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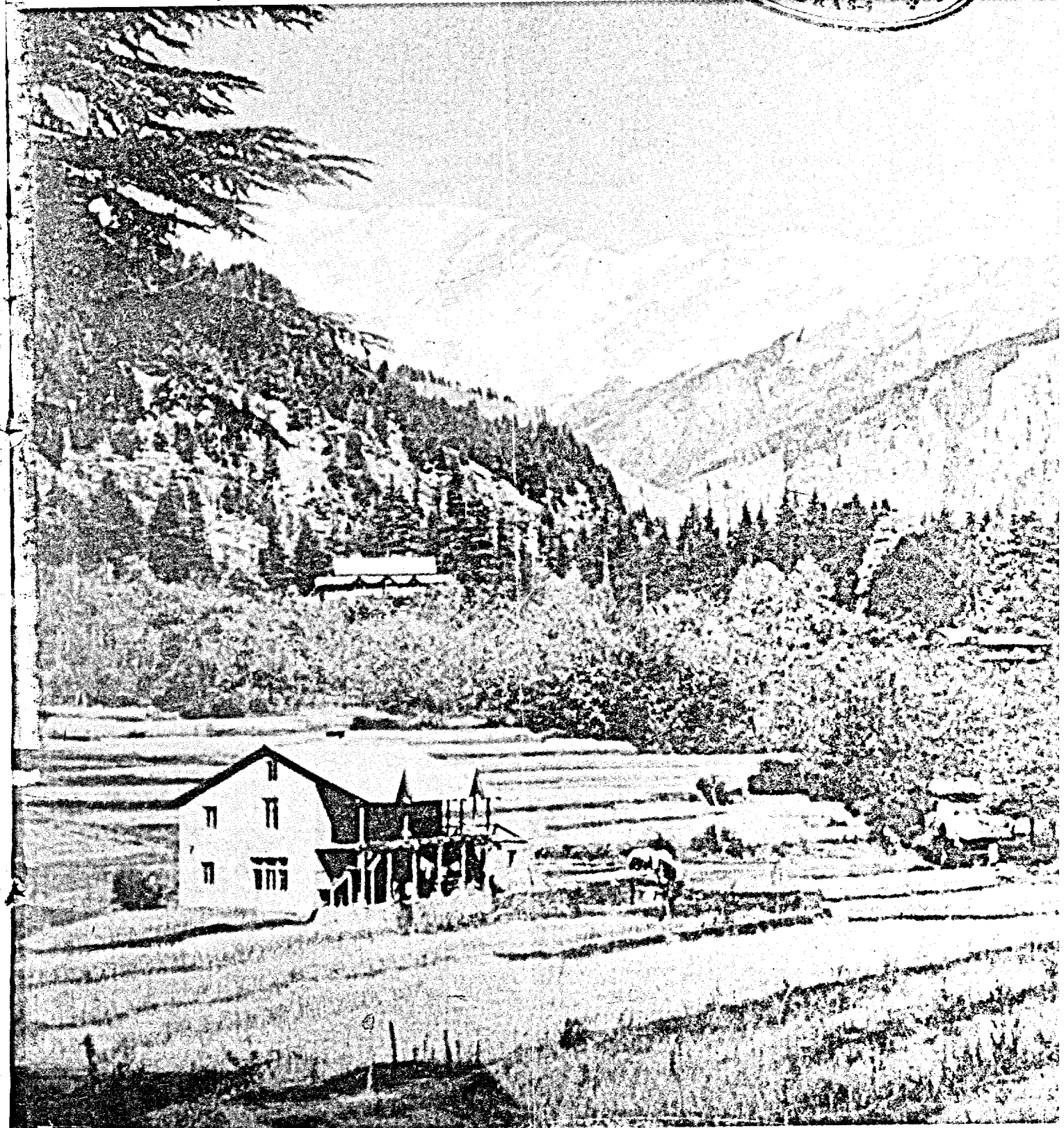
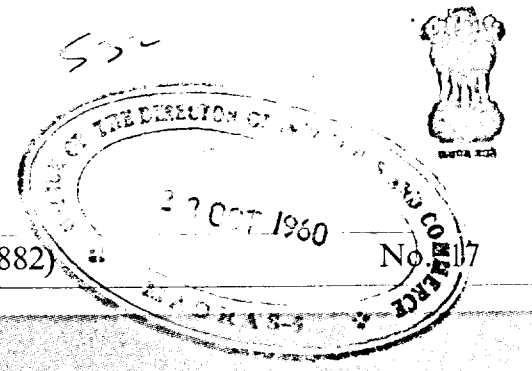
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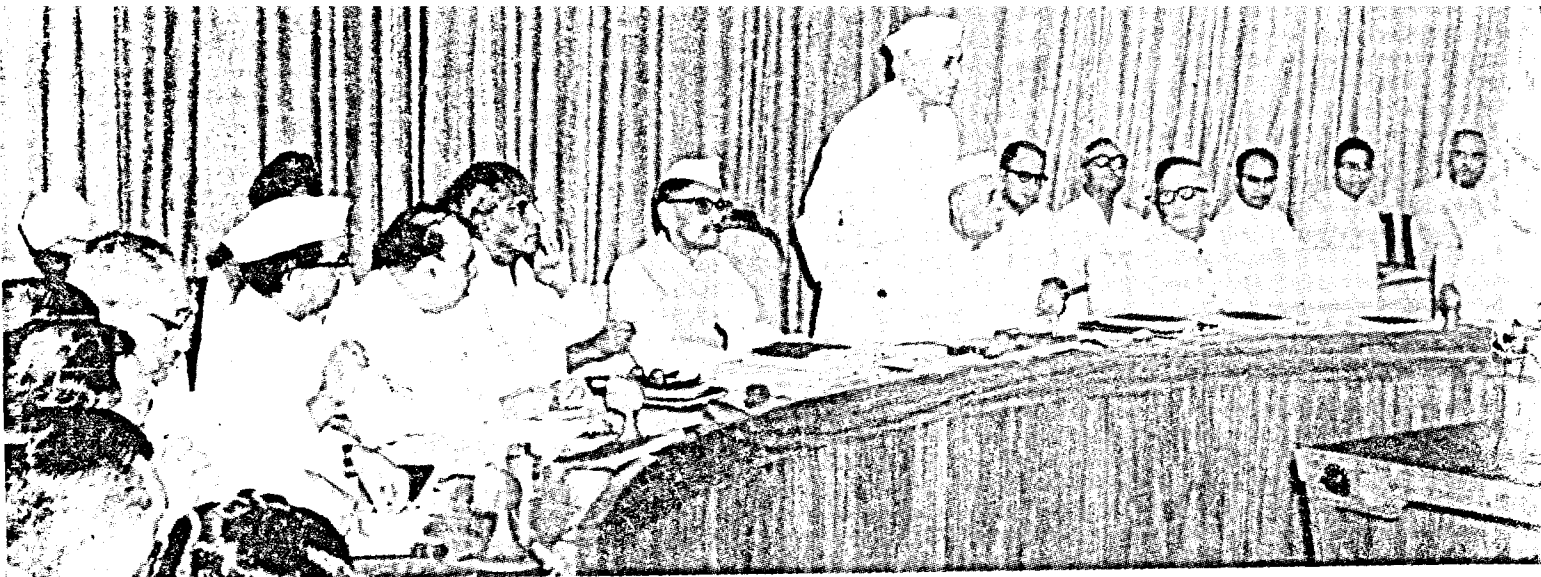
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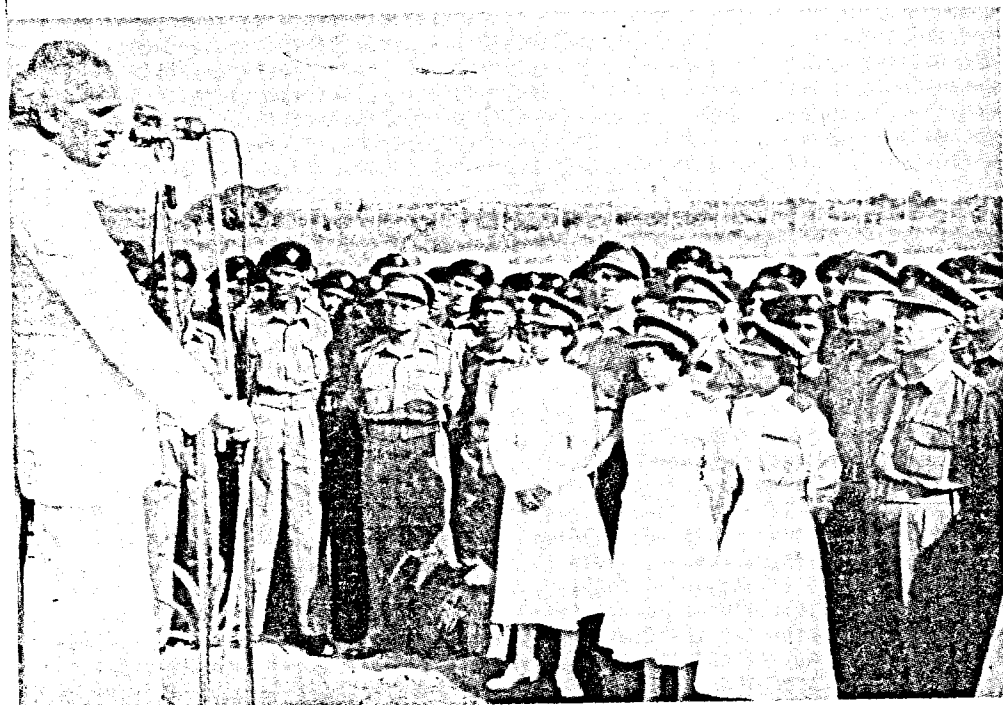
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October 1, 1960 (Asvina 9, 1882)



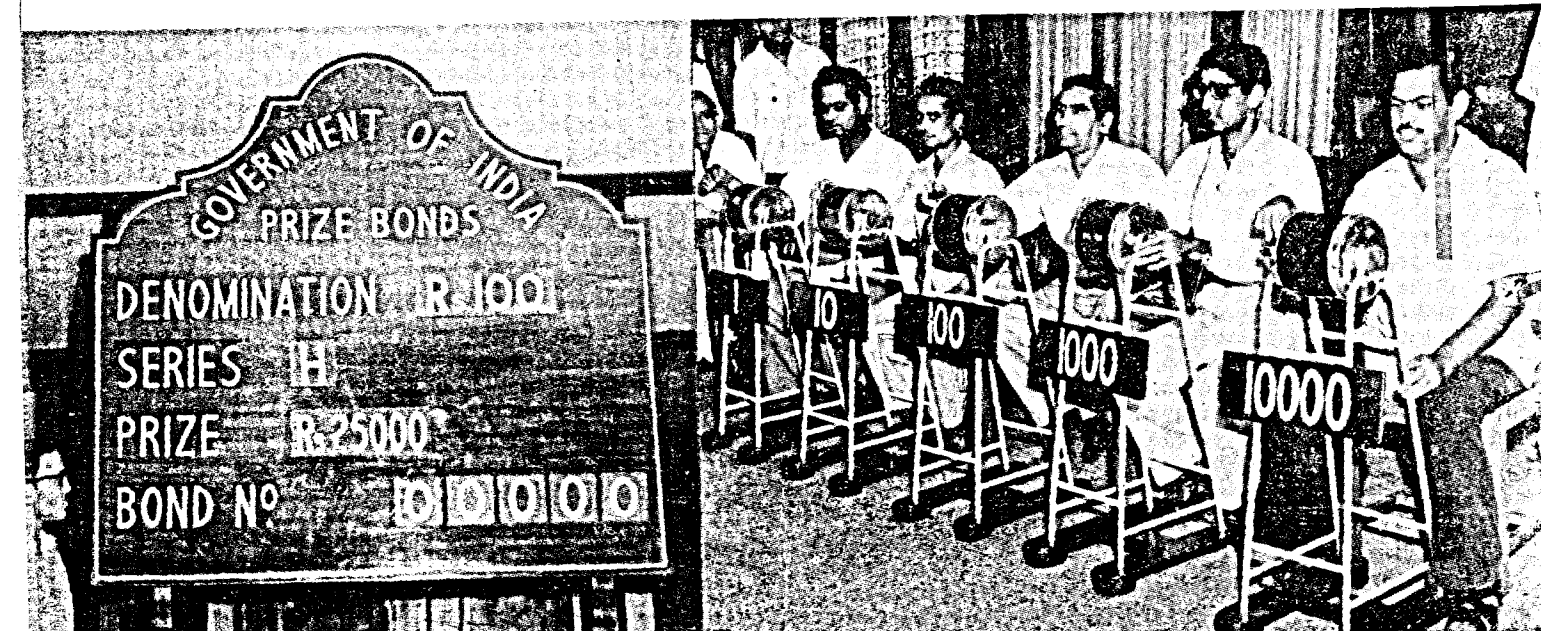


Above : Prime Minister Nehru addressing the meeting of the National Development Council in New Delhi on September 12



Left : The Defence Minister, Shri V. K. Krishna Menon, addressing the personnel of the Armed Forces Medical Services on September 7 before they flew to the Congo for setting up a 400-bed hospital there

Below : Prize-winning numbers being drawn from the specially made drums in the first quarterly draw of Prize Bonds on September 1



Indian Information

VOL. 3

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Asvina 9, 1882

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COVER : A landscape at Manali. Aptly called 'the Queen of the Kulu Valley', Manali is a tourist resort, 23 miles from Kulu in the northern portion of the Punjab State. It is situated in the midst of a pine forest, with high mountains towering above it and the river Beas flowing below.

(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 form. Such items should not be treated as complete and authoritative versions).

Political & General

TRADE AND TRANSIT TREATY BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL

A Treaty of Trade and Transit was signed at Kathmandu on September 11 between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

It is stated in the Treaty that the two Governments, "being animated by the desire to strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries, and convinced of the benefits likely to accrue from the development of

their economies towards the goal of a common market, have resolved to conclude a Treaty of Trade and Transit in order to expand the exchange of goods between their respective territories, encourage collaboration in economic development and facilitate trade with third countries."

The Treaty has provided that the Contracting Parties will promote the expansion of mutual

trade in goods originating in the two countries and will endeavour to make available to each other commodities which one country needs from the other. They will further take care to avoid to the maximum extent practicable diversion of commercial traffic or deflection of trade.

Subject to such exceptions as may be mutually agreed upon, goods originating in either

country and intended for consumption in the territory of the other shall be exempt from customs duties and other equivalent charges as well as from quantitative restrictions.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, either Party may maintain or introduce such restrictions as are necessary for the purpose of (a) protecting public morals, (b) protecting human, animal and plant life, (c) safeguarding national treasures, (d) safeguarding the implementation of laws relating to the import and export of gold and silver bullion, and (e) safeguarding such other interests as may be mutually agreed upon.

Payment for goods and services between the two countries will continue to be made as heretofore.

The trade of the Contracting Parties with third countries will be regulated in accordance with their respective laws, rules and regulations relating to imports and exports.

Payment for transactions with third countries will be made in accordance with the respective foreign exchange laws, rules and regulations of the two countries.

TRANSIT FACILITIES

Goods intended for import into or export from the territories of either Contracting Party from or to a third country will be accorded freedom of transit through the territories of the other Party. No distinction will be made which is based on the flag of vessels, the place of origin, departure, entry, exit, destination or ownership of goods.

Traffic in transit will be exempt from customs duty and from all transit duties or other charges imposed in respect of transit, except reasonable charges for transportation and such other charges as are commensurate with the costs of services rendered for the supervision of such transit.

The Treaty also provides for

periodical consultation with each other so that such difficulties as may arise in its implementation are resolved satisfactorily and speedily.

This Treaty, which replaces the Treaty of Trade and Commerce between the two countries of 31st July, 1950, will come into force on 1st November, 1960. It will remain in force for a period of five years. It will continue in force for a further period of five years thereafter, subject to such modification as may be agreed upon, unless terminated by either party by giving notice of not less than one year in writing.

MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

In the letters exchanged between the Ambassador of India in Nepal, Shri Harishwar Dayal, and the Minister of Commerce in the Government of Nepal, Shri Ram Narayan Mishra, who signed the Treaty on behalf of their respective Governments, it is revealed that the two Governments have also reached the following understanding in regard to the Treaty:

(1) While the Contracting Parties may follow independent policies on trade with third countries, it is understood that if Nepal pursues a policy divergent from that of India, there will be mutual consultations so as to ensure that there is no flow into India of goods imported from third countries.

(2) It is agreed that: (a) His Majesty's Government of Nepal, having regard to their requirements of raising resources for the economic development of Nepal, may continue to levy existing import and export duties on goods imported from or exported to India. The rates of such duties will not, however, exceed those applicable to imports from and exports to third countries. It is understood that there will be no such duties on Government to Government transactions. (b) The existing arrangements between the Contracting Parties for the refund to his Majesty's Government of Nepal of central excise duties on goods exported from India to Nepal are not affected. (c) In order to assist Nepal's industrial development, the Government of India agree that His Majesty's Government may impose protective duties or quantitative restrictions on such goods as may be produced by newly established industries in the country.

(3) It is understood that either party may, in agreement with the other, take measures, if that becomes necessary, to secure a balance in mutual payments, to prevent the smuggling of their currencies from or to third countries, to prevent the re-entry into its territory of

goods passed in transit or to prevent the re-export of goods exported to the territory of the other.

(4) Imports from third countries normally be permitted by either country only against its own foreign exchange resources except for capital goods, spares and industrial raw materials which may be imported against foreign investment. Neither Party will, however, issue any import of licence on the basis that the foreign exchange required for it will be arranged by nationals of the other party.

AID TO NEPAL

Nepal will receive aid from India equivalent to Rupees 91,87,500 for the development of horticulture, veterinary facilities, industry and forestry and the establishment of an engineering school, under five Agreements signed in Kathmandu on August 31, between His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of India.

The Rs. 25,00,000 Agreement concerning horticulture aims at increasing the fruit and vegetable production in Nepal by establishing research stations, research sub-stations, trial orchards and a trial orchard-cum-nursery. Provision has been made in the Agreement for a public park-cum-botanical garden near Kathmandu and a Horticulture society.

The Rs. 25,00,000 Agreement concerning veterinary services provides for increased veterinary facilities by establishing a veterinary research laboratory in Kathmandu and dispensaries in other parts of Nepal. Expansion of veterinary services by training local veterinary assistants is also envisaged in the Agreement.

The Agreement on Industrial Estate provides aid to the extent of Rs. 18,00,000 for establishing an Industrial Estate at Lalitpur (Patan).

The Agreement regarding forestry development provides for aid to the extent of Rs. 15,00,000 for the establishment of the Nepal Forestry Institute at Mitaura.

The fifth Agreement provides

Rs. 8,75,000 for the establishment and maintenance of an engineering school which will train overseers, draftsmen, etc., to meet the demand for engineering personnel for the execution of various development schemes in Nepal.

Including this aid of Rs. 91,87,500, programmes so far approved for Indian aid to Nepal during Nepal's First Plan total Rs. 12.7 crores. It may be recalled that India promised an aid of Rs. 10 crores for the First Plan of Nepal. India has already agreed to support Nepal's Second Five Year Plan by giving aid to the extent of Rs. 18 crores, including the carry-over of the First Plan.

RENEWED HOSTILE ACTIVITY IN KOHIMA

The Union Defence Minister, Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, made a statement both in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha on September 5 regarding 'a local recrudescence of action by Naga hostiles in a remote corner of Kohima District.' The statement said, "Our post at Purr, manned by the Assam Rifles, was fired upon on the 25th August, injuring personnel of the garrison, one of whom died as a result. The post, which had to be supplied from the air, took necessary defensive action. The incident did not assume more serious proportions till the next day.

"On the 26th of August, some 500 hostiles using rifles and light machine guns, closed in on the post from all sides from 2.30 to 3.50 a.m. The post held out against heavy odds but was running short of water and ammunition.

"Two Indian Air Force transport planes were assigned the task of dropping supplies for the post. One of them was able to drop some water but neither was successful in helping to replenish the post with the necessary food and ammunition. Naga hostiles used their rifles and light machine guns against the IAF supply planes which neces-

sarily had to fly low with slow speed to discharge their mission. The first plane was hit more than once by small arms fire but was able to return to the base. The second plane was also hit, lost height thereby, and therefore had to effect a forced landing near Melury, where there is another post, also manned by the Assam Rifles. The plane, however, had touched the ground on the wrong side of the river which separates the post at Purr from Melury."

Giving details of the relief supplied to the garrison under the condition of heavy fire from the hostiles, the statement added that IAF transport planes were sent on supply dropping mission on the 28th August with fighter cover and the hostile fire was silenced and the supply dropping missions were successfully completed. As a result of this, the hostiles withdrew from the post to a distance of 8 to 9 hundred yards. Similar coordinated action was taken again on the 31st August. The post at Purr is now well stocked with ammunition, water, medicines and rations.

Concluding the statement, the Defence Minister said, "The House should know that there is renewed hostile activity in certain parts of Naga Hills. It may well be that this is a determined effort on the part of the small minority of unreconciled hostiles to create terror and thus sabotage constitutional development. Government are fully posted with the situation and such firm action as is necessary to protect the overwhelming majority of the Nagas in the villages will be taken."

CROWN PRINCE OF JAPAN TO VISIT INDIA

In a Press Note issued on September 7, the Union Ministry of External Affairs has announced that His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince of Japan, accompanied by Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess of Japan, will pay a State visit to India from November 27, 1960 to December 6, 1960 at the invitation of the

Government of India. The Crown Prince will be in India as the representative of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

FOREIGNERS IN INDIA

Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, stated, in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 6, that according to the information available, the number of registered foreigners, excluding Commonwealth citizens and Pakistan nationals, was 53,412 on July 1, 1960. Of these, 23 per cent were Chinese.

In reply to another question, the Home Minister said that 15 Chinese nationals residing in Kalimpong and Karseong (West Bengal) had been asked to quit India recently. They were engaged in activities against the interests of India.

New Award For Meritorious Acts

An announcement of September 12 says that the Government of India have decided to introduce a new award for meritorious acts of humane nature.

The award will have three classifications: Class I for conspicuous courage under circumstances of very great danger to the life of the rescuer; Class II for courage and promptitude under circumstances of great danger to the life of the rescuer; and Class III for courage and promptitude in saving life under circumstances of grave bodily injury to the rescuer.

The design as well as the form of the medal is being finalised. The medal for Class I will be of gold gilt, for Class II of silver and for Class III of bronze.

All recommendations in connection with the award are to be made by the State Governments and the Central Ministries. A special form for the purpose has been prescribed.

As the awards are more of local than all-India importance,

the medals to the awardees will be presented at an investiture held in the States.

Already, there are Civilian Awards, namely, *Bharat Ratna*, *Padma Vibhushan*, *Padma Bhushan* and *Padma Shri*, which are conferred in recognition of meritorious public service and for service in other fields including the advancement of art, literature and science. Civilian citizens are also eligible for the award of *Ashoka Chakra*, Class I, Class II and Class III for acts or series of acts of gallantry other than in the face of enemy on land, at sea or in the air.

Award Of Police Medal

An announcement of September 3 says that the President has awarded the Police Medal for gallantry to Shri Biswanath Das, Police Constable, Puri District, Orissa.

Constable Biswanath Das displayed a fearless disregard for his own safety and devotion to duty of a high order while defending the complainant in an attack by the principal accused in a case. While a Police officer and Shri Biswanath Das were returning from a village on foot after investigating a case with 11 accused persons in custody, Sanatan Mohapatra, the principal accused in the case and a notoriously bad character, had suddenly emerged from a mango top and attacked Shri Biswanath Das and the complainant with a naked sword.

COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, replied to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 9 that the decision to restrict the number of chances to two was to be made applicable in regard to the combined competitive examination for the I.A.S., I.P.S., and the Central Services to be held in 1961 and thereafter.

The decision had been taken by Government on the

recommendations made by the Public Services (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF MYSORE

In a Press Note dated September 5, the Ministry of Home Affairs has announced that the President has appointed Shri Justice Nittoov Srinivasa Rau, a Judge of Mysore High Court, to perform the duties of the Chief Justice of that High Court during the absence on leave of Shri Justice S.R. Das Gupta with effect from September 9, 1960.

Trivandrum Centre For UPSC Examinations

According to a Press Note of September 2, the Union Public Service Commission have decided to hold their examinations at Trivandrum (Kerala State) also with effect from the next Air Force Flying College Examination which will commence on November 4, 1960. Candidates who have already applied for admission to the Air Force Flying College Examination, Indian Military Academy Examination, November, 1960, and the Indian Navy Examination, December, 1960, and who now desire to change their centre of examination to Trivandrum should inform the Commission immediately.

Planning & Finance

BANKING COMPANIES (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, moved in the Lok Sabha on September 6 that the Banking Companies (Second Amendment) Bill, 1960, be taken into consideration and passed. He said, "the failure of the Palai Central Bank has made it neces-

GOVT. EMPLOYEES IN A.A.F.

An announcement of September 13 says that all the Central Government employees serving in the Auxiliary Air Force will be permitted to leave office for the afternoon on all the working Saturdays for training in the Auxiliary Air Force.

This facility has been given to the employees in view of the importance attached to the training for the Auxiliary Air Force personnel.

RECOGNITION WITHDRAWN

The Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali, in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 2, disclosed that recognition of 85 Unions and Associations of Central Government employees had been withdrawn for serving notices of strike recently.

D.G.R.E. RENAMED

According to a Press Note issued on September 6 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour and Employment has been re-named as the Directorate-General of Employment and Training. The post of Director-General of Resettlement and Employment has accordingly been re-designated.

sary for us to review the procedure which is now prescribed by the law for the liquidation of banking companies and the distribution of their assets."

Explaining the provisions in the Bill, Shri Desai said that an important reason, though not

perhaps the only one, for the delays in liquidation proceedings was that the claims of secured creditors and certain other persons entitled to preferential payments under Section 530 of the Companies Act could not be quickly determined. "We are taking powers in this Bill to determine these claims within a period of two months, so that realisable assets which are available for payments to the depositors may be released for this purpose as early as possible. We are trying to ensure that the payment of the first dividend will be made within about three months of the winding up order."

Referring to the provision for relief in priority to the smaller depositors, the Finance Minister said, "Section 43A of the Banking Companies Act, as inserted in 1953 on the recommendations of the Committee presided over by Shri Mitra, provides that savings bank depositors will be entitled to be paid, after all the prior claims ranking above those of the depositors have been paid, the amounts standing to their credit up to Rs. 100. In view of the increase in prices since the provision was first inserted, this amount is being raised to Rs. 250. In order to afford some relief to the other depositors as well, we are providing that fifty per cent of the amount standing to the credit of a depositor in any other account, limited to Rs. 250, should also be disbursed, as a further preferential payment, ranking, in the order of priority, after the amounts due to the savings banks depositors. We are hoping that these minimum payments up to Rs. 250 in the case of each person can be disbursed within the next few months."

SPECIAL LIQUIDATOR

The Minister further said that, in order to facilitate the early realisation of the remaining assets and the distribution of further dividends after the initial payment up to Rs. 250, it might be necessary to appoint an individual special liquidator in the

case of the Palai Central Bank and also in the case of some other banks. The Government were, therefore, taking the necessary powers to get such a liquidator appointed on the application of the Reserve Bank.

Referring to the date of effecting these provisions, Shri Desai said that the Government had to remain satisfied with providing for the new procedure to be brought into force in relation to banking companies which have not so far paid even the first dividend. It would not be difficult, to start the relevant proceedings afresh in these cases. He assured the House that the Laxmi Bank would be covered by the proposals regarding retrospective effect.

RECONSTRUCTION OF BANKS

Regarding the future of banks in difficulties, the Minister said that, while liquidation might still be unavoidable in the case of certain institutions, it was hoped that in the majority of cases, alternative proposals, like a reconstruction of the bank's affairs in the light of its financial position, or an amalgamation with some other institution after such a reconstruction, would be possible. If the possibilities of rehabilitating a bank which might be in difficulties were to be investigated fully, it would be necessary to ensure that in all these cases Government would have some reasonable time, within which these investigations could be undertaken and completed.

It was also proposed that these conditions for moratorium should in future be simplified, and that it should be open to the Central Government, on the recommendations of the Reserve Bank, to grant a moratorium expeditiously, as a condition precedent for the investigation of any feasible proposals for reconstructing a bank. Some changes had been introduced in this Bill from this point of view.

Concluding, the Finance Minister assured the House that the banking system in this country

was on the whole very sound. In the last ten years or so that the Banking Companies Act had been in existence, the Reserve Bank had succeeded in devising and enforcing a system of control which had led to the weeding out of the comparatively weak and inefficient institutions and improved the standing and credit-worthiness of all the other banks. The present Bill was merely intended to amplify the powers of the Reserve Bank and the Central Government in certain directions in order to facilitate further the process of this improvement.

LICENCES TO BANKS

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 9, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai said that the Reserve Bank of India had refused to grant licences to banking companies subsequent to the Banking Companies Act of 1949. The number of banks existing prior to the Act which had been refused the licence was 133 (upto the end of July 1960). Of these three banks had been refused licences during the period January-July 1960.

The Finance Minister further added that such Banks had been intimated the reasons for such refusal and reasonable opportunity to show cause against refusal of the licence had been given.

P.O. SECURITY DEPOSITS

A Press Note issued on September 14 by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs says that, in accordance with the existing procedures, the claims for transfer of P.O. Saving Banks Security Deposit Accounts and Postal Certificates hypothecated as securities can be registered within six months from the date of issue of the release order by the pledgee in Pakistan or within six months from the date of issue of the existing orders i.e. November 18, 1957 and August 1, 1958, whichever is latter.

It has been observed that, quite often, the claimants could not register their claims for transfer of Savings Bank Security Deposit Accounts/Postal Certificates pledged or hypothecated as security within the prescribed time limits, because the relevant release orders were received by them after the expiry of the prescribed time limits. By the time they are actually despatched and received by the pledgers, the period of six months from the date of issue of the release order lapses. In order to meet these contingencies it has been decided to take the date of despatch also into consideration. Accordingly, it has been decided in consultation with the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, Karachi, that the claims may be allowed to be registered by the claimants either (i) within six months from the date of release of the security by the pledgee, as before, or (ii) within three months from the date of despatch of the release order by the Central Claims Organisation (Ministry of Rehabilitation) and/or other Government Department, whichever date is later,

REBATE ON EXCISE DUTY

A Press Note issued on September 11 by the Ministry of Finance says that the Government of India have decided to extend the procedure, under rule 191-A of the Central Excise Rules, 1944, for export out of India of articles under claim for rebate of duty on the excisable goods used in their manufacture, to Yard Material, commercially known as Dress Material. This procedure is already applicable to ready-made apparel, tents, sugar products, cotton bags, umbrellas, chaddars, pillow cases, table covers, cotton handkerchiefs and several other articles.

Government have also decided to permit the manufacture in bond of Yard Material for the purpose of export, under rule 191-B of the above-mentioned Rules.

For further information, manufacturers of Yard Material, who wish to export them out of India under these procedures, may contact the Collectors of Central Excise in whose jurisdiction their factory is situated.

GENERAL INSURANCE

In a written reply to a question on September 9, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, Stated in the Lok Sabha that 15 Indian and 23 non-Indian companies had closed down their general insurance business since nationalisation of life insurance. The information regarding the number of employees affected by the closure was not available.

PRIZE BONDS DRAW

The first quarterly draw for prizes on the Five Year Interest-free Prize Bonds, 1965, was held at 18 centres in six cities on September 1. The result of the draw was announced through the Press and notified in an Extraordinary issue of the Government of India Gazette on September 3. In total over 5000 prizes were declared.

CENTRAL REVENUE IN JULY

A New Delhi announcement of September 11 says that the revenue realised from important dutiable items in the first four months of the fiscal year 1960-61 amounted to Rs. 230.14 crores. Of this, Rs. 57.16 crores were collected during July 1960. The corresponding figures for the first four months of the fiscal year 1959-60 were Rs. 199.84 crores and Rs. 51.40 crores for July, 1959.

DEMONETISATION OF TWO-ANNA COINS

In a Press Note issued on September 2, the Ministry of Finance has announced that all two-anna and half-anna coins of cupronickel composition (white in colour) will cease to be legal tender with effect from October 1, 1960. On that day, the de-

monetisation notification of the Government of India issued on March 2, 1960, will come into effect.

These coins will, however, continue to be accepted for the next six months till March 31, 1961 at all offices of the Reserve Bank of India, at all agency banks of the Reserve Bank conducting Government business and all treasuries and sub-treasuries in payment of dues as well as for exchange. During this period, these coins will also be accepted at all railway and post and telegraph offices, but only in payment of dues. Thereafter, these coins will continue to be accepted at the seven offices of the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Kanpur, New Delhi, Bangalore and Nagpur.

NATIONAL SAVINGS ADVISORY BOARD

The Government of India reconstituted the National Savings Central Advisory Board with effect from September 1, 1960, under the Chairmanship of Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, Deputy Minister of Finance, in charge of small savings.

The names of 15 members were announced on September 2.

The names of the representatives from the States of Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan and nominees of the Central Government would be announced shortly.

GOVT. DECISIONS ON DIRECT TAXES

Government's decisions on the report of the Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee were announced in Parliament on September 9 by the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai. Out of the 289 recommendations 205 have been accepted, some with slight modifications. Among these are: the Appellate Tribunal should continue; a Charitable Trust carrying on business outside the primary object of the

Trust should not be exempted from income-tax; no official patronage, recognition or awards be given to persons who have been penalised for concealment or against whom prosecution proceedings have been taken; and evaders should be strictly dealt with to remove the widespread feeling that evasion pays.

Government have not accepted the proposal to transfer control over the Appellate Assistant Commissioner from the Central Board of Revenue to the Law Ministry. The suggestion that the Appellate Tribunal should not be granted increased power under the Income-Tax Act has also not been accepted.

Assistance From U.K.

In a written reply to a question on September 6, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, informed the Lok Sabha that technical assistance from the United Kingdom under the Colombo Plan was received by India in the form of training facilities for the Indian nationals in the U.K. and the services of experts from the U.K. in various technical fields. He said that the total number of experts and trainees up to June 1959 was 125 and 814 respectively.

The number of experts and trainees respectively was 28 and 151 from January 1952 to June 1953; 22 and 60 from July 1953 to June 1954; 14 and 34 from July 1954 to June 1955; 17 and 102 from July 1955 to June 1956; 4 and 105 from July 1956 to June 1957; 21 and 163 from July 1957 to June 1958; and 19 and 199 from July 1958 to June 1959. Up to December 1951, no such assistance had been received.

FIVE LOANS

In reply to another question, the Finance Minister stated that five loans totalling £75.5 million (Rs. 100.67 crores) had so far been made available by the U.K. Government under Section 3 of their Export Guarantees Act. He said that the main benefit

of these loans was that they were available for financing a broad range of imports from the United Kingdom required for India's various development projects.

Particulars of these five loans were as follows:

1. £15 million Anglo-Indian Credit Agreement, 1958, signed on 30.6.1958 for payment to UK suppliers of equipment for the Durgapur Steel Plant;

2. £23.5 million Second Anglo-Indian Credit Agreement, 1958, signed on 20.12.1958 for making payments in sterling to U.K. suppliers for import of agreed categories of goods and provision of services in connection with such goods;

3. £3 million United Kingdom-India (Oil Pipeline) Credit Agreement, 1959, signed on 23.6.1959 to finance payments in sterling under contracts made by the Oil India Private Ltd. in respect of supply of pipe and ancillary equipment for construction of oil pipelines for the Nahorkatiya Oilfield project;

4. £19 million United Kingdom-India (General) Credit Agreement, 1959, signed on 25.11.1959 for making payments in sterling to U.K. suppliers for import of agreed categories of goods and provision of services in connection with such goods; and

5. £10 million United Kingdom-India (General) Credit agreement 1960, signed on 16.8.1960 for making payments in sterling

to U.K. suppliers for import of agreed categories of goods and provision of services in connection with such goods.

DELEGATION TO LONDON CONFERENCE

A New Delhi announcement of September 12 says that the Indian Delegation to the forthcoming conference of Commonwealth Finance Ministers in London and the annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund in Washington will consist of the following:

(1) Shri Morarji Desai, Finance Minister—Leader

(2) Shri L.K. Jha, Secretary, Ministry of Finance,

(3) Shri B.K. Nehru, Commissioner General for Economic Affairs,

(4) Shri M. V. Rangachari, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India,

(5) Shri R.V. Subramaniam, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Finance,

(6) Shri V.Y. Tonpe, Private Secretary to the Finance Minister.

Shri T. Swaminathan, Commissioner General for Economic Affairs in Europe, and Shri J. J. Anjaria, Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, will join the Indian Delegation to the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Conference.

DRAFT THIRD PLAN APPROVED BY N.D.C.

A two day session of the National Development Council was held in New Delhi on September 12 and 13. After deliberations, the Council recorded its general approval of the draft outline of the Third Plan, and also laid down the broad criteria for determining the outlays for the plans of States. The Council emphasised that these

plans had far reaching significance both for the development of individual States and for national development and that greater attention should be given than had been possible so far to the less developed areas of each State.

In drawing up the plans of individual States, the broad objectives would be : (1) to make

the maximum contribution to the increase of agricultural production; (2) to secure the largest possible measure of increase in employment; (3) to develop social services, in particular elementary education, water supply and sanitation and health services in rural areas; and (4) to raise the levels of living in the less developed areas.

State plans will be oriented towards increase in production and employment and the welfare of the weaker sections of the population.

STATE PLANS

The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda, stated that any substantial increase in the size of the Third Plan beyond the levels indicated in the draft outline was not feasible.

The Council agreed that in drawing up State plans due attention should be given both to national and to State priorities. All the States were not equally well placed in the matter of resources. Population and area were specially relevant to a general assessment of the economic conditions and needs of each State. In addition to these, the other factors to be considered would be:

(1) provisions required for the completion of projects under execution at the end of the Second Plan and for deriving full benefits from the assets and services which had been brought into existence; (2) provisions required for achieving certain basic national targets, such as increase in agricultural production, expansion of employment opportunities, introduction of free and universal education for the age-group 6-11 years and the provision of certain minimum amenities to the rural areas, (3) provision for the power programme which was linked closely with the fulfilment of major industrial targets and also provided for general industrial development; (4) measures needed for making up for vital development lags in different States and

for dealing with the special problems of low-income areas which suffered from a great deal of under-employment, and (5) provisions needed for conservation of natural resources through measures such as anti-water logging, drainage, afforestation etc.

The Council agreed to consider the results of discussions at its next meeting to be held about the second week of December.

EXCISE DUTIES

The Council agreed that the question of excise duties on some further commodities being collected by the Central Government with a view to distributing between States should be considered afresh. In order to do so, the Council decided to review recent experience and obtain data regarding the consumption of cloth, sugar and tobacco in different States. Accordingly, the Central Statistical Organisation was directed to collect the necessary information on this subject within about six months. The data will be submitted to the next Finance Commission.

COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL INCOME DISTRIBUTION

At the meeting of the National Development Council on September 13, the Prime Minister Shri Nehru, announced that the Planning Commission proposed

to set up an Expert Committee on National Income Distribution. The terms of reference would be (1) to review the changes in the levels of living in the First and Second Five Year Plans; (2) to study recent trends in the distribution of income and wealth, and in particular; (3) to ascertain the extent to which the operation of the economic system has resulted in concentration of wealth and means of production. The Committee would be concerned with collection of the necessary statistical and economic data.

PRICE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Price Policy Committee of the National Development Council met in New Delhi on September 13, at the residence of the Home Minister, Shri Govind Ballabh Pant. The Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra and West Bengal and the Union Ministers of Finance, Planning, Food and Agriculture, Commerce and Industry and Steel, Mines and Fuel were amongst those who participated. Various aspects of price policy were reviewed, and it was agreed that all measures necessary for keeping the price situation under control should be taken and that the effort to mobilise resources should be started with the commencement of the Third Plan.

Commerce & Industry

PRODUCTION OF LOW-COST CAR IN PUBLIC SECTOR

The Government's Resolution on the Report of the Ad hoc Committee on Automobile Industry, set up in April 1959, was placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha by Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister of Industry, on September 6.

According to the Resolution, the Government of India have decided to set up an Expert

Committee to consider the feasibility of manufacturing a low-cost car within a price range of Rs. 6,500. The Committee would be asked to submit its report within a period of four months.

The Government have also decided that the proposed economy car should be manufactured in the public sector.

The Ad hoc Committee's main conclusions on the question of a low-cost car are that there would be sufficient demand to sustain production of a low-cost car without jeopardising the production programmes already approved; that there is little prospect of any of the passenger cars, at present being produced, coming down to the price range of Rs. 6,500 to Rs. 7,000; and that to have a cheaper car, therefore, a more modest vehicle will have to be chosen with its manufacture to be started from the very beginning, with latest machinery to ensure economic production. The Government have accepted the Committee's views in this regard.

IMPORTS TO CEASE

The Government's decision on the other recommendations of the Ad hoc Committee are also contained in the Resolution.

In regard to indigenous manufacture of components and parts of the present vehicles—trucks, cars, jeeps, etc.—the Government feel that special steps are now necessary to ensure quicker progress and completion of the manufacture programmes undertaken by the automobile manufacturers by the end of 1961. Any manufacturer, who has not already placed the order for the plant and machinery necessary to complete his programme, should immediately approach the Government for import licences. It is Government's intention that, as far as possible, by the beginning of 1962, import of components, either finished or semi-finished, should cease.

The Resolution stresses that this does not, however, mean that the automobile manufacturers would themselves be expected to make all the necessary items. There are numerous items which legitimately belong to the ancillary industry and Government would give all possible assistance and encouragement to the ancillary industry to develop on right lines. The Government are in agreement

with the recommendations made by the Ad hoc Committee in this regard. The Central Organisation of the small-scale industries, in the Commerce and Industry Ministry, has been asked to set up a special Division for the development of ancillaries for automobile and other industries.

THIRD PLAN TARGETS

The Jha Committee has recommended a target of 10,000 jeeps and 60,000 commercial vehicles for the Third Plan period; for cars, the target is 30,000 to 40,000 if an economy car is introduced. The Government consider that these targets provide a reasonable working basis for formulating the development programme of the industry. The expansion programme in existing units to achieve this target will be considered by Government in the light of the recommendations of the Committee.

The Government have also accepted in principle the recommendation of the Ad hoc Committee that a clear directive should be given to the automobile manufacturers to introduce, within six months a satisfactory training scheme and a satisfactory cost accounting system. Each unit will be expected to comply with this requirement by the end of this year.

The Ad hoc Committee has recommended that the manufacturers should be given enough foreign exchange for components to maximise their production, subject to their keeping to their production programme, and that each firm should be allowed to expand its production beyond its capacity by installing more capital goods, provided the expansion is not based on larger imports of components. The Government of India have accepted these recommendations in principle and propose to give due weight to them in making foreign exchange allotments within the overall availability of foreign exchange from time to time and when considering applications for licences under the

Industries (Development and Regulation) Act.

PRICE QUESTION

On the question of automobile prices, the Jha Committee has recommended that, while control over passenger car prices may continue, price control over commercial vehicles should be abolished. The Committee has also recommended that an ad hoc cut in the price of cars and jeeps, amounting from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500, should be made applicable four months after import licences have been given.

The Government have given a careful thought to these recommendations. They feel that once production has increased substantially and when the present acute shortage has eased, decontrol of prices would be desirable; but, so long as the present shortage continues, decontrol of prices of even commercial vehicles is likely to lead to many abuses. As regards the cut in prices proposed by the Committee, this is linked, in a sense, with the decontrol of prices of commercial vehicles. Government do not propose to decontrol the prices of either cars or commercial vehicles at this stage, but have noted with satisfaction that, as a result of informal discussions, two of the car manufacturers and the firm manufacturing jeeps have recently reduced their prices by Rs. 200. The Government hope that all manufacturers would further review their cost structure and reduce the price as early as possible.

INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY

Industrial machinery worth about Rs. 300 crores will be manufactured within the country by the end of the Third Plan period. The current year's production including electrical machinery and equipment is likely to be of the order of about Rs. 120 crores.

While substantial increases

have been planned in almost all cases, the aim is also to achieve self-sufficiency or near self-sufficiency in a number of cases like paper making machinery, boilers, railway equipment, printing machinery, etc., during the Third Plan period. In other cases, as in machine tools, electric transformers and electric motors, despite substantial increase in domestic production envisaged under the Third Plan, imports would be inevitable mainly due to the ever increasing domestic demand. During the Third Plan period, production of heavy machinery, heavy electrical equipment and mining machinery will also commence in the country on a large scale for the first time, thus helping to save foreign exchange worth crores of rupees.

Steps have been taken to set up a mining machinery plant for coal at Durgapur which will later be expanded to an annual capacity of 45,000 tons. A number of expansion schemes have been approved for the private sector.

Production of machine tools is expected to reach Rs. 10 crores this year and will be stepped up to Rs. 38 crores in five years. In the electrical industries, a five-fold rise in the manufacture of transformers and motors has been envisaged. The heavy machine building and foundry forge plants at Ranchi are expected to go into production in the middle of the Third Plan. Fifteen new schemes have been approved for paper making machinery.

Protection To Steel Files Industry

In a Press Note issued on September 7, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has announced that the Government of India have accepted the Tariff Commission's recommendation that protection to the Engineers'

Steel Files Industry should be continued for a further period of three years up to December 31, 1963 on a reduced rate of protective duty of 35 per cent *ad valorem*. The Government's Resolution on the Commission's report was published on September 7.

The reduced protective duty of 35 per cent *ad valorem* is being brought into force with immediate effect. The Tariff Commission has recommended that the duty concession enjoyed by the industry in respect of raw materials should be continued until steel file sections of the requisite quality, types and sizes are indigenously produced in sufficient quantity and at reasonable prices. This recommendation has been noted by the Government and the existing duty concessions will be continued for the present. The Government have also taken note of certain other ancillary recommendations of the Commission for suitable action.

The attention of the industry and the consumers of engineers' steel files has been drawn to the recommendations of the Commission regarding the introduction of latest developments in the manufacturing process, tightening of the inspection procedure to ensure quality, etc.

NEW COAL DEPOSITS

According to an announcement of September 15, nearly 676 million tons of coal, in two seams with an area of 6.3 square miles in the Singrauli coalfield in Madhya Pradesh, have been proved by the Geological Survey of India.

The recently discovered Singrauli coalfields extend over an area of 800 square miles in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The geology of the area indicates that the seams are likely to extend over a larger area and, therefore,

the potentiality of the coalfield as a whole is considered fairly substantial.

It is proposed to raise 2.5 million tons of coal in the Third Plan period from Singrauli coalfield in the public sector.

The discovery of the Singrauli coalfield was announced by Shri K.D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil, in the Lok Sabha on May 6, 1959.

IRON ORE PRODUCTION

An announcement of September 4 says that, according to the Indian Bureau of Mines, the production of iron ore during June 1960 was estimated at 831,000 metric tons. This brings the total output during the half year ending June 1960 to 5,300,000 metric tons which is higher by 39 per cent compared to the output of 3,808,000 metric tons during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

Orissa was the chief producing State with an output of 282,000 metric tons followed by Bihar with 239,000 metric tons. Mysore and Madhya Pradesh recorded an output of 152,000 metric tons and 103,000 metric tons while the output from Maharashtra was 14,000 metric tons.

During the month, despatches of iron ore for consumption in the iron and steel plants totalled 601,000 metric tons while the despatches to the export market were 142,000 metric tons.

NAHORKATIYA-BARAUNI OIL PIPELINE

An announcement from Rourkela dated September 1 says that one hundred miles of high test line pipes have already been delivered to Burmah Oil Company (Pipelines) Ltd. for laying the oil pipeline between Nahorkatiya and Barauni as arranged by Hindustan Steel Ltd.

The supplies have been made ahead of schedule.

According to the contract with Burmah Oil Co. (Pipelines) Limited, Hindustan Steel Ltd. is to supply about 51,00 tons of high grade steel pipes of 14" diameter for laying the 471 mile oil pipeline. The pipes already supplied amount to 11,000 tons.

Pending the manufacture of pipes at the plant at Rourkela out of steel produced at the Rourkela Steel Works, it has been arranged to get the pipes manufactured at the works of Messrs. Mannesmann Export GMBH West Germany and Messrs. Stewarts and Lloyds Limited, London, against steel slabs and ingots produced and supplied by Rourkela Steel Project to them. About 120 miles of pipelines weighing over 12,700 tons are on their way from the U.K. and West Germany and expected to be delivered shortly. The balance of a little over 250 miles of pipelines will be manufactured at Rourkela for completing the contract.

In April this year, an agreement was signed between the Hindustan Steel Limited and the Burmah Oil Company (Pipelines) Limited for the supply of about 51,000 tons of high test line pipe of 14" outer diameter valued at Rs. 6 crores, for the construction of the second phase of the Assam Oil Pipeline Project.

The pipe plant, which is being put up by Messrs. Mannesmann of Germany at Rourkela at a cost of Rs. 4 crores, will have a capacity of 150,000 tons per year of pipes ranging from 8" to 20" outer diameter. The plant is expected to go into production in this month.

COMMITTEE ON OIL PRICES

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 1, Shri K.D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil, gave out the details about the committee of experts appointed by the Government of India to devise a scheme for oil prices

in the country.

The Minister said that the prices of petroleum products in the country were governed by an *ad hoc* agreement reached with the Oil Companies in October 1959. This agreement was due to expire on March 31, 1961. The Government of India had set up early in August a committee to examine the principles according to which selling prices of various petroleum products in India should be determined after April 1, 1961.

The committee was expected to submit its report by the end of December 1960.

NEW VARIETIES OF CLOTH NOT PERMITTED

In a Press Note issued on September 15, the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, has announced that in the context of the price revisions announced by the Indian Cotton Mills Federation, taking August 1959 prices for cloth as the basis, it has been found necessary to ensure, in the interest of the consumers, that textile mills continue to produce usual varieties for which prices can be compared from time to time with those of the varieties prevailing in the basic period.

The Textile Commissioner, therefore, has decided to restrict

EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL FOR SPICES

An Export Promotion Council for spices—twelfth of its kind—has been formed with headquarters at Cochin, says a New Delhi announcement of September 1.

Besides the Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Madras as Chairman, the Council will include a representative each of the Governments of Madras, Andhra, Kerala and Mysore, and the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Union Government.

mills from changing varieties and producing new varieties without obtaining his prior approval.

A notification to this effect has accordingly been issued by the Textile Commissioner under the powers vested in him by the Cotton Textile (Control) Order, 1948.

WATCH MANUFACTURE

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, told the Rajya Sabha during question hour on September 1 that it was proposed to permit the setting up of three units in each State for the manufacture of watches in the small-scale sector.

EBONOID BLOCK-MAKING

The plastic ebonoid block-making plant at the Faridabad Printing Press had gone into production since August 1, 1960, stated Shri A.K. Chanda, Union Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, in a statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on September 9.

Complete sets of the first order of 225 sets each of five blocks had already been delivered to the Press Information Bureau in two instalments in August. The second order was under execution.

It will also have non-official members representing trade in pepper, cardamom, turmeric, ginger, chillies and minor spices.

The promotion activities relating to pepper exports, hitherto handled by the Cashew and Pepper Export Promotion Council, will now be undertaken by the new Council.

The problems facing the different spices are varied. In pep-

per, the export values have declined on account of the emergence of stiff competition from Saravak and Indonesia during the post-war period. In the case of cardamom, besides competition from Gautemala, the main problem is the invention of synthetic substitutes. Ginger exports have declined since 1958, the main reasons being the import restrictions in West Asian countries and increasing competition from Jamaica and Seirra Leone.

The new Export Promotion Council will address itself to these problems and undertake market survey and research, send out trade delegations, prescribe quality standards and attend to importers' complaints, etc.

In 1959, India exported spices worth Rs. 10.4 crores, pepper accounted for Rs. 4.3 crores, cardamom for Rs. 3.3 crores, ginger, chillies and turmeric for Rs. 50 lakhs, Rs. 30 lakhs and Rs. 26 lakhs respectively. The balance was accounted for by minor spices like celery seed, coriander seed, fennel seed, etc.

REPORT ON TRADE CONTROLS

The annual Administration Report of the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation for 1959-60, which was published on September 4, observes that, during the year, imports were so regulated as to ensure the maintenance of the economy, the provision of raw materials for industry and help export promotion. The import of capital goods of substantial value was allowed only against foreign investment or on long term foreign exchange loans.

As much as 75.9% of our imports in 1959 were accounted by capital goods and industrial materials and components. Consumer goods formed 10.7% and the balance was accounted by foodgrain imports. The total imports in 1959 amounted to Rs. 887 crores.

The report indicates that in

1959 there was a sharp decline in imports of iron and steel which resulted in a saving of Rs. 14 crores. The reduction in imports was largely due to the commencement of steel production in the public sector and the completion of expansion programmes of the units in the private sector. In aluminium also, increased home output led to a fall in imports though this was marginal. Among other items whose import declined during the year were foodgrains, raw jute, and pharmaceutical products. There was, however, a rise in the imports of raw cotton, machinery, transport equipment and milk foods for infants.

Exports of Indian goods, which had dropped to a low level of Rs. 562 crores in 1958, not only recovered but rose to a record level of Rs. 623 crores in 1959. According to the report, the various official measures to promote exports have begun to bear fruit. Part of the improvement in exports was due to the increased economic activity in the importing countries, particularly the United States and Western Europe.

Among the measures taken to promote exports were the supply of raw materials for the manufacture of goods for export, priority for the movement of goods to the ports, fiscal concessions and quality control. Certain special schemes linking imports of raw material with the export performance of traders were introduced. During 1959, there was a sharp rise in the export of some major traditional items like cotton and jute manufactures and sizeable increase in the export of oil cakes, groundnut oil, leather and leather goods and iron ore. For the first time, India exported Rs. 1 crore worth of pig iron. Cement exports earned a similar amount. Items whose exports fell during 1959 included tea, tobacco and maganese ore.

FOREIGN TRADE IN JULY

According to a Press Note issued on September 5 by the

Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, the provisional figures of India's foreign trade in merchandise by all routes—sea, air and land—on private and Government accounts during July 1960, as follows:

Exports	Rs. 47.01 lakhs
Re-exports	Rs. 1.53 lakhs
Imports	Rs. 73.70 lakhs
Balance of Trade	Rs. 25.16 lakhs

These figures exclude overland trade with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan. 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.

Sale Of Scooters To Be Controlled

In order to ensure equitable distribution of scooters at fair prices, the Government of India have issued a statutory order under Section 18G of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, controlling the purchase and sale of scooters. The Order came into force on September 2.

The Order stipulates that every applicant for a scooter should furnish a bank guarantee of Rs. 250 at the time of registration, the amount being payable when the scooter is actually delivered. In the case of customers, whose names have already been registered with dealers, the guarantee may be furnished within 45 days from September 2.

The dealers will have to sell the scooters strictly in the order of registrations and the register of orders will be open to inspection by members of the public as well as representatives of Central and State Governments.

The Order stipulates that no person, who has purchased a new scooter in any calendar year, can purchase another scooter in the same year except with the written permission of the Controller or an officer

appointed for the purpose by the State Government. In the case of companies or associations, however, they will be permitted to purchase up to a maximum of six scooters.

The Order also prohibits the re-sale of scooters before the expiry of one year from the date of its purchase as a new scooter, except under a permit from the Controller or an officer appointed for the purpose by the State Government.

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, laid a copy of the Order on the Table of the Lok Sabha on September 2.

DRAWBACK ON DUTY

A Press Note issued on September 4 by the Ministry of Finance says that, as a measure of export promotion, the Government of India propose to grant drawback of duty on certain varieties of tin plate products at the rate of Rs. 276.50 per ton of tin plate content, and on petrol pumps and gas plants on brand basis.

EXPORT OF ROURKELA STEEL

The Rourkela Steel Project has received orders for the export of over 78,000 tons of steel slabs and ingots, says an announcement of September 2.

Among the major orders are one for supplying 25,000 tons of steel ingots to the U. K. and

another for supplying 25,000 tons of steel slabs to Italy, despatches against which have already started.

About 12,000 tons of slabs have already been supplied to Messrs. Mannesmann-Export, West Germany. Supply of 10,000 tons of steel ingots of Messrs. Stewarts and Lloyds, U.K., will be completed by the middle of this month.

About 6,000 tons of pig iron has also been exported to the U.S.A. Another order for 7,500 tons of pig iron from Japan is being supplied.

These orders will earn the country over Rs. 3 crores in foreign exchange.

EXPORT OF FILMS

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Satish Chandra, said in the Lok Sabha, in reply to a question on September 7, that foreign exchange worth Rs. 1.71 crores was earned in 1959 on account of the export of films to various countries. Among the main importers were Ceylon, Singapore, U.K., Cambodia, Afghanistan, Kenya, Hongkong, Ghana and Mauritius.

The Deputy Minister added that a total of 6069 films was exported during 1959. Of these, 2089 were feature films, 1,670 news reels, 329 advertising shots and 1,981 documentaries.

TERMS FOR REAPPOINTMENT OF MANAGING AGENTS

In an announcement of September 10, the Government of India have clarified that, where the proposals for reappointment of the managing agents have been rejected by them or where the companies did not appoint their managing agents before August 15, 1960, as required under the Companies Act, the term of office of such managing agents

would be deemed to have expired on August 15, 1960. In such cases, the Board of Directors of the companies concerned shall carry on or arrange to carry on the affairs of the company, till such time as the managing agents are either appointed again or other alternative form of management has been adopted. Where, however, it is proposed to appoint a

director-in-charge, or managing or whole-time director or a director as manager or a committee of directors, the Union Government's approval would be required.

The Indian Companies Act provides that the term of office of managing agents would, if it did not expire earlier, terminate on August 15, 1960, unless the managing agents were reappointed before that date for a fresh term and the approval of the Union Government was secured for the same.

PROVISIONS IN THE ACT

The Government have also clarified that the applications for reappointment of managing agents received after August 15, 1960 or which may be received in future will be treated as new applications and the agreements will take effect only from the date of approval by Government. In the case of companies which did not accept the terms and conditions laid down by the Government for their reappointment, their managing agents would be deemed to have ceased to function with effect from August 15, 1960. The responsibility for the management of both these groups of companies would be that of their Boards of Directors.

The Companies Act prescribes that after August 15, 1960, no person shall at the same time hold office as managing agent in more than ten companies. All those, who may be affected by this provision, may take immediate steps to comply with this requirement. In this connection, attention has been invited to the provision in the Act, under which every partner of a managing agency firm, every person who is a director of a managing agency company and every member of a managing agency company who is entitled to exercise not less than 20% of total voting power, shall be deemed to hold office as managing agent of the companies.

For example, if a director of one managing agency company, which is acting as managing agent of seven public companies, is also a director of another managing agency company, which is acting as the managing agents to five public companies, he shall be deemed to hold office as managing agent of 12 public companies in all, and would be contravening the provisions of Section 332 of the Companies Act.

REVIEW OF WORK

During the period April 1, 1956 (when the Companies Act came into force) to August 15, 1960, the Union Government received about 1600 applications for approval of the appointment or reappointment of managing agents. Out of these, 74 applications could not be considered, since they had not been submitted in the prescribed manner. The remaining 1526 applications were considered in consultation with the Company Law Advisory Commission. Of these, 1359 applications were for reappointment of existing managing agents, of which 1194 were approved, 147 rejected and 18 others were either withdrawn or orders on these were deferred.

During this period, there were 134 applications for appointment of managing agents for the first time. Of these, 120 were approved, 13 rejected and decision in one case was deferred.

There were also 33 applications for appointment of new managing agents in the place of existing ones. Of these, 31 applications were approved, one was rejected and the other withdrawn.

The Union Government also approved, during this period, the appointment of Secretaries and Treasurers in 181 cases, including 137 cases where existing managing agents had converted themselves into secretaries and treasurers. Two applications of this type were rejected.

INDIANISATION IN FOREIGN FIRMS

The steady progress in the number of Indians employed on salaries of Rs. 1,000 and above by the foreign-owned companies in India was reviewed in the Lok Sabha on September 7 by the Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, in the course of a written reply to a question. The Minister also indicated Government's future policy in this regard.

Shri Shah stated that detailed examination had shown that the share of the Indians in the salary group of Rs. 1000-1,500 had risen from 55.7 per cent in 1954 to 88.4 per cent in 1959. In the salary group of Rs. 1,501-3,000, the rise had been from 23.6 per cent in 1954 to 55.4 per cent in 1959. In the category of posts carrying a salary of over Rs. 3,000, the rise had been from 6.8 per cent in 1954 to 16 per cent in 1959. The overall position was that the number of Indian employees in foreign-owned/controlled companies on salaries of Rs. 1,000 and above had increased from 3455 in 1954 to 7916 in 1959. During the same period, the number of non-Indians employed by these companies on salaries of Rs. 1,000 and above declined from 7,008 to 5304.

The Minister added that the Indianisation of posts carrying salaries below Rs. 1,000 had been virtually completed.

AGREEMENT REACHED

The Minister said that the Government were, nevertheless, of the view that there was still room for improvement and were reviewing the position from time to time. The organisation of the foreign companies has also fully agreed with this view. In order to further speed up the progress of Indianisation, the Government had considered it necessary to formulate certain broad principles and targets which foreign companies should follow. As a result of discussions

with the Associated Chambers of Commerce in this connection, it had been agreed that, except in very special cases, posts carrying salaries of Rs. 2,000 or less would be exclusively filled by Indians in a short period of time (i.e. by the end of 1962). In the salary group of Rs. 2,001-3000, generally 60 per cent of the posts would be filled by Indians by the end of 1962. Active steps would also be taken to Indianise the posts in the salary group of Rs. 3001 and above.

Shri Shah further stated that the case of individual industries, such as the plantations, where the existing proportion of non-Indians was somewhat high and which, therefore, required special consideration, would be discussed separately with the interests concerned through the Associated Chambers from time to time.

PRIZE FOR BEST ACCOUNTS

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has introduced a scheme of presenting prizes every year for encouraging companies to present their accounts in the best possible manner for the benefit of the shareholders and the public.

At the annual meeting of the Council of the Institute held in New Delhi on September 14, the Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, gave away a shield, worth about Rs. 1000, to the Tatas for the best presented accounts. Besides, he presented commendatory certificates to certain other companies ranking second, third and fourth respectively in the presentation of their accounts.

Merit certificates for prize-winners at the Chartered Accountants' examinations, were also presented by the Minister.



REORGANISATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT

Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, stated in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 5 that the Transport Development Council had endorsed, subject to minor modifications, almost all the recommendations made by the Road Transport Reorganisation Committee, except the recommendation relating to liberalisation of Licensing Policy, decisions on which were postponed till the report of Neogy Committee was available.

The majority of the recommendations of the Road Transport Reorganisation Committee concerned the State Governments to whom the conclusions of the Council had been circulated for implementation.

TOTAL INVESTMENT

Shri Raj Bahadur stated, in reply to a question, that, according to rough estimates, the investment in motor transport industry had increased by Rs. 266 crores during the years 1957-58 to 1959-60. The amount invested at present was roughly Rs. 912 crores (as on March 31, 1960).

According to an estimate made by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, the total number of persons who had found employment in the road transport industry, in its broad sense, was about 24 lakhs during 1957-58.

LOAN FOR STEAMERS

It had been decided in principle to give a loan of Rs. 2 crores to the Joint Steamer Companies, subject to certain conditions, to enable them to rehabilitate their obsolete fleets for the maintenance of essential inland water trans-

port services on the Calcutta-Assam route, said Shri Raj Bahadur in a written reply to yet another question.

Purchase Of New Aircraft

Shri Ahmed Mohiuddin, Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation, said in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 5 that the Air India International was expected to receive in April next year its fourth Boeing 707 jet airliner at a total cost of Rs. 4 crores, including the cost of spare engines, spare parts and other ancillary equipment.

Shri Mohiuddin stated that the Air India International had plans for purchasing additional jet aircraft during the Third Plan period, but no decision had yet been taken regarding the number and type of aircraft to be purchased.

The Indian Airlines Corporation had placed an order for five Fokker Friendship twin-engined turbo-prop aircraft of medium range at a total cost of Rs. 234 lakhs. These were expected to be delivered during the first quarter of 1961.

The I.A.C. were also exploring the possibility of acquiring second-hand Viscounts before the end of the current financial year. The question of purchasing additional aircraft during the Third Plan period, to replace I.A.C.'s Dakotas, was also under the consideration of the Corporation, but no decision had been taken regarding the number and type of the aircraft to be purchased.

Replying to another question, the Deputy Minister stated that the A.I.I. was expected to start a freighter service to the U.S.A. with its own equipment and crew from the middle of November next.

CIVIL AVIATION

In 1959 the Indian Airlines Corporation and the Air India International carried about 7.4 lakh passengers and flew about 25 million miles. About 74 million lbs. of cargo and nearly 15 million lbs. of mail were also airlifted.

When India became independent in 1947, the number of passengers carried was 2.55 lakhs. About 9.4 million miles were flown, 5.6 million lbs. of cargo and 1.4 million lbs. of mail were carried.

The Indian Airlines Corporation and the Air India International were set up in 1953 following the nationalisation of air transport. The I.A.C. services in the country connect over 50 cities and towns, including all State capitals. The Air India International has 28 services per week which link India with about 20 countries in East and West Asia, Europe, Africa, America and Australia.

A large part of the mail in India is now carried by air under the "all-up" scheme launched in 1949 following the introduction of the first night airmail service.

There are about 85 aerodromes in India including the three international airports at Santa Cruz (Bombay), Dum Dum (Calcutta) and Palam (Delhi).

The Civil Aviation Training Centre at Allahabad imparts training in the various branches of aviation. Besides, training facilities for flying are also provided by 17 flying clubs which receive subsidy from Government. There are also five gliding centres and clubs.

TELEX SERVICE TO SWEDEN

The Director-General, Overseas Communications Service, has announced that the International Telex Service has been extended to Sweden with effect from September 15.

International Telex Service from Bombay and Ahmedabad, which was first opened with the United Kingdom in June this year, has been extended to 17 more countries so far. It is now available to the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Hungary, Irish Republic, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K. and U.S.S.R.

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 9, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Deputy Minister for Railways, stated that the railways' requirements of diesel locomotives for the second Five Year Plan were 125 broad gauge mainline diesel locomotives, 7 broad gauge diesel shunters and 60 metre gauge mainline diesel locomotives.

Answering another question, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan said that Government had invited offers for the supply of 40 diesel locomotives from manufacturers all over the world. The offers against the tender enquiry had been received on August 24, 1960. The tenders were under compilation and scrutiny.

In a written reply to another question, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan said that 60 metre gauge diesel locomotives were proposed to be ordered in the U.S.A. Tenders for the same had been called and these were still under compilation and scrutiny.

CONSUMPTION OF COAL

The quantity of coal consumed during 1959-60 by the railways for loco purposes was 13.47 million tons as against 12.92 million tons during 1958-59, said the Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, in reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on September 7.

The Deputy Minister said that the Railways were now using diesel traction more and more with a view to saving coal. The main object of dieselisation was to improve the line capacity on sections where saturation had been reached or was expected to be reached with steam traction and a prelude to electrification.

SOLAR EQUIPMENT

The new solar observational equipment—a telescope, a coronagraph and a heliograph—instal-

led at the Astrophysical Observatory, Kodaikanal, was inaugurated by Dr. P. Subbarayan, Union Minister for Transport and Communications, on September 14. The coronagraph is a special kind of telescope invented by the famous French astronomer Bernard Lyot, for study of the inner corona of the Sun. The coronagraph installed at the Kodaikanal Observatory was built in Paris under the personal supervision of experts and associates of the late Bernard Lyot.

A large part of the components of the equipment was built at the workshop of the Indian Meteorological Department, thus saving a considerable amount of foreign exchange.

SPECIAL POSTAGE STAMPS

A ceremony was held at Madras G.P.O. on September 11 to inaugurate the sale of the postage stamp issued in honour of the great Tamil Poet, Subramania Bharati. At the function, the first stamp was purchased by the Chief Minister of Madras from the Post Master General.

The stamp, which is in the denomination of 15 np, bears a portrait of Subramania Bharati. The stamp has been printed in dark blue on paper bearing all-over multiple watermark of lion capital of Asoka. The design has been prepared by staff artists of the India Security Press, Nasik, at which the stamp has been printed by the photogravure process.

Centenary Of Shri Visvesvarayya

Another special postage stamp was issued in honour of Dr. M. Visvesvarayya on the occasion of his 100th birthday on September 15, 1960.

The stamp which is in the denomination of 15 np. bears a portrait of Shri Visvesvarayya.

The stamp has been printed in dark brown-crimson on paper bearing an all-over multiple watermark of lion capital of Asoka. The design has been prepared by staff artists of the India Security Press, Nasik, at which the stamp has been printed by the photogravure process.

HOSTELS FOR RAILWAYMEN'S CHILDREN

A chain of subsidised hostels for the children of railway employees has been set up at 12 large towns, specially selected in different regions of the country.

These hostels have been built for the children of Class III and Class IV employees whose total emoluments do not exceed Rs. 300 a month. They are required to pay only amounts ranging from Rs. 7.50 to Rs. 20 a month per child to cover both lodging and boarding charges. Children of railway employees drawing over Rs. 300 are also admitted to the hostels but they are charged full rates.

The hostels have been set up as part of the Railway Ministry's employees' welfare programme, for which a provision of Rs. 50 crores has been made during the Third Plan period also.

HAIJ COMMITTEE

A New Delhi announcement of September 14 says that the Central Haj Committee has been reconstituted for the year 1960, its term having been extended by another year with effect from April 26, 1960. The reconstituted Committee consists of 15 members. The Committee will elect its Chairman from amongst the members.

The function of the Committee is to advise the Central Government on matters relating to the Haj pilgrimage. The Committee was originally constituted in 1948, and its term is being extended on a year to year basis.



PANEL ON AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMME

At the meeting of the Informal Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament attached to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, held in New Delhi proposed on September 7, Shri S.K. Patil, Minister for Food and Agriculture said that he proposed to set up an Agricultural Commodities Advisory Committee and a Panel on Agricultural Programmes.

The Committee would advise the Government on policy regarding prices as well as on matters having a bearing on programmes of production. It would be composed of officials from the various Ministries of the Central Government, the Planning Commission and the Reserve Bank of India and would be permanently in session.

The Minister added that farmers, representing both food and cash crops, would be on the Panel of Agricultural Programme, which would meet every three months or so. There would also be economists and others with specialised knowledge of agriculture.

Both the Committee and the Panel would work in an advisory capacity and in consultation with each other.

PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO

According to a Press Note issued on September 10 by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the All-India Final Estimate of Tobacco for 1959-60 puts the current year's area and production of tobacco at 934,000 acres and 281,000 tons respectively as against the partially revised estimates of 897,000 acres and 261,000 tons for 1958-59. This shows an increase of 37,000

acres or 4.1% in area and 20,000 tons or 7.7% in production as compared to the previous year. The yield per acre of tobacco obtained during 1959-60 works out to 674 lbs. as compared to 652 lbs. last year, thus showing an increase of 3.4 per cent.

The overall increase in area during the current season has been shared mainly by Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat and to a lesser extent by Bihar and Madras and has been attributed generally to favourable climatic conditions at the sowing time.

The increase in production is shared mainly by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and Gujarat and is attributed partly to increase in area and partly to the increased yield per acre as a result of favourable climatic conditions.

NEW CENTRAL WAREHOUSES

A New Delhi announcement of September 4 says that the Central Warehousing Corporation, which has at present 29 warehouses, intends to start 9 more warehouses within the next month or so to coincide with the kharif harvest. Among the places where new central warehouses are likely to be opened are Virudnagar (Madras), Trichur (Kerala), Adoni (Andhra Pradesh) and Gulbarga (Mysore). Warehouses will also be opened in Gujarat, Assam and West Bengal.

The thirteen State Warehousing Corporations in the country have so far opened about 160 warehouses. They intend to open 100 more warehouses during the remaining months of the current financial year.

MILK YIELD COMPETITION

According to an announcement of September 13, the Central Council of Gosamvardhana has decided to organize an All-India Milk Yield Competition during the current year for four breeds of cattle and one class of buffalo.

The eligible breeds are ; haryana, gir, kankrej ongole and milch buffaloes of all breeds as one class.

For each of the five breeds, the Council will award a first prize of Rs. 2,000 in cash and a certificate of merit and a second prize of Rs. 500 in cash and a certificate of merit.

To enable cattle owners and breeders to enter a large number of their milch cows and buffaloes for the competition at their peak yield periods, the competition this year is proposed to be organised during September-October 1960 and February-March 1961.

The minimum daily milk yields for admissibility of cows and buffaloes is : kankrej, haryana and ongole 20 lbs. ; gir 25 lbs, and buffaloes 30 lbs.

IMPORT OF FOODGRAINS

Replying to a question on September 5, Shri M. V. Krishnappa, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, told the Lok Sabha that a total quantity of about 2 million tons of foodgrains had been imported into India during April 1 to July 31, 1960. So far future imports against the current agreements such as the recent agreement with U.S.A. under P.L. 480 were concerned, they would be decided from time to time in the light of requirements, storage capacity and other factors.

RELEASE OF SUGAR

According to a Press Note issued on September 2 by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Government of India have decided to release 2 lakh tons of sugar in September 1960. There will be no release for free sale from the factories in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Punjab, except a small quantity which will be released to each factory for sale to its employees.

Allotments will be made at prices fixed under Notifications No. GSR 1188-Ess. Com-Sugar

dated October 25, 1959 and GSR 386-Ess. Com-Sugar dated April 4, 1960. The controlled ex-factory price for U.P. and North Bihar factories is Rs. 37.85 per maund and for factories in Punjab and South Bihar 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.

Power stated in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 5 that the expansion scheme of the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona, costing Rs. 82.60 lakhs, had been approved by the Government of India.

The Deputy Minister added that the scheme comprised the following works; purchase of transport vehicles; extension to existing administrative and stores blocks; approach and internal roads in the existing and newly acquired areas of field research station; field hydraulic laboratory with water circulating system, etc; additional equipment for various divisions; land acquisition for expansion of the field hydraulic laboratory; indoor hydraulic laboratory and high head structures laboratory; instrument laboratory and workshop; electric power supply, etc; laboratory cum office building and ancillary buildings; staff colony (1st stage); and maintenance (additional staff).

Shri Hathi further said that work on some items had been completed, or was in progress, while the others would be taken up shortly. The scheme was likely to be completed in about two years.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS' CONFERENCE

A conference of Electrical Inspectors was held at Simla on September 2 and 3. Inaugurating the conference, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, called for uniform practices in construction, maintenance and inspection of electrical installations in various States. He also advocated adoption of safety measures on a countrywide basis and suggested inter-State recognition of wiremen's permits and supervisors' certificates.

The conference was held for the first time after 1928.

River Projects & Power

UTILISATION OF WATER RESOURCES

In his presidential address to the Seventh Irrigation and Power Seminar held at Bangalore on September 10, the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, Shri Hafi Mohammed Ibrahim, said that our target for irrigation in the Third Five Year Plan was 41 million acre feet, and if we went ahead with vigour and determination, we would have succeeded in utilising 35 to 36 per cent of utilisable water resources.

The available river water resources of the country, he added, were estimated in 1950 to be 1,356 million acre feet. Because of physiographical conditions, it was unlikely that more than 450 million acre feet could be used for irrigation. Till 1951, 76 million acre feet had been utilised, and it was expected that by the end of the Second Plan period this would increase to 119 million acre feet.

The major and medium irrigation schemes included in the First and the Second Plans were estimated to cost about Rs. 1400 crores; the actual expenditure up to the end of the Second Plan would probably be Rs. 780 crores. Out of the balance of Rs. 620 crores required to complete these schemes, Rs. 470 crores were likely to be provided during the Third

Plan period. In addition, it was proposed to provide Rs. 80 crores for flood control, anti-waterlogging and anti-sea erosion, and Rs. 100 crores for new schemes.

The Minister said that the stress on industrialisation during the Second Plan period had led to a considerable increase in the demand for power. At the beginning of the Second Plan, the total installed generating capacity was 3.4 m.kw. and an increase to 6.9 m.kw. was contemplated during the Second Plan.

But it was now expected that mainly due to foreign exchange difficulties, the actual capacity would rise to 5.6 m.kw. only. The Third Plan contemplated an increase to 11.8 m.kw. The total outlay on power schemes in the public sector during the first two Plans was expected to be Rs. 670 crores. The Third Plan envisaged an outlay of Rs. 925 crores in the public sector.

WATER AND POWER RESEARCH STATION

Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and

Community Development

COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THIRD PLAN

The National Development Council at its meeting in New Delhi on September 13, considered policy questions relating to cooperative credit and cooperative farming.

In the light of the discussions held earlier, the Council reaffirmed the principle that cooperative should be organised on the basis of the village community as the primary unit, but that, where villages were too small, the number of villages to be covered by a society might be increased to the minimum extent necessary in the interest of viability. The extension should be subject to the maximum limits of a population of 3,000, that is, 600 families or 300 cultivating families and a distance of not more than three or four miles from the village of headquarters.

While providing for flexibility, the essential characteristics of cooperative society, namely, voluntary basis, close contact and social cohesion and mutual obligation should be ensured.

The Council agreed to share capital participation in primary societies. This would be ordinarily limited to Rs. 5,000 and would be subject to an equal contribution being made by the members of the society. The State contribution would be spread over a period of 5 to 8 years during which the society might be expected to reach the optimum level of share capital required and would then be retired over a period.

To enable cooperative societies to extend credit facilities to all classes of cultivators, specially the marginal and sub-marginal cultivators, it was agreed that outright grants might be made by

Government towards special bad debt reserves of central banks and primary cooperatives. Grants to primary societies would be conditional on their admitting as members all cultivators who wished to join the societies and also providing credit to small, marginal and sub-marginal cultivators, whether owners or tenants on a reasonable scale within as short a period as possible.

COOPERATIVE FARMING

The Council also considered the policy relating to cooperative farming in the light of the recommendations made by the Working Group under the chairmanship of Shri S. Nijalingappa and the Conference of Cooperation Ministers held at Srinagar in June 1960. The Council agreed to the Working Group's proposals to undertake 3,200 pilot projects in addition to the programmes for the development of cooperative farming which would be formulated by States during the next three months. In the Third Plan, the Council suggested, the objective should be to build up some foundations for the development of cooperative farming so that, over the next 10 years or so, a substantial portion of the agricultural lands was cultivated on cooperative lines.

The principle that there should be no compulsion in the organisation of cooperative farming societies, was also reaffirmed by the Council.

The Council agreed that in the case of societies which were composed predominantly of landless cultivators and marginal and sub-marginal farmers and were taken up in the pilot projects programme, Government might participate in the share capital,

subject to a ceiling of Rs. 2,000 to be retired over a period of 10 years.

The Council emphasised that policies for promoting cooperative farming and service cooperatives at the primary level should not cut across one another and at all stages cooperative farming should be visualised as a stage in co-operative development and not as a programme isolated from the normal pattern of growth of the rural economy to be achieved through community development. Where a group of cultivators in the village formed a cooperative farming society, the society should be a member of the local service cooperative.

The Council also approved of special assistance being given to cooperative farming societies. This would include grants not exceeding Rs. 1,200 towards managerial expenses spread over a period of 3 to 5 years, assistance for the construction of godowns and cattle sheds and medium and long-term loans.

TRAINING SCHEME FOR COOPERATIVES

An announcement dated September 14 says that the Union Government have formulated a scheme for providing specialised training in cooperation to officers dealing with the development of industrial cooperatives.

The scheme, which has been prepared in pursuance of the recommendations of the Working Group on Industrial Cooperatives, envisages training courses for a four-month period, including two months of practical training at the Block level Cooperative Officers Training Centres located in different parts of the country.

The courses, which will be organised by the Central Committee on Cooperative Training of the Reserve Bank of India, will be open to the Block level Cooperative Officers, inspectors and auditors in cooperative depart-

ments and managers and accountants of cooperative institutions.

It is proposed to admit 40 trainees for each course. The entire expenditure on the scheme will be met by the Central Government.

TRAINING OF C.D. PERSONNEL

The Advisory Board on training set up by the Government of India to advise the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation on matters relating to training in all its

aspects, held its first meeting in New Delhi on September 4. The Board decided to set up three sub-committees. One of these three sub-committees will concern itself with the courses held at the Central Institute of Study and Research in Community Development at Mussoorie. While the second sub-committee will attend to the training programme above the district level up to the level of the Institute, the third sub-committee will advise the Ministry on the study and orientation programmes being organised at and below the district level.

Education & Culture

COMMISSION FOR SCIENTIFIC TERMINOLOGY

A Press Note issued on September 14 by the Ministry of Education says that the Government of India have decided to set up a Standing Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology in pursuance of the directive contained in the order of the President dated April 27, 1960.

Dr. D.S. Kothari, Professor of Physics, Delhi University, and Scientific Advisor to the Ministry of Defence, will be the Chairman of the Commission, which will consist of scientists and technologists in addition to one or two linguists

The Commission will consist of seven members including the Chairman, with the Director of the Central Hindi Directorate as non-member Secretary.

The functions of the Commission will be : (a) Review of the work done so far in the field of scientific and technical terminology in the light of the principles laid down in paragraph 3 of the Presidential Order ; (b) formulation of principles relating to co-ordination and evolution of scientific and technical termino-

logy in Hindi and other languages; (c) co-ordination of the work done by different agencies in the field of scientific and technical terminology, with the consent or at the instance of the State Governments concerned, and approval of glossaries for use in Hindi and other Indian languages as may be submitted to it by the concerned agencies ; (d) the Commission may also take up preparation of standard scientific text-books using the new terminology evolved or approved by it, preparation of scientific and technical dictionaries and translation into Indian languages of scientific books in foreign languages.

To secure active association of the Central Ministries concerned, the State Governments, the Universities and other learned societies, with the work of the evolution of scientific and technical terminology, it has further been decided to set up a high-level Advisory Board to advise the Government of India. The Minister of Education will be the Chairman of this Board, which will be composed of : (i) a repres-

entative each from the Ministries of Education ; Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs ; Information and Broadcasting ; Home Affairs and the University Grants Commission ; (ii) a representative of each of the State Governments ; (iii) 10 members to be nominated by the Ministry of Education to represent Universities, learned societies and other interests; and (iv) the Chairman of the Commission for Scientific Terminology.

For terminological work pertaining to fields other than science and technology, it is proposed to establish a Review and Co-ordination Committee consisting of eminent experts in the field.

CONFERENCE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

The conference of Deans and Principals of medical colleges, which concluded its 3-day session in New Delhi on September 14, has recommended that a separate set-up under the Directorate of Health Services in various States should be established to deal with problems of medical education and research.

To promote research, the conference has urged the provision of additional funds to medical colleges for research programmes and award of additional research fellowships. It has also suggested that efforts should be made to expand research activity in all under-graduate and post-graduate teaching institutions and for this purpose additional staff should be provided for each college.

COST OF MEDICAL EDUCATION

The conference has listed measures for increasing the number of teachers for the existing and future medical colleges. One of its recommendations urges that the age of retirement of medical teachers should be 60 years and not 55 years as at present in most of the colleges. Even if after 60 years the teachers are fit and their services

are needed, they should be given re-employment varying from two to three years up to 65 years of age.

Regarding the cost of medical education, the conference has expressed the view that some economy can be brought about by reducing the high cost of books through the printing of cheaper editions in India. The reduction in the number of textbooks, better use of libraries and introduction of a system of Book Banks could also help in reducing expenditure on this count.

RADIO PLAY COMPETITION

A New Delhi announcement of September 9 says that an Inter-University Radio Play Competition will be held this year to discover talent and stimulate interest among the students of universities and colleges. The competition will be held in Indian languages only. In the case of Hindi, there will be an additional contest for such non-Hindi universities as are prepared to send entries of plays by students whose mother tongue is not Hindi. The last date for receipt of entries is September 25.

This will be the third Inter-University Radio Play Competition organised by All India Radio. It replaced the Students Radio Play Competition in 1958.

'VIVIDH BHARATI'

An announcement of September 10 says that 'Vividh Bharati', the variety entertainment programme of All India Radio, will add another 60 minutes to its programme from September 12. This programme will be broadcast every day except on Sundays and principal festival days between 11 a.m. and 12 noon and can be heard on 25.36 and 25.10 meters. The new programme entitled 'Indradhanush' will consist of instrumental and folk music, popular film songs, Akashvani

Sugam Sangeet and short interesting anecdotes.

Vividh Bharati was started on October 3, 1957 with a total output of 37 hours 15 minutes per week. A 90-minute daily chunk of Karnatak music was added to it on its first anniversary.

FILM INSTITUTE

In a written reply to a question on September 7, Dr. B. V. Keskar, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, told the Lok Sabha that the office of the Film Institute had been set up at Poona. Arrangements were being made with a view to starting refresher courses from January 1961 and regular courses from July 1961.

NEW QUARTERLY JOURNAL

To focus attention on the problems of educational administration and research and offer solutions to them, the Union Ministry of Education has launched upon the publication of a quarterly journal named Indian Journal of Educational Administration and Research. The first issue of the quarterly has been published in September 1960.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has invited applications for the award of 17 Senior Fellowships of the value of Rs. 250 per month each and 17 Junior Fellowships of the value of Rs. 200 per month each, tenable for 2 years, for post-graduate training in animal husbandry and dairy science subjects.

Last date for receipt of applications is October 31, 1960.

French Scholarships

A New Delhi announcement of September 6 says that three candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of France

for higher studies 1 research in that country during 1960-61. The three Scholarships have been awarded in medicine, physics and geology.

RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMA

A New Delhi announcement of September 10 says that the Government of India have recognized the Diploma in Education awarded by the Graduate Basic Training Centres of the Bombay State Government (now the Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra) as being equivalent to the B.Ed. and B.T. of a recognised Indian University.

The recognition, made in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission, has been accorded for purposes of appointment to services and posts under the Government of India.

DEVELOPMENT OF ASIAN THEATRE

A meeting of eminent experts on theatre art and representatives of Asian countries was held in New Delhi on September 7. Representatives of the Philippines, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, Burma, Japan, Laos and India were present at the meeting which was held under the auspices of the National School of Drama and the Asian Theatre Institute. Dr. P.V. Rajamannar, Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi, presided.

Welcoming the representatives of the Asian countries, Dr. Rajamannar said that the meeting had been convened to evolve a working programme of the Asian Theatre Institute.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It was decided at the meeting that an Advisory Committee consisting of representatives of Asian Governments be set up to help the Council of Management of the National School of Drama and the Asian Theatre Institute to develop a suitable programme so that the Institute eventually becomes a full-fledged regional body.

The meeting urged that there should be a greater exchange of drama troupes among Asian countries to promote the development of the Asian theatre.

The meeting approved the programme of 1961 which includes the conducting of a workshop in Japan to continue the study of the traditional theatres in Asia, survey of theatre forms and the issue of publications including a quarterly journal 'Asian Theatre'.

The Asian Theatre Institute, it was decided, should build a library and a museum of literature, photographs and other theatre material from Asian countries.

Representatives agreed that a workshop of four research scholars from Asian countries be

held in India and its duration be extended, if possible, to six months instead of three. A long-term programme might be developed in consultation with the research scholars who would participate in the workshop.

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH U.S.S.R.

The Agreement on Cultural, Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of India has come into force from September 10, 1960, following the exchange in Moscow of the Instruments of Ratification of the Agreement.

The cultural agreement was signed in New Delhi on February 12, 1960.

asthma, diseases of the digestive system specially grahani (sprue like syndromes), abdominal diseases such as of liver and spleen, dropsy mental diseases, and skin diseases (other than leprosy).

The Council agreed on the importance of research on fundamental principles of Ayurveda and decided that assistance should be given for this work as recommended by the sub-committee. The report of the education committee was also discussed.

THIRD PLAN PROVISION FOR LEPROSY

The sixth meeting of the Leprosy Advisory Committee, which concluded its two-day session at Hyderabad on September 4, endorsed the draft of Third Five Year Plan on leprosy. The committee observed that the financial provision of Rs. 7 crores under the Plan was not adequate, and should be raised to Rs. 10 crores.

The Committee, which met under the chairmanship of the Union Minister for Health, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, suggested that greater provision should be made for the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute, Chingleput, as also more aid be given to voluntary organisations which were prepared to undertake leprosy control work.

COMMITTEE TO ASSESS YOGIC THERAPY

According to an announcement of September 7, the Government of India have appointed a committee of medical experts to study, evaluate and report to the Government on the therapeutic values of Yogic practices.

During the course of its work, the four-member Committee will also visit a few selected Yogic institutions where Yogic therapy is being imparted, and recommend, after an on-the-spot assessment, suitable measures for the scientific development of these institutions.



FLOOD SITUATION IN PUNJAB

A statement on the flood situation in the Punjab was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on September 7 on behalf of the Minister for Irrigation and Power, Shri Hafiz Mohamad Ibrahim. The statement said that heavy rains and the consequent floods in the month of July and again from the third week of August caused extensive damage in the State. The worst effected districts were Rohtak, Sangrur, Patiala, Karnal, Hissar and Ludhiana. The situation in Rohtak and Hansi towns was so serious that the Army had to be called in to fight the floods and to save the towns.

According to the information received from the State Government, 3842 villages covering a population of about 28 lakhs had been affected by the floods. Crops covering 9.7 lakh acres and valued at Rs. 12.7 crores had been damaged.

RELIEF MEASURES

The State Government had undertaken relief operation on a large scale in the flood affected areas. Necessary equipment for rescue and relief operations, namely, motor boats, haulage boats etc., were rushed to the affected localities in order to rescue the marooned people. Gratuitous relief to the extent of Rs. 28.75 lakhs and taccavi loans totalling Rs. 49.7 lakhs were sanctioned. In addition, a sum of Rs. 1.5 crores as gratuitous relief for supply of rabi seeds to the affected persons at subsidised rates and Rs. 71.24 lakhs for other forms of relief were sanctioned. Remission of land revenue in the affected area had also been sanctioned. Besides, the Deputy Commissioners had been authorised to give suitable

grants to the families of those bread-winners who might have lost their lives during these floods.

The information received on September 2 was that the water of the Drain was standing against the railway embankment over a length of about four miles from the Rohtak Railway Station towards Ferozepore at 8" to 9" above the top of the rails. Efforts were being made to hold it by rows of gunny bags filled with sand and earth placed along the edge of the railway bund. But the railway bund breached at seven or eight places and the water gradually started finding its way into the town as a result of which the outskirts of the town, especially the low lying areas, were submerged. The outlet of the sewerage system of the town also got submerged by the flood waters with the result that there was backflow through the sewers and some of the streets were filled with sullage water.

RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS

The Civil, the Military and the Engineering authorities were putting in combined efforts to plug the breaches.

Flood fighting and rescue and relief operations had been going on round the clock. Simultaneously, the Public Health authorities had been taking action to see that the accumulation of water in the town did not give rise to epidemics.

FLOOD RELIEF IN ORISSA

Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, while replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 9,

said that a sum of Rs. 2 crores—Rs. 1 crore as Ways and Means Advance and Rs. 1 crore as Loan—had been sanctioned for meeting expenditure on flood relief in Orissa. The Government of Orissa had asked for a grant of Rs. 505 lakhs.

Floods In Mandi

A Statement regarding the flood situation in the Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha by Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power. The statement revealed that following measures had been taken to rehabilitate the flood victims :

(1) Rs. 1 lakh had been sanctioned for distribution as taccavi to meet the immediate needs of the people and the actual demand for taccavi was being assessed.

(2) Recovery of land revenue and outstanding taccavi loans had been suspended.

(3) Several sites at high altitudes were being selected for the construction of new villages in place of those which had been washed away by flood or wiped out by heavy landslides.

EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED

According to an announcement of September 14, the Government of India have instructed all employment exchanges to treat placement of physically handicapped persons as their special responsibility and to help such persons to secure types of employment, where their disability will not be a serious handicap. The Government have also advised the exchanges that if the number of physically handicapped persons approaching an exchange for employment assistance is appreciable, a panel of doctors or specialists should be set up by the exchange to assess the disability and degree of employability of the applicants.



COUNCIL OF AYURVEDIC RESEARCH MEETS

A meeting of the Central Council of Ayurvedic Research was held in New Delhi on September 8 and 9 under the chairmanship of the Union Minister of Health, Shri D.P. Karmarkar.

Addressing the meeting, Shri D.P. Karmarkar said that it might be advisable that a permanent commission, consisting of three practitioners each of modern medicine and Ayurveda should be set up to determine objectively and bring out the best in the two systems. The commission would have for its standard the criterion of giving relief to the patient since his good was more important than any cause.

During the course of the discussion on the agenda, the Minister further revealed that legislation to prevent quacks from practising any system of

medicine was under Government's contemplation.

RESEARCH IN DISEASES

The Council discussed the report of the Literary Research Sub-Committee and recommended that a library, containing every published book available in the country, should be set up. The Council also accepted a proposal for the publication of a journal containing an account of the progress of Ayurveda and articles on original research only. The journal would be published in Hindi and English twice a year.

The Council approved the report of the clinical research sub-committee and decided that some diseases should be taken up for clinical research in various centres by the Government of India. The diseases suggested for research were leprosy, diabetes, rheumatism, gout, paralysis,

ADMISSION OF HARIJAN STUDENTS

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on September 6, Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, laid a statement on the Table of the House outlining the steps for providing reservation for admission of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in educational institutions.

According to the statement, the Government of India have suggested to all State Governments and the Universities that: (i) 20% of seats be reserved for Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes students to enable them to get admission to educational institutions. (ii) In the case of admissions made by admission tests, a 5% reduction of marks for such students should be allowed provided that lower percentage prescribed does not fall below the minimum required to pass the qualifying examination. (iii) The maximum age-limit for admission of such students should be raised by three years.

The Universities have generally accepted these suggestions fully or partly and have issued necessary instructions to the institutions concerned.

HOUSES FOR HARIJANS

According to an announcement of September 15, the Centre has suggested to the States and Union Territories to include in their Third Five Year Plan a scheme to give a proper house-site and a house to Harijans.

Assistance to Harijans engaged in sweeping or scavenging work is to be made from the general provisions for housing. Grants provided by the Union Home Ministry will supplement such assistance.

The cost of the house constructed for sweepers with the Government assistance, it has been indicated, should not be more than Rs. 1,500 or so.

The Centre has also suggested that the hostel facilities for Harijan students should be increased as far as possible, not only by starting new hostels but also by obtaining for promising Harijan students seats in existing hostels and in the public schools.

Another step emphasised by the centre is that the carrying of nightsoil as headload or in basket should be stopped. Implements should be provided so as to reduce the strain and dirtiness of the jobs of sweeping and scavenging.

INCREASED LOANS FOR VILLAGE HOUSING

Replying to a question on September 7, Shri A.K. Chanda, Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, said in the Lok Sabha that the Government of India had decided to raise the quantum of loan from Rs. 1500 to Rs. 2000 per house under the village housing projects scheme.

Till the end of June 1960, nearly 3000 villages had been selected by the State Governments and Union Administrations for development under the Scheme. Loan assistance to the extent of Rs. 143 lakhs had been sanctioned in 700 villages for the construction of about 11,000 houses under the Scheme, out of which Rs. 90 lakhs had been disbursed to the beneficiaries till the end of June 1960. Nearly 1300 houses had been completed and another 6,800 houses were under construction by the end of June.

OBJECTIVES OF PLANNING IN DANDAKARANYA

The Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, who met in New Delhi on September 11 under the Chairmanship of the Union Rehabilitation Minister, Shri Mehar Chand Khanna, decided that the objective of planning in Dandakaranya should embrace all aspects. The aim should not be only to set up agricultural com-

munities but also to develop small and cottage industries, dairies, poultry and fisheries to provide subsidiary income to the settlers and the local population.

PURCHASE OF EXTRA HOUSES BY D.P.s.

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Rehabilitation on September 13 says that the displaced persons who have been settled on evacuee agricultural land are also entitled to allotment of houses to live in. According to the present instructions each land allottee can retain only one house and the excess number of houses are to be surrendered by him. Some instances have, however, come to the notice of the Government that allottees are in occupation of more than one allottable house. Since these houses have now remained in their possession for a number of years and the allottees might have made improvements therein, it has been decided that instead of cancelling the allotment of these houses, the allottees may be allowed to purchase them on payment of the reserve price plus rent up to the date of transfer in one instalment. The concession of purchase of these houses would also be available to occupants who are not displaced persons.

PENSION CLAIMS BY D.P.s

A Press Note issued on September 4 by the Ministry of Rehabilitation says that under an agreement reached between the Government of India and Pakistan in January 1958, it was decided that the employees of undivided Provinces, Centrally Administered areas and former Princely States, who had before migration completed service or age entitling them to a retiring or superannuation pension under the normal rules, but who migrated without having put in formal application for retirement, or whose applications for retirement were not admitted by the authorities concerned in either country, may be allowed the pension which would

have been admissible under the rules had they been permitted to retire. Such of the displaced employees, as came within the purview of this agreement registered their claims against the authorities concerned in Pakistan with the Central Claims Organisation. The claims received were referred to the Government of Pakistan for verification and acceptance, but no claim has so far been accepted by that Government.

It has been decided that, pending verification by Pakistan, these pension claims should also be settled by the *Ad-hoc* Committee already set up for verification of claims on account of pension, provident fund, etc. under the 1949 agreement on the basis of documentary and collateral evidence.

OCCUPATION OF GOVT. PROPERTIES

In another Press Note issued on September 12, the Ministry of Rehabilitation has announced that non-claimant displaced persons in occupation of Government built and acquired evacuee properties in Delhi were required to give their assent to become owners of the properties and pay the first instalment of 20% by October 31, 1959 at the latest. A large number of such non-claimants, although they have paid the first instalment, are not coming forward to sign the agreement for the payment of the balance of the amount in instalments despite repeated reminders. Such persons are hereby informed that the allotments made to them will be liable to be cancelled if they do not execute the agreements by November 30, 1960, at the latest.

TRANSFER OF PROPERTIES

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Rehabilitation on September 7 says that the migrants from the Pakistan-occupied areas of Jammu and Kashmir were treated like other non-claimants for purposes of transfer of allot-

able Pool properties in their occupation in the different States in India outside Jammu and Kashmir State. Orders had also been issued from time to time that such houses should not be auctioned to enable the occupants to exercise the option to purchase the allottable properties in their occupation. The date for the exercise of this option has recently been extended to December 31, 1960.

The Government of India have since announced a separate scheme for the payment of rehabilitation assistance to such of these migrants whose names appear in the nominal rolls

prepared by the Jammu and Kashmir State. These migrants are required to fill in declaration forms and send them to the Provincial Rehabilitation Officer, Jammu. As the work of the Ministry is to be wound up shortly, it has been decided that all migrants from the Pakistan-occupied areas of Jammu and Kashmir, who are in occupation of allottable properties in States other than Jammu and Kashmir, should signify in writing their desire to become owners of the property in their occupation and also pay the first instalment of 20% of the price by December 31, 1960, at the latest.

ment to conduct a judicial enquiry at an appropriate time to enquire into the circumstances resulting in the disturbances in Assam in July. It asked the enquiry to suggest necessary steps to prevent the recurrence of such disturbances in the future. The House adopted it by a voice vote.

DEBATE IN RAJYA SABHA

The Rajya Sabha also held a debate on the situation in Assam on September 7 and 8. After the debate the Rajya Sabha adopted an amendment to the resolution. The amendment asked for a judicial enquiry at an appropriate time into the circumstances resulting in the disturbances.

Muslim Waqfs In U.P.

An announcement of September 4 says that the President has given assent to the Uttar Pradesh Muslim Waqfs Bill, 1960, which mainly seeks to provide for speedy settlement of disputes between the Boards and the *mutawallis* through tribunals in the State.

The legislation also empowers the Boards to remove delinquent *mutawallis* and to determine the objects and the manner of application of funds of those waqfs whose objects have failed or cannot be accomplished or are not defined with precision.

Winding up the debate, the Prime Minister said that there should be quick local enquiries in Assam to get at the culprits responsible for the recent happenings there. These enquiries would presumably be judicial. There should be another enquiry, the Prime Minister said, at the appropriate time to go into the deeper causes for the disturbances.

The Home Minister, Shri Pant, who intervened in the debate, hoped that one of the Central Ministers would shortly be sent to Assam, and at times to Bengali-speaking people affected by the recent riots in Assam.

The Prime Minister accepted a substitute motion, which recommended to the Central Govern-



SITUATION IN ASSAM

A three-day debate was held by the Lok Sabha from September 1 to 3 on the situation in Assam. The debate was opened and concluded by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

The State Government has been empowered to supercede the Boards and appoint an administrator for a period of one year if there is gross mismanagement and persistent dereliction of duty by the Board.

The properties which were governed by the Husainabad Endowment Act, 1878, and some other properties are to be brought within the purview of the Bill.

PROTECTION TO TENANTS IN MADRAS

An announcement of September 7 says that the President has given assent to the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 1960.

The Bill seeks to extend by one year the life of the Madras Tenants and Ryots Protection Act, 1949, due to expire on October 7, 1960.

REGISTRATION OF BOOKS IN MADRAS

According to an announcement of September 10, the President has given assent to the Press and Registration of Books (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1960.

The legislation makes it obligatory on the keeper of the press to make a new declaration if the press has not commenced printing of books or papers for a period of three months immediately after the original declaration.



NAVAL EXERCISES

About 5,000 officers and sailors and 15 ships took part in a series of naval training exercises conducted under the tactical command of Vice-Admiral R. D. Katari, Chief of the Naval Staff, in the Arabian Sea on passage between Cochin and Bombay from September 12 to 16.

The participating fleet included the Flagship MYSORE, the cruiser DELHI, five destroyers and eight frigates as also some naval aircraft.

The exercises marked the concluding phase of the summer exercises of the Fleet which had started about five months ago.



MEDICAL PERSONNEL FOR CONGO

The first batch of over 100 medical personnel, out of a total of 300, who will form a hospital in the Congo for the United Nations, left New Delhi on September 8.

Four more planes left New Delhi on September 9 and 11 to complete the airlift of the medical personnel. In addition, a few more planes of the U.S. Air Force have been chartered by the United Nations to carry the hospital equipment.

Together with the Hospital group, one composite supply platoon of about 100 men of the Army Service Corps also left for the Congo on September 9.

M. GOPALA MENON FOR VIETNAM COMMISSION

In a Press Note issued on September 7, the Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Shri M. Gopala Menon, till recently Consul General of India, New York, has been appointed as Chairman, International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam, in succession to Shri S.S. Ansari.

EMBASSY IN CONGO

In a Press Note issued on September 12, the Ministry of External Affairs has announced that, consequent on the attainment of independence by the Congo, the Government of India have decided to establish diplomatic relations with the Congo at an Embassy level with immediate effect and to appoint Shri M.A. Rahman, an officer

Technical Training School For I.A.F.

A new technical training school, functioning at the Air Force base at Kanpur, was formally inaugurated by the Defence Minister, Shri V. K. Krishna Menon, on September 14.

of the Indian Foreign Service, as charge d'Affaires.

AMBASSADOR TO U.A.R.

In a Press Note issued on September 9, the Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Shri Muhammad Azim Husain, at present Deputy High Commissioner for India in London, has been appointed as Ambassador of India to the United Arab Republic. He will take up his new post in October, 1960.

AMBASSADOR IN FIJI

In a Press Note of September 15, the Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Shri Jewan Krishna Ganju, till recently Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed Commissioner for the Government of India in Fiji. He will assume charge of his new post in January, 1961.

GIFT TO ISTANBUL VARSITY

India's Ambassador to Turkey, Shri J.N. Atal, presented a set of Indian-made scientific instruments to the Technical University in Istanbul on September 8. He described the gift as a symbol of the friendship reinforced by the Indo-Turkish Cultural Agreement of 1951.

GIFT TO BELGRADE MUSEUM

Nawab Ali Yezvar Jung, India's Ambassador in Yugoslavia, presented an eighteenth century miniature belonging to the Rajput school to the Director of the National Museum in Belgrade on September 13.

This will be the first Indian painting to find a place in a Yugoslav museum.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

SEPTEMBER 1 TO 15

September 1 — The Government of India set up an Export Promotion Council for Spices—twelfth in the series of Export Promotion Councils.

— The Government of India reconstitute the National Savings Central Advisory Board.

— The first quarterly draw of Prize Bonds is held in six main cities of the country.

8 — The airlift of personnel and equipment of the Armed Forces Medical Services, being sent to the Congo for setting up a hospital there, begins at Palam airport, New Delhi.

— The Central Council for Ayurvedic Research meets in New Delhi.

9 — Both Houses of Parliament adjourn *sine die* after the monsoon session.

— India lose the Olympic Hockey Championship to Pakistan at the Olympic Games in Rome.

10 — The Cultural Agreement between the U.S.S.R. and India, signed on February 12, 1960, comes into force with the exchange of the Instruments of Ratification of the Agreement in Moscow.

— The final round of talks on the implementation of the Agreement on India-Pakistan Border, reached in January last, concludes in Simla.

11 — The Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal sign at Kathmandu a Trade and Transit Treaty which will remain in force for five years from November 1, 1960.

12 — The National Development Council begins its two-day session in New Delhi to consider the draft outline of the Third Five Year Plan.

— A series of naval training exercises of the Indian Navy begin in the Arabian Sea on the passage between Cochin and Bombay.

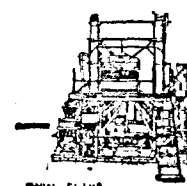
— A three-day conference of Principals and Deans of medical colleges begins in New Delhi.

14 — The Government of India decide to set up a seven-member Standing Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology in pursuance of the President's Order on Official Language issued in April last.

— The new equipment for solar observation, installed at the Astro-physical Observatory at Kodaikanal, is formally inaugurated by the Union Minister of Transport and Communications, Dr. P. Subbarayan.

— The Defence Minister, Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, inaugurates the Technical Training School at the Air Force base in Kanpur.

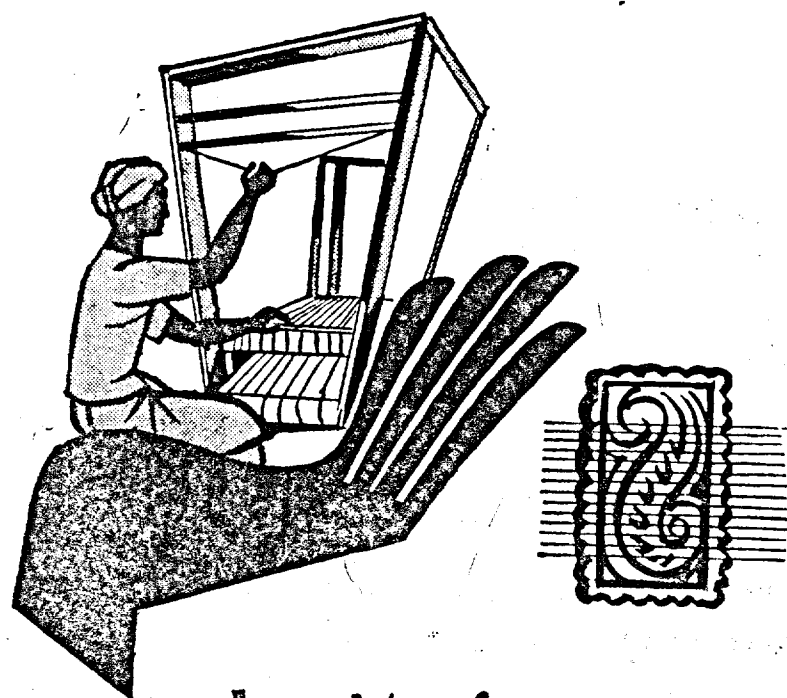
15 — The International Telex Service from India is extended to Sweden.



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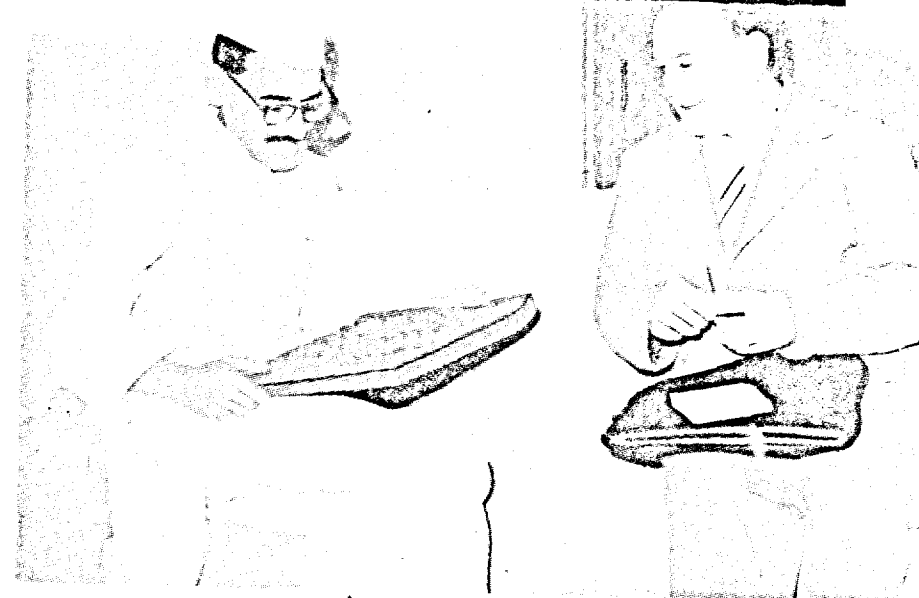


Handlooms

A Vital Link in India's Economy

DA 60/346

Shri G. L. Nanda, Union Minister for Labour and Employment, greeting Mr. Pasco Romac, Vice-President of the Federation of Trade Unions in Yugoslavia at the former's residence in New Delhi on September 8



Shri Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, with members of the cultural delegation which left New Delhi for a tour of West Asian countries on September 14



The Union Health Minister, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, addressing the Central Council for Ayurvedic Research in New Delhi on September 8

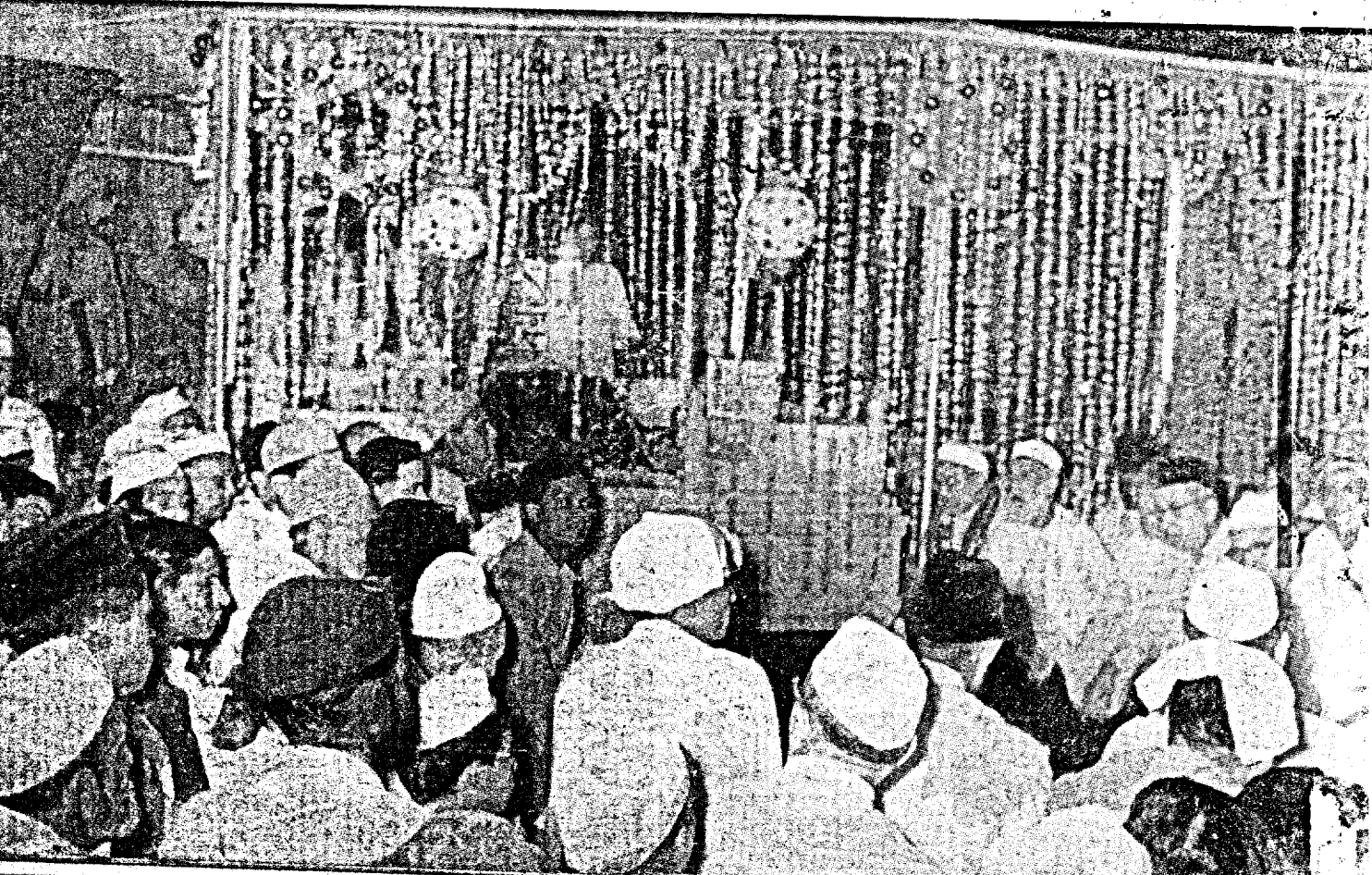




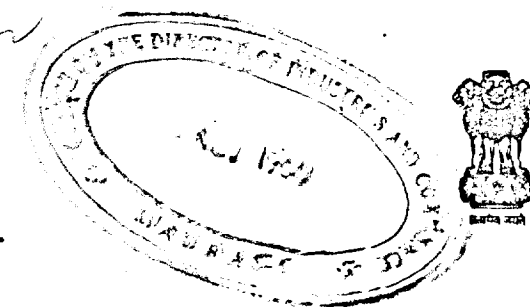
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A dance performance in the Bharati festival, organised by the National Cultural Organisation in New Delhi on 11 in memory of the Tamil poet Subramania Bharati

Urs celebrations of Hazrat Kalimullah held at the shrine of the Saint at Delhi on September 15



Indian Information

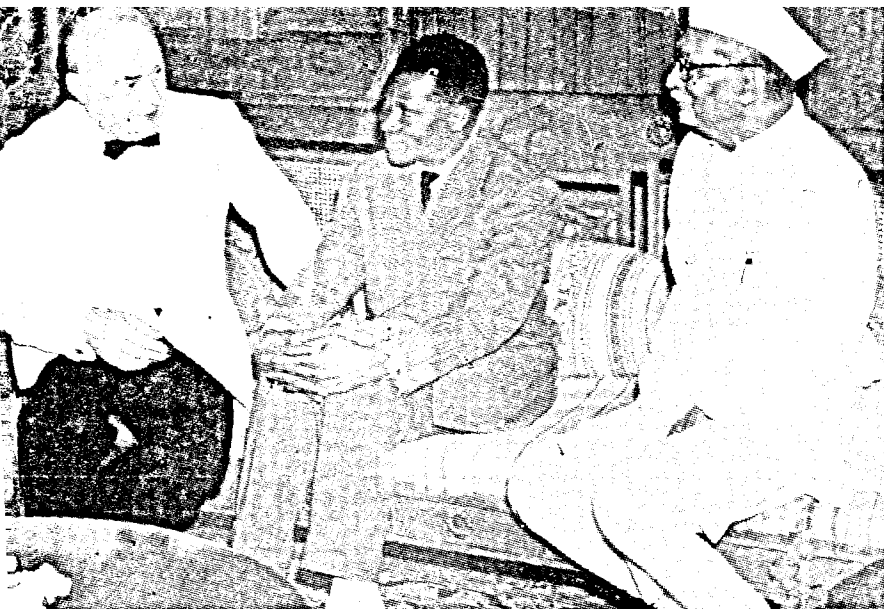


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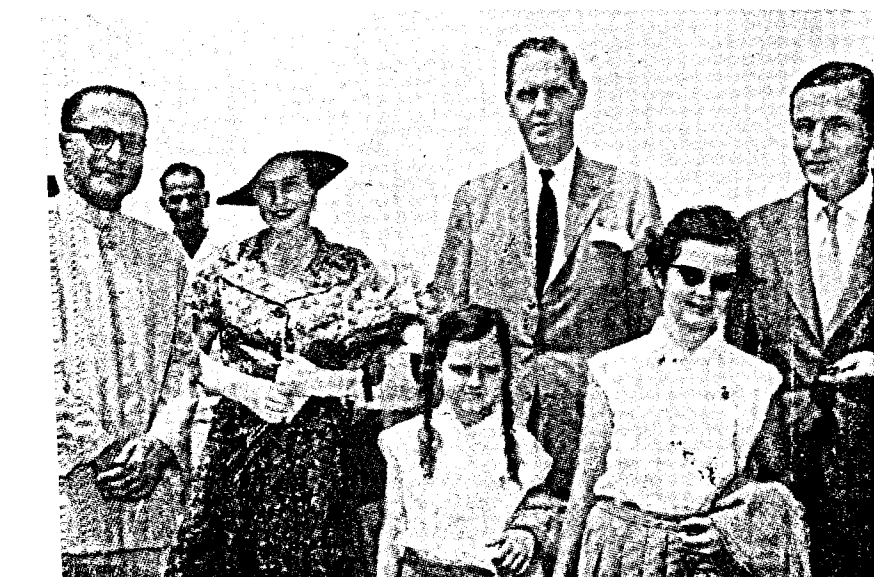




H.E. Mr. Jozef Cyrankiewicz, Prime Minister of Poland, and H.E. Mr. Sekou Toure, President of Guinea, with Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of India, at the banquet given in their honour at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on September 23



Prime Minister Nehru and Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, Chairman of the Indian delegation to U.N.O., at the plenary meeting of the U.N. General Assembly in New York



H.E. Mr. Jonkheer Gerard Beelaorts Van Blokland (second from right), Ambassador-designate of Netherlands to India, with his wife and children on arrival at Palam airport in New Delhi on September 16

Indian Information

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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 form. Such items should not be treated as complete and authoritative versions).

Political & General

INDUS WATERS TREATY SIGNED BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed by the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan at Karachi on September 19. The Treaty brings to a close the 13-year old dispute regarding the waters of the Indus system of rivers.

Under the Treaty, the waters of the Indus, Jhelum and Chenab, except for essential uses in their own basins while they flow in India, are allotted to Pakistan;

and the waters of the Ravi, Beas and Sutlej, except for a transition period during which Pakistan will build works to replace the waters received by it from these rivers, are allotted to India.

This division is based on the proposal made by the World Bank in 1954. It divides the total waters of the Indus system in the proportion of 80:20 between Pakistan and India.

India guarantees to let flow for all time to come all the waters of the Indus, Jhelum and Chenab to Pakistan, except for essential uses in India to be made in accordance with detailed regulations specified in the Treaty.

The present irrigated areas in India (Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh) from these rivers are approxi-

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mately one million acres. These will continue to get water supplies from them.

In addition, provision is made for development of new irrigation facilities for another 0.7 million acres from these rivers in India.

Further, India may undertake measures for flood control and drainage in these basins (as long as these do not adversely affect Pakistan) and use these waters for generation of hydro-electric power in accordance with the criteria laid down in the Treaty.

In addition to storage for flood control purposes, India will be entitled to store on the Western Rivers for various purposes a total of 2.85 M.A.F. This storage will be mainly on tributaries.

EASTERN RIVERS

India will continue to give water from the Sutlej, Beas and Ravi, allotted to her under the Treaty, to Pakistan during the transition period only and at a diminishing scale. The transition period will be 10 years from the date the Treaty comes into force, i.e., April 1, 1960.

This period may be extended for a further period of 3 years at Pakistan's request, but the extension is subject to a reduction in Indian contribution towards Pakistan's replacement works by Rs. 42 lakhs if the period is extended by one year, by Rs. 86 lakhs if by 2 years, and by Rs. 131 lakhs if by 3 years.

The transition period cannot be extended beyond 1973.

Under the Bank's plan of 1954, the transition period was estimated to last five years.

LOANS FOR INDUS WORKS

The U.S. Government has agreed to lend India a sum of Rs. 15.7 crores (dollars 33 million) and the World Bank Rs. 11 crores (dollars 23 million) to meet the foreign exchange costs of a dam on the Beas. This has been done taking into consideration the long transition period agreed to by India in order to accommodate Pakistan,

and will enable India to avoid undue postponement of the perennial supplies to the Rajasthan canal, as would otherwise have been the case.

These loans will be the subject of separate agreements between India and the U.S. Government and India and the Bank.

WORKS IN PAKISTAN

Pakistan is undertaking on the Western Rivers a comprehensive system of replacement-cum-development works comprising storage reservoirs, barrages, link canals, tubewells, drainage and hydro-electric installations.

As the purpose of part of this system of works is the replacement from the Western Rivers of water supplies for irrigation canals in Pakistan, which were dependent on water supplies from the Eastern Rivers, India has agreed to make a fixed contribution of Rs. 83 crores (£ 62.5 million) towards the cost of the replacement element of these works.

The United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada, West Germany, Australia and New Zealand and the Bank are financing the remaining costs of this large plan of works. Their aid to Pakistan will be worth Rs. 333 crores (£ 250 million).

Apart from making the fixed contribution mentioned above, India is not concerned with the planning, construction and financing of the replacement-cum-development plan in Pakistan.

The detailed arrangements for the financing and construction etc. of these works are the subject of a separate agreement between the Bank, Pakistan and the participating countries mentioned above.

INDUS COMMISSION

The Treaty provides for a Permanent Indus Commission consisting of an Indian and a Pakistani Commissioner. Each Commissioner will be representative of his Government for all matters arising out of the Treaty

and will serve as a regular channel of a communication on all matters relating to the implementation of the Treaty.

The Permanent Indus Commission will first iron out any differences between the two sides, that may arise in connection with the implementation of this Treaty.

The Treaty also provides for calling in a Neutral Expert, when necessary, to whom differences of a technical nature would be submitted for decision.

A Court of Arbitration will deal with major disputes, if any, on the interpretation of the Treaty.

FUTURE COOPERATION

The Treaty contains provision for future cooperation with regard to specific works, such as building dams to control floods or drainage works which may be required to be built by one party in the territory of the other. These will be built at the request and cost of the party which benefits from them under separate bilateral agreements.

The Treaty terminates the Indo-Pak Agreement of May 1948. Pakistan has agreed to pay all the 'undisputed' charges due to India and agreement has been reached to settle the 'disputed' charges by a payment by Pakistan of about Rs. 62 lakhs.

The total sum thus due to India, excluding the disputed amount lying in with the Reserve Bank, comes to Rs. 58 lakhs (£ 440,000). This sum has been set off against the Indian contribution of Rs. 83 crores.

PRIME MINISTER NEHRU'S SPEECH

The following are extracts from the speech made by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, before signing the Canal Waters Treaty at President's House, Karachi (Pakistan), on September 19.

This is indeed a unique occasion and a memorable day, memorable in many ways; memorable certainly in the fact that the very difficult and complicated

problems which have troubled us, India and Pakistan, for many years have been satisfactorily solved. Memorable also because in spite of the complexity of the problem and sometimes of the sense of frustration that has accompanied it because of the delay in solving it, yet success has come at last. It is also memorable because it is an outstanding example of a cooperative endeavour between not only the two countries principally concerned but also other countries and notably the International Bank.....

And now by this arrangement, we have tried to utilise to the best advantage these waters connected with the Indus river which have flowed down for ages past and the greater part had gone to the sea without being utilised otherwise. So this is a happy occasion for all of us. The actual material benefits which will come from this are of course great. But even greater than these material benefits are the psychological, perhaps the emotional benefits that come from such a treaty, which is happy symbol not only in this domain of the use of the Indus Valley waters, but in the larger cooperation between the two countries.

I should like to express my deep gratitude to the International Bank and to all those who have laboured within Pakistan, in India or the other friendly countries, who have come to our assistance in this matter and generously made contributions to that end.

I feel sure, that if we approach this, or any world problem, in the spirit of cooperation and cooperative endeavour, it will be much easier of solution than it might appear to be. Therefore, most of all, I welcome the spirit which, in spite of all difficulties and obstructions and obstacles, triumphed in the end. Ultimately the spirit does triumph even in the material age. So I should like to express again my deep satisfaction at the happy outcome of many years' labour and express the hope that this will bring prosperity to a vast number of the people on both sides and will increase the goodwill and friendship for India and Pakistan.

FACTS ABOUT INDUS BASIN

1. The Indus Basin lies in the North-West of the Indian sub-continent. In August 1947, this sub-continent was partitioned to form two independent States: India and Pakistan. The boundary between India and Pakistan cuts across the Indus river and its tributaries.

2. The Indus rises from the Mansarovar Lake in Tibet and flows through Ladakh and Gilgit in Kashmir before entering West Pakistan. The Chenab rises in the Indian State of Punjab and flows for about 100 miles in the Indian State of Himachal Pradesh and for about 170 miles in Jammu before entering Pakistan. Only the Jhelum rises in Kashmir.

3. A large number of irrigation canals take off these rivers. The partition of the sub-continent placed all but a few of these canals in Pakistan.

4. The area irrigated annually by these canals was about 26 million acres; the partition placed 5 million acres of this irrigated area in India and 21 million acres in Pakistan. The total irrigable area in the plains of the Indus Basin is 65 million acres—26 million acres in India and 39 million acres in Pakistan.

5. Thus, out of the 26 million acres of irrigable land of the Indus Basin placed by the partition in India, only 19 per cent had irrigation facilities, whilst out of the 39 million acres placed in Pakistan, 54 per cent were already irrigated.

6. The population depending on the waters of the Indus system, as at partition, was 21 million in India and 25 million in Pakistan. The irrigated area per head of population was thus 0.24 acre in India and 0.84 acre in Pakistan.

7. The rivers of the Indus system bring from the hills about 168 million acre feet of water every year.

8. At partition, these supplies were being accounted for somewhat as follows: Used by canals in Pakistan 66 M.A.F. Used by canals in India 9 M.A.F. Lost in the river channels 18 M.A.F. Escaped to the Arabian Sea 75 M.A.F.

9. Of the 66 million acre feet of water used by Pakistan canals, prior to partition, about 10 million acre feet or 16 per cent had been obtained from the limited supplies available in the Ravi, the Beas and the Sutlej.

10. Pakistan can replace these 10 million acre feet by fresh diversions from the unused waters of the Indus, the Jhelum and the Chenab, which now go waste to the sea, through canals linking these rivers to the Ravi and the Sutlej.

11. This is the only way India can supply the very means of existence to her arid and famine areas, awaiting development. This will not affect irrigation in Pakistan in any way and will still leave plenty of water for future development in Pakistan.

CITIZENS' RECEPTION

Following are the extracts from the English rendering of the Urdu speech delivered by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, at a Citizens' Reception on September 19:

As I stand here today to speak to you, my memory conjures up pictures of past associations. I came here today to bring to an end an old story—to sign a Treaty.

The fact is that other people could have signed the Treaty and there was hardly any need for your President to take the trouble or for me to come all the way to Karachi. But I have come here to fulfil my cherished desire to revive the ties which bind our two peoples together and to bring a message of goodwill and friendship from my Government and my people so that we may live in close amity, friendship and cooperation.

Just now you heard a recitation of a verse from the Holy Quran which says that those who approach the problems with open hearts meet with success. It is a great truth.

Today the world is beset with great problems which have defied solution in spite of all attempts. The world today is walking on the edge of a sword. Its fate is uncertain. Efforts are being made, some with honesty of purpose, to find a solution to the world problems. These efforts have not fructified because the minds engaged in solving the problems are afflicted with suspicion and mistrust of each other. This is called cold war.

The question of vital importance is how to improve the situation, and remove suspicion so that bigger and smaller nations learn to trust each other. This is important for all countries of the world particularly in relation to India and Pakistan. Apart from being neighbours, considerations of geography demand that we have closer relationship. As you know, our relationship goes back to centuries with deep roots. Momentary bitterness cannot uproot them. There is a proverb in the English language which says that two brothers may quarrel and quarrel bitterly, but their brotherly love for each other cannot be removed. The real thing is love and friendship.

There are hardly any two countries with such ancient relationship as our two countries. Some painful incidents took place creating difficulties for a large number of people and inflicting deep wounds. The brother's wounds are always more painful than those of the enemy and they are also difficult to treat. All this has now become a matter of the past. Today we are faced with the real issue. Therefore it was my wish to come when your President wanted me. I hope my visit here will mark the beginning of a new era in our relationship.

In fact mere visit means nothing. It is the spirit behind such visits which matters. The fundamental issue is that of the attitude of the masses. The people of our two countries are now eager to forget the past bitterness and to forge a new relationship. I hope that your President also will give our people the pleasure of visiting them.

INDO-PAKISTAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Following is the text of the Indo-Pakistan joint communique:

The Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, arrived in Karachi on the morning of the 19th September on a five day visit to Pakistan on the invitation of Field Marshal Mohammad Ayub Khan. The Prime Minister was accompanied by Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim, Minister for Irrigation and Power, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, and officials of the Government of India.

2. In the afternoon, the Indus Waters Treaty, 1960, was signed by the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan on behalf of their respective countries and by Mr. W.A.B. Iliff on behalf of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development.

3. The Prime Minister and the President left Karachi on the 20th September for Murree, visited Nathiagali on the 21st and left for Lahore via Rawalpindi on September 22nd. The Prime Minister visited the site of the new capital, Islamabad, on his way to Rawalpindi. The Prime Minister of India left for Delhi on September 23.

4. The two leaders, during these five days, discussed matters affecting Indo-Pakistan relations and exchanged informally views on current international questions.

COMMON OBJECTIVES

5. The President of Pakistan and Prime Minister of India were convinced that the primary need of the two countries was the rapid development of their resources and the raising of the living standards of their people. The two leaders acknowledged that the settlement of the Indus basin waters question and the elimination of their border disputes presented to their two Govern-

ments an unparalleled opportunity to direct their policies towards the promotion of mutual understanding and friendly co-operation between their two countries. They agreed that their Governments and people should work for the promotion of friendly and co-operative relations between their two countries and eliminate old emotional strains and tensions. They recognised that reduction in tension and development of friendly neighbourly co-operative relations will enable each of their countries to devote its energies to the achievement of their basic objectives of economic and social development.

MEASURES SUGGESTED

6. In furtherance of these common objectives, the Prime Minister and the President have also agreed to the following:

(a) A meeting between the Ministers of Finance of the two countries to consider further and resolve the differences on financial matters between the two countries.

(b) A Minister-level conference between India and Pakistan to review the implementation of the border agreements and to resolve the outstanding differences on border matters.

(c) An early meeting of the High-Level Implementation Committee set up under the the Moveable Properties Agreement.

(d) Promotion of co-operation between the two countries on scientific and technical matters and exchange of information on agricultural research.

(e) Evolving the procedures for exchange of information with regard to the projects for utilisation of water resources of the common rivers in India and East Pakistan.

(f) Exploring possibilities of increasing trade and economic exchanges between the two countries and examining the need for opening new offices to further this objective. It was suggested that Pakistan, *inter alia*, should buy cement, iron and steel from India and could sell to India jute, cotton, rock salt, Sui gas, etc.

KASHMIR ISSUE

7. There was a frank and friendly exchange of views between the Prime Minister and the President in regard to Kashmir. The talks were conducted in an atmosphere of cordiality. They came to the conclusion that this was a difficult question which required careful consideration of all aspects. The President and Prime Minister agreed to give further thought to this question with a view to finding a solution.

8. The President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of India welcomed this opportunity of renewing their personal contact and of having friendly and fruitful discussions. They have agreed to keep in touch with each other in furtherance of their common objectives.

9. The Prime Minister of India has invited the President of Pakistan to visit India. The President of Pakistan has accepted the invitation.

PRESIDENT OF GUINEA IN INDIA

His Excellency Mr. Sekou Toure, President of the Republic of Guinea, arrived in New Delhi on September 23. After the ceremonial reception at the Palam airport, Mr. Sekou Toure proceeded to Rashtrapati Bhavan where he stayed during his brief sojourn in the capital.

President Sekou Toure left New Delhi for Cairo on September 24.

POLISH PRIME MINISTER

His Excellency Mr. Jozef Cyrankiewicz, Prime Minister of the Polish Peoples' Republic, accompanied by His Excellency Mr. Marian Naszkowski, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and His Excellency Mr. Janusz Bura-kiewicz, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, arrived in New Delhi on September 20.

In a brief message from All India Radio, the Polish Prime Minister said, "I am very happy to visit India again. I cherish the memories of my last visit to this country and my meetings with the Prime Minister and the President. I sincerely hope that this present visit will further strengthen the friendly relations that already exist between our two countries."

On September 21, the Polish Prime Minister visited the University at Roorkee and the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun. On leaving Delhi on September 25, he went to Bombay and Aurangabad on his way to the Ajanta caves. He also visited the Integral Coach Factory at Perambur and the temples of Mahabalipuram before he embarked for Colombo from Madras on September 27.

STATE BANQUET

A State Banquet was held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on September 23 in honour of H.E. Mr. Sekou Toure, President of the Republic of Guinea, and H.E. Mr. Jozef Cyrankiewicz, Prime Minister of Poland.

Speaking on the occasion, the President of Guinea said, "We are on a visit of friendship. We think that with friendship we can find a solution to all problems. Friendship presupposes comprehension, respect for reciprocal personalities. We know very well the efforts of the people of your country towards the colonised peoples. We appreciate very much the efforts in the international forums of your leaders towards the freedom of different peoples. We have had the same experience as your people."

The President of Guinea continued, "we are happy to meet here the Prime Minister of Poland. When different people will become independent and work freely for their own development, then we would be able to co-operate with other people on an equal footing and when injustice will have disappeared, we shall be sure of the individual peace among all nations of the world."

"We are happy to meet here the representatives of all religions and all countries and all nationalities. Nothing divides us because we are all men; we have the same human needs and that is why we are supporting your efforts and the efforts of people who want peace and fraternity to reign in the world."

INDIA-POLAND FRIENDSHIP

The Polish Prime Minister in his speech said, "It is great joy for me that during my stay in India I have the opportunity to meet an outstanding leader of Guinea, an eminent leader and a fighter for freedom of the nations in Africa. We are deeply convinced that the more colonialism all over the world is collapsing, the more the cause of peace all over the world is strengthened. I want to express my great joy that the relations between Poland and India are developing more friendly. Apart from implementation of our common objectives which unite our countries despite the different conditions prevailing in them, apart from the common struggle for peace and co-existence, our mutual economic relations are developing ever more favourably. I am convinced that friendship between Poland and India will go on strengthening and that our relations in the field of economy and culture will grow and widen and develop to the benefit of both our countries."

JOINT STATEMENT

Following is the text of a joint statement issued in New Delhi on September 27 on the conclusion of the Polish Prime Minister's visit to India:

Taking advantage of the second visit of the Prime Minister of Polish People's Republic to India, talks were held between him and the Prime Minister of India. These talks covered Indo-Polish relations and the increasing cooperation between the two countries in the economic and cultural fields, which both Prime Ministers welcome, as well as important international questions. Among these questions discussed were the importance and urgency of achieving disarmament in this nuclear age and the latest developments in Africa.

In the course of discussion of European problems, the Polish Prime Minister also explained the view of his Government with regard to the problems of Germany, Berlin and the inviolability of the frontiers of Poland. Reference was also made to the working of the International Commissions for Supervision and Control in Indo-China of which both India and Poland are members.

The two Prime Ministers were happy at the growth of friendly co-operation between the two countries in many fields and expressed the hope that these friendly relations would grow.

TRAFFIC WITH GOA

According to an announcement of September 26, the Government of India have decided to open two more land routes to Goa from the first of next month. The new routes are by way of Anmode and Lakkarkot. At present, travel is restricted to one route by way of Hajali. No change has been made in the present entry routes for Daman and Diu.

To prevent smuggling, border control is to be handed over by the Centre to the State Reserve Police. At present Customs and Police authorities exercise a dual control.

The amount of Indian currency that can be brought in from Goa or taken out to Goa has been reduced from seventy-five rupees to fifty. Passengers from Goa will be permitted to bring in foreign currency but not Goan Escudo.

INDIAN ADMINISTRATOR FOR LIBERATED AREAS

The Union Government have also agreed to depute an Officer

of the Indian Administrative Service of the rank of District Collector to be the Administrator of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, which have liberated themselves from Portuguese rule. The Administrator, who is being deputed at the request of the de facto authorities of the area, will be the Chief Executive Officer of a Panchayat for the area to be elected shortly. He will be required to introduce a progressive and efficient administration and prepare development plans for the area.

The new Panchayat is to be elected by the middle of October. It will have 22 elected members, of whom at least six will represent the Adivasis. The Panchayat will elect its own Chairman and will have all powers over the area, including legislative powers.

SINO-INDIAN TALKS ON BORDER ISSUE

A Press Note issued on September 29 by the Ministry of External Affairs says that, in continuation of their discussion in Peking, the officials of the Indian and the Chinese Governments have been meeting in Delhi since the 19th August in fulfilment of the directive contained in the Joint Communique issued after the meeting of the two Prime Ministers. The officials have completed the consideration of evidence under the second item of their agenda: 'Treaties and Agreements, Tradition and Customs'. Since the last week, they have been dealing with the third and fourth items of their agenda: 'Administration and Jurisdiction' and 'Miscellaneous', respectively.

The Joint Communique envisages that this assignment of the officials should be completed and a report submitted to the two Governments by the end of September. A certain amount of ground still remains to be covered, and despite determined efforts of the two teams, it may not be possible to do so before the end of the month. On a joint request from the leaders

of the two teams, the Prime Ministers of the two countries have agreed that the prescribed time-limit may be extended to the minimum extent necessary for the completion of the work. The two teams are continuing their meetings in Delhi and hope to complete the substantive work in connection with examination of the remaining portion of evidence in the first part of October.

The Prime Ministers have also agreed that the teams may adjourn after completing the substantive examination on all items and re-assemble after a short break for a third and final session, on a date and at a place to be decided in consultation by the two Governments, to finalise their report.

NEW JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT

An announcement of September 30 says that the President is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Janardan Rangnath Mudholkar, a Judge of the High Court at Bombay, to be a Judge of the Supreme Court of India, with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office.

POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES MEDAL

According to an announcement of September 17, the President has awarded the Police and Fire Services Medal for gallantry to Fireman Shri Lal Singh of Pathankot for displaying 'initiative, courage and devotion to duty of the highest order'.

In the severe explosion of gun ammunition and other high explosives which took place on February 24, 1958 at the railway siding of an Ordnance Railhead Group, Pathankot, when the ammunition was being unloaded from the railway wagons, Shri Lal Singh of the Fire Crew of an Ordnance Group, in complete disregard of his personal safety, took the hose-line of his trailer pump right up to the scene of fire and started fighting it from close quarters.

POLICE MEDAL

An announcement of September 24 says that the President has awarded the Police Medal for gallantry to a Police Constable from Andhra Pradesh, Shri Kugarlapathi Jagannadha Raju.

Shri Kugarlapathi Jagannadha Raju displayed great courage and presence of mind and saved two lives from drowning at great danger to his own life on September 7, 1959.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY NOT PART OF CASUAL LEAVE

According to an announcement of September 20, the Union Home Ministry has instructed the Central Government offices that public holidays and weekly offs falling within a period of casual leave should not be counted as part of the casual leave.

The order follows a recommendation of the Pay Commission, which said that 'public holidays and weekly offs should not be treated as part of the casual leave.'

Already, on the recommendation of the Pay Commission, the Central Government have reduced the casual leave from 15 days in a year to 12 days for office staff. The Government have also reduced the number of holidays from 23 to 16 as recommended by the Pay Commission.

SERVICE NAMES DROPPED

The Union Home Ministry, in a circular dated September 22, communicated the Government's decision that officers in the Government of India are to stop using the abbreviated form of the name of their service in official correspondence, orders, etc. For instance, the practice of using in official correspondence or orders, the appellations like I.C.S., I.F.S., I.A.S., and I.P.S., with the name of a particular officer, will be discontinued.

However, the name of the service to which an officer belongs may be mentioned after his name where it serves some recognised public purpose e.g.,

in gazette notifications for the requirements of audit.

Discussing this point, the Pay Commission had said that the office which a Government servant holds is of interest to the community; but the service to which he belongs is not. Its habitual mention can only serve as a useless, and to some an irritating, reminder that a particular Government servant belongs to a particular superior service.

PREVENTIVE DETENTION

As on June 30, 1960 there were 94 persons held in the various States under the Preventive Detention Act 1950, says an announcement of September 26.

State-wise, persons detained were: West Bengal—56; Maharashtra—19; Gujarat—6; Madhya Pradesh—3; Punjab—2, and Uttar Pradesh—2. The Union Territory of Manipur had detained six persons.

Of these, 93 persons were detained for reasons involving either the security of the State or the maintenance of public order.

No foreigner was held in detention under the Act.

USE OF INSECTS IN CRIME INVESTIGATION

According to an announcement of September 17, insects are no less significant in criminal investigations than other forms of evidence. This is the view of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory that has been set up by the Government at Calcutta to improve scientific methods of investigation of crimes.

This assumption follows from the fact that some insects, either intact or their body parts, are so tiny that they adhere to almost everything, and will be found on the body of a person, under shoes, or in clothing, and other locations. Different kinds of insects inhabit different regions. They are found in the depth of soil, hills, moors, marshes, ponds, rivers and seas.

Evidence based on insect identification is likely to help detect the criminal's normal habitation or his brief presence at the scene of crime. The insects obtained from a crime scene may be of that place, transplanted there by the criminal or brought by the victim himself.

assumptions about probable requirements of personnel in these categories in the Fourth Plan period.

The Secretaries and Joint Secretaries of the Zonal Councils have also been requested to examine the Third Plan assessments prepared by the respective States within their zone. The purpose is to pool the manpower resources.

Already, the State Governments of a zone are co-operating among themselves to assess the training facilities for the technical personnel required in the region and helping one another in this direction.

DIRECTORATE OF MANPOWER

The Directorate of Manpower was constituted as a wing of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs in November 1956. The Directorate provides the Secretariat for the Cabinet Committee on Manpower, and is concerned generally with the co-ordination of manpower policies and programmes whose implementation is done by the Ministries and other agencies concerned in the light of the decisions of the Committee.

The Directorate works in close co-operation with the divisions of the Planning Commission dealing with manpower, and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and maintains liaison with the Ministries at the Centre through officers nominated by them to deal with their manpower problems. There is also now a Manpower Officer in each State who looks after manpower work in his State and keeps the Directorate informed of developments.

THIRD FINANCE COMMISSION

A Press Note of September 20, issued by the Ministry of Finance, states that the President has been pleased to approve the selection of Shri G.L. Mehta as Chairman and Shri G.R.

Planning & Finance

ASSESSMENT OF TRAINED MANPOWER

An announcement of September 21 says that the manpower Directorate of the Union Home Ministry has sought information from the States on provisional assessment of their requirements for trained manpower during the Third Five Year Plan period.

The fields specifically mentioned are: engineering, agriculture, medicine and public health, education and administration.

FOURTH PLAN REQUIREMENT

In a letter addressed to the State Manpower Officers and Chief Secretaries of Union Territories, the Manpower Directorate has emphasised that in certain fields, such as, technical, agricultural, medical and educational, where the training is of four or five years duration, the Third Plan programme has to be determined on the basis of as-

Kamat, I.C.S. as Member-Secretary of the Third Finance Commission which is proposed to be constituted shortly under Article 280 (1) of the Constitution.

The actual date from and the period for which the Commission will be set up, as well as the names of the three other members, will be announced later.

NEW ONE-RUPEE NOTES

According to a Press Note of September 24, the Ministry of Finance has announced that a new series of Government of India Re. 1 Currency Notes will shortly be issued. While the design will remain unchanged, the new notes will bear the capital letter 'C' at the end of the number in purple, in place of the letter 'B' which appears in the current series. The starting prefix of these notes will be A-O.

METRIC SYSTEM

In a Press Note issued on September 24, the Ministry of Finance has announced that the Central Government have decided to introduce the metric system of weights and measures in the levy and collection of Customs and Central Excise duties from October 1, 1960.

The Customs Duties and Cesses (Conversion to Metric Units) Act, 1960, and the Central Excises (Conversion to Metric Units) Act, 1960, amending the Customs and Central Excise tariff schedules will come into force from that day.

FINANCE MINISTER IN U.S.A.

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, reached Washington on September 25 for a 14-day stay in the United States.

Shri Desai, who attended the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference in London in the third week of September, led India's delegation at the annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the International Finance Corporation, which began in Washington on September 26.

The Finance Minister would take the opportunity of discussing India's Third Five Year Plan and her foreign exchange requirement for developmental programmes generally. He was scheduled to leave for New York on October 4.

Shri Desai would leave for India from New York on October 7.

higher. Eight loans aggregating Rs. 4.20 crores were approved during the year for co-operative societies all of which were, or were to be, engaged in the sugar industry. This brings the grand total of loans approved for co-operative societies up to the end of the year to Rs. 19.14 crores for 33 societies; out of this, Rs. 18.89 crores represent loans approved for 32 sugar co-operative societies, the balance of Rs. 25 lakhs being the amount approved for a co-operative spinning unit. The loans approved for co-operative societies represent nearly 23 per cent of the total of all the loans approved.

CLASSIFICATION OF LOANS

During the year, the highest amount of loan, viz. Rs. 5 crores, was approved for the sugar industry, followed by paper (Rs. 4.02 crores), and rayon (Rs. 3 crores). Other industries for which loans were approved were hotel industry (Rs. 1.50 crores), mechanical engineering (Rs. 95 lakhs), ceramics and glass (Rs. 95 lakhs), chemicals (Rs. 84.5 lakhs), aluminium (Rs. 80 lakhs), light engineering (Rs. 30 lakhs), cotton textiles (Rs. 25 lakhs), electrical engineering (Rs. 15 lakhs), automobile and tractor industry (Rs. 9 lakhs), and metallurgical industry—non-ferrous metals (Rs. 6 lakhs).

The total sum of loans, approved for 204 concerns since the inception of the Corporation, amounted to Rs. 84.61 crores. Of this, Rs. 59.60 crores were approved for 120 new undertakings, i.e. factories which went into production after August 15, 1947, and Rs. 25.01 crores for 84 old established undertakings for renovation, modernisation and expansion.

State-wise, Maharashtra leads the list with the largest amount of loan (Rs. 15.96 crores) followed by Madras (Rs. 9.89 crores), West Bengal (Rs. 9.10 crores), Gujarat (Rs. 7.40 crores), Uttar Pradesh (Rs. 7.16 crores), Bihar (Rs. 6.28 crores), Andhra Pradesh (Rs. 6.11 crores), Mysore (Rs. 5.91 crores), Kerala (Rs. 4.28 crores),

Orissa (Rs. 3.77 crores), Assam (Rs. 3.62 crores), Punjab (Rs. 3.27 crores), Delhi (Rs. 95 lakhs), Rajasthan (Rs. 89.5 lakhs) and Madhya Pradesh (Rs. 3.5 lakhs).

DEFERRED PAYMENTS

The total amount of interest charged on loans advanced since the inception of the Corporation was Rs. 9.21 crores, of which Rs. 9.11 crores were actually received. The amount in default amounted to 1.2 per cent of the total amount due. The rate of interest remained unchanged at 7 per cent with the usual rebate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent for payment of interest and repayment of instalments of principal on the due dates.

During the year, the Corporation approved six applications for guarantee of deferred payments for amounts aggregating Rs. 7.87 crores. This includes one case (Rs. 1.56 crores) in which Government's orders were awaited.

In April 1960, the Development Loan Fund of the U.S. Government sanctioned a loan of 10 million dollars to the Corporation for being sub-loaned to industrial concerns who applied for foreign exchange loans.

RISE IN INCOME

The report says that the Corporation made a net profit of Rs. 59.51 lakhs during the year as against Rs. 35.37 lakhs in the previous year. Out of the net profit, Rs. 10 lakhs would be paid to the Central Government to reduce the Corporation's liability to Government on account of subvention drawn from them in previous years for the payment of the guaranteed dividend. A similar sum was paid to the Government on this account during the previous year. Out of the balance of net profit, Rs. 38.26 lakhs had been transferred to the General Reserve Fund which would now stand at Rs. 69.40 lakhs, and Rs. 11.25 lakhs would be utilised for distribution among shareholders of the gua-

ranteed dividend at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the paid-up share capital of Rs. 5 crores.

The gross income rose to Rs. 250.88 lakhs from Rs. 203.88 lakhs in the previous year.

During the period under review, the Corporation repaid Rs. 7 crores to the Central Government, thereby reducing the borrowings from Government to Rs. 6 crores. A sum of Rs. 7.25 crores was, however, subsequently drawn from the Central Government, raising the outstanding loans to Rs. 13.25 crores. These borrowings continued to carry interest at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum.

BONDS

The public response to the bonds issued by the Corporation during the year was as satisfactory as in the previous year. For the issue of Rs. 5 crores, the maturity was fixed at 12 years as against 10 years for the issue of Rs. 4 crores in the previous year. The rate of interest offered and the issue price fixed this time were more favourable to the Corporation, being 4 per cent and Rs. 99.75 as against $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and Rs. 99 respectively for the issue of bonds in the earlier year.

Against the subscriptions received for Rs. 6.53 crores, the Corporation made allotments for a total of Rs. 5.49 crores; out of this the Life Insurance Corporation of India received an allotment of Rs. 1.68 crores and the balance amounting to Rs. 3.81 crores was allotted to applicants from the private sector. The total amount of bonds outstanding at the end of the year aggregated Rs. 22.24 crores.

REVIEW OF INDUSTRIES

The Report gives a general review of the development of industries particularly in the fields in which the Corporation has advanced loans.

It says, the year 1959 witnessed a fresh sharp increase in industrial

production, a record figure reached by exports and the launching of new schemes of development both in the public sector and in the private sector. Special emphasis was laid on the development of machine building industries.

The index of industrial production for 1959 recorded an increase of 11.3 points, the highest recorded so far, from 139.7 to 151.0 as against an increase of less than 2 points in 1958 over 1957. This has been possible in spite of the tight foreign exchange position. Actually the increase in industrial production has been even larger than the index would suggest. The base year for the index is 1951. New items, the production of which was started after that date, such as penicillin, do not enter into the index at all. Also the weightage in favour of traditional industries, like textiles and to a lesser degree sugar, is very heavy in the index as composed at present.

NOTABLE INDUSTRIES

Among the industries which recorded a substantial increase in production in 1959, special mention should be made of sugar machinery, diesel engines, machine tools, automobiles, sulphuric acid, finished steel, aluminium, superphosphate, soda ash, cement, and paper and paper boards. A modest increase in production was also recorded by textiles, electrical equipment and some types of chemicals.

Production of as many as 41 new items was begun in 1959 for the first time. These included hand sewing needles, radial drilling machines, bicycle and motor-cycle spoke making machines, photo-flash lamps, vitamin A, Vitamin B-12, coloured sheet glass and glass syringes. Besides, new ranges of manufacture were established in 12 items, which included boilers, power presses, air compressors, dyes and paints.

Commerce & Industry

REPORT OF INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION

The twelfth annual report of the Industrial Finance Corporation for the year ended June 30, 1960, was released on September 24.

During the year under review, the report says, the Corporation approved loans worth Rs. 17.92 crores on 29 applications; final sanction in respect of Rs. 9.92

crores out of this was awaiting Government orders. This is a record amount for the 12 years the corporation has been functioning. The disbursements amounted to Rs. 8.41 crores.

Compared to the previous year, the number of applications received and the aggregate amount of loan applied for were

MEETING OF ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR INDUSTRIES

The eleventh meeting of the Central Advisory Council of Industries was held in New Delhi on September 22. Addressing the meeting, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, disclosed that there had been a striking improvement in industrial production during the first five months of 1960, indicating an increase of about 13.4 per cent over the previous year's production period. Shri Shastri also announced that the targetted capacity for the Second Plan had already been exceeded in several directions.

Shri Shastri said that the improvement in industrial production this year had been shared by almost all industries. Apart from the increase in the production of finished steel, aluminium, cement and other basic industries, a sharply rising trend was also noticeable in the output of industrial machinery, transport equipment, heavy chemicals, electrical and other engineering goods and miscellaneous chemical industries. Among the consumer goods industries, paper and sugar had recorded significant increases.

Industrial production, Shri Shastri said, had risen mainly due to the setting up of a large number of new units and completion of schemes for substantial expansion of existing units over the year. Fresh applications for creation of new capacity continued to be received on an increasing scale. During 1959, as many as 997 applications were approved under the industries Act, as compared to 733 in the previous year. In the first half of this year, the number of applications cleared for licensing was already 542, despite the fact that the lower limit of employment had been raised to 100 persons and of capital investment to Rs. 10 lakhs for purpose of licensing under the Industries Act.

Indian Information

Many of the Third Plan schemes, the Minister observed, were now in a fairly advanced stage of planning and, when these were implemented, there would be a perceptible difference in the industrial face of the country. Of special importance in this connection were the schemes for the manufacture of drugs, dyes and intermediates, heavy machine building, the expansion of the existing heavy electrical project and the setting up of new such units, the heavy machine tools schemes, the plate and vessel shops and the structural shops, the tool and alloy steel plant and the scheme for sulphur manufacture from pyrites.

Shri Shastri referred to the recent meeting in Paris of some friendly countries to consider assistance to India and said he was glad that there was some indication of this matter being considered favourably. He observed that a large part of imports of components and raw materials were basically developmental in nature. With every stage of development, our import requirements gradually changed from complete machinery items to components and some processed items required for the fabrication of the equipment which was previously imported. Naturally, we could not meet these increasing requirements for development from our own resources, till our economy had grown to a stage when we would be able to finance our own development. It was in support of this that we were seeking assistance from friendly countries.

EXPORTS

The Minister called for positive and concerted efforts to promote exports. In his view the solution seemed to be for the units in every industry to get together and co-operate with each other.

He suggested for their consideration the implementation of a programme under which new industries requiring initial imports would be required to pay for them by exports within a two or three year period and to maintain these exports in subsequent years. The collaboration agreements should provide that the parent company also collaborates in production and marketing in neighbouring countries; again, preferential treatment might be shown to individual units, which either exported a certain percentage of its production or joined export schemes to pool costs and marketing endeavours. The Minister hoped that this matter would be given due weight and taken up in right earnest.

Discussing the pattern of our future industrial development, Shri Shastri referred to the need of drawing up a priority list and said that a selected approach seemed to be called for.

PLANT FOR SPECIAL STEELS

A new plant to produce 50,000 tons of special steels annually is proposed to be set up in the public sector during the Third Plan period, says an announcement of September 25. The location of the new plant will be decided during the current year on the basis of a project report submitted recently to the Government of India.

The expenditure to be incurred on the new plant is tentatively estimated at about Rs. 35 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 20 crores.

A production target of 200,000 tons of alloy, tool and special steels per year has been provided in the Third Plan. Of the target, the public sector is expected to contribute upto 130,000 tons. The contribution from private sector is expected to be 70,000 tons.

Part of the output in the public sector—about 30,000 tons of transformer grade electrical steel

sheets—is expected to be planned and produced under the expansion programmes of the Rourkela Steel Plant. The output of the ordnance factories is expected to amount to about 50,000 tons per year. The balance of 50,000 tons will be produced in the new plant.

The present annual demand for special steels, which include alloy steels, tool steels and die steels, is about 30,000 tons.

SMELTING PLANTS

An announcement of September 22 states that the Government of India have drawn a programme for the exploitation and smelting of copper, lead and zinc ores in Rajasthan. It includes a proposal to set up at Khetri in Rajasthan one electrolytic copper plant with an annual capacity of 10,000 metric tons of copper metal during the Third Plan period.

The copper ore for the plant will be supplied from Khetri and also from Daribo areas being prospected by the Indian Bureau of Mines.

One zinc smelter of a capacity of 15,000 metric tons per year is being set up by the Metal Corporation of India at Udaipur. The project is likely to be completed by 1962.

The present requirements of copper, lead and zinc metals in the country, as estimated by the Development Council for Non-ferrous Metals, are of the order of 85,000, 35,000 and 85,000 metric tons, respectively. The domestic production of these metals is 8,000 metric tons of copper and 4,000 metric tons of lead metals.

The supplies of zinc metals at present are met entirely by imports.

Production Of Copper

An announcement of September 27 says that, according to the Indian Bureau of Mines, the production of copper ore during January-July 1960 was 254,876 metric tons. This represents an increase of about 9 per cent as

compared to the output of 234,169 metric tons in the corresponding period of the preceding year. The entire production was reported from the Singhbhum district of Bihar State.

The production of copper metal during January-July 1960 was 5,152 metric tons as compared to 4,503 metric tons in the corresponding period of 1959.

IRON ORE

An announcement of September 28 says that, according to the Indian Bureau of Mines, the production of iron ore during July 1960 was estimated at 874,000 metric tons. This brings the total output during January-July 1960 to 62.37 lakh metric tons which was higher by 39 per cent compared to the output of 44.73 lakh metric tons during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

Orissa was the chief producing State with an output of 3.27 lakh metric tons followed by Bihar with 1.96 lakh metric tons. Mysore and Madhya Pradesh recorded an output of 1.64 lakh metric tons and 1.43 lakh metric tons respectively while the output from Maharashtra was 14,000 metric tons.

During the month, despatches of iron ore for consumption in the iron and steel plants totalled 5.21 lakh metric tons while the despatches to the export market were 1.68 lakh metric tons.

NEW DEPOSITS OF COAL

Three big discoveries of new rich deposits of metallurgical coal have been made in Bokaro and Raniganj areas. The discoveries are expected to make India self-sufficient in high grade coal for decades to come and would solve the problem of the steel plants. The new deposits are likely to be sufficient not only for the existing steel plants but for more and more plants that might be set up in future. The quantitative dimensions of the new deposits have yet to be proved.

Investigations were being handed over to the Indian Bureau of Mines.

SULPHUR PYRITES

Vast sources of sulphur pyrites have been discovered in the Amjore area in Bihar by the Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines. The Amjore pyrite sources are considered enough to supply all the sulphur needed by Indian industries for many years to come.

DISCOVERY IN ANDAMAN

According to an announcement of September 23, a fairly good quality of sulphur has been discovered in Andaman and Nicobar Islands during a preliminary investigation carried out by the Geological Survey of India during 1959-60.

Complete and concise information regarding quantity and quality is difficult to assess at the moment as the work conducted was of a preliminary nature. Further investigation for assessing the nature of deposits is being planned by the Government of India.

The import of sulphur has been steadily rising in India during the last few years. From 115,491 tons in 1957, it has risen to 143,345 tons during 1959.

ASBESTOS

According to an announcement of September 21, the Geological Survey of India has estimated the asbestos in the Brahmanapalle and Chinnakudala belts in Andhra Pradesh at 2.56 lakh tons. The reserves, which lie within a depth of 600 feet along the dip slope, are of a high grade and chrysotile variety.

India produced 9,666 metric tons of asbestos during 1950 to 1959. The produce was exported to the United Kingdom, Thailand, Japan, Belgium, Italy and West Pakistan. The value of exports during 1951 to March 1960 was Rs. 23.35 lakhs.

Of the produce, the quantity

utilised in the manufacture within the country is estimated at 18,354 and 22,745 metric tons during the years 1958 and 1959 respectively.

MANUFACTURE OF MACHINE TOOLS

An announcement dated September 28 says that the Government of India have decided to permit the setting up of new units for the manufacture of different types of machine tools, particularly lathes, like bench lathes, cone pulley lathes, all geared lathes, etc; capstans and turrets; automatics; milling machines; drilling machines, including bench and pillar drills and radial drills; grinding machines like grinders, surface grinders, tool and cutter grinders, and woodworking machines.

This step is being taken to raise the domestic output of machine tools and reduce the country's dependence on imports as much as possible. The demand for machine tools is expected to increase considerably during the Third Plan period. The Machine Tools Development Council has estimated the domestic demand around Rs. 60 crores to Rs. 65 crores annually by the end of the Third Plan period.

NEW SCHEMES

The schemes for setting up new units, which may be submitted before the end of November 1960, should be for complete manufacture, including production of components and not for merely assembling the imported parts. Proposals involving the investment of more than Rs. 10 lakhs in fixed assets or employment of more than 100 persons may be addressed to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. The schemes, which involve investment less than Rs. 10 lakhs in fixed assets or employment of less than 100 persons, may be sent to the Senior Industrial Adviser (Engineering), Development Wing, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

BICYCLE INDUSTRY

Speaking in Bombay on September 26, Shri K. R. P. Aiyangar, Chairman of the Tariff Commission, disclosed the following about bicycle industry:

There are 21 large scale units in the country manufacturing cycles. Of these, three are in West Bengal, five in Punjab, six in U.P., three in Delhi and one each in Bombay, Madras, Bihar and Assam. The licensed capacity of these units for bicycles is 1,438,500. In addition there are 112 small scale units with an aggregate capacity of 5 lakh bicycles. These units are located all over the country but there are some concentrations in the Punjab, Delhi and U.P.—58 units in the northern, 22 in the eastern, 14 in the western and 18 in the southern regions. The total production of bicycles in both the sectors taken together was 928,809 bicycles in 1957, 1,063,843 in 1958 and 1,163,824 in 1959.

In the field of components, besides the large scale bicycle manufacturers who also produce a variety of components for sale, there are 23 units manufacturing exclusively spare parts and components and 16 more units have been licensed to produce components. There are as many as 612 units in the small sector which manufacture components and accessories for bicycles.

SPARKING PLUG INDUSTRY

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry says in a Press Note of September 19 that the Government of India have accepted the Tariff Commission's recommendation that protection to the automobile sparking plug industry should be continued upto December 31, 1963 at the existing rates of duty.

The attention of the industry has been drawn to the Commission's recommendation that the industry should make efforts to tap indigenous sources for the supply of raw materials, such as cement filler and high refractory cement powder.

FILMS IN INDIA

India is among the largest producers of feature films.

In 1959, 310 feature films were produced in India—121 in Hindi, 78 in Tamil, 46 in Telugu, 38 in Bengali, 10 in Marathi, five each in Assamese and Kannada, three in Malayalam, two in Oriya, and one each in Punjabi and English. In 1931, when the first motion pictures with sound were made in India, the number of feature films produced was 28.

There are over 4,200 cinemas in India at present. There were 320 cinemas in 1928 and the number had risen to 1,500 by 1939.

There are 63 film studios in India—28 in the Western region, 24 in the South and 11 in East India.

It is estimated that the film industry employs over one lakh people in the studios, cinemas, processing laboratories and in distribution work.

On a rough estimate, over 70 crores of people visit cinemas every year. This means, broadly, that an Indian sees two films a year.

During 1959, the Central Board of Film Censors granted certificates of exhibition for 1,771 foreign films and 876 Indian films. Only 57 films were refused the certificate. Of these, eight were Indian films.

State Awards for films were instituted in 1954 to encourage production of films of good quality and standard. Apart from Certificates of Merit on an all-India and regional basis, cash awards are also given to the producers and directors of the award-winning films.

A Film Institute is being set up to impart training in various aspects of film production. A Film Finance Corporation has already been set up.

The Films Division of the Government of India produces documentaries in English as well as in all the principal Indian languages. In 1959, it produced 112 documentaries (besides newsreels at the rate of one a week).

Indian documentaries and news reels are shown in India and in a number of countries abroad. Indian feature films and documentaries have for several years received international recognition and won awards.

Export of Indian films fetched foreign exchange worth Rs. 1.71 crores in 1959. An Export Promotion Committee for Films has been set up.

INDIA-MOROCCO TRADE AGREEMENT

A trade agreement between India and Morocco was signed at Rabat on September 27. Under the agreement, the volume of trade between the two countries will increase three-fold to about 5 million dollars. Morocco's exports to India, which so far consisted only of phosphates, lead and cork, would now include manufactured goods also.

TRADE TALKS BETWEEN INDIA AND IRAQ

Trade talks between India and Iraq concluded in Baghdad on September 26.

In a joint communique issued on September 26, the two delegations have stressed that there is considerable scope for increasing economic cooperation and trade between the two countries. Iraqi dates have a good market in India and Iraq offers considerable opportunities for export of Indian tea and other products like light engineering goods, hosiery and knitted garments, plastic manufactures, sports goods, etc.

It was agreed that immediate steps would be taken by both Governments to facilitate the flow of Iraqi dates to India and Indian goods to Iraq. An Indian tea centre will be opened in Baghdad shortly. An Indian Trade Centre is already functioning in Baghdad to acquaint Iraqi importers with the range of India's products.

The two delegations reviewed the difficulties currently experienced in regard to the smooth flow of trade between the two countries. The Indian delegation also had fruitful discussions with businessmen and Government authorities in Baghdad.

The official Indian delegation for the talks had arrived in Baghdad on September 18.

Quality Control On Art Silk Exports

In a Press Note issued on September 27, the All India Handloom Board has announced that, it has been decided to re-introduce quality control in respect of all art silk goods, exported under the export incentive scheme. Accordingly, from October 1, 1960, all such goods should conform to the revised regulations for inspection and minimum standard specifications, as announced in Textile, Commissioner's Trade Notice No. EPB/AS/47 dated September 21, 1960. Any further particulars in this regard can be obtained from the regional offices of the Textile Commissioner of the Silk and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

Foreign Trade In August

According to a Press Note issued on September 28 by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, the provisional figures of India's foreign trade in merchandise by all routes—sea, air and land, on private and Government accounts—during August 1960, are as given below:—

Exports	Rs. 56.03 lakhs
Re-exports	Rs. 1.01 lakhs
Imports	Rs. 82.73 lakhs
Balance of trade	Rs. 25.69 lakhs

These figures exclude overland trade with Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan. 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.

WOOLLEN YARN CONTROL

The Government of India issued an order on September 21 controlling the production, distribution and selling prices of woollen yarn.

The Order, which has been issued under section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, provides that, in order to co-

ordinate the production of woollen yarn with public needs, the Textile Commissioner may fix the type and quantity of woollen yarn to be produced by the manufacturers. The Textile Commissioner will also fix the ex-factory wholesale and retail prices at which the different varieties of woollen yarn will be sold. The Order further provides that, in order to secure proper distribution of yarn, the Textile Commissioner may direct any manufacturer or dealer not to sell any woollen yarn, except under a permit issued by him. The Order takes effect immediately.

TARIFF VALUES FOR ELECTRIC MOTORS

According to a Press Note issued on September 24, the Government of India have fixed the tariff values for three phase squirrel cage Electric Motors of less than $\frac{1}{2}$ Horse Power and have prescribed tariff values for such Electric Motors which range from Rs. 110 to Rs. 200.

A duty of central excise was levied by the Finance Act, 1960, on Electric Motors of all sorts and parts thereof, on an *ad valorem* basis. As an administrative measure and in order to eliminate day-to-day disputes in the matter of determination of values for assessment purposes, tariff values for various types of Electric Motors were prescribed by the Government of India and were published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary of June 10, 1960.

PURCHASE OF COTTON

In a Press Note of September 17, the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, states that some mills have not yet purchased the full quota of Indian cotton allotted to them during the last cotton season, viz., 1959-60. Such mills are hereby advised to complete the purchase of the outstanding balances from the old crop before October 15, 1960. In the case of the mills which fail to do so, the balance of the quotas will auto-

matically lapse, unless specifically restored by the Textile Commissioner.

TEXTILE PRODUCTION IN AUGUST

The Press Note of September 17 issued by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, states that the cotton textile mills production in August 1960 is provisionally placed at 147 million lbs. of cotton yarn and 432 million yards of cotton cloth.

At the end of August 1960, the composite units of the cotton textile industry carried an estimated total stock of 3.61 lakh bales of cloth comprising 1.72 lakh bales of cloth unsold and 1.89 lakh bales of cloth sold but not lifted.

EXPORT OF SUGAR

In a Press Note issued on September 17, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture has announced that the Government of India, after taking note of the trend of production, consumption and the supply position of sugar, have decided to release a quantity of 50,000 tons for export. Export will be made through the Indian Sugar Mills Association.

INDIAN EXHIBITION IN TEHERAN

An exhibition of Indian industrial products was inaugurated in Teheran on September 13 by the Iranian Prime Minister, Mr. Sharif Emami.

A variety of India-made goods, including chemicals, mica, paints, dyes, shellac, engineering goods and allied products, was displayed at the exhibition.

The Iranian Prime Minister welcomed the Indian Delegation now visiting Iran for promoting export of chemicals. He hoped that the Indian Delegation would succeed in exploring new avenues for further development of economic relations between the two countries to their mutual benefit.

METRIC SYSTEM IN CEMENT INDUSTRY

An announcement of September 25 says that the Government of India have decided that from October 1, 1960, only metric weights should be used for sale of cement throughout the country. The two-year transition period, when both British and metric weights were allowed to be used side by side, will end on that day.

At present, cement is being sold on a gross weight basis.

On the adoption of metric weights on October 1, the price at which the State Trading Corporation will sell cement has been fixed at Rs. 116.75 for a metric tonne of packed cement, as against the present price of Rs. 117.50 for a British ton.

The prices for retail sale of cement in each state under the metric system will be fixed by the respective State Governments.

SYMPOSIUM ON CAMBAY

Detailed planning and precise programme in regard to the production of oil from Cambay region was discussed at the four-day symposium which began at Cambay on September 17. Shri K.D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil and the Chairman of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, presided.

Practical problems connected with the organisation, production and assessment of oil found so far in that region were also taken up at the symposium.

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has set up a regional office at Baroda to expedite the transport of equipment and execution of other work in Cambay.

SODIUM SULPHATE FROM SAMBHAR LAKE

According to an article published in the September 1960 issue of the 'Research and Industry', a journal of the C.S.I.R., about 26,000 tons of sodium sulphate, an important industrial chemical, can be obtained annually from Sambhar Lake bitterns by a new process developed at the Central Salt Research Ins-

titute, Bhavnagar.

The commercial feasibility of the process has been established as a result of pilot plant trials conducted at the Institute.

The new process makes use of the plentifully available 'bittern', about 250,000 tons a year, obtained during the extraction of common salt from the Sambhar centre.

It has been estimated that an industrial plant producing 14 tons of sodium sulphate daily will require an investment of Rs. 9.6 lakhs. About 20 tons of high-grade common salt are obtained as by-product. The return on the total investment has been estimated at 31 per cent.

LEATHER TESTING

The science News letter, released on September 25, states that a device for testing the tensile strength and extention at specimens has been evolved in the Central Leather Research Institute, Madras. The device, which consists of a clamp and motor cycle chains, can be used in conjunction with standard tensile strength testing machines. This instrument can be used for testing any material including single fibres.

TRADE CENTRE IN BEIRUT

A New Delhi announcement of September 27 says that an Indian Trade Centre is shortl to be established at Beirut in Lebanon to familiarise the traders in West Asia with the range of India's manufactures.

The Centre, which is being organised by the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, besides publicising Indian goods, will also render commercial service to the Indian exporters by bringing together traders of the region with their Indian counterparts.

Indian exporters, who wish to make use of the Centre for displaying their products, may send exhibits to authorised agents of the Commerce and Industry Ministry for despatch to the Centre. The inaugural display is expected to be held in December this year.

Communications

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

The fourth meeting of the All India Tourist Development Council was held at Shillong on September 16 under the chairmanship of Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister in the Union Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Declaring open the session, General S. Srinagesh, Governor of Assam, said that Assam was 'a Tourist's Paradise' and 'possessed a richness of variety in matters of tourist interest rarely to be found in any other part of India'. He hoped that it would be possible in the near future to introduce a modern pressurised aircraft service to Assam, which would help tourist traffic immensely.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

In his presidential address, Shri Raj Bahadur advocated the promot on of social tourism with a view to helping those classes of people in India who cannot afford to travel for pleasure unless their itinerary is subsidised. He believed that in ernal tourism was an integrating factor in our national consciousness and would assist in the synthesis of languages, culture, traditions and economic in e ests.

Referring to the allocation of Rs. 5 crores in the Third Plan for promotion of tourism, Shri Raj Bahadur asked the Council to adapt a realistic approach though the amount was 'limited'. He said that out of this allocation, Rs. 3.5 crores would be spent by the Central Government, and Rs. 1.5 crores by all the State Governments. But thi did not prevent the latter from making liberal allocations for home tourism, and he hoped that more than Rs. 1.5 crores would be spent by all the States in the Third Plan period.

The Tourist Development Council unanimously recommended that the allocation of Rs. 5 crores under the Third Five Year Plan should be raised substantially to meet with the minimum requirements of tourism which was the sixth largest source of foreign exchange. The Council appointed a six-member committee to prepare a memorandum and submit the case to the Planning Commission as well as the Prime Minister. Simultaneously, it was proposed that the State Governments should also discuss individually the question of increased allocation with the Planning Commission.

The Council made a number of recommendations with a view to making the visits of foreign tourists more pleasant. These recommendations related to the licensing of medium-sized cars as luxury taxis, provision of self-driven taxis for foreign tourists, a code of conduct for taxi operators, relaxat on of mileage restrictions on railway travel and prevention of beggar nuisance at important tourist centres.

The procedure of obtaining liquor permits in various States was examined. The Council recommended that with a view to making it more convenient for the foreign tourist, liquor permits valid for all the States in India should be issued by Indian Missions abroad and Directors of Tourism in India.

VISIT ORIENT CAMPAIGN

The Council recognised the need of encouraging the establishment of more hotels in the country. It, therefore, recommended the provision of Government lands to the hotel

industry at reasonable market rates. The Council also felt that facilities should be provided to the tourist travelling by road and, for this purpose, the oil companies and the automobile associations should be encouraged to set up 'hotels'. It also urged that rest houses should be properly maintained.

The Council approved of India's participation in the 'Visit Orient Year' campaign in 1961 which has been sponsored by the ECAFE in cooperation with the IUOTO. A seminar will be held in New Delhi during April 1961 on methods of promoting tourism in under-developed countries and ascertaining tourist preferences in regard to hotel, food, shopping, etc. India will act as the host country during the seminar.

The Council appointed a committee to study present methods of promoting tourism and make recommendations relating to the future.

INDIA-CZECHOSLOVAKIA AIR AGREEMENT

An agreement between India and Czechoslovakia for the operation of air services between the two countries was signed on September 19 at Prague.

Air India International has been operating air services through Czechoslovakia since 1956 and the Czechoslovak Airlines began operating a service to India in August 1959. The air services by the two airlines, which were being operated under temporary authorisations, would now be placed on a formal basis with the signing of the Agreement.

ROAD TO JOSHIMATH

An announcement of September 16 states that tourists and pilgrims can go from Delhi to Joshimath straight by motor car or bus, now that the Neelung Pass in Uttar Kashi district and the Mana and Niti Passes in Chamoli district on the Indo-Tibetan border have been linked by road with Delhi.

This has been made possible

by the construction of a 587-ft. long bridge over the river Song on the Delhi-Badrinath highway. So far, pilgrims had to change first at Hardwar, then at Rishikesh and again at Srinagar (Garhwal) to visit Badrinath which is hardly 19 miles from Joshimath.

GOVERNMENT NOMINEE IN MOGUL LINES

According to an announcement of September 17, the Government of India purchased, in June 1960, 81% of the shares held by P. and O. in the Mogul Lines. As a result, the Government of India have a controlling share in the shipping line which runs an exclusive Haj service to Saudi Arabia every year carrying about 50,000 pilgrims

there and back. Shri P.N. Kaul, officer-in-charge of Haj affairs in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been nominated to the Board of Directors of the Mogul Lines.

DIVA-URAN LINE

The Railway Board has sanctioned the traffic survey for construction of a 32-mile Diva-Panvel-Uran broad gauge line on the Central Railway, says an announcement of September 19.

The survey will be carried out by the Central Railway Administration.

The construction of this line will help the economic growth of this part of the under-developed Konkan region. It will also help to relieve congestion around Bombay arising out of industrial development.

loans should be given in kind, not in cash, and the rate of interest should be reasonable.

Cooperative depots should remain open for the sale of fertilisers at hours convenient to farmers so that they are able to purchase fertilisers when they are free from work on the farm.

COORDINATION AND DISTRIBUTION

In a chapter on Coordination of Distribution, the Committee has suggested that a single agency be responsible for the coordination and for the adequate supply of fertilisers to districts. At present in several States, besides the department of agriculture, the apex cooperative society also functions as a coordinating agency. This work should be done by one agency.

Wherever the work relating to the distribution of fertilisers is entrusted to the cooperative department, the State agriculture department and the district agriculture officers should be closely associated with the estimation of the demand for fertilisers. Influential farmers and dealers in fertilisers at taluka headquarters should also be consulted. States should be encouraged to prepare realistic estimates of demand.

States should be given in the beginning of the year an indication of the likely allocation of fertilisers quarter by quarter, so that they may be ready with despatch instructions sufficiently in advance of the commencement of supplies. To enable this to be done, the release of foreign exchange should be secured sufficiently well in advance and orders placed in time.

The Committee observes that it is necessary to keep down the expenses of internal distribution by eliminating unnecessary intermediaries.

Wholesalers should be discouraged from engaging in retail sales. Also, in order to provide adequate incentives to retailers, the rate of commission should be increased from the apex level to the village level and this should

be fixed by State Governments.

On the whole, the Committee considers that it should be possible to cover the cost of distribution within a margin of Rs. 30 per ton for sulphate of ammonia.

STORAGE AND WAREHOUSING

In regard to storage and warehousing, the report states that, as the demand for fertilisers is seasonal, it would be cheaper if different commodities required by cultivators are stored in one and the same godown.

Pointing out that the consumption of nitrogenous fertilisers in India increased rapidly from 2.82 lakh tons in 1951-52 to 11 lakh tons in 1959-60 in terms of sulphate of ammonia, the Committee states that it is intended to increase this consumption to 50 lakh tons in 1965-66, that is, at the end of the Third Plan. Similarly, consumption of phosphatic fertilisers increased from 6,880 tons in 1951 to 38,887 tons last year, which is further expected to rise to 4 lakh tons in 1965-66.

COMPLEX FERTILISERS

In order to promote 'balanced fertilisation' and to assist in stretching the limited supply of nitrogen over larger areas, the Committee recommends that the use of fertilisers in mixed form should be encouraged. Moreover, the use of balanced fertilisers should be promoted by assisting farmers to buy mixtures suited to their soils and crops and also by ensuring reasonable prices for these mixtures.

Consumption of phosphatic fertilisers is much behind schedule as envisaged in the Second Plan. The Committee recommends that a subsidy of 25% be granted on all purchases of super-phosphate in the form of rebate to manufacturers and the cost of subsidy be borne by the Central Fertiliser Pool.

To increase the consumption of super phosphate, it is suggested that State Governments may encourage super-phosphate manu-

facturers to build up sales organisations and develop sales by providing incentives. To promote the use of new or comparatively 'less popular' fertilisers, it is considered necessary to allow a larger commission than is admissible on the basis of equivalent nutrient value of the popular brands. A bonus should be allowed to salesmen, and the Central Fertiliser Pool might also consider running a price scheme for encouraging the sales of 'unpopular' or new fertilisers and mixtures.

MARKETING CORPORATION

The Committee is not satisfied with the existing organisation of the Central Fertiliser Pool. It points out that in the next few years greatly increased quantities of fertilisers are to be procured and distributed. Propaganda work will also have to be undertaken to promote the use of new fertilisers.

It is, therefore, suggested that the duties now performed by the Central Fertiliser Pool and the anticipated additional responsibilities may be entrusted to an organisation called the 'Central Fertiliser Marketing Corporation'. This Corporation would enjoy a liberal measure of autonomy while working under the direction and superintendence of the Department of Agriculture.

The report states that a committee of experts be constituted to draft the constitution of the Corporation after studying the methods adopted for ensuring effective marketing and distribution of fertilisers in other countries, such as the U.S.A., parts of Western Europe and Japan.

Fertiliser Factory In Rajasthan

The Government of India have invited proposals from private parties for the setting up of a fertiliser factory at Hanumangarh in Rajasthan, states an announcement of September 25.

Hanumangarh has been found suitable for the manufacture of

ammonium sulphate based on gypsum and lignite, both of which are available in plenty near the site. It is learnt that the Government have already received a few proposals for the setting up of the factory with foreign collaboration.

The Government would be willing to consider more such schemes. A final decision on the proposals is expected to be taken by the end of the next month.

BALANCED PROTEIN FOOD

The Science Newsletter, released on September 25, states that a new palatable protein food composition, containing 16 to 19 per cent protein, has been standardised in the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore. This composition is fortified with calcium, phosphorous and vitamins and is based mainly (above 75 per cent) on groundnut and tapioca flours.

For the preparation of food product, the dough made from the flour mixture is vacuum extruded through a die in the shape of ringlets, which after steaming are dried under controlled conditions. The product can be cooked in 3-4 minutes. The cooked product is blank in taste and therefore lends itself to different types of preparations.

CONFERENCE ON LAND RECORDS AND STATISTICS

A conference of Directors of Land Records and Agricultural Statisticians was held in New Delhi on September 24 and 25.

The conference took stock of the improvement work on agricultural statistics carried out since independence. It also considered the subjects such as rationalised supervision over the work of recording of area done by the primary reporting agencies, improvement in the system of recording of areas under mixed crops, adoption of uniform concepts and definitions and timely submission of agricultural statistics.



REPORT ON DISTRIBUTION OF FERTILISERS

The report of the Fertiliser Distribution Enquiry Committee was recently submitted to the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The Chairman of the Committee was Dr. J.S. Patel, Agriculture Commissioner to the Government of India. The report was released on September 27.

While the Committee recognises that sales tax is an important source of revenue to the States, it considers that its incidence—as high as Rs. 20 per ton of sulphate of ammonia in some cases—might act as a deterrent to the increased use of fertilisers. As the Central and State Governments are endeavouring to keep down costs, exemption from the scope of this tax is suggested.

The Committee would also 'like fertilisers to be classed as goods of special importance' in inter-State trade and commerce.

Commodities already in this category, under the Central Sales Tax Act 1956, include coal, cotton, cotton fabrics, cotton yarn, hides and skins, iron and steel, jute, oil seeds, rayon or artificial silk fabrics, sugar, tobacco and wool fabrics.

Referring to the need for cheaper fertilisers, the report states that supplies should be made available to farmers at as low a price as possible. The present prices of nitrogenous fertilisers in India are very high as compared with other countries. The prices of nitrogenous fertilisers, for instance, are susceptible to substantial reduction without in any way impairing the financial position of the Central Fertiliser Pool.

The Committee recommends that farmers should be offered sufficient credit facilities for the purchases of fertilisers. The

The conference reviewed the progress of schemes for the improvement of agricultural statistics during the Second Plan and formulated proposals for the Third Plan.

REBATE IN DUTY ON SUGAR

In a Press Note issued on September 27, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture has announced that, to maintain and increase further the level of production of sugar, the Government of India have decided to grant factories a rebate of 50 per cent in the basic excise duty, which at present is Rs. 11.25 per cwt, on sugar produced by them during 1960-61 season in excess of their average production of the two seasons 1958-59 and 1959-60. In the case of factories which went into production only in 1958-59 season or thereafter, or which did not function during

1958-59 and/or 1959-60, the question of granting a rebate will be considered on merits, as during the last season.

HIGH RECOVERY OF SUGAR

The Science Newsletter, released on September 25, states that higher quantity of sugar from cane juice can be secured, if interfering 'non-sugars' are removed from the juice. This can be better achieved with the help of Iron-exchange resin. These findings have been confirmed by the National Sugar Institute, Kanpur, as a result of large-scale experiments carried out in the pilot plant fabricated and installed for this purpose in the Institute.

Cane juice contains, besides sugar, many soluble mineral salts and organic substances which are broadly termed as 'non-sugars'.

RAJASTHAN CANAL

The Rajasthan Canal Project, launched in 1958, will carry the waters of the Beas and Ravi in the Punjab to the arid areas of north-western-most corner of Rajasthan.

The length of the Rajasthan Canal will be 425 miles from Harike in the Punjab to Ramgarh near Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. The entire canal system will again be the largest and longest irrigation system in the world. The length of the branch canals will cover a distance of 400 miles and the distributaries 2,000 miles. From end to end, the water courses and field channels to be served by the Rajasthan Canal system will be long enough to girdle the globe.

For perennial supply of water a storage dam at Beas with a live capacity of 5.5 million acre feet will be constructed. The World Bank and the U.S. Government will provide Rs. 11 crores and Rs. 15 crores respectively for the foreign exchange costs of the dam.

BENEFITS

For the first 134 miles—110 miles in the Punjab and 24 miles in Rajasthan,—the canal will not irrigate any land because of the need to carry water to the areas further on where it is needed most. This portion of the canal is known as the Rajasthan feeder.

The benefits that the project will confer are: Irrigation to about 5 million acres of land; rise in production of foodgrains by 2 million tons; in cotton 1.5 lakh tons; in fodder 3 lakh tons. The value of this production in a year will be about Rs. 66 crores.

The entire project will take about eight to ten years to complete but water-supply will begin as soon as the first section of the canal is ready.

Community Development

AGRICULTURE PLAN FOR EVERY VILLAGE

The Newsletter on Community Development and Cooperation, issued on September 25, states that State Governments have been asked to get village production plans prepared for every village in the Blocks, having regard to local resources and supplies and assistance available from outside, full utilisation of irrigation facilities and including programmes for development of poultry, cattle wealth and tree plantations.

COOPERATIVE FARMING

According to the Newsletter, the question of appointing a Special Board in order to popularise Cooperative Farming is under the consideration of Government. The Special Board, if it is created, will consist of officials and non-officials, and will deal broadly with the planning and promotion of the programme of cooperative farming, review of the progress achieved, the difficulties experienced and supervision of the arrangements for education and training relating to cooperative farming.

FARMERS' BANK

A proposal for the setting up of a Farmer's Bank, to supplement the existing arrangements for the supply of institutional finance for agriculture, sponsored on behalf of the Bharat Krishak Samaj, is also under the consideration of Government.

PANCHAYATS' ROLE IN C.D. PROGRAMME

The Study Camp, of M.P.s. and M.L.As., on Community Development Programme concluded its three-day session at Rajgir on September 18. The

Camp was inaugurated by Dr. S.K. Sinha, Chief Minister of Bihar. Shri B.S. Murthy, Union Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation, presided over the inaugural session.

Speaking at the concluding session, Shri S.K. Dey, Union Minister of Community Development and Cooperation, commended the three-tier scheme of Panchayat Raj, based on Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zila

Parishads, as recommended by the Balwantrai Mehta Team.

The Panchayat Raj scheme, he disclosed, had now been accepted all over the country. Bihar too was going to introduce the necessary legislation. As the successful implementation of the scheme depended to a great extent on the training and education of the panchas and others associated with it, the Union Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation was drawing up a training programme. So long as the people were not trained in running the village institutions, efforts to improve things from the top would not bear fruit.

Education & Culture

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEW PLAYS

The Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs has formulated a scheme for assistance to theatre organisations in India for production of new plays, says an announcement of September 27.

Under the scheme, a grant of Rs. 7,500 per play will be given to recognised institutions for staging new plays. Financial assistance will be limited during 1960-61 to two plays per group.

As 1961 marks the centenary of the birth of Poet Rabindranath Tagore, at least one of the two plays for which the subsidy is given should be a Tagore play.

Dance-dramas, ballet and operas are not covered by the scheme.

To be eligible for the grant, each registered organisation should have produced at least three separate dramas in the last five years and have staged not less than 100 shows in the calendar year 1959.

The scheme envisages the dis-

tribution of the grant, as far as possible, on a regional basis taking into account productions in all Indian languages.

Details of the scheme can be had from the respective State Governments to whom the applications should be forwarded. The last date for receipt of applications at the Centre is October 31, 1960.

PRESERVATION OF PLANTS AND FOSSILS

An announcement of September 18 says that the Government of India have set up an eight-member Committee with the Director, Zoological Survey of India, as the Chairman, to suggest legislation for the collection of living plant and animal material and fossils by foreign expeditions and parties in India.

The committee will also suggest legislation for restricting the collection of rare plants and

River Projects & Power

RESEARCH IN SILTING OF RESERVOIRS

According to an announcement of September 21, the Government of India have recently sanctioned a scheme for research in silting of reservoirs by the hydraulic laboratories in the country. Eight reservoirs, namely Bhakra, Hirakud, Maiton, Panchet Hill, Mata Tila, Gandhisagar, Tungabhadra and Lower Bhavani, will be kept under observation for silting, and the data thus accumulated over a number of years carefully analysed.

These experiments should prove valuable for purposes of designing and construction of the future dams and for helping the engineers to anticipate with some confidence the behaviour expected of a river in its reaches above and below the reservoir.

Pushpawati Project

Over 4,000 acres of land covered by the Pushpawati Bandhara Project in Junnar Taluk of Poona district in Maharashtra State will be supplied with irrigation in the coming *rabi* and *Kharif* seasons.

The work on the project, consisting of a weir, 590 feet long with afflux bunds and flank walls, at Netwad, across the river Pushpawati, was started in the First Five Year Plan period, and completed in 1957. The irrigation channels on right and left banks, taking off from the weir, are ten miles in length, with a total command area of 5,040 acres.

The total cost of the project, which receive Central assistance, is Rs. 14.6 lakhs, and the gross revenue to be derived from irrigation supplies is expected to be about Rs. 31,000 each year.

animals and those in danger of extinction.

Another term of reference of the Committee is to consider whether there is need for legislation to ensure that type material for newly-discovered species of flora and fauna in India is deposited in the Central National Herbarium and the National Zoological Collections. If no such legislation is required, the Committee will indicate how such type specimens could be preserved and are not left in the hands of those who might not be subsequently able to look after them on a permanent basis.

Reform Of Examination System

Shri P. N. Kirpal, Union Education Secretary, inaugurated the first Training Course on Evaluation for State Officers at the Central Institute of Education in New Delhi on September 16. In his address, Shri Kirpal said that a major aspect of reorganisation in Secondary Education related to examination reform. To bring about reform in the system of examination at the Secondary level, the Union Ministry of Education had formulated a 10-year programme of examination reform, set up an Examination Unit at the Centre and trained the necessary personnel to man the Unit. This programme was so planned that it could get implemented in phases of two to three years' duration.

Shri Kirpal further said that the magnitude of the problem could be gauged from the fact that Secondary Education covered about 14,000 schools and 1,50,000 teachers. To carry a reform of this kind to every teacher in the Third Plan, it was necessary to accelerate the pace. It was of prime importance to train State leadership in this field. Steps had already been taken for establishing State Evaluation Units and the training programme had been undertaken so that by the beginning of the Third Plan we might have the necessary personnel to man the Units.

STUDY-CUM-SEMINAR CAMP

A Study-cum-Seminar Camp of select University Planning Forums was organised for a week by the Planning Commission at Nainital from September 28. Shri S.N. Mishra, Deputy Minister for Planning was in the chair.

The purpose of the Camp was to associate University teachers and students intimately with the process of planning and implementation.

At the camp about 50 participants, including students, teachers and eminent economists and sociologists, discussed various aspects of the Third Plan, role of educational institutions in the process of planning, and measures to secure increased public cooperation and participation in plan programmes. They also studied techniques of investigations and enquiries which the forums are being called upon to undertake.

About 450 forums have already been formed in practically all universities and a large number of colleges with the object of fostering plan consciousness, developing constructive thinking on planning and encouraging student participation in selected development programmes.

Reference To Caste Dropped

The reference to caste or sect in application forms for admission to schools, colleges and universities is to be deleted, says an announcement dated September 27.

In a letter, the Union Home Ministry has requested the State Governments that the use of caste or sub-caste for purposes of education be dropped. The Union Education Ministry has written a letter on the same lines to the Universities of Delhi, Aligarh, Banaras and Visva Bharati.

The educational institutions will, however, be allowed to elicit information on nationality and religion. Also, they can ask whether a person is a member of the Scheduled Castes and Schedu-

led Tribes, the reference to which is for fulfilling the statutory obligations.

The column on religion has been retained because it is felt that such an information is likely to be useful in connection with the compilation of vital statistics and for the maintenance of records.

The States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh have informed the Union Home Ministry that they have already taken steps to delete the reference to caste or sect in registers and forms used for purposes of services, judicial proceedings, police, jails, etc. Earlier, the State Governments had accepted in principle the need for abolition of references to caste, sect, etc., in the forms and registers used in connection with matters relating to State or its Service.

FELLOWSHIPS IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS

In a Press Note issued on September 17, the Department of Atomic Energy has announced that the Government of India have decided to award a few Junior and Senior Research Fellowships of the value of Rs. 250 p.m. and Rs. 400 p.m., respectively, for study and research in nuclear physics and cosmic rays at the various universities and research institutions in India. The Fellowships are tenable for a period of two years, which may be extended for a further period of one year in special cases.

The Fellowships will be awarded to candidates resident in India. The minimum qualifications for the award of the Fellowship is M.Sc. degree of a recognised university.

A Research Fellow will have to devote his whole time to approved research at an approved institute/university in India.

Foreign Scholarships

An announcement of September 22 says that six candidates have been selected for higher

studies abroad against scholarships offered to India by the Governments of Denmark, Sweden, Bulgaria, and Turkey for 1960-61.

Canadian Commonwealth Scholarships

The Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and the Fellowship Committee has announced on September 17 the award of Commonwealth Scholarships for 1960 to 15 candidates from India.

The scholarships aim at providing opportunities to Indian nationals to pursue advanced course or undertake research in Canada. The subjects of study or training include post-graduate study or research in the Humanities (including Journalism), Science, Social Sciences, Archaeology, Business Administration, Engineering and Medicine.

U.K. Scholarships

According to a New Delhi announcement of September 29 the British Council has offered 8 scholarships to Indian nationals for study and research in specified subjects in the United Kingdom during 1961-62. The subjects are: English language/linguistics; English Literature; Teaching English as a Foreign Language; Economics; Philosophy; Law; Public Administration and History.

The minimum qualifications are a second class Master's degree in the subject offered and three years' teaching or research experience. Applications in the prescribed form should reach the various Regional Offices of the British Council by November 7.

HAWKER SIDDELEY SCHOLARSHIP

According to an announcement of September 19, a candidate has been selected for practical training in the United Kingdom in various manufacturing processes under the Hawker Siddeley Industries Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme, 1960.

French Scholarships

According to an announcement of September 26, a candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship for Higher Studies in Biology offered by the Government of France during 1960-61.

According to an announcement of September 21, a candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship for Higher Studies in Agriculture offered by the Government of France during 1960-61.

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

SPECIALISED TRAINING

In a Press Note issued on September 28, the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs announced the names of ten candidates who have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of France for Specialised Training in that country during 1960-61. The scholarships relate to Architecture and Town Planning, Administration, Museology, Hotel Management, etc.

French Examination Recognised

By an announcement of September 19, the Government of India have recognised the French examination 'Propedeutique' as equivalent to B.A. or B.Sc. degree of a recognised Indian University, for purposes of appointment to services and posts under the Central Government. The decision has been taken in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission.

HINDI ON A.I.R.

Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, told the Hindi Advisory Committee, which met in New Delhi on September 24 under his presidentship, that interpreters who could do simultaneous interpretations efficiently were difficult to come by but efforts

would be made to train up some people for such a highly specialised job.

Dr. Keskar said that every Radio Station had a producer who, besides knowing the regional language, was also well-versed in Hindi. Literary programmes and lessons in Hindi, which were being broadcast in non-Hindi-speaking regions to familiarise the people with Hindi as also its correct pronunciation, were proving very popular. Twenty Hindi producers drawn from eminent men and women in the Hindi literary world had been posted at AIR stations in Hindi-speaking areas and the appointment of such producers at stations in non-Hindi-speaking regions was also under consideration.

The Committee noted that in keeping with its objectives of using easily understandable Hindi words, AIR had drawn up a Hindi Guide for Hindi news translators. The Guide contained 20,000 words listed under 22 categories of news items to help translators in tackling various types of news items.

NEW SCHEME FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, disclosed in Calcutta on September 18 that the Union Government was working on a scheme which would ensure that no student having the initiative and urge for study was denied higher education. The scheme was likely to be implemented under the Third Plan. He said that he was in favour of admitting to the universities only those students who were above 16 years of age.

EXHIBITION OF URDU NEWSPAPERS

The first all-India exhibition of Urdu newspapers and periodicals was opened in Srinagar on September 27 by Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting. The exhibition displayed more than 500 journals.



T. B. TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, inaugurated the National Tuberculosis Institute at Bangalore on September 16. The Maharaja Shri Jaya Chamaraja Wadiyar Bahadur, Governor of Mysore, presided over the function.

The National Tuberculosis Training Institute has been established to give special training to the senior medical staff who will man district clinics and various tuberculosis centres in the States. The trainees will include doctors, health visitors and laboratory and X-ray technicians.

This training will supplement the medical education being imparted in the universities and is not meant to supplant it. The Institute will emphasise the practical aspect of the training and attempt to inculcate a new outlook among the trainees enabling them to appreciate that T.B. is best controlled on a community basis.

TRAINING IN RURAL AREAS

Special care will be taken to work out training programmes under conditions in which the trained personnel will work in both urban and rural centres on return to their respective States. Mobile X-ray and laboratory units will be provided and trainees of various categories will be taken in batches to rural and urban centres.

Training will be given in rural areas also. For this purpose several Community Development Blocks adjoining the National Tuberculosis Training Institute will be selected and an attempt made to make use of Primary Health Centres and their staff. A tuberculosis survey will be

carried out in the Community Development Blocks selected for the purpose. After a period of about 4 years there will be another survey and it is envisaged that these surveys will throw light on the trend of tuberculosis epidemiology in a community where antituberculosis measures are applied.

HEALTH CONDITIONS IN AUGUST

According to information available, 4 cases of plague and 2 deaths were reported from Kolar district in Mysore State during the week ended August 13. No incidence of plague was reported from any other part of the country.

Cholera and smallpox, however, continued to be reported from some districts.

The following detailed information on health conditions during August is based on preliminary reports received up to the week ended August 20:

Cholera:—Heavy incidence was reported from Santa district in Madhya Pradesh during the second week whereas mild incidence was reported from the district during the first and third weeks.

Mild incidence was also reported throughout the month from Monghyr district in Bihar State, Rohtak and Kangra districts in Punjab, Aligarh and Kheri districts in Uttar Pradesh, Guna district in Madhya Pradesh, Calcutta city and the Union Territory of Delhi.

Mild incidence was reported from Bijapur district in Mysore

State, Sholapur district in Maharashtra, and Gwalior and Bilaspur districts in Madhya Pradesh during the second week.

Mild incidence was reported from Chhatarpur and the Bhopal city of Madhya Pradesh during the third week.

Smallpox: Mild incidence was reported throughout the month from the districts of Guntur, Nellore and Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh; the districts of Chingleput, Madurai and the Madras city; Bangalore, Kolar, Bellary and South Kanara in Mysore State; the districts of Bijnor, Dehra Dun, Kanpur and Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh; 24-Parganas in West Bengal; Greater Bombay; the Union Territories of Delhi and Pondicherry.

Mild incidence was also reported from the districts of Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, and Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh; the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills in Assam; Quilon, Kozhikode and Cannanore districts in Kerala; South Arcot and Tiruchirappalli in Madras State; Bellary and Dharwar districts in Mysore State; Allahabad, Ballia, Deoria, Lucknow, Rampur and Saharanpur districts in Uttar Pradesh during the first two weeks.

Mild incidence was also reported from Salem district in Madras State; Tehri-Garhwal and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh during the third week.

Gastro-enteritis: During the week ended August 27, a total of 3,024 cases and 1,116 deaths were reported from Uttar Pradesh as against 4,095 cases and 1,458 deaths reported during the previous week and 3,848 cases and 1,385 deaths reported during the week ended August 13, 1960.

Influenza: Stray cases were reported from West Bengal.



PROGRESS OF FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMME

A meeting of the Central Family Planning Board was held in Bangalore on September 17. Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Union Minister of Health, said at the meeting that a high priority had been given to the family planning programme in the Third Five Year Plan and a tentative provision of Rs. 25 crores had been made.

The main emphasis in the Third Plan would be on (i) widespread education to create the necessary social background for a big family planning programme, (ii) integration of family planning activities with normal health services, (iii) provision of family planning services, including sterilization, through medical and health centres and facilities for distribution of contraceptives, (iv) development of training programmes in medical colleges and other teaching institutions, and (v) utilisation in the family planning campaign of local voluntary leadership to the largest extent possible.

PROGRESS MADE

Shri Karmarkar said, considerable awareness about family planning had been created in recent years and the number of clinics today was 1,349 (866 rural up to July, 1960) against 147 at the beginning of the Second Plan. The extension of the training programme had resulted in an increase in the number of trained persons from 67 when the Second Plan began to 3,102 up to July 1960. The success of the orientation camps for villagers indicated that such camps should be rapidly extended.

To expedite the implementation of the programme, the Health

Ministry had further liberalised the rules for distribution of contraceptives. Contraceptives were now made available free to people with an income of Rs. 300. per month and below, at half rates to those with an income from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 and at cost price to those whose income was above Rs. 500. Sheaths and jellies and foam tablets could now be distributed free in rural areas irrespective of income.

The Union Government had recently written to the State Governments to provide sterilisation facilities free of charge irrespective of income. Financial assistance had also been offered to the State Governments for strengthening the staff of teaching medical institutions and district hospitals for conducting sterilisation operations, training of medical officers and provision of mobile surgical units. The sterilisation programme seemed to be gaining momentum.

The Ford Foundation, the Minister said, had made an offer of 330,000 dollars for motivation research and they had formed a Family Planning Communication and Motivation Action Research Committee for that purpose. It was proposed to establish a Central Family Planning Communication Motivation Research Centre in New Delhi with some field research centres.

REHABILITATION OF D.Ps.

In a Press Note issued on September 28, the Ministry of Rehabilitation has announced that those migrants, whether settled in the J and K State or in any other State in India, who

have not so far received declaration forms, should obtain the same from the Assistant Settlement Commissioner, Jammu, on or before October 31, 1960, and submit them duly completed by November 15, 1960.

In a Press Note issued in January, 1960, the Government of India, Ministry of Rehabilitation announced a scheme for payment of rehabilitation assistance to the State. In a subsequent Press Note it was notified that such migrants would have to complete a declaration form, copies of which could be had from the provincial Rehabilitation Officer, J and K State Jammu, or the Assistant Settlement Commissioner of the Government of India, Ministry of Rehabilitation at Jammu. Since then a number of applications have been received from such migrants for the supply of declaration forms.

EXECUTION OF BONDS BY ALLOTTEES

The Rehabilitation Ministry has announced in a Press Note of September 22 that the allottees/purchasers of Government built properties in Delhi are advised in their own interest to execute the deeds/agreements, whenever called upon to do so. In case they fail to turn up on the appointed day without valid reason, the properties in their occupation are liable to be resumed and disposed of by tender/auction to other parties. The amounts already received from them on account of part cost will be adjusted towards the arrears of rent upto the date the possession of the properties is transferred to the auction purchasers/tenderers.

A large number of Government built properties in Delhi have been allotted/sold to displaced persons. The allottees who have paid the full cost of the properties or who hold the plots on lease or as licensees are required to execute lease, conveyance, licensee deeds/sale certificates as the case may be on clearance of arrears of ground rent, if any. Non-claimant allottees, who have paid only the

initial instalments i.e. 20% of the cost of properties in their possession, have to execute agreements (Provisional Transfer Deeds). It has, however, been observed that a large number of allottees/purchasers are not coming forward to execute the deeds agreements even though they are called upon to do so by the office of the Settlement Commissioner (GBP).

REVISED LEASE TERMS

In a Press Note issued on September 23, the Ministry of Rehabilitation says that in the cases where Government built property in Delhi has been allotted to displaced persons on ninety nine years lease, the allottees are required under the terms of the lease to pay ground rent at varying rates subject to revision after specified periods.

With the coming into force of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954 and the Rules made thereunder, the Revised Lease Terms were introduced. Under these terms, an allottee could pay a nominal annual ground rent at the rate of one rupee per 100 sq. yards or a portion thereof provided the full cost of the land on the plot or under the property was paid by him.

Claimant allottees of Government-built properties are not required to pay any thing in cash provided the available amount of compensation due to them covers 20% of the value of the land under the plot or the property. In case the compensation available is less than 20% of the cost of the land, they are required to pay the deficiency in cash. The balance amount, if any, could be paid either in cash or by association with some other claimant.

The non-claimant allottees could pay the cost of the land either in cash or by paying 20% of the cost in cash and the balance of 80% by association from the compensation claim of their friends or relatives. In both the cases ground rent at the old rate would be payable by the allottee

upto 15th of January, or 15th July, following the date of application in the case of claimant allottees and payment of 20% of cost in the case of non-claimants. Thereafter they will be required to pay ground rent annually at the rate of one rupee per 100 sq. yards or a portion thereof.

DATE FIXED

With a view to completing the work in this regard in the Office of the Settlement Commissioner (Government Built Property), it has been decided to fix October 31, 1960, as the last date by which the allottees of Government-built property in Delhi on old Lease Terms could opt to be governed under the Revised Lease Terms.

Such allottees are, therefore, advised to ascertain the cost of land under the property allotted to them from the Office of the Settlement Commissioner (Government Built Property) and make the necessary payments or submit papers of association before the specified date. After that date no application for change of terms of lease would be entertained by that office. The option once made would be final.

The claimant allottees who have already applied to the Regional Settlement Commissioners concerned to be governed by the Revised Lease Terms may inform the fact to the office of the Settlement Commissioner (Government Built Property) before the prescribed date.

PAYMENT OF PENSIONS

A Press Note issued on August 27 by the Ministry of Finance says that the Government of India have decided to extend for a further period of six months, i.e., upto March 31, 1961, the existing arrangements for the payment of advances of pensions to displaced Central and Provincial Government pensioners, pending transfer of their pension papers from Pakistan.

Relief To Flood Victims

The Life Insurance Corporation has announced certain concessions with immediate effect for flood victims in Punjab and Orissa holding life insurance policies. Under these, the Corporation has waived late fee or interest on unpaid premium for three months from the due date of the premia. If a policyholder dies within the period of grace now allowed, the claim will be met in full, subject to deduction of unpaid premia. These concessions will remain in force upto the end of December and will apply to policies which were live on July 1.

UPLIFT OF BACKWARD CLASSES

A New Delhi announcement of September 23 says that a permanent committee is proposed to be established by the Centre to ensure better awareness, co-ordination, and proper working of different welfare schemes intended for the uplift of the Backward Classes.

The Ministries concerned and the Planning Commission have been requested to nominate their representatives to the committee. Meanwhile, steps have been taken to bring together the Working Groups and various Ministries so as to formulate co-ordinated schemes for the Backward Classes in the next Plan.

The Estimates Committee of Parliament in their 48th Report on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes had suggested that a Central Coordinating Committee consisting of the representatives of the various Ministries concerned with the welfare of the Backward Classes be appointed to ensure better awareness, co-ordination and proper working of different welfare schemes intended for the uplift of the Backward Classes.

Priority For Housing

Inaugurating a two-day meeting of the Panel on Housing and

Regional Planning in Delhi on September 27, Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister of Planning, urged that housing should receive a higher priority in future. The Panel met to consider the housing policy and programmes for the Third Five Year Plan. A provision of Rs. 120 crores has been suggested for housing in the draft outline of the Third Plan. Shri Nanda said that the problem of housing, both in urban and rural areas, was a huge one. A measure of success had attended the efforts to provide housing during the First and Second Plans. The community as a whole, including the Central and State Governments, industrial employers, municipalities, etc., had a responsibility in the matter of housing and each had to carry out its allotted share. A greater allocation for housing had to be provided whether out of Plan funds or other resources. An important part could be played by institutional finance by providing an initial large outlay in undertaking big housing schemes.

HOUSING IN MYSORE AND ANDHRA PRADESH

An announcement of September 16 says that Mysore and Andhra Pradesh will get about Rs. 1.10 crores and Rs. 1.76 crores respectively as central assistance during the current year for housing schemes under the Second Plan.

This assistance will be given to the States in the form of loans and grants.

Of the amount allocated to Mysore, Rs. 50.25 lakhs will be spent on the low income group housing, Rs. 22 lakhs on subsidised industrial housing, Rs. 20.35 lakhs on village housing projects and the balance on other schemes.

As regards Andhra Pradesh Rs. 1.13 crores—the largest amount—is in respect of the low income group housing scheme. A sum of about Rs. 28 lakhs has been provided for the village housing projects, over Rs. 20 lakhs for subsidised industrial housing and the balance for other schemes.

Labour & Employment

INDIAN LABOUR CONFERENCE

The eighteenth session of the Indian Labour Conference was held in New Delhi on September 24 and 25.

Inaugurating the conference, the Union Labour Minister, Shri G.L. Nanda, said that labour unrest, as indicated by the number of mandays lost due to strikes and lockouts, had been slowly and steadily abating since the adoption of the Code of Discipline in Industry in 1958. There were signs that the forces that were working for harmony in industrial relations were gradually being strengthened. However, the country could not afford the damage that was being caused to its economy by the stoppages that were still occurring. Every effort, he added, had to be put into the task of avoidance of interruptions of work so that they might approach as nearly as possible the state of total peace in industry.

Referring to Central Government employees, Shri Nanda said that the acceptance of the principle of arbitration in the settlement of disputes between Government and its employees and the setting up of joint negotiating machinery at various levels would constitute a remarkable advance in employer-employee relations in the public sector.

Referring to the measures taken by Government to improve industrial relations, such as the establishment of Joint Management Councils and Wage Boards, Shri Nanda said, "I may add here that it has been decided to set up a Bonus Commission on the pattern of a Wage Board to determine the principles and work out norms for settlement of bonus claims in different industries."

Labour Research

A conference on labour research was convened by the Labour Ministry in New Delhi on September 22 to consider the question of removing deficiencies in existing labour statistics and coordinating research in labour matters conducted by various agencies. It was attended by representatives of the central Employers' and workers' organisations, some of the Central Ministries and State Governments and research institutions and university teachers.

A suggestion that a foundation or a society for the advancement of labour might be set up to undertake research aimed at improving the condition of labour, was made by the Union Labour Minister, Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda, in his address to the conference. Such a body, he said, should be on an independent footing, free from party interests, and it should consist of persons who were not spokesmen or representatives of any section of workers or employers.

The conference agreed that a Central Committee on Labour Research should be set up to (a) survey the work that is being done by existing agencies and to help them to intensify their activities; (b) take measures to stimulate and develop research; (c) lay down priorities in regard to future research programme and (d) ensure proper coordination of labour research work and effective dissemination of the results of such research.

PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The Union Labour Minister, Shri G.L. Nanda, told the Central Committee on Employment,

SMUGGLING IN RAJASTHAN

An announcement of September 24 says that the President has given assent to the Essential Commodities (Rajasthan Amendment) Bill, 1960.

The legislation replaces an Ordinance promulgated by the Rajasthan Government earlier this year for forfeiture of receptacles and vehicles used for transporting foodstuffs in contravention of the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Such a deterrent provision was considered necessary by the State Government to prevent smuggling. As the time for arrival of wheat crop in the market was on and the chances of smuggling had increased, the Governor of Rajasthan in June 1960 promulgated the Ordinance which is now being replaced by the bill.

MINIMUM WAGES IN KERALA

According to an announcement of September 19 the President has given assent to the Minimum Wages (Kerala Amendment) Bill, 1960.

The legislation seeks to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, by extending the time for fixing the minimum rates of wages up to March 31, 1961 and empowering the State Government to extend the time further upto March 31, 1962, if considered necessary. The amendments are to apply to the scheduled employments in the State sphere.



NAVAL VESSEL BUILT IN INDIA

The first naval vessel built in India since independence was launched in the Hoogly in Calcutta on September 21. The ship has been built at a cost of Rs. 25 lakhs. Two more naval vessels are now under construction

at Garden Beach Workshops in Calcutta and are expected to be launched next year. One hundred and fifty-ton AJAY is equipped to detect and locate submarines and will patrol the Indian coast to prevent enemy action. This vessel will proceed to Cochin after undergoing trials in the sea outside Calcutta and Visakhapatnam.

CULTURAL TROUPE FOR BORDER AREAS

A cultural troupe of the Armed Forces Kala Niketan, comprising 14 men and 11 women artistes, proceeded on September 17 to the Jammu and Kashmir area to entertain the troops in the border regions. The troupe would stay in the Jammu and

Kashmir area for three weeks presenting a series of variety programmes, humorous skits, dances and musical numbers.

WAR COMMISSION RENAMED

In a Press Note issued on September 27, the Ministry of Defence has announced that with effect from April 1, 1960, the Imperial War Graves Commission has been redesignated as the 'Commonwealth War Graves Commission'. The change in name, however, does not alter the status of the Commission or its authorities, powers, rights and obligations. The work of the Commission will also remain unaltered.



INDONESIAN AIRMEN TO BE TRAINED

The Ministry of External Affairs has announced on September 19 that specially chartered Air India International planes will start the airlift of 360 men of Indonesian Air Force on September 20, 1960, who are on their way to India for training in specialised courses for non-commissioned officers offered by the Indian Air Force.

The trainees will receive instruction for varying periods at Jallahali and Tambaram training centres in radar and radio operations and other engineering skills under the existing Air Agreement between the two countries. Under this agreement, facilities for the training of a total of 1,100 men of Indonesian Air Force are to be provided by the Indian Air Force.

This is the second batch of trainees, a similar number having already proceeded to India about a year ago.

ARMY PERSONNEL FOR CONGO

A detachment, 75-strong, of the Army Signal Corps left Palam airport for Congo on September 21 by an aircraft of the United States Air Force.

Earlier, over a hundred officers and men of the Army Medical Corps, including 19 officers of the Military Nursing Service, and one Lady Welfare Officer left for the Congo by another United States Air Force plane, chartered by the United Nations. These personnel of the Army Medical Corps form part of the hospital unit, the main bulk of which is already in the Congo. The total strength of the hospital unit, which will set up a 400-bed hospital in the Congo, is 200.

So far India has sent over 600 officers and men of the Army and over 50 aircrew and ground personnel from the Indian Air Force to the Congo. The Army personnel include personnel from the Army Service Corps, Army Medical Corps, Army Signal Corps and the Military Police.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

SEPTEMBER 16 TO 30

September 16 — The fourth meeting of the All-India Tourist Development Council begins at Shillong (Assam).

— Prime Minister Nehru inaugurates the National Tuberculosis Institute at Bangalore.

17 — The Central Family Planning Board meets in Bangalore to consider the proposals in the Third Plan.

19 — Prime Minister Nehru reaches Karachi on a five-day visit to Pakistan.

— The Indus Water Treaty, 1960, is signed in Karachi between the Governments of India and Pakistan and the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development.

— An agreement for the operation of air services between India and Czechoslovakia is signed in Prague.

20 — H.E. Mr. Jozef Cyrankiewicz, Prime Minister of the Polish People's Republic, arrives in New Delhi on a week's visit to India.

— The Government of India announce the President's approval of the selection of the Chairman and Member-Secretary of the proposed Third Finance Commission.

21 — The first naval vessel built in India since independence is launched in the Hoogly in Calcutta.

22 — The eleventh meeting of the Central Advisory Council for Industries is held in New Delhi.

— The Union Ministry of Labour and Employment convenes a conference on labour research.

23 — H.E. Mr. Sekou Toure, President of the Republic of Guinea, arrives in New Delhi on a day's visit in the course of his goodwill tour of the Eastern countries.

24 — Prime Minister Nehru leaves New Delhi for New York to take part in the proceedings of the U.N. General Assembly.

— The eighteenth session of the Indian Labour Conference begins in New Delhi.

— A two-day conference of Directors of Land Records and Agricultural Statisticians begins in New Delhi.

27 — A trade agreement between India and Morocco is signed at Rabat.

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Shri A.K. Sen (left), Union Law Minister, leaving New Delhi on September 27 to attend the Independence Day Celebrations of Nigeria



The signing of an agreement on air services between India and Czechoslovakia at Prague on September 19



Shri Gulzarilal Nanda, Union Minister of Labour and Employment, addressing the eighteenth session of the Indian Labour Conference in New Delhi on September 24

