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8 November 1982

South and East Asia Report

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INDIA

NEWS AGENCIES REPORT ON GANDHI TALKS IN TALLINN

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 25 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] September 24 (UNI).

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, is understood to have apprised the Soviet foreign minister, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, on Wednesday of the efforts of the left parties in India to weaken and destabilise her government, while proclaiming support to her anti-imperialist and independent foreign policy.

This was the second time that she referred to "the destructive role of the left parties" during her current Soviet trip. She had also drawn attention to this matter on the first day of the plenary talks with the Soviet President, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev.

Mrs. Gandhi accused these parties of "inconsistency" and asked whether her government's pursuit of an independent foreign policy would not be affected if the leftists ganged up with the rightists and waged a crusade against her.

There was no detailed discussion on the subjects at either of the two meetings, nor was there any immediate reaction from them, according to informed sources.

It may be recalled that even when Mr. Brezhnev visited India in December 1980, the Prime Minister had referred to "the negative role of the leftist parties" at a public function held in his honour.

PTI adds: The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, on Friday emphasised that the "friendly and cooperative bonds" between India and the Soviet Union had been a "source of strength" to her country.

In the coming years also, she felt, this "real friendship between our two countries" would benefit more and more people and open opportunities for new exchanges.

Mrs. Gandhi, who is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit the Estonian Republic, was speaking at a lunch hosted by the presidium in her honour.

'Poverty Remains'

Mrs. Gandhi listed increase of armaments, especially of nuclear piles, enlarging gap between industrialised and developing countries and pollution of air and water and denigration of the earth among difficulties hampering India's struggle to strengthen its economy and become self-reliant.

"Poverty remains, but many of our people have been raised above the poverty line," she added.

Earlier, Mrs. Gandhi had a brief meeting with the Estonian leaders--the first secretary of the Communist party, Mr. K. G. Vaino, the prime minister, Mr. V. I. Klausen, and the foreign minister, Mr. A. K. Green.

Mrs. Gandhi, who arrived here on Thursday night to a rousing welcome, went on a sight-seeing trip on Friday morning and familiarised herself with the history and development of the Estonian capital--an important gateway to the Baltic.

The Prime Minister will leave for the historic city of Kiev, aptly called "a multi-coloured bouquet," on Friday evening, on the last lap of her week-long visit to USSR. She will have talks with leaders of the Ukrainian Republic and visit Kiev state university on Saturday.

CSO: 4600/1064

COMMUNIST, LEFT LEADERS NOTE GANDHI CRITICISM

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Sep 82 p 4

[Text] Chandigarh, Sept 25--Describing as "unfortunate" Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's attack on country's Left movement in Moscow, CPI general secretary C Rajeswara Rao here today said his party was for building "a Left-Democratic national alternative" to the ruling party and did not subscribe to a rightist alternative in the country.

Talking to newsmen, Mr Rao said any amount of "vituperative attack" on the part of Mrs Gandhi would deflect the CPI from fighting the pro-vested interests, anti-people and anti-democratic policies of her regime.

Though, Mr Rao would not know the "intentions" of Mrs Gandhi in raising "internal" matters at Moscow, he would, nonetheless, wish the Prime Minister had not raised it.

/He said the Russian Government was always for cooperation and friendship between the peoples of two countries and it was not with A or B leader. Again, while Mrs Gandhi's Government was pursuing country's 'foreign policy with some vacillations,' "we are defending it against the attacks of the Right", the CPI leader claimed. The left is organising peace marches, rallies and conventions throughout the country, mobilising big cross-sections of the people, while the ruling party is cooling its heels with statements, Mr Rao added./ [in boldface]

He said as far as her so-called policies were in the interests of the people, the less said the better. Poverty, unemployment, misery, inflation, corruption and police repression stalk the country on the capitalist path that she is pursuing; "instead of giving up that path she is taking away the democratic rights of the people, the latest example being the "obnoxious Bihar Press Bill which one and all have opposed," Mr Rao said.

As for the Left joining the Rightist forces to destabilise her government, the allegation which she hurled in Moscow Mr Rao said that burning mass issues in India demand that. But "I must state that the Prime Minister has no compunction to fight the Left with the help of BJP and other Rightist forces as was done recently in Kerala elections," he added.

Mr Rao said that Mrs Gandhi's own partymen were the "best destabilisers" of her government. "I would like to know from the Prime Minister why Chief Ministers are frequently changed in Congress-I states where she enjoys overwhelming support"? This is because the Congress-I today is plagued by "unscrupulous factional wranglings for power", he said.

Democratic Socialist Party president H N Bahuguna in a statement also objected to the Prime Minister's reference to the "hostile attitude" of the Left Opposition to her Government, adds PTI.

This amounted to seeking interference of a 'friendly but foreign power' in the internal affairs of the country, he contended.

"We are confident that the Soviet leadership which has all along respected the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, will not pay heed to such pleas by Mrs Gandhi, he said.

CSO: 4600/1072

INDIA

DEFENSE EXPERT: INDIA MUST DEVELOP IMAGE OF POWER

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Sep 82 p 5

[Text] Defence expert K. Subramanyam has pleaded that India should "deliberately and consciously develop the image of power in order to count in the international system as a participant in global decision-making", reports UNI.

In the introductory part of his latest book 'Indian Security Perspectives', Mr Subramanyam, who is director of the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses in Delhi, argues that whether 'we like it or not the image of power has significant role to play in international politics--be it military economic, technological or ideological'.

The book is a collection of 17 articles wherein he seeks to explain how India's approaches to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, Non-Alignment, the Indian Ocean issue, the cold war, West Asia and South East Asia are linked to its (India's) security.

In India, according to Mr Subramanyam, there has been a seemingly wide gap between its foreign policy pursued at the global level and its concern for its security. He further writes that there have not been very much clear articulations of the linkages between its foreign and security policies after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru. 'One gets the impression that the policy framework formulated by Nehru still holds good and the policies of the seventies are the outcome of the continuing momentum of the essential Nehruvian view of the world'.

The Nehruvian vision, writes Mr Subramanyam, held that India in due course should take its place along with the United States, the Soviet Union and China in the international community.

Disagreeing with those of 'our elite' who would like to call India a small or middling nation Mr Subramanyam writes that the objective factors of our size, population, our heritage or prolonged anti-colonial struggle, the inherent capabilities of our people and the stage of development we have reached do not permit India to develop a small or middle-nation syndrome.

Mr Subramanyam also likes Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Egypt, Nigeria, Algeria, Tanzania, Venezuela and Mexico to develop an image of power.

"Only when eight or 10 of the largest developing countries acquire industrial technologies and an image of power and self-reliance, the present white-dominated international system will start getting transformed towards the new international economic order. It is not to preach confrontationism towards the industrialised nations but to advocate strategy to get out of the present situation in which the developing nations are used as pawns in the great confrontationist game among the industrialised nations", he writes.

Referring to neighbours' suspicions and fears about India, Mr Subramanyam writes that after the era of nation state and imperialism was ushered in, India does not have an imperial or expansionist history. The idea of India as a nation state came simultaneously along with that of anti-colonial struggle to liberate the enslaved brown, black and yellow men of the globe. "It is no doubt in the interest of the West to propagate the idea that India as a nation state will behave as they did in their imperial days. Our neighbours who receive large scale aid from the West and whose elites have greater interaction with the West than with India readily succumb to this view", he writes.

CSO: 4600/1068

ANALYST NOTES LIMITED SCOPE OF INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Sep 82 p 8

[Article by Girilal Jain]

[Text] **A**N assessment of Mrs. Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union must take note of the obvious fact that it is very different from the recent trip to the United States. While the Prime Minister went to Washington in order to establish personal contact with President Reagan and try and ease, if possible, problems arising out of the U.S. decision to arm Pakistan in a big way and its virtual refusal to honour its commitment to supply enriched uranium for the Tarapur plant, she has gone to Moscow mainly to continue the ongoing dialogue with President Brezhnev on both international and bilateral issues. To put it differently, the Prime Minister's present journey lacks the excitement of the previous one for the simple reason that, unlike in the case in Indo-U.S. ties, there has been no major downturn in Indo-Soviet relations since the two countries drew close to each other in the fifties. And as such there is, unlike in the other case, no great misunderstandings to be cleared up.

Interests Converge

This does not mean that there is complete agreement between the two governments on all issues. There isn't. Afghanistan is a clear case of a difference of approach. India wants the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops, which Moscow is not likely to do in the foreseeable future whatever Mr. Brezhnev may say from time to time. On a number of other major issues, India has never gone into a detailed discussion with the Soviet Union on its (the Soviet) and Western positions; it has contented itself with general formulations.

This does not amount to an endorsement of Soviet positions. Mrs. Gandhi has been careful, perhaps unusually careful, that she does not say anything in Moscow which can be interpreted as an indictment of the U.S. and Western policies and actions.

This divergence is inevitable between a superpower involved in a fierce competition with the other superpower and a leading non-aligned country anxious to avoid being pulled into the cold war. Generally we in India choose to gloss over this fact. There is no great harm in adopting such an approach so long as it is clearly understood that essentially Indo-Soviet relations are bilateral and not global in scope. In her own polite way, Mrs. Gandhi has made this point in Moscow. The interests of the two countries can and do converge, as they did in the 'fifties in respect of countering America's efforts to establish its hegemony in Asia, or in the 'sixties in containing Maoist China's adventurism, or as they do today in ensuring that a U.S.-armed Pakistan continues to behave in a responsible manner. Without such a convergence on certain issues, Indo-Soviet friendship could not have prospered the way it has. But the convergence is of necessity limited in scope. It does not, for example, cover Europe and Japan. Indeed, when Mrs. Gandhi even deplores the nuclear arms build-up, she is by no means saying that the other side (the West) is to blame for it.

Given the context in which it was developed, Indo-Soviet cooperation has covered the military as well as the economic field. This country has certainly benefited a great deal from this cooperation.

No one can possibly deny this fact. But this could not be, has not been, and cannot be an exclusive relationship. Both have other ties to cater to and other considerations to weigh. India, for instance, feels that it must diversify its sources of arms supply in order to avoid undue dependence on the Soviet Union and too much annoyance and distrust in the West. Perhaps those in charge of India's security also feel that they need to buy equipment — the Jaguar and the Mirage-2,000, for instance — from the West because what the Soviet Union has to offer does not meet adequately their requirement. Indeed, there is evidence to suggest that the Soviets have become more forthcoming when this country has sought to exercise some other option.

It would be idle to suggest either that the Soviet Union can fully meet India's requirements, or that it is always willing to do so, or that it does not mind New Delhi shopping elsewhere. It would be a unique example in international relations if this was in fact the case. And let us not pretend that Indo-Soviet relations are unique, though it must be admitted that Moscow has been very, very co-operative indeed. In fact, honesty would demand recognition of the fact that while it is in the Soviet interest to make India dependent and keep it on a relatively short leash, it must be India's effort to ensure that it is not critically dependent and that it is not on a short leash in respect of spares and ammunition for the equipment it buys from Moscow. This kind of tussle is inescapable even among the closest of allies, not to speak of friends such as the Soviet.

Union and India with their different perspectives and objectives.

That being the reality, it is truly remarkable that neither side has allowed unnecessary acrimony to creep in. And there is so far no good reason to believe that this will not continue to be the case in future as India develops cooperation in the military field with not only France and Britain but also at some stage possibly even with the United States.

Economic Cooperation

One reason why one can take a hopeful view of the prospect in this area is that the Soviets are well placed to compete with the West. Their prices are lower — often half — their credit terms difficult to match — 2.5 per cent interest and repayments over 15 years with a two-year grace period — and their equipment first class even if the Syrians have by their poor performance given it a bad name. The same cannot unfortunately be said in respect of the economic field.

Indo-Soviet economic cooperation reached its plateau many years ago and has since been essentially marking time. It is idle to try and apportion blame for this state of affairs. If an exercise were to be undertaken, it will be found that this country is as responsible for it as its partner, possibly even more. The Indian economy has developed too slowly to have needed a much larger production in fields such as steel, where the Soviet Union could have been helpful. And its management of the projects established with Soviet assistance in the public sector has been too inefficient to produce profits which could have encouraged their replication and

provided partly the necessary means.

But there have been problems on the Soviet side as well.

While the Soviet Union has kept pace with the West and Japan in certain fields, it has fallen behind them in several others. Take power, for example. The BHFL has found it necessary to sign deals with Western firms to update the technology and plants provided by the Soviets. Similarly, they are not in a position to assist India in a big way in offshore explorations and extraction of oil. In the critical field of electronics, which is bound to dominate the economic future of the world, the gap between them on the one hand and Japan and the West on the other is said to have widened further.

The problem is not peculiar to India. Iraq turned to the West when in the wake of the oil price rise in 1973 it decided to step up its economic growth, though President Saddam Hussein could not be insensitive to the fact that earlier Soviet assistance had helped the country avoid strangulation of its oil industry by Western oil companies. A U.S. oil company manages Angola's Cabinda oilfields as Soviet-equipped Cuban troops look after its security. Ethiopia, critically dependent on the Soviet Union in its struggle against U.S.-backed Somalia and the Arab-supported Eritrean rebels, has been sending feelers to the West for economic help.

New Approach

Even Cuba has been anxious that the U.S. ends its economic boycott.

India has all along got most of its foreign aid from the West, over 80 per cent of it. Of late, it

has had of necessity to change its overall strategy of economic growth. The \$ 5.8 billion loan it has sought and secured from the IMF is only one facet of the changed strategy. The liberalisation of imports — for meeting shortages, stimulating production by facilitating the availability of essential equipment, spares and raw materials and compelling Indian industry to be competitive — is an equally important feature of the new approach. And so is the desire to attract foreign capital and know-how.

This change has been necessitated by a variety of factors — industrial stagnation for almost two decades, an awareness that the country can neither afford to go on marking time while others in Asia march ahead, nor hope to do the job completely on its own, and the growing pressure on the social and political system. And it has become possible as a result of a greater willingness in the West and Japan on account of the recession there to explore the possibilities in India. They are now ready, which they were not before, to offer terms India can accept without compromising its dignity and economic independence. The Soviet Union will need to accept this framework and function within it. There is no good reason why it should not wish to do so. For there is more than enough scope in it for Indo-Soviet cooperation to flourish. Indeed, it is only natural that the scope should increase as India's economy grows stronger and the country is in a position to import much more and export much more. This will call for a new approach on the part of the leaders in both countries. But that is not too difficult a task.

HARYANA CHIEF MINISTER DISCUSSES SIKH DEMANDS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] Chandigarh, Sept. 21.--Mr Bhajan Lal, Chief Minister of Haryana, today told the State Assembly that there was no move at the moment to transfer Chandigarh to Punjab. He was replying to a calling attention motion by Dr Mangal Sein of the BJP.

The Chief Minister said that he had come across a news item in this regard. It was baseless. There was an old Central decision under which Chandigarh was to be transferred to Punjab while the Fazilka and Abohar areas of Punjab were to be transferred to Haryana. Under this decision, a commission was to be appointed to go into the question of some Punjabi-speaking areas in Haryana and Hindi-speaking areas in Punjab.

He said that there was no question of Chandigarh going to Punjab without Fazilka and Abohar being merged with Haryana. This would have to be simultaneous. Also, the commission for other areas would have to be appointed. Till Fazilka and Abohar were transferred to Haryana, his Government did not intend to leave Chandigarh. Haryana's interests would be safeguarded at all costs.

He said that if there had been a move in this regard, the Centre would have taken the Haryana Government into confidence. He said that there were many Hindi-speaking areas in Punjab and his State would gain if a commission would go into this matter.

Dr Sein said that the Akalis who had been carrying on an agitation had three demands which could affect Haryana. These were on reconsideration of the river water settlement, transfer of Punjabi-speaking areas in Haryana to Punjab and Punjabi as a second language of Haryana.

Mr Bhajan Lal said that the river water settlement was the decision of the Centre and it was just. There was no question of reopening of the issue. In fact, the carrier canal was likely to be built before scheduled time. The Haryana Government provided all facilities for teaching of Punjabi in its schools if there were more than 10 students in a class wanting this facility. There was, however, no possibility of Punjabi being the second language in the State.

Mrs Chandrawati, leader of the Opposition, said that there was no need to reopen the Chandigarh issue. The move was an attempt by the Centre to make Punjab and Haryana fight among themselves and forget about other priorities like solving unemployment and other serious problems. If necessary, Chandigarh could be divided and given to the two States, she said.

Some Opposition members, during the zero hour, referred to the hunger strike by some farmers against the hike in electricity charges. They said that there were drought conditions in the State and the additional burden would be too much for the farmers to bear.

The House ratified the Constitution (46th Amendment) Bill 1982 as passed by Parliament.

PTI adds: Addressing a Press conference today, Mr Bhajan Lal said there was no move yet either to reshuffle or expand his 22-member Ministry. The performance of one or two colleagues was not up to the mark but with the passage of time they would improve, he added.

In reply to another question, he said that appointment of the Chief Parliamentary Secretary had not yet been finalized.

CSO: 4600/1054

INDIA

NEW ANDHRA PRADESH MINISTRY SWORN IN 20 SEP

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] Hyderabad, Sept 20.

Chief Minister K Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy and 25 of his colleagues were sworn in here today by Governor K C Abraham in the lawns of Raj Bhavan.

The Council of Ministers consists of 17 Cabinet Ministers, including the Chief Minister and 10 Ministers of State one of whom is to take his oath of office later.

Chief Minister Bhaskara Reddy after having several rounds of discussions with the high command and the Prime Minister yesterday and day before in New Delhi, arrived here this morning and drove straight to Lake View guest house.

The entire Cabinet-making process was shrouded in secrecy and even as Ministers were being called to take their oath no one knew either the strength or the personnel of the new Ministry. It is interesting to note that some of the legislators who occupied the back benches in the lawns were called to take the oath much to their and others surprise.

Ministers

The ceremony was attended among others by the outgoing Chief Minister B Venkatram, former Chief Minister T Anjaiah and Mr K Branmananda Reddi, MP, Chief Justice K Madhav Reddy and judges of the High Court, chairman of the Legislative Council Mukassir Shah and Speaker A Eswara Reddy.

The Cabinet-rank Ministers are: Mr Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy (Chief Minister), Mr C Jagannatharao, Mr N Janardhan Reddy, Mr A Madan Mohan, Mr M A Aziz, Mr M Manik Rao, Mr B Ram Dev, Mrs B Sarojini Pulla Reddy, Mr K Rosaiah, Mr A Veerappa, Mr Paladugu Venkatarao, Mr C H Venkatrao, Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, Mr V Venkateswararao, Mr Kona Prabhakara Rao, Mr C Dass and Mr D Munuswamy.

The Ministers of State are: Mr N Chandrababu Naidu, Mr G Nageswara Rao, Mr I Ramakrishna Raju, Mr P Goverdhan Reddy, Mr Vemanna, Mr B Sammaiah,

Mr V Sanyasi Naidu, Mr V Hanumantharao and Mr P V Raghavulu. Mr T Amar Singh would be sworn in later.

Prominent among those who were members of the Venkatram Cabinet and could not secure place in the new Ministry are: Mr M Baga Reddy, Mr G Venkata Swamy, Mr T Hayagreeva Chary, Mr N Amarnatha Reddy, Mr K Ranga Rao, Mr K Kesava Rao, Mr C Rambhupal Reddy.

In all ten Cabinet Ministers and five Ministers of State in the outgoing Venkatram Ministry were kept out by Mr Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy.

New entrants are: Mr C Das, Mr D Muniswamy, Mr K Rosaiah (all Cabinet rank), Mr R Vemanna, Mr V Sanyasi Naidu, Mr V Hanumantha Rao, Mr P Veera Raghavulu and Mr T Amar Singh (all Ministers of State).

While Mr C Das is the president of APCC-I, Mr V Hanumantha Rao is the president of State Youth Congress-I.

Six Cabinet-rank and four Ministers of State were drawn from Telangana region.

In the new Ministry, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Prakasham, Mahabubnagar, Khammam and Nizamabad districts do not find representation.

Mr Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy told newsmen later than he did not constitute the Ministry either on district base or on caste and communal base.

His approach was to draft capable men, he said. He indicated that he would like to add two or three at a later stage, one of them belonging to a minority community from Telengana region.

Replying to a question, Mr Reddy said that he had a free hand by and large though, as they belong to a national party he had the guidance of the high command. He expressed his gratefulness to the high command and Mrs Indira Gandhi in particular.

Surprises

UNI adds:

There was surprise in the political circles at the exclusion of at least three known followers of External Affairs Minister P V Narasimha Rao.

They are: Mr N Amarnath Reddy, Mr P V Choudhary and Mr T Haigravachary.

Mr C Rambhupal Reddy, son-in-law of former President Sanjiva Reddy, who was in the outgoing Cabinet also does not figure in the new team. But Mr N Chandrababu Naidu, son-in-law of Telugu Desam founder-president N T Ramarao is back as Minister of State.

The post of Deputy Chief Minister has been abolished. The post was revived after a lapse of 10 years by Mr Venkatram when he designated C Jagannatha Rao as Deputy Chief Minister.

This is the fourth Ministry to assume office in the State since the general election in 1978. The earlier Cabinets were headed by Dr M Chenna Reddy, Mr T Anjiah and Mr B Venkatram.

Of the 27 Ministers, 17 are drawn from the Andhra region and the rest from Telengana. There are members from the Harijan community, one from the tribal community and one Muslim, besides a woman.

CSO: 4600/1056

INDIA

TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR PARLIAMENT SESSION GIVEN

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 27.--A major item in the tentative official agenda for the five-week Parliament session opening here on Monday will be a discussion, long demanded and much-postponed, on the Sixth Plan. Parliament sources say that, unlike in the past, the discussion is certain to take place this time.

There could well be a major discussion also on Mrs Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union.

Another discussion which is not on the official agenda so far but is bound to be forced upon the Government by the Opposition will be on the collapse of INSAT-1A within less than six months after it was launched.

The tentative list of Government legislative business for the Lok Sabha includes as many as 49 Bills, 22 pending ones, three pending in the Rajya Sabha and 24 new ones.

Those pending in the Lok Sabha include several important Bills; the Adoption of Children Bill, for instance, which seeks to provide an enabling law of adoption applicable to all communities other than the Muslim community, the Trade Unions (Amendment) Bill which aims at reducing the multiplicity of unions by providing for a minimum qualifying membership of 10% of workers, resolution of inter-union rivalries, and prescription of time limit of 60 days for registration of a trade union.

Also pending is the controversial Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill which will amend the parent Act to empower Central or State Governments to intercept mail within what are described as the limits permitted by the Constitution, as well as to inspect and seize packages containing letters posted in violation of the Act.

Among the new Bills planned to be introduced, considered and passed is one for the setting up of a jute manufacturers' development council.

Only a third of the 49 Bills included in the tentative agenda are likely to be considered and passed during the coming short session, according to some sources.

It is extremely doubtful, according to them, whether the Adoption of Children Bill will be taken up at all. The Bill was introduced as far back as on December 16, 1980, and came to be spotlighted during the recent controversy over the alleged sale of unwanted children from Calcutta slums.

What are certain to be considered and passed are relatively innocuous Bills such as the Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Bill.

CSO: 4600/1077

INDIA

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS TO PARLIAMENT COMMITTEE

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 25 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, September 24.

India is hopeful of getting enriched uranium for Tarapur from France within the framework of the Indo-U.S. agreement of 1963, containing less stringent safeguards than those currently being specified by France.

This was conveyed by the external affairs minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, today to the parliamentary consultative committee attached to his ministry.

The meeting was marked by a severe criticism of the way the Tarapur fuel issue was handled by the government in the recent Indo-U.S. talks and some members expressed the view that the government seemed to be condoning the violation of an international agreement by the United States.

Indo-U.S. Pact

Members also expressed concern over the possible setback to self-reliant development in atomic energy as a result of the decisions on Tarapur. There was a demand for the abrogation of the pact with the U.S. while one member said that in practice, the U.S. had already abrogated it.

The minister reportedly said there was no need to abrogate the pact since alternative arrangements were being made for the fuel.

Mr Rao, while urging the members to wait and see, made a reference to good relations between India and France.

He also reiterated India's stand that it would not accept additional safeguards as conditions for the bulk supply. He assured the members that no rights would be surrendered in any arrangement in this regard.

The members were informed that the Soviet Union had not offered any enriched uranium for Tarapur.

The meeting also discussed the Indo-Pakistan relations and the Lebanon crisis. The meeting unanimously condemned the massacre of Palestinian refugees in West Beirut.

One member drew the minister's attention to reports about Chinese assistance to Pakistan for the development of the nuclear bomb. He wanted to know how such developments in the neighbourhood are in harmony with the Indian efforts to promote bilateral relations.

The minister said the government was aware of these developments. He also said that foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan will meet again to discuss all peace proposals.

Among the members who participated in the discussions were Mr. Chandrajit Yadav, Mr. Sadashiv Bagaitkar, Mrs. Margaret Alva, Mr. K. P. Unnikrishnan and Professor Satyasadhan Chakravarty.

The Lebanon issue agitated many members who suggested several steps that India must take to demonstrate its disapproval of the Israeli action.

It was suggested that the Israeli consulate in Bombay should be closed down. India should take an initiative to work towards economic sanctions against Israel and for a universal condemnation of Israel at the U.N.

While all the speakers condemned Israel, some felt that the closure of the consulate or economic actions were an appropriate response. They said that sovereignty must be restored to Lebanon so that it could be insulated from the baneful influence of outside powers.

CSO: 4600/1064

PRESS COUNCIL OF INDIA STUDIES BIHAR BILL

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 25 Sep 82 pp 1, 9

[Text] Bangalore, Sept. 24.--The Press Council of India has stayed its inquiry into the controversial Bihar Press Bill in view of writ petitions filed in Patna High Court, Mr Justice A. N. Grover, chairman of the council, told reporters today.

He said that three writ petitions had been filed of which one had been dismissed. Two others were pending disposal. He said the council had taken suo motu action on the Bill and written to the State Government to send all material which prompted it to bring forward this legislation. "Hardly any State has brought any matter concerning scurrilous writings to our notice", he added.

Although the Press Council had to stay further inquiry into the Bihar Bill, there was nothing to stop it from making a study of the pros and cons of the legislation. The council had asked a researcher of the Indian Law Institute in Delhi to make a study of all legislation from 1931 onwards.

Mr Justice Grover said the council had taken another step, to address communications to all the States through the Centre to give instances of scurrilous writings so that it could study them. "We will make a thorough study and formulate our recommendations", he said.

The chairman said that journalists were not vigilant enough until the "shoe pinched them". In 1960, when Tamil Nadu introduced Section 292 AIPC, there was no agitation either by the public or newspapers. In 1980 Tamil Nadu promulgated an Ordinance prescribing minimum punishment for an offence coming under its purview.

The Orissa Act was promulgated in 1962 and because of a lacuna in it not a single prosecution had taken place.

Mr Justice Grover pointed out that although the Bihar Bill was a copy of the Tamil Nadu Act, it had two distinctive features. One was that power was given to an executive magistrate, and not to a judicial magistrate, as in the Tamil Nadu Act, to taken cognizance and release a person on bail. [as published] The second was that the executive magistrate was given power,

by amending the Criminal Procedure Code, to sentence a person to three months. This provision was not there elsewhere in the country.

The chairman said the council's inquiry into a complaint made by Mr Murasoli Maran, M.P. and editor of the Tamil daily, Murasoli, had got stalled because of a writ filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Tamil Nadu Act. The court had stayed operation of the Act's provisions. Mr Justice Grover said it was a happy thing that Tamil Nadu had appointed a committee to go into the necessity of having Section 292 AIPC. "Let us hope that something good will come out of this", he said. He said the Press Council had written to the Centre two years ago that whenever legislation concerning the Press was contemplated, it should be consulted. The council had received a reply stating that the Government "is committed to the freedom of the Press and there should be no misgivings that any legislation would be brought forward which would impair it".

Referring to a code of conduct for journalists, Mr Justice Grover said there were two schools of thought. A large body of public and official opinion, as also journalists, held the view that there should be a code. On the other hand there was an equally large body which said there should be no code as such and that the Press Council should build up guidelines by deciding case by case.

He said the first Press Commission in its report in 1954 had recommended that a code of conduct be laid down but the second Press Commission had said that it should be built up case by case. "We in the council feel after discussions that we ought not to lay down a code since the Press Council Act does not empower us to do so" he added.

Mr Justice Grover said the council had decided to prepare and publish a compendium of case laws built up by it on the basis of adjudications given by it so far. "This will give an idea of the principles we have been following", he said.

Answering a question about the Press Council getting more teeth, Mr Justice Grover said everyone felt that the council was a "paper tiger". Initially it was not for changing the character of the council which was based on a sense of morality and ethics. Now it had recommended that it be empowered to suggest stoppage of advertisements for a specified period, suspension of postal concessions and newsprint growth.

Mr Justice Grover said the council at its meeting here had censured a Punjabi newspaper published from Patiala for creating a feeling of communal hatred between Hindus and Sikhs.

The council had upheld the complaint of the editor of a daily Muzaffaranagar bulletin that the police had not taken appropriate action on the attack on the newspaper office in which some staff members were beaten up and teleprinters damaged.

CSO: 4600/1066

CONCLUSIONS OF FREE TRADE ZONE TASK FORCE REPORTED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Sep 82 p 5

[Text] A Commerce Ministry task force on "free trade zones and 100 per cent export-oriented units" has recommended many concessions to "large firms, Indian and multi-national in India and abroad, who have the technological capacity, marketing know-how and contacts" to invest in free-trade zones to boost up export efforts.

The task force set up under the chairmanship of P L Tandon in March 1982 had submitted its interim report in March last and the final one recently.

Regarding investment pattern in free trade zones, the committee has further said that 'in any future policy formulations, flexibility on levels of equity holdings is essential taking into account a foreign investor's contribution to the relevant factors of technology, export earnings, employment etc.'

The committee has recommended that the recently announced permission to zone enterprises to sell 25 per cent of their production in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) against valid import licence should be extended to free sales, even where there are no import licences issued. The sale up to 25 per cent is inclusive of rejects, substandards, defectives, test marketing goods and so on.

However, disposal of scraps and waste materials produced in the manufacturing process will be excluded while computing the value of goods permitted to be diverted to DTA for sale. The limit of 25 per cent will be related to production and not exports.

It recommended a uniform criterion for value-added for all free trade zones as well as 100 per cent EOUs at the rate of 30 per cent by applying the formula based on inflow and outflow to and from these units.

Setting up of five to six free trade zones to provide fillip to export efforts has been also recommended by the task force.

Spelling out the parameters for setting up such zones, the task force has said that these should be set up in a highly selective way along the coast of the country so as to provide outlet for growing export efforts. They

should also offer an internationally competitive package of incentives and infrastructure facilities combined with freedom from controls, rules, procedures and speedy decision making.

The Commerce Ministry has already initiated action to implement the principal recommendations of the interim report submitted in March last.

The task force has also recommended the creation of a single commercially-oriented control body, an autonomous Free Trade Zone Authority of India to fulfil the functions of setting up, building, developing and controlling directly the free trade zones, 100 per cent EOUs and liaising with air cargo complexes, inland container points, dry ports and such other facilities.

Regarding fiscal incentives, the committee has recommended that the existing practice of allowing duty-free imports of inputs required by free trade zone enterprises and ensuring the availability of the local inputs at international prices should continue.

The tax holiday of five years offered to free zones under 1981-82 budget should be extended for 10 years, and further concession up to five years should also be made available on a case-to-case basis.

The concept of tax holiday should expand to cover other elements like dividends, royalties and interest on foreign loans.

CSO: 4600/1068

FOREIGN MINISTRY, OTHERS TELL VIEWS ON LEBANON

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text]

UNEQUIVOCALLY denouncing the latest Israeli 'act of genocide' in Lebanon, the Government of India has observed that those directly involved in the agreement on evacuation of the PLO from that country 'bear a special responsibility in ensuring immediate cessation of Israeli aggression'.

Conveying the official reaction to the Israeli action, the External Affairs Ministry's spokesman on Monday expressed horror at the 'cold blooded barbaric and criminal massacre' of Palestinian men, women and children.

He described it, however as the 'inevitable consequence' of Israel's flagrant extension of its aggression in Lebanon to the occupation of parts of West Beirut 'in want on violation of the agreement on the evacuation of the PLO from Lebanon'.

'No words are too strong to condemn this act of genocide' he declared, and added: 'To the people of Lebanon and the Palestinian residents there for decades the Government of India extends its deepest and sincerest sympathy. We reiterate that we are committed to an united sovereign and non-aligned Lebanon'.

The spokesman further pointed out that the two successive

resolutions in this regard adopted successively by the UN Security Council 'underline the need for the entire international community to concert its efforts towards ensuring that Israeli forces are withdrawn forthwith from Beirut and indeed all of Lebanon, as also in ensuring that Israel complies with all relevant UN resolutions.'

CPI REACTION

In a statement on the same subject, the Communist Party of India sharply condemned the Israeli Government and 'their imperialist backers in Washington', while calling upon the UN Security Council to immediately take the responsibility of protecting the lives of Palestinian and Lebanese people, and 'send armed forces from UN member-countries for this purpose'.

The statement by CPI general secretary C Rajeswara Rao said words failed to convey strong feelings of indignation and horror at the 'barbarous massacre' of almost 1,500 innocent Palestinians.

The statement reiterated the CPI demand for immediate withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanon and all occupied Arab lands, and full recognition of

the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to have their own independent and sovereign state led by the PLO. 'This is the only way for peace in the Middle East', it affirmed.

In a separate statement, CITU general secretary P Ramamurti, MP, said the 'Nazi-style criminal massacre' perpetrated by the Israeli troops had caused natural revulsion in the world public opinion, including that in Israel itself.

CSO: 4600/1056

ANALYST REPORTS DIFFERENCES IN TALKS WITH PAKISTAN

Madras THE HINDU in English 25 Sep 82 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Sept. 24.

The Indo-Pakistani differences over the concept of a no-war pact have widened rather than narrowed in the wake of the last round of official talks in Islamabad in early August.

The members of the informal Consultative Committee of Parliament on External Affairs, who were given a fairly detailed briefing today on the progress of these negotiations, got the impression that India and Pakistan had a long way to go before they could bridge their differing approaches and come to an agreed conclusion on how they should proceed to give a positive orientation to the idea of non-aggression.

At the last round of talks, India presented a draft of the proposed treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation enjoining the two countries to settle all their differences bilaterally without any outside intervention, reaffirm their faith in non-alignment and pledge themselves not to enter into any military alliances or grant bases to other powers under any pretext.

The Pakistan Government rejected all the three propositions contained in the draft, maintaining that the Simla Agreement itself provided for settlement of disputes that could not be resolved bilaterally through other mutually acceptable means in accordance with the U.N. Charter that was equally binding on them.

It also took the stand that, though Pakistan had no intention of granting bases to other powers or entering into fresh military alliances, India could not expect any one member of the

non-aligned community to declare in such categorical terms what other members were not obliged to do to demonstrate their faith in non-alignment.

The other Indian proposal for a joint commission was also rejected for all practical purposes, being described as quite restrictive in approach since it was intended only as forum for discussing issues of economic cooperation without any provision for considering political and military issues which were equally important for promoting better understanding and providing a sound basis for fruitful cooperation.

The Indian side was no less critical of the Pakistani draft for a no-war pact which was too narrow and negative in its concept and application without matching elements in it for putting greater content into it.

It felt that mere reaffirmation of the continued adherence of the two countries to the letter and spirit of the Simla Agreement would not be sufficient for opening a new chapter of lasting peace in the sub-continent.

Tarapur question: There was only a passing reference to the Tarapur question. The Minister reiterated the Indian stand that the proposed supply of fuel by France must necessarily be within the framework of the 1963 Indo-U.S. agreement. He said talks were still going on with France and he did not think that it would be wise for him at this stage to go into the details of these discussions.

CSO: 4600/1067

INDIA

INDIA, NEPAL TO SET UP JOINT INDUSTRIAL PANEL

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 25 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, September 24.

India and Nepal today agreed in principle to form a joint industrial committee consisting of high level officials.

This is stated in the agreed minutes of the official level discussions between the Indian and Nepalese teams.

The minutes were signed this evening by Mr. S. P. Shrestha, leader of the Nepalese delegation, and Mr. S. M. Ghosh, secretary in the department of industrial development, government of India.

The minutes envisage the setting up of an industrial estate at Butwal on the pattern of the estates at Nepalganj Patan and Dharan with Indian assistance.

Clinker Plant

A proposal for an entrepreneurship development programme including training of Nepalese officials and deputation of Indian experts to Nepal was discussed by the two sides.

The Nepalese side would intimate to the government of India the names of officers and entrepreneurs who were to be given training in India.

India assured Nepal of its continued interest in the implementation of the clinker plant at Lakshmipur in Nepal at an early date. A team of the Cement Corporation of India would visit Nepal in this regard.

The project envisages the production of 3,000 tonnes of clinker, with 50 per cent of it to be converted into cement at Lakshmipur for domestic consumption and the balance to be exported to India for grinding at Samastipur in Bihar.

The Nepalese delegation called on the Union industry minister, Mr. N. D. Tiwari, who assured it of India's continued co-operation and assistance in the development of Nepal.

The visiting delegation also held talks with the Association of Indian Engineering Industry (AIEI). It was disclosed at the meeting that a draft treaty to avoid double taxation between India and Nepal had been prepared and a final decision on it would be announced soon.

Mr. Ranji Bhandari, chairman of the northern region of AIEI, said AIEI could train Nepalese technicians in various disciplines and set up four vocational centres in Nepal for this purpose.

CSO: 4600/1064

CPI LEADER JUSTIFIES ALLIANCE WITH BHARATIYA JANATA

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Sep 82 p 10

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 27.--Mr N. Rajesekhara Reddy, a senior member of the central secretariat of the CPI has justified his party's alliance with the BJP and agrees with Mr C. Rajeswara Rao, the CPI general secretary, that Mrs Gandhi's domestic policies are "retrograde".

Writing in the latest issue of the CPI's official fortnightly, PARTY LIFE, Mr Reddy has reiterated that the party does not consider it wrong to join hands with the BJP on issues affecting the people.

Evidently, Mr Reddy, whose article was carried in the fortnightly's issue dated September 22 anticipated that Mrs Gandhi would mention the CPI's alliance with the Rightist political parties in general, and the BJP in particular, to the Soviet President, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, and other Russian Communist Party leaders, during her week-long visit to Moscow.

According to reports Mrs Gandhi did criticize the CPI for its alliance with the BJP during her talks with Mr Brezhnev. This became clear when Mr Rajeswara Rao reacted publicly in Chandigarh on Saturday to Mrs Gandhi's reported criticism of his party in Moscow.

The purpose of Mr Reddy's article is also aimed at impressing upon the party's rank and file that the Soviet Communist Party leaders do not interfere in the internal affairs of the Indian Communists.

In his piece, Mr Reddy has stated that the CPI does not consider the BJP politically untouchable.

He had asserted that the CPI will not abstain from any united agitation of Opposition parties in which the BJP has also joined.

He has said, "Some pro-Indira Gandhi intellectuals" have taken up the "job" of "selling" the Prime Minister's ideas to the Left parties, to the CPI in particular. Mr Reddy said that the CPI had given up the policy of supporting Mrs Gandhi. He said that these pro-Mrs Gandhi elements are attempting to drive the CPI to a position, where it will be isolated from the CPI (M) and the other Opposition parties, including the BJP. The second step

would be to induce it to join the Congress (I) fold, as the only way out of isolation.

According to Communist circles here, on the issue of its alliance with the BJP, however, the CPI seems to be in trouble, though it is conceded that the present political line adopted by the party led by Mr Rajeswara Rao and Mr Rajesekhara Reddy enjoys the "overwhelming" support in the central executive committee and the national council the latter being the CPI's highest policy-making body between the two Congresses.

There are others who point out that the CPI's political line of opposing Mrs Gandhi's Government has brought it much closer to the CPI (M).

CSO: 4600/1077

CPI LEADER RAO ISSUES STATEMENT ON MOSCOW SUMMIT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

THE Communist Party of India has wholeheartedly welcomed the results of the Moscow summit between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev as an 'important factor in the struggle for preserving world peace, ensuring stability in Asia as well as for strengthening our own country's security and self-reliance'.

In a statement on Thursday, CPI general secretary C. Rajeswara Rao observed: 'It is a matter of utmost happiness that President Brezhnev has pledged to strengthen our country in all respects'.

Narrating the various new projects of Indo-Soviet cooperation offered, envisaged or agreed upon, he noted: 'All this will go a long way in strengthening our country's economy and our economic self-reliance only if our country utilises it fully'.

'It is also a matter of great satisfaction that both President Brezhnev and Mrs. Gandhi have

stated in unequivocal terms that the efforts of the two countries to normalise relations with the US, China and Pakistan and other countries are not at the expense of the time-tested friendship between our two countries', he added.

Mr. Rao highlighted the two leaders' unequivocal declaration expressing great indignation at the 'barbarous Israeli aggression against Lebanon with the active support of the Reagan Administration' to destroy the PLO and Lebanese progressive forces.

The CPI leader dwelt at length the Soviet help in expansion of steel, coal, oil, aluminium production and power generation and further capacity increase of the steel plants. He also referred to the Soviet offer of (a) a 1,000 MW super-nuclear power plant; (b) 800 and 1,000 MW thermal power plants; (c) purchase of 500 million metres cloth from India (that is more than the total textile exports of our country).

CSO: 4600/1063

RAO COMMENTS PRIOR TO GANDHI MOSCOW TRIP

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Sep 82 p 8

[Article by Girilal Jain]

[Text] In view of the popular impression, whether justified or not, that the CPI leadership speaks for the Kremlin, it is, on the face of it, rather surprising that the party's general-secretary, Mr. Rajeshwara Rao, should have sharply criticised Mrs. Gandhi's policies just three days before her departure for Moscow on Monday.

The criticism, however, conforms to the general line the CPI has pursued since Mrs. Gandhi's return to office. Like his other colleagues, Mr. Rao would want the Prime Minister to end the country's dependence on the IMF, the World Bank and "other imperialist-dominated institutions", bar the entry of multi-nationals, stop looking to India's own large business houses to step up production, give up the current emphasis on exports, instead develop the internal market through socio-economic reforms, seek the cooperation of the working people and to that end annul laws which are allegedly intended to suppress them.

This is quite a mouthful. Mr. Rao has not described Mrs. Gandhi as a right-wing reactionary but he has come fairly close to doing so. After all, in the CPI's lexicon, a reactionary is one who links the country's economy with "imperialist" economies and institutions abroad and pursues "anti-people" policies at home. It is, however, difficult to believe that the Soviet leadership shares all this criticism of the Indian government's policies. It is, for instance, well known that unlike their Indian friends, Soviet spokesmen last year took the view that New Delhi had little choice but to seek the massive loan of \$5.8 billion from the IMF. And surely it cannot be their position that India should not try to get as much concessional aid as it possibly can from the IDA, the World Bank's soft-lending agency, and members of the Aid-India Consortium.

Arms Supply

There is no evidence that the Soviet policy-makers have had second thoughts on these issues in view of Mrs. Gandhi's recent visit to the United States and her obvious desire to establish, despite the differences, a dialogue

with the Reagan administration. They could have revised their views only if they were not as completely assured as perhaps they were before of Mrs. Gandhi's commitment to friendship with them. In that case India's efforts to diversify its sources of arms supply could also cause them greater anxiety than before in the new context of the poor performance of the Soviet-equipped Syrian forces in the Bekaa valley against the U.S.-equipped Israelis. Soviet embassies round the world have been busy trying to explain that at fault have been the ill-trained and poorly-motivated Syrians and not their weapons.

There is a strong element of speculation in all this. But there can be no doubt that at least on one point the Soviet government's and the CPI's views converge. The Soviets have made no secret of their grievance that India has been running a trade surplus with them year after year and Mr. Rajeshwara Rao has made the same point in his latest statement.

The grievance is misplaced. It seeks to cover up the Soviet Union's economic weaknesses, in plain terms, its inability to meet this country's requirements. Moreover, it ignores three important facts. First, India has after all to pay for the arms it buys from the Soviet Union, which it cannot unless it runs a surplus on the current trade account. Secondly, in spite of these surpluses, the Soviet Union continues to command a sizeable rupee account in India. Thirdly, the Soviet Union is buying through Indian businessmen goods which are either wholly or largely manufactured abroad, which shows that it does not feel handicapped on account of its trade deficit.

The Indian businessmen are allowed to add a certain percentage to the import cost for their contribution to the finishing of the product. But essentially this is transit trade which helps the businessmen make quick profits and the Soviet Union save hard currency. Its usefulness to this country is open to question. It is naturally reflected in India's trade surplus.

Economic Aid

Mr. Rajeshwara Rao and his CPI colleagues must know it as well as anyone else that there are Indian experts who question whether it is in this country's interest any longer to continue the rupee trade. This issue will clearly not figure in Mrs. Gandhi's discussions in Moscow. Indeed, those in charge of the country's economic policies are not yet fully seized of it. But it deserves to be noted that Indian experts who hold this view cannot be dismissed as "Washington patriots" by Mr. Rajeshwara Rao.

A democracy by definition provides for pressure groups, whether motivated by creed or greed. It is, therefore, as legitimate for the CPI leaders to try to push India towards Moscow as for others to try to give Indian policies a pro-Western twist. But they must know that non-alignment is not another name for pro-Sovietism and anti-Americanism and that the gap between a non-aligned policy and a pro-Soviet one cannot be bridged by anti-imperialist rhetoric.

Mr. Rajeshwara Rao has found it necessary to refresh our memory regarding the contribution the Soviets have made to India's economic development in certain critical fields. The exercise is futile in that there is hardly a responsible Indian who is not aware of this fact. But the point is well taken. The Soviets have been very helpful in the development of India's basic and heavy industries. Only, one would like to ask whether this country could have afforded this type of development if substantial Western assistance, including the much-maligned U.S. food deliveries under PL-480, had not been available to provide the necessary cushion against inflation which the emphasis on heavy industry would have inevitably produced. The answer must be in the negative. India could not have afforded to go in for costly projects with long gestation periods at that stage of its development without sufficient external support.

Mr. Rajeshwara Rao recently poured ridicule on the Western view of the Soviet economy. But if he meant what he wrote, he must be rather innocent. The Soviets themselves do not seriously deny that their agriculture is in a bad shape (why else would they be importing at least 40 million tonnes of grains and publishing accounts of so many kinds of failure?), that they are a decade and perhaps two behind the West and Japan in certain key fields, that their productivity is far below the West's and Japan's and that they are overstretched in view of their commitments in Poland, Afghanistan, Vietnam and Cuba.

New Cold War

It does not follow that we should downgrade our ties with the Soviet Union and make a beeline towards the West. It is nobody's case that we should do anything so stupid. Not even the crudest advocates of free enterprise would urge such a proposition these days. In fact many of them are quite happy with the kill they are making in the trade with the Soviet Union. How wonderful to operate in a market as free from competition as India's own! Only, they would like to be assured that the Soviets will not one day suddenly pull the rug from under their feet.

No, the importance of the Soviet economic connection is not in dispute. It is extremely important and so it will remain, and so it will be regarded by whosoever happens to be at the helm of affairs in New Delhi. In addition, it gives this country a certain leverage in its dealings with the West which no Indian government would wish to deny itself. But it will be naive or dishonest to deny that there is a limit to what the Soviet Union can do to promote this country's development and that this limit may have come down rather than gone up in recent years. This is not to suggest that the West does not suffer from a similar limitation. It does, though the constraints in their case are more political than economic. But that only underlines the point which the Indian policy-makers have grasped rather well, the point being that this country needs all the openings it can secure.

Finally, New Delhi cannot ignore the reality around India. The Soviet-U.S. detente of the 'sixties and early 'seventies has given way to a new cold

war. This time the cold war is being waged close to our borders. This cold war is being super-imposed on the existing turbulence resulting from the long-standing Arab-Israeli conflict, the intra-Arab disputes, the rapid pace of economic and social change in West Asia resulting in the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, the Iran-Iraq war and a host of other factors. It is easy to strike a pro-Soviet or a pro-U.S. posture and blame one or the other for the troubles around us. Such partisan attitudes may be useful as part of a debate. But they cannot serve as the basis of a viable policy. The situation is at once bafflingly complex and fluid. To protect and promote India's security and other interests in such a setting calls for a great deal of dexterity and skill.

CSO: 4600/1053

RAO TALKS TO NEWSMEN ON RETURN FROM USSR

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 24 Sep 82 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Sept. 23.—The Soviet visit of the Prime Minister has been very successful and is yet another milestone in Indo-Soviet friendship, the External Affairs Minister, Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, said on his return here today, reports PTI.

Mr Rao, who accompanied Mrs Gandhi to Moscow, told reporters at the airport that he found "very great warmth" for India both on the part of the people and the Soviet Government.

Asked about the Soviet reaction to Mrs Gandhi's visit to the USA Mr Rao said: "I do not think there has been any reaction of any kind". In fact the Soviet Union "understands that India's relations with one country are not at the expense of her relations with any other country. Our friendship with the Soviet Union stands on its own merit and will continue to do so since it is based on mutuality of interest and long-standing ties."

He said the two countries had signed a joint declaration which would be released at the conclusion of Mrs Gandhi's visit on September 26.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr M. K. Rasgotra, also returned to Delhi with the External Affairs Minister.

VISIT TO STAR CITY

After three days of intensive political discussions with President Brezhnev and other leaders, Mrs Gandhi made a sentimental journey to the Star City of cosmonauts outside Moscow this morning.

During the 90 minutes the Prime Minister spent at the Star City, she entered the innards of a Soviet Salyut spacecraft, watched Mr Rajiv Gandhi sit at the controls of the cramped "Soyuz" module and witnessed her elder son don a space suit.

The two Indian candidate cosmonauts, Wing Commander Ravish Malhotra and Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma, were presented to Mrs Gandhi.

Mrs Gandhi was given a send-off by President Brezhnev as she left

Moscow for Tallinn, the capital of Estonia.

The Prime Minister had the last round of the three days of talks with President Brezhnev as she drove to Vnukovo airport with the President.

At the airport, Mrs Gandhi along with Mr Brezhnev inspected the guard of honour thus completing the protocol ceremonies of the visit.

Our Special Representative in Delhi adds: The Communist Party of India today described the outcome of the summit meeting as an important milestone in the growing friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union.

The CPI general secretary, Mr C. Rajeswara Rao, said the results of the meeting would help preserve world peace, ensure stability in Asia and strengthen India's security and self-reliance.

Mr Rao said it was also a matter of great satisfaction that both Mr Brezhnev and Mrs Gandhi had stated in unequivocal terms that the efforts of the two countries to normalize relations with the USA, China, and Pakistan and other countries were not at the expense of the time-tested friendship between the two countries.

He noted with satisfaction the indignation expressed by the two leaders against the "barbarous" Israeli aggression in Lebanon with "the active support of the Reagan Administration" and aimed at destroying the PLO and the Lebanese progressive forces.

Mr Rao said the help offered by Russia in the fields of industry, technology and trade would go a long way in strengthening the Indian economy if it was fully utilized.

SOVIET DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ON FRIENDSHIP WITH INDIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Sep 82 p 6

[Article by I. Arkhipov, first vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers]

[Excerpt]

IN our two countries, Soviet-Indian friendship has become a deep-rooted popular tradition. Based on the principles of mutual respect, territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-interference in each other's domestic affairs, equality and mutual advantage, these relations represent a major factor of peace and security in Asia and all over the globe.

This assessment of Soviet-Indian relations is wholly shared by our Indian friends. Addressing the Friends of the Soviet Union Society in May 1981, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said: 'We are satisfied with and proud of our friendship with the Soviet Union. This friendship has stood the test of time.'

A big role in furthering all-round ties between the Soviet Union and India is played by contacts and meetings between the leaders of our two countries. In the course of Leonid Brezhnev's visit to India in December 1980, the sides signed political and economic documents of major importance, which determined guidelines for the further development of Soviet-Indian relations for many years to come, particularly for construction of a fuel and energy complex, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy projects and some others, the development of which is provided by India's Sixth Five-Year Plan. Such a direction of Soviet-Indian economic cooperation facilitates the development of the Indian economy and the consolidation

of India's economic independence.

In the course of the visit, the two countries also signed a trade agreement for 1981-1985 which took into consideration the possibilities and requirements of the two countries' economic development as well as India's new export possibilities which had emerged thanks to the growth of her industrial potential. The trade agreement provides for a 50 to 100 per cent increase in mutual goods turnover during the period which accords with the assignments of the Long-Term Programme.

The intergovernmental Soviet-Indian Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, which was set up ten years ago, in September 1972, has a major role to play in sponsoring work for the implementation of the agreements reached at the summit level and for the further expansion of mutually advantageous trade and economic relations between the USSR and India.

In the course of its sessions, the Commission examines a broad range of bilateral trade, economic, scientific and technical questions and passes specific decisions aimed at ensuring the fulfilment of mutual obligations stemming from the agreements signed and on concrete projects and topics of cooperation. One of the tasks tackled by the Commission is to initiate new areas and forms of economic, scientific

and technical cooperation. Practically all the ministries and economic and research organisations of the Soviet Union and India participate in the work of the Commission.

At its sixth session held in January 1981 the Commission reviewed the implementation of the agreements which were signed in December 1980 and mapped specific measures for promoting cooperation in the construction in India of fuel and energy projects, ferrous and non-ferrous enterprises, in oil and gas prospecting and other areas. Reviewing the implementation of the trade agreement for 1981-1985, the Commission also investigated the possibilities of the further development and improvement of the forms of trade between our two countries.

Preparations have been completed for the seventh session of the Commission slated to take place in Moscow on the eve of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's visit to the USSR. Preliminary results show that corresponding Soviet and Indian organisations have done considerable work for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the summit level in December 1980.

Soviet-Indian trade relations continue to be developed at a high rate. In 1981 mutual goods deliveries increased by 38 per cent to add up to nearly 2,400 million roubles. It is important to emphasise that along with the export of such traditional commodities as tea, coffee and jute

articles, India has been supplying the Soviet Union in the past few years finished industrial goods. The USSR, for its part, expands the export to India of machinery and equipment. com-

plete sets of equipment for engineering plants, oil and oil products, newsprint and many other articles essential to the development of the Indian economy. The programme for scientific and technical cooperation for

1980-1983 is being successfully implemented. This is all the more true of such areas as engineering, power, meteorology, standardisation and metrology.

CSO: 4600/1058

SOVIET TRADE OFFICIAL WRITES ON COOPERATION WITH INDIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Sep 82 p 6

[Article by Mikhail Kiselev, head of the Department for Trade with Asian Countries, USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade]

[Text] **T**RADE and economic ties are an important constituent of the USSR-India traditional friendly relations. The stable and rapid development of the Soviet-Indian trade began in 1953 after signing the first long-term (five-year) trade agreement. The 6th (1981-85) is now being implemented.

The experience of implementing the five previous long-term agreements has convincingly proved the mutual benefits of Soviet-Indian trade ties. Their planned foundation assures a stable trade turnover growth and stable perspectives for trade development. Of great importance is the fact that trading settlements between the two countries are carried out in the Indian national currency—Rupees.

India has become the USSR's largest trade partner among the developing countries, leaving behind a number of industrial capitalist countries, in particular the USA, by the volume of trade with the Soviet Union. In its turn the Soviet Union is India's most important trade partner, it occupies the first place in India's foreign trade turnover.

USSR-India trade and economic relations have especially progressed over the last decade. A considerable growth of Soviet-Indian trade volumes is accompanied by substantial extension of the range which now includes hundreds of different goods. At one time during the sixties Soviet deliveries constituted plants and equipment (75 per cent of Soviet exports).

This was connected with the Soviet Union's active assistance in India's programme for the country's industrialisation. Soviet machinery and equipment deliveries helped put up a number of large industrial projects into operation, create certain heavy industry sectors and develop power engineering.

In the 1970s the Soviet Union, taking into account the wishes of the Indian side, increased deliveries of many types of raw material and industrial goods of great importance for India's economy: petroleum products, fertilizers, metals, asbestos, newsprint, etc. Since 1976 India began receiving Soviet crude oil.

At present Soviet deliveries cover more than 60 per cent of kerosene and over 40 per cent of diesel fuel, about 55 per cent of asbestos and more than 20 per cent of newsprint of total Indian import requirements.

As for the USSR import from India it is worth mentioning above all that at present the Soviet Union is the largest purchaser of Indian goods. In 1980 the value of Indian export to the USSR exceeded that of 1975 2.2 times. As a result the Soviet Union's share in India's total export reached approximately 15 per cent.

At present the USSR purchases from India about 25 per cent of jute bags and textile, tea, tobacco, more than 40 per cent of black pepper and 50 per cent of cashew nuts exported. In 1976-1980 the Soviet Union imported from India 232 thousand tons of

tea, 96 thousand tons of natural coffee, 77 thousand tons of cashew nuts, about 90 thousand tons of tobacco, 511 million metres of jute cloth, about 791 million jute bags and other goods.

Today the share of finished and semi-finished products in the USSR import from India exceeds 60 per cent. The Soviet Union purchases great amounts of cotton cloth, knitwear and ready-made garments, shoe uppers, paints and dyestuffs, chemical products, handicrafts, carpets and other consumer goods as well as industrial raw material for their manufacture. It is worth mentioning that Soviet foreign trade organisations were the first large purchasers of some goods which helped India create and develop certain industries—for example, the production of woollen knitwear and readymade garments.

The Soviet Union also buys manufactured items like garage equipment, storage batteries, automobile accessories, printing equipment, bench and erection tools, heating units, incinerators, cables, steel-wire rope, etc.

The Soviet Union's purchases of Indian industrial products and many traditional goods assure the employment of hundreds of thousands of Indian workers. Thanks to Soviet purchases India's organisations and firms are able to increase the export of goods difficult to sell on the capitalist countries' markets because of the very strict protectionist measures imposed.

The USSR and India are not competitors; on the contrary,

their productions supplement one another.

The Long-Term Programme set the aim of increasing the mutual trade growth rates 1.5-2 times in 1981-1985.

L I Brezhnev's visit to India in December 1980 was of great importance for the further strengthening and expansion the Soviet-Indian relations.

The trade agreement for 1981-1985 envisages considerable increase in mutual trade volumes. It provides for Soviet delivery of oil and petroleum products, mineral fertilizers, chemical products, medicines, asbestos, newsprint and other products to India. The USSR machinery and equipment deliveries are to be expanded. In particular, India receives machine tools and metal-working equipment, mining, geological prospecting, oil drilling, construction, earth-moving, lifting and conveying equipment, rolling

and chemical equipment as well as air transportation means, components and spare parts for the enterprises constructed with Soviet assistance and other types of machinery and equipment.

The five-year agreement has planned to increase purchases of such goods from India as tea, coffee, black pepper and other spices, cashew nuts, tobacco, castor oil, mica, jute products, pharmaceutical raw material, medicines etc. The Soviet Union will greatly increase the import of Indian industrial consumer goods, in particular, knitwear and ready-made garments, carpets, etc.

The Soviet Union's purchases of Indian machinery and equipment are being increased. The Indian export list includes also electronic instruments components, machinery and equipment being produced at enterprises built with Soviet assistance as

well as machine tools, truck loaders and textile machinery for the current Five-Year-Plan period.

Trade is successfully progressing in the current five-year-plan period. The Soviet goods export to India in 1981 increased by over 25 per cent relative to that in 1960 and the import from India — more than by 50 per cent.

Both sides constantly search for new ways to expand and deepen trade relations. In this connection it is worth mentioning the visit of a group of prominent representatives of Indian business circle headed by Naval Tata to the USSR in September-October 1981 at the invitation of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In the course of talks both sides put forward useful proposals concerning the further development of business relations between Soviet foreign trade organisations and Indian firms.

CSO: 4600/1058

COMMUNIST PAPER ON CONTENT OF GANDHI TALKS IN USSR

20 Sep Talks with Brezhnev

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vinod Taksal]

[Text] Moscow, Sept. 20.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Brezhnev have reiterated their determination to further strengthen Indo-Soviet friendship through multifaceted cooperation and work for the world peace.

The first round of the formal summit talks opened in the Kremlin this evening. Both leaders asserted that the Indo-Soviet friendship had secured the cause of world peace and enjoined their two states to endeavour to deepen and enlarge this trust.

During the hour and half long talks, Mr Brezhnev and Mrs Indira Gandhi expressed their deep concern and anguish over deteriorating situation in West Asia while reaffirming solidarity of the two countries for the Arab cause.

The West Asian situation and events in Lebanon predictably dominated the summit discussions on international affairs. Making his observations, President Brezhnev declared Soviet support to the resolutions of the Arab summit conference at Fez recently

and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi too, extended India's favourable response to that.

However, the two leaders observed that the Arab states had until now been plagued by disunity among themselves which caused their weakness in meeting the expansionist challenges of Israel.

References were also made by both sides to regional situation in close proximity to both India and the Soviet Union, particularly to developments in and around Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

China, which shares long borders both with India and the Soviet Union and with whom its relations have been not too happy over the last few decades, also figured during the summit talks. Brezhnev is learnt to have underlined the hegemonistic intentions of China in Asia, and its colla-

boration with the imperialist US.

In the context of general deterioration of world political situation, the Soviet leader referred to the set-backs the process of detente and disarmament has suffered in recent times and blamed the unsavoury developments squarely on the US administration's 'crusade' to dominate the world militarily.

Mrs Gandhi in her remarks, availed of the opportunity to give her government's assessment of the internal situation in India and is learnt to have particularly deplored that "groups calling themselves leftists" had been supporting the rightists in opposing her policies.

Though there was no comment from Mr Brezhnev, Mrs Gandhi is

learnt to have made a detailed reference to that point.

However both leaders asserted that relations of close friendship and cooperation between the two countries has had a positive impact on the world peace.

Economic Ties

President Brezhnev told Mrs Gandhi that the perspective of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation had been spelt out earlier, and that the Soviet Union wanted it to expand in all respects.

The Prime Minister in response to Brezhnev's remarks observed that bilateral economic cooperation was assisting India in its endeavour towards self-reliance. India needed further expansion of some key sectors of its economy, notably steel and non-ferrous metallurgy and energy resources, including nuclear energy, she submitted.

She appreciated the liberal terms of assistance given by the Soviet Union, which India had always held as a model of friendship.

She pointed out that one of the important factors of widening and growing Indo-Soviet economic cooperation was the low rates of interests on credits and liberal terms of assistance given by the Soviet Union, which India had always held as a model. This, she hoped would continue.

The two leaders are to go into the second round of summit talks tomorrow morning, and cover several other aspects of the international situation and bilateral relations. Following this, they would sign the bilateral documents including some agreements flowing from the recent session of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission sessions.

21 Sep Talks with Brezhnev

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Sep 82 pp 1, 9

[Article by Vinod Taksal]

[Text]

MOSCOW, SEPT. 21.

THE HIGH-LEVEL PERSONAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI AND PRESIDENT BREZHNEV HAVE LED TO GREATER TRUST AND CORDIALITY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AND RESOLVE TO FIGHT UNITEDLY AGAINST SOURCES OF INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS AND FOR WORLD PEACE.

The summit has also facilitated the way for larger Soviet assistance to India in new areas of bilateral economic cooperation, and brought forth a Soviet pledge that it would continue to make every effort to strengthen India.

This impression is enhanced by the high Soviet appraisal of India's role in international affairs, and India's support to Soviet peace initiatives, as well as by the repeated stress by the two leaders on expanding and deepening bilateral economic relations.

After the two rounds of talks the two leaders signed a joint declaration, to be issued at the end of Mrs Gandhi's visit next Sunday. The declaration is expected to reflect the two countries' avowed determination to expand and strengthen bilateral economic relations, and work jointly for world peace.

It also spells out the forthright stands taken by the two leaders on the questions of detente, disarmament and international security, and gives expression to the two States' anguish and sense of outrage at the latest carnage in West Beirut.

NEIGHBOURS

During the second and concluding session of the summit talks in the Kremlin this morning, both countries assured each other that while they were seeking improvement and normalisation of relations with their estranged neighbours, the mutual efforts in this direction 'will not

be at the cost of any trusted and tested friendship'.

The concluding session of the summit was dominated by a review of the regional situations in the immediate neighbourhood of both India and the USSR, and discussions on the foreign policy courses of both China and Pakistan, the situation in and around Afghanistan, and the Indian Ocean region.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi reviewed the recent developments between India and Pakistan, and underlined India's awareness as a neighbour of the internal problems and the situation facing Pakistan. However,

the peoples of both India and Pakistan need to live with each other, she declared and explained in this perspective. India's offer of a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation to Pakistan.

On Afghanistan, Mrs Gandhi indirectly supported President Brezhnev's view, expressed during the opening round of talks last evening, that Pakistan should be persuaded to have direct negotiations with Afghanistan, by reiterating India's emphasis on a political solution to the problem.

Last night, Mr Brezhnev had expressed Soviet wariness over the outcome of the indirect

Afghan-Pakistan talks being held under the aegis of the special representative of the UN Secretary-General, but expressed the hope that the Afghan government would continue to persist with efforts for discussion.

Turning to India's eastern neighbour, China, this morning, Mrs Gandhi recalled that a process of dialogue had been initiated with China, but regretted that no signs of progress had come forth from the exercise. The central problem in relations between India and China, she noted, was the territorial dispute.

In the context of both India's and the Soviet Union's efforts to

improve and normalise relations with the neighbours, Mrs Gandhi reaffirmed the sentiments expressed by Mr Brezhnev last night that this would not be at the cost of 'any trusted and tested friendship'.

Mrs Gandhi recalled that she had reiterated India's position firmly during her recent visit to US too.

The Prime Minister also declared India's avowal that as the host of the next Nonaligned Summit conference, and subsequent chairmanship, it would not allow the nonaligned movement to be weakened.

She strongly expressed India's

view that the nonaligned movement 'is very relevant to the present world situation', and expressed the hope that the USSR too would continue to view it in the same light.

President Brezhnev responded with an assurance that the USSR would like to see greater unity 'which work for international peace'.

He concluded the last session of the summit on a cheery note of rich tributes to Mrs Gandhi personally for her contribution to the strengthening of the Indo-Soviet relations and to maintaining the unity and strength of India.

The Soviet leader also availed himself of the opportunity to pledge continued Soviet effort to strengthen India, and announced that the economic issues raised during the talks would be examined by his country. He suggested that many of the detailed proposals on Soviet-aided joint projects in India be taken up by the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission.

The leaders exchanged the documents in the presence of delegations on both sides and high Soviet functionaries who attended the function. The declaration will be released on Sunday after Mrs Gandhi concludes her week-long visit to the Soviet Union and leaves for Delhi from Kiev, capital of Ukrainia.

It is learnt that Mrs Gandhi has invited President Brezhnev and Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov to visit India. The invitations have been accepted.

The signing ceremony was delayed by 70 minutes as the informal meeting between the two leaders continued beyond the scheduled time.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Indian side were External Affairs Minister P V Narasimha Rao and senior officials. From the Soviet side Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov, Defence Minister Ustinov, Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and alternate member of Soviet Politbureau Boris N Ponomaryev were present.

Earlier, the second session of the summit meeting began at 11 am. Mrs Gandhi was assisted by Mr Narasimha Rao, Mr G Parthsarthi, Dr P C Alexander, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, and Mr M K Rasgotra, Foreign Secretary.

Monday's Talks

In the first round of talks yesterday, Mrs Gandhi and President Brezhnev reiterated their determination to further strengthen Indo-Soviet friendship through multi-faceted cooperation and work for the world peace.

Both leaders asserted that the Indo-Soviet friendship had secured the cause of world peace and enjoined their two states to endeavour to deepen and enlarge this trust.

/During the hour and half long talks, Mr Brezhnev and Mrs Indira Gandhi expressed their deep concern and anguish over deteriorating situation in West Asia while reaffirming solidarity of the two countries for the Arab cause./ [in boldface]

The West Asian situation and events in Lebanon predictably dominated the summit discussions on international affairs. Making his observations, President Brezhnev declared Soviet support to the resolutions of the Arab summit conference at Fez recently and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi too, extended India's favourable response to that.

However, the two leaders observed that the Arab states had until now been plagued by disunity among themselves which caused their weakness in meeting the expansionist challenges of Israel.

References were also made by both sides to regional situation in close proximity to both India and the Soviet Union, particularly to developments in and around Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

China, which shares long borders both with India and the Soviet Union and with whom its relations have been not too happy over the last few decades, also figured during the summit talks. Brezhnev is learnt to have underlined the hegemonistic intentions of China in Asia, and its collaboration with the imperialist US.

In the context of general deterioration of world political situation, the Soviet leader referred to the set-backs the process of detente and disarmament has suffered in recent times and blamed the unsavoury developments squarely on the US administration's 'crusade' to dominate the world militarily.

Mrs Gandhi in her remarks, availed of the opportunity to give her government's assessment of the internal situation in India and is learnt to have particularly deplored that "groups calling themselves leftists" had been supporting the rightists in opposing her policies.

Though there was no comment from Mr Brezhnev, Mrs Gandhi is learnt to have made a detailed reference to that point.

However both leaders asserted that relations of close friendship and cooperation between the two countries has had a positive impact on the world peace.

President Brezhnev told Mrs Gandhi that the perspective of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation had been spelt out earlier, and that the Soviet Union wanted it to expand in all respects.

The exchanges between the two leaders last evening were dominated by issues of world tensions, including situation in West Asia and South Asia, and the state of Soviet-American relations. The discussions suggested close proximity and unanimity of the two countries' perceptions, despite shades of differences on emphasises.

Both leaders expressed their anguish at the carnage under Israeli occupation in West Beirut and their forthright condemnation of the Zionist regime. Mrs Gandhi, later, during her remarks concurred with Brezhnev's demand for termination of hostilities in Beirut and his stress on the need for peace in the entire region.

West Asia

Both countries also found merit in the recent resolutions of the Arab countries at their summit in Fez, which recognise Israel's right to existence and call for transferring the occupied Arab lands to UN trusteeship.

On Afghanistan, President Brezhnev observed that the situation in that country was stabilising but regretted that vast energies of the Afghan Government were being diverted in tackling the activities of outside forces. He stressed the need to persuade Pakistan to have direct talks with Afghanistan, and also expressed the hope that the Afghan government would continue to persist with the effort for discussion with Pakistan.

The Soviet leader also touched upon the situation in South East Asia, and reiterated the Soviet view that China was instigating the member-states of ASEAN to go into confrontation with the three communist states of Indo-China.

On China itself, Mr Brezhnev said his country had no prejudice against its eastern communist neighbour. In fact, the Soviet Union wanted to normalise relations with China, and he had himself proposed this in his speech at Tashkent earlier this year. However, he stressed that good-neighbourly relations with China could not be at the cost of ties with India, Vietnam and Mongolia.

Reviewing the state of affairs at present, Mr Brezhnev said the USSR was under pressure from both China and US. But he warned, "We are capable of defending ourselves both in the east and the west".

21 Sep Talks with Tikhonov

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Sep 82 pp 1, 9

[Text]

MOSCOW, Sept 21
THE Soviet Union has agreed to extend additional technological assistance and financial credits to India for the construction of the second stage of the giant Vizag Steel Plant, Premier Nikolai Tikhonov told Prime Minister Indira Gandhi when she called on him for a separate round of talks this afternoon.

During the one-hour meeting, it was agreed that details of the scope and extent of Soviet help would be worked out later.

The grant of additional Soviet aid, both terms of equipment and low interest credits, however, removes the air of uncertainty over the second stage of the Vizag plant being set up with Soviet assistance.

During the meeting, the two Prime Ministers are learnt to have discussed several new ideas and proposals for the expansion of the bilateral economic cooperation relating to India's requirements of raising production capacities in the field of metallurgy and energy resources.

Official sources were reticent whether the issue of India's

needs to enhance its nuclear energy resources was also discussed. During her talks with President Brezhnev last evening, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi had stressed that several key sectors of Indian economy needed to be strengthened, particularly in steel, non-ferrous metallurgy and energy resources, "including nuclear energy".

However, the two Prime Ministers discussed the possibility of liberal Soviet financial assistance and credit facilities for future joint projects in India. Tikhonov is understood to have assured Mrs Gandhi that the question would be carefully and sympathetically examined by his Government.

This aspect of the talks would provide substantial relief to India, which has often felt constrained in its effort to expand industrial base because credits from international financial institutions have not been forthcoming to the desired extent.

The meeting and exchange of opinions on bilateral relations today were viewed by both sides as generally useful, and the discussions described as mutually satisfactory.

Additional technological and financial assistance for new joint projects in the areas of steel, non-ferrous and oil sectors, and nuclear energy, were indicated when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had her talks with President Brezhnev last evening.

Following the talks between the two co-chairmen of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission, which concluded its session here only last Friday, more bilateral economic agreements are likely to be signed during Mrs Gandhi's current visit here.

Besides, Vizag, the USSR is already engaged in a programme to expand the capacities of Bhilai and Bokaro steel mills beyond their current level of four million tonnes each. It has also indicated interest in the new steel plant India has decided to set-up in Orissa.

An important sector in which substantial boost to bilateral cooperation is virtually ensured is Indian textile supplies to Soviet Union. At present the USSR buys 120 million metres of cloth from India and the trade plan for the next year provides for Soviet imports of 200 million metres of textiles.

Soviet Union has called for ultimately pushing the figure to 500 million metres.

To obviate shortfalls in Indian production capacities, the USSR has offered to sell India its textile machinery too.

At a separate meeting, External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and First Deputy Premier Ivan Arkhipov were to discuss several other specific projects.

Details of the talks which were to take place today were, however, not available.

22 Sep Talks with Gromyko

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vinod Taksal]

[Text]

MOSCOW, Sept. 22.

INDIA and Soviet Union have expressed their shared concern at the escalating nuclear arms race, and stressed the need for early measures towards complete disarmament, both general and nuclear.

The two countries views, which appeared to have largely coincided, were expressed during a 90-minute meeting between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in the Kremlin this morning.

The discussions were confined to reviewing of the international trends and developments which concern all nations, and were largely dominated by exchanges over questions of detente and disarmament. Regional

situations in South Asia and Southeast Asia, including Afghanistan and the Indo-china, also figured during the talks.

Gromyko, who is also a senior and influential member of the CPSU's Politbureau and has been the country's Foreign Minister for the last 26 years, charged that the US Administration was attempting to lull the world public vigil by attempting to put forward a view that nuclear war was not so horrible and could even be acceptable.

The US effort was fraught with serious dangers to humanity, Gromyko said and added that the fear of horror of nuclear war should not be allowed to go out of the people's minds and they should never be allowed to reconcile themselves to "possibility" of nuclear war, 'consciously or subconsciously.'

In reply to the Prime Minister's query as to how the dangers of the nuclear war could be encountered, Gromyko explained the Soviet view as

outlined by President Brezhnev in his proposals tabled at the power should try to forge ahead of others in production of newer weapons, and equality of level of forces should be ensured. [as published] Without using the term "freeze," he also called for "some limit on absolute figures" of nuclear warheads in each country's possession, which could lead off to complete disarmament.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi responded by making India's views on the crucial matter clear by reiterating that the country sought total disarmament, both general and nuclear. Disarmament, she observed was not an issue of "rate of proportion" of reduction of arms.

In the context of Mrs Gandhi's rueful observation that the peace movements in the world were useful but were not growing fast enough, Gromyko referred to the role the Non-Aligned countries could play.

He urged the Non-Aligned countries which are holding their next summit in New Delhi to increase their pressure on the US Administration to resume the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, which have been suspended by Washington unilaterally and put into a cold-storage.

The suggestion was apparently well taken by the Prime Minister, who later remarked that before every such conference of the Non-Aligned states, "great amount of efforts are made elsewhere to divide the movement."

Afghan Issue

She "however" declared India's resolve that as the hosts of the next summit and subsequently as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, it would do its best to ensure that unity is maintained.

Turning to regional affairs and developments, the Prime Minister welcomed the indirect Afghani-Pakistani talks under the aegis of UN Secretary-General's Special Representative, and said they could be "useful if persisted on."

The discussions could lead to resolution of the Afghanistan problem "if no one tries to inject any outside issues into it," she said.

External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao, who was present during the talks, reiterated India's twin stand of principled opposition to presence of outside forces in a third country and outside interference in internal situation of any country. He, too, expressed India's hope that the present efforts for discussions of the dispute would continue.

Later in the afternoon, Mrs Gandhi had an hour-long meeting with alternate member of the Politbureau B N Ponomarev, who is also Chairman of the International Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities (Upper House of Soviet Parliament) and other members of the Commission. Ponomarev is also the Chief Theoretician of the CPSU now, after the death of veteran Mikhail Suslov.

The discussions again centred on international issues.

Nehru Street

In the evening, at an open public function in bright sunshine, Mrs Gandhi unveiled a plaque naming an important square in South Moscow near the Moscow State University after Jawaharlal Nehru. This is the first time that a street or a square in Moscow has been named after any Indian. The ceremony clearly testified the high regard for India in Soviet Union.

24 Sep Talks in Tallinn

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vinod Taksal]

[Text]

**PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI TODAY NOTED
THE THREATS TO INDIA'S SECURITY AND INDE-
PENDENCE OF POLICY, AND REITERATED INDIA'S**

DESIRE TO LIVE IN PEACE AND DEVOTE ITS ENERGIES TO DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE.

During high-level talks with the Estonian leadership, including first secretary of the party K. G. Vainoa and Premier V. I. Klauson, here this morning, Mrs Gandhi said India's efforts for economic development had been hindered by external aggressions five times.

"Even today efforts are being made both inside the country and from outside to destabilise India and to influence it to abandon its path of nonalignment", the Prime Minister said.

She explained to the Estonian leadership some complex problems facing the country, including rapid population growth, but observed that in spite of the hindrances, the country had made significant progress since independence and was today self-reliant in food production.

In its goal of self-reliance, valuable assistance has been rendered to India by the Soviet Union, which has consistently shown understanding of India's problems and stood by it in its moments of difficulties.

Referring to several visits of President Brezhnev to India, and her own current visit to the Soviet Union, the Prime Minister said the exchange of views and opinions between the two leaders and their high-level contacts had helped to strengthen India.

Reviewing the international political situation today, Mrs Gandhi expressed her deep concern over its deterioration, and said the current trends and developments were adding to India's difficulties too.

ECONOMIC ORDER

She expressed India's anxiety over the escalating arms race, especially in nuclear weapons, and lent strong support to the peace movements rapidly grow-

ing the world over. There was need for peace since any threat to it was a source of concern to all countries.

Mrs Gandhi also referred to the widening gap between the rich and the poor nations and made a fervent appeal to the developed States to cooperate with the developing ones in creating a new inter-national economic order.

Simultaneously, she also spoke of the environmental problems that endanger the very life on earth.

Turning to the host city spread along the Baltic coast, where special efforts are made to check pollution of the sea waters, Mrs Gandhi paid tributes.

The mediaeval Tallinn was today a microcosm of Soviet nationalities, and a symbol of Soviet economic progress, she said.

Estonian party first secretary K G earlier traced the history of the subjugation of the tiny Baltic republic, which has a population of 15 million; until its liberation on 22 September, 1944, by Soviet forces from Nazi Germany, and pointed out the fast pace of development since then.

The republic today produces in a week as much as the gross annual output during the 'forties under the bourgeois government, and in capita power generation and consumption led even the advanced countries like US, West Germany and Japan.

The republic's industrial goods were being exported to over 80 countries, including India, Vaino said and added that though a small republic, it was bound with India by a thousand ties.

Estonia is receiving several Indian industrial machineries and equipment, including printing machinery and equipment and medicines, and was to receive industrial lathes next year. On its part, it was supplying India electrical equipment, gas analysing equipment, and machinery for oil refining.

Several Indian books, including Nehru's 'Discovery of India', have been translated into the Estonian language, and a collection of Tagore Poems was to be brought out soon.

A testimony of the Indo-Estonian cultural exchanges and popularity of Indian arts came soon after the official level talks, when a fragment from a ballet, Bhakti, was presented as part of the repertoire at the Estonian theatre. Mrs Gandhi led the loud applause for the fine ballet. She also nodded her appreciation for the Estonian folk melodies and dances which suggested both Swedish and Danish influences on the republic's culture.

Earlier in the morning, the Prime Minister laid a huge wreath at the monument to the Unknown Soldier and the Eternal flame, and paid silent tributes in the memory of those who liberated Estonia from fascist yoke, she also visited the old city centre, where the 14th century town hall with a rising spire is still preserved.

As a pale autumn sun inclined westwards and lent dazzle to the blue, clean waters of the Baltic Sea, the Prime Minister embarked for Kiev on a third leg of her five-day official visit to Soviet Union. Large crowds bade her affectionate farewell.

25 Sep Talks with Scherbitskiy

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Article by Vinod Taksal]

[Text]

KIEV, Sept. 25

PRIME MINISTER INDIA GANDHI TODAY AGAIN SPOKE OF DANGERS TO WORLD PEACE AND STABILITY, AND CALLED FOR CONCERTED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO COUNTER THEM.

During her high-level talks with CPSU politbureau member V. V. Scherbitski, who is also first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party, Mrs Gandhi reviewed the international scene and stressed need for ensuring peace and security for the peoples of the world.

The Prime Minister also reiterated India's policy of peace and amity and said the country had been making efforts for good neighbourly relations with its neighbours.

She particularly referred to Pakistan's massive arms build-up, without naming the neighbouring country, and said this

could not but alarm India. However, it had responded to such militarisation with an offer of a friendship treaty.

The Prime Minister strongly deprecated the militarisation process, and said arms build-up always hindered progress and caused diversion of meagre national resources of developing

States from their urgent task of national construction.

Turning to India, she said the country would have made substantial economic progress but for external threats and internal reaction. Even then, the country was today self-sufficient in the production of foodgrains and had greatly boosted its

power generation. Significant progress had also been made in the production of coal and processing of industrial raw materials. In this, the Soviet Union had rendered valuable assistance to India.

However, a great many problems still remained to be solved, and the situation had been rendered complex by the neglect of the state sector and abandonment of any planning processes by the previous Janata regime. Mrs Gandhi said her Government had to start from a scratch on returning to power.

Politbureau member Scherbitski referred to Mrs Gandhi's visit to the USSR and her summit talks with President Brezhnev, Premier Tikhonov and other Soviet leaders, and said the visit had once again underlined

the importance of Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation. This friendship was an important factor of peace in the world.

UKRAINE'S HELP

While expressing understanding of India's problems and difficulties in its economic advancement, Scherbitski pointed out that the Ukrainian Republic, though small in size, was contributing to India's key sectors of economy.

Ukraine has supplied in the past machinery and equipment for construction of such giants as Bhilai, Bokaro and Durgapur plants set up with Soviet assistance, and had also contributed expertise.

The republic and its capital of Kiev were totally ruined and destroyed during the civil war and the Second World War, but had now risen again, ascending

to new heights in production of power, food, and industrial equipment and machinery, Scherbitski said.

He attributed the growth of the republic's economy to a comparative period of peace in Europe, and underlined the need for total security and removal of threats of war.

He particularly referred to the Soviet Union's pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and said this was an important step towards disarmament and reduction of nuclear threats.

The Ukrainian leader also lauded the role of India as a nonaligned country, and the contribution of Mrs Gandhi personally toward the peace movement, and assured that Ukraine, an independent member of the UN, would always support any peace initiatives from India.

CSO: 4600/1055

SELECTED EDITORIALS ON GANDHI VISIT TO USSR

'HINDU' Notes Strains in Relations

Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Sep 82 p 8

[Text]

A SIZABLE ECONOMIC content has been added to Indo-Soviet relations with the projects and programmes announced during Mrs. Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union. Trade between the two countries is to increase by 1.5 to 2 times by 1986 and maintain rapid growth till 1990. This is an eminently desirable objective and a much higher level of exports from India would be necessary to balance the equipment imports for the various projects involving Soviet collaboration. It would be in the interests of the country to spread the growth in as wide a range of goods as possible even while taking advantage of the Soviet interest in consumer goods such as textiles, footwear, dry batteries, and cosmetics. And enough flexibility would have to be built into any long term arrangement to ensure that the country does not lose out on prices. In the field of basic industries where Soviet assistance has been forthcoming from the early days of the process of planned development, there is to be a further widening of cooperation. An agreement was signed last year for equipment for the Visakhapatnam steel plant, the third steel plant to come up with Soviet collaboration. The Soviet Union has now offered to help in the pig iron stage of the proposed steel plant in Orissa for which the arrangement with a British consortium fell through. There are, in addition, the alumina plant in Andhra Pradesh and the expansion programmes of the Bhilai and the Bokaro plants. And despite efforts since the late Seventies to diversify the sources, defence purchases from the Soviet Union including MIG 25s and missiles are sizable.

One very interesting offer that Moscow made during Mrs. Gandhi's visit was to set up a 1,000 megawatt nuclear power plant. In itself, the proposition would seem attractive, given the power shortage in the country and the desirability of increasing the nuclear component in the

total power generation. The larger question of nuclear policy, however, is involved, and a great deal would depend on the safeguards terms of the power plant. Even if, as would be expected of a member of the nuclear suppliers' club, the Soviet Union insists on safeguards in perpetuity on the plant, the pursuit clause, retaining its consent on reprocessing of the spent fuel and the bar on the use of the derived material in any explosion, the terms might appear to be less onerous than the U.S. insistence on "full scope" safeguards or bringing all nuclear installations in the country under international inspection. It might, however, weaken the position vis-a-vis France whose bid to superimpose similar terms as a substitute fuel supplier under the existing Indo-U.S. agreement for Tarapur has been resisted by India. And at a time when the country has attained the capability to build a wholly indigenous nuclear power plant such as the one at Kalpakkam and a fast breeder, the problematical effect that the Soviet offer might have on the Indian scientists concerned is a matter that bears close scrutiny.

On the political plane, the two sticking points since 1980 have been the Indian effort to improve ties with China and Pakistan and the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan. The Soviet leaders felt concerned enough over India's fence mending attempts to warn of China's "hegemonistic" designs and Pakistan's insincerity in proposing a no-war pact. This does not seem to have made any great impact on Mrs. Gandhi, and, predictably, even while pointing out the difficulties with China and Pakistan, her response was that any new friendship will not be at the cost of ties with the Soviet Union. On South-West Asia, the joint declaration calls for "full respect to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and nonaligned status of the countries of the region", though the Soviet

Union has itself failed to abide by this principle in Afghanistan where 80,000 of its troops are stationed. India has already expended some of the goodwill it has built up in the nonaligned community by not coming out categorically against the Soviet action and by trying to balance references to the direct and massive Soviet military presence with a mention of the Western and Chinese covert help to the Afghan rebels. More worrying has been the recent

development in India's neighbourhood, with the U.S. using the Soviet presence as an argument to rearm Pakistan with F-16s and other weaponry. It must by now be clear to the Soviet leaders that their Afghan action has introduced real strains in the relations between the two countries and the tensions in the region cannot be eased without an early end to their military presence in Afghanistan.

'TIMES' Sees Nothing New

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Sep 82 p 8

[Text]

Mrs. Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union has helped emphasise the obvious. That the two countries continue to value greatly their friendly relations. It is difficult to believe that the Soviet leaders needed to be reassured after the Prime Minister's well publicised visit to the United States in June-July. They would have known as well as any other discerning student of Indo-U.S. relations that the differences between the two countries, especially in the context of the twin American decisions to rearm Pakistan and build up a rapid deployment force for possible use in and around the Gulf, were too deep to be quickly resolved. Moreover, despite India's efforts to diversify its sources of arms supply and strengthen its economic ties with the West, including the United States, and Japan, the Soviet Union remains and is bound to remain this country's major partner in both fields. It is not only India's principal supplier of sophisticated hardware but also its biggest trade partner. So the Soviet leaders did not have any reason or need to entertain any misgivings. The same was equally true of India. This does not mean that Mrs. Gandhi went to Moscow only because she had to return Mr. Brezhnev's visit to New Delhi. Summit meetings are useful even when there are no urgent problems between two friendly countries. They help clear the way for strengthening ties. This is especially so in the case of the Soviet Union where decisions tend to be taken at the top level.

As at the end of all such visits, the joint declaration in this case deals at length with a variety of issues of global importance such as nuclear disarmament, the need to restore *detente* between the two superpowers, find political solutions to conflicts in West Asia, south-east Asia and elsewhere, convert the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and so on. On most of these questions, Mrs. Gandhi has endorsed what the Kremlin claims is its policy. But let us face it, in reality all this does not amount to much. The Soviet-U.S. relations are going through a difficult phase and they can improve only as a result of specific agreements between them. In West Asia, the situation is too complicated to be discussed meaningfully in terms of principles. The same is true of south-east Asia. In West Asia, the Soviet Union does not possess at least at the moment much of a leverage and India's endorsement of certain broad principles enunciated by it cannot improve its position. Essentially, therefore, Indo-Soviet relations have to be seen and discussed in bilateral terms. And on that basis, while there is considerable scope for strengthening them, it is somewhat of an exaggeration to talk of a breakthrough or of scaling new heights. The

Soviet Union has made certain concrete offers, including a 1,000 MW nuclear power plant. The Indian experts will be considering the feasibility and usefulness of these offers. But even if they go through, they will not lead to a qualitative jump in the relationship. Indeed, it passes understanding that we should expect such jumps in a more or less trouble-free relationship.

'STATESMAN': Economic Relations Stressed

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Sep 82 p 8

[Text] Though Mrs Gandhi's discussions in Moscow covered a wide range of global issues, the main emphasis in the talks on bilateral relations was on the prospects for further economic collaboration. Indo-Soviet trade has been expanding in recent years, and except between 1978 and 1980, this country's exports have always been in excess of imports from the Soviet Union. This trend is expected to continue in view of the demand in that country for a wide range of commodities and manufactured consumer goods such as tea, cashew kernels, jute goods, cotton textiles, tobacco and leather. Under the rupee trading system there is need for balancing the trade at least over the medium term, if not every year, and it does not appear that the USSR is now in a position to match India's exports in spite of its continuing collaboration in the expansion of the two steel projects at Bhilai and Bokaro, aid for the Visakhapatnam steel plant, and participation in our coal and engineering sectors. Not much is known of the value or quantum of Soviet contribution to

defence supplies or its future plans in this respect, but if the normal trade turnover should be doubled or increased still further, as forecast optimistically by the Soviet side, supplies of machinery and equipment, chemicals and oil products may have to increase at a much higher rate which can help to fill the present gaps in India's needs consistently with its plans for improving technology.

Cooperation in the construction of the Orissa steel plant is one of the possibilities mentioned, but still in vague terms perhaps because there is an apparent renewal of British interest in the project after Mr Pranab Mukherjee's recent talks in London. The implications of Moscow's other major gesture of offering to build a 1,000-megawatt nuclear power plant are even more indefinable, and after the unhappy experience of the uncertainties over the Tarapur unit, Mrs Gandhi has naturally been cautious in reacting to the proposal. These two examples of the areas of possible cooperation only underline the limitations under which, both sides

have to explore the scope for expanding bilateral relations.

Obviously when India's debt servicing obligations increase from 1984-85, the urgency for increasing her exports to other areas to earn free foreign exchange may compel restraint on expansion of rupee trade, unless supplies from the Soviet Union can replace imports from other areas to save on payments in convertible currency. For the present, protectionism and recession in the Western industrial countries have restricted opportunities for India's exports, and hence any alternative outlet for the latter is beneficial. If export growth has to be maintained, production in both agriculture and industry will have to expand at a rate which can be achieved only with considerable effort and greater coherence in economic policy. World economic trends will exert a decisive influence. Though the Moscow joint declaration favours the launching of the global negotiations on economic problems under U.N. auspices, the Soviet leadership has not budged from its stubborn refusal to participate in the North-South dialogue.

CSO: 4600/1074

GANDHI SPEAKS TO PRESS ON RETURN FROM USSR

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Sep 82 pp 1, 7

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI informed newsmen in the Capital on Sunday that no decision had yet been taken on the Soviet proposal for setting up a 1,000 MW nuclear power plant in India, but details of the Soviet offer were to be worked out and gone into by the technical teams.

Mrs Gandhi was addressing a press conference at the Delhi Airport soon after her arrival following a week long official visit to the USSR which she said was to strengthen the existing friendship and further widen the already broad economic co-operation with the Soviet Union.

The Prime Minister was accorded a warm welcome at the airport by her Cabinet colleagues, Soviet Charge d'Affaires S I Semivolos, Congress-I MPs and party functionaries. Her grand daughter Priyanka and her daughter-in-law Sonia were the first to receive her and her son Rajiv, who had accompanied Mrs Gandhi in this visit.

She said the Soviet Union was trying to help India in its nuclear power programme and underlined that the 'Soviets are specially careful about the safety aspect of nuclear plants'. She further pointed out that simply because there were some problems at Tarapur it did not mean that a new design would also be faulty.

Asked if she had complained to the Soviet leaders about the role of the CPI in India, she snapped back: 'Why should I complain?' She said she did not specifically talk on the subject in Moscow. But at the same time she informed that Soviet President Brezhnev had given her a bird's eye view of the economic and other developments in the Soviet Union and she had in turn given him a bird's eye view about the political and economic situation prevailing in India.

Then she observed: 'If the CPI here thinks that the Janata, BJP or the Lok Dal are more progressive it is for the whole world to see if it is correct or not.' She also added that it involved attitudes of these parties on foreign policy as well.

She said India's views of Afghanistan were clear and repeated several times. The question of withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan had to be decided by the government of that country. It was difficult to ask the Afghan Government to re-

move 'someone' when rebels helped with arms supplies from other countries were active. The Afghan Government wanted the presence of Soviet troops to fight the rebels.

She reaffirmed that both the arming of the rebels and the presence of Soviet troops should be viewed together.

Mrs Gandhi was asked if something concrete had emerged from her talks with Mr Brezhnev on steps to ensure that such incidents like the latest Israeli massacre of Palestinians in Lebanon did not recur. She said the Soviet Union and India had long before the present incident condemned the Israeli aggression, but she did not know what concrete thing could emerge 'We can only create an atmosphere' so as to prevent recurrence of such barbarous incidents, she added.

Asked about the difference of her visit to the USSR with that to the US, Mrs Gandhi said the 'two are entirely different' although 'one common thing is that both are goodwill visits'.

She underscored that the USSR had stood by India 'in its moment of need' and 'has assisted us in our industrial development'.

"Today we seek friendship with all countries", she added.

A Soviet correspondent asked her about the role of the non-aligned movement now that India was about to host the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit and in the light of the fulsome tributes the Soviet President had paid to India for its contribution to the development of non-alignment.

"When the non-aligned movement came into being", she said, "its purpose was that it should work for lessening of tension and become a factor for peace. Today, we feel that this movement is even more relevant when the situation is far more complex".

She emphasised that the non-aligned countries should work for cohesiveness of the movement and to make it more effective it must raise its voice for restoring peace and harmony in the world.

In reply to yet another question, she said: "We must try to work in the non-aligned movement to make the people conscious of the dangers of war".

India, she said, had always worked for peace, disarmament and particularly for nuclear disarmament. The need for greater efforts was necessary "today when confrontation and tensions are growing".

Asked about the outcome of the present visit, she said this time or at any time her aim was only to increase goodwill between the countries. One generally kept in touch with governments. "But this type of visits make people of those countries aware of the goodwill and friendship of Indian people towards them", she said.

She was asked when India could launch its own manned space flight. "You are jumping very far away", she replied with a smile. She referred to the training now being undergone by the two Indian test pilots selected for Indo-Soviet space flight, and added: "Let us see how it goes".

When a Soviet correspondent wanted to get her impressions of Tallinn and Kiev, she said she was very happy to visit the Baltic state of Estonia since she had longed to go to those states. As for Kiev it was one of the most beautiful cities she had seen. "It has almost 20 metres of greenery for every single citizen", she remarked.

She also said in Hindi that she had taken with her the goodwill of the Indian Government and people for the Soviet Government and people, and was bringing back the good wishes of the Soviet people and Government for the Indian people. The visit had been successful and had given her an opportunity to meet not only the representatives of the Soviet Government but also the Soviet people.

CSO: 4600/1073

ARREST OF MANEKA GANDHI ASSOCIATES PROTESTED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 26 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, September 25.

The arrest of three of Sanjay Vihar Manch leaders on charges of murder were today described by Mrs. Maneka Gandhi as "sheer political vendetta."

Who is behind all this and what is the motive, she was asked at a crowded press conference held on the lawn of her residence at 132, Golf Links.

"The prime minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, obviously," was her reply.

The motive was to implicate all her associates in criminal cases to isolate her because "I visited Amethi." "I have visited so many other constituencies but this kind of panic reaction has never set in," she added.

/Did she fear arrest, a newsman asked her. "I do not fear arrest, but I expect to be arrested," she replied./ [in boldface]

Mrs. Maneka Gandhi said she had seen her name on a slip of paper with the FIR in the court of the metropolitan magistrate, Mr. R. L. Chugh. In the section under 'conspiracy,' there was her name together with those of Mr. Suresh Paliwal, MLA, and Mr. Shoam Osmani.

Opposition leaders reacted promptly to the development. After Mr. J. N. Misra was arrested from his 12, Park Road, residence at 3 a.m. and taken to Daryaganj police station, various opposition leaders visited the police station at 7 a.m. Among them were Mr. Raj Narain, Mr. Rameshwar Singh, MP, and Mr. Ram Vilas Paswan, chief whip in the Lok Sabha (Lak Dal-Karpoori Thakur group).

Mrs. Maneka Gandhi spoke to them and later contacted Mr. L. K. Advani, MP (BJP), Mr. N. H. Bahuguna, MP and president of the Democratic Socialist Party, Mr. Harkishan Singh Surjeet, (CPM) MP, and Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Janata president. She told newsmen that they were of great help to her in facing the problem.

In a joint statement, Mr. Bahuguna, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. Karpoori Thakur and Mr. Raj Narain condemned the arrests "in the false and concocted case of murder."

They said: "This is a clear demonstration of the fact that the ruling party has gone mad out of revenge and political vendetta. The behaviour of the police at the time of arrest of Mr. Misra at his residence was highly deplorable. The police entered his bedroom without warrant and arrested him without any evidence against him. The case is still at the investigation stage as is clear from the wireless message itself. The Delhi police admit that they have arrested Mr. Misra on the basis of the wireless message and order on the telephone."

"This reminds us of the black days of the emergency," said the opposition leaders in their statement. They demanded the immediate release of the three associates of Mrs. Maneka Gandhi and withdrawal of false cases against them and the suspension of all those personnel responsible for the "illegal arrest."

While Mr. Misra has been charged under sections 302, 201, 120(b) and 380 IPC (murder, causing disappearance of evidence in crime, conspiracy and theft), Mrs. Maneka Gandhi said she had no inkling of the where-abouts of Mr. Kalpnath Sonkar, MP, and Mr. Akbar Ahmed, MLA.

Mrs. Maneka Gandhi claimed that Mr. Arun Nehru, Congress (I) MP, had sent a message at 8 a.m. today to Mr. Misra's family that the case against him could be withdrawn immediately "if he adopts our line of action"--that is, if he leaves her company and went back to Mrs. Indira Gandhi. She declined to name the courier whom she said she knew.

While Mrs. Maneka Gandhi claimed that Mr. Sonkar had been arrested in Basti (UP), where he was mourning the loss of Mr. Tikori Singh "who was like a brother to me," an official spokesman in Lucknow denied that the MP had been taken into custody.

Also at her press conference was Mr. Shujaat Ullah Khan, supreme court advocate, who appeared as counsel for Mr. Misra in court today. He said in his oral arguments he had contended that Mr. Mishra should not be moved to UP, as there was a danger of his being shot dead. His death, he said, could then be shown by the police as having taken place in an "encounter." Mr. Arun Nehru's alleged role was also mentioned in court. "The state counsel did not challenge our contention on these issues," Mr. Khan claimed.

In his order, Mr. Chugh remanded Mr. Mishra to judicial custody till September 29, when he was to be produced in court again. He directed the superintendent of Tihar central jail to give proper medical treatment to Mr. Misra, a heart patient, and to have him examined by a senior doctor of All-India Institute of Medical Sciences as soon as possible and if necessary, from medical point of view, get him admitted to the AIIMS. Dealing with Mr. Misra's application for grant of better class in view of his status, the court ordered that he be given 'A' or 'B' as per rules.

Describing the arrest of Mr. Misra as "illegal", Mr. Khan said the police had no warrant and were in plain clothes.

CSO: 4600/1069

THERMAL POWER CHIEF GIVES YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT

Madras THE HINDU in English 26 Sep 82 p 12

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Sept. 25.

Mr. A. K. Sah, Chairman and Managing Director of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) told a news conference here on Saturday that he would sign a formal agreement on September 30 in the U.K. with a British consortium, Northern Engineering Industries group, for setting up a 1000 MW super thermal power station in Rihand in the Singrauli region. (Two units of 500 MW each).

Mr Sah said the British consortium would construct the power station on a turnkey basis within five years. The cost of the equipment and services would be £31.5 millions (about Rs. 50 crores).

Mr. Sah who was giving the highlights of the performance of NTPC for 1981-82, said the NTPC had tied up a \$300 million World Bank credit for the second stage expansion of the Ramagundam super thermal station consisting of three units of 500 MW each. A \$30 million OPEC fund was also available for this project. The NTPC had commissioned the fifth 210 MW unit of the Badarpur thermal station marking the completion of the total expansion of the power station. The first 200 MW unit of the first super thermal station at Singrauli was commissioned in February 1982. The NTPC has also signed an agreement with Technoproexport of the Soviet Union for setting up a thermal power station at Waidhan in Madhya Pradesh.

Mr. Sah said the NTPC had presented to the World Bank a proposal for financial assistance to transmission projects estimated to cost Rs. 500 crores in the period July 1983 to June 1984. The project would consist of constructing transmission lines over a distance of about 4000 km and associated sub-stations. For the period July 1984 to June 1985, the NTPC would seek assistance from the World Bank for the second stage expansion of the Farakka super thermal project with three units of 500 MW each, estimated to cost Rs. 1000 crores. The quantum of World Bank aid sought would be about 50 per cent of the project cost in both these cases.

Mr. Sah said the total budget approved for the NTPC by the Government for 1982-83 was Rs. 474 crores of which it had so far incurred an expenditure of Rs. 207 crores in the first six months. It proposed to seek an increase in the financial allocations for this year to Rs. 517 crores.

The NTPC, during the first stage of its development of the nation's transmission system, would interlink its super thermal power stations in all zones with the major user centres through a 400 kV transmission work.

The entire southern region comprising Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala had agreed that the entire 400 kV system of the southern States should be constructed, owned and operated by the NTPC.

CSO: 4600/1071

FACTS, FIGURES ON SOVIET COOPERATION WITH INDIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Sep 82 p 7

[Text]

SOVIET CREDITS TO INDIA

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Long-Term credits | Rs. 1,814.4 crores |
| Commercial credits | Rs. 639 crores |
| Rate of Interest | 2.5 per cent |

2 PROJECTS ASSISTED BY THE USSR

About 80 industrial and other projects have been built or are under construction in India with Soviet assistance, and more than 50 have been put into operation.

Of these, 6 are in metallurgy, 10 in coal and mining, 11 in oil, 10 in engineering, 10 in power, 6 in agriculture, and 10 in education and science.

3. CAPACITY OF PROJECTS

Indo-Soviet projects will have the following annual capacities:

Steel (Present Estimate)	13.5 million tonnes
Aluminium "	100,000 tonnes
Iron Ore "	6.5 million tonnes
Oil (ONGC) "	13 million tonnes
Coal "	47 million tonnes
Heavy machines & Mining machinery	125,000 tonnes
Power generation "	3,068 MW
Power equipment "	2.7 million KW

4. PRODUCTION OF INDO-SOVIET PROJECTS

(in per cent of total Indian production)

Steel	over	35 per cent
Oil	"	60 per cent
Petroleum products		30 per cent
Refining (Projection)		53 per cent
Electricity		20 per cent
Coal (Projection)		41 per cent

5. PRODUCTION OF INDO-SOVIET PROJECTS IN 20 YEARS.

(in figures)

Steel	40 million tonnes
Oil	70 million tonnes
Heavy machinery	700,000 tonnes

6. EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Total employment in Indo-Soviet projects	160,000
Total trained in projects	122,000
Trained under Soviet specialists	83,000
Trained in the USSR	4,000

7. STEEL

Estimated steel production by 1990	21 million tonnes
Production of Indo-Soviet projects	14 million tonnes
Employment in Indo-Soviet projects	65,000

8. HEAVY MACHINERY

Production of HMBP plant, Ranchi, from inception	430,000 tonnes
Production of MAMC, Durgapur from inception	270,000 tonnes

9. OIL

Total onshore oil production of ONGC from inception	83 million tonnes
Total gas production from inception	10,000 million cu.m.
Soviet specialists delegated to ONGC from inception	1,500
Indians trained in the USSR	300
Total refinery capacity	30 million tonnes
Capacity of 3 Indo-Soviet refineries (Projection)	18.6 million tonnes

10. POWER AND POWER EQUIPMENT

Growth of power production 31,000 MW (1981)	
Indo-Soviet projects (10 thermal and hydel)	3,068 MW
Contribution of Hardwar Heavy Electrical Plant to power equipment production	13,000

11. AGRICULTURE

No. of State farms built with Soviet assistance	6
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No. of fine-fleece merino sheep supplied	10,000
No. of Karakul sheep supplied	250
No. of fur rabbits supplied	440
No. of tractors supplied for agricultural mechanisation	33,000

12. COAL

India's coal production in 1980	114 million tonnes
Estimated growth in coal production	60 million tonnes
Production of coal through Soviet assistance after mastering the project capacities	47 million tonnes

13. TRADE

Indo-Soviet trade in 1953	Rs. 1.7 crores
in 1981	Rs. 2397.9 crores
in 1982 (estimated)	Rs. 3260 crores

India's largest trade partner	USSR
Share of USSR in India's exports	15 per cent
Share of manufactured items in India's exports to the USSR	60 per cent

EDUCATION

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
 Five Departments of Aeronautics, Metallurgy, geophysics, automatics and computer technology
 Five Specialised Technical Schools

CSO: 4600/1058

CORRESPONDENT NOTES PROBLEMS OF INDIAN TECHNOLOGY

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 26, 27, 28 Sep 82

[26 Sep 82 p 8]

[Text] A top technocrat in the Energy sector recently explained to me that the collaboration with Siemens for 500 MW power plants became necessary because Indian know-how stopped at the 200 MW range. Did India have the total capability to set up from scratch even a one megawatt power plant without any external props whatsoever, I asked. "Quite frankly, no", replied the official.

This brief dialogue neatly sums up the dilemma of Indian technology in almost every sector of the economy, be it agriculture or industry, nuclear or space science. Even in small things like making a motorized wheat thresher our technology is so primitive that hundreds of poor farm workers lose their arms every year working on these clumsy machines.

In a paper he wrote some years ago, Dr Y. Nayudamma, the then Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, said: "Assuming linear projections of announced growth rate targets, it will take 357 years for India to catch up with the average income level of some developed nations. These figures only go to indicate clearly the big gap that exists in integrating the policy and planning for science and technology with economic planning. The policies for development will be meaningful only if major technological changes make large jumps in production possible both in agriculture and science".

Our scientists habitually claim credit for what is not theirs. Until the INSAT-1A satellite failed, how many people in India knew that it was manufactured by an American firm and not by Indians? Nor is it widely known that the country's atomic energy venture which has now achieved an installed capacity of 800 MW at 25% load factor was launched more than 30 years ago with the mission of creating a capacity of 8,000 MW by 1980.

Primitive

A prominent Indian scientist with several major achievements to his credit claimed that India had the total capability to set up its own steel mill.

When I sat down with him and later with a prominent metallurgist for a detailed exercise, both said the best thing would be for Indian firms to have a third share in the first of the three upcoming plants and two-thirds in the second. They should then be able to make the third all by themselves. Similar inquiries about the widely publicized colour TV know-how of the Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani, revealed that considerable imports would be needed to try out the circuitry developed by CEER 1.

Recently an Indian firm bagged a massive order for a turn-key steel plant project in an African country. Further probe disclosed that all that the firm would do is to place orders on foreign companies for the machinery and its erection while the Indian contribution would consist mainly of putting up the buildings and township. India has just completed a job of laying cables for North Yemen's new telephone system. While the Indians did the digging and levelling of earth, the entire telephone exchange was set up by a European company. Though the Indians were allowed into the exchange only to check their cable connexions, this "experience" was cited as one of the reasons for India now opting for the same French equipment for use and production on a national scale.

Whenever, after years of wasted effort involving massive outlays, our technocrats fail to produce the promised results, they blame the country's poor industrial "infrastructure" for their failure. But they should have known this before. The harsh realities are so obvious. Even today 75% of the urban and 98% of the rural freight moves by bullock cart. More than 90% of all urban transport in India is non-mechanized. About 50% of energy comes from primitive non-commercial sources. These and similar other basic parameters of the backwardness of our industrial infrastructure are there for all to see.

Totally Lacking

Still, despite proven failures, the craze persists for the "frontier areas" of science which claim the bulk of the meagre resources allotted to research and which are in any case not enough even to scratch the surface of any of these areas. If the best part of our scientific talent and resources are to be diverted to such lofty pursuits, what will happen to India's crumbling industrial infrastructure? Our basic industries of cotton textiles, cement, sugar, jute textiles and even engineering goods have recently asked for Rs 3,682 crores from the Government to be able to buy urgently needed machinery--much of it from abroad--to modernize outdated plants. The railways, telecommunications and agriculture need massive technological inputs.

To acquire effective technological capabilities in any area of production, three things are required: a large market, mammoth production units and a determined but selective R & D effort heavily funded by these units. It is now being realized that India lacks all three.

According to some very useful studies of the Indian economy carried out by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, Bombay, of the 1,000 largest

industrial corporations in the non-Communist world, India has only two which account for barely 0.3% of these companies' total sales turn-over of \$1,500 billion. Exactly half of them are in the USA. Almost the whole gamut of industrial research and development in the West and Japan is conducted by these companies, though it is substantially funded by their respective governments to help their industry compete in the international market. The world economy is so structured that no country, not even the United States with its vast internal markets and resources would be able to sustain for long a high level of technology without free access to the world market both for its inputs and outputs.

Some figures will perhaps help to put India's industrial and technological potential in perspective. According to CMIE studies, India accounts for 1.2% of the world's industrial output and 0.5% of the global exports of manufactures which in India's case consists largely of numerous traditional items like textiles and leather and only marginally (around 0.1%) of items of machinery. Even in areas where the country is believed to have built up "huge" domestic capacities, our total output in global terms is negligible. We produce 1.4% of the world's electricity and 4% of its fertilizer.

It is not surprising that India's share is less than 0.6% of the worldwide R & D expenditure, 97% of which is incurred by the developed countries. Even South Korea, a tiny country whose population is barely 5% of India's, has been able to build up 80% of this country's industrial potential and, unlike India, most of it in areas of high technology where our R & D effort does not seem to be much superior to that of Korea and Taiwan though we admittedly have a wider scientific base.

It is erroneously believed that it is the "import crazy" private sector which clamours the most for such imports. In fact the demand is more pressing from the public sector giants like BHEL who are realizing that, unless they import high-class technology urgently, they are sunk. The Association of Indian Engineering Industry which represents a third of total Indian industry has done some valuable studies on the nature of the problem and the ever-widening yawning gaps between India and the West. Most experts in the Government and industry now seem to agree that the thing to do is not to stop the purchase of technology but to make sure that it is relevant to our needs and that, like the Japanese, we follow it up with many times greater R & D investments so that we can fully assimilate it and improve upon it. It is widely believed that for every dollar the Japanese spend on importing technology, they spend four to seven on developing and adopting it.

Traditional

In the last two decades or so the developed countries together have invested at least 10,000 times the money that we have spent on R & D activity to bring about parallel and integrated development in various sectors. Such colossal gaps cannot be bridged by sudden quixotic leaps into the "frontier" areas like space and nuclear sciences. Various studies suggest that instead of producing in small numbers its own TV, motor car, computers and cameras of indifferent quality with third-rate and outdated technology to meet the

extremely small domestic need, it would be better for India to produce, with or without foreign collaboration, just one of these items of a quality and on a scale that would enable her to compete in the world market in that item. Having established herself in that item, she can then move on to the next and so on.

Tracing the history of Indian technology, Mr H. P. Nanda, the industrialist, told me recently that India missed a great opportunity when, soon after Independence, it relegated to the background its traditional manufactures like cotton, textiles, sugar, edible oils, jute, tea and coffee and plumped instead for more sophisticated industries. "We allowed items in which we had already established a preeminent position in the world to slip through our fingers. We should have concentrated on continuously updating our technology in these goods so as to maintain our international position and worked our way up from that point item by item into the world market of modern technology. If we had done that, we would have been one of the great industrial powers today," he said.

[27 Sep 82 p 8]

[Text] **W**HEN 25 years ago the Russians sent up their first satellite into space ahead of the Americans, one of the first things the U.S. authorities did was to revamp the science curricula in their schools. Today American children start picking up the rudiments of the basic knowledge and its applications in computers and nuclear and space sciences from school. Most of the advanced countries are conscious that the technology war is won or lost in the classrooms and laboratories of their schools and colleges. Besides, universities make a substantial direct contribution to industrial research funded by their Governments and industry. In India universities receive barely 4% of the country's research allocations. With this meagre amount the 123 UGC-aided universities with their 750 post-graduate colleges support 16,000 research projects and turn out some 3,000 Ph.D every year in science, medicine, engineering and agriculture.

Salary-wise the researcher, whether in the university or in one of the major research organizations, is a condemned man. A recent study by the Department of Science and Technology shows that 95% of the 15,000 scientists working in the R & D organizations of the Central and State Governments end their careers at retirement below the salary of Rs 1,600 per month. More than a third of them were in the Rs 425-Rs 700 scale. Only 1% were drawing salaries above Rs 2,000 p.m. These studies also

show that although the universities enrol every year more than half-a-million students in their science courses and half that number in the engineering, agriculture and medical faculties, the total number of post-graduate scientists in all the research organizations in the country is barely 22,000. Against this, according to the Indians abroad register maintained by CSIR on a "voluntary" basis, 11,000 Indian scientific and technical personnel were working in foreign countries on many times higher salaries. A large number of others may not have registered.

• ACHIEVEMENT

It may be noted here that as part of its latest modernization drive China has announced plans to build an army of 800,000 "researchers" in eight years though most of them, presumably would not be post-graduates. According to a United Nations survey India has only 2.4% of the world's science and technology manpower. The USA has 22.5%, West Germany 17%, France 14.5% and the Soviet Union 5.5%. An interesting feature of this study is that, like us, the figure for Japan, the world's third largest industrial power, is also 2.4%. But evidently that country is able to derive far greater results from an identical number of research scientists and engineers than we can. Apart from the phenomenal individual dedication of the Japanese to his duty, some other factors are cited by experts for this achievement.

In most of the advanced countries scientists work in teams. In India, on the contrary, as a DST study team recently observed that "research and development have tended to replicate government structures" inherited from a colonial bureaucracy where "the top layer is invariably a 'one-man layer'". Each "sub-system" under it has the same structure and there is no horizontal flow of information between the sub-systems. "The existing method of promotion and evaluation is still primitive".

Currently the biggest thrust of India's scientific manpower programme lies in the area of electronics. Mr P. P. Gupta, the Secretary, said the country could do with 100,000 highly qualified people in the area of micro-chips. Today it has only a few hundred. "It is not a problem of numbers but of quality", he added. Most experts admit that India is far behind the West in this field. "While they are working on one mega-byte bubbles and 0.5 micron circuitry we are still struggling to learn 16 KB and 10 micron processes in our new research and production centres" said Professor A. B. Bhattacharya, head of the Centre for Applied Research in Electronics, who felt that manpower building should receive the highest priority in this area.

TECHNOLOGY

The Defence Research and Development Organization is among the few major R & D outfits in

India which are almost totally market-oriented. With a budget of only Rs 120 crores a year it caters for a fraction of the country's defence needs. Its scope is severely restricted to developing some of the "critical" items which the armed forces need in large quantities and which are too expensive or which the advanced countries are unwilling to supply. These include a tank for the late eighties, radars, field guns, powder technology devices and a host of similar other items. Most of the technology is borrowed or adopted through "reverse engineering". But the goals are clear.

Visits in Delhi to the sprawling National Physical Laboratory of CSIR and the compact Solid State Physics Laboratory of DRDO presented a contrast. The NPL, one of the oldest CSIR units, seems smitten with Parkinson's law of automatic expansion where, as one scientist put it, "essentially we are improving our learning curve here. I would be deceiving you and myself if I claimed we are doing anything else." One sees solar devices, elementary silicon experiments and a lot of expensive and sparingly used imported equipment in a large variety of fields — much the same spectacle that one sees in most of our IITS, prestigious universities and national laboratories. SSPL, on the other hand, resembles a miniature factory engaged in producing just four or five chosen and fairly sophisticated devices that would go into immediate production in the defence and space departments.

In the private sector which accounts for only 10% of the country's Rs 700-crore R & D effort,

the two names one invariably hears are those of TELCO and Larson and Tubro. TELCO seems to have thrilled everybody by the boldness with which it broke away from its foreign collaborators in the manufacture of commercial vehicles and put in the market its own engine and chassis of improved design for a 7.5-ton vehicle which has become popular not only in the Indian market but also abroad. No other automobile maker in this country has shown such enterprise. Larson and Tubro is being praised for the capabilities it has built up in fabricating "almost anything" in a large range of equipment and machine goods for the major plants. In the area of agricultural tools, including tractors, the innovative capability of two younger firms, Escorts and Eicher, has received general appreciation.

In the public sector, Engineers India Limited seems to have emerged as a pace-setter in building up indigenous capabilities to "design and engineer" a plant with equipment "fabricated" by a large number of Indian firms, though a good part of the vital components are still imported or manufactured by them with foreign collaboration. With a task force of 1,500 engineers "deployed on the Western system of group responsibility" EIL authorities claim to have come "at par" with the West in conventional technologies in designing and detailed engineering in petro-chemical, fertilizer, refining, chemicals, paper, cement and power plants. It is stated to be Asia's largest and the world's tenth largest engineering and consultancy organization.

EIL is breaking into new areas, specially in hydro-cracker technology and the separation of crude to produce a variety of products, through "linkages" with other major organizations like IOC, IPCL, NCL, MECON and others. Currently it is trying to build a propane de-asphalting plant with the help of the Haldia refinery which has agreed to process daily for 20 days 8,000 tons of special crude as an experimental measure for EIL's PDA plant.

EQUIPMENT

Indian Oil Corporation which with an annual sales turn-over of Rs 8,000 crores is rated among the world's giants, spends less than Rs 3 crores a year on R & D, mainly on its centre at Faridabad to develop lubricants for civilian and defence need. A visit to the Centre showed that with its expensive equipment worth Rs 5 crores, mostly imported, its 160 scientists, engineers and technicians have already obtained international approval certificates for 53 lubricants formulated by them while 150 others are in various processes of trial and approval. The Centre has developed two fuel saving devices, the widely known Nutan kerosene stove, and an LPG stove of new design still under trial. It is also developing different types of bitumin to suit Indian road conditions.

These are only a few examples of what is happening all over the country. Most experts agree that all scientific activity should be put on a national system, with free sharing of knowledge and talent and total avoidance of duplication of effort. This single measure could yield manifold benefits.

[28 Sep 82 p 8]

[Text] IF the country's top 100 scientists, economists and sociologists were shut up in a room with the mandate that they could come out only after they had clearly selected five specific thrust areas for Indian technology in a strict order of priority, it is doubtful if they would leave with an agreed plan even in a month. The Science and Technology chapter of the Sixth Plan fully reflects this predicament of Indian planning. It presents a list of "indicative areas of thrust" covering 31 major fields which in turn have been split into 160 sub-heads with provision for further additions. The list is so exhaustive that, if the same experts who prepared

it were now asked to write another chapter naming the non-thrust areas which they have left out, they would be hard put to find any worthwhile topics.

Dr Nurul Hasan, Vice-Chairman, CSIR, told me recently that "elimination of poverty and increasing employment opportunities must be the main goals of our science and technology." A CSIR study team headed by Professor A. Rahman had earlier come to the same conclusion. Scientists from 58 developing countries met in New Delhi recently under the auspices of the "Group of 77" to prepare a list of some technologies they urgently needed for their growth. Most of them stressed

only two items; health and nutrition. In the advanced countries too the "thrust" areas are those to which the country has committed its largest investments. Going by the yardstick of national objectives, it should not be difficult for India to identify five "thrust areas" in which research could be carried out on a massive scale and linked directly to production plans.

STRESS ON R & D

The first of these without question would be agriculture. Food imports have once again become the order of the day and we seem to be heading towards a spectre of mass hunger

by 2000 A.D. Also, it is estimated that by the turn of the century our labour force would grow from 225 million now to 400 million. Even if the industrial growth of 5.7% maintained over the last three decades was stepped up to 8%, this sector would be able to employ only 25 million more people by then. Already there is a backlog of over 50 million unemployed. The necessary job potential to bridge the gap will have to be created largely in the rural sector by modernizing our agriculture. This, in turn, will stimulate activity in the secondary and tertiary sectors.

Considerable R & D is needed to develop these sectors. The high-yielding varieties technology which does not find mention in the plan chapter, except for pulses and oil seeds, is still somewhat rudimentary in India and applicable to only a few pockets. New varieties and total packages of practices have yet to be developed by our scientists for the "dry" and "very wet" areas which constitute the bulk of our 140 million hectare cultivated land. The "thrust" in agriculture should be in such fields and not in the new "frontier areas" such as bio-technology in which for quite some time, our interest will have to be largely academic. Dr G. J. Venkataraman of IARI explained to me that at no time would bio-fertilizers be able to meet more than 20% of the fertilizer needs.

Soil technology is almost a totally neglected field. Mr B. B. Vohra, Chairman of the National Committee on Environment Planning, has been campaigning for years to reclaim at least half the country's 180 million hectare wastelands and save the 6,000 million tons of fertile soil that flows into the sea every year. Thousands of technology packages are needed to achieve these objectives. The tendency among our experts to pick up some isolated foreign plant—a subabul here or a eucalyptus there—and present it as a national panacea leads to frustration and disillusionment.

The allocation for irrigation research is too meagre. In a field in which the country is expected to invest about Rs 50,000 crores in the next two decades, only Rs 4 crores a year is provided for R & D. According to Dr A. M. Michael, Director, Water Technology Centre, Delhi, capacity utilization of a large number of major irrigation projects in the country ranges from 33 to 50%. The

efficiency of water use and pumping systems in the 7.5 million dug wells and 1.5 million tubewells is extremely low. Critics have also listed 25 major dams built by our top engineers that have breached or collapsed with disastrous consequences in the last 30 years.

BIO-PESTICIDES

According to Dr H. K. Jain, Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, adequate investments in artificial and bio-pesticides could wipe out all the oil seeds deficit which costs us several hundred crores of rupees every year in foreign exchange. A leading industrialist disclosed that a packet of Pakistani basmati rice sells in West Germany at three times the rate of the Indian variety because of Pakistan's superior processing and packaging. Cotton, soya beans, plantation crops and a host of other items need urgent technological upgradation through research.

Even the methods of tillage and cartage could be vastly improved. A senior Agriculture Ministry official said that our scientific effort in the rural areas suffered from an urban "hybridization" of the concept of what is best for the rural areas. Often technological modernization of agriculture could by itself break down the age-old sociological evils holding back progress.

Next to agriculture population control is clearly the most important thrust area for Indian science. The plan chapter lists it as one of the 160 sub-items and makes no separate allocation for it. According to Dr V. Ramalingaswamy, Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research, some interesting researches are under way into new methods of fertility control. These include a vaccine, a nasal spray and a device that can be implanted under the skin. All three are "self administrable, long acting, readily accessible, and reversible." Some have already hit the market. But a great deal of inter-disciplinary team-work with considerable investments needs to be done to develop full socio-medical contraceptive packages for variegated conditions. China and Japan have already brought their population growth down to 1% and are reaping huge benefits from it.

Next in the order of priorities should be conventional electric power for which Rs 25,000 crores are to be spent in the plan but only Rs 10 crores a year on its R & D. BHEL which

has a turn-over of Rs 1,000 crores has now stepped up its R & D expenditure to Rs 20 crores a year. But the gaps are immense and need much bigger effort in manufacture, tooling, generation, transmission and distribution. Eventually, if our meagre forest resources are to be saved from denudation at the rate of 1 million hectares a year or more, strong linkages will have to be established with rural energy needs and the distinction between commercial and non-commercial energy removed.

The Commission for Alternative sources of Energy has evolved several models. According to Mr Maheshwar Dayal, its secretary, the accent is on developing integrated models of various systems such as biogas, wood, wind, solar energy, micro-hydel and blue green algae. But a visit to one such model in Masoodpur village near Delhi showed the task is far from simple and would need much greater effort and investments than are available for it to become practicable. In the very vital area of mini and micro hydel, which has a vast future in this country, the work done so far is largely "indicative". But before taking it to any conclusive stage, the experts working on it plan to hop off abroad to work on higher "integrating" technologies which have no chance of succeeding in Indian conditions.

Electronics research, for which only Rs 7 crores a year is provided, is another major area which India can ignore at its own peril. Like energy, electronics has become a basic element in modern technology in every field from agriculture to space. The entire areas of instrumentation, communication, aviation and space have gone electronic, rendering all past technologies obsolete. Even our old sugar and textile mills have benefited by acquiring a few simple electronic devices. The Information Planning and Analysis group of the Department of Electronics has prepared a comprehensive survey of the electronic needs of all the important industries. It shows how electronics offers the only cheap and effective means of reaching education, information and entertainment to the masses.

THRUST AREAS

Lastly, the country needs to adopt as the fifth thrust area the technology of "operations, maintenance and standardization" which finds no mention in

the Plan chapter though it is recognized as a highly specialized area in the West. India needs it all the more because surveys have established that at any given time only 33% of the country's industrial capacity is functioning. The rest is idle largely due to operational failures and absence of maintenance systems. These often require product standardization all along the "national assembly line". The value of standardization to maximize production and achieve economies of scale is only slowly being realized. Unfortunately the Ministries of Industry and Science and Technology and the various associa-

tions of industry do not even have an inventory of the state of the equipment and machinery and manufacturing capabilities in the country.

Thus one can unhesitatingly recommend agriculture, population control, power, electronics and operations as the five major thrust areas for Indian technology for which substantial additional resources should be provided to maximize output and employment. The current obsession for the "frontier" areas at this stage will lead the country nowhere. There is considerable room for improvement of R & D capabilities in the remaining

areas on the 160-item list without calling them "thrust" areas.

According to Dr G. S. Siddhu, Director General of CSIR, of the thousands of subjects of study pursued in his laboratories few reach the finishing line. He blames this on industry's apathy and the Government's indifference. But there are many in his own organization who feel that 90% of the projects in CSIR laboratories properly belong to the universities. Such structural readjustments could perhaps impart greater thrust to Indian technology than an all-round dissipation of resources manifest in the Planning Commission's list of allocations.

CSO: 4600/1076

INDO-SOVIET TRADE TURNOVER TO DOUBLE BY 1985

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Sep 82 p 5

[Text]

Indo-Soviet trade turnover would nearly double to Rs 12,000 crores by 1985, the end of the long-term trade plan between the two countries, compared to the 1976-80 level, according to Union Minister for Commerce Shivraj Patil, reports PTI.

In the first year of the trade plan (1981-82), the implementation stood 101 per cent, Mr Patil said in a message to the Soviet land on the occasion of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's current visit to the USSR.

A distinctive feature of the Indo-Soviet economic cooperation, Mr Patil said, had been Soviet Union's willingness to assist India in the key sectors with a view to achieving self-reliance.

Also, one of the objectives of the trade plan is that more than 50 per cent of India's exports to the USSR should be of manufactured goods.

For some of India's more important export products, he said,

the USSR was already the principal market. For example, the USSR accounted for 97.5 per cent of India's exports of chrome-tanned leather, 96.8 per cent of woollen knitwears, 69 per cent of pepper, 65 per cent of cashew, 45 per cent of coffee, 42 per cent of tobacco, drugs and medicines 83 per cent of cosmetics, detergents, etc., and 76 per cent of mica.

Nearly 80 per cent of India's imports of important industrial raw materials like crude oil, petroleum products, fertilisers, nickel newsprint, asbestos, etc. come from the Soviet Union, Mr Patil said.

During the last three years alone, the minister added, India's trade with the USSR rose by 140 per cent. The share of the USSR in India's total trade has increased from 7 per cent in 1978-79 to 71 per cent in 1980-81.

CSO: 4600/1059

COMMISSION ISSUES NEW GUIDELINES FOR 1983-84 PLAN

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Sep 82 p 5

[Text] The Planning Commission has issued fresh guidelines to the States for formulation of the 1983-84 annual Plan laying special emphasis on energy 20-point programme and decentralised planning.

Planning Commission secretary K V Ramanathan, in his letter to the States, has urged them to send their draft proposals by 15 October next to enable working groups to discuss these with the States "according to a rigid time schedule from 29 October".

Mr Ramanathan has said that Plan formulation exercise had been taken up with due regard to priorities for different sectors and keeping the overall constraint of financial resources in view.

Since 1983-84 is a crucial penultimate year of the sixth Plan, the States should take stock of physical progress in different sectors and ensure completion of ongoing projects, particularly in the core sectors of irrigation and power, so that intended benefits accrue therefrom it added.

The emphasis in the annual Plan will be on the new 20-point programme designed to ameliorate the economic condition of the weaker sections of society, he said. Mr Ramanathan also stressed the need for effective steps for speedy implementation and monitoring of the various programmes.

The commission has also stressed environmental protec-

tion and has asked the States to set up suitable machinery without further delay to oversee the implementation of environmental protection and developmental schemes to be included in the annual Plan for 1983-84.

The commission expressed the hope that science and technology councils which have been set up as envisaged and the research schemes financed under the Plan earlier are being implemented by the State Governments. The States have to specifically indicate the outlays on schemes relating to environmental protection and development, and State science and technology councils.

In the sphere of education, the States have been asked, to prepare a carefully designed programme on vocationalisation of secondary education. This is to be based on detailed surveys of the existing and potential work and job opportunities and available educational and training facilities. Necessary provision is to be made in the annual Plan by each State.

In view of the dwindling resources of fuel and energy in the country, the States have been asked to give priority to programmes for development of renewable energy sources through social/farm forestry and plantation of quick growing species and utilisation of alternative sources of energy through installation of biogas plants, windmills etc.

Also, target-specific programmes like Scheduled Castes component plan, tribal sub-plan, IRDP, NREP etc and area specific programmes for rural areas like the Minimum Needs Programme should be accorded special attention, the States have been told.

Urging the States to give greater attention to district planning and block planning, the Planning Commission has advised necessary steps for district wise disaggregation of the available outlays of the State plans.

The States which have already implemented this have been asked to indicate the progress of expenditure and physical targets/achievements, district-wise under different heads, and to indicate the financial provision and physical targets for 1983-84.

The States which have not done so yet have been asked to take urgent steps to decentralise the planning process.

The States have also been asked to initiate studies and to take some preliminary action on new projects and schemes which are to be included in the seventh Plan.

Stating that the Planning Commission has undertaken study of State undertakings on which large expenditure is incurred year after year, the communication has asked the States to send information on these undertakings on a continuing basis.

INDIA

CANDIDATES FOR MOSCOW COSMONAUT TRAINING SELECTED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] Moscow, Sept. 21.-- General Georgi Beregovoi, chief of the Soviet cosmonaut training centre, has said the two Indian candidate cosmonauts, Wing Commander R. Malhotra and Squadron Leader R. Sharma, were in some respects a study in contrast, reports PTI.

"One is tall, one is short, one is fair, another is dark, one has a moustache and the other has no moustache", he joked with Indian correspondents covering the Indo-Soviet summit at the Kremlin yesterday. "But", he added, "both are handsome and clever".

General Beregovoi hastened to add that he had only a chance meeting with two Air Force pilots who arrived in Zvezdnoye Gorod, Star City, on Sunday. He said the two may be joined by their families.

The General recalled his meeting with Mrs Gandhi last year at Bangalore and said he was looking forward to her Star City visit on Thursday.

The joint Indo-Soviet space flight confirmed by Mrs Gandhi yesterday was mooted as early as 1961 by Yuri Gagarin, the world's first cosmonaut during a reception in Delhi.

It was in 1979 that the Soviet President, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, hinted that an Indian could be included in a Soviet space flight. Later, Mr Brezhnev made a concrete offer at a civic reception at the Vigyan Bhavan on December 9, 1980.

Mrs Gandhi set aside all doubts of accepting the offer when she told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply in December 1980 that an Indian cosmonaut would be sent to the Soviet orbit station--Salyut.

The two pilots were selected out of 200 considered for the Indo-Soviet space venture. The final date of the mission will depend on several factors like experimental equipment and weather conditions.

Both the pilots are married and they were chosen from among five Indian Air Force pilots undergoing medical tests in the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Centre.

During the 15 to 18 months of training, the pilots will be moved to the hydro-laboratory lit up in blue to resemble the upper atmosphere. They will also be acclimatized for seating positions while working at zero gravity conditions.

They will also be put to endurance and stamina tests by submerging them under water along with the spacecraft.

The next stage of the training is the "centrifuge" where the trainees experience the pull of gravity felt while taking-off and landing. According to General Bergovoi, many students fail to stand the pull of gravity while landing.

CSO: 4600/1054

INDIA

INDIA, UK TO COOPERATE IN DEFENSE RESEARCH

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, September 21: India and the United Kingdom today agreed to enhance their co-operation in sophisticated areas such as defence electronics and defence-oriented research and development.

It was decided that experts from the two countries would meet periodically to explore ways of intensifying the bilateral co-operation in the defence field marked by the manufacture of British equipment in India.

The talks between the visiting British defence minister, Mr. John Nott, and his Indian counterpart, Mr. R. Venkataraman, concluded here today with both sides expressing satisfaction over the progress of the collaborative Jaguars at the Hindustan Aeronautics in Bangalore.

The British defence minister also gave a brief assessment of the items of British origin, specially of Harriers and Sea Kings, in the recent conflict in the South Atlantic. The British side is interested in the sale of these aircraft.

Mr. Nott also showed a keen interest in various research and development programmes undertaken by the defence scientist in India.

Mr. Venkataraman proposed collaboration in sophisticated areas since India was now in a position not only to manufacture but even to undertake research and development in newer areas. "In the changed context, it will help further strengthen the Indo-British defence co-operation if your country could agree to share advanced defence technology with us", he said.

Mr. Venkataraman said that the Vijayanta tank and the principal strike aircraft of the Indian Airforce, Jaguar, were two examples of fruitful bilateral co-operation.

Invitation to U.K.

Mr. Nott extended to Mr. Venkataraman an invitation to visit the United Kingdom. The invitation has been accepted.

Later at a dinner hosted by him in honour of the British delegation led by Mr. Nott, Mr. Venkataraman said that their visit would provide further impetus to mutually beneficial co-operation.

At the talks, Mr. Venkataraman was assisted by Mr. K. P. Singh Deo, deputy defence minister, and top officials and service officers.

The British team included Mr. Robert Wade-Grey, British high commissioner, Maj. Gen. Alastair Dennis, director, military assistance office of the U.K., Mr. Roger Jackling, head of defence secretariat, and Mr. Nigel Paren, regional managing director, defence sales staff.

CSO: 4600/1053

LONDON REPORT ON JAGUAR PRODUCTION CLARIFIED

Original PTI Report

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Sep 82 p 14

[Text]

LONDON, Sept. 20.—India has decided to manufacture less than half the number of Jaguar deep-strike aircraft than it had the option to under its agreement with British Aerospace, reports PTI.

While the phased production of Jaguars at Hindustan Aeronautics in Bangalore is under way with the first three of the 45 such planes to be assembled-cum-manufactured there having already been delivered to Indian Air Force recently, a decision was pending on the "follow on" phase in which India had the option of manufacturing another 65.

After considerable debate in the IAF and the Government, India is now understood to have decided to go ahead with this optional production but on a considerably reduced scale. Instead of 65 as originally thought of, only 31 Ja-

guars will now be manufactured in Bangalore. There is no other change in the original plans.

The "Jaguar deal" of 1978 stated to be worth £105 billion, provided for an outright purchase of 40 Jaguars by India and subsequent assembly-cum-manufacture of another 45. These programmes are under implementation. The agreement enabled India to take 18 Jaguars on loan till other deliveries started. India had the option to produce 65 more Jaguars.

Deliveries of newly-built Jaguars by British Aerospace at Warton in England are continuing and only eight of 40 remain to be delivered to the IAF, which has now two squadrons of such planes. An agreement between HAL and British Aerospace for the manufacture of 31 Jaguars under optional clause is

likely to be signed soon, sources here said.

India is believed to have been offered at a substantially reduced price the eight Jaguars which remain with it out of 18 it had been loaned prior to the receipt of deliveries of new planes from the assembly line at Warton.

Meanwhile, Britain, for which the Jaguar is the main strike aircraft, is already planning in terms of replacing the plane in the 1990's. The British Government has just announced the sanction of £40 million for a project designed to work on an advanced combat aircraft (ACA) to replace the Jaguars. Britain is looking for buyers in West Europe who will share the cost of the research and development of the ACA to be known as P-110.

Hindustan Aeronautics Official

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Sep 82 p 7

[Text]

BANGALORE, Sept. 20 (UNI).

INDIA will manufacture 31 Jaguar deep penetration strike aircraft as part of the follow-on phase of the Jaguar programme.

A top official of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited here told UNI today that this would be in addition to the phased assembly-cum-manufacture of 45 of the supersonic planes under HAL's agreement with British Aerospace.

The official was commenting on a London datelined report in a section of the press that the country had decided to go ahead with the optional production but on a considerably reduced scale. He said the report was "totally misleading".

He explained that India had been given an option for com-

plete manufacture of the aircraft and had decided to produce 31. There was no question of any outback on this, he said.

Former Defence Minister R Venkataraman had announced in March this year that the country had 40 of the planes in fly-away condition with 45 in the kit for assembly, while the Government was considering the manufacture of more aircraft.

The London report said that under the optional clause of the agreement with British Aerospace the country was to have manufactured 65 but had now decided to manufacture 31.

Meanwhile the nearly Rs 1,000 crore Jaguar project is proceeding according to schedule. The first three of the 45 planes assembled and manufactured have already been delivered to the Indian Air Force.

Deliveries of newly built Jaguars by British Aerospace at Warton in England under the outright purchase clause of the agreement are continuing and only eight of the 40 remain to be delivered to the IAF which now has two squadrons of Jaguars.

USSR TO GIVE AID IN MINERAL-BASED PROJECTS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Sep 82 p 5

[Text]

The Soviet Union will undertake a study on the reduction of power in the aluminium industry, particularly the Korba plant in Madhya Pradesh, reports UNL.

According to a recent agreement signed at the Indo-USSR Joint Commission, the study would suggest ways to reduce power from the present power consumption level of 16,000 kwh per tonne of metal production to 14,000 kwh per tonne.

The meeting decided that the main thrust of the Indo-Soviet cooperation would be to achieve better realisation of metal from ores and improved methods of mining and conservation of resources.

The Soviet experts would also help India acquire the fast shaft sinking technology which would reduce the gestation period for a mine project.

The shaft sinking technology would benefit mineral exploration

corporation as well as the coal industry.

Soviet experts would soon visit India to indicate the areas to be covered under the transfer of technology for quick implementation of mineral based projects.

On completion of the on-the-spot study the Soviet experts would prepare a feasibility report concretising the areas to be covered.

The Soviet experts would also help India in developing floatation technology to recover more metal contents from ore concentrates.

The Soviet experts would also prepare a feasibility report on setting up a plant at Korba to extract gallium, a valuable mineral needed for the electronics industry and space technology.

Gallium plant would have an export possibility as it could be sold back to the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4600/1078

SOVIET EXPERTISE SOUGHT IN REVAMPING STEEL PLANT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Sep 82 p 5

[Text]

INDIA has sought Soviet expertise in revamping the 60-year old steel plant of the Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) at Burnpur, reports UNI.

According to an official spokesman, the Soviets themselves had revamped a number of old steel plants and India wanted to utilise their expertise.

The spokesman said Indian steel cadre was efficient enough to plan, design and construct a new steel plant set up six decades ago.

The total expenditure, according to an approach paper prepared by the Soviet experts on the modernisation needs of IISCO plant, would be over Rs 800 crores.

The question of Soviet assistance for the Burnpur plant was also raised at the recently held Indo-Soviet Joint Commission in Moscow.

A preliminary study made by the Soviet experts indicates that an overall approach would be needed for modernisation of the plant based on process optimisation through research and development efforts.

The study, undertaken in collaboration with the Research and Development Centre of the Steel Authority of India at Ranchi, has already identified 34 projects for such modernisation.

Working plans for seven projects agreed for initiation in the first stage, have already been finalised for physical work at site.

The steel plant at Burnpur is the smallest integrated steel plant in the country with production capacity of 983,000 tonnes of ingot steel.

IISCO, taken over by the Union Government in 1972, is multifaceted organisation having a steel plant, ore mines at Gua and Chiria, 26 km of light railway, 53 km of ropeway from Chasnala coal mines to Burnpur, foundry complex at Kulti and coal washeries.

It has, at present, wide range of products like angles, beams, channels, tees, rounds, cold twisted bars, squares, flats, light rails and sheets.

IISCO's iron making facilities consist of four blast furnaces, including two set up in 1922 with volumes of 500 cubic metres each. Against this, the volume of blast furnace being built at Visakhapatnam was 3,200 cubic metres.

TEXTILE EXPORTS TO USSR TO INCREASE BY OVER 100 PERCENT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, Sept. 20.--India's ailing textile industry, hit by the eight-month-old strike by 250,000 workers in Bombay, will receive a major fillip when an agreement is signed with the Soviet Union in December under which the country's textile exports are to be more than doubled.

Talks on what is the biggest textile deal ever are almost complete and involve the import of an additional 500 million metres of cloth a year by the Soviet Union worth about Rs 500 crores. This will more than double the present textile exports to all parts of the world of 450 million metres, about 30% of which go to Russia.

A detailed long-term agreement will be signed in December when the Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister, Mr V. Grishin, visits New Delhi for annual trade talks. The present understanding is that exports to the Soviet Union will be made from additional capacity to be created in the textile industry so that there is no diversion of existing exports.

The agreement will involve substantial additional investment in and expansion of India's textile industry. The original Soviet proposal that the capital goods and equipment for the new mills to be established be imported from Russia has been dropped and Indian machinery will be used.

This was the main stumbling block encountered in talks on the Russian proposal, which was made early this year. Indian officials thought that Soviet textile equipment was obsolete and would not be suitable for the textile industry, which already faces a major problem of obsolescence. Agreement has now been reached on using Indian machinery, but the Russians have insisted that if any equipment is imported, it should be from the Soviet Union.

The additional capacity in the textile industry is likely to be created by 1985, but exports to Russia under the new long-term agreement to be signed will begin next year itself and be increased progressively every year. It is expected that a substantial quantity of raw cotton will be imported from the Soviet Union for processing.

The Government is working on the basis that at least 200 million metres will be exported to the Soviet Union in 1983 and contracts for this should be signed by January. This will be in addition to the 200 million metres that the Soviet Union imports from India every year.

CSO: 4600/1050

PLANS FOR PRODUCTION OF HIGH HORSEPOWER TANK DROPPED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Sep 82 p 5

[Text]

Defence scientists, who had been unsuccessfully developing the 1500 horse power main battle-tank 'Chetak' for the last 12 years, have now been asked to produce a suitable tank with 960 HP engine instead, reports PTL.

The new tank is expected to be developed in the 1990s. Chetak was originally expected to be ready in the 1980s.

Over Rs 600 million had been spent by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on the 50-tonne 1500-HP Chetak since work on its engine design began in 1972.

Although scientists progressed in developing the tank's chassis and the armour plate, their prototype engine could hardly develop 400 HP. There were also problems with the advanced suspension system envisaged for Chetak.

The new tank which DRDO has been asked to develop will have the same 50 tonne weight as Chetak, but decreased mobility due to reduction in the power-to-weight ratio.

The design and development of the main battle tank (MBT)

was being carried out at the Central Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) in Avadi near Madras.

Work on 1500-HP MBT was started in the hope it will become available in the 1980s to replace the aging Vijayantha tanks. MBT-80, as Chetak was named, was supposed to equal the XM-1 tanks of the United States and the Leopard tanks of West Germany.

Informed sources said that the Chetak project failed because scientists went straight away to develop the 12-cylinder variable-compression ratio (VCR) engine before having developed a single cylinder engine in the first place.

Following the general staff specifications for a new MBT defence scientists will have to start from the beginning to avoid repetition of earlier mistakes, the sources said.

CSO: 4600/1078

BRIEFS

INVITATION TO PRC--New Delhi, September 23: A delegation of the Indian National Trade Union Congress has been invited to visit China. The four-member delegation will participate in the national day celebrations in Beijing on October 1. It will be led by the INTUC president, Mr. B. J. K. Bhatt, who is also a member of the Rajya Sabha. In the last two years, the INTUC had been in communication with the all-China federation of trade unions on whose invitation the delegation will leave for Beijing on September 27. It will return on October 8. Besides Mr. Bhatt, the INTUC contingent will comprise Mr. Kanti Mehta, vice-president of the INTUC, Mr. Gopeshwar, general secretary of the Indian National Metal Workers' Federation, and Mr. B. K. Mohanty, president of the Orissa unit of the organisation. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Sep 82 p 9]

ORISSA ELECTIONS POSTPONED--Bhubaneswar, Sept. 24.--The Orissa Assembly today approved postponement of panchayat elections by a year after a prolonged debate, reports UNI. The House voted 63-10 the Orissa Panchayat Samity (Re-election of Office Bearers) Amendment Bill, to replace an earlier Ordinance. The Bill was put to vote following vociferous protest from the Opposition members who said the election was postponed because the Government was afraid of facing the electorate. [Excerpt] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 25 Sep 82 p 9]

EXPORT PROBLEMS TOLD--New Delhi, September 25: India suffered a loss of Rs. 6,048 crores during the period 1968-69 to 1979-80 as a result of deterioration in terms of trade, according to a study made by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The changes in India's terms of trade were not only because of the phenomenal rise in oil prices but were due to the structure of its trade which made the country vulnerable to wide fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities in world markets. The study says that India had to spend precious foreign exchange for the import of edible oils, steel, cement, fertilisers and non-ferrous metals. "It is clear," it adds, "that India has not been able to realise reasonable prices for its exports. This is because we have not been able to compete effectively in overseas markets." Referring to the lack of proper marketing strategy, the FICCI study says: "Indian exporters have undercut each other. To avoid such a situation, we should follow the consortium approach in respect of project exports and strengthen the system of encouraging exports through trading and export houses." [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 26 Sep 82 p 9]

INDO-ROK TRADE TALKS--Seoul, September 27 (PTI): Indian and Korean businessmen have agreed to explore the possibility of technical co-operation and have had wide-ranging discussions on ways to boost export of Indian consumer goods. A delegation of National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs, which left Seoul today, had discussions with the Korean Federation of Small Business in Seoul, during its stay here. Meanwhile the "Indian pavilion" at the Seoul international trade fair is flooded with visitors. By today, on the third day of the 41-nation trade fair, about 100,000 visitors have visited "Indian pavilion", according to a Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) estimate. Inquiries are coming from various countries for the products ranging from processed goods to hand tool and being passed over to Indian authorities concerned by TFAI. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Sep 82 p 22]

WORLD BANK LOAN--New Delhi, September 20: The World Bank will extend a credit of \$398.5 million, which will be utilised for the diesel component works being installed by the Indian railways at Patiala, import of prototype electric locomotives incorporating the latest technology, import of some wheels, axles and tyres as well as locomotive components in unit exchange system besides essential components for high capacity new design wagon fleet being developed by the railways. The credit will essentially cover all foreign exchange expenditure involved in the projects. The World Bank had earlier extended eight soft-term IDA credits totalling \$707.5 million and six International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) loans amounting to \$377.8 million at varying rates of interest. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 21 Sep 82 p 5]

KARNATAKA PARTY SPLIT--Bangalore, Sept. 20.--The Karnataka Kranthi Ranga, founded by the late Devaraj Urs, suffered a split today, reports PTI. The split came at a joint steering committee meeting of the Kranthi Ranga and the followers of the former KPCC (I) chief, Mr S. Bangarappa, for a formal approval of their merger. Pandemonium prevailed for nearly three hours at the meeting. Then Mr J. H. Patel, Kranthi Ranga president and his followers walked out, met separately and announced the formation of the Karnataka Kranthi Ranga (Urs). Mr Patel also expelled some leading party members including the daughter of Urs, Mrs Chandraprabha Urs, who supported Mr Bangarappa. The other group, however continued with the meeting and elected Mr Bangarappa as the president of the Karantaka Kranthi Ranga. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 21 Sep 82 p 1]

RICE TO NEPAL--The modalities for the supply of 10,000 tonnes of Indian rice to Nepal in the next two months were worked out by the food corporations of two countries at a meeting in Delhi on Saturday reports PTI. Under the agreement signed by Deputy General Manager of the Nepal Food Corporation R P Joshi and Commercial Manager of Food Corporation of India J S Arora the supply would comprise of 5,000 tonnes of superfine rice and 5,000 tonnes of common raw rice. Nepal has promised to return the borrowed quantity of rice in six months time. The agreement for the supply of rice on the government to government level was signed on 21 September. The modalities of the deal were decided at Saturday's meeting. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Sep 82 p 1]

SELF-RELIANCE IN OIL--Dehradun, Sept 27 (PTI)--India would become self-sufficient in petroleum products by 1990, Minister for Petroleum and Energy P Shiv Shanker has said. This, he told newsmen here yesterday, would be due to the accelerated oil exploration and production plans of Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited. Besides this he said 50 alternative sources of energy would be developed and steps would be taken to check the growth in petroleum consumption. Mr Shiv Shanker said 50 areas had been offered to foreign oil companies for oil exploration in offshore and onshore basins on lucrative terms. This, he added, would supplement the production plans of Oil India Limited. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Sep 82 p 5]

AMBASSADOR TO FRG--Mr Ramchandra Dattatraya Sathe, former Foreign Secretary, has been appointed India's ambassador to the Federal Republic Germany, it was officially announced on Monday, reports PTI. Mr Sathe succeeds Dr Ali Mohammad Khusto. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Sep 82 p 7]

CSO: 4600/1075/1079

CABINET CHANGES SAID TO REFLECT POSITION OF TECHNOCRATS

Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Sep 82 p 3

[Article by Special Correspondent Jacques de Barrin: "While the Hold of the Communist Party Is Getting Stronger the New Structural Reforms Favor the Technocrats"]

[Text] Vientiane--Who is doing what in Vientiane? For several weeks now the Lao leaders have been striving to renew the state's administrative apparatus, judging in the light of the conclusions of the Third Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (PPRL, communist) which met in April 1982, that because of its ponderous structure it was not very suitable to the needs of development. This revamping of the governmental structures thus goes beyond the limits of a simple ministerial reshuffling, announced without further details on Saturday, 11 September, by Vientiane.

"An elephant's head with a mouse's tail" is the way Seun Phetsangan, deputy minister of construction, projected today the image of the state apparatus. "Sixty percent of the bureaucrats will have to join the production cycle," he explained. "It is necessary that those individuals should understand the mechanisms of economic development." In his opinion, "one man at a desk should provide enough support for 50 individuals in the field."

How to make this "movement toward the base" mentioned by Phoumi Vongvichit, deputy prime minister, successful? Everything will depend, it is asserted in high places, on the principle of voluntarism. To make the bureaucrats in the central administrative offices decide to leave Vientiane for the provinces voluntarily, officials seek to use persuasion before being obliged to use constraint.

"Additionally, it is necessary to create financial incentives," it is agreed. But does the Lao treasury have the resources for such a policy? How many bureaucrats are ready to make a decision to "become exiled" in the provinces where daily life is more austere than in Vientiane and surveillance by the party is stricter.

The drawing up of a new ministerial organizational chart seems to be easier. The goal is to establish a governmental structure having three levels. The coordination of major activity sectors is entrusted to five deputy prime ministers, namely those for finance, industry and trade; culture and health; national defense and interior; foreign affairs; and planning. The major departments, such as that of public works, communications and transportation, have been broken down into minor ministries within which the division of labor is carried even farther among about 80 technocrat deputy ministers.

Since necessity is the mother of invention, the Lao leaders have had to call on professionals without worrying about their previous work records or the orthodoxy of their training. That is how the five deputy ministers of agriculture hold engineering degrees and a goodly number of recently promoted officials are graduates of French schools.

This reform, which is scheduled to be completed by 2 December 1982 at the latest, for the national holiday, hits the older political personnel, the initial insurgents, "those who came out of the dark," a number of whom must today make room for those who have not experienced, like the older officials, the long night of the revolutionary struggle. The minister of health thus saw himself entrusted with the presidency of the Lao section of the Peace Movement while the director of the Lao Central Bank was assigned to update the country's maps showing the location of its borders.

The deputy ministers will have complete and unrestricted authority in the fields of their own jurisdiction, it is explained in official circles, without the party having a word to say "a priori." But some wonder whether the fear of subsequent sanction through control committees does not threaten to paralyze the action of these officials, dangerously left to themselves.

"Laos Is Communist Forever"

Does resorting to these "managers" herald a change in direction? At the very least what is involved is a strategic withdrawal. The generation following the communist seizure of power, that of post-1975, trained exclusively in Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and East Europe is biding its time. Will it be less pragmatic than the earlier generation? At any rate the party, the highest organ of power, seems to continue to follow a hard line: Among the 30 new members of its Central Committee elected at the party's most recent congress, two-thirds are cadres from the ministries of interior and national defense.

The leaders in Vientiane have not given up the thought of creating a "new Lao individual." There is no question of closing the reeducation centers. "The personnel of the former regime, whose daily behavior and monthly evaluation leave something to be desired, must continue their training," Phoumi Vongvichit explained. The fact that a number of "retirees" should have escaped from the country as soon as they were released prompts local authorities to be prudent.

The central government is also desirous--and this is not one of the least goals of the reform under way--to assert its authority in those provinces which may have a tendency to become self-managed, often by the nature of things, for lack of means of communication and telecommunication with the capital. One clue is the arrest last spring of the chief of Savannakhet Province. No matter how much Kayson Phomvihan, the party's secretary general and prime minister, keeps denouncing the "frantic subversive activities of the enemy," the latter is not in a position to seriously shake the regime's underpinnings even though here and there, notably in the Paksan and Thakhak regions, along Routes 9 and 13, the enemy periodically succeeds in staging deadly attacks.

Hanoi's army, which [Lao] Prince Souvanna Phouma, adviser to the government, recently estimated at 50,000 strong, will continue to be in Laos "until the threats of the enemy cease," Phoumi Vongvichit warned. "The alliance between Laos and Vietnam is a historic necessity. A small country has no other choice than to place itself under the protection of a more powerful state than itself," it is noted in Soviet diplomatic circles in Vietiane. "Relations between these two countries are thus naturally slated to become stronger." And, observers add in the same circles, "don't kid yourself: Laos is communist forever."

2662

CSO: 4219/1

ZIA INAUGURATES PAKISTAN-CHINA FERTILIZER PLANT, LAUDS CHINESE HELP

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 pp 1, 20

[Text] Haripur, Oct 14: The President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq today said that China was Pakistan's trusted friend, which has stood by it through times of trial.

He was inaugurating the Hazara Urea Fertilizer Plant, which he renamed Pak-China Fertilizer Plant, to spotlight the generous Chinese help given to Pakistan in setting up the complex.

He said that it was a happy occasion for Pakistan but the fact that the plant was built with the help of the friend of Pakistan, like China, made the occasion even happier.

He said that Pakistan's friendship with China was not based on politics alone.

The cooperation and friendship between the two countries covered economic, financial, technical, scientific and many other fields, he said.

He said China had helped Pakistan in setting up many major plants in the country and the present fertilizer factory was one such project.

The President said the people and the Government of Pakistan were thankful to the people and the Government of China for helping Pakistan in building up its economy and for its manifold help in the industrial sector.

He said the inauguration of the factory was taking place at a time shortly before his visit to the People's Republic of China. Thus it became a link in the China that bound the two countries in bonds of friendship.

He said that while he would discuss international and regional matters with his host, he would also take the opportunity to thank the Government and the people of China for their help in building the fertilizer plant.

The President said his coming visit to China would further strengthen the friendly relations between the two neighbours and boost mutual cooperation in the economic field.

Pakistan, he added was also thankful to China for their financial and technical help in setting up the fertilizer plant, which was another landmark in the history of friendship between the two countries.

He said the technical and other Pakistan personnel of National Fertilizer Corporation of Pakistan, which brought up the plant with Chinese collaboration, ought to be commended too for their hard work and talented participation.

The President further said that the economy of Pakistan was just about beginning to get back on the rails, as a result of a number of solid steps taken by the present Government.

CSO: 4200/54

INCREASE IN AIR SERVICE CAPACITY PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6

[Text]

RAWALPINDI, Oct 14: The Government has decided to make a quantum increase in air service capacity and facilities in the next Five-Year Plan as PIA's seat utilization hovers around the 75 percentage mark — well above the industry average.

This was disclosed by Maj-Gen (Retd) M. Rahim Khan, Secretary-General, Defence, and Chairman, PIAC, to the members of the Standing Committee of the Majlis-i-Shoora on PIA Affairs at a special briefing session held here today.

Giving details of PIA's expansion plan to cope with the current unprecedented pressure on capacity, the Secretary-General, Defence, said the Airline will increase the capacity substantially next month, both on the domestic and international sectors, through restructuring of routes and increased utilisation of existing capacity. In this regard, he referred to the opening of Islamabad-Jeddah and Islamabad-Dahran sectors from next month which would not only help the expatriate workers from this region but also, to an extent, ease the congestion now being experienced at the Karachi Airport.

On the domestic sectors, PIA plans to increase its wide-body operation to Quetta and Peshawar, add another Boeing flight between Islamabad and Lahore, and make it a daily feature from January next.

On a longer term, the PIA Chairman informed the Standing Committee that two additional wide-body aircraft will be commissioned by the middle of next year while four twin-jet aircraft will be added to the PIA fleet by 1985-86, replacing the existing Boeing-707s and Boeing-720s. He also informed the members that as an emergency measure, a Boeing-707 will be purchased or leased by December this year and an F-27 will be bought early next year to increase the capacity on domestic routes.

Maj-Gen. (Retd) M. Rahim Khan disclosed that 22 new points were being surveyed for feeder service and 12 of these, if found feasible, will be airlinked in the next Five-Year Plan.

Answering a question on area-wise representation, the Committee was told that special measures have been taken to increase representation from the less developed regions of the country and efforts will continue to correct the present imbalance in the next few years.

In reply to a question, the Committee was informed that "pruning in PIA was done at all levels", reducing the number of directors from 17 to 12, and general managers and equivalent, from 79 to 70, despite increase in the volume of work and operations.—PPI

FORMER SUPREME COURT JUDGE CRITICIZES JUDICIAL REFORMS

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 7

[Text] [Letter to Editor]

In your today's editorial under the above caption you have stated that:

"It should be in the interest of both the Government and the lawyers that the dignity and status of institutions on which the edifice of our legal system rests are not compromised", and expressed the hope that:

"A rational dialogue would be possible between the democratically established organisations of the lawyers and the relevant authorities to resolve some of the immediate grievances of the legal practitioners."

The validity and the urgency of your above appeal cannot be over estimated.

As a first step I humbly suggest the repeal of "The Provisional Constitutional Order 1981", which has humbled and humiliated our Superior Judiciary and deprived it of its authority, independence and prestige.

Let me refer to some of the provisions of the said Order which have brought about these disastrous consequences of which the public in general appears to be uninformed and, therefore, unconcerned.

Article 5 provides for the appointment of ad-hoc Judges of Supreme Court. It empowers the President to require a Judge of the High Court to attend the sittings of the Supreme Court as an ad-hoc Judge for such period as may be necessary. Thus, no consent of the High Court Judge is necessary for his ad-hoc appointment to the Supreme Court.

Article 6 empowers the Supreme Court on its own motion and without any notice to parties to transfer at any stage any case pending before any High Court to another High Court.

Article 7 provides for the establishment of Circuit Benches of High Courts at places within its territorial jurisdiction. It also provides that the Circuit Bench will consist of such Judges of the High Court as may be nominated by the Chief Justice from time to time for a period not less than one year. The Article also abates any pending proceedings in which the establishment of Circuit Courts was under challenge.

Article 8 provides that the President may appoint one of the Judges of the Supreme Court to act as a Chief Justice of a High Court in the event of the office of Chief Justice of High Court falling vacant, or the Chief Justice is absent or is unable to perform his functions owing to any other cause.

Article 9 restricts the jurisdiction of a High Court within its territorial jurisdiction by prohibiting it from making any order for the release on bail of any person detained under any law providing for preventive detention or a person who has been convicted by any court or tribunal, including Military Court or Tribunal, including Military Court or Tribunal, established under a Martial Law Order or Martial Law Regulation, and further that any such order made after the 5th day of July 1977 shall have ceased to have effect and all applications for making such order pending in a High Court shall abate. These restrictions also apply to proceedings pending in the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Article 10 empowers the President to transfer a Judge of a High Court to another High Court, but without the consent of such a Judge, if such transfer is for a period not exceeding two years at a time.

Article 12 provides that any person who has held office of a Judge of Supreme Court or a High Court can be appointed as a Vice-President or be given a diplomatic assignment or may be appointed as an Adviser even before the expiration of two years after he has ceased to hold that office.

Article 13 provides that the Supreme Court or a High Court or the Services Tribunal shall not have any jurisdiction to entrain any proceedings calling in question a civil servant's retirement from service after he has completed 25 years of service on any ground whatsoever and such proceedings pending before any court or Tribunal shall abate forthwith.

Article 15(1) validates the Proclamation of the fifth day of July 1977, all President's Orders, Orders of the Chief Martial Law Administrator, including Orders amending the Constitution made by the President or CMLA, Martial Law Regulations, Martial Law Orders and all other laws made on or after 5.7.1977, notwithstanding any judgment of any Court and further says that these laws shall not be called in question in any court on any ground whatsoever.

Article 15(2) also validates all orders made, proceedings taken and acts done by any authority or by any person, which were made, taken or done or purported to have been made taken or done on or after 5.7.1977 in exercise of the powers derived from any President's Order, Orders of CMLA, Martial Law Regulations, Martial Law Orders, etc., and further provides that such orders, proceedings, acts shall not be called in question in any court on any ground whatsoever except for transactions past and closed.

Article 15(3) prohibits the superior courts from making any order or entertain any proceedings in respect of any matter of which cognisance has been taken by, or which has been transferred to a Military Court, and all proceedings in respect of any such matter which may be pending before the superior courts shall abate.

Article 15(5) provides that, notwithstanding any judgment in respect of the powers of the courts relating to the judicial review, neither Supreme Court nor any High Court shall make an order relating to the validity or effect of any order or Martial Law Regulations made by CMLA, or a Martial Law Administrator or of anything done or action taken or intended to be taken thereunder, and further provides that no process shall issue against CMLA, or a person acting under the authority of either.

Article 17 requires every person holding the office of a Judge of a High Court or the Supreme Court to take an oath that he will abide by the Provisional Constitutional Order 1981 and the Judges who have taken the oath shall, notwithstanding any judgment of any Court, not call in question or permit to be called in question the validity of any of the provisions of the Order. This article further empowers the President that he may not call upon a Judge to take such an oath in which event Judge the question will cease to hold office and that Judges who refuse to take the oath shall also forthwith cease to be the Judges of the High Court or the Supreme Court as the case may be.

A country is as strong as its vital institutions, howsoever well entrenched or well meaning, the individuals in power. When you destroy a national institution you destroy a part of the country and that is most certainly true if the institution is judiciary for without an independent judiciary there can be no rule of law, no democracy, and no constitution. The country will exist but without its soul. Pakistan will then not be the Pakistan of the Quaid-i-Azam, nor will it be Islamic for the highest value in Islam is JUSTICE and there can be no justice without an independent judiciary.

FAKHRUDDIN G. EBRAHIM
formerly Judge,
Supreme Court of
Pakistan,
Karachi.

REFORM BODIES FOR EDUCATION PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 pp 1, 20

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct 14: Raja Mohammed Zafar-ul-Haq, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, declared here this evening that the recommendation made by the Cabinet committee for the Islah-i-Muashra will pave the way for ushering in an Islamic social revolution in the country.

The Minister who also heads the Islah-i-Muashra Cabinet committee outlined long-term measures, short-term plan of action and an institutional framework for ensuring broader public participation in the reformation of the society as suggested by the Cabinet committee.

He said that the Cabinet committee for the Islah-i-Muashra has submitted its report to the President within the stipulated period of three weeks time, which he desired to be put up before the Federal Council.

Raja Mohammed Zafar-ul-Haq said that a tremendous response has been received from the entire nation hailing Government's efforts for the reformation of society and eliminating social evils from the society.

The Information Minister said there is an awareness among the people to launch a campaign for the reformation of the society and Islah-i-Muashra committees were being set up on village, city, district levels for this purpose. He said that President Gen Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq had called for waging a crusade for the liquidation of social

evils from the society and expected tangible results in this direction within one year.

He said that the Cabinet committee has suggested that Islah-i-Muashra committees should be headed by persons with impeccable record and there should be no official involvement in constituting these committees. He said that members of the Majlis-i-Shoora should supervise these committees so that undesirable or people with bad reputation do not sneak into these committees. He appealed to the Ulema to play their role in this noble task. He said that the Government will line up all its resources for achieving these objectives.

Total uniformity in the school syllabi should be achieved within three years. English medium and missionary schools may be phased out, to be replaced by schools of excellence using Urdu as medium of instruction.

The National and Provincial committees should be formed to monitor the progress of measures taken for eradication of social evils and to suggest, when necessary, further measures for improvement.

The committee recommended that inter Fiqah meetings should be encouraged to bring intolerance towards one another. The short term measures call for simplifying the Criminal and Civil Procedure Codes and the Law of Evidence. Free legal advice should be provided to the poor and illiterate in the district, revenue and sessions courts.

Measures should also be introduced for reforming the police department.

The committee recommended enhancement in punishment under

all social laws. Death penalty should be provided for social crimes concerning drugs and trafficking in women.

The committee recommended that all the pending cases should be disposed of by Dec 31 this year. Every witness should state in the court as to how many times he had appeared in a court of law and the courts should have powers to refuse to admit evidence of professional witnesses.

On an appointment all employees of the Government, local bodies, autonomous organisations and nationalised commercial institutions should declare publicly on oath that they would not get any favours, monetary or otherwise, in the performance of their duties. A declaration signed to this effect should be placed in their personal files.

The committee recommended that there should be a periodic screening of the above mentioned services to weed out the corrupt and the incorrigible. The service rules should be so amended that the onus of establishing their honesty should rest with the employee.

Declaration of assets

Declaration of assets should be examined with a view to finding out whether a person had amassed wealth during his service through means other than inheritance. He should be given the option of inquiry or retirement.

The committee recommended that the present system of writing annual confidential reports of the subordinate should be changed, because it has lost its secrecy, meaning and purpose. The disparity between the highest and the lowest paid should be reduced, but it should not provide an incentive to continue to remain illiterate or unqualified.

The perquisites enjoyed by the employees of autonomous bodies and nationalised commercial institutions should be rationalised and publicised.

The committee recommended that the persons with outstanding financial integrity should be transferred from other services to the departments of Customs, Income Tax and PWD. Ombudsman should be inducted at an early date.

Each Ministry should publish in the gazette its important decisions and working papers of public

interest.

The committee also recommended measures for discouraging materialism, ostentatious living, vulgarity and obscenity.

Building plots

These measures included a ceiling of 500 metres to be fixed and enforced on a building plot situated in municipal areas. The property tax on houses built on larger areas should be subjected to prohibitive property tax.

Expenditure being incurred on ceremonies, specially, the marriage ceremony, should be discouraged. Marriages should be solemnised in mosques whereas those held in clubs or hotels should be taxed by the local body.

The committee recommended that social pressure be exerted to discourage Mehndi and similar wasteful ceremonies.

The committee recommended that the restriction on a number of guests and the foodstuff be reimposed and strictly enforced.

The dowry and bridal gift act restricting individual presents to Rs. 100, total expenditure on marriage to Rs. 2,500 and the extent of bridal gifts should also be enforced.

It recommended total ban on import of cars above 1600 CC, economy class for internal flights of PIA and two classes, air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned, in the railway.

The women should be discouraged from buying costly and heavily embroidered clothes and jewellery and persuaded to adopt simplicity.

The committee suggested that a probe be held into the activities of the hotels and clubs to ensure that they were not serving as centres of depravity. All advertisements should follow a code of conduct to be worked out with representatives of the advertising agencies.

Films

The Film Censor Board should ensure not only strict adherence to the ethical code but also adopt such measures that the censored portions are not later on added to the films.

Vulgarity in public fairs and festivals should be brought to an end. It is said that even in such a sport as driving a motor-cycle in a

wooden well the spectators are entertained with singing and dancing by prostitutes during the waiting time.

A number of vulgar dramas have been staged in hotels under the cover of fine arts. The provincial art councils should be given regulatory powers to stop such dramas.

Ball room dancing in all its forms should be banned. Night clubs and discos working under any cover or name should be closed.

The commercial outlets of vulgar VCR shows should be unearthed and severely dealt with.

The number of shops selling pop music has increased considerably. This tendency should be discouraged through fiscal and administrative measures.

Wherever there are more than three persons at any ticket window or a transport stand, they should not be attended to unless they form a queue.—APP

Education

Outlining the long-term measures as suggested by the Cabinet committee, Raja Zafarul Haq said "the prevailing system of education falls far short of the requirement of an ideological state and a Herculean effort is required to improve this system".

He said that the main emphasis should be on the ideology and character and instead of producing mere degree holders. He said that admission to the universities and professional colleges should be based, among other things, on qualifying in a pre-admission test in Islamic ideology, Quranic teachings and Islamic History. He said that the educational institutions should be charged with specific responsibility of saving the youth from the onslaught of alien culture and ideology.

Other measures suggested by the committee, he said, included total uniformity in the school syllabi encouragement of students with brilliant academic record and promotion of Urdu.

The Information Minister said there is a mushroom of "muhallah" libraries which supply vulgar and obscene books and magazines, including pirated portions of such material published in a neighbouring country, on very cheap rentals. The local committees should have the power to assist the police and make a bonfire of such literature.

Bara Markets

The Information Minister said that the committee has recommended that "bara" markets in which smuggled goods are sold throughout the country should be eliminated by a storm action. He said that existence of such markets not only challenges the authority of the state but also have a telling effects on the youth as vulgar cassettes and obscene literature is also made available in it.

The Cabinet committee, he said, has also made recommendations on justice and accountability, corruption and bribery, social behaviour in its short-term plan of action.

He said that an Idara-i-Islah-i-Muashra (bureau of moral and social reformation) should be established in Islamabad to undertake research study and prepare a long-term plan of action for the Islah-i-Muashra.

He said that the committee have recommended that cigarette advertisements should be banned on TV and all other organs of mass media — both electronic and prints. He said that the House itself should set an example and make an

announcement that all its members will give up smoking.

The Cabinet committee for Islah-i-Muashra has recommended that God-fearing and public spirited persons be associated in a real, regular and institutionalised manner for creating a real Islamic society.

The report of the committee was submitted in the House by the Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Raja Mohammed Zafarul Haq, who headed the committee.

The committee suggested that the exercise called for taking long-term and short-term measures involving public participation within the institutional framework to achieve the noble objective.

An individual has been stated as the local point in the campaign. It recommended the formation of Islahi committees on the pattern of Zakat committees having the same number of tiers i.e. the local, tehsil and district committees. The committees should be empowered to enlarge their memberships by co-opting Ulema, lawyers, traders and servicemen or such persons on the basis of their reputation and record of selfless public service. The Islahi committees have been recommended to provide a body of dedicated social reformers at the grass root level.

The committee for Islah-i-Muashra recommended that the district and city committee be headed by members of Shoora. They should have the authority to remove a member of a lower committee who is not contributing according to the spirit of the whole exercise. These Islahi committees should supervise the implementation of the decisions of the Government taken with a view to bringing about moral and social reformation.

INDIRECT TALKS WITH AFGHANISTAN SEEN LIKELY

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct 14: Indirect talks with Afghanistan may be held when the Special Representative of the UN General Secretary, Mr Diego Cordovez visits Pakistan after the UN debate on this issue, which is likely to be held this month.

This was disclosed by Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, while talking to newsmen at the Islamabad airport soon after his arrival from New York after attending the 37th session of the UN General Assembly and Ministerial meetings of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement which coincide annually with the General Assembly meeting.

He said if the UN debate on Afghanistan is held as scheduled, then Mr Cordovez would be visiting Pakistan by the end of the second week of November to hold further talks on the Afghan issue. He said "we are looking forward for fruitful discussions with him".

The Foreign Minister said "we have also received encouragement from the Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Andrei Gromyko's attitude towards the talks. Regarding these indirect negotiations, he said the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference also favoured these trilateral talks besides the support was also indicated by the Islamic Foreign Ministers during his bilateral meetings with them.

To a question regarding the

normalisation of relations with India, Sahabzada Yaqub said the next round of talks between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan would be held in December next. He said these talks would certainly prepare grounds and consolidate the work which has so far been done in this regard.

He said it will be premature and optimistic to expect quick, spectacular breakthrough. "Our endeavour is that this process of normalisation should have step by step approach", he remarked.

Iran-Iraq war

Regarding Iran-Iraq conflict, the Foreign Minister said this war causes us pain as it was being carried out at a time when unity is needed most among the Islamic Ummah. He recalled the efforts of President General Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, in his individual capacity and as member of the OIC peace committee, to end this conflict. These efforts, he added, have so far been fruitless. He once again reiterated Pakistan's assistance to both the warring countries for ending this conflict.

He termed the unity achieved at the recent Arab summit at FEZ as "an important landmark in our common goal achieving the restoration of Arab sovereignty of all territories occupied by Israel".

PAKISTAN CALLS FOR JOINT ACTION ON WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 6

[Text]

United Nations, Oct. 14: Pakistan today underscored the need for the creation of conditions for equitable and efficient international cooperation to overcome the crisis in the world economy.

Speaking in the General Assembly's Second Committee (Economic and Social), Mr Saifullah Piracha regretted that the world community had not been able to agree on how to combat the situation.

The Pakistan delegate was speaking on the relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the economic arm of the United Nations.

He said progress could only be achieved through joint action of all nations as equal partners and through broadening the basis of cooperation. The report of the committee for development planning, he said, contained some useful recommendations for an economic recovery programme, and his country would join efforts to consider ways and means for deriving maximum benefit from the analytical work being carried out.

The Pakistan delegate said the deteriorating trend in the world economy could result in an ever-increasing number of countries in the category of least developed countries, and he called for reappraisal of the criteria for their identification.

Following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the activities of the United Nations agencies would have to be substantially increased if the conditions of Palestinian refugees were to be ameliorated, Mr Piracha stated. The situation had worsened considerably and would demand a more comprehensive resolution, and his delegation was currently engaged in consultations in this regard.

Pakistan, he said, attached great importance to the convening of the international conference on population in 1984. He appealed to all those countries who are in a position to do so to make contributions to facilitate the early completion of all preparations for the conference.

CSO: 4200/54

FOREIGN INDEBTEDNESS--STATE BANK RELEASES FIGURES

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 17

[Text] The State Bank of Pakistan has brought out a booklet on survey of foreign liabilities and assets of the private sector in Pakistan and net inflow of foreign private investment in the country during the year 1980. The booklet covers the period 1972-80.

The survey covered (a) firms or companies registered or incorporated, (b) companies incorporated in Pakistan with foreign participation, and (c) registered or unregistered partnerships operating in Pakistan in which foreigners hold interest. Account was also taken of change in (i) holding of foreign securities and shares by resident individuals and (ii) net position of Pakistani firms and companies operating abroad. The total respondents who submitted schedules for the above survey was 492.

Overall net foreign indebtedness of the private sector in Pakistan increased by 1.6% to Rs. 8,075.2 million in 1980. Liabilities of the Pakistani Joint Stock Companies, amounting to Rs. 7,416.0 million, increased by 4.3%, while those of companies registered abroad decreased from Rs. 928.9 million to Rs. 807 million

or 10% in 1980. Holding of foreign securities by Pakistani national was Rs. 36 million in 1980, whereas the net creditor position of Pakistani firms abroad doubled from 56.9 million to Rs. 114.8 million.

Manufacturing group

According to the nature of economic activity of the respondents, the "Manufacturing" group accounted for the bulk of the liabilities, amounting to Rs. 4,646.5 million or 57.5% of the total in 1980.

The second most important sector was "Transportation, storage and communication" which stood at Rs. 1,134.3 million or 14.1% followed by "Commerce" group at Rs. 1,114.6 million or 13.8%. All other sectors of economy witnessed a nominal increase in 1980.

Creditor-wise, International Financial Institutes occupied the most prominent position. Their claims stood at Rs. 2,453.7 million or 30.4% of the total liabilities in 1980. As for individual countries, the liabilities to USA, UK and UAE were Rs. 1,406.5 million or 17.4%,

Rs. 1,277.7 million or 15.8% and Rs. 857.4 million or 10.6% respectively in 1980.

Total net inflow of foreign investment consisting of "Cash brought in", "Capital equipment brought in" and "Re-invested earnings" was Rs. 293.3 million during the year. The net inflows under "Cash brought in" and "Capital equipment brought in" were Rs. 126.1 million or 43% of Rs. 90.8 million or 31% respectively while the balance of Rs. 76.4 million or 26% was under Re-invested earnings in 1980.

According to economic groups, the "Manufacturing" Sector ranked first in importance with Rs. 218.9 million of the total Foreign Investment followed by "Mining & Quarrying" Rs. 72.1 million, "Commerce" Rs. 5.2 million and "Construction" Rs. 3.9 million respectively.

Countrywise U.K. took the lead by investing Rs. 138.8 million or 47.32% of the total foreign investment as compared with Rs. 57.1 million or 19.48% by Denmark. Net inflow from Netherlands was recorded at Rs. 37.3 million or 12.7% while from USA, it amounted to Rs. 16.3 million or 5.6% of the total in 1980.

CSO: 4200/54

LAWYERS' CONVICTIONS PROTESTED

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Oct 82 p 20

[Text]

LAHORE, Oct 14: An emergency meeting of the Punjab Women Lawyers Association (PWLA) has protested against the conviction of two lawyers in connection with the speeches they made at the Lawyers Convention held here early this month. The meeting which was presided over by the President of the Association, Miss Hina Jilani, termed the decision of the Military Court as "arbitrary".

The meeting adopted a resolution to support any future line of action adopted by the All-Pakistan Lawyers Association in this connection.

Concern expressed

In Karachi, lawyers, members of the Bar and other organisations have expressed concern at the conviction of two Lahore advocates and have appealed to the authorities to condone the sentences.

Syed Nasiruddin, President of the High Court Bar Association, in a Press statement, appealed to President Zia-ul-Haq and the Governor of Punjab to set aside the sentences and withdraw cases against the other Lahore lawyers.

He said that such actions will only aggravate this situation at a time when the "country faces a critical situation because of threats of "external coercion and internal subversion".

Several other local "young lawyers" in a joint Press statement expressed concern at the conviction of Mr Sher Alam and Mr If-tikhar Jilani, the two Lahore advocates, and police raids for recovery of Mr Iqbal Hyder, Mr Khalid Khan (Karachi) and Mr Ishaq Khan (Azad Kashmiri lawyer). They urged the authorities to set aside the sentences and withdraw arrest orders of the other lawyers.

The signatories include: Qazi Ghani, Mr Umer Faruque, Mr Nahid Afzal, Mahmoodul Hasan, Miss Zaheda Naqvi, Mr Masood Ahmad, Raja Riaz, Mr Afzal Jami, Rana Safdar, Mr Niaz Mohammad, Mr Iqbal Bhatti, Mr Maqbool Baqar, Mr Manzoor and Mr Munawwar Iqbal.

Leaders of the Railway Workers Union also demanded withdrawal of cases against all the lawyers and the setting aside of sentences against the two leading members of the Lahore Bar.

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