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COVER: After unfurling the National Flag on the thirteenth anniversary of Indian Independence on August 15, Prime Minister Nehru is taking the salute as the Guard of Honour presents arms at the ramparts of the Red Fort.

(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

PRESIDENT'S INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGE

The following is the full text of the President's Independence Day message to the nation on August 15, 1960:

It gives me great pleasure to greet my countrymen and all Indian nationals living in overseas countries on the 13th anniversary of our Independence. It is a day in our national calendar which we celebrate with countrywide rejoicings and a feeling of silent thanksgiving on having emerged from

political subordination and attained the status of a free country. Natural and legitimate as this demonstration of happiness is, many of us are inclined on this occasion to look for the content of our freedom and thus seek to analyse the basis of our rejoicings in order to vest them with still greater significance.

Occasional rumblings here and there notwithstanding, the fact is that our nation as a whole has been busy grappling with

the great task of national reconstruction with appreciable success. We know that there can be no short-cut to prosperity. It is an end which can be achieved only by deliberate and successive endeavours made collectively by the people. Whatever one might think of the speed and the actual achievements to date, no one can deny the fact that the country has been making progress year after year. I know that situations

Agreement for a credit of Rs. 13.33 crores (£10 million) from the Government of the United Kingdom to the Government of India, being signed at New Delhi on August 16

Dr. M. S. Adiseshiah, Assistant Director-General, UNESCO (right), with the Union Minister for Education, Dr. K. L. Shrimani, at New Delhi on August 9

The Vice-President of the World Bank, Mr. H. H. Illiff, with the Prime Minister, Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru, at New Delhi on August 9

The Union Home Minister, Shri G. B. Pant, receiving the Doctorate Degree from the Vice-Chancellor of the Nagpur University at New Delhi on August 9

have arisen now and then causing concern to Government and other patriotic elements, but howsoever tricky such situations might appear, I would plead that these must not dishearten or unnerve us. When the complicated mechanism of reconstruction moves on a gigantic scale in a vast country like India, creaking sounds of certain parts of the machine should surprise none, provided we are ready to deal with them in the interest of the parts concerned and the mechanism as a whole. Be that as it may, we feel happy that the process of reconstruction is proceeding apace, that our industrial output is mounting up, that our small and cottage industries and our traditional handicrafts have also a secure place in this plan and that, thanks to improvement in our agricultural production as also large-scale imports of food-grains from abroad under favourable conditions, our food situation has lately shown signs of becoming easier.

WILL TO LIVE

Increased production and steady progress in tapping the material resources of the nation are good enough reasons to feel happy on this occasion. But I would like to draw your attention to another matter which has a vital bearing on our future prosperity — nay, on our very existence as a free and sovereign nation. From our own experience we know that one of the biggest factors governing an individual's life is the will to live, the will to fight down all difficulties and to get the better of unfavourable situations. Human endeavour, no doubt, paves the way to success, but no less determining is this factor, the will to live, which imposes a certain kind of discipline on an individual that he follows without demur in the wider interests of his well-being.

The same thing holds good of a nation. Unless the individuals composing a nation evolve some discipline for themselves in the national and ultimately in their own interests, the nation cannot

hope to forge ahead and make the best of the opportunities preferred by the most meticulous exploitation of its material resources. Let us be sure, therefore, that our nation's march to progress rests on the solid foundation of individual and national discipline, without which our resolve to build up a welfare state and our efforts to eradicate all misery and suffering from this land may ever remain a dream. Call it by whatever name you like, we have to develop a sense of discipline, which is only another name for devotion to duty, which will at once provide a norm for our day-to-day behaviour and an ideal to strive for and, if necessary, to suffer for.

UNITY AND LOYALTY

It may seem strange but it is nonetheless necessary to lay stress on the unity of our country. The concept of Indian unity and the social and moral sanctions buttressing it are as old as our history. That sense of unity has survived all political wars and revolutions and the people from the Himalayas to Kanyakumari have always felt bound and held together by forces other than political, and in fact in spite of and against political disruptions. We must admit that the political and administrative unity of the country was achieved and maintained by the British and we have inherited it, as also the ideas and principles underlying our Constitution largely from them. This political unity, which our struggle for freedom nurtured into a concrete ideal and which, we hoped, would be further strengthened in the bracing climate of independence, sometimes presents itself as a hazy picture. Occasional happenings, however casual, serve to remind us that there is something wanting in our picture of unity and that the integration of the various parts and regions is not complete as yet. Merely stating this point is enough to show how serious and vital a matter it is for the future of our nation. I feel that it is as necessary to emphasise and rein-

vigorate those social and moral concepts which had kept the feeling of oneness alive in the midst of adverse circumstances, as to strengthen and reinforce the concrete achievement of political unity under one constitution and one republic, if we are keen on giving permanency and unassailable stability to our Republic.

NATIONAL DISCIPLINE

If we want our efforts in the direction of reconstruction to bear fruit and if we desire that India should continue to enjoy other nation's respect and the reputation, which luckily we have been able to build for ourselves since Independence, we must rise above all parochial considerations of casteism, communalism and regionalism, and, may I add, also linguism. Unless we make up and meet squarely the challenge of these forces, I am afraid we may be losing the opportunities which freedom has brought in its wake, we may be delaying all hopes built up by our people and, what is worse, we shall be exposing ourselves to the charge that we have learnt nothing from our own history.

I would appeal most earnestly to all my countrymen to ponder over these matters and concentrate not only on their industrial plans but also to develop and cultivate what I consider to be a precondition of our existence as a free and independent nation, namely, a spirit of loyalty, patriotism, deep sense of national discipline and personal loyalty to the country above everything else.

Once again, I would like to greet all our brothers and sisters on this happy occasion and wish them the best of luck.

Five Scholars Honoured

On the occasion of the Independence Day on August 15, the President has awarded Certificates of Honour to four eminent scholars in Sanskrit and one in Arabic.

The Sanskrit scholars are: Dr. Shripad Krishna Belvalkar;

Shri Nurani Subrahmanya Upadhyaya Anantakrishna Shastri; Shri Kalipada Tarkacharya; and Shri Kasi Krishnacharya. The Arabic scholar is Dr. Mustafa Hasan Alavi.

The scheme of giving awards was introduced in 1958 to accord recognition to eminent Sanskrit, Arabic and Persian scholars and encourage advanced study in these languages.

The awards are made to those persons who have distinguished themselves in the fields of oriental learning and have made a substantial contribution in such spheres.

Along with a Sanad, the scholars are given a Robe of Honour and a grant of Rs. 1,500 per annum for life.

Police Officers Decorated

On the Independence Day, the President has decorated 74 police officers for rendering

distinguished and meritorious services. Of them, nine officers have received the President's Police and Fire Services Medal, and 65 the Police Medal.

The recipient of the President's Police and Fire Services Medal, awarded for distinguished services, are: an Additional Inspector General of Police, Andhra Pradesh; four Superintendents of Police — two from Punjab and one each from Kerala and Rajasthan; a Deputy Central Intelligence Officer, Assam; the Director of Central Finger Prints Bureau, Calcutta, and two Chief Security Officers — one each from Western Railway, Bombay, and Northern Railway, New Delhi.

The officers who have received the Police Medal, awarded for meritorious services, include three Deputy Inspectors-General, two Deputy Commissioners, one Assistant Inspector General, 8 Superintendents, 11 Inspectors and one Woman Police Sub-Inspector.

PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON NAGALAND

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, made the following statement in the Lok Sabha on August 1 in regard to the Naga Hills and Tuensang Area:

I have on many previous occasions referred in this House to the problem of the Nagas. As Hon'ble Members are aware, we have always regarded the territory inhabited by the Nagas, as by other tribal peoples all over India, as part of independent India as defined in our Constitution. We looked upon all these tribal people as citizens of independent India having all the privileges and obligations of such citizenship.

HOSTILE ACTIVITIES

The Nagas are a hard working and disciplined people, and there is much in their way of life from which others can learn with profit. We have had for many years Nagas in the Indian Army, and they have

proved to be excellent soldiers. Our policy has always been to give the fullest autonomy and opportunity of self-development to the Naga people, without interfering in any way in their internal affairs or way of life.

Unfortunately, the process of devolution of local autonomy could not be implemented in full, because troubles arose in the area as a result of the hostile activities of a section of the Nagas. The ostensible object of this hostile section was to carve out an independent Naga territory entirely separate from India. This was a demand which no Government in India could ever agree to. These hostile elements among the Naga people thereafter took to violent methods and we had to take steps to meet these illegal activities. The hostile Nagas indulged in arson, loot and extortion of money from their own fellow Nagas. They also committed a number of gruesome murders. It became our duty to give protection

to the large number of other Naga residents of these areas and to meet the menace of this continued violence. The help of our Army and the Assam Rifles was taken in this conflict, and various steps were taken to give the necessary protection and to maintain law and order. This conflict inevitably caused much suffering to the people of those areas, most of whom were anxious to live a peaceful life and carry on their avocations. The story of the last five or six years has been a sad and depressing one. Gradually, there was an improvement in the situation, and over large areas in the Naga districts peaceful conditions were established. One bright feature was the extension of our development work and the establishment of schools, hospitals and communications. But, in spite of this considerable improvement, a hard core of the hostile elements continued their violent activities, even though they were driven back into the remoter parts of these Hills.

PEOPLE'S CONVENTIONS

The leaders of all the tribes of the Naga Hills representing their people, who had suffered so much from this conflict and the depredations of the hostiles, decided to make an effort to put an end to the conflict. They called a representative Convention of the Naga People, drawn from every tribe and area of the territories then forming part of the Naga Hills district of Assam and the Tuensang Frontier Division of the North East Frontier Agency. This Convention met from the 22nd to 25th August, 1957, at Kohima in search, as the Convention put it, of a solution to end the infinite sufferings and bloodshed. This Convention passed a number of resolutions. The principal one requested the Government of India to constitute a single administrative unit consisting of the Naga Hills district of Assam and the Tuensang Frontier Division of the NEFA, under the External Affairs Ministry of the Government of India. This unit was to be administered, under the Ministry of External Affairs, by the Governor of Assam as the agent of the President of India.

I received a delegation of the leaders chosen by the Convention on September 25th and 26th, 1957.

We considered the Naga request for a separate administrative unit as a reasonable one. In order to give effect to this proposal, the matter was brought before Parliament, and the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area Act, 1957, was passed. This area thus became an administrative unit and the necessary Regulation was promulgated by the President, making detailed provision for the administration of the new unit. It has since been administered, under the Ministry of External Affairs, by the Governor of Assam as the agent of the President.

The Naga people hoped that the formation of the new unit would give them an opportunity of developing their area in the way they considered suited to their needs. Some progress was no doubt made, but the activities of the hostile elements stood in the way of normal development.

Another Convention was, therefore, held at a place called Ungma in the Mokokchung district of the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area in May 1958. This Convention appointed a liaison committee to contact the underground elements and win them over to support the Convention's policy of securing the maximum autonomy of their area and finally settling the future of the Nagas. Though some among the hostile elements appreciated this approach, broadly speaking, the response was not encouraging.

DRAFT PROPOSALS

The leaders of the Naga People's Convention, therefore, decided to draft their own proposals and place them before the Government of India. A third Naga People's Convention met at Mokokchung in October 1959 and prepared a 16-point memorandum for consideration by the Government. The main demand formulated by the Nagas at this Convention was for the constitution of a separate State within the Indian Union to be known as Nagaland, under the Ministry of External Affairs, with a Governor and administrative secretariat, a Council of Ministers and a Legislative Assembly. Provision was also made for the constitution of the Village Council, the Range Council and the Tribal Council to deal with matters concerning

different tribes and areas. These bodies were also to deal with disputes and cases involving breaches of customary laws and usages.

A delegation of Naga leaders presented the 16-point memorandum, on behalf of the Naga People's Convention, to the Governor of Assam in April last. The delegation expressed a wish to meet the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister informed them that he would gladly meet them but, as he was leaving for England soon for the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, the meeting desired by the Naga leaders would have to be held after his return from abroad.

On the 26th July, 1960, the Prime Minister received a delegation of 15 Naga leaders led by Dr. Imkongliba Ao, President of the Naga People's Convention. The delegation placed before him the 16-point memorandum to which I have already referred. The proposals contained in the memorandum were fully examined. The Prime Minister reaffirmed the Government's policy to give the maximum autonomy to the Nagas in their internal affairs. He accepted their request for the constitution of the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area as a separate State within the Indian Union, but pointed out to the Naga leaders that the extent of this territory, its population and its financial resources are such that it would not be able to bear the weight of a heavy superstructure in the administration. The details were discussed with the Naga leaders and a broad agreement has been reached on the following lines.

NEW STATE

A new State to be called 'Nagaland' will be established within the Indian Union comprising the territory of the existing Naga Hills and the Tuensang Area. The same person will be appointed as the Governor of Assam and the Governor of Nagaland and the existing jurisdiction of the Assam High Court over the area comprising the new State would continue. There will be a transitional period during which an interim body will be constituted with representatives from every Naga tribe to assist and advise the Governor in the administration of

Nagaland. The Governor will have special responsibility for law and order during this transitional period and for so long as the law and order situation continues to remain disturbed on account of hostile activities. Since the financial resources of the new State will be extremely limited, and large grants from the Central Government may be necessary, not only for the development schemes but also to maintain the efficiency of the administration, the Governor will have general responsibility for ensuring that the funds made available by the Government of India are expended for the purposes for which they are approved by the Central Government.

There will be a Legislative Assembly to which the Council of Ministers of the new State will be responsible. Certain safeguards, as in the existing Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, will be provided for the religious and social practices of the Nagas, Naga customary laws and procedure and the ownership and transfer of land. Otherwise, the existing laws relating to the administration of the civil and criminal justice will continue to remain in force. Jurisdiction of the High Court of Assam will also continue. Special provision will be made for the administration of the Tuensang district in accordance with the wishes of the people inhabiting that district.

There are some other matters of relatively lesser importance on which also full understanding has been reached between the Government of India and the Naga leaders. It is hoped, therefore, that there will be no room for any misunderstanding in future about the Government of India's intention and what they propose to do to implement the understanding reached during the recent discussions.

FULLEST OPPORTUNITY

It is now the intention of the Government of India to give effect to the arrangements reached with the Naga leaders without delay. This will involve amendment of the Constitution and a bill will be placed before Parliament for approval in due course.

I take this opportunity to express our satisfaction at the agreement reached with the Naga leaders. We have always regarded the Nagas as full Indian citizens. I have said to the Naga people several times in the past that there could be no question of independence for the Nagas. India achieved her independence thirteen years ago and the Nagas are as independent as other Indian citizens. We have not the slightest desire to interfere in the tribal customs and usage of the Nagas or in their distinctive way of life. The Nagas have been anxious to have a separate State within the Indian Union. The agreement now reached with them should enable them to find the fullest opportunity of self-expression and we sincerely hope that the new arrangement will result in the rapid restoration of normal conditions in the area. I must, however, make it clear that no Government can permit hostile activities on its soil, and while we are ready to give our fullest support to those who will cooperate in giving effect to the agreement just reached, we shall continue to deal firmly with the hostile elements. This is an unpleasant but necessary task and I trust that the Naga leaders will cooperate fully in putting an end to the disloyal activities of a minority of their people.

ACTIVITIES OF PHIZO

The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on August 4 in response to a 'calling attention' notice in regard to the activities of Shri A.Z. Phizo. The Prime Minister said:

According to our information, Phizo left the Naga Hills-Tuensang Area some three years ago. Occasionally, we received some information about his movements, but it was not precise or reliable. We did not know who was financing his activities.

On the 16th June last, the U.K. High Commissioner in Delhi informed the Ministry of External Affairs that Phizo had arrived in London from Zurich on the 12th June. He was accompanied by the Rev. Michael Scott, who apparently testified to his claim as a Common-

wealth citizen. We were informed by the High Commission that the Immigration Office had given Phizo permission to land for 14 days under the Aliens Orders. The Rev. Michael Scott volunteered the information that Phizo had with him a forged San Salvador passport, but offered the clarification that he was not seeking to enter the United Kingdom on the strength of this passport. We have no precise information as to whether Phizo has been finally accepted as a Commonwealth citizen by the U.K. authorities.

UNACCEPTABLE PROPOSAL

An air of mystery surrounded Phizo's residence and activities in England. It was indicated that he had some startling disclosures to make against the Government of India and the Indian Army. We could not understand this air of mystery and we had no fear of any disclosures. We considered the question of his extradition, but decided against it. We did not wish to take any step which might appear to be aimed at preventing him from saying what he had to say. So far as we were concerned, there was nothing to hide.

Some days after the arrival of Phizo in London, some persons on his behalf requested an interview for him with our High Commissioner. It was not quite clear what the purpose of the interview was. Nevertheless, those intermediaries were informed that a senior officer of the High Commission would see him if he so wished. There was, of course, no question of any negotiation with him on any matter. What he said, however, to the officer of our High Commission would be reported to Government. Later the High Commissioner was informed by the Rev. Michael Scott that Phizo had decided to take time to prepare a full statement of his views and the suggested interview did not take place.

On the 19th July, I received a telegram direct from Phizo from London. In this he asked me if he could have safe conduct to visit me in Delhi accompanied by the Rev. Michael Scott to discuss cease-fire in Nagaland and the appointment of an Indian-Naga public commission to enquire into allegations of

atrocities and to discuss the constitutional future of Nagaland without prejudices to existing basic positions of either side. While I am always prepared to see any Indian national, I could not agree to the conditions laid down by Phizo. Our High Commissioner was, therefore, asked to inform him that I was unable to accept the proposals made by him, and in view of the reckless allegations against the Government of India and the Indian Army that he had made, I was unable to receive him. Further, that in any case I could not discuss the constitutional future of the Naga territory with him and that, in fact, I was to meet properly elected representatives of the Nagas soon. Phizo was again informed that if he wished to meet an officer of our High Commission, there would be no objection to his being received.

BASELESS CHARGES

On the 26th of July, Phizo gave a press conference in London. Apart from making a statement, he also released a booklet giving his version of the Naga problem. This booklet contains a list of supposed atrocities by the security forces of the Government of India.

Any person reading this booklet and not acquainted with the real facts would be horrified by what it contains. Apart from general and vague charges, there are listed specific instances of so-called atrocities by the Indian security forces. We have examined this list. Some of the instances quoted were examined by us previously and found to be baseless, some are completely distorted, some had never been previously brought to our notice, even though these charges used to be made from time to time.

One important fact to remember is that the list of charges begins in November 1954 with the so-called "Yengpang massacre" and ends on August 4, 1956, that is exactly four years ago. It is significant that Phizo could not find anything to complain of, even from his own point of view, during the last four years....

Narrating the Yengpang incident, Shri Nehru continued:

It will thus be seen that this Yengpang raid and killing was

entirely a conflict between two tribes and had nothing to do with our forces. In the same way other murders and similar crimes, which resulted from tribal conflicts, precipitated by the activities of Phizo's followers, have been falsely attributed by Phizo to our security forces.

ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

The Indian Army went to the help of the civil administration for the first time in April 1955 — that is to say 7 to 8 months after Yengpang massacre — in the Tuensang Frontier Division, which was then part of NEFA. Our instructions to our Armed Forces, both the Army and the Assam Rifles, were to treat the Nagas as Indian citizens and to try to win them over. Force, when it had to be used, was to be the minimum necessary. It must be remembered that our Armed Forces had to function in very difficult terrain and under extremely trying conditions. Whenever any charges of misbehaviour on the part of our Armed Forces came to us, they were invariably enquired into. There were a few, indeed very few, cases of individual members of our security forces having misbehaved. After investigation suitable punishment was ordered in proved cases of misbehaviour.

Throughout these years of trouble in the Naga areas, I have been particularly anxious that our forces should behave according to our high standards. I have, therefore, tried to keep in touch with events, and whenever I have had a complaint, I ordered an enquiry. I think I can say with a measure of confidence that, on the whole, our Indian Army have functioned with discipline and credit to themselves and in accordance with their own high traditions.

More than two years ago, we declared an amnesty for all offences committed previous to that date. That was evidence of our desire to treat the Naga people and even those who had been hostile to us with leniency. Where, however, raids and murderous attacks on our forces as well as on Naga villages continued to be made by the hostile elements, we had to take action and protect our people. There has been

a case of murder pending against Phizo himself. The person killed was one of his own intimate associates who once came to see me with Phizo, some years ago. This man, Sakhrie, was killed because he refused to associate himself any further with Phizo's violent and terroristic activities.

These past few years in the Naga territory have been distressing in the extreme to us. I hope that this chapter has ended and another chapter of peace and progress and self-development will now open out for the Naga people in accordance with the agreements arrived at a few days ago.

DEBATE ON STRIKE BY GOVT. EMPLOYEES

The Home Minister, Shri G.B. Pant, moved in the Lok Sabha on August 8 a motion asking the House to take into consideration the situation arising from the recent strike of the Central Government employees and the Government's action to deal with it. Speaking on the motion, the Home Minister announced that Government had decided to ban strikes in essential services like the Railways and the Posts and Telegraphs. It was also proposed to bar outsiders from holding any office in the trade unions of Government employees. Shri Pant said, Government proposed to set up some definite machinery in all branches of the services for conciliation, negotiation and settlement of demands and, where necessary, reference to arbitration. He said, Government had also agreed to review the position of dearness allowance if the cost of living index showed a persistent increase of ten points over a period of twelve months. It was possible that Government might decide that at least half of this increase should be neutralised automatically; as for the rest, reference would be made to an impartial body, if necessary.

Shri G.B. Pant said that the situation was really grave when the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance was promulgated. Shri Pant described the

Ordinance as an imperative necessity and said, if it had not been promulgated, there would have been anarchy and chaos, and the country would have lost all it had gained since Independence. If the strike had succeeded, thousands and thousands would have starved in some cities with insufficient food stocks, there would have been no coal for water works and industries and no light. Shri Pant said the strike was condemned by every sensible person.

The Home Minister said, Government servants were not like industrial workers; they were trustees of the nation and they must bear in mind the interests of the entire community.

The Home Minister paid tributes to the employees who did not join the strike call and said he was also grateful to the various State Governments for the masterly way in which they had handled the situation. Speaking of the task ahead, he said, it was Government's desire to do all it could to avoid anything that could lead to any misunderstanding. Relations between the Government and its employees should be of utmost cordiality and there should be mutual confidence. A large number of Government servants had already been released or allowed to resume duty. Instructions had been issued that those who had been arrested or even been convicted or suspended should be dealt with leniently, and punished only to the extent necessary.

PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS

Intervening in the debate on August 9 the Prime Minister declared that this business of settling things by strikes and lock-outs was not the logical or a reasonable way, it was an out-moded way. He said he agreed with the Home Minister that in essential services strikes should particularly be avoided and should not take place, because of the far-reaching consequences. The Government employees, the Prime Minister said, were the very structure in a Government

which looked after its people. If that steel structure broke down, then the result was likely to be chaotic.

The Prime Minister emphasised that it was essential to devise means which could progressively solve difficulties. This procedure might vary, for instance, for the Government employees in the Secretariat there might be the Whitley procedure, as practiced in England. This might be adopted for India. In other places it might be in some other way. The Prime Minister concluded that the approach to the problem would be for the Government to pay first attention not so much to pay and salaries but the amenities that were offered to Government employees in education, health, housing etc.

Shri Nehru deplored that the strike was an utterly irresponsible and vicious act. He said if the strike had succeeded it would have hit at the very root of the parliamentary and democratic way of Government and brought disaster to the country's industry and other vital interests. The call for the strike, he said, had been given at a time when the country was engaged in special efforts for its defence and when an attempt was being made through the draft Third Five Year Plan to direct the people's mind into constructive channels of hard work.

Intervening in the debate, the Labour Minister, Shri G.L. Nanda said that the measures proposed by Government to prevent strikes by Government employees in the future and to exclude part-time trade unionists and politicians from Government employees' unions was good for the working class and the country. He said the stress was on establishing machinery to settle disputes and thus make strikes superfluous. If certain issues could not be settled by negotiations, they could be solved by arbitration or adjudication.

The resolution was accepted by the House after the two-day debate.

GOVERNMENT DECISIONS ON PAY COMMISSION'S REPORT

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, laid the following statement on the Table of Lok Sabha on August 2:

The recommendations of the Pay Commission fall into two broad groups viz., (a) pay and allowances; and (b) other conditions of service. On the 30th November, 1959, a brief statement was made in the House about these recommendations and the decisions then taken by the Government on some of them were announced. It was further mentioned that the remaining recommendations were being examined and decisions would be taken thereon as early as possible. The Government have since accepted all the major recommendations of the Pay Commission which have a financial bearing, after reviewing some of their earlier decisions in the light of representations received subsequently.

PAY SCALES

The new pay structure and the various recommendations of the Commission in this regard have been accepted. Particularly, the Government have accepted the recommendation of the Commission regarding the minimum wage to be given to a Central Government employee. It was not possible for the Commission to make specific recommendations in respect of all categories of employees or offices of the Government of India, and they had suggested that these could be fitted by the Government into the general pattern of the new pay structure recommended by them after taking all the relevant factors into consideration. The fitting of thousands of posts, with various designations and nomenclature, involving nearly 20 lakhs of employees at present serving in over 500 existing rates or scales of pay into about 140 scales of pay recommended by the Commission was a task of considerable magnitude. Even so, the Government have already finalised pay scales which cover about 75% of the employees, and almost all Class IV and workshop personnel. The remaining pay scales will also be finalised and issued very shortly.

Rules have been framed for giving effect to the revised pay scales, for fixation of initial pay in the new pay structure, the date of increment and other related matters on the lines recommended by the Commission. As a measure of rationalisation, the Commission had recommended considerably fewer scales to replace the existing large number of scales. An inevitable corollary of this is that though most employees will receive the benefit of improved scales of pay, a few might find the existing scales better than the revised scales. As recommended by the Commission, the rules will enable such employees to have the option to retain their existing scales together with dearness allowance at the existing rates. This will ensure that even in the few cases where an employee does not benefit by the revised scales, he suffers no loss of emoluments as a result of the introduction of the revised pay scales. A copy of the notification on this subject relating to pay fixation and pay schedules is being issued today. A similar notification is being issued separately for Railway employees. With the issue of these schedules, the recommendations of the Commission can be implemented forthwith for a vast majority of the employees on their exercising their option for the Pay Commission's scales.

The Government have also accepted in principle the general recommendation of the Commission that, in respect of promotions up to Class I level, it should be ensured that an employee gets at least one increment in pay as a result of promotion.

DATE OF EFFECT

On further consideration and in modification of their earlier decision, the Government have accepted the recommendation of the Pay Commission that the revised scales of pay and dearness allowance should be given effect to from the 1st July 1959, and arrears due for the entire period will be paid in cash. The recommendations of the Pay Commission in regard to house rent and compensatory allowances will also

take effect from 1st July 1959. Deductions on account of the compulsory provident fund scheme will not be made prior to the 1st of April 1960, since that scheme is being introduced only from the commencement of the current financial year.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

Government have accepted the recommendation of the Commission that if during a period of 12 months the consumer price index remains on an average 10 points above 115, the Government should review the position and consider whether an increase in the allowance should be allowed; and if so, at what rate.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Orders have already been issued implementing the decisions on the recommendations relating to pension which were announced on the 30th November 1959. On further consideration, the Government have agreed to liberalise those orders by accepting the Commission's recommendation that special pay should also count for pension in full if the post to which it was attached was held in a substantive capacity and to the extent of half in all other cases. In the interest of simplification of the pension rules and expediting sanctions for pension, Government have not found it possible for administrative reasons to accept the recommendation of the Commission for counting officiating, special and personal pay in full in certain special cases where it so counted in the past but will not so count in future under the revised rules. They have, however, decided to consider sympathetically individual cases of hardship arising out of this decision.

The Government have accepted and already announced their decisions on the Commission's recommendations regarding the grant of gratuity to temporary and quasi-permanent-employees on their retirement, discharge from service, or death, and improvement of death gratuity in the case of permanent employees who die before completing five years of qualifying service, as also in respect of employees who are governed by the Contributory Provident Fund Scheme.

The recommendations of the Commission for improvement or libera-

lisation of retirement benefits in the case of scientists and technologists have also been accepted and orders issued.

CASUAL LEAVE

Government have accepted the recommendation of the Commission in regard to casual leave and public holidays and that public holidays and weekly offs falling within a period of casual leave should not be counted as part of the casual leave.

TRAVEL CONCESSION

The Government have accepted fully all the recommendations of the Pay Commission regarding liberalisation of the present leave travel concession. It has been liberalised as follows:—

- (i) the concession has been extended to such of the industrial and workshop personnel as are entitled to regular leave;
- (ii) employees whose home place is not connected by rail will get the concession also for journeys between the home town and the nearest railway station;
- (iii) employees who leave their families in their home towns will have the concession for themselves only every year instead of once in a block of two years;
- (iv) for employees who are unable to avail themselves of the concession in a block of two years, the next block will count from the end of the first year; and
- (v) the concession will also be admissible in respect of travel by air in specified circumstances.

Orders in respect of these further concessions are being issued separately.

WORK-CHARGED STAFF

The recommendations that work-charged staff whose services are likely to be required on a permanent or semi-permanent basis should be made permanent or given quasi-permanent status; that they should be classified as industrial or non-industrial, depending on the nature of the duties, and should have the same conditions of service as those of the corresponding regular staff, have been accepted.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

Government have accepted the recommendations of the Commission that the permanent requirements of all categories of staff should be speedily determined and that the margin of temporary posts should be the same for all classes of employees. Orders have been issued for converting existing temporary posts into permanent ones within the limit permissible and to confirm all eligible temporary persons as early as possible. The position will be reviewed periodically.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

Government have accepted in principle the recommendations of the Commission for introducing schemes similar to those in operation in the Railways, to enable other Central Government employees whose salary does not exceed Rs. 300 to send their children to boarding schools of their choice when suitable schooling facilities are not available at the station where they are posted. Orders on the analogy of the Railway Board's orders on the subject will be issued shortly. Government have also accepted in principle that hostels may be set up in a few centres with concessional lodging and boarding charges at graduated rates for children of employees in the same pay range. The details of this scheme and the exact form in which this recommendation can be implemented, however, need careful examination and this examination is being conducted now.

As regards the recommendation for encouraging the growth of schools with common syllabus and medium of instruction at moderate fees, this is part of a general scheme which is already receiving the consideration of the Government, and the recommendation refers not only to Central Government employees but also to the general public.

HOUSE RENT

The Commission's recommendation that the maximum rent recoverable from employees whose pay is below Rs. 150 per month should be limited to 7½% of pay has been accepted. This will ensure that the rent of those whose revised pay is below this amount does not go up due to the merger of dearness

allowance. As the majority of Government servants are low paid staff, a very substantial number of them living in Government residences will be able to take advantage of this lower limit. Those who are not in occupation of Government residences will be entitled to get house rent allowance at higher rates, where such allowances are admissible.

PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME

The Pay Commission have observed that it would be perfectly reasonable to require all Central Government employees to subscribe at least 6½% of their pay to a General Provident Fund, unless they are already required to subscribe at the rate of 8 1/3%. The recommendation has been accepted by the Government except that the rate has been reduced to 6 nP per rupee. However, on administrative considerations and also having regard to the fact that subscription at the minimum rate of 6% of pay may cause hardship to employees in the lower categories, it has been decided that Class IV employees drawing a basic salary of less than Rs. 75 a month may subscribe only Rs. 4 a month, and other Class IV employees at Rs. 5. There will be no restriction if any one voluntarily wishes to subscribe at a higher rate. The date of introduction of the compulsory provident fund scheme is 1st April, 1960.

TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE

The following recommendations have been accepted:—

- (a) a retiring Government servant or one invalided from service may, under certain conditions, be allowed travelling allowance for journey to his home town;
- (b) work-charged staffs in all establishments should be entitled to travelling allowance under the normal rules.

Government have also accepted the recommendations of the Commission that in certain cases where residence of an employee and his place of work are at considerable distance (in no case less than five miles), the grant of concession in some form or other might be considered, subject to certain conditions.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Government have taken note of the suggestion of the Commission that medical facilities for Central Government employees should be placed on a contributory basis, and the pattern of medical care and treatment, wherever there is a concentration of employees, be broadly similar to that available under the Contributory Health Service Scheme in Delhi. Pending a detailed examination of the feasibility or practicability of extending the scheme to other places outside Delhi in the immediate future, Government have liberalised the existing medical facilities in Calcutta with a view to bringing them in line with the facilities available to employees at other centres which are not covered by the Contributory Health Service Scheme.

LEAVE RULES

Government have accepted the Commission's recommendations regarding the basis for calculating the leave salary, payment of leave salary in advance and the grant of hospital leave to industrial and work-charged staffs, and to all low paid employees, as also to those Class III employees whose duties involve handling of dangerous machinery, explosive material, poisonous drugs, etc.

The above decisions cover practically all the major specific recommendations of the Pay Commission involving financial benefits to the employees. The only important recommendations of the Commission on which decisions have not yet been taken relate to the scale at which regular leave and overtime allowances will be given. These two items are under examination and so far as the former is concerned, the Pay Commission has not recommended any liberalisation of existing scales, except for a few categories of employees. Even in regard to these two recommendations, Government's orders are expected to be issued shortly.

PANEL FOR JUDGES

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 3, the Home Minister, Shri G. B. Pant, stated that panels of persons

suitable for appointment as High Court Judges have been received from nine States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Orissa, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala.

The policy of the Government of India that some appointments to the High Courts be made from outside the State has been accepted and such appointments are made wherever circumstances permit and the Governments concerned are agreeable. According to the standing instructions, the State authorities were required to send their proposals for filling up a permanent vacancy about three months in advance of the date on which the vacancy was due to arise.

The Union Home Minister added that the number of Judges due to retire in the remaining part of the year 1960, 1961 and 1962 was 4, 27, and 9 respectively. There were two vacancies in the post of permanent Judges, both in the Allahabad High Court, one from July 13, 1960., and the other from July 27, 1960.

Joint I.P.S. Cadre

An announcement of August 3 says that a joint cadre of the Indian Police Service has been formed for the Union Territories of Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

The cadre, with an authorised strength of 26 officers, will be controlled and operated by the Union Home Ministry.

The initial constitution of the cadre will be through one or more of the following three methods. First, IPS officers may be transferred from the cadres of other States but in such cases the consent of the State Governments and the individual officers concerned will be necessary. Secondly, selection may take place from among officers belonging to the Police Service of Himachal Pradesh, but officers holding substantive appointments with eight years' seniority in the State or equi-

valent cadre will be eligible for consideration and the approval will be made in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission. Thirdly, there may be direct recruitment from amongst the candidates declared successful as a result of the latest IPS competitive examination.

S.P.E. Report

According to the report of the Special Police Establishment for the three months ending June 1960, fifty-nine firms and individuals, who had indulged in malpractices for obtaining import and export licences, were blacklisted by the Import and Export authorities.

As regards Government servants, 29, including one gazetted officer, were convicted. The sentences ranged up to seven years' imprisonment and fines amounted to nearly Rs. 88,000.

During the quarter, 81 Government servants, including 13 gazetted officers, were awarded departmental punishment, which ranged from dismissal to reduction in rank or pay.

The number of officers dismissed, compulsorily retired, or removed from service numbered 21. Ten officers were reduced in rank or pay. Increments of 20 officers were withheld and 30 were otherwise punished.

Statement On Official Language

The Home Minister, Shri Pant, told the Lok Sabha on August 1 that English would continue beyond 1965 and a Bill would be brought before Parliament in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. He refuted the suggestions that the President's directive on official language had made it compulsory for persons in non-Hindi areas to pass a test in Hindi for entry into Central services. He said that the knowledge of regional languages was compulsory for subordinate regional services, and as such the knowledge of Hindi was compulsory for subordinate services in the Hindi-

speaking areas only. There had been no departure in the President's directive from the assurances given by the Prime Minister in Parliament to non-Hindi areas.

SECOND REPORT ON LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

The second report on linguistic minorities, prepared by the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, was placed in both the Houses of Parliament on August 8. The report was submitted by the Commissioner to the President through the Union Home Ministry on February 11, 1960.

If in the border areas, the States follow a liberal policy towards other language groups, so that they do not feel that only a change of boundary-line can help them in securing the advantages which are being denied to them, it will help in promoting peace and contentment, says the report.

A little liberal policy in the beginning, the report adds, will not affect the importance or the growth of the regional language as, in course of time, the people in the border areas will, in their own interest, acquire proficiency in the regional language. Then, there would be less cause for heart-burning.

INSTRUCTION IN MOTHER-TONGUE

Insofar as safeguards provided to linguistic minorities in the matter of primary education are concerned, the Commissioner says that the State Governments have accepted that arrangements for instruction in the mother-tongue of a linguistic minority be made if there are 40 pupils in a school or 10 in a class.

To overcome the difficulty in securing admission, the Commissioner had suggested in the first report that a register be opened six months in advance where applications for admission should be entered. A suggestion has been made that this period be reduced to three months, because

ROYAL VISIT

The Ministry of External Affairs has announced in a Press Note of August 2 that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will leave London by air for India on January 20, 1961, arriving in Delhi on January 21.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness will visit Pakistan from February 1 until February 16, after which they will return to India.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will finally leave Delhi on March 1, 1961.

the students do not apply six months in advance.

This arrangement will also enable the school authorities to know in advance the number of students speaking a minority language so as to be in a position to make advance arrangements for new teachers and text-books to meet the requirements.

Another difficulty, says the report, that has come to light in the course of investigations is that in certain schools the number of teachers qualified to impart instruction in the mother-tongue is 'inadequate and the text-books prescribed are not available.' So far as these difficulties are concerned, a solution could lie in recruiting sufficient number of trained teachers from the neighbouring States where the particular minority language is the regional language and obtaining the text-books prescribed in the schools in that State until such time as requisite books can be provided in the State.

MINORITY LANGUAGE

Another demand commonly made is that the minority language should be a language subject at all stages and that the regional language should not be made compulsory. The Com-

missioner says 'the last demand is not in the interests of young students who are going to be permanent residents of the State and have to earn their living there.'

The children of linguistic minorities may be divided into two groups: (1) children of parents who are settled in the State, and (2) children of parents who are temporarily residing in the State and are likely to be transferred to other States. For those whose parents are settled in the State, it is probably in their own interest that they should acquire adequate proficiency in the regional language. The incentive to learn the regional language may not be quite so strong in the case of children who are not likely to remain permanently in the State and for them it does not seem to be necessary that the regional language or official language should be made compulsory.

According to the report, complaints are also made that question papers for High School and Intermediate examinations are set in the regional or official language, even for those who are allowed to answer their question papers in English. 'There is some force in the complaint, but it has to be borne in mind that in the secondary stage the students are expected to learn the regional/official language and if they do so there should be little genuine difficulty in understanding the question papers.'

PROFICIENCY TEST

As mentioned in the first report, a complaint had been made to the Commissioner that in some States there was a language test in the regional language for admission to science classes, technical and medical institutions, though the medium of instruction was English. The report says 'there seems no valid reason why a proficiency test in the regional language should be held as a condition precedent to admission in such institutions.'

As regards public libraries and libraries attached to schools, it is said that a large part of the grant is earmarked for books in the regional language. Wherever such instances were brought to the notice of the Commissioner, the matter was taken up with the State Governments and the State Governments generally agreed to make a reasonable allocation of funds.

Another demand frequently made is that in areas where there are linguistic minorities all magistrates and other officers and specially the clerical and subordinate staff should know the minority language, so that linguistic minority groups may have no difficulty in getting themselves understood. The State Governments assured the Commissioner that every effort was being made to post officers knowing the minority languages but pointed out that it was not always administratively convenient or possible to do so.

REGISTRATION OF DOCUMENTS

As regards the registration of documents, section 19 of the Indian Registration Act requires that a transliteration in the official language and a true copy of the document should be filed in the registration office, if the document tendered for registration is in a language which is not commonly used in the district and the registering authority does not understand it. In some States rules had been made which went beyond the requirements of the section, but such rules when brought to the notice of the State Governments were amended. As regards recruitment to services, the report has detailed provisions made by the various States.

Census Superintendents' Conference

The State Census Superintendents, who ended their eight-day conference in New Delhi on August 12, finalised the steps to total and communicate the preliminary census figures as soon as possible. The channels of

telegraph, telephone and Government wireless would be utilised.

The conference decided that the first results of the Census would be published by March 25, 1961, within three weeks of the count.

The conference also reviewed the progress of census work in the States and Union Territories. It was noted that up-to-date maps of villages, cities and districts had been prepared and divided in convenient blocks allotted to different census officials.

The numbering of houses had already been completed in Kerala, Mysore, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. Punjab and Madhya Pradesh had started on the job and the rest of the country would undertake it in September. It was noted that, for the first time, the census would give a set of housing tables and another of all workshops in the country.

The conference also finalised the training programmes to all census officials, especially at the level of the enumerator and his supervisor—roughly one supervisor to five enumerators. The training would begin at the middle of November and continue till the first week of February.

Atomic Power Programme

Replying to a debate on the annual report of the Department of Atomic Energy, the Prime Minister Shri Nehru announced in the Lok Sabha on August 11 that India's first nuclear power station would be located at Tarapore on the West Coast between Bombay and Ahmedabad. This project, Shri Nehru added, would be completed in four years. Though situated in Maharashtra, the station would supply electricity to Gujarat and Maharashtra in equal measure. A committee of representatives of Gujarat and Maharashtra and an Atomic Power Department would be set up for this purpose.

In the Third Plan, the Prime Minister said, two more nuclear power stations would be set up, each with a capacity of 150 megawatts, capable of being developed later on.

The Prime Minister also informed the House about Government's proposal to set up in the Third Plan two inter-university atomic centres — one in the North and the other in the South. These centres would

provide facilities for atomic research for scientists in the universities of the two regions. Each centre would have its own reactors. Various universities and institutions, the Prime Minister said, were being helped in their atomic research work. At Trombay, 200 young scientists were being trained every year. A refresher course in atomic research work, the Prime Minister said, would be started for young scientists at Trombay.

Planning & Finance

LIQUIDATION OF PALAI CENTRAL BANK

In a Press Note of August 9, the Reserve Bank of India announced that the High Court of Kerala passed orders on August 8, on the application of the Reserve Bank of India, appointing a provisional liquidator for the Palai Central Bank. The Press Note said:

"During the last few days, there has been a run on the Palai Central Bank and substantial sums have been withdrawn. The affairs of the Bank are such that the Reserve Bank felt that the grant of merely temporary accommodation would not enable the Palai Central Bank to put its house in order.

"The application to the Court was accordingly made in order to protect the interests of the depositors. The Reserve Bank does not consider that there is any need for banking scare in Kerala. It would be prepared to grant assistance with utmost expedition to any bank whose affairs are satisfactory."

Finance Minister's Statement

Speaking on an adjournment motion in the Lok Sabha on August 9, the Finance Minister,

Shri Morarji Desai, stated that the Reserve Bank, after close consideration, had decided to institute liquidation proceedings against the Palai Central Bank of Kerala and had filed an application before the Kerala High Court. The Home Minister further said that if the action by the Reserve Bank had been delayed, only some people could have taken their deposits and nothing would have remained for others.

The Home Minister assured the members that the interests of the other banks, which were dependent on this bank, would be protected. A Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank had been sent to Kerala to see that there was no run on the other banks in the State.

Shri Desai further said that the Government would not hesitate to prosecute the Managing Director or the Directors of the Palai Bank if there was any material for prosecution against them.

Defending the action of the Reserve Bank, Shri Desai said that the state of affairs of the Palai Bank was such that there was no other course open. Any further help by the Reserve Bank to tide over the crisis would have gone down the drain.

Check on Bank Credit

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 3, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, informed the House that the Reserve Bank of India had directed every scheduled bank to deposit with it 25 % of the addition to its demand and time liabilities subsequent to March 11, 1960. This was increased to 50% with effect from May 6, 1960.

The Deputy Minister explained that the additional reserve requirement was intended to check the expansion in bank credit, thereby exercising a restraining influence on the expansion in money supply and rise in commodity prices.

Refinance Facilities to Banks

In reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 10, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, informed the House that it had been decided in principle to extent refinancing facilities immediately to all licensed scheduled banks without requiring them to become shareholders of the Refinance Corporation.

In reply to a further question whether there was any proposal to increase the number of industries which could qualify for loans of the Corporation, the Deputy Minister said that the Corporation would have the discretion to determine, within the broad framework of the Five-Year Plans, the eligibility of any particular industry for assistance under the refinancing scheme.

REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION LOANS

In reply to a question on August 3, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, informed the Lok Sabha that the amount of overdue loans recoverable by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration as on December

31, 1959, was Rs. 513 lakhs, inclusive of interest of Rs. 114 lakhs.

The Deputy Minister added that the information in respect of overdue amount was not readily available. Information was, however, available in respect of all outstanding amounts. Of the total amount of all outstandings of Rs. 768.82 lakhs as on December 31, 1959, a sum of Rs. 350.81 lakhs was considered good and fully secured and Rs. 318 lakhs good, though not fully secured.

Repayment Of Foreign Loans Guaranteed

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 11, the Deputy Minister of Finance, B. R. Bhagat revealed that the Government of India had guaranteed repayment of any loans taken by the private sector from foreign lending agencies.

He said that Government had guaranteed repayment of the following loans in foreign currencies taken by the private sector agencies from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development: (1) TISCO-I Rs. 35.71 crores, (2) TISCO-II Rs. 15.47 crores, (3) IISCO-I Rs. 14.30 crores, (4) IISCO-II Rs. 9.52 crores, (5) TROMBAY-I Rs. 6.64 crores, (6) TROMBAY-II Rs. 4.67 crores, (7) ICICI-I Rs. 4.76 crores and (8) ICICI-II Rs. 4.76 crores.

The Deputy Minister added that the guarantee covered repayment of principal and payment of interest and other charges as per loan agreement between the borrower and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Loans Due From States

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, confirmed in the Lok Sabha during question hour on August 11 that State Governments owed large amounts advanced to them as loans. The loans were for different periods and were repaid as and when they fell due. No major default

on the part of State Government had been brought to notice.

As regards the total amount of arrears to be recovered from the States at the close of the financial year 1959-60, the Minister said that the accounts for the year 1959-60 had not yet been finally closed. He, however, placed the following statement showing the amounts outstanding against each State at the end of 1958-59 (as on March 31, 1959) on the Table of the House:—

Andhra Pradesh — Rs. 139.31 crores, Assam — Rs. 34.99 crores, Bihar — Rs. 109.71 crores, Bombay — Rs. 174.02 crores, Kerala — Rs. 37.55 crores, Madhya Pradesh — Rs. 81.19 crores, Madras — Rs. 94.78 crores, Mysore — Rs. 71.39 crores, Orissa — Rs. 123.33 crores, Punjab — Rs. 225.00 crores, Rajasthan — Rs. 74.69 crores, Uttar Pradesh — Rs. 171.99 crores, West Bengal — Rs. 215.43 crores and Jammu and Kashmir — Rs. 27.75 crores.

The total outstanding amount was Rs. 1,581.18 crores.

First Prize Bonds Draw

In a Press Note issued on August 3, the Government of India have announced that the following prize bonds series will be eligible, in accordance with the terms of the notification for the issue of Five-year Interest-free Prize Bonds, 1965, for participation in the first quarterly draw due to be held on September 1, 1960:—

(1) Prize bonds of Rs. 100 — denomination: Series: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, Q and U.

(2) Prize bonds of Rs. 5 denomination: Series: AA, AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AJ, D, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, Q and AR.

The draws will be held at six places, namely, Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi, Madras, Bangalore and Nagpur and will be conducted at each place under the supervision of a committee consisting of prominent non-officials and representatives of the Central Government, State

Life Insurance

Life insurance business in India was nationalised early in 1956. The Life Insurance Corporation of India, a statutory body, came into existence on September 1, 1956.

The Corporation took over the assets and liabilities relating to life insurance work of 245 insurance companies and other insurers, including State insurance departments.

In the four years since nationalisation, life insurance business in force has increased by more than 60 per cent. The number of policies in force has gone up by 45 per cent during the same period.

At the end of 1959, the LIC had Rs. 1,964 crores worth of business in force—an increase of Rs. 744 crores since the end of 1955. The number of policies in force at the end of 1959 was about 7 million. In 1959 alone, the LIC secured new business amounting to Rs. 429 crores (an increase of 25 per cent over 1958) and issued 11.5 lakh new policies—an increase of more than 2 lakhs over 1958.

The LIC introduced a Janata policy scheme in selected rural areas in 1957 to extend insurance to sections of the population not covered so far. The number of Janata policies increased from 21,208 in 1957 to 28,705 in 1959. The total amount assured has risen from Rs. 1.17 crores to over Rs. 2 crores.

In the process of decentralisation and expansion of work, the number of branches and sub-offices of the LIC has increased from 216 to 345.

The LIC has also reduced premium rates and removed some extra charges which were levied previously.

In 1959, the LIC paid out Rs. 28 crores as settlement of insurance claims to the policy holders and their beneficiaries. Only 25 per cent of this amount was against claims arising from deaths. The balance represented maturity benefits.

The business in force represents 15 per cent of the national income. In certain countries, like the U.S.A. and Canada, the life insurance business exceeds the national income.

Governments and the Reserve Bank of India. The composition of the committees and the particular series in respect of which the draw will be held at a particular station will be announced later.

METICULOUS PROCESS

For the draw, a meticulous process consisting of six drums has been designed. The draw in respect of each series will be held separately and if prizes for more than one series are to be drawn at a particular place, the series will be taken up in alphabetical order. Lots of prizes will be drawn in descending order of the prize amounts.

At the conclusion of the draw at each station, the results, as entered in the register and as certified by the supervisory committee or sub-committee, will be released for publication in the Press. The results of the draw at all centres will be consolidated for publication in the Gazette of India displayed at the selling offices. Only the latter list will be treated as authentic.

SALE OF PRIZE BONDS

The Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, informed the Rajya Sabha during question hour on August 10 that 88,35,250 pieces of prize bonds of Rs. 5 denomination and 4,80,277 pieces of Rs. 100 denomination had been sold up to the end of June, 1960.

Seizure Of Counterfeit Notes

The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on August 8 about the seizure of counterfeit notes from certain places in South India and the step taken by Government in the matter.

The Finance Minister said that Government were fully alive to the importance of maintaining the purity of Indian currency and bank notes. He had not reason to believe, in spite of the facts which had recently come to light in the

Coimbatore case, that our system and our security measures were inadequate. Forgeries of this kind could be only occasional and the problem was not dimensionally so important as to cause any anxiety to Government or to the public.

Giving the details of the incident, Shri Desai said, that some time in 1959, the police authorities in Madras received information to the effect that counterfeit notes were being printed and passed into circulation. Subsequent enquiries and investigations led to the arrest of one G. Krishnan, a prominent mill-owner of Coimbatore, a sub-inspector of police named G. Padmanabham, and some others persons at Madras, Velganganni (near Nagapattinam) and Kottayam. The police had also seized a printing press, some bundles of cut papers and other equipment used for the printing of the counterfeit notes. According to the information received, the total number of arrests so far had been about twenty, but investigations were still in progress. It was hoped that the preliminary investigations would be completed in the course of the next few weeks, and charge-sheets under the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code would be filed thereafter against the persons concerned.

Special Pay For Handling Cash

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 3, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai confirmed that persons handling cash in various Ministries and Departments were paid special pay.

He said that the monthly special pay was allowed on the following scale of disbursement:

(1) Up to Rs. 4,000 — Nil; but if the incumbent of the post is required to furnish security, a special pay of Rs. 5 may be given. (2) Above Rs. 4,000 up to Rs. 10,000 — Rs. 10 (3) Above Rs. 10,000 up to Rs. 15,000 — Rs. 15. (4) Above Rs. 15,000 up

to Rs. 20,000 — Rs. 20. (5) Above Rs. 20,000 up to Rs. 25,000 — Rs. 25. (6) Above Rs. 25,000 — Rs. 30.

The Minister added that the special pay was fixed on the basis of the monthly average amount of actual cash disbursements during a period of at least six months. It was not fixed with reference to the number of staff to whom the cash was disbursed.

Central Revenue in June

An announcement of August 4 says that the revenue realised from important dutiable items in the first three months of the financial year 1960-61 amounted to Rs. 171.45 crores. Of this, Rs. 66.38 crores were collected during June 1960. The corresponding figures for the first three months of the financial year 1959-60 were Rs. 149.52 crores and Rs. 59.10 crores for June 1959.

Income Tax Arrears

The Deputy Minister of Finance, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, said in the Rajya Sabha in reply to a question on August 10 that the total effective arrears of income tax as on April 1, 1960 were Rs. 133.60 crores.

As regards measures introduced by Government to realise the arrears, the Deputy Minister said in a statement placed on the Table of the House that any one or more of the steps, as provided in the Income-tax Act, had been or was being taken, where necessary, depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case.

Finance Minister's Foreign Tour

In a statement made in the Lok Sabha on August 3 on his tour abroad, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said that he had found a sympathetic interest everywhere in India's development programmes and a keen awareness of her problem and needs. During the tour, the Finance Minister

GROWTH OF PUBLIC SECTOR

The public sector covers a wide range of enterprises — industrial undertakings, Railways, road and air transport, irrigation and power projects, shipping corporations, etc.

The Industrial Policy Resolution assigns an important role to the public sector. It envisages that the State will progressively assume a predominant and direct responsibility for setting up new industrial undertakings and for developing transport facilities.

When some of the major undertakings now nearing completion, including the three steel plants, are in full production, the capital invested in Central Government industries will rise to over Rs. 730 crores.

The capital investment in the Indian Railways, which was Rs. 970 crores in 1950-51, has risen to about Rs. 1,560 crores. This will go up to Rs. 2,300 crores at the end of the Third Plan.

The electricity undertakings in the public sector will have a capital of Rs. 1,700 crores by that time (as against Rs. 70 crores in 1951).

There are twenty other Central Government undertakings. Their capital is about Rs. 175 crores. There are again a large number of public sector undertakings under the State Governments.

Several State enterprises are already making profits. It is envisaged that they will contribute Rs. 440 crores for financing the Third Plan (excluding the contribution of the Railways).

visited Yugoslavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, West Germany, the Soviet Union and the United Arab Republic. He said in all these countries he noticed a desire for closer cooperation in trade and willingness to assist India to the extent possible. The form and extent

of such co-operation would have to be discussed in more precise terms and in greater detail from time to time. The Finance Minister had left India on June 7 and returned from the tour on July 12.

Panels for Third Plan

Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 8, Shri S. N. Mishra, Deputy Minister for Planning, said that eight Panels had been set up so far by the Planning Commission during this year to study various problems in connection with the formulation of the Third Five Year Plan.

About the representation of Members of Parliament on these Panels, the Minister added that excepting the Panel of Economists and the Panel of Scient-

ists and the Panel on Ayurveda, the other Panels included Members of Parliament. There were 6 Members of Parliament in the Panel on Agriculture, 3 in the Panel on Health, 11 in the Panel on Land Reform, 7 in the Panel on Education and 5 in the Panel on Housing.

Panel On Housing

An announcement of August 13 says that the Planning Commission has reconstituted the Panel on Housing and Regional Planning. Shri G. L. Nanda, Minister for Planning, will be the Chairman of the Panel.

The Panel will review the progress of plans in the field of housing and regional planning and advise the Commission on programmes relating to the Third Five Year Plan.

Commerce & Industry

MEETING OF THE MINERAL BOARD

The Mineral Advisory Board met in New Delhi on August 4. Shri K. D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil, presided.

The Board considered various proposals for amending the Mineral Concession Rules. Among its recommendations were the provision of a year's period after the expiry of prospecting licence for rendering report on prospecting operation and an enabling provision for lessees to surrender mining rights in a lease for a group of minerals solely on grounds of exhaustion.

In view of serious inadequacy of public loading facilities, the Board recommended that such facilities may be extended at various stations in the States of Bihar and Orissa.

While discussing the training facilities offered by the Geologi-

cal Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines, the Board suggested that such facilities should be extended to trainees from the industry also.

The report of the Mineral Beneficiation Committee was presented to the Board, which appointed a committee to specifically recommend suggestions for increased activity in the existing research institutions and to review the proposal for creating regional laboratories.

The Chairman of the Board, Shri K. D. Malaviya, suggested the appointment of a small committee representing the trade and the Government to review the problems of the manganese industry in the country.

Points were raised in regard to the implementation of the Industrial Policy Resolution of April 1956. The Chairman explained the various investiga-

tions conducted by expert committees in the reservation of areas for working by the State which would enable the private enterprise to secure concessions in other areas without delay.

Set up in 1953 to advise the Government of India on various aspects of mineral development, the Board includes representatives of mining interests in the private and public sectors concerned, Ministries of Government of India, State Trading Corporation, Hindustan Steel and Planning Commission. State Governments are also represented on the Board.

Sikkim Mining Corporation

In reply to a question on August 8, Shri K.D. Malaviya, Minister for Mines and Oil, informed the Lok Sabha that the Government of India had decided in collaboration with the Government of Sikkim to exploit copper and other minerals in Sikkim area.

The Corporation, which had been set up for the purpose—the Sikkim Mining Corporation—had an authorised capital of Rs. one crore consisting of one lakh shares of Rs. 100 each, of which 49 per cent of the shares would be held by the Government of India.

So far the Corporation had issued 10,000 shares only, out of which the Government of India had purchased 4,900 shares.

Mineral Production

An announcement of August 13 says that, according to the Indian Bureau of Mines, the total value of minerals produced in India during the first quarter (January-March 1960) is estimated at Rs. 373 million compared with Rs. 341 million in the corresponding period of 1959.

The production does not include petroleum, minor minerals and minerals prescribed under Atomic Energy Act, 1948.

The increase of Rs. 32 million or 9 per cent over the total value of production in January-March 1959 was mainly due to the increase in the output of coal, iron ore, chromite, gold, dolomite and limestone.

Coal was the leading commodity and was valued at Rs. 262 million which is about 70 per cent of the total value of mineral production.

The value of metallic minerals was Rs. 75 million, of which the ferrous group of minerals accounted for Rs. 47 million while the minerals of non-ferrous group accounted for Rs. 28 million.

The output of iron ore reached the peak figure of 2.6 million tons.

RISE IN INDEX

The overall position is indicated by the quantity index of mineral production which stood at 105.9 in the first quarter of 1960 (Base first quarter of 1959=100). The rise in the index was contributed by coal, metallic mineral and sand building materials.

The index of coal rose by 6.7 points and the rise in the case of metallic minerals and building materials was 7.8 points and 8.1 points respectively.

The output of coal at 12.96 million tons represents an increase of 810,000 tons compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

Bihar was the leading State accounting for 48 per cent of the total output. Next in succession were West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh which accounted for 32 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

The despatches of coal during the period totalled 11.07 million tons as compared to 10.20 million tons in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The output of coke was 1.82 million tons which was higher by about 18 per cent as compared to the corresponding period of 1959.

The production of metallic minerals valued at Rs. 75 million was nearly 20 per cent of the total value of mineral production. Among the metallic minerals the period under review was marked by higher output of bauxite, chromite, copper ore, gold, iron ore and rutile.

Import of Crude Oil

Shri K.D. Malaviya, Union Minister for Mines and Oil, informed the Rajya Sabha during question hour on August 10 that the total crude imported by the three refineries during 1959 was 4.9 million tons at prices varying from Rs. 76 to Rs. 85 per ton c.i.f. Bombay/Visakhapatnam.

The Government of India had asked the three oil refineries in India — Burmah Shell, Stanvac and Caltex — whether they were prepared to use Russian crude oil, the Minister added. The oil companies were unable to utilise the Russian crude.

The Government of the U.S.S.R. had offered to supply crude oil to India at cheaper price and on rupee payment basis but at present the Government of India had no facilities to process imported crude and were, therefore, unable to avail of the Soviet offer.

Import Of 'Teaching Aids'

According to an Import Trade Control Public Notice issued in New Delhi on August 1, the licences granted for importing books during the current half year can be utilised for importing 'teaching aids' up to two per cent of their face value. The types of 'teaching aids' which can be imported include those required for mental, psychological and scholastic tests, flash cards, writing folders, instructional charts, phonic cards, etc.

The supplementary licences issued for the import of books will, however, not be valid for importing these 'teaching aids'.

Drawback Of Duty

A Press Note issued on August 6 by the Ministry of Finance says that, as a measure of export promotion, the Government of India propose to grant drawback of duty on raw materials used in the manufacture of Fluorescent Lamps at brand rates.

In this respect, Government have issued a draft notification inviting objections by August 17, 1960. Any objection or suggestions received by that date will be considered by the Government of India.

Rise In Exports

Replying to a question on August 9, the Deputy Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Satish Chandra, disclosed in the Lok Sabha that the value of exports in the first quarter of 1960 was higher by about Rs. 21 crores than in the corresponding period last year.

Foreign Trade In June

A Press Note issued on August 5 by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics says that the provisional figures of India's foreign trade in merchandise by all routes i.e., sea, air and land, on private and Government accounts during June 1960, are as follows:

Exports	Rs. 48.46 lakhs
Re-exports	Rs. 48 lakhs
Imports	Rs. 84.95 lakhs
Balance of trade	Rs. 36.01 lakhs

These figures are exclusive of 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.

Delhi Housing Factory Makes Profit

The sixth annual report of the State-owned Hindustan Housing Company was placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on August 1, by Shri K.C. Reddy, Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, along with a review by Government of the working of the factory. It shows that the housing factory at New Delhi made a net profit of Rs. 84,707 during the year August 1958 to July 1959. In the previous year, the net profit amounted to Rs. 58,860.

The total value of production in the factory during the year under review was Rs. 52.02 lakhs as compared with Rs. 40.11

lakhs in the previous year. The products of the pre-stressed concrete department of the factory are becoming increasingly popular. This department supplied pre-fabricated milk booths for the Delhi Milk Scheme, which were transported and erected in a single day. It also received an order for 5,000 pre-cast railway sleepers and production of the sleepers is in full swing.

The factory has made a total profit of Rs. 1,88,352 since Government took over, as compared with the loss of Rs. 14,70,876 it suffered under private management.

The factory has been reorganised from April 1, 1960 on the lines recommended by the Experts' Committee which was set up to advise Government on the future working of the factory.

Heavy Machinery Plant

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 12, the Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, stated that the Heavy Machine Building Plant the Foundry Forge Plant and the Coal Mining Machinery Plant were likely to be completed during the latter half of the Third Plan period.

The detailed Project Reports of the Heavy Machine Building and the Coal Mining Machinery Plants prepared by the Soviet experts had been accepted by the Heavy Engineering Corporation. Similarly, the detailed Project Report for the Foundry Forge Plant prepared by the Technoexport, Prague, had also been accepted in April last.

Shri Shah added that contracts for the preparation of working drawings for the Heavy Machine Building Plant and for the Coal Mining Machinery Plant had been entered into in February this year by the Heavy Engineering Corporation with Promashexport, Moscow. Contracts had also been entered into for the import of machinery for the first stage of the Heavy Machine Building Plant and the Coal

Mining Machinery Plant in March this year.

COST OF PROJECTS

According to the detailed Project Reports, the capital cost would be Rs. 21.85 crores for the first stage of the Heavy Machine Building Plant; the cost of the Foundry Forge Plant would be Rs. 45.27 crores and for the Coal Mining Machinery Plant (output of 30,000 tons) the cost would be Rs. 13.10 crores, making a total of Rs. 80.22 crores for the three Projects. These figures did not include several items of costs, such as construction of structures outside the plant premises, civic amenities, railway lines, communications, services of Soviet specialists, township, training of Indian personnel, cost of fabrication, etc. These were being worked out.

Further expansion of the Heavy Machine Building Plant and the Foundry Forge Plant for an annual output of 80,000 tons and the Coal-Mining Machinery Plant for 45,000 tons of annual output would cost an additional Rs. 40 crores.

Shri Shah further stated that initial preparatory work like levelling and dressing of the sites, construction of godowns, provision of railway siding, water and supply facilities was in progress. Plans for the construction of townships had also been taken in hand.

Industrial Estates

A meeting of the Informal Consultative Committee of Parliament, presided over by Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Minister of Commerce and Industry, was held in New Delhi on August 10. It was disclosed at the meeting that nearly 500 factories, employing about 10,000 persons, were now functioning in the industrial estates completed so far. Production in these factories would amount to about Rs. 10 to Rs. 11 crores worth of goods per annum. The total investment on the completed estates amounted to about Rs. 5 crores, thus giving an investment-production ratio of 1 to 2. Production would further in

crease, as the estates got stabilised and made full use of facilities provided.

Out of the 100 industrial estates sanctioned, as many as 58 had been completed or were nearing completion. Of these, 39 estates, with over 1,200 sheds, had already started functioning. Twenty other estates were under different stages of construction and in the case of the remaining estates, preliminary work like preparation of plans and estimates had been taken up. Land had been acquired in almost all cases.

It was also disclosed at the meeting that in view of the demand from States and the rapid progress made by the estates, 20 more industrial estates had been sanctioned last month, making a total of 120 estates.

Steel Requirements

Sardar Swaran Singh, Union Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel, said in the Lok Sabha in reply to a question on August 3 that nearly 1.9 million tons of steel were produced in 1959-60 in the country. The estimated requirement for the year was about 4.0 million tons.

The Minister further added that 0.752 million tons of steel was imported during 1959-60. The requirement based on requests for allocation from sponsoring authorities for 1960-61 was estimated at 4.7 million tons.

COMMODITY PRICES IN JUNE

A Press Note issued on August 9 by the Economic Adviser to the Government of India says that wholesale prices as measured by the official index (with the year ended March 1953 as 100) advanced by 0.2 per cent to 122.9 during the month of June 1960 as compared with 122.7 for May 1960. The index was higher by 6.3 per cent when compared with 115.6 for June 1959.

During the month, the index for 'Food Articles' moved up by

0.3 per cent to 120.3, 'Tobacco' by 2.2 per cent to 108.0 and 'Manufactures' by 0.1 per cent to 119.9, while the index for 'Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants' declined by 0.1 per cent to 118.5 and 'Industrial Raw Materials' by 0.3 per cent to 139.7.

FOOD ARTICLES

An allround rise in the prices of cereals raised the index for the sub-group 'Cereals' by 1.4 per cent to 107.3. The index for 'Cereals' was higher by 5.4 per cent when compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year. A fall in the prices of arhar, mung and urad brought down the index for 'Pulses' by 0.2 per cent to 89.7 although the prices of masur and gram exhibited advances. Lower prices of onions, oranges and bananas caused a fall of 7.4 per cent to 122.2 in the sub-group index for 'Fruits and Vegetables', notwithstanding an advance in the prices of potatoes and cashewnuts. The sub-group index for 'Milk and Ghee' went up by 2.1 per cent to 119.9 owing to an increase in the prices of both milk and ghee. An advance in the prices of all the edible oils pushed up the sub-group index for 'Edible Oils' by 1.2 per cent to 139. Higher prices of fish, eggs and meat raised the index for 'Fish, Eggs and Meat' by 0.7 per cent to 120.0. Lower prices of gur caused a decline of 0.4 per cent to 137.7 in the index for the sub-group 'Sugar and Gur'. The index for 'Other Food Articles' drifted lower by 1.9 per cent to 161.3 due to a fall in the prices of tea, coffee, cloves and cardamoms, despite a rise in the prices of chillies, turmeric, betelnuts and salt.

Higher prices of raw tobacco raised the index for 'Tobacco' by 2.2 per cent to 108.0.

The index for 'Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants' registered a fall of 0.7 per cent to 118.5 due to decline in the prices of castor oil.

INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS

Lower prices of raw cotton, jute and wool brought down the index for 'Fibres' by 3.1 per cent to 142.6; prices of hemp and silk, however, exhibited advances.

The sub-group index for 'Oil-seeds' recorded a rise of 3.2 per cent to 144.4 due to higher prices of groundnuts, linseed, castor-seed, gingelly seed, rapeseed and copra. There was a fall in the price of cotton seed. Lower prices of mica brought down the index for 'Minerals' by 0.2 per cent to 98.0. The prices of manganese ore showed a slight rise. The sub-group index for 'Other Industrial Raw Materials' declined by 1.0 per cent to 128.2 due to a fall in the prices of raw hides, raw skins, tanning materials, lac and bamboos.

The index for 'Intermediate Products' moved up by 1.4 per cent to 127.2 as a result of an advance in the prices of linseed oil, cotton yarn, rayon yarn, coir yarn, aluminium, zinc and tin, despite a decline in the prices of brass, copper and lead.

FINISHED PRODUCTS

Lower prices of jute manufactures (-1.5 per cent to 102.7) brought down the index for 'Textiles' by 0.3 per cent to 119.8, although the prices of cotton manufactures (+1.0 per cent to 126.0) and woollen manufactures (+1.9 per cent to 106.2) witnessed advances. Among cotton manufactures, both mill-made and handloom cloth showed a rise.

The sub-group index for 'Metal Products' remained unchanged at its earlier month's level of 148.3. The sub-group index for 'Chemicals' went down by 0.1 per cent to 104.6 owing to a fall in the prices of general chemicals, despite a slight rise in the prices of drugs and medicines. 'Oilcakes' receded by 1.3 per cent to 132.0.

A rise of 0.2 per cent to 110.8 in the sub-group index for 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' was caused by higher prices of machinery, although the prices of leather belting, cycles and vehicles exhibited decline. Higher prices of bricks and tiles, pottery goods and glass raised the sub-group index for 'Other Finished Products' by 0.1 per cent to 114.7. On the whole, the index for 'Finished Products' moved down by 0.2 per cent to 118.7 during the month under review.



HARBOUR BOARD REVIEWS PROGRESS OF WORKS AT PORTS

The National Harbour Board which ended its two-day meeting in Bombay on August 12 noted that substantial progress had been achieved in the implementation of various schemes launched under the Second Five Year Plan.

Assessing the results reported to date, the Board expressed satisfaction with the pace of work regarding the electrification of cranes at the Alexandra docks in Bombay, the additional four-berth scheme at Cochin, the wet dock scheme at Madras and the dredging of the Fulta Point at the Calcutta Port.

The Board was informed that the mechanised ore and coal berths at Madras port were expected to be commissioned in September this year. This would appreciably accelerate the turn-round of iron and coal ships at the port.

The meeting also considered the chief features of the Third Plan for major ports and noted with appreciation the emphasis placed in it on the early completion of carry-over items and on schemes necessary for maintaining existing services as well as on essential improvement schemes.

SHIP REPAIRS

Among other things it was felt that the modernisation scheme for Bombay port, envisaging the linking of the Alexandra dock and the Victoria dock, was a very significant step adding to the capacity of the port.

The Board members expressed satisfaction with the action taken towards implementation of the recommendations of the

Ship Repairs Committee. It was pointed out that the provision of repair berths was the most important of the facilities recommended by the Committee and in this connection the attitude of co-operation and helpfulness on the part of the major port authorities was commended by members. On behalf of the Bombay Port Trust it was stated that no ship needing repairs was denied accommodation and that during 1958 and 1959 as many as 3,966 ships were afforded repair berth facilities totalling 2,706 'ship days'.

The importance of connecting Kandla and Ahmedabad by a broad gauge railway as well as by a national highway also came up for consideration at the Board meeting.

KANDLA-AHMEDABAD LINK

The representatives of the Gujarat Government agreed that the bridge across the Little Rann of Cutch could be completed in the normal way, converting it later on into a barrage, should the need arise. With this it was felt that the construction of the Kandla-Ahmedabad National Highway would be expedited and the Board was informed that the whole operation could be completed in about three years' time. As regards the rail link it was pointed out that the broad gauge link between Kandla and Jhund had been included in the Third Plan and that the final location survey had just been completed.

The Board welcomed the proposal to establish a free trade zone at Kandla. Some members, however, felt that the area of 160 acres being proposed for the zone

was a little on the 'low side'. It was, however, agreed in principle that the area of the Kandla zone should be determined in accordance with the nature of industries wanting to be established within it.

The meeting also discussed the proposal to set up an Auxiliary port to Calcutta at Haldia, about 65 miles downstream. It was felt that this step would cater considerably to the requirements of a fast developing hinterland. The preparation of a detailed project report for the construction of the subsidiary port had already been taken up by the Calcutta Port Commissioners.

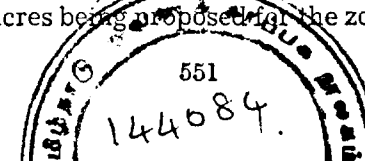
MINOR PORTS

The development of minor ports during the Third Plan period was also discussed. The Board was told that a sum of Rs. 10 crores had been allotted for the purpose. The representatives of the States felt that there was need for additional allocation. They urged that they should at least be permitted to spend from their own resources over and above whatever had been allotted to them, if they so preferred.

Earlier, inaugurating the meeting on August 11, Dr. P. Subbarayan, Union Ministry of Transport and Communications, disclosed that, in order to remove any legitimate grievances of the services at Calcutta port, a single-member committee had been set up. Concerning Visakhapatnam, he said, a scheme to lengthen and deepen the existing dry dock had been sanctioned and another scheme for the renovation of the break-water was under examination. He also informed that the report of the Intermediate Ports Development Committee was under consideration.

National Shipping Board Meets

The sixth meeting of the National Shipping Board was held in Bombay on August 13 under the presidentship of Shri G.L. Menta, Chairman of the Board. It reviewed the progress so far made towards the acquisition of



the Second Plan target of nine lakh G.R.T. and noted with satisfaction that the tonnage already in operation aggregated about 8,28,000 G.R.T. The Board also felt that, taking into account the tonnage at present under construction in the shipyards and the proposals for the acquisition of second-hand ships before the close of the current Plan period, the target of nine lakh tons was expected to be reached.

The most important item on the agenda was that regarding the financial allocation for shipping in the draft outline of the Third Plan. The Board was greatly concerned over the fact that though it had recommended an allocation of Rs. 104 crores involving a net addition of five lakh tons of shipping during the Third Plan period, the actual allocation was only Rs. 55 crores which would enable an acquisition of only two lakh tons. This was regarded as particularly unfortunate in the context of the recent food agreement with the U.S.A. which would lead to the movement of about 17 million tons of foodgrains. After detailed discussion, the Board decided to move the Government to reconsider this matter.

The Board further decided to appoint a committee to examine the question of ocean freights and certain allied problems.

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY

The Hydrographic Survey Sub-Committee of the National Harbour Board, at its meeting in New Delhi on August 6, approved the surveys to be undertaken during 1960-61. Shri R.L. Gupta, Secretary, Union Department of Transport, presided.

The surveys to be undertaken are: (1) Approaches to Okha; (2) Konkan ports — Dabhoi, Mirya Bay, Devgad and Jaigarh; (3) Surveys in connection with Sethusamudram Project; (4) Checking of navigational aids in Kundagal channel concurrently; (5) Laccadive Islands—completion of surveys of Kiltan

and Kalpeni—fixing of geographical positions at Chetlat, Kadmat, Kavarratti and Amini—in accordance with the phased programme; (6) Check soundings between Swatch and Lushington shoal; Sweep to locate the wreck of C.S. Margaret Rose off Dwarka; (7) Approaches to Chandbali; (8) Vizhingam; (9) Completion of the survey of Upputeru port; and (10) Bresford channel to be surveyed between Trinket and Camorta islands.

On the question of setting up an authority to co-ordinate the surveys and charts made by the Hydrographic Department of the Indian Navy and the local authorities, it was agreed that the latter should, as at present, submit their results to the Hydrographic Department. It was felt there was no need to set up a co-ordinating authority as such, because the co-ordination being done by the Hydrographic Department was satisfactory.

A committee was appointed to recommend the principle of allocation of the cost of surveys undertaken as between the Centre and State Governments.

The committee was informed that the Naval Hydrographic Department had issued the chart of Vishakhapatnam harbour and approaches.

1959-60 SURVEYS

The following surveys were undertaken during the 1959-60 season:

(1) Resounding of the main channel in Bombay harbour; (2) Karwar — the survey has been completed; (3) Cannanore — a limited survey to ascertain the requirements of protective work to check soil erosion has been completed; (4) Vadarevu — the project survey has been completed; (5) Masulipatam — a supplementary survey to complete the delineation of 6 fathom line has been carried out as a continuation of earlier survey; (6) Ernakulam channel — a supplementary survey to complete the area northward of Ernakulam channel was carried out to

complete work on new chart; (7) Tadgaon, Tarapur, and Wausi Borsi: photo-zinco copies of the results of surveys have already been supplied to the Atomic Energy Department; (8) Laccadive Islands — in accordance with the phased programme of surveys in this group of islands, the work was carried out at Minicoy, Androth, Kiltan and Kalpeni; (9) Certain survey work was also carried out at Coco channel (Andaman Islands), Car Nicobar and Pondicherry.

Rail Link With Jammu

The Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri S.V. Ramaswamy, confirmed in the Lok Sabha during question hour on August 5 that the Government had chosen the site at the river Ravi for crossing railway line beyond Madhopur in the Jammu and Kashmir State.

The Deputy Minister said that the railway line would cross the river Ravi about 1,600 ft. downstream of the road bridge on the National Highway from Madhopur to Jammu.

Shillong-Imphal Road

A statement laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha by Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, in reply to a question on August 9 disclosed that steps were being taken to complete the construction of an all-weather road from Shillong to Imphal via Silchar.

The all-weather road connecting Shillong with Agartala, the construction of which was also being completed, passes through Badarpur and not Silchar.

Shillong-Agartala road was motorable except that in its section from Passi to Badarpur some bridges remained to be constructed. These would be completed during the Third Plan, it was stated. Shillong-Imphal road was motorable up to Jirighat. Beyond Jirighat up to Imphal a road was under con-

struction and would be completed during the Third Five-Year Plan.

The roads are included in the expanded system of National Highways suggested in the report of the Chief Engineers on Road Development Plan for India (1961-81). The declaration of these roads as National Highways could, however, be considered only when sufficient funds became available for the expansion of the National Highway system.

Tele-Communication With Iraq

Direct radio-telegraph and radio-telephone links were opened between India and Iraq in Bombay on August 11. To mark the inauguration of the new circuits, Dr. P. Subbarayan, Union Minister for Transport and Communications, and Iraqi Minister of Communications, Mr. Hasan Talabany, exchanged greetings today at a brief ceremony organised by the Overseas Communications Service in Bombay.

64 Radio Services

With the addition of direct radio links, one telegraph and the other telephone, between India and Iraq on August 11, the Overseas Communications Service has further strengthened India's international communication channels.

With the introduction of these telegraph and telephone links, India has now 27 direct wireless telegraph services, 25 direct radio telephone services and 12 direct radio photo telegraph services. Through these 64 direct radio services, India is closely connected with 27 nations of the world — the U.K., the U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, Poland, Switzerland, the U.S.A., Egypt, East Africa, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Aden, Indonesia, Thailand, both South and North Vietnam, China, Japan, Hong Kong, Malaya, Burma, Australia, Italy, Germany, Rumania, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

INDIA-IRAN AIR AGREEMENT

An agreement between India and Iran, for the operation of air services between the two countries, was signed at Tehran on August 10.

The agreement is designed to promote the development of air traffic between India and Iran. Under this agreement the airline, to be designated by the Government of India, is entitled to touch Iran at Tehran/Abadan and proceed, if desired, to points beyond Iran, in both directions. Similarly the airline, designated by the Imperial Government of Iran, is entitled to touch India at Delhi/Bombay and proceed, if desired, to points beyond India, in both directions.

The agreement is expected to facilitate and promote closer contact between the peoples of India and Iran, and thereby contribute to the furtherance of friendly relations between the two countries, says a Joint Press Release on the occasion.

Motor Transport Workers Bill

The Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali, while moving in the Lok Sabha on August 3 that the Motor Transport Workers Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of the two Houses, said that through this Bill legislative protection would be extended to a large number of workers employed in the motor transport industry. This was the first time that the Government proposed to have an independent enactment which would give the workers employed in the motor transport industry the benefits of legal protection in a comprehensive manner. About two lakhs of workers would be immediately covered by the proposed legislation.

Components For Coaches

The Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri S.V. Ramaswamy, told the Lok Sabha during question hour on August 5 that out of about 1,244 different types of

components required for the manufacture of coach shells in the Integral Coach Factory, only one component was fully imported.

He added that about 1,000 components were manufactured in the Factory itself, about 237 components were procured from indigenous sources and six components partially imported.

Escalator at Delhi

An announcement of August 13 says that India's first escalator is expected to be installed later this year at the Delhi main station.

Designed entirely by Indian railway engineers, fabrication work on the escalator is already in progress at Northern Railway's workshop at Amritsar.

The escalator is proposed to be fitted at the Ghaziabad end approach from the third class waiting hall to connect with the foot-overbridge, in order to facilitate quick dispersal and movement of passengers. Half of the approach will be served by the escalator and the other half by stationary steps.

The escalator will have a carrying capacity of 8,000 persons per hour. The steps will move at a speed of 90 feet per minute and will be 48" wide between the two side railings. This will enable two adults with an armload of luggage to stand comfortably side by side on each step. The escalator can be switched on to move in the upward or downward direction depending on the flow of traffic.

Ticketless Travel

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Deputy Minister of Railways informed the Rajya Sabha during question hour on August 9 that the amount of Rs. 1.83 crores was recovered by ticket checkers from the ticketless travellers during the year 1959-60.



NEW WAREHOUSES

The Central Warehousing Corporation has decided to undertake construction of storage accommodation for 50,000 tons at ten more centres in the country. Project reports for the new construction works were approved at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Corporation held in New Delhi on August 8.

The centres where construction is now to begin are Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Mangalore, Saharanpur, Coimbatore, Kumbakonam, Jangaon (Warangal District) and Bargarh, Bhadrak and Jaipur Road (Orissa State). The construction at each place would provide storage accommodation for 5,000 tons of bagged foodgrains.

In addition to these ten centres, the Central Warehousing Corporation has already undertaken construction projects with a capacity of more than 1,00,000 tons at twenty centres in the country.

Established in 1957, the Corporation provides producers and traders in the country with facilities for scientific storage and in obtaining advances against stocks deposited by them in warehouses. The Corporation has so far set up 29 warehouses in the country. In addition to this, State Warehousing Corporations have set up about 150 warehouses.

Release Of Sugar

According to a Press Note issued by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture on August 2, the Government of India have decided to release 2 lakh tons of sugar in August. 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

Calcutta will be Rs. 38.60 and Rs. 39.85 per maund respectively for sugar of ISS D-29 grade.

Seed Multiplication Schemes

According to a New Delhi announcement of August 7, a Study Team has been set up by the Committee on Plan Projects to make an appraisal of the schemes of seed multiplication that are being tried in the country and make suggestions for ensuring the supply of pure seed of improved varieties to cultivators. Dr. R. Nagan Gowda, M.L.A., Mysore, is the leader of the team.

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



WATER RESOURCES IN DAMODAR VALLEY

In reply to a question on August 10, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, said in a statement placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha that some of the main recommendations of the report of the Augmentation of Water Resources Committee, set up under the chairmanship of Shri S.D. Khungar by Damodar Valley Corporation, were: the detailed investigation for Aiyar dam be carried out; investigations for the diversion of water from the Ajoy to the Damodar Basin should also be conducted simultaneously; and detailed data should be collected and analysed every year and final approval to undertake the execution of the Aiyar Dam should depend upon the results of investigations and the data collected and analysed in 1959, 1960 and 1961.

The Deputy Minister also gave some of the other recommendations of the Committee. These were: 50 to 100 cusecs of water, depending upon the season, may be escaped below Durgapur for domestic consumption; the total

requirements of water for industrial and domestic uses may be assessed at 1,000 cusecs; the additional storage to be provided for in the Damodar reservoirs to meet all requirements, including domestic and industrial purposes, was estimated at 1.38 million acre feet; the improvement of drainage to facilitate quick removal of flood water from the lower valley was stressed and the preparation of an integrated plan for flood control and drainage improvement in the lower valley was stressed and the preparation of an integrated plan for flood control and drainage improvement in the lower valley was recommended; the establishment of a lower Damodar Conservancy Board with executive powers to look after various measures in the valley or alternatively extension of jurisdiction of Damodar Valley Corporation to this area was recommended; and work on soil conservation of catchment area above Durgapur should be speeded up.

POWER UNITS AT BHAKRA

In a written reply to a question on August 5, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, told the Lok Sabha that the Technical Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Power Projects had approved a scheme, which provided for four generating units of 1,20,000 kw each in the Bhakra Right Power Plant, and 885 miles of transmission lines and substations at an estimated cost of Rs. 35.35 crores.

The Deputy Minister added that the work on power plant was being taken in hand and was expected to be completed by 1965.

The Deputy Minister also stated that Government had received revised project estimate from the Punjab State Electricity Board regarding the four generating units of 1,20,000 kw each in the Bhakra Right Power Plant.

Fire at Bhakra Dam

The Minister for Irrigation and Power, Shri Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on August 2 a statement which said that the fire that occurred at the Bhakra dam on May 13, 1960 was not the result of any omission or negligence on the part of any individual. In fact on such large projects like Bhakra such fire accidents could not be ruled out, in spite of the best precautions that might be taken by the authorities concerned.

The Bhakra authorities did a commendable job of work in keeping the fire under control and succeeded in preventing it from spreading to the compressor house. This would have meant a major disaster leading to the work on the project being held up for a long time.

The Minister also pointed out that such a fire accident to the transformers was not an abnormal happening. Similar accidents had occurred now and then at other places.

PROJECTS IN PUNJAB

In a written reply to a question on August 5, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, stated in the Lok Sabha that the Bhakra Nangal Project — a multi-purpose one — and 13 major and medium irrigation schemes were proposed to be executed in the Punjab by the end of the second Plan period. In addition, two power schemes were also to be taken up in this period.

The statement, placed on the Table of the House by the Deputy Minister, also listed names of major and medium irrigation and power schemes.

Soil Conservation

Replying to a question on August 9, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, said in the Rajya Sabha that a scheme costing Rs. 20 crores had been prepared for the soil conservation work of the Gobind Sagar catchment area, spread over a period of 30 to 45 years. Necessary funds for the scheme would be provided in the Five Year Plans, starting from the Third Five Year Plan.

The Deputy Minister added that the Government was fully alive to the problem of soil erosion. Some demonstration pilot projects, both in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, had al-

ready been started at a total cost of about Rs. 20 lakhs to be spent in the second Five Year Plan.

The Bhakra Control Board was giving consideration to the problem and had called for reports on the progress of the measures undertaken from time to time, he said.

Irrigation Schemes Of Kerala

Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, stated in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 10 that three major and medium irrigation schemes, included in the Second Five-Year Plan of Kerala, were completed by March 31, 1959 in the State. These schemes were: Chalakudy Stage I; Peechi; and Kuttanad Scheme spillway at Thottapally.

Shri Hathi added that the amount allocated for these projects during the first three years of the Second Plan was Rs. 509.41 lakhs, of which the amount actually spent up to the end of March 1959 was Rs. 473.95 lakhs.

The Deputy Minister stated that the area proposed to be irrigated during the period was 57,510 acres and the area actually irrigated was 62,000 acres. The increase in the production of rice was estimated at 28,800 tons valued at Rs. 173 lakhs.



AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN C.D. AREAS

The Central Committee on Community Development at its meeting in New Delhi on August 13, approved the allocation of larger funds for stepping up agricultural production in C.D. areas by a readjustment of the Block budget. The Committee also desired that a report on the agricultural

production be placed at its meeting as a standing item to enable it to review the agricultural position.

Presided over by the Prime Minister, the meeting of the Committee considered the recommendations of the Srinagar Conference on C.D. held in June last.

The Committee endorsed the recommendation for raising the provision for agricultural development from Rs. 3.90 lakhs to Rs. 4.50 lakhs in the budget of stage I blocks. This additional finance of Rs. 60,000 for the agricultural programme, including development of animal husbandry, fisheries, minor irrigation and land improvement, would be found by effecting a saving on expenditure under Headquarters or items of amenities in the schematic budget.

UPGRADING OF BLOCKS

The Committee approved another recommendation making the upgrading of a pre-extension block dependent on the extent of self-help and self-reliance developed amongst the people, particularly its performance in the field of agricultural production. The annual release of funds by State Government to a block will also be similarly conditional on such tests. The increase in overall agricultural production in the area will be the most important criterion.

The suggestion for giving preference to community programmes and to joint co-operative farming societies, having at least two thirds of its membership consisting of landless labourers and marginal land holders, over individual works was also approved.

The Committee was apprised of the recommendation of the Srinagar Conference calling for special attention to the needs of the scheduled castes and other weaker sections of the village community. Specific measures in this respect will be worked out in further details.

The recommendations and conclusions of the Conference of State Ministers for Co-operation held at Srinagar were also placed before the Committee.

Agricultural Co-operative Societies

Speaking in the debate on a private member's resolution,

the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Community Development and Co-operation, Shri S.D. Misra, told the Rajya Sabha that the Second Plan target for co-operatives had been largely realised and in some cases exceeded. Last year, out of 1.8 lakh agricultural co-operative societies, as many as 1.18 made profits. The shortfall in availability of credit at the end of the Second Plan would be only Rs. 10 crores as against a target of Rs. 200 crores.

DEMOCRATIC DECENTRALISATION

Speaking in a discussion on the scheme of democratic decentralisation, the Minister for Community Development

and Co-operation, Shri S.K. Dey, said in the Lok Sabha, on August 3, that speedy steps were being taken by the various State Governments to introduce the Panchayati Raj Scheme as recommended by the Balwant-ray Mehta Committee. Apart from the States of Rajasthan, Andhra and Madras, where the step had been implemented, three more States had enacted legislation for this purpose. These were Assam, Orissa and Mysore, and the scheme was expected to be implemented there shortly. The Legislatures of Madhya Pradesh and Punjab had referred the Bills on the subject to select committees, and U.P. was likely to finalise legislation in the near future.

Education & Culture

PRESS REGISTRAR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Press Registrar's Annual Report for 1960, which was presented to Parliament on August 11 by Dr. B.V. Keskar, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, contains a detailed study of statistics of newspapers in India and of the trends in circulation and ownership. The data relating to newspapers now being almost complete, it has been possible, says the Report, to cover in this study practically the entire Press in the country.

According to the Report, there was an increase both in the number of newspapers in India and in their total circulation during 1959.

The Report shows a 29 per cent increase in the number of papers in two years. On December 31, 1959, there were 7,651 newspapers (including periodicals) in the country as compared to 6,918 in 1958 and 6,932 in 1957.

UPWARD TREND

In an introduction to the Report, the Press Registrar says that the

upward trend in circulation, which was noticed during the two previous years, became more marked in 1959 when an overall increase of 11.2 per cent was recorded as compared to 8.8 in 1958 and 1 per cent in 1957.

The increase in the number and circulation of papers was shared by papers of almost all languages and different periodicities. Daily newspapers recorded an increase in circulation of 13.7 per cent.

Another significant feature of the development of the Press in the country was that the number of newspapers started in 1959 was 22 per cent higher than in 1958. During the year under review, 1,302 new papers came into existence.

The 11.2 per cent increase in circulation has been calculated on the basis of data available in respect of 3,232 papers for both 1958 and 1959. However, the total circulation of 4,738 papers in 1959 was 172.70 lakhs as compared to 154.28 lakhs commanded by 4,550 papers in 1958.

The Press Registrar's Report has been published this year in two

parts. Part I gives, among other things, a study of the statistics, circulation and ownership of newspapers in India with special reference to the trends in the direction of common ownership. It also discusses developments in the language press and the progress of technical journals as well as problems relating to the administration of the Press and Registration of Books Act. Part II contains a statewide catalogue of newspapers and an index. The catalogue, in addition to the particulars of each paper that were given in earlier years, mentions this year the circulation of individual papers with its break-up into copies sold and copies distributed free.

UNESCO CLASSIFICATION

The study in Part I has been made on the basis of UNESCO's classification of newspapers into General Interest Newspapers (which include dailies and non-dailies published at intervals of a week or less than a week) and periodicals. Also, the position in regard to publications which are, strictly speaking, not newspapers has been indicated separately. Papers of this category include market reports, school magazines, weather bulletins, etc.

Language-wise, the percentage increases in circulation were:

Assamese — 26.8; Tamil — 18.3; Marathi — 16.3; Punjabi — 15.4; bilingual — 14.7; other languages — 13.7; Hindi — 11.8; Telugu — 10.6; Bengali — 10.3; Malayalam — 9.3; English — 9.0; Gujarati — 7.7; Oriya — 7.4; Urdu — 6.9; and Kannada — 5.2.

Periodicity-wise, General Interest dailies recorded an increase of 13.7 per cent and those dailies which belonged to the category of market reports, weather bulletins etc., an increase of 105.9 per cent.

Among periodicals, weeklies recorded an increase of 13.8 per cent, fortnightly of 9.6 per cent, monthlies of 7.7 per cent, quarterlies and half-yearlies of 3.5 per cent and annuals of 5.3 per cent.

INCREASE IN CIRCULATION

A feature of the increase in the circulation of the daily press was that those papers, which already commanded a circulation above

50,000 in 1958, registered a further increase during 1959. At the same time, some papers which had circulation below that figure crossed the 50,000 mark. In 1959, therefore, there were nine English dailies, two dailies each in Hindi, Tamil, Bengali and Malayalam and one in Marathi which had a circulation above 50,000. There were five dailies in 1959 whose circulation was above one lakh. The highest circulation was commanded by English dailies with Hindi dailies coming next and Tamil third.

During 1959, dailies commanded a circulation of 43.61 lakhs as compared to 38.54 lakhs in 1958. The highest circulation, i.e. 56.22 lakhs, was commanded by monthlies. Their circulation in 1958 was 52.98 lakhs. The circulation of weeklies was 41.94 lakhs in 1959 as compared to 36.20 lakhs in 1958, and that of fortnightly 17.08 lakhs in 1959 as compared to 14.69 in 1958. Newspapers of other periodicities also showed an increase in circulation—quarterlies and half-yearlies from 6.22 lakhs in 1958 to 7.23 lakhs in 1959 and annuals from 2.16 lakhs in 1958 to 2.19 lakhs in 1959.

Newspapers in English had the largest circulation, namely, 39.97 lakhs or 23.2 per cent of the total circulation. Hindi came next with 35.53 lakhs or 20.6 per cent. The circulation of newspapers of other languages was as follows: Tamil—21.25 lakhs (12.3 per cent), Gujarati—11.59 lakhs (6.7 per cent), Marathi—10.54 lakhs (6.1 per cent), Urdu—10.47 lakhs (6.0 per cent), Bengali—9.23 lakhs (5.3 per cent), Malayalam—8.01 lakhs (4.7 per cent) and Telugu—6.63 lakhs (3.8 per cent).

Out of 4,738 papers for which circulation data were available for 1959, 929 were, strictly speaking, not newspapers and they commanded a circulation of 16.24 lakhs.

On the basis of their circulation, the Press Registrar's Report has listed leading newspapers. These lists show that there were, in 1959, 42 newspapers with a circulation above 50,000 each. Of these, three English dailies, one Tamil daily and one Sunday edition of an English daily had a circulation of more than one lakh each. Five periodicals had

circulation above one lakh. Of these, two were Tamil weeklies, one Tamil tri-monthly, one Hindi monthly and one English fortnightly.

The number of papers with circulation ranging between 20,000 and 50,000 was 98. Of these, 36 were dailies and 62 periodicals, Hindi and Tamil claiming the largest number of periodicals in this class (18 and 20 respectively).

OWNERSHIP PATTERN

The study of ownership based on data in respect of over 5,500 newspapers published in the country shows that during 1959 the number of newspapers controlled by chains, groups and multiple units substantially increased, although the percentage of the total circulation commanded by them did not correspondingly improve. Another significant development was the break-up of some chains into small units. The subsidiary units, however, continued to be under the effective control of the original owners and, therefore, for the purposes of this study these units have been treated as parts of chains.

In 1959, there were 15 chains, 162 groups and 30 multiple units, 12 of which simultaneously form part of chains. The number of papers controlled by these chains, groups and multiple units was 102, 423 and 80 respectively. The circulation commanded by them was as follows:—

Chains	—	23.23 lakhs
Groups	—	33.35 lakhs
Multiple Units	—	13.49 lakhs

The circulation commanded by chains also includes the circulation of 12 multiple units which controlled 32 newspapers and had between them a circulation of 8.71 lakhs.

COMMON OWNERSHIP

The Press Registrar has made a study of common ownership of newspapers over three years. In 1957, nine chains, 119 groups and 23 multiple units, respectively, controlled 63, 316 and 60 papers. In 1958, there were 12 chains, 123 groups and 23 multiple units controlling 81,344 and 62 papers respectively.

The circulation commanded by chains, groups and multiple units during these years was as follows:—

Year	Chains	Groups	Multiple Units
1957	18.67 lakhs (17 per cent)	20.20 lakhs (20 per cent)	11.8 lakhs (9 per cent)
1958	21.11 lakhs (14.6 per cent)	29.88 lakhs (20.7 per cent)	13.09 lakhs (9.7 per cent)
1959	23.23 lakhs (13.4 per cent)	33.35 lakhs (19.3 per cent)	13.49 lakhs (7.8 per cent)

Thus, as the number of papers controlled by chains increased from 1957 onwards, the circulation commanded by them also went up from 18.67 lakhs in 1957 to 21.11 lakhs in 1958 and 23.23 lakhs in 1959. The percentage of the total circulation of papers in India commanded by chains, however, declined. This was, says the Report, perhaps due to the fact that the overall circulation of papers in the country increased considerably side by side with the increase in the circulation of papers controlled by chains. In the case of groups and multiple units also, the number of papers controlled by them as well as their circulation increased. The percentage of the overall circulation of papers commanded by groups and multiple units increased in 1958 but declined in 1959.

The Report gives a list of chains, groups and multiple units together with the names of their constituent units and the total circulation commanded by each chain, group and multiple unit.

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

On December 31, 1959, there were 7,651 newspapers published throughout the country as against 6,918 newspapers at the end of December, 1958. During 1959, 1,302 new newspapers were started and 327 existing ones ceased publication, resulting in a net increase of 975. Also, during the year particulars became available to the Press Registrar of 470 newspapers which were already in existence but whose existence was noticed, revealed or confirmed during the year from various sources. Similarly, information regarding the closure of 712 newspapers was received by the Press Registrar during the year, although they had ceased publication earlier. There was thus a total increase of 733 in the number of newspapers during 1959 over that at the end of 1958.

The largest number of newspapers continued to be published in English

(20.3 per cent), Hindi coming next with 18.8 per cent and Urdu, Gujarati, Bengali and Marathi claiming

8.2 per cent, 6.9 per cent, 6.6 per cent and 5.3 per cent respectively. The share of newspapers in other languages was below five per cent each, except bi-lingual and multi-lingual papers which accounted for 10.0 and 6.1 per cent respectively. Bombay, Delhi, West Bengal and Madras accounted for 383, 309, 293 and 216 English newspapers. Hindi newspapers were published from all the States except the Union Territories of Manipur, Tripura and Andamans and Nicobar Islands. Uttar Pradesh claimed the highest number (555), Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi following with 189, 158 and 146 Hindi newspapers respectively. Urdu newspapers were mainly concentrated in Punjab (16), Uttar Pradesh (148), Delhi (139), Bombay (49) and Andhra Pradesh (45).

INDIAN LANGUAGE PRESS

There were 491 dailies published in different languages. Among periodicals, the highest number (3,076), was that of monthlies, followed by 1,881 weeklies, 951 quarterlies and half-yearlies, 708 fortnightlies and 488 annuals.

Of the 1,302 newspapers which commenced publication during 1959, the largest number (298) was in Bombay. Uttar Pradesh came next with 178 new newspapers, followed

by Delhi and West Bengal with 148 each. The first newspaper from Andamans and Nicobar Islands started publication during 1959.

Among different languages, the highest number (278) of new newspapers was claimed by Hindi, followed by English (238), Urdu (156), Gujarati (85), Bengali (77) and Tamil (69). Two Assamese and one Sanskrit newspaper also commenced publication.

The highest incidence of cessation among newspapers on a language basis was: Hindi—80, English—61 and Urdu—53. Only one Malayalam newspaper and none of Assamese, Oriya and Sanskrit ceased publication during the year.

The Report contains a study of the language Press in the country based on data available with the Press Registrar and an analysis of the development of specialised and technical periodicals, which shows how they have progressed during the last ten years.

Expansion Of T.V.

Replying to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 4, Dr. B.V. Keskar, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, disclosed that there was a proposal in the Third Five-Year Plan to set up a television centre in Bombay.

It was also proposed to expand the experimental service in Delhi into a regular educational service for the secondary schools in Delhi area.

The setting up of the centre in Bombay was, however, subject to the condition that foreign exchange becomes available for the purpose.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION COUNCIL

The second meeting of the National Council for Women's Education was held at New Delhi on August 5 and 6 under the Chairmanship of Shrimati Durgabai Deshmukh. The meeting was inaugurated by Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education.

In her address to the Council, Shrimati Durgabai reported that a number of significant developments had taken place since the first meeting of the Council in October 1959. In the first meeting, five significant proposals were made to Government with regard to the implementation of

the recommendations of the National Committee and the preparation of the Third Five Year Plan. The first proposal was that Government should regard the education of women as a major special problem and that it should accept, as early as possible, the twenty urgent recommendations of policy made by the National Committee of Women's Education. All the twenty special recommendations made by the National Committee had now been approved and considerable action to implement them had already been taken.

SPECIAL MACHINERY

The second proposal was that a special machinery should be created, as quickly as possible, to deal with the problem of the education of women.

Equally good progress had been made in the acceptance and implementation of this proposal. A special unit had been created and had been placed under an officer of the status of Joint Educational Adviser. Six States, namely, Assam, Bihar, Mysore, Orissa, Rajasthan and U.P., had already established State Councils for Women's Education. In six more States, namely, those of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and West Bengal, steps were being taken for setting up such councils. Only three States—Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Kerala—had said that such a body was not needed in view of the conditions in their States.

With regard to the proposal that a special woman officer should be appointed as Joint or Deputy Director and placed in charge of women's education, the response had been even better and all State Governments, except those of Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Kerala, had accepted the recommendation in principle and appointments had also been made in all States except Mysore.

THIRD PLAN ALLOCATION

Coming to the third and fourth proposals, in the last meeting,

the Council had drawn up a special programme for the education of girls and requested Government to provide an additional sum of Rs. 10 crores in the Second Five Year Plan itself and a sum of Rs. 100 crores in the Third Five Year Plan. In view of the generally tight financial situation, we could not get the additional grant of Rs. 10 crores this year. But owing to the personal interest of Dr. Shrimali, we were now in a position to implement one of our schemes—provision of hostels in girls' middle and secondary schools—which could not be implemented so far. With regard to Third Plan also, the allocations for the special programmes for girls' education had been severely reduced to Rs. 15 crores only.

In the rush of priorities, the education of women always tended to be pushed out or relegated to the background and this was exactly what had happened on this occasion also. One favourable decision was that in the Third Plan, the University Grants Commission had agreed to sanction Rs. two crores for the purpose. Similarly, the Central Social Welfare Board had also provided a sum of Rs. 3½ crores for the condensed courses and this would really be of great help to expand this programme of great significance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After discussion, the National Council recommended a substantial increase in the Third Plan allocation for the special programmes of girls' and women's education, especially at the primary and secondary stages.

The Council has pointed out that the targets for enrolment of girls in the primary, middle and secondary stages during the Third Plan cannot be realised unless adequate financial provision is made for the special programmes for girls' and women's education.

Going through a heavy agenda, the National Council also adopted resolutions on the special measures needed to promote

women's education; scope and extent of Central responsibility; National Institutes for Women's Education; National Service Scheme as applicable to girls; training of women teachers; Central and State assistance for construction of girls' hostels and education of public opinion in favour of girls' education.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES

The Council recommended the establishment of a few National Institutes for Women's Education for training women to positions of leadership and responsibility in various walks of life. Specialised training would be given in these Institutes in, among other things, banking, co-operatives, business management and public administration, fine arts and crafts.

The Council also recommended that adequate financial provision should be made in the Third Plan for the development of vocational and technical training for girls and women. The Chairman was authorised to take the necessary steps in the matter.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

The National Council suggested that if the National Service Scheme was to be made compulsorily applicable to girls, adequate precautions would be necessary to safeguard the interests of girls participating in the programme. It was, therefore, necessary to associate the National Council and the State Councils for Women's Education in the planning and implementation of the National Service Scheme.

At the request of the Chairman, Dr. C.D. Deshmukh addressed the members on the scope of the National Service Scheme. He said that the purpose of this scheme was to reorient the thinking of the Indian student and familiarise him with the reconstruction work in the rural areas.

To bridge the wide gap between the education of girls and boys, the Council stated that it would be necessary to adopt special measures to overcome the

various difficulties that stood in the way of education of girls. In view of the reduced scale of the special programmes in the Third Plan, the Council recommended that the Central and State Governments should take immediate steps to draw up the general educational programmes for the Plan keeping these difficulties in view.

The Council reiterated its earlier recommendation that schemes for the special programme for education of girls and women should be regarded as Centrally-sponsored and assisted by the Centre on a cent per cent basis.

EDUCATING PUBLIC OPINION

The Council welcomed the suggestion of the Union Minister of Education that adequate steps should be taken, especially in the backward States, for educating public opinion on the need and importance of women's education. The Council appealed to the State Councils, voluntary organisations and social workers to organise intensive campaigns for this purpose.

In view of the Government's decision to launch a country-wide programme of compulsory primary education in the Third Plan period, it was suggested that the Central and State Governments should take vigorous measures to increase the output of women teachers. The following specific schemes were suggested in the teacher-training programme: (1) the setting up of training sections in girls' secondary schools, (2) financial assistance to girls from rural areas, (3) pre-selection of trainees at the secondary stage, and (4) condensed courses for adult women.

HOSTEL FACILITIES

The Council further recommended that the Central and State Councils should provide adequate assistance to voluntary organisations for construction of hostels, attached to middle and secondary schools for girls, especially from the rural areas. The Ministry of Education was re-

quested to draw up a suitable scheme for the purpose in the Third Plan.

The Council emphasised that steps should also be taken to give professional and vocational training to adult women who successfully complete the condensed courses in the Second and Third Plans.

DIRECTIONS FOR FLAG HOISTING

An announcement of August 9 says that the Union Home Ministry has issued a circular giving model instructions for hoisting, saluting and giving pledge to the National Flag in schools.

According to the circular, the pupils of a school are to assemble in open square formation, forming the three sides, and the flag staff at the centre of the fourth side. The headmaster, the pupil leader and the person unfurling the flag — if he is other than the headmaster — will stand three paces behind the flag staff.

The pupils will fall in according to classes and in squads of ten or other number according to strength. These squads are to be arranged one behind the other. The pupil leader of the class will stand to the right of the first row of his class and the form master will stand three paces behind the last row of his class, towards the middle. The classes will be arranged along the square in the order of seniority with the seniormost class at the right end.

The distance between each row should be at least one pace, 30 inches; and the space between form and form should be the same.

When each form or class is ready, the class leader will step forward and salute the selected pupil leader. As soon as all the forms are ready, the pupil leader will step up to the headmaster and salute him. The headmaster will return the salute, then the flag will be un-

furled. The pupil leader may assist him.

NATIONAL SONG

The school pupil leader in charge of the parade or assembly will call the parade to attention just before the unfurling and he will call the pupils to the salute when the flag flies out. The parade will keep at the salute for a brief interval, and then on the command 'order' the parade will come to the attention position.

The Flag Salutation will be followed by the National Song — Jana Gana Mana. The parade will be kept at attention during this part of the function.

On all occasions when the pledge is taken, the pledge will follow the National Song. When taking the pledge, the assembly will stand to attention and the headmaster will administer the pledge ceremoniously. The assembly will repeat it after him.

In pledging allegiance to the National Flag, the practice to be adopted in schools is as: standing with folded hands all repeat together the pledge 'I pledge allegiance to the National Flag and to the Sovereign Democratic Republic for which it stands'.

New Universities

Dr. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, stated in the Lok Sabha on August 8 in reply to a question that ten new universities had been set up and proposals for setting up six more universities had been formulated since the establishment of the University Grants Commission as a statutory body.

In a Statement laid on the Table of the House, Dr. Shrimali said that the University Grants Commission was consulted in the case of the setting up of 12 universities.

Asked whether the advice of the Commission was accepted in such cases, the Minister gave the position with regard to the six under-mentioned universities which had already been set up.

JABALPUR: The views of the Commission were not intimidated because the additional information needed by them was not supplied by the State Government;

KURUKSHETRA: The Commission's advice was not accepted by the State Government;

RUDRAPUR: Most of the suggestions of the Commission were accepted;

BURDWAN: The proposal to set up the University was generally approved by the Commission, but the draft bill was not shown to them before enactment; and

BIHAR: The proposal to establish two new universities was generally approved by the Commission.

REGIONAL LANGUAGES FOR UNIVERSITIES

Replying to a debate on the University Grants Commission's Report for 1958-59, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, Minister of Education, said that both the Government and the Commission wanted the regional languages to become the medium of instruction in the universities, but only after adequate preparation. Any hasty introduction, Dr. Shrimali said, would affect the standards. Dr. Shrimali informed the House that the beginning had been made for the translation of standard books into Hindi. This was being done by the universities and the cost was being borne fully by the Union Government. For similar work in other languages, the question of grants was under consideration and, he thought, the cost should be shared equally by the Centre and the States.

Dr. Shrimali reaffirmed that in view of the country's limited resources and in the interest of maintaining proper standard, admission to colleges would have to be restricted. Some kind of screening or selection was necessary, he said, for admission to colleges. He quoted the large percentage of failures every year to say that there was tragic wastage at present. Many stu-

dents were unfit to enter universities. He said that there would be chaos if there was no plan to regulate higher education.

In the Third Plan, Dr. Shrimali said, there would be provisions for part-time and correspondence courses to enable those who could not go to colleges to attain higher academic qualifications.

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A meeting of the Advisory Committee on All-India Institutions of Higher Education was held in New Delhi on August 2 under the chairmanship of Shrimati Kamala Devi Chattopadhyaya.

The Committee recommended to the Government of India to convene a conference of representatives of national institutions of all-India character working in the field of higher education. Most of these institutions were set up in the pre-independence period as a strong reaction against the general education of western pattern, prevalent in the country at that time.

The conference should discuss contemporary Indian education: 'the field of original initiative and creation.' Other eminent educationists interested in the field of education will also be invited to participate in the deliberations of the conference which may be held in October this year.

The Advisory Committee also approved 10 institutions under the scheme for financial assistance.

Shri P.N. Kirpal, Secretary of the Ministry of Education, who was present at the meeting for some time, expressed Government's anxiety to help these institutions to stand on their own feet. The Government assistance, he said, could be given to such institutions only for a limited period as long, term assistance would tend to cripple their initiative.

Engineering Colleges

Dr. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister of Scientific Research

and Cultural Affairs, said in a written reply during question hour in the Lok Sabha on August 8 that necessary arrangements had been made for acquisition of equipment, appointment of staff and admission of students into the Centrally-sponsored engineering colleges at Durgapur, Jamshedpur, Bhopal, Nagpur, Mangalore and Srinagar, which would start functioning during the current year.

The Boards of Governors had been fully constituted for all the colleges.

P.M.'s Aid To 'Varsities Fund

The Government of India have appealed for contributions from the public to the 'Prime Minister's Aid to Universities Fund' which has been constituted to provide financial assistance to Indian universities.

The Fund was started by the Central Government in June 1952 to collect voluntary contributions or donations from associations and individuals, official and non-official. The headquarters of the Fund are at New Delhi.

Contributions from the public may be sent to Dr. P.D. Shukla, Deputy Educational Adviser to the Government of India in the Ministry of Education, who is the Secretary of the Fund.

ASSISTANCE TO YOUTH CLUBS

An announcement of August 10 says that the Union Ministry of Education has circulated a scheme to render financial assistance to non-students youth clubs and centres throughout the country, under its Second Plan Youth Welfare Programme.

The object of the scheme is to encourage and promote non-students youth clubs, which provide recreational facilities to youth. Only registered organisations will be eligible for financial assistance, subject to the recommendation of the State Government.

The Government of India will give grants to meet 50 per cent of the expenditure on the following items, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5,000. The items are: (1) Equipment for carpentry, leather work, gardening, bee-keeping, bead work, needle work, basket making and such other hobbies. (2) Equipment for recreational activities, such as indigenous games, sports, small area games, etc. (3) Purchase of books and equipment for libraries and reading rooms, including shelves, table, chairs, etc. and (4) special programmes, including local festivals, youth rallies, sports meets and similar programmes of cultural and recreational activities.

Owing to the paucity of funds, State Governments and Union Administrations have been requested to forward only a limited number of applications from registered voluntary organisations before September 30 next.

Works Of Mahatma Gandhi

Dr. B.V. Keskar, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, informed the Lok Sabha in a written reply to a question on August 1 that three volumes each in English and Hindi of Mahatma Gandhi's works had been published so far. The amount spent on the publications and the staff from 1956-57 to 1959-60 was Rs. 7,05,623.

Replying to another question, the Minister said that four radio documentaries had been broadcast so far on various phases of Mahatma Gandhi's life and authentic material was being collected for preparing more documentaries of this type.

T.C.M. Scholarships

A New Delhi announcement of August 12 says that 48 teachers have been selected for post-graduate studies/training in the U.S.A. under the T.C.M. Teachers' Training Programme, 1960.

The names of other candidates will be announced later. Under the T.C.M. Teachers' Training Programme, scholarships are awarded to teachers with two

years' experience in an engineering or technical institution.

The training is imparted in the U.S.A. in Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Metallurgy, Geology, Geophysics, Architecture and Mining.

Teaching Fellowships

A Press Note issued on August 3 by the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs says that on the recommendation of the Central Selection Board, the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs has decided to award Senior Teaching Fellowships of the value of Rs. 350 p.m. to six candidates in the field of metallurgy.

The Technical Teachers' Training Programme has been formulated by the Central Government with the object of conditioning young bright graduates for the teaching profession. The training of the Fellows has been arranged in five institutions, namely, the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, the University of Roorkee, the College of Engineering Guindy, the College of Engineering, Poona and the Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur.

On completion of training, the Fellows will be employed as Lecturers in the various technical institutions in the country which prepare students for Degree courses.

Research Scholarships In Humanities

In addition to the 29 awards announced on March 15, 1960, the Ministry of Education has selected 20 more candidates for the award of research scholarships in humanities. This brings the total number of scholarships awarded for Research in humanities under the 1959-60 scheme to 49. Of the 20 new scholarships, 5 are in Sanskrit, 3 in History, 2 each in Economics and Political Science, and one each in Philosophy,

Psychology, Sociology, English, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam and Tamil.

The Government of India instituted in 1953 this scheme for the grant of scholarships to students who have already obtained a Master's or equivalent degree and wish to engage in advanced research in any branch of humanistic studies in India.

Sports Council Meets

The All India Council of Sports held an emergency meeting in New Delhi on August 6 under the presidency of H.H. the Maharaja of Patiala to consider the representation from the Indian Olympic Association regarding the Indian Contingent to the Olympic Games.

The Council did not favour the proposal of the I.O.A. to send two women athletes and one woman manager to participate in the Olympiad.

The Council recommended that the highest priority should be accorded to mountaineering as a sport to be encouraged among the youth of the country and suggested that all universities should establish mountaineering clubs. The Council appointed a committee to study the problem in all its aspects and to formulate measures for the promotion of mountaineering.

The Council did not recommend the grant of financial assistance to the Basketball Federation of India for either inviting a Basketball team from the Georgian Republic or the visit of an Indian team to Pakistan.

Talimi Sangh Diploma

An announcement of August 5 says that the Government of India have recognised the Diploma in Teachers' Training awarded by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh, Wardha, to graduate trainees, from 1942 to 1958, as being equivalent to the B.T., B. Ed., L.T., or Post-graduate Diploma in Basic Education awarded by a recognised University or a State Government.

The recognition has been accorded in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission for purposes of employment under the Central Government.

PRIZE SCHEME FOR SANSKRIT READERS

An announcement of August 3 says that the last date for the receipt of entries in the Prize

Scheme for publication of standard/modern graded readers in Sanskrit has been extended to December 31, 1960. The last date announced earlier was August 31.

The medium used in the Sanskrit readers should be either English or Hindi or Sanskrit. Authors may submit by the last date either one complete set of the three readers or the first reader only.



NEW HOSPITAL IN DELHI

Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, told the Lok Sabha in reply to a question on August 2 that there was a proposal to construct and equip a 650-bedded hospital at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, at an estimated cost of Rs. 425 lakhs.

For the construction and development of the hospital of the Institute, the Rockefeller Foundation had agreed to provide \$500,000 and the Technical Cooperation Mission had allocated a grant of Rs. 290 lakhs.

Estimates amounting to Rs. 57.61 lakhs for the construction of the frame work of the hospital during the Second Plan period had been approved recently.

FINANCIAL AID FOR T.B. PATIENTS

Replying to a question on August 10, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, told the Lok Sabha that depending on the merits of each case financial assistance was given to poor T.B. patients in Delhi whether or not they got a bed in hospital.

Financial assistance amounting to Rs. 15,845 was given to 233 poor T.B. patients in Delhi during 1959-60 from the Health Minister's Welfare Fund, Health Minister's Discretionary Grant

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and from the funds at the disposal of the Delhi T.B. Association and the Care and Aftercare Committees attached to different T.B. clinics.

'Care' Medical Van For Eye Treatment

A New Delhi announcement of August 10 says that the American organization 'CARE' has decided to present a mobile medical van for 'free eye relief programme' conducted by Dr. M.C. Modi in Davangere in Mysore State.

The van, which will be used for touring as a free eye hospital in the Mysore State, will bene-



PROGRESS OF DANDAKARANYA PROJECT

The progress report of the Dandakaranya Project for the period April 1 to July 31, 1960, was released in New Delhi on August 11. It reveals that the construction of a railway line between Bailadila and Kottavalasa has been included in the Third Five Year Plan for facilitating the development of mineral resources in the Danda-

karanya area. The 310-mile railway line will pass through Jeypore and Koraput in Orissa. The reconnaissance survey for 328 miles, preliminary survey for 221 miles and final location survey for 151 miles have been completed.

A special circle, according to the Progress Report, under the charge of a Superintending Geo-

WATER SUPPLY FOR SECUNDERABAD

An announcement of August 3 says that the Government of India have approved the proposal of the Andhra Pradesh Government for augmentation of drinking water supply in Secunderabad under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 50.67 lakhs.

The proposed scheme will ensure a supply of 40 gallons per population of 2.5 lakhs.

Secunderabad's water supply system was laid in 1942 and has now become inadequate on account of expansion of the town and increase in population.

Drainage Schemes

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 9, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, said that 23 new underground drainage schemes, estimated to cost Rs. 795.19 lakhs, had been approved during the Second Five Year Plan. According to the information available, six schemes, costing Rs. 74.95 lakhs, had been completed up to June 30, 1960.

logist has been set up during the field season of 1959-60 for detailed investigation of the Bailadila and Chotadonger iron ore deposits in Bastar district and lime-stone occurrences in the area. A separate scheme was under the consideration of the Government of India to step up the work of mineral investigations in the area. The second Five Year Plan of the Geological Survey of India also included some important mineral investigations of the Dandakaranya area.

During the period, the Dandakaranya Development Authority was reorganised. Provision was made for a whole-time chairman, who was expected to take over in the beginning of the next month.

MOVEMENT OF D.Ps.

The report records that there was very little movement of displaced persons from West Bengal. Only 49 families moved to Dandakaranya during the period, bringing the total number to 1,834 families.

Up to the end of June 1960, 'tree-felling' operations had been completed in over 21,000 acres and over 13,000 acres had been fully reclaimed.

Up to the end of the last working season, 20,000 acres in Umar-kote (Orissa) and 30,000 acres in Parlкот and 3,000 acres in Pharasgaon (Madhya Pradesh) had been released by the State Governments. It was expected that another 30,000 acres in Umar-kote and 50,000 acres in Parlкот would be released by the end of this year.

The Project authorities expect to reclaim 60,000 acres during the next working season ending in May 1961. Eight more units of reclamation machinery, comprising 120 tractors and necessary attachments, had been ordered to achieve this target. Meanwhile, contour bunding had been completed in 4,562 acres.

The D.D.A. had decided that arrangements should be made for 1,200 families to move every month from West Bengal to Dandakaranya from October

1960 to January 1961, when the position would be reviewed. Meanwhile, the West Bengal Government had been asked to arrange to send 500 families before September 15.

Of the 1,834 families which had moved to Dandakaranya, 200 families had been settled in Pharasgaon area. Land had been allotted to another 176 agriculturist families and about 400 families had been taken to village sites in Umar-kote, of whom about 50 had already been allotted land. For the remaining 1,200 families, land had been earmarked in Umar-kote and they would be taken to the village sites immediately after the monsoon. In Parlкот, 33 village sites had been selected for accommodating 1,735 families.

ADVISORY BOARD ON SOCIAL WELFARE

The Advisory Board on Social Welfare, which met in New Delhi on August 10, recommended that information in respect of persons passing out of various schools and university departments of social work should be made available to employers. The responsibility for collecting this information should vest in the Association of Social Work.

The Board decided that it would be desirable to collect information about the research work carried out by various organisations in the social field and prepare abstracts so that such information would be readily available. It was suggested that Research and Publications Division of the Union Ministry of Education should be asked to undertake this programme in collaboration with university departments, schools of social work and the Association of Schools of Social Work.

The Board also considered the recommendations relating to the functions of the Advisory Board on Social Welfare made by the Study Team of the Committee on Plan Projects under the Chairmanship of Shrimati Renuka Ray. It was decided that the

functions of the Board be extended to include the production of suitable text-books and teaching materials. This work, it was suggested, might be done by the Board in co-operation with the various schools of social work and universities.

The Board also finalised the proforma and rules and regulations for the research projects for which the Ministry of Education and the University Grants Commission give grants to university departments and schools of social work.

Economic Status Of 'Backward' Families

An announcement of August 6 says that the Union Home Ministry has suggested to the State Governments and Union Territory administrations to consider dropping out of the list of Backward Classes those families whose income is above the average.

The purpose is that the funds allocated are expended to help the most deserving families of Backward Classes.

Some time ago, a similar suggestion was made by some members in Parliament. The Union Home Minister, Shri G.B. Pant, had then assured the members that he would commend the suggestion to the State Governments for their consideration.

Recently, at a meeting of the Central Advisory Board for Tribal Welfare, it was suggested that the more backward among the Scheduled Tribes should be given preference in the welfare schemes. The members agreed that priority should be given to those who had not received any Government assistance so far.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE FOR FAMILY PLANNING

The Government of India have constituted a Family Planning Communication Research Committee under the chairmanship of Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Union Minister of Health. It has ten other members.

The Committee will advise Government on and co-ordinate

activities in Family Planning Communication Research programme. It will review the progress and examine and recommend proposals for research. The Committee will also deal with the fellowships programme.

The first meeting of the Committee was held in New Delhi on August 10.

Family Planning Research Projects

At the first meeting, the committee recommended the opening of a Central Family Planning Communication Motivation Action Research Centre in New Delhi.

The functions of the Centre will be research, training and demonstration, consultative service and technical guidance, pre-testing and evaluation of media, co-ordination of action-research programme and dissemination of information.

The Committee has further suggested that a field research centre should be started in Bombay.

The Committee accepted the proposal to hold a conference on Family Planning Communication Motivation Action Research in March next year.

The Committee noted that the Ford Foundation had offered a

grant of \$330,000 for a period of five years to assist in developing communication research in family planning programme. The funds will be utilised to administer a programme of grants for small research projects, establish and operate action research units in medical colleges and universities, and institute a training programme for equipping personnel in research methods in this field.

East Pakistan D.Ps.

In reply to a question on August 4, Shri P.S. Naskar, Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation, laid a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha. The statement revealed that, out of 10.25 lakh displaced persons from East Pakistan, who sought admission into Government run camps and homes, 8.77 lakh had already been dispersed by the end of June 1960. Consequently, all camps had been closed in Tripura and Orissa while the camp in Bihar would be closed within the next two months.

The statement said that at present the total number of displaced persons in camps and homes was 1.48 lakhs. Out of these, 1.01 lakhs were in camps in West Bengal. They were proposed to be rehabilitated under the Dandakaranya scheme.

modify the present definition of the term plantation so as to cover the workers in offices, hospitals, schools, etc. It was the intention to extend the benefits of the Act to all persons who are employed in work connected with the plantation in one form or another. The definition of the term 'worker' was also being modified so as to include within its scope members of the medical staff whose salary did not exceed Rs. 300 per month.

Another important amendment related to the extension of medical facilities to the workers' families. These facilities were already being enjoyed by them as a matter of practice.

The principal Act did not specifically provide for giving workers the benefit of leave due to them or wages in lieu of such leave at the time of termination of their services. This gap was being filled through a specific provision in the amending Bill.

Emigrant Tea Garden Labour

The Industrial Committee on Plantations met in New Delhi on August 4 under the Chairmanship of Shri Abid Ali, Union Deputy Minister for Labour.

The Committee agreed that tea estate owners in Assam should provide, for another three years, necessary facilities to emigrant workers on their repatriation from Assam. For this, the employers will maintain four rest houses at convenient places. At each rest house, the emigrant labour will be provided with cooking, water and sanitary facilities. They will also be provided with escorts, and railway booking arrangements for the workers will be made by the employers.

It was also agreed that the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act should be amended in order to make it obligatory on the part of employers to get the permission of Government for recruiting labour from outside Assam. The Act should also be amended to provide for the levy of a penal cess in case of illicit recruit-



PLANTATIONS LABOUR (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali, moved for consideration the Plantations Labour (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha on August 4, when he said that the proposed amendments were mostly based on the recommendations of the Industrial Committee on Plantations and had been drawn up in full consultation with the State Governments and the organisa-

tions of employers and workers.

Shri Abid Ali continued that one group of amendments related to the scope and coverage of the Act. In order to make attempts at evasion ineffective, it was proposed to empower the State Governments to apply the Act to any plantation irrespective of size or the number of persons employed. By another amendment it was proposed to

ment of labour for tea gardens in Assam.

CEMENT COMMITTEE MEETS

The tripartite Industrial Committee on Cement, which met in New Delhi on August 2, agreed that the period of operation of the recommendations of the Cement Wage Board should be 5 years from the date the recommendations came into effect. However, the matter could be reviewed by the Industrial Committee at the end of 4 years, if the workers' representatives so desired.

The Committee also agreed that a central machinery should be set up to clarify doubts, if any, regarding the Wage Board's recommendations and to ensure uniformity in the interpretation of the recommendations. The Central Government should decide on the form and composition of such machinery in the light of suggestions made by members of the Committee.

As regards workload studies in the cement industry, it was agreed that, to begin with, intensive studies should be undertaken in a few selected factories. The question of extending workload studies to other factories should be considered in the light of findings of the intensive studies.

In his address to the meeting, Shri Abid Ali, Union Deputy Minister for Labour, observed that the system of contract labour had to be abolished wherever feasible.

E.S.I. Scheme Extended

The Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been extended to Adoni and Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh and Udaipur and Bharatpur in Rajasthan from the midnight of August 13, 1960. As a result, 5,250 more factory workers will get benefits under the Scheme. At present, about 15.45 lakh workers have been covered by the Employees' State Insurance Act.

The families of insured workers at Adoni, Kakinada, Udaipur

and Bharatpur will also be entitled to medical care 13 weeks after the Scheme has been made applicable.

For medical care, five whole time dispensaries—two at Adoni and one each at Kakinada,

Bharatpur and Udaipur—have been set up. For payment of cash benefits, two local offices—one each at Adoni and Kakinada—and two sub-local offices—one each at Bharatpur and Udaipur—have been set up.



DELHI MILK SCHEME

Shri M.V. Krishnappa, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on August 10 regarding the Delhi Milk Scheme. He said that the Delhi Milk Scheme, which started functioning on November 1, 1959, made a humble beginning with the sale of 150 maunds of milk per day through 32 depots and 16 institutions. The work had gradually increased and at present out of a total demand of 7,000 maunds per day for the entire city, the Central Dairy handled 1,500 maunds of milk. The number of depots had increased to 280. Thus, at the moment, the Scheme was meeting more than 20% of the total demand of the city.

The Deputy Minister also gave details of tests carried on random samples to show that the charges of adulteration appeared to be baseless.

Qutab Minar

The cost of floodlighting the Qutab Minar would be Rs. 80,000, stated Dr. M.M. Das, Union Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, in a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 8.

The work in this regard would be completed by July 1961. The expenditure on the electrification of the interior of the monument, already completed, was Rs. 11,000.

Cases Under Delhi Rent Control Act

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August

8, the Home Minister, Shri G.B. Pant, stated that as on April 30 this year, cases filed under the Delhi Rent Control Act numbered 5,332—4,058 by landlords and 1,274 by tenants.

Out of these, 3,744 cases were filed by the landlords to evict tenants and in other 623 cases tenants' evictions were sought on the ground of personal requirement of the landlord. In 866 cases, the tenants had sought fixation of standard rent and in 153 cases tenants' evictions had been demanded in respect of the newly transferred premises.

Kerala Court-Fees Bill

An announcement of August 6 says that the President has given assent to the Kerala Court-Fees and Suits Valuation Bill, 1956.

The Bill is intended to have a uniform law relating to the levy of court-fees and suits valuation in the entire State of Kerala.

The Governor of Kerala had reserved the Bill, as passed by the Kerala State Legislative Assembly on April 17, 1959, for the consideration of the President under article 254 of the Constitution. The Bill could not be assented to earlier because the President's Proclamation in relation to Kerala issued on July 31, 1959 had suspended, *inter alia*, the operation of article 201 of the Constitution which empowers the President to assent to State Bills.

The President's proclamation was revoked on February 22, 1960. Thereafter, the Bill was examined by the Government of India and was submitted to the President.

Rise In Population of Kerala

An announcement of August 3 says that according to a preliminary population estimate made between March and May this year, Kerala has recorded an increase of 21.8 per cent in its population since the 1951 Census.

The population recorded is 16,501,072 as compared to 13,549,118 in 1951. Women numbered more than men, i.e., 8,340,241 against 8,160,831.

The preliminary estimate of the population was done when the State Census Department

was numbering houses for the forthcoming Census.

M.P. Agricultural Markets Bill

An announcement dated August 10 says that the President has given assent to the Madhya Pradesh Agricultural Produce Markets Bill, 1960, which seeks to introduce in the State a uniform law on the regulation of markets for agricultural produce.

At present, there is no law in force in the Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh regions, while in other regions of the State different laws prevail.



REVISED PAY SCALES FOR ARMED FORCES

In reply to a question on August 4, Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, Defence Minister, affirmed in the Lok Sabha that the Raghuramaiah Committee, appointed in November last to consider the application of the Jagannatha Das Commission's recommendations to the personnel of the Armed Forces, had made its recommendations to the Government.

The recommendations of the Raghuramaiah Committee have been examined by Government, and the following decisions have been taken:—

COMBATANT SOLDIER

(i) The date of effect for the revised pay, dearness allowance and city compensatory allowance will be the same as for civilian Government servants, viz., 1st July, 1959.

(ii) The combatant trained infantry soldier (with three years' service) is at present in receipt of a pay of Rs. 30 p.m. plus half the present civilian dearness

allowance (i.e. Rs. 22½), making a total of Rs. 52½ per mensem. The base figure of the revised emoluments of the combatant trained infantry soldier (with three years' service) will be Rs. 66 per mensem, comprised of the existing pay of Rs. 30, two-thirds of the previous civilian dearness allowance of Rs. 45 (i.e. Rs. 30) and a new dearness allowance of Rs. 6. He will thus receive an increase of Rs. 13½ per mensem.

The revised rates of pay of other combatants below officer rank will be worked out on their existing basic pay plus two-thirds of the previous civilian dearness allowance appropriate to it. If the resulting figure contains a fraction, it will be rounded off to the next higher integer if the fraction is 50 nP or more, and to the next lower integer if the fraction is less than 50 nP. These combatants will also be given, in addition, the new dearness allowance at the rate of Rs. 6 per mensem in the case of those whose pay is less than Rs.

150 p.m. and at the rate of Rs. 13 p.m. in the case of those drawing Rs. 150 or above but below Rs. 300 p.m. (with marginal adjustments for those drawing Rs. 300 or above but up to Rs. 313).

NON-COMBATANTS (ENROLLED)

(iii) The existing pay scale of the non-combatants (enrolled) is Rs. 20-1/2-25 (i.e., an increment of Re. 1 after every two years) with further increments of Rs. 2.50 p.m. after 15 and 20 years of service, plus half civilian dearness allowance (i.e., Rs. 22.50). Non-combatants (enrolled) will be now on a revised pay scale of Rs. 47-1-62 plus a dearness allowance of Rs. 6 p.m.

(iv) The Pay Commission's point-to-point formula for fixation of pay will apply to non-combatants (enrolled). In applying this formula, and *ad hoc* addition of Rs. 4 will be made to the ceilings on immediate increase in emoluments to cover the difference between half and two-thirds of the previous civilian dearness allowance.

OTHER FACILITIES

(v) Combatants below officer rank and non-combatants (enrolled) will receive city compensatory allowance and bad climate allowance at two-thirds of the rates admissible to civilians instead of at half the rates as at present.

(vi) Defence Services personnel, like civilian Government servants, will also be required to subscribe to the Provident Fund. The existing deferred pay scheme for personnel below J.C.O. rank will be discontinued from the date from which the compulsory Provident Fund scheme takes effect.

(vii) There will be no change in the present working hours of members of the Defence Services.

(viii) The reduction of the number of public holidays to 16 in a year, which has been made in the case of civilian Government servants, will equally apply to Defence Services personnel.

(ix) No change will be made in the quantum of casual leave

and leave entitlement in general applicable to Defence Services personnel.

(x) While the present procedure on the Defence side in regard to withdrawal of pension will continue, the circumstances in which this might be done will be the same as those recommended by the Pay Commission in respect of civilian pensioners.

(xi) When the total period of qualifying service exceeds completed years by six months or more, an additional benefit of half a year's pension will be allowed for the purpose of determining the quantum of pension.

(xii) The other recommendations of the Raghuramaiah Committee, including the recommendations in respect of revised pay scales of Defence Services Officers, are being examined by Government, and decisions will be taken as early as possible.

FIRST AWARD OF NEW MEDALS

On the occasion of the Independence Day, 1960, the President has been pleased to approve the award of the Sena Medal (Army Medal) to Maj. Krishna Maruti Deshmukh (posthumous) and Capt. Jawahar Kanti Deb; the Nao Sena Medal (Navy Medal) to Senior Commissioned Gunner (TAS) Anthony Chellayan and Leading Seaman Lal Bahadur Misra; and the Vayu Sena Medal (Air Force Medal) to Flt. Lt. Krishna Noel Natarajan, Flying Officer Sunil Kumar Chopra and Sergeant Ashutosh Ghosh of the Air Force. These seven are the first awards of the newly instituted Medals to personnel of the Armed Forces.

The posthumous award of the Sena Medal to Maj. K.M. Deshmukh of the Punjab Regiment has been made for 'devotion to duty, leadership and tenacious determination in carrying out a reconnaissance over a distance of 350 miles in the north-eastern border in 1958. Due to a previous illness his constant exertions brought on broncho pneumonia,

of which he died on October 22, 1958.

Capt. J.K. Deb of the Ordnance Corps set an example of extremely high sense of duty and moral courage and of selfless effort when on the morning of February 24, 1958, a severe explosion of gun ammunition and other high explosives took place at the Ordnance railway siding, Pathankot. Capt. Deb, with utter disregard of his own safety, got into the area which was littered with unexploded shells, personally led a rescue party which successfully fought the fire, removed some ammunition boxes and saved a number of lives.

Senior Commissioned Gunner (TAS) Chellayan, recipient of Nao Sena Medal, had since 1957 rendered distinguished service as a naval diver at various national projects, such as the Bhakra-Nangal and the Tungabhadra.

During the diving operations at Bhakra-Nangal in September 1959, Leading Seaman L.B. Misra, a member of the naval diving team, displayed outstanding bravery and undaunted courage in shackling crane-wires on to the collapsed gate of the hoist-chamber.

Flt. Lt. K.N. Natarajan has been awarded the Vayu Sena Medal for excellent airmanship, presence of mind and devotion to duty, which he displayed while carrying out a supply-drop sortie over an operational area in the Himalayas on April 29, 1960.

On October 29, 1959, Flying Officer S.K. Chopra was detailed as Captain of a Dakota aircraft to carry supplies to Leh. On the return journey, the port engine failed at a height of 17,000 feet. Displaying cool courage and great presence of mind, he manoeuvred the sinking aircraft successfully and landed safely at Kargil, thus not only saving his crew from certain death but also the valuable aircraft.

When faced with a pressing operational necessity for a live parachute descent, Sergeant A.

Ghosh volunteered to be dropped in a very dangerous dropping zone in N.E.F.A. He displayed skill in the execution of the drop and commendable courage in the face of personal risk.

Ex-Servicemen's Rally

About 1,000 ex-Servicemen of the Udaipur and Kotah Divisions participated in the first ex-Servicemen's rally held at Udaipur on August 1.

Speaking at the rally, Gen. K.S. Thimayya, Chief of the Army Staff, said that the gallant chivalry and romance of Rajasthan were examples for them to emulate right through their lives. He advised them to follow the traditions of the men who had laid down their lives in the two world wars.

TRAINING SHIP 'DUFFERIN'

On August 1, a new batch of 80 candidates entered 'Dufferin' for a career in the Merchant Navy.

Since the inception of 'Dufferin' training ship on December 1, 1927, some 1,618 cadets have appeared on its rolls.

Over the past few years there has been a steady rise in the number of applications for entry. From last year the number of cadets admitted to the institution was increased from 75 to 80.

Most of the cadets of the 'Dufferin', after completing their training, have done well in their career. Of the 1,618 cadets on the roll of the 'Dufferin', 287 are engineers; 68 are with Burma; 17 with Ceylon; and 33 with Pakistan. The Indian executive cadets number 1,080, of which 380 are working with Indian companies (officers 243, and apprentices 137); 46 with foreign companies (officers 37, and apprentices 9); 62 with the Indian Navy and 180 with the Port Services.

From November 1927 to December 1959, the largest number of cadets came from Bombay (including Saurashtra) 478; next in order are Punjab 218; Madras

181; U.P. 164; Bengal 128; Madhya Pradesh 89; Delhi 70; Kerala 60; and Bihar 23.

Honorary Commissions

Honorary commissions have been granted to Junior Commissioned Officers in the Army with effect from August 15, 1960.

Honorary Captains—11; Honorary Lieutenants—59.

Honorary ranks on retirement have been granted to Junior Commissioned Officers as follows:

Honorary Captains—7; Honorary Lieutenants—3; Honorary Risaldar/Subedar Majors—12; Honorary Risaldars/Subedars—9.

I.A.F. Contingent In Congo

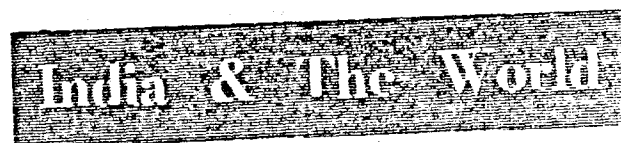
An announcement of August 11 says that two Indian Air

Force Fairchild Packet C-119 aircraft have reached Leopoldville, bringing the first IAF contingent to join United Nations operations in the Republic of Congo.

The IAF contingent consists of three sets of aircrew and 21 ground-personnel for Fairchild packet transport aircraft.

It is also the first occasion that an Indian Air Force unit is joining in U.N. peace operations.

The unit will be located at Djili airport, near Leopoldville, and will fly troops and material to far-flung areas. These IAF transport crew have a great deal of experience of flying in the difficult mountainous and jungle terrains in India's northern borders.



RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR CHILE

An announcement of August 9 says that the Government of India have sent 30,000 jute bags and large quantities of ready-made garments and blankets to the Government of Chile as part of relief supplies from India for distribution among the victims of the recent terrible earthquake.

The Government of India had earlier placed substantial quantities of Indian tea at the disposal of the Chilean Government for distribution in the afflicted areas.

International Film Festival

In reply to a question, Dr. B.V. Keshkar, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, said in the Lok Sabha on August 1 that a proposal was under consideration to hold an International Film Festival in India in October-November 1961.

Moscow Congress Of Orientalists

The Government of India sent a 13-member official Delegation to participate in the 25th International Congress of Orientalists to be held in Moscow from August 9 to 17, 1960.

The Delegation is led by Dr. S.K. Chatterjee, who is already in Moscow. The other members left Delhi on August 6.

NEW AMBASSADORS

A Press Note issued on August 13 by the Ministry of External Affairs says that Shri Vallilath Madhathil Madhavan Nair, till very recently Ambassador of India to Cambodia, has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Norway. He will take up his new post in October.

AMBASSADOR To SUDAN

Another Press Note of August 14 says that Dr. Shaikatullah Shah Ansari, at present Chair-

man of the International Commission for Supervision and Control, Saigon, has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Sudan. He will take up his new post in October, 1960.

AMBASSADOR OF NETHERLANDS

An announcement of August 15 says that Mr. Jonkheer Gerard Beelaerts Van Blokland has been appointed Ambassador of Netherlands in India.

AMBASSADOR To AFGHANISTAN

A New Delhi announcement of August 5 says that Shri J.N. Dhamija, Ambassador-designate of India to Afghanistan, presented his credentials on August 3 to His Majesty Zahir Shah, King of Afghanistan.

AMBASSADOR To ETHIOPIA

In a Press Note issued on August 3, the Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Rao Raja Ramchandra Ganpat Rajwade, at present Ambassador of India to Sudan, has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Ethiopia. He will take up his new post in October, 1960.

HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CEYLON

India's High Commissioner to Ceylon, Shri B.K. Kapur, arrived in Colombo on the afternoon of August 2, 1960. The High Commissioner presented his credentials on the morning of August 3 to the Governor-General, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, at Queen's House.

HIGH COMMISSIONER IN NIGERIA

The Government of India have decided to raise the status of their Mission at Lagos from a Commission to that of a High Commission with effect from October 1, 1960, on which date Nigeria becomes a sovereign independent State and a member of the Commonwealth. It has also been decided to appoint Shri Parmeshwar Narain Haksar, at present Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, as India's first High Commissioner in Nigeria.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

AUGUST 1 To 15

- August 1 — The Lok Sabha begins its monsoon session.
- Prime Minister Nehru announces in the Lok Sabha that an agreement has been reached between the representatives of the Naga People's Convention and the Government of India to establish a new State, called 'Nagaland', comprising the territory of the existing Naga Hills and Tuensang Area.
- 2 — The Union Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, announces further decisions taken by the Government of India on the recommendations of the Pay Commission.
- The Indian delegation of officials returns to New Delhi from Peking after completing the first round of talks on Sino-Indian border issues.
- 5 — A two-day session of the National Council for Women's Education begins in New Delhi.
- 6 — The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, arrives in Madras on a visit to the State.
- 8 — The Rajya Sabha reassembles for the monsoon session.
- 9 — The Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, informs the Lok Sabha that the Reserve Bank has decided to institute liquidation proceedings against the Palai Central Bank of Kerala, which crashed recently, and has filed an application before the Kerala High Court.
- The Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri B.P. Koirala, arrives in New Delhi on his way to Israel.
- The Government of India constitute a Family Planning Communication Research Committee to advise Government on and co-ordinate activities under the family planning communication research programme.
- 10 — An agreement is signed in Teheran between India and Iran for the operation of air services between the two countries.
- 11 — Direct radio-telegraph and radio-telephone links are established between India and Iraq.
- The National Harbour Board meets in Bombay.
- The Vice-Chairman of the World Bank, Mr. Iliff, leaves New Delhi for Rawalpindi after talks with the Government of India on the Indo-Pakistan Canal Waters dispute.
- 12 — The delegation of State Ministers of Agriculture returns to New Delhi after a study tour of the U.S.S.R.
- 13 — The sixth meeting of the National Shipping Board is held in Bombay.
- The Planning Commission reconstitutes the Panel on Housing and Regional Planning with Shri G.L. Nanda, Minister for Planning, as the new Chairman.
- 15 — The nation celebrates the thirteenth anniversary of independence.

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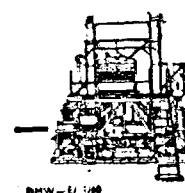
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September 1, 1960



**for the
future**

Under the furrowed brow, his aging eyes see
his child grow to manhood. He gives his all: care
and protection, knowledge culled from experience.
And prepares him to meet the future.

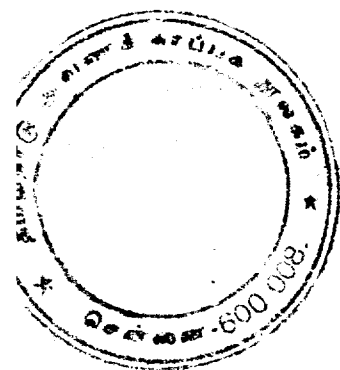
Soon the youth will learn from life.
Soon will come the struggle to achieve.
Soon he will be part of the striving . . .

The striving and effort for a better world.
A world that offers a little more—
a little less of the care, a little more of the joy.

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

Today and Tomorrow Hindustan Lever serves the home.

PL 4-X52



Shri B. P. Koirala the Prime Minister of Nepal, being greeted by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, on arrival at Sardarjung Airport on August 9



The Union Deputy Finance Minister, Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, delivering the Presidential Address at the 'Capping Ceremony' held in the College of Nursing Hostel, New Delhi, on August 12



The Prime Minister with the Indian Hockey Team which will defend the hockey title held by India in successive Olympics since 1928



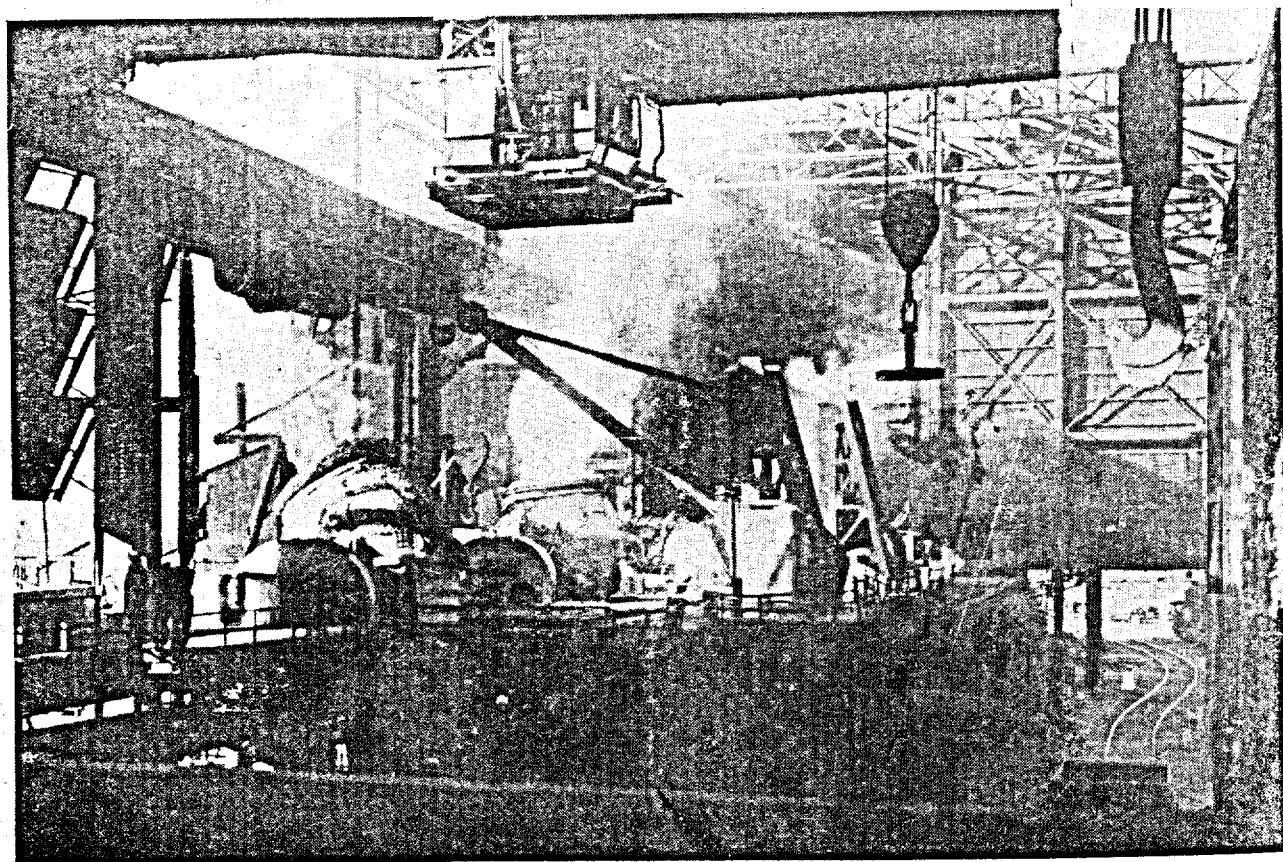


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D-940

STEEL IN THE THIRD PLAN

In the Third Plan the three steel plants in the public sector will be expanded, a new integrated iron and steel works will be built in Bokaro and a plant installed for the manufacture of alloy and tool steels. Some more units will be permitted to be put up for the manufacture of special alloy steels in the private sector.

The picture on the left shows a training workshop of the Tata Iron and Steel Company and the picture below gives a view of a section of TISCO.



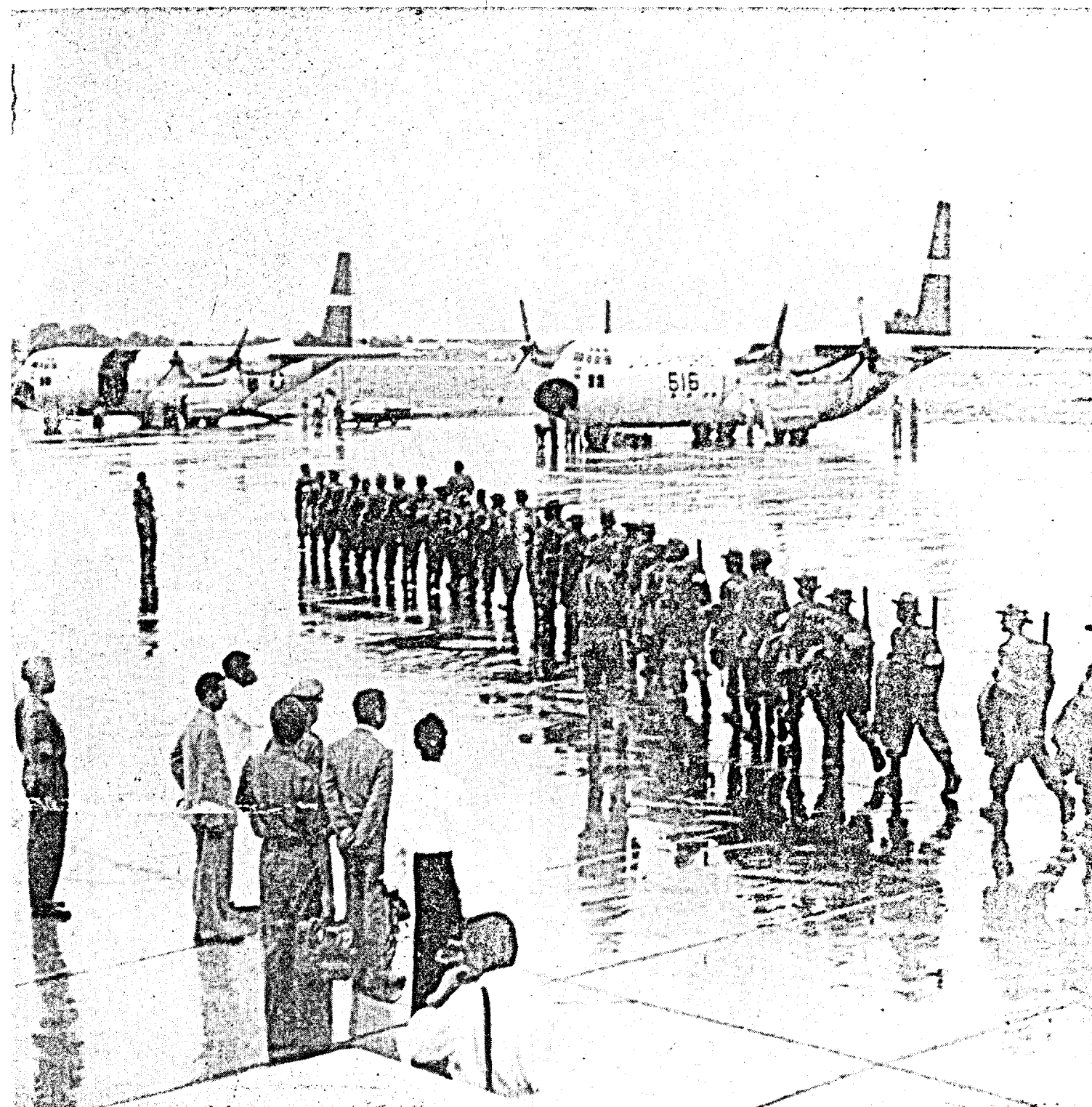
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Vol. 3

September 15, 1960 (Bhadra 24, 1882)

No. 16

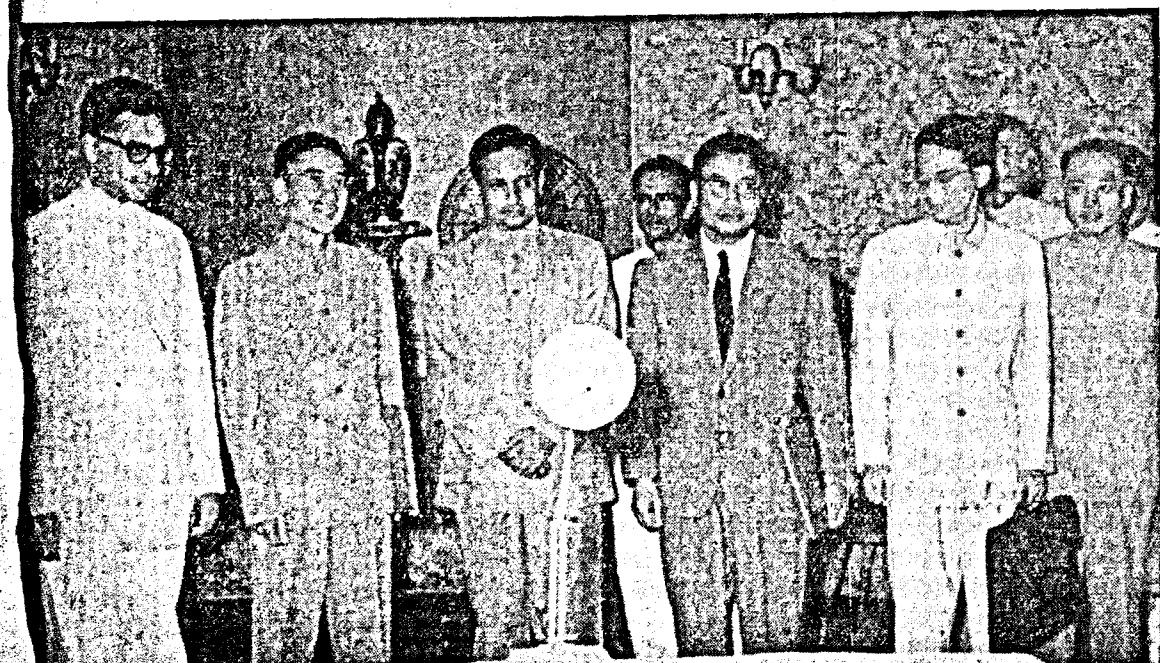




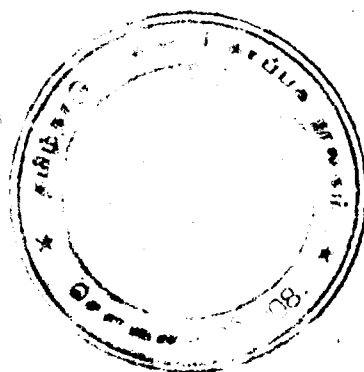
The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, administering the Oath of Office and Secrecy to the new Deputy Minister for Labour and Employment, Shri Lalit Narain Mishra, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on August 22



Prime Minister Nehru greeting a group of officers of the Indian Police Service, when they called on him at Parliament House on August 29



The leader (second from left) and members of the Chinese official team with the leader (third from left) of the Indian official team on the occasion of the resumption of discussions on Sino - Indian border issues in New Delhi on August 19



Indian Information

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Bhadra 24, 1882

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COVER: A platoon of the Army Service Corps, 92 strong, leaving for Leopoldville from Palam airport on August 20. India has so far contributed about 250 Army personnel, most of them officers and medical personnel, to the U.N. Force in the Congo.

(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

PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH IN LOK SABHA ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Initiating a debate in the Lok Sabha on August 31 on the present international situation and the policy of India in relation thereto, the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, said that India had rendered a good deal of assistance, rather high class assistance, to the Congo. Out of the 200 to 250 persons sent to the Congo, a number of them were of the officer class or medical teams or others. "That is to

say, whoever we have sent there is not meant to fight there in that sense, but to aid."

HOSPITAL IN CONGO

The Prime Minister further disclosed that India had very recently another demand, rather a heavy demand, for setting up immediately a 400-bed hospital in the Congo. India had agreed to it. This kind of thing could only be done on a

military basis. "We are lifting all the apparatus, medicine and all men right to the Congo to put it up there within a fortnight." This was being done on the understanding that the United Nations would replace these equipments in India.

BORDER INCIDENT

Referring to the border with China, the Prime Minister said, "Some few days back, I stat-

ed in this House that an incursion had taken place in the north-east frontier, where some Chinese soldiers had come, as we were informed, about four miles inside and then had gone away. I informed the House then that we had protested to the Chinese Government. Their reply was that nine working personnel went out to fell bamboos in the forest. They lost their way owing to low clouds over the border by mistake, and as soon as they discovered this, they returned. We were naturally further enquiring into this matter."

Referring to the controversy about the Shipki La, one of the passes to Tibet, Shri Nehru said, "Another Hon. Member who comes from that part of the world had made some statement in the press that the Shipki La village which had been founded by Indians was now in the occupation of the Chinese or Tibetans. I should like to remove a certain misunderstanding that has arisen. Our frontier there, according to us, is the pass, the watershed, the Shipki La, 'La' meaning the pass. That is the frontier and we have stood by it, and if you read many of the documents between us and the Chinese Government which have been printed as White Papers, it is clearly mentioned that is our case. The Shipki village is on the other side of the pass. Therefore, even according to us, it is not an Indian territory, although Indians may have crossed there for grazing purposes or others."

AGREEMENT ON CANAL WATERS

Replying to the debate on September 1, the Prime Minister gave the following details of the proposed agreement on canal waters with Pakistan: "It is generally based on the World Bank's proposal of 1954, the salient feature of which was the allotment of the waters of the Indus, Jhelum and Chenab, except for minor use in Jammu and Kashmir, to Pakistan and the Sutlej, Ravi and Beas to India. A transition period during which Pakistan would construct

canals, etc., to replace supplies hitherto received by her from the rivers going to India was to be fixed, India contributing towards the replacement works and allowing to Pakistan progressively diminishing supplies from the eastern rivers during this transition period.

"The main features of this treaty are: Pakistan should build these replacement works; presumably, we hope, in ten years' time, and during these ten years we supply water to them, though in a progressively diminishing degree. And Pakistan is going to be helped in building these replacement works to some extent by us, that is, financially, to the extent that we are going to deprive Pakistan of the water that Pakistan has been getting so far. We are helping to build these replacement works. But, in effect, Pakistan is going to build on a much bigger scale with the help of a number of countries and the World Bank. So, large sums of money are going to be given to Pakistan by the World Bank and by a number of other countries. We are going to make an *ad hoc* contribution spread out over ten years.

"The ten years begin from April 1, 1960, the date on which the treaty comes into effect. This period of ten years can be extended to a further period of three years at Pakistan's request. But the extension is subject to a reduction in our contribution by 5 per cent in the first year, by 10 per cent for two years and by 16 per cent for the three years. India will have no responsibility for their canals, etc. The water to be supplied by India to Pakistan from the eastern rivers during the transition period is to be of a diminishing scale and roughly this ten years' period is to be divided into two phases, 1960-61 and 1966-1970."

Referring to the effects of this agreement likely to be on the Rajasthan canal, Shri Nehru said that the supply of water to the Rajasthan canal will depend partly, "on some water

of another scheme which is, in a sense, allied to this, that is, the Beas scheme, effecting the damming of the Beas by us. This is a big scheme and, although Rajasthan Canal will be getting water throughout in an increasing quantity, the full supply will come only from the Beas later. Now, because we are accommodating Pakistan to a considerable extent, the World Bank has promised us aid for the construction of the Beas dam."

INDUS COMMISSION

The Prime Minister further said, "Then the treaty provides for a permanent Indus Commission, consisting of Indian and Pakistan Commissioners. Each Commissioner would be the representative of his Government for all matters arising out of the treaty and will serve as a regular channel of communication on all matters relating to the implementation of the treaty. The permanent Indus Commission will take the first steps to iron out any differences between the two sides. The treaty also provided for a neutral expert to whom differences of a technical nature would be submitted for solution. A court of arbitration has been provided to deal with the major disputes on the interpretation of the treaty."

CENSUS OF CHINESE NATIONALS

Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, said in reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 31 that suitable action was taken under the Foreigners Act, 1946 against the Chinese nationals who had overstayed in India. The census of Chinese nationals residing in India had been completed and the number of registered Chinese as on August 1, 1960 was 12,373.

COLONISATION OF ANDAMANS

Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, said in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 29 that an area of 2,175 acres was cleared in the Andamans to settle families in 1960.

An expenditure of Rs. 7,33,602 was incurred on the rehabilitation of the settlers during 1959-60. The approximate cost of reclamation of land was Rs. 5,18,716, excluding cost of stores issued in April 1960, transport charges and some other minor items of expenditure.

Development Of Ladakh

In a statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on August 20, Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister, informed the House that a sum of Rs. 56.25 lakhs was proposed to be spent during 1960-61 on the various development projects in Ladakh.

Almost 70 per cent of the amount would be spent on roads and bridges and on the improvement of landing strips. A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs was to be expended on power and Rs. 3 lakhs on construction and opening of new dispensaries and hospitals and water supply scheme for Leh.

DELEGATION TO U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

An announcement of August 27 says that the Indian Delegation to the 15th Session of the United Nations General Assembly will be composed as follows:

REPRESENTATIVES: (1) Shri V.K. Krishna Menon, Minister of Defence, New Delhi, Chairman (2) Shri Ali Yavar Jung, Ambassador of India in Yugoslavia, Deputy Chairman (3) Shri R. Venkataraman, Minister for Industries and Labour, Government of Madras. (4) Shri C.S. Jha, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations. (5) Shri B.K. Nehru, India's Commissioner General for Economic Affairs, Washington, D.C.

ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES: (1) Shri R.M. Hajarnavis, Union Deputy Minister of Law, (2) Shri N.C. Kasliwal, M.P. (3) Shri S.K. Roy, Consul-General of India, New York, (4) Shri J.N. Sahni, (5) Shri B. Rajan,

Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.

Shri B. Rajan will also be Secretary-General to the Delegation.

ADVISERS: (1) Shri M.H. Samuel, M.P. (2) Shri Dinesh Singh, M.P. (3) Shri C.D. Pande, M.P. (4) Shri M.A. Velodi, First Secretary to the Indian Delegation at the U.N. (5) Shri V.A. Kidwai, First Sec-

retary to the Indian Delegation at the U.N. (6) Shri N. Rasgotra, First Secretary to the Indian Delegation at the U.N. (7) Shri R. Bhandari, Deputy Secretary and Private Secretary to the Defence Minister. (8) Shri S. S. Nath, First Secretary to the Indian Delegation at the U.N.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER: (1) Shri K.B. Tandon, Public Relations Officer, Permanent Mission of India to the U.N.

MEETING OF CENTRAL ZONAL COUNCIL

A meeting of the Central Zonal Council was held in New Delhi on August 28 under the presidentship of the Union Home Minister, Shri G.B. Pant.

Addressing the meeting, the Home Minister said that it was gratifying to note that satisfactory progress had been made in the implementation of the Rihand and Chambal Projects in this Zone. It was understood that water had been stored this year in both the Rihand and Chambal reservoirs. The generating units in Rihand were likely to be commissioned early in 1961. Power and water for irrigation were expected to be made available from Chambal Project towards the end of November.

The Home Minister said that a socio-economic survey of the Chambal Valley had also been conducted. The special problem of the Valley was the development of 30,000 sq. miles of deep ravines in the dacoit-infested border area of the two States. Apart from the social implications of such a development in terms of law and order, the significance of reclaiming this area for additional agricultural production and development of communications in the interest of security and inter-State road traffic needed no emphasis.

A matter of very high priority, said Shri Pant, was the strengthening of U.P.'s northern border. Steps had recently been taken for administrative reorga-

nisation of this area and for accelerating the tempo of its development. Serious difficulties had been created for the people residing in the area by reason of the cessation of trade with Tibet. Detailed schemes for improving the means of communications and for all-round development of the area had been drawn up.

RIVER PROJECTS

After deliberations, the Central Zonal Council has re-affirmed its earlier decision that, as agreed upon in the past, U.P. will construct the Bhandar canals in the Madhya Pradesh area for supply of irrigation water to the State as soon as possible.

A representative of the Central Water and Power Commission will be associated with the Project so as to expedite its completion. The Madhya Pradesh Government will extend all the facilities to the surveyors deputed by the U.P. Government for the purpose of constructing necessary channels.

Also, the U.P. Government will honour its commitment regarding the supply of electric energy to Madhya Pradesh. The two Chief Ministers will look into the agreements entered in the past and ensure their implementation.

Both the States agreed to the principle on which payments are to be made for lands, houses, etc. to be acquired in Madhya Pradesh for the Rihand Dam.

The compensation is to be paid to all tenants on the present market value for the land, houses, trees as in Chambal. The Madhya Pradesh Government will receive compensation for all Government land, trees, wells, public buildings, tanks, etc. and also capitalised value of land revenue at 25 times the land revenue for the loss suffered by the State Government, and royalty on the minerals at the prescribed rate.

MANPOWER REQUIREMENTS

The Council has recommended that the Committee to report on manpower planning in the States of the Zone should immediately undertake the assessment of the demand and availability of local manpower for the Third Plan. The information regarding surpluses and deficits in the various categories of technical personnel in the Zone is proposed to be circulated to the other Zones as well.

The two States, however, have postponed for the time being the consideration of a scheme to co-ordinate technical education facilities in the Zone.

COMMON POLICE FORCE

The Council has referred back to the I.G.s of U.P. and Madhya Pradesh the scheme for the formation of a Common Police Reserve Force for the Zone. It was explained that the Force would not entail any extra expenditure to the States. In fact, a portion of the present strength of the Police of the respective States would be ear-marked for the Common Reserve for necessary use in emergencies.

The two States have agreed that toll be levied on all vehicles and animals crossing the inter-State river bridges costing rupees five lakhs or more. The toll receipts, after deducting the cost of collection, is to be distributed between the two States in the proportion of their contribution towards the cost of the joint bridges. The two Chief Secretaries are to evolve some arrangements for the maintenance and improvement of the bridges and their approaches.

CONTROL OF FERRIES

Both Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have agreed to the joint control of ferries plying on the crossings of the Chambal and other rivers of the border areas of the two States. The control will be exercised through a joint board consisting of local Collectors, Superintendents of Police and Executive Engineers of the concerned districts of the two States.

The Council also reviewed the work of the Power Development (Advisory) Committee appointed for the Zone. The Committee, though concerned with schemes that have an inter-State character, is to plan power development, as far as possible, in the overall interest of the Zone.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in Bhopal in December next.

Bye-Elections In 1959-60

According to an announcement of August 18, there were as many as 45 bye-elections, six to the Lok Sabha and 39 to the State Legislative Assemblies, between April 1959 and May 1960.

The number of persons who voted in these bye-elections averaged 45 per cent of the total electorate as against 48.6 per cent at the time of the last general elections in these very constituencies.

The analysis of results showed that the Indian National Congress retained 17 seats, gained 9 and lost 6; the Communist Party of India gained one; the Praja Socialist Party gained one and lost three; the Bharatiya Jan Sangh lost one; Independents retained 4, gained 4 and lost 5, and other parties retained 2, gained one and lost one.

PARTY-WISE BREAK-UP

Party-wise, the position was that out of six Lok Sabha seats, five went to the Congress Party and one to the Communist Party. Earlier, the Congress had four seats while the Independents two. Among the 39 members elected to the State

Legislative Assemblies were: Congress — 26, Praja Socialist Party — 1, Communist Party — 1, Independents — 8, and other parties — 3.

Death of the sitting member was the cause of bye-election in 27 cases, resignation in 7 cases and the re-poll ordered by the Election Tribunals in 11 cases.

The six bye-elections to the Lok Sabha were one each in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Bombay, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh.

The contestants to these seats numbered 18 as against 25 in the last general elections.

The 39 bye-elections in the State Assembly constituencies were held as: Andhra Pradesh — 7; Assam — 3; Bihar — 4; Bombay — 2; Madhya Pradesh — 5; Madras — 4; Maharashtra — 1; Mysore — 3; Orissa — 3; Rajasthan — 1; Uttar Pradesh — 5, and West Bengal — 1.

Co-ordination Of Population Statistics

The National Standing Committee for Co-ordination of Population and Vital Statistics held its first meeting in New Delhi on August 23 under the chairmanship of Shri G.B. Pant, Union Home Minister.

The Committee has been constituted on the recommendation made by the U.N. Population Commission in 1959 that the member countries set up National Councils for population studies.

Welcoming the formation of the Committee, Shri Pant said that it would serve a useful purpose at 'this juncture' as it helped to focus the entire problem of population in its proper perspective and direct analysis of this growing science in properly co-ordinated channels.

SUB-COMMITTEES

The National Standing Committee has set up four Advisory Sub-Committees which would co-ordinate the activities in the various fields.

The sub-committees are: the Health Statistics Committee presided over by the Director-General of Health Services; the Census and Vital Statistics Committee presided over by the Registrar-General of Census; the Demographic Study Committee headed by Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao, and the Social and Economic Committee under the Central Statistical Organisation.

There will be two Vice-Chairmen, one, the Union Health Minister and the second, Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis. The Union Home Minister will be the Chairman.

The National Standing Committee also reviewed the programme of the 1961 Census in India and approved of the scheme to hold sample survey every year of about one per cent of the population, selected both in the urban and rural areas.

NEW DEPUTY MINISTER

A Press Communique issued on August 19 from Rashtrapati Bhavan said that the President, on the advice of the Prime Minister, appointed Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra, M.P., at present Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, Employment and Planning, to be a Deputy Minister.

According to a Press Note of August 22, the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, administered the oath of office and secrecy at Rashtrapati Bhavan to Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra as a Deputy Minister in the Union Government.

According to a Press Communique issued by the Cabinet Secretariat on August 22, Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra, M.P., has, on assuming office, been attached to the Minister of Planning and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF BOMBAY

In a Press Note issued on August 22, the Ministry of Home Affairs has announced that the President is pleased to appoint Shri Justice J.R. Mudholkar, a Judge of the High Court at Bombay, to perform the duties of Chief Justice of that Court during

the absence on leave of Shri Justice H.K. Chainani, with effect from August 29, 1960.

GALLANTRY AWARD

An announcement of August 27 says that the President's Police and Fire Services Medal for gallantry has been awarded to the late Shri Rambahore, Police Constable, Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh.

The statement of services for which the decoration has been made says that in an encounter with dacoits in April last, Constable Rambahore exhibited 'conspicuous courage, initiative and devotion to duty of a very high order in the performance of which he laid down his life.' He was shot dead in the encounter after he and his party had shot down three of the five dacoits.

SCIENTISTS' POOL

An announcement of August 19 says that the Central Government have doubled the strength of the pool constituted for temporary placement of well-qualified scientists and technologists returning from abroad. The pool, whose strength will now be 200, also recruits persons with Indian qualifications and outstanding academic record. However, the proportion of such specialists does not ordinarily exceed 25 per cent of the total number of posts.

Persons appointed to the pool stay in it until they are absorbed

in suitable posts on a more or less permanent basis. They are attached to a Government department or State industrial enterprise, national laboratory, university or given some other work, depending on the requirement and their qualifications and experience.

Selections for the pool are made by a special recruitment board. Vacancies are notified from time to time in India and abroad.

Review Of State Welfare Work

An announcement of August 25 says that the Centre has set up a committee to review the existing welfare arrangements for the Government employees and make recommendations for improvement.

A suggestion to this effect was made by the Second Pay Commission.

The committee will study the welfare arrangements in some of the concerns in the private sector and consult the representatives of the employees before submitting its report.

A sum of Rs. 6.4 lakhs has been allocated for the welfare of Central Government employees for the year 1960-61. This is almost twelve-fold increase since 1954-55 when the grants-in-aid totalled Rs. 55,000.



NEW FOREIGN CREDITS TO INDIA

In reply to a Short Notice Question, Shri Morarji Desai, Minister of Finance, laid a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha on August 30 regarding offer of further credit by the U.S.S.R. The statement says that the Soviet Government

have expressed their readiness to grant India an additional credit of 500 million roubles (about Rs. 60 crores) for the Third Five Year Plan. The Government of India have gratefully accepted this welcome assistance. The Soviet Government

have already offered 1,500 million roubles (Rs. 180 crores) for the Third Plan.

A similar statement was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

BRITISH CREDIT

An agreement for a credit of Rs. 13.33 crores (£10 million), from the Government of the United Kingdom to the Government of India, was signed in New Delhi on August 16.

Under the agreement, a third of the credit is repayable in 10 years and the balance in 20 years, the first instalment of repayment on either portion of the credit falling due on May 31, 1966. The rate of interest will be the same as that currently applied by the U.K. Treasury to a loan for a comparable period out of the U.K. Consolidated Fund on the same date plus one-fourth of 1 per cent for administrative charges.

India will be able to draw on this credit for a broad range of her imports from the U.K.

With the present credit, the U.K. Government's assistance for India's Second Five Year Plan totals Rs. 100.66 crores.

National Income For 1959-60

The National Income of India in real terms recorded a rise of 0.5 per cent in 1959-60 over 1958-59 according to the 'quick' estimates prepared by the Central Statistical Organization on the basis of the trends disclosed by the current available data.

There was a fall of 3.9 per cent in agriculture (proper), the contribution of which accounted for 38.7 per cent of the total national income in 1959-60 as compared to 40.5 per cent in 1958-59. This fall in agriculture was, however, more than offset by increases in other sectors, which taken together, registered a rise of 3.4 per cent in 1959-60 over 1958-59, bringing about an increase in the contribution of these sectors

from 59.5 per cent in 1958-59 to 61.3 per cent in 1959-60. The present estimates are tentative.

The table below indicates the trend of national income and per capita income at 1948-49 prices during the quinquennium ending 1959-60:

Year	National Income (Rs. crores)	Per capita income (Rupees)
(Financial)	(Crores)	(Rupees)
1953-56	10,480	273.6
1956-57	11,000	283.5
1957-58	10,890	277.1
1958-59	11,690	293.6
(Preliminary)		
1959-60	11,750	291.3
(Provisional)		

The figures show that the net rise in national income in real terms during the first four years of the Second Plan, i.e. 1956-57 to 1959-60, was of the order of 12.1 per cent.

INCOME-TAX ARREARS

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 29, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, stated that the gross arrears of income-tax as on 1-4-1960 were Rs. 257.40 crores, whereas the effective arrears were Rs. 133.60 crores.

REPAYMENT OF LOAN 1960-70

In a Press Note issued on August 31, the Ministry of Finance has announced that the outstanding balance of the 4 per cent Loan 1960-70 is repayable on September 15, 1960 and no interest will accrue thereon from that date. To facilitate discharge of the loan on the due date, holders may tender their securities at the Public Debt Office, Treasury or Branch of State Bank of India/State Bank of Hyderabad/State Bank of Mysore at which they are encased/registered for payment of interest, on or after September 8.

Interest On Government Loans

In a Press Note issued on August 19, the Reserve Bank of

India has announced that Government Promissory Notes of the following loans efaced for payment of interest at Delhi and New Delhi, interest on which falls due for payment during September 1960, will now be accepted by the Public Debt Office, Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi, for payment of interest to facilitate delivery of securities and interest warrants on the due dates:

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LOANS: 3% Conversion Loan 1964; 2½% Loan 1976; and 3% Loan 1966-68.

STATE GOVERNMENTS LOANS: 3% Loans 1961; 3½% Loans 1962; 4% Loans 1967; 4% Loan 1968; and 4½% Loan 1969.

Holders of the above loans are advised to lodge their securities well in advance of the due dates. In view of the heavy work involved, the period for delivering securities tendered for payment of interest will be extended to six clear working days.

Rise In The Value Of Securities

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 18, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, confirmed that 'Government's attention had been drawn to the recent extraordinary rise in the value of securities in the stock market.' Among the reasons for the rise in value of securities were all-round industrial expansion and growing investment demand. The rise in prices had been general, even in cash securities, and not only in forward securities. Many of the existing industrial concerns had expanded their production and many new lines of manufactures were being undertaken. In view of the good prospects of these industrial concerns, their shares were very much in demand and the prices had consequently risen. Sometimes, the rise was also due to speculative activity.

The Finance Minister added that, in order to ensure that

speculative activity did not cause an unhealthy rise in prices, the trend of prices in the share markets was being continually watched and every effort was made to maintain restraint over the activities of the speculators.

One-Rupee Currency Notes

In a Press Note issued on August 27, 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, these new notes will bear the signature of Shri L.K. Jha, Secretary, Ministry of Finance. The starting prefix of these notes will be Y/O.

Notes bearing the signature of Shri A.K. Roy or that of his predecessors will continue to be legal tender.

LOK SABHA DEBATE ON THIRD PLAN

The Lok Sabha held a debate on the draft of the Third Five Year Plan from August 22 to 26. The debate was initiated by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. During the 20 hours of debate, 50 Members participated.

Winding up the debate on August 26, the Planning Minister, Shri G.L. Nanda, disclosed that Government were taking steps to have an expert enquiry to find out where the additional income generated by the two Plans had gone. The enquiry body would be asked to report on the trends in the distribution of incomes and wealth and on the changes in living conditions.

The debate ended by rejecting an amendment moved by the Swantra Party seeking disapproval of the policies and programmes contained in the draft outline of the Plan by 221 to 9 votes.

FINANCE MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON PALAI BANK

In a statement in the Lok Sabha on August 20 on the affairs of the Palai Central Bank, the Finance Minister, Shri Morarji Desai, said that, in the light of the present development, Government were considering if the interest of depositors, particularly the smaller ones, could be protected to a greater extent than at present. Government were also examining the question of securing quicker initial relief to the depositors of banks going into liquidation. This might involve amendment of the existing law and the matter was under urgent examination.

About suggestions that Government should directly assist the depositors in the Palai Central Bank, the Finance Minister said that it was not proper to ask the tax-payers to pay for the loss of an individual concern and any concession would have to be extended to other institutions similarly placed.

The Finance Minister said that the overall position of the Palai Central Bank was unsound. Out of its total advances of Rs. 5.6 crores as on the 29th July 1960, Rs. 219 lakhs were irrecoverable and Rs. 18 lakhs doubtful. A sum of Rs. 112 lakhs had been locked up in advances not easily realisable, a substantial portion of which was likely to prove irrecoverable. Even before the recent run on the bank, the interest of the depositors had been grievously affected by the large amount of irrecoverable, doubtful and difficult advances. This had been made worse for the remaining depositors by the large withdrawals which had substantially reduced the readily available assets.

No LICENCE ISSUED

Replying to the criticism made by some people against the Reserve Bank, Shri Morarji Desai said, "There appears to be a mistaken belief that because a bank

is a scheduled bank, the Reserve Bank or someone else has guaranteed the proper working of the institution and has in some way underwritten its deposits. The mere fact that the bank is entered in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act does not carry with it any such implication. It merely means that the bank is of a certain minimum financial standing, that it has to make certain statutory deposits with the Reserve Bank and because of its inclusion in the schedule it gets the benefit of credit from the Reserve Bank on suitable terms and conditions. The Reserve Bank of India Act by itself does not confer any degree of control or supervision over the affairs of the scheduled banks. The Reserve Bank's powers of supervision and control flow from the provisions of the Banking Companies Act, 1949."

The Finance Minister further disclosed in the statement that the Palai Central Bank had been functioning since 1927 and the question of giving or refusing a licence to it, under the Banking Companies Act, arose only in 1954, three years after the Act came into effect in the then Part B State of Travancore-Cochin. But in actual fact a licence was not issued to this bank. It had not been refused a licence either in terms of the Act, because such refusal would have meant the closure of the bank. "I mention this particularly because there appears to be an impression in certain quarters that this bank had been licensed by the Reserve Bank."

Referring to the inspection of banking companies by the Reserve Bank, the Finance Minister said that the Palai Central Bank was inspected four times in the last ten years in 1951, 1956, 1958 and 1960. In between, there were two rough and quick inspections in 1953 and 1955. The defects noticed in these inspec-

tions were taken up with the management and over a long period the Reserve Bank made patient and continuous efforts to make the management rectify the defects, and secure a more efficient functioning of the institution. It was tragic that these efforts proved of no avail. While during this period there had been a progressive deterioration in the bank's position, the Reserve Bank considered, and he thought it was right in his view, that drastic action, such as refusing a licence or putting the bank into liquidation, should not be taken until it was clear beyond doubt that there was no hope of rehabilitating it and that the interests of the depositors were in immediate jeopardy. "I have little doubt that the action taken by the Reserve Bank and its timing were appropriate," he observed.

AFFAIRS OF LAXMI BANK

The Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, Dr. B. Gopala Reddi, laid a statement on the affairs of the Laxmi Bank, Akola, on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on August 29.

According to the statement, the Laxmi Bank was incorporated as a public limited company in February 1938 and it was included in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act in January 1941. It was inspected by the Reserve Bank in 1948 and later in 1952, 1955 and 1958.

The first inspection in 1948 indicated that its affairs were not being conducted properly, and certain conditions were, therefore, imposed on the bank. The bank's affairs improved to some extent as a result of the conditions imposed after the first inspection in 1948 and the subsequent arrangement for the observation of the affairs. When the bank was inspected in 1955, it was expected that this improvement would continue and the observation of its affairs was, therefore, discontinued.

On 18th May, 1960, a report was received by the Reserve Bank from the Maharashtra police alleging a misappropriation of the bank's funds to the extent of Rs. 75 lakhs. It was discovered as a result of an immediate inspection that there was a shortage of cash to the extent of Rs. 62.20 lakhs at various branches.

LIQUIDATION

A run on the bank had started in the meantime, and its deposits had begun to decline appreciably from about the end of March, 1960. The decline in the deposits between the 25th March, 1960 and the 20th May, 1960, the date on which the inspection of the bank was taken up, amounted to about Rs. 75 lakhs. The withdrawals continued even after that date.

As it was not possible for the Reserve Bank of India to grant to the bank any substantial assistance without suspending the normal provisions of the law, while such assistance as the Reserve Bank was otherwise able to offer would have been inadequate for the purpose, an application for winding up the bank was presented by the Reserve Bank on May 30, 1960 in the Maharashtra High Court, and this application was accepted by that Court on the same day.

Investigations by the police are in progress.

As regards the depositors of the bank, the Court Liquidator, Bombay, who is now in charge of the bank's affairs, will be able to realise the remaining assets of the bank in accordance with the special provisions relating to the banking companies prescribed in the Banking Companies Act, 1949. The question regarding the manner in which these provisions should be further modified, so as to facilitate the grant of more expeditious relief to the depositors, is under consideration.

Punjab National Bank

Replying to a Short Notice Question in the Lok Sabha on August 29, the Finance Minister,

Shri Morarji Desai, said that the Government was satisfied with the financial stability of the Punjab National Bank Ltd.

The Finance Minister said that Government's attention had been drawn to certain allegations in this connection, but without a detailed investigation it would not be possible to confirm or contradict them.

Asked about the liquid assets of the Bank, Shri Desai said that the liquid assets comprising cash in hand, balances with the Reserve Bank and investments in approved securities amounted to Rs. 62 crores on August 19, 1960. The Finance Minister further replied, "As the percentage of the liquid assets of banks changes from day to day, it is not possible to make a categorical statement; but the liquid position of the Punjab National Bank has always been good."

New Board Of L.I.C.

The tenure of the present Members of the Board of the Life Insurance Corporation of India comes to an end on August 31, 1960. The Government of India have issued a Notification dated August 22, 1960, appointing 15 persons to be Members of the Board of the Corporation for a period of two years with effect from September 1, 1960. The new members are:

(1) Shri P.A. Gopalakrishnan, ICS, Chairman (2) Shri Dhiren Mitra, (3) Shri Vadilal Lallubhai Mehta, (4) Shri Mohammed Hasham Premji, (5) Shri B.K. Kaul, ICS, (6) Shri C.C. Desai, (7) Shri P.C. Bhattacharyya, (8) Shri N.K. Petigara, (9) Sardar Ujjal Singh, (10) Shri T.S. Krishna, (11) Shri K.G. Ambe-gaokar, (12) Professor Gorakh Nath Sinha, (13) Shri N.R. Mody, (14) Shri Bikkini Venkatratnam, (15) Shri Amolakh Chand.

FIRST PRIZE BONDS DRAW

In a Press Note issued on August 22 by the Ministry of Finance, the Government of India have announced the centres in which the first draw for prizes

on the interest-free Five-Year Prize Bonds 1965 will be held on the 1st September, 1960. The draws for Rs. 100 denomination Prize Bonds will be held at the Cowasjee Jehangir Hall, Bom-

bay and the Sapru House, New Delhi. The draws for Rs. 5 denomination Bonds will be held in 16 halls in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and New Delhi, Madras, Bangalore and Nagpur.



TRENDS OF EXPORT TRADE IN FIRST HALF OF 1960

The half-yearly meeting of the Export Promotion Advisory Council was held in New Delhi on August 28.

Addressing the meeting, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, said that the immediate problem of the country on the export front was to ensure that an export target of Rs. 650 crores for 1960 was achieved. He felt that this target was realistic and capable of achievement with an 'aggressive export promotion effort'.

Shri Shastri reviewed the trends of our exports during 1959 and the first half of 1960 and said that while the performance was good, it was 'not good enough, in view of our foreign exchange position'.

Shri Shastri disclosed that a detailed export plan for 1960-61 had been worked out on a commodity-wise basis, which would also be arranged country-wise. The plan had been framed after taking into account the production and consumption estimates in the country and export possibilities.

Shri Shastri announced that he proposed to appoint a small committee, with the Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry as Chairman, to consider the increased export possibilities of half a dozen items, such as tobacco, oil seeds, sugar, tanned leather and leather goods. A concrete plan as to how to increase their production, what

incentives should be given to the producers, etc., would be drawn up by the committee.

LIBERALISATION OF CONTROL

The Minister also announced that it was proposed to abolish export control on about 70 more items. These would include, among agricultural commodities, green coconuts, gum Arabic and miscellaneous seeds and, among manufactured goods, a number of chemicals, certain engineering goods like electrical instruments and gas and petrol engines, certain metal manufactures like copper wires, sheets, circles, strips and plates, lead alloys and other manufactures like rubber belts and belting and vessels for inland and harbour navigation.

Export control was being exercised mainly for conserving supplies for domestic consumption or for ensuring supply of raw materials for the indigenous industries and the position was being constantly reviewed.

Shri Shastri referred to the draft scheme of enrolment of exporters, and said that the basic objective was to further improve business and ethical standards by exporters. The scheme provided for selection of Chambers or Associations of Trade, who would be authorised to undertake enrolment of exporters fulfilling certain minimum qualifications laid down for this purpose. The enrolled exporters would be eligible for the grant of certain facilities.

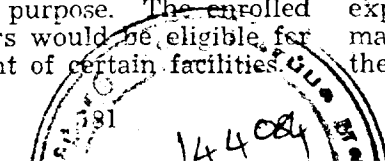
Shri Shastri said that 'link schemes', such as now in operation, to some extent or other, in regard to the export of rayon textiles, cotton textiles and bicycles had now to be worked out over a wider field. What was necessary was that the operation of the 'link' in such schemes should be healthy and should not give room for abuse. In allotting foreign exchange, priority should be given for industries which could bring in export earnings.

CREDIT FACILITIES

On the question of credit facilities for Indian exporters, Shri Shastri said that Government had constituted a study group to prepare concrete and detailed schemes. The question had also been under discussion with the Planning Commission, banking and other interests and it was hoped that a scheme to afford credit facilities to the exporters would be prepared shortly by the study group and implemented after examination by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

He called upon the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and other trade bodies to take keener interest in the organisation and setting up of show rooms and trade centres abroad and felt that it would be desirable to set up immediately a joint committee of the Federation's representatives and the Ministry officials to study this matter. On the proposal for building up export houses, he said that certain suggestions and modifications had been proposed for consideration by the promoters of the scheme. He hoped these would be adopted and an early decision taken.

Shri Shastri referred to the role of the State Trading Corporation in expanding the trade with East European countries and other State Trading countries. The S.T.C. had also played a useful role in promoting the export of iron ore. In respect of manganese ore, the S.T.C. and the trade should jointly make an



effort to export more. The total exports by the S.T.C. during the first half of this year had amounted to Rs. 16.2 crores and imports to Rs. 10.1 crores. In this connection, Shri Shastri also mentioned that our exports to countries, with whom we had Rupee Payment Agreements, had totalled Rs. 54 crores in 1959 and Rs. 30.9 crores during the first half of 1960.

EXPORT TRENDS

Reviewing the export trends, Shri Shastri said that our exports had continued to move forward during 1959 and the first half of this year. During January-June 1960, exports amounted to Rs. 302 crores, as against Rs. 266 crores in the corresponding period of 1959. In view of the seasonal trend, the performance of some of our major export commodities was usually higher during the second half of the calendar year. In some cases, however, there might be a downward trend in the second half of this year. While it was difficult to forecast the future, utmost efforts should be made to see that exports should be, at least, Rs. 640-650 crores, which would be a record.

Shri Shastri said that it could be reasonably expected that our adverse balance during 1960 would be about Rs. 210 crores, as against Rs. 265 crores in 1959. He particularly referred to our persisting trade imbalance with the O.E.E.C. countries and said that while the position had slightly improved during the first five months of the current years, as compared to the corresponding period in 1959, there was still a trade deficit of Rs. 60.28 crores. Our exports to the 'Outer Seven' countries had improved by Rs. 8.89 crores in January-May 1960, as compared to the corresponding period of 1959. The adverse trade balance with this group of countries, however, had gone up to Rs. 29.36 crores in the first five months of 1960, the corresponding figure in 1959 being Rs. 18.66 crores, mainly because of higher imports from the U.K. As regards our

trade with the European Common Market countries, the position required careful watching and imbalance in trade, such as of the order of Rs. 142.6 crores in 1959, could not be allowed to continue for a long time. Shri Shastri said that although the West German Government had announced some concessions recently in regard to our exports to that country, these had only touched the 'fringe of the problem'. He added: "We have to discover ways and means of balancing our overall trade by exporting more to this area or alternatively we may have to cut down our imports from this group of countries."

MEETING OF IMPORT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The half-yearly meeting of the Import Advisory Council was held in New Delhi on August 27. Speaking at the meeting, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, said that, while formulating the import policy for the ensuing period, October 1960 to March 1961, 'the big decline' in our sterling balances, which naturally caused concern, could not be ignored. Although the position needed watching, it need not cause 'undue despondency'. He did not propose to postpone the announcement of the import policy for the new period on account of the existing handicaps, since postponement of this kind sometimes led to unhappy results and to the creation of 'a psychology of shortage and scarcity' and resulted in prices soaring high. He said that if we had to face a difficult situation, it was better to make a few cuts and reductions than to remain in doubt and uncertainty, creating unnecessary misgivings in the minds of the trade and the industry.

The import policy in future, he said, would naturally be one of giving high priority to import of raw materials, tools, parts and

In regard to East European countries, as a result of bilateral trading arrangements, our exports to these had risen considerably, from Rs. 20.5 crores in the first half of 1959 to Rs. 30.9 crores during the corresponding period this year. India had also made similar trading arrangements with the Egyptian region of the United Arab Republic in respect of one lakh tons of Egyptian rice, for which payment amounting to Rs. 4 crores would be made by India in terms of non-convertible Indian rupees.

components, machinery for replacement and some of the vital consumer goods.

Shri Shastri said that during January-May 1960, the total imports of items other than cereals amounted to Rs. 347.5 crores, as compared to Rs. 325.4 crores in the same period last year. The special feature this year had been the increase in the imports of raw cotton from Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 29 crores, rendered necessary by the shortfall in the Indian crop. For similar reasons, more had also to be spent on import of raw jute. The import of machinery, apparatus and appliances rose from Rs. 85 crores to Rs. 91 crores, partly as a result of somewhat extended licensing against external assistance. There had also been larger arrivals also of petroleum and petroleum products and of non-ferrous metals.

RAW MATERIALS

The Minister stressed the importance of industries becoming more and more self-sufficient in regard to raw materials. Fortunately, many of the industries made relatively little call on our foreign exchange resources. He referred to the sizeable increase in output during January-May

this year, as compared to the corresponding period last year, in respect of iron ore, coal, sugar, paper, caustic soda, soda ash, cement, pig iron, steel and aluminium. In a number of cases, indigenous production had shown such good performance that it had become possible to completely stop imports. Among such items were pumps and pumping sets, cutlery, phosphoric acid, gun powder, VIR cables, steel reeds, etc. In some other items, e.g. diesel engines, cement, type-writers, refrigerators, electric generators, special types of penicillin, etc., imports had been reduced to very small amount.

The Minister disclosed that, though our imports of raw materials and intermediate products had not increased to a very appreciable extent, it had been possible to raise the index of industrial production from 133 in 1956 to 168 in April 1960 (base 1951 = 100).

The Minister strongly advised the industrial units, which needed imported components on a substantial scale, to accelerate their manufacturing programmes and said that the Government would do their best to make available necessary foreign exchange for importing capital equipment for this purpose.

Shri Shastri called upon the industry to take more active steps than in the past to explore the possibility of securing supplies of raw materials from the State Trading countries, since we were short of free resources. Our trade with these countries had risen considerably in the last few years, thanks to the prominent part played by the S.T.C., whose imports had gone up from Rs. 7.23 crores in 1957-58 to Rs. 14.08 crores in the first nine months of 1959-60.

CAPITAL GOODS

Referring to our large-scale requirements of capital goods during the Third Plan period, the Minister said that external

resources in the form of loans or otherwise were essential. India had been fortunate in getting the necessary support from far and near and countries like the U.S.A., U.S.S.R., U.K., West Germany, Japan and Canada were helping us in a big way. He referred to the forthcoming meeting in Paris next month of many of these countries to consider further aid to India and said that he had no doubt that the same spirit of friendship on their part would continue in future.

Shri Shastri regretted that in quite a number of items, profiteering was still being indulged in. He mentioned spices like cloves and cassia, betelnuts, mercury, several kinds of paper, sheet and plate glass, miscellaneous hardware and motor vehicle parts as among those which were selling at 'exceptionally very high prices' during the last few months. He said: "I know it would be increasing the burdens of the S.T.C., but there seems to be no other alternative except to select a few items out of these and entrust their total imports to the S.T.C. The S.T.C. may take the help of the organisations of the established importers for distribution and they can have their own independent agencies also. The Directors of Industries in the States may also be requested to help. The soaring prices of some of these raw materials are built-in in the manufactured goods and raise their prices. It is neither good for internal consumption nor helpful in exports of those goods."

TRADE WITH ITALY

A New Delhi announcement of August 25 says that the trade arrangement between India and Italy has been extended up to June 30, 1961. The trade arrangement, which was entered into in October 1959 between the Government of Italy and the Indian Government Trade Delegation to West European countries, expired on June 30, 1960.

Under the terms of the arrangement, the two Governments have agreed to promote economic and commercial co-operation between the two countries and encourage the development of contacts between businessmen and trading organisations in both the countries.

Among the commodities listed in the schedule of goods available for export from India to Italy are: tea, coffee, tobacco, spices, dried fruits, oils, hides and skins, cotton fabrics, jute coir, leather footwear, etc.

The list of items for export from Italy to India include agricultural and other types of machinery; scientific, engineering and optical instruments; artificial silk yarn; dye-stuffs; etc.

Textile Machinery From U.K.

In a Press Note issued on August 20, the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, says that certain credit facilities have now been made available for import of textile machinery from the United Kingdom on the following deferred payment terms covering F.O.B. costs:—

- (i) 5% of F.O.B. value on order;
- (ii) 5% on shipment plus actual insurance and freight charges; and
- (iii) The balance in equal half-yearly or annual instalments inclusive of interest over a period of five years from the date of shipment.

The minimum value covering each order for import of machinery, however, should not be less than £20,000 Sterling.

It should be understood that the foreign exchange allowed for import on the above terms from the U.K. are intended to afford mills, which have already submitted their applications for import of textile machinery from countries other than the U.K. during the current period (April-September, 1960), an

opportunity to change the country of origin, if they so desire. That is to say, no fresh applications for import from the U.K. will be entertained.

Import Of Goods From Pakistan

An announcement dated August 23 says that the Government of India have decided to grant licences on an ad hoc basis for import of three more items from Pakistan under Protocol No. 1 to the Trade Agreement between the Governments of India and Pakistan signed on March 21, 1960. Protocol No. 1 to the Agreement provides for imports from Pakistan against payments in non-convertible Indian rupees.

The items for which licences will now be granted are: exposed films; books and periodicals; and phonograph records. The validity period in all the three cases will be six months and the licensing authority will be the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi.

The import of exposed cinematograph films will be permitted only on the basis of outright sale. In the case of books and periodicals, licences will not be valid for import of fictions and comics.

Early in July last, the Government of India had announced their decision to permit import of six items from Pakistan. The items were betelnuts, betel leaves, eggs and poultry, dried and salted fish, drugs and medicines and livestock.

Import Of Fruits From Afghanistan

It has been announced in an Import Trade Control Public Notice issued on August 20 that the Government of India have decided to permit import of dried and fresh fruits from Afghanistan on the basis of advance licensing. These licences will be subject to subsequent adjustment according to the entitlement of the approved importers.

The import permits will be issued on an ad hoc basis within a limited ceiling and on the condition that the importer undertakes to effect exports to counterbalance the import. The last date for receiving applications from approved importers is September 20, 1960.

Transfer Of Import Quotas

The provisions relating to the recognition of new established importers and the transfer of import quotas have been revised and announced in an Import Trade Control Public Notice issued in New Delhi on August 22.

In formulating the new provisions, the suggestions and representations made by the trade and trade associations have been considered and changes made, wherever practicable. An attempt has been made to liberalise the provisions and remove hardships. For the first time, a provision has been made with regard to the continuity of the import quota in certain types of cases. Generally, the procedure has also been simplified in order to enable the expeditious disposal of applications.

ESTABLISHED IMPORTER

The Public Notice states that an established importer cannot transfer his right to obtain licences as an established importer and the quota granted to him for this purpose. Licences are generally granted in the name of the business belonging to the established importer. In public interest and for the continuity of any business, however, the Chief Controller may, subject to certain conditions, recognise any person or persons as the established importer in respect of any business after examining their connections with the old owners. In such cases, the newly recognised established importers will be granted a quota equivalent to either the whole or a part of the old quota. They will be eligible for the grant of licences from the

date of their recognition only. Persons seeking such recognition as established importers should apply in the prescribed form along with the required documents.

The Public Notice also lays down the principles which will be applied for the purpose of such recognition and the grant of the import quotas.

Duty Drawback On Export

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Finance on August 19 says that, as a measure of export promotion, the Government of India propose to grant drawback of duty on Instant coffee on brand basis.

In this connection, Government have issued a draft notification inviting objections by September 1, 1960. Any objection or suggestion received by that date will be considered by the Government of India.

Assistance To Rubber Industry

A Press Note issued on August 23 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry says that the Government of India have decided that the statutory price of raw rubber should continue to be maintained at Rs. 155.75 per 100 lbs., inclusive of cess and sales tax.

As a result of several representations received from the industry, the Government had asked the Tariff Commission in April 1959 to undertake a fresh enquiry with a view to revising the price of raw rubber. The Commission recommended that the price of raw rubber R.M.A. Grade I should be fixed at Rs. 146 per 100 lbs., exclusive of sales tax and cess, as against Rs. 147.50 per 100 lbs. now being received by the producers. In view of the need for accelerated production of additional quantities of rubber to meet the growing internal demands of the manufacturing industry, the Government have decided that

there is no need to effect the small reduction in the price suggested by the Tariff Commission.

The Commission has recorded that the cost of replantation has gone up considerably in recent years. Apart from the provision made for the rehabilitation element in the price of raw rubber, the Government have decided to effect a substantial increase in the rate of subsidy for replantation with improved strains which ranges from Rs. 250 to Rs. 400 per acre at present to Rs. 1,000 per acre.

This subsidy will be given in seven instalments, beginning with the first instalment of Rs. 400 and six subsequent annual instalments of Rs. 100 each. The Government hope that the replantation programme of the industry will now be implemented speedily in the overall interests of the national economy.

Policy On Allotment Of Plates

In a Public Notice issued in Calcutta on August 22, the Iron and Steel Controller has announced a liberal policy in respect of allotment of plates, hot rolled strips and thicker gauges of black sheets.

This decision has been taken in view of the production of such material by the Rourkela Steel Plant in the near future.

With immediate effect, a simplified procedure will be followed in respect of obtaining supplies of plates of thickness 3/16 inches and 1/8 inches and above, and hot rolled strips of thicknesses of 10G to 14G by consumers and stockholders, the Public Notice adds.

The consumers of such plates, strips and B.P. sheets can submit indents for their requirements direct to the Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta. Quota certificates will not be required for acquisition of these materials. Controlled stockholders of indigenous steel and registered stockholders can also send

their indents without any quota certificate.

LAST DATE FOR INDENTS

The registered stockholders should, however, send a copy of the indents to the respective State licensing authority. Planning of indents for such plates, strips and B.P. sheets will be done for each half year commencing from 1st October, 1960.

Consumers and controlled registered stockists are requested to send their indents to the Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta, at least one full month before the beginning of each half yearly period. As a special case indents for the second half of the year 1960-61 will be entertained up to 15th November, 1960.

Such plates, strips and B.P. sheets will be supplied only to genuine consumers and in reasonable quantities. Indentors should, therefore, while submitting their indents, clearly mention on such indents (a) details of outstanding orders for plates, hot rolled strips and B.P. sheets of thicknesses mentioned above and (b) the quantity against each they had indented for in the previous quota period, concludes the Public Notice.

COMMODITY PRICES IN JULY

A Press Note issued on August 31 by the Economic Adviser to the Government of India says that wholesale prices, as measured by the official index (with the year ended March, 1953 as 100), moved up by 1.5 per cent to 124.7 during the month of July 1960 as compared with 122.9 for June 1960. The index was higher by 6.8 per cent when compared with 116.8 for July 1959.

During the month, the index for 'Food Articles' advanced by 3.1 per cent to 124.0, 'Tobacco' by 0.1 per cent to 108.1, 'Fuel, Power, Light and lubricants' by 0.3 per cent to 118.3 and 'Manufactures' by 0.9 per cent to 121.0, while the index for 'Industrial Raw Materials' registered a fall of 1.8 per cent to 137.2.

FOOD ARTICLES

The sub-group index for 'Cereals' recorded a rise of 2.1 per cent to 109.5 due to an all-round increase in the prices of cereals. The index for 'Cereals' was higher by 2.3 per cent when compared with the corresponding month of the previous year. Higher prices of gram, arhar, mung, masur and urad raised the sub-group index for 'Pulses' by 5.8 per cent to 94.9. The index for 'Fruits and Vegetables' went up by 3.8 per cent to 126.8 owing to a rise in the prices of potatoes, onions and bananas, although the prices of oranges and cashewnuts witnessed decline. The prices of both milk and ghee exhibited a rise and, in consequence, the sub-group index for 'Milk and Ghee' moved up by 1.3 per cent to 121.5. An all-round rise in the prices of edible oils raised the index for 'Edible Oils' by 5.4 per cent to 147.3. An increase in the prices of fish, eggs and meat pushed up the sub-group index for 'Fish, Eggs and Meat' by 6.3 per cent to 127.4. A rise of 1.7 per cent to 140.0 in the sub-group index for 'Sugar and Gur' was brought about by an advance in the prices of gur. Higher prices of tea black pepper, chillies, cloves, turmeric, cardamoms and betelnuts raised the index for 'Other Food Articles' by 4.6 per cent to 168.8; the price of salt, however, showed a fall.

The index for 'Tobacco' went up by 0.1 per cent to 108.1 due to a rise in the prices of raw tobacco.

The index for 'Fuel, Power, Light and Lubricants' rose by 0.3 per cent to 118.3 owing to an increase in the prices of castor oil.

INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS

The sub-group index for 'Fibres' registered a fall of 8.6 per cent to 139.4 due to a decline in the prices of raw jute and raw wool, despite a rise in the prices of raw silk. An advance in the prices of oilseeds, except that of castor seed, raised the sub-group index for 'Oilseeds' by 4.5 per cent to 150.9. The sub-

group index for 'Minerals' advanced by 0.2 per cent to 98.2 as a result of an increase in the prices of mica. Lower prices of raw hides, raw skins, tanning materials, lac and bamboos brought down the index for 'Other Industrial Raw Materials' by 1.2 per cent to 126.6; there was, however, a slight rise in the prices of logs and timber.

The index for 'Intermediate Products' recorded a rise of 2.5 per cent to 130.4 due to increases in the prices of linseed oil, cotton yarn, rayon yarn, aluminium, zinc, tin and lead, notwithstanding a fall in the prices of coir yarn, brass and copper.

FINISHED PRODUCTS

An increase in the prices of cotton manufactures (+3.2 per cent to 130.0) caused a rise of 0.8 per cent to 120.8 in the index for 'Textiles', although prices of jute manufactures (-5.6 per cent to 106.8) exhibited a decline. Among cotton manufactures, both mill-made and handloom cloth displayed a rise.

The sub-group index for 'Metal Products' receded by 1.0 per cent to 146.8 as a result of a fall in the prices of finished steel. Lower prices of general chemicals and drugs and medicines brought down the sub-group index for 'Chemicals' by 1.8 per cent to 102.7. 'Oilcakes' moved up by 5.4 per cent to 139.1. The sub-group index for 'Machinery and Transport Equipment' rose by 0.2 per cent to 111.0 owing to an increase in the prices of rubber tyres and tubes; the prices of cycles, however, witnessed a fall.

An advance in the prices of shoes (leather), bricks and tiles, pottery goods and lime pushed up the sub-group index for 'Other Finished Products' by 1.0 per cent to 115.8. On the whole, the index for 'Finished Products' moved up by 0.6 per cent to 119.4 during the month under review.

LOK SABHA DEBATE ON OIL POLICY

The Government of India's oil policy, with special reference

to the import of crude oil from the U.S.S.R., was debated in the Lok Sabha on August 29. Replying to the debate, the Minister for Mines and Oil, Shri K. D. Malaviya, said that the first fall in the price of crude oil occurred in February 1959. Since then no offer of reduction of price of crude oil was made. It was only when the Soviet group offered oil at the port of Bombay in this free world market that the oil companies offered a reduction.

It was also a fact that the same oil explorers and producers of crude oil were offering discount on the posted price to all such refineries which were not known as the tied refineries and which were functioning as independent refineries in various countries in Europe like the Scandinavian countries, Denmark, France and Italy. So, the advantage of discount was passed on to refineries which were not tied refineries, but tied refineries like ours had to pay at the rate of the posted price.

SEARCH FOR OIL

Shri Malaviya said that since 1956 the policy had been clearly declared that oil was in Schedule A, and it would be controlled, operated and initiated by the Government. Since then, no oil concession had been given to any authority which might have taken away the initiative of the Government and which could in any way be called as against public interest.

Recently, India had invited the oil interests from all over the world to come and join us in the search for oil, provided they agreed to fall generally within the pattern of the Industrial Policy Resolution. A few proposals had been received and it was the intricate matter of negotiations that was perhaps delaying any conclusions on the proposals. It would be difficult to accept the general pattern of an agreement on the so-called 50:50 arrangement, as had been offered and which was still being offered, and not much

improvement was being indicated by those who were anxious to come to an agreement.

So far as refining was concerned, the Minister said, we should have as many refineries in the public sector as we could. It was our own national refineries which could control the economy of oil and which could be ultimately responsible for the expansion of our economy, be it transport, industry or anything.

In the next five years, perhaps six years, even if there was no oil discovery in our country, we would have to spend about Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 crores in importing crude and petroleum products for our present standard of economy.

As against this, we had spent about Rs. 20 crores in this five years' time, out of which Rs. 12 crores had been invested in capital investment, which was still lying there, and about Rs. 8 to Rs. 9 crores must have been spent in operations.

We had discovered an oilfield in Cambay and another in Ankleshwar. Ankleshwar was likely to prove, according to all expert opinion, a better oilfield than Cambay. A nucleus had started round about which more and more oilfields appeared to have been discovered.

In Assam; 72 wells had so far been drilled. By next year, the number of wells would further increase to ensure a supply of 2.5 million tons of oil for the two refineries at Gauhati and Barauni.

By the end of this year, we would start planning for a medium-sized refinery or perhaps a bigger one somewhere in Gujarat. In the meantime, the refineries at Bombay had agreed to refine the oil that would be produced as trial production. Trial production would start sometime in the middle of next year.

OTHER ASPECTS OF OIL

With regard to the other aspects of oil, the Minister said, we

had already embarked upon more activities than mere exploration and refining. A public distribution company had been established and it was proposed to hand over the retail distribution to co-operatives in various States and to control the distribution of petroleum products imported from other countries at cheaper rates. Government were determined to pursue the policy of procuring as cheap products — crude oil, petroleum products—as they could possibly get. The buyer's market was likely to continue for some time and there was no reason why India should not get the fullest advantage of it.

With regard to the internal distribution system, the Government were already considering very actively spreading a network of pipelines in order to relieve the Railways of the burden of transporting oil from place to place. It had been found out that it was the most economic way to transport oil by one pipeline from Bombay to Delhi, Barauni, and Calcutta. There were pipes in the public sector in Rourkela. As soon as the Rourkela steel plates were available, fabrication of pipes would be taken up.

Industrialisation Of Cambay Region

An announcement dated August 20 says that the Government of India have decided to set up a Co-ordinating Committee to consider the overall problem of industrialisation, development of natural resources and regional planning of the Cambay region.

The Committee has been set up in view of the discovery of oil in the Cambay region which is likely to increase potentiality of the area to a considerable extent.

The Committee will advise the Government on the location of industries in the Cambay region and particularly in the areas with which the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is concerned in its exploration for and develop-

ment of oil and gas. It will consider matters relating to the acquisition of lands and buildings, and construction of roads for the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in Ankleshwar and Cambay regions. It will also advise the Government on problems relating to transportation of oil and gas for refinery or other uses.

COAL PROJECTS AT KORBA

The Government of India have accepted three project reports from Russian experts, namely, those relating to the open-cast mine, the washery and the workshop at Korba, said Sardar Swaran Singh, Union Minister for Steel, Mines and Fuel, in reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 16.

The acceptance of the project reports for the open-cast mine and the workshop was subject to certain conditions.

As regards the washery, though the report had been accepted, it had been decided not to implement the project, because it would be uneconomic to do so having regard to the washability characteristics of the coal and other attendant factors.

PRODUCTION OF COPPER

An announcement of August 30 says that, according to the Indian Bureau of Mines, the production of copper ore during January-June, 1960 was 219,464 metric tons. This represents an increase of about 10 per cent as compared to the output of 199,945 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-June, 1960, was 4,379 metric tons as compared to 3,817 metric tons in the corresponding period of 1959.

MANUFACTURE OF CAMERAS

An agreement was signed in New Delhi on August 26 between the Government of India

and Messrs. Nippon Kogaku of Tokyo for technical collaboration in the manufacture of cameras in the Government-owned National Instruments Factory at Calcutta.

The agreement provides for a technical tie-up with the Japanese firm for the utilisation of their patents in the manufacture of cameras and other optical instruments at the option of the Government.

For the time being, it is proposed to commence manufacture of Nikkorex, the latest model which Messrs. Nippon Kogaku are making in medium-priced cameras. This is a 35 m.m. single lens (f. 2.5) reflex camera with view-finder and built-in exposure meter. The National Instruments Factory is expected to reach an optimum production of 1,000 cameras per month within a period of two to three years.

The agreement with the Japanese firm will be current initially for a period of 10 years. Technicians from the Company will visit India shortly and start training Indian engineers.

TELEPRINTER FACTORY

A Press Note issued on August 26 by the Ministry of Transport and Communications says that an agreement for technical collaboration between the Government of India and Messrs. Ing. C. Olivetti and Co., S.P.A. of Italy was signed in New Delhi on August 26 for the setting up of a teleprinter factory in India.

TRANSISTOR RADIO SETS

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, replied in the Lok Sabha on August 18 that it was proposed to manufacture transistor radio sets in India from next year. It was estimated that the cost of imported content in a transistor radio set would be up to 25 to 30 per cent of its ex-factory price and that the average annual expenditure of foreign exchange in this regard was likely to be Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 lakhs, out of a total allocation of about Rs. 1 crore for the radio receiver manufacturing industry.

DEVELOPMENT OF HANDICRAFTS

The annual meeting of the newly-constituted All India Handicrafts Board was held in New Delhi on August 24. Shrimati Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, Chairman of the Board, presided.

Inaugurating the meeting, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Minister for Commerce and Industry, referred to the tight foreign exchange position and said that there was good prospects of improving exports of handicraft products. Market studies abroad should be organised and every effort should be made to find out patterns that would be in demand in foreign countries. If exports of handicrafts increased, there would not be any difficulty in importing the required raw materials.

The Minister paid a tribute to the work of the Handicrafts Board in reviving handicrafts. He said that the Board had given a new sense of faith to the hundreds of artisans and workmen spread throughout the country.

Referring to the allocation of only Rs. 8 crores in the draft Third Plan, Shri Shastri observed that it might not be enough to keep the tempo of development. The Evaluation Team had recommended an outlay of Rs. 20 crores during the Third Plan. While they would try to get a larger allocation, Shri Shastri said that they would see that good work done by the Board was not impeded for want of funds.

Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Industry, who was present at the meeting, stressed the need for exploring the possibilities of introduction of mechanisation in a small way, besides improving the tools and equipment of the workmen.

PROGRAMME IN THIRD PLAN

The Board considered measures for the development of

handicrafts in the Third Plan. The handicrafts programme would cover an area much larger than that attempted so far, emphasis being laid on the development of crafts which catered to the needs of middle-class consumers and the rural crafts. The Board would strive to accelerate the activities undertaken so far to provide sustenance to foreign markets, tourists as well as to the upper income groups in the country. Attention would be focussed on individual crafts and the development of improved tools and arrangements for the distribution to craftsmen.

A programme of design development was also proposed by providing an effective expansion design service, contact and communication between design centres, design artists, craftsmen, manufacturers, marketing agencies and training of craft designers.

It was also proposed to start a programme of research for laying down standards and specifications and grades for quality marking of handicraft products, setting up of well-equipped laboratories and inspection depots.

TRIBAL AREAS

The Board discussed the development of handicrafts among Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes for which a sum of Rs. 1 crore has been allotted by the Ministry of Home Affairs during the current financial year. It was decided that the indigenous crafts of these areas would be developed and the people encouraged to produce not only enough for their own requirements but also for marketing purposes. These decisions have been taken on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Government headed by Dr. Verrier Elwin. It was decided that a survey should be conducted immediately of all these areas.

The Board considered the budget and the plan for the year 1960-61. The progress of the handicrafts industry during 1959-60 was noted with satisfaction. During the year, about 70 per cent of the sale of handicrafts was on account of domestic consumers.

Panel For Toys And Dolls

Inaugurating the first meeting of the Panel for Toys and Dolls in New Delhi on August 23, Shri Manubhai Shah, Minister of Industry, stressed the employment potential of toys and dolls industry and said that the industry was peculiarly suited for introducing technological improvements. The Panel had been constituted by the Government of India to encourage the manufacture of quality toys and dolls in the small-scale sector and he hoped that it would help in placing this industry on a sound footing.

The Panel set up a committee to draw up a plan for the development of toys and dolls during the next year.

DESIGN INSTITUTE

The Minister of Industry, Shri Manubhai Shah, said in the Rajya Sabha during question hour on August 29 that it had been decided to set up an Industrial Design Institute. The Report of the Ford Foundation consultants on the subject was under examination.

PATENTS IN 1959

Patents for as many as 671 Indian inventions were applied for in 1959 as against 529 in the previous year, according to the Annual Report of the Patent Office in the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry for 1959, published on August 31.

The total number of applications for patents, including those from foreign countries, recorded an increase to 3,965 in 1959 from 3,572 in the previous year. Of these, 726 applications originated in India, of which 671 were made by Indians.

A record number of applications for registration of designs was also received during 1959. As against 4,157 applications in 1958, nearly 5,200 applications were filed in 1959. As much as 99.5% of these originated within the country, and as in the preceding year, most of these were in respect of textile designs.

The inventions, for which patents were applied, related to widely different fields of industry and technology.

CONSUMER GOODS

A fairly large number of inventions relating to the preparation of food stuffs, cooking appliances, extraction of oils and fats, fruit juice concentration and tea treating and processing was reported from foreign countries. Indian inventors were interested in pressure and steam cookers, kerosene oil stoves and like appliances. Inventions in the agricultural field related to the preparation of fertilisers and treatment of grains and seeds and these originated abroad. Indian inventors were interested in tractor attachments and cultivating equipments.

Anti-biotics continued to hold the interest of many foreign inventors. There were a few Indian inventions in the field of anti-cancer preparations, birth control appliances and sanitary equipments.

Chemical industries continued to contribute a large number of applications for patents and accounted for nearly 35% of the total. In the field of organic chemistry, inventors showed interest in the manufacture of dye-stuffs, synthetic drugs, and synthetic resins. Indian inventors showed particular interest in this field.

ENGINEERING

In the field of metallurgy, the iron and steel industry continued to provide the majority of applications. Inventions mainly concerned the manufacture of steel in the open-hearth furnaces and improved processes in oxygen blowing, which came from the United Kingdom, Germany and the U.S.A. Indian

inventions related to the manufacture of ferro-manganese, production of iron from low grade ferruginous clay and manufacture of basic and acid steels.

In the field of civil engineering, inventions were few. In the field of mechanical engineering, typewriters in Indian scripts, grinding mills, rotary fans and bicycles were some of the items in which Indian inventors showed interest.

There was a fairly large number of inventions in the field of electrical engineering. Indian inventors showed particular interest in radio sets, employing transistors and fluorescent tubes.

In the field of textile technology, Indian inventors showed great interest mainly in water proofing of textiles, spinning machines run on solar energy, treatment of jute fibres with synthetic resin, sewing machines and their components.

The income and expenditure of the Indian Patent Office for 1959 amounted to Rs. 10.97 lakhs and Rs. 5.81 lakhs respectively.

Conference Of Company Registrars

The three-day Conference of Registrars of Companies and Regional Directors of the Department of Company Law Administration concluded in New Delhi on August 18. The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, presided.

A wide range of subjects, including the increasing trend of diversification of activities by companies, co-ordination between the Company Law Department and its field officers and the other related Departments like the Economic Affairs Department, Industries Department and the State Governments, was discussed.

ENHANCED POWERS

The Conference discussed the need for enhanced powers for the Registrars and Regional Directors to ensure effective action. It was pointed out that the existing powers were to a large

extent illusory, inasmuch as they lacked the required sanctions and could not be used except through dilatory procedures. The proposed amendments to the Companies Act would fill in some of the lacunae and defects in the Act; it was, however, felt that all activities relating to the working of joint stock companies, such as industrial licensing, capital issue control, regulation of stock exchanges and the working of the financial institutions operating in the corporate sector, should be administered in accordance with a coherent and integrated policy to ensure the desired results.

The necessity for providing training to the staff to carry out their duties with knowledge and understanding was stressed and measures towards this end were decided upon. The ways of protecting honest auditors against arbitrary removal by managements of companies, steps to expedite liquidation proceedings, procedure for conducting expeditious investigations into affairs of companies, etc., were also discussed.

Company Formation In Northern Region

An announcement of August 18 says that during the three months ending June last, 79 companies were registered in the northern region which comprises Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Out of these, four were public and 75 private limited companies. During this period, 26 companies went into liquidation and the names of 68 companies were struck off from the register under Section 560 of the Companies Act.

A Statewise detailed review shows that, in the Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, 3 public and 14 private limited companies were registered. Four companies went into liquidation. The names of two companies were struck off.

The Registrar launched 24 fresh prosecutions against the defaulting companies. Out of the cases decided during the quarter, 11 resulted in conviction.

tion and a total fine of Rs. 1,900 was imposed on the accused.

In Delhi, during this period, one public and 49 private limited companies were registered and five companies went into liquidation. The names of 21 companies were struck off. In 61 cases, fresh prosecution was launched against the defaulting companies. Out of the cases decided, 44 cases resulted in conviction. A total fine of Rs. 4,000 was imposed.

In Uttar Pradesh, 10 private limited companies were registered, 13 companies went into liquidation and the names of 43 companies were struck off. Prosecutions were launched in 106 cases. Out of the cases pending, 116 cases resulted in conviction and a total fine of Rs. 11,895 was imposed.

In Rajasthan, two private limited companies were registered and 6 companies went into liquidation. In 23 cases prosecution was launched. Out of the cases decided, 22 cases resulted in conviction. A total fine of Rs. 9,950 was imposed.

Communications

IMPACT OF STRIKE ON RAILWAYS

On August 22, the Railway Minister, Shri Jagjivan Ram, laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha a statement giving information on some facets of the recent strike by a section of railwaymen as it affected the railways.

According to the statement, a section of railwaymen did not or could not report for duty between 12.7.1960 and 16.7.1960. During these five days, the daily average number of such staff was about 1.76 lakhs, representing 16% of total staff on Indian Railways.

A remarkable fact is that of nearly 8 lakhs of staff on the line, i.e. excluding office and

Seminar On Management Accounting

A three-day Seminar on Management Accounting and Management, under the auspices of the Department of Company Law Administration, was held in New Delhi from August 19 to 21. The Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, inaugurated the Seminar.

Welcoming the Prime Minister, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, said that Government had recently set up an Advisory Committee to obtain the necessary information about the structure and organisation of accounting systems prevalent in the country and advise the Government on further steps necessary. This Committee naturally desired that the idea of management accounting should be fully explained to the people concerned and its importance should be realised fully.

The loss suffered by the Railways as a result of the strike is roughly estimated at a little less than Rs. 3.7 crores. This covers reduction in traffic receipts, set back in production, loss due to sabotage and expenditure on emergency arrangements.

ACTION AGAINST STRIKERS

The summary given below shows the position in respect of action taken against the staff.

1. *Persons arrested:* (a) arrested 7,708; (b) convicted 527; (c) still pending in Courts of Law or with Police 2,829.

2. *Suspensions:* (a) initially suspended 10,816; (b) persons whose suspension orders have been cancelled 5,374; (c) still under suspension 4,963.

3. *Removed or dismissed from service:* 478.

4. *Served with notices of termination of service:* (a) temporary employees and apprentices 12,325; (b) employees whose notices were revoked 12,145.

A large number of members of the public offered their services, sometimes directly and sometimes through social organisations. Railways, however, did not have much need for utilising their services.

Large number of volunteers were put to work for patrolling of track by the State Governments. As many as eleven volunteers lost their lives while patrolling railway track.

Ex-gratia payments of Rs. 7,500 each in the case of seven out of the eleven volunteers killed have been sanctioned, for the families of the deceased and in the remaining four cases, the details are under verification with the State Governments concerned.

In the case of police firing at Dohad, a judicial enquiry has been ordered by the Gujarat Government.

Railway Lines In Iron Ore Areas

The Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, said in the Rajya Sabha during

question hour on August 22 that the Government had decided to set up an independent organisation exclusively for the construction of new railway lines in the iron ore areas.

Replying to another part of the question, the Deputy Minister said that the following new lines would be constructed by this organisation: (1) Sambalpur-Titilagarh BG 115 miles, at a cost of Rs. 14.58 crores; (2) Bimlagarh-Kiriburu BG 28 miles, at a cost of Rs. 6.5 crores; and (3) Bailadilla-Kotavalasa BG 310 miles, at an approximate cost of Rs. 50 crores.

JANATA TRAINS

According to an announcement of August 29, the Railway Board has issued orders that the Janata Express between Delhi and Ahmedabad on the metre gauge at present running thrice a week should be converted into a daily train with effect from October 1, this year.

Orders have also been issued that a bi-weekly Janata train should be introduced from the same date between Bombay and Howrah via Allahabad, Mirzapur and Patna.

Railway Research Board Meets

Problems relating to scientific research on the Indian railways and co-ordination of efforts between the railway research organisation and other scientific research bodies in the public and private sectors in the country, were discussed in New Delhi on August 25 at the inaugural meeting of the newly constituted Central Board of Railway Research. Shri Karnail Singh, Chairman, Railway Board, who is also chairman of the Research Board, was in the chair.

The Central Board of Railway Research has 25 members, who include representatives of some of the national laboratories, scientific research bodies under the Central Government as well as under semi-Government organisations and autonomous State-

owned corporations, science faculties of some of the Indian universities and certain large private industries with research facilities.

Asian Highway

Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, said in reply to a question, in the Rajya Sabha, on August 30 that the Government of India had approved the international highway network applying to India recommended by the ECAFE Secretariat on the basis of suggestions made at the first session of three zonal expert

working groups, representing the countries in the region, held in November-December, 1959.

Shri Raj Bahadur said that this network included 12 routes within India, seven priority routes and five other routes. The Grand Trunk Road (National Highways Nos. 1 and 2) is one of the priority routes.

The ECAFE Secretariat had not yet sought the approval of the Government of India to the additional routes suggested by the expert working group at its second session held at Dacca in June 1960, Shri Raj Bahadur added.



PRIZES FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has awarded the Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Prizes for Agricultural Research, each of the value of Rs. 5,000, to the following scientists for outstanding research in the field of Agricultural Botany, Horticulture and Dairying:

1. Dr. B.P. Pal, Director Indian Agricultural Research Institute for evolving wheat varieties.

2. Dr. L.B. Singh, Director, and Shri Ram Din Tripathi, Biochemist, Horticultural Research Institute, Saharanpur, to share the prize for research work jointly done by them in evolving a new process of production of papain.

3. Shri M.R. Chandrasekhara, Junior Scientific Officer, Dr. M. Swaminathan, Assistant Director (Dietetics), Dr. D.S. Bhatia, Assistant Director and Head of the Food Processing Division, and Dr. V. Subramanyam, Director, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, to share the prize for outstanding

research work in the production of infant food from buffalo milk.

Shri S.K. Patil, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, gave away the prizes at the annual general meeting of the I.C.A.R. at New Delhi on August 30.

Eleven prizes, each of the value of Rs. 5,000, were instituted by the I.C.A.R. to provide an incentive to research workers and to recognise outstanding research work in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry and allied sciences.

The three prizes have been awarded for researches carried out during 1957. No outstanding results were achieved in the remaining eight subjects. The prizes for those subjects have been withheld.

Agriculture Ministers' Conference

An all-India Agriculture Ministers' Conference was held in New Delhi on August 26 and 27. It was the first such gathering since the new P.L.

480 agreement with the U.S.A. for the import of 16 million tons of wheat and a million tons of rice.

At the two-day Conference, the Union and State Ministers of Agriculture discussed the agricultural 'high-lights' of the draft Third Five-Year Plan.

Implementation of the Agricultural District Programme (better known as 'Package Programme'), progress of the Kharif campaign and a programme for the next Rabi campaign were also on the 19-point agenda.

NEW DAIRY PROJECTS

In reply to a question, Shri M.V. Krishnappa, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, said in a statement laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on August 30 that under the Second Five Year Plan, 47 modern dairy projects comprising 42 milk supply schemes, 3 rural creameries and 2 milk product factories, were being set up with the aid of the Central Government. Of these 47 projects, 15 were covered by foreign aid under the Technical Co-operation Mission, Colombo Plan and UNICEF programmes and foreign assistance for 8 projects was under negotiation.

DEVELOPMENT OF POULTRY

Addressing a three-day meeting of State Poultry Development Officers, Shri Krishan Chand, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, said in New Delhi on August 19 that the ultimate object of the Government was to provide the country's egg consuming population with at least one egg a day per person. This was part of a bigger plan to raise the nutritional standards of the people by providing more calories through a balanced diet.

In the Third Plan, it was proposed to treble the production of eggs by raising it to 6,720 million from the existing production of 200 million eggs per annum.

Additionally, 90 million table birds would be produced at the

end of the Third Plan against 45 million birds at the end of the Second Plan.

AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS

In a written reply to a question Shri M. V. Krishnappa, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, said in the Lok Sabha on August 16 that the African horse disease was spreading in the country in various States. About 491 horses were reported to have died in Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

Continuing, the Minister said that no curative treatment for this disease had yet been developed, while preventive vaccine was available only in South Africa. Steps had, therefore, been taken to import 17,500 doses of the vaccine from South Africa and also to produce the vaccine at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute for future use.

GAMMA GARDEN

On August 25, the Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, Shri S.K. Patil, formally opened the Gamma Garden set-up at the Indian Agricultural Research

Institute in New Delhi for the purpose of accelerating crop improvement through the production of new varieties. At this garden a wide range of plants will be exposed to the Gamma rays emitted by radio-active cobalt. The Garden is the largest of its kind in Asia and has incorporated in its design several unique features, based on the experience drawn from the working of similar fields in the United States and Sweden.

The establishment of this Gamma Garden is in consonance with India's desire to exploit atomic energy for peaceful purposes and her determination to forge ahead in the field of agricultural research and development.

This Garden will also be available to research workers in the different States and Universities of India. Several Central Research Institutions have already planned to take up research on a wide variety of problems using this radiation source.

The Garden has been designed and constructed by scientists belonging to the I.I.A.R. and the Department of Atomic Energy.

River Projects & Power

REPORT ON NAGARJUNA SAGAR PROJECT

According to an announcement of August 21, the Irrigation and Power Team on the Nagarjuna-sagar Project (Andhra Pradesh) has submitted its report to the Government. It covers various aspects of the Project including the availability of water, the integration of Srisailem and the Nagarjunasagar Projects, construction features, phasing of the construction programmes, costs, irrigation development and agricultural aspects.

Following are the important recommendations of the Team:

(1) Necessary adjustment of allocations of Krishna waters consequent on reorganisation of States;

(2) Accepting 75 per cent dependability for the purpose of sanctioning projects in the Krishna basin;

(3) Lowering the full supply level of the Left Bank Canal by 10 feet, thus enabling the reservoir storage between R.L. 520 and R.L. 510 to be utilised, thereby increasing the second crop irrigation by 42,000 acres per annum on the average;

(4) Preparation of a revised project estimate at the earliest possible date on the basis of the changes made (This is essential because many important design features of the dam have been changed which will materially affect the project estimates.)

(5) Accepting the proposal of the Project Authorities to design the Left Bank Canal for an ultimate (final stage) discharge of 15,000 cusecs and constructing, during the first phase, all masonry works for this discharge of 15,000 cusecs but building the canal only for the project discharge of 11,000 cusecs (This will provide additional annual irrigation of 3.5 lakhs below the point where the canal proposed for 11,000 cusecs will end. This additional irrigation will be feasible on the basis of 75 per cent dependability.);

(6) Increasing, in the interest of safety, the spillway capacity by adding three bays to the 24 bays of 50 feet each, making 27 bays in all and lowering the sill of all the gates from R.L. 550 to R.L. 546, so that the gates will now be 44 feet instead of 40 feet in height (If the results of certain suggested studies indicate the necessity for further increase in spillway capacity, this should be secured in the form of a saddle spillway on the left bank.);

(7) Building the dam to its final height in the first phase with the sill of spillway gates lowered to R.L. 546 and deferring installation of the spillway gates to the final phase (This will enable storage of water to F.R.L. 546 and thereby ensure an annual irrigation of 18 lakh acres of first crop and 1.25 lakh acres of second crop as against an annual irrigation of not more than two-thirds of 18 lakhs of first crop and no second crop. The additional expenditure involved will be Rs. 2.5 crores.);

(8) Providing for developing, in the first phase, 100 m.w. of hydro-electric power (The additional expenditure involved will be Rs. 4 crores and the additional revenue earned each year will be Rs. 70 lakhs, which will im-

prove the financial return of the project.);

(9) Exercising the greatest caution in purchasing heavy and scarce machinery, particularly earth-moving machinery, and taking necessary steps to avoid costly and scarce machinery remaining idle for lack of spares;

(10) Concentrating available funds in the Third Plan on this project in preference to new projects in the State so that this project will start giving irrigation benefits at an early date;

(11) Providing water for early sowing of cotton and for the irrigation of upper lands adjoining the distributaries (which under the project have been excluded) in addition and in preference to the lower valley lands and irrigating the latter by lift of the sub-soil water thus eliminating the possibility of water-logging;

(12) Establishment of two experimental stations forthwith, one each on the Right and Left Bank Canals to carry out experiments regarding varietal trials on important crops;

(13) Provision of suitable and adequate rates and marketing facilities in the ayacut; and

(14) An early survey of sub-soil water table, so that timely remedial measures can be taken against water-logging in the 'danger zones'.

The team was set up by the National Development Council in May 1958, with a view to securing economy and efficiency in the utilisation of financial and other scarce resources. Shri N.V. Gadgil, the leader of the team, relinquished his charge in September 1959, when Dr. A.N. Khosla took over the leadership.

NARMADA PROJECT

An announcement of August 27 says that the Government of India have approved the Broach (Narmada) Project, which, on completion, will irrigate 9,62,588 acres of land annually in the Broach and Baroda districts of Gujarat.

This project — a part of the multi-purpose development of

the Narmada basin — envisages construction of a gravity dam, 4,600 ft. long, with a maximum height of 220 ft. above the foundation, across the Narmada river at Navgam in the Broach district.

The dam will divert the run-off of the river into a canal system, which will cover a total command area of about 13 lakh acres.

It is proposed to raise the height of the dam in stage II of the project, extend irrigation through the Narmada high level to Mahi and Sabarmati basins, and use the waters for generation of hydro-power

The total cost of the first stage of the project, which has now been sanctioned, is Rs. 43.1 crores.

DURGAPUR THERMAL POWER STATION

Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, Union Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power, said in the Lok Sabha during question hour on August 23 that an agreement had been reached with the United States Government for a Rs. 12.9 crore project that would add 120,000 kilowatts capacity to the Durgapur thermal power station in West Bengal.

Flood Warning Messages To Pakistan

In a Press Note issued on August 21, the Ministry of Irrigation and Power says that, to enable West Pakistan to take such measures as may be feasible, the Government of India have taken action to give to West Pakistan regular flood warnings on the rivers Ravi, Sutlej, Beas, Jhelum and Chenab of the Indus system from five sites, situated in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

These warnings are at present sent by India to West Pakistan by priority telegrams, pending the setting up of wireless stations.

The West Pakistan Government had intimated to India that they would like to have flood

warnings from the following sites; Madhopur on the Ravi; Harike on the Sutlej-cum-Beas; Rupar on the Sutlej; Riasi on the Chenab; and Baramula on the Jhelum.

Since last year, flood warning messages are being given to West Pakistan from Madhopur, Harike and Rupar. Similar mes-

sages are being sent to West Pakistan, as an interim measure, from Akhnoor on the Chenab and Sopore on the Jhelum since the beginning of the current flood season, pending finalisation of arrangements for sending flood warnings from Riasi and Baramula in Jammu and Kashmir.

Community Development

MEASURES TO ORGANISE PUBLIC CO-OPERATION

The two-day session of the National Advisory Committee on Public Co-operation, Planning Commission, concluded its meeting in New Delhi on August 28. Shri G.L. Nanda, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, presided.

The Committee was unanimously of the view that voluntary organisations should be strengthened and given every encouragement. The success of the Third Five Year Plan would depend to the extent the non-official element functioned effectively. It was agreed that there should be only one voluntary organisation in a village, which will co-ordinate all activities with the village panchayat.

Among the important recommendations made by the Committee are:

1. Pilot projects should be started to demonstrate the potential of public co-operation in the Plan programme, and also for creating additional employment opportunities in the rural areas.
2. State Governments should give the widest publicity to the programme of utilising voluntary organisations for carrying out local works and manpower utilisation programmes, so that the fullest use could be made of these

facilities. This should be done in the beginning of each year, so that funds are sanctioned and works completed within the year. If this is done, it is possible that voluntary organisations may utilise up to 25 per cent of the allocation for local works.

3. Maintenance grants may be given to approved all India voluntary organisations which fulfil certain tests. The extent of maintenance grants may be up to 25 per cent of the approved administrative expenditure of the organisation.
4. Loans may be given to voluntary organisations for commercial and semi-commercial activities through Government agencies for activities like exhibitions, educational film societies etc.
5. Meetings of the representatives of all India voluntary organisations may be convened frequently for discussing various problems concerning them and for securing greater co-ordination among themselves. The Committee decided to appoint a steering committee to watch the development of work.

6. Assistance and facilities should be given to voluntary organisations for undertaking construction works.
7. The appointment of a study team to survey and collect information about existing programmes of training of paid and voluntary workers of leading all-India voluntary organisations, and also their activities and resources with a view to associating them in the implementation of Plan programmes.
8. The appointment of a committee to examine and collect the content of public co-operation to indicate the constituents of the core of public co-operation training. The Indian Institute of Public Administration will advise and assist in the work of the committee.
9. The establishment of a training institute at the centre for training of teacher instructors and one centre in each State for training higher functionaries and voluntary workers.
10. The appointment of peripatetic teams for training voluntary workers.
11. To impart some training to workers engaged in the major irrigation and multi-purpose projects, so as to raise their skill and productivity.
12. To promote public co-operation and administration, study and evaluation through recognised agencies, of specific programmes of individual Ministries and State Governments.
13. The establishment of research projects by specialised institutions or universities on subjects relating to public co-operation.
14. Properly organised and planned seminars on important subjects concern-

ing people's participation to which a grant of 50 per cent may be given to the sponsoring voluntary organisations, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000.

15. The preparation of an all-India directory by the Centre and State directories by State Governments on the activities of various voluntary organisations.
16. The starting of an additional 500 Lok Karya Kshetras equally in the Central and States sectors.
17. The Lok Karya Kshetra programme to be utilised as an agency for creating a trained cadre of voluntary workers, who will mobilise the people for active participation in community development and basic amenities programmes, in both the rural and urban sectors.
18. Panchayat Samitis and Panchayats should encourage voluntary organisations to establish proper relations with them in the implementation of the various development schemes.
19. A satisfactory method of channelising grants should be evolved, so as to ensure close co-ordination between the statutory bodies and voluntary organisations.
20. The appointment of a study team to draw up an integrated programme of urban community development. Top priority for work under this programme should be given to slum areas in big towns and cities. Voluntary organisations will have a vital role in the actual implementation of the programme.

Development Of Co-operatives

The National Co-operative Development and Warehousing

Board held its meeting in New Delhi on August 27 under the presidency of the Union Minister for Community Development and Co-operation, Shri S.K. Dey.

During his observations on the progress of co-operative movement in the country, the Minister stressed that while he was all in favour of Government's control over the movement being relaxed, it was necessary that some other agencies, such as federations of the co-operatives at different levels, should step in to prevent a vacuum being created. It was for the Board, according to the Minister, to consider how best to promote higher tiers of co-operative organisations.

The Minister referred in passing to the proposal of setting up co-operative farming boards at the Central and State levels, and their relationship with the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board.

It was decided at the meeting that, the promotional and organisational aspects of processing societies would be examined by a three-man study group, with a view to ensuring sound and speedy development of the societies during the Third Plan.

Education & Culture

RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCHOOL HEALTH COMMITTEE

The provision of mid-day meals to school children as part of the school health programme has been recommended by the School Health Committee in its interim proposals submitted to the Government of India recently, says an announcement of August 21.

Local Development Works

An announcement of August 25 says that a sum of Rs. 50 crores has been provided in the Third Plan for certain basic amenities in rural areas, such as supply of drinking water, link roads in villages and the village school buildings. Under this programme, each village is to be enabled to provide itself with all these amenities, contribution being made by local people mainly in the form of labour and, to the extent possible, in the form of money.

This new programme is intended to be carried out in all rural areas. Till all the villages are covered by the Community Development Programme, it is proposed that a relatively large proportion of the funds may be reserved by State Governments for backward areas, areas not covered by the Community Development Programme, Pre-Extension Blocks and blocks which have completed the first and/or the second stage of the Community Development Programme.

These amenities are to constitute the first charge on the amounts made available for a development block. Other items will normally be considered only when basic requirements have been met for all the villages in the block.

Health, in equal proportion. The remaining amount should be collected from parents, the community, local bodies, voluntary organisations and State Governments.

The Committee estimates the expenditure on the school health programme in Community Development Blocks at Rs 12.47 crores during the Third Plan period. Fifty per cent of this, the Committee suggests, should be provided by the Union Government.

The mid-day meal, in the Committee's opinion, should supply about one third of the total requirement of calories, proteins, vitamins and calcium deficient in the home diet. The meal should consist of locally available nutritious food. Wherever possible, milk should be included. Primary school children should be given priority.

PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Recognising the vulnerability of pre-school children between one and five years to mal-nutrition and the need to give them greater protection than the school-going group, the Committee has suggested that social organisations should be utilised for distribution of milk and other nutritious food to them. In its opinion limited distribution of skimmed milk in C.D. blocks could be undertaken with a provision of Rs. 10 crores in the Third Plan.

The Committee has recommended a thorough medical examination of all children when they enter primary schools and again four years later. Where facilities exist, the examination should be done frequently. Parents should be present during medical examinations so that they take a greater interest in the correction of defects. Follow-up checks have also been stressed.

PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION

As the school is an important link in the social structure of the community, the Committee says

that the school health service should be part and parcel of the general health services provided through primary health centres. For a satisfactory implementation of the school health programme, it is necessary to have one whole-time medical officer for every 5,000 children.

In rural areas the programme should be carried out by primary health centres which should be staffed, wherever possible, with an additional medical officer and an auxiliary nurse mid-wife. The possibilities of utilising the services of private medical practitioners on a part-time basis should be explored.

Emphasising the importance of the role of teachers in school health activities, the Committee has urged that teacher training institutions should lay greater emphasis on practical aspects of health education. A short term course for training auxiliary nurse mid-wives to assist school health medical officers should be instituted.

The Committee remarks that a suitable school health programme with well-organized health activities is essential for the full realisation of the objectives of education.

The Committee started its work under the chairmanship of Smt. Renuka Ray, M.P., in April this year. Its two sub-committees, one to consider the question of school health services and the other to formulate proposals for mid-day meals and for improvement of nutrition of school and pre-school children, interviewed a number of experts and specialists.

Educational T.V. For Delhi Schools

An announcement of August 23 says that, under an agreement signed with the Ford Foundation, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting will receive assistance totalling \$ 4,74,500 over a period of four years for providing an educational television programme for the 265 secondary schools in Delhi State.

In all, 600 sets will be provided during the period of four years — 400 in the first year, 100 in the second year and 50 each in the third and fourth years. This will cost about \$ 1,10,000. Other equipment for the production of the programmes will be of the value of \$ 1,96,500. The services of some consultants estimated to cost \$ 1,20,000 and material and supplies upto an amount of \$ 23,000 will also be provided. A sum of \$ 25,000 has been set apart for fellowships for Indian educationists and engineers.

When the full scheme is in operation, All India Radio, with the co-operation of the Department of Education, Delhi State, will provide teaching programmes three times a week. The Government of India will incur an estimated expenditure of Rs. 4.26,000 during the four-year period on added broadcasting and administrative personnel, seminars, conferences and workshops.

All India Radio already has an experimental television unit for educational purposes and has introduced programmes of social education directed towards community centres in and around Delhi. From the second week of January this year, one of the two weekly programmes was converted into a programme for schools.

TENTH CLASS AS MATRIC

An announcement of August 21 says that the Union Public Service Commission has decided to accept a pass in the annual promotion examination held at the end of the penultimate year of the Higher Secondary course in a recognised higher secondary school, as an alternative to matriculation examination, for admission to the Commission's examinations.

This qualification will also be accepted as an alternative to matriculation examination for admission to the National Defence Academy examination to be held in December 1960.

Cheaper Editions Of Sanskrit Books

An announcement of August 23 says, that the Central Sanskrit Board has recommended the publication of cheaper editions of the complete works of Shri Shankaracharya in two or three volumes containing the Bhashyas on Brahma Sutra, Gita and the Upanishads.

The text of Valmiki Ramayana and Mahabhashya with commentaries (Pradipa, Udyola and Chaya) are also to be made available in popular editions.

The Sanskrit Board has requested the Education Ministry to get printed the following books for the benefit of the public: (1) Apte's Sanskrit-English Dictionary for students, (2) Apte's English-Sanskrit Dictionary, (3) Shabda-Kalpadruma, (4) Ganaratna-Mahodadhi (Egging's edition), (5) Colonel Jacob's Concordance of Upanishads, (6) S.C. Basu's translation of Siddhanta Kaumudi and translation of Ashtadhyayi by Panini and (7) Index to the proper names in Mahabharata by Sorensen.

Another suggestion which has been made by the Sanskrit Board is that the Universities should be asked to undertake the reprinting of important Sanskrit books, now out of print, on the basis of 50 per cent financial assistance from the Centre.

The publication of the Brihat-Samhita with the Utpala commentary and the Tatva-Chintamani with the commentary by Mathuranath has also been recommended.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF PANDITS

The Central Board also recommended that a National Register of Sanskrit Pandits should be compiled by the Union Ministry of Education containing the names of learned pandits and their special subjects of study, standing, authorship, teaching experience and willingness to teach pupils in the traditional way.

The criteria for the inclusion of Pandits in the National Register

was outlined by the Board. A Pandit should be a reputed expert in at least one Shastra. Other qualifications needed are at least 15 years' experience in the teaching of Shastras along with literary or research work of significance to his credit.

NEW UNIVERSITIES

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 18, Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, said that the University Grants Commission had agreed to the establishment of two new universities in Bihar during 1960. The new universities which had since been established were Ranchi University and the Bhagalpur University.

The Minister added that the University Grants Commission had also agreed that the headquarters of the Bihar University should be at Muzaffarpur instead of at Patna as at present.

EVALUATION UNITS IN UNIVERSITIES

A statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha by Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Union Minister of Education, in reply to a question on August 24, revealed that the setting up of an evaluation unit in each university to prepare the ground for reorientations, psychometric studies and advisory programmes had been recommended by the Team of American Consultants of Examinations in Indian Higher Education.

The other main recommendations of the Team are:

school and college teachers and administrators be forcefully presented the immediate task of getting together at the institutional, departmental and the subject levels to develop a specific and realistic set of teaching objectives, in writing and in terms of desired changes in student behaviour.

When the adequate objectives have been thus formulated, they should be effectively communicated to all those directly concerned in the teaching-learning

process. Boards of Studies, duly constituted, should then translate the objectives into suitable outlines of required learning experience.

Teachers should meet to decide upon the most appropriate kinds of evaluation instruments in the light of the curricular arrangements of learning experiences.

NEW VICE-CHANCELLOR OF DELHI UNIVERSITY

In a Press Communique of August 24, the Ministry of Education announced that, consequent upon the resignation by Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao of the Vice-Chancellorship of the Delhi University, the President in his capacity as Visitor of the University has been pleased to appoint Prof. N.K. Sidhanta to be the Vice-Chancellor of the Delhi University with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office.

Senior Teaching Fellowships

An announcement of August 18 says that the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs has selected 69 candidates for the award of Senior Teaching Fellowships of the value of Rs. 350 p.m. Of these, 35 candidates have been awarded the fellowships in Civil Engineering, 19 candidates in Mechanical Engineering, 9 candidates in Electrical Engineering, 2 in Tele-Communication Engineering, 3 in Chemical Engineering and 1 in Architecture. Besides these, 24 candidates have been kept on the waiting list.

The fellowships have been awarded on the recommendation of the Central Selection Board.

The Technical Teachers Training Programme has been formulated by the Central Government with the object of conditioning young bright graduates for the teaching profession. The training of the Fellows has been arranged in five Institutions, namely, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur; University of Roorkee; College of Engineering,

Guindy; College of Engineering, Poona and Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur. On completion of training, the Fellows will be employed as Lecturers in the various technical institutions preparing students for Degree Courses in the country.

The training programme will start immediately.

T.C.M. TEACHERS TRAINING

An announcement of August 29 says that five additional persons have been selected for post-graduate studies/training in the U.S.A. under the T.C.M. Teachers' Training Programme, 1960. Of these, two have been selected for Mechanical Engineering, and one each for Electrical Engineering, Textile Chemistry and Textile Engineering.

U.G.C. FELLOWSHIPS

An announcement dated August 19 says that the University Grants Commission has selected 19 candidates for the award of fellowships of the value of Rs. 400 p.m. in engineering and technological subjects. Of these, 5 fellowships are in Civil Engineering, 6 in Mechanical Engineering, 4 in Electrical Engineering and 4 in Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology.

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

A Press Note issued on August 21 by the Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs says that, under the Scheme of Commonwealth Scholarships offered by the Government of the United Kingdom for 1960, 39 candidates have been selected for the awards in various subjects.

The selection has been made by a Committee consisting of the representatives of the Governments of the United Kingdom and India and of representatives of universities and institutes of educational and scientific research.

The Commonwealth scholarships are available primarily for post-graduate research in the

Basic Sciences, Humanities, Engineering, Technology, Medicine and the Fine Arts. The duration is normally two academic years.

FRENCH SCHOLARSHIP

An announcement of August 24 says that a candidate has been selected for the award of a scholarship for specialized training in Archaeology offered by the Government of France during 1960-61.

JAPANESE SCHOLARSHIPS

An announcement of August 19 says that two candidates have been awarded scholarships offered by the Government of Japan for 1960-61 for post-graduate study/research in Agriculture and Nuclear Physics, respectively.

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

ITALIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

An announcement of August 25 says that 14 candidates have been selected for the award of scholarships offered by the Government of Italy for higher studies, research, or training in that country during 1960-61 in Painting, Road Building, Architecture, Town Planning, etc.

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

NETHERLANDS FELLOWSHIPS

A New Delhi announcement of August 30 says that five candidates have been awarded fellowships offered by the Government of the Netherlands for post-graduate study/research in that country during 1960-61 in scientific and technical subjects.

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

REPAIRS OF MONUMENTS

The Union Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs

has made a budget provision of Rs. 2 lakhs during the current year for financial assistance to institutions looking after monuments or sites having historical, cultural, scientific, aesthetic or sentimental appeal, which are not over 100 years old.

The sum has been set apart by the Union Ministry as an experimental measure for this purpose in response to requests received from time to time from the public as well as private institutions for financial and other assistance for looking after such monuments or sites.

The assistance will be given only to registered societies already doing this work. First priority is to be given for special essential repairs and for any other special urgent items.

All enquiries in regard to this scheme may be addressed to the respective State Governments who have been requested to forward applications to the Centre by September 30, 1960.

NEW MEMBERS OF A.I.R. MUSIC AUDITION BOARD

According to an announcement of August 19, the following six persons have been appointed as members of the Southern Panel of Music Audition Board of the All India Radio for a further term of one year: Shri S. Subramaniya Pillai, Nathaswara Vidhwan, Thiruvizhimalalai P.O. (District Tanjore); Prof. P. Sambamoorthy, Head of the Department of Indian Music, Madras University; Shri R. Ananthakrishna Sarma, Tirupati; Dr. S. Pinakapani, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool; Shri T.M. Mahalinga Iyer, Advocate, Supreme Court, Ernakulam and Shri K. Chandrasekharan, 'SAHRIDAYA', Mylapore, Madras.



RECOMMENDATIONS OF HEALTH PANEL

A meeting of the Health Panel of the Planning Commission was held on August 17 and 18 in New Delhi. Dr. A.N. Khosla, Member, Planning Commission, and Chairman of the Panel, presided.

Dr. Khosla said that the allocation for Health during the Third Plan was to be increased from an anticipated expenditure of Rs. 225 crores in the Second Plan to Rs. 300 crores. This was exclusive of the provision for rural water supply.

Stressing the need for the education and training of medical personnel at all levels, Dr. Khosla said that at present the number of doctors was only 25 per million of population in the rural areas as against 800 per million in the urban areas. 'It may be necessary to introduce some legislative compulsion coupled with relevant privileges regarding service in rural areas,' he remarked.

The position regarding women doctors was particularly unsatisfactory as they formed only 7.5 per cent of the total medical graduates and specialists. Even these were unevenly distributed. 17 per cent of whom were in Delhi alone.

There was also an acute shortage of teachers, being 63 per cent in medicine and 48 per cent in surgery.

SUB-COMMITTEES

After a general discussion, the Panel appointed nine Committees to deal with Water Supply and Sanitation; Health Education and Medical Statistics; Communicable Diseases; Family Planning; Rural Health, Maternity and Child Health; Medical Education; Training of Personnel; Pharmaceutical Training and Drugs; and Research and Laboratory Services.

The Panel was of the view that to overcome the dearth of doctors many more medical colleges than envisaged would have to be opened, and at least one of these colleges in each State should be opened in a rural setting. To train personnel for manning the teaching posts in these colleges, opening of zonal post-graduate institutions, having facilities for post-graduate training, research and specialisation, was suggested.

Training of some new categories of ancillary workers was also recommended by the Panel.

To reduce load on hospital-beds, the Panel recommended that the out-patient departments should be reorganised as well-equipped poly-clinics and only those cases that require attention by specialists should be referred to hospitals.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Panel made several recommendations for the promotion of medical research, particularly in communicable diseases. It recommended starting of research centres for T.B., Cholera and Trachoma, and, establishing clinic research units or units for experimental medicine in some medical colleges to provide facilities for investigation of clinical problems peculiar to the area. To encourage medical graduates to take to research, it was suggested that Rs. 25 lakhs be provided in the Plan for giving at least 350 research fellowships.

The Panel considered also the growing demand for pharmacists and recommended that, to augment training facilities for this category of workers, separate wings be created in the existing 15 institutions that are at present training graduates in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. It

was felt that a central Pharmaceutical research institute should also be established. Such institute will not only supply highly qualified staff to the industry and educational institutions but also develop new methods of manufacturing drugs.

Need for strengthening the existing health education work and extending it, particularly among women and children, was also urged.

The Plan reviewed the progress made so far in the field of Family Planning and endorsed the programme drawn up by the Family Planning Third Five Year Plan Committee. The Panel, however, emphasised the need for intensification of educative programme as creation of a strong motivation was necessary to change the behaviour pattern of individual parents. It was urged that research in new contraceptives, including oral, should be vigorously pursued.

RURAL HEALTH

As curative and preventive health care of the rural population is vital to the country's economy, the panel suggested several measures to strengthen the existing Primary Health Centres. The measures include grouping of doctors at the Primary Health Centre instead of dispersing them in single medical officer dispensaries, providing at these centres sufficient number of beds, equipment, medicines and professional facilities and linking up of the centres with district hospitals.

To meet the needs of maternity and child health programmes, the Panel suggested that better training in pediatrics be given to medical workers, priority be given to the training of indigenous dais in rural areas, the programme of feeding expectant and nursing mothers and providing mid-day meals to school-going children be implemented and the school medical service expanded.

About preventing food adulteration, the Panel felt the problem was not of finance but of a will to enforce the existing laws on the subject.

WATER SUPPLY

The problem of urban and rural water supply and sanitation was discussed by the Panel which felt that in view of the magnitude of the problem, the funds provided were totally inadequate. Need for new orientation in financing and management of urban water supply and sewage schemes was therefore urged. In this connection, attention was drawn to the suggestion that statutory Water and Sewage Boards with powers to float bonds and debentures in the market and selling water in bulk to municipalities be created in the States. It was also suggested that a part of the funds provided for Cholera and Filariasis should be diverted to augment the funds of sewage schemes. As at present various agencies like Community Development, Social Welfare Board, etc. were executing similar programmes of water supply, it was considered necessary that there must be a unitary technical agency which should guide, advice and follow up the progress of the programme both at the State level and at the Centre.

The draft Plan submitted by the Ministry of Health and the Planning Commission on communicable diseases was also examined by the Panel which recommended slightly higher allocations for the various disease control programmes. The Panel suggested that wherever possible these control programmes should be integrated with the existing health services and some provision be made for immunisation of children on mass scale against diphtheria, whooping cough, Tetanus and Typhoid.

Smallpox Committee's Recommendations

The Smallpox Pilot Projects Committee, which met in New Delhi on August 19, recommended that a Small Pox Eradication Week should be observed throughout the country from November 1.

The Committee noted that the first consignment of 500,000

dozes of freeze-dried vaccine, out of one million offered by the Netherland Government, had arrived in Calcutta. The second lot was expected in October.

The Committee was informed that the Government of India were considering the grant of financial assistance of about Rs. 15 lakh to step up the production of lymph.

The Committee suggested that a Smallpox Manual should be prescribed for the guidance of workers in the field. A cell should be created in the Directorate-General of Health Services for supervision and control of the programme.

Gastro-enteritis

Shri D. P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, made a statement in the Rajya Sabha on August 30 on cholera/gastro-enteritis in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab:—

The statement revealed that in the Union Territory of Delhi, altogether 1,224 cases of gastro-enteritis with 59 deaths had been reported between January 1 and August 26. For the corresponding periods of 1958 and 1959 there were 480 cases with 32 deaths and 219 cases with 9 deaths respectively.

During the current year, the cases diagnosed as cholera for the first time occurred during the month of June and from June 1 up to August 25, 216 cases had been diagnosed as cholera and of these 21 had proved fatal. The figures for gastro-enteritis and cholera were revised every third or fourth day, depending upon results received from laboratory confirming some of the gastro-enteritis cases as cholera.

Field investigations were continuing and control measures had been taken.

INCIDENCE IN U.P.

In Uttar Pradesh, 11,682 cases of gastro-enteritis with 3,444 deaths have been reported from January 1 to August 13. During the week ending August 13, cases totalling 2933 had been reported

Skin Diseases Due to Nylon Fabrics

Shri D. P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, said in reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 25 that it was a fact that the use of nylon fabrics, rubber shoes and lip-sticks caused skin diseases. A doctor in the Irwin Hospital was conducting research on skin diseases caused by the use of nylon fabrics, rubber shoes and lip-sticks. So far, 44 cases had been studied in detail and the study was still in progress.

with 1,033 deaths. The districts of Aligarh, Bulandshahar and Meerut were comparatively heavily infected.

Preventive measures were being taken by the State Government.

According to the latest information available from the Punjab, altogether 196 cases of cholera had been reported with 20 deaths from the districts of Kangra, Mohindergarh, Rohtak, Karnal and Gurgaon upto August 26. Due to some districts in West Pakistan being reported as heavily infected with cholera, necessary precautionary measures had been taken in the border districts of Amritsar and Ferozepur and mass anti-cholera inoculations were being given and checkpoints established practically in all districts of the State.

AYURVEDIC PHARMACOPOEIA

At a meeting of the Informal Consultative Committee of Parliament for Health, held in New Delhi on August 16, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, stated that the Union Ministry of Health had set up a sub-committee to go into the question of compiling a pharmacopoeia of Ayurvedic drugs and it might be ready in a year's time.

He added that the Government were also thinking of standardising Ayurvedic drugs



DANDAKARANYA PLAN FOR NEXT SEASON

The Dandakaranya Development Authority, at its fifteenth meeting at Koraput on August 23, generally approved the outline of the plan for the next working season beginning from October this year. The detailed examination and the sanction of the plan was, however, postponed to the next meeting to be presided by the whole-time Chairman, Shri Sukumar Sen.

It was generally felt at the meeting that the success of the plan for the coming season greatly depended on the movement of settlers from West Bengal camps to Dandakaranya.

So far, there was no movement of displaced persons against the 500 families scheduled to move between August 15 and September 15, 1960. All operations in the field and elsewhere had been geared to meet the movement of 1,200 settler families every month as planned. The resettlement, transport, irrigation and water supply units were also being strengthened. Efforts were being concentrated on resettlement areas of Umarkote (Orissa) and Parlekote (Madhya Pradesh).

MORE LAND RELEASED

The D.D.A. decided to call an emergent meeting on September 3 to instal the new Chairman and to deal with urgent matters, including further consideration of the repatriation of the Chief Engineer, Shri Bando-padhya.

Earlier, it was revealed at the meeting that the Orissa Government had agreed to release more than 60,000 acres of land in Umarkote Zone. More areas will be surveyed in Malkangiri and Raigarh. In Parlekote an additional 50,000 acres might be available.

The meeting sanctioned the urgent purchase of machinery and equipment and approved granting of short-term loans to agriculturist settlers.

Transfer Of Land Under D.P. Rules

A Press Note issued on August 28 by the Ministry of Rehabilitation says that, in accordance with the proviso to Rule 63 of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, if a non-Punjabi non-claimant who had been allotted agricultural land does not cultivate the land personally or has sublet it, his allotment is liable to be cancelled and the land could then be allotted to a claimant whose land claim has not been satisfied so far.

Now that the allottees have been in occupation for about 10-12 years and the work in the Ministry of Rehabilitation is being wound up, it has been decided that in future the condition of self-cultivation will not be insisted upon and the lands would be transferred to the allottees if they pay the price in accordance with the Rules. Cases where allotments have already been cancelled will, however, not be reopened.

PURCHASE OF COMPOSITE PROPERTIES

A Press Note issued on August 18 by the Ministry of Rehabilitation says that, in partial modification of the previous orders, it has now been decided that, as in the case of evacuee properties, a non-displaced purchaser might also be allowed to have the balance of the price of the evacuee's share in the composite property adjusted against the claim of his friends, provided

he himself paid 30% of the price in cash, in addition to the payment in cash of the price representing the non-evacuee's share in the property.

ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSING SCHEMES

An announcement of August 18 says that Central assistance to the tune of about Rs. 22 crores will be available to the States during the current year for various housing schemes under the Second Plan. The assistance will be provided in the form of loans and grants.

The largest allocation of about Rs. 7 crores 28 lakhs is in respect of the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme. A sum of about Rs. 6 crores 51 lakhs has been earmarked for the Low Income Housing Scheme, Rs. 3 crores 24 lakhs for Slum Clearance, Rs. 2 crores 30 lakhs for the Village Housing Projects Scheme, Rs. 2 crores 33 lakhs for the Land Acquisition and Development Scheme and about Rs. 20 lakhs for the Plantation Labour Housing Scheme.

Statewise, the largest, allocation of about Rs. 5 crores 90 lakhs for all the housing schemes is in respect of the erstwhile State of Bombay. The apportionment of this amount between the two newly-formed States of Maharashtra and Gujarat is being determined in consultation with these States. Allocations to other States are: West Bengal Rs. 3 crores 30 lakhs; Uttar Pradesh Rs. 2 crores 40 lakhs; Mysore Rs. 1 crore 76 lakhs; Bihar Rs. 1 crore 53 lakhs; Madras Rs. 1 crore 42 lakhs and Punjab Rs. 1 crore 5 lakhs. As regards the remaining States, the funds earmarked for housing schemes are less than Rs. 1 crore in each case.

Rs. 49 Crores Spent On Housing Schemes

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on August 19, Shri Anil K. Chanda, Deputy Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, said that over Rs. 49 crores were disburs-

ed by the Central Government as loans and grants to State Governments, Union Territories and private employers for urban and rural housing schemes, under the Second Plan, up to the end of March, 1960.

Loan assistance for the Low Income Group Housing Scheme accounted for the largest disbursement amounting to Rs. 26 crores. The disbursement in respect of other schemes were: subsidised industrial housing — Rs. 16 crores; slum clearance — Rs. 5 crores; land acquisition and development — Rs. 38 lakhs; plantation labour housing — Rs. 7.9 lakhs; and village housing projects — Rs. 1 crore 91 lakhs.

Among the Union Territories, the largest disbursement was in respect of Delhi which received a total sum of about Rs. 1 crore 55 lakhs.

Preference To Harijans For Housing Loans

An announcement of August 27 says that co-operative societies, which have Harijans among their members, will get preference over other co-operative societies in regard to disbursement of loans under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme. The last Housing Ministers' Conference made this recommendation which has been accepted by Government of India.

The Low Income Group Housing Scheme provides for the grant of loans to State Governments to enable persons, whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 6,000, to build houses.

Government have also accepted the recommendation of the Housing Ministers that when loans are given under this scheme, the State Governments should release, from within their quotas, the minimum requisite controlled building materials to prospective builders to enable them to construct their houses expeditiously.

Customs Duty Exempted On Gifts For Poor

In a Press Note issued on August 21, the Ministry of

Finance has announced that the Government of India have further liberalised the concession in regard to exemption from customs duty of certain imported consumable articles for free distribution to the needy in India.

A notification has been issued exempting consumable articles such as foodstuffs, medicines, clothing and blankets to be imported into the country by any individual or charitable organisation in India from customs duty. This exemption is subject to the condition that the recipient satisfies the Customs Collector that the goods are free gifts from abroad intended for free distribution to the poor and the needy without any distinction of caste, creed, or race and also subsequently furnishes necessary evidence in proof of the distribution of the goods having been made in the prescribed manner.

Family Planning Training Course

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on August 26, Shri D.P. Karmarkar, Minister of Health, said that a scheme to organise family planning orientation training courses throughout India had been started by the Directorate General of Health Services. Short time orientation courses of about three days duration for 50 to 60 persons were being conducted in various parts of India by State Governments, honorary family planning leaders, voluntary organisations like the Indian Red Cross Society, the Family Plan-

ning Association and the All India Women's Conference.

For the present, 140 family planning orientation training courses (100 courses by the State Governments and 40 courses by non-official bodies) were proposed to be conducted.

Grants For Distribution Of Contraceptives

An announcement of August 27 says that the Union Ministry of Health has liberalised the terms for sanctioning grants for distribution contraceptives under the family planning scheme. A non-recurring grant of Rs. 1,500 per year will be offered to every clinic, hospital, dispensary, maternity and child health centre, primary health centre, medical and health centre of State Governments and local bodies and voluntary organisations offering free service in family planning to the public.

Similar non-recurring grant to the extent of Rs. 1,000 per year will also be available to each of the medical and health centres of commercial organisations, manufacturers, mills, factories and tea gardens, etc. The grants will be sanctioned on the recommendation of the Administrative Medical Officer of the State concerned.

The grants are intended for free and subsidised distribution of contraceptives. Sheaths, jellies and foam tablets only will be distributed free in medical and health centres in rural areas without reference to income of the individual.

Labour & Employment

WAGE BOARD SET UP FOR JUTE INDUSTRY

The Government of India have constituted a Central Wage Board for the Jute Industry, with Shri L.P. Dave as Chairman, says an announcement of August 25.

The terms of reference of the Board are: (a) to determine the categories of employees (manual,

clerical, supervisory, etc.) who should be brought within the scope of the proposed wage fixation; (b) to work out a wage structure based on the principles of fair wages as set forth in the report of the Committee on Fair Wages; (c) to bear in mind the

desirability of extending the system of payment by results; and (d) to work out the principles that should govern the grant of bonus, if any, to workers in the jute industry.

The demands in respect of payments other than wages raised by the Unions will also be taken into consideration by the Board.

Within 2 months from the date the Board starts its work, it will submit its recommendations regarding the demands of labour in respect of interim relief, pending submission of the final report.

The headquarters of the Board will be located at Calcutta, and all correspondence intended for the Board shall be addressed to the Chairman, Central Wage Board for the Jute Industry, C/o Labour Department, Government of West Bengal, Calcutta, until notified otherwise.

A copy of Government Resolution constituting the Wage Board was placed on the Table of Lok Sabha on August 25 by the Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Shri Abid Ali.

E.S.I. Corporation Meets

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation, at its meeting in New Delhi on August 23, decided that insured workers suffering from T.B., leprosy, cancer and mental and malignant diseases should get extended cash benefits for a period of 309 days as compared with 126 days at present. Together with the cash benefits for 56 days, already available for ordinary sickness, insured workers suffering from these prolonged diseases would now get cash benefits up to a maximum of 365 days.

While agreeing with the recommendations of the Study Group on Social Security, the Corporation urged the Government to ensure that any scheme for integration of social security measures, envisaged by the Study Group, did not result in curtailment of existing benefits to workers.

The Corporation approved the recommendations of the Medical Benefit Council that families of insured workers should get all benefits short of hospitalisation under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme.

E.S.I. SCHEME EXTENDED

An announcement dated August 26 says that the Employees' State Insurance Scheme is being extended to Dhanbad and the adjoining areas in Bihar from the midnight of August 27, 1960. As a result, 16,000 more factory workers will get benefits under the Scheme. The families of the insured persons in these areas will also be entitled to medical care 13 weeks after the insured persons themselves begin to get benefits.

COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND

An announcement dated August 29 says that the Government of India have decided, in consultation with the Board of Trustees of the Coal Mines Provident Fund, to grant interest to subscribers of the Fund, on their accumulations, at the rate of 4% during the year 1960-61. The rate of interest for the year 1959-60 was 3½%.



ASSAM GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON LANGUAGE ISSUE

On August 30, the Government of Assam issued a policy statement regarding their approach to the language issue and maintenance of law and order and rehabilitation of refugees in the context of the recent disturbances. Following are extracts from the statement:

The Government condemn the action of those who participated in the riots and indulged in violence of any kind. While these riots were apparently the results of the language agitation, they are manifestations of a

About 3.43 lakhs of colliery workers in Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bombay, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan subscribe to the Coal Mines Provident Fund.

NEW SCHEMES FOR INDUSTRIAL HOUSING

A New Delhi announcement of August 21 says that nine projects for the construction of 2,022 houses for industrial workers were sanctioned during July last by the State Governments of West Bengal, Mysore, Madras, Punjab and Rajasthan under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme. The total cost of the projects is over Rs. 93 lakhs.

Of these, three projects will be implemented in West Bengal by the State Government itself, three in Mysore by private employers and one each in Madras, Punjab and Rajasthan by co-operative societies.

The bulk of the houses — 1,016 — will be built in West Bengal, while 772 houses will be constructed by private employers in Mysore and 234 by co-operative societies in Madras and Rajasthan.

deep-seated social and economic malady and of a sense of frustration which unfortunately have afflicted the people of Assam. As a consequence of this background, various complications have resulted both in Assam and in neighbouring States, which deserve earnest consideration for the future peace, security and progress of the State and its friendly relations with its neighbouring States.

Indeed, some of the questions that arise have had all-India repercussions and have to be

considered also in that context. The future progress of Assam depends not only on the efforts of the people of Assam, but also on the progress of India as a whole. The freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution of India must necessarily be adhered to in every State of India and every State must consider itself as an integral part of the larger whole.

It is the view of the Government that the proper way to deal with the language question is to approach it in a spirit of co-operation and understanding.

The immediate issue after the riots was the establishment of peace and law and order, and to produce a sense of security in all the people. The Government have directed their activities to this end.

IMMEDIATE TASK

The immediate task which has to be undertaken is the rehabilitation of the victims of the riots and all those who, because of fear and apprehension, have left their homes. Houses of four thousand people have been rebuilt already or are nearing completion. Greater progress would have been achieved but for the scarcity of corrugated iron sheets. Arrangements have now been made for further supplies of these iron sheets, and the process of reconstruction will be continued with vigour and the co-operation of various elements in the community.

The Government attach importance to the toning up of the administrative apparatus of the State. The Government have taken and will take necessary action in regard to individual officers who may have fallen below the standard of duty expected of them. The Government would like to make it clear that where there is any failure on the part of any officer in the discharge of his duty to the satisfaction of Government he will be suspended immediately and proceeded against. The Government will discharge equally firmly their duty to give protection to employees of the Central Services and every person whose business or

avocations may bring him to the State.

The Government have given their most serious consideration to the maintenance of order and discipline within the State of Assam. Prompt and firm action will be taken whenever necessary and Government will not hesitate to use force in order to protect innocent people. Collective fines will be imposed, whenever necessary.

Students are not immune from the ordinary course of the law, and any student participating in disturbances or taking part in rioting, loot, assault, arson or any other kind of violence will be dealt with strictly according to the law.

Action will also be taken against teachers in educational institutions in case they have encouraged violence or a spirit of indiscipline among students.

The Government express the hope that the press will help in every way in removing the existing tensions and apprehensions and play a positive role in the establishment of a sense of security. If found necessary, the Government will not hesitate to enforce by law such controls as may be considered necessary for the maintenance of law and order and the preservation of amicable feelings among the various people living in the State.

The Government are anxious, above all, to help in removing the tensions and bitterness that prevail and to restore normal and peaceful life for all the people of Assam. In particular, Government are anxious that the people who have left their homes in Assam should return to them

and continue their normal life and vocations. The first need is for refugees who have gone outside Assam to return to their homes. In order to bring this about and rehabilitate them, the Government will spare no effort. They request the Government of West Bengal to cooperate in this task.

NYAYA PANCHAYATS IN RAJASTHAN

The President has given assent to the Rajasthan Panchayat (Amendment) Bill, 1960, which seeks to make a number of amendments in the parent Act, says an announcement of August 24.

The amendments generally fall under two categories. The first category relates to abolition of the institution of Tehsil Panchayats and constitution of Nyaya Panchayats for the administration of civil and criminal justice.

The amendments in the second category seek to remove certain difficulties experienced from time to time in the administration of the Act.

LAND HOLDINGS IN ASSAM

An announcement of August 22 says that the President has given assent to the Assam Fixation of Ceiling on Land Holdings (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

The legislation seeks to widen the scope of application of the parent Act, so as to include in its orbit the land possessed by a company or a corporate till now unaffected by the Act. Such a land will now be liable to be acquired by the State Government with payment of compensation.

Defence

AWARDS OF ASHOKA CHAKRA

A Press Note issued on August 20 by the Ministry of Defence says that the President has been pleased to approve the award of

Ashoka Chakra Class II to Jemadar Bhagat Bahadur Gurung of the 4th Battalion, Assam Rifles and Ashoka Chakra Class III to Jemadar Purna Bahadur Gurung and Rifleman Puranjee Sherpa, both of the 4th Battalion, Assam Rifles.

Jem. Bhagat Bahadur Gurung has been awarded the Ashoka Chakra Class II for his gallant action on February 4, 1960 when he and his party of four riflemen were ambushed by about 150 hostile Nagas in the N.E.F.A. area and his party came under heavy fire.

On January 30, 1960, Jemadar Purna Bahadur Gurung, displaying initiative and personal courage of a high order, engaged the 13 Naga hostiles in a hand-to-hand combat in a village. Of them, 10 were killed and three were captured by his patrol. He was assisted by Rifleman Puranjee Sherpa.

Prizes In Tableau Designs

The Ministry of Defence announced on August 30 the results of the competition held this year for designs of tableaux for the

1961 Republic Day Cultural Pageant.

In all, 56 designs were entered for the competition, out of which four have been selected for the award of prizes. The Judging Committee did not consider any entry suitable for the award of the first prize of Rs. 1,000. It also felt that the additional prizes should be of the value of Rs. 100 each, instead of Rs. 50, in view of the better general standard of the entries this year.

The prize-winning artists are: (1) Shri A. Gautam, Simla (First Prize limited to Rs. 500), (2) Shri Vishwanath Mehta, Simla (Second Prize of Rs. 250), (3) Sarvashri L.D. Kataria and M.A. Hassan, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi (Additional Prize of Rs. 100), and (4) Shri Vimal Kumar, Gwalior (Additional Prize of Rs. 100).



MISSION IN CONGO

Shri Rajeshwar Dayal, at present High Commissioner for India in Pakistan, has been appointed personal representative in the Congo of the U.N. Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld. The appointment was announced by Mr. Hammarskjöld in New York on August 20. Mr. Dayal will succeed Mr. Ralph Bunche.

ARMY PERSONNEL FOR CONGO

Shri K. Raghu Ramaiah, Deputy Defence Minister, bade farewell to an Indian Army supply platoon of the Army Service Corps, 92-strong, which left Palam airport for Leopoldville by two aircraft of the United States Air Force on August 20. This platoon will form part of the United Nations Force in Congo.

GIFTS FOR U.A.R. GENERAL

A double-barrel twelve-bore shot gun and a pair of large-sized binoculars, produced by the Indian Ordnance Factory, were

presented on August 28 to General Jamal Faisal, Commander of the First Army of the United Arab Republic, by the Indian Consul-General, Mr. Abid Hassan Safrani. The presentation took place at the headquarters of the Syrian Army in Damascus.

NEW AMBASSADORS

In a Press Note of August 23, the Union Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Mr. Raden Moekarto Notowidigdo has been appointed Ambassador of Indonesia in India.

AMBASSADOR OF ARGENTINA

According to another Press Note of August 20, Dr. Ricardo Florencio Mosquera has been appointed Ambassador of Argentina in India.

AMBASSADOR OF TURKEY

Mr. Necdet Kent has been appointed Ambassador of Turkey in India, says a Press Note issued on August 25 by the Union Ministry of External Affairs.

AMBASSADOR IN CUBA

Ambassador Shri M.C. Chagla presented his credentials on August 31 at Havana to the President of the Republic of Cuba.

Shri Chagla, who had formerly been accredited as Minister, has now presented his credentials as Ambassador, following the decision of India and Cuba to raise their diplomatic missions to Embassy level.

IRAQI AMBASSADOR

In a Press Note issued on August 30, the Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Brigadier Nuri Jamil has been appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq in India.

INDIAN BOOKS FOR BAGHDAD 'VARSITY

India's Ambassador to Iraq, Shri I.S. Chopra, presented a collection of 150 books on Indian history, art, philosophy, religion and culture to the Baghdad University on August 24 on behalf of the Government of India at a specially arranged function attended by distinguished gathering of University Deans, senior professors and well known Iraqi litterateurs and authors. This collection is the first Indian contribution under the Indo-Iraqi Cultural agreement.

AFGHAN JASHAN CELEBRATION

The Indian Services hockey team, which arrived in Kabul on August 24 to participate in the 42nd anniversary of the Afghan Jashan Celebrations, played its second match against the Afghan Services team (Kohe-Markaz) on August 26 at Ghazi Stadium and won by five goals to nil. The match was witnessed among others by the members of the Royal family, Afghan Premier, First Deputy Premier and Diplomatic Corps.

Earlier, the Indian team played against the Military School team on August 25 and won by three goals to nil.

The Indian tennis team, which is also in Kabul for the Jashan Celebrations, won both singles and doubles against the Kabul team on August 25.

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

AUGUST 16 To 31

- August 16 — An agreement for a credit of Rs. 13.33 crores (£ 10 million) by the Government of the United Kingdom to India is signed in New Delhi.
- 17 — A team of Chinese officials arrives in New Delhi for the second round of discussions on India-China border issues.
- The Rajya Sabha begins a two-day debate on international affairs.
- 20 — The Government of India decide to set up a Co-ordinating Committee to consider the overall problem of industrialisation, development of natural resources and regional planning of the Cambay region.
- 22 — The Government of India announce the appointment of 15 members of the Board of the Life Insurance Corporation for two years from September 1, 1960.
- The Lok Sabha begins a debate on the draft outline of the Third Five Year Plan.
- 23 — It is announced that an agreement has been signed with the Ford Foundation which will give India assistance totalling 4,74,000 dollars over a period of four years for providing an educational television programme for secondary schools in Delhi Territory.
- 24 — The annual meeting of the newly constituted All India Handicrafts Board is held in New Delhi.
- 25 — It is announced that the trade arrangement between India and Italy, which expired on June 30, 1960, has been extended upto June 30, 1961.
- The Government of India constitute a Central Wage Board for the Jute Industry.
- The Gamma Garden, set up at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, is inaugurated by the Union Minister of Food and Agriculture, Shri S.K. Patil.
- 26 — An agreement is signed in New Delhi between the Government of India and an Italian firm for technical collaboration in the setting up of a teleprinter factory in India.
- Another agreement is signed in New Delhi between the Government of India and a Japanese firm for technical collaboration in the manufacture of cameras at the National Instruments Factory in Calcutta.
- A conference of State Agriculture Ministers begins in New Delhi.
- 27 — The Import Advisory Council meets in New Delhi.
- 28 — A meeting of the Central Zonal Council is held in New Delhi.
- The half-yearly meeting of the Export Promotion Advisory Council is held in New Delhi.
- 31 — The Lok Sabha begins a two-day debate on international affairs.

BUILDERS OF NEW INDIA

spreading the spirit of CO-OPERATION AND PROGRESS

To the 25-year-old V. S. Karjigi of Davangere Community Development Block in Chitradurga District of Mysore State has gone the distinction of being the best Gram Sevak of 1959.

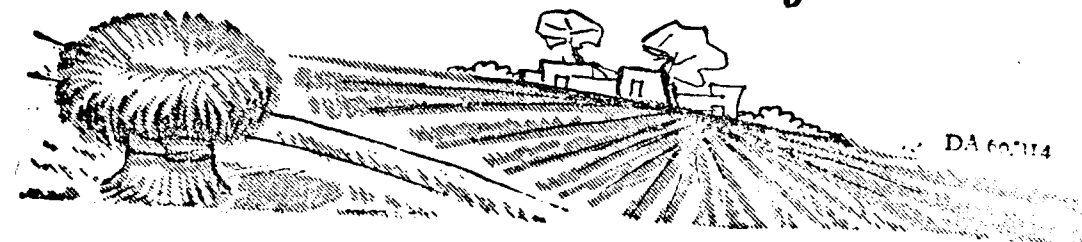
Karjigi began working as a Gram Sewak in the Alur Circle of the Block three years ago. In this period, the villages in the Circle have made remarkable progress in agriculture, animal husbandry and co-operation.

For instance, the area under improved paddy cultivation stood at 248 acres by the end of September, 1959 as against 39 acres before the Block was inaugurated in October, 1957.

Gram Sevaks like Karjigi are helping to spread a new spirit of self-help, co-operation and progress among the villages and are well and truly helping to build a New India.

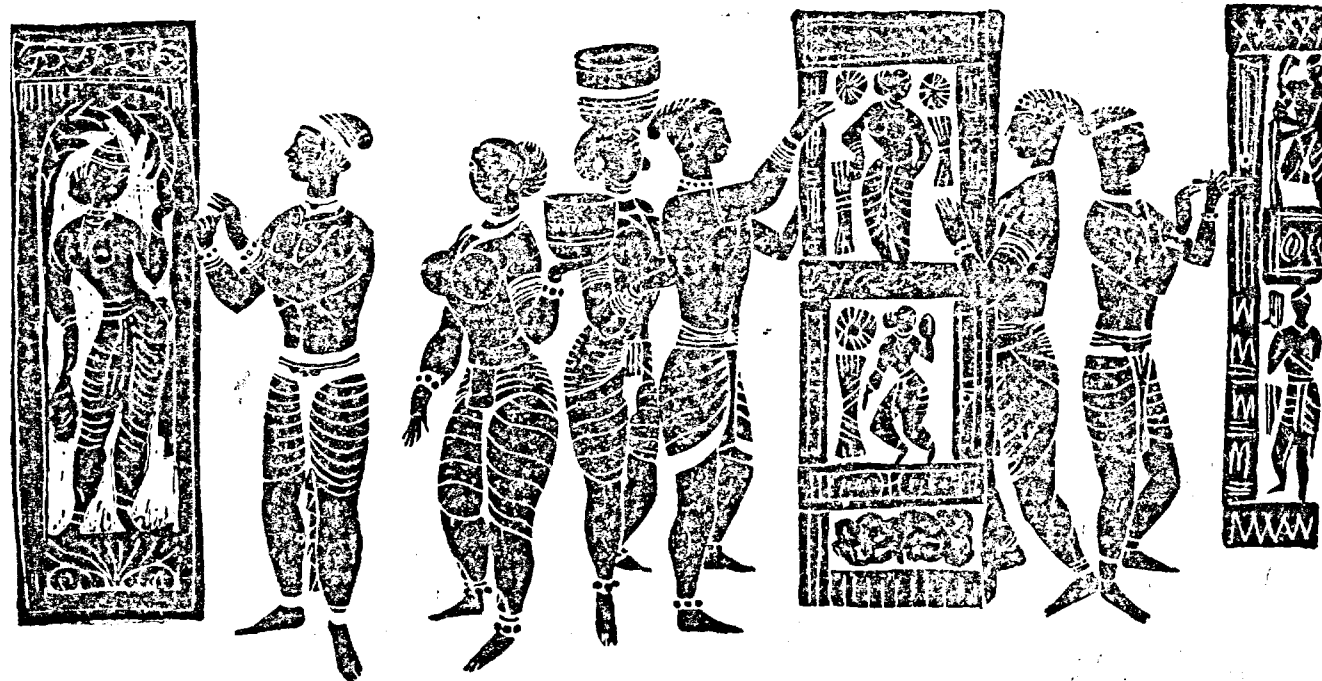


THE PLAN MEANS
PLENTY AND SECURITY
Work for it-Save for it



It is said that it took 1,200 skilled workers almost twelve years to build the famous Konarak temple in the thirteenth century.

Judged by any standard, the building of such an edifice was a gigantic undertaking. It is easy to imagine that by expanding the demand for building materials and articles of daily requirements for an army of workers, it must have stimulated the growth of a large number of industries.



Today, even as in the past, the operations of a large undertaking encourages the growth of many existing industries and the birth of new ones, triggering continued expansion in the economic field. It has been the established policy of Standard-Vacuum to utilize local sources to the maximum extent possible, for the goods and services the organization needs for its operation. And in 1959, the value of such purchases in India amounted to Rs. 346 lakhs; of this, Rs. 289 lakhs represented the requirements of the Marketing Organization and Rs. 42 lakhs of the Refining Operations. The total requirements for all the three operations of Standard-Vacuum for the five years, from 1955 to 1959, was represented by Rs. 1,659 lakhs. Among the new lines of manufacture set up in India as a direct result of the demands generated by Stanvac's operation were drums and barrels for asphalt and other petroleum products; gasoline pumps and modern tank trucks and aircraft refuellers.

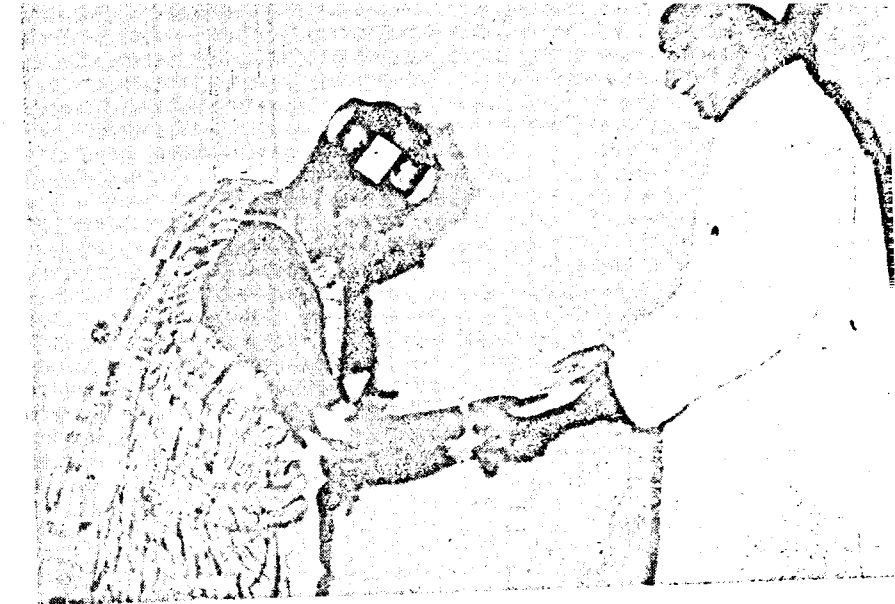
STANVAC —participating in the country's progress

STANDARD-VACUUM OIL COMPANY Incorporated in the U.S.A. with Limited Liability

PSSVOG-11A, 60



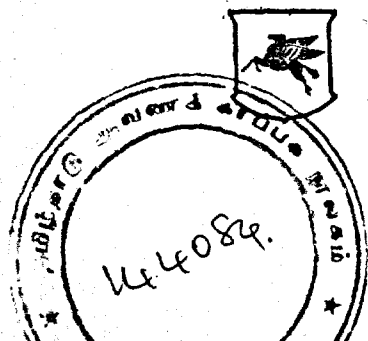
The Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, Shri S. K. Patil, giving away the Kidwai Memorial prizes for agricultural research at a ceremony in New Delhi on August 30



The High Commissioner for Ghana in India presenting informally his letter of credence to the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, at Rashtrapati Bhavan on August 22



Shri G. B. Pant, Union Home Minister, addressing the Central Zonal Council in New Delhi on August 28





Regd. No.
D-940

Mr. Hiroluki Iwaki, leader of the 110-member NHK Orchestra of Japan, being garlanded when he arrived at Palam airport on August 30



The Indian contingent, consisting of a Hockey team, a Tennis team and a song and dance troupe, leaving for Kabul on August 23 to participate in the Afghan Jashan celebrations

