

Shri Kedar Panday assured Mr. Kangiwa that India would be glad to render all possible assistance in the development plans of Nigeria in irrigation and allied fields.

NIGER NIGERIA INDIA LATVIA USA

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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NORWAY

Indo-Norwegian Economic Cooperation Agreement

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 31, 1980:

The Government of India and Norway have concluded their consultations concerning Norwegian assistance to India. Norway will provide assistance of the value of N.Kr. 106 million (Rs. 175.9 million) during 1981.

An agreement to this effect was signed here today between Shri A. G. Asrani, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Mr. H. Pedersen, Deputy Director General, Department of International Economic and Social Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Norway on behalf of their-respective Governments. This follows the consultations held by the Norwegian delegation with various Ministries of the Government of India on Indo-Norwegian economic cooperation.

The salient feature of the economic cooperation between the two countries is the advance indication by Norway of the availability of a minimum assistance of N.Kr. 106 million annually for the four years period 1981-84 for various projects and programmes. The assistance is totally by way of grant and would be utilised for projects and programmes in the fields of fisheries, agriculture, health and family welfare, education and science and technology.

ROMANIA

Fifth Meeting of Indo-Romanian Joint Commission

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 25, 1980:

The 5th meeting of the Indo-Romanian

Joint Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation concluded in Bucharest on October 24, 1980 when a protocol was signed by the Union Minister of Commerce and Steel and Mines Shri Pranab Mukherjee and the Romanian Minister of

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Metallurgical Industry Mr. Agchi on behalf of their respective countries.

In the field of trade an increase of about 1.0 per cent over the current year's target is envisaged and several new products have been introduced. It has been emphasised that both sides will ensure that trade plan targets are met and trade actually takes place in the newly identified products. The Romanian side has also agreed to supply some petroleum products on long-term basis.

The present Joint Commission session marked a considerable advance on previous meetings since current areas of economic and industrial cooperation were given a very definite and concrete shape and new areas identified. The fields in which such cooperation is envisaged include engineering goods, machine tools, automotive industry, electronics, metallurgical industry, petroleum, petrochemical, pharmaceuticals, oil equipment, agriculture and science and technology. Two important new features of the protocol are a detailed identification of areas for third country cooperation including implementing agencies of both sides and the setting up of a mechanism for reviewing progress periodically and ensuring implementation of the decisions taken.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

Earlier during his stay in Bucharest, Commerce Minister was received by President Ceausescu. During the meeting lasting for over an hour, President Ceausescu expressed great admiration for our Prime Minister and profound appreciation of her dynamic leadership and principled policies. He said that his Government attached very great importance to developing close and rapidly increasing not only simple trade exchanges but also economic, scientific and

technical cooperation between Romania and India. In this context he mentioned his country's role in the Group of 77 and its association with the Non-aligned Movement. The Romanian President emphasised the need for ever closer cooperation between and among the developing countries as well as flip non-aligned countries in order not only to surmount the present economic crisis in the world but also to bring about a new international economic order based on equity and justice for all nations particularly the developing ones. He expressed his profound appreciation of the role played by our country in both the Non-aligned Movement and the Group of 77.

He observed that Romania will cooperate fully in the efforts of these two organisations to bring about peace, detente and economic development of the deprived nations among which Romania counted itself. On his part Commerce Minister explained briefly our policy and attitude in this regard. Referring to the troubled state of world, the Romanian President emphasised the need for all peace-loving countries to increase their efforts to solve all problems through negotiations. He acknowledged the role that we have been playing in this matter. Commerce Minister told the Romanian President that we have also noticed with great attention his efforts in these fields and were confident that with closer cooperation between our two countries it will be possible to make significant and effective contribution for the common objectives we have in view.

Apart from being received by the President, Shri Mukherjee also had separate discussions with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Trade Cornel Burtica, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Mining, Oil and Geology Virgil Trofin, Minister of Machine Building Ioan Avram, and Minister of Chemical Industry Gheorghe Caranful. In all these meetings discussions focussed on means of further expanding and concreting areas of Indo-Romanian Trade and Economic Cooperation. Members of the Romanian leadership expressed great happiness at having had the opportunity to dis-

cuss matters with Commerce Minister and Shri Mukherjee reciprocated the sentiment.

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NORWAY INDIA USA OMAN ROMANIA UNITED KINGDOM CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Oct 01, 1980

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ZAMBIA

Indo-Zambian Economic Cooperation Prospects Reviewed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on October 2, 1980:

India and Zambia exchanged views this afternoon on measures to further expand and diversify trade between the two countries and cooperation in the field of mining and precious and semi-precious stones industries.

This was done at a meeting between the Zambian Minister of Mining and Economy, Mr. Mumbana and the Union Minister of Commerce and Steel and Mines, Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

The visiting dignitary expressed his appreciation of the economic development achieved by India since independence and sought Indian expertise and training facilities for Zambian personnel for achieving the same in his country. Shri Mukherjee informed the Zambian Minister that India had always been willing to help, in every possible way, the fellow developing countries, particularly because of the fact that Indian experience in this regard was particularly suited for them on account of almost identical conditions. With regard to training facilities for Zambian personnel, Shri Mukherjee asked the visiting dignitary

to identify the areas of facilities so required. India showed interest in the Zambian copper and precious stones and the Commerce Minister stressed the need for a long-term arrangements as far as the copper is concerned and active Indian participation towards procuring the precious stones from Zambia. He said that Indian expertise in both these fields could be well utilised for furthering cooperation between the two countries in these areas.

INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENTS

Shri Mukherjee referred to the wide trade gap between India and Zambia and emphasised that conceding that no perfectly balanced trade, was possible, yet all avenues to reduce the imbalance should be fully utilised. In this regard, he stressed that beside providing expertise in different fields India could also supply a number of commodities including industrial equipments which might be required by Zambia for its mining industry. He said that more such areas could be identified.

Shri Mukherjee emphasised the need for closer economic cooperation between the developing countries, particularly keeping in view the present trend of protectionism being followed by the developed countries.

India's export to Zambia in 1977-78 are estimated at Rs. 65.12 million whereas imports are estimated at Rs. 394.26 million. India's major exports to Zambia consists of engineering goods, metal manufactures, machinery - electrical and non-electrical, chemicals and allied products and iron and steel etc. Our major imports from Zambia are: copper, zinc, pearls, precious and semi-precious stones and lead, etc,

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EMIRATES

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

BHUTAN

Diversion Tunnel of Chukha Project Completed by NPCC

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 6, 1980:

The National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), a public undertaking of the Ministry of Energy, has completed the diversion tunnel of Chukha hydel project in the high Himalayan ranges of Bhutan. Despite most difficult and hazardous conditions, the diversion tunnel which is the first landmark of the project, has been completed on schedule. The Corporation had to employ sophisticated equipment like Crushing Plant, Concrete Mixing Plant, Concrete Placer, Moveable Gantry and by getting nearly 400 workmen from India.

The first ever Hydel Project in Bhutan viz. Chukha Hydel Project is under construction stage. It is situated at an elevation of about 7,000 ft. in the Himalayas and comprises 4 Units of 84 MW each. This Project is to utilise water of the turbulent Wangchu River of Bhutan by constructing a dam and the water will be taken to the Ponstock through 6.5 Kms. long Head Race Tunnel for generation of power. NPCC has been entrusted to construct the diversion tunnel, Head Race Tunnel and the Surge Shaft complex of the Project.

NPCC has also launched crash programme operation in Head Race Tunnel by employing modern tunnelling method and employed Convey Mucker, Locomotives, Mine Cars etc. The work of Surge Shaft Complex also is in full swing.

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Date : Nov 01, 1980

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BURMA

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

Presi dent

Following is the text of the President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at a banquet in honour of Mr. Ne Win, President of Burma in New Delhi on November 20, 1980:

It is a great pleasure for us to welcome you once more in our midst. You are, of course, no stranger to our country and our people, and it is both as a leader of eminence and as an old and valued friend that we honour you today.

You dedicate your life to the achievement of independence for your country and, since then, to ensure a united and prosperous Burma. Your significant contributions will undoubtedly be enshrined as the history of your nation is written.

Geography has made us neighbours and our history has followed parallel path. The teachings of Buddha form a central theme of the traditions of both our countries. More

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recently we were partners in the struggle for independence from colonialism. Our countries are plural societies with different languages, religions and cultures which we all treasure and as they intertwine they enrich our lives and from them our people derive strength and sustenance. It is our endeavour to retain harmony and tolerance in our systems as they are the basic structures of our society.

ENLARGING COOPERATION

Our countries have long enjoyed a close and intimate relationship which has been enriched by working together in many fields.

There is undoubtedly scope for enlarging the area and intensity of this cooperation not only in economic relations but also in the fields of science, technology and other realms of human endeavour. Permit me to express the hope that your present visit will enable us to give added impetus to our joint efforts.

Mr. President, the world around us increasingly faces turmoil and turbulence. There is a perceptible increase of tensions and the prospect of a revival of cold war attitudes. The Indian Ocean, far from becoming a Zone of Peace, is moving instead towards becoming an area of increased great power rivalry and tension. It is incumbent on all of us to make whatever contribution that lies within our power to reduce these tensions and to resolve conflicts and seek a regime within which the developing countries, like ourselves, can address themselves to their principal tasks of development which our peoples require so urgently. This requires both patience and persistence and it is our intention to continue our efforts regardless of the difficulties; confronting us.

Mr. President, your visit has provided us an opportunity to have a detailed exchange of views on the current international and regional situation. We have greatly benefited from your wise counsel and we look forward to maintaining our contacts and dialogue in the future. We are conscious of the continuing heavy responsibilities that you shoulder and we, therefore, feel privileged that you have found time to visit us. It is a matter of regret that on this occasion you have not been able to visit the holy places of Buddhism in India which are so close and dear to you. We would hope that you may be able to return very soon to spend more time with us.

BURMA INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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BURMA

Text of Burmese President's Speech

Replying to the toast., President Ne Win said:

Respected President, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy, Excellency Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, distinguished guests and friends, I would first of all like to express our hearty thanks to H.E. the President for this grand banquet and friendly words, and for the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to us at the time of our arrival. May I express our deep appreciation for having this opportunity to renew old friendships and to forge new ones in India.

We have come on this goodwill visit to India at the kind invitation of Your Excellencies the President and the Prime Minister. and with the aim of further strengthening and consolidating the friendly relations that already exist between Burma and India.

India is the birthplace of Buddhism. Burma is one of the countries where Buddhism has spread and flourished. This state of affairs clearly demonstrates that Burma and India have enjoyed friendly contacts since ancient times.

CORDIAL RELATIONS

Excellency Mr. President, in present times, the relations between Burma and India are marked by basic characteristics of cordiality and mutual consideration. Based on these sentiments of friendship, the leadership Of Our two countries have on occasions exchanged views and experiences and have beneficially cooperated with one another.

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Although we live in a world of mounting crises, the establishment of close

and active ties have resulted in the absence of major difficulties in the relations between Burma and India. Should problems of minor nature arise on occasion, we are happy to note that it has been the practice of our two countries to resolve them in a spirit of broad-mindedness, tolerance and fairness.

In the area of international affairs, Burma and India share many ideals and points of view. However, there may arise occasions where our views do not exactly coincide, and we are compelled to act in a pragmatic way in consonance with our respective situations and circumstances. But whatever those differences may be, we shall always be fully aware that they only concern our stance in international relations over which we only have a very limited influence and shall never permit them to adversely affect the friendly relations that have so happily existed between our two countries.

In conclusion, may I express my firm belief that this current visit will further, contribute toward the enhancement of the friendly relations that exist between us.

Excellencies, distinguished guests and friends, I now request you to join me in a toast to the health and well being of our distinguished host, H.E. Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President of the Republic of India; to the health and well being of Her Excellency, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India; to the progress and prosperity of the people of India; to lasting friendship between the peoples of Burma and India; and to the health and well being of the Distinguished guests present here.

BURMA USA INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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DENMARK

India, and Denmark Agreement on Health Care and Welfare project

Following is a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 1, 1980:

A five-year Agreement between India and Denmark was signed here today regarding a Health Care and Family Welfare Project in seven districts of Madhya Pradesh.

The Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of India and the visiting Danish Prime Minister, Mr. Anker Jorgensen, on behalf of the Government of Denmark.

Under the Agreement, the Government of Denmark will finance projects to the tune of Rupees 180 million. It is meant to assist Government of India in strengthening the health care and family welfare status in the seven districts of Madhya Pradesh. Those districts are: Bhind. Guna, Gwalior (including Datia), Morena, Sagar, Shivpuri and Tikamgarh.

The Danish assistance will be for financing renovation, construction and maintenance of sub-health centres and rural family welfare centres, provision of lady health visitor facilities, logistics, drugs and equipment, drinking water and sanitation, nutrition education and education information and communication and community mobilisation.

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DENMARK CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

FRG Delegation Calls on Industry Minister

Following is the text of a Press Release issued New Delhi on November 4, 1980:

A delegation of Federation of German Industries led by Dr. Kurt Hansen, called on the Minister of State for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana today. The delegation included representatives of the machine tools, electrical automotive, mining, steel, heavy engineering, chemicals and ship building industries of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Dr. Chanana emphasised the need for strengthening technical and economic co-operation between the two countries based on the optimum utilisation of the complementarities in skills, capacities and cost infrastructure. He pointed out that it would be to the advantage of the two sides to evolve a more meaningful association under which Indian technology is enhanced and cost competitiveness of the FRG products simultaneously secured. In regard to the possible areas of immediate involvement by FRG firms, the Minister emphasised that modernisation of Indian industries demand immediate attention. There are of course possibilities for FRG participation in the various sectors of Indian industry and Indian development programmes in terms of the Sixth Five Year Plan targets but what is important is induction of modern up-to-date technology in critical sectors of Indian industry in order to avoid obsolescence, said Dr. Chanana.

INDUSTRIAL POLICY CLARIFIED

The FRG delegation recognised the

Indian point of view and sought clarification in regard to policy. It was confirmed that collaborations and technical associations are welcomed in the needed sectors - be it with the public or the private sector. The division of responsibilities between these two sectors in India is such that they complement each other and contribute to the national effort at industrialisation. Government have reserved certain industries for the public sector having regard to national interest. This policy, however, does not impede the development of the private sector which has been provided with due incentives and encouragements for growth. It was pointed out that a large many of collaborations with the Federal Republic of Germany have been entered into by the public sector.

Dr. Chanana also emphasised that the policies of the Indian Government in terms of foreign collaboration and foreign equity participation, are pragmatic. Technology is given its due price. Agreements and collaborations are granted for appropriate periods taking into account the need for the inflow of the latest processes and to keep Indian technology consistently modern and up-to-date. Appropriate incentives and aids are in-built into Indian Industrial Policy to encourage systematic and free flow of the latest technological advancements.

The FRG delegation appreciated the Indian point of view and stressed the need for closer cooperation between Indian and FRG firms. It was agreed that efforts should be made to strengthen the existing institutional mechanism with a view to strengthening the industrial association between the two countries.

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GERMANY USA INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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Following is the text of the statement by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, in Parliament on November 18, 1980 on the Iran-Iraq Conflict:

Sir, the House is aware that for the past few years strains have been evident in the relations between countries in West Asia. This has caused us much anxiety and it has been India's endeavour to prevent any destabilisation of the entire region. Since Parliament rose in August, a further unfortunate development has taken place in the form of an open armed conflict between Iran and Iraq.

The continuing war between Iran and Iraq, two countries with whom India has close and long-standing ties, is a matter of deep concern and distress to India. From the very beginning of the war, India has made it clear that it, has not taken and will not take sides and has expressed its anguish at the loss of life and property being suffered by both sides. India has consistently held that disputes between countries should be settled bilaterally and by peaceful means without recourse to war. We have also expressed our deep concern that prolongation or escalation of the present conflict could have grave implications on both regional and global peace and security.

Sir, when the first news of the beginning of the war came on September 22, 1980, I was in New York for the UN General Assembly which had already been in session since September 16, 1980. I immediately held consultations with several other Foreign Ministers, including those of countries that are currently members of the Security Council. The general feeling of

concern voiced in these consultations resulted in the Security Council meeting on September 28, 1980. The resolution adopted by the Council, however, did not succeed in securing a cease-fire. I also took the earliest opportunity of meeting the Secretary-General of the United Nations with whom my discussions centred around the manner in which the UN could act in resolving the conflict.

I also met the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Gromyko, and the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Muskie. I was assured that both the U.S. and the USSR would remain neutral in the Iran-Iraq conflict. These decisions naturally helped in Preventing the conflict from the danger of escalation and possible enlargement.

ELUSIVE CEASE-FIRE

Since the resolution of the Security Council could not bring about a cease-fire, the logical step was to find a solution which included a cease-fire coupled with a process of negotiation to resolve the causes of the conflict. This, I regret to say, has eluded the international community so far. The initiative of the Islamic Conference did not yield any result, as also the appeals of the Secretary-General of the U.N.

SPECIAL ENVOYS

Meanwhile, Special Envoys of both Iran and Iraq visited India on September 28 and October 8, 1980 respectively to explain to our Prime Minister the points of view of their respective Governments. In response, we counselled restraint and brought to their attention the dangers of possible intervention and interference by outside powers and the effect that this would have on the independence and non-aligned position of both the countries. Our Prime Minister's Special Envoys have also been to both Baghdad and Tehran in order to better understand the points of view of the two sides.

At the UN General Assembly on October 3, 1980, I had stated that the con-

tinuing conflict between the two countries would "only weaken the solidarity of the nonaligned and developing countries". It was our belief that Iran and Iraq being themselves nonaligned countries, would perhaps be more willing to accept a group of non-aligned countries to help towards a resolution of the present conflict. However, it was obvious that no initiative could succeed unless properly timed.

NON-ALIGNED INITIATIVE

Subsequently a suggestion was made, at the instance of Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, that the Coordinating Bureau of Non-aligned countries should meet in New York on October 21, 1980 to consider the possibility of a Non-aligned initiative. The Bureau, meeting at the level of Ambassadors, decided that a Committee of Good-will be set up to offer its good offices towards that end. Subsequently, after consultations held with all concerned, including Iran and Iraq, a seven-member Committee was constituted at the level of Ambassadors the members being Algeria, Cuba, India, Pakistan, P.L.O., Yugoslavia and Zambia. It was also decided that a meeting be held at Belgrade where the Committee would constitute itself at Ministerial level and deliberate on further details regarding its functioning; the Bureau also recommended that the Committee should visit Baghdad and Tehran.

On the morning of October 30, I received an invitation from the Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia to a meeting to be convened at Belgrade on November 2 and 3, 1980. The next day, only hours before I was due to leave for Belgrade, we received news that Iraq had objected to the inclusion of Algeria on the Committee, stating that it had reservations, in principle, to the inclusion of any Arab member, except P.L.O. as a special case. It was also reported that Iraq had suggested a few other countries out of whom a seventh member could be selected, acceptable to Iran. However, on learning personally from the Yugoslav Foreign

Minister that this last-minute development could be sorted out, and that all the other Foreign Ministers would be present at the meeting, I left for Belgrade.

Soon after my arrival in Belgrade, we received news that Iran was not in a position to accept the above mentioned proposal and insisted on Algeria being included.

BELGRADE MEET

The Belgrade meeting, owing to this unforeseen development, started under a cloud. As a result, we had to devote the major portion of our time to discussing the technicality of whether the six Ministers present were within their rights in constituting themselves as the Goodwill Committee. Consequently, the Foreign Ministers could not proceed to the stage of discussing substantive issues. It was ultimately decided to issue an Appeal to the Governments of Iran and Iraq, in the name of the six Ministers, in the following terms:

"The Ministers are prepared if agreed to by both Iran and Iraq, to constitute themselves as a Goodwill Committee, and function as such, or to enlarge its membership as may be acceptable to both Iran and Iraq, so as to constitute the goodwill committee. The Ministers, therefore, appealed to the Governments of Iran and Iraq in the spirit of non-aligned solidarity, to consider these alternatives and signify their agreement in order to enable the constitution and functioning of the goodwill committee.

"The Ministers are prepared to exert, in accordance with the policy and principles of non-alignment, as defined in the declarations of their Heads of State and Government, utmost efforts with a view to contributing towards the commencement of a peaceful process to find a just and honourable solution to this conflict between two non-aligned countries. To this end, the Ministers are ready to visit Tehran and Baghdad on the invitation of the respective Governments or to take any other step conducive to this purpose".

"The Ministers would like to express their full respect to the Governments of Iran and Iraq."

The Belgrade meeting had to be concluded at that point. The initiative was based on the conviction that an attempt

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should be made to find a solution to this conflict within the non-aligned movement. In our view, the effort was worth making. The initiative is being continued and effort are being made in order to enable the Goodwill Committee to be constituted and to undertake its intended mission. The Ministers decided to meet again in New Delhi at the appropriate time.

COMPLEX SITUATION

The Government of India is fully aware of the difficulties and complexities of the situation and the need for the emergence of circumstances more conducive to the success of a peace mission. We, however, continue to believe that we must not relent in our efforts in meeting this serious threat to regional stability and world peace.

On my way back from Europe, I stopped over briefly at Beirut to meet Chairman Yasser Arafat. I had the opportunity of benefiting from his personal assessment of the conflict and of the various mediatory efforts made so far. Chairman Arafat continued to hold the view that the non-aligned initiative had a better chance of helping to find a solution. He assured me that this effort would continue in spite of the setbacks and that he would constantly keep India informed of further developments.

Since my return, the Secretary General of the United Nations has appointed the distinguished former Prime Minister of Sweden, Mr. Olof Palme as his special representative to go to both Iran and Iraq and try to help towards a resolution of the conflict. I can only wish him well in his endeavour.

REPATRIATION OF INDIAN NATIONALS

As Members are aware, there are a large number of Indians working in Iraq and Iran in various capacities - doctors, engineers, teachers, skilled and unskilled labour etc. Their safety has been our major concern. We have taken all possible steps including arranging their repatriation to India where necessary. As a result of the Iranian bombing of Basra on 23rd September, there were some Indian casualties. As the conflict intensified, demands for the repatriation of foreigners of many nationalities mounted. Large groups of foreign nationals converged mainly on the Iraq-Kuwait border from 23rd September onwards. Many of these including Indian nationals, were stranded there without food and shelter, or entry and travel arrangements in the absence of Kuwaiti entry transit visas. With inadequate facilities at the border checkpoint and the local officials unprepared for a crisis of this dimension, All foreigners crossing the border, including our nationals, initially faced hardships at this checkpoint in the desert.

I transited through Kuwait on 11th October while returning from New York after participating in the UN General Assembly session, in order to be able to obtain a first hand account of the arrangements being made to provide succour to our nationals and to facilitate their return to India. My enquiries show that after the handicaps of the first day or two, which were reported in the Indian Press, all possible arrangements were made by our Embassy in Kuwait to facilitate the reception and smooth transit of our nationals through Kuwait. A team of officials has been working practically round the clock at the checkpoint on the Kuwait-Iraq border assisting in arranging transit visas for the evacuees, supplying travel documents on the spot to those who had left them behind, arranging their shelter, medical attention and food during their stay in Kuwait, and planning their flight schedules for their return to India. I am glad to say that in extending hospitality to the Indian evacuees, the help of the local Indian community and

enterprises based in Kuwait which was sought for by our Embassy, was readily extended. Some of our correspondents, not to mention the Arab and the international press, had occasion to pay a visit to the checkpoints and see for themselves the arrangements made there. The manner in which this exodus from Iraq has been tackled by our mission personnel has received very favourable mention in the press. I may mention that the help of our personnel was also availed of by nationals of other countries and it was readily forthcoming. We have received letters from some

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nationals of other countries thanking our personnel for the help rendered to them.

REPATRIATION CELL

A special cell was set up in the Ministry of External Affairs to coordinate all arrangements connected with the repatriation. Seventeen Air India flights, over and above the normal schedule, were operated to airlift the evacuees through Amman and Kuwait. Special teams of 3 officials each were rushed to Kuwait and Amman to assist our missions there. Our Embassy in Baghdad and our Consulate General in Basra were also strengthened despite the prevailing war situation there. Indian Embassy officials have been present at the border checkpoints on the Iraqi-Kuwait and Iraq-Jordan borders whenever evacuees have passed through, to facilitate their entry and transit to the airports. Missions were also authorised to arrange for issue of Air India tickets on credit to Indian companies wishing to repatriate their employees and lacking immediate liquidity as well as to repatriate any destitute Indians lacking means to buy air tickets. Full cooperation was extended by Governments of neighbouring countries like Jordan, Syria, Turkey, USSR, Pakistan and Kuwait for the transit of our nationals through their territories. The Central Board of Excise and Customs was requested to extend necessary facilities to the returning Indians for the import of personal baggage. A special officer was also designated to handle all queries relating to

the welfare of Indian nationals caught in the war zone.

In Iran, our nationals seeking repatriation were able to do so without much difficulty through neighbouring countries like Turkey, USSR and Pakistan.

A number of Indian ships are also stranded at Khorramshahr and Basra on account of the war. There has been some damage to these but fortunately the crew of all these vessels have been repatriated with the exception of three Indians, one belonging to an Indian ship and two to a Panamanian vessel, who are reported missing.

The total number of Indian casualties so far has been 15 killed and 25 injured.

To sum up, Mr-Speaker Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to assure the Members that the Government of India has actively, but quietly, attempted to do whatever was possible to restore peace between our two valued friends and to protect and help our nationals, wherever required. We will continue to offer our good offices in whatever way that both the countries or the international community may require of us. We are prepared to play this role because we believe this conflict to be one of the most unfortunate developments that have taken place in recent times.

IRAN IRAQ USA INDIA ALGERIA CUBA PAKISTAN YUGOSLAVIA ZAMBIA LEBANON SWEDEN
KUWAIT JORDAN SYRIA TURKEY PANAMA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman's Statement on India's Stand on Iraq-Iran Conflict

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 25, 1980:

The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement here today:

The Government of India has taken note of certain news agencies despatches and newspapers' reports appearing in foreign press saying that India has promised to help Iran bypass the western embargo and has agreed to supply planes and tanks' parts for war with Iran. There has been similar other reports alleging that India is trying to organise supplies for Iran from other oil producers.

There is no truth whatsoever in these reports. Such newspapers and news agencies' reports appear to be mischievous and motivated, aimed at distorting India's objective and correct stand in Iraq-Iran conflict, the countries with whom India has equally friendly relations.

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INDIA IRAN IRAQ USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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HUNGARY

Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission Meets

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 12, 1980:

The plenary meeting of the Fourth Session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Com-

mission was held here today. Dr. Charanjit Chanana, Minister of State for Industry and Co-Chairman of the Joint Commission led the Indian delegation. The Hungarian delegation was led by Her Excellency Etelka Keseru, Minister of Light Industry.

Welcoming the Hungarian delegation, the Minister for Industry, Dr. Chanana expressed the hope that both India and Hungary would be able to identify more areas of fruitful economic cooperation keeping in view their potentials in terms of their forthcoming Five Year Plans. He assured them that there would be no hurdles in promoting Indo-Hungarian economic cooperation.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress of implementation of various projects identified since the Third Session of the Indo-Hungarian Joint Commission held in May, 1978. Both sides also shared the concern of growing trade imbalances in bilateral trade and agreed that concrete and time bound programme should be chalked out with a view to minimising the constraints of balance of trade between the two countries.

Detailed discussions between the Indian and the Hungarian delegations will be held by the four working groups of the Joint Commission which has been constituted relating to agriculture, chemical fertilizers and pharmaceuticals, industrial cooperation and trade. At the end of these discussions a protocol will - be signed between the two Ministers on November 15, 1980.

HUNGARY INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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HUNGARY

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 13, 1980:

Hungary has expressed keen interest in cooperation with India in the fields of hydro-electric and thermal power plants, pharmaceutical industry and manufacture of buses and public transport vehicles. This was discussed here yesterday when the visiting Hungarian Minister for Light Industries, Madam E. Kesuri called on the Union Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. Another delegation of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce led by Dr. G. Y. D. Oblath also called on the Commerce Minister separately to discuss the possibility of intensifying and diversifying cooperation in joint industrial ventures.

The Commerce Minister stressed the need to identify specific commodities which could be traded between the two countries to increase the volume of trade. He also stressed the need to have more joint ventures in third countries, specially in West Asia and North Africa, in the fields like civil construction and consultancy projects.

Till 1977, India's trade with Hungary was conducted on bilateral balanced basis with the settlement of all commercial and non-commercial transactions through a clearing account in non-convertible Indian rupees. From January 1, 1978, the trade is conducted on multilateral basis with payments in free foreign exchange.

India's trade with Hungary were Rs. 359 million in 1979 as compared to Rs. 335 million in 1978. The balance of trade has been fluctuating on behalf of India and Hungary from time to time.

Our main items of import from Hungary are steel and steel products, capital

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goods and machinery, drugs and pharmaceuticals, chemicals, photographic and cine-

matographic films. At present machinery items, power generation equipment, telecommunication equipments and rolling stock constitute major portion of our imports from Hungary.

In the past traditional Indian products like de-oiled cakes, pepper, coffee, hides and skins, iron ore, etc. used to constitute nearly 60 per cent of our exports to Hungary. The structure of our exports has considerably improved in 1978 and 1979. The share of traditional products in our exports has declined and that of non-traditional products has increased. The main items of exports to Hungary now are tinned fruits and juices. cosmetics and toiletries, finished leather and leather products, textiles and readymade garments, automobile spares and ancillaries. miscellaneous engineering goods like air compressors, machinery for chemical industry, pneumatic instruments, vacuum technology, bicycle spares, radios and tape recorders, optical instruments and ice-making machinery.

HUNGARY INDIA RUSSIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

India Contributes \$11.2 M. to U.N. Development Activities

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 10, 1980:

India announced her contribution for the year 1981 totalling US Dollars 11.2 millions (Rupees 82.5 million) to various UN programmes and funds engaged in United Nations development activities. The agencies include United Nations

Development Fund (UNDP), Voluntary Fund for UN decades for Women and Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development.

The largest contribution, namely, US dollars 8 million (Rupees 63 million approx.) was pledged to the UNDP. The total contribution of \$ 11.2 million also includes Rupees 1.5 million to UNICEF for the year 1980.

The Indian delegate to the United Nations General Assembly, Shri Parimal Ghosh, announced these contributions recently at the pledging conference for development activities.

INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDIA AND UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION

Permanent Representative's Statement on Afghanistan in U.N.

Following is the text of the statement made by the Permanent Representative of India in the U.N. General Assembly on November 19, 1980 an Item No. 116. - The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security:

Mr. President, the situation in and around Afghanistan has cast, for the major part of this year, a long shadow on the international political horizon giving rise to complex scenarios Of Political pressure and diplomatic power play.

While the reality of the situation in the region still remains grim the developments of the past months have seriously affected the entire climate of international relations

and set back the process of detente, limited as it was, so sedulously culminated during the past few years. Indeed, Afghanistan today has become a flash point for a virtual

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return to the polemics and paranoia of the cold war. Successive efforts aimed at defusing the situation have been frustrated by the continued adoption of unrealistic attitudes and inflexible positions.

REPERCUSSIONS IN SUB-CONTINENT

This continued, impasse has caused deep concern and anxiety to India. We are all the more disturbed because the developments in Afghanistan have had the effect of reversing a trend of events in the sub-continent which had earlier given rise to a degree of optimism. The nations of the sub-continent had begun to experience a period of relative relief from the climate of distrust and hostility and were gradually embarking on relationships based on mutuality, common benefit and a developing faith in bilateral negotiations as a means of settling outstanding problems. All the countries in our region having become members of the Non-aligned Movement, it was our hope that the entire area would be free of tensions and could engage purposefully in the challenging tasks of national reconstruction and socio-economic advancement of our peoples.

The events of the past year have if anything, interrupted this process and, in some respects, assumed more ominous proportions owing to factors most of which are not indigenous or germane to the immediate issue facing the region. The impulse to resort to arms and confrontation could only prove detrimental to confidence building and to the evolution of stability through mutual cooperation among the countries of the region, suspicions generated by the harbouring and encouragement of dissident elements and the consequent build-up of tensions could only heighten the risk of great power confrontation closer on our door steps.

INDIA'S CONCERN

As far as Afghanistan is concerned, India has always had close and friendly relations with the Government and people of Afghanistan and we have been deeply concerned and vitally interested in the security, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of this traditionally friendly non-aligned country. We have continued our productive and fruitful cooperation despite the vicissitudes of history on both sides. Our concern with present developments affecting both Afghanistan as well as the region as a whole stems from the fact that-- the security of all our neighbours in the sub-continent is inextricably related to our security and national Interest. We are concerned, therefore not only that the existing situation could generate reactions and serve as a pretext for those who wish to create further instability in the area but also that the continued festering of this situation without attempts at ameliorating it could only lead to an attrition of the political and economic resources of the countries leading to their further weakening and serving as a standing temptation for outside intervention and cupidity. It is for the countries of the region to seek ways and means other than by military force to bring about a solution to the problems underlying the present situation. This is why a political solution is of the utmost urgency.

TOWARDS DEFUSION OF TENSION

The Government of India have over the past several months engaged in consultations with a large number of countries both of the regions and outside. In the course of these consultations, we have consistently stressed the need to prevent an escalation of tension in South West Asia. While there has been a general appreciation of the need for a political solution, it is equally understood that such a solution can emerge only out of an atmosphere of relative trust and confidence based on the realities of the existing situation in the area. The immediate task to be undertaken is that of establishing a dialogue without any strict stipulation as to the outcome thereof. Such an exercise will naturally involve a meticulous

sifting of global, regional and national aspects and their inevitable interaction. We are convinced, however, that in the process of such a dialogue several other lines of perceptions would open up for further probe and action and would lead eventually to the contours of a political solution.

The adoption of public postures in international bodies should, my delegation feels, facilitate rather than hamper the process of a political solution. As far as pos-

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sible, attempts should be made by all concerned to avoid extreme positions or to adopt confrontationist postures as these could only put back the process of defusion of tensions. Any attempt also to proceed on the basis of decisions or recommendations adopted even in a body such as the U.N. which has not been accepted by the countries primarily involved could only aggravate matters. It is essential that all the states concerned should display a degree of flexibility and not attempt to impose rigid pre-conditions whether through a U.N. resolution unacceptable to some of them or by setting up other rigid modalities designed to close the door on negotiation.

CESSATION OF INTERFERENCE

Thus, my delegation feels, as it felt in January this year, that a debate in the General Assembly on Afghanistan, which would almost certainly lead to the adoption of another resolution unacceptable to some of the countries directly involved, might very well be counter productive. If we are taking part in the debate it is only to advise restraint and in the hope of contributing towards a possible amelioration of the situation in the future rather than in order to apportion blame for the past. We seek an urgent solution to this question both for the peace and security of our region as also in order to avoid further deterioration of the situation through increased involvement by outside powers. Above all we seek a solution of the crisis on the basis of certain commonly acceptable elements. Actually im-

portant elements in such a solution would be the complete cessation of all interference or intervention in the internal affairs of states, firm opposition to the presence of foreign troops in any country as well as the withdrawal of existing foreign forces and the furnishing of complete and reliable guarantees against all forms of interference.

What must be avoided is the emphasis on one principle or element over others. They must be taken together and they must be given equal importance in any political settlement. We cannot therefore support the draft resolution contained in document A/35/L 12.

The Government of India would continue in its efforts through diplomatic channels, bilateral contacts and other forms of consultation to seek ways and means of defusing the situation in the region and for moving towards the creation of conditions that would facilitate a political solution of the question. We would urgently appeal to all concerned, particularly the more powerful countries outside the area to act with responsibility and restraint. Thank you, Mr. President.

INDIA AFGHANISTAN USA PERU

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

MALDIVES

Indo-Maldivian Trade Talks Conclude

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in Nov Delhi on November 20, 1980:

The Agreed Minutes of the Indo-Maldivian trade talks were signed, here today, by

Shri Khurshed Alam Khan, Minister of State for Commerce and Mr. Ilyas Ibrahim, Deputy Minister of Public Safety of Maldives, on behalf of their respective Governments. The four-day talks began on November 17.

During the talks, it was agreed that India and Maldives should set up a regular institutional arrangement in order to give momentum to bilateral exchanges and to provide a framework for sustained trade development between the two countries. India also assured Maldives that efforts would be made to meet their requirements of essential commodities, and, for this purpose, a list of items would be identified

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bilaterally for supply of by India on a year to year basis.

It was also agreed that State Trading Organisation, Male and the State Trading Corporation of India, or an alternative organisation, wherever necessary, would be entrusted with the task of entering into appropriate commercial arrangements with each other for moving the pre-determined commodities to the Maldives. The two delegations also reviewed the existing trade relations between the two countries and explored the possibilities of its future expansion.

SHARING INDIAN EXPERTISE

The Maldivian Minister Mr. Ilyas Ibrahim also called on the Union Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and conveyed his country's keen interest in developing commercial relations with India. Shri Mukherjee explained to him India's policy of furthering trade relations with the neighbouring countries. He also pointed out that in the new economic policy India gave special stress on the development of island economies and said that India would be keen to share its expertise with Maldives.

The Maldivian Minister invited Shri Khurshed Alam Khan to visit his country at a suitable date. He also visited the

National Handicrafts Fair and other pavilions in Pragati Maidan today.

The trade between India and Maldives has increased substantially from Rs. 6.4 million in 1975-76 to Rs. 16 million in 1978-79. Maldives imports several essential commodities from India. There is also a potential for increasing the export of electrical items, bicycles and construction material.

MALDIVES INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANISATION

India Reiterates Support to Palestinian Cause

Following is the text of the message by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, to the Chairman of the U.N. Committee on Palestine on the occasion of the International Day for Solidarity with the Palestinian People:

On behalf of the people and Government of India, and on my own behalf, I offer our best wishes for the third annual observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The United Nations Committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people has made a commendable contribution towards enlightening public opinion on the Palestinian cause. The resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly in July this year is another affirmation of International support for the Palestinian people's just demand for the full restoration of their rights.

INDIA'S FIRM SUPPORT

As always, India considers the Palestinian question as central to the West Asian situation. Along with other members Of the United Nations, we reiterate our support to the Palestinian cause. We are confident that the continued efforts of the United Nations will further strengthen the indomitable spirit of the Palestinian people to continue their struggle. The fulfilment of their aspirations is only a matter of time.

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INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Cooperation in Field of Mass Communication

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 4, 1980:

The need for cooperation between developing countries in the field of mass communication was discussed here today when a Ministerial delegation from Trinidad and Tobago led by Mr. Kamaluddin Mohammed, Minister for Health and Local Government, called on the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Vasant Sathe.

The Trinidad and Tobago delegation showed keen interest in the facilities available in India for the training of mass communication personnel. Mr. Kamaluddin Mohammed said that the developing countries like India and Trinidad and Tobago were facing the same problems in regard to

the operation of multi-national agencies which often used the media to subvert the Governments in those countries.

Shri Sathe said that India shared the concern and anxieties of Trinidad and Tobago in relation to multinational agencies. He said it AN-as in the national interest of developing countries to cooperate and devise arrangements so that they could get correct news about developments in each other's country. He said that the Indian Institute of Mass Communications in Delhi and the Film and Television Institute of India at Pune offered excellent facilities for training of personnel in the field of journalism and film production. The Minister said that India and Trinidad and Tobago should develop closer cooperation in the cultural and mass media fields.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Indo-Soviet Cooperation in Power Development: Memorandum of Understanding Signed

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 5, 1980:

India and the USSR signed here today a Memorandum of Understanding to enlarge the cooperation between the two countries in the field of power development. It was signed, by Shri D. V. Kapur, Secretary (Power), Ministry of Energy, on behalf of the Government of India and by Mr. N. A. Lopatin, Deputy Minister of Energy of the USSR for his country.

This understanding follows the visit of

a Soviet delegation of specialists in power engineering headed by Mr. N. A. Lopatin. The delegation visited several power stations in the country and expressed a keen desire to enlarge the scope of cooperation between the two countries in this field.

It has been agreed to recommend the constitution of a Working Group on Power under the auspices of the Indo-Soviet Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The mechanics of obtaining spare parts for Soviet installed equipment in power stations were discussed and the Soviet delegation has agreed to expedite and effectively organise future supplies of spare parts for Indian power stations.

In the areas of maintenance and training, the Soviet experts have offered facilities and technical assistance to improve the maintenance procedures and upgrade skills.

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The two sides agreed to exchange experience and know-how in operation of power plants, modern techniques of planning, designing and constructing large power stations, utilising low calory fuel and developing and operating integrated power systems and extra high voltage transmission systems.

Special importance has been given to improving the working of the power station at Patratu in Bihar which has Soviet installed equipment. The USSR delegation has agreed to send specialists from several disciplines for this power station to ensure improved reliability of operation.

The prospect of Soviet participation in a large integrated power-cum-coal development project was also considered and dialogue has been initiated for this.

INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Indo-UAE Cooperation in Health Care

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi On November 5, 1980:

The U.A.E. Health Minister, His Excellency Mr. Hamad Abdul Rahman Al Madfa who arrived in the capital this morning, called on the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri B. Shankaranand, here today.

His Excellency Mr. Hamad Abdul Rahman Al Madfa is on an 8-day visit to this country on the invitation of the Union Health Minister. He is accompanied by eight senior officials of the Government of U.A.E.

His Excellency Mr. Hamad Abdul Rahman Al Madfa held discussions on matters of mutual interest relating to co-operation in the formulation and manufacture of drugs, recruitment of Indian medical and Para-medical personnel for U.A.E., co-operation in sharing of expertise in medicine, medical, paramedical and nursing education and training, export of drugs and pharmaceuticals from India and setting up of hospitals in India through collaborative projects.

The U.A.E. Health Minister would visit Agra, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Mysore and Bombay. He will also visit medical institutions, drug units and eminent national institutes.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC INDIA TURKEY USA RUSSIA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Vice-President M. Hidayatullah's Speech at Dinner for Prince Charles

Following is the text of the speech by the vice-president, Shri M. Hidayatullah, at a dinner in honour of His Royal Highness Prince Charles, in New Delhi on November 24, 1980:

Your Royal Highness, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Royal Highness to India. Your last visit was too short and we are glad that on this visit you will be able to spend some time in our country. We have been deeply impressed by your spirit of enquiry, your love of adventure and your devotion to duty. Your present visit is of a piece

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with your quest for knowledge and experience.

The Indo-British ties are over 400 years old. It is now no longer an unequal relationship but a partnership between equals based on mutual trust, respect and understanding. The links established between India and Britain have resulted in continuing sympathy between our two peoples. The Parliamentary institutions and administrative structures we inherited from Britain have still a profound influence on Indian thought and life. We share the same democratic values and they are deeply ingrained in us. We are similarly inspired by liberal traditions and dedicated to the ideals of racial harmony and non-discrimination. Generations of Britons who came to India were profoundly influenced by Indian culture and values. The people of India origin who settled down in Britain constituted a link in our friendship. They together continue

to influence our good relations.

CLOSE RELATIONSHIP

Against this background, India and Britain are today able to enjoy a relaxed and equal relationship. It might not always have been smooth and unruffled; but it is a mark of the quality of our relationship that it is today as good as ever.

It is a happy augury that our two countries can look forward to a strengthening in many ways the relations and in diverse fields. The Indian community in Britain can also contribute to this mutual process of economic cooperation and cultural enrichment.

We thank Britain for all her help to us in our economic development. The United Kingdom is now India's third largest export market and takes almost 58 per cent of India's exports to the European Economic Community.

We consult together closely on political and economic issues of our times. Despite our diverse approaches, we are able to speak to each other in a spirit of trust and confidence without fear of being misunderstood. Our purpose is to enlarge the areas of understanding and cooperation between the peoples and countries of the world so that we can build a new international order based on justice and equality devoted to peace and progress.

COMMONWEALTH

Our exchanges draw strength from our shared membership of the Commonwealth. India's decision to remain in the Commonwealth after it became a Republic in 1950 was a significant factor in shaping the future of the Commonwealth. The visit to India by Her Majesty the Queen in 1961 and other high level exchanges have strengthened our bonds. We are happy at the existing ties, bilateral and through the Commonwealth's various institutions, and exchanges between political leaders, officials,

academics and businessmen and they augur well for further cooperation and collaboration.

We are glad that Your Royal Highness is visiting a few places in India outside Delhi and thus will have an opportunity to see the diversity of our country. I hope you will be able to get to know the massive efforts being made by our people and our Government for increasing production in field and factory, for developing the infrastructure of power, transport and communications, to protect the natural environment and to improve the quality of life of all sections of our population. Our endeavour is to build a society, by persuasion and not coercion, that is alive to the modern advances in a last changing world without losing its ancient moorings or traditional values

May I invite Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen to join me in a toast to the health of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, the distinguished members of his delegation and to the further development of Indo-British friendship and cooperation.

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INDIA USA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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UNITED KINGDOM

Text of Prince Charles' Speech

Following is the text of a Press Release (undated) issued in New Delhi. Replying to the toast, Prince Charles said:

Mr. Vice-President, Ladies and Gentle-

men, arriving in a new place is always a strange and stimulating experience, although the strangeness is softened in this instance by the knowledge that you and I, Excellency, share a common experience in having spent the best years of our lives at Trinity, Cambridge. It is also softened by the fact that I have been to Delhi once before, albeit briefly, and in the company of my great uncle Lord Mountbatten, who so often conveyed to me the magic of India and also his deep affection for your country.

I am particularly pleased that my programme will show me something of that activity which occupies more people in India than any other, and which is arguably the most important in the Indian economy - namely, agriculture. It is inevitable in a crowded programme that one rushes busily from A to B. But with great ingenuity, the planners of my programme have found room and time for agriculture in Punjab, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Orissa, not to mention drives through the countryside in Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. During these visits, it will be a great privilege for me to talk to - and I hope learn from - some of the distinguished people who have contributed to what is called, without any exaggeration at all, a "revolution" in India's agriculture. I was pleased to hear from our aid planners what a large slice of British aid over the years has gone into rural schemes of many kinds, and that this area remains a high priority.

INDUSTRIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

My taste of Indian industry will come mostly towards the end of my tour. But even my quick glimpse of the city of Delhi as I flew in this afternoon was clear evidence of the way industry has carved out its place here. With a combination of foreign collaboration, indigenous skills, careful planning and sheer hard work, Indian industry not only supplies the greater part of Indian needs, but has also worked its way into world markets, often in the face of the hottest competition.

In Bangalore, I believe I shall see

machine tools which are exported to Western Europe. Let me assure you that Britain too exports machine tools to the European market: nevertheless, even among competitors there is scope for co-operation and for sharing technology. One effect I hope my visit may have is to draw attention to India among British industrialists and to remind them of the many opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration India can offer them.

Commerce and industry are, of course, by no means the only fields in which collaboration between Britain and India is close. With you sitting besides me, Mr. Vice-President, I cannot but be reminded of the very close links which are maintained in the legal field. In all aspects of law, we continue to have a tremendous amount in common.

NEW UNDERSTANDING

And this applies also in the cultural field. We are now 30 years from Indian independence and there is a whole new generation of Britons and Indians looking for a new understanding of each other's way of life. Our Governments have concluded that this new desire is ready for a formal expression, and so a Festival of India will take place in Britain in 1982 which will have as its aim the presentation of the whole civilisation and culture of India. We believe that this is not only intrinsically worth knowing for its own sake, but that India has a tremendous amount to offer the world both in art and in lifestyle. We have in mind also that many young people of Indian origin who live in Britain and who have never been to India should be given the opportunity to acquire a keener awareness of their own cultural inheritance.

The Festival will depict the continuity of Indian civilisation, its tolerance and its unity in diversity. It will embrace every thing from pre-history of life in a contemporary Gujarati village, from manuscripts

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to the traditional living arts, and from archaeology to contemporary painting. It will be in every way a celebration of Indian life.

We are looking forward keenly to it, and we are particularly happy that both our lady Prime Ministers have agreed to be its sponsors. I know that it will be a landmark in Indo-British relations.

INDO-BRITISH COLLABORATION

Another area where collaboration between India and Britain is already well-established is that of defence. Between our armed services there has always been the closest friendship and mutual respect. It will be my great pleasure and privilege to visit each of the Indian services and to do my bit - I hope - in sealing this friendship which is highly valued on both sides,

Although the generations of British and Indian servicemen who swabbed decks together or bashed squares together are gradually disappearing from the scene, I believe that the underlying links between us will remain. It is a matter of profound personal sadness to me that a very great British serviceman, my great-uncle, Lord Mountbatten, could not accompany me on this tour nor continue to pass on to me, as he had done for many years, as I mentioned earlier, something of his own deep love for and appreciation of India.

I might just say that Lord Mountbatten was particularly keen - I might even say, insistent - that I should see the Taj Mahal by moonlight, and I was only too happy to fall in with his wishes. Unfortunately, try as they might, the Ministry of External Affairs and the British High Commission have failed to arrange for a full moon on the 27th or 28th of November - they even had a choice. I am sure Lord Mountbatten would have arranged it!

As it is, the Taj Mahal by moonlight will have to wait for another time. And I do hope, if you do not mind my saying so, that there will be another time, for in the next few days I shall only be able to see a tiny proportion of what there is to see. There are so many tempting things: the Himalayas, the far South, Banaras and the famous Buddhist site at Sanchi. I shall be

fascinated to see your magnificent bird sanctuary at Bharatpur, but I am well aware of the richness of India's wildlife heritage. I hope therefore that I may comfort myself with the thought of other visits in the future.

INDIA'S ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS

In the meantime, the present visit and its varied programme will give me plenty to think about. I hope that my visit will set a lot of other people thinking too, and that not only my mental images but other people's too, will be adjusted so that they conform more closely to reality. For that reality is indeed impressive. As the years have passed, so India's standing and reputation in the world have progressively grown: a leading member of the non-aligned movement from its earliest days; a whole-hearted and influential participant in the United Nations, its agencies and its peace-keeping forces; a leading Commonwealth country; a leader also in the Group of 77. I hope that, above everything else, my visit demonstrates the understanding there is in Britain of the influential position which India holds in world affairs.

A newspaper report some weeks ago said that I was being taught Urdu by a member,, of my staff. Unfortunately, it was an inaccurate report, chiefly because the Urdu-speaking member of my staff has just departed; but it did stimulate me to learn at least the odd phrase. For instance:

"Doston, shukriya. Mai gulfaam piye jaata hoon. Yaaden ahabaabe khaaso-aarn liye jaata hoon."

For those of you who do not speak Urdu - and the many more who do not understand my Urdu - that means:

"Friends, I have drunk your delightful wine. I take away with me memories of the friendship of all of you."

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President, for this delightful banquet - a fitting start to what I am sure will be a marvellous tour.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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1995

UNITED KINGDOM

Minister of Industry Dr. Chanana Discusses Expansion of Indo-British Participation for Foreign Markets

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 24, 1980:

Union Minister for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana has said that India is now in a position to absorb, translate and adapt sophisticated technology to meet the requirements of any given environment and at comparatively economical costs. Dr. Chanana was talking to a group of British industrialists led by Lord Limerick who had called on him this evening. The British mission included senior representatives of key industrial sectors in Britain such as coal, power, steel, transport, aviation industrial consultancy and others.

INDUSTRIAL POLICY

The Minister explained the Industrial Policy statement of the Government with particular reference to the emphasis placed on utilisation of industries, induction of sophisticated technologies, optimum utilisation of capacities and export development. The Minister called for an economic participation between the two countries based on these parameters. He explained the measures taken for according expeditious clearance to industrial licensing applications etc.

Discussions centred around expansion of Indo-British economic participation and collaboration with a view to subserve the interests of both the countries utilising the specific capabilities and capacities. The Minister of State for Industry invited the attention of British delegation to the significant developments that have taken place on the Indian industrial scene.

The Minister referred to the close association between the Indian and British industries and stressed the need for effective participation on third country projects and other foreign markets with imported software which could be converted by Indian industry. He explained the need for a consortium approach.

USA INDIA

Date : Nov 01, 1980

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UNITED KINGDOM

Periodical Review of Indo-British Economic Relations

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on November 28, 1980:

The Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, has suggested the setting up of an appropriate institutional mechanism for periodical review and monitoring of Indo-British collaboration projects and bilateral trade. This was indicated when a visiting British delegation of industrialists and bankers called on the Minister, here last evening.

During discussions, the Commerce Minister stressed the need for identification of new areas and projects, in which the two

countries could collaborate, before the forthcoming meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee scheduled to be held here in early 1981. The IBEC with its two sub-committees - one of Economic Relations and the other of Industrial Cooperation - was set up through an exchange of letters in 1976. India's Commerce Minister and the British Secretary of State for Trade are the two co-chairmen of IBEC.

The Commerce Minister and the British delegation recalled the historical relations between India and UK and agreed that all steps should be taken, to increase and diversify trade and industrial relations between the two countries. The British side expressed keen interest in having production cooperation and joint ventures in third countries with India.

MAJOR TRADING PARTNER

U.K. continues to be one of India's major trading partners. However, with

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U.K. - India's trade constitutes about 8.7 per cent of India's global trade, it accounts for only 0.9 per cent of the global trade of U.K. Imports from India as a percentage of U.K.'s global imports fell from 1.1 per cent in 1977 to 0.88 per cent in 1978.

India's main exports to U.K. are textiles, tea, tobacco and manufactures, leather and leather manufactures, and precious semi-precious stones. Almost one-third of India's imports from U.K. is accounted for by rough, diamonds and which are eventually exported after cutting and polishing. The other major items are iron and steel, machinery, and transport equipments, scientific and control equipments, road vehicles, non-ferrous metals, textiles fibres and wastes, chemicals, dyeing, tanning and colouring materials, paper and paper boards.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

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BANGLADESH

Minister of Industry Dr. Chanana, Offers Technical and Economic Cooperation to Bangladesh

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 3, 1980:

The Minister for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana has said that India proposes to provide over 10 million Takas during 1980-81 for undertaking projects of technical cooperation, particularly for the preparation of feasibility studies. The bulk of these resources will come out of the proportion of India's indicative planning figure earmarked for TCDC purposes. This level of resources will enable us to assist Bangladesh in undertaking all the feasibility studies identified in the UNIDO document, namely, triple super phosphate plant, urea plant, pulp and paper plant and the sponge iron project.

In spite of India's limited resources, it has been able to extend credit to the order of 400 million to Bangladesh since its emergence, a part of which is still in the process of being utilised, the Minister said.

The Minister was addressing the Solidarity Meeting on Developments of the Ministers of Industry of Developing Countries at Dacca on December 3, 1980. Dr. Chanana was the first among foreign delegates to address the Conference.

INDIA'S ASSISTANCE

Dr. Chanana said that India has participated in setting up in Bangladesh two textile mills on a turn-key basis and is extending assistance for establishing a sugar mill and modernising a cement plant.

Dr. Chanana said that India was collaborating in the assembly of trucks and buses, chassis, scooters and mopeds and was exploring possibilities for collaboration for the progressive manufacture of these items in Bangladesh. In the field of technical cooperation, India has provided facilities for group training, training fellowships, consultancy services and the preparation of feasibility studies both under the Colombo Plan and our bilateral programme.

The Minister said that with regard to most of the projects included in the document prepared by the UNIDO for this Conference as well as many of that not included here but identified in the Second Five Year Plan of Bangladesh, the Government was in a position to prepare feasibility studies, which could form the basis of investment decisions.

Dr. Chanana suggested a time-bound programme for the specific schemes that emerge as a result of the deliberations at this Conference.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Minister said that to keep our technology alive we have to ensure that the process of advancement in the industrial field is a continuous one. With this end in view we give highest priority to research and development in the industrial growth in the third world countries.

In the sphere of R & D, sharing; specifically in the field of developing alternative sources of energy, of experience and facilities can play a very useful part. In the context of depleting resources of fossil fuel the world is looking for new sources of energy. In regard to solar energy and the use of bio-gas we have made some progress. we would be happy to share our experience with our friends and undertake joint re-

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search wherever it is found mutually beneficial.

SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

India will also provide soft-ware assistance for the development of some small-scale industries in Bangladesh. The level of resources which we will endeavour to make available for technical cooperation projects proposed to be undertaken will have a multiplier effect in as much as it can induce investment on a substantial scale. It will also significantly contribute to the building of the technological and industrial capabilities of Bangladesh. India is in a position to provide the capital equipment, know-how, engineering design and blue-prints and related consultancy services for almost all the projects identified in the UNIDO document.

This is not a donor-recipient meeting but it is an assembly of developing countries committed to sharing their experiences with each other. The inter-linking of our experience and our capabilities would weave a garland of regional and international economic cooperation.

TRIPARTITE COOPERATION ENVISAGED

However, India has its limitations. Being a capital importing country, India's major constraint is the paucity of financial resources. Nevertheless, we will endeavour to provide as much resources as we can afford for these projects under terms and conditions mutually acceptable, with regard to some of these projects, we will be glad to explore the possibility of a framework of tripartite cooperation within which some of the capital surplus countries represented in this Conference provide the financial resources. India provides the capital equipment and know-how and Bangladesh the local resources. Another possibility, of course, is for us to supply capital equipment and know-how under financing undertaken by multilateral financial institutions like International Development Association, Asian Development Bank, Arab Fund for Development and the OPEC Special Fund.

We are also examining with Bangladesh, on a bilateral basis, the possibilities of joint collaboration for setting up plants in

major areas of the development of basic and infrastructural industries. These include, plants for the manufacture of sponge iron, cement, soda ash and paper and pulp. Immense possibilities for cooperation between our two countries exist in a wide range of small and medium scale industries. This is one area in which the technologies developed by us are uniquely suited to conditions prevailing in Bangladesh because of our common socioeconomic milieu. This is also the area in which the progress made by us in the development and adaptation of appropriate and relevant technology has been widely recognised. Scope for close collaboration between these two countries is underlined by the great emphasis that Bangladesh has put in its Second Five Year Plan on the development of small and medium scale industries. Our experience will be of considerable relevance to Bangladesh in setting up ancillary industries to feed the basic and core industries, concluded Dr. Chanana.

BANGLADESH USA INDIA RUSSIA SRI LANKA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

India and Czechoslovakia Sign Trade Protocol

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 18, 1980:

India and Czechoslovakia signed here today a Trade Protocol setting out the objectives which the two countries aim to achieve in the fields of industrial co-operation, trade, science and technology and electronics.

The Protocol was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister for Commerce

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on behalf of India and by Czech Foreign Trade Minister, Mr. Andrej Barcak on behalf of his country.

The Protocol was signed on the conclusion of the ninth meeting of the Indo-Czechoslovak Joint Committee for Economic, Trade and Technical Co-operation. The discussions at Ministerial-level were preceded by official level talks in four sub-groups on trade, industrial co-operation, science and technology and electronics.

In so far as trade is concerned, the two sides reviewed the performance of mutual trade and noted with satisfaction the substantial growth reached in 1980. With a view to securing continuous increase of bilateral trade, the Trade Protocol for 1981 concluded in November 1980 in Prague, provides for a trade turnover of Rs. 2350 million representing an increase of 17.5 per cent over Trade Protocol for 1980. Both sides agreed to start negotiations for drawing up a long-term programme of exchange of commodities for the period 1982-85. The lists prepared by the Indian side for export from India to Czechoslovakia and from Czechoslovakia to India on long-term basis from 1982 to 1985 were handed over to the Czechoslovak side for consideration. With a view to enabling further utilization of the Czechoslovak credit under the 3rd Economic Agreement, both sides agreed to take action to extend the terminal contracting date by two years upto December 31, 1982. Both the sides recognised the importance of co-operation in third countries in the expansion of their trade and economic relations. Considerable attention was devoted by both sides to identifying areas and problems in order to facilitate more rapid and diversified growth of trade between the two countries so as to attain the target of doubling the trade turnover from the 1980 level within the shortest possible time. The Czechoslovak side mentioned that changes were being introduced in the Czechoslovak industrial and economic infrastructure, which may

lead to progressive increase in the import of engineering and other manufactured goods from the developing countries, including India. Since Czechoslovakia was phasing out labour-intensive production lines, it was agreed that they would buy more quantities of labour-intensive manufactured items from India.

In the field of industrial cooperation, important decisions were arrived at. Many project-, were identified for utilisation of the credit extended by Czechoslovakia under the third Economic Agreement. The ongoing collaboration with HMT in the field of tractors was agreed to be expanded so as to manufacture tractors at higher horsepower and forest tractors. Both sides agreed to explore the possibilities to expand technical collaboration for the production of certain new machines at HEC Ranchi and in regard to the supply of equipment by HEC Ranchi to Czechoslovakia. The possibilities of extending technical collaboration for the manufacture of Czechoslovak textile machinery in India are to be pursued further. Both sides have identified possibilities and project-, for third country participation and have decided to intensify negotiations and efforts so as to undertake specific projects jointly.

In the field of science and technology, it has been agreed that the cooperation programme between India and Czechoslovakia be extended for the period of 1981-83. Both sides agreed that greater thrust be given to activities which in addition to the promotion of interaction in science and technology would also contribute to industrial and economic cooperation between them.

In the field of electronics the possibilities of mutual deliveries and scientific and technical cooperation were discussed. It also agreed that possibilities existed for cooperation in the area of consumer electronics. List of items of export from and to Czechoslovakia were exchanged. Areas of cooperation were identified and a time-bound programme drawn up for implementation.

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Statement in Parliament on Mr. L. I.

Brezhnev's Visit to India

Following is the text of the statement by the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, in Parliament on December 15, 1980 regarding the visit to India of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from December 8 to 11, 1980:

The Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of USSR, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Soviet Union His Excellency Mr. Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev visited India from December 8-11. This was a visit to which both India and the USSR attached great importance and one which was in response to an invitation which we had extended to him in Belgrade last May. The visit was significant also because of international and regional situations. I had several opportunities of having detailed talks with the Soviet leader on various matters of mutual interest. At the end of the visit we signed a Joint Declaration. A copy of that declaration has already been placed on the Table of the House.

COMMON COMMITMENT TO PEACE

We in India value our friendship with the Soviet Union which goes back to even before our Independence. I participated in the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution in Moscow. Years

earlier my father had gone to the Soviet Union as a representative of the Indian National Congress at its 10th anniversary. The friendship which has since developed is a multi-faceted one which has benefited the peoples of the two countries and has contributed to world peace and stability. The socioeconomic system of our two countries are different, but we do share a common and abiding commitment to the strengthening of world peace.

It was a good augury that the Soviet President should visit India in a year which marks the silver jubilee of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation. President Brezhnev is an old friend of India and has been here in 1961 and 1973. In many ways he has been the architect of the edifice of Indo-Soviet friendship. President Brezhnev was accompanied by a distinguished delegation amongst whom were Foreign Minister Gromyko and First Deputy Prime Minister Arkhipov, who are also our friends of long standing.

We discussed a large number of questions especially those of direct concern to our countries. We both agreed on the need for a climate of peace and co-operation in our neighbourhood and for making determined efforts towards this end by all concerned. For, indeed, Indo-Soviet relations are not against any third country. It is a friendship that we both value greatly and in our pursuit of good neighbourly relations, we ensure that Indo-Soviet relations are not adversely affected. More than words, our deeds bear out the truth of this assertion.

EXPANDING COOPERATION

On the bilateral side, our discussions were focussed on the further strengthening of the co-operation between our two countries. An agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation which I signed with President Brezhnev provides a framework for this. The Soviet Union has agreed to co-operate with India in three very important sectors - power, coal mining and oil exploration. This is over and above the traditional co-operation in ferrous metal-

lurgy, more specifically the expansion of Bhilai and Bokaro and the erection of a new integrated steel plant at Vishakhapatnam. The two sides have identified some specific projects which were left out of the 6th Plan because of lack of resources. Thanks to an offer of Soviet credit of Roubles 520 million - slightly under Rs. 5200 million - these will now be taken up during the next 5 to 6 years. They will contribute significantly to the further strengthening of India's industrial sinews.

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Three more Agreements were signed during the visit:

- (1) Trade Agreement.
- (2) Programme on Co-operation in the field of cinematography.
- (3) Programme of Cultural, Scientific and Educational Exchanges for the years 1981-82.

Honourable Members will be glad to hear that in response to our request, the Soviet Union has agreed to increase its supplies of crude oil to India from the current level of 1.5 million tonnes to 2.5 million tonnes annually and of oil products from 1.9 million tonnes to 2.25 million tonnes annually for the next five years. This will be against additional exports from India and will substantially boost our two-way trade. We appreciate this friendly gesture.

Our discussions on international relations covered the world situation in general and affairs in our region in some detail. On the Indian Ocean and on the continuing conflict between Iran and Iraq, there was a close proximity of views.

AFGHANISTAN

On Afghanistan, the views of the Soviet Union, with which the Hon'ble Members are already familiar, were reiterated by President Brezhnev. On our part, we made our perceptions clear and conveyed our serious concern. We expressed our opposition to

all forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of other countries whether through the induction of regular troops or through infiltration and our view that all such interference should stop in order to make possible a political solution.

Both sides agreed that there is no alternative to a peaceful political solution to the problems in South West Asia as well as to other situations wherever they may arise. The Soviet leader expressed the hope that India would continue to play her constructive role in defusing the situation and in helping to find peaceful political solutions.

INDIAN OCEAN

Continuing tensions and growing conflicts in our region have given outside forces an opportunity to exploit these tensions to their advantage. Recent years have seen a revival of efforts by certain non-littoral great powers to increase or consolidate their military presences in the Indian Ocean. There is much activity in building existing bases and in acquiring new bases and facilities. We have ourselves been demanding that the entire Indian Ocean should be freed of great power presences so that it can become a zone of peace. The people of Asia and Africa can ill-afford embroilment in this international power game which seems to be the beginning of a new cold war. We have shared our concern frankly with our Soviet friends.

BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS

We have not looked upon the situation in South-West Asia in isolation, either as a situation affecting this or that country or only a group of countries. These tensions are related to regional and global situations. The great powers have, special responsibility in bringing about general and positive improvement in relations on a global scale and in this context the proposals made by President Brezhnev in his address to the Hon'ble Members appear constructive and worthy of careful consideration.

The Soviet leaders made no secret of their concern with the new escalating ten-

sions in Europe and the stalemate in Central European disarmament negotiations. Hon'ble Members will recall that the two World Wars the most devastating conflicts mankind has ever known began on the continent of Europe. It is, therefore, imperative that peace prevails in Europe. The process of detente in Europe contributed to the acceptance of post-war realities and the promotion of mutual confidence and cooperation. We hope that this process will recover from its recent setbacks and will be strengthened and extended to other regions of the globe.

INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS

The visit of the Soviet President has afforded us a valuable opportunity of reaffirming the strength and vitality of Indo-Soviet relations. These relations are based on trust and mutuality of interest and have

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therefore stood the test of time. Even though we may occasionally have different perceptions on some specific event, our friendship will prosper and we can continue to cooperate between ourselves and with other like-minded countries in our dedication to the maintenance and strengthening of world peace.

INDIA USA YUGOSLAVIA RUSSIA PERU IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Twentieth Anniversary of Decolonisation Declaration

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 15, 1980:

In the course of a message sent on the occasion of the special meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth Anniversary of the decolonisation declaration on December 12, 1980 the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi said that the United Nations' adoption of the declaration of the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples was one of the most momentous decisions taken by the international community for the welfare of mankind. The declaration was a beacon of hope and inspiration to millions of dependent peoples throughout the world.

Smt. Gandhi said that it was significant that in the 20 years since the adoption of the declaration, more than fifty countries representing over seventy million people from Africa, Asia and Latin America had won independence and had joined the comity of free and sovereign nations,

India had been privileged to play a crucial role in the process of decolonisation through direct moral and material support to liberation movements and through its anti-colonial actions at United Nations and in the movement of Non-aligned countries.

Smt. Gandhi expressed the hope that the United Nations would soon succeed in eliminating the remaining vestiges of colonialism and alien domination, particularly in Southern Africa, which "continued to plague the international community".

INDIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Official Spokesman Contradicts Foreign Press Reports on

Facilities to Soviet Navy

The Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on December 23, 1980:

The Government of India has taken note of newspapers' reports appearing abroad, especially in the neighbouring countries, alleging that the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has agreed to give facilities for military purposes to the Russian Navy in Indian ports in return for Soviet Union's supply to India of latest armaments and equipment.

The reports are mischievously motivated. They have no basis whatsoever.

India's policy has always been opposed to foreign bases and other similar arrangements. Such mischievous reporting or misrepresentation are detrimental to the cause of good neighbourliness, peace and stability in the region.

INDIA RUSSIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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HOME AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Message to Seminar on Indian Ocean As a Zone of Peace

Following is the text of the message by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, to the organisers of a Seminar on the Indian Ocean Region as a zone of peace, which commenced in New Delhi on December 27, 1980:

It gives me pleasure to send my greet-

ings and good wishes to this gathering of

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distinguished persons from the academic world, from journalism and from other fields who have gathered together here today to discuss various aspects of an issue that is of vital national importance to India - namely, how to ensure that the Indian Ocean can be made into a real zone of peace.

From the agenda and the papers specially prepared for this seminar it is clear that a wide-ranging and intensive discussion of the situation in our region had been planned. The naval and military presence in the Indian Ocean area of a number of powers, none of whom are littoral or hinterland states, will naturally occupy a great deal of your time. But I look forward also to learn the results of your deliberations on energy and oil supplies, the protection of trade routes, political stability and instability, the strategic spectrum and what the littoral and hinterland, and the non-aligned states can do to establish an area of peace around us, after more than three centuries of external intervention.

ROLE OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENTS

I particularly wish to draw your attention to the role of the non-aligned nations.

In a few weeks, Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement will be meeting in Delhi. An important item of discussion by them will be the Indian Ocean.

We observe, with ever deepening concern, the deterioration in the international situation that has occurred in the past year. Many remedies have been tried without success but the problems around us continue to plague us with their many facets political, military and economic.

The world continues to be divided Against itself: nuclear power against the non-nuclear, as well as against one another; military powerful countries against those that are weak; the developed ones against the developing; the rich against

the poor. Without self-restraint on one side, or united action on the other, the cold war has resumed, the arms race has been stepped up, and disequilibrium threatens to tip the structure of the international economy into a crisis graver than ever faced before.

TOWARDS STABLE WORLD ORDER

In my view, the real strength and relevance of the concept of non-alignment, and the need for unity among the nations who believe in that concept has, if anything, been reaffirmed by these developments. Some people have questioned that validity of this concept for the 1980s; many have tried to destroy the unity of the Movement. Even among the non-aligned countries, there are those that sometimes doubt its value and find it difficult to resist the pressures of the Great Powers on them.

Despite such problems I am today more convinced than before that our main hope of successfully overcoming the obstacles before a stable world order, is to reassert the central ideas of non-alignment as defined by Jawaharlal Nehru and the other founding fathers of the Movement, and to tighten its unity.

The earliest steps to make the Indian Ocean a Zone of Peace were taken by the non-aligned countries, when in 1964 at Cairo, and again in 1970 at Lusaka, the great powers were urged to exclude their rivalries and competition for influence as well as their bases, from the area. This was followed in December 1971, with the sponsorship of a resolution at the U.N. General Assembly declaring the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace for all time to come.

Since then the Non-aligned Movement has taken a leading role in trying to bring about a climate of opinion in which the implementation of this Declaration will become a reality.

We are not unaware of the difficulties of this task. We are under no illusions that the military presence of the great powers

can be removed overnight or even easily.

Yet we should not under-estimate the results that have already been achieved in over a decade of effort. It is today accepted by many nations that if the Indian Ocean is made a Zone of Peace, this will indeed contribute significantly not only to

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reduce international tension but to eliminate one of the major causes for the problems that have arisen between the nations which border, or lie in the hinterland, of these waters.

There has been a remarkable growth of non-official opinion on this subject. In many parts of the littoral states there is interest in arranging meetings, discussion groups and seminars like the one you are participating in to see whether ways can be found to make this ideal into a reality, to further develop opinion not only among the littoral and hinterland states but also elsewhere and particularly among the great powers - opinion that is able to convince by rational argument that the presence of their armies, navies and air forces so far from their shores cannot serve any real interest of the great powers, that efforts to pressurise the states in this region do not help the cause of world peace, and that the threats they face emanate from themselves, not from any nation bordering the Indian Ocean.

As you are aware there is the proposal to convene a conference in Colombo next year to discuss this matter. We would very much like to ensure that this conference is held. We will cooperate with other like minded states to work for its success. There will no doubt be other meetings and conferences to discuss this matter because one conference is not likely to result in definitive solutions. I am sure the participants at the present seminar will also look forward eagerly to the results of these conferences.

In conclusion, I would like to wish you all success in your deliberations.

INDIA USA EGYPT ZAMBIA PERU SRI LANKA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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INDONESIA

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

Following is the text of the President of India, Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy's speech at the banquet hosted in honour of the President of Indonesia, Mr. Soeharto, and Madam Tien Soeharto on December 1, 1980:

We are privileged to have you amongst us tonight on your first visit to India. This marks an important event in the close relations which bind the peoples of our two countries together. We share a tradition based on common values, inherited from the history and culture of our two countries. Perhaps you have already noticed signs and symbols of this common heritage since your arrival here.

The struggle for freedom and independence from foreign domination has given new meaning and content to our inherited values and ideals. It is a matter of deep satisfaction to us that the Government of the newly-independent India was able to offer assistance to the newly-proclaimed Republic of Indonesia in its struggle to achieve independence. The cardinal principles of humanism, democracy and social justice which permeate the Constitution of the Indonesian Republic are also an integral part of our socio-political system.

After the achievement of independence, our energies have been directed towards improving the lot of the common people. Mr. President, we have noted with great

admiration the progress Indonesia has made under your leadership. We are confident that the people of Indonesia would march towards greater prosperity in the coming years.

To enable us to devote our energies to national development and reconstruction, our two countries have found it necessary to work towards achieving an environment of peace and stability. In the light of our common aspirations, it was natural for us to come together as the founding members of the Non-aligned Movement which has,

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happily, grown in strength and stature over the years. It should now be our common endeavour to restore to the movement its original content and sweep so that it could again address itself to the basic issues of peace and progress of mankind.

INTERNATIONAL TENSION

The dangers to international peace and stability have acquired wider and more menacing dimensions with the increasing tempo of rivalry and confrontation indulged in by the Big Powers in various regions of the world. In our own proximity, tensions have been exacerbated recently in West Asia. We are equally concerned by the continuing tensions in South East Asia. Our close association with the countries and peoples in the region compels us to be deeply concerned with the peace and stability of the area around us. It is our earnest hope that the Kampuchean issue will be resolved peacefully, so that the people of Kampuchea, who have undergone such tremendous suffering, can devote themselves to reconstruction while the sovereignty, independence and integrity of their country is preserved. We are confident that, acting with wisdom and statesmanship, the countries of the region will succeed in resolving this issue.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

Since its inception, we have supported the concept of South East Asia being a zone

of Peace, freedom and neutrality. It is our earnest hope that it will be possible to make this concept more and more effective, to reduce outside influences and establish a system of ever growing understanding and cooperation.

We have noted with great satisfaction the emergence of ASEAN as a viable socio-economic regional group contributing to the progress and prosperity of the region. We are pleased that India is the first developing country with which ASEAN has initiated a dialogue for economic and industrial cooperation. We are confident that our dialogue would be of mutual benefit and would enrich our relationship with all countries of South East Asia.

Technical cooperation among the developing countries, we are convinced, will contribute greatly to the progress and prosperity of these countries, since the North-South Dialogue has not so far provided any tangible results. In this respect, the expanding vistas of industrial progress and cooperation between our two countries are most welcome. It will be our constant endeavour to identify new areas of mutually beneficial cooperation and to take initiatives to work out new programmes in diverse fields so that our expanding relations can become a model of cooperation among the developing countries.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

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INDONESIA

Text of Indonesian President's Speech

Replying to the toast, Mr. Soeharto said:

Your Excellency President and Madame Sanjiva. Reddy, Your Excellency Vice-President and Madame Hidayatullah, Your Excellency Prime Minister, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am deeply overwhelmed by the kind words of Your Excellency Mr. President. These words reflect the close brotherly ties and friendship between our two countries. I also feel the same fraternal and friendly sentiments ever since I set foot on this beautiful land of India, a proud nation that inherited a long history and a highly cultivated culture. For all this I can only say a new words: please accept our profound gratitude.

In accepting the cordial invitation of Your Excellency Mr. President, the purpose of my visit to this country is primarily to enhance these fraternal bonds and friendship.

This is my first visit to this country. But I do not feel strange to be amidst the Indian people. To millions of Indonesian people, India is extremely well-known. The historical and cultural relations between our

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two nations were deeply rooted since many centuries ago. Various cultural manifestations and historical edifices, which are now part of Indonesia's cultural heritage, are living proofs of the closeness of these relations, I believe that such close cultural ties constitute a foundation that is conducive to the emergence of similar outlook of life between our two nations.

INDIA A TRADITIONAL FRIEND

In a more modern era, the ideas of the national leaders and India's struggle for upholding the national independence have greatly inspired our own national struggle in the pursuit of the same goal. During the early difficult period of our armed struggle to defend Indonesia's National Independence in 1945, we received whole-hearted support and solidarity from India, which will never

be forgotten by the Indonesian nation. Such support and solidarity will always have an honourable place in the minds of the Indonesian people.

To us, therefore, India is a traditional friend.

The close relationship between our two countries was further strengthened historically when both our countries were on the forefront of a movement that led to the holding of the first Afro-Asian Conference - producing the famous Ten Principles of Bandung - which has greatly influenced the emergence of independent countries on both continents. History also notes that the strength of non-alignment was beginning to take root actually since that first Afro-Asian Conference.

CLOSE COOPERATION

Hence, Your Excellency Mr. President, while I am speaking here before the leaders of India, my mind goes back to the past history. Such close friendship and cooperation clearly demonstrate the many identical views shared by our two countries in dealing with various world problems.

Time has greatly changed indeed. The challenges we face and the answers we should give, may possibly be different too. But nevertheless, our two countries are still adhering to the same principles, namely: respect to the national sovereignty, abstain from interfering in the domestic affairs of other country, promote friendship and cooperation with all nations in view of creating a world free from domination, so that world peace and justice can be enjoyed by everybody.

Now we notice that such world peace and justice are still far away from reality. On the contrary, it becomes more alarming recently.

SUPER-POWER RIVALRY

The rivalry and struggle for influence between the world super-powers are not

abating. In fact, we are witnessing an extremely dangerous trend, that takes the form of, for instance, military intervention against other country. Meanwhile, we are also watching with great concern and sadness, namely the prolonged war between two third-world countries, namely Iran and Iraq, and we pray sincerely to God Almighty, may the parties concerned find the best possible solution, for their own sake and also for the sake of world peace.

This reality makes us aware that all efforts must be exerted in order to consolidate world peace, or at least all parties should refrain themselves from aggravating the situation. This is the only alternative, because any delay and expansion of the conflict will eventually lead to world destruction and tragedy.

In facing this reality Indonesia deems it necessary to consolidate the non-aligned strength. We are indeed concerned by the rift within this movement due to the pressures to drag this non-aligned movement into one of the world's super-power's influence. We should work shoulder to shoulder in adhering strictly to the original spirit of non-alignment, because if we fall into the trap of any power, then non-alignment has no further significance. As to Indonesia, which from its inception has pursued an independent and active foreign policy, the principles of non-alignment will remain to be its foothold,

Your Excellency Mr. President, while the world's political situation and its tranquillity are undergoing a severe test, our attention should not be diverted from the other major challenges faced by mankind, namely: the development of nations, particularly of the developing countries.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

As a developing nation, and aware of the dignity of national independence, we are fully conscious that the responsibility and burden of development totally rest upon our shoulders. But apart from this, we con-

sider that it would be greatly beneficial and would fortify the solidarity of developing countries, if the cooperation and mutual help could be intensified amongst the developing countries themselves, including between our two countries.

Thus, Your Excellency Mr. President, we are indeed busily occupied by these major works in dealing with the socio-economic problems and the development of our respective society. We are also deeply involved in seeking common solution to the growingly complicated regional and international questions. I am aware that we both have our answer to the solution of the problems we are facing. The answer may not always be identical, because our national priority and challenges that we encounter respectively, may not always be the same either.

But as friends, we regard it highly beneficial to have the opportunity to conduct exchanges of views and experiences between us, related to problems of our common interest, so that we can find a better answer to the solution of problems we face. It is in this spirit, that I am pleased to use this opportunity during my visit to have an exchange of views with His Excellency the President, with Her Excellency the Prime Minister and other Indian leaders.

BETTER UNDERSTANDING

Furthermore, I am confident, Your Excellency Mr. President, that with my present visit, the friendship between our two nations will be enhanced, and the mutual understanding will be deeper, thus opening up wider opportunities for further cooperation in the future.

Once again, I would like to express my deepest sentiments and profound gratitude for the cordial hospitality and warm reception accorded to me by Your Excellency President and Madame Sanjiva Reddy, by Her Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and by the Government and people of India.

In conclusion, permit me to invite the

distinguished guests to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency the President and Madame Sanjiva Reddy, to the health and happiness of Her Excellency Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, to the progress and prosperity of the people of India and to the ever-lasting friendship between the Republic of India and the Republic of Indonesia. Thank you.

INDONESIA INDIA USA IRAN IRAQ

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

INDONESIA

India-Indonesia Joint Communiqué

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 4, 1980:

At the invitation of the President of India, Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, President Soeharto of the Republic of Indonesia paid a State visit to India from December 1 to 4, 1980. The President of the Republic of Indonesia was accompanied by Madame Soeharto. The visit took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere and helped to generate closer ties between India and Indonesia.

The President of the Republic of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India held wide ranging discussions on the international and regional issues. They also reviewed bilateral relations. The talks between President Soeharto and Shrimati Indira Gandhi were marked by mutual cordiality and friendliness.

In these talks the President of Indonesia was assisted by: Dr. Widjojo Nitisastro, Minister Coordinator for Economic, Finan-

cial and Industrial Affairs and concurrently Chairman of the National Development Planning Board: Dr. Mochtar Kusumaatmadia, Minister of Foreign Affairs: Mr. Sudharmono, Minister State Secretary: Mr. Syamsul Bahri. Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia in India and other senior officials. And the Prime Minister of India was assisted by: Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs: Shri Pranab Mukherjee. Minister of Commerce: Shri Vikram Mahajan. Minister of State for Energy: Shri S. K. Bhutani, Ambassador of India, Jakarta and other senior officials.

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India expressed their grave concern at the deterioration in the world situation, particularly in the Asian region. They also took note of the recent intensification of Great Power military presence in the Indian Ocean. They agreed on the urgency to resolve peacefully the existing disputes and differences.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

Recalling their countries' role as founders of the Non-Aligned Movement, the President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed their faith in the policy of non-alignment and expressed the hope, that by keeping itself true to its original principles and through the unity of the member-countries, the Movement could successfully evolve a common strategy to strengthen international peace and security and to build a more just and equitable international order. Towards this end, both countries agreed to work together for the success of the forthcoming conference of the Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers to be held in New Delhi in February 1981.

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India noted with deep concern the escalating confrontation of Big Powers in their proximity and the increasing military presence and rivalry in the Indian Ocean. They were of the view that the suspended US-Soviet bilateral talks on

arms limitation in the Indian Ocean should be resumed. They attached importance to the forthcoming UN Conference on the Indian Ocean to be held in Srilanka in 1981, and urged that all States should endeavour to implement the UN Declaration of 1971 to make the Indian Ocean a zone of pence.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India reviewed the current situation in South East Asia. The President of Indonesia gave the Prime Minister of India this assessment of the situation and the efforts being made by the ASEAN countries towards a peaceful Solution to the problem of Kampuchea.

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India were agreed on the need for a dialogue between the countries of the region to create the necessary conditions in which the sovereignty, integrity and independent personality of all countries of the region could be fully safeguarded. The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India were further agreed that, in keeping with their support for the concept of a Zone of Peace. Freedom and Neutrality in South East Asia, all the countries would endeavour to keep the region free from Big Powers and outside intervention and interference.

PALESTINIAN QUESTION

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India reaffirmed that the Palestinian question was at the core of the West Asia problem and unless it was resolved satisfactorily, with PLO as an equal partner, no negotiations towards a settlement could succeed. They agreed that the Palestinian people should be restored their inalienable rights to their homeland and to a nation state of their own. They called for the immediate withdrawal by Israel from all Arab territories occupied by it since June 1967.

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India viewed with con-

cern the recent developments in South West Asia and expressed the hope that steps would be taken to avoid any Big Power confrontation developing in the area. They expressed their distress that a conflict between two non-aligned countries, Iran and Iraq, should have occurred and expressed

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the hope that the problems would be resolved amicably. With regard to the situation in Afghanistan, they expressed their full support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan and other countries of the region. They urged the concerned parties to work towards a settlement which would ensure that the Afghan people would determine their own destiny free from foreign interference and intervention.

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL COOPERATION

They noted that the present world economic situation has adversely affected the developing countries. They stressed the dangers of protectionism and urged the need for effective and urgent steps to improve the world economic climate and the establishment of a new international economic order. They emphasized the growing significance of strengthening economic and technical cooperation among developing countries. They expressed the hope that a new round of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development would be launched soon.

The President of Indonesia and the Prime Minister of India noted with satisfaction that cooperation in economic and industrial spheres between the two countries was proceeding apace. They expressed their determination to further enlarge the areas of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. It was agreed that officials and experts of the two countries would meet to identify further areas of cooperation.

The President of Indonesia expressed his deep appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation

during their stay in India. The President of Indonesia extended invitations to the President and the Prime Minister of India to visit Indonesia. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

INDONESIA INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM BHUTAN ISRAEL IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN PERU

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

NORWAY

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

Following is the text of the speech by the minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner in honour of Mr. Knut Frydenlund, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway at New Delhi on December 30, 1980. proposing the toast, Shri Rao said:

Mr. Foreign Minister, Madame Frydenlund, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it is a matter of great pleasure for me to welcome this evening the distinguished Foreign Minister of Norway, His Excellency Mr. Knut Frydenlund, Mme Frydenlund and the members of his delegation.

Geography has placed our two countries thousands of miles apart. Consequently, there are differences of climate, ethnic origins, customs and traditions. Yet there is closeness of perception and a sharing of certain basic values, including our love of liberty, the democratic tradition and dedication to peace and universal brotherhood. For us in India, there are many things that we immediately associate with your great country. The dramas of Henrik Ibsen have always been popular and occupy an important place in the study of literature in our

universities. Alfred Nobel is another familiar figure, only last year, the Nobel Prize for Peace was conferred upon one of our own respected citizens, Mother Teresa. We are aware of your deep-rooted democratic tradition within a monarchical system. We

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admire you for the steps you have been successfully able to take in the important field of social security.

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Excellency, you represent an important industrialised nation of the world. What is to us more gratifying and significant is the abiding interest your Government and people have taken in promoting economic growth and development in the developing world through cooperation. It is a measure of the farsightedness of your Government and people that you should have recognised the basic interdependence within the global economy and made consistent efforts to bridge the gap between the haves and have-nots. The development assistance you have been providing is much higher than the average among the OECD countries. We appreciate Norway's strong sympathy with the aspirations of developing countries. We can only hope that some of the other countries in the West would share your realistic perception of the world's economic problems and show the requisite political will, so that the stalemate in the dialogue between the North and the South could be resolved.

There are numerous bonds of friendship that tie our two countries and it would be our hope that your visit will contribute to making them stronger and more wide-ranging. India has, for the last many years, derived benefit from Norwegian assistance and cooperation in a number of sectors important to our economy, like fisheries and the acquisition and construction of trawling vessels. There are new fields, including offshore oil exploration and ship-building - to name only two - where there is potential for collaboration to mutual benefit. We have noted the progress Norway has made

in exploration and exploitation of oil resources through hard work and application of modern technology. We ourselves have managed to build up a fairly impressive pool of skilled manpower and technical knowledge in a widerange of spheres. There is much to gain by cooperating with each other with a view to identifying areas in which useful work could be done jointly.

CONFRONTATION AND CONFLICTS

Excellency, the international situation of today, particularly in our part of the world, as the cause of much concern to us. The process of detente, tenuous as it was, has come to a halt and there are ominous signs of a revival of cold war and confrontation. Not far from us, we are witnessing two neighbours, both countries with whom We have the closest of friendship, locked in a new protracted and wasteful conflict. As a non-aligned country, India has always stood for the strict observance of the five principles of peaceful co-existence. We are against the use of force and all forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of sovereign, independent States. We believe that all disputes and conflicts between States should be settled through peaceful dialogue. We have, therefore, urged restraint upon all, so that tensions could be reduced and the search for a political solution facilitated. We are anxious that our whole region, including the Indian Ocean, is kept free of the military presence of outside powers and peace and stability ensured so that the countries of the area could concentrate on the monumental tasks of improving the social and economic conditions of their peoples.

INDIA'S PROGRESS

Air. Foreign Minister, your visit to India is regrettably all too brief. Tomorrow, you will be visiting the beautiful and historic city of Agra. We would have liked you to stay longer and see a little more of our country and witness for yourself the progress that we have made in various fields of endeavour. Be that as it may, we hope that you and Mine. Frydenlund will carry

back pleasant memories and impressions, both of India's rich historical legacy and composite culture, as also the strides it has taken towards economic and industrial self-reliance and the potential it has developed for the future.

May I, ladies and gentlemen, request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Norway, to the well-being of his gracious wife, and to the further growth of friendship and cooperation between the peoples and Governments of our two countries.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

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NORWAY

Text of Norwegian Foreign Minister's Speech

Replying to the toast, Mr. Frydenlund said:

Your Excellency, let me first of all, on behalf of my family and my collaborators, express my sincere appreciation for the warm and friendly reception we have been met with in India. Though our stay will be brief, we are happy for this opportunity to visit this ancient country with its splendid civilisation, which has contributed so much throughout the ages to the history of mankind.

Our two countries can look back on a long tradition of friendly relations and fruitful cooperation in several fields. In recent

years, visits on governmental level have become increasingly frequent.

I note with satisfaction that two of my colleagues in the Norwegian Government visited India in 1979, and our Minister for Agriculture only last month. A delegation from our Parliament came here early this year. This reflects the Norwegian interest in India. Hopefully, these contacts and other ones to come will accelerate Norwegian-Indian cooperation in the political, economic and cultural fields.

Though a small and distant country, Norway has taken a keen interest in India's development since the early years of your independence. My impression is that satisfaction prevails on both sides as to the content and quality of our cooperation, and some new and challenging projects are being considered.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

Development cooperation is of course something positive. The ultimate goal must, however, be its substitution by mutual economic cooperation and trade. Time and patience are required, and I am glad to note that both our countries are actively contributing to the work towards a new international economic order. There is scope for cooperation between Norway and India in the serious efforts that are going on to prepare and implement the planned new global round of broad economic negotiations within the United Nations. Admittedly, progress has so far been slow.

But I nevertheless feel there is room for some optimism as there is a growing realisation in industrialized countries of the interdependence and mutual advantages attached to increased economic cooperation between the industrialised and developing countries.

EXPANSION OF COOPERATION

Our trade relations have traditionally been rather limited and subdued to fluctuations. There should, however, be a real scope

for an expansion. 1979 showed a significant increase in the total turnover and the trade is picking up also in non-traditional fields.

The exploitation and development of your offshore oil and gas resources should give rise to new possibilities for cooperation.

We meet, Mr. Minister, at a time when the international situation is complicated. Tension has built up in many parts of the world. Your neighbourhood is affected, and so is ours. But in times as these, it is more than ever necessary to keep open all channels of international communication.

Norway, as other Western countries, has traditionally tended to be preoccupied with developments in East-West relations. The reason is obvious: a small and vulnerable country allied to one great power and bordering on another.

NORTH SOUTH DIALOGUE

The present complicated world situation is however not explained by the East-West dimension alone. One purpose of my visit to this part of the world is to seek better understanding of the dynamics of the North-South relations. Our talks this morning have indeed been very enlightening in this respect. In the long perspective, and beyond the present regional crises, it is certainly the fundamental relationship between the North and the South which will be the most important international challenge.

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India, as a leading member of the Non-aligned Movement, is contributing decisively to the world community's efforts to meet this challenge - in its political as well as in its social and economic aspects.

In Norway, we are trying to the best of our abilities to assist in this necessary, but complex process. We have enjoyed a fruitful cooperation with India in many circumstances and in many fora - notably in the UN. I have no doubt that this cooperation will be even closer after our meeting here and all the interesting viewpoints

and information we shall bring home with us.

In conclusion, Mr. Minister, I wish to express my sincere hope for a peaceful development in this region, which is so essential to world peace.

I propose a toast to Your Excellency and to your family, to the prosperity and happiness of the Indian people, to the continued friend-ship and cooperation between our two countries and - last but not least - for the approaching New Year which I hope will be beneficial to us all.

NORWAY INDIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

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ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade and Economic Cooperation

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 1, 1980:

Ways and means of increasing and diversifying Indo-Romanian trade and economic cooperation was discussed, here today, when a high powered Romanian delegation led by their Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade Mr. Cornel Burtica, called on the Union Commerce Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee. The two Ministers discussed the provisions of the long term Trade and Payments Agreement between the two countries, which is scheduled to be concluded tomorrow.

The Commerce Minister pointed out that during his recent visit to Romania in October, 1980 in connection with Indo-

Romanian Joint Commission meeting, several areas of collaboration had been identified. The two Ministers also discussed the possibilities of Indo-Romanian collaboration in the fields of power generation, establishing a shore-based steel plant in India and diesel and thermal locomotives.

India's trade with Romania has grown substantially since the signing of the first Trade and Payments Agreement between the two countries in 1959. The bilateral trade has increased from a small turn-over of Rs. 38 million in 1959 to Rs. 929 million in 1979.

India's main exports to Romania consist of iron-ore, which accounts for almost 70 per cent of our trade with that country. Our other main exports consist of traditional items like mica, hides and skins and certain leather products. Our imports from Romania include some manufactured goods and urea.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

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ROMANIA

Indo-Romanian Trade and Payments Agreement for Five Years

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 2, 1980: India and Romania today concluded a new long-term Trade and Payments Agreement, stipulating the continuance of bilateral trade in non-convertible Indian rupee. A long-term trade plan covering major commodities essential to the two economies and

the trade protocol for 1981 were also concluded. The Agreements were signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Union Minister for Commerce and Steel and Mines, on behalf of India and Mr. Cornel Burtica, the Romanian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade on behalf of Romania.

The new Agreement comes into force with effect from January 1, 1981 and shall remain valid for a period of five years upto December 31, 1985. The Agreement is substantially on the pattern of the existing agreement which expires on December 31, 1980. It stipulates the continuance of the trade between the two countries in non-convertible Indian rupee.

TRADE PROTOCOL

The new Agreement also contains the trade protocol for 1981 which envisages a trade turnover of Rs. 2400 million both ways, indicating an increase of about 10 per cent over the trade plan targets for 1986.

Recognising the importance of meeting each other's requirements on long-term basis and with an objective of introducing a stabilising factor in trade exchanges, the two sides have also concluded a long-term trade plan (1981-85) which covers supply of major commodities essential to the two economies. The long-term plan includes iron-ore, mica, finished leather and leather products, machine tools, engineering goods, jute manufactures, pepper and electronic components for export to Romania and fertilisers, rolled steel products, newsprint, cement, chemicals cargo vessels, pharmaceuticals and capital goods in respect of imports from Romania.

CONSISTENT GROWTH

India's trade with Romania has registered a consistent growth over the last few years. The bilateral trade is expected to have reached a record level of Rs. 950 million. In the Initial stages of India's industrial development Romania made a significant contribution in the field of oil exploration and in increasing refining capacity

in India. The Gauhati and Barauni refineries are shining examples of Indo-Romanian collaboration. Presently, Romania is the second biggest buyer of Indian iron ore after Japan. Romania is also an important source of supply for us of chemical fertilisers.

The two sides also exchanged views on the further expansion and diversification of bilateral trade. It was agreed that both trade partners should make strenuous efforts to double the volume of trade between 1981-85.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

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ROMANIA

Cooperation Between Romania and Indian Railways

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 3, 1980:

At a half hour meeting between the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Trade of Romania, His Excellency Mr. Cornel Burtica and the Railway Minister, Shri Kedar Pandey, today, possibilities for cooperation between Romanian Industries and the Indian Railways were discussed.

Shri Pandey apprised the foreign dignitaries that Indian Railways have discontinued manufacturing steam locomotives and were gradually phasing out existing locomotives. Indian Railways' future interest was in the fields of diesel and electric traction, with greater stress for electric traction. With an electrification programme

now aimed at about 1,000 kms. of track per annum, on Indian Railways, Shri Kedar Panday enquired from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade, Romania, about cooperation between the two countries.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Romania offered his full cooperation in this regard, and suggested technical discussions between a team of experts from Romania and the Chairman and Members of the Railways Board for possibilities in this regard to be identified, with particular reference to electrification, and high horse-power and diesel locomotives.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

President N. Sanjiva Reddy's Speech at Banquet in Honour of Mr. Leonid Brezhnev

Following is the text of the Speech by President N. Sanjiva Reddy at a banquet he, hosted in honour of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of USSR in New Delhi on December 8, 1980. The President of India said:

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

Mr. President, we have had the privi-

lege and pleasure of receiving you in our midst on two memorable occasions in the past. Your first visit to us was in 1961, shortly after we removed the last vestiges of colonial establishments from our soil. While a number of other countries failed to appreciate the justice and rationale of our anti-colonial action, we remember that the Soviet Union firmly stood by us-as indeed it did in the diverse crisis we faced since the Independence of our nation. Your second visit to our country was in 1973 and you will recall the spontaneous warmth and affection with which you were received wherever you went. We welcome you once again, Excellency, not only as the highest representative of a great and friendly country, the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, but as a trusted and reliable friend who has consistently shown an abiding interest in India and a deep understanding of our aspirations and concerns.

DETENTE AND COOPERATION

We in India have followed with deep interest the conspicuously great role you have played in ensuring the rapid development of your country in diverse field. Your ceaseless efforts as a world statesman of high stature to promote the cause of international peace and cooperation has been widely acclaimed and also recognised and appreciated in our country. We welcomed your initiatives for consolidating peace and establishing detente in Europe. We appreciate your efforts to establish mutually beneficial cooperation in that continent where the first shots of both the devastating World Wars, which this country has witnessed, were fired. We had hoped that this process of detente and cooperation between diverse systems would not remain limited to a continent or a group of countries but would spread to all areas of the world. It is, therefore, a matter of grave concern and sadness to us, Excellency, to witness the recent deterioration in the international environment. This, we fear, could seriously erode or reverse the process of detente and trigger a new arms race particularly in nuclear weapons. It is therefore our sincere hope that the process

of detente towards which you have made a deep personal commitment will continue to be consolidated and further strengthened not only to serve the larger interests of all nations but for the very survival of civilisation as we know it.

NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION

Your Excellency, you are no doubt aware that we in India also have a vital stake in the peace in our region so as to enable us to concentrate all our efforts to the tremendous tasks of economic and social upliftment of our people. In January this year, the people of India have by an overwhelming mandate reaffirmed their faith in the leadership of our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and in the legacy of our great leaders, Mahatma Gandhi, and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In accordance with the pledge we took at the dawn of our independence our efforts continues to be directed towards providing economic and social justice to our people. We are conscious that we shall have a long way to go even in the provision of basic needs of a significant section of our people, but we are confident that we will successfully move forward towards our goal of providing for the needs and aspirations of our people. In order to enable us to concentrate on these important tasks we have consistently sought to establish relations of friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation, with all our

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neighbouring countries as with all other countries in Asia and the world.

NEW TENSIONS

Mr. President, the Government and the People of India are, therefore, seriously concerned at India being surrounded by areas of new tensions and in the process frustrating all that we have been attempting to do for our people. We in India remain opposed to any form of intervention, covert or overt, by outside forces in the internal affairs of the region. It is our fervent hope that the

tensions will be dissipated and that the conflicts in the region will be terminated without delay in the spirit of the Pancha Sheel or the 5 principles of co-existence. It is our conviction that durable peace can be restored through negotiated political solutions having full respect to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of the countries of this region.

We also take serious note of the upward spiral of competitive naval presence of non-littoral states in the Indian Ocean, the efforts being made to change the non-aligned character of the littoral states and the acquisition or strengthening of bases, such as Diego Garcia. These developments can only further exacerbate existing tensions in an area which has been a tranquil area till recent times and thereby complicate the task of achieving durable and just Political solutions or the early implementation of the Declaration of the United Nations aimed at converting the Indian Ocean into a Zone of Peace.

INDO-SOVIET COOPERATION

Your Excellency, I had a little earlier referred to our efforts on national reconstruction. In this connection I wish to recall and acknowledge valuable cooperation which we have received from the Soviet Union. Today, more than seventy projects in different parts of India symbolise the inherent strength and vitality of Indo-Soviet cooperation. We have no doubt that the cooperation between our two countries in the economic, commercial, industrial, scientific and technical fields will continue to be further expanded and diversified and make increasing contributions to the development of important sectors of the Indian economy.

Mr. President, the close bonds of friendship and cooperation between India and the Soviet Union forged over the years is not at the cost of friendship with any other country. The friendship between our two countries is based upon the principle of trust and mutual understanding. This friendship has stood the test of time and our relations are anchored upon the common commitment

by the Governments and peoples of our two countries to peace and cooperation among nations. We are confident, Excellency, that Your visit will provide yet another important reference point in the further strengthening of a traditional friendship between our two countries. We are confident that your visit Will also open new avenues of cooperation. I need hardly emphasise how much we cherish your presence in our midst and the significance which we attach to your visit not only in the relations between our two countries but also for the cause of peace and stability in Asia and the world. I myself have vivid and pleasant memories of our meeting not long ago in Moscow and I am very happy to be able to renew our acquaintance here.

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Date : Dec 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Leonid Brezhnev's Speech

Replying to the toast, Mr. Brezhnev said:

Esteemed Mr. President, esteemed Madam Prime Minister, ladies and gentlemen, comrades, it gives me great pleasure to be here again, in this great and friendly country, among old friends, meetings with whom are always both enjoyable and profoundly significant. On behalf of my colleagues and myself, I express gratitude for those kind words which have been addressed here to us, to the Soviet people.

We, in the Soviet Union, attach primary importance to our relations with

India. India enjoys the sincere affection of the Soviet people and the respect of their leadership. It can be said, without any fear of exaggeration, that the Soviet people and their leadership are reliable friends of India friends in times both good and had, friends in rain or shine.

We have come here for a friendly exchange of views on the further development and deepening of our relations, on the not-so-simple situation in today's turbulent world, on the contribution by our two countries to invigorating international relations.

Many a good thing has already been said and, I am sure, will be said about friendship and co-operation between our two countries. And, indeed, they deserve, it. I have heard, that in your country they say that good people become friends before they have walked hardly seven paces together. The road our two peoples have travelled together is by far longer. Both sides have done a great deal to develop Soviet-Indian relations. We are content with what has been achieved. But, of course, we do not believe that everything has already been accomplished.

Speaking of the present state of relations between our two countries, I would like to note, in addition to their broad scope and diversity, the high degree of stability attained in them.

MUTUAL RESPECT AND TRUST

This is reflected in the steadiness of the very nature of our relations, and of the lofty principles of equality, mutual respect and trust on which they are built. This is reflected in the continuous dynamism of their evolution. It is reflected, finally, in the important fact that good relations between us were sustained under various political circumstances.

I make no secret of the fact that we have always had a particular liking for Shrimati Indira Gandhi, that outstanding political and state figure of contemporary

Asia. Likewise, we harbour profound respect for the historical exploit of her great father, Jawaharlal Nehru, one of the founders of the independent India, and the man who stood at the source of Indian-Soviet friendship.

I would like to note one more important feature of Soviet-Indian relations. A great deal of what has today become typical of our ties with countries which have freed themselves from the colonial yoke, much of the wholesome and fair that is gradually but steadily being introduced into the practice of international intercourse, appeared for the first time precisely in Soviet-Indian relations.

Recently, I happened to read some words written in India to the effect that at present friendship between the Soviet Union and India constitutes an important element of the powerful solidarity front of socialist and non-aligned countries, a front which stands in opposition to the aggressive forces of imperialism and restrains their action aimed against peace, freedom and independence of peoples.

And this is particularly important today, when the international climate on the planet has grown considerably colder.

ARMS RACE

Influential politicians in the West have decided to whip up the arms race rather than to limit it. They have made up their minds to achieve military supremacy rather than to maintain parity. They have staked on diktat and blackmail rather than on a dialogue between equal parties and mutually beneficial co-operation. And they have succeeded, in recent years, in seriously aggravating the world situation.

The question now is where do things go from here. If this negative and, to put it bluntly, dangerous line continues, the peace will find itself gravely imperilled. Or else reason will prevail - and then a constructive policy meeting the aspirations of the peoples and the interests of all nations will again make its way through.

As for the Soviet Union, our approach remains one of principle: we are always prepared to discuss any issue in a spirit of realism and to take into account the legitimate rights and interests of others.

DEFUSING TENSION

To ensure a turn from confrontation to dialogue, from the aggravation of conflicts

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to their settlement is, of course, no simple task, but it is an essential one. That, I would say, is the most humane task of today. It can be solved only through joint efforts by all those who desire peace and work for peace. In our view, this is what should be seen today as the main criterion for assessing the foreign policies of states.

Statecraft is not rattling the sabre and attempting to impose one's will on other peoples. Such attempts were undertaken more than once in the past, and their outcome is well known. Nor does statecraft mean seeking unilateral advantage at the expense of other peoples' interests or by resorting to direct violence against them. The collapse of the colonial system has shown what this leads to.

In our view, it is by far wiser, though perhaps not always easier, to defend peace, and to build the security and well-being of one's own people on the basis of peaceful equal co-operation with other peoples - and to do so firmly and consistently without yielding to provocations, pressure and blackmail.

And it is gratifying to note that the extensive and useful exchange of views which we have begun today with Indian leaders is proceeding in this very spirit. I am confident that it will produce good results beneficial for the peoples of our two countries and for the cause of world peace.

I would like to propose a toast to the health of our esteemed friends and hospitable hosts the President, Mr. Neelam

Sanjiva Reddy, and the Prime Minister,
Mrs. Indira Gandhi; to the successes and
prosperity of the friendly and great India;
and to a lasting peace an Earth!

USA INDIA PERU

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Civic Address on Behalf of Citizens of Delhi to Mr. L. I. Brezhnev

Text of the Civic Address by Lt. Governor Jagmohan on behalf of the citizens of Delhi in honour of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary Of the CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on December 9, 1980:

Excellency, on behalf of the citizens of Delhi, we are privileged to receive you and the distinguished members of your delegation in our midst and thank you for having given us this opportunity to greet you. The people of Delhi can rightly claim to speak on behalf of the whole of India as this city is home to peoples from all corners of the country. Excellency, we entertain the feelings of warmest regard and highest esteem for your person and deep affection for your great country and greet you not only as a trusted friend who is no stranger to this land but also the highest representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a country with which India has a tradition of close friendship and a world statesman who has made lasting contribution to the consolidation of world peace and detente.

Excellency, our city is not mere cluster of buildings and boulevards. It symbolises the history and traditions of our ancient

land. It has gone through trials and tribulations with great defiance and indomitable courage. It represents the spirit of new India. It was in this city that our beloved leader, Jawaharlal Nehru, heralded the first dawn of Independent India. It would be a befitting tribute to the memory of that great visionary, Jawaharlal Nehru, to recall that he also laid the foundations of Indo-Soviet friendship which has grown in strength over the years.

Excellency, Indo-Soviet friendship draws this sustenance from mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Our two countries have always stood for world peace and greater co-operation amongst nations. Our friendship is directed against no other country and may indeed serve as a model of peaceful co-existence.

Since your last visit to our country, Excellency, we have made significant ail-

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round progress. During your stay in our capital you would have occasion to witness some of these developments. We wish you success in your discussions with our leaders. We are confident that your visit will further strengthen the bonds of friendship between our two countries and peoples.

The citizens of Delhi wish Your Excellency and the distinguished Members of your Delegation a very happy stay in our capital city. They would also like to present you, as a token of the affection and high esteem in which they hold Your Excellency and your great country, a small souvenir which they request you to accept.

USA INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Leonid Brezhnev's Speech at Civic Reception

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Brezhnev said:

Esteemed Madam Prime Minister, esteemed Mr. Mayor, dear friends, we regard this rally as a meeting with the great, talented and peace-loving people of India itself.

I thank you, Mr. Mayor, for the warm words of respect addressed to our country and the Soviet people. For my part, I convey to you, esteemed citizens of Delhi, and through you to the entire glorious Indian people ardent greetings from the Soviet people and best wishes for well-being and prosperity.

Your city is not only an embodiment of the beautiful India. Delhi is one of the international centres from where the cause of defence of the freedom and independence of peoples has invariably received support and where the nonaligned movement was born as a protest against oppressive imperialist policies.

This is not my first visit to India. But each new visit adds to, and enriches, my impressions of your country. And each time, I perceive anew the scope of Soviet-Indian cooperation. Indeed, today it covers practically all major spheres of the life of the peoples of our two countries - economic, scientific, technological, and cultural.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Economic co-operation is becoming an increasingly important factor for our two countries. Remarkable landmarks on its path are the industrial giants of India built with the assistance of the Soviet Union which Jawaharlal Nehru used to call "new temples" - from the first-born of our

friendship, the metallurgical works in Bhilai, to the giant complex in Bokaro. And today still another powerful brother project is coming into being in the south of the country.

The projects we have jointly built today provide the people of India with metals, machinery, electricity, coal, and oil. They do a good service to their master, the Indian people, and this evokes the Soviet people's sincere joy.

It is gratifying to hear that Soviet geologists are fruitfully working in this country and that a good start has been made in co-operation in the food, pulp and paper, light, medical and other industries. I have also been told that in Calcutta good progress is being made in the construction, with our participation, of the first underground railway in India. I can say that, as Moscow's experience shows, this is the most comfortable and necessary type of transportation for such a big city.

Our co-operation in agriculture, too, is gathering momentum, trade is growing, and exchanges in science and technology useful for both sides are expanding.

When the world's first cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, visited India soon after his flight, he said that he would be glad to fly in outer space together with an Indian cosmonaut. And now our countries are preparing for Gagarin's dream to come true. The day will come when cosmonauts from India and the USSR will make a joint flight, and the peoples of the two countries will enthusiastically hail them.

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We regard as a very important field of our relations assistance in strengthening India's defence capability. Here too, things seem to be going quite well. We conceal from no one that we wish to see friendly peace-loving India strong and capable of successfully defending its independence and promoting the cause of peace in Asia.

CULTURAL TIES

Now to turn to our co-operation in the field of culture. How infinite are the benefits that this co-operation can give to each of the peoples of the two great world cultures which have given birth to giants of thought and men of genius in arts and science. Therefore we can but rejoice sincerely at the fact that with each passing year, our ties in the fields of culture, education, personnel training, and tourism are expanding.

All this brings our peoples closer together, promotes their mutual understanding and helps to enrich their lives. Let us confidently move forward along this path.

Dear friends, the edifice of Soviet-Indian co-operation rests on a solid foundation, the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation. For nearly a decade now it has been serving our peoples well. As green branches keep growing out of the trunk of a mighty tree, so, too, do new agreements on ties, exchanges and interaction keep growing out of this Treaty. It also helps us to co-operate in the struggle for a lasting peace and equitable relations among peoples.

It can be said with certainty that in developing relations of friendship between the Soviet Union and India today, we are doing a good thing - and not only for the present generation of our peoples but also for the coming generations and for mankind's peaceful future.

LENIN'S VISION

To develop friendship with India is for us, Soviet people, a behest left by the founder of our State, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. Over sixty years ago he predicted that the time would come when the peoples of the East, and of India in particular, would gain independence, "... rise as independent participants, as creators of a new life" and would take part "in deciding the destinies of the whole world".

Lenin urged us to extend "the hand of friendship and brotherhood to all the peoples

of the East", - and we are invariably faithful to this Leninist behest.

It is a matter of profound satisfaction that the thoughts of such outstanding leaders of the Indian people's struggle for the national emancipation and construction of an independent India as Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru and of those who are continuing their cause today are consonant with the ideas of the great Lenin.

Dear friends, our talks with the leaders of your country, with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi began yesterday. We informed them of the intensive creative working life of the Soviet people, of our achievements, unresolved problems and plans for the future, Of our struggle for the cause of a lasting Peace on Earth.

We listened with interest to the leaders of India. We rejoice at your achievements, we share your concern over the difficulties which have not yet been overcome. It is clear to us that the great work to transform the country initiated by Jawaharlal Nehru is going on. And we wholeheartedly wish you success in building a new India, we wish happiness and prosperity to the Indian people.

Our discussions have confirmed yet again that the USSR and India are united in their peaceful aspirations. Our common intention is to do everything to ensure that the fruits of the peoples' labour never be destroyed, that mankind never know the tragedy of a world nuclear holocaust.

So may friendship between the Soviet Union and India - a powerful factor of peace and the security of peoples - strengthen and prosper!

Long live the great Indian people!

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INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Speech at Civic Reception in Honour of Mr. L. L Brezhnev

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi's address at the Civic Reception held in honour of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev in New Delhi on December 9, 1980:

We are privileged to have in our midst today the great leader of a great country, a world statesman, and a trusted friend of India. I also welcome the other important persons who are accompanying him. It has been my privilege to know them for many years. But we regard this visit as an important and significant event. It will add a new dimension to the traditional friendship between the Soviet Union and India and also contribute to peace.

SOVIET ACHIEVEMENT

The people of India have high admiration for the achievements of the people of the Soviet Union, particularly the remarkable economic and technological progress made since the Great October Revolution under the immortal Lenin. "Blazing fire within the cover of ice" - this is how my father described the Revolution to me when I was a child. We were then fighting our own battle against colonialism. In this struggle we received consistent support from the Soviet people.

Since independence, India has followed a policy of nonalignment, the positive content of which is to seek friendship with all countries and to work for goodwill and peace among nations. Twenty-five years

ago in 1955, Jawaharlal Nehru described peace at a rally in Moscow in the following words:

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

"Peace is not merely abstention from war but an active and positive approach to international problems and relations, leading, first to the lessening of the present tension through an attempt to solve our problems by methods of negotiation, and then, to a growing cooperation between nations in various ways - cultural and scientific contacts. increase in trade and commerce. and exchange of ideas. experience and information. We should endeavour to remove all barriers to the growth of our minds and hearts such as come in the way of international cooperation".

These words are as relevant today. The world is beset with new misunderstandings, new tensions, new threats. But they can and must be solved through recognition of distinctive personalities of nations and their right to freedom. and by breaking, down the barriers which choke minds and hearts.

INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

We value the understanding the Soviet Union has shown through the years in our problems. In turn we recognise the Soviet Union's own concerns. Indo-Soviet friendship is not aimed against any other country. It is of equal importance to both India and the Soviet Union. Neither country has ever sought to impose its perceptions on the other. Yet our agreement on vital issues out-weighs divergence.

Our mutual regard has manifested itself in numerous forms of cooperation. Our economic relationship has grown steadily and impressively. Scores of nation-building projects in India stand witness to it. Our scientists and technologists, our writers and artists have worked together in warm comradeship. In the international arena, we have laboured for peace and the elimination of disparities and discrimination of all kinds.

Many have been the attempts to create misunderstanding between us and to misrepresent our association. But we have withstood all such attempts and striven constantly to strengthen mutual trust.

To our disquiet, there is deterioration in the international situation. Detente, for which you, Mr. President, have exerted yourself so tirelessly, has had a setback. New conflicts have erupted while old disputes still linger. I do earnestly hope that these problems will be resolved peacefully through

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political negotiations. Just and durable solutions must be found, and found quickly, to prevent misunderstandings from hardening, into distrust and animosity. We must all work to prevent the enlargement of the areas of conflict and to preserve the fabric of peace.

PEACE INITIATIVES

Many of the new tensions and conflicts are in our vicinity. It is natural for us to feel concerned. With our vital stake we have associated ourselves with some initiatives towards peaceful solutions. We sincerely hope that the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of the countries in our region will not come under strain or jeopardy through conflicts and interference.

We extend our hand of friendship to all countries, particularly those who are our neighbours. Our policy of good neighbourliness and cooperation is in the larger interests, of the peoples of our area as also the rest of the world.

OUR UNFINISHED REVOLUTION

From our newspapers you will get a picture of turmoil in our country. Turmoil is inevitable in this fast changing world, and specially so as we are still struggling on with our unfinished revolution. Our freedom movement, which, though very different from your own Revolution, was nonetheless a revolution, though peaceful

and non-violent. From the beginning we realised that political independence would be meaningful and enduring only with economic self-reliance. The second phase of this unfinished Revolution i.e. the process of combating economic inequality and social injustice upsets powerful elements and invites reaction. Understandably we face onslaught from the 'right' and not so understandably from the so-called 'left' as well. In the face of tremendous odds we have achieved modest success in giving practical shape to our ideas. We can say with pride that we have not jettisoned any of our basic tenets, commitment to an independent foreign policy and to the raising of the standards of living of our people under a socialist, secular and democratic ethos. No matter what the difficulties and the dangers, we continue on our path, sometimes lonely, to develop the Indian personality to take sustenance from our roots, yet looking ahead and working with the latest in science and technology, towards a brighter future. Life, as our ancient texts say, is like walking on a razor's edge. But through the ages and the vicissitudes of history, the Indian people have shown balance, resilience and soundness of heart.

WARMTH AND GOODWILL

Since the arrival of our distinguished guest yesterday, we have had a serious exchange of views on various matters of common concern to our two countries. As always, these talks have been characterised by candidness, by warmth and goodwill. This visit will demonstrate once again the vitality of Indo-Soviet friendship. This friendship has stood the test of time, Yet, it is not a static relationship. It is a growing and a dynamic one, with new vistas opening out. If I may inject a personal note, in the Soviet Union, as in some other countries, there are a number of 'Indiras'. Many are now grown up and are working for the welfare of their countries. They are an extra link of friendship around the world.

Excellency, we are honoured and pleased at your visit. Through you, we

extend to the great people of the Soviet Union the friendly warm-hearted greetings of the Indian people. We wish your people and your country continued well-being, prosperity and new achievements in the cause of peace.

INDIA USA RUSSIA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Vice-President M. Hidayatullah's Speech in Parliament in Honour of Mr. L. I. Brezhnev

Following is the text of the speech of Vice-President M. Hidayatullah welcoming Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, in the Central Hall of Parliament on December 10, 1980:

Your Excellency Mr. General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU,

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Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Madame Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker, Excellencies, Members of Parliament and friends, it is a matter of great Pleasure to have with us today, His Excellency Mr. Brezhnev. On behalf of the Members of Parliament and the people of India I extend a warm and hearty welcome to our esteemed and distinguished guest.

Excellencies, Hon'ble members, Ladies and Gentlemen, the friendship between the Soviet Union and India goes back to days when with us freedom was still an aspiration and a dream. Need it be recalled that even in those days of our freedom

struggle we found nothing but sympathy and understanding in the Soviet Union. The leaders of our freedom movement were inspired and profoundly influenced by the great October Revolution which provided an impetus to the liberation movements in Asia and other parts of the world. I may also perhaps recall that when the Soviet Union was engaged in a grim struggle against the Nazi invasion, the Indian National Congress passed a resolution expressing, on behalf of the Indian people, their sympathy and admiration for the astonishing self-sacrifice and heroic courage of the Soviet people in the defence of their country and freedom. With all this background, what was more natural than that after India became free, friendship with the Soviet Union should have come to occupy a place of primacy in her foreign relations.

SOVIET ASSISTANCE

Our people have had great admiration for the vitality and determination that the Soviet people demonstrated through their spectacular progress in various fields of industry, science, technology and space. In India even in the hour of freedom our leaders were clear in their minds that political emancipation was incomplete without economic growth and socioeconomic justice. And ever since our Independence, we are accordingly engaged in a massive programme of planned economic growth in order to lay the foundation of a self-reliant economy and bring about betterment in the living standards of our people. In this gigantic task, how can one forget the crucial role played and cooperation extended by the friendly Soviet Union. The contribution of that country in key sectors of our economy like steel, machine building, power, oil production and refining, has helped us to build the necessary industrial infrastructure of our Country. Your Excellency, we know well your own keen personal interest in India's developmental efforts and her progress. A special feature of the Soviet assistance has been that it has helped our public sector which now occupies the commanding heights of our country's economy. Bhilai, Bokaro and Mathura will ever stand

out as symbols of Indo-Soviet collaboration. Not surprisingly, the trade between the two countries has been steadily expanding over the years, and it is heartening to note that our economic relations are now beginning to assume new dimensions. The Indo-Soviet Joint Economic Commission is engaged in a continuing search for identification of new areas of cooperation, a wider development of Industrial collaboration with exchange of technologies and undertaking Joint ventures in the Third countries.

SHARED VISION

In our world there is growing interdependence and in it peace and human happiness are indivisible. All the countries of the world today do desire peace as a precondition for progress. In order to widen the area of peace and limit the consequences of tension, India's approach in her international relations has been one of non-alignment and independence of judgment, a policy which, we are happy to say, the Soviet Union has always appreciated. Both India and Soviet Union have been consistently working together for the strengthening of universal peace and independence of nations, against imperialism, colonialism, non-colonialism and racial discrimination and in defence of freedom of all peoples on the basis of full equality and mutual respect.

Indo-Soviet friendship is based on a mutually shared vision of a world where all nations live in peace and prosperity. Our friendship is an outstanding example of two countries with different socio-economic systems collaborating for mutual benefit and the larger good of mankind. This visit of

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yours, Your Excellency, we are sure, will be an important landmark in our relationship which will further strengthen the close ties of understanding and friendship that bind us together. May I now request you, Your Excellency, to deliver Your address?

USA INDIA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Mr. Leonid Brezhnev's Address to Members of Parliament

Following is the text of the address by Mr. L. I. Brezhnev to the Members of Parliament of both the Houses in the Central Hall of Parliament:

Esteemed Mr. Vice-President, esteemed Madam Prime Minister, esteemed Mr. Speaker, distinguished Members of Parliament, first of all, I would like to thank you for this Opportunity to speak from this high rostrum and to convey to you, and through you to the entire Indian people, heartfelt greetings and good wishes from the USSR Supreme Soviet, from all Soviet people.

Seven years have passed since my last visit to Your country. Many changes have taken place in the world over these years, but the course, pursued by the Soviet Union in developing friendship and cooperation with India remains unchanged- We are profoundly convinced that this course meets both the fundamental national interests of our two countries and the cause of universal peace.

PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

Friendship between the USSR and India is a common asset of the two great nations. Our relations have stood the test of time and become an important factor of consolidating peace, in Asia and beyond. Developing as they are on the solid basis of the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-Operation, these relations serve to embody the principles of peaceful co-existence, of

equal and fruitful cooperation of States with different socio-economic systems.

Good relations between the USSR and India, the coincidence or closeness of their Positions on cardinal present-day problems, their dedication to the cause of independence Of Peoples, the cause of peace and equal co-operation of states, the struggle for disarmament and the prevention of a new world war are especially important in the conditions of the present exacerbation of the international situation.

MILITARY BUILD-UP

It is no secret that this exacerbation has been caused by the actions of the United States and its allies in recent years. This is a result of attempts to upset the balance of forces that has taken shape in the world and to impose their will on the peoples from positions of military superiority.

To that end military budgets are being inflated on an unprecedented scale, an arms build-up is continuing, the existing military bases are being expanded and new ones are being set up all over the world.

It is clear that on such a basis it is impossible to settle conflict situations, to make headway in resolving the problems of arms limitation, to eradicate the vestiges of colonialism and to restructure the world economic order on an equitable basis.

Difficulties have also been accumulating in bilateral relations between states. In particular, quite a few of them have accumulated over the recent years in relations between the USSR and the United States. We stand for the removal of these difficulties, but we believe there is a point in the Indian adage which says that you cannot clap with one hand alone.

Distinguished Members of Parliament. In addressing this legislative body of a major state in Asia, I cannot but share with you my thoughts about the situation on this continent. Its role in world events is obvious: after all, this is where half of

mankind lives. We are convinced that relations of peace and good-neighbourliness, in Asia should be built through the common contribution of the largest possible number

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of Asian Males, and better still, of all of them.

CONFLICTS AND TENSIONS

But the situation in Asia today is, unfortunately, disquieting.

An explosive situation persists in the Middle East where attempts are continuing to impose defeatist deals on Arab nations and to make them resigned to the flouting of their fundamental national interests.

Tensions are still running high in South East Asia when imperialist forces and their accomplices are pursuing a policy of setting the states of that region at loggerheads, and going out of their way to prevent the establishment of relations of good-neighbourliness between them.

The conflict between Iraq and Iran, tragic in its senselessness, is still going on. This is a graphic example of how dangerous it is for countries which are not yet strong enough to find themselves between the grindstones of imperialist policies.

Who stands to profit from this war? Certainly neither Iraq nor Iran. What they will get are merely a devastated economy and great losses in human lives. It is clear enough, already at this stage, that someone has benefited from this war. Before the eyes of the whole world outside military penetration into the Near and Middle East is increasing. To the delight of the enemies of the Arab peoples the unity of the Arab world is being undermined. Plans are also afoot to weaken the anti-imperialist character of the policies pursued by both Iran and Iraq. And for all this the two neighbouring peoples are paying with their blood.

That is why the USSR is resolutely in favour of a peaceful settlement of that con-

flict. We condemn any attempts to encourage the prolonging of the conflict and to add fuel, by any means whatsoever, to the flames of war. India's position, as we understand it, is similar to ours.

AFGHANISTAN

Opponents of normalizing the international climate and initiators of the arms race infrequently refer now, in justification of their activities, to the situation in Afghanistan. But in doing so, if one thinks this over, they assume a very peculiar position.

They are making a noise for all the world to hear about a "Soviet threat" either to Pakistan or to the countries of the Persian Gulf, or God knows to whomever else, though they know very well that there is not a trace of such a threat.

They are vociferously calling for the cessation of Soviet military assistance to Afghanistan but in reality they are doing everything to impede this. They are trying to maintain tension and prevent a normalisation of the situation. They are continuing to send armed gangs into Afghanistan and they are seared to death of agreement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, especially Pakistan.,

In a word the position of these gentlemen, to put it mildly is noted for its insincerity.

But deception will not take one very far. Life in Afghanistan is gradually moving and will continue to move more and more into a normal peaceful track, the fog of misinformation will gradually clear away. And then, one should assume, it will become clear to Afghanistan's southern neighbours that the only realistic way is good-neighbourly agreement with the Afghan Government. As a result, prerequisites will emerge for the full political normalisation of the situation, including withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

May I assure you, esteemed Members of Parliament: the Soviet Union favours

exactly such a development of events and we fully support the reasonable proposals of the Government of Afghanistan on this account.

PERSIAN GULF

The Persian Gulf area and the Indian Ocean are becoming an increasingly dangerous seat of international tension. Under the trumped-up pretext of protecting their vital interests, powers situated at a distance of many thousands of kilometres from this area have concentrated here a military armada and are vigorously building up

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armaments, widening the network of their military bases, exerting pressure on and threatening, the small countries which refuse to trail in their wake.

Attempts are made to justify such actions by talking about a "Soviet threat" to the oil riches of this area. Of course, this is pure invention and its authors know this only too well. The USSR has no intention of encroaching upon either the Middle East oil or its transportation route.

Naturally, we are not indifferent to what is happening in a region so close to our borders. We want a normal, calm situation to be established there. In contrast to the imperialist doctrine of aggression and diktat with regard to the Persian Gulf countries we propose a doctrine of peace and security.

GULF PROPOSALS

These are not mere words. This is our actual policy. We propose to the United States, to other western powers, to China, Japan, to all states that display interest that agreement be reached on the following mutual obligations:

- not to set up foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf area and on the adjacent islands; not to deploy nuclear or any other weapons of mass destruction there;

- not to use or threaten to use force

against the countries of the Persian Gulf area and not to interfere in their internal affairs;

- to respect the status of non-alignment chosen by the states of the Persian Gulf area; not to draw them into military groupings with the participation of nuclear powers;

- to respect the sovereign right of the states of that area to their natural resources;

- not to raise any obstacles or pose threats to normal trade exchanges and to the use of sea lanes linking the states of that area with other countries of the world.

We believe that such agreement, to which the states of that area themselves would naturally be equal parties, would correspond to their vital interests. Indeed, it would serve as a reliable guarantee of their sovereign rights and security.

Let me express the hope that this proposal will meet with understanding and support on the part of peace-loving India.

INDIAN OCEAN

The Soviet Union is a firm supporter of the idea of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. We are ready to work actively in this direction together with other states concerned. We believe that the Indian Ocean has been, and remains, the sphere of vital interests of its littoral states and no others.

We are ready to welcome as well any other initiatives that would lead to lessening tensions and would be motivated by concern for strengthening peace in Asia or on any other continent.

INDIA'S PEACEFUL FOREIGN POLICY

Dear friends, the Soviet Union has great respect for the foreign policy of India which is based on the principles of peaceful co-existence and non-alignment. We highly

value your country's contribution to the struggle of peoples for peace and detente, against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, and racism, against all forms of oppression and inequality.

Since the first days of its independent existence, India has been playing an important role in the world arena. What has been the contribution of this immense country with its own ancient cultural heritage to international relations? I would say that, first of all, it is a current of peaceability and considered realism, readiness to develop good relations with other states and promote a healthier international climate.

History will not forget that it was Jawaharlal Nehru, that outstanding son of the Indian people, who founded this policy of India. We in the Soviet Union remember very well how much was done by that truly great man, sincere friend of our country, for the development of Soviet-Indian relations.

India's contribution to strengthening peace and stability in Asia is especially

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significant. The peoples pay tribute to India's constructive steps and peaceful initiatives for the settlement of the conflicts on the Asian continent.

Let us take, for instance, India's relations with the countries of Indochina. They have always been good with Vietnam and Laos. Good relations have now been established between you and Kampuchea, too. All this undoubtedly is conducive to the development of good-neighbourly relations and cooperation in South East Asia. We are confident that further developments will confirm the farsightedness of this course. Recognition of reality has always been an important element of a wise foreign policy.

Dear friends, the task of eliminating the threat of war should leave no one indifferent. And it is surely parliamentarians, elected representatives of the people, who should be in the forefront! I am confident

that the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Parliament of the Republic of India will make their weighty contribution to this sacred cause.

May the voices of our peoples ring out against the threat of war and for fruitful co-operation between states in the solution of burning issues of our time!

May the unbreakable friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and India grow stronger and deeper!

Thanking you.

USA INDIA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC MALDIVES IRAN IRAQ AFGHANISTAN MALI PERU
PAKISTAN TOTO CHINA JAPAN VIETNAM LAOS

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Lok Sabha Speaker Bal Ram Jakhar's Welcome Speech

Following is the text of the welcome speech of the Lok Sabha Speaker Bal Ram Jakhar:

Your Excellency Mr. General Secretary of the Central Committee of CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of USSR, Mr. Chairman, Madam Prime Minister, Excellencies, Members of Parliament and Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to join the esteemed Vice-President in extending to Your Excellency a hearty welcome to our country. We are happy to have you in our midst once more. We greet Your Excellency as a sincere friend and well-wisher of our country and as the Head of a great nation with which we are happy

to have such strong and enduring ties of friendship. May I also express to you, Sir, our heartfelt appreciation for the profound and inspiring address you have just delivered and all the kind sentiments you have expressed for our country and our people.

Your Excellency would recall having addressed Members of our Parliament in this very Hall, of historic memories, over seven years ago. Since then much has happened in the world and many developments have taken place in our countries and elsewhere. It is a matter of immense satisfaction that through all these changes and developments the friendship between our two countries, based on a mature understanding of each other's point of view, has not only remained firm but deepened with time. Indeed, it could not have been otherwise, for our relations are founded not upon any transient considerations of expediency or temporary advantage, but upon the bedrock of mutual trust and goodwill and our shared commitment to the cause of global progress through peaceful co-existence and constructive cooperation among nations. We are drawn together in our opposition to all vestiges of colonialism and racialism and other forms of international economic and social injustice. We ardently believe that mankind has a vital stake in the preservation of peace for it is only in an environment of international peace that nations particularly in the Third World, can hope to accomplish, the gigantic task of economic development in order to provide a better quality of life to their people.

MULTI-FACETED COOPERATION

I need hardly say, Your Excellency, how much we, in this country, value and

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cherish our relations with your great country. You have stood by us through thick and thin. The foundations of Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation were laid by the great leader of our freedom struggle and our first Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, soon after we attained Independence. Over the years, the cooperation between

our two countries has steadily progressed and extended to diverse fields. The relations between our two countries in the economic, commercial, technological and cultural spheres have been a record of outstanding success. By a happy coincidence we have the pleasure and privilege of having Your Excellency in our midst in this, the Silver Jubilee Year, of Indo-Soviet Economic Co-operation. From modest beginnings under the Indo-Soviet Economic Agreement of 1955, our bilateral cooperation has grown extensively and covers today a very wide range of activities - in industry especially heavy industry, and agriculture; exploration and refining of oil, power generation and mining, science and technology, including space exploration. We are also particularly appreciative of the significant contribution made by the Soviet Union in our efforts to build a strong industrial infrastructure which has enabled us to forge ahead with confidence on the road to self-reliant national development.

EQUALITY AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation, while mutually beneficial, is directed against none. Our friendship has stood the test of time. Indeed, we may well claim -- and rejoice in the fact - that it has made a significant contribution to world peace and stability by providing an example of how sovereign nations, irrespective of any differences in their socioeconomic systems, may work in close cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual understanding and mutual trust. We are sure, Your Excellency's present visit and your discussions with the leaders of our Government will only lead to further strengthening of the traditional bonds of friendship between our two countries and further development of our bilateral cooperation in the interest of our two peoples and the cause of world peace.

May I, in the end, again thank Your Excellency for joining us today and for your Address, and convey to you - and through you to the Members of Parliament and the great people of your country - the warm

hearted greetings of our Members of Parliament and the millions of our fellow countrymen they represent.

USA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

India and USSR Sign Five Agreements

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 10, 1980:

The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and the visiting Soviet President, His Excellency Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, signed a 'Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration' and an Agreement on 'Economic and Technical Co-operation' between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in the glittering Ashok Hall of the Rashtrapati Bhawan here today.

The third 'Trade Agreement' between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, was signed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Commerce and Steel and Mines, and H.E. Mr. I. V. Arkhipov, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The fourth one, 'Protocol on Cooperation in the field of 'Cinematography' was signed by Shri Vasant Sathe, Minister of Information & Broadcasting and H.E. Mr. F. T. Yermash, Chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Cinematography.

The fifth agreement was signed by Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Culture and H.E. Mr. N. P.

Firyubin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR on 'Programme of Cultural, Scientific and Educational Exchanges' between the Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

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INDIA USA UNITED KINGDOM

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration

Following is the text of the Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration signed, on December 10, 1980 by the Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi and H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme, Soviet of the USSR:

The Republic of India and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Recalling the relations of close and traditional friendship established between them and expressing the firm resolve of their Governments and peoples for the further development of these relations,

Aware of their responsibility for the promotion of international peace and noting with concern the deterioration in the present-day international situation,

Reiterating their common commitment to development of cooperation between nations in accordance with the principles of peaceful co-existence,

Determined to carry on persistent-struggle for peace and international security. national independence of peoples, against all manifestations of imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid and for the lofty ideals of mankind recorded in the Charter of the United Nations,

Declare their firm intention, in accordance with the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between India and the USSR, to continue strengthening and deepening Indo-Soviet friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of international peace and security.

I

India and the Soviet Union note with profound satisfaction that the relations between them which have been fruitfully developing for decades in an atmosphere of friendship and trust, provide an eloquent example of practical implementation of the principle of peaceful coexistence of states with differing socioeconomic systems. These relations are developing to the mutual benefit of the peoples of both the countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect. strict observance of sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The two sides are convinced that the Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation between India and the Soviet Union is a vivid embodiment of the high level of their dynamically developing multi-faceted relations and traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries that constitute an important factor for peace and stability in Asia and the world.

They note with satisfaction the significant progress in the field of their economic, commercial and scientific and technological cooperation. Developing on a planned and long-term basis in accordance with the Agreement on Further Development of Economic and Trade Cooperation of 29th November, 1973, and the Long-term Pro-

gramme of Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation of 15th March, 1979, their cooperation makes an essential contribution in the solution of national economic problems facing the peoples of the two countries. Thus, the trade turnover between India and the USSR has increased in 1980 more than twice as compared with 1975 as envisaged in the Joint Indo-Soviet Declaration signed in November, 1978 by H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev and H.E. Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

The Soviet Union will continue to cooperate in the construction of large-scale projects in India and in the development of especially important sectors of its economy. The two sides are convinced that the agreements concluded during the present visit will provide a new impetus to the development of still closer economic cooperation between them.

The Indian side appreciates the valuable contributions made by the Soviet Union in India's efforts aimed at self-reliance and its achievements not only in the field of eco-

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nomy but in other important fields as well.

The two sides reiterate that they attach great significance to the mutual enrichment of their national cultures and strengthening the bonds of friendship and mutual understanding between the peoples of India and the Soviet Union through expanding cultural exchanges and contacts,

II

India and the Soviet Union recognise that their relations of mutual understanding, confidence and all-round cooperation, are of major significance for peace and stability in Asia and in the world. They reaffirm their determination to continue developing these relations and thus to effectively promote the improvement of the international situation,

India and the Soviet Union firmly be-

lieve that the most important objective facing mankind is the strengthening of peace and the prevention of a new world war and they will do their utmost in contributing towards that lofty end.

The two sides note with concern the deterioration in the international environment, the persistence of unresolved problems and emergence of new hotbeds of tension. They call for the maintenance and development of detente and its universalisation.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm their conviction that interstate relations should develop on the basis of the fundamental and universally recognized principles such as renunciation of the threat or use of force, respect for sovereignty, equality, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The Indian side gives a high appraisal of the Soviet Union's constructive efforts and proposals aimed at cessation of the arms race, achieving disarmament and reducing international tensions.

The Soviet side gives a high appraisal of the significant contribution of the peaceful foreign policy of India based on non-alignment to the preservation of international peace and security.

The two sides note that, in view of the deterioration in the international situation and the escalation of the arms-race, there is an urgent necessity for concrete measures aimed at finding solutions to the most pressing problems.

India and the Soviet Union are firmly convinced that the task of the highest priority facing the world today is the cessation of the arms race, above all in nuclear weapons, and the implementation of effective measures towards general and complete disarmament under effective international control. Both sides reiterate their readiness to cooperate fully with each other and with all other States in achieving this goal.

India and the Soviet Union attach the highest significance to the adoption of immediate measures for stopping the arms race, especially in nuclear weapons, and the effective implementation of these measures. They call for early measures for the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests, for the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons and for the prohibition of the development of new types of weapons of mass destruction. A part of funds which will be released in the process of disarmament should be channelled towards rendering assistance to developing countries.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm the primary importance they attach to the development of co-operation in the preservation and consolidation of peace and stability in Asia on the basis of the principles of peaceful co-existence. They are convinced that the outstanding issues in Asia and the world as a whole can and should be resolved by peaceful means so as to enable the countries of the region to devote their energies to the task of national development.

The two sides emphasise the urgent need for a comprehensive, durable and just settlement of the West Asia problem based on the complete withdrawal of Israel's forces from all the Arab territories occupied by it, the satisfaction of the just demands of the Arab people of Palestine and the securing of their legitimate rights, including their inalienable right to the establishment of their own State as well as ensuring the

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right of all States of West Asia to independent existence and development.

The two sides express serious concern over the hotbeds of tension in South West Asia and reaffirm their conviction that the problems of the region demand peaceful political solutions paying full respect to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of the countries of the region. They call upon the countries of the region to expeditiously terminate the

armed conflicts, to exercise restraint and co-operate constructively for reducing tension and restoring peace. India and the Soviet Union reiterate their opposition to all forms of outside interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the region. They are confident that negotiated political solution alone can guarantee a durable settlement of the existing problems of the region.

India and the Soviet Union support the desire of the States in South-East Asia for normalising the situation in that area and for making South-East Asia a region of durable peace and stability. Both sides also support the efforts of the countries of South-East Asia to develop relations of good neighbourliness and co-operation. India and the Soviet Union oppose outside interference in the internal affairs of these countries.

India and the Soviet Union reaffirm their readiness to co-operate in the early implementation of the U.N. Declaration on the establishment of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and support the decision of the U.N. General Assembly to hold a conference in this regard. They call for the dismantling of all foreign military and naval bases existing in the area, such as Diego Garcia, for preventing the creation of new bases and condemn any attempts to build up foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean under any pretext whatsoever.

The two sides call for strict implementation of the U.N. Declaration on the Granting of Independence to the Colonial Countries and Peoples as applied to all territories in the Indian Ocean which are still under colonial domination. They support the just demand of Mauritius for the return of the Chagos archipelago including the island of Diego Garcia to Mauritius.

India and the Soviet Union reward the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and the establishment of a New International Economic Order as one of the most topical tasks. They resolutely condemn any manifestations of the policy of neocolonialism, discrimination and methods of pressure in inter-state economic relations. Two sides

favour, in particular, ensuring of fair, stable and equitable prices for the exports of developing countries.

India and the Soviet Union are unanimous in considering that the non-aligned movement is an important factor in maintaining and strengthening world peace and in lessening international tension. They take note of the positive role which the non-aligned movement can play in the peaceful settlement of conflict situations in various parts of the world and assess positively the initiatives taken by the non-aligned movement towards this end.

The Soviet Union puts a high value on India's role as an active member of the non-aligned movement in augmenting its contribution to the maintenance of world, peace and to the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, apartheid and every form of domination.

India and the Soviet Union, whose peoples have for centuries been contributing through their talent and labour, to the development of human civilization, deem it necessary to draw the attention of all states and peoples of the world to the fact that the course of world events has brought to the forefront such problems of global importance as rational use of the energy resources of the earth, search for and development of new sources of energy, use of the riches of the World Ocean and the results of the outer space exploration in the interest of all mankind, conservation of nature for the present and future generations, eradication of disease and famine.

III

India and the Soviet Union highly value the happy tradition of maintaining regular contacts on major questions of relations between them and on important international

problems of common interest, which serves to deepen Indo-Soviet co-operation in various fields. They will continue the practice of developing contacts and consultations between them at the political level and the further diversification and streng-

thening of bilateral economic, commercial, scientific, technological and cultural co-operation.

Special significance is attached by the two sides to Indo-Soviet meetings and contacts at the highest level which provide an opportunity for reviewing the results and setting new targets in the development of relations between India and the Soviet Union, deepen their mutual understanding and co-operation in the strengthening of international peace. They express profound satisfaction with the results of the official friendly visit of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev to India, which has in many ways given a new content to traditional Indo-Soviet friendship and co-operation and constituted a significant contribution to the strengthening of international peace and security.

During the visit, the following documents were signed:

1. Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation.
2. Trade Agreement for the years 1981-1985.
3. Programme of Cultural, Scientific and Educational Exchanges for the years 1981-1982.
4. Protocol on the co-operation in the field of cinematography.

H.E. Mr. L. I. Brezhnev expressed sincere gratitude to the leadership and the people of Republic of India for the warm welcome accorded to him and his party. He invited the President of India, H. E. Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, and the Prime Minister of India, H.E. Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to visit the Soviet Union. The invitations were accepted with gratitude.

INDIA USA CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ISRAEL MALI MAURITIUS

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

1995

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Minister of External Affairs P. V. Narasimha Rao's Speech at Dinner in Honour of Mr. Rashid Abdulla Al-Noaimi

Following is the text of the speech of the Minister of External Affairs, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, at a dinner in honour of Mr. Rashid Abdulla Al-Noaimi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates, in New Delhi on December 19, 1980:

Excellency, it is indeed a happy occasion to have you and members of your delegation here with us this evening. In welcoming you to India, I welcome a friend who has wide familiarity with our country and indeed a deep knowledge of and a home-ly interest in many facets of our national and cultural life. Your Excellency has visited us in the past as the leader of the UAE delegation to the last meeting of the Joint Commission and I have had the privilege of an exchange of views with you on matters of mutual interest and many issues of international concern in New York a few months ago.

India's ties with the UAE go back far into the past. Archaeological excavations are increasingly bringing forth evidence to show the existence of a common civilisation and culture over five thousand years ago on both sides of the Gulf and over vast areas of India. Later, travellers and merchants have crossed the sea that separates us making, it the highway of commerce and trade, culture and knowledge. These exchanges have fostered a continuing sense of identity and a sharing of values and ideals. You

celebrate this year the beginning of the 15th century of your great religion, Islam. We do the same. For, Islam has contributed significantly to the development of our own composite culture and civilisation.

IDENTITY OF VIEWS

Our ancient ties of friendship have been cemented by the vision of the great leaders of our two countries. H.E. Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the UAE and H. H. Shaikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Makhtoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister, have visited us and there exists a measure of warm understanding and a close identity of views on many issues of regional and international concern between them and our Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. There have also been numerous high level exchanges between us. Your Ministers have visited us and our senior officials and Ministers have kept up a continuous process of consultations between our governments. Your visit as leader of the UAE delegation to the present meeting of the Joint Commission is a significant element in this on-going process.

Excellency, our region is passing through times which are turbulent and full of tension. We are seeing, with sorrow, the tragic and wasteful course of events involving two of our neighbouring countries with both of whom we have the closest ties of friendship and cooperation. It is our fervent hope that the hostilities will cease soon and peace will return. We also continue to witness the anguish of the Palestinian people whose national rights and legitimate aspirations continue to be denied. We, however, feel confident that the just Palestinian cause will triumph in the not too distant future and the Palestinian people will return to their homeland and form their national sovereign States.

SUPER POWER RIVALRY

We earnestly hope, as you do, that the Indian Ocean and our region becomes free from tension and super-power rivalry so that the countries of the region are able

to devote their energies to the progress and development of their peoples.

Excellency, there is already a great measure of commercial and economic cooperation between our countries. There is not only a very large Indian community in the UAE which, we are happy to note, is playing its part in the development of your country, but also a number of our experts and technicians are assisting in various fields of activity. There are a number of joint ventures and projects in the field of industry and construction. We, as you know, have recently modified our regulations to encourage investments from our Arab friends in India. We hope that this opportunity will be fully utilised.

I hope that this session of the Indo-UAE Joint Commission will provide an impetus to all aspects of our bilateral cooperation.

Friends, may I request you all to join me in a toast to the health and happiness of His Excellency the President of the UAE; to the health and happiness of our distinguished guest, the Foreign Minister of the UAE and the members of his delegation; to the ever increasing goodwill and cooperation between our two countries and peoples.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES INDIA USA

Date : Dec 01, 1980

Volume No

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

India and U.S. Agreements for Financing Development Projects

Following is the text of a Press Release issued in New Delhi on December 15, 1980:

Four agreements providing for Dollars 100 million (Rs. 780 million) by way of loan and grant for financing on-going development projects in India were signed here today, between India and U.S.A. The agreements were signed by Shri Yogesh Chandra,

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Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of India and by Mrs. Prischilla M. Boughton, Director for the United States Agency for International Development Mission in New Delhi.

The agreement for grant is, for Dollars 9.4 million (Rs. 73.30 million) to further assist the Government of India's Model Plan for basic health and family planning services in selected districts in five states.

The other three agreements for loans are for fertiliser inputs (Dollars 35 million, Rs. 273.00 million); agricultural credit through support of the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation's lending programmes for minor irrigation (Dollars 35.6 million, Rs. 277.70 million), and medium irrigation projects in Rajasthan (Dollars 20 million, Rs. 156.00 million).

The loans are repayable over a period of 40 years including a grace period of 10 years and an interest of 2 per cent during the first ten years and 3 per cent thereafter.

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USA INDIA LATVIA

Date : Dec 01, 1980