Indian Information

Vol. 2 December 1, 1959 (Agrahayana 10, 1881) No. 21

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, laying the foundation-stone of a new building for the Poona School and Industrial Home for blind girls at Kothrud in Poona on November 5

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, being shown some metal wares produced on co-operative basis when he inaugurated the Co-operative Week celebrations in New Delhi on November 7

The Union Home Minister, Shri G.B. Pant, addressing the workers of the Gram Sahyog Samiti in New Delhi on November 8

Indian Information

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COVER : Their Imperial Highnesses Meridazmach Asfa Wossen, Crown Prince of Ethiopia, and Princess Medferiash Worq, who are on a two-week State visit to India, with the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and Shrimati Indira Gandhi in New Delhi on November 17.

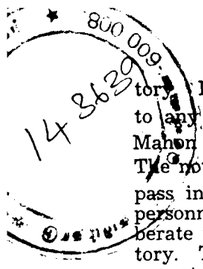
(Indian Information seeks to provide a condensed record of the activities and official announcements of the Government of India. Because of space limitation many items appear in summarized forms. Such items should not be treated as complete and authoritative versions.)

Political & General

INDIA'S REPLY TO CHINESE NOTE ON LADAKH INCIDENT

In a note handed to the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi on November 4 containing the Government of India's reply to the Chinese memorandum of October 22 and the statement issued by the Chinese Government on the Ladakh incident on October 26, the Government of India have declared that the independence and integrity of India are what the Indian people laboured for during their long struggle for freedom and they cannot permit any injury to, or infringement of, them. The Government of India have told the Chinese Government that while they will continue to endeavour to solve all disputes by peaceful means the people of India will have to resist by all means available to them if there is aggression against their country. The Government of India have said that they trust that the Chinese Government will remove their forces from Indian territory and seek to resolve minor frontier disputes by peaceful methods.

The note rejected the account given by the Chinese Government of the incident in Ladakh in which a party of Indian policemen was attacked by Chinese forces and nine of the Indian personnel were killed. The note repudiates the allegation in the Chinese statement that Indian forces have violated the *status quo* in several places on the Sino-Indian frontier or occupied places in Chinese terri-



tory. It says the Chinese claim to any territory south of Mac Mahon Line is entirely baseless. The note declares that any trespass into this area by Chinese personnel would amount to deliberate violation of Indian territory. The Government of India cannot recognise any boundary in the Ladakh region or elsewhere which includes in China areas on the Indian side of the traditional frontier.

The note says that the long Sino-Indian frontier is traditional and well known. The Prime Minister of India during the past years has clearly and firmly declared what the frontier is. The Chinese Prime Minister had told the Prime Minster of India that China was prepared to accept the North-Eastern frontier of India referred to as the MacMahon Line. No question of the frontier of the Tibet region with Ladakh was ever raised during all these years. The Government of India, therefore, reject and repudiate as contrary to history and to facts, the Chinese statement that the entire area including the places east, south and north of the Kongka Pass in the Ladakh region has always been Chinese territory. The Government of India did not set up boundary posts along the border in Ladakh because they had no reason to expect any aggression from China.

The note goes on to say that it is recognised the world over that India stands for peace and is entirely opposed to the use of warlike method for the settlement of international disputes. India's friendly attitude towards China was due to the desire of the people and the Government of India that it was essential in the interest of India and China as well as of peace in Asia and the world that these two countries should have friendly relations. It is a matter of great sorrow to the Government and the people of India that these hopes have been belied and a situation created which endangers the peaceful and friendly relations between India and China.

Indian Personnel Handed Over

A New Delhi announcement of November 14 says that the Chinese have handed over the same morning to an Indian police party ten Indians whom they had taken prisoner during the Chanchengmo incident in Ladakh on October 21, as also nine dead bodies. The released persons and the dead bodies have now reached Hot Springs. The released Indian personnel are as follows:

(1) Deputy Superintendent Karam Singh, (2) Jamadar Rulia Ram, (3) Constable Gurbahadur, (4) Constable Rudarman, (5) Constable Abdul Majid, (6) Constable Shiv Dayal, (7) Constable Tsering Norbhu, (8) Constable Mohd. Khalil, (9) Constable Sonam Dorje, (10) Porter Chhetan.

The bodies are of the following:

(1) Constable Dharam Singh, (2) Constable Shivnath Prasad, (3) Constable Iman Singh, (4) Constable Hangjit Suba, (5) Constable Tsering Norbhu, (6) Constable Norbu Lama, (7) Constable Sarwan Das, (8) Constable Beg Raj, (9) Constable Puran Singh.

Constable Makhan Lal is still missing. He was last seen badly injured.

Bhutanese Party On "Bharat Darshan" Tour

A 100-member Bhutanese party arrived at Siliguri on November 14 on a 30-day Bharat Darshan tour. This tour has been arranged with a view to giving an opportunity to these Bhutanese to visit places of religious, cultural and historical interest in India, as also some of the industrial centres in the country.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF ASSAM

The President has been pleased to appoint Shri Justice Holiram Deka, a Judge of the Assam High Court, to perform the duties of the Chief Justice of that Court during the absence on leave of Shri Justice Chandreshwar Prasad Sinha with effect from November 9, 1959, says a Press Note issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on November 5.

Passport Regulations Tightened Up

An announcement of November 10 says that during the last few years, the Government of India issued strict instruction to the Passport Officers not to grant passports for the United Kingdom to illiterate or semi-literate persons who do not know English. The object of these persons is to earn a living by petty trades or unskilled labour in the United Kingdom. Such persons who had already entered the United Kingdom on genuine passports, usually found it difficult to adjust themselves to the new conditions of life owing in particular to their lack of knowledge of English. It is now clear that unable to secure passports through the normal channel, a large number of persons, who are either illiterate or semi-literate, secured forged passports and left for the United Kingdom without detection at Indian ports. Some of these persons have been the dupes of unscrupulous travel agents and others.

The Government of India have, therefore, decided to tighten up the existing measures to prevent emigration to the U.K. of illiterate or semi-literate persons, who do not know English. Instructions have been issued to all passport checking officers at all sea ports and airports in India to apply rigorous scrutiny to the travel documents of such persons, particularly if their destination is the United Kingdom or any other European country. It is possible that among such persons there are a few who have been given bonafide travel documents in special circumstances. In order to save such bonafide travellers from harassment and, at the same time, to prevent the departure of others who may have acquired forged travel documents, the following procedure will be applied with immediate effect.

If the passport-holder is illiterate or semi-literate but does not know English, he should send an application to the Regional Passport Officer at least 15 days before the intended date of his travel, giving the following particulars: (i) Number of the passport, (ii) place, date and office of its issue, (iii) place, date and office at which any subsequent endorsement was made, (iv) seaport/airport from which the passenger proposes to leave India, indicating the date and ship or flight number, (v) particulars of other persons, for example wife and children included in the passport, and others who are likely to accompany the passenger, and (vi) the address to which the Regional Passport Officer should post his reply.

The Regional Passport Officer will then confirm in writing to the passenger that his passport is in order. This will enable the passport-holder to pass through the port or airport check without any difficulty.

The Government of India decided to tighten up the existing passport regulations following the recent attempts by a large number of persons, mainly unskilled labourers or small farmers from the Punjab, to enter the United Kingdom on forged passports. Many such persons were detected in Italy on their way to the United Kingdom and held up there. A number of others were refused entry by the U.K. Government and were sent back to India. Such emigration on forged travel documents not only brings discredit to India, but also involves considerable hardship to the persons concerned and expenditure on their subsequent repatriation.

POLICE MEDAL FOR U. P. HEAD CONSTABLE

An announcement of November 14 says that the Police Medal for gallantry has been awarded by the President to Shri Hasan Dad Khan, Head Constable, III Battalion, Provincial Armed Constabulary, Uttar Pradesh, for displaying courage and devotion to duty of a high order in an encounter between a police party and a gang of armed outlaws on December 12, 1958, in village Gulauli under Mohamdi Police Station in Kheri district in which the notorious outlaw Sanwal Singh, who had been terrorising several districts of Uttar Pradesh for some time, was shot dead.

APPOINTMENTS FROM OUTSIDE STATES

An announcement dated November 4 says that since Independence, nearly 50% of the entrants to the Indian Administrative Service have been allotted to States from "outside", that is, other than their own. The same principle has been adopted for the Indian Police Service candidates since 1956.

The States Reorganisation Commission had recommended that "as a general rule, 50% of the new entrants in the All India Services should be from outside the State concerned, this computation being made after deducting the number of posts in any State which are to be filled by promotion." Following this recommendation, the Union Home Ministry sent a memorandum to the various States relating to recruitment, etc.

Till the end of September this year, the authorised strength of the I.A.S. was 1,785 while that of the I.P.S. 1,082.

JUDGES FROM OUTSIDE

The principle of appointing High Court Judges from "outside the State" was also being followed. From November 1956 to middle of August this year, ten such appointments were made to the various State High Courts.

The S.R.C. had recommended that in order to inspire confidence and to help arrest parochial trends one-third of judges of a High Court be persons recruited from outside the State. This proposal, discussed at the Chief Ministers' Conference held in October 1955, was embodied in the Government of India's Memorandum on "Safeguards for Linguistic Minorities", which was approved by Parliament.

Later, it was thought that the most practical way of implementing the S.R.C. recommendation would be to try it out on a zonal basis. The suggestion was agreed to by all the Zonal Councils.

However, in order to ensure that there was no grievance that appointments were going to persons outside the State, it was agreed that whenever an "outside appointment" was made in a particular State, the next "outside" vacancy within the zone should go, as far as possible, to that State, provided a suitable person was available.

Accordingly, panels are being prepared, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, of persons from each State considered suitable for High Court appointments. The purpose is that whenever there is a need for an outside appointment, names from these panels could be suggested to a State. This would also avoid delays.

Govt. Servants Permitted To Join Home Guards

The Union Home Ministry has requested all the Government departments in Delhi to permit their employees to join the Home Guards Organisation, started in Delhi on September 10, 1959, says an announcement dated November 7. Exceptions can, however, be made in the case of those persons who hold key posts and who cannot be released during emergencies.

The training for the employees will be given outside office hours. When required to serve during working days, the employees will be treated on special casual leave. They will, however, receive, in addition to their pay, such allowances as may be prescribed for them by the Organisation.

The Government of India have already suggested the formation of a voluntary corps of Home Guards in every State for meeting such emergencies as floods, fires, earthquakes, epidemics, etc.

Several States, like Bombay, U.P., Mysore and West Bengal, have such a nucleus though with a different nomenclature. U.P. has Raksha Dal while West Bengal has the National Volunteer Corps.

However, now the training will be more organised and on the lines started in Delhi, where a voluntary body has been set up under the supervision and control of a Commandant-General. The members of this body are required to "discharge such functions and duties in relation to the protection of persons, the security of property and the public safety as may be assigned to them."

Ethiopian Crown Prince In India

Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince of Ethiopia and Princess Medferiash Worq arrived in Calcutta on November 13 on a two-week State visit to India. They arrived in New Delhi on November 15.

Planning & Finance

INDO–U.S. AGREEMENT ON AVOIDING DOUBLE TAXATION

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 10, an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation between India and the U.S.A. was signed in Washington on the same day. The Hon'ble Christian A. Herter, U.S. Secretary of State, and Shri D.N. Chatterjee, India's Charge d' Affaires in Washington, signed on behalf of their Governments. The signing of the agreement was announced simultaneously in Washington and New Delhi.

An important feature of this Agreement, not found in agreements entered into by the U.S.A. with 21 other countries, is a scheme for affording credit for tax spared. This will be a stimulus to U.S. investment in India.

Under the Credit for Tax Spared (C.T.S. for short) Scheme, the U.C. Government will allow, against the U.S. tax on income earned by American concern in India, a credit not only for taxes actually paid in India, but also for the tax which would have been paid, but for the concessions given by the Government of India to aid American investors. So far, the U.S.A. gives credit against U.S. tax liability only for taxes actually paid in India.

The Agreement is designed to foster international flow of trade and investment and the exchange of technical, educational and research services. It contains provisions relating to business investment and personal-service income, official salaries, pensions and annuities, remuneration of teachers and remittances to students and apprentices.

It also contains a provision regarding administrative procedures including exchange of tax information between the two Governments.

The Agreement applies, so far as United States taxes are concerned, to the Federal income and corporate taxes. In India, the treaty is, likewise, applicable to all taxes on incomes of persons and companies.

The Agreement, after approval by the American Senate, will be brought into force by the exchange of Instruments of Ratification and will be effective in the U.S.A. for taxable years beginning on or after January 1 of the year in which such exchange takes place.

It will be effective in India for previous years beginning on or after January 1 of the year in which the exchange takes place.

Czech Delegation On Economic Co-operation

A six-member delegation from Czechoslovakia led by Mr. A. Hlock arrived in New Delhi on November 8 to have talks with the Government of India on technical and economic co-operation between India and Czechoslovakia in the Third Five Year Plan. The delegation consists of representatives of the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Trade and Technoevport, Czechoslovakia.

ANNOUNCEMENT

INDIAN INFORMATION has been growing in popularity as a journal which provides a handy record of the activities and official announcements of the Government of India.

It is our endeavour to maintain its high standard and to make it more attractive. Constant rise in the cost of production has, however, compelled us reluctantly to raise its price to 0.40 nP per copy or Rs. 8 per annum.

The new price will be effective from the issue No. 21 dated December 1, 1959. Annual subscribers will, however, continue to receive their copies without any extra payment until their present subscription expires.

We hope that our readers will not mind this slight rise in price and will continue to extend their patronage to the journal.

Commerce & Industry

MEETING OF GEOLOGICAL MINING AND METALLURGICAL SOCIETY

Addressing the 35th annual general meeting of the Council of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India in Calcutta on November 7, Dr. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, said that it was essential to ensure that all mineral resources were tapped and used in the most economic manner. He reiterated the mineral policy of the Government of India which recognised such a planned utilisation of minerals with special reference to coal which "occupied a pre-eminent importance in our national economy".

He disclosed that while only 15 important metals were commercially extracted and used in the beginning of the century, today their number was nearly 50. In fact, more minerals had been extracted from the earth since World War I than in all the preceding centuries. The quality and variety of minerals produced and consumed by a nation gave an indication of the general standard of living of its people. The expansion in the use of minerals was continuing at a rate which made the problem of shortages not only real but almost menacing. In some of the more industrialised countries, large-scale consumption of minerals had led to the near exhaustion of national resources. It was to combat these factors that scientific research was necessary to find out alternatives and substitutes to comply with the growing demands in many other fields.

Importance Of Coal

Dr. Kabir said that while there were very large reserves of coal in the country, a major part of it was inferior in quality. It was estimated that the reserves of coking coal in India did not exceed 2,000 million tons with washing and blending, while iron ore reserves were estimated at anything between 20,000 to 50,000 million tons. Since every ton of iron ore required about 1.5 tons of coking coal, it was obvious that the reserves of metallurgical coke were totally inadequate of the full utilisation of the enormous reserves of iron ore, he added.

Commending the surveys and researches done by the Central Fuel Research Institute with a view to combating the shortages likely to be confronted with, the Minister said, I am told that the physical and chemical surveys undertaken in the Central Fuel Research Institute reveal that some of the coal which were hitherto considered unsuitable for metallurgical purposes are in fact potential sources of coking coal by benefication and processing. This favourable finding has been partly offset by an unpleasant discovery revealed by deep drilling in the Jharia coal fields by the Geological Survey. This seems to indicate that some of the seams that we expected to be of good coking quality have been burnt out by veinous intrusions. In this situation, it seems astonishing that out of an annual production of about 13 million tons of coking coal, as much as nine million tons should be used by railways and industries that can use non-coking types. Our immediate concern must, therefore, be to find means of conserving coking coal without sacrificing efficiency. Here the work of the Central Fuel Research Institute has indicated some reasons for hope. It has been found out that large reserves of high ash coking coals can be carbonised after benefication by washing and some of the semi-coking coals, specially from Raniganj and Karanpara coal fields, can be blended quality of metallurgical coke. Improvements in mining methods and provision of sand-stowing are also expected to increase our mineral reserves.

Blending Arrangements

Referring to the blending arrangements made at the coke ovens of the steel projects at Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela at the insistence of the Institute which resulted in the considerable economy in the use of fuel, Dr. Kabir disclosed, The Durgapur Steel Plant has accepted a blend of 75 per cent of high volatile Raniganj coal, thus leading to a saving of about Rs. 5 million a year in freight alone and approximately Rs. 2½ million in cost of washing. The Bhilai Steel Plant has found ways of utilising 20 to 40 per cent of local coals leading to an annual saving of Rs. 5 to 10 million in freight alone. At Rourkela, the results of the Institute's work on survey, preparation and carbonisation studies on coal of the Kargali seam indicate that the entire needs of the Plant may be met locally from coals that have till now been used only in locomotives. It is also estimated that as a result of low temperature carbonisation, 15 to 20 per cent of the fines will be suitable for blending with the semi-coking high-volatile coals of the Raniganj field for the production of metallurgical coke. The Institute has also solved the problem of washing the mixed different coals products from a large number of small mines, a problem which has till now been considered insoluble by many foreign experts.

New Methods

Besides the use of a substantial proportion of sub-standard coals for coking in all the steel plants in the public sector, some new methods are being tried out which may lead to considerable economy in the use of fuel. The adoption at Rourkela of the L.D. process which is one of the most successful oxygen using technique for the production of steel, may have a great influence on the future expansion of the steel industry in the country. It not

only produces high quality steel at a higher production with decreased fuel consumption but involves comparatively lower capital and operating costs. In addition, it provides a large amount of surplus gas for utilisation in the fertiliser plant. Similarly, the use of sintered ore and high top pressure in the blast furnaces at Bhilai are expected to lead to improved efficiency by increasing output of iron with a lower consumption of coke.

Attempts are being made in important countries of the world to find out alternative methods of iron-making by utilising non-coking coals directly for smelting iron ore. Among such processes the Lever process developed in Germany deserves special mention. In this process, fine coal is briquetted with pulverised iron ore and the resulting briquette is smelted in a low shaft furnace with or without oxygen enrichment. A low shaft furnace pilot plant has recently been installed in National Metallurgical Laboratory to investigate the application of this process to Indian conditions.

Power From Coal

The Minister revealed that the work carried at the Central Research Institute already indicated one line of development that might be of the greatest importance for the future development of railway traction in India. It had shown that electricity could be generated from the worst quality and the smallest sizes of coal available in the country and particularly from those that were unsuitable for use in other plants. Efficiency of operation would, however, be doubled if this was done and power produced by inferior coal utilised for locomotive traction. Plans for electrification or dieselisation of railways were largely based on the advice of the Institute.

Oil And Natural Gas

As regards the exploration and utilisation of mineral oil and natural gas, he said that a great deal of pure and applied research would be needed before the massive resources could be exploited effectively. Commending the work done in this respect by the Geological Survey of India and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, he disclosed that a Petroleum Research Institute would soon be set up to work in close co-operation with the Commission. There had been a considerable increase in the activity of exploring and prospecting since India became independent. Though the Indo-Stanvac Project was disappointing, he hoped that the sixth test near Ranaghat would give some indication of the location on the reserves regarding the existence of which in this part of India many experts were convinced. He was also optimistic about considerable discoveries in Western and Northern India. He said that in Assam, Nahorkatiya was estimated to yield annually about 4 million tons of crude oil by 1965.

Need Of Personnel

Continuing Dr. Kabir said that all such programmes of survey exploration, study, research and utilisation would require large funds. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission was expected to spend about Rs. 200 million for processing oil during the Second Plan period. But even more important than money was the question of personnel. He emphasised that scientific and technical personnel in increasing numbers would be needed not only for survey and production but even more for improvement of the existing methods in all fields connected with geology, mining and metallurgy.

Flourite Deposits In Rajasthan

Reserves of about 1.5 million tons of flourite have recently been found at Mandua-Ki-Pal in the Dungarpur district of Rajasthan State, says an announcement of November 9. The reserves occur as veins and disseminations in granite and also as replacement in xeonolittic limestone in the granite. The reserves contain about 20-30 per cent calcium flourite.

Flourite is used in the open-hearth furnace in the steel plant. It is added to the bath before the furnace is tapped to increase the fluidity of the slag and to remove impurities like sulphur. Six to eight pounds of flourite is required for every ton of steel produced.

India imported nearly 5,330 tons of flourite during 1958 from Mexico, China, the United Kingdom, West Germany, Italy, France and Netherlands.

BOKARO AND CHIRIMIRI COAL FIELDS

According to an announcement of November 10, the Indian Bureau of Mines has proved the existence of two new workable seams of coal in the Jarangdih colliery area, east of Bokaro and Chirimiri coal fields in Madhya Pradesh.

The Jarangdih seam, containing a reserve of 0.33 million tons, is spread over an area of half a square mile, with its workable portion confined to 0.06 sq. mile only. The quality of the coal ranges between selected A to II B Grade.

The second new seam named as Sonawani has been proved to exist over an area of 0.042 sq. mile and is estimated to contain a coal reserve of 3.17 million tons of average Grade II.

The Bureau has submitted necessary plans and detailed information to the National Coal Development Corporation for exploitation of the seams.

During the last four years the Bureau carried detailed prospecting in 9 coal fields of India in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa and has proved 1,100 million metric tons of coal. Prospecting and proving of coal in the Korba coal fields of Madhya Pradesh for development in the public sector was also undertaken by the Bureau.

PROGRESS OF BHILAI STEEL PROJECT

With the regular operation of the blooming mill of Bhilai Steelworks after the successful completion of a series of trial tests on November 12, the construction of the steel project has entered its third and final stage of completion, says a New Delhi announcement of the same day.

The first stage was reached last February when the pig iron production was inaugurated by the President of India; the second on October 12 last when steel production was commenced at the first 250-ton capacity furnace which has so far produced 6,800 tons of steel ingots. These ingots will now go to the blooming mill for being rolled into blooms.

The billet mill of steelworks is expected to be commissioned about the middle of December, marking completion of entire metallurgical cycle for rolling out commercial productions before the end of this year.

Steel is produced in a steel melting shop in forms of ingots. These are taken to rolling mills for conversion into marketable forms like rails, heavy structurals, bars and billet for rolling.

There will be four rolling mills in Bhilai Steelworks i.e., blooming mill, continuous billet mill, rail and structural mill and merchant mill. The blooming mill is the first of these four to be completed. Continuous billet mill is expected to be completed before the end of the year. The remaining two will be completed next year.

The Bhilai Steel Plant is designed for annual production initially of 1 million tons of steel ingots. The Works will have 6 open hearth furnaces of 250-ton capacity each for steel making.

Retention Prices Of TISCO And IISCO Steel

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 11, the Government of India have decided that the retention prices payable to the Tata Iron and Steel Company and the Indian Iron and Steel Company be increased by Rs. 5 per ton for the period 1955-56 to 1959-60 for all categories of steel taken together.

The Indian Iron and Steel Company had represented to the Government in December 1958 that their costs had risen as a result of increases in wages, railway freight, prices of coal, etc. A similar representation was made by the Tata Iron and Steel Company in January 1959. The two representations were considered by the Government and the matter was referred to the Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry of Finance in April this year for examination, who recommended:

(i) The average retention price payable to the Tata Iron and Steel Company and the Indian Iron and Steel Company for the period 1955-56 to 1959-60 on all categories of steel taken together should be increased by Rs. 7 per ton, if negotiated labour settlements are to be accepted and Rs. 5 per ton if such settlements are not accepted.

(ii) The 1954-55 retention prices for the Indian Iron and Steel Company as adjusted from time to time, should be increased by the same amount as mentioned in (i) above and, consequently, the average amount per ton to be credited by the Company to its Development Fund during the period 1955-56 to 1959-60 shall remain unchanged.

(iii) As the 1954-55 retention price for Tata Iron and Steel Company has increased only by Rs. 4 per ton against the present increase of Rs. 7 per ton in the retention price if negotiated settlement is to be taken into account, and Rs. 5 per ton, if negotiated settlements are to be ignored, the average amount to be credited by the Tata Iron and Steel Company to its Development Fund during the period 1955-56 to 1959-60, should be increased by Rs. 3 per ton, if negotiated settlements are admitted, and Re. 1, if they are not accepted.

The Government of India are examining separately the question of admitting increases in labour costs due to negotiated settlements.

The present increase in the retention price will enable the Tata Iron and Steel Company to increase its contribution by Re. 1 to its Development Fund, i.e. to the level of Rs. 50 per ton and the Indian Iron and Steel Company to maintain its contribution of Rs. 7 per ton.

The present retention price of Tatas and IISCO is Rs. 419 per ton excluding the excise duty of Rs. 45.75 per ton.

DESIGNS ORGANISATION FOR STEEL PLANTS

The Government of India have decided to set up a Central Designs Organisation to undertake the planning and designing of the future steel plants to be set up in the public sector, says an announcement of November 4.

A nucleus with an Indian Chief Design Engineer and thirty other young Design Engineers has already been created. It is functioning in Rourkela. It is engaged in a comparative study of the layout and drawings of the three steel plants in Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur with a view to planning the expansion of these three steelworks.

Audio-Visual Library Of Industrial Technique

An audio-visual library of 300 films illustrating up-to-date scientific methods of running industrial undertakings has been organised by the Development Wing in the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, says an announcement of November 15.

The films depict industrial techniques such as time-and-motion study, personnel management, material handling, plant layout, production and process control, etc. adopted in the advanced countries to achieve greater productivity. Films relating to improve techniques in specific industries e.g. better

methods of processing plastic materials, modern techniques of welding in engineering industries, safety measures in hazardous industries like mining, modern practices in metal industry, leather works, electric motors, etc. are also available in the library.

The services of the audio-visual library will be available to industrial undertakings and associations and technical institutions.

CENTRAL SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS ORGANISATION

The Government of India, says a New Delhi announcement of November 3, have set up a Central Scientific Instruments Organisation to promote and develop the indigenous manufacture of scientific instruments of all categories needed for teaching, research and industry. Dr. K.N. Mathur, Deputy Director, National Physical Laboratory, has been appointed Director of the Organisation.

The important functions of the CSIO are:

(i) survey and assessment of the present and future needs of various types of scientific instruments required for teaching, research, industry and essential services; collation and co-ordination of available information on the subject in the country, including problems and requirements of various departments; (ii) preparation of a phased programme of development of the industry during the next ten years; (iii) adopting steps to create new design and development units and centres of instrument production; (iv) preparation of specifications and blueprints for instruments and the development of testing techniques and equipment for testing instruments and production of proto-types; (v) co-operation with the Indian Standards Institution in the establishment of national standards for instruments; (vi) organization of advanced training of technicians and specialised personnel required for the preparation, repair and maintenance of scientific instruments; (vii) stimulating the manufacture of scientific instruments on an industrial scale; (viii) formulation and co-ordination of policies and procedures relating to development of the industry, distribution of scientific instruments, their imports, customs duty, etc. and (ix) publication of appropriate bulletins and periodicals.

The CSIO will work in active co-operation with the Development Wing of the Commerce and Industry Ministry. The new Organisation has been empowered to extend financial, technical and other assistance to centres connected with the scientific instruments industry. It may entrust some of its functions to other centres or units, already existing or which may be created for the purpose.

To quicken the pace of development of scientific instruments industry, the CSIO will attempt to mobilize and organise foreign collaboration through the United Nations Technical Assistance Board, the Colombo Plan, the Technical Co-operation Mission as well as Japan and USSR. It may be possible to enter into exchange arrangements for getting experts and equipment from abroad and also for sending Indian technicians to foreign countries for training.

The CSIO will explore the possibilities for the setting up of a permanent exhibition of scientific instruments produced in the country.

The new organisation has been set up in the premises of the National Physical Laboratory in New Delhi.

The importance of the development and manufacture of scientific instruments of different types in the country was recognised by the Planning Commissions which appointed a committee, headed by the Director-General, Scientific and Industrial Research, to formulate proposals on this subject. The Planning Commission accepted in May, 1959, the recommendations of the Committee that an organisation should be established for this purpose. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research was asked to formulate plans for this organization. The Governing Body of the CSIR at its meeting on October 17, 1959, approved the setting up of this organisation.

Symposium On Hydraulic Machines

Shri Manubhai Shah, Union Minister for Industry inaugurated a Symposium on hydraulic machines at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore on November 9. Expressing his satisfaction over the substantial progress achieved in the production of hydraulic machines, he said that the industry was now well established in India. With the expansion and diversification of the industry that was now being implemented, he hoped that the country would not only achieve self-sufficiency in the next two or three years, but also export a large number of pumps and hydraulic machines and meet practically the requirements in the neighbouring countries. While there were only eight organised units in 1950, today there were as many as 55 units in the field. Production today was valued at about Rs. 4 crores as against Rs. 1 crore in 1950.

The Minister, however, regretted that little attention was being paid by most of the manufacturing concerns to research and development. In this connection, he welcomed the lead given by the Institute of Science in arranging this symposium.

Steel Production In Third Plan

Discussing the question of steel production in the Third Five Year Plan period, Shri Shah revealed that a target of 10 million ingot tons of crude steel or about 7.3 million tons of finished steel was under consideration. During the Second Plan period, development of engineering and secondary industries had suffered considerably due to the non-availability of steel, the import of which had necessarily to be restricted on account of foreign exchange shortage. Quota allocations of steel made in favour of actual manufacturers and fabricators more than 12 months ago had yet to materialise. In many industries full utilisation even of the existing capacity, not to speak of expansion and modernisation, was not possible for want of iron and steel.

He pointed out that the general index of industrial production for the current year was estimated to be 148 (with base year 1951 as 100). The index was 433 for the group of machine building industries, 302 for electrical machinery industries, and 273 for general engineering industries. For the machine tools industry, the index for the current year was estimated at 888. This, he added, was very encouraging and promising trend of industrial production which demonstrated the capacity and growth of steel consuming industries. If, during the Second Plan period, iron and steel were more freely available, production in the main steel consuming industries could have been much greater than even this.

Production during the Second Plan period, Shri Shah pointed out, was also handicapped due to non-availability of foreign exchange to import capital goods, plant and equipment and basic raw materials in adequate quantities. In fixing the target for steel for the Third Plan period, these and other factors had to be taken into account by the Government and the Planning Commission. He said that even if there was a risk in planning for somewhat higher target, it would be better to err on the side of a higher practicable target like 10 million tons of crude steel, because any shortfall in steel production in relation to demand would have very wide repercussions on the pace of development. He felt that prime pumping of steel in the national economy without elaborate and cumbersome distribution controls would revitalise and strengthen the national economy and industrial development in a very healthy and dynamic manner.

Allocation Of Woollen Hosiery Yarn

A Press Note issued by the Office of the Textile Commissioner in Bombay on November 3 says that the Government of India have decided that all woollen spinning units will produce between October 1, 1959 and September 30, 1960 the same proportion of worsted hosiery and knitting yarn as was produced by them during the period October, 1956 to September, 1957. Such units which have installed new spindles after September 30, 1957 will produce at least 30 per cent of their quarterly production of worsted yarn in the form of hosiery yarn. The Textile Commissioner may prescribe the actual qualities and quantities of the hosiery and knitting yarn that may be produced by each unit.

The Hosiery Federation of Ludhiana will allocate hosiery yarn to its members on the following conditions:

(1) The price at which the supply of yarn is made will be the same as charged by spinners.

(2) In allocating yarn to each member, the Federation will try to accommodate the old customers of the spinners as far as possible.

(3) The allottees will make firm commitments with the spinners within 20 days from the first day of each quarter for their quarterly quota, failing which their quota will lapse.

(4) The spinners may at their discretion charge an advance up to a maximum of five per cent of the total value of yarn at the time of making firm commitments.

(5) The spinning units would intimate to the Federation the details of lapsed quota between 22nd and the last day of the first month of each quarter. The Federation will allocate the lapsed quota within ten days of the next month to the parties against the quota of next quarter. If the Federation fails to do so and the parties fail to enter into firm commitments within the prescribed time, the spinning units will dispose of their quotas at their discretion.

(6) Specification of yarn would be given in the contracts and, as far as possible, supplies would conform to the same.

(7) The allottees will not resell the hosiery yarn allotted to them under this scheme.

(8) If the allottees no longer require the quota of yarn allotted to them, exchange on no profit basis will be permissible with the permission of the Federation. Such transactions will be reported to the Textile Commissioner every quarter.

(9) The spinning units will honour the quarterly quota of the allottees. Any failure except under the condition of "Force Majore" should be reported to the Textile Commissioner by the Federation for necessary action.

(10) The composite mills i.e. mills having both spinning and weaving plants will be outside the purview of the distribution scheme. They will, however, produce the same proportion of hosiery goods as was produced by them, on an average during the three financial years, April 1956 to March 1959 which will be considered as the "basic" period.

(11) The quota of wool tops earned against exports

will not come under the purview of this scheme.

(12) The Federation will intimate to the Textile Commissioner the names of the allottees, their installed and working machines and average annual production during the "basic" period along with the quantities allocated to each allottee.

(13) The Federation will prepare the break-up of quantities quality-wise and their percentages. After compilation of this data, the All India Woollen Manufacturers' Federation, Bombay, and the Spinners' Association, Ludhiana, with their non-members, will sit together to decide the production programme of hosiery yarn by each mill on an annual basis. The Hosiery Federation will give this information to the above Federation and Association of the spinners by November 5, 1959 and annual production programme will be finalised by November 20, 1959. The Textile Commissioner would be informed of the production programme of each unit.

(14) Any deliberate lowering of the quality hitherto supplied by the spinning units will be reported by the Hosiery Federation to a three-member committee. If the committee fails to settle such cases satisfactorily, the matter will be reported to the Textile Commissioner whose decision will be final.

(15) Sealed samples for bulk supply may be kept by the parties when mutually agreed upon.

(16) The hosiery yarn will be distributed to the members of the Federation and to the members of any recognised association as per above scheme.

The above distribution scheme will come into force from January 1, 1960.

N.I.D.C. Loans To Jute Mills

An announcement dated November 13 says that the National Industrial Development Corporation has so far granted loans amounting to Rs. 4.6 crores to 22 jute mills for modernising their machinery. Of this, a sum of Rs. 2.64 crores has already been drawn by 15 mills.

The NIDC has also introduced a scheme to provide short-term loans to jute mills to facilitate the purchase of indigenous machinery. Loans up to Rs. 5 lakhs will be granted under this scheme.

Modernisation of machinery has been undertaken by the mills to improve their competitive efficiency in foreign markets. About 80 per cent of jute goods produced in the country are exported.

Exports of jute goods in the last jute-year (July 1958 to June 1959), amounted to 8.36 lakh tons, as against 8.27 lakh tons in the previous year. In the first quarter of the current year i.e. July-September 1959 exports totalled 2.79 lakh tons.

The United States is the largest single customer for Indian jute goods. The share of Indian jute goods in the U.S. market has shown a perceptible rise in the last few years. In 1954 India exported 1.53 lakh tons of jute goods to the U.S.A. which formed 82.4 per cent of the total imports of jute goods by U.S.A. In 1958, it increased to 1.87 lakh tons or 85.9 per cent of total import of jute goods by the U.S.A. Figures for the first half of 1959 indicate that the position is likely to be still better.

Production

Production of jute goods in 1958-59 (July to June) was of the order of 10.41 lakh tons, as against 10.56 lakh tons in the previous year. In the first quarter of 1959-60, the production amounted to 2.69 lakh tons.

Progress has also been achieved in the production of special types of jute goods such as bagging cloth for packing raw cotton, jute carpets, canvas, twine, yarn etc. Production of these special varieties in 1958-59 totalled 84,600 tons, as against 38,100 tons in 1954-55.

There are in all 112 jute mills in India, of which 101 are in West Bengal, four in Andhra, three in Bihar, three in U.P. and one in Madhya Pradesh. The industry employs about 2 lakh workers directly and indirectly gives employment to a large number of intermediaries in the trade. Production of raw jute in the country provides livelihood to nearly two million agriculturist families.

The Indian Jute Industry has about 73,000 looms, representing 53 per cent of the total loomage in the world.

Company Registrations In Northern Region

It was announced on November 12 that 65 companies and five non-profit-making associations with total authorised capital of about Rs. 2.41 crores were registered in the Northern Region during the three months, July-September, 1959.

The Northern Region comprises the States of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Of the 65 companies, 4 were public and 61 private limited companies. During the period, 25 companies went into liquidation and the names of 93 companies were struck off the Register under Section 560 of the Companies Act.

In Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, 10 private companies and 2 non-profit making Associations with authorised capital of Rs. 29.05 lakhs were registered. Four companies went into liquidation and the names of three companies were struck off the Register.

Eighteen fresh prosecutions were launched by the Registrar against the defaulting companies. Out of the cases decided during the quarter, 10 cases resulted in conviction and a total fine of Rs. 4,210 was imposed on the accused in these cases.

In Delhi, three public and 31 private limited companies with total authorised capital of Rs. 1.72 crores were registered. Nine companies went into liquidation. The names of 51 companies were struck off the Register. One hundred and fifty-seven fresh prosecutions were launched by the Registrar. Of the cases decided, 40 cases resulted in conviction and a total fine of Rs. 2,950 was imposed on the accused in these cases.

In Uttar Pradesh, 16 private limited companies and three non-profit-making Associations with authorised capital of Rs. 24.85 lakhs were registered. Ten companies went into liquidation. The names of 37 companies were struck off the Register. The number of fresh prosecutions launched by the Registrar totalled 220. A fine of Rs. 690 was imposed in 23 cases which resulted in conviction.

During the period, one public and four private limited companies with authorised capital of Rs. 2.5 lakhs and Rs. 12 lakhs respectively were registered in Rajasthan. Two companies went into liquidation. The names of two companies were struck off the Register.

INDO-POLISH TRADE AGREEMENT

According to an announcement of November 2, a new Trade and Payments Agreement between India and Poland has been signed in New Delhi on the same day. The Agreement, which will be in force for a period of three years commencing from January 1, 1960, will replace the current agreement which will expire at the end of this year.

The new Agreement envisages considerable increase in the present level of trade between India and Poland. Under the terms of the Agreement, payments between India and Poland will be in non-convertible Indian rupees and trade will be on a balanced basis. The Indian rupees, which Poland will earn by exports to India, will be utilised for buying Indian goods of equal value.

Poland will supply to India, among other things, industrial raw materials, pharmaceuticals, ships and tankers and complete machinery plants like coal mining machinery, machine tools and machinery for foundries. Indian exports to Poland will comprise of items like tea, spices, cotton manufactures, mica, shellac, coir products, castor oil, oil cakes, iron ore, palmyra fibre, textile machinery and accessories, shoes, handicrafts and sports goods.

Mr. J. Burakiewicz, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, Poland, who led his country's Delegation to the trade talks, has signed on behalf of Poland and Shri K.R.F. Khilnani, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has signed for the Government of India.

In 1958, Indian exports to Poland were valued at about Rs. 92 lakhs. Imports from Poland during this period amounted to Rs. 2.26 crores. During the first seven months of 1959, exports to Poland were of the order of about Rs. 1.04 crores. Imports from Poland during the corresponding period were value at about Rs. 2.97 crores.

Promotion Of Exports Of Handicrafts

According to an announcement of November 5 during 1958 handicrafts worth about Rs. 6.67 crores had been exported and during the first half of 1959 export earnings on account of handicrafts amounted to about Rs. 3.6 crores. A sizeable increase in exports in the second half of the year is expected on account of Christmas and other seasonal demands.

The Indian Handicrafts Development Corporation has taken a number of measures to stimulate exports. Loans to the tune of Rs. 6 lakhs have been advanced by the Corporation to handicraft exporters and manufacturers to carry out firm order from abroad. The Corporation is helping manufacturers in procuring raw materials at reasonable prices. Information about the market trends and changing tastes in foreign countries is communicated to manufacturers.

The Corporation has made a beginning in developing the Far Eastern markets, in collaboration with the Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society which has sales depots in several Asian and African countries. The trade centres set up by Government in foreign countries are also being made use of for export promotion of handicrafts. A choice variety of Indian handicrafts, of particular interest to Germany and Scandinavian countries, was exhibited at the trade centre in Frankfurt recently.

EXPORT OF SALT TO JAPAN

India has concluded an agreement with Japanese importers for the bulk supply of 4.50 lakh tons of salt during 15 months beginning from the next calendar year, reads an announcement of November 3. The agreement was concluded during the recent visit to Japan by an Indian delegation led by the Managing Director of the State Trading Corporation, Mr. Sandilya.

In addition to the 4.50 lakh tons under the new agreement, India will export another 1.3 lakh tons of salt to Japan during the same period under contracts previously entered into but later cancelled and now revalidated. This is the first time that Japan has agreed to buy such a large quantity of salt from India. The price will be 20 shillings a ton f.o.b. Indian ports.

DRAWBACKS OF CUSTOMS AND CENTRAL EXCISE DUTY

As a measure of export promotion, the Government of India have decided to allow drawback of Customs and Central Excise duty paid on materials used in the manufacture of "Artificial teeth", "Provisions" and "Refrigerators", says a Press Note issued by the Ministry of Finance on November 5. The rate of drawback for exports of steel products has been increased from Rs. 50 per ton to Rs. 52 per ton.

Commodity Prices For September 1959

According to a Press Note issued by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India in New Delhi on November 4 wholesale prices as measured by the official index (with the year ended March 1953 as 100) stood unchanged in September, 1959 at the earlier month's level of 117.1. The index was higher by 0.5 per cent when compared with 116.5 for September, 1958.

During the month under review, 'Tobacco' went up by 1.6 per cent to 98.1, 'Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants' by 0.6 per cent to 116.1. 'Industrial Raw Materials' by 2.1 per cent to 121.9 and 'Manufactures' by 0.5 per cent to 110.0 while 'Food Articles' declined by 1.0 per cent to 120.5.

Food Articles

Lower prices of all the cereals except wheat which showed a rise, brought down the index for 'cereals' by 1.6 per cent to 107.6. Prices of gram, mung, masur and urad witnessed a fall and in consequence the index for 'pulses' drifted down by 2.9 per cent to 89.9. The index for 'fruits and vegetables' receded by 8.5 per cent to 139.1 owing to a fall in the prices of oranges, bananas and cashewnuts, notwithstanding an increase in the prices of potatoes and onions. A fall in the price of milk caused a decline of 0.3 per cent to 113.6 in the sub-group index for 'milk and ghee' despite an advance in the price of ghee. Prices of all the edible oils except vanaspati (dalda) which witnessed a decline, were marked up and in consequence the index for this sub-group advanced by 0.8 per cent to 127.6. A decline in the prices of fish and eggs brought down the index for 'fish, eggs and meat' by 4.0 per cent to 112.1; the prices of meat, however, showed a slight rise. An advance in the prices of gur raised the index for 'Sugar and gur' by 0.1 per cent to 148.2. The index for 'other food articles' also increased by 1.9 per cent to 168.6 due to higher prices of tea, coffee, black pepper, chillies, cloves, turmeric, cardamoms, betelnuts and salt.

Tobacco, Fuel, Power Light And Lubricants

The index for 'tobacco' moved up by 1.6 per cent to 98.1 owing to an increase in the prices of raw tobacco. The index for 'fuel, power, light and lubricants' advanced by 0.6 per cent to 116.1 owing to higher average prices of coal.

Industrial Raw Materials

The index for 'fibres' went up by 0.5 per cent to 110.1 due to an increase in the prices of all the constituent items. A similar rise of 3.3 per cent to 136.1 occurred in the sub-group index for 'oilseeds'. A slight rise of 0.1 per cent to 98.3 in the index for 'minerals' was caused by an increase in the prices of manganese ore. The sub-group index for 'other industrial raw materials' also moved up by 2.4 per cent to 119.1 owing to a substantial increase in the prices of raw hides and raw skins, supported by higher prices of tanning materials and lac.

Intermediate Products

An advance of 1.09 per cent to 111.3 in the index for 'intermediate products' was caused by an increase in the prices of linseed oil, cotton yarn, coir yarn, zinc brass and tin, notwithstanding a fall in the prices of rayon yarn, aluminium, copper and lead.

Finished Products

There was an increase in the prices of cotton manufactures (+0.9 per cent to 114.0) and the index for 'textiles' rose by 0.3 per cent to 105.2 despite a fall in the prices of jute manufactures (—1.0 per cent to 89.4) and silk and rayon manufactures (—0.3 per cent to 92.0). Among cotton manufactures, mill-made cloth witnessed a further rise while handloom cloth again exhibited a decline. The sub-group index for 'metal products' went up by 0.1 per cent to 143.5 due to a rise in the prices of aluminium utensils. An advance in the prices of general chemicals, dyeing materials and drugs and medicines pushed up the sub-group index for 'chemicals' by 1.1 per cent to 108.3. 'Oilcakes' declined by 0.4 per cent to 141.6. The sub-group index for 'machinery and transport equipment' recorded a rise of 0.1 per cent to 105.9 owing to an increase in the prices of cycles. The index for 'other finished products' witnessed a fall of 0.1 per cent to 113.7 as a result of a fall in the prices of bricks and tiles and glass. On the whole, the index for 'finished products' advanced by 0.3 per cent to 109.8 during the month under review.

Communications

SURVEY OF GOODS TRAFFIC CARRIED BY ROAD

An announcement of November 4 says that a survey of goods traffic carried by road in the Union Territory of Delhi, conducted by the Roads Wing of the Union Ministry of Transport and Communications suggests that there is scope for organising motor goods transport on a co-operative basis.

The mode of business of the public carrier belonging to larger and smaller fleet size is quite different. The operators owning larger fleet size had well organised business and were carrying goods to long distances while small fleet owners concentrated their business within a much smaller area, made more frequent loading and unloading which in turn reduced the utilisation of the vehicles. Out of a total of 1,269 owners of motor goods vehicles in the territory, as many as 1,081 own only one vehicle each.

The survey covered both motor vehicles and animal drawn carts, agricultural as well as industrial. It also reveals that the cost of motor goods transport by road, leaving aside very short distances, is not always very high.

The survey in the Union Territory of Delhi is preliminary to similar surveys to be conducted in the rest of the country in pursuance of a recommendation of the Inter-Departmental Study Group on Transport Planning which had pointed out that the complete lack of statistics of road haulage in the country was a great handicap in formulating a sound policy for the development of road transport which must be based on reliable statistics and continuous survey of traffic trends.

Pilot Survey

Before a survey covering the whole of India could be planned, it was thought necessary to make preliminary experiments with a pilot survey in Delhi which should be of sufficient size so that it might be taken as a full-scale sample survey of the Delhi area.

Dealing first with the motor goods vehicles, the report says that the performance of an average public carrier was better than that of an average private carrier.

One of the revealing features of the survey is the substantial increase in maund mileage performed per vehicle per week with the increase in the capacity of the vehicle in the two categories of 13,000 — 14,000 lbs. and above 14,000 lbs.

The survey also reveals that motor goods vehicles in Delhi remain completely idle for about 30% days in a year. Fifty per cent. of idleness was due to want of repairs. The presence of a large number of overaged vehicles was necessarily a source of trouble in this respect. With regard to idleness owing to want of work the survey reveals with proper organisation there is considerable scope for reduction in the amount of idleness on this account.

Animal-drawn Carts

In the matter of animal-drawn carts, the report divides its study into two portions — agricultural carts and municipal carts. It emerges from the data that an agricultural cart carried on an average about 90 maunds of goods a week. The average distance that a maund of goods is carried is about three miles. Fodder and cattle food constitute nearly 33% of the goods lifted by rural agricultural carts. Sugarcane comes next with 24.8% and cereals account for 18.3%. Agricultural carts do not compete with any other form of transport. Instead, they are feeders to other modes of transport.

The annual quantity of goods lifted by the average agricultural cart is about 1/40th of the average public carrier though the extent of maund miles performed by the village cart is nearly 1/200th of that of the public carrier.

An agricultural cart has a high idle capacity. For 218 days in a year, the bullock is used for agricultural purposes. With the development of small-scale industries and all-weather rural roads, the huge transport potentialities of these carts could be better utilised, the survey concludes.

Dealing with municipal carts, the report states that a good proportion of them are iron-tyred and are likely to do considerable damage to the roads. If fitted with rubber tyres, they are likely to reduce maintenance charges on roads appreciably.

The quantity of goods lifted by the average municipal bullock-cart is about 1/10th of that carried by the average public carrier but the maund miles performed by the average cart are about 1/30th of that performed by the average public carrier.

Municipal carts act as feeder to the railways and distribute finished products from the railways and markets to near-about localities. Strictly speaking, they do not compete with heavy motor trucks since trucks cannot profitably be used to lift small quantities on short distance traffic.

NEW DELHI LONDON RADIOPHONE SERVICE

An announcement of November 15 says that, with effect from November 16, the New Delhi-London radiophone service will operate upto 21.00 hours daily instead of closing at 20.00 hours I.S.T. as at present. The opening time will, however, remain the same, viz. 12.30 hours.

Food & Agriculture

FOOD MINISTER'S ADDRESS AT F. A. O. CONFERENCE

Addressing the plenary session of the Tenth FAO Conference in Rome on November 3, Shri S.K. Patil, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture and Leader of the Indian delegation to the Conference, said: "Ever since our country attained independence in 1947 our developmental measures have been organised within the framework of a planned economy. Our First Five-Year Plan, which commenced in 1951-52, put considerable emphasis on agricultural production and the target of 65.5 million tons of foodgrains required to feed the population, then estimated at 360 million, was easily achieved. The rate of increase in agricultural production during the First Five Year Plan amounted to 2.8 per

cent per year—a little more than our population increase.

"During the Second Five Year Plan which commenced in 1956-57, we set a target of 80.5 million tons of foodgrains to be achieved by the end of the Plan period 1960-61. During the first three years of this Plan the overall agricultural production has increased at the average rate of 3.9 per cent per annum. We have had a record level of production of foodgrains and commercial crops last year. But this higher level of production has not had its full impact on the price level in view of the increasing demand arising out of rapid population growth and increasing purchasing power of the people.

Population Growth

"Our population is now increasing at the rate of 1.9 per cent per annum. That sets us a problem which calls for better and more vigorous effort at food production. We are very much concerned at this pace of our population growth. We have initiated a family planning programme and we intend pursuing it with vigour. I am told, India is the only country in the world which has officially adopted family planning as a programme of its activities. But such population control efforts would bear fruit only slowly. We have to work against orthodoxy and popular beliefs. We have no doubt that we would eventually arrest and regulate the rising spiral of our population. But immediately we have to step up our production efforts to meet our increasing requirements.

National Income

"Further, the net rise in our national income arising out of our various developmental measures during the first three years of the Second Plan has been of the order of 10.4 per cent and the corresponding rise in per capita income 6.3 per cent. Since the objective of planning in my country is to narrow down disparities of income, and our developmental measures are directed towards that end, the increase in income in lower group is naturally diverted towards consumption of more food.

"This is a development which we welcome although for the time being it has put a considerable strain on our resources. With the increase in incomes there is also a progressive shift for more food and from inferior foods to superior foods. The demand for foodgrains as well as for other commodities has, therefore, been rising rapidly since we embarked on the planned development of the country and the strains and stresses in our economy have been largely due to the pressure of demand on the available supplies.

"A review of our past efforts and the future demands have brought us to the inescapable conclusion that a more rapid increase in production of food during the next seven to ten years is India's primary need in achieving human welfare, social justice, and stable democracy for our people. Consequently agricultural production in general and foodgrain production in particular will be given a very high priority under our Third Five Year Plan.

Third Plan Targets

"An estimate of our Third Plan targets shows that we would need at least 100 to 110 million tons of foodgrains by the end of 1965-66 to adequately feed our growing population. Apart from providing enough food we have to gradually change the food habits of our people to ensure that they eat healthy and balanced food. In addition to foodgrain production, any integrated agricultural programme should provide for additional production of dairy and poultry products, and fruits and vegetables to add to the nutritive value of food. That would, besides improving the diet, reduce pressure on foodgrains. To produce 110 million tons of foodgrains annually by the end of the Third Plan, our production rate has to increase by about 8 per cent per annum for the next several years. It will be seen that this rate of increase is much more than during the two Plan periods. The urgency of an all out effort is obvious."

Continuing Shri Patil said that the Third Plan target of 110 million tons of domestic production was, however, not impossible of achievement. Even now the best in Indian agriculture was comparable to the best anywhere in the world. The task was to develop ways of raising our low average to a higher level and efforts in this direction were being relentlessly pursued. He pointed out that in a predominantly agricultural country like India, 80 per cent of whose population live on agriculture and which had chosen a democratic form of Government and a democratic way of life, it was not possible to regiment production efforts to get quicker results. He emphasised that the willing co-operation of millions of the Indian farmers in India's production efforts had to be enlisted and that was bound to be a little slow process.

"There are many factors which impede the expansion of food production in India. Among them are inadequate soil and water conservation, far too many cattle for available feed, outmoded equipment and methods of cultivation, a multitude of plant pests and diseases, uneconomic holdings, insecurity of tenure, inadequate and costly credit, lack of effective incentives to farmers and inadequate programme of co-ordination. These are by no means insurmountable difficulties. We can overcome them. The various developmental measures included in our programme are designed to alleviate, if not remove, most of these deficiencies. India has tremendous water wealth. Scientifically exploited, it can sustain more millions than we have at present."

"Freedom From Hunger" Campaign

Welcoming the proposal for a "Freedom from Hunger" campaign, sponsored by the Director-General of F.A.O., Shri Patil observed that, while every country faced with a food deficit must put in hard work and even make sacrifices for stimulating production, countries with surplus food reserves had a special responsibility in that respect. There could be no real peace or happiness in so-called surplus countries as long as there was food deficit leading to hunger in any country. He urged upon the member countries to concentrate their efforts on this constructive campaign and to relentlessly pursue it until the scourge of hunger disappeared from the world.

Shri Patil also acknowledged "the very splendid work which some of the countries with surplus food reserves have been doing by helping needy people and alleviating their sufferings," and said: "My country is particularly grateful to the United States of America and other friendly countries who have helped us in our hour of need."

World Food Bank

Continuing Shri Patil observed: "The problem of food supply to deficit countries is not as easy as it is sometimes made out. It is not enough to rush to the help of a needy country when an acute food shortage has occurred. It is equally the responsibility of the surplus countries to take preventive action in time to avoid conditions of scarcity.

"This raises the question of maintaining adequate food reserves in deficit areas until these areas are able to look after themselves. An experiment of a World Food Bank is, in my humble view, not only feasible but essential. An anology with the World Monetary Bank cannot be considered out of place. It is not beyond the competence of experts to work out a practical scheme for a World Food Bank which can hold food deposits at places where they can produce immediate results.

"The most salutary effect of such a Food Bank will be its undoubted impact on food prices. Along with the adequacy of food we must take precautions to see that food prices are kept in reasonable check. Conditions of scarcity lead to other evils like hoarding, black-marketing and price fluctuations. These have to be avoided by timely action. A World Food Bank can supply an effective answer to all these evils from which millions have to suffer. It is not mere proximity of food that can drive away hunger; food at a reasonable price is obviously the remedy. I plead in all earnestness that some tangible steps in the direction I have suggested may soon be taken."

MEETING OF INDAN CENTRAL SUGARCANE COMMITTEE

Dr. Panjabrao S. Deshmukh, Union Minister for Agriculture, inaugurated the 28th meeting of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee in New Delhi on November 9. He emphasized the need for improving the tempo of work under the sugarcane development schemes so that the standard of cultivation is raised substantially higher than at present.

Dr. Deshmukh said that results of research achieved at various Central and State research stations appeared promising and the introduction of improved varieties had brought about a change in the sugarcane cultivation in the country by replacing the low yielding indigenous varieties with the superior Coimbatore canes. This, however, provided no consolation as the average yield per acre had stopped progressing after reaching a certain figure.

He said that acre-yields as high as 66 tons per acre in the northern region and 115 tons per acre in the southern region had been actually achieved in the prize plots of the competitors as against the average of 10 tons per acre for the country as a whole. Even in the development zones the average acre yields were as high as 22 tons per acre in the northern region and 25 tons in the southern region.

The Minister pointed out that the increase in acreage from 4.6 million acres in 1955-56 to 5.02 million acres in 1957-58 showed that, even with unsatisfactory standard of cultivation and low production, the sugarcane crop continued to be fairly remunerative to the cultivator. It was, therefore, clear that the rewards would be still greater if the cultivation standard was improved. He said that the facilities provided to the cultivators in the form of improved seed, manures and fertilizers, plant protection services and irrigation, were not commensurate with optimum requirements of the area. The needs of the cultivator should be provided for and the objective should be to obtain maximum production of the crop from each unit area.

Dr. Deshmukh said that in India a very high percentage of total installed capacity in sugar manufacture was being utilised than in some of the other countries. Were it not for this, the situations faced in 1952-53 and 1953-54, when a large quantity of sugar had to be imported, would have become a chronic feature. The Minister said that today there was larger demand for sugar and the consumer had to pay high prices and yet it was not fully appreciated how we were able to meet this growing demand during the last three years.

Expressing himself against increasing the area under sugarcane which would not be "in the national interest" as it might encroach upon the area under food crop, he pleaded for carrying out an intensive campaign for improving sugarcane production on the lines of the campaign for the Japanese Method of Paddy Cultivation.

Referring to the programme for top-dressing of sugarcane

carried out by the Central Sugarcane Committee a few years ago, Dr. Deshmukh felt certain that if the intensification of this campaign was taken up once again for the next crop together with simple measures such as deeper ploughing and sub-soiling, in the course of one single season more sugarcane could be produced than could be consumed either by the sugar mills or by the gur and khandsari industry.

Shri Ameer Raza, President of the Committee, said that the sugar industry was the second largest industry in the country and the crop was unique as it had to be utilized immediatley after it was harvested in the field. He said that the country produced about 20 lakh tons of sugar and 36 lakh tons of *gur* and *khandsari* annually and it was estimated that the requirements of the country by the end of the Third Plan will be about 50 lakh tons of sugar and about 60 lakh tons of *gur* and *khandsari*.

The Indian Central Sugarcane Committee was constituted in 1944 for the development of cultivation, marketing and manufacture of sugarcane and its products in the country. Represented on the Committee are the cane-growers, *gur* and *khandsari* manufacturers, sugarcane technologists, sugar manufacturers and merchants.

Ban On Movement Of Sugar In South

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture on November 5 says that to ensure that in future each State in the southern region can arrange for the proper distribution of sugar on the basis of a fixed quota, inter-State movement has been prohibited in the area comprising Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Madras, Kerala and Pondicherry. Movement will be allowed only on the basis of export permits to be issued by the Chief Director, Directorate of Sugar and Vanaspati, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, New Delhi. There will, however, be no restriction on movement between Madras and Pondicherry.

The Government of India has accordingly revised the Sugar (Movement Control) Order issued on July 27, 1959 and the revised Order comes into force from November 6, 1959.

Until now there has been no restriction on inter-State movement of sugar in the southern region. In other regions inter-State movement is already banned.

Release Of Sugar

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture on November 2 says that the Government of India have decided to release 1.75 lakh tons of sugar. This will comprise largely the stocks available from the 1958-59 season and the balance will be from the production of 1959-60 season. There will be no free sale release from the factories in the Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and North Bihar except a small quantity which will be released to each factory for sale to its employees.

Allotments of sugar to Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, U.P., Bihar, Orissa, Bombay State, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur and Tripura from factories in the controlled region will be made only to the nominees of the State Governments. In the case of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, allotments will be made direct to the State Governments or to their nominees. As regards West Bengal, applications for allotment will be considered by the Directorate of Sugar and Vanaspati on the existing system or according to the arrangements which may be indicated by the State Government. The allotments to the Union Territory of Delhi will continue to be made on the existing basis.

The Press Note adds that all allotments will be made at prices fixed under Notification No. G.S.R. 1188-Ess. Com/Sugar dated October 25, 1959. The controlled ex-factory price for U.P. and North Bihar factories is Rs. 37.85 and for factories in the Punjab Rs. 38.35 per maund for ISS D-29 grade with the prescribed price differentials for other grades. The fixed f.o.r. destination prices in respect of allotments made to Kanpur and Calcutta will be Rs. 38.60 and Rs. 39.85 per maund respectively for sugar of ISS D-29 grade.

TIMBER WEALTH OF INDIA

The fifth volume of the Wealth of India, an encyclopaedia work, recently published by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, deals with a number of the important timber plants in India.

The walnut (*Juglans regia*) is one of the best woods for furniture and carving. Though found throughout the Himalayas and Assam Hills, walnut is predominant only in Kashmir. The tree is also the source of the popular walnut fruit (*akhrot*). The properties of the timber and the uses of the fruit and other parts are given in detail.

Hopea is a truly tough timber. Untreated *hopea* sleepers have an average life span of 12 to more than 22 years. They are immune to white ants and are well adapted for use in construction work, ship and boat building, piles for bridges and other supports. Important *Hopea* species found in India are *glabra*, *odorate* and *parviflora*.

Pencil Cedar

The wood of the Himalayan Pencil Cedar (*Juniperus macropoda*) is considered to be the best among Indian timbers for pencil-making. The Indian Elm or Kanju (*Holoptlea integrifolia*) provides timber useful, among other things, for brush backs, broom handles, cheap furniture, plywood and packing boxes.

Other timbers described in this volume are, Anjan (*Hardwickia*), Sundri (*Heritiera*), Kurchi (*Holarrhena*) *Homalium*, Kuthan (*Hymenodictyon*) *Kayea*, and Pinoy (*Kingiodendron*). Earlier volumes provide detailed information on some timbers such as Kadam (*Anthocephalus*), Neem (*Azadirachta*), Toon (*Cedrela*), Deodar (*Cedrus*), Chikrasy (*Chukrasia*), Sissoo or Indian Rosewood (*Dalbergia*), Gurjun (*Dipterocarpus*), Ebony (Diospyros), Gum har (*Gmelina*) and Dhawan (*Grewia*).

River Projects & Power

JALDHAKA HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT

An agreement, says an announcement of November 2, has been concluded between India and Bhutan on the Jaldhaka Hydro-electric project to be undertaken by the Government of West Bengal, under which Bhutan will receive 250 kw. of power free of cost.

The West Bengal Government would also pay an annual royalty of Rs. 8 per kw. to the Bhutan Government for the rest of the power generated from the 1st stage of this project, and consumed by it.

Jaldhaka, a small river rising from the Himalayas in Sikkim, flows alongside the river Teesta, and ultimately joins the Brahmaputra.

Draining a catchment of about 445 sq. kilometers (172 sq. miles), the river constitutes the boundary between West Bengal and Bhutan for about 19.31 kilometers (12 miles). The bed level of the river within this stretch drops sharply by about 250 meters (810 ft.), and it is proposed to install hydro-electric works in stages at two suitable places.

The firm power potential of the first stage of the project has been estimated at 18,000 kw. at 50% load factor.

Details Of The Scheme

The first stage of the project envisages construction of a 7.01 m. (23 ft) high weir, fitted with 9.14 m. (30 ft) high gates across the river, downstream of its confluence with the Bindukhola.

The barrage will serve the double purpose of diverting river flows into a 4.83 kilometer (three-mile) long water conductor system, and provide the pondage required for the scheme.

A roadway will also be constructed over the barrage.

The waters so diverted would be utilised in a power house located just above the confluence of the Bindukhola, near Paren, where a gross head of about 167.64 m (550 ft) will be developed.

The initial installation will comprise two generating units, 9,000 kw. each. Provision would be kept for further addition of two more units of 9,000 kw., for generation of seasonal power, a good market for which appears possible from the extensive tea industry in this region.

The first stage works, costing Rs. 290 lakhs on power generation, and Rs. 146 lakhs on transmission equipment, are expected to be completed in about three years.

Specialised Course For Teachers In Hydraulics

An announcement of November 14 says that a 15-day refresher course for teachers in hydraulics has been organised at the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona, with a view to acquainting teachers in hydraulics and hydraulic engineering with the latest developments in theoretical and experimental fluid mechanics, for which no facilities are at present available in the universities.

There will be two such courses in the year, and the candidates for them will be sponsored by State Governments or universities.

The first course started at the Field Laboratory of the Central Water and Power Research Station at Khadakvasla near Poona in the week ending November 14.

Community Development

TRAINING COURSE FOR LOK KARYA CENTRE WORKERS

Inaugurating the third All-India Course for Lok Karya Centre Workers at Ashok Vihar in New Delhi on November 8, Shri V. T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission emphasised that the Community Development movement in India was primarily a human movement which sought to realise the values of social cohesion and unity and to improve the quality of living. Production was very important, but as a means for fulfilling this objective. He attributed the factions that disturbed life in the rural communities to unemployment and under-employment and said that they could be eliminated only by implementing the programmes for agricultural pro-

duction, small industries and subsidiary occupations.

Shri Krishnamachari said that India hoped to have a panchayat, a co-operative and a school in every village by the end of the Third Plan. There was no limit to the improvement of life that could be effected if these three institutions could become live agencies. For this purpose India required at least 10 to 15 people in every village who understood the principles of Panchayats and village co-operatives and five to six youngmen who could handle the secretarial work. The Lok Karya Training Course became of vital improtance for such a programme.

The Deputy Chairman advised the trainees that the right approach was the most important factor in their work. Their objective should be to make the villagers realise their duties and obligations to the group instead of stressing too much on individual rights. He said that the Planning Commission attached the greatest importance to the Lok Karya Training Course organised by the Bharat Sewak Samaj with Government assistance.

The Lok Karya Centre Scheme was sanctioned by the Government last year. Up to date 50 centres have been opened with the assistance of the Government and 10 on voluntary basis. One hundred and fourteen workers have been trained in the two previous courses and 50 workers from all over India are attending the third course, which will last till the end of January 1960. In the curriculum emphasis has been placed on techniques of agricultural production which can be implemented by the villagers by themselves, like the use of green manure and compost and the organisation of co-operatives. Intensive field work is a part of the training.

Co-operation Study Team For Yugoslavia

A six-man study team left New Delhi on November 6 to study co-operative farming and marketing in Yugoslavia and Israel.

The team consists of Shri B.D. Pande, Development Commissioner, Government of Bihar; Shri A.C. Subbareddy, President of the Andhra Pradesh Apex Marketing Society; Shri Maydeo of Subhash Co-operative Farming, Manjri, Poona; Shri S.S. Puri, Deputy Secretary, Department of Co-operation in the Union Ministry of Community Development and Co operation; Shri A.K. Dutt, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, West Bengal; and Shri D.C. Verma, Deputy Registrar of Pradeshik Co-operative Federation, Uttar Pradesh.

The team is likely to take about three months in completing the study.

Team To Study Working Of Yugoslav Communes

A two-man study team left India on November 15 to study for 10 weeks the working of local-self-government institutions in Yugoslavia, especially the communes.

The team consisted of Shri B. Mehta, Chief Secretary to the Rajasthan Government, and Shri G.F. Mankodi, Panchayat Commissioner in the Union Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation.

The team's recommendations will help the implementation of the current programme of democratic decentralisation.

Education & Culture

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD

The Central Advisory Board of Physical Education and Recreation met in New Delhi on November 9 under the chairmanship of Shri P.N. Kirpal, Joint Educational Adviser to the Government of India. It recommended the adoption of a minimum standard of physical fitness for students passing the Matriculation or equivalent examination to raise the health standards of youth in the country.

It was, however, decided that while physical fitness should be a criterion for higher studies or for employment, students who fail to come up-to the prescribed health standards should not be deprived of the opportunity of passing the Matriculation or equivalent examination.

The Board recommended that the highest priority should be given for the strengthening and development of physical education institutions. The Board decided that the attention of the State Governments be drawn to the recommendations made in the National Plan for Physical Education for the development and staffing of physical education institutions.

For the proper placement of physical education teachers, it was suggested that there should be ratio of one teacher to 250 pupils. Institutions whose strength exceeded 750 pupils should have a Diploma Holder as Head of the Physical Education Department.

Efficiency Drive

The Board reviewed the arrangements made so far for implementation of the National Physical Efficiency Drive, and suggested that the first day of the National Sports Week, proposed to be held in February, 1960, should be devoted to the Physical Efficiency Drive.

A suggestion to produce a feature film on personalities who have put India on the sports map was accepted. The Board also decided to have a film made on folk dances.

On the question of a Bibliography of Physical Education and Yoga, it was decided that it would be sufficient if a few selected and authoritative works on the subjects were included. The bibliography on Yoga would be prepared in two parts, one part including selected works in English, Sanskrit and other languages and the other including reference works which touch upon special aspects of Yoga.

Grant For National Games

The Union Ministry of Education, says an announcement of November 13, have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 74,000 to the Services Sports Control Board, who have been assigned the work of organising the next National Games in Delhi during the second week of February, 1960.

At its meeting held in September this year, the All-India Council of Sports approved a proposal of the Indian Olympic Association to organise the next National Games on a much larger scale and to make it an occasion for inaugurating a National Sports Festival in the country. The Council recommended the grant of financial assistance to the Indian Olympic Association for this purpose.

It has been decided to have a National Sports Week every year in the first week of February to focus public attention on the development of sports. Functions to be held during the Week will include sports festivals at State and District levels, competitive matches, exhibitions, film shows, lectures and demonstrations on the value of sports and physical recreation. The Indian Olympic Association will also hold its Flag Day during the Sports Week.

The State Education Departments have been asked to organise the Week in consultation with the State Sports Councils, wherever they exist.

Inter-State Exchange Of Cultural Troupes

The Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs has drawn up a comprehensive scheme to promote inter-State cultural exchanges, says an announcement of November 12. The scheme is being implemented during the current financial year.

Under the scheme, the best troupe from each State will visit other States in order to give people an idea of the unity as well as the variety and richness of Indian culture. Normally, the contingent will not consist of more than 25 members and would be selected by the State Government either on the basis of a statewide competition or under a certificate from the State Government that it is satisfied that this troupe is the best and would have been selected if such a competition had been held. The troupe will visit a State for 5-7 days and give about three performances in the State capital and two in rural areas.

Admission to performances will be by tickets. The price of ticket shall not exceed Re. 1/-. The proceeds from the sale of tickets shall be utilized by the State Government concerned to meet expenses incurred by the State in organising the shows and providing amenities to the visiting troupe.

The Government of India will give a grant not exceeding Rs. 500 to a troupe for each State it visits for meeting pocket expenses of the members and other expenditure. This will be in the form of an outright grant and shall, in no case, exceed Rs. 20/- per member of the troupe.

Under the consolidated maintenance scheme, an allowance of Rs. 6 per day will be paid for each member of the troupe from the date it leaves its home State till the date of its return to cover *inter alia* board and lodging expenses. The travelling expenses of the troupe by rail will be met by the Central Government, while travelling expenses by bus or other conveyance within the State visited will be met by the State Government concerned.

It is expected that the sale proceeds from tickets will cover all the expenses incurred by State Governments, but in case this is not fulfilled the Government of India will make good the deficit, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2,500 per troupe per State.

During the first and experimental year of the programme, a troupe will not normally visit more than three States which will be selected after due consideration of affinity of culture, language and nearness of the home State.

Preservation Of Historical Records

The National Archives of India, says an announcement of November 10, has appealed to owners of private collections of old records to help in the preservation of these precious documents which throw light on India's past.

A vast store of old records lies scattered all over India in private custody uncared for. These records constitute an important part of the country's cultural heritage which are likely to be lost for ever unless preserved scientifically.

In order to preserve this precious heritage, the National Archives of India has been trying to acquire by gift or purchase old documents, farmans, nishans, parwanas, sanads and rare manuscripts of historical value. As a result, the Department has by now acquired over 2,000 manuscripts and documents. However, a large bulk of old records still continues to remain in private custody.

The announcement adds that the National Archives will be glad to accept records of such types as a gift and name the collections after their owners, if so desired. Where the owners are unwilling to donate their records, the National Archives will pay for them provided the price asked for is reasonable.

In case, however, the owners do not wish to donate or sell their collections, the Department will make micro-film transcripts on being supplied with the originals for a few days. If the original cannot be lent through fear of its being lost in transit, arrangements will be made to have it microfilmed at the owner's place.

Calendar Of Persian Correspondence

The National Archives of India recently brought out the tenth volume of the series "Calendar of Persian Correspondence." The new volume embodies English summaries of over 2000 Persian letters that passed between the Governor-General, Residents and agents of the East India Company and the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II and other Indian rulers, chiefs and notables.

The correspondence covers the last two eventful years of Lord Cornwallis' administration which witnessed, among other events, the termination of third Anglo-Mysore war, reduction of some of the Rajput states by Mahadji Sindhia and subordination of the Rajas of Travancore and Tanjore and also of the Nawab of Arcot.

Unfolding one of the most dramatic and interesting chapters of British Indian history the correspondence shows that though the war in the South with Tipu Sultan had ended, bickerings on the interpretation of its terms continued. Tipu was friendly to the English, but the controversy over Kurnool marred his relations with the Nizam. In order to make up for the deficiency caused in the Company's finances due to the war with Tipu, the English assumed the administration of the Carnatic, much against the wishes of Nawab Muhammad Ali Walajah.

In northern India, the decrepit Mughal Empire was in its last throes, the political scene being dominated by Mahadji Sindhia.

External Relations

The correspondence also affords evidence that the East India Company tried to maintain cordial relations with neighbouring states and foreign countries, noteworthy among them being Pegu, Nepal, Bhutan, Assam, Afghanistan, Muscat and Trengganu.

Apart from acquiring political predominance in India, the East India Company continued to establish its trade and commerce. Pepper was obtained from Travancore and exported from Anjengo Port. Ready-made indigo was purchased for the Company's investment. Trade in salt-petre was brisk. Salt was manufactured at Arcot and Jalamuta. Commodities like rice, pepper and sugar were exported to Muscat and other places.

In order to relieve the ryots from undue exploitation of the *mahajans* and money-lenders, Lord Cornwallis issued his famous proclamation announcing the permanency of the land settlement in Bengal.

The correspondence also affords interesting glimpses of some of the social customs prevalent during the period. It reveals that the Nawabs and Rajas led lazy, luxurious and incontinent life and had large establishments of servants.

Cultural Award For "Pather Panchali"

A New Delhi announcement of November 4 says that the Indian film, "Pather Panchali," received a cultural award from New York's Afro-Arts Theatre, a cultural centre in Harlem, New York's predominantly coloured area. "Pather Panchali" was adjudged "the best foreign film of the year" by the Theatre.

Seminar On Collection Of Educational Statistics

Shri P.N. Kirpal, Joint Educational Adviser to the Government of India, inaugurated the three-day Seminar on the Standardisation of the Technique and Programme of Collection of Educational Statistics from Universities in New Delhi on November 12.

In his inaugural address, Shri Kirpal stated that the three main tasks before the country were economic reconstruction, national unity and successful working of democracy. Education played an important role in each one of these. To meet these needs Government had embarked on large-scale plans of educational expansion, keeping in mind qualitative standards.

Shri Kirpal said that the availability of correct figures and scientific facts were vital in the context of national planning today. The importance of educational statistics in framing policies and formulating national reconstruction plans could hardly be over-emphasised. He expressed the hope that the Seminar would help evolve convenient procedures for standardisation of collection of statistics. It was also necessary that individuals engaged in this task should be clearly aware of the objectives of national planning.

Referring to the shortage of trained personnel Shri Kirpal said that training had been neglected in the past for many reasons including pressure of work. This could be remedied partly by providing in-training facilities in educational institutions.

The object of the Seminar is to standardise the technique and method of collection of reliable statistics from the colleges and their collection and consolidation for timely submission to the Government of India.

Representatives of 20 Universities, namely, Aligarh, Andhra, Banaras, Baroda, Bihar, Bombay, Delhi, Gorakhpur, Gujarat, Jabalpur, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnatak, Madras, Panjab, Poona, Rajasthan, Roorkee, Saugar, SNDT Women's University and Visva Bharati, participated in the Seminar which was the first of its kind to be organised by the Union Ministry of Education.

Prizes Under Children's Literature Competition

In a Press Note issued on November 14, the Ministry of Education have announced the award of prizes of Rs. 500 each to the authors of 24 books/manuscripts under the Fifth Competition for Children's Books. Of those books four are in Hindi of which one book is for age group 3-6 and three for 7-14, three in Bengali and two each in Gujarati and Urdu for age-group 7-14, two in Assamese for 3-6 and 7-14, two in Marathi for 3-6 and 7-14, two in Oriya for 3-6 and 7-14, two in Telugu for 3-6 and 7-14, one each in Kannada and Punjabi for 3-6 and one each in Kashmiri, Tamil and Malayalam for age-group 7-14.

In addition to the award of Rs. 500 each to the authors of these books/manuscripts, 2000 copies of each of the prize-winning books will be purchased, according to the terms prescribed by rules, for distribution in schools, libraries, children's centres, etc., at a price which the Ministry consider reasonable and provided the illustrations, printing, get-up, etc. of the book are to the satisfaction of the Government of India.

The Ministry have also announced the award of five prizes of Rs. 500 each to the authors of the five books/manuscripts, one each in Hindi, Marathi, Kannada, Bengali and Oriya, who were awarded a prize of Rs. 500 each in the Fourth Competition of books for children.

These Prize Competitions are organised in order to encourage the production of suitable literature for children under the Government of India's Scheme for the Encouragement of Literature for Children, which was first introduced in 1954. So far five such Competitions have been organized and 109 books have been awarded prizes. The Fifth Competition was announced on January 26, 1959, and a total of 403 entries were received in different regional languages.

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE

The Union Government set up a Central Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance in 1954. The Vocational Guidance Service is a joint venture of the Ministries of Education, and Labour and Employment. The former is responsible for the preliminary vocational guidance at the school and the latter carries this work further and helps young persons in securing suitable employment or training.

Following the recommendations of the Training and Employment Reorganisation Committee of 1952, the scope of the functions of Employment Exchanges has been widened to include employment counselling for youth.

The Second Plan programme includes (i) establishment of Special Youth Employment Sections at Employment Exchanges to guide young and inexperienced students leaving schools in the choice of occupations suited to their abilities, aptitude and interest, (ii) organisation and development of a Counselling Service for adult employment seekers, and (iii) development of aptitude tests and other psychological techniques to be used by the Exchanges to predict the applicants' chances of success in a particular occupation or in a group of them. Special Youth Employment Sections and Employment Counselling Sections would be set up at 53 Employment Exchanges in the country by the end of the Second Plan period.

Although the need to give a vocational bias to education at the secondary stage had been felt long, concrete steps in this direction were taken only after independence.

One of the recommendations of the General Conference of I.L.O. (1949) describes vocational guidance as "assistance given to an individual in solving problems related to occupational choice and progress with due regard for the individual's characteristics and their relation to occupational opportunity".

The Secondary Education Commission, appointed in 1952, recommended that greater emphasis should be laid on crafts and productive work in all schools. Other recommendations of the Commission included diversification of courses at the secondary stage which would enable a large number of students to take up agricultural, commercial, or other practical courses according to their varied aptitudes, visits to industrial establishments, provision for the services of trained Guidance Officers and Career Masters in all educational institutions, and the training of guidance personnel by the Central Government.

Sixth Competition For Children's Books

In a Press Note issued by the Union Ministry of Education on November 15, the Ministry have announced the holding of the Sixth Competition for Books for Children under the Scheme for Encouragement of Children's Literature.

About 30 prizes in all, i.e. 15 of the value of Rs. 1000/- each and 15 of Rs. 500/- each, will be awarded to authors of the best books/manuscripts for children submitted in different Indian languages. Out of the 15 prizes of the value of Rs. 1000/- each, two will be reserved for Hindi and one for each of the remaining Indian languages, provided the books are of sufficient merit.

These Prize Competitions are

organised in order to encourage the production of suitable literature for children under the Government of India's Scheme for the Encouragement of Literature for Children. The Scheme was first initiated in 1954. So far five such Competitions have been organized and 109 books have been awarded prizes.

CANADA COUNCIL FELLOWSHIPS

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Education on November 7 says that the Canada Council has offered 75 Fellowships for study in Canada in Arts, Humanities and Social Services for the academic year 1960-61 for nationals of all countries including India. The value of the Fellowship is $ 2,000 plus the cost of travel to and back from the place of study in Canada.

U. S. S. R. GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

A Press Note issued by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs on November 12 says that eight candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of the U.S.S.R. for post-graduate study/research in the U.S.S.R. during 1959-61. Of the candidates two have been selected for Chemistry and one each for Astronomy, Geology, Physics, Chemical Engineering, Oil Processing, and Technology of Mechanical Engineering.

These scholarships are administered by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, New Delhi.

BRITISH INDUSTRIES SCHOLARSHIPS

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs on November 11 says that one more candidate has been awarded a 'C' type scholarship for training in the United Kingdom under the Federation of British Industries Scholarship Scheme, 1958. He is expected to leave for the United Kingdom shortly. Five scholars, whose names have already been announced, are taking training in the United Kingdom under the Scheme.

Health

MILK SUPPLY FROM CENTRAL DAIRY

The Central Dairy in New Delhi started the distribution of wholesome and pasteurised milk in sealed bottles on November 1, 1959.

About 400 maunds of milk will be collected from Muradnagar and surrounding villages where a milk collection and chilling centre, equipped with facilities for correct weighment, pooling, chilling and storage of milk, has been set up. Received in insulated stainless steel road tankers, built at a cost of Rs. 1 lakh each to ensure safety and purity of milk, the milk will be pumped directly into the six refrigerated storage tanks at the Dairy. The tanks, each with a capacity of 3,000 gallons, bring down the temperature of milk and store it at 38° F, before it flows through stainless steel pipe lines to the three pasteurizers, one of them an ultra high temperature plant which heats the milk up to 270° F. and then immediately brings it down to 38° F. killing all bacteria, thus making it perfectly safe for consumption and enhancing its keeping quality. Passing through another set of insulated tanks, this pasteurized milk will then be automatically filled into bottles and the bottles sealed.

At the Dairy, all processes from receiving the milk to bottling and sealing are automatic and the product that will ultimately pass on to the consumer will remain untouched by human hand.

It has three automatic bottle washers, the biggest of their kind east of Suez, which will together receive and clean used bottles and deliver them for refilling at the rate of 54,000 per hour. There is also a well-equipped laboratory where samples of milk will be put to bacteriological, chemical and organoleptic tests to ensure the supply of high quality milk.

When in full operation, the Dairy, which has some of the world's most modern equipment, will handle 12,000 maunds of milk per day, which is nearly four times the installed capacity of Bombay's Aarey milk colony. The milk supply will be gradually increased to 7,000 maunds which should meet the present needs of Delhi's citizens. As more booths are constructed, the supply will be extended to other areas of the city.

Social Welfare

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

In Community Development Blocks, the celebrations of the Children's Day on November 14 included the formation of new Bal Mandirs and special meetings of Mahila Mandals to consider and affirm their determination to enrol girls in schools and visits of school children from one Block to another. Art and aesthetic centres and co-operative stores were opened in selected schools.

There was also the usual programme of donations of gifts which tend to promote education, to equip the children for technical vocations and to promote family income which would help the children ultimately. Among the highlights of the celebration in the capital was the Joy Ride Train which completed one year of its existence on the same day.

The Children's Railway was inaugurated on November 14, 1958 by the Prime Minister. Since then, nearly 50,000 children have had joy rides. The two-coach train runs on a half mile 15" rail track. The "Baby" locomotive is 25 feet long and weighs 8.6 tons as against the ordinary engine which is 75 feet long and 156 tons in weight.

The locomotive is a gift from Messrs Kraus-Muffei and Messrs Tata Locomotive and Engineering Co. Ltd. The two coaches, having a total seating capacity of 50, have been designed and manufactured by the Northern Railway at their Amritsar Workshop.

The Bal Bhavan is a Government-sponsored autonomous institution set up to provide opportunities for education through recreational and physical activities to children in the age group 5 to 14.

From the beginning of the programme of presentation of schools, land, libraries, playgrounds, and sports equipment on November 14, 1952 up to the National Children's Day in 1958, 7,251 schools and 17,068 acres of land had been presented to the Prime Minister by those living in Community Development Blocks. Last year's gifts to the Prime Minister included 1,759 schools, 3,917 acres of land, 465 recreation centres, parks, playgrounds and libraries, nearly Rs. 37 lakhs as cash contributions and miscellaneous gifts, and an investment of more than Rs. 7 lakhs in small savings.

SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Since independence a large number of children's welfare institutions and of women's organisations have grown up which have taken up child welfare as an integral part of their activities. The Central Social Welfare Board, which was set up in 1953, provides welfare services to the children among specific groups. The Board discharges this responsibility by enlisting the co-operation of voluntary organisations. Financial assistance is provided by the Board to these organisations. In rural areas welfare activities of children are carried on directly under the Board's auspices through trained village level workers employed for that purpose.

RURAL WELFARE PROGRAMMES

Child welfare activity constitutes an integral part of the day-to-day programme in nearly 440 welfare extension projects started since 1954 by the Social Welfare Board. These projects cover about 12,000 villages and about 10 million people. In these projects pre-basic education is imparted to young children. Older children are given training in a craft and taught the three Rs. Another important programme is *balwadi* and facilities for recreation and distribution of milk.

Child welfare programmes in the Community Development areas have also been brought under the Central Social Welfare Board ever since 1957 when co-ordination was established between the Board and the Ministry in respect of welfare work for women and children. In about 150 of these projects, covering about 120,000 villages, these services are now available to children. In many of the rural welfare clinics and maternity centres established by the Board in the welfare projects child welfare activity is dovetailed with maternity care and assistance.

WELFARE IN URBAN AREAS

The Social Welfare Board under its grants-in-aid programme has provided financial assistance of about Rs. 84 lakhs to 1,600 child welfare institutions, spread throughout the country upto the end of March, 1959. Some of these institutions conduct nursery classes, others provide education for orphans, destitutes, waifs and other categories of socially defenceless children. Yet others provide facilities like parks and playgrounds and organise children's libraries.

There are also institutions for the physically handicapped or mentally retarded. Upto March 1953, 220 such institutions had been given by the Central Board grants of about Rs. 22 lakhs. Facilities are provided in them for vocational training of the inmates. Children of poor families living in slum areas in cities will have the benefit of welfare work carried on in the 75 urban family welfare projects, which is similar in scope to that carried on in the rural welfare projects.

HOLIDAY HOMES

To enable children of poor families between the ages 8 and 16 to enjoy the benefits of healthy surroundings, nutritious food and recreation for a part of the year, the Board has sponsored the scheme of Holiday Homes for children all over the country. This scheme is being implemented through the Indian Council of Child Welfare. During last summer about 1,200 children were taken in small batches to Mysore, Ootacamund, Mount Abu, Simla, Mussoorie, Dehra Dun, among other places, for a period of 4 weeks in each case.

The Third Five Year Plan has envisaged the objective of free and compulsory primary education for all children upto the age of 11. In view of the limited resources integration of existing programmes of child welfare into multi-purpose projects has been recommended by the Study Team on Social Welfare.

CHILDREN'S DAY STAMP

An announcement dated November 9 says that first-day cancellation will be provided for the special postage stamp to be issued on the occasion of Children's Day on November 14 and will be available at Philatelic Bureaux at Bombay, Calcutta, Cuttack, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kurnool, Lucknow, Madras, Nagpur, Patna, Shillong and Simla, and at the Head Post Office at Allahabad. A first-day cover, priced at 5 nP. per cover, will also be issued by the P and T Department on the occasion. The stamp and the first-day cover will be on sale on the day of issue at Philatelic Bureaux and post offices at these towns. Later, the stamp will be on sale at other post offices in the country.

The theme for Children's Day Stamp this year is: "The mal-adjusted child must be re educated; the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured". The stamp is to be issued in the denomination of 15 nP. and the size of the stamp will be 4.06 cms. x 2.41 cms., with 45 stamps to a sheet. Printed in olive green, it will have a perforation 14½ x 14. The stamp has been printed by the photogravure process on paper bearing an all-over multiple 'Lion Capital of Asoka' watermark. It was printed at the India Security Press, Nasik Road.

Children's Day Gifts To Prime Minister

The people of the Community Development Blocks presented to the Prime Minister on his 70th birthday on November 14, 1614 Children's recreation centres, parks, playgrounds, libraries and Mahila Mandals, apart from other gifts, says an announcement of November 15. Of those recreation centres, parks, etc., Rajasthan accounts for 600; Uttar Pradesh for 308; Punjab 297; Kerala 157; Pondicherry 100; Bombay 84; Orissa 26; Assam 18; NEFA 12; Himachal Pradesh 11 and Andamans and Nicobar Islands 1.

Other gifts include 638 schools, 966 acres of land and Rs. 25,67,699 as voluntary cash contributions for setting up new, and extension of existing, schools and as miscellaneous gifts.

People of the C.D. Blocks also invested over Rs. 2 lakhs in small savings certificates in the name of children. A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs was invested by the people of Block areas in rural life insurance for the benefit of children.

November 14 is celebrated as Children's Day in the C.D. Blocks all over the country, when villagers make spontaneous and voluntary gifts to the Prime Minister in the shape of various development works and contributions in cash or kind for the welfare of rural children.

Training Of Social Education Officers

Shri Shriman Narayan, Member of the Planning Commission, in his valedictory address at the third training course of District Officers in charge of Social Education in States at the National Fundamental Education Centre in New Delhi on November 13 observed that Social Education should be effective improvement in the technical skill of agriculturists and artisans so that the general standard of life is raised.

Emphasising the need for harnessing voluntary effort, he stated that every effort should be made in the Third Plan to make Social Education a mass movement, utilising private voluntary effort. In this connection, he referred to the "Little Teachers Movement" in the middle forties in China. Under the scheme every school-going child was given the task of educating the older members of his family after school hours. Shri Shriman Naravan said that this example could well be emulated in India to combat illiteracy.

Seventeen Social Education Officers from nine States, including two women, concluded their training at the National Fundamental Education Centre. Among them were four officers from Madhya Pradesh, three from Rajasthan, two each from Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal and one each from Kerala, Panjab, Madras and Assam.

The National Fundamental Education Centre was established by the Government of India in 1956 to serve as a National Centre for training, research and evaluation and to provide leadership in the field of Social Education. Its functions include experimentation in the production of prototype material and equipment for Social Education and to act as a Clearing House of ideas and information pertaining to Social Education.

Ford Foundation Grant For Family Planning

An announcement dated November 11 says that a new programme aimed at intensive research in development of more effective methods to educate people about family planning has been introduced by the Union Ministry of Health. The Ford Foundation has made a grant of $ 330,000 to support this effort.

The new programme will be many-sided. It will include research in family planning in University departments of preventive medicine or behavioural science, training in India and abroad of workers and behavioural scientists in research techniques in this field, consultation with communication research specialists, and establishment of field research centres in various parts of India to develop, test and demonstrate methods of family planning education. One pilot centre will be started immediately and four others within a year. The research programme will continue for at least five years.

Experience has shown that there is a great need for communication of simple information to the people in family planning methods. Available contraceptives, materials and methods, while still not ideal, can be used with advantage by villagers. What is still lacking is research and study aimed specifically at developing better educational procedures and techniques in family planning.

Nature Of Studies

Under the new research programme studies will be made on existing beliefs and attitudes towards family planning and on the best ways of interpreting family planning to make it more meaningful to the rural population. Studies will also be made to determine in what way health and community development personnel can contribute to the educational process. Effective use of media, such as films and posters, will be worked out.

The research grant will also provide assistance to departments of preventive medicine or of behavioural science in institutions in India for research project aimed at various aspects of family planning education.

In the research centres to be set up it is planned to have staff which would include representatives from the medical, nursing, health, education and social science. Since various specialists will thus concentrate together on the same problem, it is expected better results will be obtained than can be achieved by specialists working separately. The programme will be guided and co-ordinated by the Union Minstry of Health.

Dr. Douglas Ensminger, Representative of the Ford Foundation in India, called on Shri V.K.B. Pillai, Secretary, Ministry of Health, with the letter of agreement for the grant. Shri Pillai signed the letter on behalf of the Government of India.

CONFERENCE OF STATE HOUSING MINISTERS

Addressing the State Housing Ministers in Hyderabad on November 5, the Union Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, Shri K.C. Reddy, expressed satisfaction at the progress of the Middle-Income Group Housing Scheme which was now operating in all the States. He said a sum of Rs. 3 crores, allocated by the Life Insurance Corporation for this Scheme for 1958-59, had already been disbursed. The total demand from the States in 1958-59 amounted to Rs. 3 crores.

The Minister observed that the picture was rather different this year. The demand from the States for this loan money from the L.I.C. was Rs. 6.36 crores against Rs. 3 crores originally promised by the Corporation for the year. States had, therefore, been authorised to draw from the Corporation a sum of Rs. 3 crores for the present and efforts were being made to see whether the remaining amount could be obtained to meet in full the requirements of the States for the current year. He hoped that the L.I.C. would continue to render help in increasing measure in the coming years.

Rental-Housing For Low-Paid Employees

The Minister said that the L.I.C. had also earmarked a sum of Rs. 1 crore every year for the duration of the current Plan, to be given out as loans, to enable State Governments to put up rental housing for their low-paid employees. The sum of Rs. 1 crore was distributed last year to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Rajasthan and West Bengal, who applied for assistance under this Scheme. This year, however, the number of States asking for loans for the implementation of this scheme had risen to nine. Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab might also send in their requirements. The demand for loans received so far had gone up to Rs. 2.87 crores. Shri Reddy hoped that the Corporation would see their way to releasing this extra sum of Rs. 1.87 crores during the current year.

Acquisition And Development Of Land

As regards the recommendations of the Housing Ministers at Darjeeling in 1958 that the State Governments be permitted out of their existing Plan allocations under the Low-Income Group Housing Scheme and the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme, to earmark a substantial portion of the amount for the acquisition and development of land, he said, it was felt that if the problem of land had to be tackled, it must be tackled not piece-meal but in a bold manner, even if it meant going beyond the limits of the existing housing schemes. He pointed out that the Government of India had accepted this approach and had formulated a new land acquisition and development scheme, which would lay the base for all housing activity in the years to come. It would enable the State Governments to acquire in bulk, and in advance, the land that they thought would be required in the foreseeable future for the housing needs of a whole city, town or community. It, furtherprovided the finance to develop this land and enabled the State to sell the building plots, largely on a no-profit-no-loss basis to intending house-builders. Thus, bulk acquisition and development of land would tend to eliminate speculation in real estate and would bring down rents. The scheme would also help to fashion an entire neighbourhood according to a pre planned pattern. Shri Reddy urged the State Governments to address themselves urgently to the twin problems of speedy acquisition of and reasonable compensation for land in order to fulfil the objective of this scheme. He suggested that while the general question of revising the Land Acquisition Act was being discussed, the States, in particular, the States of Bombay, West Bengal, Madras and U.P. should acquire at least the land that was immediately needed for the effective implementation of the existing housing and slum-clearance schemes and for the first few years of the Third Five Year Plan. It was with this objective in mind that this scheme, which had been recently sent to the States for implementation, asked the State Governments to incur during the current Plan an expenditure of Rs. 2.9 crores on the acquisition and development of land and to commit themselves to a total expenditure of Rs. 15 crores. During the Third Plan itself, a much larger allocation of funds would be needed for the implementation of the land acquisition and development scheme.

Rural Housing

In the field of rural housing, it had been decided to amend the Village Housing Projects Scheme to permit the State Governments to utilise a part of their loan allocation for the acquisition of land in the selected villages in certain cases, and also for levelling and dressing the land to make it fit for the construction of houses in the villages. It had also been decided to provide open developed plots for such members of the village community as were not in a position to repay the loans for the construction of houses to the extent already provided under the scheme, so that they could put up with their own effort and labour the housing units that they required in the village.

PROGRESS OF HOUSING SCHEME

Shri Reddy said the progress so far made in the actual implementation of the housing and slum scheme was not very satisfactory. Upto the end of March, 1960, Rs. 54 crores out of the allocated sum of Rs. 84 crores would have been disbursed for the various housing schemes, on the assumption that the entire budgeted amount for the current year was taken up by the different construction agencies. He suggested that in the next few weeks, when the State Governments discussed with the Planning Commission their requirements for the final year of the Second Plan, they should ask for and provide within their overall State ceiling, sufficient funds that would enable them to achieve their housing target prescribed under the Plan. The Minister stressed the importance of showing by actual achievement during the fourth year of the Plan, that the provisions asked for in the fifth year were justified and reminded the States that it was not possible for them to divert the savings in their allocations under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme to another housing or, for that matter, to any other development project of a State. Since a good portion of the money had been reserved for the housing of industrial workers, it was important that every State did its utmost to spend that money under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme.

SLUM CLEARANCE SCHEME

The Minister said that the implementaton of the slum-clearance scheme must be stepped up considerably during the remaining months of the Second Plan. The low rent paying capacity of the slum dwellers and their reluctance to move away from the congested areas taken up for clearance were difficulties that must be faced in a realistic manner. The element of subsidy had been stepped up from 50 to 62½ per cent in order to keep down the rents. He urged the States to devise further measures, if necessary, to ensure that the cost of the residential units which they provided to the slum dwellers was not high and that they were occupied by the persons for whom they were designed. Disclosing that as a result of the recommendations made at Darjeeling, Government had accepted the financing of slum improvement projects, Shri Reddy hoped that sufficient progress had been made in this direction in the States.

PROPOSALS FOR THIRD PLAN

As regards proposals for the Third Plan, the Minister said it was important that the conference should indicate broad outlines of the housing programme in the Third Plan so that details might be worked out in the coming year. He also emphasised the importance of harnessing private resources and public cooperation in solving the housing problems. He added that the situation about the building materials during the next Plan was expected to be very much easier than it had been during the past few years.

V.L.W. Quarters As Model Houses

An announcement of November 1 says that in purusance of the recommendations made by the Mysore Conference on Rural Housing the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation have asked the State Governments that quarters yet to be constructed for Village Level Workers should serve as model houses for the villagers. A similar policy is to be adopted in respect of schools and quarters for school teachers.

It has also been pointed out that in the construction of Village Level Workers' quarters, mixmum use is to be made of locally available materials and the use of such skilled labour as is usually not available in the rural areas is to be avoided. Simple building rules, such as minimum uncovered area, light, ventilation, smokeless *'chulas'*, sanitary latrines etc., are to be observed.

Even if there is a slight increase in the maintenance cost of such houses, it has been pointed out, the disadvantages involved in such adjustments in specifications are sure to be counterbalanced by the wider emulation that the new approach would promote.

The Union Ministry have always stressed upon the State Governments that buildings constructed in the Development Blocks should not only fit in with the local environments but also be simple in design and execution. New specifications for houses in rural areas are to be devised for each region. These specifications may not, however, be rigidly adhered to and local adaptations made wherever necessary.

Compensation In Cash Against Land Claims

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Rehabilitation on November 6 says that the Rehabilitation Ministry, Government of India, issued a Press Note in October, 1958, in which it was announced that land claims which had been verified on oral evidence would be treated as properly verified even though the *jamabandis* relating to those claims had not been received from Pakistan. It also stated that when *jamabandis* were received the claims would be subject to revision, if necessary.

When this Press Note was issued, it was not made applicable to those cases of land claims which were decided under Rule 54 of the Compensation and Rehabilitation Rules i.e. where cash in lieu of land was being paid to widows, minors, infirm and disabled persons whose compensation was 18 standard acres or less, nor to those land claimants whose verified claim in standard acres was less than 2 standard acres and who were entitled to cash.

The Government of India have again considered the matter and have decided that in regard to these categories of land claimants, also, compensation on orally verified claims will be payable.

Payment will be made in the form of National Plan Savings Certificates upon the claimant's executing an indemnity bond binding himself to refund any amount due if, on the receipt of revenue records from Pakistan, his claim is found to have been exaggerated.

Labour & Employment

ORIENTATION CENTRES FOR EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED

The Government of India, says an announcement of November 5, have sanctioned the opening of twelve more work and orientation centres in different parts of the country in order to assist educated unemployed persons to seek avenues of employment other than white-collar jobs. Some of these centres are expected to start functioning shortly and the others in the course of next year. The new centres will be located in Mysore, Bombay, Madras and Punjab, each State having three. The two existing centres are at Delhi and in Kerala.

Although the work and orientation centres were started in Kerala and Delhi, on a pilot basis, early in 1957, the scheme was revised later as experience of working of the two centres had shown that it had not been possible for the trainees to establish independent business and that they were not able to acquire much of the skill which was imparted in the industrial training institutes and centres.

REVISED SCHEME

The scheme has accordingly been revised to provide for a period of trade training equivalent to that in industrial training institutes viz. 18 months institutional training followed by six months in-plant training. The latter training, which is being arranged in collaboration with the Small Scale Industries Organisation of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, will help the trainees to learn, among other things, the practical problems of management and production which will assist them in launching out as private entrepreneurs.

Each of the centres will have 100 seats and admission will be restricted to persons who have read up to Intermediate. Among the trades in which training will be given are: fitter, electrician, radio mechanic, linesman, carpenter and electroplater.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

With the extension of the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 to Warangal from the midnight of November 14 about 5,000 more factory workers in the State of Andhra Pradesh were brought within the benefit provisions of the Act. The scheme is already in force in 9 centres in the State.

The families of insured persons will become entitled to the medical care under the scheme 13 weeks after the insured persons themselves become entitled to medical benefit.

Medical care in this area will be provided by the State Government under the Service System and for this purpose three whole-time dispensaries have been set up. For the payment of cash benefit under the scheme one Local Office has been set up.

The employers of factories covered under the scheme will now be required to pay the employers' special contribution at the rate of 1¼ per cent of the total wage bill instead of ¾ per cent which they were paying so far.

Work Of Employment Exchanges In Sept.

It was announced on November 12 that Employment Exchanges helped secure jobs for 23,982 persons during September 1959 as compared with 24,070 in the previous month, thus recording a slight decrease of 88. The decrease in placements was marked in Madras, Punjab and Bihar. A significant increase was, however, noticed in the States of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

Of the total number of placements during September, 4,480 were under the Central Government, 13,773 under State Governments, 3,477 under quasi-Government establishments and local bodies and the rest under other employers.

During the month, 7,743 employers utilised the services of the Exchanges as compared with 7,673 during August. The number of vacancies notified by them to the Exchanges was 33,493, which was 1,266 less than the number of vacancies notified in August.

The number of persons who registered with the Exchanges during the month was 2,28,417 as compared with 2,18,309 in the previous month, thus recording an increase of 10,108.

The number of applicants on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges at the end of September was 14,08,903. This was 31,807 more than the figure at the close of the previous month.

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Jobs For Scheduled Caste Applicants

An announcement dated November 13 says that employment exchanges helped 3,197 scheduled caste applicants to secure jobs during September. This was 199 less than the figure for August.

Of those placed in employment during September, 794 secured jobs in the Central Government, 1,563 in State Governments, 339 in quasi-Government establishments and local bodies

and the remaining 501 under other employers. At the end of the month, 1,64,143 scheduled caste applicants were on the Live Register of exchanges as against 1,58,403 at the end of August.

As regards applicants belonging to scheduled tribes, 297 secured jobs with the help of exchanges during the month as compared with 330 in August. Of those provided with employment during September, 103 secured jobs in the Central Government, 139 in State Governments, 25 in quasi-Government establishments and local bodies and the remaining 30 under other employers. At the end of the month, 20,921 scheduled tribe applicants were on the Live Register. This was 587 more than the number of applicants at the end of August.

Consumer Price Index Numbers For Sept.

According to the Labour Bureau of the Government of India, the Consumer Price Index Numbers for Working Class (base shifted to 1949—100 except where otherwise indicated) increased at 3 centres, declined at 2 and remained stationary at during September 1959.

The maximum rise of 3 points was recorded by the index number for Cuttack, which stood at 121. The index number for Ajmer and Mercara (base 1953—100) appreciated by one point each to 106 and 130 respectively.

In this group of centres, the food group index numbers appreciated at all the 3 centres, the fuel and lighting group index numbers at 2 centres, the clothing group index numbers at 2 centres and the miscellaneous group index number at one centre.

The index number for Satna (base 1953—100) declined by 3 points to 99 mainly due to a recession in the food, fuel and lighting and miscellaneous group index numbers. The index number for Tinsukia receded by one point to 120 due to a fall in food group index number.

The index numbers for Delhi, Gauhati, Monghyr, Dehri-on-Sone, Kharagpur, Bhopal (base 1951—100) and Beawar (base August 1951 to July 1952—100) showed only fractional variations and stood at 118, 102, 99, 101, 115, 115 and 103 respectively.

The provisional indices for Jharia, Berhampur, Silchar, Akola and Jabalpur stood at 103, 118, 112, 115 and 107 respectively.

The provisional all-India index number remained stationary and stood at 125 during September, 1959. The final all-India Index number for July was 124.

The States

MEETING OF EASTERN ZONAL COUNCIL

Addressing the Eastern Zonal Council meeting at Bhubaneswar on November 12, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, said that the conflicts on the border had been provoked by the Government of China by wanton acts of aggression backed up by use of force.

"Aggression, where it has taken place," he observed, "must be vacated, and claims on the territory of the Union of India actuated by the spirit of aggrandisement withdrawn so that peaceful methods may be evolved for the solution of genuine border disputes which, by their very nature, can only be of a minor character."

The Home Minister observed that the real strength of a nation lay in its people. The unity of purpose, resolution and faith should flow in to the tasks of building up the industrial and economic strength of the country which was the ultimate bulwark against any aggression that might be directed towards the integrity of the country and the freedom of its people. He declared that India was strong enough to subdue these aggressive ambitions.

Indo-Pak Accord

Referring to the Indo-Pak accord on border disputes in the east and the set of ground rules which had been formulated, Shri Pant hoped that they would result in the cessation of border raids and firings in this part of India and thus bring peace and security to the people living in the border area. Allied questions relating to border trade, visas and permits had also received earnest consideration. He expressed the hope that satisfactory solution about these too would be reached when the representatives of the two Governments meet in the course of the next few weeks for the settlement of the disputes relating to the western border.

Naga Area

Commending the appreciable improvement in the law and order situation in the Naga area, he said that the resolution adopted by the Naga People's Convention at Mokokchung in October last recognised the progress made by the area as a result of the various welfare activities of the administration and affirmed the desire of the Naga people to live as peaceful citizens of India. The Government of India had made it clear from time to time that they had no intention of interfering with the Naga Tribal laws and customs and that their aim was, and continued to be, to provide for the Nagas full scope and ample opportunity to develop according to their own genius. He hoped that the appeal made by the Mokokchung Convention for eschewing violence would evoke full response and that all the Naga tribes would extend their co-operation in restoring normalcy in this region.

Floods In Eastern India

Speaking about the recent floods in Eastern India, Shri Pant said that the record flow in the Damodar had surpassed the level which was attained in 1958. All the rivers in Eastern India flowing through or near industrial belt had been, partially or wholly, uncontrollable; even the minor streams in Nadia District in West Bengal had caused this year a great deal of destruction. The tides in the Hooghly at Garden Reach early in October this year were the highest since 1890.

Apart from relief operations to meet the emergency, the States in this region had already given serious thought to the measures necessary for minimising the damage resulting from such floods. A Committee had already been appointed by the Damodar Valley Corporation to make a study of the adequacy of the existing dams of the D.V.C. in providing full protection, etc. This Committee was likely to complete its report in the near future. Another Committee of Experts was proposed to be appointed by the West Bengal Government to investigate the causes of the recent floods and suggest comprehensive remedial measures. The Government of Orissa set up a Committee to make a proper assessment of the causes of the many breaches which recently took place in the various branches of the Mahanadi River and to suggest measures to minimise such breaches in future.

As regards Bihar, an agreement was expected to be entered into, in the near future, with the Nepal Government in regard to Gandak Project. When this project was constructed, the Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhangha Districts in North Bihar would be less exposed to dangers of flood and might improve on their existing yield of food and other crops.

Industrial Development

Continuing the Home Minister said that in spite of the damage and dislocation caused by the floods, the pace of development in this Zone in other spheres, in recent months, had been quite impressive. A few months back, the blue-print for the oil refinery at Gauhati was finalised and forwarded by the Rumanian Government for the consideration of the Government of India. An agreement regarding the other oil refinery at Barauni had been concluded since then with the Soviet Government. More recently, still another agreement was reached with the Burma Oil Company as a preliminary to the laying of the 720-mile pipeline from the Nahorkatiya area in Assam to the projected refinery sites, and this work was expected to be taken in hand very shortly. At Durgapur, notwithstanding certain difficulties, the time-schedule for the construction and commissioning of the plant was not likely to be affected. The first coke oven battery there was lighted two months ahead of schedule, in August 1959.

Dandakaranya Scheme

Referring to the Dandakaranya Scheme, he said that the Central Government had undertaken the development of Dandakaranya with the twin objective of settling displaced persons from East Pakistan and promoting the interests of the local population, particularly the Tribals. Activities, for the present, were confined to the Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh and Coraput District of Orissa. The two State Governments had been extending full co-operation both in the formulation and implementation of the plans. Large tracts had been made available for reclamation in Umarkote (Orissa) and Paralkote (Madhya Pradesh). Reclamation operations on a big scale had already started in Umarkote and they would commence towards the middle of December in Paralkote.

Safeguards For Linguistic Minorities

Shri Pant said that with the reorganisation of the States, a memorandum setting out the measures to be adopted to safeguard the interests of Linguistic Minorities was issued to State Governments with the approval of Parliament. The safeguards were intended to ensure to the minorities fair treatment and full opportunities for development consistent with the Constitution which guaranteed equal opportunities and rights to all Indian citizens throughout the country. All the regional languages and the composite national culture, enriched in volume and in content by confluence of diverse cultural streams were a common heritage of which all Indians, irrespective of the region to which they might belong were common inheritors, the Minister added.

Eastern Zonal Council meeting was attended by the Chief Minister of Assam, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal, and Chief Commissioners of the Union Territories of Tripura and Manipur. Representatives of the Planning Commission and the Union Home Ministry were also present. Shri G.B. Pant presided.

The Eastern Zonal Council, like four other Zonal Councils-Northern, Southern, Western, and Central — came into being in November 1956, as a part of the scheme relating to the reorganisation of States in accordance with the States Reorganisation Act, 1956.

Eastern Zone

The Eastern Zone which has common frontiers with Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan, Burma and East Pakistan has an area of about 2,59,000 sq. miles with a population of nearly 90 million. Roughly, it accounts for about one-fourth of both the total population and total area of the country. The density of population per square mile in the Zone works out to 347 persons as against the average density of 284 persons per square mile for the country as a whole.

The climate of this Zone is hot and moist and the average annual rainfall ranges between 80" in Assam to 50" in Bihar. Large parts of this Zone suffer from floods from time to time and the Second Plan has made a provision of Rs. 60 crores for flood control measures.

About 14 per cent of the total area is covered with forests. Agriculture is the main occupation and about 75 per cent of the people depend on it as their main source of livelihood. As regard land utilisation, about 20 per cent of the total cultivated area, i.e., 598 lakh acres, was irrigated before the First Plan period. By the end of the Second Plan, about 42 per cent of the cultivated area, 252 lakh acres, is expected to be under irrigation.

Rice is the principal food crop of this Zone and 52 million acres of land are under food crops. The important cash crops of the Zone are: Sugarcane and Jute.

The Zone accounts for nearly 60 per cent in value of the total production of minerals in India. The North-Eastern region of Assam has petroleum wells located in the districts of Lakhimpur and Cachar. Bihar has a unique position in the mineral production of India. Almost every type of mineral occurs in the State. About 80 per cent of mica is found in Bihar. About 90 per cent of India's coal comes from the Damodar Valley. Bauxite and lead are found in the districts of Ranchi and Palemau. Bihar is also rich in china clay, quartz and feldspar all of which are the raw materials for the procelain industry. Orissa is rich in iron ore and produces about 20 per cent of the total manganese ore. West Bengal has about 30 per cent of India's coal.

Delhi's Annual Plan For 1960-61

An announcement of November 15 says that an outlay of Rs. 602 lakhs has been approved for Delhi's annual plan for 1960-61, the final year of the Second Five Year Plan. Out of the total outlay, an amount of Rs. 166 lakhs is proposed to be spent on Power Projects and Rs. 32 lakhs on the Agriculture Sector during the year. Other important items for which allocations have been made are: Social Services, Rs. 257.6 lakhs, which include education, health, housing, labour, etc.; Village and Small Industries, Rs. 26.75 lakhs; Community Development, Rs. 6.7 lakhs; and Roads, Rs. 3 lakhs.

A provision of Rs. 108.5 lakhs has been made for the schemes of the Delhi Corporation.

The annual plan of the Delhi Administration was discussed recently in the Planning Commission with representatives of the Administration. The proposals were discussed by Working Groups constituted for each sector. While finalising the outlay of the Annual Plan, due consideration was given to their recommendations and to Delhi's growing needs and requirements of urbanisation.

Delhi's Second Plan is of the magnitude of Rs. 1,697 lakhs. It is estimated that the total expenditure up to the end of the financial year 1959-60 will come to about Rs. 1,135 lakhs. For the year 1959-60 the outlay approved by the Planning Commission was about Rs. 389 lakhs.

During 1956-57, the first year of the Second Plan, the Administration spent about Rs. 250 lakhs under the Plan and during 1957-58 the expenditure came to about Rs. 286 lakhs. For 1958-59 the actual expenditure is estimated to be about Rs. 308 lakhs.

Consumer Price Index For Delhi

According to the Labour Bureau of the Government of India, the Consumer Price Index Number for Working Class for Delhi (base shifted to 1949=100) appreciated by 2 points to 120 during October, 1959 after having remained almost stationary during the preceding month.

The food group index number advanced by 2 points mainly due to a rise in the prices of moong dal, pure ghee, potatoes, onions and chillies. The fuel and lighting group index declined by one point due to a fall in the prices of firewood. The clothing group index number advanced by 6 points mainly due to higher quotations for dhoti, markin and shirting and the miscellaneous group index number remained stationary.

On base 1944=100, the Working Class Consumer Price Index Number for October 1959 was 158.37 as against 156.26 for September, 1959.

On base shifted to August, 1939=100, the estimated Consumer Price Index Number for Delhi for October, 1959 was 413.03. This was 5.50 points higher than the corresponding figure for the previous month.

ASSENT FOR WEST BENGAL BILL

The President, says an announcement of November 1, has given assent to the Industrial Disputes (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1959.

The legislation seeks to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, so that the presiding officer of an Industrial Tribunal in West Bengal be retained in office, after he has attained the age of 65 years. This extension will be for a period not exceeding six months for the purpose of completing any proceedings pending before the officer at that time.

Defence

SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

The Defence Secretary, Shri Pulla Reddi, inaugurated the Symposium on Instruments at the Technical Development Establishment (Instruments) at Dehra Dun on November 4.

More than 250 scientists from all over India participated in the Symposium.

Shri Pulla Reddi said that the instruments industry in India was still in its infancy and that a great deal of headway was yet to be made. The present estimate of production in the country was of the order of Rs. 80 lakhs a year and the annual import amounted to nearly Rs. 10 crores. Urging the need for specialisation and the avoidance of duplication of efforts in the production centre, he stressed the importance of standardisation and quality control, design and development of instruments, he added.

Continuing the Secretary observed that during the last two years a great fillip had been given to the development of the Defence Services and as a consequence, defence production had now been making rapid strides.

Referring to the Instruments Symposium, he expressed the hope that a relationship would be evolved whereby not only the defence needs were adequately met but also technological progress made in a co-ordinated manner for the welfare of the community as a whole.

Dr. K.S. Kothari, Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister, said, in his opening address, that the progress of science as also of industry was vitally dependent on the availability and standard of instruments and, in their turn, were conditioned by the prevailing level of science and industry. Even cheap and simple instruments, which could be manufactured in the country, were at present being imported in relatively large quantities. Instruments and instrumentation were vital to any scientific work and to most industrial productions. If anything, the role was still more important in the case of defence, because of the high degree of specialisation and sophistication often required in defence work and equipment.

Dr. C.S. Rao, Head of the Technical Development Establishment (Instruments) and Convener of the Symposium, hoped that the Symposium would constitute a landmark in shaping the future organisation and growth of the instruments industry and the associated research and development effort in the country—factors which were so essential to the achievment of self-sufficiency in this vitally important field of instruments and instrumenation, not only to meet the strategic needs of the Defence Services but also of the country as a whole.

Addressing the delegates to the Symposium on November 5 Major-General B.D. Kapur, Chief Controller of the Research and Development Organisation, said that realising the role that scientific research played in the achievement of self-sufficiency in production, the Government of India were laying special emphasis on Defence Science. A new department, known as the Defence Research and Development Organisation, was created by the amalgamation of the Defence Science Organisation and the technical development establishments of the three Services, for the many-sided activities of scientific research and design. This Organisation maintained the closest liaison between national laboratories, which had resulted in some concrete projects now being developed. A compact of close integration between the soldier and the scientific research and development work was now beginning to take shape in the R and D Organisation.

He said that with the setting up of the R and D Organisation, scientific activity in defence had been considerably stepped up. Unusual opportunities had been created for the research scientists on a wide variety of subjects. The work carried on in the Defence Research Laboratory related to operational research, ballastics, statistics, explosion study, experimental physiology and the applied psychology and bio-metrical aspect of atomic and other radiation.

Defence Science Service

Maj. General Kapur pointed out that there was a growng need for graduate engineers in the various establishments of the R and D Organisation. Engineers were required in the specialised branches of telecommunications, electronics mechanical, aeronautical and optical engineering. A scientific service has been constituted by Government as Defence Science Service catering for scientists and engineers. There was a fellowship scheme which allowed for 50 fellows to be annually put through a training course in different subjects and to make them eligible for appointments in the appropriate gazetted posts. There was also a studentship scheme to encourage scholars from the Universities to carry out post-graduate research in defence laboratories and establishments on a part-time basis.

FIRST INDIAN-BUILT SURVEY SHIP

The first 2,750 ton survey ship built in India for the Indian Navy, INS DARSHAK, was launched on November 2 at the Hindustan Shipyard by Shrimati Dhanam Katari, wife of Vice-Admiral R.D. Katari, Chief of the Naval Staff, says a Visakhapatnam announcement of the same day.

INS DARSHAK, when completed, will be one of the most modern vessels afloat in the Indian Navy. Designed as an ocean survey vessel, she will have up-to-date equipment for survey work of all types such as oceanographic, thermographic and hydrographic. With an over-all length of 321 feet, breadth of 44 feet, she is designed to develop a maximum trial speed of 6 knots. Her special equipment includes a helicopter for aerial photography and a trailer, six launches for survey work and a crane to handle the survey launches.

Amenities provided by the ship to her approximately 24 officers and men are such as do not exist on any other naval or merchant ship in India. They also include complete air conditioning of living and working quarters, provision of fluorescent lighting throughout and and automatic telephones.

Regular Army Reserve Of Officers

To meet manpower requirements in an emergency, it is proposed to maintain a regular Army Reserve of Officers, says an announcement of November 14.

Released Short Service Regular Emergency and Temporary Commissioned officers as well as former State Forces' officers, cadets of the senior Division of the N.C.C. with certificate 'C' and other civilians within prescribed age limits are eligible for being commissioned in the Reserve.

While called up for training, officers commissioned in the Regular Reserve will be entitled to full pay and allowances of the rank. They will also be entitled to an annual retaining fee. Civilians during attachment and training will be granted an annual retaining fee, and will not be required to maintain uniform in peace time.

P & T UNITS OF TERRITORIAL ARMY

Shri V. Shanker, Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, inaugurated a Conference of Officers Commanding, Signal P & T (Territorial Army) Units and the Posts and Telegraph Department in New Delhi on November 5. Various measures to provide more incentives to the officers and staff of the Posts and Telegraph Department to join the Territorial Army were considered.

Among the suggestions, the relaxation of the rules regarding rotational period for transfers for officers and personnel in the P and T Department and the giving of cash awards or bounty bonuses to those who enrol in the Territorial Army were also considered.

Brigadier Harbajan Singh, Director of the Territorial Army also attended the Conference.

HONOUR TO LATE MAJOR N. D. JAYAL

The Bengal Engineer Group, Roorkee, had contributed a plaque which was recently placed by the all-women international expedition at the spot where India's well-known mountaineer Major N.D. Jayal was buried.

The late Major Jayal, who was a member of the successful Indian expedition to Cho Oyu (21,500 ft.) died of pneumonia at Camp I on April 28, 1958. He belonged to the Bengal Engineer Group.

India & The World

INDIAN TEA FOR JAPANESE TYPHOON VICTIMS

A New Delhi announcement of November 15 says that the Ambassador of India to Japan, Shri C.P.N. Singh, handed over to the Japanese Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo on November 14, on behalf of the Government of India, 3,000 lbs. of Indian tea meant for the victims of the recent typhoon which devastated Central Japan.

Indian Ambassador To Nepal

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of External Affairs on November 2, says that Shri Harishwar Dayal has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Nepal. He is expected to assume charge of his assignment early in January, 1960.

Cultural Exhibition At Port Louis

A Cultural Exhibition under the auspices of the Education Minister of Mauritius, the French Consul and the Commissioner for the Government of India to Mauritius, was inaugurated recently at Port Louis.

The exhibits included textiles, silk sarees, Kashmiri silver work, carpets and numdas, Jaipur brass-work, Tanjore silver and copper work, Hyderabad Bidri work and other objects of art of the various States covering different periods of Indian history. A separate section displayed photographs of architecture, sculpture, dances and costumes of India and illustrated books on Ajanta and Ellora. There were also reproductions of paintings from Indian classical and contemporary artists.

Gift To Rangoon Hospital

According to a New Delhi announcement of October 16, a cheque of 100,000 Kyats (equal to Rs. 100,000) was presented on behalf of the Government of India to the Ramakrishna Mission Hospital at Rangoon when recently Madame Daw Mya May, wife of the President of Burma, laid the foundation stone of the Nurse's Hostel of the Hospital.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

NOVEMBER 1 TO 15

November 2 — A new Indo-Polish Trade and Payments Agreement to be in force for a period of three years commencing from January 1, 1960, is signed in New Delhi

— India and Bhutan conclude an agreement on the Jaldhaka hydro-electric project to be undertaken by the Government of West Bengal under which Bhutan will receive 250 K.W. of power free of cost

— INS DARSAK (2,750 tons), the first survey ship built in India for the Indian Navy, is launched at the Hindustan Shipyard in Visakhapatnam

3 — The Government of India set up a Central Scientific Instruments Organisation to promote and develop the indigenous manufacture of scientific instruments of all categories needed for teaching, research and industry

4 — The Government of India announce the decision to set up a Central Designs Organisation for planning and designing of the future steel plants to be set up in the public sector

— The Government of India's reply to the Chinese memorandum of October 22 and the statement issued by the Chinese Government on October 26 on the Ladakh incident is handed to the Chinese Ambassador in New Delhi

5 — A three-day conference of the State Housing Ministers begins in Hyderabad

7 — The 35th annual general meeting of the Council of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India is held in Calcutta

8 — A six-member Czech delegation arrives in New Delhi for talks with the Government of India on Indo-Czech technical and economic co-operation in the Third Five-Year Plan

— Shri V.T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, inaugurates the third All-India Course for Lok Karya Centre Workers in New Delhi

9 — Shri Manubhai Shah, Union Minister of Industry, inaugurates a symposium on hydraulic machines, sponsored by the Indian Institute of Science, in Bangalore

— Shri Punjabrao Deshmukh, Union Minister of Agriculture, inaugurates the 28th meeting of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee in New Delhi

10 — An agreement for the avoidance of double taxation between India and the U.S.A. is signed in Washington which provides credit for tax spared with a view to stimulating U.S. investment in India

— The Government of India announce decision to tighten up the existing passport regulations to prevent emigration to the United Kingdom of illiterate and semi-literate persons

11 — The grant of $330,000 made by the Ford Foundation to India for an intensive family planning research programme in India is announced

— The Government of India announce decision to increase the retention prices payable to TISCO and IISCO for all categories of steel taken together by Rs. 5 per ton for the period 1955-56 to 1959-60

12 — A meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council is held in Bhubaneswar

13 — Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince of Ethiopia and Princess Medferiash Worq arrive in Calcutta on a two-week State Visit to India

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a time of joy...

When swords of lightning no longer flash,
the roll of thunder loses its echo, the
pitch laden sky clears and the sun breaks
through wisps of cloud cotton-like
in the sudden blue—that is the time
of the harvest, and the year's work is done.

For this end; the effort, the toil. For a
world that offers a little more—
a little less of the care, a little more of the joy.

Today, as in the past, our products help to make homes cleaner, healthier, happier. But today we are also working for . . . **Tomorrow,** when the evergrowing urge for better living will demand still greater efforts. And we shall be ready with wider service, new ideas, new products . . .

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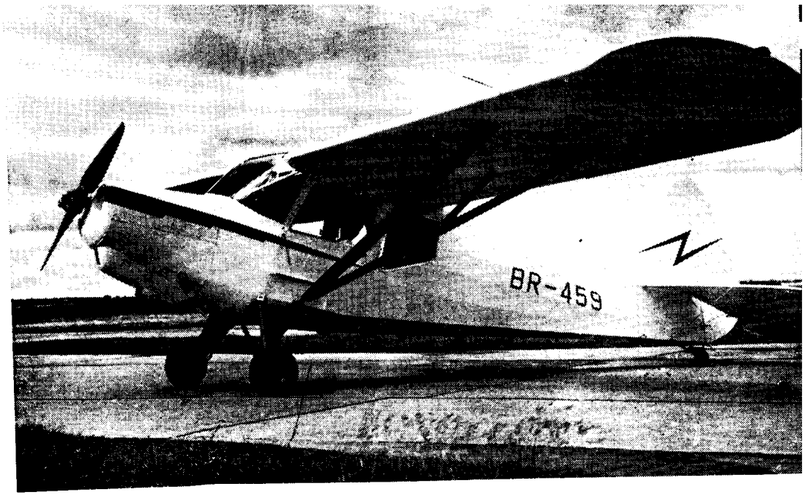

'KRISHAK', a high-wing light-communication four-seater monoplane, developed by the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd.

Dato Wong Pow Nee, Chief Minister of Penang, going round the 'Art of India' exhibition which he opened recently in Penang

Shri J.K. Bhonsle, Director-General of National Discipline Scheme, with H.E. Mr. Milentije Popovic, Member of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia and leader of the three-member Yugoslav Goodwill Delegation to India, in New Delhi on November 2

Mr. J. Burakiewicz, Deputy Minist of Foreign Trade of Poland (lef and Shri K.R.F. Khilnani, Joint S cretary, Ministry of Commerce ar Industry, signing a new Indo-Polis Trade and Payments Agreement New Delhi on November 2

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, inaugurating the thirtieth annual meeting of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power in New Delhi on November 23

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, receiving the Most Hon'ble the Marquess of Lansdowne, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the U. K. Foreign Office, in New Delhi on November 24

The Prime Minister in conversation with a party of five members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives in New Delhi on November 20

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(Indian Information seeks to provide a condensed record of the activities and official announcements of the Government of India. Because of space limitation many items appear in summarized forms. Such items should not be treated as complete and authoritative versions.)

Political & General

PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECHES IN LOK SABHA ON INDIA-CHINA RELATIONS

Moving a motion on India-China relations in the Lok Sabha on November 25 the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, referred to the proposals made by Premier Chou En-Lai and "certain other and alternative proposals" contained in Shri Nehru's reply to Premier Chou En-Lai. (These proposals contained in the correspondence between the two Prime Ministers are published elsewhere in this issue). He said:

"Behind these proposals lie certain basic approaches and basic principles, because we cannot act merely in a haphazard or spasmodic way reacting to events that happen. Naturally we have to react to them but that reaction has to be conditioned and controlled by the basic policies that we pursue and the objectives that we have....

"Naturally, even basic policies have to be implemented in the light of conditions that arise; and in this changing world and changing situations we cannot ignore what happens, but we have to measure what happens and respond to it in the light of any basic policy that we might have.

"We are faced with grave problems. I do not mean to say that there is some immediate danger of any magnitude, but the gravity of the problems lies certainly in the present but even more so in the future, and any step that we might take will therefore be pregnant with future possibilities. It trans-

cends all party issues; it comprises the whole country and, if I may say so, to some extent, it comprises the issues beyond our country, that is, the issues of war and peace in the world."

Non-Alignment

Reaffirming India's policy of non-alignment, Shri Nehru said:

"We have stood for a policy of peace, for a policy of friendship with all nations, even though we differ from them on a policy of non-alignment with power blocs and avoidance of military pacts and the like.

"Now, recently, a cry has arisen in this country from some sources, some people, criticising and condemning that policy of non-alignment, that policy which has been sometimes referred to as one of *Panchsheel* or five principles and the like. It has been said that that has collapsed because of what has happened vis a vis China.

"As I said, this policy has been our consistent policy for the last ten years and, indeed even before; when the words *Panchsheel* came into use they just described the policy that we were pursuing. Some years ago, other great countries in the world also spoke rather lightly and casually about our policy, imagining or thinking that it was a policy of weakness, of sitting on the fence and the like. But as the years have gone by, wisdom has come to other countries, not all, but many and the biggest of them, and today it is one of the bright features of the developments that take place before us, namely, that basically, that very policy has not only been appreciated in so far as India is concerned but is colouring and conditioning the activities of great nations. Let us not forget that. It is an important fact. That policy was against cold war and the like, because cold war necessarily leads in the direction of hot war and people came to realise that war of that type in the present age was a disaster, which could not have been imagined and therefore, steps must be taken to avoid it. Fear, apprehension and suspicions came in the way, but ultimately an effort is being made, which has met with some success already and which holds promise of greater success in the future, that we must put an end to this cold war and we must come to some kind of settlement, which removes these fears and suspicions.

Brink Of Danger

"During the last few years, we find the world has been on the brink of danger. On two or three occasions, it came very near toppling over the brink. There were talks of brinkmanship too as a policy. But the world as a whole has moved away somewhat from that dangerous edge of a precipice, but it is a strange turn of fate or circumstance that we in India, who stood for this policy of peace and worked for it with all our might, should suddenly be drawn into this dangerous situation which we face today.

"I do not think war will come. I am merely talking about possibilities. I do not think that the world or any country is foolish enough to jump over the precipice into war. But I say that these possibilities come into our minds and that is certainly strange. Those people who may imagine that this is due to our policy of *Panchsheel* or non-alignment seem to me to think in a somewhat distorted and upside-down way. I really do not understand that. I would say that any other policy will have brought infinitely greater dangers and brought them sooner and brought them when we would not have had the prestige we undoubtedly possess in the world today because of our policies and the wide friendship that we possess in the world today.

"Some hon. Members sometimes talk of our not having any friends. Apparently their idea of friendship is some kind of iron chain that binds in a military alliance. That is their idea of friendship. It is feeble; that iron chain breaks often enough. It is not a chain of friendship, but a chain of compulsion of events. We do not want such chains to bind us. But we have the friendship of great nations and small nations with whom we do not agree in many matters and yet we are friendly.

Panchsheel

"When people talk lightly, casually and scornfully of *Panchsheel*, I should like them to tell which of those five principles they disapprove of, which of them they think is bad and which of them they think should not be acted upon. I should like them to tell that, because nobody has yet told me that. I say those five principles are right principles, inevitable principles, for right-thinking people, right-thinking individual, or right-thinking world. If you go away from them, you move into a world of conflict and a world of conflict today is a world of doom. Therefore, I should like that to be considered.

"So, we have this curious situation that when in the western world, which means a large part of the world, there is a sort of improvement in their relations — although there are doubts still, but nevertheless there is a basic, definite, deliberate and earnest desire to improve them — we have to face this situation. In a sense the danger zone shifts from other countries to our own borders."

Border Situation

Dealing with the background of the border situation, Prime Minister Nehru said:

"The Government of India recognised the Central People's Government of China in December, 1949. Eight months later, the latter, i.e. the Chinese Government, expressed their gratification over the Government of India's desire 'to stabilise the Chinese-Indian border' and the Government of India replied that 'the recognised boundary between India and Tibet should remain inviolate'. Then, some time later, in an informal conversation with the Indian Ambassador on the 27th September, 1951, Premier Chou En-lai expressed his anxiety to safeguard in every way Indian interests in Tibet on which matter 'there was no territorial dispute or controversy between India and China.' He added:

> 'The question of stabilisation of the Tibetan frontier was a matter of common interest to India, Nepal and China and could best be done by discussions between the three countries.'

"I am quoting still:

> 'Since the Chinese army entered Lhasa' (i.e. in 1951) 'in pursuance of the Sino-Indian agreement of 1951 to take up frontier posts, it was necessary to settle the matter as early as possible.'

"Now, this was in September, 1951. On October 4th, 1951, the Indian Ambassador in Peking, under instructions from the Government of India, informed the Chinese Premier that the Government of India would welcome negotiations on the subjects mentioned by Premier Chou En-lai. This was previous to the agreement, which came later, about Tibet. In February 1952 the Indian Ambassador gave a statement of the existing Indian rights in Tibet and reiterated India's willingness to arrive at a mutually satisfactory settlement. Premier Chou En-lai replied that there was 'no difficulty in safeguarding the economic and cultural interests of India in Tibet'. He did not refer to the frontier question in his reply; nor did the Indian Ambassador raise this question specifically then. It was our belief that since our frontier was clear, there was no question of raising this issue by us.

"When discussions took place for the Sino-Indian agreement on Tibet, seven subjects were dealt with — our mission at Lhasa, trade agencies at Gyantse and Yatung, a trade agency at Gartok, the right to carry on trade other than trade marts, postal and telegraphic installations, military escorts to Gyantse and the right of pilgrimage. These were indicated to the Chinese Government as subjects for negotiation and ultimately an agreement was arrived at in regard to these matters. Our clear impression was that we had settled all matters relating to Tibet and India and that no frontier issue remained except some minor ones. The question of the frontier did not arise at all at any other time, except later in relation to some maps published in China to which we took exception. The reply of the Chinese Government to us was that these were old maps and their revision would be taken up later when they had leisure to do so. This objection was raised by us several times and the reply also was the same every time.

Tibet Revolution

"In March last, that is, this year, there was the Tibet revolution. In fact, there had been uprising in the eastern part of Tibet for several years previously. In March this revolt took place in Lhasa and spread. This resulted in large numbers of refugees coming to India and the Chinese forces pursuing them, or trying to cut them off, and they also reached our eastern frontier, that is, what is called the McMahon Line. Later they spread out to some other frontiers on the west. The story of subsequent events is clearly stated in the correspondence in the White Paper.

"It was for the first time on the 8th September, 1959, that is about 2½ months ago, that Premier Chou En-lai, in a letter addressed to me, claimed the areas in India which had been included in the Chinese maps. Uptill now there had only been this reference to maps and their telling us that they would be revised: in what manner, of course, they did not say. But, for the first time, in this letter in September last, Premier Chou En-lai made the claim on the basis of those maps, though he did certainly express his willingness to discuss the boundary disputes with us, presumably such disputes being of a minor character.

Aksai Chin

"Now, in this brief account, I have left out Aksai Chin developments. I shall now say something about them. In September 1957, we learnt of an announcement by the Chinese Government that a road had been made from Yehcheng to Gartok in Tibet and that this would be open to traffic in October. As there were two alternative routes from Sinkiang to Western Tibet, we enquired from our Embassy as to where this road was. They could not send any precise information, but they sent us a copy of the announcement which had been published in the People's Daily of Peking which also contained a sketch on a very rough and small scale. In view of this uncertainty about the exact alignment, it was decided that before we send the protest to the Chinese authorities, we should have more reliable information about the alignment of the road. Two reconnaisance parties were sent to the areas in the summer of 1958, an army party towards the north and a police party towards the southern extremity of this road. It took some time for the police party to return as the journey was a long and arduous one. The army party did not return, and it was suspected by us that they might have been arrested by the Chinese authorities. In fact, they had been arrested and they were released somewhat later. From the police party we learnt that there was a part of this road in Indian territory. This was a year ago, round about the end of September of last year with some definiteness that there was this road which had crossed our territory in Aksai Chin. On the 18th October 1958, a little more than a year ago, we sent a formal protest note to the Chinese Government regarding this road and repeating that the road passed through Indian territory and asking for an early reply. No reply was received then or later to this note of ours. On the 14th December, 1958 I wrote a long letter to Premier Chou En-lai about the delineation of the Sino-Indian boundary in Chinese maps and the circulation of those maps. There was no specific mention in this letter of Aksai Chin as this matter had been referred to in the earlier letter. Premier Chou En-lai replied to this letter on the 23rd January, 1959. These letters are given in the White Paper. I then sent another letter on the 22nd of March, 1959 to Premier Chou En-lai. This letter dealt in detail with the boundary in all sectors, including Ladakh. This brings us to March of this year when we were trying diplomatically, through correspondence with the Chinese Government, for a settlement over this issue.

"It has been stated — and the charge may be justified — that we failed in informing Parliament of this. As the House will appreciate, the matter came precisely in our knowledge in October, that is, a year ago. And we took immediate steps to enquire from the Chinese Government and we were corresponding with them for the next three or four months.

"We felt, rightly or wrongly, that we should clear this up with them and then place the matter before the House. Now, in about the middle of March something else happened. The Tibetan Rebellion

took place and a large number of other issues, border issues and other issues, arose, with which we have dealt in all this correspondence. That is in so far as this Aksai Chin matter or road is concerned....

National Trait

"In regard to China, I feel that we have to deal with, what might be called, an one-track mind, very much so....

"What is more — I am saying this not as criticism but as some kind of appraisal, right or wrong — this is all a national trait which has existed for a considerable time past because China was a great advanced and powerful country at various stages of history. It spread — and, of course, it spread by the normal imperialist methods — by war and conquest and built up a great empire repeatedly.

"Anyhow, from fairly early in history they had a sensation of greatness of the Middle Kingdom, as they called themselves, all the fringes belonging to lesser developed countries and human beings who paid tribute to them. It seemed natural to them that other countries should pay tribute to them. Then I think — I forget the exact date, but long ago — about 150 years ago or thereabouts when the British came, they sent an ambassador or an envoy with some gifts to them. The reply of the then Chinese Emperor makes interesting reading. He addresses them. He thanks them for their loyalty and subservience to him and he appreciates their gifts as from some country of which, in a sense, they were suzerain powers almost. Their thinking was that the rest of the world occupies a lower grade. Whenever any gifts were sent, even in Tibetan history you come across cases where these gifts were sent — they always treated that as if it became a sign of their sovereignty or suzerainty. That was 200 or 300 years ago.

"Now that has made it difficult for us to understand the working of their minds and, what is more to the point, for them to understand the working of our minds. It has been very difficult for me to explain to them that in this country our structure of Government is, what we consider, democratic, there are civil liberties and that civil liberties include the civil liberty or the right to misbehave, the right even to say highly objectionable things — that is part of civil liberty — that there are parties here which function in their own way, rightly or wrongly, and that Government here cannot control them and cannot inhibit these activities unless they go beyond the pale of the law. They (the Chinese Government) cannot understand it.

"Now I want the House to realise what effect some things that we say or do unthinkingly or casually have. Therefore I have been venturing to say that in these matters we should weigh the words we use, the language we use and as well as the actions we take. I am not talking of China only now but of any country. It is a wrong and dangerous thing to deal with individuals and Government, more especially to condemn heads of Governments, heads of States, because they are symbols, is bad because you create an unnecessary passion on the other side, which comes in the way of calm consideration of any matter....

"We should avoid this. But this basic fact remains. I only mention this to help us to understand the situation. It does not solve it, of course.

Border Defence

"We now face a situation which is partly a political situation, but partly also a military one; not military in the sense of war coming, but military in the sense that we have to take military steps to meet it and be prepared for all contingencies; in that sense it is a military situation. Now, obviously, this House will not expect me to tell it what arrangements, military and defence arrangements, we are making. That kind of thing is not publicised. But I can tell this House that at no time since our independence, and of course before it, were our defence forces in better condition, in finer fettle and with the background of far greater industrial production in the country to help them, than today. I am not boasting about them or comparing them to other countries, but I am quite confident that our defence forces are well capable of looking after our security.

"It is easy to say, but does the House realise that we have 9,000 miles of frontier? It is a pretty big link — not the frontier with China; that is 2,600 miles, a little over 2,600 miles — but all the various frontiers that we have running to 9,000 miles. Some people seem to imagine that our forces should stand at guard alone all our frontiers, nine thousand miles.

"Any person with the least acquaintance with military matters, of war and other things, would not make such a suggestion, I can assure this House. It has no meaning, running about like this, dispersing your forces over wide areas and getting entangled here and there and reducing your capacity to hit out wherever you want to. The main thing is to hit out when you want to, not to stand in a row...

"This is a matter in which I cannot express an opinion, because I do not consider myself an expert in it. I have to take the advice of the experts who advise me or our Government; naturally, discussing it with them, naturally, putting one's own view-point, but in the final analysis accepting their advice as to how to use the resources at our disposal. Obviously, the resources are not infinite, are not just that you can draw upon them; there is a certain limitation upon those resources, and we have to use them to the best advantage.

Industrial Background

"But, apart from these border conflicts, the real strength of any army or defence forces, it is well known, is the industrial background of the country. If you think in terms of war, it is the industrial background that counts. If the last Great War, the Second World War, was won by a certain group of nations, of course many factors counted, but it was the enormous industrial productive capacity that counted most. If some powers today, like the United States or the Soviet Union, are very great powers, super powers, it is because of the industrial and scientific progress that they have made. It is obvious: their scientific and industrial progress have made them such tremendous powers. We have a greater population than either of them. Population does not make it, or merely giving a rifle to every individual. It may help in some matters.

"And, therefore, the whole question of defence has to be considered in all these various aspects, and among them the basic aspect is the growth of industry, industrialisation; and, industrialisation not meaning merely some kind of defence industries — that is important, of course— but you have to create a background to industrialisation all over the place, and more particularly in matters relating to industry; but you cannot separate these things.

"In the past we have discussed our defence estimates here, and this House has seldom wanted them to be lowered much. Sometimes some criticism has come. At the same time we have resisted — I want to be quite frank with you — we have resisted the normal tendency of our defence apparatus to spend more and more. In every country there is that tendency. We have resisted it. Last year we reduced our estimates, not because we wanted our defence to be weak, but because we knew that the strength of defence is the development, the Five Year Plan, and this and that. That is the real strength of the defence. It is true that when we are certainly faced with a dangerous position, well, you have to make the best of it with whatever you have. But if you are always making the best of it at the moment, that means that you are never preparing for the morrow with greater strength.

"Coming to these letters, Premier Chou En-lai's letter to me and my reply to him, they are both before the House and hon. Members must have read both of them. It is not my purpose to go into details, and I should not. But I do feel that the approach that we have made in our letter to Premier Chou En-lai is a fair and a reasonable one. It is an honourable one. It is an honourable one certainly for our country, and I would repeat that it is an honourable one for China too. Because, unless you are bent on war and you merely want drum-beating all the time and strong language— well, that is a different matter. I regret to say that I do not agree with that, and I think it is a wrong policy and a dangerous policy. War is a dangerous policy. But if war is thrust upon one, one has to defend it. If war is thrust upon us, we shall fight, and fight with all our strength. That is a different matter. But I shall avoid war, try to prevent it with every means in our power, because it is a bad thing, it is a dangerous thing."

Referring to persons who might like war or hold the view that some foreign countries will come and help if there is war in India, the Prime Minister observed:

"If that is the view of any person that we should become just a weak nation, shouting loudly and expecting others to come to our defence, I hope India will never degrade herself in this way....

"You have to be logical. Either you have to have to a bellicose, warlike mentality, a sort of what is normally associated, let us say, with Hitler or Nazism. Then you definitely work for war. Of course, Hitler had the strength to do so although he was defeated ultimately. I find here people exhibiting a strange situation: not having the strength and yet talking like Hitlers. It was a most amazing phenomenon. It was bad enough for Hitler who had the strength to do so. Without strength, for a person to talk like Hitler seems quite extraordinary. However, my point was, if you do not aim war, you have to face a dangerous situation from what you do.

"Naturally, inevitably, you take every step to protect your country, because, war does not come or not come because of your wishes. Only you may help or prevent the process. It is the other party that may bring it about in spite of you. Therefore, you have to keep that in mind and therefore you have to prepare for it to the best of your ability. That is admitted. If it comes, you have to fight to the best of your ability. Nevertheless, you have to work for avoiding it. If you are working for avoiding it, the preliminary steps that you take should also keep that in view. Because, if you talk in too loud a voice about these matters, if you go on denouncing everybody, if you create an atmosphere which must inevitably lead to warlike thinking, exciting people in your own country and irritating beyond measure people in the other country, whether you want or not, you are taking that country step by step to that position. That is inevitable.

"I do not myself see why the strength of a country should be associated with the beating of drums. I have heard of this being done in the old days. Nowadays, strength is represented not by drum-beating or slogans, but by whatever it is, your army, your industrial apparatus or morale — all these things. Build them up certainly and stand firmly before any intruder. I can understand that. But, keep the facts of life in view. Do not ignore life as it is, the world as it is, everything as it is.

Integrity Of Territory

"I can recognise one thing. There are some things which no nation can tolerate. Any attack on its honour, on its integrity, on the integrity of its territory, no nation tolerates, and it takes risks, grave risks even, to protect all that. Because, you cannot barter these things, your self-respect and honour. One has to stand for them, whatever the consequences. That is all right. But, in standing for them, if one takes some action which puts the same dilemma before the other country and the other country thinks that its honour is being attacked and its self-respect brought down, you shut all the doors to any kind of approach or talk. I should like the House to appreciate this distinction. Firmness and building up of strength is obviously necessary and right and inevitably when we have to face a crisis of this kind. But, firmness and building up a strength does not mean doing so in a manner which may worsen a situation and which may shut all possible doors to a peaceful settlement. I think, whatever the circumstances, whatever the conditions that might arise, always there should be an attempt at a peaceful settlement, provided always again that we are not going to barter our honour, our self-respect, our territory. That proviso always remains.

"So, I have endeavoured in my reply to Premier Chou En-lai, in all my letters that I have sent to him, to state our case with as much clarity as I could command, but always with politeness, always with a view that I might help in solving this problem however difficult it might be. If it is beyond solution, we face that. But, we shall always go on trying to solve it.

"Some people come to me and say, 'Why don't you eject everybody from Indian territory?' Occasions may arise in war when one tries to do so. But, one does not do so except in war. If it is war, then, of course, one tries it. In peace, one tries other means. Otherwise it is war. People seem to think that we need not go to war, but we may have some kind of petty campaigns here and there. I do confess that this is beyond my understanding.

"There are one or two matters that I should like to mention specially. One is the treatment of people of Kashmiri or, more particularly, Ladakhi origin, in Tibet by the Chinese authorities. This has been very harsh and unreasonable. Our trade representatives in Gyantse and Yatung, etc. also have had any amount of pin-pricks and difficulties from day to day. It is interesting, to contrast this with the Chinese claim to the Indonesian Government for the treatment of people of Chinese origin in Indonesia, because there is a very great difference between that and the treatment they are giving to these people of Kashmiri or Ladakhi origin.

"Also we have been much disturbed by the treatment received by these prisoners taken by the Chinese in the Ladakh incident. According to the accounts that we have received, it is bad treatment. Some of these people have got frost-bitten toes and all that, chiefly because of that. Also, it appears from these reports, and indeed from the whole account given to us even by the Chinese Government, that these people were subjected to repeated and constant interrogation.

Importance Of The Himalayas

"There is one aspect of the question which I wish the Chinese Government and indeed other countries might try to understand. Any border trouble, any border dispute raises passions in any country. It is so everywhere. But there is a peculiar feature of this particular matter to us, because it deals with the Himalayas. Now, the Himalayas are high mountains, of course, but they are something much more to us and more intimately tied up with India's history, tradition, faith, religion, beliefs, literature and culture, than, to my knowledge, any other mountain anywhere. Whatever the other mountains may be the Himalayas are something much more than mountains to us; they are part of ourselves. And I want the other people to realise how intimately this question affects our innermost being, and quite apart, even from a pure question of border."

Laying stress on 'a constructive approach to this problem and not merely destructive approach,' he added:

"We are facing grave issues, grave issues not for today only but for the tomorrows to come. And obviously, when we talk of defence and all that, the greatest defence is a united country. It is patent, and I am sure we have that united country."

In conclusion, Prime Minister Nehru observed:

"I would again repeat that a tremendous responsibility rests on this House at the present moment, because it is this House which shall give the lead to the country, and the responsibility is not limited to some step that we might take today but to see the perspective of the future and how we are to deal with it, because, as I said, a step today may have good consequences or bad consequences. Therefore, I hope that this House will consider this matter and discuss it, keeping this perspective in view and remembering the grave issues that are involved and remembering also what this country has stood for not only in the recent past but even in the distant past."

REPLY TO DEBATE

Replying to a two-day debate on the motion on India-China relations in the Lok Sabha on November 27, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, said *inter alia*:

"It was no small matter that we considered. It was not casually that we considered it. We considered it, keeping all the far-reaching aspects in view, keeping in view all the processes of development in India, and five year plans and everything. All this picture came before me and before my colleagues when we are dealing today not with a small or a casual matter but a matter of the utmost significance to the present and the future of India and Asia. That is the approach.

Five Principles

"Another thing that struck me very agreeably and pleasantly was the almost unanimous affirmation of what is called the policy of non-alignment. Barring perhaps one or two hon. Members, everyone in this House belonging to every party said that there was no other policy open to us but that of non-alignment.

"Even those who perhaps cast some doubt on it seemed to me to be labouring under some misapprehension. When they talked about *Panchsheel* or the five principles, they seemed to imagine that that involved our forgetting the recent developments or ignoring them and finding it impossible to co-operate with the Chinese Government in many ways and generally to carry on in the old way. But the two points are quite different; the policy of non-alignment and of having friendly relations is, I believe, basically a right policy under all circumstances, whatever happens. That is true.

"But the policy remaining like that, if two countries fall out, let us say, two countries, in the extreme extent, go to war, obviously that policy does not apply to them. It is absurd to say it does. If peace is broken, we deal with the situation in so far as we can. The policy remains good all the same, and it applies to the rest of the world, and later to that part of the world too, because war is a bad thing — anyhow it is not a permanent phenomenon. People think that what has been happening on our borders and elsewhere has made no great difference. That, of course, is not correct. It has made a tremendous difference not only to Government and to our present relations with China, but to what might happen in the future too — that is quite obvious — the widespread and deep-seated reaction in our country. There is no doubt about that. From almost, you might say, a little child in a primary school to a grown up man there has been this powerful reaction.

"I have ventured sometimes to ask people to be calm about it. That is true. But, I might tell you that I was proud of that reaction. I did not wish that reaction to go in the wrong direction, because, I was afraid that we might fritter the vitality and energy that we may have into unnecessary and even undesirable activities, thinking that we are doing something. The issue was so grave in my mind, so big. Here we are sitting on the edge of history and all kinds of things are going to happen in the future. If we are straight about it and if we really feel like that, we shall have to change the millions of people in this country. It is not a question of some additional armies. These are minor things. If this unfortunate thing occurs, we have to face this and we shall become a nation of armies, every man; let there be no mistake about it. But it is not by petty things that we shall do it. Every single activity, every single thing that we do, planning etc., would have to be conditioned by one major fact, because that will be a struggle for life and death; not as hon. Member says — forgive me mentioning it— "go and occupy that land; force them out". I am surprised at the casual way such things are thought over and mentioned.

"Therefore, may I point out that we have not casually considered this question, and it is because of these importance and vital effect in the future for all of us in this country, that we have given this matter so much attention? If two of the big countries of Asia, biggest countries, giant countries of Asia, are involved in conflict, it will shake Asia and shake the world. It is not a little border issue that we are troubled about. We are troubled about the border issue of course; that is a different matter. But the issues surrounding it, round about it, are so huge, vague, deep-seated and far-reaching, inter-twined ever, that one has to think about them with all the clarity and strength at one's command, and not be swept away by passion into action which may harm us instead of doing us good. All these are considerations, and we have, in our little wisdom, however limited it may be, tried to consider these aspects. And we shall continue them.

"They are too big for any Prime Minister or Government to deal with. We are small men facing great events and great decisions; and we can do very little without the support, the fullest support, of this Parliament and of the people. That support, I believe, is there and will come.

United Effort

"When I appealed to this House two days ago about united effort etc., I meant it in a very much deeper sense. I did not mind all the speeches made here or there, although sometimes those speeches influence public opinion. They indicate to the outside world that we are not united, that we are quarrelling and that we are weak, which is a bad effect to create on our people or on the outside world. They are misled by it, because the reality is that on a subject like this India is bound to be united and nobody can break that unity when the danger comes....

"So, we really have to consider this issue in all its ramifications, to which reference has been made in this debate, and many other ramifications. But, in the final analysis, you have to consider it in this much deeper sense of the biggest challenge that they could have, a challenge which may make history for good or bad. Let us not boast. The issues are too grave for boasting. Let us not talk about how we will go and kick them out. China is no small country, nor is India. They are both big countries, ancient countries, and in perhaps somewhat different ways, strong countries. It is absurd, I think, for the Government of China to imagine that they can sit on India, or crush India. It is equally absurd for anyone in India to think that we can sit on China or crush China.

"If the worst comes to the worst and a conflict arises between two mighty countries, it does not much matter if one country has got a few more guns, or a greater army; it may matter in a military sense, but basically when these two giant countries come into conflict in a life and death struggle, no one gives in. No one gives in when he is being crushed. Certainly India does not give in. Something may happen here and there on the borders. We take it. We deal with it as we think best always keeping in view this distant prospect of what might happen and how we should deal with it. It is therefore an issue of the biggest magnitude. We should not, I submit, however, big the issue, lead ourselves to cultivate or to encourage what is being sometimes referred to here as a war psychosis, because let us realise in all consciousness that such a conflict, such a war between India and China will be bad, terribly bad, a tragedy of the deepest kind — a tragedy for us, a tragedy for China too and a tragedy for Asia and the world. Therefore, let us not think lightly of it. Let us not take steps which automatically push us in that direction.

"That is one side of the picture. The other side is that when this challenge comes, when this danger comes we cannot be complacent. We have to be wide awake and prepared and do all we can to face it if it comes. These are the two sides of the picture and we have to steer a course avoiding extremes.

"I am not going to discuss many of the suggestions and proposals made about developing the border and all that. Of course, it is true. Some of the suggestions made rather surprised me."

Referring to the suggestion made by an hon. Member in the debate that NEFA, the Ladakh area, Himachal Pradesh, Spiti and Lahaul should be industrialised, Shri Nehru said:

"Before we do that we have to think of the little country of India also. We have to deal with and industrialise it. We might concentrate on industrialising India first before we go across the Himalayas for that purpose. It shows the enthusiasm of our hon. colleagues here in this Parliament, but it also shows that in their enthusiasm they sometimes overshoot the marks and that is no helpful.

Bara Hoti

"Then again, we have been charged: 'Why did you walk out of Bara Hoti? Why did you do this? You made a statement in September last

and in November you tell us that you walked out of there'. Well, I venture to explain the matter. First of all, we have always walked out of Bara Hoti during winter because, broadly speaking — I do not say it is impossible to live there — it is unlivable and uninhabitable in winter. Of course, it is a conceivable possibility that if necessity arose and when there is vast urgency one can do anything. One can go the North Pole or to the South Pole. That is a different matter. But we have retired and China has retired from there because the place is unlivable. So far as we are concerned, it is, roughly, approachable for five months in the year, that is, the approach routes to Bara Hoti, on China side too, are in other months difficult — the high passes which lead to Bara Hoti are blocked. A person may live there, certainly, with difficulty, but he just cannot travel to and fro in the rest of India for seven months in the year. As I said, one can always do everything if danger threatens and necessity arises. But the idea of living there or putting our people there, cut off from the rest of India for seven months more or less, unless there is urgent necessity, did not seem to me obvious at all or something that was demanded by the honour or interests or the defence of India.

"Then again, we had arrived at an arrangement with the Chinese Government some two or three years ago — three years ago, may be — particularly about this matter that they would not put any armed personnel there and we would not do so. Of course, you will say 'Why did you come to such an arrangement.' Well, I am sorry that I disagree. When there are any disputes — I am not talking about these big scale border troubles and almost a mountainous invasion and all that; that is a different matter — but when there are disputes as there are plenty of disputes between two countries, they have always to be discussed and arrangements are arrived at. All that is a common factor everywhere where such disputes arise. So, we agreed with them that neither they nor we will send armed personnel there. We have both kept by that in the last two or three years. In summer, we go. We did not agree about our withdrawal or not — there is no agreement — but it was by force of circumstances. They withdrew. We withdrew. So, we have been sending our civil personnel there — not that the civil personnel do any civil administration there, but they sit there and they will sit there, of course.

"So, I submit that by attaching too much importance to these matters and becoming touchy about them rather distorts the picture in our minds.

Common Defence With Pakistan

"Some Hon. Members talked about common defence with Pakistan. Now I do not wish to discuss that matter, but I would remind the House of the statement that appeared only two days ago — I think day before yesterday — that President Ayub Khan made when he was asked about this letter that I have sent to Premier Chou En-lai. He said that Pakistan will not recognise this because she had a claim to Ladakh, that is, because Pakistan had a claim to Ladakh, he said that I had no business to make proposals to Premier Chou En-lai and that he does not recognise my letter. I am not discussing this. But I am just pointing out the inherent difficulties of this question of common defence. But people do not realise fully, what difficulties it involves.

"Then, about war — limited war, leave out big war — we have had in recent years at least two important but limited war. One was in Korea and the other was in Indo-China and great and powerful nations were involved in it. After lasting years, those wars ended in some kind of a settlement, not a complete one, perhaps. The troubles have continued, tension has continued, call it what you like. But even there, there was a war in which great nations were involved and ultimately by force of circumstances they came to some settlements which were not very satisfactory to either of them, big nations as they were. I am pointing out that we have to look at this question not lightly, not vaingloriously, not boastfully, but still firmly and determinedly. It does not mean that we have to shout at the top of our voices in order to be heard. It is action and determination that counts and not a very loud and repeated assertion as to how we feel, although that has to be done when necessity arises.

No-Man's Land In Ladakh

"There is another thing. There has been a misapprehension evidently and people say that we are creating a no-man's land in Ladakh — it is true — and that we are thereby acknowledging China's claim to the frontier there. First of all, we are not acknowledging it in the slightest degree. It is patent. Secondly, in effect, we are asking them to do what, I believe, was the desire of every Member of this House, that is, to walk out of the territory of India, that we consider India's territory. It is true that we are doing it in a polite way, in a courteous way, in an honourable way for both the countries, because that is the only way to do it. Of course, otherwise, you aim not at getting them to do something, but at a deadlock and war. Either we come to the decision that all this is nonsense as some people do say — you must not negotiate, you must not talk with them until they do this or that. I believe that in this matter, as in some other matters, the Chinese Government has been in error, has behaved badly; it has not behaved fairly to us, has committed, what I might say, a breach of faith on us — not a breach of faith of any particular word or document, but, broadly speaking, breach of faith. I believe all that.

"But, do you treat a Government or do you expect to be treated in a way to be ordered about? Then, you are in the wrong. No country likes being ordered about. A great country to be ordered about is not either the way of diplomacy or dealing between two countries. Therefore, to say, as some hon. Members have said, I am sorry to criticise them, that they must do this or that, — in fact, if you analyse what they say, they must surrender and then we go graciously to talk to them — that is not obviously a feasible proposition. It may please us. We will be very happy if that happens. But that kind of thing does not happen even with small countries, much less with a great country — deliberately asking the other country to do something which it considers humilitating. There are very very few countries which tolerate that, even small countries, rights or wrongs apart. Therefore, either you aim at a complete deadlock with no way out except war or you aim at finding some help in removing that deadlock, lessening it and creating an atmosphere where one can possibly get over it and settle the question to our advantage. It is a difficult matter. I cannot say now whether this can be done or not. But one thing I know absolutely and definitely: to accept the deadlock for ever or to suggest something which confirms that deadlock and leaves no doors open except war, is a bad step, dangerous step, an utterly wrong step, from any point of view.

"That does not mean, of course, that we should weaken or we should — the word is often used — go in for appeasement. I do not quite understand what meaning people attach to it. It is a bad word with bad associations. That is true. But those members who used it seemed to think that the alternative to any policy of negotiation or any policy of trying to find some way out was appeasement. That means that they believe in no other course but war. Let us realise it, because, they may not have used the word 'war', but the steps they suggested, if taken, inevitably lead to that. We must realise the second, third step. Therefore, I do submit that not only in this case, but always, we should be prepared to negotiate, we should be prepared to meet as we have met even when feelings were rather tense, representatives and leaders of Pakistan. I am prepared to meet them again. I may meet them if chance comes. I am not going to allow my sense of any personal prestige to come in the way of meeting any person anywhere if I think that the cause of country is served thereby or the cause of peace is served thereby.

"It is true that, much as one might desire a meeting, that meeting itself, unless it is held under proper circumstances or a proper atmosphere, with some kind of background and preparation, may lead to nothing. It may fail; it may do harm. It is different matter. It is a matter of judgment. It is true that any such meeting which has the faintest resemblance to carrying out the behests of another party is absolutely wrong.

"I have said, in this particular matter, and the House will remember, Mr. Chou En-lai suggested an early meeting. I have said, "I should be glad to meet you". It seems to me that the meeting could only take place firstly, when these proposals that we have sent have been accepted, there is some basis for meeting, tension becomes less or some other preparation is made for it. I do not wish to delay anything. I am not trying to escape the very idea of meeting. I want it. I welcome it as early as possible. But, as I have stated, there must be some preparation, some ground for it. It is a complicated issue. Leaving out the broad question of how the Chinese have behaved in this matter, which, I think, is very bad, even if you come to the narrow issue of the borders here and there, it is a fairly complicated issue, full of history, tradition, this and that and maps.

Chinese Maps

"The Chinese Government has recently published a kind of an Atlas — atlas is not perhaps the right word — a collection of maps, plenty of them. I think about two or three are their own maps. The others are maps taken from other countries, all maps, British maps, American maps, French maps, wherever they could get hold of, which they thought, to some extent helped their case. Sometimes they help them a little, sometimes more. Encyclopaedia Britannica, some traveller's maps, all that kind of thing. They have done it. We have plenty of maps, very good maps. I have no doubt that our case is a very strong one, broadly speaking. What I mean is, two countries, where there is a dispute, cannot refuse to talk. That is not a legitimate way in the modern world or at any time to deal with. If you are strong, you can, of course, push aside your adversary, talk or no talk, get away. It is a bad habit even then.

"In the present case, things have happened which have come as a shock to us. I have no objection to talk about Bara Hoti or one or two other places. These are limited cases of a border. Where there is a dispute, let us discuss it. I had no objection to discussing Bara Hoti or one or two other matters which I might mention. We have inherited the dispute not since the Chinese came but from before that.

"But the question becomes an entirely different one as it is today; whether it is the so-called MacMahon Line or whether it is in Ladakh, it becomes different. Something has happened there which is not a minor border dispute, a minor transgression where there may be doubt about it or not.

"Whatever the Chinese Government might feel in their minds, as I said the other day, they have an one-track mind more so than other countries. We all have one-track minds to some extent when our national interests are concerned, but I think more than other nations, the Chinese Government has that one-track mind, and that has been encouraged or developed or conditioned even more by the semi-isolation in which this revolutionary China has grown up in the last ten years with no contacts with others except a limited circle of nations.

"I say this is on a different footing. Here we are for the last ten years talking to them, dealing with them, discussing the Tibetan Treaty with them, and so far as we are concerned, openly and repeatedly declaring what our frontier was—the maps are there—declaring in Parliament and elsewhere, so that there was no doubt as to where we were.

"I am for the moment assuming that the Chinese believe in their own case, and believed in their own frontier. Anyhow, they perfectly knew our stand while the way they put it to us was: yes, this matter, these maps require revision or reconsideration—something like that—which certainly did not close this argument, but broadly the impression created was that they had some minor rectifications to suggest, no more.

Breach Of Faith

"In spite of all this, they suddenly, or gradually if you like, creep up and take possession of these various areas and territories. I am not going into the whole history which the House knows. It does seem to me a definite breach of faith with a country which tried to be friendly to them. I think we have rightly tried to be friendly to them not only because of the past, but more so because of the present and the future, because I do not like, my mind rather does not like, the prospect of the future where these two giant

nations of Asia are constantly at each other's throats. It is a bad future for us, and for them, if I may say so, and for Asia certainly.

"Therefore, keeping all this in view, we followed a certain policy. There was no question of appeasement. Certainly it was a policy which objected to and disliked the other policy, what might be called anti-policies. We do not believe in anti-policies, broadly speaking, and we think anti-policies are necessarily based on hatred, which is the typical cold war approach to any problem. If you have an enemy you have to fight, go and fight that enemy, down him if you can, but this kind of cold war attitude is, I think, more pernicious than any straight out war. It perverts a nation and an individual who indulges in it. It is far better, as Gandhiji said, if you have a sword in your heart, to take it out and use it, not nurse it in your heart.

"So, there was no misunderstanding on our part about what China was as some people imagine. Perhaps we had given more thought to it than most Hon. Members here.

"Even before the revolution, we developed, we tried to develop, friendly relations with the previous China, the Chiang Kai-shek China, not that we approved of Marshal Chiang Kai-shek — it was for China to decide who should rule. But because we attached importance to China as a great country, our neighbour country, the biggest country in Asia, we tried to be friendly with them, and we were friendly with them; it was not a long period, of course, since we became independent, because two or three years later came the success of this revolution there.

"Well, when the revolution came, we discussed this matter, thought of it, with our Ambassador there and others concerned. It was perfectly clear that this revolution was not some kind of a palace revolution. It was what might be called a basic revolution involving millions and millions of human beings. It was a stable revolution with strength behind it and popularity behind it at that time, whatever might have happened later — there is no doubt about it. It produced a perfectly stable Government, strongly enough, entrenched and popular. That has nothing to do with our liking it or disliking it, that is a different matter. And naturally, we came to the decision that this Government should be recognised, and within two or three months we recognised it.

"I might repeat here a phrase which has struck in my mind. Soon after the Chinese revolution — I forget, may be a year after, may be a little more, but about that — a very eminent statesman belonging to the Western countries who did not like the Chinese revolution said in the course of a talk with some people: 'We made a great mistake when the Russian revolution took place, the Soviet revolution; that is, for years we behaved to them, tried to crush them, tried to, you might almost say, put an end to the revolution. We did not succeed in doing so, but we did succeed in embittering everybody and creating these terrible conflicts between us ("us" means those people, Western countries) and Russia' He said: 'Let us not repeat that mistake in regard to the Chinese revolution.' This was a person who did not like the Chinese revolution. He is an eminent statesman of the Western countries, but he was a wise man.

"Now, it is pretty obvious, it was then and it is now, that you cannot deal with these revolutions because you dislike them, cursing them up and down, bell, book and candle; they do not cease to be. These are elemental things that happen in a country. You have to deal with them. If you like, you can fight them, but you cannot ignore them. That is why we have always been convinced that it is utterly wrong and harmful and dangerous for the world for China not to go into the United Nations. It is not in keeping with the facts of the situation, with the facts of life, it comes in the way. And so, this is what we have been saying in the last ten years and now gradually, even those who have opposed this, have had to admit that it would have been better to recognise China: progressively they admit it. And indeed, China ought to have been there long ago but for certain complications that arise in regard to Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, it is true.

China And U.N.

"Take even the last meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations. When this question of China being seated there was brought up by some countries, including India, people were surprised. They said: 'Oh, India goes on doing this in spite of what has happened in Tibet, in spite of what has happened on India's borders. How blind they are.' Well, it is not for me to say who is blind and who is not, but normally, we have found in the last ten years that what we have said, and what action we have proposed has been accepted by the other countries year after year, after much damage had been done, of course, because of their not accepting that advice; they have come round. And you will find that even in the last voting in the United Nations over this Chinese question, more people voted for it; more people who had opposed it became neutral or abstained. Those who had abstained voted for it this time, that is, in spite of all these factors which had irritated the countries and irritated us against China, yet, the facts of the situation made people vote more for that in this last session, because there are statesmen there, there are people who think of the future and of the present; they cannot ignore these facts. They had to vote.

"Now, I am pointing out that you are dealing with enormous elemental phenoma in the world, with these big revolutions and others. You have to understand them and fight them, if you like, but understand them; you cannot fight without understanding.

Chinese Revolution

"Ever since the Chinese revolution, we naturally had to think of this major fact of this revolution and what this new China was likely to be. We realised that this revolution, apart from the changeover, was going to be a very big factor in Asia and in the world too, and in regard to us. We realised, we knew this much history, that a strong China is normally an expansionist China. Throughout history, that has been the case. And we saw, or we felt that the two factors taken together, the great push towards industrialisation of that country, plus the amazing pace of its population increase, would create a most dangerous situation; it was obvious; it did not require much cleverness to think of that; every intelligent person in the world more or less thought on those lines.

"The population problem itself, a vast population and the pace of growth, greater than almost any in the wide world, creates an explosive situation; it bursts at the seams, but a big population may be weak, of course, unless it is industrialised. And it is this industrialisation process that came in powerfully that gave a push. And I said, the combination of that too, was likely to create, we saw eight, nine or ten years ago, it was that it was likely to create, a very novel and a very dangerous situation, not so much for India, but for India also that taken also with the fact of China's somewhat inherent tendency to be expansive, when she is strong. So, nobody was blind to this fact. We realised it. We have discussed it here, in other countries repeatedly, because everybody knew it. And gradually, as the years have gone by, this fact has become more and more apparent and obvious. So, if any person thinks that we followed our policy in regard to China, without realising these obvious consequences, he is mistaken. If he thinks that we followed it because of fear of China, he is doubly mistaken. It is not for me to say how weak or strong or fearful we are, but I think it may be said that at no time during these last ten years have we functioned under the urge of fear; not previous to these ten or twelve years, but since we formed a government, we have been conditioned not to function under fear. And something of that lesson and experience has still conditioned us and helped us. There was no question of fear of China. Certainly, there was an appraisal of a situation, of the consequences — that is a different matter — and further action taken, which helps to prevent a dangerous development of these steps, of course; every country has to take that.

"So, I am putting this to the House as the background of our thinking, because people seem to imagine that either we live in a world of our own without thinking of what is happening elsewhere, without realising it, or that we are shrinking in fear. They are mistaken in both ways.

"Another point that I might mention is these great revolutions like the Soviet revolution or the Chinese revolution, and at the same time, in a sense even a greater revolution, that is, the scientfic and technological revolution that is taking place; all these have been round us in our generation. We have seen them, technological and scientific. It is only in the last few years that we are really making good. Previously, we had no chance. And we are doing pretty well in it, and I have no doubt that considering the material we have, we shall do well, given an opportunity.

"Now, all revolutions, whetner it is the French revolution or the Russian or any other, rather tend to function abnormally, obviously; a revolution itself is a departure from normal behaviour, normal development. They become abnormal; they become upheavals; they do not pretend to having drawing-room manners; in fact, they go against drawing-room manners and break things; they are destructive, although also these big revolutions have obviously something constructive in them, something which appeals to people, something which rouses their enthusiasm, obviously. And you see, therefore, these tremendous ferments and upsets and crude things and cruel things happening. Gradually, the revolution subsides, keeping many of the gains of the revolution, but becoming more and more normal, whether it is the French revolution or any other. Of course, it depends on other facts how soon it becomes normal. If conditions, external conditions, prevent it, like wars and tumults, it takes a long time; it is bound to, because people cannot live up to that pitch of excitement of a revolution. Now, we see that normalising process very much at work. So in the Soviet Union, I do not mean to say that that means they are going back on their economic theories, although without going back, they change them; as wise and pragmatic people, they change them somewhat from time to time, the basis remaining more or less the same.

"Now, China is very very far from normality, and that is our misfortune, and the world's misfortune — that is, strength, considerable strength, coming in an abnormal state of mind. This is a dangerous thing. There it is. One has to face it, combat it, if you like. I am merely analysing the situation.

"That is why you find a marked difference between the broad approach of the Soviet Union to world problems and the Chinese approach. I do not think there is any country in the world — of course, all countries are anxious for peace — I do not think there is any country which is more anxious for peace than the Soviet Union. And I think that is the general view of people, even of their opponents. But I doubt if there is any country in the world, if I may put the other thing, which cares less for peace than China today. See the vast difference between the two.

International Communism And International Capitalism

"One may talk still of International Communism and others may talk of International Capitalism. There may perhaps be a grain of truth in what they say. But basically and fundamentally, these cries of these ideas are completely out of date and have no relation to today's world. However, it is not for me to argue it. I am merely stating a fact. The world is changing and I can conceive the two great colossuses today, the Soviet Union and the United States, coming very near to each other, as they are slightly coming. Essentially, these ideas of Capitalism and Communism are, as I said, out of date. You may quote scripture. I think an Hon. Member quoted what Chairman Mao said and somebody else quoted Marx. Well, it is interesting to know what Chairman Mao said in the middle of a civil war — many things are said at such times. It may be that Chairman Mao will say the same today. I cannot say. But the fact remains that all these cries become out of date. They are out of date today in this world when you have reached the moon and other things happen. The fact of the matter is that the two countries at the present moment in a sense the most advanced technologically, scientifically and all that, are

America and the Soviet Union. They both worship technology and the machine. They both think that they will get more and more out of it, and perhaps they both forget that there are some other deeper aspects of human life which cannot be ultimately ignored. So this talk about International Capitalism and International Communism, repeating an old slogan, merely prevents us from thinking straight and understanding the changing world.

"An Hon. Member expressed surprise and resentment at the letter I had written to Premier Chou En-lai which was sent on the 16th November, just the day this House reassembled. Could I not have delayed that letter for two days and get the sanction of the House? I am surprised at this suggestion, as if diplomatic correspondence of any type, even of a trivial type and much more so of an important type, is going to be considered by Parliament before every letter is sent. It is impossible for us to carry on in that way. It cannot simply be done I am sorry to say so. You have to trust to some extent these people whom you appoint to do this job. If they do badly, take them out, of course. But you have to trust them. There is no other way. You cannot have these letters, communications and despatches all the time put before the House.

"That was the reason also why a number of these things were not placed before the House previously. I am accused of keeping things from the House. I did not deliberately do so. But I do not wish that before a thing was completed — the correspondence — I should put my letter and create perhaps a furore before I get a reply. One thing in which this argument or criticism may be applied was about the news regarding the Aksai Chin Road. Now, as I said, we wanted to confirm it. We sent our men there. It was only in October last year — about a year ago — that we had known that it was there and they had seen it. It was in our territory. Immediately, we wrote to Premier Chou En-lai. We could of course have immediately announced the fact. But the possible result in such cases is that there is no room for talk left. Each side be-

territory of a High Contracting Party even if the said occupation meets with no armed resistance. No physical or mental torture nor any other form of coercion is to be inflicted on prisoners of war to secure from them information of any kind whatever. It applies to this. Prisoners of war who refuse to answer may not be threatened, how one cannot all the time announce or publish these facts in Parliaments, the Press and the rest. But the broad principle, of course, is there that it is essential for Parliament to be kept in touch with events and there should be no secrecy; there might be delays etc. in order to achieve a certain object.

Aggression On Bhutan Or Nepal

"May I just say this to repeat what we have said previously that any aggression on Bhutan or Nepal would be considered by us as aggression of India. I know very well what all this involves — what I am saying. It is a very grave responsibility. But realising all this and thinking it out, we said so long ago and now I want to repeat it because not only of wider considerations but also because of considerations of India's security. If you ask, what will be done if this happens or that happens — obviously I cannot say."

Ill-Treatment Of Indian Prisoners By Chinese

Dealing with the ill-treatment of some of the Indian prisoners by the Chinese, Shri Nehru referred to the question put by an Hon. Member whether China had signed the Geneva Convention of August 12, 1949, relating to the treatment of prisoners of war, and said:

"The Convention applies to all cases of declared war or of any other armed conflict which may arise between two or more of the High Contracting Parties even if the State of war is not recognised by one of them. The Convention was also applicable to cases of partial or total occupation of the comes rigid — I do not say they are flexible now. That is not my point, but I am talking of the general practice. Each side becomes rigid; publicity is given, national feeling is roused and the other country reacts to it. Then any talk, any flexible approach, becomes impossible. I may have made a mistake, but I am merely explaining insulted or exposed to any other unpleasant or disadvantageous treatment of any kind. Apart from the present Chinese Government accepting it, Premier Chou En-lai actually made a statement to this effect — I am not quite sure where but I think — in Geneva, recognising the Geneva Conventions.

"I would again repeat that it is up to us to realise the gravity of the situation fully, because it is not only an army matter, defence matter, and all that, but it goes much further than that. It affects all of us; it affects our production; it affects all our planning; it affects the workers in the factory and the employers; it affects men in every field. All these and other demands that are made will have to be conditioned by this new position. Strikes, hartals, lock-outs and all that will have to be viewed from this point of view. Students, who, I am glad to say, have shown so much vitality over this issue will have to realise that that has to be shown in other ways also which would really help us. So, it applies to all our life.

"So far as we are concerned, I cannot function and my Government cannot function in a big way — it can function normally — when these difficulties face us if we do not have the fullest co-operation from Parliament and the people. I appeal, therefore, for that co-operation, and I promise them that we shall keep them in touch with what happens to the best of our ability. I cannot promise that every letter I send shall suddenly or certainly be placed before them, but it is impossible for us really to function with any kind of secrecy when such grave issues are at stake."

PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI'S LETTER DATED NOVEMBER 7 TO SHRI NEHRU

Peking, November 7, 1959

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

Your Excellency's letter dated September 26, 1959 has been received. It is most unfortunate that subsequently another unexpected border clash took place on October 21 within Chinese territory in the area south of the Kongka Pass. Regarding this clash, the Chinese and Indian Governments have already exchanged several notes, including the November 4 note of the Indian Government to the Chinese Government. Most regrettably, this note of the Indian Government not only disregards in many respects the basic facts of the question of boundary between the two countries and the truth of the border clash, but adopts an attitude which is extremely harmful to the friendly relations between the two countries. Obviously, it is in no way helpful to a settlement of the question to take such an attitude. Under the present circumstances, I consider the most important duty facing us is, first of all, to take effective steps speedily and without hesitation to earnestly improve the disquieting situation on the border between the two countries, and work for the complete elimination of the possibility of any border clash in the future.

As the Sino-Indian boundary has never been delimited, and it is very long and very far, or comparatively far, from the political centres of the two countries, I am afraid that, if no fully appropriate solution is worked out by the two governments, border clashes which both sides do not want to see again occur in the future. And once such a clash takes place, even though a minor one, it will be made use of by people who are hostile to the friendship of our two countries to attain their ulterior objectives. There is a history of long-standing friendship but no conflict of fundamental interests between our two countries, and our governments are initiators of the Five Principles of peaceful coexistence. We have no reason to allow the tension on the border between our two countries to continue.

Your Excellency's letter of September 26 contains many viewpoints to which the Chinese Government cannot agree. Regarding these, I would like to state my views on another occasion. I am glad, however, that this letter reiterates that the Indian Government attaches great importance to the maintenance of friendly relations with China and agrees to the view consistently held by the Chinese Government that the border disputes which have already arisen should be settled amicably and peacefully, and that pending a settlement the *status quo* should be maintained and neither side should seek to alter the *status quo* by any means. In order to maintain effectively the *status quo* of the border between the two countries, to ensure the tranquillity of the border regions and to create a favourable atmosphere for a friendly settlement of the boundary question, the Chinese Government proposes that the armed forces of China and India each withdraw 20 kilometers at once from the so-called McMahon line in the east, and from the line up to which each side exercises actual control in the west, and that the two sides undertake to refrain from again sending their armed personnel to be stationed in and patrol the zones from which they have evacuated their armed forces, but still maintain civil administrative personnel and unarmed police there for the performance of administrative duties and maintenance of order. This proposal is in effect an extension of the Indian Government's proposal contained in its note dated September 10 that neither side should send its armed personnel to Longju, to the entire border between China and India, and moreover a proposal to separate the troops of the two sides by as great a distance as 40 kilometers. If there is any need to increase this distance, the Chinese Government is also willing to give it consideration. In a word, both before and after the formal delimitation of the boundary between our two countries through negotiations, the Chinese Government is willing to do its utmost to create the most peaceful and most secure border zones between our two countries, so that our two countries will never again have apprehension or come to a clash on account of border issues. If this proposal of the Chinese Government is acceptable to the Indian Government, concrete measures for its implementation can be discussed and decided upon at once by the two governments through diplomatic channels.

The Chinese Government has never had the intention of straining the border situation and the relations between the two countries. I believe that Your Excellency also wishes to see the present tension eased. I earnestly hope that, for the sake of the great, long-standing friendship of the more than 1,000 million people of our two countries, the Chinese and Indian Governments will make joint efforts and reach a speedy agreement on the above-said proposal.

The Chinese Government proposes that in order to discuss further the boundary question and other questions in the relations between the two countries, the Prime Ministers of the two countries hold talks in the immediate future.

Respected Mr. Prime Minister! The peoples of our two countries desire that we act promptly. I think we should meet their desire and not let those, who seek every chance to disrupt by all means the great friendship between China and India, attain their sinister objective. I await an early reply from Your Excellency.

I take this opportunity to express to you my cordial regards.

CHOU EN-LAI,
Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

PRIME MINISTER NEHRU'S REPLY OF NOVEMBER 16

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER,

I have received your letter of November 7, for which I thank you. We have also received a report from our Ambassador, Shri Parthasarathy, on the talk which you had with him the same day.

2. In the note which was handed over to your Ambassador in Delhi on November 4, we have given full details, supported by factual data, of the international boundary in Ladakh. We also attached to the note a first-hand account of the incident at Chang Chenmo Valley on October 21 which resulted in the death or capture of a large number of Indian personnel. Earlier, in my letter of September 26 to you, we gave you full facts in support of our statement in regard to the Sino-Indian border along its entire length. I have not had any reply yet to my letter of September 26 or any detailed reply to our subsequent note of November 4. I notice with regret that you have not taken any account of the facts as given by us in these two communications and have dismissed them with the remark that our note "disregards in many respects the basic facts of the question of the boundary between our two countries and the truth of the border clash". I am wholly unable to agree with this observation. We should certainly explore all avenues to reduce the present tension between our two countries, but our efforts will not succeed if we ignore facts.

3. I should like to repeat what I have said in a previous communication, that this entire frontier was a peaceful one for a long time and there was no conflict or trouble there. It is only recently that conflicts and difficulties have arisen in regard to the frontier. These difficulties have not arisen because of any action that we have taken. The cause of the recent troubles is action taken from your side of the frontier.

4. We are anxious that there should be a clear understanding about this frontier and that such border disputes as there are between our two countries should be settled by peaceful methods. In the immediate present, we think it is important to avoid all border clashes so as to assure tranquility in the border regions and thereby create an atmosphere favourable for friendly settlement. We agree, therefore, that the two Governments should come to an arrangement without delay, which would eliminate risks of border clashes.

5. The Government of India have given close and careful consideration to your suggestions in this regard. But, before I proceed to discuss them, I must inform you of the resentment aroused in India by the delay which took place in the release of the Indian personnel whom your forces had captured in the Chang Chenmo Valley on October 20 and 21 after inflicting casualties on our police patrol party. You will recall that on October 24 we received your offer to hand over to us the captured personnel and the dead bodies of those who were killed during the clash. On October 26 our Ambassador in Peking informed your Government of our concern about the prisoners and our anxiety to receive them back as well as the dead bodies. We wished to know the time and place at which the transfer was to take place. In order to avoid delay, we sent a forward party immediately to receive the prisoners and the dead bodies. This party waited at a place about five miles from the scene of the incident and, in spite of repeated reminders to your Government, no indication was given by your Government about the date and time of release until November 12. We are now relieved to know that the prisoners and the dead bodies were handed over to our forward party on November 14. In your talk with our Ambassador in Peking, you told him that the first hand account of the incident which was attached to our note of November 4 was contradicted by the statements which the captured Indian personnel had made to you. We have since seen the official memorandum on the subject which your Vice-Minister handed to our Ambassador on November 14. We have not yet had any report from the released prisoners as to the course of events on October 20 and 21 and the circumstances in which they made their statements to their captors. It is clear from your letter that they have been subjected to repeated interrogation. Such interrogation of prisoners is deplorable.

6. In your letter, you have suggested that the armed forces of China and India should withdraw twenty kilometers from the lines which they occupy at present. This, in your view, would effectively prevent any border clashes. Before I discuss this suggestion further, I should like to state categorically that the Government of India had not posted any army personnel anywhere at or near the international border. Our border check-posts were manned by civil constabulary, equipped with light arms. The main purpose of these check-posts was to deal with traders or others going along the recognised routes and to prevent and undesirable or unauthorised persons crossing the border. This itself indicates that these border check-posts were not intended for any aggressive purpose or for any armed conflict. It was only after the recent unfortunate incidents that we asked our Army to take over responsibility for the protection of our border.

7. A proper understanding of the facts in regard to the Sino-Indian boundary is essential to the consideration of any proposal that is made for the avoidance of border clashes. The facts are that on our North-East frontier, the entire territory up to the border (which is referred to as the McMahon Line) has been for long years part of India. Our civil administration has been functioning there, and there are important civil divisional headquarters not far from the border. At no point, except at Longju, are Chinese forces in occupation of any area south of the Indian border. The boundary in this area passes over a terrain, the height of which varies from 14,000 to 20,000 feet above sea-level. In this extremely difficult terrain, almost all our border check-posts are situated on high hill features. We do not know where the Chinese posts are, but I understand that at no point along the two sides situated within sight of each other. In view of the difficult mountainous terrain, even where the distance between two posts is short in the map or as the crow flies, the actual journey from one place to another might take several days.

8. In view of these facts, we think that there should not be the slightest risk of any border clash if each Government instructs its outposts not to send out patrols. It is only when armed patrols go out in these difficult mountainous areas that there is likelihood of clashes taking place. We have, in fact, instructed our border outposts not to send out any forward patrols for the present. It would be extremely difficult in practice to establish a new line of outposts in the rear, whether they are to be ten or twenty kilometers from the international boundary. The risk of border clashes will be completely eliminated if our suggestion is accepted by your Government.

9. Longju stands on a different footing altogether. As we have repeatedly stated earlier, we disagree with your statement that it is on your side of the so-called McMahon Line. We have no doubt that it is on our side. But whether it is on your side or ours, the facts are that your armed forces attacked and ousted our personnel from Longju, inflicting casualties on them, and forcibly occupied our outpost. We cannot, therefore, agree to any arrangement, even as an interim measure, which would keep your forcible possession intact. The proper course, which we have already suggested to you, would be for you to withdraw from Longju. We on our part will not re-occupy it. This suggestion, if accepted, will immediately result in a lowering of tension.

10. At no point on this border or elsewhere, have we taken over any post from you. In your talk with our Ambassador, you have stated that Khinzemane is north of the international boundary. I do not agree with this statement. As we have informed your Government previously, Khinzemane lies clearly south of this boundary and within our territory. It has throughout been in our possession.

11. I presume that your suggestion for a zone of withdrawal is intended also to apply to the Sino-Indian border in the middle areas, that is, where it touches our States of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and the Punjab. In these sectors also, there is no ambiguity about our border and at no point do the Chinese authorities occupy any area below the boundary. This would apply to the border of Sikkim also. If, therefore, we observe the precaution which I have mentioned above, all risk of border clashes will be eliminated in this sector of the frontier also.

12. I shall now deal with the international frontier in the Ladakh area of our State of Jammu and Kashmir. In my letter to you of September 26 and in our note of November 4, we have described in detail the international boundary in this sector, supported by factual data. Unfortunately, we do not yet know with any precision where the frontier line lies according to the claims of the Chinese Government. This is a matter for surmise based on small scale maps published in China. These maps themselves have not always been consistent, and different lines are sometimes indicated in them.

13. I regret I cannot accept the contention that you have been in occupation of the area up to the frontier line shown in your maps. On the contrary, the Government of India have exercised jurisdiction up to the frontier line specified by them. The nature of this possession has inevitably been different from that of an inhabited area. This area is uninhabited, mountainous territory of an altitude varying from 14,000 to 20,000 feet above sea-level, with the mountain peaks going up much higher. Because of this, and because we did not expect any kind of aggression across our frontier, we did not think it necessary to establish check-posts right on the international boundary. But, as stated in my letter of September 26 and the note of November 4, we exercised jurisdiction over this area by sending regular patrols up to the international boundary. Certain police check-posts were established some distance from the boundary to control the trade routes, etc. Since this statement is controverted by you, it is obvious that there is complete disagreement between the two Governments even about the facts of possession. An agreement about the observance of the *status quo* would, therefore, be meaningless as the facts concerning the *status quo* are themselves disputed. As we are at present discussing a short term interim measure to avoid border clashes, it is essential that we do not get involved in interminable discussions on the *status quo* at this stage.

14. I suggest, therefore, that in the Ladakh area, both our Governments should agree on the following as an interim measure. The Government of India should withdraw all personnel to the west of the line which the Chinese Government have shown as the international boundary in their 1956 maps which, so far as we are aware, are their latest maps. Similarly, the Chinese Government should withdraw their personnel to the east of the international boundary which has been described by the Government of India in their earlier notes and correspondence and shown in their official maps. Since the two lines are separated by long distances, there should not be the slightest risk of border clashes between the forces on either side. The area is almost entirely uninhabited. It is thus not necessary to maintain administrative personnel in this area bounded by the two lines on the east and the west.

15. Mr. Prime Minister, I share Your Excellency's sentiments of friendship between our two countries. I have earnestly striven for this during the past ten years, but you will no doubt appreciate that mere expressions of friendship will not repair the breach that has already occurred. We have to face the realities of a situation, and the present situation is such that unless active efforts are made by the Governments of China and India, relations between our two countries are likely to grow worse. I am anxious that this should not happen as any such development will do incalculable harm not only to our two countries but also to the cause of world peace in general.

16. Your Excellency has been good enough to suggest that in order to discuss the boundary question and other outstanding issues between the two countries, the Prime Ministers of the two countries should hold talks in the immediate future. I welcome your suggestion and, as

I have previously stated, I am always ready to meet you and discuss with Your Excellency the outstanding differences between our countries and explore avenues of friendly settlement. It is our common desire that such a meeting should bear fruit. The nature of the discussion at our meeting should, therefore, be such that we do not lose ourselves in a forest of data. Our correspondence has shown that the issues involve a mass of historical data, maps, etc. It is necessary, therefore, that some preliminary steps are taken and the foundation for our discussions laid. Unless this is done, there is danger of the meeting not leading to a successful result, which we so much desire, and disappointing the hopes of millions of people in our two countries.

17. While, therefore, I am ready to meet you at a suitable time and place, I feel that we should concentrate our immediate efforts on reaching interim understanding, which will help in easing the present tension and will prevent the situation getting worse. Thereafter, the necessary preliminary steps might be taken and the time and place of meeting, convenient and suitable to Your Excellency and to me, could be fixed. I need not assure Your Excellency of my earnest desire, as it is the desire of my people, to restore friendship between India and China on a firm basis.

With my expression of high regard,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

Second White Paper On India-China Relations

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on November 16, a second White Paper containing various notes, memoranda and letters exchanged between the Governments of India and China during the period September to November this year. The White Paper also contains notes on the historical background of the Himalayan frontier of India, the propaganda activities of the Chinese Mission in India and treatment of Indian representatives and nationals in Tibet. It makes the point that few frontiers in the world can claim as strong a sanction of long and unbroken tradition as the Himalayan frontier of India and in support of it quotes from some ancient Sanskrit scriptures like the *Vishnu Purana*, the *Rig Veda* and the *Upanishad* written about 1000 B.C. Government have asked that the territory occupied by the Chinese troops at Longju should be vacated immediately so that the Indian frontier outpost there can be re-established. Emphasising the importance of peaceful coexistence the Government of India say in one of the notes that if this principle had been adhered to, the Chinese authorities would not have sought to send armed personnel into Indian territory.

About Indian representatives and nationals in Tibet, India's latest note dated October 26 this year, mentions the harsh and unsympathetic treatment to which they have been subjected in recent months. The note says that such treatment is not in accordance with the spirit of the 1954 agreement and points out that unless remedial measures are taken by the authorities in the Tibetan region of China, there is bound to be a complete disruption of border trade causing hardship to people on both sides of the border. In another note to the Chinese Government, the Government of India have protested strongly against the pressure and intimidation to which persons of Indian origin, entitled to Indian citizenship, are being subjected to compel them to accept Chinese nationality against their will. This was particularly so in the case of Kashmiri Muslims in Tibet. It asks the Chinese Government to desist from such attempts.

Chinese Intimidation To Extort 'Statements'

An announcement of November 17 says that first reports received from Karam Singh and other captured Indian personnel, who were released by the Chinese on November 14, showed that the prisoners were subjected to continuous interrogation from the time of their arrest until their release. They were kept under severe living conditions and put under pressure and threats to make statements desired by their captors.

Awards To Policemen Killed In Ladakh

In reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 30, Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, said that special award of Rs. 2,000 was to be given to each of the families of the constables who sacrificed their lives in Ladakh area on October 21, 1959 while on duty. This was in addition to pension and gratuity admissible under the service rules.

Chinese In India

Placing a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 18 in reply to a question on the number of Chinese Nationals registered in India, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, stated that as on October 31, 1959, 11,942 Chinese Nationals were registered. Statewise they were registered in: Assam — 471; West Bengal — 8,127; Bihar — 100; Andamans — 10; Bombay — 2,404; Manipur — 9; Madhya Pradesh — 33; Delhi — 382; Madras — 90; Orissa — 6; Punjab — 26; Uttar Pradesh — 137; Andhra Pradesh — 110; Mysore — 28; Rajasthan — 2; Kerala — 6, and Jammu and Kashmir — 1.

ENTRY OF BOOKS QUESTIONING INDIA'S FRONTIER BANNED

A notification issued by the Government of India on November 27 says that the Government have prohibited the entry of any book, periodical, pamphlet, leaflet or other document containing any words, signs or visible representations which directly or indirectly question the frontiers of India.

ASSISTANCE TO BHUTAN

The Government of India have been giving *ad-hoc* grants to Bhutan Government from time to time for their development schemes in addition to normal subsidy of Rs. 5 lakhs under the Treaty of 1949. The Government of India, after recent talks with the Prime Minister of Bhutan, have agreed to place at the disposal of Bhutan Government a sum of Rs. 7 lakhs from 1960 onwards in stead of *ad-hoc* grants to assist in their development schemes, the Government of India have also decided to make available funds upto a ceiling of Rs. 15 crores for the execution of the road projects which the Government of Bhutan have in mind. These funds would be made available to Bhutan Government as and when required.

INDO-EAST PAKISTAN BORDER CONFERENCE

Shrimati Lakshmi N. Menon, Deputy Minister of External Affairs, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on November, 16 on Indo-East Pakistan border conference. Referring to the meeting of the Prime Minister of India with the President of Pakistan at Palam airport on September 1, 1959, she said:

"During their talks it was agreed that a high level conference at Minister level should be held to discuss the disputes and incidents on the Indo-East Pakistan border with a view to eliminating, as far as possible, the causes of these disputes and devising procedures for expeditious demarcation of boundaries and for dealing promptly with any disputes and incidents that may occur.

"This Minister-level conference was held from 15th to 22nd October, 1959; discussions were held at Dacca from 19th to 20th October and at Delhi on other days.

I am taking this opportunity to place on the Table of the House the following documents, which embody the agreements reached at this Conference:

(i) Copy of the Joint Communique issued by the Governments of India and Pakistan on 24th October, 1959; (ii) Copy of the agreed decisions and procedures to end disputes and incidents along the Indo-East Pakistan border signed by the Secretaries of the two Governments; (iii) Copy of the Ground Rules formulated by the Military Sub-Committee of the Indian and Pakistan Delegations and other detailed arrangements arrived at to maintain peaceful conditions along the Indo-East Pakistan border areas; and (iv) Copy of letters exchanged between the Secretaries of the two Governments on the further follow up of transit and visa facilities and promotion of trade between West Bengal and East Pakistan.

The principal features of these agreements are:

(i) Pakistani authorities withdraw from the portion of Tukergram taken over by them last year.

(ii) Government of Pakistan drop their claim to the villages in the Kushiyara river region.

(iii) Government of India agree to adopt a rational boundary in the Patharia Forest Reserve region so that the current difficulties of the residents of East Pakistan regarding supply of bamboo, and small timber are remedied and there is no dislocation in the life of the border population. This rationalization of the boundary will give to East Pakistan about twelve square miles of the Patharia Forest Reserve proper and about five square miles to its north.

(iv) Detailed agreed procedures for expediting demarcation work, for orderly exchange of territorial jurisdiction following completion of demarcation and for maintenance of peace in the border areas so that there is no dislocation in the life of the population of these border areas.

(v) Re-affirmation by both Governments of their determination to implement the Nehru-Noon Agreement in full and to devise legal and other procedures necessary for expeditious implementation. Necessary preparatory studies for implementation of the various items of the Nehru-Noon Agreement will be undertaken by both Governments, though field operations, in connection with the implementation of that Agreement, will have to await the advice of the Supreme Court on the reference made to them and the enactment of necessary legislation in accordance with the advice of the Supreme Court.

The distinguishing feature of this conference has been the spirit of mutual accommodation in which agreements have been reached by negotiation. This, to my mind, is the best guarantee of effective implementation of these agreements by both sides.

The implementation of the agreements has already begun. The Pakistan authorities are withdrawing this morning from the part of Tukergram occupied by them.

PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON INDO-PAK BORDER DEMARCATION

Speaking on an adjournment motion on India-Pakistan border demarcation, the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on November 27. He said *inter alia*:

"I enquired into this matter. This area is near the Patharia forest. It is 1.8 square miles, and not five square miles as was suggested yesterday.

"This area, according to the Radcliffe Award, falls definitely in Pakistan. This is a fact admitted by both parties, and no one has challenged that. It, however, remained in Indian possession, because we said Pakistan was holding on to other areas, which it should not; and if other matters were settled, and Pakistan gave them up, then we shall do so. So, there was no dispute about the maps or anything about this

other matters have been settled, there was no point left for India holding on to it. In fact, this point was so clear that it was not even discussed at the last conference. It was an admitted fact.

"Now, in accordance with that, it is proposed to demarcate this, and then to hand it over. There has been no demarcation yet. There is no question of handing anything over today. Our military people who are in charge had a meeting, and it is proposed to start demarcation on the 15th December. I do not know how long it will take; whether it will be two weeks or three weeks, I do not know. Till then, the territorial jurisdiction of India will remain. All that has been done in this area thus far is for the removal of one checkpost that we had there. That has been withdrawn.

"Even after demarcation, according to the ground rules agreed upon at the last conference, necessary time should be allowed to farmers to harvest their crops, before transfer of territorial jurisdiction. Also, there are clauses in those ground rules about the special responsibility of the party concerned for the protection of person and property of the population, so that their interests might not be prejudiced.

"Now, if any kind of territory has to be exchanged and handed over as a result of an award, decision or whatever it is, obviously, the people living there are affected by it. Now, three things happen. In this case, you will be pleased to notice that in effect, the decision was taken not today but by Mr Justice Radcliffe many years ago, eight or nine years ago, but because of various complications and conflicts it was not given effect to as in other cases. Now, the people are affected. The people can have a choice of three things. One, of course, is that they choose to become the nationals of the country to which that little area goes. The second is that they remain Indian nationals as foreign nationals. The third is that they change their habitat.

"These are the facts that I have been able to obtain."

In reply to a supplementary that whether the families numbering about 370 in that area would be rehabilitated in India with particular grants if they wanted to come back to India, Shri Nehru said, "Till the exact demarcation is complete, we cannot say how many villages or people are involved. Normally, of course, one does not expect large numbers of people to come across. They have their lands etc. They should remain there, even, if they like, as Indian nationals; they can remain there. If any come across, what the hon. Member has suggested will naturally be considered....

Continuing he added, "If they come away, they can sell the land; they can make some provision, or whatever it is; conditions are quite different....

"If I may add another word, I cannot rule out the possibility of their or anybody else's not having fair chances of living there. But after the agreement that has been entered into, the kind of pressures that were brought to bear upon the minority communities will not presumably be there. Apart from this fact, I am told that about 60 per cent of the population of these villages is Muslim. All these factors come in and there is no particular reason why those people, at any rate, should want to come over. I cannot say more on this. If, in spite of this, some people come over, their cases will be considered favourably."

Indo-Pakistan Canal Waters Dispute

Placing a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 16 on Indo-Pakistan Canal waters dispute, Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, recalled the statement made by him in the Lok Sabha on August 3, 1959, in which he had informed the [illegible] emerged after Mr. Black's discussions in Delhi and Karachi in May 1959. He had also stated that on the basis of the understandings reached by the President of the Bank with the Governments of India and Pakistan, discussions would be resumed in London from August 5, 1959 to work out Heads of Agreement for an International Water Treaty and to discuss all outstanding issues.

During the discussions held in London in August-September 1959, considerable progress was made in the working out of certain Heads of Agreement. Agreement was also reached in regard to some aspects of Indian uses on the Western Rivers. Preliminary discussions were also held in regard to the basis of arrangements for the regulation of supplies from the Eastern Rivers during the transition period.

Heads Of Agreement And Annexures

He added that discussions had since been resumed in Washington from October 19, 1959. The Heads of Agreement formulated in London and certain other Heads of Agreement worked out in the course of the discussions in Washington were now being elaborated into the text of an International Water Treaty.

A number of Annexures to the Treaty, however, still remained to be worked out. These Annexures would cover irrigation and hydro-electric uses on the Western Rivers by India, arrangements for the regulation of supplies of the waters of the Eastern Rivers during the proposed transition of 10 years, and various procedural matters pertaining to arrangements for future co-operation and for resolution of disputes if any, that might arise later in connection with the implementation of the Water Treaty.

Indo-Pakistan Financial Talks

In reply to a call attention motion in the Lok Sabha on November 19 regarding the further progress in the discussions on the outstanding financial issues between India and Pakistan, which were begun when the Finance Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai, met the Finance Minister of Pakistan last August, Shri Desai said:

"The House may remember that, after the last meeting, I made a statement on the floor of the House in which I mentioned, among other things, that both countries should proceed vigorously with the checking and finalisation of the various figures relevant to the drawing up of the debt settlement between the two countries. In accordance with the arrangement then made, officials of the two Governments met in Karachi between the 15th and the 18th of last month to examine the various figures of assets and liabilities. They covered fairly wide ground, and agreement was reached on the facts of a number of individual items. Certain points required further clarification or the collection of additional material. This has been taken in hand by both sides.

"It is expected that the next round of official discussions will be held early next month and it is hoped that it will be possible to complete, at this meeting, most of the examination of the figures required. The results of this examination will then be considered by the Ministers on both sides and a decision taken. The official discussions are largely of the nature of fact-finding and it will, obviously, not be for the officials to take any decisions.

"I am hoping that these discussions will be successfully completed and that it will be possible for the two Governments to reach a settlement on all the issues together at an early date."

Appointments For Scheduled Castes & Tribes

According to a New Delhi announcement of November 24, Liaison Officers have been appointed in the Central Ministries to ensure observance of instructions on the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Services. The Liaison Officers will scrutinise the periodical returns and take prompt action on cases brought to their notice regarding breach of the rules and instructions. A separate cell in the Ministry of Home Affairs has been entrusted with the work of keeping vigilance.

The quota reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the services is as follows:

Direct recruitment on all-India basis:

12½% of vacancies filled by open competition and 16 2|3% of the vacancies filled otherwise than through open competition have been reserved for Scheduled Castes and 5% of the vacancies in all cases for the Scheduled Tribes filled through open competition or otherwise.

Recruitment on regional basis:

Percentages of reservation have been fixed taking into account the population of these classes in the region subject to a minimum reservation of 5% for Scheduled Tribes.

Promotions for non-selection posts:

If promotion is made subject to the passing of a qualifying departmental examination; the standard of qualification for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes need not be so high as prescribed for other candidates. If promotion is made otherwise than by a qualifying examination, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates should be adjudged sympathetically without applying too rigid a standard and the candidates belonging to these Castes and Tribes should not be superseded without their cases being reviewed at high levels.

Promotions for selection posts:

If promotions are to be made on the basis of a competitive examination, the communal orders will apply and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates, who are above the minimum standard necessary for efficiency, may be selected for appointment against their reserved quota. If the promotion is made otherwise than through a competitive examination, no relaxed standards of merit are to be applied for Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe candidates.

Tenure Of Ministry Of Rehabilitation

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, regarding the remaining tenure of the Ministry of Rehabilitation and the nature of work outstanding with it, the Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation, Shri P.S. Naskar, laid the following statement on the Table of the House:

"No definite period can be fixed for the life of the Ministry, but the activities of the Ministry in regard to the rehabilitation of displaced persons from West Pakistan are being gradually wound up. Certain items of work like Homes and Infirmaries, Education, Vocational and Technical Training and Industries, pertaining to these displaced persons have already been transferred to other permanent Ministries. Some more items, like Housing, negotiations with Pakistan under the Movable Property Agreement, payment of claims of leave salary, pensions, and provident fund of displaced Government servants, are also proposed to be transferred to other Ministries. After this transfer, the Rehabilitation Ministry will still be left with the management of acquired evacuee properties; their transfer to displaced persons and recovery of their rent and instalments, and payment of compensation to displaced persons, whose claims have not yet been settled. This work, which is of a residuary nature, is likely to take another year. This, however, refers only to the Western Wing of the Ministry. The Eastern Wing might take a little longer to be wound up."

Economy In Home Ministry

An announcement dated November 19 says that the Union Home Ministry has reorganised its work to effect economy of about 10 per cent in its staff. The surplus employees will not be retrenched but retained for new assignments, leave reserves, etc.

The Home Ministry has also reduced the posts of Joint Secretary to the Zonal Councils from five to three. One Joint Secretary is to handle the work of

Southern and Western Zonal Councils, another of Eastern and Central and the third of Northern Zonal Council in addition to working for some time in the Home Ministry.

An analysis of the statistical extract of primary receipts indicates that the percentage of carry-over was reduced from 32.9 in January 1958 to 26.1 in January 1959 and further to 20.5 by the end of August 1959.

No Dual Control

Work in the Ministry has already been redistributed to avoid duplication. The general pattern adopted is that sections are under the charge of either an Under Secretary or a Deputy Secretary and not both. Where sections are in the direct charge of a Deputy Secretary for normal day to day work, an Under Secretary has been earmarked for doing periodical inspections as well as looking into other routine administrative matters where necessary. Where no such Under Secretary has been earmarked, all the periodical inspections will be done by the Deputy Secretary concerned.

The reorganisation follows a close scrutiny of the work done by each branch of the Union Home Ministry. A team of officers checked the number of receipts, their disposal etc. to determine the amount of workload carried by each section.

Earlier, the senior officers of the Ministry, following Shri G.B. Pant's suggestion that there be a firm control on staff expansion, had decided to impose a self-denying ordinance, whereby existing vacancies would not be filled up at least for some time to come.

Recommendations Of Pay Commission

The Union Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 30 the recommendations of the Pay Commission and the Government's decisions on some of those recommendations.

(A summary of the report of the Commission together with the Government's decisions will be published in the next issue of the Indian Information.)

Late Duty Allowance To Govt. Employees

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18, Shri Morarji Desai said that the duty allowance was permissible to Government servants who put in extra hours of duty after completing the normal hours of duty. He added that this allowance was restricted to the non-gazetted and Class IV staff working in the Secretariat and attached offices of the Government of India and in the offices of U.P.S.C., Supreme Court of India and the Election Commission only. The Government had allowed this concession in the case of those who were called upon to put in extra hours of work in the morning also.

He further stated that the following rates were allowed for late duty: For exceeding 9 hours of continuous duty: Re. 1 for non-gazetted staff and Re. 0.75 for class IV staff; for exceeding 11 hours of continuous duty: Rs. 2 for non-gazetted staff and Re. 1 for class IV staff; and for exceeding 13 hours of continuous duty; Rs. 3 for non-gazetted staff and Rs. 1.25 for class IV staff.

Combined Training For Officers

The four-month course at the National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, meant to give basic foundational training to probationers of the All-India and Central Services, Class I, has concluded, says an announcement dated November 16. The purpose of the common training is to help the officers in their career and promote mutual understanding even when they are not working in the same sector of the Government. The very fact that the officers would get to know one another while studying at the Academy would be a substantial gain.

This year the probationers — 115 of them — belonged to Indian Foreign Service, Indian Administrative Service, Audit and Accounts Defence Accounts, Income-Tax, Customs, Excise and Indian Postal Services. The recruits to the Police Service and Railway Service would also join the Academy from the next session. The trainees have dispersed to their respective training institutes for a specialised course meant for a particular service.

The subjects for training included: evolution of the modern Indian State as a democratic, secular and welfare State; Constitution of India and its evolution and basic principles; parliamentary democracy; public administration; Indian economy; State and the social services including Sarvodaya and Gandhian philosophy; socialism; industrial relations; science and technology; and general subjects like linguistics along with the common features of the various languages prevalent in India.

The training, first initiated at the Metcalfe House, Delhi, and later continued at the Academy's new premises in Mussoorie, will, from next year, be given to all the probationers allotted to the All-India and Central Services, Class I.

Awards For Police Officers

The Gazette of India dated November 21 has announced that the President has awarded Police Medal for gallantry to the late Shri Laxmi Narain, Constable of First Battalion, Special Armed Force, Madhya Pradesh, and to Shri Bahadur Singh, Constable of Third Armed Police Battalion, Barrackpur, West Bengal for displaying 'courage and devotion to duty of a high order'.

The citation for the late Shri Laxmi Narain states that on July 12, 1959, an encounter took place between a party of the Madhya Pradesh Special Armed Force and a gang of notorious dacoit Lakhan Singh in the ravines of the Chambal, when he bravely crawled forward for about 10 yards under heavy fire from the dacoits from three sides and shot one of them dead. He was mortally wounded in the encounter.

The citation for Constable Bahadur Singh says that on March 10, 1959, the police post at Char Rajnagar in Murshidabad district was fired upon suddenly by Bren-gunners from across the border, when Bahadur Singh, who along with others was on patrol, immediately took up position in a trench and returned the fire. The opposing forces intensified attack on the trench from three sides. Without food and water for more than three days, Bahadur Singh and his party engaged the raiders till ammunition ran out. Though wounded he led the party to a position of safety despite continuous hostile fire.

Better Houses For Police Personnel

An announcement dated November 28 says that during the last three years the Central Government advanced Rs. 6.29 crores to the various States for enabling them to provide better housing accommodation to their police personnel. A sum of Rs. 3 crores has been provided in the current year's budget.

Formerly loans were granted on the basis that the State Governments would meet 50 per cent of the cost of the schemes from their own budgets. Later, the Centre decided not to insist on the States providing a sum equal to the loan sought.

Vigilance Engineers To Help S. P. E.

Vigilance Engineers have been appointed to help the Special Police Establishment in its work requiring technical advice, says an announcement dated November 17.

The Railways have appointed Vigilance Engineers for helping their Vigilance Units and the S.P.E. The S.P.E. also takes the help of a Chief Technical Officer attached to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.

Similarly, expert advice is sought to detect corruption in the departments of Income-Tax, Central Excise and Customs and Foreign Exchange. For example, an anti-fraud squad has been set up to deal exclusively with malpractices relating to Company Laws.

Prosecution in certain cases, it was felt, had become difficult because of no technical knowledge regarding material, specifications, etc., of a particular project. For example, certain works are inflated or accepted below specifications so as to give money to contractors. Similarly, sometimes they are paid for labour or material at higher rates than those prevailing in the market. The engineers would help spot out the various ways adopted to overpay the contractors.

The S.P.E. is engaged in combating offences of bribery, corruption, misconduct, misappropriation, cheating, forgery, etc.

Use Of Handcuffs Restricted

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, said that instructions had been issued to the Union Territories that the use of handcuffs be restricted to cases where the arrested person is of a desperate character or where there is reason to believe that he will use violence or try to escape, etc. A similar request had also been made to the State Governments, which had issued orders to this effect.

Up-To-Date India Code

According to an announcement dated November 17, the Central Acts have been compiled by the Union Law Ministry into an authoritative edition, entitled as the India Code, for ready reference. The Acts have been classified under 81 subject-headings and spread over eight volumes. An index has also been published so as to enable the reader to trace without difficulty any Act included in the Code.

The replacement series to these volumes, which are now under print, will correct the enactments up to the third quarter of 1959.

Other publications of the Ministry are: Annual Acts, containing the legislation passed by Parliament every year; special edition of certain Central Acts which are in constant demand, and an annual summary of all laws passed by Parliament and State Legislatures.

Planning & Finance

POWERS OF COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR-GENERAL

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 26, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, explained the powers of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India over the establishments under him. He said that, in matters falling outside the delegated powers, sanction of the Government of India was necessary.

In the matter of creation and abolition of permanent posts, the Comptroller and Auditor General had full powers in respect of Class II, III and IV subject to the following conditions: (i) that the post was created on a rate or scale of pay which had been approved by the President for a post of the same character in the Department; (ii) that in creating a post, all instructions issued by competent authorities regulating staff composition and work standards should be strictly observed; and (iii) that the post was not sanctioned unless a

permanent recurring saving was available to meet its cost or additional funds had been specifically included in the budget for the purpose.

As regards temporary posts, the C. and A.G. had powers (i) in respect of posts in Class I, for any specified period not exceeding two years; (ii) in respect of posts in Class II, III and IV, for any specified period subject to the conditions specified above in respect of permanent posts. Selection Grade posts in the cadre of Upper Division Clerks could be created by the C. and A.G. only upto 10% of the sanctioned strength of the cadre.

Other Powers

For grant of special pay in respect of officers in Class II and III deputed to other offices outside the State the C. and A.G. could sanction special pay subject to the limitation that it should not exceed 33 1/3% of the pay or Rs. 150/- per month, whichever was less. In the matter of grant of compensatory allowances, his powers were in accordance with the orders issued by the Government of India applicable to Central Government servants generally.

The powers to sanction grants-in-aid for staff welfare were subject to any general or special directions issued from time to time by the Government of India and also subject to general conditions laid down in the Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, 1958.

CZECH CREDIT FOR THIRD PLAN

According to a Press Note issued on November 24 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, an agreement on economic collaboration between the Government of India and the Government of Czechoslovak Republic concerning the establishment of certain industrial plants in India was signed in New Delhi the same day by Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Industry, Government of India, and Mr. F. Krajcir, Minister of Foreign Trade, Czechoslovakia. This follows negotiations between the official delegations of the two countries.

According to the agreement, Czechoslovakia will make available to India a long-term credit amounting to Rs. 231 million within the framework of which Czechoslovakia will deliver machinery and equipment for the third stage of foundry forge, heavy machinery building plant, heavy electrical plant, and for other projects included in the Third Five Year Plan.

This credit will be for a period of eight years and will bear an interest of 2½ per cent per annum, the first instalment becoming payable one year after the completion of the last delivery against each project. The credit will be repaid by deliveries of Indian goods such as pig iron, chemical and engineering goods, non-ferrous metals, processed and other ores and semi-finished products.

At the formal signing of the agreement, the Czech Minister, Mr. F. Krajcir, announced an offer of six million rupees for the purpose of education and training of Indian technicians. Czechoslovak Government would be willing to supply equipment for a technological institute in India and loan the services of experts for this purpose, he said.

Prospects Of Foreign Aid

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, made a report to the Lok Sabha on November 19, on his recent trip abroad which took him to five countries, Switzerland, France, Britain, the United States and Japan. Shri Desai said that in all these countries he had been impressed by the interests shown in India's development plans. There were good prospects of continuing external assistance for the Third Plan, but the Finance Minister emphasised that the success of this plan, like that of any other, would depend on the extent to which the country was able to develop and mobilise internal resources. Taking the Second Plan as a whole, Shri Desai said, India had received firm promises of assistance to the extent of Rs. 903 crores. This included grants but did not cover the assistance under P.L. 480 which amounted to more than Rs. 432 crores. The Finance Minister said that in view of the greatly increased tempo of development plans and payments falling in next year, India would still need another Rs. 140 crores of foreign assistance for the Second Plan.

L.I.C. Business In Foreign Countries

Replying in the affirmative to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18 whether reduction in the premium rates of the Life Insurance Corporation in some foreign countries had, in any way, increased the insurance business there, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, added that it would not be correct to attribute this increase only to reduction in premium rates.

Three steps, she said, had been taken to augment the business in those countries: (i) better service to the policyholders by opening offices at key centres in charge of experienced and trained personnel, decentralisation of work and greater delegation of powers to local officers, (ii) revision in agents' commission rates with a view to bringing them in line with the commission rates offered by well-established foreign and local insurers, and (iii) frequent visits by senior executives from India in order to get a better appreciation of the local conditions and problems.

Loans And Advances To Steel Companies

An announcement of November 29 says that, on the recommendations of the Tariff Commission, the Government of India have decided to charge an interest of 5 per cent per annum on the special advances granted to the Tata and Indian Iron and Steel Companies from July 1, 1958.

In July, 1952, the Government of India entered into an agreement with the IISCO, Calcutta, by which a special advance of Rs. 10 crores was granted to the company for financing their expansion programme. A second special advance of Rs. 18,26,476 was given to the same company in July 1955 on similar terms and conditions. An advance of Rs. 10 crores was given to the TISCO in May, 1954, for financing their modernisation and expansion programme.

The agreements with these companies provided that advances were to have no maturity date and were to be interest-free till June 30, 1958. The Government of India were to decide on the advice of the Tariff Commission whether after that date the companies should be charged any interest at all and the rate of repayment. The matter was referred to the Tariff Commission in May, 1958.

Tyagi Committee Report Presented

An announcement of November 30 says that the Report of the Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee was presented to the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, in New Delhi the same day by the Chairman of the Committee, Shri Mahavir Tyagi, M.P. The Report was signed on November 25, with a dissenting minute by Shri G.P. Kapadia.

The Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee was set up by the Government of India, under a resolution dated June 3, 1958, to advise Government on the administrative organisation and procedure necessary for implementing the integrated scheme of direct taxation with due regard to the need for eliminating tax evasion and avoiding inconvenience to the assessees.

Passenger Fare Tax Collections

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, stated in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23 that about Rs. 11.67 crores were collected as Passenger Fare Tax during 1958-59. An amount of Rs. 10.89 crores, provisionally paid to State Governments during the year as their share of net proceeds of the tax, was distributed as follows: Andhra Pradesh Rs. 97 lakhs; Assam Rs. 30 lakhs; Bihar Rs. 1.02 crores; Bombay Rs. 1.77 crores; Kerala Rs. 20 lakhs; Madhya Pradesh Rs. 91 lakhs; Madras Rs. 70 lakhs; Mysore Rs. 43 lakhs; Orissa Rs. 19 lakhs; Punjab Rs. 83 lakhs; Rajasthan Rs. 74 lakhs; Uttar Pradesh Rs. 2.04 crores and West Bengal Rs. 69 lakhs.

Expenditure And Wealth Taxes

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said that the number of assessees registered in 1959-60 under the Expenditure Tax Act was 7,767 upto September 30, 1959 and that the amount of tax levied from April 1, 1959 to September 30, 1959 was Rs. 20.12 lakhs. He added that the total amount of Wealth Tax collected during 1959-60 upto September 30, 1959 was Rs. 1,58,13,900.

Concealment Of Wealth Tax

In reply to a question, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, informed the Lok Sabha on November 23 that about 69 cases of concealment of income tax, gift tax and expenditure tax had been detected as a result of scrutiny of wealth tax records since the introduction of wealth tax upto September 30, 1959. The amount of concealment was about Rs. 36 lakhs and the additional tax effect would be known when assessment in all these cases was completed.

25 NAYE PAISE COINS

A Press Note dated November 29 issued by the Ministry of Finance says that, 25 naye Paise coins will be issued from all offices of the Reserve Bank of India and its agencies and also from the treasuries and sub-treasuries with effect from December 1, 1959.

The new coin is minted in pure nickel and is circular in shape. It weighs 2.5 grammes and is slightly lighter than the quarter-rupee coins in circulation.

The present initial release of the 25 naye Paise coins is to be supplemented steadily from future production at the Mints. The issue of the new coin does not involve the withdrawal of the present quarter-rupee coins in nickel or quaternary alloy, which will continue to circulate along with the new coins.

Decline In The Value Of Indian Currency

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, confirmed that general index of wholesale prices, measured on the basis of the internal value of the Indian currency, had declined by 23 per cent since 1947-48, as stated by the Reserve Bank Governor in a recent speech.

Commerce & Industry

MEETING OF CENTRAL ADVISORY COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIES

Addressing a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Council of Industries held in New Delhi on November 16, Shri Manubhai Shah, Union Minister of Industry, said, a steady increase in industrial production has been maintained during this year and the rate of increase has recovered from the somewhat steep reduction in the rate of increase in 1958.

Shri Shah said that this favourable trend in industrial production was partly due to the recovery in some major industries, like cotton textiles, steel and automobiles and partly to the very great rise in the production of machine tools, industrial machinery and machine building in the engineering industries as also in the production of chemicals, synthetic fibres, ceramics, cement and pharmaceuticals.

The rate of increase in industrial production, the Minister observed, was 2.4 in 1958, as against 4.7 in 1957 and 10.2 in 1956. The index of industrial production (base 1951=100) had stood at 139.7 in 1958 as compared with 137.3 in 1957 and 132.6 in 1956.

In the current year, it was expected that the index would be 148, a rise of 9 to 10 points over 1958. The upward trend of production in the last quarter of this year might further help to carry forward this rate of increase.

The Minister said, it was gratifying to note that the index of machine tools industry for the current year stood as high as 896, industrial machinery and machinery manufacture at 429, general engineering at 278 and electrical machinery at 302.

Referring to specific industries, Shri Shah pointed out that, production had increased in machine tools, sewing machines, diesel engines, electric motors, electric fans, bicycles, caustic soda, sulphuric acid, paper and paper board, and tyres and tubes. The cement industry had recovered from last year's stagnation and the rate of production showed an increase of about six lakh tons, 10 per cent over last year's production. The consumer goods industries were also showing better performance all round. Excepting solitary items like bleaching powder, refractories, oil pressure lamps, enamelled ware and twist drills, practically all the other industries had shown a rise from mild to very rapid rate of increase. In the case of sugar, while production had not fully recovered from the loss sustained in the previous year, it was hoped that, with the new measures now being taken, sugar production would catch up with the general trend. With the present tempo of licensing and import of capital goods, Shri Shah said, he had no doubt that the Second Plan targets practically in all the industries would be fully covered and even exceeded. Actually in several industries the Second Plan targets of capacity and production were already being reached and even exceeded.

Licensing Of Industries

About the progress made in consideration of proposals for licensing industries, the Minister said that only 600 to 700 applications were pending. Simplification of procedure had resulted in speedy disposals. In regard to agreements with foreign firms for technical collaboration, 467 cases had already been finalised and only 90 cases were pending examination at present.

Shri Shah said that difficulties of foreign exchange, particularly in respect of import of raw materials, components and producer goods were, however, continuing. Licensing of the import of capital goods, machinery and equipment could be done satisfactorily, on account of technical and economic co-operation programmes entered into with foreign countries. Foreign credits made available in these agreements generally did not cover the expenditure on imports of raw materials and components.

The only solution, the Minister said, was the promotion of exports to be undertaken by the manufacturing industries. Industries should endeavour to export at least so much as to meet the cost of imports of raw materials and components required by them. Unless this was done, it would be difficult to finance the import of these raw materials out of our traditional exports which did not have a very elastic market abroad, the Minister concluded.

Alloy And Tool Steel Plant

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel, said that the Government of India had selected an Indian private limited firm of consulting engineers for the preparation of the detailed project report as well as the subsequent detailed designing of the proposed alloy and tool steel plant to be set up in the public sector. He added that the report was expected to be received by June, 1960.

The firm was to be paid a total of Rs. 59.60 lakhs for the preparation of the detailed project report as well as for subsequent services as consulting engineers.

There is no capacity in the country at present for the production of stainless steel, excepting an annual production of nearly 2,000 to 3,000 tons of special steels including alloy steel, tool steel and die steel. The import of tool and alloy steel during 1958 was 26,013 tons valued at Rs. 4,74,79,849. The demand of special steels, bulk of which has been met by imports has been increasing steadily. The import of these categories was only 6,000 to 7,000 tons five or six years ago. Judging by the likely tempo of development in the Third Plan the demand may grow over 50,000 tons by 1965.

The Government of India have decided to set up an alloy and special steel plant with an annual capacity of 40,000 tons of ingots in the public sector. The plant is expected to yield about 25,000 tons of saleable steel products with provision for expansion at a later stage to 80,000 tons of ingots.

Foundry Forge Plant

An announcement of November 23 says that the detailed project report for the foundry forge plant has been received by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry from the Techno-export of Czechoslovakia and has been sent to the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi for examination.

The project, which will be located in the close vicinity of heavy machine building plant at Ranchi, will serve as a metallurgical base to the latter. The plant is expected to start production by the middle of 1962.

HEAVY ELECTRICALS LIMITED

Replying to a question on November 26, the Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, confirmed in the Rajya Sabha that the work of the Heavy Electricals Limited was going on according to schedule and that the project was expected to commence production from July 1960. Production would reach its full capacity by 1965.

H. M. T. TRAINING CENTRE

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, stated in the Rajya Sabha on November 23 that it was intended to train workers for the private sector at the training centre run by the Hindustan Machine Tools. There were at present 99 trainees in the Centre and the present equipment was adequate for training in the trades of highly skilled machine operators and fitters.

Manufacture Of Motor Vehicles

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 16, Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Industry, stated that 8,080 cars were produced by the different automobile manufacturers during January - September, 1959. The number of jeeps and trucks (including buses) produced were 3,942 and 13,672 respectively.

About the indigenous content in the vehicles produced in the country, he said that the percentage ranged from 49.4 in the case of Standard '10' car to 73.4 in the case of Hindustan Ambassador car. These percentages, he added, were worked out by comparing the C.I.F. price of the imported components with the ex-factory cost of the vehicle in the country.

In reply to another question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, Shri Shah said that the number of motor vehicles produced in the country would be about 35,500 in 1959 as against 26,788 in 1958. The production of motor vehicles had been short of demand since last year primarily because the import of components had been allowed on a restricted scale, in view of the foreign exchange shortage. During the current year, however, sufficient foreign exchange had been released to automobile manufacturers for the import of components. The situation had, of late, considerably improved and was expected to further improve in the next six months or so, as the impact of larger releases of foreign exchange would be felt more during 1960.

Continuing he added that the number of motor vehicles on the road as on March 31, 1958 was approximately 4.99 lakhs. No estimates of the current replacement demand were available.

The Tariff Commission, in its report on the automobile industry (1956), had estimated the annual replacement requirements at 14,000 passenger cars and 17,000 commercial vehicles. The demand had since gone up and that the Jha Committee had been asked to assess the overall demands of different types of motor vehicles.

Diesel Fuel Injection Equipment Industry

According to a Press Note issued on November 18 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Government of India have accepted the Tariff Commission's main recommendation that protection to the Diesel Fuel Injection Equipment industry should be continued for a further period of four years ending December 31, 1963. The Government have also agreed that the rate of protective duty should be reduced from the existing level of 60 per cent *ad valorem* (standard) to 25 per cent *ad valorem*. The revised rate of duty is being brought into force with immediate effect.

Government have taken note of certain other recommendations of the Commission for assistance to the industry and will take suitable steps to implement them as far as possible.

Protection was first granted to the industry in 1955 and has been extended from time to time. Fuel injection equipment covers a variety of items, such as, cylinder pumps, nozzle-holders, delivery valves, etc. There are three units engaged in the manufacture of diesel fuel injection equipment in the country.

Manufacture Of Paper Making Machinery

An announcement of November 22 says that the Union Government have recently approved five schemes for the manufacture of paper-making machinery in the country in collaboration with foreign firms.

Two of the approved schemes envisage the production of paper mills having production capacity of 50 tons per day. Two other schemes will turn out paper-making machinery of the capacity of 5-10 tons per day. Under another scheme, it is proposed to manufacture plant and

equipment for paper mills with capacity upto five tons a day.

At present, there is practically no capacity for manufacturing paper mill machinery in India. Only some odd spare parts worth a few thousand rupees are being produced in the country. Paper mill machinery worth Rs. 3.72 crores was imported in 1958.

NEW CEMENT FACTORIES

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 24, the Minister of Industry Shri Manubhai Shah, stated that nine new cement factories were likely to be set up during the remaining period of the Second Plan-two each in the States of Bombay and Madras, and one each in Mysore, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Assam and Kashmir.

In a written reply to another question, Shri Shah said that, there were 32 cement factories in the country at present with an installed capacity of 8.35 million tons, as against 25 factories with rated capacity of 4.5 million tons in 1954. By the end of 1960-61, the number of factories would go up to 41 with total rated capacity of 10.25 million tons. Production of cement in 1959, upto the end of October, amounted to 5.55 million tons, as against 6.06 lakh tons for the whole of 1958 and 4.5 million tons in 1954, he added.

Nangal Fertilizer Factory

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Satish-Chandra, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 24 a statement detailing the progress made in setting up the Fertilizer Factory Plant at Nangal. According to the statement no delay was envisaged in the progress of work due to the mishap to the Bhakra Power House. The plant was scheduled to go into production by September 1960.

The civil works, in respect of electrolysis plant, were almost complete. All the electrolyser equipment had arrived at site and more than 50 per cent of the electrolysers were about 85 per cent complete.

The civil works of the Rectifier Plant building were half complete. The erection of equipment was in progress for the electrical plant and in all the fertilizer plant buildings. The civil works of the Water Treatment Plant and the river side Pump House had made good progress.

For the heavy water plant, designs for the plant building were being finalised by the architect. The contract for the plant had been awarded to a West German firm.

One thousand four hundred and sixty-seven quarters had been constructed in the permanent township, in addition to the 500 units already built in the construction colony.

NATIONAL FERTILIZER CORPORATION

Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 23, Shri Satish Chandra, Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, said that a proposal to form a National Fertilizer Corporation was under the consideration of Government. The Government had considered the recommendation of the Fertilizer Production Committee for setting up a Fertilizer Board to direct and control all State-owned fertilizer units. As a first step, it had been decided that the management of the two new factories at Nangal and Trombay should be entrusted to the same Company, viz. the Hindustan Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.

Spun Silk Mill In Assam

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 16, Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Industry, said that an agreement had been concluded with a Japanese firm for the import on deferred payment basis for the construction of a spun silk mill in Assam. He also announced that the Government of Assam had decided to form a Private Limited Company with an authorised capital of Rs. 70 lakhs in shares for running the mill. The Memorandum and the Articles of Association of the Company were being finalised by the State Government. Arrangements were also being made to obtain the services of an expert from Japan.

The construction of the buildings at Jagi Road was nearing completion and the mill was expected to go into production at the end of 1960.

Cotton Textile Production

A Press Note, issued by the office of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay on November 17, says that the cotton textile mills production for September, 1959 amounted to 148 million lbs. of yarn and 412 million yards of cloth, equivalent to about 2.75 lakh bales of cloth. At the end of the month the composite units of cotton textile industry carried a total stock of 3.73 lakh bales of cloth, comprising 1.81 lakh bales of unsold cloth and 1.92 lakh bales of cloth sold, but not lifted.

The total production during the first nine months of the current year was 1,279 million lbs. of yarn and 3,686 million yards of cloth. The corresponding figures for the first nine months of 1957 and 1958 were 1,339 and 1,248 million lbs. of yarn and 4,032 and 3,690 million yards of cloth respectively.

The production for the month of October was provisionally estimated at 1460 million lbs. of yarn and 4,120 million yards of cloth. The estimated stock of cloth with the mills at the end of October, worked out to a total of 3.35 lakh bales made up of 1.56 lakh bales of unsold cloth and 1.79 lakh bales of cloth sold, but not lifted.

TEXTILES EXHIBITION IN TEHRAN

According a New Delhi announcement of November 21, an Indian Textiles Exhibition organised by the Indian Embassy in Tehran was inaugurated on November 19 by the Iranian Prime Minister, Dr. Eghbal.

Protection To Various Industries

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry have issued separate Press Notes announcing the Government of India's Resolutions on the Tariff Commission's report regarding the continuance of protection to the industries of grinding wheels, sago, hydroquinone and automobile leaf springs. According to these Press Notes issued on November 26 and 27, the Government have accepted the Tariff Commission's recommendations that the protection granted to these industries need not be continued beyond December 31, 1959.

As regards the grinding wheels industry, the Government have taken note of the Commission's recommendation that the concession now enjoyed by the industry of importing synthetic abrasive grains duty-free should be extended for a further period, until abrasive grains of suitable quality are produced indigenously in sufficient quantity and at a reasonable price. The duty concession to the industry will be continued for the present.

Protection was first granted to the industry in 1948 and the period of protection has been extended from time to time.

Since the grant of protection in 1951, the sago industry has made considerable progress, the present annual rated capacity of the 115 units being 53,401 tons a year.

The hydroquinone industry was first granted protection in 1952 and the period of protection has been extended from time to time.

Protection to the automobile leaf spring industry was first granted in 1954. There are at present six major units and 28 small units with an annual rated capacity of 19,274 tons.

STEARIC ACID OLEIC ACID INDUSTRY

Another Press Note of November 30 says that Government have accepted the Tariff Commission's main recommendation that protection granted to the Stearic Acid and Oleic Acid Industry should be extended for a further period of three years from January 1, 1960, at the existing rates of duty, i.e., 35 per cent *ad valorem* or 50 Naye Paise per lb., whichever is higher.

Restarting Of Closed Mills

Answering a question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, Shri Nityanand Kanungo, Minister for Commerce, said that six closed mills had restarted. He added that the financial needs of the mills re-started under the scheme of Unemployment Relief were looked after by the State Government concerned. As regards the three mills taken over by the Central Government, the State Governments concerned had arranged for working capital for Model Mills and Atherton West Mills, while in the case of Ajudhia Mills the authorised Managing Agents had advanced necessary working capital. Financial assistance was also extended by institutions such as the National Industrial Development Corporation, Industrial Finance Corporation, etc.

In a written reply to another question Shri Kanungo stated that during this year 10 cotton textile mills had closed down and the number of workers rendered unemployed was 40,580 of which four mills had re-opened absorbing about 32,000 workers.

Inquiry Into Seksaria Cotton Mills

According to a Press Note issued on November 25 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Government of India have, in exercise of their powers under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Pratap Bhogilal to inquire into the affairs of the Seksaria Cotton Mills Limited, Bombay.

Inquiry Into Mahaboob Shahi Kulbarga Mills

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on November 17 says, the Government of India have set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K. Sundaram, Managing Director of Messrs. Coimbatore Cotton Mills Ltd., Singanallur, Coimbatore, to inquire into the affairs of Messrs. Mahaboob Shahi Kulbarga Mills Co., Ltd., Gulburga (Mysore State).

Inquiry Into Osmanshahi Mills

Another Press Note of November 19 says that the Government of India have, in exercise of their powers under Section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.H. Bhutta to enquire into the affairs of the Osmanshahi Mills Limited, Nanded.

Appointment Of Managing Agents

The Government of India notified on November 22 that companies seeking Government approval for reappointment of their managing agents should apply to the Department of Company Law Administration in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for such approval before February 29, 1960.

The Companies Act, 1956, provides that the term of office of all managing agents will expire on August 15, 1960, (if it does not expire earlier in accordance with the provision applicable immediately before April 1, 1956) unless before that date the managing agent is reappointed for a fresh term in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act. While some companies have already sought Government approval to such reappointment, a large number of companies have yet to apply for Government approval.

Second Atomic Reactor

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, the Prime Minister stated that the second Atomic Reactor was expected to start functioning by the end of March 1960. The main hall and control room would now be ready by

December 31, 1959, when the erection of the Reactor would start. The Reactor was expected to start functioning some three months thereafter.

An expenditure of about Rs. 12.6 lakhs had been incurred on the Project up to the end of last month, he added.

Central Advisory Board For Salt

The Central Advisory Board for Salt met in Calcutta on November 21. Shri Sayed Ashfaque Hussain, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, presided. Salt Commissioner, representatives of Union and State Governments, salt manufacturers and traders, and Members of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies attended the meeting.

The meeting considered, among other subjects, the recommendation of the West Bengal and Orissa Regional Board to ban the import of unlicensed salt from Madras to Calcutta.

The question of stepping up the export of salt was also discussed and the position regarding production, clearances and stocks of salt during the current year was examined. The Board also considered to what extent by-products of salt were being recovered by the salt manufacturers in various regions and the measures that should be adopted to improve the existing position.

The introduction of a standard weight for salt bagging under the metric system and the question of utilisation of cess funds for execution of work within the limit of a salt factory came up for discussion.

The proposal of the Madras Government for the establishment of a salt research institute in Madras for guiding the salt manufacturers to manufacture pure salt and the setting up of a laboratory for purifying the swamp salt at Vedaranyam in Tanjore district was also examined by the Board.

Training Course In Building Industry

The first training course in India on productivity in building industry was inaugurated in New Delhi on November 16, by Shri Anil K. Chanda, Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply.

Shri Chanda said that the National Buildings Organisation had taken a pioneering step in introducing this course. The Organisation had already started some studies and conducted some field investigations, and the course would carry the work forward. He hoped that these studies would ultimately result in reducing building costs. In studies of this nature, operational research occupied a prominent place and research institutions should give attention to this.

Shri Chanda said, they had a huge construction programme under the Five-Year Plans. If they adopted productivity techniques, he was sure the results would be encouraging.

Shri N.S. Mankiker, Chief Adviser of Factories, Ministry of Labour, expressed a hope that this course would help stimulate interest in the application of systematic methods of work and organisation in building construction and create cost and quality consciousness in the industry leading to higher productivity.

The National Buildings Organisation had been working in this field for about a year. This study, when completed, would give scientific information on the productivity of men and machines which could be pooled and used for developing ways and means of increasing productivity.

The training course, which is of six weeks duration, has been organised by the National Buildings Organisation in co-operation with the Productivity Centre, Bombay. Engineers have been nominated by various departments of the Union and State Governments to undertake the training.

INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 26, Shri Manubhai Shah, Union Minister of Industry, said that out of 100 Industrial Estates proposed to be set up in the country in the Second Plan period, 86 had been sanctioned up to March 31 this year. During 1959-60, 9 more Industrial Estates had already been sanctioned and the remaining 5 were likely to be sanctioned before the end of this year. In all 20 Estates would be set up in Community Development blocks, each State having at least one Estate.

The Minister added that 391 factories were known to have gone into production in the 30 Estates which had begun to function.

Assistance To Common Teas

Replying a question on the schemes for helping exporters of common teas, the Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Satish Chandra, informed the Rajya Sabha on November 23 that the Government of India had approved a pilot scheme for the grant of loans by the Tea Board to weak gardens in the Cachar District. The object of the scheme was to afford some financial assistance for essential repairs, replacements and renovation of tea machinery to such gardens as might have reasonable prospect of showing sufficient improvement in their standards. The scheme would be started this year.

Shri Satish Chandra also gave details of another scheme approved by the Government for subsidising the cost of fertilizers and transport charges of the tea gardens in Cachar and Tripura where mostly common tea was purchased. The rates of transport subsidies would be Rs. 1.58 per maund for transport by rail and Re. 0.61 per maund for transport by river in Cachar. For Tripura, the rate of subsidy would be Rs. 3.68 per maund for transport by air. The rate of fertiliser subsidy would be Rs. 122 per ton of Sulphate of Ammonia purchased by the gardens. The scheme came into operation from October 13, for a period of one year initially.

Top Priority To Oil In Third Plan

Shri K.D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on November 24 regarding the necessity and programme of oil exploration in India.

The statement points out that the rapidly rising consumption of petroleum products is a clear index of the pace of industrialisation of the Indian economy. From 2 million tons in 1947, the total consumption has already reached about 6 million tons and is likely to increase to 14 million tons of crude oil equivalent by 1966 and 25 million tons by 1971.

India's annual oil import bill (including crude oil for the three coastal refineries) is already of the order of Rs. 100 crores per year. Lest the increasing foreign exchange cost of oil imports for the maintenance of the developing economy should handicap the Third Plan, the statement emphasises, the search for and production of oil within the country will be given the topmost priority in the Third Plan as, for instance, steel was given in the Second Plan. Indigenous production of crude oil, which is hardly 0.5 million tons at present, is expected to reach about 4 million tons per annum by 1965 by exploiting the new oil fields in Assam. Therefore, new reserves have to be established quickly enough to sustain by 1965 additional production of at least 10 million tons, if not more.

FOREIGN EXPLORERS

Referring to the 400,000 square miles of potential oil-bearing sedimentary areas throughout the country and the extensive geological and geophysical surveys and drilling experiments carried out by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, set up in August 1956, the statement says that the Commission will continue rapid exploration of the areas where it is actively engaged, and production if oil is found. But large-scale oil exploration programme must be undertaken involving expenditure of great amounts of foreign money in a comparatively short time. Government have, therefore, decided to invite foreign oil explorers also to join in the quest for oil in India subject to mutually acceptable terms for exploration and also assuring that such arrangements with foreign oil explorers fall generally within the ambit of India's Industrial Policy Resolution. With a view to creating these conditions the Government have finalised their new Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules and they are being published immediately.

NEW RULES

The new rules provide that the term of a licence shall ordinarily be four years with two-yearly renewals and the area covered by it shall ordinarily be 3,000 square miles. The four stages contemplated by the Petroleum Concession Rules, 1949, have been reduced to two stages of the Exploration Licence and the Mining Lease. The rules relating to conservation and development have been kept as simple and as few as possible the statement concludes.

A similar statement was made in the Rajya Sabha.

Nahorkatiya-Barauni Oil Pipe Line

Replying to a question in the Sabha on November 23, Shri K.D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil, stated that the total cost of the pipelines to be laid between Nahorkatiya oil fields and Barauni (in Bihar) via Gauhati (in Assam) will be approximately Rs. 54 crores (£40,500,000), as estimated by the Burmah Oil Company (Pipe Lines).

The section from Nahorkatiya oil fields to Nunmati (Gauhati)— a distance of 261 miles — was to be completed either by April 1, 1961 or the date on which the Nunmati refinery would be ready to receive crude oil, whichever would be later. The remaining section between Nunmati and Barauni — a distance of 459 miles — would be completed by April 1, 1962 or the date on which the Barauni refinery would be ready to receive crude oil whichever date was later, he added.

Indo-Soviet Agreement On Barauni Oil Refinery

Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 25, Shri K.D. Malaviya, Minister for Mines and Oil, made a statement regarding the main features of the agreement between the Governments of India and the U.S.S.R. for the establishment of an oil refinery at Barauni in Bihar.

According to the statement, the agreement, which was signed on September 28, provides *inter alia* that the Soviet Organisation will be responsible for the following:—

(i) To conduct research and analysis of the Nahorkatiya crude oil; (ii) to prepare a project report, design and working drawings; (iii) to determine, on the basis of research and analysis carried out on the crude sample, the techno-economical expediency of producing oils, including lubricating oil; (iv) to supply the equipment, steel structurals and certain other materials, as may be mutually agreed upon; (v) to render technical assistance in selecting the site, in collecting initial data for designing, in erecting and in tuning up the equipment, in commissioning the refinery and in reaching the rated capacity of 2 million tons per annum; (vi) to train Indian specialists and skilled workers in designing, construction and operation of the refinery, both in U.S.S.R. and in India.

A credit of 100 million roubles, at 2½ per cent per annum, has been extended by the Government of U.S.S.R. to cover the cost of equipment, materials and technical services to be provided by their organisation. Such further amounts, in excess of this credit, as may be required (not exceeding 50 million roubles) will be met from the 1,500 million rouble credit offered by the U.S.S.R. Government for the Third Plan schemes. The credit

will be repaid within 12 years in equal annual instalments, the first repayment commencing one year after the completion of deliveries of equipment and materials to be made from the U.S.S.R.

Half-Yearly Mineral Production

An announcement of November 17 says that, according to the latest bulletin issued by the Indian Bureau of Mines, the total value of minerals produced during the first half of 1959 is estimated at Rs. 72 crores as against Rs. 72.2 crores in the corresponding period of 1958.

The fall of Rs. 20 lakhs in the total value was caused by the steep fall in the production of salt and manganese ore. The period was, however, marked by significant increase in the output of coal, iron ore and lead and zinc concentrates.

Coal, with an output of 23.75 million metric tons, recorded an increase of 850,000 metric tons and was valued at Rs. 47.3 crores which is about 66 per cent of the total value of mineral production. The increase in coal output in public sector was nearly 4 lakh metric tons which accounts for 47 per cent of the total increase.

Next in order of value were manganese ore Rs. 5.1 crores, salt Rs. 4.8 crores, iron ore Rs. 3 crores, gold Rs. 2.6 crores, mica Rs. 1.2 crores, copper ore Rs. 1.1 crores and ilmenite Rs. 0.8 crore.

The index of mineral production stood at 97.3 in the first half of 1959 (base first half of 1958= 100).

IRON ORE PRODUCTION

According to the Indian Bureau of Mines, says an announcement of November 20, the output of iron ore during the month of September 1959 was estimated at 617,000 metric tons.

The total production since the beginning of 1959 was 5,635,000 metric tons, which represents an increase of 25 per cent over the output of 4,489,000 metric tons in the corresponding period of 1958.

The largest output was reported from Bihar and Orissa with 235,000 and 225,000 metric tons respectively. Among the other States, Mysore, Bombay and Madhya Pradesh accounted for 84,000, 24,000 and 20,000 metric tons respectively.

During the month despatches of iron ore to iron and steel plants and export market were 443,000 and 153,000 metric tons respectively.

PRODUCTION OF COPPER ORE

An announcement of November 30 says that, according to the Indian Bureau of Mines, the production of copper ore during January-October 1959 was 338,000 metric tons as compared with 341,000 metric tons during the corresponding period of the preceding year. The entire production was reported from Singhbhum district of Bihar State. The production of copper metal during this period was 6,753 metric tons as compared with 6,570 metric tons during January-October, 1958.

PRODUCTION OF COAL

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel, said that an annual rate of production of 47.25 million tons of coal, against the target of 60 million tons by the end of the current Plan period, had already been reached. The actual production of coal up to the end of September last amounted to 35.44 million tons.

OFFICE OF INDIAN BUREAU OF MINES AT JAMMU

An announcement of November 27 says that the Government of India have decided to set up a regional office, fifth in the series, of the Indian Bureau of Mines at Jammu with immediate effect.

Earnings From Mica Export

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 27, the Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Satish Chandra, stated that export earnings on account of mica for the first half of this year amounted to Rs. 5.41 crores, as against Rs. 4.72 crores during the corresponding period last year.

Export Of Pepper

Answering a question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, Shri Satish Chandra said that during April-August 1959 India exported 74,000 cwt. of pepper valued at Rs. 92 lakhs, as against 60,000 cwt. valued at Rs. 67 lakhs during the corresponding period last year.

He added that there was a decline in the exports of Indian pepper during the first five months of the season ended March 1959. This was mainly due to the lesser offtake by U.S.S.R. and speculative activity making the prices of Indian pepper uncompetitive in comparison to the cheaper varieties of Sarawak and Indonesian pepper.

Referring to the action taken by the Government in bringing stability in the trade, the Minister stated that the Forward Market Commission had imposed special margins at the rate of Rs. 15 and Rs. 30 per cwt. when the closing prices of any future delivery exceeded Rs. 125 and Rs. 135 per cwt. respectively. This action had stopped the declining trend in exports.

Export Of Engineering Goods

Replying in the affirmative to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, whether Government had drawn up any new scheme for promoting export of engineering goods, Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry added that the new scheme provided for the issue of import licences against exports for importing raw materials, components, consumable stores, tools or machine parts for replacement purposes not indigenously available and required by the registered exporter for use in his own establishments for producing engineering goods. Import licences were to be issued for twice the imported raw materials content in the finished goods exported or 75 per cent of the f.o.b. value of the exported goods, whichever was lower, subject to a minimum of 20 per cent of the f.o.b. value of exports.

Another feature of the scheme was that it provided for allotment of pig iron and steel required for manufacturing engineering goods for export at concessional prices. Where the exporter wished to forgo this right and import iron and steel in lieu of this, he would be permitted to do so. The import licences could be claimed on the basis of past exports or exports to be made in future.

Export Of Deer Musk To U. S. A.

An announcement of November 21 says that procedural difficulties in the way of exports of deer musk to the U.S.A. have been resolved. A procedure for certifying deer musk for the export has been evolved in consultation with the U.S. Government.

Under this procedure, before deer musk is exported to the U.S.A., the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Government of India, will issue a certificate about its Indian origin. Arrangement for the issue of certificates of origin will be made at the ports of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and at Delhi and Amritsar.

Exporters will have to register themselves with the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports and maintain registers showing details prescribed under the procedure. The stockists of deer musk will be registered with the District Magistrate or District Industries Officer of the district concerned. They will maintain registers of purchases, sales and stocks of deer musk. The District Magistrate or District Industries Officer will issue a certificate testifying that the musk was recovered in his district.

The States in which deer musk is mainly found are Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh.

Export Of Woollen Fabrics

According to an announcement dated November 22, India exported woollen manufactures worth about Rs. 5.5 crores during 1958-59 as against Rs. 4.4 crores in 1956-57 and Rs. 4.8 crores in 1957-58. Besides carpets and floor rugs, traditional export items, India has begun exporting woollen fabrics and hosieries to countries of West and South-East Asia.

The Development Council for Woollen Industry has chalked out a detailed scheme for promoting exports of woollen fabrics.

In 1958-59, the exports of woollen and worsted piece goods were worth more than Rs. 50 lakhs and of carpets and floor rugs exported were valued at Rs. 4.5 crores. The main destinations were U.K., U.S.A., Canada and Australia. Woollen hosiery worth about Rs. 1 crore is estimated to be exported every year to the Middle-East countries mostly through post parcels.

Production of woollen and worsted fabrics in the organised mill sector has been progressively rising. As against 14.96 million yards of woollen and worsted fabrics produced at the end of the First Plan period (1955), production in 1958 amounted to 19.1 million yards. The Second Plan target is 20 million yards.

Besides woollen manufactures, India also exports anually on an average 30 to 35 million lbs. of raw wool, which earns about Rs. 8 to 10 crores of foreign exchange. The United Kingdom is the chief consumer and accounts for about 50 per cent of the total exports. U.S.A. consumes about 30 per cent.

Export Of Cotton

A Press Note issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, on November 25 says that the Government of India have decided to allow for export a quantity of 75,000 bales of Bengal Deshi valid for shipment upto August 31, 1960. Five per cent of the above quantity will be earmarked for distribution among cooperative societies and the balance will be licensed on a 'first-come-first-served' basis subject to an individual ceiling of 10 per cent of the quantity allowed.

Import Of Cotton

A Press Note issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, on November 25 says that the Government of India have decided to allow the import of 2,00,000 bales of cotton by actual-user mills for their basic consumption in the following manner:— 30,000 bales of 1-3/16″ and above in staple from any area; 85,000 bales of 1-1/16″ and above but below 1-3/16″ from any area; 85,000 bales of American cotton stapling 1-1/16″ and above under P.L. 480.

It has also been decided to allow the import of American cotton stapling 1-1/16″ and above under P.L. 480 to non-actual user mills, as the second half of this season's quota for a value calculated at the rate of Rs. 5 per spindle. The Note adds that it has been decided to grant an additional quota which will absorb about 30,000 bales, as advance retention quota to exporting mills with option to choose cotton from any of the two categories of staple lengths.

All the above import quotas will be valid for shipment by August 31, 1960, except for American cotton under P.L. 480 which will be valid for shipment according to the terms of the purchase authorisation.

IMPORT OF DATES

According to an announcement dated November 17, the Government of India have decided that supplementary licences for import of dates should be granted to established importers on an *ad hoc* basis during the current half year. Established importers are already given licences for import of dates on the basis of 7½ per cent quota.

IMPORT AND EXPORT LICENCES

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 19, Shri Nityananda Kanungo, Minister of Commerce, stated that the Investigation and Vigilance Division of the Import and Export Trade Control Organization dealt with 710 cases up to November 10, 1959 of which 131 cases were disposed of departmentally and 64 cases handed over to the Special Police Establishment. Three cases were black-listed and 74 other cases were placed on the suspense list.

Foreign Trade Of India In September 1959

A Press Note issued by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, on November 17 says, the total value of exports (including re-exports) of merchandise and gold, during the month of September fell short of imports by Rs. 9.12 lakhs, according to provisonal figures of foreign trade of India, available in the Department. The import figures are exclusive of the value of certain consignments of Government stores awaiting adjustment and of private merchandise under reference to Customs for verification.

The figures show that the value of merchandise exported, excluding overland trade with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan, was Rs. 60.11 lakhs and that of re-exports Rs. 16 lakhs. The value of merchandise imports, subject to the limitation mentioned above, was Rs. 69.33 lakhs.

During this month, currency notes and current coins (excluding gold coins) of the value of Rs. 6 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh respectively were exported. Imports of currency notes and gold were of the value of Rs. 1.05 lakhs and Rs. 6 lakhs respectively.

Metric System In Customs Duties

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on November 22 states that in view of the representations received from the trade and other interests concerned, the Government of India have decided to introduce the metric system in the levy and collection of customs duties and duties of Central Excise from August 1960. It was announced earlier that this change-over would take place on April 1, 1960. The exact date, on which the new system is to be introduced, will be announced later.

GERMAN ASSETS IN INDIA

A statement on the release of pre-war German Assets in India was made in the Lok Sabha on November 24 by the Minister for Commerce, Shri Nityanand Kanungo.

The statement says that in September 1939, all the German assets in India amounting to Rs. 296 lakhs were vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property in India. Later, this amount was allotted to India as a part of German reparations. In view of the present happy state of India's relations with the Federal Republic of West Germany, it has been decided to release the vested assets to the West German owners after checking their title to them.

The amount actually released will be the net amount after retaining Rs .70 lakhs, which is the total value of the Indian claims against Germany. The release will be subject to the condition that the amounts of the claims whose value exceeds Rs. 5,000 will not be allowed to be repatriated, but could be invested in approved projects in India. Earnings on such investments would, however, be allowed to be remitted to West Germany in accordance with the current exchange control regulations.

Amounts of the claims whose value is upto Rs. 5,000 will be allowed to be repatriated. The magnitude of such repatriation will be of the order of Rs. 6 lakhs, the statement concludes.

New Trade Marks Act Enforced

According to the Gazette of India Extraordinary of November 25, the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 came into force on that day. The new Act replaced the Trade Marks Act, 1940 and the Indian Merchandise Act, 1889.

The new legislation, which is a comprehensive revision of the earlier Acts, seeks to protect adequately trade marks and suppress unfair trade practices. It provides for enhanced penalties in respect of false trade and merchandise marks particularly in relation to drugs and articles of food. The Trade Marks Registry and the Patent Office have been amalgamated under a single head — the Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks. The head office of the Trade Marks Registry will be at Bombay with its branch offices at Calcutta, Delhi and Madras having territorial jurisdiction on a zonal basis.

Annual Report On Indian Patents

According to the recently published Annual Report of the Patent Office in the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, patents for 539 Indian inventions in different fields were applied for in 1958.

The total number of applications or patents including those from foreign countries increased to 3,572 in 1958 from 3,456 in the previous year. Six hundred and two applications originated in India of which 529 were made by Indians. Bombay, West Bengal and Delhi together accounted for more than 75 per cent of applications from India. The inventions for which patents were applied related to varied fields of industry and technology.

The report says that there was a fall in the number of applications for registration of designs from 4,306 in 1957 to 4,157 in 1958. Nearly 99 per cent of the applications originated in India, and as in the preceding year, most of them were in respect of textile designs.

Chemical industry accounted for 40 per cent of the total number of patent applications. In organic chemical industries, inventions were in the field of dyes and dye-stuffs and synthetic drugs. Indian inventions came mostly from the Council of Scientific Industrial Research.

There were a number of Indian inventions relating to implements and appliances for food-stuff preservation, extraction of oils and fats, extraction and purification of sugar, treatment of grains and seeds, etc. In the field of engineering, Indian inventions related to appliances for utilising solar energy, pumps, typewriters for Indian scripts, water coolers, fans, etc. Indian inventors also showed interest in electric water heaters, A.C. fan motors and telephone sets.

Other fields where Indian inventions were made were sewing machines, bobbins, charkhas, components of spinning machines, rubber compositions, vulcanising processes, lifting, loading and conveying machines, cigarette making machines, optical instruments, advertising devices, carrier chairs for conveying machines, etc.

According to the Report, the income and expenditure of the Patent Department for 1958 amounted to Rs. 9.81 lakhs and Rs. 6 lakhs respectively.

Survey Of Domestic Fuel Sources

According to a statistical survey of domestic fuel sources, published in a recent issue of the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research*, India's requirements of domestic fuel for cooking and heating run into approximately 83 million tons in wood equivalent. This constitutes nearly 40% of the total energy consumption in the country.

About 97% of the energy is derived from wood, charcoal, agricultural waste and cattle dung. The cattle dung alone forms half of the total.

Studies at the Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad, and the Central Fuel Research Institute, Jealgora, have established the commercial feasibility of producing smokeless fuel from coals at economic prices. Domestic coke, which has found ready consumer acceptance, is being produced at Hyderabad in a pilot plant whose output is 25 tons a day. The plant in operation at Jealgora yields domestic coke for all types of coal, coking as well as non-coking. This has extended the scope for production of domestic coke in many areas of the country.

The survey focusses attention on the serious repercussions of soil erosion and loss of soil fertility by the large-scale use of firewood and cattle dung as fuel, which is highly inefficient as hardly five per cent of the heat recorded by burning them is utilised in practice. It points out that the energy demand of the domestic sector has been continuously increasing with the growth of population, and emphasises the need for arresting the wasteful burning of wood and cattle dung for fuel purposes by making available alternative fuels at economic prices.

NEW PROCESS FOR ETHYLENE DICHLORIDE

An announcement of November 21 says that the National Chemical Laboratory, Poona, has developed a process for the manufacture of ethylene dichloride, a basic starting material for the production of vinyl chloride, which is used in the manufacture of a variety of vinyl plastics. Ethylene dichloride is also used as a solvent and an effective fumigant in granaries.

The demand for ethylene dichloride in India was 6,00 tons in 1958 and may increase to 4,600 tons in 1966.

Expenditure On Corrosion Control

An announcement of November 28 says that, according to an estimate made by the Central Electrochemical Research Institute at Karaikudi, a sum of Rs. 150 crores is the anticipated expenditure in India during 1960-61 for corrosion control.

This estimate, as reported in the Agrahayan issue of the *Vigyan Pragati*, a Hindi science monthly journal of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the increase in expenditure is anticipated as a result of the rising steel production in the country. Corrosion studies are being intensively pursued in the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur; Railway Testing and Research Centre, Chittaranjan; Alipur Test House, Calcutta and Defence Establishments, besides the Central Electrochemical Research Institute.

Commodity Prices In October

According to the Press Note issued on November 28 by the Economic Adviser to the Government of India, wholesale prices, as measured by the official index (with the year ended March 1953 as 100), moved up by 1.8 per cent to 119.3 during the month of October 1959, as compared with 117.2 (revised) for September 1959. The index was higher by 2.8 per cent compared with 116.1 for October 1958. With the exception of the group 'Industrial Raw Materials' which remained unchanged at its last month's revised level of 122.6, all the group indices recorded increases during the month under review. Food Articles went up by 2.9 per cent to 124.0, Tobacco by 1.8 per cent to 99.9, Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants by 0.2 per cent to 116.4 and Manufactures by 1.0 per cent to 111.1.

FOOD ARTICLES

Higher prices of all the cereals except maize which showed a substantial fall, raised the index for Cereals by 1.8 per cent to 109.5. Compared with that a year ago, the index for cereals was lower by 3.6 per cent. Prices of pulses witnessed a general rise and the sub-group index for Pulses rose by 4.9 per cent to 94.3. A decline in the prices of oranges, bananas and cashewnuts brought down the index for Fruits and Vegetables by 8.9 per cent to 126.7, notwithstanding an increase in the prices of potatoes and onions.

As a result of an advance in the prices of both milk and ghee, the sub-group index for Milk and Ghee moved up by 6.3 per cent to 120.8. Prices of all the edible oils, except vanaspati (dalda) which remained stationary, were marked up and the index for this sub-group advanced by 1.6 per cent to 129.6. The sub-group index for Fish, Eggs and Meat recorded a fall of 0.3 per cent to 111.8 due to a decline in the price of fish, despite an increase in the price of meat. An appreciable advance in the prices of *gur* supported by an increase in the ex-factory controlled price of sugar pushed up the index for Sugar and Gur by 7.4 per cent to 159.1. Higher prices of tea, black pepper, chillies, turmeric, cardamoms, betelnuts and salt raised the index for Other Food Articles by .4 per cent to 174.3; the prices of coffee and cloves however witnessed a fall.

TOBACCO, FUEL, POWER, LIGHT AND LUBRICANTS

The prices of raw tobacco firmed up and in consequence the index for Tobacco went up by 1.8 per cent to 99.9. The index for Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants rose by 0.2 per cent to 116.4 due to an increase in the price of Castor Oil.

INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS

Lower prices of raw cotton and raw hemp brought down the index for Fibres by 0.8 per cent to 109.2 despite an advance in the prices of raw silk and raw wool. The sub-group index for Oilseeds drifted down by 0.5 per cent to 135.4 mainly due to a fall in the prices of groundnuts supported by a slight fall in rapeseed, notwithstanding an increase in the prices of linseed, castorseed, gingellyseed, cottonseed and copra. A fall of 0.2 per cent to 98.1 in the index for Minerals was caused by a decline in the prices of manganese ore. An advance in the prices of raw hides, raw skins and tanning materials raised the index for Other Industrial Raw Materials by 2.2 per cent to 125.6 although the price of lac showed a decline; the minimum prices of sugarcane were raised by the Government during the month under review.

INTERMEDIATE PRODUCTS

The index for this group advanced by 2.8 per cent to 114.4 due to higher prices of linseed oil, leather, cotton yarn and rayon yarn, although the prices of zinc, grass, copper, tin and lead exhibited declines during the month under review.

FINISHED PRODUCTS

A rise of 0.9 per cent to 106.1 in the index for Textiles was caused by an increase in the prices of cotton manufactures (+1.0 per cent to 115.1) and jute manufactures (+0.7 per cent to 90.0), despite a fall in the prices of silk and rayon manufactures (—0.2 per cent to 91.8). Among cotton manufactures, mill-made cloth continued its rising trend while handloom cloth remained unchanged at its earlier month's level. The sub-group index for Metal Products moved up slightly by 0.1 per cent to 144.5 due to an increase in the prices of aluminium utensils. Lower prices of general chemicals, paints, soap and drugs and medicines brought down the index for Chemicals by 1.1 per cent to 107.1; the prices of Dyeing materials, however, showed a rise. Oilcakes advanced by 5.4 per cent to 149.3. The sub-group index for Machinery and Transport Equipment remained stationary at its earlier month's revised level of 105.9 although the prices of cycles showed an advance. A fall of 0.1 per cent to 113.6 in the sub-group index for Other Finished Products was caused by a decline in the prices of bricks and tiles, despite an increase in the prices of glass. On the whole, the index for Finished Products moved up by 0.6 per cent to 110.5 during the month under review.

RAILWAY USERS' CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Inaugurating a two-day meeting of the National Railway Users' Consultative Council in New Delhi on November 27, the Railway Minister, Shri Jagjivan Ram, disclosed that the Railway Ministry had taken up with the Home Ministry the question of safety for passengers in running trains. The Home Ministry, in turn, had addressed the State Governments who were primarily responsible for police arrangements on railways, requesting them to make adequate police and security arrangements.

Sleepers coaches, free of additional cost, had been provided for passengers travelling more than 500 miles on the Madras-Howrah Mail and the Delhi-Bombay Central Janata Express. Construction of 200 more broad gauge and 12 metre gauge sleeper coaches had been ordered to extend the service to additional trains, he added.

He said that efforts were being made to improve railway service to the commercial community, to streamline goods operation and to introduce an element of reliability in the goods service. Instructions had been issued that every endeavour should be made to open an out-agency at every town with a population of over 10,000 situated at a distance of over five miles from the nearest railway station.

The Railway Minister stated that during the period from April to October 1959 the operating performance of the railways was generally satisfactory. Loadings had shown an increase of 5.85 per cent on broad gauge and 2.5 per cent on metre gauge, as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. There had been, at the same time, a marked decrease in outstanding indents for wagons on both the gauges. The outstanding registrations, which stood at 32,314 wagons on the broad gauge at the end of April this year, came down to 7,591 by the end of October. The corresponding figure at the end of October last year was 18,464. On the metre gauge, the outstanding registrations, which stood at 26,269 at the end of April, dropped to 15,956 by the end of October this year, the corresponding figure at the end of October last year being 35,355.

There had also been a further improvement in coal loadings, the figures for September 1959 being the highest reached so far. The daily average coal loading in all the coalfields, from April to October 1959, was 5,084 wagons, as against the average of 4,969 during the same period last year.

The steel plants at Rourkela and Bhilai were in various stages of production and the railways had been regularly meeting their requirements of wagons for raw materials and coal.

On the Western and Central Railways, the increased average loadings and the substantial reductions in the outstanding demands had been achieved notwithstanding the adverse factors such as breaches due to floods.

A number of steps taken by the railways to improve their service to the commercial community were referred to during discussions at the meeting. These included the extension of the street delivery and collection services to more towns, the running of fast goods train services between various important points, improved facilities at goods sheds, etc.

The meeting was presided over by the Railway Minister, Shri Jagjivan Ram. Members of the Council noted with satisfaction the improvements which had occured in railway operation since the Council met last.

Production Directorate In Railway Board

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 30, the Deputy Minister for Railways, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, stated that a Production Directorate had been started in the Railway Board to guide and assist the Railways in the introduction of the system of payment by results in railway repair workshops, as a step towards increasing productivity.

DOG SQUADS ON RAILWAYS

Replying to another question the Deputy Minister for Railways said that dog squads were being formed on the Western, Central, South-Eastern and Eastern Railways for detection of crimes. A dog squad had already been formed on the Southern Railway. Within a short period of six months the squad had been used in the investigation of 16 cases of theft involving property worth Rs. 4,500 and had to its credit useful work by way of arrest and convictions as well.

Loco Component Parts Factory

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 17, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Deputy Minister of Railways, stated that the locomotive component parts factory at Manduradih near Banaras is expected to start production in 1961. The expenditure likely to be incurred on this factory was Rs. 4.79 crores for the scheme as a whole and Rs. 2.56 crores for the first phase to be completed by the end of the Second Five Year Plan.

IAC DAKOTA ACCIDENT NEAR KUMBHIRGRAM

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Transport and Communications on November 23 says that the Court of Enquiry appointed by the Government of India to investigate the accident to IAC Dakota aircraft VT-CGI near Kumbhirgram aerodrome on March 29, 1959, has submitted its report.

The aircraft was on the scheduled passenger service from Calcutta to Imphal via Agartala and Kumbhirgram. On March 29, during her flight from Agartala to Kumbhirgram through a thunderstorm with 20 passengers and a crew of four she crashed in Maniknagar Tea Estate near Kumbhirgram at about 10.45 hours. There were no survivors and the aircraft was completely destroyed by impact and subsequent fire.

"The Court determines that the Dakota aircraft VT-CGI suffered structural failure in the air while flying through a thunderstorm. The failure originated in the port centre section and was due to loads which exceeded the ultimate design value for the structure. It was not possible to establish whether the pilot adopted the correct procedure for flying in turbulence."

The Government of India have accepted the findings of the Court in regard to the cause of the accident and the circumstances in which it occurred as also the recommendations for prevention of the recurrence of similar accidents. It has also been decided, as recommended by the Court, to constitute a Technical Committee to examine the requirements concerning the 16,000 hours re-work on Dakota aircraft, in order to facilitate the adoption of a uniform procedure.

The Court consisted of Shri B.K. Choudhuri, a retired Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, and was assisted by Dr. V.M. Ghatage, Deputy General Manager and Chief Designer, Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore, Group Captain M.S. Aulakh (Indian Air Force) and Shri Y.R. Malhotra, Chief Inspector of Accidents, Civil Aviation Department.

REPORT ON BOAC COMET ACCIDENT

A Press Note issued on November 27 by the Ministry of Transport and Communications says that the report of the Director of Aeronautical Inspection Civil Aviation Department, on the accident to British Overseas Airways Corporation Comet aircraft G-APDA at Calcutta (Dum Dum) Airport on June 8 1959, has been accepted by the Government of India.

The accident is attributed to an error of judgement on the part of flying crew in not applying increased power when approaching to land under turbulent conditions.

POSTAL STATIONERY

A Press Note issued by the Directorate General of Posts and Telegraph on November 20 says, while postage stamps in the annas and pies series (except 4-anna, 8-anna, 12-anna and

Rs. 1/8 stamps) are no longer recognised as valid for prepayment of postage, it has been decided that postal stationery in the anna and pies series, such as postcards, including air mail postcards, inland letters, embossed envelopes (including registration and blue airmail envelopes) and aerograms, which are still in possession of members of the public, will continue to be accepted for transmission by post. Additional postage stamps, to make up any deficiency in postage in terms of decimal coinage, may also be used on such stationery, if necessary.

Insured Air Parcel Service To Egypt

According to an announcement dated November 20, insured air parcel service to Egypt will be introduced by the P. and T. Department from December 15, 1959.

Insured parcels will be carried by air from India provided that the requisite postage including the air mail fee and the prescribed insurance fee is prepaid. The maximum limits up to which parcels will be accepted, and other terms and conditions, will be the same as those for surface insured parcels. The insurance fee will also be recoverable at the rates for surface insured parcels.

Food & Agriculture

COMMUNITY AWARDS FOR INCREASE IN FOOD PRODUCTION

According to an announcement dated November 25, six States have won community awards of Rs. 50,000 each by registering an increase in production during the last *rabi* season of more than 15 per cent over the past three years' average. The States are Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Punjab and Delhi. The additional production obtained during the last *rabi* season in the participating States over the last three years' average is estimated at 3.2 million tons, valued at Rs. 112 crores.

Bihar with the highest increase of 42 per cent also won the All-India 'Rashtra Kalash'. The percentage of increases in other States was: 29.4 in Bombay; 26.1 in Madhya Pradesh; 20.5 in Punjab; 17.8 in Mysore; 13.1 in Rajasthan; 16.7 in Delhi; 9.3 in Andhra Pradesh and 4.9 in Uttar Pradesh. The average yield per acre of wheat increased by 44 per cent in Bihar, 37.6 per cent in Madhya Pradesh and 28.5 per cent in Bombay.

District Awards

Of the 235 districts in the 9 States participating in the drive, 107 districts have shown an increase in production of more than 15 per cent over the previous three seasons and have thus won an award of Rs. 10,000 each. Eight districts—one in each State excluding Delhi—achieving highest production have also won the award known as 'Rajya Kalash'.

The total value of the awards amounts to Rs. 13.75 lakhs which will be borne entirely by the Union of Food and Agriculture.

The award money will be utilised for supplying free of charge requisites such as improved agricultural implements for use individually and collectively by the farmers.

A scheme for the award of community prizes at State and district levels was introduced during the last *rabi* production drive for providing incentive to the cultivators in the 9 States which mounted the campaign.

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, had suggested, while inaugurating the last *Rabi* Campaign, that incentives should be provided to the cultivators for increasing production and a 'Rashtra Kalash' should be presented to the States for obtaining best results.

Buffer Stock Of Foodgrains

Answering a question in the Lok Sabha on November 17, Shri A.M. Thomas, Deputy Minister of Food, stated that it was proposed to build up and maintain a larger reserve stock of foodgrains than it had been possible so far. The method by which this might be done, the size of the reserve and other details were under consideration.

One of the possible methods for building up the reserve stock, he added, would be for the United States Government to store in India on their own account a part of their surplus foodgrains but it was for them to consider the practicability of this method from their point of view. No formal request in this regard had, however, been made to the U.S.A. as yet.

Rice For India Under New P. L. 480 Pact

India will procure 150,000 metric tons of rice under a supplement to the P.L. 480 agreement of November 13, 1959, signed in Washington on November 23, says a New Delhi announcement of the same date. The new supplementary agreement is valued at Rs. 8.8 crores ($18.5 million) including cost of ocean freight.. Together with the agreement of November 13, the value of assistance amounts to Rs. 122.2 crores ($257.3 million).

Under the agreement earlier this month, India will receive three million tons of foodgrains, mostly wheat and 100,000 bales of cotton. The value of wheat is $182 million and that of cotton $14 million. Other commodities covered by the agreement are tobacco valued at $500,000 and maize worth $4.7 million. Ocean transport cost is estimated at $37.6 million.

The agreement signed earlier this month combined with today's supplementary agreement provides the largest single grant of assistance to India so far made by the U.S.A. This amounts to $102.9 million worth of rupees.

Agricultural Statistics Course

The convocation for the award of certificates, diplomas and prizes to candidates who completed successfully the Certificate and Diploma Courses in Agricultural Statistics conducted by the Institute of Agricultural Research Statistics of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research was held in New Delhi on November 26. In his address at the convocation, Shri S.K. Patil, Union Minister of Food and Agriculture, stressed the importance of agricultural statistics in the agricultural planning.

Expressing his pleasure to observe the efforts made by the Institute in introducing experimental work on fertilizer use by farmers in their fields, the Minister was glad to know that the Institute had developed designs which were simple as well as scientifically precise. A beginning had been made by the Institute for the objective assessment of the incidence of pests and diseases and resulting crop losses. This work needed to be extended to larger areas and to important crops, for crop losses resulting from pests and diseases were a serious matter and we ought to know the extent of measures required to control them successfully, he said.

This convocation was the ninth in the series for the Statistical Training Courses and the first to be held by the Institute. Ten students qualified for the award of diplomas and 49 for the Junior and Senior Certificates.

In view of the great shortage of agricultural statisticians in this country the Institute proposes to increase the number of trainees from 10 to 30 in the Diploma course and from 5 to 40 in the Certificate courses in future.

State Trading In Foodgrains

In a written reply to a question regarding the implementation of the scheme for State Trading in Foodgrains, Shri A.M. Thomas, Deputy Minister of Food, stated in the Lok Sabha on November 17 that the State Governments had licensed the wholesale traders in their respective States. Necessary measures were also being taken to organise and develop co-operative societies. About 13.6 lakh tons of rice and paddy and 2.38 lakh tons of wheat had been purchased by the Central and State Governments during the year in different States.

Weed Control For Peas Crop

According to an announcement dated November 19, research carried out over a number of years at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, has shown that the existing hand weeding operation in peas crop can be successfully replaced by only one spraying with the weedicide MCPB (2.Methy-4-Chlorophenoxy acetic acid).

Experiments indicate that in 2 out of 3 years chemically weeded plots give higher yield than the hand-weeded on. There was, however, no difference between the hand-weeded peas crop and chemically weeded crop in 3 years' average. Control of weeds by both the methods increase the yield by 48 per cent as compared to unweeded plots.

Peas is an important food-grain crop and is extensively grown as field crop in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. It is popular as a vegetable crop throughout the country. Its average yield is low as several weeds compete with the crop in the growing season and reduce its yield by 25 to 50 per cent. As the removal of weeds by hand is laborious and expensive, it is usually not attended to by the farmers.

Minor Irrigation In Mysore

An announcement of November 28 says that the Team on Minor Irrigation Works, set up by the Committee on Plan Projects, Government of India, has recommended a phased programme for the restoration of a large number of tanks in the Mysore State, which is calculated to yield, besides other advantages, an additional one lakh acres of cultivable land. The Team suggests that such schemes could be an integral part of irrigation planning in the Third Five Year Plan.

Distribution Of Sugar During 1958-59

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 17, Shri A.M. Thomas, Deputy Minister of Food, said that specific quotas of sugar were now being made available to the States from each monthly release by the Central Government. Except in one or two places, allotments from the controlled regions of Uttar Pradesh, North Bihar and Punjab were also being made to the nominees of the State Governments. The despatches of sugar to various States during the period November 1958 to September 1959 were:

States	*Quantity despatched* **Tons**
Andhra Pradesh	78,171
Assam	44,679
Bihar	114,271
Bombay	507,356
Kerala	30,988
Madhya Pradesh	119,540
Madras	99,733
Mysore	89,000
Orissa	24,805
Punjab	129,711
Rajasthan	62,004
Uttar Pradesh	271,577
West Bengal	218,764
Jammu and Kashmir	5,960
Delhi	75,929
Himachal Pradesh	1,107
Manipur	110
Tripura	333

Note: Information in respect of October is not yet available. Information in respect of September is also not complete in respect of

some factories. Information given above does not include despatches of sugar from one State to the other, other than on factory account. Ban on inter-State movement was imposed on July 27, 1959.

In a written reply to another question Shri Thomas said that 1.75 lakh tons of sugar had been released in November 1959 from which month the 1959-60 sugar year commenced. Releases during the remaining period of 1959-60 sugar year will depend on the production during the current crushing season. He added that the Government had recently announced certain incentives to cane growers and sugar factories to increase production.

PURCHASE OF FERTILISERS

Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 23 Shri K.C. Reddy, Minister of Works, Housing and Supply, laid a statement on the table of the House regarding the purchase of 2,14,400 long tons of fertilisers which included Sulphate of Ammonia, Ammonium Sulphate, Nitrate, Calcium Ammonium Nitrate, Urea and Nitro-phosphate.

Giving the details of the procedure gone through for placing contracts with the lowest tenderers for the different types of fertilisers, the statement concludes that the total value of the purchases amount to Rs. 6,08,71,761 and the overall prices recently paid are lower by about 13% than the previous purchase prices.

In another statement, the Minister gave details of the orders placed on October 9 and the prices paid for various types of fertilisers at this and the previous purchases.

Report Of The Committee On Fisheries Education

According to an announcement of November 21, the Committee on Fisheries Education, appointed by the Government of India in June 1958, has recently submitted its report to the Government. The Committee has recommended that immediate steps be taken to establish facilities for training in fisheries at various levels, as, in its opinion, 'the progress and development of Indian fisheries has been hampered by acute shortage of suitable trained personnel'. The man-power deficiencies, particularly in the sphere of technical administration and management, constitute real and serious deterrents to the development of fisheries in the country.

All India Institute

The Committee has recommended the immediate establishment of a separate Central Institute of Fisheries Education, for which Cochin is suggested as the most suitable location.

The course at the all-India Institute should be common for both marine and inland fisheries, but should, however, provide for specialisation for advanced studies in one of the subjects, such as inland fisheries, fish handling and processing technology, fishing gear technology, fishery economics and business management and fish marketing and trade. The duration of the training course should be two years, of which half should be spent in prescribed field work. At least 30 candidates should be trained every year to meet the requirements of the Third Plan. The Institute should also conduct or arrange for training courses in ancillary subjects.

Pending the establishment of the all-India Institute, immediate arrangements be made at Bombay for a professional training course for District Fisheries Development Officers, on par with the bachelor degree course in agriculture, forestry and other applied sciences.

Other Recommendations

The Committee has also recognised the need for a sub-centre for training in inland fish cultural practices, to be located in the Kausalyaganga area near Bhubaneswar.

To meet the requirements of staff at lower levels, the existing training course at Barrackpore should be reorganised with greater emphasis on practical training, and should subsequently be transferred to Kausalyaganga sub-centre, adds the report. The need for training operatives at various levels of skills in fishing, navigation, boat-building, etc. has also been stressed in the report.

Dr. N.K. Panikkar, Fisheries Development Adviser to the Government of India, was the Chairman of the Committee which had three other members.

Irrigation & Power

MEETING OF CENTRAL BOARD OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, inaugurated the 30th annual meeting of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power in New Delhi on November 23. Shri M. Hayath, Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission, presided.

In his presidential address at the inaugural session, Shri Hayath said that the Central Board of Irrigation and Power, which had completed three decades of useful service, possessed the highest degree of technical competence and enjoyed a world-wide reputation. Its membership was limited only to the top-most technical experts of the member States and the Union Government. It had a unique constitution and it functioned in close liaison with the Union Ministry of Irrigation and Power. Besides, it acted as national committee for a number of international organizations.

The Board was originally planned as a mere panel of Provincial Chief Engineers and the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, to advise the Central and Local Governments on technical matters. It soon expanded its scope of work and assumed many additional responsibilities, which included organization of research in the field of irrigation and power engineering, dissemination of knowledge on these subjects, providing liaison between States, establishing exchange relations with technical organizations in the country and abroad and bringing out technical reports and publications. Through the co-ordinative efforts of the Board, commendable work had been done during the last few decades which had enabled India to occupy a prominent place on the irrigation map of the world.

Research Activities

Referring to research activities of the Board, Shri Hayath said that it had recently formulated a scheme for sponsoring and advancing fundamental basic research in the field of hydraulic engineering and other allied subjects. This scheme formed part of the Second Five-Year Plan and was being implemented in various laboratories and waterways experimental stations in the country. The Board had formulated the scheme for continuing the work on an expanded scale during the Third and subsequent Plans also.

Power Development

Turning to the technical aspect of development in the country, Shri Hayath observed that considering the vastness of the country and its large population, the problem of making electricity available even for essential purposes was an overwhelming one and got more complicated as the majority of our population resided in rural areas.

Continuing, he pointed out that a co-ordinated development of thermal and hydro power on a country-wide basis had been possible only in the post-independence period. Foreign exchange resources being limited, only a promising start had been made.

At the beginning of the First Plan, the installed capacity of the country stood at 2.3 million kW. To this, during the First Plan period, 1.1 million kW. were added. The Second Plan sought to raise this installed capacity by another 3.4 million kW, and the Third Plan would raise it further. He mentioned a few major projects which would contribute to the additional generating capacity viz., D.V.C., Hirakud, Bhakra-Nangal, Koyna, Chambal, Nagarjunasagar, Rihand, Sharavathi, etc. Some of these had been completed, others were nearing completion, and many more were being started. Besides these, several other power projects like Machkund, Moyar, Bokaro, Pathri had been brought into service in recent years.

Shri Hayath further said that the Government of India, realising that the prosperity of the country and its self-sufficiency depended on extensive development of basic industries and those producing consumer goods, which, in turn, depended upon availability of power at reasonable rates, had been considering the problems of economical generation, distribution and utilisation of electrical power. Systematic load surveys were now being conducted to co-ordinate the installation of generating capacity with anticipated demands for power.

Rural Electrification

Taking power to villages, he added, wherein over 80% of the population lived and worked was a major plank in the scheme of national reconstruction and efforts in that direction were being made. As the initial demand for power in rural areas was small, rural electrification scheme might not be sufficiently remunerative if judged by the usual financial yardsticks.

He pointed out that the number of villages electrified at the beginning of the First Plan was about 3,000. Towards the close of that Plan, this number increased to about 7,000. During the second Plan, it was expected to supply electricity to an additional 10,000 villages and the future plans should provide for much more ambitious programmes.

In order to improve the efficiency and economy of electricity supply, Shri Hayath continued, several isolated power stations had to be integrated to form a grid. Integration brought about the optimum exploitation of power resources by the co-ordinated operation of hydro and thermal stations, resulting in reduction of standby capacity, cost of generation and maximum utilisation of available generating capacity. Integrated power systems were at present operating in a few States. In order to realize further economies and help power deficit regions from power-surplus regions, it was proposed to interlink the State power systems in some regions during the Third Five Year Plan.

He observed that the States were at present carrying out investigations and preparing projects of irrigation and hydro-electric power for inclusion in the Third Five Year Plan. It was an opportune time to provide for flood control in all such schemes where reservoirs were to be created. For efficient functioning of multi-purpose reservoirs, it was also imperative that flood forecasting be introduced for all major river valley projects. The tempo of work on soil conservation, surface drainage, diversions, and channel improvements had to be increased and the emphasis on the conduct of surveys, investigations and collection of data maintained.

He also made a strong plea for organization of all-India cadres for important nation-building services. The technical and scientific services in the public sector, he added, should be upgraded so as to be at par with, if not more attractive, than administrative and other services.

The meeting concluded on November 25. It was attended by representatives of international organiza-

tions, including the ECAFE and the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage. In addition, about 70 members of the Board, Central, State and Project engineers, and experts in irrigation and power were present at the meeting. The technical agenda of the session included discussions on the provision of experimental agricultural farms in project areas, water requirements of crops and rapid utilisation of irrigation supplies.

Investigation For Teesta Dam

An announcement dated November 18 says that geological and hydrological investigations for a dam on the river Teesta in West Bengal have been recently undertaken by the Central Water and Power Commission of the Union Ministry of Irrigation and Power. The dam would be located at a suitable point in Darjeeling district of West Bengal, where 3,00,000 kw. of hydro-electric power at 50% load factor would be generated. The project would also moderate the floods in the lower regions of the river. A sum of Rs. 6.7 lakhs has been sanctioned for the investigations.

Agreement On Upper Sileru Project

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 25, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, said in a statement that an agreement had recently been signed between Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments for working out the Upper Sileru Hydro-electric project during the Second Five Year Plan.

The agreement provided that Andhra Pradesh Government could proceed with Upper Sileru, Stage I Project, without interfering with the construction of Balimela Dam. Andhra Pradesh would submit Upper Sileru Stage II scheme envisaging a dam at Guntawada, and Orissa would submit its scheme for a dam at Balimela as soon as possible, so that a choice could be made in good time for the Third Five Year Plan. The dam, either at Guntawada or Balimela, would store 4200 cusecs of water to be shared equally between the two States, with freedom to utilise their respective share for generating power.

Kakrapara Project In Bombay

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 17, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power stated that the total expenditure reported to have been incurred on the Kakrapara Project up to the end of August 1959 was Rs. 11.27 crores, which represented about 60% of the total revised estimated cost of the project. The weir was completed in 1953.

RECENT FLOODS IN WEST BENGAL

Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, Union Minister for Irrigation and Power, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 20, a statement on the floods in the lower Damodar Valley in West Bengal in the first fortnight of October 1959, and the part played by the D.V.C. reservoirs. The total area inundated in West Bengal was about 14,28,000 acres. Loss to Aman crop was estimated at Rs. 35 crores. It was reported that 2,71,535 houses had been either damaged or destroyed. The number of human lives lost was 63 and that of cattle-head, 4003. The estimate of damage had not yet been completed.

The Minister stated that the channel of a river, of whatever size, should be properly maintained continuously so as to enable it to carry the discharge that might flow into it, as, otherwise the discharge capacity was decreased and gave rise to flooding. The standard measure to reduce this risk was to discharge periodically into the river quantities of water sufficiently big in volume to scour away the silt. In times of normal rainfall such discharges were effected at periodical intervals by storing water against the flood storage capacity.

Storage Levels At Maithon And Panchet

The monsoon storage levels at Maithon and Panchet reservoirs were 480′ and 410′ respectively and the maximum permissible flood storage levels at 500′ and 440′.

Towards the end of the first week of August 1959, the Lower Valley had a short spell of very wet weather. The DVC met the situation by suspending discharge of water into the irrigation canals so that the accumulated rain water could drain away quickly. The drainage process was largely completed by the middle of September but the land was still saturated. Another spell of wet weather was experienced at this time. The discharge from the reservoirs was reduced from September 19 on account of the exceptional congestion of rain water in the Lower Valley with the result that reservoir level at Maithon and Panchet could not be brought down.

By October the levels at Maithon and Panchet had reached El. 490 and El. 423 respectively, and consistent with safety there was no alternative but to increase the discharges. According to the advice of the State Government authorities the maximum discharge that the Damodar could take at Durgapur was 250,000 cusecs. This figure was exceeded for a duration of 36 hours.

The Minister added that the DVC had reported that all the approved principles and procedures laid down for operation of reservoirs to achieve the primary object of giving protection to the Lower Valley against floods had been followed by the Corporation having regard to the safety of the structures which was of paramount importance.

He observed that the recent floods in the Lower Valley had demonstrated the inadequacy of flood protection measures afforded by hitherto completed projects of the DVC. The Corporation had not at any time claimed that these four dams or any number of additional dams would totally eliminate disruption of normal life for all time to come.

Committee To Study Flood Problems

The Minister said that the West Bengal Government proposed to appoint another Committee to undertake a comprehensive study of flood control problems relating to all river basins in West Bengal, including the Damodar river system, and to make recommendations in regard to measures to be taken to avoid as far as possible catastrophe arising from inundation of vast areas in West Bengal.

He also referred to the appointment of a committee of experts by DVC, with Shri S.D. Khungar as chairman, to survey the water resources of the Damodar Valley, and recommend how best these could be utilised for economic development of the region. The Khungar Committee's report, he added, was expected some time towards the end of November, 1959.

Development Plan For Damodar Valley Area

The DVC projects were conceived as an integrated whole for the unified development of the Damodar Valley area. The flood that occurred in the Damodar Valley in 1943, though of a magnitude of 3½ lakh cusecs only, caused extensive damage to private and public property and hampered the war efforts of the Government.

The services of Mr. W.L. Voorduin, a senior engineer on the staff of the Tennessee Valley Authority, were secured by Government to study the problems of the Damodar and to make recommendations for its comprehensive development. Mr. Voorduin presented his report in August 1945.

The primary consideration in the plan of development as drafted by Mr. Voorduin was flood control, though it was deemed desirable that as far as possible the system of dams should be capable of producing the largest quantity of power which should be made available and used to the maximum extent possible and to regulate the flow of water of irrigational purposes.

Mr. Voorduin's scheme envisaged *inter alia* the construction of 8 storage reservoirs and weirs across the Damodar and a network of canals providing perennial irrigation to 7,60,000 acres in the Lower Valley in West Bengal.

Soon after the D.V.C. came into existence, it decided to execute the scheme in two phases; the first phase covering four dams with connected hydro-electric stations, namely, Tilaiya Konar Maithon and Panchet, and, in addition, a thermal power station at Bokaro with transmission system and the irrigation barrage at Durgapur, and a canal system. The rest of the four dams, namely, Balpahari, Aiyar, Bokaro and Bermo, were to form the second phase.

Mr. Voorduin's project provided for the full control of a design flood of the magnitude of one million cusecs, limiting the flood flow at Rhondia to the bankful capacity of 2,50,000 cusecs. The first-phase projects of the DVC, which have practically been completed, are, however, capable of controlling a flood of a magnitude of 6,50,000 cusecs only.

The September 1958 flood that occurred in the Damodar Valley was of the magnitude of 6,65,000 cusecs, and the moderation of the flow by the D.V.C. was very effective.

The Corporation submitted proposals soon after the 1958-floods for the construction of Aiyar Dam to provide for additional flood protection and to meet the requirements of water for industrial purposes. The matter was also discussed by the participating Governments at their Conference held in April, 1959.

In pursuance of the decision taken thereat the adequacy or otherwise of the present four dams to provide protection against all floods is being examined and reviewed by a committee of experts appointed by the DVC under the chairmanship of Shri S.D. Khungar.

Transfer Of Control Of Hirakud Dam

Placing a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 17, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, stated that the transfer of control of Hirakud Dam Project to Orissa Government had been agreed to and that this transfer was going to take place on April 1, 1960.

The Deputy Minister gave the following details of the financial arrangements regarding the transfer of control of Hirakud Dam to Orissa Government:

(a) Stage I of the construction estimates would be closed with effect from March 31, 1960, and the State Government would take over the maintenance of the Project as completed, from April 1, 1960.

(b) The revenue and expenditure of the Project and the interest on the capital would, with effect from April 1, 1960, be included in the State budget.

(c) For the next two financial years, the Central Government would give a loan to the State Government to make good the difference between the interest paid on the capital of the Project and the net receipts after allowing for maintenance, depreciation, etc. under the rules.

(d) The loan mentioned in the previous sub-paragraph would be treated as a general purpose, loan and would not be added to the capital cost of the Project.

(e) The Chiplima Project would be treated as a separate Part II Project of the scheme. The Government of India would advance to the State Government the finance required for the construction of the Project, including the interest accruing during the period of construction. When this Project was completed and its estimate closed, the interest on capital and the receipts and expenditure connected with it would form part of the revenue budget of the State.

Hirakud Power For Madhya Pradesh

In a written reply to another question he stated that the Hirakud Control Board at its meeting held on September 25, 1959 discussed the proposal to supply 5,000 kw of power from the Hirakud Dam Project to Madhya Pradesh and was of the view that the project should supply 5,000 kw of power by the end of 1961 to Madhya Pradesh for meeting the needs of Raigarh. Further action on the recommendation of the Control Board would be taken by the Government of Orissa.

MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON BHAKRA DAM MISHAP

In a statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 16 on the mishap at the Bhakra Dam, Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, said that the dewatering operations in the Bhakra power house were completed on October 25. A subsequent examination of the power plant and equipment showed that the damage was not likely to exceed Rs. 30 lakhs as against the previous estimate of Rs. 50 lakhs.

The power house, the Minister added, was expected to be ready for trial run in August 1960, while electricity would be made available to the Nangal Fertiliser Factory in September 1960, as scheduled.

Choking Of Right Diversion Tunnel

But the main problem, he said, was the choking of the right diversion tunnel for repairing the damaged Hoist Chamber. In its recent meeting the Bhakra Board of Consultants confirmed their previous advice that first priority should be given to the choking of the right diversion tunnel at the upstream end, and generally approved of the steps taken by the project authorities in pursuance of their recommendation to dump concrete wire crates to seal the mouth of the tunnel, which was started on October 10 with the help of the Army engineers.

The Minister observed that though no definite date could be given, it was expected that the choking operations would be completed by April 1960. He also hoped that if the operations were successful by that date there would be no appreciable delay in the completion of the Bhakra Dam.

Total Cost Of Repairs

The total expenditure on repairs up to the end of October 1959 was Rs. 14 lakhs. Although it was difficult to indicate at this stage a precise estimate of the cost of the repairs, the indications were that the total cost would not exceed Rs. 1.2 crores. This was over and above the expenditure that would normally have been incurred on the plugging of the Hoist Chamber and the right diversion tunnel, he added.

Recapitulating his statement made on the floor of the House on August 24 that the causes of the accident could not be ascertained until the mouth of the right diversion tunnel was closed and the water drained from the Hoist Chamber, he stated that the Enquiry Committee would have to wait until such time as the operations, now under way, to plug the mouth of the diversion tunnel reached a stage when the flow of water into the Hoist Chamber would be effectively checked.

Compensation To Workers Involved In Mishap

The Minister informed the House that in addition to the normal compensation admissible under the Workmen's Compensation Act, the Punjab Government had sanctioned a compensation of Rs. 5,000 for the family of each of the workmen involved in this mishap and had also undertaken to educate their children upto graduate standard free of cost.

In the case of a sectional officer who lost his life, the Punjab Government had sanctioned a compensation of Rs. 8,000. As he was not entitled to any compensation under the above Act, the Government had under consideration the question of sanctioning suitable gratuity in his case.

Careful Investigation

Referring to the reports which had appeared in the Press questioning the suitability of the dam site, the wisdom of increasing the height of the dam, and using the diversion tunnel with the adjunct of a Hoist Chamber for regulating the supply of water for irrigation during the period of construction, the Minister observed that the height of the dam was originally proposed to be 680 ft. It was found necessary to dig the foundations some 60 ft. deeper in the upstream clay band portion. As the accepted engineering practice was to measure the height of the dam from the deepest point in the foundations, the dam height rose from 680 to 740 ft., even though the top level of the dam remained the same as before. The regulation of storage supplies through the right diversion tunnel was an integral part of the schemes prepared in 1946 and 1949.

Such an arrangement was absolutely essential for ensuring continuity of supplies to the old Sirhind Canal and the only modification made subsequently was that, instead of the regulating arrangements being a permanent feature, they were to be put out of commission as soon as the dam rose to a sufficiently high level to enable the second tier of dam outlets to function, he added.

CONSULTANTS FOR I & P PROJECTS

In a statement, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in reply to a question on November 30, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, stated that it had been decided to constitute a panel of four consultants initially for a period of one year with effect from December 1, 1959, to advise on problems pertaining to irrigation and power projects that might be referred to them.

Foreign Exchange For Power Projects

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 30, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, laid on the Table of the House a statement which said that the foreign exchange demands of State Governments and Union Territories in India for the period April to September 1959 were Rs. 1441.37 lakhs for 'core' and Rs. 853.57 lakhs for 'non-core' power projects. Corresponding figures for the period October 1959 to March 1960 were Rs. 1754.51 lakhs and Rs. 1037:25 lakhs respectively. The total foreign exchange already released during 1959-60 amounted to Rs. 1527 lakhs, the statement added.

NEYVELI TRAINEES LEAVE FOR U.S.S.R.

An announcement dated November 19 says that, the first batch of 21 trainees of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation left for the U.S.S.R. from New Delhi the same day for training in the erection, operation and maintenance of modern thermal power station. The training will last for nine months.

The thermal power station, which is one of the component parts of the Integrated Neyveli Lignite Project, is being installed under the 500 million rouble Soviet credit. An agreement for the supply of machinery, equipment and the technical services connected with the erection and commissioning of the power station was signed in New Delhi on May 6, 1959, between Messrs. Technoexport, Moscow, and the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. The agreement also provides for the training of 40 Indian experts in the various establishments in the U.S.S.R.

The thermal power station will have an installed continuous rated capacity of 250,000 kw. The first unit will be commissioned by April 1961 and the entire power station by about the middle of 1962.

Rural Electrification In Bombay State

In a written answer to a question, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, stated in the Lok Sabha on November 20 that under the programme of expansion of power facilities to increase employment opportunities, which was a programme mainly intended for rural areas, a loan of Rs. 43 lakhs was asked for by the Bombay State Government. This amount, he added, was sanctioned. The amount proposed to be given to the Bombay Government during 1959-60 was Rs. 30 lakhs.

Irrigation And Power Schemes

In a written reply to another question, he said that the total amount allocated to major and medium irrigation projects was Rs. 7782.8 lakhs and to power projects Rs. 5746.9 lakhs for Bombay under the Second Plan.

He also laid on the Table of the House a list of 109 irrigation and 15 powers schemes in Bombay State for which this allocation had been made.

Documentary Films On Power Projects

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 16, Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, told that documentary films on power projects were being produced since 1949. In fact they formed an important section of our film production.

A list of films already produced and those now under production, placed on the Table of the House, revealed that 12 documentary films had so far been produced on different power projects and 15 more were under production. The completed films were: 'Rivers in Harness' (showing different river projects under construction), 'River of Hope' (Damodar Valley Project), 'Project for Plenty' (Hirakud Project), 'Taming the Sutlej' (Bhakra-Nangal Project), 'Tungabhadra', 'Benefits of Bhakra-Nangal' 'Earth and Water' (Bhavani river), 'Kakrapar', 'Hirakud', 'Bhakra-Nangal' 'Chambal' and 'Koyna'.

Community Development

U. N. EVALUATION MISSION'S REPORT ON C. D. PROGRAMME

The United Nations Evaluation Mission, which was organised by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration at the request of the Government of India to assess the community development programme, its basic objectives, its impact on the process of general development and of changing attitudes in the villages, its capacity to contribute to the economic advancement of the country and the results so far achieved, has submitted its report.

The Mission has hailed C.D. programme as 'one of the major experiments of the 20th century' the results of which are of 'world-wide interest'. It adds, 'No country has undertaken community development on as wide a scale as India'.

The Mission recognises that the problem of change is parti-

cularly difficult in Indian villages where the force of ancient culture is still strong and pervasive and where two of the major traditional systems — the land tenure and the caste systems — are inherently conservative and opposed to change. While change can be brought about by compulsion, India has chosen the way which involves local initiative and voluntary co-operation.

The community development programme, according to the report, "represents an effort of unprecedented magnitude to establish a progressive system of agriculture in a land of impoverished soil and a more democratic social structure in a hierarchical (caste) society".

Although the programme has been initiated and undertaken by the party in power, the opposition parties, the Mission observes, also support it as a whole and only criticise its shortcomings and inadequate implementation. Since all parties support planned community development, the Mission suggests that M.P.s and M.L.A.s might assume even greater responsibility for leadership in this movement.

It has noted that the programme has been integrated with general administration taking care not to create a separate administrative machinery or hierarchy. It discounts the criticism that the cost of the staff is excessive. The Block funds spent on staff salaries cannot be regarded as an overhead administration charge because most of the staff is not involved in administration but engaged in the programme of assistance and guidance to rural people.

The report is critical of the present grant-in-aid policy which, the Mission feels, very often weighs so heavily on the whole programme that the fulfilment of the targets by B.D.O.s and other staff is measured by the amount of money spent.

Emergency Task Force

The Mission attaches supreme importance to the need for increasing agricultural production and pleads for greater concentration of staff and funds in areas where irrigation facilities have been provided or new land has been reclaimed. In such areas, it suggests formation of an 'emergency task force' by increasing the number of village-level workers and strengthening the agricultural extension staff by addition of crop and irrigation experts. Such a task force might be moved from one area to another wherever economic or agricultural conditions warrant such an intensive programme.

The main task from now on, the report adds, is to protect the soil from destruction and increase its productive capacity. A series of measures including speedy land reforms and public works programmes centred on soil improvement have been recommended by the Mission.

The rate of expansion of the programme will be 'crucial' to the ultimate success of the programme. It urges the Government of India to consider whether for several years to come expansion should proceed at the rate accepted for 1959 (300 blocks) or whether the additional efforts should rather be concentrated on consolidating the existing blocks. 'A too fast and unrealistic rate of expansion can only multiply existing difficulties and create illusory coverage achievements.'

The Mission recommends weeding out of inefficient and undesirable persons which, in some States, is estimated at 25 per cent. of the total and strengthening of supervision and better in-service training.

The report contains suggestions for utilising unskilled labour, which is abundant in villages, for intensification of agriculture, soil conservation, minor irrigation, afforestation, etc. In all these labour intensive activities, the community development workers must play a key role as stimulators, advisers and organisers of people in local communities.

The Mission supports the principle of voluntary service and considers an all-India plan to utilise man-power as an urgent requirement. The Government, it says, may consider whether the time is ripe for a National Youth Service for specified age-groups.

Investments In C.D. Schemes

Investments made so far under the C.D. scheme, the Mission thinks, have ended more in the direction of roads, wells and schools, etc., rather than in the direction of agricultural improvement. The provision of village amenities like paving of the streets and construction of panchayat buildings might be delayed and the money and labour spent on more productive operations.

The report also refers to the widely shared impression that *shramdan* is seldom applied to agricultural improvement and that it has lost its initial drive and enthusiasm.

Pointing out that there are not many C.D. projects in the village industries sector with a definite link with urban markets, it feels that plans and training for small scale industries in the rural areas should be made in the light of anticipated future developments especially of new sources of power that may become available in the next few years.

The report adds that India must gradually change the concept of village self-sufficiency and relate its rural improvement programme to the industrial development of the country as a whole under Five Year Plans. India already has labour and cattle resources that are not fully employed. It would be unfortunate to have under-employed machinery as well.

Commenting on health improvement, the report admits that for most of India, it is through community development planning that health services have penetrated into remote rural areas. This is particularly true of maternity and child health services.

Importance Of Co-operatives

The Mission appreciates the fundamental importance of co-operative endeavour in community development. It commends efforts to promote service co-operatives, as an aspect of community development, for collective purchase and sale and joint use of equipment (such as pumps and, in due course, tractors).

Marketing co-operatives, the Mission opines, should form a major element in any plan for the marketing of agricultural production, particularly of food-grains, and producer co-operatives should be the foundation of a national marketing plan.

The current proposal for state monopoly of the grain trade cannot succeed, it observes, unless there is a vast network of local co-operatives for storing and selling grain.

For the success of co-operatives, education of members, initiative and energy in the administrative personnel and advanced commercial training for managerial staff are regarded essential. The report states that there are two main aspects of women's programme viz., need for teaching skills to women who must earn cash for the sake of their families; and the integration of teaching of the improvement of house-hold premises and family life in terms of food, health, etc.

Panchayats are so important in laying the foundation of village government that they should be able to rely to an increasing extent on their own activities for the welfare of the community. They are to be charged with making development plans at the village-level. The Panchas as a group will, however, need careful and persistent training in these important new aspects of their responsibilities. The report suggests that the State might consider returning to the panchayats a larger percentage of the land revenue.

Dealing with the problems of special groups like scheduled castes and tribes, the Mission welcomes the financial assistance in the Block budget for improving the living quarters of Harijans. It also notes that in the primary schools Harijan children take their place among the rest without being made conscious of their caste. The primary school might prove to be one of the most potent influences in removing the social stigma from this group of villagers.

Probably no single aspect of community development work in India, says the report, has received more attention than the training schemes. Other countries, less advanced than India in establishing a community development movement, will find the training schemes in India of great value.

Impact On People's Mind

Referring to the change in people's attitude brought about by the programme, the Mission endorses findings of various research institutes that in C.D. areas farming families are reducing their expenditure on ceremonies like weddings. Instead, they are putting money in improvements of land and farms.

In its direct contacts with villagers, the Mission has noticed that the shackles of the old bondage of dependence on monsoon rains are being slowly loosened, demand for better seeds and insecticides is growing and the fatalistic attitude towards disease is disappearing. Although changes in the social sphere appear slower, village families are sending their girls to schools and early marriages are on the decline.

The villagers' inability to understand the vital link between greater production, increased taxation and hence more funds for welfare services is responsible for their expectations sometimes tending to be unrealistic. Unless some rudimentary economic teachings are arranged for leaders in village society, the Mission cautions, there may be real frustration.

Irrigation Areas In Pre-Extension Blocks

According to an announcement dated November 29, the Union Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation, in a circular letter to the State Governments, have emphasised that the entire area proposed to be commanded by major and medium irrigation projects should be covered by pre-extension Blocks. This would ensure that these areas receive the benefit of agricultural extension for one year preparatory to the irrigation becoming available.

Education & Culture

MERIT-CUM-MEANS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TECHNICAL STUDIES

An announcement of November 29 says that a scheme for the award of 1039 merit-cum-means scholarships for technical studies — 692 for degree courses and 347 for diploma courses — in the current financial year has been formulated by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs and will be implemented with immediate effect.

Each scholarship, which is tenable for twelve months in the year, is of the value of Rs. 75 p.m. for degree courses in engineering or technology and Rs. 50 p.m. for diploma courses. The institutions where the scholarship holders are studying will be requested to exempt them from tuition fees. If that is not agreed to, the value of the scholarships will be increased by an amount

equal to the fees payable.

The scheme, an outcome of the recommendations of the All-India Council for Technical Education, the Central Advisory Board of Education, the Estimates Committee and other bodies, is designed to extend State help to meritorious and needy students.

Other Scholarships

The scholarships awarded to new entrants this year will be continued next year provided they maintain satisfactory progress in their studies. An equal number of scholarships will also be instituted next year for fresh entrants. It is hoped that all these awards will be continued in the Third Plan period.

At the Higher Technological Institutes of the Central Government at Kharagpur, Bombay and Madras, scholarships are awarded to about 5 per cent of the students in the under-graduate courses. A similar provision will also be made in the Northern Higher Technological Institute to be established at Kanpur.

The Central Government are also awarding scholarships of an adequate value to 50 per cent of students doing post-graduate courses in engineering and technology, besides 800 research scholarships for science, engineering and technology at various universities and institutions in the country.

Common Admission Test For Engineering Colleges

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 23, the Deputy Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, Dr. Mana Mohan Das, stated that, the details of common admission test that may be held for the higher technological institutes were being formulated in consultation with the institutes' authorities. A common test for admission to the various engineering colleges in the country had been recommended by the All India Council for Technical Education.

A majority of the States that were consulted did not agree to the recommendation. The matter was, therefore, discussed at the State Chief Ministers' conference in May 1959, where it was agreed that the States might reconsider the recommendation. The decisions of individual States were awaited.

Reservation Of Seats In Technical Colleges

In reply to a question, Dr. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, stated in the Lok Sabha on November 26 that most of the technical institutions offer preferential treatment to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students in the matter of admissions by way of reservation of seats upto 20% and relaxation of upper age limits and qualifying marks.

These concessions were recommended by the Central Government but they were not uniform and varied from institution to institution, added the Minister.

Limitation Of Admission In Colleges

The statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha by Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister for Education, in reply to a question on November 23, states that ten State Governments have accepted a recommendation to restrict the strength of students in each college in their areas to about 800 or 1000. The States are: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Punjab, Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

According to the statement, the Government of Uttar Pradesh were agreeable to implement the Scheme as long as it did not disturb the existing pattern of secondary education in the State. Most of the Universities in Bombay State had already introduced the Scheme but the State Government had not yet taken a decision about its matching contribution. The State Governments of Assam and Jammu and Kashmir had not communicated their decision yet.

The recommendation that the number of students in a college should be restricted to the limit of 800-1000, unless, a college was built for larger numbers and had adequate facilities, was made by the Three-Year Degree Course Estimates Committee appointed by the Union Ministry of Education and was accepted by the Union Ministry and the University Grants Commission. Pursuant to this recommendation, it had been made a condition for the grant of central assistance to Government and non-Government colleges for the introduction of the Three-Year Degree Course Scheme that a college with more students and without adequate facilities should bring down the enrolment to the limit gradually over a period of 3 or 4 years.

Industrial Units In Universities

In reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 25, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister for Education, laid on the Table of the House a statement, in which he said that, the establishment of four or five small industries units in each university to pre-dispose students towards skilled work and to provide facilities for 'earning while learning' was now being contemplated by Government as an experimental measure. Already 20 universities had accepted the proposal, but only 10 universities will be selected for the implementation of the scheme.

In all 150 students from each university would take the industrial training, each student having to give an undertaking to work for eight months in the year in the unit.

The scheme had been drawn up by the University Grants Commission and the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the statement added.

Regional Conference of Planning Forums

The Central Regional Conference of University Planning Forums was held at Bhopal on November 21 and 22. Two delegates, one teacher and one student, from each of 53 Planning Forums from the Universities of Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Roorkee, Banaras, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Saugor, Ujjain and Jabalpur participated. Shri S.N. Mishra, Union Deputy Minister (Planning) and Chairman of the University Planning Forums, presided.

The Conference reviewed the progress of the movement so far, discussed the co-ordination of the Planning Forums' work at University and State levels and worked out the future programme.

At the time of the preparation of the Second Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission wrote to the Vice Chancellors of the Indian Universities on the subject of associating teachers and students with process of thinking on the Plan. Consequently, Planning Forums — or associations of teachers and students — were formed in the Universities and colleges. Their number stood at 72 in April 1956. Today it has gone up to 350.

Scholarships for Handicapped

The Government of India have invited applications under their scheme of "Scholarships for the Orthopaedically-Handicapped Children" from orthopaedically-handicapped students between 6 and 25 years of age who wish to receive general education, professional or technical training, in normal institutions, says an announcement of November 24.

Scholarships for Non-Hindi Students

In reply to a question, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on November 23 a statement in which it is stated that 67 scholars in five non-Hindi speaking States and an Union Territory have so far been awarded post-Matric scholarships during 1959-60. The state-wise awards are: Madras 24, Andhra 16, Kerala 14, Mysore 10, Orissa 2 and Tripura 1.

Replying to another question he said that it had been decided to open Hindi Teachers' Training Colleges for non-Hindi-speaking States on a zonal basis, depending on actual requirements.

Foreign Scholarships For Indians

In a Press Note issued on November 16, the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs have announced that two candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships, one in chemical engineering and the other in Heat Power Engineering, offered by the Government of the U.S.S.R. for post-graduate study/research in the U.S.S.R. during 1959-60.

Yugoslav Scholarships

Another Press Note issued by the Ministry on November 19 says that two candidates have been awarded two of the five scholarships offered by the Government of Yugoslavia for study/research in Yugoslavia during 1959-60. Both the scholarships are for study in Metallurgy. The three other scholarships, which were announced earlier, related to study/research in sculpture, textile designing and painting.

A Swiss Scholarship

A Press Note of November 19 says that a candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship under the Swiss Government Scholarships Scheme 1959-60.

West German Scholarships

In a Press Note issued on November 25, the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs has announced that, 48 candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to Indian nationals for practical training in West Germany in 1959-60. Of these, 6 scholarships are related to subjects in Civil Engineering, 10 in Electrical Engineering, 17 in Mechanical Engineering, 8 in Mining, 4 in Geophysics etc., 2 in Electronics and one in Paper Technology. The award of remaining two scholarships will be announced later.

Norwegian Fellowships

A Press Note, issued by the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs on November 24, states that candidates from countries outside Europe may also be considered for the grant of fellowships by the Royal Norwegian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Norway. The fellowships, of the value of Norwegian Kr. 16,000/- (Rs. 10,600/-) to single and Norwegian Kr. 18,000/- (Rs. 12,000/-) to married research workers for fundamental and applied research science and engineering in Norway, are mainly intended for Europeans. Candidates from other countries, however, will not get travelling expenses covered.

Foreign Students In India

Replying to a question, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, told the Rajya Sabha on November 26 that 3,755 foreign students were studying in the statutory universities and their colleges in India as on March 31, 1958. Of these, 727 students were in receipt of Government of India scholarships.

Basic Education Scheme In Delhi

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, stated that the basic education system had been adopted in 400 schools in Delhi.

Medium Of Instruction In Universities

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 26,

adequate number of beds and specialist services. This should be given a high priority in the medical relief programme of the Third Plan. (5) Ambulance and transport facilities should be provided at referred hospitals to enable them to function properly. (5) Training programmes should be geared up to meet the needs of specialists.

REPORT ON CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SERVICES FOR 1958

According to an announcement of November 22, a report on the working of the Contributory Health Service Scheme during 1958 was published recently. The report has outlined a programme for 1959-60 for the extension of the scheme to Central Government servants outside Delhi in the first instance and to other sectors later.

The report observes that there are welcome signs of an increasing interest on the part of non-official agencies, professional bodies and organisations in promoting medical care plans on the pattern of the CHSS.

To have a clearer picture of the morbidity pattern in Delhi and New Delhi and to be able to plan the health surveys better, a detailed house to house morbidity survey is proposed to be conducted in selected areas over a period of 15 months. This has already been done in respect of 100 families by the Indian Council of Medical Research. Government are considering a proposal for mass X-ray of Government servants as suggested by the CHSS Advisory Committee, the report adds.

The West Bengal Government is understood to have in hand a contributory scheme for dispensary and domiciliary medical services for the low income population of Greater Calcutta. The All India Co-operative Union is considering proposals of a similar nature. Medical associations in various parts of the country have formulated schemes on the basis of regular periodical contributions.

Medical Facilities

Referring to the objective of providing medical facilities for Government servants, the report says that, according to the reorganisation programme, the aim is to establish one dispensary for every 10,000 beneficiaries. As the population at present covered in Delhi is about 4.5 lakhs, 40 dispensaries have to be opened, of which 33 have been set up and the remaining 7 will be operating during this financial year.

The report further details the opening of a physical check-up clinic and three dispensaries, besides taking in hand the construction of two dispensaries, in different parts of Delhi.

Giving a statistical review of work done during the year, the report states that 12,08,571 new and 25,06,410 old cases were treated at various dispensaries as against 10,37,180 and 22,13,750 during 1957. The scheme has furnished valuable information on morbidity patterns. Diseases of the upper respiratory passages with acute and chronic bronchitis were responsible for more than half of the total attendance. T.B. registered a fall from 15.31 to 4.97 per thousand during the four years 1955 to 1958. There has been a remarkable fall in the incidence of malaria as well as of dysentery, anaemias, asthma, trachoma and acute bronchitis, while the diseases of upper respiratory passage and chronic bronchitis showed an increase.

There has been a notable increase in the activities of the family planning centres attached to the dispensaries. Besides giving advice and guidance in planning families, a number of other community and social activities, like the formation of mothers' clubs, free distribution of milk, are also undertaken at these centres.

During the year, a sum of Rs. 46,19,960 was spent on the medical care of the beneficiaries, the per capita expenditure incurred being Rs. 10.81 per annum. The disproportionate rise in attendance, the report remarks, should not be taken as indicative of a deterioration in health, but is attributable largely to the increasing number of beneficiaries.

U.S. Grant For Malaria Eradication

According to an announcement dated November 18, an agreement was signed between the U.S.A. and India the same day to help India's malaria eradication programme. The agreement provides for a grant of Rs. 5.6 crores ($11.8 million) from the U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission for the purchase of over 17 thousand tons of DDT for this year's spraying requirements. This brings the total U.S. dollar contribution to the programme to more than Rs. 29.2 crores ($61 million). This is in addition to a rupee grant (from PL 480 funds) of 8 crores made earlier this year.

The agreement was signed by Mr. C. Tyler Wood, the new U.S. Minister for Economic Affairs and Director, T.C.M., and Shri A.K. Roy, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue and Economic Affairs.

The National Malaria Control and Eradication project was initiated seven years ago and is aimed at eradicating malaria from India and affording full protection to the entire nation within the next few years.

Training Centres For Radiographers

The Government of India, says an announcement of November 23, have decided to open centres in various States for the training of radiographers. To begin with, they have approved the establishment of 10 centres during the Second Five-Year Plan period, one centre each in the States of Rajasthan, Bombay, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Madras and Punjab and the Union Territory of Delhi. The places, where the training centres will be located, will be selected by the State Governments. The expenditure on the scheme will be borne by the Union Government.

A recommendation to the effect that centres for training radiographers should be started in the country was made by the State Health Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi in 1957. Dr. Cochrane Shanks, Director, X-Ray Diagnostic Department, University College Hospital, London, and Adviser in Radiology, U.K. Ministry of Health, who visited India during 1956-57, also emphasised in his report that the shortage of radiographers and of centres for training them in India had the effect of diverting a good number of doctors to work that could be done equally well by non-medical men.

Social Welfare

MIDDLE INCOME GROUP HOUSING SCHEME FOR DELHI

An announcement of November 19 says that the Government of India have decided to extend with immediate effect the Middle Income Group Housing Scheme of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to the Union Territory of Delhi with certain modifications. The scheme will not be financed in the case of Delhi by the Life Insurance Corporation. The funds required for its implementation will be made available from normal Government sources in the same manner as for other housing schemes.

The scheme will form part of the Union Territory's Second Five-Year Plan and a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs has been made for the remaining period of the Plan. It will be administered through the Delhi Administration, which will restrict the grant of loans to holders of plots in approved colonies. Detailed rules for the execution of the scheme are under consideration.

This scheme is intended to assist people with incomes ranging between Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 12,000 per annum to build houses for themselves. In the rest of the country, it is being financed by the Life Insurance Corporation which advances loans to State Governments. The State Governments in turn give loans, ordinarily recoverable in 25 equal annual instalments, to eligible individuals or house building co-operatives.

House Building Co-operatives

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 16, Shri Anil K. Chanda, Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply, stated that co-operative societies of industrial workers with incomes not exceeding Rs. 350 per month were eligible for the grant of financial assistance from the Central Government for construction of houses based on 25% of the approved cost as outright grant and 65% as long-term loan.

Co-operative societies of persons with incomes not exceeding Rs. 500 per month were also eligible for grant of loan-assistance for construction of houses under the Low-Income Group Housing Scheme.

Both schemes were administered through the Delhi Administration which rendered necessary assistance to the prospective house-builders, he added.

Govt. Accommodation In Delhi

Shri K.C. Reddy, Minister of Works, Housing and Supply, told the Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question on November 24 that besides the residential and office buildings that had already been sanctioned for construction, 15,862 additional residential units for various categories of staff would have to be built to meet 80% of the demand, at an estimated cost of about Rs. 1,484 lakhs. Additional office accommodation of 14.59 lakh sq. ft., estimated to cost about Rs. 730 lakhs, would also have to be constructed.

The Planning Commission was being, approached for the allotment of requisite funds during the Third Five-Year Plan period to finance the construction programme.

U. N. Conference On Social Services

Inaugurating the United Nations Asia and Far East Regional Conference on Organisation and Administration of Social Services in New Delhi on November 16, the Union Minister for Education, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, said that social welfare programmes had to be co-related in a large measure to the economic programme which would claim first priority for a long time to come. To develop self-reliance and the spirit of service among the people, it was of the greatest importance that voluntary agencies should be encouraged. He pointed out that if the joint partnership between Government and voluntary organisations was to yield fruitful results, organisational changes both in Governmental and voluntary agencies were imperative. A new experiment in the field of Community Development was being tried now in India. Another experiment was also being tried in the field of social administration. A Central Social Welfare Board had been established by Government with a predominantly non-official membership. The Education Minister said that social welfare was not a pastime of an idle hour. It was necessary to train a band of social workers according to the special needs of different fields, if work in future was to proceed along right lines.

Representatives of over 15 countries and 6 specialised agencies participated in the con-

ference which continued up to November 28.

SALE OF GOVT. PROPERTY TO NON-D P.s

In a Press Note issued on November 29, the Ministry of Rehabilitation has announced that it has been decided to allow non-displaced persons to bid for Government-built properties sold by auction or tender. Such purchasers have further been allowed to associate the claims of their friends and relatives for the payment of the price, provided they themselves pay 30% of the price in cash.

The bulk of claimants have already been paid their compensation. Non-claimants have also more or less been settled. They have been given various concessions to enable them to purchase properties in their occupation and also to acquire properties sold by auction. In spite of all these concessions, it has been observed that a large number of Government-built properties are still lying undisposed of and the displaced persons are not coming forward to purchase these properties, the Note adds.

Labour & Employment

MINIMUM WAGES ADVISORY BOARD

The Government of India, says an announcement of November 23, have re-constituted the Minimum Wages Central Advisory Board with Shri K.N. Subrahmanian, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment, as Chairman. The reconstituted board consists of six representatives each of employers and workers in scheduled employments and a few representatives of State Governments.

The Minimum Wages Act of 1948 applies to a number of employments which are listed in a schedule appended to the Act, e.g., agriculture. The Act requires the constitution of such a board to advise the Central and the State Governments on the question of fixation and revision of minimum rates of wages for workers in scheduled employments and to co-ordinate the work of the State Advisory Boards. It also requires the appropriate Government to fix the minimum rates of wages payable to workers employed in all scheduled employments and the appropriate authority to review periodically the minimum rates of wages fixed and to revise them, if necessary.

Absorption of Surplus Labour

Shri L.N. Misra, Parliamentary Secretary to the Union Labour Minister, stated in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 24 that, Government had a plan for absorption of surplus workers, under which, particulars of surplus workers were reported to State Co-ordinating Units and to a Central Office specially set up to locate vacancies and arrange for the deployment of workers. Selection teams of the appointing authorities visited projects which had surplus labour, interviewed the workers and made a selection, he added.

Guiding Principles For Works Committees

An announcement of November 21 says that the Labour Ministry has set up a tripartite committee, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Ministry, to draw up 'guiding principles' relating to the composition and functioning of works committees. This is in pursuance of a recommendation made by the Indian Labour Conference at its session held in Madras last July.

Industrial Management Pool

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 18, Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, stated that so far 113 officers selected for the various grades in the Industrial Management Pool had accepted the offers. Fiftysix were still to be offered appointments.

The formation of the Industrial Management Pool was sanctioned in November 1957 for staffing managerial posts in public enterprises run either directly by Government or by Corporations or by Companies in which Government have a controlling interest. For the present, the Union Ministries of Steel, Mines and Fuel, Transport and Communications and Commerce and Industry are participating in the Pool.

Industrial Housing Scheme

An announcement dated November 20 says that, during September last, the Governments of Bihar and Rajasthan sanctioned the construction of 3,343 houses at an estimated cost of Rs. 124.54 lakhs under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme of the Union Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. The Union Government will give 50 per cent of the approved cost as subsidy and the balance as loan. Of the tenements sanctioned, the Bihar projects involve the construction of 2,012 houses at Adityapur (near Jamshedpur) and 575 at Kumardhubi, Dhanbad. In Rajasthan, 500 units will be built in Beawar and 256 in Jaipur.

The Government of Bihar have also sanctioned a project formulated by the Tata Locomotive and Engineering Co. Ltd. for putting up 1,000 houses in Jamshedpur, at a cost of Rs. 66.25 lakhs. Financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 10.34 lakhs as subsidy and Rs. 39.34 lakhs as loan will be given by the Union Government for this project.

The States

ANNUAL PLAN OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

An announcement of November 27 says that an outlay of Rs. 450 lakhs has been approved for the Annual Plan of Himachal Pradesh for the year 1960-61. Out of the total outlay an amount of Rs. 131 lakhs is proposed to be spent on roads and road transport, Rs. 83 lakhs for agriculture and allied subjects, Rs. 54 lakhs for Community Development, while an amount of Rs. 46 lakhs has been earmarked for power development. Social services will get Rs. 81 lakhs and industry and mining Rs. 15.5 lakhs.

The Second Five Year Plan outlay for Himachal Pradesh is Rs. 1472.5 lakhs of which Rs. 760 lakhs were spent during the first three year .

Manipur's Annual Plan

An announcement of November 26 says that the Annual Plan of Manipur for the year 1960-61 is of the magnitude of Rs. 241.71 lakhs, including a provision of Rs. 42.24 lakhs for the schemes of the Territorial Council. About Rs. 79.5 lakhs will be spent on roads and road transport, Rs. 26.49 lakhs on Community Development, while Rs. 22.86 lakhs on agriculture. The allocation for social services is Rs. 86.64 lakhs and for power development and village and small industries Rs. 16.4 lakhs and Rs. 6.35 lakhs respectively.

The Second Five Year Plan outlay of Manipur is Rs. 625.23 lakhs out of which an amount of Rs. 193.57 lakhs is estimated to have been spent during the first three years of the Plan. The anticipated expenditure during 1959-60 is about Rs. 189.83 lakhs.

Delhi's Civil Service Cadre

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on November 26, Union Home Minister, Shri G.B. Pant, stated that it had been decided to form State level Civil and Police Services for the joint purposes of the Union Territories of Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. A separate I.P.S. cadre for the two Territories was also expected to be constituted shortly.

In reply to another question Shri Pant said that a joint I.A.S. cadre for Delhi and Himachal Pradesh, consisting of 35 posts, had been constituted with effect from May 11, 1959.

Wazirabad Barrage Opened

Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, opened the Wazirabad Barrage near New Delhi on November 29. The barrage, which ensures pure water supply for Delhi throughout the year, will regulate the flow of the Yamuna and maintain its main channel on the right side, near the water-works. It has a length of 1,491 ft., with underssluices on the right side, consisting of six bays.

Techno-Economic Survey

In reply to a question on November 26, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, stated in the Lok Sabha that, the National Council of Applied Economic Research had been requested to conduct a techno-economic survey of the Union Territories of Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Tripura. The survey was being conducted with a view to assessing the economic potential of each Territory in terms of manpower and other resources as well as for indicating a growth-pattern for the overall economy of the territory with specific emphasis on industrial development and expansion of manpower.

ASSENT FOR MADRAS BILLS

An announcement dated November 24 says that the President has given assent to the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Bill, 1959.

The legislation replaces the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1954, to enable the State Government to remove certain defects experienced in the working of the Act and the defects pointed out by courts.

The present Bill brings within its purview all Hindu public religious institutions and endowments except the incorporated Devaswoms and unincorporated Devaswoms in the Kanyakumari district and the Schencottah taiuk of the Tirunelveli district.

FORESTS BILL

According to an announcement dated November 30, the President has given assent to the Madras Preservation of Private Forests (Amendment) Bill, 1959. The legislation seeks to extend for a period of two years the Madras Preservation of Private Forests Act, 1949, which is due to expire on December 2 this year.

PUNJAB EXCISE ACT EXTENDED TO DELHI

According to an announcement of November 21, the Punjab Excise (Amendment) Act, 1956, has been extended to the Union Territory of Delhi.

The Act makes the possession of a working still for the manufacture of any intoxicant a non-bailable offence.

Defence

TERRITORIAL ARMY ANNIVERSARY

The 10th Anniversary of the Territorial Army was celebrated by all T.A. Units in the country on November 21. The celebration included parades, demonstration marches, civic recep-

tions and social gatherings.

In Delhi the occasion was celebrated by a ceremonial parade in which about 1250 officers and men drawn from all the T.A. Units in Delhi took part. General K.S. Thimayya, Chief of the Army Staff, took the salute. For the first time the Harvard Trainer aircraft and the Vampire jet fighter of the No. 51 (Delhi) Squadron of the Auxiliary Air Force participated in the parade.

Addressing the parade the Army Chief said that the T.A. had been raised as a second line of defence to relieve the regular army in its peacetime duties and called to the men of the T.A. to increase their efficiency on par with that of regular units. Dealing with the need for great deal of improvement, he referred to the dearth of recruits and lack of enthusiasm for full training as the chief drawbacks of the territorial units. He urged the States to extend their full support and help in creating the correct atmosphere in raising the standard of their territorial units.

Recruitment And Training

The T.A., which is largely composed of persons who are not professional soldiers but ordinary citizens eager to contribute their spare time to the country's defence, provides opportunity for the youth of the country to receive military training without disturbing their civil career. The T.A. Army consists of two types of units — Provincial and Urban. Recruitment to the provincial units is open to residents of the zone, while in the urban units it is restricted to the towns where such units are located. There is, however, no difference between the two types except for the mode of training which has been provided to suit the persons joining them. The training consists of recruit and annual training, voluntary training, courses of instruction and attachment to Regular Army and the T.A. units.

In the case of provincial units, recruit training is given for 30 days continuously in camp. The training in urban units is carried out after working hours generally on week-ends and on holidays. Every four hours of training constitute one day. The annual training in the case of provincial units lasts two calendar months. In the case of urban units that is for the minimum of 36 days and to the maximum of 60 days per annum to be completed during non-working hours i.e. on week-ends and holidays. Personnel of the Railway and P. and T. units undergo training for a continuous period of 30 days in a year in a camp.

The T.A. personnel are also encouraged to volunteer their attachment to Regular and Territorial Army units for military training and to attend courses at army schools. All able-bodied citizens of India between the ages of 18 and 35 are eligible for recruitment. Technical personnel belonging to Electrical and Mechanical and Signal and P. and T. units have an upper age limit ranging from 40 to 45 years. The upper age limit is also relaxed in the case of ex-Servicemen, Government officials and persons having technical and medical qualifications.

Five Zones

India is divided into five zones for the purposes of recruitment into the Territorial Army as follows: The first zone comprises Punjab, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi, while the second zone is comprised of Uttar Pradesh alone. Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Manipur and Andaman and Nicobar Islands constitute the third zone and Bombay and Madhya Pradesh the fourth. Madras, Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Kerala and the Laccadive, Minicoy and Aminidivi Islands form the last zone.

Concessions And Benefits

The T.A. personnel are entitled to pay and allowances of the corresponding ranks of the Regular Army for the period they actually undergo training and to various concessions and financial benefits which are at par with those allowed for the personnel of the Regular Army. The T.A. personnel between the ages of 21 to 27 are eligible to apply for Officers' commission in the Regular Army and a quota of 2½% vacancies is reserved for them.

In order to promote healthy competition between the various T.A. units and thereby improve their standard of training and operational fitness, Gen. K.S. Thimayya, Chief of the Army Staff, has instituted a handsome challenge trophy to be awarded to the best T.A. Unit in the whole country every year.

ARMY COMMANDERS' CONFERENCE

Surveying the alround activities of the Army during the past six months before the bi-annual Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi on November 20, General K.S. Thimayya detailed the various defence commitments that had to be undertaken to protect India's frontiers, particularly the northern border.

In this connection, the Army Chief referred to the stupendous engineering effort that was required to be put in to solve logistic problems, one of them being the construction of an elaborate net-work of roads in the difficult terrains of NEFA and other northern regions.

General Thimayya gave an account of the aid given by the Army during the floods in Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal and Surat as also the assistance extended by it to repair the damage to the Bhakra Dam. He said the Army had also accepted the additional assignment of building a floating bridge for the forthcoming Kumbh Mela.

The re-organisation of the Military Engineering Service, he said, was well under way and he hoped that speed and economy would be achieved after the full implementation of the new scheme. He also spoke of the successful execution of Army housing projects to provide living accommodation to a large number of families of JCOs and Jawans at Ambala and Jammu. The execution of similar projects in Ferozepur and other places was receiving attention.

Since the last Conference of Army Commanders, he said, more inventive ideas had been received from the various Army establishments in the country. There was a proposal to grant monetary awards to those who had contributed original ideas.

Defence Committee On Pay Commission's Report

An announcement dated November 18 says that a departmental committee, under the chairmanship of Shri K. Raghuramaiah, Deputy Defence Minister, has been appointed to examine the impact on combatants and enrolled non-combatants of the Defence Services of the recommendations of the Pay Commission (1957). Its terms of reference are to consider the application of the Jagannath Das Commission's recommendations to Defence Services personnel, taking into account the historical background of their present pay structure and other conditions of service, the peculiarity of service in the Armed Forces and other relevant factors.

There will be a representative each of the Ministry of Defence (Shri J.S. Lall), Army Headquarters (Lt.-Gen. M.S. Wadalia), Naval Headquarters (Rear-Admiral A.K. Chatterji), and Air Headquarters (Air Commodore M.S. Chaturvedi) on the committee. The Ministry of Finance (Defence) will also be represented by a senior officer. Shri V. Subrahmaniam, Deputy Secretary of the Defence Ministry, will be the Secretary of this committee. The committee will have the services of an officer each from the Army, Naval and Air Forces (Brig. Virendra Singh, Capt. K.L.K. Row, and Group Capt. C.L. Mehta) to advise them on technical points and to render such detailed assistance as may be found necessary.

The work of the committee will extend into two phases. In the first phase, the committee will frame its recommendations on the manner in which such of the Pay Commission's recommendations which have obvious and immediate impact on Defence Services personnel should be applied to them. In the second phase, the committee wll apply itself to other recommendations of the Pay Commission which need detailed examination and adaptation because of the peculiar features of the terms of service of the Defence Services personnel, and to any items referred to it by Government.

Commissions in Army Medical Corps

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Defence on November 28 says that a number of Short-Service Regular Commissions for a period of three years, extendable up to seven years, are to be granted to civilian doctors, including women doctors in the Army Medical Corps.

Candidates granted Short-Service Regular Commissions will be eligible for consideration for Permanent Regular Commissions in the Army Medical Corps after completion of two years of service provided they do not exceed the specified age-limits.

Electro-Cardiograph Developed By A.F.M.S.

The Armed Forces Medical Services have been successful in developing some very complicated medical equipment during the past one year or so, says an announcement of November 23.

The most important item designed and developed by the A.F.M.S. is a battery-operated electro-cardiograph, a very delicate and sensitive but very sturdy instrument, a prototype of which has been made at its Medical Stores Depot in Poona for the first time in India. The entire machine has been fabricated by the technicians of the Depot and the instrument is 80% indigenous.

Among the other equipment developed by the A.F.M.S. are a tomographic attachment, a combined ultra-violet-infra-red and operation theatre lamp and a light and cautery apparatus.

India & The World

NEW CONTINGENT FOR GAZA

An announcement dated November 19 says that the Indian contingent left New Delhi the same day for Bombay by a special train enroute to the Gaza Strip.

The special train carried nearly 700 personnel, including nine officers, 20 JCOs and 667 other ranks, of the 4th Battalion of the Kumaon Regiment. Another special train carrying stores and 400 personnel of the ancilliary units of the contingent had already proceeded to Bombay. The entire contingent, comprising about 1,200 officers and men, sailed from Bombay by ss MUZAFFRI on November 21. On being relieved the 2nd Battalion of the Grenadiers Regiment will return to India by the end of next month by the same ship.

Indian Mission In Hungary Raised To Embassy Level

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of External Affairs on November 16 says that with a view to further strengthening the friendly relations existing between the Republic of India and the Hungarian People's Republic, the Governments of the two countries have decided to raise with effect from the 1st December 1959 their respective diplomatic representation to the level of an Embassy.

Shri K.P.S. Menon, the Ambassador of India in the U.S.S.R., will be concurrently accredited as the first Ambassador of India to the Hungarian People's Republic.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

NOVEMBER 16 TO 30

November 16 — The winter session of the Lok Sabha begins

— The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, submits to the Lok Sabha a second White Paper containing various notes, memoranda and letters exchanged between the Governments of India and China on India-China border issues during the period from September to November, 1959

— A 13-day U.N. Asia and Far East Regional Conference on Organisation and Administration of Social Services opens in New Delhi

— The report of the U.N. Evaluation Mission on the community development programme in India is released

— Shrimati Lakshmi N. Menon, Deputy Minister of External Affairs, makes a statement in the Lok Sabha on the Minister-level conference on Indo-East Pakistan border disputes

18 — A further grant of Rs. 5.6 crores made by the U.S. Technical Co-operation Mission to India for the malaria eradication programme is announced

19 — Shri Morarji Desai, Union Finance Minister, makes a report to the Lok Sabha on his recent trip abroad

— The Government of India announce decision to make available to Bhutan funds up to a maximum of Rs. 15 crores for road projects in the State

20 — The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, submits to the Lok Sabha his reply dated November 16 to Premier Chou En-Lai's letter of November 7

— Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, makes a statement in the Lok Sabha on the recent floods in the lower Damodar Valley in West Bengal and the part played by the D.V.C. reservoirs

21 — A contingent of about 1,200 Indian Army personnel sail from Bombay for the Gaza Strip

— The tenth anniversary of the Territorial Army is celebrated throughout the country

— The Vice-President, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, inaugurates the Second Asian Youth Hostels Conference in New Delhi

— The report of the Committee on Fisheries Education, appointed by the Government of India in June 1958, is released

23 — The winter session of the Rajya Sabha begins

— The Government of India reconstitute the Minimum Wages Central Advisory Board

— The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, inaugurates the 30th annual meeting of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power in New Delhi

— A supplementary agreement to the P.L. 480 Agreement between India and the U.S.A. is signed in Washington under which India will get 1,50,000 metric tons of rice from the U.S.A.

24 — An agreement providing for a long-term credit of over Rs. 23 crores to India for some industrial projects to be included in the Third Plan is signed between India and Czechoslovakia in New Delhi

— The Government of India announce decision to invite foreign oil explorers to join in the quest for oil in India under mutually acceptable terms

— The Government of India appoint Liaison Officers in the Central Ministries to ensure observance of instructions on the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Services

25 — A two-day debate on India-China relations begins in the Lok Sabha

27 — The Government of India announce decision to prohibit the entry into India of any book, periodical, pamphlet, leaflet or other document which directly or indirectly questions the frontiers of India

— The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, inaugurates the 11th conference of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers in New Delhi

— A two-day meeting of the National Railway Users' Consultative Council opens in New Delhi

28 — Dr. P. Subbarayan, Union Minister of Transport and Communications, inaugurates in New Delhi a meeting of experts convened by the ECAFE Secretariat to consider the development of a net-work of highways linking all countries from Viet Nam to Iran

— The annual meeting of the All India Council of Sports is held in New Delhi

29 — A two-day meeting of the Central Council of Health opens in New Delhi

— Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, inaugurates the Wazirabad Barrage across the Yamuna in Delhi

30 — The Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee submits its report to the Government of India

— The recommendations of the Pay Commission and the decisions of the Government of India on some of those recommendations are announced

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INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY

30TH COURSE

JANUARY 1961

The Union Public Service Commission will hold an entrance examination on the 18th and 19th April, 1960 at Allahabad, Banglore, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jammu, Ludhiana, Madras, Nagpur, Patna and Shillong.

AGE LIMITS:
Candidates must have been born not earlier than 2nd January, 1940, and not later than 1st January, 1943. THESE AGE LIMITS CAN, IN NO CASE, BE RELAXED.

MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:
Intermediate or its equivalent. Applications from candidates who have appeared or intend appearing for the Intermediate or its equivalent examination are acceptable provisionally.

SELECTION:
Candidates, who qualify at the written examination, shall appear before a Services Selection Board for interview and Physical Endurance Test.

Application forms and full particulars are available free of charge from the nearest Recruiting Office, Military Sub-Area Headquarters or National Cadet Corps Unit.

Application forms can also be had from the Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, New Delhi, by remitting Re. 1/- by money order (to be adjusted towards fees later on). Postal orders or cheques or currency notes are not accepted. Candidates must state on the money order coupons "INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY EXAMINATION, APRIL, 1960" and also give their name and full postal address in block letters.

Only unmarried male candidates can apply for admission to this examination. Last date for the receipt of applications is 2nd January, 1960 for those residing in India and 16th January, 1960 for those residing abroad.

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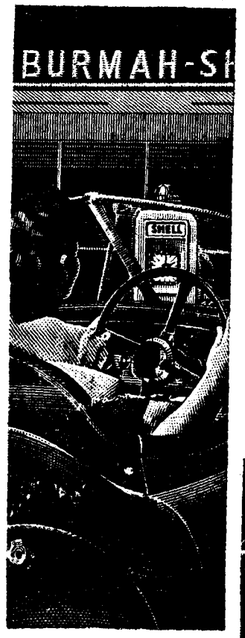

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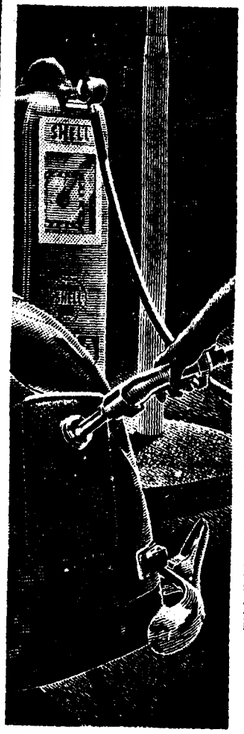

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Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Education Minister, addressing the second Asian Youth Hostels Conference at National Stadium in New Delhi on November 25

Shri Manubhai Shah, Union Minister of Industry, and H.E. Mr. F.Krajcir (third from right), Minister of Foreign Trade of the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic, signing an agreement on Indo-Czech economic collaboration in New Delhi on November 24

M3639

Shri S.K. Patil, Union Minister of Food and Agriculture, in conversation with the Yugoslav Press Delegation, touring India, in New Delhi on November 24

Regd. No.
D—940

The Delegates to the U.N. Asia and Far East Regional Conference on Organisation and Administration of Social services, which met on November 16 in New Delhi, being shown some products of the Social Welfare Craft Centre

The trade delegation from the German Democratic Republic having talks with the representatives of the Government of India in New Delhi on November 25, for the renewal of the Trade Agreement between the two countries which expires on December 31 this year

Mr. C. Tyler Wood, the U.S. Minister for Economic Affairs and Director of the Technical Co-operation Mission, (left) and Shri A.K. Roy, Secretary to the Ministry of Finance, signing in New Delhi on November 18, an agreement providing for a grant of Rs. 5.6 crores ($11.8 million) to India for the Malaria eradication programme.