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JPRS-NEA-84-082

22 May 1984

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Near East/South Asia Report

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22 May 1984

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

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MOROCCO

PRELIMINARY CENSUS RESULTS REPORTED

Rabat ALMAGRIB in French 8-9 Apr 84 pp IV-V

[Text] The directorate of statistics has just published the following document, a summary of the most important, preliminary facts of the general population and housing census, conducted in 1982. This summary deals with four areas: demographic characteristics, level of education, characteristics of economic activity and housing conditions of households.

Demographic Characteristics

Structure of the Population by Sex and Age

Before looking at the data on the structure, we should recall that there were 20,419,555 people counted in this census on 3 September 1982, broken down among 8,730,399 city dwellers and 11,689,156 rural inhabitants. There were 3,432,858 households counted, with an average size of 5.9 people per household, or 5.4 for those in urban areas and 6.3 for those in rural areas.

The breakdown by sex showed that there are almost as many men as women in Morocco (respectively 49.9 percent and 50.1 percent).

Information on the structure by age is a most important element for determining food, educational, health and other needs and it remains a primary objective of any census. Thus, the preliminary study indicates the following structure:

Some 42.1 percent of the people are under 15;

Some 53 percent of the people are under 20;

Some 70.4 percent of the people are under 30;

Some 76 percent of the people are under 35.

The population 60 years old or older represents only 6.4 percent of the total.

Marital Status

The census determined that, for the population 15 years old or older:

Some 33.2 percent are single;

Some 57.6 percent are married;

Some 6.5 percent are widowed;

Some 2.7 percent are divorced.

It is interesting to note here that the proportion of single people, which is currently around 33 percent, was only about 25 percent in 1971. In other words, the proportion of single people increased 8 percent which translates as a change in the structure of marrying age; people tend to marry later.

This phenomenon affects men and women with about the same increase of 8 percent since 1971 in both urban and rural communities but it is greater for the city dwellers (the range in comparison with 1971 was respectively 9.2 percent for the cities and 5.9 percent for the countryside).

This trend to delay marriage can only affect the fertility rate in our country.

Overall Fertility Rate

The average number of children by women who have passed the age of child-bearing (45 to 49 years) is approximately seven children. This number is higher for women in rural areas than for women in the city: it is respectively 7.4 and 6.3 children per woman.

This parity remains high: however, it should be noted that this generation of women born around 1935 may have a different fertility rate than that of younger generations. We cannot determine the extent of the trend in the last few years from the statistical data currently available.

Educational Level of the Population

Among other objectives, the census aimed to learn both the extent of illiteracy of the population and the population's level of education.

Illiteracy

The 1982 census defined any person 10 years of age or older who could neither read nor write a contemporary text in any language as illiterate.

The total number thus counted was 9,214,493 out of 14,219,816 people over 10 years of age. The illiteracy rate was 65 percent, broken down as 51 percent for men and 78 percent for women.

This rate, which remains relatively high, has tended to decrease during the last 2 decades since it was 87 percent in 1960 and 75 percent in 1971.

The illiteracy rate by place or residence was 44 percent for urban areas and 82 percent for rural areas.

Knowledge of Languages

Concerning languages both read and written by the people in the census over 10 years of age, it was determined that of 100 literate people:

Some 30 read and wrote Arabic only;

Some 58 read and wrote Arabic and French only;

Another 10 read and wrote Arabic, French and other languages;

And 2 read and wrote one or more languages other than Arabic.

Thus, almost this entire population (98 percent) stated that they read and wrote Arabic and more than half (58 percent) spoke and wrote Arabic and French only.

In 1971, only urban areas were asked about languages, consequently we can determine for this area and in comparison with its entire population that the number of people who can read and write only Arabic remained relatively stable (12.5 percent in 1982 compared with 11.7 percent in 1971). On the other hand, bilingualism--Arabic and French--increased 5 percent, rising from 30 percent to around 35 percent.

Total Number of People in School

The number of people in school is determined as those people at the time of the census who are in preschool or Koranic school, primary or secondary school or higher education, taking the last class attended in general education as the basis. In 1982, this population numbered 3,551,224 people, and can be broken down as 62 percent for the men and 38 percent for the women. The population in school was 1,694,256 in 1971 and has more than doubled in the last 11 years.

By place of residence, this population was 2,337,044 for urban areas and 1,214,180 for rural areas, respectively 66 percent and 34 percent. Here it should be noted that the rural areas have made substantial progress in this area in the last 11 years; in fact, the school population in this area rose from 538,646 in 1971 to 1,214,180 people in 1982. This evolution mainly

affected women; the number of female students rose from 56,833 primary or secondary students in 1971 to about 296,400 in 1982, or 5 times that number.

However, such an effort remains modest in comparison with the total number of school-age children in rural areas (the population from 5 to 19 years of age counted in the 1982 census in rural areas was 4,514,203 people).

Level of the Educated Population

The total school population as determined in 1982 was broken down by percentages and according to areas as follows:

Total School Population in 1982

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Total</u>
Preschool or Koranic	4.6	11.6	7.0
Primary	56.9	73.3	62.6
Secondary	34.8	14.2	27.7
Higher education	3.2	.7	2.3
Level not specified	<u>.5</u>	<u>.2</u>	<u>.4</u>
	100.0	100.0	100.0

It appears from this that overall, three people out of five are in primary school; approximately one person in four is in secondary school and two people out of 100 are in college.

Population Not in School

The population not attending school includes all those who have already or who have not attended school. The total number was 16,708,608, representing 82.5 percent of the total population, among whom 3,100,086 stated that they had the following cultural level.

The breakdown of this last category of the population by educational level is as follows:

Some 23.7 percent attended preschool or Koranic school;

Some 40.1 percent attended primary school;

Some 23.4 percent had completed secondary school;

Some 3.1 percent had completed higher education;

And 9.7 percent did not specify the level.

Data on Employment

Overall Rate of the Active Population

The census aimed to determine data on employment, among other things:

The rate of employment;

The active population--working and unemployed;

The working population according to professions and types of work.

Type of Work

The 20,259,832 people counted in the census (excluding the people counted separately) were classed on 3 September 1982 by type of activity as follows:

Active population, employed	5,357,078
Unemployed	642,182
Total of those not working	14,260,572
Broken down as:	
Women at home	4,341,981
Students	3,551,224
Others not working	6,367,367

Rate of Employment of the Population

The working population which was 1,041,767 in 1971 increased 48.4 percent in 11 years for an average annual rate of growth of 3.6 percent.

Moreover, in breaking down this population by sex, we find that one worker out of five is a woman: this is a favorable evolution for women, in comparison with 1971 (increasing from 15 percent in 1971 to 20 percent in 1982).

In measuring the overall employment rate on this occasion with the unadjusted rate, defined as the relationship between the total working population and the country's total population, we find that this rate rose to 29.6 percent, which means that of 100 people, approximately 30 are working. The rate was 26.2 percent in 1971.

By place of residence, the rate has evolved as follows:

Urban areas: 30.4 percent in 1982, compared with 26.2 percent in 1971;

Rural areas: 29 percent in 1982, compared with 26.3 percent in 1971.

Active Population Which Is Unemployed

In this category in 1982, there were 642,182 unemployed people, of whom 285,357 were looking for work for the first time.

This group increased by 292,909 people between 1971 and 1982. By area, we note that there are practically as many unemployed people in the cities as in the countryside while in 1971, almost two-thirds of the jobless were in the urban areas.

This situation could be explained by the drought in recent years in several regions of the country and by the relatively limited job prospects in the countryside.

Overall Unemployment Rate

Defined as the relationship between the unemployed population and the total active population, the unemployment rate was 10.7 percent at the time of the census, an increase of almost 2 percent since 1971.

This rate was 12.3 percent in urban areas as compared with 9.5 percent in rural areas.

Unemployment of Youth

The number of unemployed young people under 25 years rose to 364,500, of whom 80 percent are looking for work for the first time. Two age groups were considered: 15 to 19 years old and 20 to 24 years old. In the first group, approximately one-fourth were unemployed. In the other age group, the rate was 18 percent.

Nevertheless, the relatively high unemployment rate for the 15 to 19-year old age group is caused rather by gaps and deficiencies in education and vocational training and this is even more so because jobs are available in government and the modern sector only to those 18 years of age or older.

By place of residence, youth unemployment is higher in urban areas than rural areas where it remains, however, high. Thus, for young people 20 to 24 years old, this rate was respectively 20.5 percent and 15.5 percent. Both in the cities and in the countryside, young men have a slightly higher unemployment rate than women. (For young people between 20 and 24 years old, the unemployment rate for the cities is 19.6 percent for women, compared with 20.9 percent for men; in rural areas, it is 10.9 percent for women, compared with 16.2 percent for men).

Working Population by Profession

For technical reasons, seven major categories of professions were used. More detailed results will be published later.

Tenant	43.3 percent
Mortgagor	.4 percent
Job-related housing	3.8 percent
Free housing	7.9 percent
Other	.9 percent
Status not declared	2.8 percent

In comparison with 1971, the percentage of households owning their own homes or in the process of purchasing them increased from 37.5 percent to 40.9 percent: this evolution is certainly the result of government efforts in distributing lots to build privately-owned homes and in making credits available for building. On the other hand, the number of tenants tended to decrease although remaining relatively high, since slightly under half of all the households (47.1 percent in 1982 compared with 53.5 percent in 1971) in cities are still renting.

Because of the very limited housing market in rural areas and because most rural inhabitants live on their land, government land or on their employer's land, most households in the census stated that they owned their lodgings (87 percent) or were lodged at no cost (8.4 percent). The remaining 4.6 percent were tenants (2.6 percent) and other categories (mortgagees, etc).

Modern Conveniences

In urban areas it was noted that:

Some 72 percent of the households (compared with 65 percent in 1971) had lodgings with a kitchen;

Some 85 percent of the households (compared with 82 percent in 1971) had lodgings with a toilet;

Some 63 percent of the households (compared with 52 percent in 1971) had running water;

And 74 percent of the households (compared with 68 percent in 1971) had electricity.

Moreover, the proportion of households with a bathtub or a shower was 24 percent, compared with 19 percent in 1971. In addition, the proportion of households using water from a fountain or a well, which was 12 percent in 1971, decreased because it is now 9 percent.

It might seem useless to study housing conveniences in rural areas because of the predictable low level of conveniences in this area. We should note, however, that around 78 percent of the households have a room to prepare their meals, 19 percent have a toilet, 17 percent have a common bath but only 2 percent and 4.5 percent are respectively equipped with running water and electricity.

9479

CSO: 4519/157

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR STATISTICS REPORTED

Agriculture in National Economy

Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 23 Mar 84 p 10

[Text] MAROC SOIR has published the following very interesting agricultural statistics:

18.1 Percent of GDP

The agricultural sector contributes an 18.1 percent share (at current prices) of the GDP [gross domestic product].

50 Percent of All Jobs

Agricultural jobs account for about 50 percent of all employment in the country. It should be noted that close to 57 percent of the population lives in rural areas, and that demographic growth in the rural areas (1.4 percent per year) is occurring at about one-third the rate in urban areas (4.4 percent).

One-Third of Exports

The agricultural sector accounts for about one-third of all export earnings.

Imports

Agricultural imports account for more than one-fourth of the value of all imports.

Rural Land Use

1) Use of rural land:

- Useable agricultural land (crops and plantations): 7.7 million hectares.
- Forest land: 5 million hectares.
- Alfa-grass: 2.6 million hectares.
- Pasturage: 0.9 million hectares.

2) Utilization of useable agricultural land (average figures):

- Grains: 4.5 million hectares.
- Vegetables: 400,000 hectares.
- Truck garden: 150,000 hectares.

- High-density fruit plantations: 400,000 hectares.
- Forage: 110,000 hectares.
- Industrial and vegetable oil crops: 130,000 hectares.
- Fallow: 2 million hectares.

Breakdown of the Value of Agricultural Production

- Stock raising: 32 percent.
- Grains: 36 percent.
- Fruits: 11 percent.
- Vegetables: 11 percent.
- Other agricultural operations: 10 percent.

Government Agricultural Investment

Public sector investment in agriculture is 15 percent of the total investment projected for the 1981-1985 Plan.

Structure of the Rural Sector

General characteristics:

- Total number of farms: 1.9 million units.
- Number of farms with an SAU [expansion unknown]: 1.5 million units, covering 1.4 million hectares.
- Average farm size: 4.9 hectares.
- Number of lots per farm: 6.
- Average lot size: 0.9 hectares.

Land Distribution

Less than 5 hectares:

- 74 percent of all farms.
- 24 percent of agricultural land.

Between 5 and 20 hectares:

- 23 percent of all farms.
- 42 percent of agricultural land.

Between 20 and 50 hectares:

- 23 percent of all farms.
- 17 percent of agricultural land.

More than 50 hectares:

- 0.7 percent of all farms.
- 17 percent of agricultural land.

Grain Production Reported

Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 23 Mar 84 p.10

[Text] The agricultural year 1982-1983 was marked by a mediocre grain harvest

(close to 35 million hundredweight for the four principal grains). It should be recalled that there were two periods of drought during the year, one in January and another in February-March.

Here is a comparison of the 1983 and 1982 yields:

Crop	1983	1982
	12,385.3	14,062.0
Hard wheat	7,317.5	7,771.8
Soft wheat	12,276.5	23,337.6
Barley	2,583.6	2,468.8
Corn	34,562.9	47,640.2
4 principal grains	67.6	60.5
Canary-grass	442.6	742.1
Oats	238.4	286.6
Sorghum	39.8	36.4
Rice	379.9	315.1
Others	35,731.2	49,081.0
Total grains	1,422.4	986.8
Broad beans	222.2	218.0
Green peas	558.6	508.7
Lentils	123.3	
Chickpeas	205.5	250.2
Orobus	2,852.3	2,216.4
Others	25,885.6	23,153.5
Total vegetables	7,349.2	5,099.5
Beetroot	239.6	199.5
Sugar cane	157.6	62.7
Cotton	315.8	407.3
Sunflower	473.4	470.0
Groundnuts	3,551.9	
Total vegetable oil crops	5,720.6	
Tomato	2,305.8	
Potato	15,933.3	
Onions	29,311.6	
Others	2,322.4	
Total truck garden crops	152.5	
Olives	9,600.0	9,900.0
Almonds	1,943.3	
Flums:	458.3	
Grapes	1,954.2	
Dates	238.4	266.6
Others	205.5	

9516

CSO: 4519/152

DELHI POLICE CONCERNED OVER SPREAD OF TERRORISM

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 1 Apr 84 p 7

[Text]

MARCH 31.—Following the shooting of Harbans Singh Manchanda, president of the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee, in broad daylight near the police headquarters in New Delhi, some very disturbing questions are being asked in police circles about the security of the people who are supposed to be on the hit list of some extremist group or the other.

Even a few months ago, though the branches of the police like security, Criminal Investigation Department, special branch and other Government agencies like the intelligence bureau and the Central Bureau of Investigation, were fond of using the phrase "hit list" even so often when stressing the need to guard a certain person or the other, most police officers dismissed this as alarmist.

Not any more. No one in Punjab or Delhi police dares deny any longer that Punjab extremists have a long hit list, and they have been successful.

A few weeks ago, when it was rumoured in Amritsar that the All-India Sikh Students' Federation had its own independent hit list, and they were mustering an "army" "take care" of the people on that list, no one dared to take this lightly any more. According to sources, this was the main reason behind the banning of the organization.

Now the Dashmesh Regiment has claimed responsibility for the killing of Manchanda. Till Thursday morning, there was hardly an officer who had ever heard the name of this "Regiment" before.

However, after checking with the Punjab police and the Intelligence Bureau, the officers were told that this was the "army" that the AISSF had been building, and it was headed by a splinter group of the organization.

The dismal record of the Punjab police in curbing terrorism is

known. Now that terrorism has come to the capital of India, there are officers who are concerned that the situation might go the same way unless something is done about it very soon.

The trouble is that such officers are in the minority, and, whenever they come up with schemes which could be helpful in effectively tackling terrorism, they are given the all too convenient answer, "lack of funds".

Police say that unless funds are found, decisions taken and concrete schemes implemented very soon, it may be too late. Already, it is well-known that apart from a large number of politicians who stay in Delhi and are on the hit list of some extremist group from Punjab or the other, a sizable number of officers from Delhi police are also on the dreaded hit lists too.

Though these officers have become more careful about their personal safety than they were before the source say that they are still being told that they should not make it too obvious, and put up a show of confidence instead.

There were some police officers in very senior posts who had foreseen such a situation a few months back, and had suggested concrete steps to combat terrorism in Delhi so far, these suggestions have fallen on deaf ears.

Delhi police drew up a detailed scheme based on the West German one. But like many other schemes it was gathering dust as far as can be made out.

REPORTAGE ON DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING PUNJAB

Reddy: Events a Challenge

Madras THE HINDU in English 4 Apr 84 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 3. The joy over the successful launching of the Indo-Soviet joint space mission has been marred by the tragic events in Punjab which are posing a great challenge to the unity and integrity of the country since partition.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has been keeping her composure with her characteristic unflappability despite these sad developments, but she is otherwise a very worried person not knowing how to tackle this threat politically without over-reacting to it.

Despite the pleas of many Opposition leaders in Parliament, she is going ahead with her week-long tour of four Arab countries, since the cancellation of her trip might encourage the extremists indulging in this senseless violence to imagine that their militancy has rattled the Government. But she cannot also rule out the danger that they might resort to further acts of terrorism in her absence to create an impression that the Government is unable to cope with their defiance.

But from the Government's point of view the challenge has to be accepted, since it cannot afford to play the ostrich imagining that sooner or later the hard-pressed terrorists will run out of steam and progressively isolate themselves from the mainstream of Akali opinion. An outraged public is clamouring for deterrent action before the Punjab situation gets out of hand, creating a very serious law and order situation in the border States.

The Centre has, no doubt, taken all possible precautions to prevent the spread of this terrorism to Haryana and Delhi, but there is no effective way of dealing with hit-and-run type fanatics bent on creating trouble. The widespread violence in Amritsar today leading to police firing on frenzied mobs thirsting for revenge has taken a heavy toll of lives.

Moderates Losing Control

There can be no serious talks with the Akali leaders, while the killing of innocents continues in Punjab, with the moderates rapidly losing control over the extremists who are not interested in negotiations. There is so much communal bitterness on the rampage now in Punjab in the wake of this insensate slaughter of innocents that it is becoming almost impossible to discuss the Akali demands in a dispassionate atmosphere.

The Government is trying hard to get together groups of eminent Sikhs to play a pacifying role, but the lunatic fringe of the extremists has added their names also to the hit list. It is becoming increasingly difficult for the Government to provide adequate protection for such men of moderation in the face of this blind fury and irrational fanaticism.

The Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet has been meeting twice or thrice every day to review this dreadful situation and take steps to assert the authority of the Government. The Committees of Secretaries and other experts have also been meeting simultaneously to chalk out the administrative measures.

The Prime Minister is reluctant to take any drastic steps like storming the Golden Temple complex or clamping down an emergency which might prove to be irretrievable by doing more harm than good in an election year, when every issue is over-politicised and the Government gets blamed for anything and everything that is done or not done in the heat of bitter recrimination. So she wants to try out every other alternative course open to her, before taking any extreme step to face this situation for bringing the full power of the Centre to bear on these demented terrorists who have been killing for the sake of killing quite unmindful of the grave communal consequences.

Big Danger

The big danger is that the atmosphere of violence and open defiance of Government now prevailing in Punjab might start spreading to other States and regions which are rocked by equally volatile agitations. The Punjab crisis has ceased to be a regional challenge, since it has now assumed the ugly overtones of a communal conflict that could do irreparable harm to the entire nation. And there is need for a broad-based bipatrisan approach to it with the Government and the Opposition working together in close concert in the larger national interest.

Reddy: Stern Measures Planned

Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Apr 84 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 4. The Centre is taking a series of stern administrative measures to put down violence in Punjab at any cost, while striving

simultaneously at the political level to isolate the hard core extremists from moderate Akalis by engaging in a purposeful dialogue even in the midst of this senseless violence.

Some of the administrative measures requiring formal notification, like the declaration of the whole of Punjab as a dangerously disturbed area or the decision to tighten up the provisions of the Preventive Detention Act, will be publicised to demonstrate the Government's firm resolve to deal ruthlessly with terrorism.

But other steps of a secret and sensitive nature, in the form of private directives to the police and para-military forces will be kept confidential, since their publication would disclose the Government's strategy to the terrorists.

Cabinet Endorses Decisions

The Central Cabinet today endorsed the decisions taken by its Political Affairs Committee which has been meeting twice or thrice daily for the last few days, while the core group of senior officials and intelligence chiefs have been implementing the decisions. But the piecemeal decisions taken by the Government have not been demonstrating in any dramatic way the political will and firm determination of the Centre to crush this terrorism.

The Government is, however, feeling somewhat reassured that all sections of people, including the great majority of Sikhs have been horrified by the orgy of violence in Punjab, despite the bitter communal animosities being generated by it. The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and her advisers are most anxious to see this strong public disapproval of this fanaticism transformed into firm popular support for the Government in tackling this terrorism relentlessly with all its might.

If communal passions have been aroused by the wicked killings of innocents in Punjab--and the rampaging emotions generated by the public indignation have found expression in the speeches of some Opposition leaders--it does not necessarily follow that the affected sections of the people are thirsting for revenge by resorting to equally indefensible acts of counter-violence. But, in the absence of an unwavering display of strong determination by the Government to track down the culprits, the aggrieved sections of the people are likely to take the law into their hands and resort to similar acts of violence in retaliation.

Testing Time

It is certainly a very testing time for the Centre, for the leadership of Mrs. Gandhi, since the outraged people expect the Government to act ruthlessly without realising the political and communal constraints involved in using excessive force which would be counter-productive beyond a point. The question is how to combine firmness with restraint to produce the right combination of sternness in dealing with these demented men.

Apart from the loss of so many innocent lives and the communal bitterness created by this violence, the Akali agitation has done considerable damage to the economy of Punjab, a flourishing State known for the enterprise of its people. Though there have been some exaggerated reports of flight of capital, distress sales of properties and migration of people from the disturbed towns and villages, the fact remains that the economic activity has been seriously interrupted by the prolonged agitation.

The situation in Haryana is now relatively normal, despite the undercurrents of tension that continue to cause concern to the Centre. The people in other adjoining States, including the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh have been emotionally affected by the Punjab and Haryana developments but the local authorities have been able to control the situation, although the Punjab violence has spilled over to Chandigarh and Delhi.

National Security Ordinance Reported

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 5. THE provisions of the National Security Act, empowering the government to detain persons without trial, were tightened through an ordinance promulgated today specifically to meet the Punjab situation.

The amended provisions have been made applicable only to Punjab and Chandigarh, which have been declared "disturbed areas" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act.

The recourse of an ordinance to amend the Act, when the Lok Sabha is in session, was strongly resented by opposition members when the home minister, Mr. P. C. Sethi, sought to lay a copy of the ordinance on the table of the house. The members described the step as "a deliberate affront" to Parliament.

In the Lok Sabha, members raised points of order questioning the right of the government to promulgate the ordinance on the "technical" ground that the upper house was not in session.

The minister, assisted by the Congress member, Mr. Asoke Sen, cited the urgency of the situation created by the disturbed conditions in the border state as the reason for the resort to the ordinance.

They pointed out in justification that the entire house was unanimous that the Punjab situation called for firm and speedy action.

Apparently, the administrative machinery and the judiciary in Punjab are coming under considerable pressure because of the rapid rise in violent incidents.

The production of witnesses in court for the prosecution of accused is becoming difficult because of the threats held out by extremists. A sarpanch was killed by terrorists for appearing in court as prosecution witness.

The amendments make preventive detention easier for the law-enforcing authorities as they provide for a relaxation in the time restrictions in the enforcement of the law.

One amendment increases the time-limit for providing the grounds of detention to a detenu from five to 15 days. The time-limits for reference of a case of the "advisory boards" constituted under the Act has been increased from three weeks to four months and two weeks. The time given to the boards to give their decisions has been increased from seven weeks to five months and three weeks.

The duration of detention without a decision of the boards has been increased from three to six months. With the boards confirming the detention, the maximum period of detention has been increased from one year to two years.

The provisions allow detention of a person for actions prejudicial to the defence of the country, the security of India and the state (Punjab and Chandigarh), and actions militating against maintenance of public order and supplies of essential services to the community.

The opposition, apparently not satisfied with the assurance given by Mr. Sethi that the provisions would be used with the greatest care and certainly not against the opponents of the ruling party, cited the instance of MISA being "misused" by the government during emergency.

Mr. Madhu Dandavate (Janata) said the government was breaking a time-honoured democratic convention. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, (CPM) said while the government was unable to maintain law and order in Punjab, it was trying to "insult Parliament" by bringing in the ordinance.

Gandhi Cuts Tour Short

Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Apr 84 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 6. The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, is cutting short her four-nation tour of North Africa by postponing her visits to Algeria and Egypt, and confining the current visit to just Libya and Tunisia, because of the Punjab situation.

She is due to leave tomorrow morning for Libya where she will be spending only one day now instead of two as planned and going to Tunisia for another day, before flying back on Tuesday morning after an absence of only three days from Delhi.

In a brief statement she made in Parliament late this afternoon, Mrs. Gandhi said that she had decided to go through the first part of her trip since no Indian President or Prime Minister had ever visited Libya and Tunisia, while she herself had been to both Algeria and Egypt.

The cancellation of the entire trip was considered because of the Punjab situation, but she felt it was too late to cancel the visits to Libya and Tunisia. So she decided to go through at least the first part of her four-nation trip for the present. The Algerian and Egyptian Governments have been told that she hoped to visit both these countries soon.

The Libyan and Tunisian leaders have been reminding her that a visit by her to their countries was overdue and she did not want to disappoint them by postponing the entire trip at the last moment. These were important members of the world community, besides playing a prominent role in the Non-aligned movement, she said.

The objective of her projected visit to the four North African countries, Mrs. Gandhi stressed, was to strengthen bilateral relations, besides exchanging views on common courses of action over developments in West Asia and elsewhere. She planned to spend just a day or two in each of the four countries because Parliament was in session.

According to official sources here, there was no grave development in Punjab that led to this last-minute curtailment of her week-long trip by half, but it was felt that the extremists might try to create a serious situation in her absence, simply to embarrass the Centre. It was for this reason that she decided to postpone a part of this trip to demonstrate the Government's determination to continue to deal firmly with the Punjab situation.

The members of the Lok Sabha were taken by surprise by Mrs. Gandhi's announcement, although they all welcomed her decisions to curtail her trip and return to Delhi soon. The Opposition leaders had been pressing her to cancel the entire trip, but they did not expect that she would respond even partly to their plea even if she had decided to do so for her own reasons.

The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Mr. P. C. Alexander, who generally accompanies Mrs. Gandhi on her foreign visits, will remain in Delhi this time to keep a close watch on the Punjab situation. As usual, hot-lines have been laid on to enable Mrs. Gandhi to be in constant touch with her senior Cabinet colleagues and important officials in Delhi.

Impact of Powers

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 6. THE Union government expects salutary results from the use of wider powers of preventive detention given to the executive through the amended National Security Act in countering extremism in Punjab.

One factor that has hampered effective action by the Punjab administration in breaking up the terrorist set-up is the difficulty in sustaining prosecutions launched in court against important figures suspected to be involved in extremist activities.

The Punjab government, according to home ministry sources, has arrested about 132 suspected extremists in the last one month. However, the effect of these arrests has not been noticed because of the courts releasing many of the suspects on bail.

The new powers given to the executive will enable the administration to cast its net wider in apprehending those suspected to be at the core of the extremist organisation. This, it is felt, is the only way to curb extremism within a reasonably short time. The administration will draw upon the experience in West Bengal, the north-eastern states and some southern states in putting an end to terrorism in these states.

The situation in Punjab is, however, somewhat more complicated because of the involvement of ordinary criminals--mostly smugglers--with the extremists. This makes sealing off the sources of arms supply to the terrorists more difficult. This problem is acute in the "Majha" area of Punjab, consisting of Amritsar and Gurdaspur districts, which have long borders with Pakistan.

The Punjab police, according to home ministry sources, have so far seized and captured about 1,200 weapons from extremists and others, but, in view of the fact that the state is open to clandestine import of arms, seizures have to be a continuous operation.

The sources claim that through restrictive measures adopted in Punjab, the administration has succeeded to a large extent in curbing the movement of illegal arms in and out of the gurdwaras. But the complete stoppage of all such movements is almost impossible because of the peculiar position of the state.

Institute Reports Agitation Impact

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 7 Apr 84 p 2

[Text]

The following excerpts are reproduced from a survey of "The Impact of Akali Agitation on social and economic life of the Punjab and Punjabis in general", conducted by the Institute of Socio-Economic Studies, New Delhi. In his introduction to the survey, Institute chairman Sat Pal Kapur says:

"I was on a foreign tour in 1972 and had the occasion to meet a large number of Punjabis--particularly Sikhs in UK. Some of the prominent

Sikh leaders like Giani Bakshish Singh and Shri S.S. Kohli--two London-based Akali leaders--revealed to me that a plan was being hatched in UK, USA and Canada for creating conditions of anarchy, lawlessness and insecurity in Punjab with the ultimate aim of separating Punjab from India. This information was confirmed by some other prominent Sikhs including Sarvshri Pyara Singh Uppal and Jarnail Singh Hare, then President and General Secre-

tary, respectively, of the Indian Overseas Congress, Ss Mohinder Singh and Jagir Singh of Commentaly, Mr Rupra, Ss Tarsem Singh Tur, M.S. Dhillon and many others. The programme, I was told, included intensive training, in Canada, to selected people in acts of sabotage and in the use of sophisticated weapons. These persons were, at regular intervals, to enter India through non-conventional routes to strike at various places in India and to exit by

predetermined routes. I brought this information to the notice of Government of India but was exasperated to find that none in the Government took the matter seriously, and rather laughed it away. The current events in Punjab have, however, proved the accuracy of the information given to me twelve years back. The forms, which the terrorist activity is taking, also point to a well-conceived conspiracy for destabilising and disintegrating the country."

Agriculture is the principal industry of the people of Punjab. As a result of "green revolution", Punjab is now the granary of the whole of India. It is Punjab that provides major part of food to India and has been responsible for ending our dependence on imports of foodgrains which was a very severe strain on our meagre foreign-exchange resources.

Agricultural operations in Punjab have tremendously suffered as a result of the Akali agitation. Despite considerable mechanisation of agriculture, agricultural operations still continue to be labour-intensive. The demand for labour is particularly very high during the harvesting season. Punjab cannot provide this labour. Most of the landless agricultural labour in Punjab is imported from other States.

Our investigators visited rural areas in all the districts of Punjab. The worst consequence of the agitation, as voiced by the people, was that it has scared away all the labour from the Punjab. The result is that agricultural operations have suffered a severe set-back.

Punjab farmer has been undertaking intensive cultivation. There is hardly any piece of land which does not raise at least two crops—or sometimes even three crops—a year. This has led to large-scale demand for seasonal labour. All this labour has been supplied mostly by States of Bihar, UP and Rajasthan. This labour is, predominantly, Hindu or, more accurately, non-Sikh.

The recent killings of many labourers has frightened the labour away from Punjab. Most of the people killed or injured in the recent rail accident near Gobindgarh were labourers from Bihar and UP—the so-called "Bhaiyas". Again, all the four people killed in a bus near Amritsar were these "Bhaiyas".

In order to have a true idea of the impact of the agitation on mobility of

non-Punjabi labour, our researchers visited many places in Bihar, UP and Rajasthan. Among the places visited were Chhapra, Champaran, Sirsa, Mandher, etc. in Bihar, Aligarh, Azamgarh, Basti, Ghazipur, Sitapur and Balia in UP, and Nagaur, Bikaner, Bhilwara, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, etc. in Rajasthan. They met representatives of labourers. The labour was all terrified and would not even think of visiting Punjab despite all assurances of security. They preferred to starve rather than imperil their lives by visiting Punjab.

The result is that there is a tremendous shortage of seasonal labour for agricultural operations and the people have to resort, more and more, to mechanical operations—particularly for harvesting operations. Our investigators have collected figures of the cost of harvesting operations. The average cost of harvesting per acre of wheat in 1982-83 varied from Rs 200 to 240. In the current year, the rates vary between Rs 300 and 350.

Similarly, cost of paddy-harvesting has almost doubled during the course of one year. Again, mechanised harvesting operations can suit only large farmers. The small and marginal farmers are the biggest sufferers. Even where they want their harvesting to be done by harvester combines, the machines are not available to them. This is also resulting in the aggravation of social and economic inequalities. The social system in the countryside is fast crumbling.

Harvesting by combines, further aggravates the problem of the supply of cattle-fodder. "Bhusa" is the byproduct of harvesting by manual labour. With mechanised harvesting, "bhusa" is not produced. This is likely to create a virtual famine of cattle-fodder and the farmers are very much concerned about this.

Again, labour is also required during the sowing season, particularly

for transplantation of paddy. There is considerable tension among the cultivators and it is genuinely feared that agricultural production may considerably decline as a result of the Akali agitation.

People of Punjab are known for their initiative, ingenuity and drive. Since the attainment of independence, industry in Punjab has made phenomenal progress. Punjab, which was once known as purely an agricultural State, has found a place on the industrial map of India—particularly in the field of small and medium export-oriented industries. Punjabis, particularly Sikhs, have come to be regarded as men of initiative and enterprise, who can take risks and open new fields of industry and enterprise for themselves.

The town of Gobindgarh, which made its debut just as a small market for steel, has today come to be known as the mini-Tata Nagar with scores of mini-steel plants, steel re-rolling mills and various other industries. Other better known industrial centres are Ludhiana, Jullundur and Amritsar.

Even areas which are known as industrially backward and have been declared by the Central Government as such, are fast coming up with various industries. Given favourable conditions, Punjab can be expected to usher in an era of industrial revolution on a small and medium scale. Governments at the Centre and the State level have been making strenuous efforts to create these favourable conditions.

But the process has definitely been halted, if not reversed, as a result of the current agitation. As is well known, credit is the mainstay of all industry. Raw materials and machinery are always purchased on deferred-payment basis. Again, finished produce is marketed on credit basis. The agitation has, however, created an unprecedented situation of uncertainty, insecurity and lack of confidence in the credit-worthiness of the people.

Our investigators visited important industrial centres of the State and met industrialists, financiers, financial experts and other cross-sections of society to assess the situation. They are all groaning under the weight of nonavailability of credit. Firstly people from other parts of the country fight shy of visiting Punjab and establishing and maintaining contacts with the entrepreneurs here. They are always afraid of falling a prey to the bullet of the extremist

who indulge in indiscriminate killing of innocent people.

Again, they are not sure whether the entrepreneurs in Punjab may have to abandon their industries and flee Punjab. They are not, therefore, willing to risk their materials etc. by advancing these to people in Punjab on credit basis. Our researchers visited various important centres like Bombay, Calcutta, Ahmedabad, Jamshedpur, Surat, etc and contacted large industrialists and businessmen. They all expressed similar views.

From a distanced, particularly, the situation appears to be highly explosive. People outside Punjab are apprehensive of a civil war breaking out in Punjab any moment. They are not willing to risk their finances in such a situation.

The result is that industrial turnover has considerably declined. Though no accurate figures are available, yet it is felt that the decline amounts to thousands of crore of rupees. Whatever industries are running, they are running only marginally to meet overhead expenses.

Even the declining output does not find ready market outside Punjab, particularly as the manufacturers cannot afford to allow credit to their buyers as they are themselves starving for credit. The slump in industry is noticeable by a naked eye. Even the financial institutions in Punjab itself are fighting shy of allowing credit for industrial operations.

During the last year-and-a-half, absolutely no new industrial enterprises have been coming up. It is not that only the non-Sikhs are suffering. Sikhs themselves are a prey to this state of uncertainty and insecurity. The psychology of an industrialist or a businessman is the same, to whatever community he may belong.

A very pertinent instance is that of S. Balwant Singh, a top Akali leader and formerly the Finance Minister of Punjab. He has a letter of intent for setting up a large-scale industry in Punjab for the utilisation of paddy husk, straw, etc. with foreign collaboration. All the formalities of foreign collaboration have already been completed and loans, etc arranged. But S. Balwant Singh is deliberately dilly-dallying in setting up the industry. He is suffering from the same feeling of insecurity, though he would not admit this in public.

It is no wonder, therefore, that no new industries have been established during the last two years either in private sector or in cooperative, joint, or public sector. In fact, Punjab entre-

preneurs are fast diverting their resources to places outside Punjab, particularly to Haryana and Delhi. Prices of even low-lying lands in Haryana have gone up five times during the last one year. The killing of innocent people in Punjab and the reprisal killings in Haryana have resulted in the non-Sikhs diverting their resources to Haryana and Haryana Sikhs in turn, diverting their resources to Punjab.

General impact

The Akali Agitation has brought economic activity in Punjab almost to standstill. Business is badly suffering. Manufacturers and distributors from outside, or even those inside the State, do not allow any credit facilities to the wholesalers and retailers. Even within the State, the wholesalers in the towns do not allow stocks on credit to the rural retailers. The result is that business turnover has considerably declined. Prices of property are sharply falling. Our investigators who also met property dealers in various towns, were told that, in fact, there are no buyers of property.

On the other hand, non-Sikhs are trying to buy property in Haryana, Delhi and UP. The result is that prices of property in important towns of Haryana like Panchkula, Ambala, Karnal, Sirsa, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Faridabad, etc., in Delhi and districts of UP touching Delhi, like Ghaziabad, Meerut, etc. have gone very high.

There is hardly any visible construction activity in Punjab. Earlier, construction activity in Punjab received a set-back because of the strike by brick-kiln owners. It was expected that, with the resumption of working by brick-kilns, construction work will proceed at much accelerated pace. But the hopes have been belied. Nobody, particularly no non-Sikh, today wants to block its finances in fixed assets for which he would find no buyers in time of need.

The result is that the demand for other building materials like steel, cement, sanitary goods, etc. has considerably declined and there is an unprecedented slump in commercial activity. Manufacturers and distributors in large commercial and industrial towns outside Punjab, who were contacted by our researchers, were not at all ready to risk their goods and finances in Punjab.

This has adversely affected the business activity not only in Punjab but also in important centres throughout India. Punjab, being a prosperous State, was a very rich market for all types of consumer

goods, including luxury goods. All manufacturers are facing the adverse effect of the uncertainties of the Punjab situation.

Not only this, the state finances have also been badly derailed. On the one hand, expenditure on administration has gone sky high with heavy reinforcements from Central Police and para-military forces. On the other hand, the collection of taxes has considerably declined. It has been estimated that the collection of taxes—State and Central—has fallen in arrears to the tune of Rs 700 crore as a result of the agitation. The result is that the economy of the State has received a serious set-back and has been virtually paralysed.

Social impact

The social set-up, not only in Punjab but also in most other parts of the country—wherever the number of Sikhs is appreciably large—has received a big jolt. It is to the credit of the sanity, sagacity and secular outlook of the common man in Punjab that, despite grave provocation on the part of the extremists, there have been no communal clashes in Punjab and the urban population in general, and the rural areas in particular, are absolutely calm, and life there goes on quite normally.

But such a situation exists only on the surface. Beneath the surface, a feeling of mutual distrust and lack of faith is growing, and the virus of communalism is fast spreading. When persons of a particular community are specially picked up and either killed or humiliated—be it in Punjab or in Haryana—mental tensions are bound to rise and each community starts suspecting even the peace-loving citizens of the other community.

The social structure of Punjab is such that Hindus and Sikhs are bound by mutual relationships. Most of the families have both Hindus and Sikhs as real brothers or as husband and wife. It is absolutely impossible to separate them. But the rising tensions are quite visible if one scratches the surface.

The result is that the image of Punjabis has been tarnished throughout the country. Sikhs outside Punjab are known for their initiative and enterprise. They are now losing respect they earlier commanded. They are now being looked upon with suspicion and even hatred.

As a consequence, the Sikhs who are in most places at the top of business and industrial activity, are feeling insecure and regard themselves

as having been badly let down by their so-called leaders in the Punjab. It is not possible for them to convince people that it is not the Sikhs in general in Punjab but only a section of them—misled by the Akalis—who are indulging in such nefarious activities.

Our investigators came across a number of cases where the girls from Punjab were to be given away in marriage to families outside Punjab. The grooms' parents and relations refused to bring the marriage parties to Punjab as they were not sure of the safety of the journey. The result was that the bride's people had to arrange marriages at places outside Punjab like at Chandigarh, etc.

Political impact

The agitation has had a very adverse effect on the political life of the country. All the political parties are losing their credibility. Even the jus-

tification of their very existence is being questioned. The biggest sufferer has been the Congress party. As a party in power, it was expected to govern country properly and was expected to provide "a Government that works". All its claims in this regard have proved absolutely hollow at least in respect of Punjab. Even the combined Opposition has not been able to find a solution to the problem, nor have they been able to bring the Akalis round or to force the Government to come to the negotiation table.

The result is that the entire political system is crumbling, and the credibility-gap widening. In fact, the very existence of political institutions is in grave danger. The future of India as an independent, secular and democratic country, guided by the Gandhian principles of truth, non-violence and amity, is a big question mark.

CSO: 4600/1782

PAPERS REPORT, COMMENT ON ELECTION RESULTS

Gujarat Results

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Gandhinagar, March 29: Three Congress(I) candidates and a combined Opposition nominee were elected to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat in the elections for four seats held in Gandhinagar today.

The successful candidates were Mr Sankarsinh Vaghela (BJP) who polled the maximum 49 votes, Mr Chiman Mehta 41 votes, Mr Rao Valiullah (41 votes) and Mr Irshad Mirza, sitting Rajya Sabha member who polled 38. There were three invalid votes, two of the Congress(I) and one of the Opposition. The total strength of the state assembly is 182, while its active strength is 181 due to the death of a member. The Congress(I)

has 141 and the combined opposition 40.

There were six candidates in the fray. The Congress(I), which was assured of three seats, put up a fourth candidate on the off chance of dividing the opposition votes. However, the opposition candidates not only got 10 more votes than their combined strength in the House but the fourth Congress(I) candidate, who had been allotted only one first preference vote got as many as nine first preference votes. This clearly showed the dissatisfaction in the ruling party over the choice of candidates. Only one, Mr Mirza, does not belong to the Solanki faction.

Karnataka Results

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Bangalore, March 29: The Janata Party today won three of the four Rajya Sabha seats from Karnataka to record a sensational upset. The Congress(I) won the other seat. The winning candidates are Ms Sarojini Mahishi, Mr M.S. Gurupadaswamy and Mr K.G. Thimme Gowda from the Janata Party and Mr Kollur Mallappa of the Congress(I).

The Janata Party and the Congress(I) were widely expected to bag two seats each. But helped by cross-voting from the Congress(I) and the abstinence of

the five-member MES group, the Janata Party's third candidate, Mr K.G. Thimme Gowda, edged out Mr D.M. Siddaiah of the Congress(I) on the second count.

With a strength of 129 in the 223-member House, the Janata Party and its allies needed seven extra votes to see Mr Thimme Gowda through. The Congress(I) on the other hand needed just two more votes for Mr Siddaiah's victory. The Congress(I) not only missed the two votes but at least three Congress(I) MLAs voted for the Janata Party candidate. There was tension when poll-

ing began at the state secretariat this morning. Half-an-hour before the end of polling all but the five-member MES group had voted. Both Janata Party and Congress(I) leaders waited anxiously to woo the MES MLAs who ultimately did not turn up.

With only 218 votes polled the Congress(I) needed just 43 first preference votes for each candidate to win the two seats. Ultimately, it was the Janata Party which managed 132 first preference votes against their strength of 129. In the first count, Ms Mahishi and Mr Gurupada-wamy got 49 and 48 first preference votes respectively. Mr Kollur Mallapa was elected with 45 votes. At that stage, the Congress(I) candidate, Mr D.M. Siddaiah had 41 votes and Mr Thimme Gowda had just 35. However, on the second count, Mr Thimme Gowda secured the required

number of votes.

There was immense jubilation in the Janata camp over the unexpectedly easy success. A beaming chief minister told newsmen he had "expected the results," and thanked his party-men for their moral support and commitment. Amid the gloom in the Congress(I) camp, a crestfallen opposition leader, Mr Veerappa Moily muttered, "What can I say? What can I do?"

While both sides coveted the five MES votes, their absence ultimately proved disastrous to the Congress(I), especially in light of the cross-voting. So highly prized was the MES votes that Mrs Shalinitai Patil of the Congress(I) and Mr Madhu Dandavate of the Janata Party were both camped in town to secure their support.

Results From Maharashtra

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Bombay, March 29: All six Congress(I) candidates, including the Union minister, Mr N.K.P. Salve, and the Opposition candidate, Dr Babu Kaldate (Janata), were elected to the Rajya Sabha in today's biennial election.

Mr Abbasahab Kulkarni, Congress(S), veteran parliamentarian of four terms, who was fielded by Mr Sharad Pawar, was defeated as he could muster only 22 votes in the first round. He needed 37. Mr S.N. Deshmukh of Nasik, who was Mr Antulay's choice got the largest number of votes, 44, in the first round.

The strategy of nearly five Union ministers camping in

Bombay even while the Lok Sabha was in session paid off handsomely for the party as there were sure indications of large scale cross-voting. The fact that Mr Pawar fielded Mr Kulkarni knowing that the Congress(S) had only 11 votes of its own is indicative of the promises Mr Pawar must have got from the ruling party legislators of their support. In fact both he and Mr Kalmadi were over confident yesterday of Mr Kulkarni's victory.

The election results reflect two new factors in the state's politics. One is that the high command can control recalcitrant Congressmen if it wants to and secondly that Mr Sharad Pawar is losing his manipulative touch though not his zeal. It is reliably learnt that a 15 Congress(I) legislators, who had

promised Mr Pawar their support as far back as two weeks ago, doublecrossed him. They were banking on the votes of the western Maharashtra legislators and the Antulay group had been spreading the story that there would be cross-voting by the chief minister's group. In the last biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha, Mr Suresh Kalmadi of the Congress(S) was elected on the strength of votes from Congress(I) legislators.

The Union commerce minister, Mr V.P. Singh, who is the observer for Maharashtra, said the victory of the party's candidates demonstrated the conviction of legislators and the skilful management of the state leadership, including the party leadership. It also showed the common desire of the party to uphold the leadership of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Elections in Assam

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Gauhati, March 29: All the three Congress(I) nominees to the Rajya Sabha from Assam, the Youth Congress(I) president Mr Bhubaneswar Kalita, Mr Prithvi Majhi, and Mr Kamalendu Bhattacharjee, were declared elected today.

The success of all three ruling party nominees was assured, considering that the Congress(I) has a strength of 100 members in the present House of 109. The combined opposition strength is just nine.

The total number of votes cast was 104. Two of the votes were rejected.

While Mr Kalita got 34 votes, Mr Majhi polled 31.

Mr Kamalendu Bhattacharjee, the controversial nominee from Cachar, obtained 30 votes, the Independent candidate, Mr M. Ali, obtained only seven votes.

Although the Congress(I) victory was assured, the resentment against the nomination of Mr Kamalendu Bhattacharjee had led to fears that there would be some cross-voting. However, any move that may have been taken by opponents of the chief minister fizzled out with the arrival of the Union minister of state for home, Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha, as observer. All important MPs from Assam also rushed back from Delhi to lend moral support to the official nominees.

Report on Andhra Pradesh

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Hyderabad, March 29: The ruling Telugu Desam won five Rajya Sabha seats while the Congress(I) won the sixth seat. The general secretary, Mr P. Upendra, Mr P. Radhakrishna and Mr Y. Sashibhushan Rao of the Telugu Desam were elected in the first count with 47, 41 and 41 first preference votes. Mr T. Chandrasekhara Reddy, Congress(I) nominee was declared elected with 43 votes. Mr B. Satyanarayana Reddy and Prof. C. Laximanna of the Telugu Desam were elected in the second count and received 39 and 40 first preference votes. The Congress(I) backed Independent Mr T. Bala Goud was defeated.

Yesterday a Telugu Desam MLA had alleged that he had been paid Rs 50,000 by an emissary to vote for Mr Bala Goud and had displayed the currency notes at a press conference and played a tape recording of the conversation.

There were jubilant scenes at the Ramakrishna studios where the five newly-elected party candidates were taken in a procession. The Telugu Desam is also celebrating its second anniversary today. The party president, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, called the five candidates as the "panch pandavas" whom a 2-year-old party was sending to Delhi.

Orissa Results

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Bhubaneswar, March 29 (PTL, UNI): All four Congress(I) nominees, including Mr K. Vasudev Panicker, AICC(I) joint secretary, were declared elected

to the Rajya Sabha in the biennial elections from Orissa in the counting of first preference votes.

The other three were Mr Subhas Chandra Mohanty, president, Orissa Pradesh Congress(I), Mr Sunil Kumar Patnaik, president of the Mayurbhanj district Congress(I) and Mr Ganeswar Kusum.

All the 147 members of the Orissa Assembly exercised their

franchise. The Congress(I) has a strength of 124, including the Speaker in the House.

Delhi: The All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference president, Mr Viswabandhu Gupta (Congress-I), was elected to the Rajya Sabha from the Delhi Metropolitan Council today.

Results From Uttar Pradesh

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Lucknow, March 29 (UNI): Nine Congress(I) and two National Democratic Alliance candidates were today declared elected to the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh.

The Janata Party leader, Mr Raj Narain, who polled 27 first preference votes, lost the election. Mrs Ambika Soni of the Congress(S) was also defeated.

Those declared elected were Mr Arun Singh, Mr Govind Das, Mr Narendra Singh, Mr Veer

Bhadra Singh, Mr Hashim Kidwai, Mr Ramchandr Vikal, Mr Sheo Kumar, Mr P.N. Sukul and Mr Sohan Lal Dhusia, all Congress(I), Mr Virendra Verma and Mr Satya Prakash Malviya, both NDA.

Seven candidates, six belonging to the Congress(I), and one belonging to the National Democratic Alliance, were declared elected in the first round of counting. Mr Virendra Verma of the NDA polled the highest number of 40 votes.

Tamil Nadu Report

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 30 Mar 84 p 4

[Text]

Madras, March 29: The ruling AIADMK has won all four seats it contested and the DMK and the Congress(I) have won one each in the biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha held here today.

The results, however, indicate that there was cross-voting in the Congress(I). Painstaking efforts by the Congress(I) leaders, including AICC(I) general secretary, Mr G.K. Moopanar, and defence minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, to muster AIADMK support helped the Congress(I) to ward off a shameful defeat that would have been brought on by cross-voting.

Miss Jayalalitha, Mr Valampuri John, Mr N. Rajangam, all AIADMK, polled 35 votes each. Mr V. Ramanathan (AIADMK) and Mr V. Gopalswamy (DMK) polled 34 votes each. In the first count, Mr Thangabalu (Congress-I) polled 30 votes while Mr

Veerasamy, DMK's second candidate polled 25 votes. In the second count, however, the AIADMK's second preference votes helped Mr Thangabalu to win.

The election results indicate that seven Congress(I) MLAs voted for DMK candidates. The DMK has a strength of only 30 and yet its first candidate secured 34 votes. The second candidate managed 25 votes from a possible 22 which it could have with the help of friendly opposition parties. The Congress high command had anticipated cross-voting in their ranks and had taken steps to prevent it as much as possible.

The elaborate precautions taken by the Congress(I) leaders and the pressure exerted by them on the AIADMK to make available all their surplus first votes as well as all their second preference votes to the Congress(I) helped their candidate to win.

All the 228 MLAs in the House exercised their franchise today.

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Apr 84 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, March 31.

The Congress (I) today won the remaining one seat from Meghalaya in the biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha, pushing up the party's strength from 132 to 153 in the 244-member House.

It has won altogether 48 of the 73 seats involved in these elections, with a net gain of 27 at the expense of the Opposition parties, mostly the former Janata constituents, who have forfeited the impressive gains they had made in 1978 in the wake of their landslide victories in the Assembly polls a year earlier in almost all the northern States.

Though the Congress is technically short of 10 votes for an absolute majority of its own in the House, it can muster the extra support quite easily with the help of other like-minded parties and splinter groups, as and when required, if the ruling party is bent on some drastic legislation before the next Lok Sabha elections.

But the question is what use the ruling party can make of a two-thirds majority in the eight or nine months left for the Lok Sabha elections, unless it intends to make some major changes in the Constitution. So the focus of attention — and the consequent speculation — has now shifted to what the Congress (I) might do to use this big parliamentary majority to improve or at least stabilise its position.

Concern over cross-voting: More immediately the Congress (I) leadership appears to be quite concerned about the cross-voting by some of its members in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh where a few of the party candidates managed to get through with only second and third preference votes. But there has been similar cross-voting by the Opposition parties which lost seats in Haryana and Rajasthan that would have been normally won by them.

There is, however, considerable satisfaction in Congress (I) circles that by and large the party has been able to maintain discipline.

The strength of the Janata Party, which had 19 in the Rajya Sabha before these biennial elections, has been reduced to nine and the BJP from 14 to eight while the CPI (M) managed to retain 14 of its 15 seats and the Lok Dal five of its six seats. The AIADMK increased its strength from

nine to 11 and the CPI retained all its five seats, but the DMK lost one of its four seats. The Telugu Desam won all the five seats it contested.

The lone seat from Meghalaya was won by the President of PCC (I) Mr. Je Teriang, defeating his only rival, Mr. E. B. Lyngdoh, a nominee of the All-Party Hill Leaders' Organisation, with a margin of 20 votes in a straight contest.

Resignation letters submitted

MADRAS, March 31.

As an echo of the reports of cross-voting in the recent Rajya Sabha poll, all but one of the 32 Congress (I) MLAs in Tamil Nadu have submitted their letters of resignation to the party high command.

The resignation signed individually were handed over to the AICC observers, Mr. K. P. Tiwari and Mr. Z. R. Ansari, at a meeting of the Legislature Congress (I) Party held last evening, in the wake of reports that four Congress (I) members had cross-voted as a result of which the party candidate, Mr. Thangabalu, scraped through instead of getting elected in the first count.

The meeting, which was also attended by the AICC general secretary, Mr. G. K. Moopanan, and the Defence Minister, Mr. R. Venkataraman, made a review of the party's performance in both the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Council elections held on March 29 and 30. In the Council elections, all the 31 members (except the party leader, Mr. Haja Shareef, who has no voting right following a Supreme Court direction) had voted for the party nominee, while it is believed that four had cross-voted.

The party MLAs, it is reported, wanted the leadership to make an inquiry into the episode and take stern action against those found guilty. With a view to paving the way for taking disciplinary action against the "black sheep", they offered to hand over their resignations.

The party observers, it is reported, told the members they would make a report to the High Command, which will probe into the matter and initiate appropriate disciplinary proceedings.

In the DMK-led Opposition camp also, efforts are being made to locate the two members who had cross-voted in the Legislative Council poll.

CSO: 4600/1761

DEFENSE ANALYST CHALLENGE STATISTICS ON PAKISTAN

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Apr 84 p 8

[Text]

Analysts at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses in Delhi are surprised at the Pakistan President Gen Zia-ul-Haq's reported claim in a magazine interview that Pakistan has in all 15 army divisions, of which five are deployed on the Afghan border and the remaining ten on the eastern border (India), reports PTL.

The analysts, drawing from the "Military Balance" published by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London, point out that Pakistan has a much higher level of military strength than what he claims.

It has 16 infantry divisions, two armoured divisions, four independent armoured brigades and five independent infantry brigades—an equivalent of 21 divisions—without counting the frontier corps, northern area, the complements of which is equivalent to another division, according to this journal.

It is widely believed in knowledgeable quarters in India, according to the analysts, that the actual strength of the Pak Army is 22 divisions. Out of these, barring four di-

visions deployed on the western borders of Pakistan, the rest are on the Indian border. Even two of the four divisions on the Afghan border have operational roles assigned to them on the Indian border and they are planned for redeployment at short notice, the analysts say.

Referring to Gen Zia's reported offer of withdrawal of troops from the border, the IDSA analysts point out that the Pakistani divisions are obligated to be deployed on the border, mainly because the Pakistani cantonments—Mangla, Kharian, Sialkot, Multan, Okara, Bhawalpur, Lahore, Gujranwala, Bomel, Jhelum, Chamb, Kashur and Rahimiyar Khan—are all close to the Indian border.

Unlike India which deploys bulk of its forces normally in cantonments in Central and South Central India, Pakistan is not in a position to withdraw its troops on the border and relocate them far away from the Indian border because of this physical constraint of having their cantonments concentrated on the border areas.

CSO: 4600/1785

CPI-M RESPONDS TO SAKARIA COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Apr 84 p 6

[Text]

The CPI-M has demanded several changes in the Constitution to enable the parties winning elections in the States to fulfil their electoral mandate without any hindrance from the Centre.

The demands are contained in the reply the party has sent to the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations in response to a questionnaire it had circulated recently. In all, the party has demanded 12 major constitutional changes. These are:

—Amendment to Article 248 vesting the residual powers of the federation with the States to give them exclusive power to make laws on any issue not enumerated in the Concurrent List as against the existing provision which vests this right in Parliament;

—Deletion of Article 249 which gives power to the Centre to legislate on a subject in the States List on the plea of national interest;

—Insertion of a separate article in the Constitution providing that the National Development Council will function democratically and that the Planning Commission will be a body appointed by it and accountable to it;

—Changes in the Seventh Schedule giving the States exclusive powers for licensing certain categories of industries;

—Withdrawal of Central authority to deploy its forces in the States on law and order duty;

—Abolition of the office of the Governor or appointment to the office of someone having the confidence of the State legislature;

—Abolition of all-India services like IAS and IPS and withdrawal of Central supervision and disciplinary control over the personnel of State services;

—Suitable changes in Article relating to the Finance Commission and distribution of resources to provide that 75 per cent of all revenues would be given to the States;

—State autonomy under democratic Central guidance in economic planning;

—Abolition of English as the language of ad-

ministration, legislation and judicature at the Centre and in the States and replacement of its judicature at the Centre and in the States and replacement of it by the respective languages of each State;

—Proportional representation in electoral system with the right to recall;

—And, continuation of the existing special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

In an introduction to its suggestions for these changes, the CPI-M has said that the present Constitution reflected the compromise which the Indian allies had reached with their foreign rulers at the time of the independence. As those allies of the foreign rulers represented only the narrow strata of the upper classes, they failed to rally the mass of the working people on a programme of full democracy and genuine secularism.

The Constitution they enacted after independence reflected the needs of that class and of the capitalists who "required India as a unified, single, homogenous market. It reflected the needs of the big capitalists allied with the landlords who considered the demand for democracy, State autonomy or equality of languages as obstacles to their economic domination and political power".

The Constitution thus became an abject mockery of the federal system which the Congress itself had cherished at one time, placing the States at the mercy of the Centre. The long rule of the same party at the Centre and in the States led to further inroads into the States' rights.

However, as other parties began to win majorities in the States, it came to be felt that they could not effectively fulfil their electoral mandate because of the restrictions imposed on them by the Constitution which now needs to be revamped in the interest of the State autonomy, which is the best guarantee for the unity and development of the country along federal, democratic lines, the CPI-M has said.

TRADE DEFICIT DECLINE CONTINUES IN 1983

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Apr 84 p 2

[Text]

India's trade deficit continues to register a discernible decline in absolute terms. From Rs 4060 crores during April-December, 1982, it has come down to Rs 3558 crores during April-December, 1983, reports PTI.

In 1982-83, the trade deficit had also registered a decline, coming down from Rs 5801.65 crores in 1981-

82 to Rs 5525.78 crores, says an official release in Delhi.

The 1980s have witnessed an acceleration of the rate of growth of exports and a deceleration in the rate of growth of imports, which has arrested the rapid growth in India's trade deficit.

Another significant highlight in the trends of India's trade, according to the release is that the annual growth in the value of exports has moved up higher than the percentage growth of imports. Thus in April-December, 1983, exports have registered a 12.1 per cent increase and imports, a mere 2.3 per cent over the corresponding period of the previous year. This trend indicates the reversal of the 1980-81 trade figures when exports registered a 4.6 per cent increase and imports a 37.7 per cent increase.

The annual growth in the import bill dropped lower to 8.4 per cent in 1981-82, then to 5.5 per cent in 1982-83 and now 2.3 per cent in April-December, 1983. It is worth noting

that during the first nine months of the financial year 1983-84 exports excluding crude oil registered a growth of 15.4 per cent over the corresponding period of 1982-83. Thus in recent years India's export performance has shown a creditable improvement, according to the annual report for the year 1983-84 of the Ministry of Commerce.

To give a vigorous thrust to export promotion activities, the Ministry of Commerce during last year has initiated several institutional, infrastructural and fiscal measures. This has resulted in a positive improvement in the export rate. The cash compensatory support scheme continued to be effective especially for product groups such as engineering goods, chemicals and allied products, plastic goods, processed foods, leather and leather goods, silk and rayon textiles, handicrafts including woollen carpets, coir products, agricultural products, woollen textiles, cotton textiles, jute goods and sports goods.

CSO: 4600/1785

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE POLICY ESTABLISHED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 2 Apr 84 p 5

[Text]

The Planning Commission has set up a steering committee under the chairmanship of its member MGK Menon to recommend a policy framework for the science and technology priorities for the seventh Plan (1985-90). The committee, which will submit its report, includes scientists and secretaries of most of the concerned departments. It has been asked to assess the existing incentives, amenities and facilities available to scientific community for effective functioning and suggest measures for improvement. This should include special consideration for encouragement to young scientists and women scientists, says a Planning Commission release.

The steering group will review and assess the actual progress and achievements up to 1984-85 of the schemes of the Sixth Plan (1980-85), especially from the viewpoint of need for specific mechanisms for strengthening linkages between academic educational institutions, national and other research laboratories, planning groups in the Central and State Government, etc.

It will make recommendations for setting up of augmenting the existing structures such as science and technology division of the Planning Commission, S and T cells or groups with scientific advisers at appropriate levels in administrative ministries with S and T component, and State councils on S and T.

The committee will suggest areas of national priorities in S and T sector vis-a-vis, the national objectives, and identify specific programmes to be implemented by various scientific organisations

individually and in a co-ordinated manner.

The steering group will also recommend proper and full utilization of scientific manpower and appropriate training and retraining mechanism both within and outside the counter with well defined objectives, this should include special consideration for encouragement to young scientists and women scientists.

The members of the steering group are UGC vice-chairman Rais Ahmed, scientific adviser to Defence Minister Dr V S Arunachalam, secretary department of space Satish Dhawan, ICAR director general O P Gautam, department of electronics secretary, P P Gupta, department of heavy industry secretary, D V Kapur, environment secretary T N Khoshoo, ICAR director general Ramalinga Swamy atomic energy secretary, Raja Ramanna, CSIR director general G S Sidhu, department of science and technology secretary S Varadarajan, Planning Commission chief consultant, Yash Pal, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology director P M Bhargawa, IIT, Madras director P V Indiresan, Dr A B Joshi, Pune, Shri Devendra Kumar, Centre of Science for Villages, Wardha, Indian Institute of Science Bangalore director, S Ramaseshan, Dr (Mrs) Kamal Ranadive, Bombay, INSA president A K Sharma Prof M M Sharma, department of chemical technology, University of Bombay Adviser (I and M), Planning Commission adviser (I and M) K R Parameshwar, and Commission Consultant M R Raman, Commission joint adviser (S and T) Manju Sharma will act as member secretary.

CSO: 4600/1770

SUPERPOWER NAVAL PRESENCE IN ASIAN REGION DISCUSSED

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Apr 84 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 1. After a relative slow down of their naval activity in and around sensitive Asian regions, the United States and the Soviet Union are reported to be stepping up their naval presence from the Sea of Japan and the South China Sea through the Straits of Malacca to the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea to the Persian Gulf and East Africa around the Indian Ocean.

A new feature of this build up is that more and more nuclear ships and submarines, besides the very latest cruisers and frigates equipped with different types of deadly missiles, are being inducted in increasing numbers into the Asian region.

Apart from expanding Diego Garcia, the U.S. is improving various kinds of facilities on a long-term basis in Japan and South Korea, the Philippines and Taiwan, Singapore and Thailand, Egypt and Somalia, Oman and Pakistan, Kenya and South Africa for use in emergency situations. The U.S. is not pursuing its earlier policy of establishing bases on territories leased from friendly nations, but developing the facilities under the aegis of the host countries which will make them available as and when required without formal lease agreements.

New Naval Bases

The Soviet Union, too, has built new naval bases or expanded the old ones in the Kamchatka peninsula along the Sea of Okhotsk and Vladivostok and the Sakhalin island around the Sea of Japan, besides utilising the abandoned American air and naval bases along the Vietnam coast like Da Nang and Cam Ranh Bay, from where the South China Sea, the Straits of Malacca and parts of Bay of Bengal are covered by long-range reconnaissance aircraft to track the movements of U.S. ships and submarines.

The Soviet fleet also uses shore facilities in South Yemen and Ethiopia, but it has no access to bases in other littoral countries of the Indian Ocean where its ships are served by supply and repair vessels cruising around strategic points.

The navies of the Asian countries have some idea of the strength and movements of the American and Soviet fleets, but they have no independent means of monitoring them. The information is primarily derived from what the Americans choose to tell of the Soviet presence or the Russians disclose of the U.S. movements. The necessary conclusions about the nature and extent of the naval activities of the two superpowers have to be drawn on the basis of such incomplete information.

But otherwise it is pretty clear to the Asian countries concerned that the Soviet-American naval build up in their respective regions has been increasing lately, after a noticeable slow down during 1982-83, following the lessening of tensions in the Gulf area and the consequent curtailment of the patrolling of the shipping routes across the Indian Ocean. What is causing considerable concern now is the increasing tendency of both the superpowers to proceed with their strategic thinking and planning on the assumption that the air and naval facilities in many littoral countries would be available for use without formal base agreements, depending on their political links with them.

As chairman of the non-aligned movement, India continues to campaign for the long overdue international conference in Colombo on the Indian Ocean under U.N. auspices. But in the changing political scenario, not many of the non-aligned countries including Sri Lanka have been talking much about it, because of the known U.S. disinclination to participate in such a conference.

Programme of Expansion

The U.S. has embarked as far back as 1981, in the wake of the Iranian crisis, on a five-year programme of expansion of facilities in several littoral and hinterland countries in the Indian Ocean area at an estimated cost of \$2 billions (Rs. 2000 crores). The construction work, now more than half way through, has provided additional facilities for the U.S. navy and air force at Ras Banas in Egypt, Masirah, Thumrait, Salalah and Mutrah in Oman, Berbera and Mogadishu in Somalia, Embakasi and Nanyuki in Kenya and Gwadar along the Makhran coast in Pakistan, besides the Diego Garcia itself in Indian Ocean. But no comparable details are available of the Soviet build up in any of the Vietnam bases or the limited facilities in use in Ethiopian and South Yemen coasts.

CSO: 4600/1769

REPORT ON GANDHI MESSAGE TO CONGRESS-I JOURNAL

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 3 Apr 84 p 6

[Text]

Congress-I president Indira Gandhi has warned her partymen against the designs of vested interests and status quoists "who would resist and try to scuttle in hundreds of different ways" the anti-poverty programmes launched to improve the lot of the vast poor masses.

Allocated funds will be abused and wrong persons benefited. The intents of the programmes will be distorted and vicious and false propaganda has launched to discredit these programmes, she has said writing in the latest issue of her party journal 'Congress Varnika'.

Congress-I workers, therefore, must be vigilant and participate in and promote these programmes in every way, she said.

Emphasising that the 20-point programme and other anti-poverty measures are for the people, Mrs Gandhi called upon them to make them their own. "The administration is there to serve them and execute the schemes as formulated. The Government will provide funds. Banks will give the loans. But Congress-I workers must help the people for whose benefit the programmes have been devised."

In her message to the journal, the Congress-I president has stressed that people's involvement is essential for the useful implementation of these programmes. Once the people become aware of their rights, the benefits they are supposed to get, details of the programmes formulated by the Government, they will be able to protect the benefits and prevent abuse of these programmes. In a democracy, the only effective way of ensuring one's rights is mobilisation of all sections of people to exercise those rights.

Mrs Gandhi has pointed out that the 20-point programmes of 1975 and 1982 have carried the fight against poverty to a higher level and the national programme of rural employment and the Integrated Rural Development Programme have imparted new thrusts to our activities. The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme will ensure 100 days' employment in a year to every member of a rural landless household.

The programme for self-employment to the educated unemployed youth will provide direct assistance to 2.5 lakh persons every year. Special programmes like dry land farming, drought prone area programmes and the Desert Development Programme will also increase job opportunities and purchasing power by raising the productivity of land.

"If all these programmes are fully implemented, they will change the face of the country, specially of rural areas. These radical steps will enable the downtrodden to stand on their own feet with their heads held high. They will no longer be subject of exploitation." The minimum needs programme would bring them health, housing, water supply and education enabling them to live a civilised life with dignity. Rural roads will bring better communication and electrification will improve their living and working conditions.

Mrs Gandhi said, "We still have a long way to go but we shall continue to work positively and unwaveringly to realise our dream of making our people more self-reliant and assured of their own worth and dignity".

CSO: 4600/1772

PAPER REPORTS AUSTRIAN MEDIA INTERVIEW WITH GANDHI

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 2 Apr 84 p 5

[Text]

New Delhi, April 1 (PTI): The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has said that the North-South dialogue for cooperation would be much more effective and easier to achieve if there was greater South-South cooperation. She said this during an interview with the Austrian media accompanying the Austrian Chancellor, Dr Fred Sinowatz.

Asked what was the most efficient type of foreign aid that India could take from the industrialised countries, Mrs Gandhi said, "Well, the type that helps India to stand on its own feet and so it does not need any aid in future."

Asked to specify, she said, "We need knowhow and technology in the most sophisticated areas and we need better conditions for trade. We need credit on concessional rates because we have managed our finances prudently—from World Bank and IMF."

"We are being asked by the United States, for instance, to borrow from the banks. Now, we simply cannot afford those interest rates. We would immediately get into a sort of situation like in the Latin American countries."

Helping nations: Asked to list some of the countries who were helping the developing countries more, Mrs Gandhi said it might not be proper to list such countries.

"There are certain countries who look at the problems of developing countries more sym-

pathetically and with greater understanding. Austria is among them. And there are some Nordic countries.

"The problem is that we have achieved a lot in some directions. Some countries, which were earlier blaming us for not making any advances, now want us to suffer for achieving them. At the same time, we cannot go back now.

"This is our problem today. We are at a stage of development where we simply cannot stop and we do not need much help. As the years go by, we will need less and less and once we are over the hump, we will be able to help others. Already we are helping other countries in Africa and Asia. But then we would be in a position to help much more, thereby lessening the burden on those who do not want to help so much."

Bangla refugees: Asked whether India had been able to stop emigrants from Bangladesh, Mrs Gandhi said "Broadly speaking, I think yes. But people do come across. You see, the thing is that we just do not have the forces to patrol the whole border."

Mrs Gandhi said, "There are a lot of people who cross the border just to buy something. So it is very difficult to say whether they are emigrating or they are there temporarily. But there is no doubt that a large number have come in over the years for various reasons because there is much greater poverty (in Bangladesh) and so on."

GANDHI 4 APRIL SPEECH TO WORKERS' SEMINAR REPORTED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 5 Apr 84 p 9

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 4.--Mrs Gandhi said here today that workers should be concerned not merely with the work ethos but realize the dangers of escalating costs or loss of production, reports PTI.

Besides, "in a country as vast as India, the workers should also be cautious of any divisive tendencies whether of region, language or caste, she said inaugurating the international seminar on workers' involvement in the management of public enterprises.

"With our diversity, we must also always keep in mind the utter necessity of communal harmony," she said.

Stating that workers were the very base of any industrial society, Mrs Gandhi said: "Unless we can give them a modicum of satisfaction in wages, and good living and working conditions, we cannot expect them to give of their best."

Unfortunately, she said, "some employers especially in the private sector, still regard the worker as an exploitable commodity." Hence, workers regarded the factory and the management as the "other" with whom they had only the "cash nexus".

"The factory fills their working day but it is not part of their lives in any deep sense. They feel neither responsibility nor involvement," she said. That was how the system had continued, compelling people to lead half-lives in which their actions were based, not on understanding but on "commands received and demands made".

Mrs Gandhi noted that such a pattern was bound to lead to a state of perpetual tension which might not always be visible. "To manage the conflict, we have a collection of laws, institutions and mechanisms to resolve differences. Most of the time these work, but some times they do not. Then you have confrontation". She added: "This fundamental premise of conflict is what we want to change."

The Prime Minister said everybody should understand what was going on and why "With such an understanding, the question will not be of demands and

response to demands but of what each one has to do for the good of the whole," she said and pointed out that it was the philosophy which should permeate the movement for workers' participation.

Mrs. Gandhi said when workers were involved in decision-making and responsibility, they would have to think not only of themselves but also of the others who were working along at different levels.

New Value System

"If this can be satisfactorily worked out, we would perhaps be able to uproot deeply implemented feelings of superiority and inferiority of 'we' and 'they' and old habits of commanding on the one hand and demanding on the other," she said. "This is the goal we envisage as a new value system in India's industrial set-up."

CSO: 4600/1775

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS LIBERALIZATION OF ECONOMY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] NEW DELHI, April 6. THE government is understood to be seriously considering further liberalisation of physical controls on the economy.

Official sources say the government is waiting for the Narasimham committee's report before making a formal announcement about liberalisation.

It is stated tht such liberalisation is considered both desirable and feasible because of the encouraging economic trends, in the past few weeks.

A most heartening trend is the sign of decline in prices. Normally during the January-March season, prices have a tendency to go up while during the October-December period they decline.

However, during the current financial year, prices did not go down during October-December and during January-March they did not go up.

Special Cell

The economic ministries concerned have, on the initiative of Mr. P. C. Alexander, principal secretary to the Prime Minister, set up a special cell with full powers to deal with the situation.

The cell maintained regular monitoring of prices and despatched wheat, sugar and edible oils to different states to keep prices under check. The cell took special measures to control the prices of tea and cotton.

The finance ministry, on its part, took steps to ensure monetary control so that prices did not rise during the busy season.

Another team visited villages in many states with the express purpose of examining the public distribution system and rural development programmes.

The secretariat is also monitoring individual public sector units that have been suffering losses, Mr. Sengupta, special secretary, has taken up the cases with Coal India and the Fertiliser Corporation of India.

Mr. Alexander, who reviewed the situation in December, decided to take emergency measures to control expenditure by public sector companies.

Another heartening feature is the excellent rabi harvest the country is expecting this season. Special instructions have already been issued to enlarge the procurement operations so that there is no crash in prices after the bumper crop.

Official sources claim that in the next three to six months, the economy will register an encouraging recovery and the rate of inflation will fall.

CSO: 4600/1782

REPORT ON MEETING OF INDIAN-HUNGARIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 4 Apr 84 p 6

[Text]

Bombay, April 3: Hungary has identified certain new items for imports from India in order to balance the trade between the two countries according to Dr O. Kiraly, representative of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, Budapest.

While the overall volume of trade between the two countries has increased lately, Hungary's imports from India have fallen by a third in the past two years.

Among the new items identified by Hungary for imports from India are wire ropes, ready-made garments, woollen pullovers, moulded luggage, machine tools, hand tools, cutting tools, electronic components, electronic entertainment goods, industrial fasteners, drugs and pharmaceuticals, bulk drugs, etc.

Hungary from its side, according to Dr Kiraly, would like to supply to India equipment for thermal and hydro electric power plants, production of heavy duty trucks, development of transportation, rural telecommunication, aluminium industry, power saving devices and technologies, development of agriculture, agricultural, and irrigation technologies and water research prospecting and management.

About 91 per cent of Hungary's exports to India at present comprise boilers for thermal power plants, telecommunication equipment, machine tools, lamp making machinery, spare parts etc. About 8 per cent of its

exports comprise basic material for the pharmaceutical industry and steel products.

Referring to the recent meeting of the Indo-Hungarian joint business council in Budapest, Dr Kiraly told businessmen here that the two sides at the meeting took note of the increase in trade turnover between the two countries from \$ 65.8 million in 1982 to \$ 92.4 million in 1983, and agreed to rectify the imbalance in trade between the two countries. Specific items from exports from India to Hungary were identified for the purpose at the meeting.

The two sides have also recognised the need to strengthen further the already existing commercial and economic relations between the two countries and have agreed that efforts should be made to further strengthen the communication by way of participation in trade fairs, exhibitions, organisation of symposia, holding of workshops and frequent visits.

The joint business council, according to Dr Kiraly, has also taken note of the potential areas for industrial cooperation in the fields of joint manufacture of electronic components, pharmaceuticals, moulded luggage, aluminium products, aluminium tubes, gas containers, rubber elements for industrial use etc.

Dr Kiraly invited Indian entrepreneurs to set up some of their manufacturing units in the duty free zones in Hungary from where exports can be more easily made to European countries.

PRESS REPORTS DELEGATES' SPEECHES AT UNITED NATIONS

Status of Sikkim

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Apr 84 p 9

[Text] UNITED NATIONS, April 1. An Indian delegate has told a United Nations Human Rights panel that Sikkim is part of the Indian Union of States, and he saw no reason why the matter had been raised in that forum.

India's Attorney-General, M. K. Parasaran, was on Friday answering questions by experts on the U.N. Human Rights Committee which discussed India's report on its compliance with the international covenant on civil and political rights.

Mr. Vicent Evans, a British expert, had sought clarifications on the status of Sikkim saying that although it became an "associate State" of India in 1975, it was not listed as one of the Indian States.

Mr. Parasaran said India was a Union of States which included Sikkim, as was evident in the first schedule of its Constitution. "Such was the position when India acceded to the covenant".

"However, I do not quite see the relevance of this query in the context of the consideration of India's report," Mr Parasaran added. India acceded to the covenant in 1979.

On "the right of self-determination," he said, "the words apply only to people under foreign domination and not to sovereign independent States or to a section of the people or nationals which is the essence of national integrity".

Dowry deaths: On dowry deaths, Mr. Parasaran said the problem was being taken seriously by police and the courts and women's groups were also active and a big publicity campaign against dowry was being organised.

He cited a recent report in which the Delhi High Court had acquitted three persons accused of having caused a dowry death. The women's groups got active, campaigned against the verdict and one of them filed an appeal before the Supreme Court.

He said the matter was now pending before the Supreme Court but all this showed that there was public awareness of the problem and that the people and the administration were moving against it. Some changes were being made in the Indian Penal Code to prevent such incidents.

Mr. Parasaran also explained several other points raised by various experts.

On prisoners' torture, Mr. Parasaran said that in India cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment of detained and convicted people was prohibited. As for prison conditions, he said the aim of the prison system in India was reform. The executive, the legislature and voluntary groups were vigilant to improve the conditions of prisoners.

On juvenile offenders, he said they were treated very leniently and kept separate from others.

Bonded labour: On bonded labour, which he described as a vestige of colonialism, Mr. Parasaran said it was proscribed by India's Constitution, and since 1975 legislation had been enacted to further that proscription.

Do the poor have access to the Supreme Court? Yes, Mr. Parasaran said. It was not necessary to appeal before the court in person. A postcard or telegram was sufficient to transmit a petition, he said.

Ambassador on Central America

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Apr 84 p 7

[Text]

United Nations, April 3 (UNI)—India has cautioned against recourse to "military means" in Central America, saying that would only cause a "disastrous conflagration" which none wanted.

Addressing the United Nations Security Council last night, an Indian delegate said it was "imperative that such means are immediately abandoned and dialogue given a real chance.

The Council met on Nicaragua's complaint that its seaports had been mined by the United States, which was also carrying out other hostile acts against Managua.

Ambassador Natarajan Krishnan said Nicaragua's concerns were deeprooted and legitimate and "strike a responsive chord in the hearts of the Government and people of India."

He reminded members that the nonaligned group, of which India is chairman, had recently condemned the mining of Nicaraguan seaports.

"It would be naive," said the Indian diplomat, "to believe that the problems of Central America, so endemic and rooted in history, can be tackled through force."

Mr Krishnan warned that "recourse to such means can only exacerbate tensions, widen the conflict and lead to a disastrous conflagration which none of US would like to see."

He recalled that the General Assembly had last November adopted without a vote a resolution on Central America which, "it was our hope, would be the harbinger of peaceful and negotiated solutions to the problems of the region."

That resolution had "unequivocally reaffirmed the right of the countries of the Central American region to live in peace and to decide their own future, free from all outside interference or intervention."

But, he noted, "this has not been the case... things have gone from bad to worse." He said Nicaragua's coming again to the Council showed its concerns had become even "more pressing and intense." Earlier in the day, the non-aligned coordinating bureau met at Nicaragua's request and received a working paper from Ambassador Chamorro Mora for tabling before the Council.

Council sources said the Nicaraguan paper mainly contained points made in some previous Council resolutions as well as in a communique recently adopted by the nonaligned group in New York.

The paper is likely to be discussed by the non-aligned group later today.

France and Mexico, lending support to Nicaragua's allegations against the United States,

have said in the Council meeting that the mining of Nicaragua's largest port was tantamount to a military blockade.

No formal resolution was introduced, but Council sources said backers of Nicaragua were drafting a proposal that would strongly condemn the mining and other "acts of aggression against the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Nicaragua." The draft resolution would not refer to the United States by name, the sources said.

CSO: 4600/1769

RAJIV SPEAKS AT UTTAR PRADESH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 31 Mar 84 p 6

[Text]

Lucknow, March 30 (UNI) — Congress(I) general secretary Rajiv Gandhi said today the people should beware of what he called "strange looking alliances" being shaped to serve the interests of those who would even sell the country for the sake of politics.

Inaugurating a State level women's conference, organised by the women's cell of the Uttar Pradesh Congress(I) committee here, he referred to the statement by two Janata Party leaders after their recent Pakistan tour that Islamabad did not want war with India and said "if what they said is correct, it is something we are all happy to know".

Mr Gandhi said the two Janata leaders are among those who are helping Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, who got himself photographed with Maqbool Buti and Kashmir Liberation Front leaders".

Rejecting the Opposition leaders charge that the Congress(I) leaders were trying to scare the people by talking about war, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said dark clouds were gathering across the country's border and it was the duty of the ruling party to place the facts before the people. He pointed out that whenever fresh weapons had been inducted across the border in the past, the same had been used against India.

Referring to the controversy over graves of one sect of the Muslim community in Varanasi, he alleged that people from embassies of big countries camped in Varanasi and were asking

officials how they proposed to deal with the situation.

Mr Gandhi said that because of increasing tension between the big powers, India cannot remain aloof from what was happening in the world.

He said the important thing was to protect the unity and integrity of the country first and only then would developmental activities have any relevance.

"That is why we want peace all over the world", the Congress(I) leader said.

Mr Gandhi said that in India women were wrongly considered weak as a community, but women know well how to force their will on men and this is their real strength.

The real unity of India also lay in the strength of the family as a social institution and women were also mainly responsible for maintaining this unity.

The opening session of the three-day conference was also addressed by Chief Minister Sripati Misra, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Mohsina Kidwai, State Congress(I) chief Sukhdeo Prasad, MP, and Uttar Pradesh Minister for Harijan and Social Welfare Swaroop Kumari Bakshi.

CSO: 4600/1763

ATTACK ON SAUDI TANKER 'TRAP SET FOR GULF STATES'

LD070945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 6 May 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The fire in a huge Saudi Arabian oil tanker that was carrying Iranian and Bahraini oil in Persian Gulf waters is one of the very important issues about which the Western media is keeping quiet; not only that, the media refused to comment on the incident or, at least, report the details of the matter. In other words, it simply ignored the matter.

At any rate, all the commentators who had earlier given extensive coverage to the possibility of the pollution of the Persian Gulf and the strategic security of the region are now keeping quiet about the new gift presented by his excellency Saddam to the Arab nations. Nonetheless, some of the comings and goings over the past few days between Baghdad and Riyadh, aimed at covering up the fire, are rather revealing. Following the fire on the tanker, Tariq Mikhayl 'Aziz, the foreign minister of the Baghdad regime, arrived in Riyadh unexpectedly and met with King Fahd. Simultaneously, the YAR president arrived in Baghdad and met with Saddam. Subsequently, with the departure of Tariq 'Aziz from Riyadh, the YAR president arrived in Riyadh for talks with Shah Fahd.

It was, however, at this stage that the media raised the issue, claiming the main topics of the talks was the current development in the region and the imposed war. Nevertheless, the unexpected aspects of these trips as well as their coinciding with the fire in the Saudi Arabian tanker demonstrate that there is every likelihood that the trips had something to do with the apology by the Iraqi regime for attacking the tanker and the mediation of the YAR president. It was precisely at this time that an Iraqi diplomat told REUTER that Iraq had attacked the Saudi tanker.

Having said that, the incident also shows the Saudi Shaykh the kind of dangerous snake he is rearing in his sleeve. It also shows that if Saddam sees fit to involve the Persian Gulf states in the conflict to save his own skin, he certainly would not stop at any crime. Therefore, they must do something about this before it is too late.

By making such an idiotic decision, by attacking the oil tanker, Saddam was under the impression that Iran would immediately react by closing the Strait of Hormuz, thus involving other powers and giving him some breathing room. However, once his vain idea resulted in yet another ignominy, he was forced to apologize and seek a mediator. This ignominy was indicative of a great many unspoken issues, the source of which can be found in one of the plans presented by Murphy, Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East. Briefly, the most important aspect of the incident is that, in order to involve the Persian Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia, Saddam is exerting great efforts. It is only the alertness of these regimes, at least with regard to this particular plot, that can save them from the trap set for them by Saddam.

CSO: 4640/217

NVOI ON U.S.-ISRAELI EXPLOITATION OF GULF WAR

TA092015 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 9 May 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Behind the Aura of the War of Attrition"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: U.S. imperialism and international Zionism are taking utmost advantage of the war and fratricide between our homeland and Iraq to their own benefit. They have exerted all their efforts so that in the future as well Iranian and Iraqi blood would be shed, and so that both nations would be undermined as much as possible.

With regard to our own homeland, it suffices to point out that according to an initial assessment, the material damages inflicted by the war exceed \$200 billion. In four western border provinces, almost all industrial units have either been destroyed or are severely damaged. The greatest port of our country in Khorramshahr has been wrecked. One could probably repair all these damages within several years, but who can return hundreds of thousands of Iranians killed in this war, to the embrace of their families and homeland?

America is interested in undermining Iran, and has still not ceased its efforts to revive its plundering domination. America has far-fetched plans for Iran, and by escalating this imposed war it wants to create further division and discord between Arab countries and the Islamic world, so that it would obtain a pretext for escalating its military presence and for preparing a military assault on the Persian Gulf's countries.

Not only are the imperialists and Zionists instigating to prolong the war, they are also equipping Iran's regime with different weapons. By its deals with arms-selling monopolies, the Islamic Government wants to revive dependence on the Western World. According to reliable sources, among dealers of military hardware to Iran there are scores of U.S. companies, as well as international arms dealers who operate in the United States. Moreover, the major part of U.S. weapons are sold to Iran's regime through Israel, South Korea, Canada, and other U.S. allies.

The famous Arab newspaper correspondent, Haykal, has announced that he possesses confidential documents to the effect that some time ago General Sharon held a secret meeting with some representatives of the Islamic Government of Iran.

Haykal says that in view of the existing documents, one can no longer deny the sale of arms by Israel to Iran. He says that U.S. policy in our region is based on reliance on Israel and Iran, which have encircled Arab countries from two sides.

Thus, now one can understand the nature of the policy of the Islamic Government as to why, under guise of the so-called policy of "Neither East nor West," instead of struggling against the foes of the Iranian revolution--namely, imperialism and Zionism--it is cooperating with them. This point is also becoming apparent as to why these gentlemen are placing the friends and enemies of the Iranian revolution--progressive forces and reactionary forces--on the same level.

We all know that under the guise of "Neither East nor West" a dangerous rapprochement is taking effect with imperialism and Zionism. Despite the interests of our nation, the Islamic Government is restoring its ties with America--the America which stages that bloody coup against Iran on 19 August and which looted Iran for scores of years, the America which still does not refrain from the policy of restoring its domination over Iran.

The policy of the United States regarding the Iran-Iraq war can be heard from Israeli officials who say that it is better for Israel if the Iran-Iraq war continues as long as possible. In order to achieve this aim, all U.S. and Israeli efforts are aimed at widening conflicts and creating a tense situation in our region, so that this will assist them in implementing their aggressive plans.

CSO: 4640/218

IRAN

NVOI ASSAILS TEHRAN RADIO REPORTS ON PANJSHER BATTLES

TA042020 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 4 May 84

[Unattributed, untitled commentary]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Following the outstanding victories scored by the popular Afghan Army in crushing the counterrevolutionary bands and in purging the area of the presence of professional killers, the Islamic Republic's radio became harmonious with imperialist mouthpieces in fabricating reports and disseminating lies about Afghanistan.

Facts regarding operations in Panjsher indicate that in this area armed bands headed by an individual called Ahmad Shah, who prior to the revolution had received special training in Britain and Pakistan, were endangering the peaceful life of the people and security of this region. Carrying out the orders of their American, British, and Pakistani masters, these bands used to destroy schools, mosques, hospitals, clinics, and buildings of government organizations, and dragged innocent and defenseless Muslim people in dust and blood.

These bands, by taking advantage of the patience and forbearance of the democratic Afghan Government, became bolder and engaged in subversive and terrorist acts, and by threatening ordinary people they forced them to leave their homes and abodes and to seek refuge in the mountains. Thousands of Afghan families were forced to migrate to other parts of the country as a result of terrorist acts by Ahmad Shah's bands. In accordance with its popular nature, the democratic Afghan Government repeatedly announced its desire for a peaceful solution of the problem. Since the counterrevolutionary bands were not ready to surrender, however, the government began to rout these bands which are supported by imperialism, regional reaction, and Iran's Islamic regime. As a result of the Afghan Army's successful operations, Ahmad Shah's criminal bands were crushed, and calm and security have been established in the Panjsher Valley.

Now that this den of killers has been cleansed of the presence of the filthy mercenaries of imperialism and reaction, and peace and tranquillity have been established in this region, imperialist broadcasting stations and their Iranian collaborators are conducting hostile propaganda campaign and are falling head over heels in their fabrication of facts. For example, Tehran Radio has claimed that the so-called Afghan Mujahedin have destroyed crocodiles of aircraft and tanks belonging to the Afghan Army, and is shedding crocodile tears because this band supported by the Iranian pseudoclergy and the Americans has been crushed.

In this connection it is appropriate to point out that financial assistance by imperialist countries and the region's reactionary regimes to these bands has increased. According to reliable sources, aid by imperialist countries to the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands, in the current year alone, will amount to 125 million U.S. dollars, 12 million British pounds, 60 million Deutsche marks, and 4 billion Japanese yen. The regimes of Iran, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and others have increased their aid to these bands as well. Recently Saudi Arabia's Prince 'Abdallah visited Pakistan and inspected the camps of Afghan counterrevolutionaries. By announcing that the Saudi Arabian Government will continue its financial assistance to these bands, he called on them to wage a so-called jihad against the democratic Afghan Government. Reportedly Saudi Arabia will place \$80 million at the disposal of the leaders of Afghan bands of killers in order to continue bloodshed and genocide against the liberated Afghan people. These gentlemen who sell the country's wealth and their religion, faith, and beliefs to America in return for the dollar, are merely the enforcers of America's directives, which is not surprising. Leaders of the Islamic regime who publicly brag about being anti-imperialist are actually at the side of such regimes as Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, and what have they got to say?

Our homeland's people are realizing further the antipeople nature of these turbaned officials and usurpers of power. Our homeland's people have always supported the revolutionary Afghan people and government, and the victories achieved by this fraternal nation arouse their satisfaction and the wrath of pseudoclergy who support the plunderers of our country.

CSO: 4640/218

PHILIPPINE SUSPENSION OF IRANIAN'S ENTRY REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Apr 84 p 24

[Article by Beng Ansula]

[Text] The government has suspended the entry of Iranians desiring to study here as a result of the violent activities of Iranian students enrolled in the country's universities and colleges.

This was disclosed yesterday by sources at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) who said, however, that this was not the official policy of the government as no formal order was issued by higher authorities.

"But we simply deny all applications," said a ranking MFA official who also revealed that the sanction has been imposed since 1982.

The move, according to the government official, was made after the Iranians now enrolled in local schools repeatedly ignored the government's appeal to desist from involving themselves in activities related to issues of political concerns of Iran.

The official said that it has been observed that some Iranian students are more interested in waging political campaigns rather than attend and concentrate in their studies to maintain their status as students.

The official also said that the Iranians have now transformed the country into a "battle ground" between pro and anti-Khomeini groups.

"It would appear that the factions were merely transported in the Philippines to use it as their venue where they could ventilate their political pursuits," the official said.

"In engaging in such adverse activities, the Iranian students are providing more proof against themselves that they are undesirable in as much as it is a blatant violation of the conditions of their stay in the country," the official added.

Reports from the intelligence community also show that up to the present members of the two factions are still engaged in hatching up plots and counter plots against their fellow Iranians.

BIZENJO'S VIEWS ON NATIONALITIES EXPLAINED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 19 Apr 84 pp 16, 17

[Text]

A TRUE federal structure, on the basis of the 'Covenant of 1940', and national democracy are seen by Mir Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo as the only guarantees for the unity and prosperity of Pakistan. His theory is that there are six, and not four, nationalities in Pakistan which would like the 1940 Covenant (he says he does not believe it was a resolution) to be followed in letter and spirit so far as provincial rights are concerned.

Talking to journalists at the Lahore Press Club in its programme 'Tajziya' on Saturday, the veteran politician said that the Covenant of 1940 envisaged a true federal structure and it was the rights of nationalities on which Pakistan was founded. According to him it was agreed in 1940 that only three subjects — defence, foreign affairs and communications — would be given to the centre and all remaining subjects and residuary powers to the federating units.

The President of the defunct Pakistan National Party said that, after the death of the Quaid-i-Azam and Liaquat Ali Khan, power had gone into the hands of those who continued with colonial politics. They denied the people their rights and suppressed them. This resulted in despondency and disillusionment in smaller or less privileged units, and culminated in the creation of Bangladesh. Even today, voices calling for a confederation and creation of 'Sindhu Desh' were being heard, but the rulers had found it expedient to use more power rather than to give

solace to the people of smaller provinces. He regretted that the attitude of the rulers had remained unchanged as they did not appear to have learnt a lesson from the past and this was increasing political bitterness.

Six nationalities

The former Baluchistan Governor pleaded that all the six nationalities, including the Potoharis and Saraikis, be allowed to live and prosper in accordance with their own cultural and linguistic traditions. "This is what national security demands today. The next generation's demand would be infinitely higher", he added. He said that the lower and middle classes, forming 90 per cent of the population, must be given the right to directly share power under national democracy, which guaranteed the abolition of feudalism and capitalism and made peasants and workers equal partners in the process of production and assured distributive justice. He, however, said that national democracy did not negate private enterprise or ownership rights. National democracy alone could solve the problems of nationalities and the rights of the people.

The Baluch leader expressed concern over the policies of the Government in the 'boiling' world situation. He said that circumstances demanded that Pakistan should stick to a fully non-aligned course, so as not to invite the displeasure of any neighbouring Power. According to him, Afghan refugees were "a gift of the world

imperialism" who posed a permanent threat to regional peace. He said that situation in the Gulf and Middle East also required a balance of relations with neighbouring States. He was of the view that the Soviet army was invited jointly by Hafeezullah Amin and President Babrak Karmal as the Afghan leaders had expressed their inability to defend the revolution in the face of imperialist conspiracies. The withdrawal of Soviet troops was possible if the Government of Pakistan guaranteed the Karmal Government against outside interference. He observed that world imperialism wanted the present situation in Afghanistan to continue so that it could go on conspiring and justify its presence in the Indian Ocean.

1973 Constitution

Replying to a question, he said that he favoured amendments in the 1973 Constitution in order to satisfy the people of different federating units. But only a representative Parliament, elected under the laws and rules as they stood on July 5, 1977, could effect such amendments. He said that while signing the Constitution, he had stated on the floor of the House that he was accepting it only under the given situation, but when normalcy was restored, it must be amended for the rights of the people. He said that he accepted the Constitution as adopted on August 14, 1973.

Asked whether or not he approved of the amendment which declared Qadianis non-Muslims, he said that he was a democrat and believed in secularism, which allows even non-Muslims to be elevated to the highest office in the land. He said that as a democrat, he did not favour sectarianism, nor had his politics ever been regional.

Support for MRD

Mir Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo reiterated his support for the MRD, and said that dissolving it or forging another alliance was out of the question.

He said that the JUP's one-point formula was similar to the MRD's four-point charter of demands. The PNP, he said, had told the JUP that since its stance was not contradictory to that of the MRD, it should join the

In answer to another question, Mr. Bizenjo said that efforts to forge a united forum for the progressive and Left-leaning political parties and democratic groups were under way. But a Left alliance would not be a temporary organisation. Its objective would be to change the present system. It was with this end in view that he had asked different leaders of Leftist political parties to join the PNP, which, he said, has organisational roots all over the country. He said that he was prepared to merge his party into a national-level progressive organisation having the ability to fight for a change in the prevalent system.

Through negotiations

The PNP leader said that he had always favoured solving political problems through negotiations. He said that politicians had no quarrel with the Armed Forces. The real quarrel was between the 80 million people of Pakistan and the Government. Under these circumstances, the politicians should have negotiations with the regime on an equal level, but before such talks begin political activities must be restored, political prisoners released and restrictions on the Press removed. After this, talks on the mode of transfer of power could be initiated with the Government.

About the role of the Punjab, he said that he had always pleaded that the biggest province, having full hold on political, and economic power and the maximum resources, should shoulder its national responsibilities.

Since the Punjab had not been playing its due role, it was being criticised by other provinces. He said that when he talked about autonomy, he included the Punjab, too, whose people were entitled to their rights as much as the people of other provinces.

LAHORE WEEKLY GIVEN NOTICE

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 19 Apr 84 p 7

[Text]

THE Punjab Home Secretary has asked the printer of Weekly 'Awami Jamhoriyat', associated with the Pakistan Socialist Party (defunct), to show cause why he should not be asked to deposit Rs. 2,000 as security under Section 23 of the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance.

"Spreading class hatred"

The notice has been issued on the ground that the weekly published two articles — 'Pakistan kay samaj mein tabaqat aur tazadat' (Classes and contradictions in Pakistan society) and 'Aqliyat andheron mein hai' (The minority is in darkness) — in its issue of Oct. 25, 1983, the "contents whereof are likely to create feelings of enmity, ill-will and hatred between different classes of the citizens of Pakistan within the meaning of clause (j) of Section 24(1) of the Press and Publications Ordinance". Further, the weekly published, in the issue of November 22, 1983, three articles — "Amerika say dosti aur feudal system say mohabbat, azadi, taraqqi aur jumhuriyat say dushmani hai" (Friendship with USA and love for feudal system means enmity with freedom, progress and democracy), 'Afghanistan, Pakistan aur Amerika' and 'Amriki Mahir ki raye' (American expert's opinion), the "contents whereof tend to bring into hatred and contempt the Government and to excite disaffection towards it within the meaning of clause (i) of Section 24(1) of the aforesaid Ordinance."

CSO: 4600/546

TALPUR'S PLEA FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION FIRST

Karachi DAWN in English 5 May 84 p 2

[Text]

LAHORE, May 4: Mir Ali Ahmed Talpur, the Defence Minister, has made a strong plea for holding Presidential elections before the parliamentary polls and said that if the Government failed to maintain this sequence, it would do a great disservice to the country.

"The decision about the President should be taken first, or a confusion and turmoil would be created, having no parallel," he asserted in an interview with PPI here.

Explaining his proposal, the Defence Minister said the Federal Cabinet should propose the name of the new President and the nation should express its opinion about it, through a direct vote in case one name is rejected, the Cabinet should propose another and the process should continue till someone is elected.

The Defence Minister argued that the permanent presence of a 'sovereign' was essential for any country, like kings and queens in some countries.

Mr. Talpur opposed the formation of a national government and said it would not help resolve the differences between the Government and the political parties. "Instead", he noted, "it would just create confusion."

He said the parties left outside would continue to criticise the Government and thus the differences would continue.

"The present regime should honestly implement its programme. MRD is dead it will never revive and its opinion has no significance," said the Defence Minister when asked how Government and MRD, with divergent programmes, could be brought closer.

Asked about the threat of a

fourth Martial Law, he said President Zia had not been understood properly. In fact, what the President wanted to say was that "Akharh Pachharh" (conflict) would continue as long as the country did not attain political stability, Mr. Talpur said.

The Defence Minister said according to his interpretation, President Zia meant that if he (Gen. Zia) left, emergency would recur and that he (President) did not want to create such circumstances.

"Everything is possible in this world," replied Mr. Talpur when asked if there was any possibility of another Martial Law.

However, he hoped that a fourth Martial Law would not be imposed and transfer of power will take place smoothly and peacefully. All efforts of the Government were aimed at this objective, he claimed.

He did not give a clear answer when his opinion was sought about suitability of parliamentary or presidential system for the country. He said if presidential system was adopted, then the parliament should have powers of checks and balances on the contrary, if parliamentary system was opted to, the President should be "defender" of the constitution and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.

Asked to comment on MRD's four points, the Defence Minister, himself an old parliamentarian, said none of the MRD's component parties was serious about the 1973 Constitution.

If they had such a firm faith in this constitution, as they claim they have, then why they stood against PPP government in the presence of this constitution, Mr. Talpur asked.

He also castigated PPP for what

he termed beating out of shape the 1973 constitution through repeated amendments during its rule.

"The present regime respects the 1973 constitution better than anyone else," Mr. Talpur claimed.

Queried how he saw the prevalent political situation in the country, he said there was no indication of any danger at present.

The Government was paying fullest attention to solve the public problems.

Mr. Talpur reiterated that elections would be held according to schedule and that the future parliament would be free to give its own programme.

He said the political leaders had got a golden opportunity to serve the people from January 20 to September 1977. But, unfortunately, he said, the moment Mr. Bhutto was ousted, they, instead of solving public problems, indulged in mutual conflicts. He said he was a staunch opponent of interference of military or bureaucracy in political matters yet, he regretted to note that "the performance of our political leadership has never been satisfactory."

In the opinion of Mr. Talpur, the political problems of the Country, contrary to suggestions by some quarters, did not start from July 5, 1977.

He said even during political rules, chief secretaries had been acting for governors although elected representatives were available to do the same job he contended that during the present rule, if a Martial Law Administrator nominates his DMLA to officiate him, it should not be considered as strange.—PPI

JI LEADER TALKS ABOUT RELATIONS WITH OTHER PARTIES

Karachi DAWN in English 5 May 84 p 2

[Text] PESHAWAR, May 4: Qazi Hussain Ahmed, Secretary General of the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami Pakistan said on Thursday evening, that his party had a very revolutionary economic programme which guarantees maximum facilities to the poor masses besides giving the State a true Islamic political system in which everyone, irrespective of office, class and status, stands accountable to the people.

Talking to newsmen here, the leader of the Jamaat admitted that his party's programme could not be projected in the past. He said his party would give its elections charter when the elections schedule is announced in the country.

He said his party stands for a neutral policy vis-a-vis the super Powers, good brotherly relations with Muslim countries, and for guaranteeing all basic human rights to every citizen particularly the poor.

Replying to a question, the leader of the Jamaat said some smaller groups and parties, components of the MRD, were obstructing a broad-based political alliance in the country.

He claimed that the defunct NDP was among those parties that were working against his party coming to an understanding with the defunct PPP.

Qazi Hussain Ahmad said we stand for elections strictly under the 1973 Constitution and under the supervision of the judiciary.

Giving his views on the proportionate system of elections proposed by his party, Qazi Sahib said it would provide to every party its due representation in national affairs while under the conventional system some very popular and major parties were deprived of due participation in power. He said this system was very simple and did not even involve any constitutional amendment.

CSO: 4600/546

AVIATION DEVELOPMENT IN BALUCHISTAN DETAILED

Karachi DAWN in English 5 May 84 pp 15-16

[Article by Air Marshal Khurshid Anwar Mirza]

[Text]

THE new streamlined terminal building of the Quetta International Airport, being inaugurated today, underscores the Government's earnestness to use air transportation to hasten the pace of socio-economic development in Baluchistan.

Neglected for decades, its infrastructure undeveloped, Baluchistan is Pakistan's biggest but the most economically depressed province.

The quickest, least costly and the most effective means, experts felt, to open up Baluchistan's remote areas, shorten distances between far-flung districts, knit its inaccessible parts with the national mainstream and boost faster and safer movement of people and goods, was air transportation.

The high priority accorded to the development of civil aviation in Baluchistan is vividly furnished by the 'crash programme' launched by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

It was able to help start operations from the new airport at Zhob, instal highly sophisticated air navigation aids such as DME/DVOR system at Quetta Airport and now inaugurate the new terminal building at Quetta — all within just over a year of the constitution of the CAA

itself.

The high-powered, autonomous Civil Aviation Authority, it may be recalled, was constituted by a presidential ordinance on December 7, 1982.

Its task was "to provide for the promotion and regulation of civil aviation activities and to develop an infrastructure for safe, efficient, adequate, economical and properly co-ordinated civil air transport services in Pakistan." (The Old Civil Aviation Department is now merged with the CAA).

The importance the Government attaches to the expansion of air transport in Baluchistan is blueprinted in Pakistan's Sixth Five-Year Plan (1983-88) which allots Rs. 260 million for the development of additional airport facilities.

The Annual Development Plan (ADP) for 1983-84 earmarks Rs. 60 million for this purpose.

The opening of two new airports (Sibi and Khuzdar), the metalling of the runway at Panjgur, the completion of the runway at Ormara, the re-surfacing of the runway at Turbat and the siting of new feeder service airports in the interior of the province are among the projects for the period the Civil Aviation Authority is working on.

Quetta new terminal

Quetta Airport has now been provided by the CAA with the

standard passenger facilities and amenities found in international airports. Quetta is now firmly planted on the air map of the world.

The covered area of the new terminal building has been expanded from 10,000 square feet to 40,000, increasing its handling capacity from 40 arriving and 40 departing passengers to 200 arriving and 200 departing passengers in its domestic wing and a similar number in its international wing.

The pleasing interior design imparts a new look to the terminal building which has Daempa false ceiling to the concourse area, special colour paints and other architectural and interior design features.

New Immigration, Health, Airlines counters and security cabins have been fabricated and new furniture provided to the Airport Restaurant. All aluminium doors and windows have tinted glasses.

The capacity of the car park has been increased from 40 to about 200 cars.

Additionally, within the next three to four months, the entire building will have central heating and its departures lounges will be air-conditioned.

The Quetta terminal building renovation and expansion scheme will cost around Rs. 14 million.

Quetta Airport's Air Traffic Control (ATC) and Navigational

Aids Systems (NAS) had earlier been modernised for the safety of aircraft operation.

These include the installation at Quetta, as in eight other airports, DVOR/DME facilities which provide direction and distance of an approaching aircraft.

Mekran coast airports

The reconditioned Quetta International Airport, in fact, pinpoints the pre-eminent position Baluchistan occupies today in Pakistan's civil aviation. It has today a larger number of airports than any other province.

The Mekran coast of Baluchistan alone has five airports:

Jiwani, Gawadar, Pasni, Turbat and Panjgur. Of these Jiwani and Panjgur are on the international route.

These airports, before the

CAA's improvement programme was launched, lacked not only adequate navigational aids but even such basic passenger facilities as drinking water and toilets.

Rapid improvement in the provision of aids to safe aircraft operation and the essential amenities to passengers are now being effected everywhere.

This despite the fact that the construction and maintenance of airports in these isolated areas are a stupendous task complicated by the non-availability of labour and material, the acute shortage of water and frequent dust storms that disrupt construction work.

Manpower and material, procured in towns, had to be transported to the site — the process taking several days — tubewells had to be dug, underground and overhead storage tanks built, as

at Gwadar, Pasni and Zhob and generators installed to provide electricity for airport lighting and operation, as at Jiwani, Panjgur, Gwadar and Turbat.

In the area of safety NDB's (Non Directional Beacons) have been added at Gwadar, Pasni, Turbat and Panjgur (NDBs provide the pilot with the relative bearing of his aeroplane with respect to the known geographical co-ordinates of the selected NDB transmitter. VOR/DME have been installed at Jiwani while VOR is in operation at Panjgur.

(Visual Omni Range is a much improved version of NDB and provides clearly defined tracks for accurate flying along a selected radial).

Likewise, control towers have been constructed at Jiwani,

Gwadar, Pasni, Turbat and Panjgur, complete with VHF (very high frequency) and HF facilities and other aids to safe aircraft operation.

Fire crash tenders and equipment have also been provided to these coastal airports where none existed before.

Essential passenger amenities have now been furnished everywhere. Instead of worn-out furniture, Jiwani, Gwadar, Turbat, Panjgur and Pasni now have plush sofas for passengers of two Fokker flights.

Water coolers have been installed at concourse halls and lounges which have also been fitted with ceiling fans.

There are separate toilets for ladies and gents at every airport. Each airport has also a prayer room, provision for 'wazoo' (ablution), and a car park.

Other facilities being provided to Baluchistan's travel

airport, Gwadar's terminal building is being doubled in capacity. Separate international arrival and departure lounges for passengers from Muscat are being added to the existing domestic arrival and departure lounges. The new terminal building, covering an area of 4,000 square feet as against 1,500 square feet previously, will house, lounges, office blocks, a ladies waiting room and canteen besides a prayer hall. Separate 'customs search'

rooms for ladies and gents have been built.

The pucca runway of 5,000 feet long and 75 feet wide is being extended to 6,000 feet and widened to 100 feet for the increased frequency of Fokker flights. An apron, 300x225 feet has been constructed for parking two aircraft at the same time. Previously, an aircraft parked on the runway, did not permit any other aircraft to land.

PASNI: The terminal building

at Pasni, renovated last year, spreads over an area of 5,000 square feet with domestic arrival and departure lounges. The concourse hall on about 2,000 square feet, is spacious and has a prayer hall.

The approach road to the airport is being strengthened. The pucca runway at Pasni is 9,000 feet long and 150 feet wide with a taxiway and an apron for parking two Fokker aircraft.

TURBAT: Turbat has been gi-

ven the status of Divisional Headquarters of Mekran and connected by air with Quetta and coastal airports. In view of the projected increase in traffic, a bigger terminal building is being constructed. The pucca runway, 6,000 feet long and 100 feet wide built in 1978 for limited operations, is being strengthened and lengthened and its capacity enhanced for greater frequency of Fokker flights and to receive Boeing-373 also. The taxiway and apron can accommodate two aircraft.

PANJGUR: The runway, which is 5,000 feet long and 100 feet wide, remains inoperative for 15-20 days during the rainy season. It is being improved to make it serviceable in all weathers. A taxiway and apron would be constructed to handle two aircraft. The Panjgur Terminal building had only one hall. A separate room for ladies has now been added.

JIWANI: The terminal building at Jiwani has separate lounges for ladies and gents, a briefing counter for passengers.

The reason why these coastal airports are being improved and expanded with accompanying passenger amenities is because air transportation is today playing a major role in the economy of Baluchistan and in transforming the life-style of the people.

The demand for air services is clear from the fact that two Fokker flights leave Karachi everyday for the Mekran coast airports.

The route of the daily morning flight is Karachi-Turbat-Gwadar-Karachi while the afternoon flight is Karachi-Pasni-Turbat-Gwadar-Karachi.

Moreover, there are thrice weekly morning flights from Karachi to Panjgur, Quetta, Turbat and back and thrice a week afternoon flight linking Karachi with Gwadar and Jiwani and back.

The weekly breakdown of flights at the coastal airports

are:

- Jiwani (3 flights)
- Gwadar (16 flights)
- Turbat (12 flights)
- Pasni (12 flights)
- Panjgur (5 flights)

Baluchistan's difficult terrain provides an answer as to why people are increasingly taking to air transportation:

— A distance of 450 miles between Karachi and Pasni by road takes three days to cover. An aircraft makes it in a little over an hour, reducing the distance to 250 air miles.

— It takes four hours to travel by road from Pasni to Turbat, a distance of 90 miles. By air the journey, reduced to 50 miles, is covered in 20 minutes.

— The 180-mile road between Turbat and Panjgur is travelled in 12 hours; by air the 50-mile journey is done in 30 minutes.

— The 55-mile road journey from Jiwani to Gwadar is completed in six hours; the plane takes the 40-mile run in 30 minutes.

The great saving in time has prompted increasing resort to air services by both passengers and commercial freight.

Three more airports

In view of the pivotal role of civil aviation in rapidly transforming the economy of Baluchistan and raising the quality of life of its people, the Civil Aviation Authority has planned three more airports in the province: Ormara, Khuzdar and Sibi.

These three will be in addition to the airport at Zhob which was inaugurated last December. The proper terminal building at Zhob is expected to be completed by June next. (The previous terminal was housed in a hangar which will now be used for cargo).

Work on Khuzdar and Sibi airports will be taken in hand this year. Sibi, in addition to serving a wide hinterland, will also receive flights diverted from Quetta when that airport

remains "out of bounds" because of bad weather.

The construction of Ormara airport is in advanced stages of completion.

Baluchistan's vast geographical spread and the distances that separate her towns and population centres present problems of bewildering complexity for the operation of her communications system.

After extensive studies and feasibility surveys, the Civil Aviation Authority came to the conclusion that the quickest, safest and, perhaps, also the least expensive method to open up Baluchistan and link her inaccessible parts was civil aviation.

The Civil Aviation Authority has now planned the operation of feeder air service to speed the movement of passengers and goods through the vast countryside and hinterland of Baluchistan. PIA is already operating scheduled services that touch down at Quetta, Panjgur, Turbat, Pasni, Gwadar, Jiwani and Zhob. Some of these services are subsidised by the Government since their operation is deemed essential to the development of Baluchistan and the transformation of her economy.

The Civil Aviation Authority has submitted detailed proposals to the government for the extension of the feeder services to several outlying areas of Baluchistan which have traffic generating potentials.

For the convenience of the travelling public and to meet the requirements of trade and commerce, it has been proposed to extend the feeder services to such far-flung but economically important areas as Taftan, Mokhundi, Dalbandin, Kharan, Kalat, Nushki, Bela and Loralai.

This will, of course, be a phased programme of air service operation, taking into account the growth in the volume of passenger and freight traffic.