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THE COVER: Jawaharlal Nehru, in the year freedom was achieved.

Some of the articles announced for this issue have had to be held back.

*Gandhi and Nehru—
how similar they were
despite outward
contrast*

Two Pilgrims Of Truth

THERE was a wan smile on his face as he said, "My lifetime is not ending so soon." In his eyes there was a hint of the miles to go before he could sleep.

But his hope—and the nation's prayer—was not to be. A hundred and twenty hours after, he was no more. Death, which he had treated with disdain, claimed him, and in doing so set the seal on his immortality.

Did the light go out, or had he gone into the light? Did he die or did he, the liberator, get liberated?

HE WAS returned to the elements not far from where his own master had been cremated—to make two sacred spots in one field. To the multitudes that witnessed the last journey—and to the millions more that were not physically present in Delhi—he was not merely the Prime Minister and head of Government, not merely Panditji, not merely the builder of a nation, not merely an incomparable statesman honoured internationally, not merely the thinker and teacher of gentler ways, not merely the Great Reconciler—but the heir of Gandhi. The two will ever stay hyphenated in history.

The world has wondered at this strange pair. Volumes have been written on the contrast between them: in looks, in dress, in accent, in manner of living, in intellectual allegiances, in attitudes towards God and World and Science and Art.

THE WONDER is not how dissimilar they were, but how similar. Gandhi's God-dedication and Nehru's proclaimed rationalism were both forms of Truth. In Truth were both founded, and every action, every thought and mental whisper they tested against truth. Nehru's life, no less than Gandhi's, was an experiment with truth. The search for truth enabled Gandhi to transform himself from clod to star; it helped Nehru to reclaim himself from the idleness of wealth and aesthetics.

Against truth neither recognised a barrier. And next to truth their love was for man: not this or that nation but all the human kind. They wanted freedom everywhere. They fought oppression and violence everywhere to see that freedom and the worth of no single man was abridged. If they happened to serve India, and build an Indian nation, it was in the Indian tradition of realising the Infinite in the Immanent. They gave all their heart, all their mental and physical powers, to service of man. Their love was boundless and because they gave, they got. One could see and touch the two-way flow of power when either Gandhi or Nehru was with people.

THEY HAD the gift of tormenting themselves with the world's wrongs and the more unusual gift of bearing it all lightly. What Nehru said of Gandhi was also true of him: "... whose eyes were often full of laughter, and yet were pools of infinite sadness". Just as they were the most completely unselfish men of our times, so too they were the most courageous. With courage they had self-restraint, compassion, gentleness and a total cleanliness. Their private thought was no different from their public utterance.

This last was the secret of the mesmerism of their speech. The hearer was admitted to their heart and mind. They thought aloud; and hid nothing. They did the listener the honour of treating him

(Continued on Cover iii)

LEGACY OF JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

THROUGH life Jawaharlal Nehru remained peerless; among the immortals he will remain unique. No man in his own time became so much a part of the minds and hearts of millions of his fellow-men in his own land and across the seas. Common men everywhere seemed to find in him what they looked for—hope and understanding, wisdom and moral purpose and utter dedication and selflessness. To the end he remained what he was at the beginning, an embodiment of youth, his eyes searching for the new, full of compassion and warmth, his hand extended in friendship to all mankind. Beauty in all its forms was his; the restless spirit wandered through the universe, uplifting all it touched or spied upon. Noble in life, noble in death, he will remain a dear possession of good men everywhere.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU gave much to India and the world. His message to the nations of the world will continue to ring if his own countrymen are found worthy of the legacy he has left them. Jawaharlal offered no set doctrines. He built no citadels of power and organisation. He had no band of disciples. His authority over the apparatus of government and party sat lightly upon both. When he gave a decisive turn to their thinking, it emerged, not as an act of will, but as a kind of consensus. He seemed to be summing up the prevailing mood and atmosphere. Only a few sensed how far these had gained strength from his own loud thinking and outpourings. To detail he seemed unbound, even indifferent. Yet, there were grave moments, when elemental values were in issue, as at the time of Partition. Passions then ran high and the irrational turned man into brute. At such moments Jawaharlal changed in an instant into a fierce, passionate being. Evil in any form and the baser instincts were beyond forbearance and there was no one he would not fight if need be.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU filled the horizon of India for so many years. His influence in his lifetime was all-pervasive. Yet his work remained unfinished. He moulded the lives and thoughts of two generations of Indians, but the full emotional integration of India still remains to be

accomplished. He took India a long way towards nationhood, but her unity is still a tender plant. A vast structure of democratic institutions has come into being, but democracy, as a way of life, as a scheme of human and social relationships, has still to be achieved. He took India on the road to socialism, but far the greater part of the journey still lies ahead. Three Five Year Plans have brought vast economic and social changes, and raised new temples of human endeavour, but poverty and social injustice persist and there are still unbearable disparities in income and wealth, in opportunity and well-being. In these and many other fields, the foundations were laid, but the structures remained unfinished.

THESE FOUNDATIONS, then, are one part of Jawaharlal Nehru's legacy. The people of India, according to their genius, might build on them the grandest mansions they choose. It is up to them. But there is another part, less visible, less material, whose total influence on the shape of the future we do not yet know. This consists of the values he held. He believed in them, lived with them and shared them with his people. Passion for justice and fairplay, tolerance and consideration, freedom from the fetters of dogma and doctrine, the temper of modern science and technology, willingness to experiment, generosity to friends and colleagues, passion for beauty in all its forms, love for the young—these he carried into everything he undertook in national life and, as opportunity offered, into relations among nations. At home, they were the core of his philosophy of democracy, socialism and economic and scientific progress. Abroad, they were the springs of his search for peace and goodwill and understanding. Together, they made a unity of thought and action such as only a rare spirit, standing above the trials and uncertainties of the day and peering into the future of mankind, could have achieved.

GANDHIJ freed his people from many bonds and fears; Jawaharlal Nehru enlarged their horizon and gave them new direction and purpose. Together they have done much to liberate the human spirit. To what account shall we now turn the legacy they have left us?

The Future Should Be More Rapid

I COMMENT this little book to all those who are interested in the development of India and in socialism and Indian Planning. I have not read the whole of this book. Nevertheless, I feel that it is useful and will help people to take a broad view of our problems.

Socialism has become rather a vague word, with many meanings attached to it. In the modern world with its dynamism and its tremendous technological progress, it is clear that this concept of socialism itself undergoes a change, and yet its fundamental principles remain. In India, it is important for us to profit by modern technical processes and increase our production both in agriculture and industry. But, in doing so, we must not forget that the essential objective to be aimed at is the quality of the individual and the concept of *dharma* underlying it.

We are in the middle of our Third Five Year Plan, and already our Planning Commission is thinking of the Fourth Plan. It is hoped that by the end of the Fifth Plan, we shall become self-sufficient in many ways, and our progress will not then depend so much on external help. All this depends on how much we succeed in getting out of the old ruts and align ourselves with modern methods of production.

Some people think that our progress since independence has been slow. I do not think that this is correct. Considering the background of India and her people, and the necessity of changing the social structure of the country, I think that the progress we have made is substantial. It has laid the foundations for future advance, and it has done so on a democratic basis. This future should be more rapid than the past has been.

Some of the readers of this book may not agree with everything that it contains. This is immaterial. The point is that we should look at the picture as a whole and in a comprehensive way, keeping the ideal of democratic socialism before us. This book should help them to do this. I commend this book to them.

Circuit House,
Dehra Dun.
May 25, 1964

Jawaharlal Nehru

This Foreword was written by Mr Jawaharlal Nehru at the Circuit House, Dehra Dun, on May 25, 1964 for a forthcoming publication, "Socialism in Indian Planning" by Mr Shriman Narayan, Member, Planning Commission. The Foreword, along with Mr Nehru's letter, was received by Mr Narayan on the evening of May 26, soon after the arrival of the Prime Minister in New Delhi.

It is learnt that Mr Nehru spent about an hour and a half reading through the typescript before dictating the Foreword which now happens to be the last expression of his considered thoughts on Socialism and Indian planning.

S. Radhakrishnan: Modern India is the greatest monument which Jawaharlal Nehru has built for himself.

C. Rajagopalachari: Twelve years younger, twelve times more important and twelve hundred times more beloved of the nation. I have fought him for ten years for what I consider faults in public policy, and all the time I knew he alone could correct the faults. And now he is gone, weakening me in my fight.

J. B. Kripalani: He was a valiant fighter and a reckless fighter who considered liberty the most precious gift of God to humanity.

Sri Prakasa: He had his 24 hours of day and night as anyone else. But he made his 24 hours yield an amount of work that others would take weeks to accomplish.

Lyndon B. Johnson: Perhaps more than any other world leader he has given expression to man's yearning for peace.

Nikita Khrushchev: The best tribute would be the triumph of the great ideals of humanism, social progress and peace to which he had dedicated the whole of his wonderful life.

Earl Attlee: A great world figure and perhaps the doyen of world statesmen.

Aldai Stevenson: One of God's great creations.

Bertrand Russell: The non-alignment he formulated prevented war on more than one occasion.

The New York Times: Jawaharlal Nehru and India bore great love for

each other; and it was India's love for this man who could be so demanding, so tender, so ambitious, so involved, so aloof, so merry, so brooding that gave him the greatest of all powers, the power to rule through the heart of a nation.

Associated Press of America: He did not kiss them (children) on the cheek and hand them gingerly back to their mothers. He talked to them. ... To Mr Nehru the children were the ones who would lead India out of poverty and would forget caste and religion and language.

The Hindustan Times: He was not just a political leader but someone to whom the heart of the suffering and the misunderstood immediately and instinctively turned ... He was cast in the heroic mould of Akbar and Asoka.

He filled the people with the desire of the blue sky...He schooled them in the first principles and with vision gave them discipline...He had profound faith in their creativity. Revolutionary, hero, socialist, modernist, he imparted rationality to emotions. To free man from traditionalism, to individualise him, to engage his energies in co-operative endeavour—this was his faith.

NEHRU AND INDIA

By ASOKA MEHTA

THOSE who have grown up in the shadow of the personality of Pandit Nehru can scarcely realise how much of their very thoughts have been shaped by him. Millions in India and elsewhere are his spiritual children who have learnt to comprehend the world in terms of his ideas and idioms. As he incarnated an epoch, so did he shape a whole generation.

Pandit Nehru combined in himself three qualities that have rarely gone together. First, he had a passion for knowledge; no sphere of it was alien to him. He roamed over the world of knowledge with the same zest and communion with which he moved in the world of men. Secondly, he had the insight of a historian. Behind the ebb and flow of events he sought the patterns and purposes of men. He was able to bring simultaneously both commitment and objectivity because he could set events in the background, as well as the perspective, of history. Again, he was profoundly concerned about the dignity of the lowliest of men. To help every person to discover and realise his full stature was his fundamental quest.

The deep respect and concern for man's dignity made him a fighter for freedom, a democrat and a socialist. The shackles round the enslaved have to fall off if man is to become erect again.

The mantle of leadership sat easily and naturally on Pandit Nehru. To see him was to acclaim him. That charisma in him he used to lift men's thoughts and emancipate their hearts and minds. His hold over the people was massive and legendary and he retained and strengthened that hold over many years without ever resorting to irrational appeals. Like the prophets of old he evoked men's allegiance by uplifting them and not by degrading them as mass politics tends to do.

It was his unique gift to make rationality emotionally acceptable. Even when he stirred the elemental levels of mass emotions, as he had to if he was to arouse his people against colonial rule, he effortlessly maintained the discipline of larger purposes on them. He could provide soaring vistas to struggling nationalism and on the morrow of its triumph endow it with international obligations. He understood and respected people's limited loyalties to nation, religion, language or class, but while acknowledging them he ceaselessly endeavoured to transform them into something less exclusive. Whatever the heights to which the wings of men would carry them, he filled them with the desire of the blue sky. Anything narrow he abhorred because he saw vista and vitality inextricably linked together.

He had a passion for asserting the first principles unequivocally. That is why he had insisted on the Congress accepting the objective of complete independence even though he believed in the interdependence of nations, and, in fact, emerged as the architect of a totally altered Commonwealth. Likewise, he progressively pushed the Congress to the acceptance of democratic socialism, even when in practice he recognised many compromises. He insisted on the clearest enunciation of objectives, remaining stubbornly uncompromising there, because he felt that such clarity helps the people to trace the course, like the light on the hill-top guiding travellers in their pilgrimage. In the day-to-day life compromises do occur; only incandescence of objectives saves the people from getting bogged down in them. Men's day-to-day efforts are the result of their fluctuating strength, but the assurance of an endless surge of strength depends on the sharpest delineation of the purposes.

He had unswerving faith in the creativity of the people. He was essentially an inspired artist whose

medium was the people around him. As the sculptor, and he alone, sees in the marble the outlines of the image he seeks to carve, so did Jawaharlal see in the people their unfolding potentialities he cherished! Here was a successful revolutionary, a hero of the liberation movement, a socialist, a modernist who strangely enough was indifferent to organisation. He felt that he abridged and atrophied men when he merely held them within the folds of an organisation; he enlarged and liberated them when he evoked response by widening their horizon or imparting rationality to their emotions. In the age of organisation, he remained the supreme exponent of "Thou and I" relationship with his fellow-men.

He brought to the Indian Parliament a quick maturity because for him it was the classic forum where one speaks, argues, explains, expounds. The parliamentary work he supplemented with countless public meetings where millions gained face-to-face communion with him. This aristocrat, scholar, statesman could open out unreservedly, could reveal his innermost thoughts and self, not to any single human being but only to the people. That was so because, in the concourse, in fact, he spoke to every man. It was always a dialogue, never the harangue.

What made him cherish the Parliament as an institution also made him give rare significance to the Planning Commission that he nurtured. The Commission, through its plans and projects, was expected to provide rationality to men's endeavours and meaningful foliation to the aims that guide and inspire these efforts. Here too was not a strait-jacket of an organisation imposed upon the people, but an effort at broadening the horizon, deepening understanding and enlisting energies in the task of social transformation. As with the Master, Pandit Nehru's constant preoccupation was with means shaping the end. Every step had to be endowed with the full glory of the pilgrimage.

He was the most accessible of men. In his contact the tensions were stilled. Here again, like Gandhiji, he had the healing touch in him. Under his spell men did not work out some patchwork compromise, they somehow rose above their fragmentary faiths and sensed something of the universal *gestalt* that guided him. Behind every discordance there is always the possibility of uncovering, achieving some harmony. It was only when rigidities were imposed and ossification insisted upon that possibilities of such a change from discord, distrust and dissensions to understanding got closed. That is why Jawaharlal Nehru fought relentlessly against intolerance, whether religious or international.

He had a deep sensitivity to and appreciation of the past as the log book of his great voyage *The Discovery of India* testifies. He, however, had a horror of crusted traditions. He remained for over seventy years the symbol of youth because he, as it were, exuded regeneration. Growth, change, foliation were for him the vital thrusts. In them and through them men could seek their liberation. Rigidities, ossification and obscurantism in so many ways imprison and entomb men. These were prisons to be shattered, not shelters to be sought.

He, as a student of science, understood and welcomed the revolutionary impact of science and technology. He sought to harness their forces to lift from his countrymen the burden of poverty and hunger. He hoped to dot the land with mighty projects and proudly acclaimed them as the new places of pilgrimage. It was crystal clear to him that political freedom had to ensure social liberation and that could come only through economic growth which demanded the fullest use of science and technology in transforming to gainful ends, the untapped natural resources of the land. Here too his deep concern for right means to ensure the desired end led him to espouse socialist modes of development.

His faith in his fellow-men made him a confirmed democrat. He never hesitated to endow the people with wider powers and responsibility because he never doubted their ability to use them wisely. The same faith made him secular in outlook. If religion and religion alone shaped all the contours of life and culture, what would happen to the ultimate faith of Man that Rabindranath Tagore had aptly called *The Religion of Man*? As nationalism remains creative and positive only when fitted into international understanding, so does religious faith remain protean only in the framework of tolerance and mutuality of respect. To free man from the totems and taboos of traditionalism, to individualise him and to socialise him, to engage his energies and enthusiasm in co-operative tasks of transformation was for Jawaharlal the rationale of his socialist faith.

He loved men around him, not just the children, but every single person he could reach. That outflowing love made humanity respond to him with a rare fervour. As the meanest musical instrument unlocks its harmonies in the hands of the master musician, so the meanest of men under Jawaharlal's influence reached forth to the fountains of creativity that reside in every man. This profound faith in men was combined with implicit allegiance to reason. It was the intermingling of faith and reason that made Nehru the *knight sans peur* that he truly was.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

AND THE FIVE YEAR PLANS

By TARLOK SINGH

THE setting up of the Planning Commission with the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, as Chairman, was announced towards the end of February 1950, within a month of the promulgation of the Constitution. Shri Nehru's decision to associate himself with planning in this way was more than a symbolic act. Years of preparation through identification with the problems of the masses and the work of the National Planning Committee lay behind this association. In the fourteen years and more which have since elapsed, Shri Nehru's association was of decisive significance at every important juncture, both within the Planning Commission and outside. Whether it was in the Cabinet, in Parliament, in relation to States, in moulding and educating public opinion or in projecting the country's economic and social goals abroad, Shri Nehru remained the greatest inspiration and support behind India's planned development.

His last meeting with the Planning Commission took place as recently as May 10, 1964, when he said that he would be glad to give as much time as was needed because he was deeply interested in planning. Since the informal meeting, which Shri Nehru attended on March 12, 1950, and the first official meeting on March 28, 1950, and until fairly recently, he visited the offices of the Planning Commission on an average about twenty times a year or more, his visits being specially

frequent during the periods when intensive preparation of successive Five Year Plans was under way. At such times, he followed the discussions on major issues intently and, where there was a vital principle or departure, he listened carefully and gave a direction for the future. Sometimes, his mind was already made up and the issues were quickly resolved.

Tasks for the Planning Commission

When Shri Nehru assumed office as Vice-President of the Interim Government on September 2, 1946, no one knew the shape of the future. Within a few weeks, Shri Nehru took two steps which were to prove important later. The first was the appointment of an Advisory Planning Board which recommended the setting up of a Planning Commission. The second was the constitution of a Scientific Manpower Committee which laid the base for the remarkable advance of scientific and technical education in later years. Shri Nehru also gave the utmost support to the programme for establishing a chain of National Laboratories which had been conceived in outline earlier but was now greatly enlarged.

Through the political turmoils and uncertainties of 1947 and the terrible aftermath of Partition and the new anxieties which Kashmir brought, for a period, little could

be done in pursuit of planning. However, from around the middle of 1949, Shri Nehru's mind turned more and more to the solution of the food problem and to economic planning. Towards the end of 1949, he gave a great deal of time to a foreign expert, who prepared a memorandum setting out his ideas concerning economic planning and the machinery required for it. This memorandum was discussed by secretaries and senior officials whose approach to planning the Prime Minister found halting in the extreme. Soon Shri Nehru travelled alone far beyond their thinking and, if one's recollection is correct, in January 1950, at a meeting of the Congress Working Committee, the decision was taken to constitute a Planning Commission.

Two days after the Finance Minister announced the composition of the Commission, with Shri Gulzarilal Nanda as the Deputy Chairman and a distinguished membership, the draft of a Government of India Resolution setting out the terms of reference came up for consideration. Shri Nehru rewrote a considerable part of the draft and, in particular, in the words cited below he linked up the work of the Planning Commission directly to the Fundamental Rights and to the Directive Principles of State Policy embodied in the Constitution:

"The Constitution of India has guaranteed certain Funda-

mental Rights to the citizens of India and enunciated certain Directive Principles of State Policy, in particular, that the State shall strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of the national life, and shall direct its policy towards securing, among other things,—

- (a) that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood;
- (b) that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good; and
- (c) that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment.

Having regard to these rights and in furtherance of these principles as well as of the declared objective of the Government to promote a rapid rise in the standard of living of the people by efficient exploitation of the resources of the country, increasing production, and offering opportunities to all for employment in the service of the community,

The Planning Commission will...

Thus, though the accent was more marked in later years, from the very beginning, India's planning was rooted in the concepts of Democracy and Socialism and the objective of giving equal opportunity and the good life to the masses of the people.

Since India accepted the approach of planned development, many other countries have also formulated and implemented their own economic plans. Perhaps what has distinguished India's plans from those of numerous other countries is their sense of continuity, going back to the insights and inspirations of the days of the national struggle, the widening horizon and the greater depth from one plan to the next and

the involvement in the plans, though still far from complete, of millions of people at all levels of national life.

The significance of India's plans lies not merely in the economic expansion which might be achieved, but even more, in the transformation of the social order, the emergence of a broad-based leadership at the level of the community and the creation of the institutions of democracy through which the people everywhere could harness their energies to the solution of their common problems, improvement of living conditions and the development of human resources. These trends became possible because of the outlook which Shri Nehru and a long line of national leaders before him, from Dadabhai Naoroji to Mahatma Gandhi, brought to bear on the movement for national freedom. Their total impact is not easy to measure, nor can it yet be fully assessed.

Each of our three Five Year Plans was presented by Shri Nehru to Parliament. Shri Nehru regarded the beginning and the end of a Five Year Plan as vital dates in the nation's history. His speeches in Parliament on each Five Year Plan traversed far beyond the dimensions and priorities of the Plan and conveyed to the nation a series of vistas into the future, some in sharp focus, others in outline.

Basic Goals and Approach

Although the First Five Year Plan laid the foundations for any important developments of later years and, in the life of a nation its first Plan may often be its most important, to Shri Nehru India's First Plan always somehow seemed less than adequate in its total comprehension. He set great store by the idea of community projects which, he said:

"is something which is basically revolutionary, if worked well... We have not paid enough attention to these rural areas in the past and, unless we bring them up to a certain level, we shall always be weighed down by them."

Shri Nehru read through several chapters of the Plan and even wrote

in a few paragraphs himself. However, the Plan seemed to him to be wanting in the perspective for the future and in placing sufficient emphasis on basic objectives. It was also weak in its scientific and industrial content. These thoughts were prominently in Shri Nehru's mind through 1954 and 1955. At the meeting of the National Development Council on November 9, 1954, in the course of an opening address, he offered some important reflections.

"Planning", he said,

"is not putting down just as you want; planning is not merely giving priority to all things which you wish to do. Planning is something wider and deeper... Now, the first thing I should imagine about planning is to have a definite picture of where you are going to; one cannot frame vaguely, just doing good deeds from day to day like the boy scouts, or putting up good enterprises which are good, of course, but we have to have some definite picture. I do not mean to say it should be a rigid picture; it may be a changing picture as we gather experience, information, etc. Nevertheless, we have to plan for something."

Then he went on to describe the problems of "underdeveloped countries and poverty-stricken people, more or less, chiefly agricultural, trying to industrialise themselves."

He said:

"the mere fact of dealing with these vast populations is an exacting operation — changing them not at the top, not by laws passed by Parliament, but changing the human will, and taking them out of that static condition of mind and social habit which has been their lot for a long time."

He continued:

"I wish to lay stress on that. The Planning Commission is of no use at all if it has a static outlook. That way, we sit, we sleep, we rest. One must have that dynamic outlook of change, change of every kind—political, of course, economic and social."

A moment later, he came to his central theme.

"The picture I have in mind is definitely and absolutely a Socialist picture of society. I am not using the word in a dogmatic sense at all, but in the sense of meaning largely that the means of production should be socially-owned and controlled for the benefit of society as a whole."

In this picture there was plenty of room for private enterprise, provided the main aim was kept clear. The dominance that private enterprise had throughout the world during a certain period was out of date; indeed, any system based on the acquisitiveness of society was not only absolutely out of date but also immoral.

From this perspective and approach, Shri Nehru went on to speak of industrialisation and industrial growth:

"We as an underdeveloped country, industrially underdeveloped, have continually to fight trying to cross that barrier of underdevelopment, so that we may be able to go a little faster."

"Now, if we think in terms of building up our industry," he said, "we must give up the idea of continually getting machines from abroad. We must build them here. I see it is just obvious. ... We must aim at producing machines, the basic things, here."

Thus, in a single speech ten years ago, Shri Nehru anticipated, as in a flash, Parliament's Resolution of December 1954 on the socialist pattern of society, the Avadi Congress, the Industrial Policy Resolution of April 1956 and a considerable part of the strategy of development towards a self-reliant economy proposed in the Second and the Third Five Year Plans.

Socialism and Industrial Growth

These trends in thinking influenced the formulation of the Second Five Year Plan and indeed became an organic part of it. In retrospect, it is possible to see why, without being committed in detail, Shri Nehru was greatly attracted to the scheme of development outlined in the Draft Plan Frame prepared by Professor P. C. Mahalanobis. Shri Nehru saw the approach in this

document as marking a turn towards acceleration in economic growth, towards basic changes in the industrial and technological structure, application of science and scientific method on a larger scale and promise of a self-reliant economy which itself possessed the means to achieve rapid economic progress and solve urgent social problems.

This was a period of intense debate and criticism, but Shri Nehru adhered throughout to all his fundamental propositions. He expressed them most completely in two important addresses, one delivered to the Standing Committee of the National Development Council on January 7, 1956, and the other to the National Development Council on January 20, 1956. In these, he declared that it was our firm policy to go towards a socialist structure of society. "Taking India as it is," he said, "I think we have the background here, the urge and the necessity for going in that direction." This would be a long-term process. For this purpose, long-term planning was essential, so that we have some clear idea of what in 15 years' time we hope to achieve. Shorter plans must be fitted in with the broad general scheme. "Ultimately, we should develop that structure of society which encourages the right impulses and not the wrong impulses, the right trends and not the wrong trends." Shri Nehru believed in our capacity in India in winning over people rather than fighting them.

He said:

"We can bring about social changes and developments under pressure of events, by the pressure of democracy and also by friendly co-operative approach rather than the approach of trying to eliminate each other and the stronger party winning. I think we can do that even in the industrial field."

Perhaps it is in this phase that Shri Nehru's views on the general concepts of planning came to be most clearly defined. He emphasised that planning and, specially democratic planning, meant consultation with as large a number of people as possible from all over India, but the approach to planning not only depended more and more upon the broader objectives, but had

to be a statistical approach. Hence the growing importance of statistical data, sample surveys and calculation at every stage of the results of the action we contemplate. Planning meant the interlocking of production, consumption, employment and a large number of other things, like transport, social services, education and health. In seeking the objective of Socialism, there should be some precise content about the goal, about the methods and about the means by which you seek to achieve the goal.

Shri Nehru did not wish merely to nationalise and waste resources in compensating private parties, but certain fields of activity should be sacrosanct for the State, and the public sector should be given much greater scope. Subject to these, there should be every opportunity and freedom for private enterprise to grow and we should increase and encourage every element to produce and help in nation-building. There should be much greater stress on the heavy machine-making industry as that was to be the basis of industrial growth. He declared:

"You must go to the root and the base, and build up that root and base on which you will build up the structure of industrial growth. Therefore, it is heavy industries that count, nothing else counts, excepting as a balancing factor which is of course important. We want planning for heavy machine-making industries and heavy industries; we want industries that will make heavy machines and we should set about them as rapidly as possible because it takes time."

These thoughts led directly to the revision of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1948 and the new Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956, which has since held the field. The approach to industrial development set out in this Resolution was applied successively to steel, coal and oil, in each case after a degree of controversy. In steel and oil, in particular, without strong personal support from Shri Nehru, it would have been difficult to proceed very far. These trends were helped by what was at the time a new factor in India's development, namely the offer of economic and technical aid by the Soviet Union.

Co-operatives and Panchayati Raj

Shri Nehru saw planning as a movement, in thinking and action, from the political to the social and the economic plane. As he observed in the National Development Council in May 1956, when the final draft of the Second Five Year Plan was being considered, the more one considered the complexity of planning, the greater was the fascination for it. "The new problems which arose at every step", he said, "gave confidence in ourselves and the ability of the people to achieve development."

Already, at this stage, Shri Nehru's mind had begun to turn from industry to agriculture and the rural economy. Emphasising the great importance of food production for the Second Plan, he said, in a sense, the whole Plan depended upon food being relatively abundant and the price of it not being high. Community projects and the national extension schemes were of great importance, for they were changing the minds and, to some extent, the habits of the people in the rural areas, apart from the material benefits which they brought. But they should devote greater attention to the production of more food, for this was the primary purpose for which they were started.

In the three years that followed, Shri Nehru's influence and direction led to a number of important decisions in the rural sector. In November 1958, the National Development Council adopted a Resolution on 'Co-operative Policy'. For the development of co-operation as a people's movement, the Council declared that it was essential that co-operatives should be organised on the basis of the village community as the primary unit, and that the responsibility and initiative for social and economic development at the village level should be placed fully on the village co-operative and the village panchayat. At the same session of the National Development Council, the decision was taken to introduce State trading in food-grains at the wholesale level. The policy was worked out in detail in the succeeding months but, for reasons upon which it is not necessary

to dwell here, it remained substantially unimplemented. Earlier, in January 1958, the National Development Council had taken a major step in deciding upon establishing a system of democratic institutions at the village, block and district levels which later came to be known as Panchayati Raj.

At this stage in the country's development, Shri Nehru also felt concerned at slow progress in carrying out co-operative farming and in implementing the programme for land reform. On both issues, there had been considerable discussion at the highest level when the Second Plan was being formulated. Shri Nehru had thrown his weight decisively on the side of co-operative farming and agrarian reform. The Second Plan had envisaged such essential steps being taken as would provide sound foundations for co-operative farming, so that over a period of ten years or so, a substantial proportion of agricultural lands could be cultivated on co-operative lines. Similarly, proposals in the Plan for agrarian reform represented a broad common approach to be adopted and pursued in each State as part of the National Plan with due regard to local conditions and in response to local needs. The principles of change and reorganisation on which the schemes of land reform were based were conceived as part of the wider social and economic outlook which must needs apply in some degree to every part of the economy.

These were basic approaches to fundamental national problems. They were accepted by the States and at the political level but, on account of weaknesses in political organisation and in administration, action had lagged far behind. It was natural, therefore, that the Resolutions of the Congress at Nagpur early in 1959 should be devoted to these and other agrarian problems.

Issues For The Third Plan

By this time, Shri Nehru was thinking again of the future and, specially of the Third Five Year Plan and beyond. In a long series of meetings in the Planning Com-

mission, in November and December 1958 and early in 1959, Shri Nehru explored the question of basic objectives which should be set for the future. It was now less necessary to stress the need for building up a strong industrial base and an economy of self-sustained growth, for these concepts had come to be fully integrated into India's approach to planning and the issues which now arose had to be dealt with primarily at the technical, administrative and financial levels. Action for economic and social change in the rural areas lay largely in the States. Shri Nehru felt more and more concerned with lags in education, with the need to ensure certain minimum amenities to the mass of the people in the rural areas, with the problem of slum clearance and slum improvement in the cities and, more acutely than ever before, with the welfare of children. The emphasis in the Third Five Year Plan on these aspects of development was strongly influenced by the views which Shri Nehru urged repeatedly within the Planning Commission and in other forums.

As work on the Third Five Year Plan progressed through the Draft Outline to the Final Report, three questions came to the fore and drew Shri Nehru's personal attention. The first concerned the targets for steel and coal and, through these, for the development of heavy and basic industries. Shri Nehru left no doubt in the minds of his colleagues that these, along with power and rural electrification, were essential objectives, that the Bokaro Steel Plant had to be given the highest priority and that the target for steel should not be less than ten million tons.

The second issue concerned the size of investment in the Third Plan, specially in the public sector. There was a significant gap between the financial requirements of programmes accepted for the public sector in the Plan and the resources which were indicated. The Plan adopted the approach which Shri Nehru had proposed, namely that the physical programmes to be accepted for implementation over the five-year period should not be altogether limited by the financial resources immediately in sight at the stage of drawing up the Plan, although the outlays incurred would

have to be regulated with reference to the actual resources mobilised from year to year. Behind this was Shri Nehru's confidence in the future and his view of the nature of planning. His advice was that the programme for industrial development, including power, transport, technical education and scientific research should proceed in a connected manner in accordance with the approved scheme of priorities, so that as the requisite foreign exchange became available, corresponding internal resources are also found and rapid progress is assured. Whatever we could do ourselves by way of advance action or otherwise should be done, for the costliest thing in planning was timelost due to inaction. Opportunities should be seized upon as they came and there should be readiness to take a measure of risk in speeding development.

The third issue which exercised Shri Nehru was the need to set forth the social objectives of planning as clearly as possible. The Planning Commission, the Central Cabinet and the National Development Council gave a great deal of time to the section in the Third Plan on 'objectives of planned development', but it lacked Shri Nehru's touch. Accordingly, at the request of the National Development Council, Shri Nehru took the draft to Kulu, worked upon it paragraph by paragraph, adding substantial portions and improving upon others and, thus emerged the final statement which forms the first Chapter of the Third Plan Report.

In this, Shri Nehru linked present developments to the aspirations and outlook of the leaders of our national movement, drew the economic progress and welfare of each country into the larger context of efforts to build up a liberated humanity, brought out the intimate connection between national objectives and the maintenance of world peace, and ended, finally, on the following note:

"Planning is continuous process and cannot be isolated for short periods. Thus, the Third Five-Year Plan is a projection and a continuation of the First and the Second Plans, and it will lead to the Fourth and subsequent Plans. Planning is a continuous movement towards desired

goals and, because of this, all major decisions have to be made by agencies informed of these goals and the social purpose behind them. Even in considering a five-year period, forward and long-term planning has always to be kept in view. Indeed, perspective planning is of the essence of the planning process. As this process develops, there is a certain rhythm of expansion in the development of the people, and a sense of enterprise and achievement comes to them. They are conscious of a purpose in life and have a feeling of being participants in the making of history. Ultimately, it is the development of the human being and the human personality that counts. Although planning involves material investment, even more important is the investment in man. The people of India today, with all their burdens and problems, live on the frontier of a new world which they are helping to build. In order to cross this frontier they have to possess courage and enterprise, the spirit of endurance and capacity for hard work, and the vision of the future."

Defence and the Plan

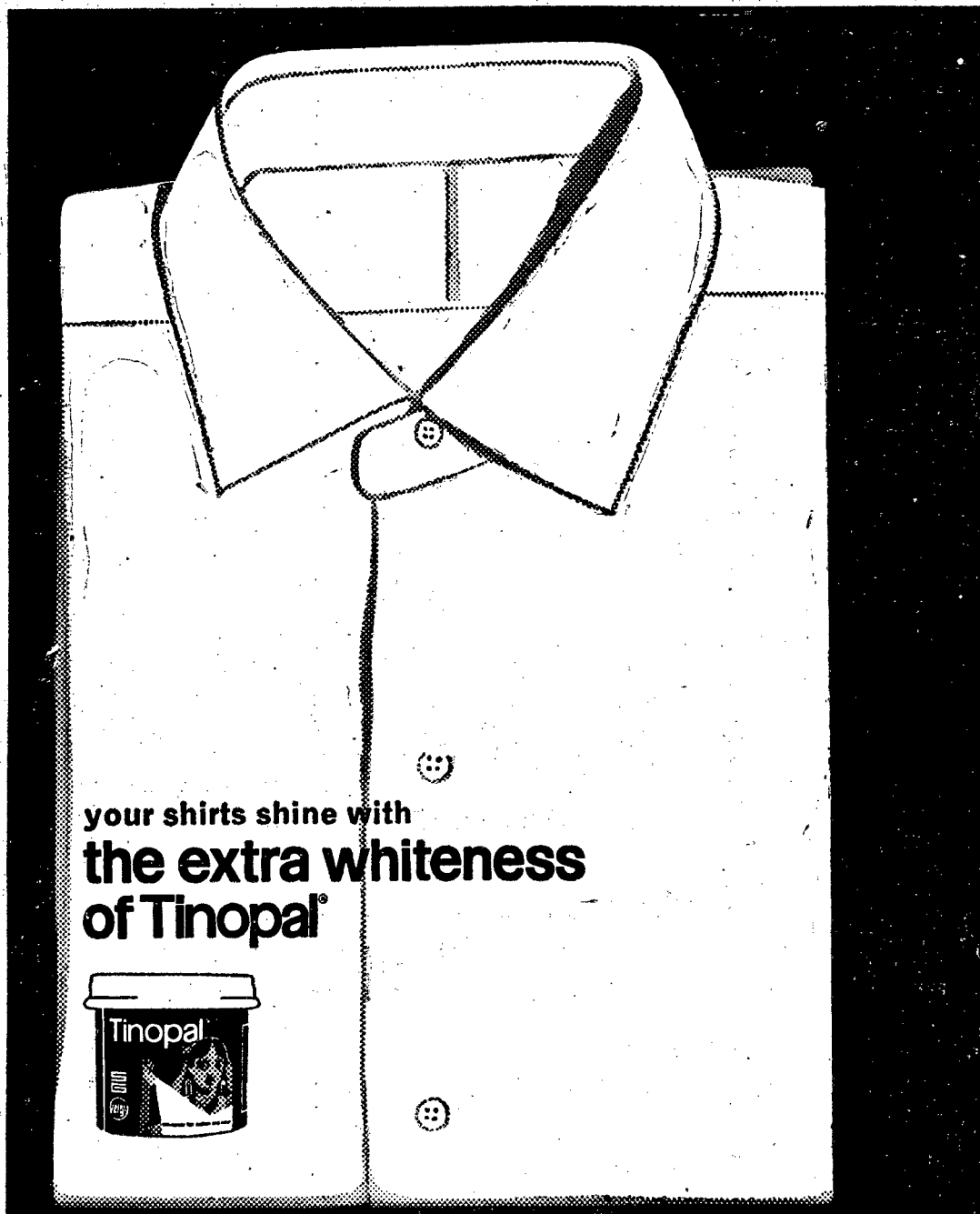
In the second year of the Third Plan, with the aggression by China, came a critical moment for planning. Some said that the Plan would have to be heavily pruned, even set aside, and some agencies in the Government began to give a low priority to the Plan. However, at the height of the crisis, early in November, 1962, Shri Nehru set his face firmly against any attempt to nibble at the Plan from within. We are at the cross-roads of history, he said to the National Development Council, and are facing great historical problems on which depends our future. The Plan was the warp and woof of our national life and it was the war effort itself that requires the Plan. The basis of the Plan is to strengthen the nation, to increase production. Of course, non-essential expenditure should be kept down and too much must not be spent on big buildings and construction, but the basic objective of the Plan was to strengthen the nation and, therefore, the Plan should be looked upon

as an essential part of the national effort. The support which Shri Nehru gave at this stage and in the succeeding months made it possible not only to continue the Plan, but also to enlarge its scope in a number of vital directions.

Securing a National Consensus

Planning in a federal and democratic structure necessarily brings up difficult problems from time to time. Shri Nehru was always conscious of these. As far back as 1951, he had decided to set up the National Development Council. The influence which this Council acquired over the years was in large measure Shri Nehru's personal contribution. At the very first meeting in November 1952 and in many subsequent meetings, Shri Nehru stressed that the Chief Ministers of States bore intimate responsibility for the Plan in all its phases. As Chief Ministers, they shouldered heavy responsibility for their States and naturally had to think of their States but, at the same time, as members of the Council, they had to shoulder responsibility for the whole of India and had to look upon every question from a national point of view.

In addition to building up a continuing partnership between the Centre and the States in the formulation and implementation of economic plans and policies, Shri Nehru stressed at every stage the need to achieve a national consensus, to seek the counsel of various political parties and other groups and to bring to bear the entire weight of the nation in support of the Plan. Shri Nehru succeeded to a very large extent in both the aims he had set himself. It may be permissible to add that on its part, from the beginning, the Planning Commission has endeavoured to translate Shri Nehru's outlook into appropriate working relations with the States and to function in all matters as an institution wholly committed to the national good.



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Shilpi SGT. 226

A Last Look

A GREAT privilege came to me, amidst a great grief. I shall treasure it ever.

I was asked to stand vigil, along with a colleague, in the chamber in which the frame of Jawaharlal Nehru reposed, to make a record with camera of how the nation and the world came to pay him homage.

Ironically, it had not been given to me to photograph Nehru when he lived. And so much of grandeur in death awed me.

Heads of Governments, and makers of policies, came. But in that room that day there was only one great—and he was there, dead.

He loved mankind. Mankind was there to give him a farewell. He loved flowers. All around him were flowers. And there was a red rose on his chest—as there was everyday in the last many years.

And when a rose wilted, his loving daughter took it away and kept a new one in its place.

The gracious lady was a picture of fortitude. She was human enough to yield to moments of sorrow. But courage, the courage she inherited from her father, was hers. And consolation went from her to other mourners. There were decisions to take, and she took them; instructions to give, and she gave them. Now and then a man walked up to her with pen and pad in hand. She would jot down something and he would go back.

THE most poignant moment I have experienced in life was when Sanjay, tall, and so young, and so well endowed with the serene Nehru charm, came in. He saw his mother, and went into her arms. Tearfully the two together looked at the face of the man who was gone.

I stood stupefied. My fingers went liquid. A few seconds later I realised I had missed a picture, the picture. Then I told myself it was well that I missed it for it was too sacred a thing to photograph.

The body was so placed that it was in the room and partly out of it. It jutted into a verandah to receive the homage of the people at large—and they came like wave and wind. They filed past in their thousands and lakhs, creating a meadow of flowers. And the flowers grew below the moving feet.

Within the room, the eminent came in a caravan of grief. Tall men became as small children. The stoic Jayaprakash wept. A surge of grief went through me—and I caught a glimmer of what the abundant generosity of this man could be.

Suddenly, a loud orchestra of voices from the portico. A group of people shouted "Chacha Nehru Zindabad." The sound rushed into the room like thunder, and stunned all those within. They waited in silence for it to fade away.

To cool the room, there were air-conditioners, and to buttress them, there were pedestal fans and blocks of ice on small stands. Water dripped into trays, and some boys were busy emptying them. They were so absorbed in work that unknowingly they rubbed shoulders with the eminent.

A sizzling May sun had lit up the backyard. Groups of leaders, well-known figures, sat underneath trees in the shade. Some talked in low voices and the others listened. Barely in an hour's time, they had to join the funeral procession.

SOON it was past noon. I realised that there was little time left for me to make my last picture of Mr Nehru, showing the master of the house leaving it forever. I tiptoed out of the room in search of a vantage point. I went up, and found myself in a large hall on the first floor. It was here that Mr Nehru had entertained the worthies. It was now empty. On the wall was a Gujral painting. Curios peeped out from nooks and corners. I moved forward and crossed into a small room, evidently the pantry. From its window, I thought, I could get the picture I had visualised.

But I found myself face to face with a wiry, care-worn man. Before I could say anything, he pleaded with me to leave the room. I knew he was in no mood to listen even if I had told him that I was taking photographs for the Government. I just asked him: "How long have you been working with Panditji?" The man's expression changed. He made me feel that I should not have stabbed him with the question. He had no strength to talk to me. Choked with feeling he said, "Go to the window if you want. Take your photograph. But please don't open it wide. Don't call me. And close the window as soon as you have finished. I don't want to see..."

Within a few minutes the gun carriage came into view. I took my picture, and closed the window as the man had bidden me. While retreating I looked again at him. He was lost in work: he was doing the morning's accounts. I left gently, saluting him, too, in my mind.

T. S. Nagarajan

I should like decentralisation of economic power. We cannot, of course, decentralise iron and steel and locomotives and such other big industries, but we can have small units of industries as far as possible on a co-operative basis with State control in a general way... My idea of socialism is that every individual in the State should have equal opportunity for progress.

—Nehru on Socialism, 1958

CONSUMER'S VOICE

MUST BE HEARD

AIM OF NATIONAL SERVICE IS TO ORGANISE HIM

NEVER was the consumer so oppressed as he is today. The prices of the essential commodities are rising, adulteration is rampant, corruption is at its highest and malpractices have become the normal state of affairs in trade.

The consumer, who is the buyer and user of goods and services, is helpless. He is disgusted with the exploitation he is subjected to. He has no voice in anything that concerns him. The Governments adopt measures without consulting him: the mills fix prices without taking him into account, and the traders sell commodities without bothering about his needs. In the matter of price control, it is the trader who is consulted and not the consumer. The location of fair price shops is decided to suit the convenience of the trader and not that of the consumer.

Only recently it was discovered in Delhi that a commodity like bicycle tyres was concentrated in the hands of a few traders who preferred to group their shops in one locality rather than spread them out in distant colonies where the consumer could really benefit. In the pricing policy of cloth, the consumer has no voice. It is the manufacturer who has to take a decision on this and have it endorsed by officials who sit behind closed doors and with whom the consumer has no contact. Consumers' co-operatives sell what the authorities provide for them and not what the consumers want. The Chambers of Commerce discuss matters relating to profits, and not the benefits of consumers.

What, after all, is the significance of a consumer? He is the backbone of the country's progress. His satisfaction symbolises the progress of the country and his discontent is the discontent of the nation. He is a citizen, in fact *the* citizen. Unfortunately he is unorganised. He has feelings but he has no platform to express them. He has grievances but he has no means to ventilate them. His voice is a voice in wilder-

ness. Alone he suffers, alone he feels frustrated and alone he cries.

But it is individuals that make a nation. Individual disgust sooner or later turns into a mass disgust. If corruption and profiteering are said to be surging high it is because the consumer is being exploited and, in his helplessness, he offers gratification and gets the job done. It is true that he is as much to blame but he sees no alternative. If he complains he becomes the victim and if he does not he continues to be exploited. He sees no justice being done to him and he accepts illegal acts as matters of fact.

His food is a problem. Profiteers wangle stocks, fix movements and prices. He is a helpless watcher of this drama. Meetings and deliberations, speeches and demonstrations, flags and buntings, receptions and honours are the daily routine of those who profess to advocate his cause. But matters stand where they are and his suffering sees no end.

Even in advanced countries like America, the consumer has traditionally had little direct voice in the formation of public policies that affect his relationship with the seller. An individual buyer may occasionally rise in righteous wrath and take something back to the store. But most likely he or she keeps his or her gripes to himself or herself or

shares them with a couple of neighbours. Occasionally he or she may be sufficiently outraged by a dramatic exposure or a scandal, such as high drug prices, and join in a public demonstration.

There are notable instances of consumer organisations and actions for specific purposes, as in the co-operative movement. But the consumer, as a political force, or as a member of a group that makes itself felt as an influence on public policies affecting consumer interests is conspicuous by his absence. A consumer may be invited here and there only as a matter of grace, but not as a matter of right. He has no direct representation in the Government itself and the Government too has no specific department which looks after the consumer interests.

THE KENNEDY MOVE

The late President Kennedy of the United States sent to the Congress the first Presidential Message in history on a "Consumers' Protection and Interest" programme in March 1962. The Message proposed a forthright "Bill of Rights" for the consumer with the following major points:

(1) *The Right to Safety:* to be protected against the marketing of goods hazardous to health or life.

(2) *The Right to Be Informed:* to be protected against fraudulent, deceitful or grossly misleading information, advertising, labelling or other practices and to be given facts needed to make an informed choice.

(3) *The Right to Choose:* to be assured, wherever possible, access to a variety of products and services at competitive prices, and in those industries in which competition is not workable and Government Regulation is substituted, an assurance of satisfactory quality and service at fair prices.

(4) *The Right to Be Heard:* to be assured that the consumer interest will receive full and sympathetic consideration in the formation of Government policy and fair and expeditious treatment in its administrative tribunals.

But, to most consumer groups, President Kennedy's proposal was a disappointment. The arrangement

was for neither a special Consumer Council nor a Department of Consumers. Instead the President directed that a 'Consumer Advisory Council' be set up by the Council of Economic Advisers.

President Johnson of the United States recently remarked in a Message to the Congress: "As a worker, as a business man, as a farmer, as a lawyer or a doctor, the citizen has been well represented but, as a consumer, he has had to take a back seat. That situation is changing. The consumer is moving forward. We cannot rest content until he is in the front row."

President Johnson followed this up by proposing the formation of a Committee of Consumer Interests consisting of representatives of a number of Government agencies along with consumer interest programmes. This Committee will have a direct liaison with the President. Statutory authority for a full-time paid Consumer Council and staff is a further objective.

If an advanced country like America, where the citizens are better educated and more aware of their rights, realises the importance

of consumer satisfaction, it is high time our own Government paid attention to this important aspect of citizens' rights.

BEGINNING IN INDIA

The Planning Commission, it is gratifying to know, has made a first move in this direction. A Working Group has already taken a decision to organise a National Consumer Service. This Service is to be operated through non-official voluntary organisations, and the Bharat Sevak Samaj is playing a leading role in its development. The objectives laid down for the National Consumer Service are:

- (i) Organisation of consumers' councils at the national, state and district levels;
- (ii) Promotion of a consumers' co-operative movement;
- (iii) Research into consumer problems;
- (iv) Market intelligence, price collection, case studies in consumption patterns, in factors contributing to price fluctuations, hoarding, artificial scarcity, transport and other bottlenecks, licensing procedures,

permit system, controls etc.

(v) Training of social and other workers in consumer research, consumer contacts and consumer difficulties;

(vi) Quality control, investigation of methods of prevention of adulteration.

(vii) prevention of malpractices in trade—weights and measures etc.

Consumer education, however, remains the basic point because, unless the consumer realises his responsibilities and rights, he cannot have an effective voice. Consumer power has a potential which has not been fathomed.

There was then the Congress MP who during his visit to the NEFA front was moved deeply when he heard that our jawans shivering in the cold of the Himalayan pickets lacked drink. He came back to New Delhi with the proposal that the Defence Ministry should organise a dairy farm in NEFA to supply milk to the jawans!

"Darem" in "The Sunday Standard"

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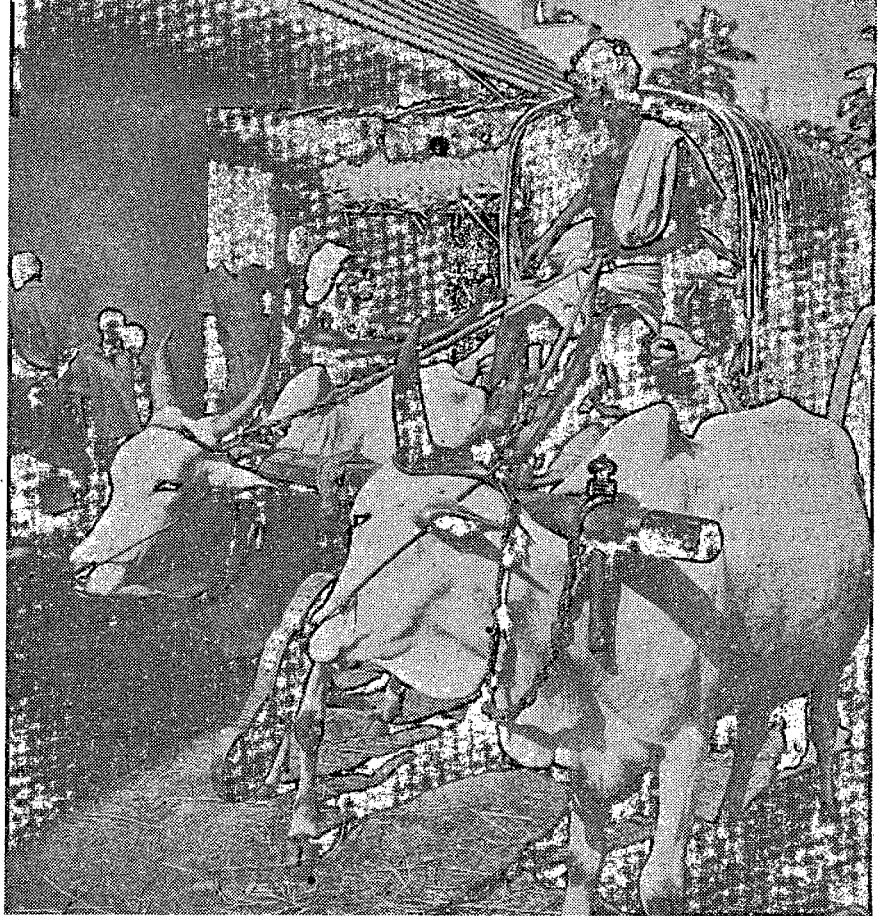
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KILOGRAMS

PACKAGE IN KERALA

*To Grow
Rice and
Coconuts,
Alleppey
Farmers*



PUSH BACK THE SEA

“Jump onto *Gouri*,” said Mr Panicker and I did so.

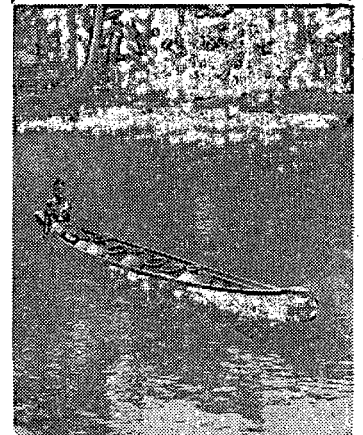
Gouri is a motor-boat belonging to the Kerala Agriculture Department. Without it we could not hope to see all of the Package Programme area of Alleppey.

The entire area is criss-crossed by canals and waterways. The backwaters of Kerala are famous, but I had no idea these were so vast. As a man from Bengal I had thought of backwaters as small lagoons and channels, but a first visit to Kerala changes one's perspective.

And it also brings so many crowded and beautiful impressions—of tall and graceful palms, with their fronds sighing in the summer breeze; of meandering canals spanned by languorous bridges; of neat little houses covered with red tiles which make a pretty contrast with the dark foliage; of roads running parallel to the sea; of banana bunches hanging golden in the small shops made of thatch; of bright white smiles in shining faces; of men and women wearing white and walking at a brisk yet not hurried pace. Probably in no other part of India is white such a favourite colour.

And as they do around Amsterdam, the farmers around Alleppey fight a relentless battle with the sea and even drive it back so that they may grow food.

Water everywhere—but since it is of the sea, villagers bring drinking water by boat. The scene is from a village near Alleppey.



REPORT AND

PICTURES BY

KALI BISWAS

KERALA is the greenest State of India. The greenery hides the fact that it is also the most densely populated. It is, in addition, the most well-watered State. In some of its towns the boat is the bus and bullock-cart. Alleppey can rightly be called a small Amsterdam.

What happens when 80 per cent of cultivators are literate? They are quicker to use science and also think longer ahead

Very few may know that there are more than 100,000 acres of agricultural land in the Kuttanad area of the Alleppey district *below the sea level*.

When I went there in April much of this land was actually under sea water. The backwaters of the Arabian Sea proceed southwards to Alleppey in the form of a gourd and creates the Vembanad lake near Alleppey, covering an area of more than 50,000 acres. The Pamba which flows westwards through Alleppey meets the Vembanad. A number of canals from the Pamba surround the vast agricultural land.

In the summer months the level of the lake is low and the sea water comes in, flows through the Pamba and canals submerging the lands. After the monsoon breaks, the hill-streams and rivers pour water into the lake, thus raising its level. The farmers put in double work in the pouring rain, erect bunds and embankments, and pump out the brackish sea water into the canals. The land is reclaimed and paddy is grown.

This ding-dong between the sea and the farmers' stout hearts is fought every year. And it was this battlefield that I was touring.

II

The Kuttanad Ordeal

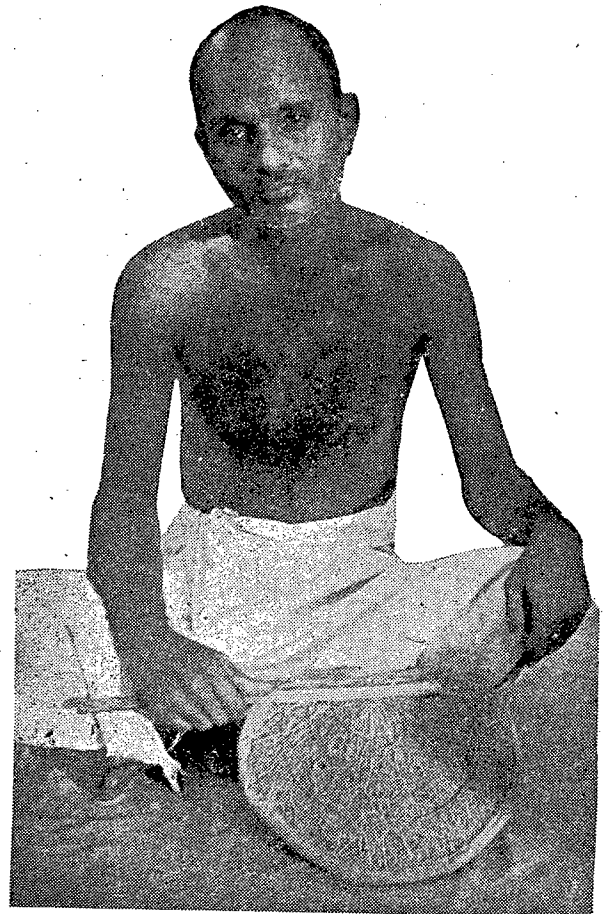
TO return to *Gouri*. She carved her way along the placid waters of the Pamba. The town itself is an old and small port a hundred miles north of Trivandrum and some thirty miles south of Cochin. The district has an area of 694 square miles and a population of 18,11,252. It is the smallest of the nine districts of the State. As far as my eyes reached I could see coconut-fringed hamlets surrounded by vast sheets of water. I was reminded of the flood-affected areas of the Midnapore district of Bengal in the 'twenties.

Mr. M.S.N. Panicker, who is Agricultural Information Officer of Alleppey told me that Alleppey was traditionally regarded as the granary of Kerala even if rice was grown in Kuttanad under such difficult conditions. That is why Alleppey with Palghat had been chosen to be the Package Programme districts in Kerala. The courage of the Kuttanad farmers and boatmen had given rise to many songs and ballads.

Right : Kumaran Nair of Karuvatta has nearly doubled his rice yield through the Package (See Page 17). At top on facing page : A cart-load of fertiliser arrives at the Chittur-Tathamangalam Co-operative Society in Palghat district. (See Page 27).

AGRICULTURAL operations in the Kuttanad area start only in September and the paddy crop, known locally as "Punja", is harvested in March. Because of the entry of saline water the Kuttanad area raises only one crop in a year in place of three in other areas of the district. To protect the crop against the saline water during the season special bunds are provided all along the Kuttanad area. Unlike earth bunds these are lined by small bamboo poles and laterite stone slabs. To give them additional support coconut palms are planted along the surface. Alkaline fertilisers are used—calcium ammonium nitrate, hyper phosphate, rock phosphate, lime and dolomite.

With so much of trouble, isn't paddy cultivation in the Kuttanad expensive? "It is," said Mr Panicker. "The special bunding itself costs about Rs 20 per acre. It is shared by the farmers. They have also to bear the cost of pumping operations during the monsoon. Of course for this they get 50 per cent subsidy."



Of the total area of 2.03 lakh acres under paddy in the district I learnt that 80,000 were in the Kuttanad area. I wanted to find out what measures were being taken to solve the problem of Kuttanad area on a permanent basis.

For this purpose the State Government has a Kuttanad Development Scheme. The first section of the scheme consists of putting up a bridge which also serves as regulator at Thottapally on the National Highway 47 along the coast. For the past few years the havoc of sea erosion has increased, and the sea has been entering deep into the coast in the eight-mile stretch between Thottapally and Ambalapuzha. On my way to Alleppey from Quilon I saw a number of villages as well as portions of the National Highway itself exposed to the ravages of the invading sea. People were working along the coast building walls of stone boulders to prevent further erosion.

The second section of the scheme is located at Thannirmukkom, about 14 miles from Alleppey by road. Here a long bridge is being built spanning a narrow portion of the Vembanad. The bridge will have regulators for controlling waters. When completed, the Salt Barrier, as it is popularly called, will protect as many as 1.21 lakh acres of single-crop paddy lands in the Kuttanad area against the ingress of brackish water. It would also help communication by road from one part to the other.

Mr Panicker explained that the example of Holland, where cultivation is done within dykes, had been

carefully studied in drawing up this scheme. As a result, it would be possible soon to raise two crops in a year in place of the one as at present.

46,000 Farm Plans

THE Package Programme was introduced in 1960-61 in seven selected districts in the country: Thanjavur (Madras), West Godavari (Andhra Pradesh); Shahabad (Bihar); Raipur (Madhya Pradesh); Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh); Ludhiana (Punjab) and Pali (Rajasthan). In 1961-62, eight more selected districts, namely, Mandya (Mysore), Surat (Gujarat), Sambalpur (Orissa), Alleppey and Palghat (Kerala), Burdwan (West Bengal), Bhandara (Maharashtra), Cachar (Assam), and six blocks in Jammu and Kashmir were brought under the programme. In Burdwan, Bhandara, Cachar and Jammu & Kashmir the programme was launched in 1963-64.

Preliminary work on the Package Programme in Alleppey was taken up in 1961-62. The programme itself was launched in strength in 1962-63. At the end of two years, the progress is heartening. The number of farm production plans, a mere 9,000 in 1961-62, rose to 46,000 by the end of 1963. The district has a total cropped area of 547,000 acres of which 203,000 acres are under paddy. By the end of March, 1964, 118,352 acres of paddy land had come under the Package Programme. Out of 17 blocks the programme is now in force in 15 blocks, and covers about 60 per cent of the irrigated area.

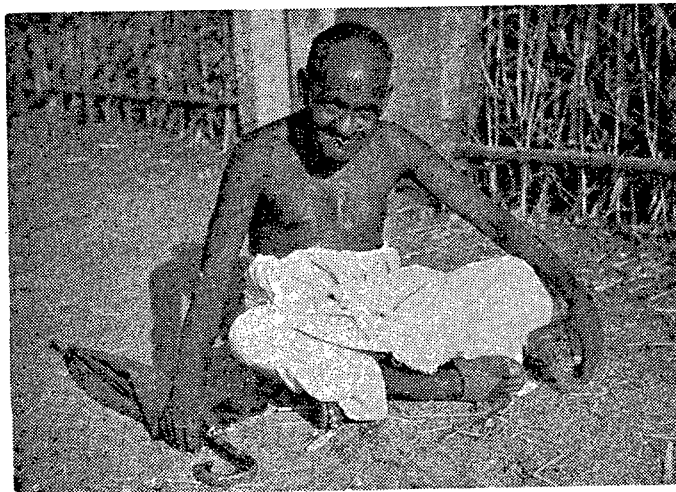


"Package" must place more stress on tools and fertilisers, says Ambat Sekhara Menon. Mr. Menon is Chairman of the Chittur-Tahamangalam municipality and a director of its co-operative society (See Page 27).

Paddy is the main crop of Alleppey; two other important crops are coconut and tapioca, the fruit that grows high up in the sky and the great root that grows below the ground. The Package Programme supports these two crops also. Of the total area of 169,000 acres under coconut, 38 per cent has come under the programme. So has 48 per cent of the total area of 73,980 acres under tapioca. And in the course of two years short-term loans amounting to Rs 21 lakh had in all been distributed through 48 societies.

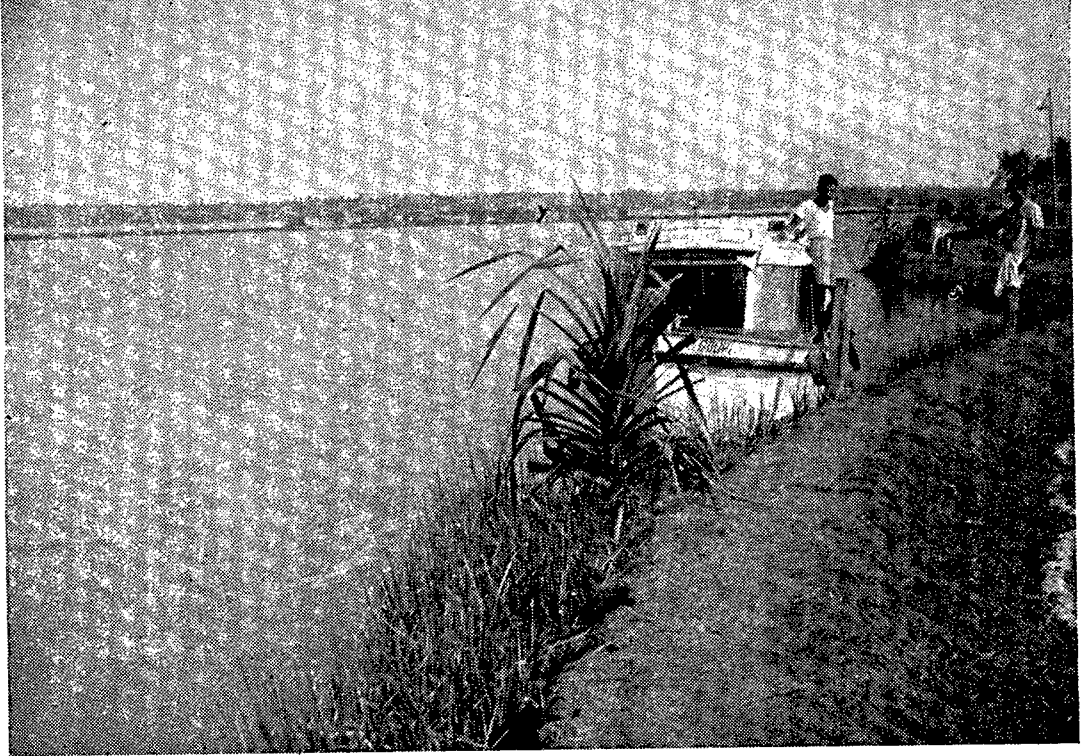
Want Long Loans

As I had found when reporting on the Package Programme in Raipur (Madhya Pradesh) and Thanjavur (Madras), the success of the Programme depended as much on the extension facilities as on the initiative of the farmers. But was there any special problem the extension officials faced in Alleppey or any special advantages they had? I put this question to Mr M. Kesava Das, Joint Director of Agriculture of Kerala.



But Subramaniam Chettiar of Vadakkepadam, near Chittur, shakes his head. He says he took a loan only because he was requested. (See Page 27.)

Gouri, the Kerala Agriculture Department's motor-boat, stopping at the Pamba bank near a village in Alleppey.



He said that about 80 per cent of the farmers were literate which was both an advantage and disadvantage. Farmers had realised the importance of the Package Programme. At the same time, it was difficult to convince them on certain points. Because of higher education, they made up their mind for themselves. "They are not interested in short-term loans—they insist on getting long-term loans," he said, as an example.

I met a number of farmers in Nadumudi, Ambalapuzha, Kunnappara and Prasad in the Kuttanad area, as also elsewhere in the district. The general impression I gathered was that most of the farmers preferred coconut to paddy cultivation. Said one: "Paddy we get only once a year. Then there is the risk. But coconut palms last a lifetime and yield several times a year. Why not give us long-term loans for coconut?"

Kumaran Nair (55) said that he was happy with his coconut cultivation, for he could put nuts on the market almost every three months. Nair comes from Karuvatta in the Haripad block. He has $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land of which two acres are under paddy in Kuttanad, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres under autumn and winter crops and $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres under coconut. As a go-ahead farmer, he has taken

advantage of the Package Programme since its inception. He has been a member of the managing committee of one of the service co-operatives of the village and has also taken a loan. He gets 1,800 lb of paddy per acre now, instead of the 1,400 lb he got before.

"The Package Programme is helpful," he said, "but the people don't repay loans on time. The result is that our society has to suffer." A similar complaint was also made by Sivashankara Kaimal, Secretary of the Karumudy Co-operative Society in Ambalapuzha block.

What was the remedy for this problem? "The apex body should make some concession," said Kumaran Nair. Chellappan Pillai (39) from the same village hastened to say that the programme was good and it had helped him in getting more yield. His complaint, however, was that while the cost of fertilisers and other incidental charges had gone up, paddy prices had not risen. He got Rs. 1.90 per *para* of paddy at harvest time. In his view the price should be at least Rs. 3. "If the price trend continues like this, your Package Programme is destined to be a failure," he commented.

Raman Nair (56), another farmer from the same village, proved a worse critic. He said that the price

being low he could not repay the loan he had taken from the society. In fact he wanted financial help to sow his second crop. "I shall repay the loan anyhow, but will not have anything more to do with the Programme."

Co-operatives Active

DESPITE such dissatisfaction and grumbling, I found that the farmers had taken to the Programme in a big way. Nearly 80 per cent of the cultivating farmers have become members of co-operative societies. The importance of chemical fertilisers does not need to be explained to them. It is the very fact that they see the potentialities of the Package Programme that makes them emphatic on two points: that the Programme should give them long-term loans with more liberal terms for repayment; and, two, that they should be helped to change over to coconut from paddy.

The difficulty of the authorities is that while cash crops are desirable, an increase in food production is compelling. Despite the all-pervasive greenery, Kerala is deficient in food grains. Though nearly 70 per cent of the total cropped area is under food crops, the State is a perennial importer of food-grains. In 1961-62 it

(Continued on Page 27)



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Little Boy Lost

THE street in the suburb was deserted that Wednesday afternoon. A puppy ambled along, its bell jingling. Suddenly a little boy ran out shouting "Chacha Nehru gaya".

His mother had heard it over the radio, and the boy of three felt he had to tell others.

A housewife hurried out and asked the boy's mother if it was true? In a moment the street was full and each asked the same question of the other.

A young woman wept. Her aunt said, "The time comes for all." The tea-stall owner said in his deep voice, "To whom will the *garib log*, the poor people, go now?" The bicycle repairer said, "He was like a string holding us together." The grocer said, "Put Panditji in one pan of the scales, and all our leaders and the whole country in the other. The two will balance."

The little boy was bewildered; feeling ignored, he went back home. And seeing the portrait of Nehru, he said in childish ignorance, or wisdom: "Mother, I will say Chacha Nehru Zindabad, I will say it".

How to Grow Milk

MILK is in the news. Rather the absence of milk. Elsewhere in the world milk is making news in another way. A press release of the British Information Service tells us that vegetable milk will soon be on sale in London. A hundred gallons a week of plant-milk will be made from cabbage leaves and carrot tops and later from pea-pods.

"But the cow is winning on costs," the release says. Only if the demand goes up will the price of plantmilk be less than that of cow's milk.

This was the experience of the Central Food Technological Research Institute of Mysore. The Institute manufactured milk from groundnuts some years ago. But its cost was very much above that of natural milk. On one of our visits to the city of Mysore we were served *vadas* soaked in curds made from groundnuts. They didn't

taste very different from normal *dahi-vadas*, and probably the milk also didn't have any nutty smell. But we haven't heard anything very much about the 'moongphalli' milk or about the tapioca rice that the Institute produced. Or of the milk tree that Mr Munshi had imported from South America way back.

The cost factor is too real for fancy to survive.

Black Cow

SOME years ago *Yojana* had reported the remark of a senior administrator that the Go-seva people were guilty of the colour bar. Buffaloes, he said, were more economical animals than cows—more output per unit of input, yet the Government favoured the cow and looked down upon the buffalo.

The attitudes towards cow and buffalo vary from State to State. Bengalis don't seem to care much for the buffalo because, in their view, buffalo's milk cannot be converted, as cow's milk can, into the *chhana* from which *rasgollas* are made. In the south it is the general belief that those who drink buffalo's milk become thick-headed and can't be as nimble as those who drink cow's milk. Exactly the opposite is the preference in the Punjab where buffalo's milk is sought after as a body-builder. In Andhra Pradesh cow's milk is given to children and buffalo's milk is mixed in coffee for the grown-ups.

And we can't forget a tourist who complained that he had a funny feeling in his stomach for weeks because he had by mistake drunk "water-buffalo juice."

Coefficients

THEY are trying to define the standard Indian.

Twenty medical institutions all over the country will look up 13,000 post-mortem records to find out the characteristics of 12 different human parts of Indians, such as height, girths of head, length of nose etc.

The science of anthropology, as everyone knows, rests on such measurements, and the present effort



IGNORAMAN

Wants to Know

If Family Planning
Can Be Described
as Investment
in Non-Man?

has been undertaken by the Health Physics Division of the Atomic Energy Commission. The Division wants to know these particulars so as to decide what a normal Indian adult requires by way of protection from radioactivity.

It is difficult to believe that there can be a standard definition which fits a Sardar from Hoshiarpur and a Naga from Kohima, or a cowherd from Kanchipuram. But an attempt to find an average will help us to find out what improvement there would be over a number of years. For example, after 50 years of development, are we likely to have a taller Indian—just as Americans are supposed to have grown three inches taller after the discovery of the virtues of drinking milk and tomato-juice?

Collector's Item

IN the last issue of *Yojana* we cited a composite description of a "Common European" and called for a description of a truly integrated Indian.

We have received one which we print with some hesitation; it might anger a few: "The integrated Indian has the mild manner of a Sikh, the imperturbability of a Bengali, the reticence of a Tamil, the enterprise of a Madhya Pradeshi, the punctuality of a U.P.-ite and the militancy of a Gujarati."

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Books

Regional Planning by V.L.S Prakasa Rao, Published jointly by the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta, and Asia Publishing House. 53 pages. Rs. 10.

V. Nath

THIS small work is literally an introduction to the subject. After making brief references to some fundamental concepts, Prof. Prakasa Rao goes on to describe very briefly the different kinds of regional planning work being done in various European countries especially those of north-western Europe. In the last part of the work he urges the need for regional analysis for planning in India, and describes the kinds of survey and mapping work which will have to be done if this analysis has to make its due contribution to planned development of the country.

The chief value of the work is that it acquaints the reader with the different kinds of problems which occupy regional planning authorities elsewhere and on which (in our view) work may be done in India. Thus, he refers to the work of regional planning for Greater London and for areas of concentrated industrial development like the Ruhr, West Germany and the Durham Country in U.K. Similar work would be necessary in case of the large metropolitan cities of India and the somewhat smaller industrial cities like Kanpur. The population of all these cities has been expanding rapidly during the 1940s and 50s and the problems of congestion, extreme pressure on transport water supply, electricity and other services which these cities face are well known. However, except in case of Delhi for which a long-term plan of development has been prepared on the basis of regional principles, and Calcutta for which similar planning work has been initiated, regional planning has yet to make a significant contribution to meeting the problems of these cities.

This, in our view, is one of the most important tasks in the field of regional planning. And, as ex-

Approach

To Regional

Planning

perience is gained with the large metropolitan and industrial cities, the planning process could be extended to the smaller cities and towns. Preparation of regional plans for long-term development is required not merely to regulate expansion or to relieve pressure on overstrained civic facilities but equally so, in case of many small cities, to break the conditions of stagnation which have characterised their economies for long periods.

Another major area in which techniques of regional analysis could make a notable contribution is that of industrial location. In the older industrial countries like U.K., West Germany and even U.S.A. the chief concern of regional planning authorities is to bring relief to the older industrialised areas from extreme congestion (resulting from over-industrialisation) or help in stabilising, through diversification, an industrial economy based on natural resources which have since been depleted. The Ruhr planning authority (West Germany) is concerned primarily with the former problem; while the latter is the chief concern of the Durham county authority.

These problems have appeared in a few places in India also, e.g. the industrial belts of Greater Calcutta,

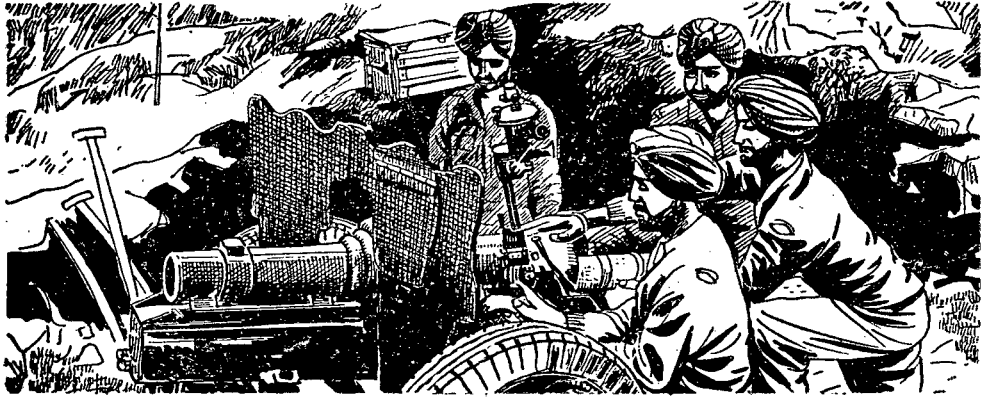
Greater Bombay and the Raniganj-Jharia coal-fields. In these areas, work similar to that described by Prof. Rao for the two authorities mentioned above may be needed. But regional planning has also a more positive role to play as an aid to scientific industrial location which will assume increasing importance as industrial development proceeds. It needs attention to more rational distribution of resources, so that on the one hand economies (e.g. of transport) are secured, and on the other sharp disparities between highly industrialised areas and large areas of the countryside which remain virtually unaffected by the industrial development process (which characterised early industrialisation in the West) are avoided and industrial development makes its due contribution to providing the stimulus for economic advance and social change over large areas of the country.

The success of the movement towards industrial decentralisation in recent decades has demonstrated that both these objectives can be achieved; that the experience of early industrialisation need not be repeated and that it is possible to build agro-industrial areas in which there is a harmonious relationship between industry and agriculture. It has demonstrated also that this latter development is not inconsistent with industrial efficiency; that large, efficient, modern industrial plants and congenial living conditions in rural or small urban communities are not incompatible.

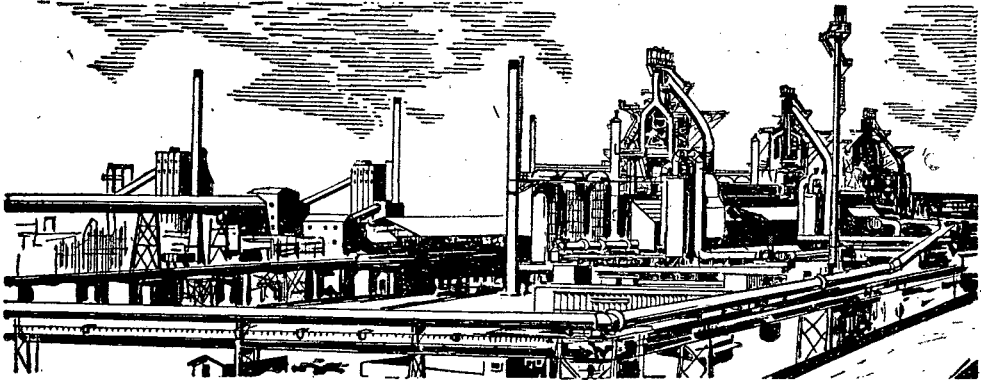
Another area in which the techniques of regional analysis have a significant contribution to make is planning at the State and district levels. Prof. Rao makes a reference to the work of the Mysore regional survey with which he was associated and goes on to mention the contribution which such work can make to planning at the State and regional levels. There is no doubt that such detailed surveys have a valuable contribution to make to planning at State, regional and lower levels as these furnish the basic data on physical conditions, natural resources and various facets of economic life which form the basis of planning for resource development at the State and regional levels.

The district is another unit in which the techniques of regional

DEFENCE and



DEVELOPMENT



GO TOGETHER

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ON
WITH
THE PLAN



STRENGTHEN
INDIA'S DEFENCES

OA 63/394

analysis and planning can be fruitfully applied. Here the main objective should be to look at the district as a unit and to ensure that developments in different fields are inter-related and are in accordance with the resources and needs of the district. Preparation of integrated development plans with districts as units can be one of the major contributions of regional planning in India. The value of this approach has been recognised for some time—district development plans were drawn up as early as the Second Five Year Plan—and has been re-emphasised in the recent report on eastern districts of U.P. which has made a plea for an intensive integrated development effort in this backward area.

The only deficiency or drawback of the work is its extreme brevity. Time and again one wishes that Prof. Rao had been more explicit and detailed in his treatment of a topic and had not confined himself to making only a symbolic reference to it. Thus, a detailed description of planning work being done by one of the European planning agencies would have been helpful in illustrating the kinds of problems which are dealt with by them, the specific ways in which techniques of regional analysis help elucidate these problems and throw up solutions, and the specific steps which are taken to meet these. Similarly an adequate discussion of the contribution of the Mysore survey to the planning effort in the State would have been very valuable.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Report on the Pattern of Graduate Employment (1963). Brought out by Directorate General of Employment & Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment, New Delhi. 95 pages.

Essay on Planning and Development Vol. I. Published by PWN, Polish Scientific Publishers, Warszawa (Poland), 76 pages.

Study of Jute and Mesta in India. Committee on Natural Resources, Planning Commission, New Delhi.

Practical Rose Growing in India. 87 pages. *Possibilities of Gladiolus Culture in India in Himachal and Other Hills*. 64 pages. Both by Bajrang Bahadur Singh Bhadri and published by Department of Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh, Simla.

EUROPE SEEKS UNITY

The European Community by Walter Hallstein. Asia. 68 pages. Rs 12.

M.K. Ramamurthy

THE two lectures delivered by Prof. Hallstein early in 1963 in Delhi under the auspices of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations are less an exposition of policy than a formulation of the aims of the European Common Market. The lectures are devoted to the post-war consciousness of Western Europe in relation to the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. The renewed search for unity does not hark back to the mediaeval passion for harmony between Church and State and the Empire and Papacy as organs promoting Christian unity. It is concerned with the desire for peaceful change, economic growth and popular well-being and it accepts the revolutions of 1915 and 1945 as central facts.

Prof. Hallstein is aware of the impact of Communism. And the defensive mechanism is no longer limited to NATO. The Treaty of Rome in 1958 by linking France and Western Germany looks beyond nationalism to the effective consolidation of democracy. The process is traced in clear detail and integration of coal and steel became the starting-point of planning, not with reference to tariffs and trade but to migration and investment, while the control of monopolies is in the background.

As a good European (to employ Keynes's phrase) Prof. Hallstein is content to show that accepted economic and political aims overlap and converge in the Big Six and even the exclusion of Great Britain does not affect the main object of co-operation stretching back to the meetings held at The Hague over fifteen years ago. Does the E.C.M. look inward or outward? That pertinent question is answered by reference to the programme of economic aid to needy nations adopted already by the affluent countries though their contributions may differ in scope and content.

Acceptance of responsibility by giving help to underdeveloped countries is the true measure of inter-

nationalism, and the U.S.A. finds an ally in the new attack on world poverty. Willingness to import more goods by cutting tariffs and quotes on tropical products can only be a part of a resurgent liberalism that will help interdependence to grow. Where and how American views correspond to E.C.M.'s notions can only be implicit in the lectures but they help to clear up the African's doubt felt about neo-colonialist attitudes. The curious development, that Dutch aid is wanted by Indonesia of late, may well suggest that ex-colonies are not too dogmatic about the past or the future. The lectures could even be presented as a bold German manifesto that is rooted in the nineteenth century ideas leaving out the memory of Nazi rule. The price for a small book is prohibitive, one must add.

Yojana Bhavan Diary

The members and staff of the Planning Commission paid their homage to the late Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, Chairman of the Commission since its inception, at a meeting held in Yojana Bhavan on May 29. Mr Asoka Mehta, Deputy Chairman, addressed the meeting.

Mr A.B. Guha, who retired as Coal Mining Adviser in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering, joined the Planning Commission as Adviser, on May 22.

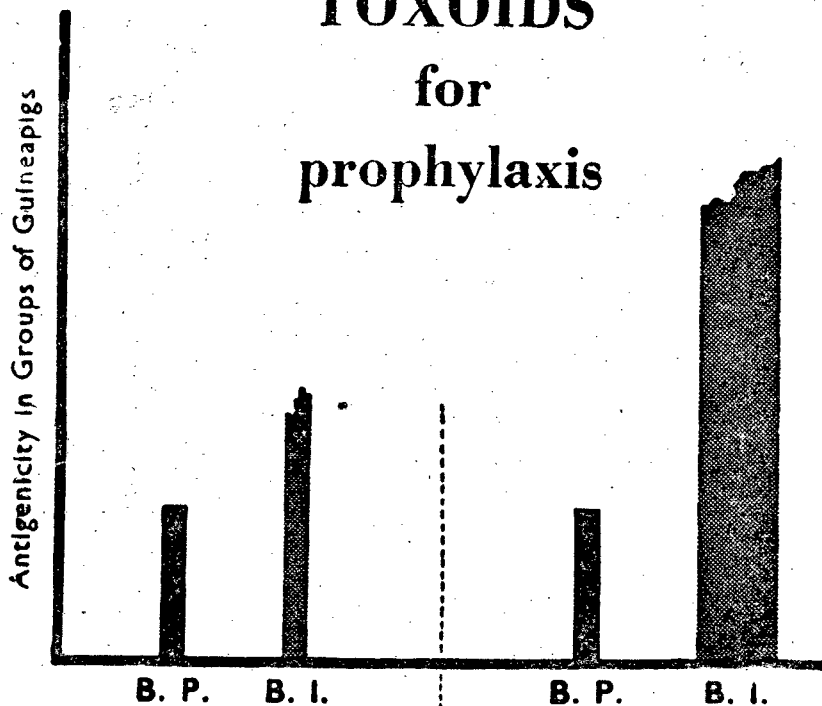
Mr M.S. Sivaraman, who served the Planning Commission as Adviser, Programme Administration, for the past seven years, has re-joined Madras Government service. He left for Madras on May 26.

Dr D.N. Saxena, Chief, Finance Resources Division, handed over charge on May 19. He will be Joint Secretary of the Fourth Finance Commission.

Mr Balwant Sing Nag, Adviser, Irrigation and Power, left for Australia on May 19. He is leader of the delegation which will study for three weeks the techniques of conveying water over long distances in Australia.

Mr S. Tanetani, Minister-Counsellor in the Japanese Embassy in India, called on Mr T.P. Singh, Secretary, Planning Commission, with an offer of Peace Corps system of volunteer workers from Japan. A Japanese team is expected to arrive in India in this connection.

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Dhuvaran Project Completed

THE Dhuvaran thermal power station, with a capacity of 250 mW, has been completed.

The Dhuvaran project is located near the Gulf of Cambay in Gujarat. It has been built at a cost of Rs. 22.24 crore with U.S. assistance.

The Heavy Electricals, Bhopal, supplied major equipment to the project. The growing industrial needs of Gujarat, particularly of the oil industry in the region, will be met by Dhuvaran.

The Soviet Union will supply equipment worth Rs. 13.6 crore for the Obra thermal power station in U.P. which will have five generating units of 50 mW each. An agreement to this effect was signed on May 20.

RANIPUR PLANT GETS SOVIET AID

The Soviet Union will also supply equipment worth Rs. 23.3 crore for the heavy electrical equipment plant at Ranipur near Hardwar in U.P. An agreement was signed on May 23. The plant, costing Rs 40 crore, will produce complete thermal and hydro-electric power generating units up to a capacity of 27 million kW every year.

An electrolytic tin plate plant will be set up at the Rourkela Steel Works. The first of its kind in India, it will produce 1.5 lakh tons of tin plates every year.

The Union Government will give Rs 1 crore to Madhya Pradesh Government to intensify work on the Tawa multipurpose project, so that it can provide employment to East Pakistan displaced persons.

MAKING DREDGERS

The Mazgaon docks, Bombay, and the Garden Reach Workshops, Calcutta, both under the Defence Ministry, will manufacture non-propelled bucket dredgers and twin screw hopper barges, in collaboration with a Scottish firm. An agreement has been signed.



Easier Dialling

THE Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore, will be expanded, at a cost of Rs 1.8 crore, to manufacture cross-bar telephone equipment. An agreement has been signed with the Standard Electric Corporation of U.S.A. for setting up the plant. Production will begin by the end of this year and is expected to reach the full capacity of one lakh lines, valued at Rs 5 crore, by 1967.

The cross-bar lines will make trunk dialling easy and flexible all over the country. It will also help the expansion of telephone communication in rural areas.

SNIPPETS: *FLYING PROFIT*

Indian Airlines Corporation has made a profit for the first time. Its earnings were Rs 38.50 lakhs higher than expenses in 1963-64. Air India's profit for the year is 3.45 crore... **Work has started on the development of Mangalore (in Mysore State) into an all-weather major port to handle a traffic of 10 million tons every year. The project will cost Rs 15 crore...** The State Trading Corporation will, under an agreement signed recently, supply six lakh tonnes, fetching Rs 88 lakh, of industrial salt to Japan in two years from July next... The Rice Research Station at Raipur in Madhya Pradesh has evolved four varieties of rice by cross-breeding the Japanese varieties with the local ones; one of the new varieties grows on partial irrigation... A mechanised brick factory, built with technical assistance from Czechoslovakia, has gone into production at Orakod near Madras... **A Directorate General of Relief will be set up in the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation to look after the welfare of displaced persons in camps. There are at**

EARTH MOVERS

From

PUBLIC SECTOR

A NEW undertaking, the Bharat Earth Movers Limited, has been set up in the public sector at Bangalore.

Controlled by the Defence Ministry, it will establish a factory, at a cost of Rs 11 crore, to manufacture various types of earth moving equipment, in collaboration with an American firm. The annual production will be 150 motorised scrapers, 150 haul-packs and 125 rear dump trucks.

The rail coach division of the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore, will be merged with the Bharat Earth Movers. The division had begun manufacturing earth moving equipment, besides rail coaches.

Hindustan Aircrafts itself, along with the IAF Maintenance Depot at Kanpur, will now form part of Aeronautics India.

present 41 camps in the country... A consultative council on panchayat raj has been set up... The Barauni refinery (in Bihar) will have an annual capacity of three million tons, instead of two million tons as planned earlier... The Koyali refinery (in Gujarat) is also being expanded to an annual capacity of three million tons, from two million tons as proposed initially... The third atomic power station will be located at Kalpakkam near Madras. Land is being acquired for the project.

TWO BIG DAMS ON KRISHNA

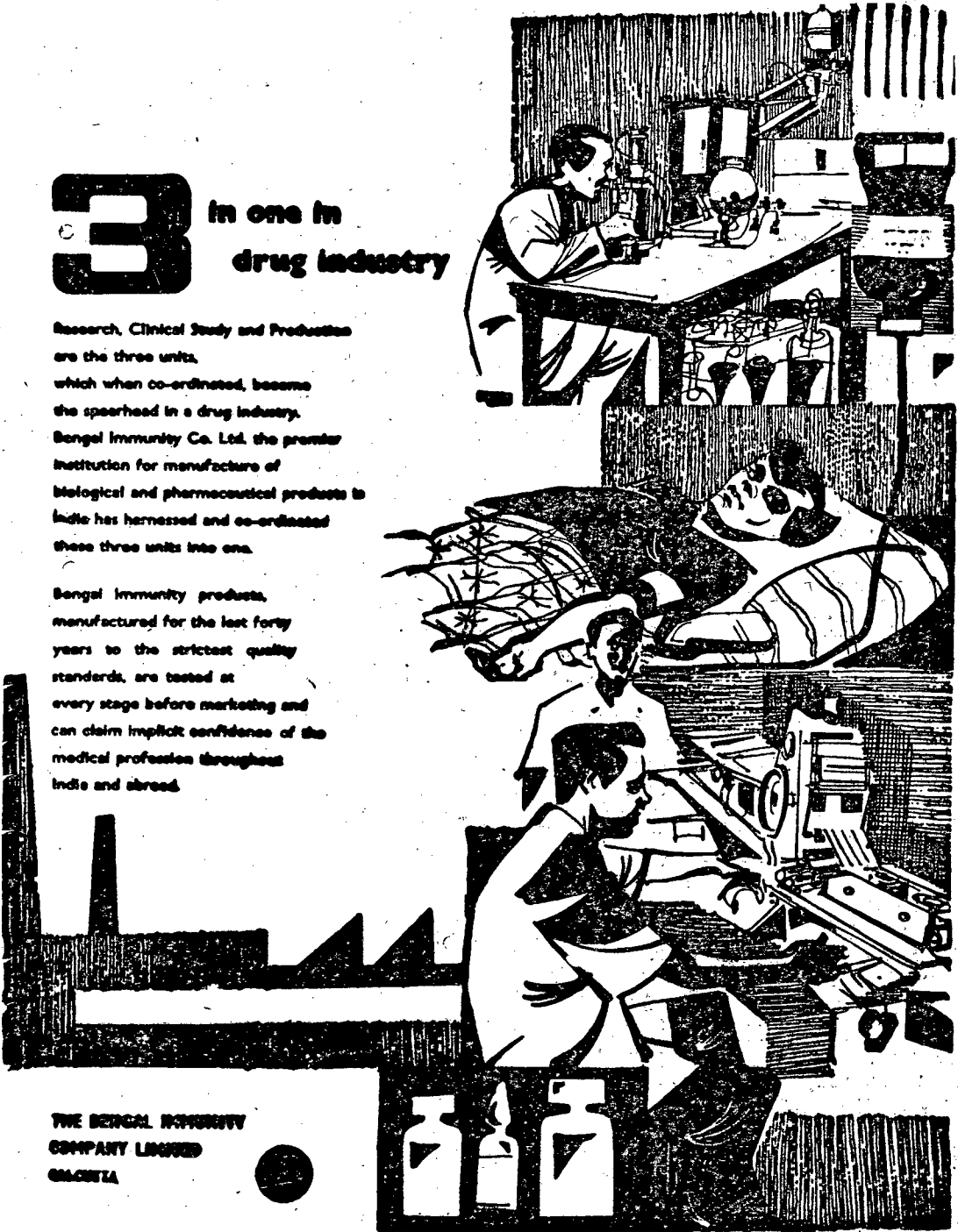
Work on the Upper Krishna Project has ceremonially started in Mysore State. Two dams are to be built across the Krishna at Alamatti and Narayanpet to irrigate 12 lakh acres of land mostly in Bijapur and Gulbarga districts.

The project will be the largest the Mysore State.

3 in one in drug industry

Research, Clinical Study and Production are the three units, which when co-ordinated, become the spearhead in a drug industry. Bengal Immunity Co. Ltd. the premier institution for manufacture of biological and pharmaceutical products in India has harnessed and co-ordinated these three units into one.

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THE BENGAL IMMUNITY
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Report on Kerala Package Districts *(Continued from Page 17)*

imported food-grains worth Rs. 7.59 crore. Paddy is the staple food of the people and it is cultivated in about 19.54 lakh acres or 36 per cent of the total cropped area. Tapioca, also a food crop, is cultivated in 5.58 lakh acres. Of cash crops grown in the State coconut is the most important; although there are plantation crops like tea, coffee and rubber and spices. Of the total acreage of 16 lakh under coconut in India as many as 11.75 lakh acres are in Kerala. And in the farmers' minds, coconuts are connected with a higher level of income than paddy. The Techno-Economic Survey of Kerala brought out by the National Council of Applied Economic Research has indeed suggested that the State might specialise in growing valuable plantation and other cash crops.

The development of the Kuttanad area is likely to convert more farmers to the paddy fold. Assured price for the produce and long-term loan with liberal terms for repayment would also brighten the prospects for paddy.

III

Palghat's 7 Crops

UNLIKE some other States, Kerala has two Package districts. Alleppey is one and Palghat is the other. The landscape of Palghat is vastly different from that of Alleppey. No longer do you find water, water everywhere. It is a hilly terrain. The coconut palms are fewer. Here and there a tall palmyra raises its head. The mango trees grow more in number and the jack trees are fewer.

Palghat has an area of 1,982 square miles with a population of 17.76 lakh. Of the total cropped area of 7.87 lakh acres, 4.72 lakh acres are under paddy. It has more paddy land than any other district in the State.

Palghat, which lies in one of the few passes leading out of the Deccan Plateau, is a town that has seen much history. Hyder Ali's fort still exists, and is now used as the district office. Palghat is also a cultural centre. Kapplingad Nambudiri and Kalladicode Nambudiri, the two famous exponents of the Kathakali art, were from Palghat. It is also the home of many musicians including

Palghat Mani, the Mrigandam wizard.

The district has good rainfall, and also enjoys the benefit of a number of irrigation projects. The biggest of these is the Malampuzha project across the Malampuzha river. The capacity of the reservoir formed by a 125-foot high dam is 8,000 million cubic feet and the project irrigates 47,600 acres of land in the Palghat block. Mangalam, Meenara, Wala-yar and Cheramangalam are some minor projects irrigating about 19,000 acres in the Coyalmannam, Chittur, Kollengode and Allathur blocks. Three more projects are under construction.

As in Alleppey, preliminary work for Package Programme was taken up in Palghat in 1961-62 and five blocks out of 15 were selected. The programme was launched in 1962-63 in the five blocks and two more were selected for preliminary work. In 1963-64 eight more blocks were selected and the programme is being implemented in all the blocks in 1964-65.

The Package Programme in Palghat covers seven crops in 265,210 acres: rice in 211,743 acres; groundnut in 17,345 acres; coconut in 13,749 acres; cotton in 12,300 acres; arecanut in 6,963 acres; sugarcane in 1,310 acres and sweet potato in 1,800 acres.

That the response to the programme was encouraging is evident from the increase in the number of production plans. From only 7,482 in 1961-62 the number went up to 48,361 in 1963-64. The target for 1964-65 is 56,000.

Since the introduction of the programme the yield of paddy has gone up considerably in the three important paddy-producing blocks of Coyalmannam, Palghat and Chittur. There are now 47 co-operatives with a total share capital of Rs. 10.37 lakh. Till March 1964, loans amounting to Rs. 19.43 lakh had been granted to more than 50,000 members. I did not hear as many complaints regarding repayment of loans as I had in Alleppey. At Kannadi, a village five miles from Palghat, P. Karunakaran Nair, president of the village co-operative society, told me that out of the total loan of Rs. 37,000

taken by the members Rs. 33,000 had been repaid. Ambat Sekhara Menon, a director of the Chittur Tathamangalam Co-operative Society in Chittur block, also said that members of his society were prompt in repaying the loan amount. "Of course, this time the price was high. That may be the reason why repayment was quick," he hastened to add.

Thirty-nine-year-old Menon reminded me of Shankar Phadnavis of Raipur. He is a forward-looking farmer and has brought his 15-acre paddy land under the Package Programme. He said he used to get between 1,000 and 1,200 lb. per acre before, and that the yield now was 1,800 to 2,200 lb. How had he almost doubled the yield, I asked. By using improved seeds and fertilisers, both nitrogenous and super phosphates, was his reply.

Tools Neglected

Menon is an extraordinarily active person. He is chairman of the Chittur-Tathamangalam Municipality. As a director of the co-operative society, he gives a good deal of his time to its affairs.

What was his impression of the Package Programme? Could he offer any suggestions? "There are two drawbacks," he said, "one is the lack of improved tools. Get us the tools today, 50 per cent of us will show far better results. The other is fertilisers. In spite of there being a network of fertiliser depots, we don't get them on time."

As coincidence would have it, just as he was saying this, a bullock-cart arrived at the door of the co-operative society to unload several bags of fertilisers!

Unni Menon (37), also a director of the co-operative society, made another point. He said that the rate of interest ($7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent) was high and proved burdensome to most farmers. Then there was Subramaniam Chettiar, a 72-year-old veteran from Vadekkapadam. The smile on his face was as kindly as it was sceptical. He squatted on the ground as I talked to him, and the sun beat on his bare back. An official said of him in his hearing: "Chettiar thinks that the money kept with the society will

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be confiscated one day. But he continues to be a member any way."

I asked Chettiar what he thought about the Package Programme. "Package Programme? I have never heard of it. I am told something is being done by the Government for farmers." Had he taken any loan? Yes, he said, but only at the request of others. He would pay it back as early as possible and go on cultivating his land without the help of the society. He got only 800 lb. per acre. Why? "He cares more for the look of the crop", said one, "and not for the yield. He uses only nitrogen and refuses to apply super-phosphate."

IV

Two Needs

RAIPUR, Thanjavur, Alleppey and Palghat. Now that I have visited four Package districts in three different States, it would not be out of place if I attempted a comparison of the performances in each area. In physical terms the achievements are encouraging: farm production plans on the increase; co-operative credit going up; average yield per acre showing an upward trend. The devotion of the extension staff made an impression on one everywhere. But there are individual problems as well.

Raipur, as I had seen two years ago, had one problem—that of irrigation. Even though the rainfall is good, and the Mahanadi flows there, the district has to depend on tanks largely. Through Shramdan the people have repaired and built village roads and schools. The co-operative sector was strong. But fertiliser supply was not prompt.

Situated in the Kaveri delta Thanjavur does not have much of a problem about water. The most significant achievement in Thanjavur is the crop marketing system, through which the surplus produce of the ryots is bought by the co-operative supply and marketing society. The Package Programme is sought to be used there as a means to holding the price line. Only those farmers who are willing to keep back their produce for a better market are given production loans. In Alleppey and Palghat, as we have seen, perhaps the biggest advantage is the high rate

of literacy. Farmers in both the districts are fertiliser-conscious, though as the manager of a distributing depot complained, some do not use the full quantity required for the soil. Consumption of fertilisers in Palghat alone went up from 8,904 tonnes in 1962-63 to 11,338 tonnes in 1963-64. The most commendable aspect of the programme in the two districts—in fact in the entire State—is the network of fertiliser distributing centres within easy reach of every village and the easy availability of the stuff.

The Package Programme has passed the experimental stage. The points to be considered are:

- (1) the price of fertilisers and
- (2) an assured price for the produce. To cultivate an acre of land, a farmer has to spend Rs. 80 on fertilisers. What will be the impact on Package Programme if the price is reduced substantially?

And one final thought: why aren't improved tools being popularised? Except a puddler on a Raipur field I have not seen any other improved tool being used in the four districts I toured, although in Palghat I saw an agricultural engineering shop under construction.

For earlier reports on the Package Programme see *Yojana* September 17, 1961, June 10, September 16 and December 23, 1962.

FORUM EVENTS

Reporting the Activities of
College Planning Forums

A SURVEY OF NINE SCHOOLS

THE Planning Forum of Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya Teachers' College, Perianaickenpalayam, in the Coimbatore district of Madras, conducted a survey of the elementary schools in the Perianaickenpalayam Panchayat Union area towards the close of 1963.

The survey team was divided into nine groups, each consisting of eight members. Nine schools—a higher elementary school, two senior basic schools and six elementary schools—situated within a radius of four miles of the Mission were selected for the purpose.

The survey revealed that all the schools were provided with *pucca* buildings, the number of rooms ranging between three and seven. In all, there were 61 teachers working in these schools, of whom 24 were women (about 40 per cent). Six schools had teachers' associa-

tions. All the schools were run by the Panchayat Union. The scales of pay were fixed by the Government, the maximum salary drawn by a teacher was Rs. 121 and the minimum Rs. 80.

The actual school-going population was 2,302, though 2,213 were attending schools, 89 accounting for children who belonged to poor families. All the schools, except one, provided midday meals to the children. Six schools had playgrounds.

Pest eradication, road laying and health projects were the main activities in which the schools took part. They got full co-operation from the Panchayat Union and Sri Avinashilingam Home Science College. Parent associations were also functioning in all the schools except one, though they were not active.

The survey team has recommended that toilet facilities should be provided in all the schools. It has suggested that teachers' associations should devote more attention to academic and professional subjects and the parents associations should be more active and co-operate with the students in solving their difficulties. It has also stressed the importance of schools taking more active part in community development projects and in Plan publicity.

A factory is being set up at Munnar in Kerala State to produce 'instant tea' directly from green leaves. A few more factories may be set up for this purpose.



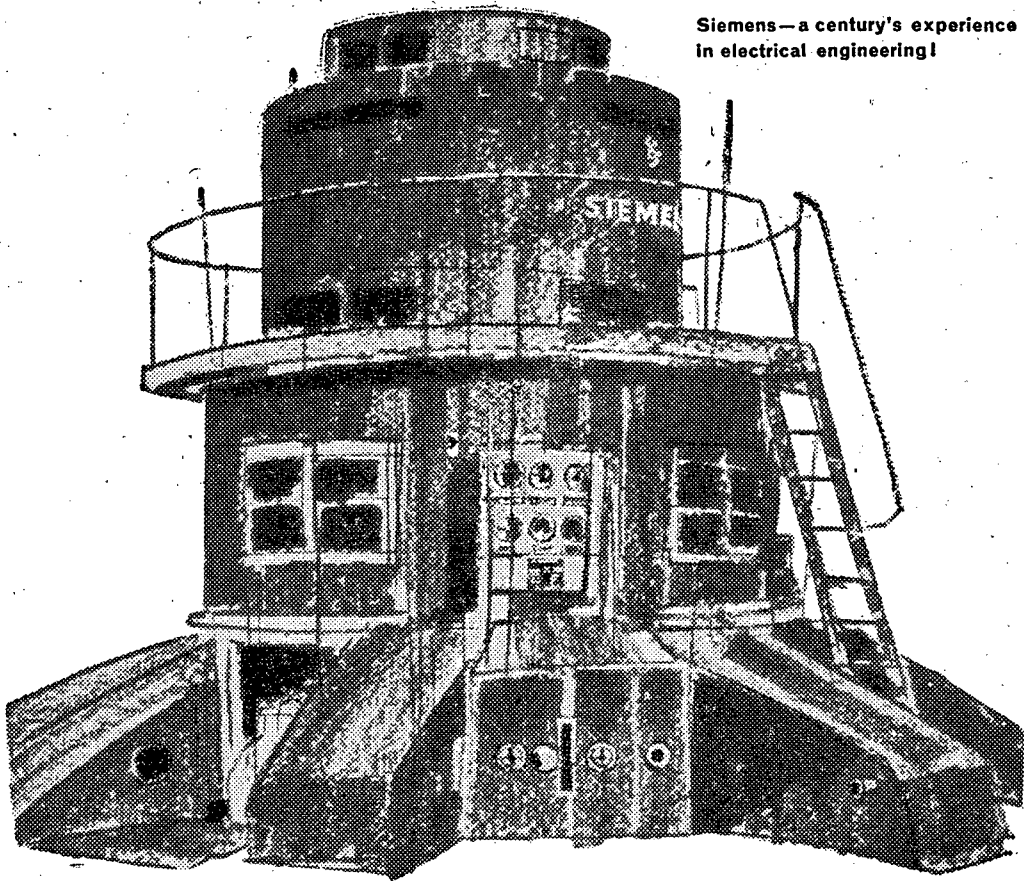
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B.S.P.

Removal of Inequality

Our social programme must lay down clearly that we cannot tolerate the many disabilities which various classes, called the depressed classes, suffer from. We must do away with these distinctions and try to give full opportunities of growth to every one. Special provision must be made for freeing our women folk from the many burdens and disabilities they suffer from, both legally and otherwise. They should have same status as men... Our economic programme must aim at the removal of all economic inequalities and an equitable distribution of wealth...

—U.P. Conference, Jhansi,
October 27, 1928.

Better Life for Workers

Our economic programme must be based on a human outlook and must not sacrifice man to money. If an industry cannot be run without starving its workers, then the industry must be closed down. If the workers on the land have not enough to eat, then the intermediaries who deprive them of their full share must go. The least that every worker in the field or factory is entitled to is a minimum wage which will enable him to live in moderate comfort and human hours of labour which do not break his strength and spirit.

—From the Presidential Address to
the Indian National Congress,
Lahore, 1929.

Socialism Inevitable

I see no way of ending the poverty, the vast unemployment, the degradation and the subjection of the Indian people except through socialism. That involves vast and revolutionary changes in our political and social structure, the ending of vested interests in land and industry, as well as the feudal and autocratic Indian States system. That means the ending of private property, except in a restricted sense, and the replacement of the present profit system by a higher ideal of co-operative service.

It means ultimately a change in our instincts, habits and desires. In short it means a new civilization, radically different from the present capitalist order...

—Lucknow Congress, 1936.

Wiping the Tears

The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity. The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us, but so long as there are tears and suffering so long our work will not be over.*

—From speech ushering in freedom,
August 14, 1947

Economic Freedom

We talk of freedom, but political freedom does not take us far unless there is economic freedom. Indeed there is no such thing as freedom for a man who is starving or for a country which is poor. Therefore we have to produce in order to have sufficient wealth, distributed by proper economic planning so that it may go to the millions.

—January 18, 1948

Why Planning ?

I have been interested in planning because it seems to me such an extraordinary and such an unfortunate fact that all the potential resources of India—and in a way it applies to the whole world—have not been utilised to raise the standard of living of our people and our nation... We have various jobs to do in this country in every field. We cannot escape them. I am afraid in our generation there is going to be little rest or peace. There are going to be no dividends of leisure or repose. This generation is sentenced to hard labour...

—December 5, 1948

Democracy & Growth

We have seen in other countries that economic growth by itself does

not necessarily mean human growth or even national growth. We have to keep this in mind and also remember that the growth of a nation has little to do with the shouting to be heard in the market places and stock exchanges in the country. So an integrated plan for the economic growth of the country, for the growth of the individual, for greater opportunities for everyone and for the greater freedom of the country has to be drawn up and drawn up within the framework of political democracy. Political democracy will only justify itself if it ultimately succeeds in producing these results. If it does not, it will have to yield to some other kind of structure which we may or may not like. If there is economic inequality in the country, all the political democracy and all the adult franchise in the world cannot bring about real democracy. We have to think in terms of ultimately developing into a classless society. We in this country must not think of approaching our objectives through conflict and force. The method of peaceful progress is ultimately the method of democratic progress.

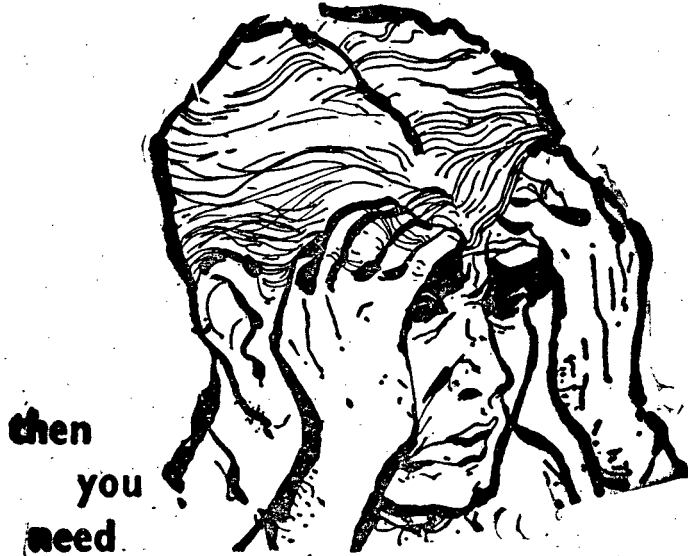
—December 15, 1952

A Social Philosophy

Our economy and social structure have outlived their day and it has become a matter of urgent necessity for us to refashion them so that they may promote the happiness of all our people in things material and spiritual. We have to aim deliberately at a social philosophy which seeks a fundamental transformation of this structure, at a society which is not dominated by the urge for private profit and by individual greed and in which there is fair distribution of political and economic power. We must aim at a classless society, based on co-operative effort, with opportunities for all. To realise this we have to pursue peaceful methods in a democratic way.

—December 31, 1952

DO YOU GET REAL HEADACHES?

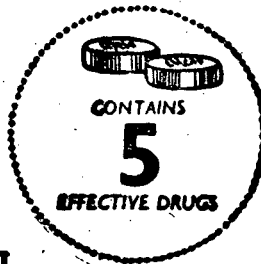


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Two Pilgrims

From Cover II

as their equal in grace. They conversed, and never orated. Their words were tools of truth, and so they needed no ornament.

THAT IS why Gandhi said: "He says he does not understand my language and that he speaks a language foreign to me... I know this, that when I am gone he will speak my language."

And Nehru said this of Gandhi: "This voice was somehow different from the others. It was quiet and low, and yet it could be heard above the shadow of the multitude; it was soft and gentle, and yet there seemed to be steel hidden away somewhere in it; it was courteous and full of appeal, and yet there was something grim and frightening in it; every word used was full of meaning and seemed to carry a deadly earnestness; behind the language of peace and friendship there was power and the quivering shadow of action and a determination not to submit to a wrong."

THERE ARE many who question whether the institutions that Nehru built are Gandhian to any degree. We shall get a clue to this paradox if we realise that Gandhi was a philosophical anarchist; he had no theory of government or social management. He had little place for intermediaries between man and his Maker. It was no surprise that he stayed away from governmental responsibilities—neither priest nor church nor government. He was in politics because it became an inescapable portion of his *sadhana*.

But Nehru, who was in and of politics, although he wanted politics to be spiritualised, had perforce to think in terms of statecraft: of forms of government, of modes of economic betterment, of norms of social organisation. Having accepted technology he had to think out how to use it and to contain it. He wanted those means and approaches which would be most

consistent with the basic ideals of freedom, of individual dignity and of economic justice.

Constitutional democracy, secularism, companionship with the world's nations, planned removal of poverty—these were the instruments and institutions he therefore persuaded his co-nationals to choose and cherish.

THE MYSTERY still remains why did Gandhi choose Nehru? We can make guesses. Could it be that Gandhi saw marks of his own master, Gokhale, in Jawaharlal Nehru?

Gokhale was only two or three years older than Gandhi, but Gandhi regarded him as though he was a generation senior. The same abundance of intellect and crystalline purity of heart; the same gift to grow fast which was not thwarted by too much of childhood brilliance; the same passion to learn, to know, to seek, and not to hurt; the same election early to high positions in public life; the same capacity to throw his all for the world's good; the same reluctance to break; and a lotus-leaf detachment. It was Gokhale who said politics must be spiritualised. Gandhi and Nehru followed him in that.

Gokhale, too, avowed no divine favour. He kept his inmost religious beliefs to himself. Nehru proclaimed himself a rationalist.

Nehru and Gandhi argued endlessly about religion. "I felt angry with him at his religious and sentimental approach to a political question. He even seemed to suggest that God had indicated the very date of his fast... What a terrible example to set!" he wrote. Again, "Gandhiji did not encourage others to think; his insistence was only on purity and sacrifice," he complained. And yet he telegraphed to Bapu: "What can I say about matters I do not understand. Whatever happens my life and thoughts will be with you."

In the *Autobiography* he was prepared to accept religion as defined by John Dewey: "Whatever introduces genuine perspective into the piecemeal and shifting episodes of existence," and by Romain Rolland: "It is the quality of thought and not its object which determines whether or not it emanates from

religion. If it turns fearlessly towards the search for truth at all costs with single-minded sincerity prepared for any sacrifice I should call it religion, for it presupposes faith in an end to human effort higher than the life of humanity as a whole."

And there was more mellowness already by the days of the *Discovery of India*. One feels as though some Upanishadic illumination was vouchsafed him.

IT WAS not as a haven, however, that Nehru sought his ethical faith, his humanism, but as a call to ceaseless action. He was an activist. He quoted with approval Bernard Shaw's words that fulfilment in life consisted in being used for a great cause and thrown on the scrap heap, and Lenin's words, "Man's dearest possession is life and since it is given to him to live it once he must so live that, dying, he can say: all my life and strength were given to the first cause in the world—the liberation of mankind."

And so he pushed himself to the precipice of exhaustion.

A THIRD of the Indian population of today had not even been born when Gandhi died. Their young lives have been lived wholly in the Nehru era. To the elderly, Jawaharlal forever remains Rituraj, lord of the seasons, the lyrical name that Tagore gave him to hail his sense of joy and adventure and youth and victory. There was no worthwhile idea or aspiration in the nation that did not spring from him. He was younger than those younger to him because he was inquisitive and creative to the end. Only the old rest on memories; the youth see visions. Nehru had visions.

ACHARYA VINOBA somewhere asked the leading poet of one of our languages how he was able to re-tell the Ramayana in our changed times. Where was the epic urge? The poet told him that ours were by no means puny times, but was truly the heroic age, for no nation had produced as many great men in a century as India.

And the last figure of the Epic Age departs; and the Renaissance, which Ram Mohun Roy ushered in, is at an end.

H. Y. S.



Farm land under water in
Kuttanad in Kerala.

Every year during monsoon
this water is pumped out
into near-by canals, and
paddy is grown on the
reclaimed land. Along the
bunds coconut palms are
raised.

See Report on
Pages 14-17, 27 and 29

YOJANA

FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL PUBLISHED

ON BEHALF OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION VOL VIII No 1

NO-12

**COMBATING
INEQUALITY
IN INCOMES**

**June 21, 1964
25 PAISE**

ABOUT YOJANA

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Cover by JIVAN ADALJA symbolises the problem of inequalities (see article on Page 2).		

Over to you

Welfare State Through Plain Living

IT is towards the establishment of a Welfare State in India that all our energies are bent. As a matter of fact all nations in the world—democracies and dictatorships—proclaim it to be their objective to establish Welfare States, though by different means. How far they have proved successful in establishing Welfare States is not for us to judge, because claims differ. What matters is how far we have been successful in establishing the Welfare State.

The Welfare State implies a State where welfare of the people including security and prosperity is the aim of all activities. This being so, provision of employment, food and shelter to all the people has come to be associated with the major welfare activities of the State. Since Independence we have been harnessing our resources and energies to achieve this aim. We have been providing employment, food and shelter to more and more people every year, though still more are being left over bereft of the bare necessities because of our increasing population. But human wants are numerous. Satisfaction of one want gives rise to another; when the primary wants are met they create fresh wants and this goes on without end. As such there will be no end to wants. In other words, the idea of the Welfare State in its modern or material aspect will ever remain unrealised.

Our idea of the Welfare State or 'Ram Rajya' as propounded by the Father of the Nation is different from the current idea which we have taken from the West. In Ram Rajya, Rama was the ruler and under his rule everybody was happy. The general happiness or well-being of the populace flowed from the fact that an ideal king like Rama was their ruler. In 'Ram Rajya' also, there were *yachakas* or beggars. There were also *rakshasas* or demons in the shape of anti-social and disgruntled elements in society. On this basis it can be said that 'Ram Rajya' was not so much of a Welfare State bent upon satisfying all wants of all people, that is, material needs, and yet it was a Welfare State *par excellence*. This was so because, in the example of their ruler, the populace saw the source of all happiness in renunciation. This is what Mahatma Gandhi wanted the rulers of the 'Ram Rajya' of his dream to follow. His idea of the

Welfare State was not borrowed from the West, the basis of which is the ever-increasing creation and satisfaction of material needs. He did not promise the people material prosperity of the Western kind after Independence. He taught that welfare and happiness are things of the heart.

Renunciation was considered by the Mahatma to be the basis of the Welfare State or 'Ram Rajya'. The ideas of renunciation are being preached widely but practised by none. In spite of attaining the highest material welfare the nations of the West are at loggerheads with one another, threatening the peace of the world. If we follow the Western pattern of Welfare State we shall never reach 'Ram Rajya'. Ram Rajya of the kind the Mahatma held up as an ideal can be ushered in if all those at the helm of affairs give a lead to the masses in the matter of self-sacrifice, simple living and regard for higher values in life. Social or national welfare is difficult to attain in terms of rupees and paise. It is essentially a matter of the heart. Unless our leaders guide the masses by setting before them an example of renunciation, attainment of national welfare will remain a mirage.

Bhopal

M. M. MULEY

CLEAR THE DEBT

NO one understands the relationship between the debts outstanding and the prices of commodities. The greater the debt outstanding the higher is the price level of all commodities.

India lives on debt. There is no redemption. The intervention of some supernatural power is necessary to make the people of India happy. Whatever is produced and earned, is consumed by the fire of debt.

Tanjore

R. V. IYER

Next Fortnight

SOCIAL PLANNING

Tarlok Singh



FROM WHEAT TO MACHINES

R. P. Dhamija



A COASTAL DREAM

B. N. Datar

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DESPITE his phenomenal achievements there is a sense of incompleteness about Jawaharlal's life. At seventy-four he continued to give the impression that the best was yet to be. It is no surprise that he kept on his desk a poet's reminder about promises to keep.

The reason for this, as an associate remarked, is that the tasks he chose—and he chose so many—were so stupendous as to defy achievement in one lifetime however outstanding. He was an innovator and a pathfinder, and something of a prophet though he declined to be regarded as one, and his spirit of adventure found the journey more exhilarating than arrival. Indeed he described every achievement as but a beginning. If there is a sense of unfinished business about his life's work it is because he wanted to be measured not in terms of yesterdays and todays but in terms of the greater tomorrow.

Take two ideas he stood for—modernisation and the removal of poverty. Could either, in a country so large and a nation so numerous as ours, be easily accomplished? Naoroji and Gokhale taught our people sixty years ago to think deeply about the causes of poverty and the means of its removal. But the sum total of knowledge in their times was not enough to give us an estimate of the kind and scale of action required to combat poverty. Even now we do not know enough about the levers and springs of social reconstruction. Without disrespect to the Mahatma's economic philosophy it could be said that it was Jawaharlal Nehru that showed the nation, argued with it and convinced it, that poverty could not be ended without modernisation and without the Grand Alliance of socialism and science.

Mr. Nehru himself never tired of pointing out the difficulty of the task. Even at the moment India achieved independence, in his historic "tryst with destiny" address, he reminded us: "The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. The ambition of the greatest

man of our generation is to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us, but as long as there are tears and suffering so long our work will not be over." He repeatedly spoke of our generation as a generation sentenced to hard labour.

Some of the early writing on planning and social reconstruction in India, when re-read, strikes us as innocent. With each year we are becoming more and more aware of the complexity of the undertaking. It was Mr. Nehru who made us see why it should be so. It was he who infected us with the determination to face each new challenge. To live is to have problems, he told us, for only the dead have no problems.

His energy gave our mass some movement. He claimed that all his powers had only come from the people. That was only partly true. With his rationalism and modesty, and his deep revulsion against what self-proclaimed supermen had done to the world, he disclaimed any ideas of being the embodiment of a creative force or historical purpose. But it is the secret of his leadership, as of all truly great leadership, that the people gave him a little of what he had himself placed within them.

He is now gone from our midst. We miss the drive, the direction and the dedication he imparted to us, but did he not also teach us self-reliance? Jawaharlal Nehru has shown us what we are capable of and told us what we must do. It is up to us now to push through the development revolution, realising that time is the scarcest resource. The new Prime Minister has declared that "the first and foremost priority is the development of our economy," and that the main question before us is to execute the Plans with vigour and efficiency.

The most fitting memorial to Jawaharlal Nehru, as Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri has put it, is to build up a socialist and democratic India, a free, prosperous and strong India, so that it can work for a world without war.

A BACKGROUND ARTICLE

A MAJOR NATIONAL PROBLEM IS TO DO AWAY WITH THE GLARING INEQUALITIES IN PEOPLE'S INCOMES. AN ECONOMIST'S ANALYSIS OF WHAT ISSUES ARE INVOLVED IF THIS PROBLEM IS TO BE FACED WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY IS PARAPHRASED HERE TO HELP A MORE INFORMED DEBATE ON THE SUBJECT.

If

INCOME DISPARITIES

are to be reduced

WHAT MUST WE DO?

WITHIN the next two Plan periods, we aim at ensuring certain minimum standards of consumption for all our people. For this purpose, the national income must grow faster and the pattern of income among various groups of people must undergo a big change. On this there is general agreement.

Despite two and a half Plans, it is known that the income distribution pattern has not changed to any degree. The inequalities remain. This was forcefully brought out by the Mahalanobis Committee Report.

What are the issues involved if our objective of income redistribution is to be achieved?

As we know, there are inequalities even in the very process in which incomes are generated, that is, in the structure of production. Could our policy lay stress on changing this structure? Can we alter the patterns of ownership and wages? And, finally, can Government's policies of taxation and welfare expenditure be so designed that the rural people can improve their levels of consumption?

LET us examine the structure of production and the possibilities of changing it in such a way that there can be less of disparity in income.

It is important to realise that the

desired changes can be brought about more in the *future* productive activity than in the *existing* structure of production and employment. We not only want a fairer distribution of incomes; we want *larger* incomes for the people as a whole. Income redistribution has to be achieved in the context of rapid economic growth. The goal of the nation as a whole is to enlarge, steadily and swiftly, the national income and to become self-reliant soon.

The goal of self-reliance means that the industrial sector—basic industries, transport and power—has to grow much faster than other sectors.

But these industries, in their very nature, require large amounts of capital, and then have to be operated on a large scale. As they grow, they will also require great numbers of skilled workers. In addition, there is more capital per employed worker in these industries.

This means, first, that the growth of the industrial sector benefits the

urban people and industrial workers whose position is already better than that of the rural poor; secondly, that for a given amount of capital, it creates less of additional employment.

The bulk of the people whose incomes are low are in the agricultural sector. But it is agriculture that yields the greater part of our consumption goods (cereals, pulses, vegetable oil, *gur*, cotton for cloth etc.). If incomes in agriculture have to go up, the output per person and per acre has to go up. Higher yields come from application of more water, fertilisers etc. (and the provision of credit and other facilities therefor) than from putting more people to work. It is unlikely that our programmes to expand agricultural production will absorb gainfully all of the surplus labour in the rural areas.

If neither the capital goods industries, transport and power on the one hand and agriculture on the other can generate much of additional employment, where can more employment be generated and better incomes promised? The sectors where this can be done are light industries that produce consumption goods, construction, trade and services.

Altering the pattern of income-generation will mean that the development plan will have to be given an employment bias. And if the aim of employment generation is to be pursued in the sectors other than basic industry, infrastructure and agriculture, these other sectors, namely small industries, construction, trade and services, have to be vastly enlarged and differently organised, utilising a different kind of technology.

The Third Five Year Plan does recognise the close relationship between the employment and redistribution aims. It stresses the need to bring about additional, dispersed and labour-intensive activities in these sectors. That is why it has given an important place to village and small industries, local development works, rural works, road-building and other construction work. But the progress in these fields has not been adequate.

If they are to show results, they will need more resources. If the key industrial sector as well as the

agricultural sector will each require more resources, how can this third sector also get more resources? The additional requirements can come only through expansion of the total national income and through a much larger mobilisation of resources for investment than at present.

SEVEN out of ten Indians depend on agriculture, and neither growth nor redistribution can be achieved by scaling down the allocation for agriculture. No matter what the strategy of development, it must provide more real resources for agricultural development. The faster the growth in agriculture, the greater the likelihood of rise in consumption standards and incomes, provided the right fiscal policies are pursued at the same time.

Faster growth in industry, we saw, worsens the pattern of income-generation—higher wages for skilled and urbanised workers, but nothing extra for the others. But any attempt to go slow on the core of industrialisation, any policy of shifting resources away from the metals, fuel, chemicals, machinery, transport, power and intermediate industries, will be self-defeating. It will hurt the capacity of the economy to attain a high rate of growth on the strength of its own resources. And without a rapid growth of the basic and infrastructure industries, and of agricultural raw materials, the growth of consumption goods industries would itself be limited.

It is possible, however, that in some large-scale industries, especially those which produce consumer goods, there could be more stress on employment-generation. The same output could be achieved with a larger employment content. But this requires a careful study in terms of specific raw materials and equipment.

Dispersal and de-concentration can be achieved in the consumer-goods and processing industries through adoption of what is called "intermediate" tech-

nology, but this should not be at the expense of the priority given to basic industries.

THE largest disparities in personal incomes arise as a result of holding property. These can be reduced if more of property is publicly owned. So far the main reason put forth for enlarging the public sector is that certain key industries which are essential for the nation's progress, and which also involve large investments and long gestation periods, should not be left to private monopolies. It is time that the role of the public sector in reducing income disparities was appreciated.

Government's industrial policy has to be changed in such a way that no individual or company in the private sector owns assets above a certain limit. To enforce a ceiling in this way on equity-holding might require us to use resources for the purpose. But the basic thing is to realise that it is necessary to speed up the rate of expansion in social ownership of property.

The policy of holding the 'commanding heights' in the basic or strategic industries is not enough. In order to prevent large incomes accruing to individuals or companies controlled by a few individuals what is needed is to see that all large-scale economic activity is in the public sector and the rest is dispersed over a great number of small units. Ceilings, thus, could resolve the problem of concentration of economic power.

The proposal to limit property incomes is not new: it has already been accepted in the decision to impose ceilings on land holdings. This aims at (although it does not ensure) the narrowing down of disparities in agricultural incomes. For reasons of equity this policy will have to be extended from landed property to all forms of property. Here, as in the proposal made above that all large-scale activity should be in the public sector, the repercussions on savings have to be carefully studied.

It is not enough to curb the incomes of the top people. The masses must be enabled to improve their consumption levels. To make this possible the public sector must expand, costs of agriculture must come down, and the State must provide more amenities and training facilities.

As we saw earlier, if skilled workers in the rapidly growing sectors will get progressively better wages but the bulk of the people in the working age group are compelled to remain unskilled labourers for a long time to come, disparities in income will grow. The most commonly advocated policy to reduce such disparities is to impose ceilings on personal incomes. But three important factors should be taken into account.

One—you cannot fix a limit on salaries only in the public sector; an identical policy should prevail in both public and private sectors.

Two—not much is achieved by scaling down the incomes at the very top; what will more effectively achieve a narrowing of disparities is to raise the large number of the middle and lower incomes.

Three—to enable a large enough number to improve their chances of earning more, there should be a rapid expansion of training facilities at State expense. This would facilitate both economic growth and better distribution of its benefits.

WE might now have a look at devices that would reduce disparities in standards of consumption.

Here again the approach has to be twofold; the level of consumption of families with high incomes has to come down; and the level and real content of consumption of the bulk of the low-income earners must go up.

It has to be borne in mind that it is individuals who really are the consumers, and not institutions. Policies which enable institutions to accumulate more incomes will in fact help to reduce disparities, and make it easier to mobilise savings. There must be, as there is now, tax preference to companies which will retain their incomes.

The public sector should grow, so that it will be possible to retain more surpluses. Pricing policies in the public sector should also ensure this. In addition, a larger portion of the spendable incomes must go into the general budget through taxation.

The most effective way of reducing the level of personal consumption is through direct taxes. Direct taxes must start at a lower level

than at present, and the structure of direct taxes must be strengthened. The latter has already been done to some extent through reintroduction of the expenditure tax, increase in wealth tax rates, reduction of tax exemption limits and announcement of heavy punishment for tax offences.

These have to be further strengthened by measures that will reduce luxury or inessential consumption on the part of upper income classes. Such commodities and services should be made more expensive through sharp increases in indirect taxes. Some kinds of consumer goods should be banned so as to release the resources for producing basic goods.

What are these goods that should be made so expensive as to deter their consumption? To name names would be arbitrary. It is enough to say that these consist of many articles which city-dwellers would go in for or wish to have. But will there be general agreement on the question of subjecting the urban population to heavier indirect taxation? It has to be remembered, moreover, that the effectiveness of

progressive indirect taxes will depend on the extent to which direct taxes would already have reduced the disparities in post-tax personal incomes.

THIS is certain, however, that tax measures have a very great part in reducing disparities in consumption. But it cannot serve the other purpose of raising the consumption standards of the mass of the people.

This can be brought about in two ways—by putting more disposable income into the hands of people with low incomes, and by providing more benefits through public expenditure.

The bulk of low-income earners are in the agricultural sector. They can have a larger disposable income only if the prices of agricultural commodities rise and/or the costs of agricultural operations are reduced.

The second course is preferable to the first. Most of the essential goods are produced in the agricultural sector. The consumer will oppose an increase in the prices of these goods. Therefore the costs

of cultivation and the margin of the distributor should be reduced.

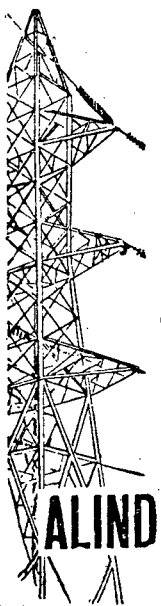
This will mean that water, fertiliser, seeds etc. should be supplied to the cultivators at prices lower than at present. That is, these inputs should be supplied at subsidised prices. The distributive margin cannot be reduced if we rely only on co-operative organisations. The State must assume responsibility for the processing and trading operations. Along with State trading, there should be a more vigorous policy of setting up controlled warehouses and regulated markets in smaller towns.

These measures must go hand in hand with the strict enforcement of land ceilings. Otherwise they will benefit only the larger landowners, and worsen the disparities. Ultimately, it is only through ensuring a minimum income that disparities can really be removed; but taking into account the number of low-income people in the country and the prevalent rates of growth of

(Continued on Page 22)

220 kV LINES

... a tradition with **ALIND**



The first ever 220 kV transmission line to be energised in India was the Nangal-Delhi double circuit line. And 350 kilometres of ALIND "GOAT" ACSR went into this line.

To the Koyna-Bombay 220 kV double circuit line in Maharashtra State, Alind supplied 1450 kilometres of ALIND "SHEEP" ACSR.

Again, Alind supplied about 1000 kilometres of special-size ALIND "KUNDAH" ACSR to the Kundah Hydel Project in Madras State. An additional length of 1000 kilometres was later supplied for the extension of the 220 kV system in this State.

Since then supplies have been made by Alind to several other 220 kV systems in the country which include: **Rihand Hydro-electric System** in Uttar Pradesh—3700 kilometres of ALIND "DEER" ACSR; **Korba-Amarkantak-Satpura Thermal Network** in Madhya Pradesh—3100 kilometres of ALIND "ZEBRA" ACSR and 1000 kilometres of ALIND "CAMEL" ACSR; **Sabarigiri Hydro-electric System** in Kerala—1700 kilometres of ALIND "KUNDAH" ACSR; **Sharavathy Hydro-electric project** in Mysore—1250 kilometres of ALIND "DRAKE" ACSR; **Talcher Thermal Scheme** in Orissa State—480 kilometres of ALIND "SHEEP" ACSR; **220 kV System** in Andhra Pradesh—1300 kilometres of ALIND "DEER" ACSR and **220 kV System** in Maharashtra—250 kilometres of ALIND "GOAT" ACSR.

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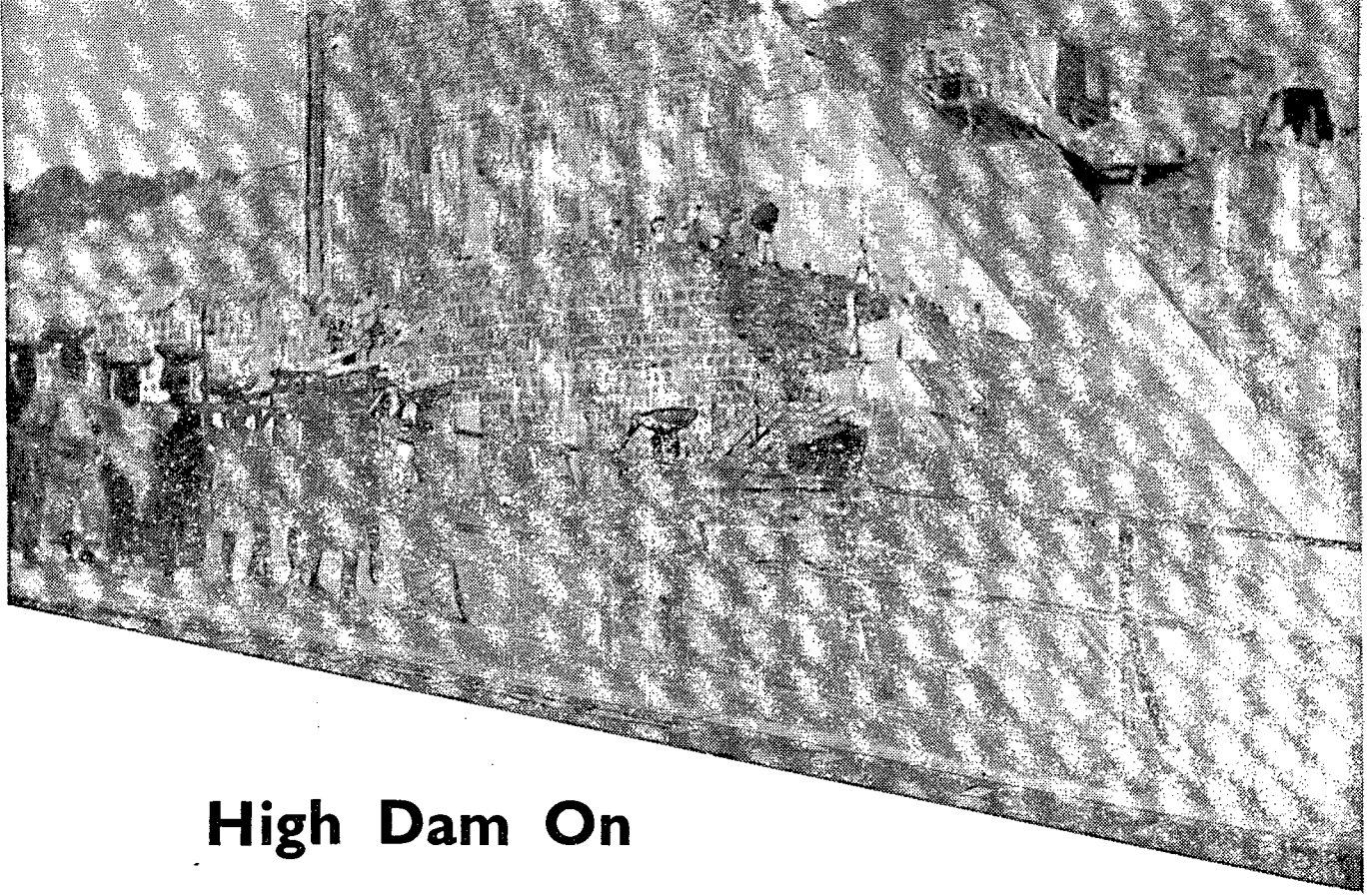
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AL 163/J2



High Dam On RAINY MOUNTAIN

*Sabarigiri Will
Add to
Kerala's Power*

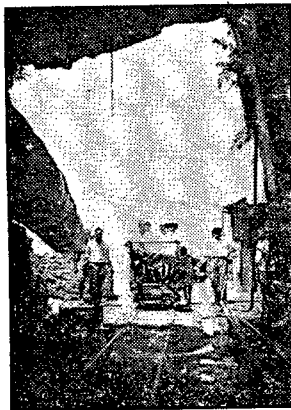
MUNDAKAYAM, Paluparai, Kaduvapra, Peermade, Vandiperiyar. Villages and small towns, with little shops and modest dwellings. One after the other disappeared in the greenery of Kerala as the bus made its uphill way amidst the lovely Western Ghats, negotiating a number of sharp bends.

From Kottayam I was on my way to Pamba, the headquarters of the Sabarigiri project. On either side of the 75-mile route lay the valuable plantations for which Kerala is famous : rubber, the State's monopoly, coffee, pepper and tea—the first three I saw for the first time. Acres and acres of slopes covered by the

tall, umbrella-shaped rubber trees with incision marks providing cool shade against the scorching May sun ; broad-leaved coffee plants with dark berries, pepper creepers climbing vertically along the trunks of trees, and well-trimmed tea plants spread over the hill-sides like green carpet.

The Sabarigiri project combines the Pamba and Kakki hydro-electric

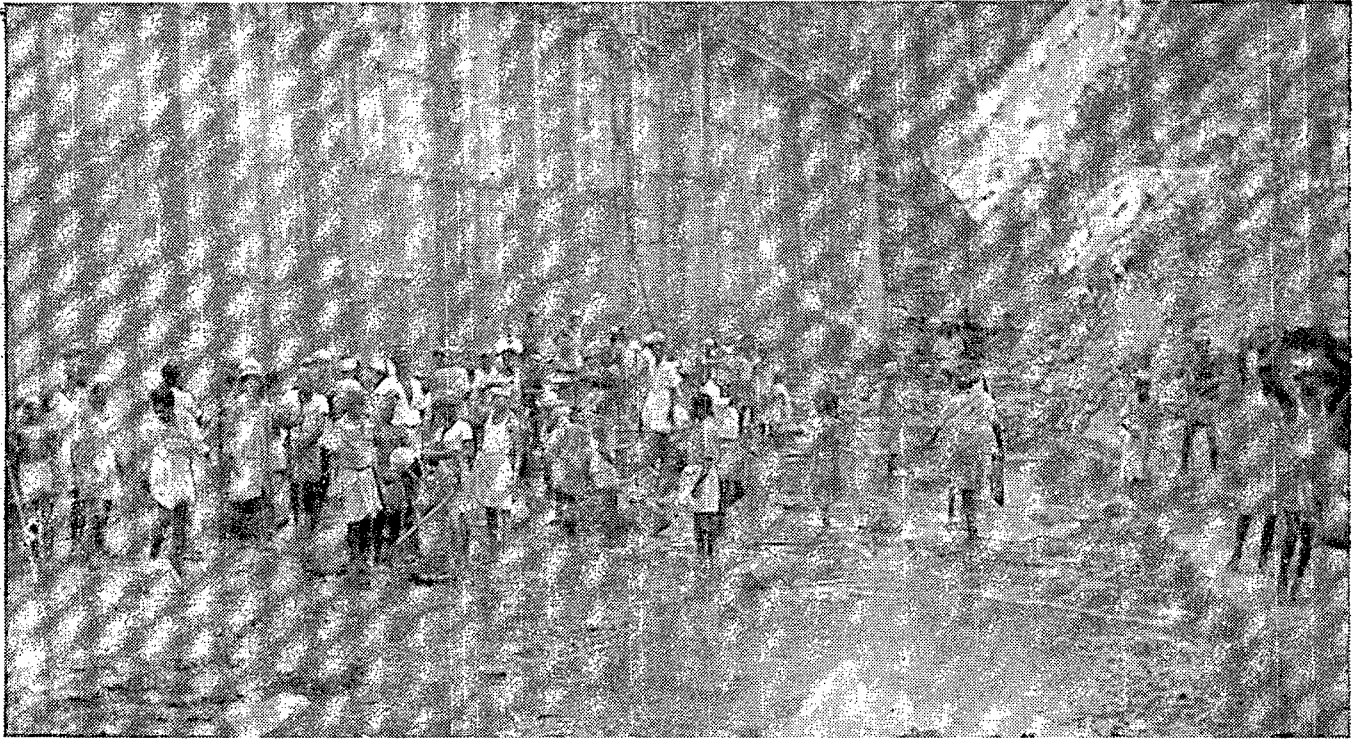
Part of the Pamba dam and spillway under construction with a group of workers in the foreground. Below left : the outer end of the tunnel at Kakki photographed from inside the tunnel.



by Kali Biswas

schemes. The project takes its name from the famous two centuries' old Ayyappan Temple of the Sabari hill situated in deep forest, five miles from Pamba and 70 miles from Kottayam. Legend goes that Parasurama created Kerala and established temples of Sasta or Hariharasuta all over the hills of Kerala, and Kali temples along the sea coast. In January every year on the occasion of the Makara Vilakku festival about 500,000 devotees go to the temple to have a glimpse of the deity Hariharasuta.

Kerala has a number of rivers. But in spite of its rich hydro-electric potential the State has acute power shortage. The Pamba is one of the many rivers which rise in the Western Ghats and flow westwards for 110 miles falling in the Vembanad lake near Alleppey. The place where the dam and the reservoir are being built is also called Pamba and is



Work in progress on Kakki dam. Partial storage for running two power units will be ready by the end of December 1965

about 3,000 feet above the sea level. The catchment area is about 112 square miles and the annual rainfall 180 inches (457 cm.) The annual run-off is estimated to be 26,400 million cubic feet (605,000 acre feet) which falls over a drop of more than 2,000 feet. It is to use these waters that the Sabarigiri Project was taken up by the Kerala Government during the Second Plan period, along with two others namely the Panniar and Sholayar. The work on the second stage, namely on the Kakki dam, began in January this year.

The Sabarigiri project comprises: (1) a 171-foot high masonry dam on the Pamba and a reservoir with a storage capacity of 25,200 acre feet; a two mile long tunnel connecting the Pamba reservoir with that at Kakki, a tributary of the Pamba; (3) a flanking or saddle dam at Anathode near Kakki; (4) a 360-foot-high concrete dam on the Kakki and a reservoir with a storage capacity of 3.6 lakh acre feet, (5) a 3½ mile-long tunnel and (6) a powerhouse of six units, each having a capacity of 50,000 kW.

The waters of the Pamba reservoir will be led through the linking tunnel to the Kakki reservoir at a lower level. From there the waters will be passed through the longer power tunnel and the penstocks to the

power-house situated further below at Muzhiyar, another tributary of the Pamba.

The project—built with the collaboration of U.S. Agency for International Aid—is estimated to cost Rs. 30 crore, including Rs. 9 crore by way of foreign exchange.



UNLIKE the Gandhisagar and the Rana Pratapsagar dams I had visited in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the Sabarigiri project has no problems of rehabilitating people. The reservoirs at both Pamba and Kakki are in the forest area. The question of finding alternative accommodation for evicted people does not arise.

“But we have another problem”, said Mr. V. Lakshmana Rao, Superintending Engineer, “—the monsoon. We have 180 to 200 inches of rainfall here. As a result the major work can be done only for a few months.”

“But you are building a concrete dam here and not a masonry dam. May I know why?”

“You have put a good question”, he said. “Here, the gorge is deep

and narrow—almost V-shaped. To take the building material to the site several hundreds of feet below will take enormous time and more labour. Then there is not much open space for masonry work. A concrete dam can be built more quickly provided you have the equipment, machinery and skilled personnel.”

The project is being built by a private firm—the Hindustan Construction Company (HCC) of Bombay. The Superintending Engineer said that HCC had considerable experience of such work, having already built the Rihand Dam in U.P. and the Vaitarana Dam in Bombay.



THE sounds of big machines reached my ears as I approached the dam site at Kakki. Crushers and bulldozers, excavators and cranes, batching and cooling plants and the overhead cableway—the entire mechanised equipment was in motion. From inside the giant batching plant came trolleys with bucket-loads of mortar. They were promptly picked up by the crane and taken swiftly along the cableway from where they were lowered down to the construction site about 300 feet below.

From the booth a man spoke at the top of his voice through the receiver to someone working on the site. "He is Mr. N.C. Sen Gupta, Project Manager of HCC," said Mr. N. Venugopal, Assistant Engineer of the Sabarigiri Project. "He is the key man of H.C.C." I asked Mr Sen Gupta if he, as an engineer, had to face any difficulty in building this dam.

"My problem is the long distance from the nearest railway station", he said. "Ernakulum is 150 miles from this place. We have to get plant and machinery by ship to Cochin. From Cochin we get them to Ernakulam by rail. But it takes a long time to get them to the site. And the ascent is so steep." Mr Sen Gupta took up the receiver again and began giving instructions to his staff.

★

DOWN below I saw two thousand people at work. Of these, nearly a half were unskilled labourers mostly from the State. Skilled personnel came from different parts of the country. "In fact we have got technical men from Assam, Bengal, Punjab, Maharashtra and Madras," said Mr. K. Rama Rao, Assistant General Manager of H.C.C.

More than 12 per cent of concrete work was completed when I visited the site in early May. The power tunnel to take waters from the Kakki reservoir was almost complete. Only the concrete lining remained to be done. At the Pamba site also construction of the dam was progressing. The dam had risen to nearly half its height on one side and part of the spillway completed. The link tunnel was almost ready. The power-house at Muzhiyar was under construction and the two units are expected to start functioning from partial storage by the end of 1965, generating 100,000 kW.

★

WITH the completion of the Sabarigiri, Panniar, Sholayar and Idikki, which is the biggest in the State and was taken up in the Third Plan, and Kuttiyadi projects, the installed capacity of electricity in the State is expected to go up substantially.

FOR HILL PEOPLE A BILL OF RIGHTS

G. N. DAS

AFTER India became free and the problem of national integration loomed large, Jawaharlal Nehru repeatedly emphasised the paramount need to understand the 23 million or so who form the tribal population of the country, "make them understand us and thus create a bond of affection and understanding." He has delineated the broad principles, five in number, according to which all work for their welfare should be carried out.

First, the plans for their advancement should be in consonance with their own genius and every effort should be made to foster their characteristic life-ways including arts and crafts.

Secondly, their lands and forests should be safeguarded and the tribal people protected from parting with their properties except through their full assent.

Thirdly, they should also be trained more and more to shoulder the responsibilities of administration and economic development in their own territories, although projects involving high technical and engineering skills would perforce continue for some time to be entrusted to non-tribal personnel.

In keeping with this policy, Nagaland came into being in 1961 with Mr Shilu Ao, a Naga patriot, as the Chief Executive Councillor, and a Government chosen by the elected representatives of the people is in power since December 1, 1963. All posts in the country reserved for

Nehru enunciated five basic principles for the uplift of the 23 million tribal folk.

candidates belonging to the Scheduled Tribes are being filled by them. The Home Minister told the Central Advisory Board for Tribal Welfare recently that in 1951 there were only three tribal applicants for the combined examination for appointment to the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Police Service and the Central Secretariat Service and two sat for it, but in 1961 the number of applicants went up to 142 and 73 took the examination.

Fourthly, Mr Nehru suggested that welfare workers should enlist the support and active co-operation of the men operating the social and cultural machinery of the tribes and should under no circumstances function in antagonism to their immemorial institutions.

Lastly, he stressed that the evaluation of welfare activities by Government or voluntary bodies should not be in terms of dry statistics but with reference to the quality and character of the human beings involved.

In short, an attitude of "rapacious benevolence" must be avoided. No one should play the role of Mrs Pardiggle, that remarkable character

in Dickens's *Bleak House*, who walked into the hovel of a poor bricklayer with 'a great show of moral determination', delivered a lecture on the dirty ways of the poor and moved on to another house, hoping that things would have improved when she visited there next.

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MR Nehru's well-considered and positive suggestions for tribal welfare are abundant proof of his concern for the hillmen and respect for their culture. And what did they think of him and the Government of which he was the head? To the Sherpa he was an *avatar*; to the Apa Tani or the Lepcha, a modern saint. The tribes of the North-East Frontier Agency are deeply mourning his death. But the following remarks a tribesman made in the course of my talk with him some years ago give a surprisingly sound analysis of the man and his actions. They anticipate the sentiments expressed by leaders and statesmen throughout the world during the last few days and one would hardly credit them to a simple unsophisticated aboriginal. Here they are in translation:

"The first thought in the mind of Jawaharlal Nehru on the day he joined the Congress was that he should identify himself completely with the country and its people. The difficulties and struggles of the people touched him greatly. He has suffered much for the sake of the masses, because it was very important and manly to do so. Such a man is a patriot. He is a real Man. Afterwards he becomes a devotee (*bhakta*) and attains immortality. Jawaharlal Nehru has undergone great sufferings, thinking that it was his duty to do so. He does not retreat when justice is at stake. He is not afraid of death. He does not think that he is greater than others. He does not want to enjoy pleasures. It is because of these qualities that jealous people are not able to harm him. He wants to do away with beggars. He has moved in that direction. He wishes to give the tribal people an equal status with other communities and has taken steps accordingly. He wants to make the life of labourers more comfortable. He does not consider himself a big man. He does not think in terms of his self-

interest. He has spared no efforts to put his thoughts into action. Within a few years there will be no beggars. There will be no men without land. There will be no poor men. There will be no illiterate men."

So observed Torzodhr of the Toda tribe of the Nilgiri hills in the State of Madras—a tribe which is famous in the anthropological world. He was a member of a deputation of Todas which met Prime Minister Nehru in Madras in 1955 when the writer, who was doing anthropological work in the tribe, accompanied them.

Another tribal named Sarabu, an educated Saora of the hills of south Orissa, gave me a written statement, the translated version of which is as follows:

Curiously enough Mr Shastri in his way is just as much a modern homespun Indian politician as Mr Johnson is in America.

—*The Daily Telegraph, London*

There is a similarity between Lal Bahadur Shastri and ex-President Truman, both hardly known outside their own countries, followed at short notice world statesmen and cosmopolites who were regarded almost as demigods.

—*The Daily Mail, London*

I expect Lal Bahadur to do everything possible to ensure that the nation prospers even if he has to sacrifice his life...I do not want Lal Bahadur to do anything that would cause hardship to the poor.

—*Mrs Ramdulari Devi, the Prime Minister's mother*

Probably in no other country of the world could so self-effacing a man achieve the pinnacle of power.

—*The Indian Express*

His failure to take the advice so often tendered to him—to nominate his successor—has meant less than a week's delay.

—*Manchester Guardian*

I was extremely unhappy to read report of the Delhi Corporation's decision to rename Circular Road as Jawaharlal Nehru Marg and to erect on the traffic island on Circular Road facing Turkman Gate a statue of Panditji in a sitting posture with a microphone.

—*Mrs Indrani Rahman in "The Statesman"*

"The backward castes and tribes, living in the hills and jungles of different States, have not forgotten their old ideas because of the absence of educational facilities. If Mr Nehru tours the underdeveloped regions, studies the needs of the inhabitants, finds out ways and means of changing their minds, establishes organisations for their advancement and pays attention to their education, many knotty problems will be solved. Nehru is tackling these questions. But as the tribal people are poor, they are not able to improve their lot or give up their evil habits. I have seen Nehru and can say that he has no contempt for us, although we are uneducated and follow bad customs. He is doing his best to promote our welfare, but, unfortunately, the various schemes are not implemented effectively by the authorities."

QUOTATION BOX

The only way we can do justice to that spirit (Nehru's creative dynamism) is by creating something new. No second-hand bricks or mortar, no rubbed off nameplates will do.

—*Mr Badruddin Tyabji*

I remember Gandhiji fumbling in waste paper baskets for carelessly thrown pins and clips. He never wasted even a bit of paper. I am, however, amazed when I find some of his followers spending as much as Rs 2,000 to Rs 25,000 per month on air travel..... But just as this increased expenditure on travel and such other things does not indicate that these people have suddenly become rich, similarly the increased spending by the business community should not be construed to mean any substantial increase in their intrinsic wealth.

—*Mr R. D. Birla in "Current"*

The computer of the Siberian branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences found that 390 officials attended 6,626 meetings every month which took up 12,500 hours.

—*Press report*

The words written on the back of a bus that carries passengers from Siliguri to neighbouring places read: "God save the passengers."... An inscription on another bus reminds us "Janata Amar Hai".

—*Letter in "The Statesman"*

A nation's hotels are a good guide to the local employment situation: the more the jobs the worse the service.

—*Richard West in New Statesman*

when a part of us goes away

S. Srinivasachar

I HAD seen Jawaharlal Nehru in life, and I do not want to see him in death. So I have kept away from the great last journey. I sit alone in my house, following the events over the radio. My sadness wells up as the commentators tell me of the solemn proceedings and I feel compelled to unburden myself. Therefore I am writing this. I know that many others would be feeling like me.

What a morning was this! Unlike yesterday's dawn, there was no Nehru today as the sun rose. And on this ancient and proud city of Delhi, even more than elsewhere in the country, there is a thick pall.

This mood will most surely melt, as all moods do, because life is vibrant and flowing. The reality of living is too compelling to permit sadness to make a lasting home in men's hearts. But it is hard to believe Nehru has gone. The country had become so much a part of him, his thoughts, deeds and even his gestures. For nearly fifty years, nights had broken into dawn with his smile printed on its face. It was the smile of a resurgent nation which had begun to see in its children the hope of successive tomorrows. It was also the confident smile of an ancient people on whom the past lay in heavy layers, like some giant encrustation, now peeling off and exposing the hidden urges.

★

NEHRU has cajoled, chid, flattered and lifted us all from the slough of tradition and lethargy and banded us together in a common destiny. We loved Gandhi as father, but it is to Nehru that we gave our affections. In our boundless love for him we had willingly forgiven the foibles of his colleagues and overlooked the shortcomings of his policies. In the

balance, his achievements tower over his failures. He, more than any individual after Gandhi, gave us what history had denied us for unremembered generations—freedom, self-confidence and respect. We are grateful.

He had always looked so healthy and handsome that in our innocence many of us had begun to regard him as deathless. Now, for the first day in our lives, we wake up as an India without Nehru. We rubbed our eyes in disbelief, wiped our tears, and so many of us wept, and when we wept we did not bother to hide our grief. Among us there are critics of his policies, rebels from his party and cynics of many hues; but there is grief in us all, grief like a flood.

★

DEATH, when it comes, resembles lightning, and shares its qualities. It is stunning in its suddenness and is stopped by nothing. In one blinding flash it lights and then cuts the bonds that held the living together. What remain thereafter are sentiments and memories, and futile sense of yearning.

But is it not true, also, that what life could not achieve death might make possible? Our vision, now freed from the personal touch of Jawaharlal Nehru might change and a new, perhaps a more natural, relationship might be forged between realities and ideals. The endless process of living, of striving, might receive fresh sustenance from sense of hope born out of our very sorrow. So life will go on, contemptuous of death, burning into every throbbing heart the same passions and the same

ideals that stirred men into deeds before.

A people's destiny is rarely extinguished by the passing of a man who strove hard to unfold it. The efforts of his lifetime will uplift smaller men carrying his mantle. They will derive something of the strength, something of the glow of greatness that made his life worthwhile. Alike the meek who seek fulfilment in prayers and the valiant in deeds, the fragrant memory of one who lived nobly and enriched the life of others will always inspire. If India could give birth to such children before, she will do so again and again.

★

AS I write, and re-read what I have written, and listen to the broadcast account of Jawaharlal's final journey I realise even more that our grief is not private grief. What I feel, millions are feeling. To us, small and anonymous as we are, is not given the privilege of public statements of our opinions. But there could be nothing pretentious, nothing extraordinary in putting in words, however inadequate, that total sense of belonging which we, as ordinary men, had in regard to him. That is because he derived all his strength from us, the common people, and gave it back to us tenfold. Not many in this world are so generous or so compassionate.

**BRIGHT
SPOT**

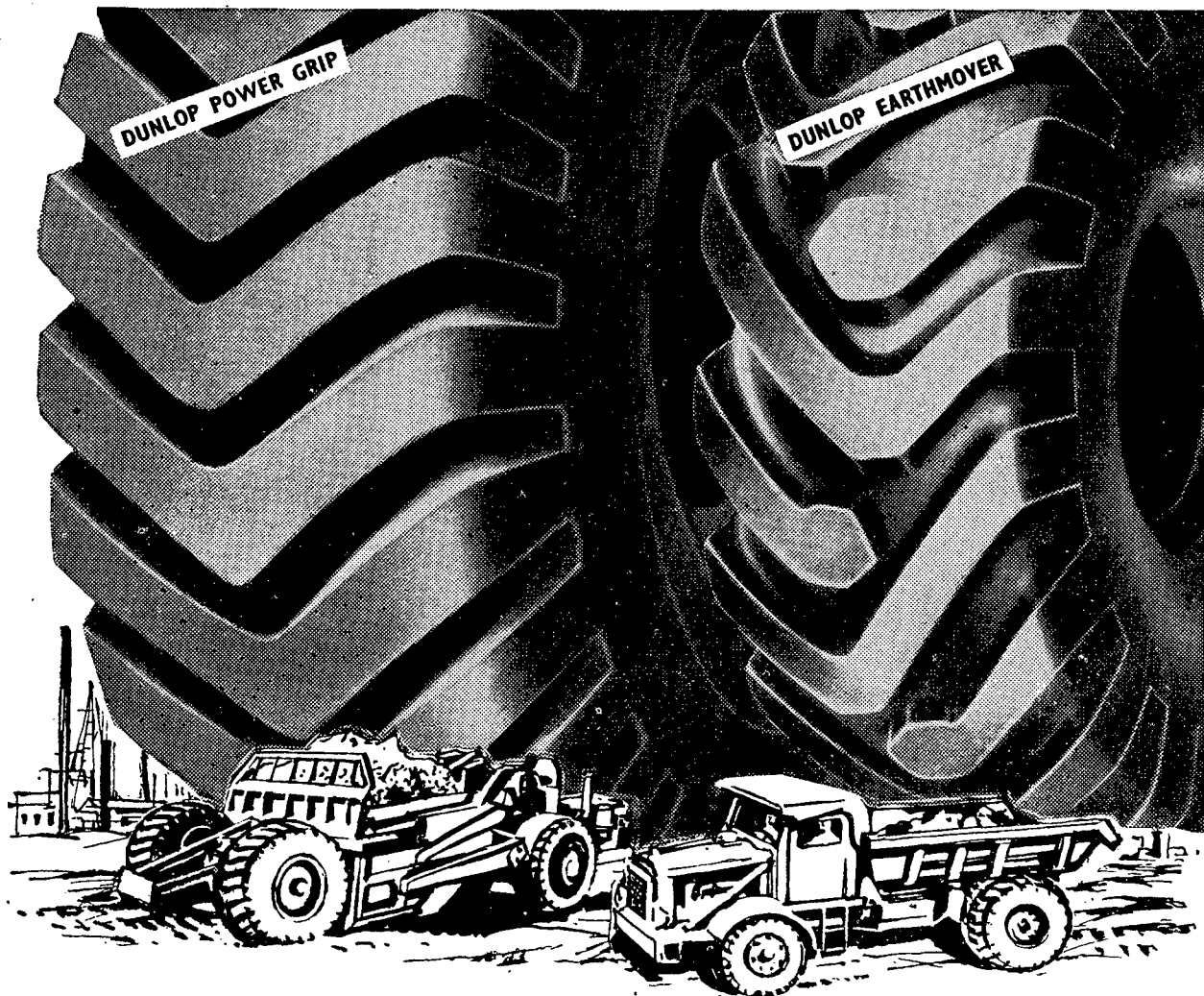
POWERED VILLAGES

In rural India, 37, 457 villages had been electrified up to the end of January. Forty-two per cent of the power supplied was being used for industries and 40 per cent for agriculture.

GROUNDNUT RECORD

The production of groundnut reached a new high in 1963-64; it was 52.90 lakh tonnes, 9.7 per cent increase over the previous year's. The area under cultivation was 168.14 lakh acres, 9 per cent less than that in 1962-63. Per acre yield was 694 lb., an increase of 10.7 per cent over the previous year.

MASSIVE TYRES



FOR MASSIVE WORK

The scraper and the dumper. Two powerful modern beasts of burden, indispensable for moving with continuous operation thousands of tons of earth at project sites. Tremendously heavy and strenuous work, requiring the toughest pneumatic tyres. Dunlop Power Grip and EM. 7 Earthmover tyres are proving themselves superbly in service ... at Koyna, Nagarjunasagar, Kosi,

Sharavathi, Beas ... in the iron ore mines of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Goa...in the farflung coalfields of the National Coal Development Corporation and at many other project sites all over India.

The tread pattern and especially tough casings of these Dunlop tyres were developed after prolonged field trials in different kinds of terrain in many parts of the world.



DUNLOP

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DTC-18-A

THE success of our programme of economic development depends on our ability to check the rate at which the population is growing. The Third Plan document estimated that our population would be around 625 million by 1976. But this estimate was based on the assumption that the fertility rate would decline after 1971 as a result of the family planning campaign undertaken. But, according to the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Third Plan, the total impact of the family planning programme has not been striking so far.

The supply of contraceptives has not been anywhere near the requirement. Their use is still not widespread. Indeed the large mass of the uneducated in our country cannot even be said to have accepted the need for family planning. Thus, in 1976, after 25 years of our official family planning programme, 20 years of which are supposedly an intensive effort, we shall still be encumbered with a 2.2 per cent rate of growth.

THE situation can be different if India adopts a crash programme of oral contraceptive use. Oral contraceptives have already been proved and are being successfully practised by not fewer than four million women in the U.S.A. and Europe. Six drug companies produce pills that are on the American market, some costing only £2 for an entire month's supply.

It is almost certain that just as in the case of penicillin or any other antibiotic, the retail price of the oral pill would be as many rupees in India as dollars in America. Hence, a month's supply of oral contraceptive pills may be expected to be retailed around two rupees, if mass-produced in India.

Oral contraceptives would then become the cheapest of all locally produced contraceptives and far more effective. The wonder drug that the family planning movement has been looking for would at last come within our reach. If they are manufactured on a large scale and rapidly distributed in the country, it would be possible to bring our population growth rate fully under control within 15 years.

What appears both feasible and desirable, however, is to achieve

Conventional methods of contraception are of little avail, says the author, in checking our galloping birth rate. The oral contraceptive will be far more effective, and the need is to produce it in large numbers and sell it at low cost.

THE PILL

by

KRISHNA ROY

Dr Krishna Roy had her post-doctoral training in demography at Princeton University. She is at present Assistant Planning and Research Officer in the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

at least a 10 per cent reduction in the present fertility rate of 189 per thousand by the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan. Reduction of the 1966 fertility level to exactly half by 1981 would form an ideal target.

To achieve a 10 per cent reduction in the fertility rate, about 4.5 million births are to be avoided over the five-year period 1966-71. And during 1971-1976, twenty million births are to be avoided if a 25 per cent reduction in the present fertility rate is to be achieved. During 1976-1981, the next 25 per cent reduction in fertility rate would require the prevention of 48 million births. That would give us a birth rate of 21.3 per thousand by 1981 and at that level our economic development would cease to be hampered by the problem of a galloping population growth.

To achieve this objective the following strategy is proposed. A majority of the 17 per cent of our total population living in urban areas is aware of the family planning movement. Some kind of family

planning agency is already working within walking distance of the living quarters of these people. Fertility surveys show that the highest incidence of maternity is in the age group 19-24. If the programme concentrates on this group, and supplies it with oral pills at a subsidised rate, the efficiency of the programme could be as high as one birth less for every 3.5 women-years of contraception. The total outlay during 1966-71 would be only some Rs 39 crore. Reaching oral contraceptives to the required number of women each year during 1966-71 could be easily accomplished through the already existing family planning agencies, with the mass media of communication preparing the ground through publicity.

Once the pill is popularised and is accepted by the first three million young women, there will be a snowballing of its use. During the Fifth Five Year Plan period (1971-76), when 20 million births would need to be prevented, 70.6 million women-years of contraception would have to be achieved. That would cost Rs 176.5 crore. The existing urban family planning machinery could be deployed for the purpose, and women in the age group 19-29 approached. The targets for the Sixth Five Year Plan would be: 48 million births to be avoided, involving 175 million women-years of contraception, costing Rs 438 crore.

Thus, by 1981, a sum of Rs 654 crore would have been spent on giving oral contraceptives to women of the age group 19-29 for reducing the 1966 level of general fertility to half. If the requisite contraception is evenly spread among all women in the productive period, the programme would cost Rs 958 crore, although the result achieved would be about the same as that gained from the selective programme. A realistic estimate of the pill programme would be Rs 750 crore for halving the rate within the next 15 years.

If similar results are to be achieved through mechanical and chemical contraceptives, the programme would cost a minimum of Rs. 1,200 crore. Apart from the costs there is one important difference between the two approaches. In the present state of literacy and the current ideas about privacy it is unrealistic to expect conventional contraceptives to be used on such a vast scale. Shyness would come in the way even of their free purchase. Their use is beset with more difficulties.

On the other hand, a pill taken orally is likely to be looked upon more as a drug than a weapon against babies. Recently, even some theologians of the Roman Catholic Church have come to look upon the use of oral contraceptives as "natural" means. Pills do not leave behind sexually dissatisfied masses, and they give positive, predictable results. Dr Edris Rice-Wray, from his experience in Puerto Rico and Mexico, has said, "It is extremely rare to find a woman willing to accept another method once she knows that the pills exist. Even the poorest with little or no schooling are found to be faithful and conscientious users."

Careful medical tests have proved beyond doubt that the oral contraceptives now sold in the American and European markets have no harmful side effects and cause no permanent infertility.

THE financial outlays involved in a crash programme of oral contraceptive need not be borne by the Government alone. In the introductory stages in the urban areas most of the cost could well be borne by the users themselves. During the Fifth and Sixth Five Year Plans, when the rural population would need to be approached, the Government would have to come in more actively to bear a greater proportion of the costs. Propaganda and subsidies should be carefully devised so as to induce women of the 19-29 age group to make the greatest use of the oral contraceptives.

An expenditure of Rs 39 crore, of Rs 176 crore and of Rs 438 crore out of expected total outlays of Rs 18,000 crore, Rs 27,000 crore and Rs 48,000 crore for the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth

Five Year Plans respectively, would still mean only 0.2 per cent, 0.6 per cent and 0.9 per cent of the total investment of each Plan to be earmarked for family planning.

The average cost of preventing each birth is Rs 90, whereas the cost of sustenance would be roughly Rs 604 (which is the average per capita during the period 1966-81). Thus the nation would benefit to the extent of Rs 514 from each birth prevented. The number of births prevented during this period would therefore save the country no less than some Rs 3,629 crore.

Licensing foreign firms that have the know-how and equipment to produce an adequate supply of the pills immediately, until local production can take over, would be an essential first step. Every year of postponement of the crash programme would involve increasingly more women-years of contraception for achieving the necessary reduction in our birth rates. Delay will also mean that, when the population growth rate is eventually brought under control, we would end up with much larger total population.

Intensive research on pills and the exploring of possibilities of making

them with indigenous raw materials would further reduce the cost. The aim should be to bring down the cost to a fifth or a tenth of the present level.

The giant Mexican yam is at present the source of the active ingredient in the pills now in the American market. We should start growing it in suitable areas in India in anticipation of the manufacture of oral contraceptives on a mass scale within the country.

To advise, direct and evaluate such a programme, unprecedented in both scope and scale, we need a research institute which will attract experts of international repute. High priority should be given to finding new, more effective and inexpensive oral contraceptives, to investigating their physiological and psychological effects on users, and to evolving more effective programmes of efficient and widespread use. In fact the programme itself is of such importance as to merit a special Ministry or Department to handle its proper execution.

The pill requires more attention from our planners, and from all married couples.

YOJANA BHAVAN DIARY

Mr. B.R. Bhagat continues to be the Minister for Planning in the new cabinet formed by Prime Minister Mr Lal Bahadur Shastri on June 9.

Mr R.N. Vasudeva, until recently Secretary, Committee on Plan Projects, has left the Planning Commission to join the Department of Mines and Metals as Joint Secretary.

Dr K.S. Krishnaswamy, Economic Adviser, Planning Commission, will lead the Indian delegation to the meeting of the fourth group of experts on programming techniques to be held in Bangkok from June 16 under the auspices of ECAFE.

Dr K.S. Gill, Head of the Economics Department, Panjabi University, Patiala, has joined as Director of the Economic Division.

Mr K. Mitra, Chief of the Programme Administration Division, Planning Commission, left Delhi for Paris on June 6 to attend a

conference of technical experts on administrative aspects of national development planning held under U.N. auspices.

Mr R.S. Nakra, Assistant Chief, Resources and Scientific Research Division, has returned from U.S.A. He had gone there in August 1963 for training in resource economics and management at the Pittsburgh University.

The sixth batch of 25 volunteers of the American Peace Corps arrived in India on June 8. They will work in Maharashtra State.

A group of seven Japanese officers, led by Senator Hatta, arrived in India on June 8 to explore the possibilities for work in India by Japanese volunteers on the lines of the American Peace Corps. They will visit Bombay, Punjab, Bangalore and Calcutta during their 18-day stay in the country.

CAN BIRTH RATE BE HALVED THROUGH LATER MARRIAGE?

Q. U. KHAN

IN an interesting article in *Yojana* of April 12, Dr. S.N. Agarwala of the Institute of Economic Growth has pointed out the importance of age at marriage and proceeded to observe, "If female age at marriage rises to 19 and no woman is allowed to have a child before that age, the birth rate might decline from the present 40 to 20 in a period of about 20 years."

There is no denying the fact that age at marriage plays an important social and biological role, but there is a big question mark in the claim that a jump of merely three years will bring down the birth rate to half even if this process is continued for 20 years.

Dr. Agarwala has not given any data in support of his proposition. In the absence of statistical calculations, it is difficult to understand how he has arrived at the conclusion. The data which the present writer could obtain do not substantiate Dr. Agarwala's point of view.

The desired decline may possibly be achieved if the age at marriage is raised beyond 25 years, since 50 per cent of total births in India occur only prior to this age as may be seen from Table I. This too can happen only when one assumes the same schedule of age specific fertility rate to continue in future. However, the fact is that the schedule of age specific fertility rate may itself vary with the change in the age at marriage. To the extent this shift in age specific fertility rates takes place, the actual birth rate will not be reduced to half. Further, from the practical angle, it is very difficult to prescribe such a high age for marriage in India whatever be the efficacy of such a measure in lowering the birth rate.

According to the National Sample Survey Report No. 52 entitled "Vital Rates", about 18 per cent of births in rural India occurred to mothers aged below 20. Against this Japan had only 1.7 per cent of her total births in that age group. This may be taken as an ideal case for Dr. Agarwala. But Japan too had to resort to induced abortion so as to achieve a low birth rate. It is, therefore, evident that the age at marriage alone cannot solve the problem. The experience of Japan should leave no doubt that to bring about an appreciable cut in the birth rate, family planning methods have to go hand in hand with the raising of the age at marriage.

TABLE I

Percentage Distribution of Births by Age of Mothers in India and Japan

Age in Years	India*	Japan†
1. 10-14	0.8	—
2. 15-19	17.3	1.7
3. 20-24	30.7	26.5
4. 25-29	22.0	37.8
5. 30-34	15.0	21.9
6. 35-39	8.5	9.5
7. 40-44	4.7	2.5
8. 45 and above	1.0	0.1

*N.S.S., Seventh Round, Rural.

†Based on United Nations Demographic Year Book (1955) (relates to 1953).

Dr. Agarwala has sought to establish a steep inverse relationship between the female age at marriage below 20 and birth rate.

On the basis of India's past performance and other statistical evidence this observation does not seem to be justified. The mean age at marriage for females along with the birth rate for different States of India is given in Table II. While the female age at marriage refers to the years 1941 and 1961, the birth rate covers the period from 1941 to 1960. The female age at marriage increased in all the States as indicated in column 4 of Table II. This should show whether or not the birth rate fell in this period. The answer is in negative, since it went up in 11 out of 14 States and remained more or less stable in one State (Madras). The decline in birth rate in the case of Madhya Pradesh by 2.9 cannot be attributed to the marginal rise of 0.02 years in the mean age at marriage over the entire period. Only Andhra Pradesh presents a *prima facie* case where one may accept a decline in birth rate as an outcome of a rise in the age at marriage of women. Assam had a fairly high marriage age for girls, 18.54, but its birth rate was the highest (49.3) among all the States. The case of Kerala is also interesting. From the point of view of female mean age at marriage it ranked first in 1961 with 19.97 years. But here also the birth rate was as high as 38.9 during the period 1951-60.

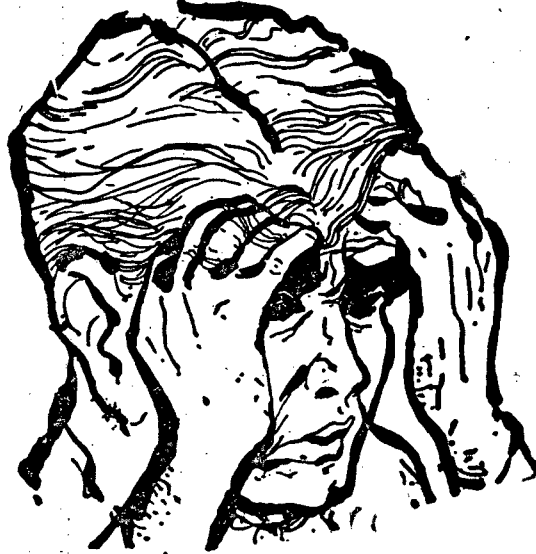
All this would go to disprove any inverse relationship between the age at marriage of women and the birth rate in different parts of the country.

Dr. Agarwala has argued that a woman marrying at 20 will be exposed to the risk of pregnancy for only 25 years, while one married at the age of 15 for 30 years. If the fertility rate is taken to be uniform over the entire child-bearing age of a woman, a reduction of exposure to pregnancies from 30 to 25 can bring down the birth rate by one-sixth only. Actually, a heavy concentration of births is observed between the ages of 20 to 35 years; and there are fewer births below the age of 20 and after the age of 35.

Besides, if we adopt the generational approach, as ought to be done in these matters, the available statistics would show that a change in marriage age from 17 to 21 years may bring down the birth rate by about 12 per cent only.

(Continued on Page 31)

**DO YOU GET REAL
HEADACHES?**

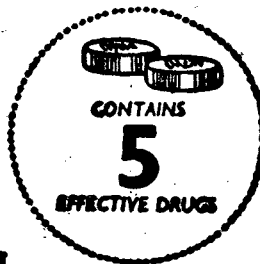


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The Need for EVALUATION in EDUCATION

D.P. NAYAR

PLANNING, implementation and evaluation are three organically related processes required for the success of any programme. Planning foresees and prepares for the difficulties likely to be encountered in implementation; evaluation determines the difficulties that still remain and how they are to be removed.

Both planning and evaluation are even more important in education than in other programmes in view of the comprehensive and delicate nature of the role of education in national development. India is a vast country and various ideas are tried out in different parts. A reliable evaluation of the results of these experiments would enable the ideas to be utilised effectively and profitably by other parts of the country. It would also assist in the evolution of a national system of education.

What Is to Be Evaluated?

Constant care needs to be taken to ensure that the relationship of education with the social, economic and political spheres remains the closest. That is a task which becomes still more difficult and necessary in a period of rapid technological change and economic development, such as India is passing through. Education has to provide the trained personnel for specific tasks in various programmes. It has, therefore, to be periodically assessed whether the output from various institutions is in keeping with the demands of the various sectors of the economy, so that, if it is falling short of requirements, remedial measures may be taken immediately.

Education has also to create the right social climate for economic development and the proper functioning of political and

Students must be taught self-discipline, self-government, a sense of equality of all citizens and equal respect for all professions.

social institutions. It has to prepare the rising generation for working the existing institutions and develop at the same time a spirit of constructive criticism so that the institutions could be adjusted to the emerging needs. How to strike a balance between these two aspects should be the constant concern of educationists.

Another factor of which the educationists must remain constantly aware is the advances in the understanding of the human mind and of the methods best suited to educate it. Educational practices have to be periodically reviewed and evaluated in the light of the latest psychological researches.

Educational programmes have also to maintain a balance between the individual interests, aptitudes and ambitions of students and the expectations of their parents on the one hand and the social good on the other. In developing countries where scarce resources are matched by vast, almost staggering, needs the question of the best utilisation of resources and strict observance of priorities becomes essential.

Another aspect to be watched is the extent to which the curricula and teaching methods reflect the vital aspects of our past, the essentials of our national being, which has to be the basis for laying down our future goals and determining our present endeavour. These essentials are revealed only through a study of the past in the perspective of centuries. The educational system must also take care of our social and economic goals laid down in the Constitution and given a concrete expression through the development Plans. These goals are mainly two: democracy and the socialist pattern of society. The former requires that the students must be taught self-discipline, self-government, respect for the other person's point of view, a sense of the equality of all citizens and equal respect for all professions. The 'socialist pattern of society' implies increased production, equality of opportunity and wide diffusion of economic and politi-

cal power. It demands that science should have greater emphasis, that the students should acquire a scientific attitude to life as well as an understanding of political and economic processes and a passionate hatred for injustice and inequality. These aims have to be reflected in the curricula and the teaching methods and the extent to which they are so reflected has to be periodically evaluated.

Avoiding Wastage

We have to ensure that all wastage is plugged, since resources are scarce and needs are great. There is very heavy wastage at present in the Indian education system. Of 100 children entering class I, only 40 reach class IV and only 20 reach class VIII. The 60 per cent who drop out before reaching class IV do not even gain permanent literacy. Education in our schools is, by and large, of such poor quality that there is hardly any citizenship training. Even if such training was provided it requires seven to eight years for the children to imbibe the minimum of modern citizenship training. So, by dropping out, about 80 per cent of our children put themselves beyond the pale of this training, even if the schools were capable of providing it. The failures at the matriculation and the degree levels are about 50 per cent.

Resources and Their Use

The question in India is not only to utilise the resources best, but to augment them considerably. We have to review periodically to what extent we are succeeding in this effort and how we can succeed more effectively.

It is the nature of administrative machinery that it tends to settle down into routine. The effectiveness of the machinery of implementation has to be kept constantly under review. After independence the administration has to reckon with many new factors. The scope of its function has considerably increased, which has made a highly centralised administration unworkable and out-of-date. Mass education is calculated to build up the initiative of the local communities. Dearth of resources has forced the administration to rely more on resources mobilised by the local communities themselves. Administration at the local level has been, or is in the process of being, transferred to local bodies like the Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads. The entry of the local people in such large measure into the administration has raised new problems which will have to be constantly kept under review and their solutions studied and applied. Since an administrative machine is a complex unity, any change introduced at one point requires corresponding changes at other points. This continual adjustment is only possible when the functioning of the administrative machinery is frequently evaluated.

Types of Evaluation

The types of evaluation may be broadly classified as (a) internal and external, (b) continuous and periodic and (c) specific and overall.

Internal evaluation is essential for self-criticism as it leads to reform much more

From Previous Page

easily than criticism from without. Secondly, only people working on a programme know its difficulties in detail and are in the best position to discover the manner to overcome them. Thirdly, internal evaluation helps to keep the staff alert. Since, however, the habit of self-criticism is not easy and we tend to become complacent, a periodic external review would be of great advantage, especially in regard to the broad objectives of policy, educational methodology and administrative structure. Educational practice needs to be kept under constant review by the staff of the educational institutions themselves. There must be a flow of statistical data to enable both continuous and periodic checks. Overall evaluation is necessary to keep our direction correct. Evaluation of specific programmes like school buildings, equipment, text books etc. is necessary for detailed planning and implementation. All these types of evaluation are thus necessary and they supplement one another.

Machinery for Evaluation

Evaluation of educational programme has to be done at the school level, the block level, the State level and the Central level. At the school level, the teachers, under the guidance of the headmaster, should frequently review classroom practice, the relation of the school with the community etc. To be able to derive full benefit from such evaluation, the schools should have considerable initiative in planning their own programmes. The possibility of this should increase as the quality of teachers improves through pre-service and in-service training, improvement of their salary scales and status etc. The school committee of a panchayat should be able to gauge the value of the work of the teacher through his regular attendance, the enthusiasm he is able to generate in pupils, the close relationship he is able to establish with the parents, etc.

The block level has become very important with the introduction of democratic decentralisation. It is, however, too small a unit for any very elaborate machinery of evaluation. But it should have an effective statistical unit which will improve the reliability of data from the field. Many of the problems like those of wastage, stagnation and community help, can only be studied on the basis of the data collected at this level. Being a senior and more experienced officer the inspecting officer should also be able to conduct periodic evaluation of schools. For the purpose of doing so effectively, however, the strength of the staff at the block level will need to be increased.

The first level at which a really effective machinery of evaluation, manned by technical experts, can be established is the district. The average population of a district in 1966 is estimated to be about 15 lakhs, which is a big enough unit for the purpose. There would be on an average about 1,400 elementary schools, and 65 high schools in the area. Once the idea, now accepted, of having a sub-inspector (or equivalent officer) at the block level, as the

unit of educational administration is put into practice, there would be on an average 15 to 20 officers of the level of the sub-district inspector in the area, about 5,000 elementary school teachers and 800 to 900 high school teachers. The evaluation at this level should be statistical on the one hand and qualitative on the other. It should also comprise research and evaluation of the administrative practices in vogue.

At the State level, there is need for a statistical research and evaluation organisation directly under the Director of Public Instruction. This unit should be able to draw upon the assistance of the district and block units. The advantage of having it directly under the D.P.I. is that, on the strength of the authority of the D.P.I., it should be able to get full co-operation from the Department at various levels in carrying out its evaluation studies.

As it will act as the brain trust of the Director, the findings of this unit are more likely to have their impact on educational practices and administration than if it is an independent and, in a way, rival organisation. In addition the State should be able to draw upon the training colleges for pedagogic research.

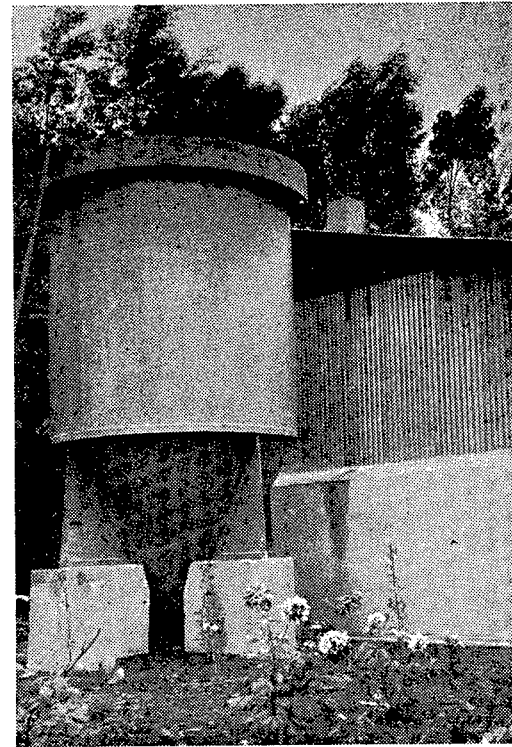
At the Central level, the Ministry of Education should have a unit which should work in close co-operation with the State Evaluation Units. It should act as a clearing house for the findings of the various evaluation units in the States. Secondly, it should collect all-India statistics, which work is today being done by the Statistical Division of the Education Ministry. Its present defect is that its data are two or three years behind time. With the establishment of proper statistical units in the States, whose activities are being assisted by the Central Government, the effectiveness of the Central machinery should improve. Thirdly, this unit can set up evaluation teams for studying certain specific problems on an all-India basis. In addition, independent research institutions should be fully availed of.

There is need for a permanent commission, consisting of educationists, economists and engineers and other related professions, which will assess from time to time the overall relationship of education with social and economic development and indicate modifications, if any, in the broad educational policies. This Commission should be constantly at work and should work in close liaison with the Planning Commission, the Institute of Economic Growth, the National Institute of Educational Research and Training and other institutions.

For preparing the Education Departments for the programmes above, personnel have to be trained in evaluation techniques. The National Institute of Educational Research and Training could appropriately take up this work. The curriculum in the training colleges should also be suitably modified to include training of teachers, inspectors and others in evaluation techniques. Since this is a new field, the Central Government will need to take initiative in this regard. An enterprising State Government need not, however, wait for it and could launch upon the programme on its own.

Mr Nayar is Director of the Education Division of the Planning Commission.

SWADESH



THE movie may be a musical from Bombay or a mythology from Madras or a melodrama from Calcutta. There may be a larger smaller proportion of Indians in it. But the raw material on which it is "shot" is invariably foreign.

We spend between Rs 150 and Rs 200 lakh every year to import "raw" film for our cinema industry and a considerable sum on other kinds of photographic and paper.

Soon we can claim that some at least of our requirements has been made in our own country.

At Ootacamund, queen of South Indian hill stations, a public sector company is coming up which promises to meet the country's requirements for raw film and photographic material.

The factory is called Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd., and film rolls bearing

SHADOWS

Ootacamund

FILM

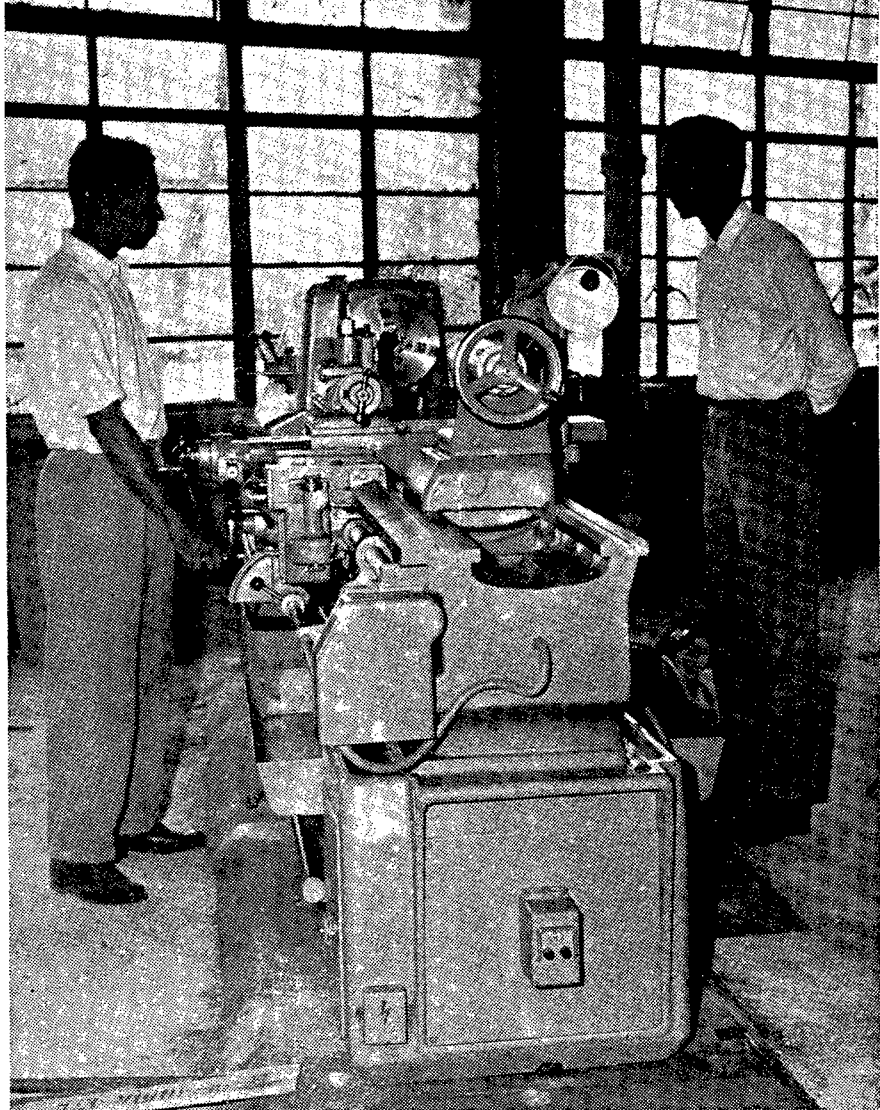
FACTORY

Makes Progress

mark have been on the market for more than a year now (see *Yojana* of March 3, 1963). Its trade name is INDU and it has proved popular.

The Company has an authorised capital of Rs 3 crore and was framed in 1960. It is being set up in technical collaboration with Bauchet and Company of France.

The plant consists of three blocks, and the civil works of each of the blocks are practically complete. By May 1 this year Bauchet



and Company had shipped equipment worth Rs 231 lakh—or fifth of what by agreement they are bound to supply. Supply of the remaining portion is expected to be completed this year. The collaborating company has also trained a score of our scientists and engineers.

When in full production the Company is expected to produce Rs 4.5 crore worth of cinema film, photographic film and paper and X-ray film every year.

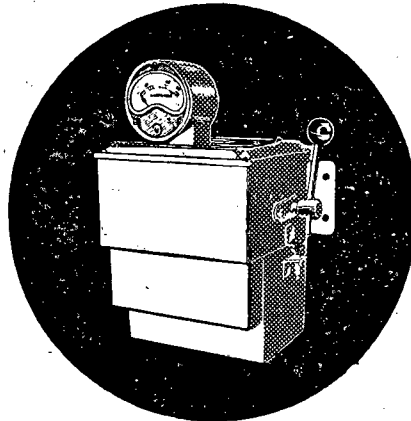


TOP LEFT : A section of the Film Processing Plant at Ootacamund.

TOP RIGHT : Two technicians at work on a lathe in the machine shop which makes some parts required for the plant machinery.

LEFT : A cluster of workers' quarters. In the background are the tall pines of the Blue Mountains

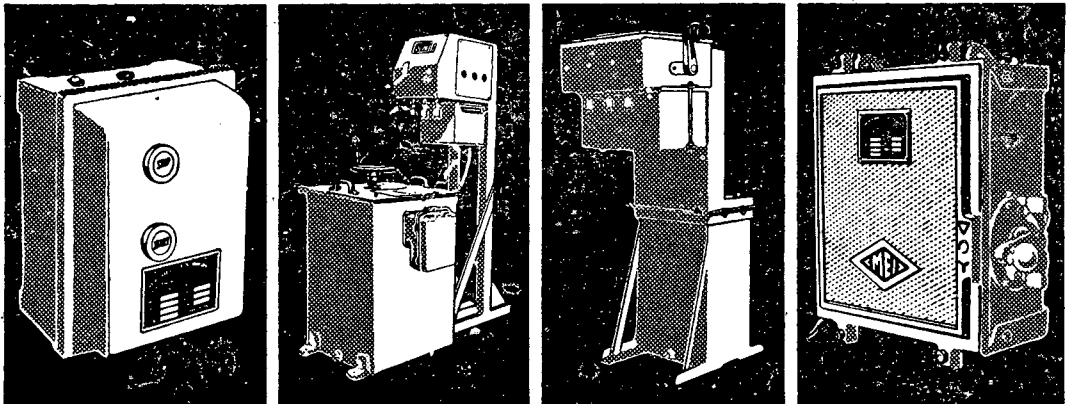
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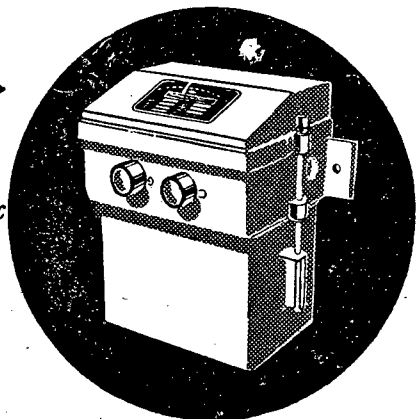
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Of Prisoners and Tea

EVERYBODY has his favourite Nehru anecdote.

To Field Marshal Montgomery, Jawaharlal Nehru was most interesting when he talked about his fellow prisoners. Much to the soldier's amazement, Nehru said that prison-colleagues he liked best were the murderers. "I asked him to explain," says Monty, and Nehru pointed out that in India very few murdered by intent but because of a sudden outburst of anger. Therefore the murderers in prison were "decent and sincere" people. Those he disliked were the pickpockets.

★

MANY readers of the *Autobiography* have nominated the following as the most touching anecdote:

After Motilal Nehru had died, Jawaharlal went to Ceylon to forget it all. "On our return to Allahabad from Ceylon the post brought one day a remarkable letter. The envelope was addressed to me in father's handwriting, and it bore innumerable marks and stamps of different post offices. I opened it in amazement to find that it was, indeed, a letter from father to me, only it was dated the 28th February, 1926. It was delivered to me in the summer of 1931, thus taking five and a half years in its journey... It was addressed to me to Bombay care of the Italian Lloyd steamer on which we were travelling. Apparently it just missed us there, and then it visited various places and perhaps lay in many pigeon-holes till some enterprising person sent it on to me. Curiously enough, it was a letter of farewell."

★

A newspaper editor gives this as his favourite Nehru story :

It occurred at a public meeting in Lucknow some 15 years ago. Purshottamdas Tandon was heckled, and as ill luck would have it, the microphone broke down. There was commotion. Nehru's efforts from the platform to calm the crowd did not succeed. He was about to jump into the mass when a hefty

security man flung his arms round him and would not let him go. Nehru struggled, and the crowd watched, and a silence fell on the people immediately around. Nehru found that the security man really had a bear-hug. "All right, you have your way," he exclaimed, bursting out into laughter, and the tension melted at the turn of events.

The same writer ("Darem" in *The Sunday Standard*) also narrates how, in the days when grain was sold only in ration shops, Nehru queued up outside a store in New Delhi. His kitchen had run out of provisions for feeding the hundred or so Muslim refugees whom he sheltered in his own house soon after Partition.

★

MR. Lal Bahadur Shastri, as a spare-time author, has written about an incident when he had to go Dutch with Mr. Nehru.

They had addressed a meeting in a town in U.P. Mr Nehru drove his own car, and with him were Mr Shastri and Mrs. Poornima Banerji, the nationalist. They felt need of tea and Mr. Shastri suggested to go to a railway station restaurant. But, when the bill came they found that among the three they could not produce even two and a quarter rupees!

★

IT is the rule, they say, for monarchs (and the President of the U.S.) not to carry money on their person. But that was not the first time Nehru was without money.

Mrs Durgabai Deshmukh once narrated how, as a young volunteer, she would not allow Jawaharlal, although she knew who he was, to get into a Congress exhibition because he did not have a ticket. Rules were rules, and Mr Nehru borrowed two annas to buy a ticket from her.

★

PROBABLY from the same period comes a story which is our favourite.

Mr Nehru was travelling by train. A congressman in a small town



IGNORAMAN

Wants to Know

*Won't the Best Memorial
to Nehru Be to Make
the World A Rose
without Thorns?*

where the train made its first morning halt was advised by the District Congress Committee to meet him with tea. He prepared some tea with his own loving hands and took some snacks.

When he poured out the tea, Mr Nehru rebuked him: "Don't you know I don't like tea mixed like that? You people put in too much sugar."

The Congress worker felt bad but he refused to be cowed. "Jawaharlalji, I have never been with you to know what your tastes are. I was asked to bring you tea. I have done so. It is prepared in the way people here take tea. If you don't like it, please don't drink it."

Needless to say Mr Nehru apologised to the man, drank the tea, and came to nurse an affection for him for years.

Collector's Item

The Directorate of Estates in the Capital keeps waiting lists of Government servants seeking allotment of official houses, and periodically issues statements.

The latest such statement says that for Type II accommodation, there are 150 claimants on the waiting list, and that the 'highest person' in the list became entitled to that kind of residence in 1921. The priority date of the 'lowest person' in the waiting list for Type II is December 20, 1940 !

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Books

Indian Planning; Monetary

Development With Stability : The Indian Experience by S. L. N. Simha. Vora & Co. Pages xii+131. Rs. 10.

B.S. Minhas

WHILE much has been published on Indian plans in general, very little has been published on the fiscal and monetary policies in the context of planning. The author's reason for writing this book is to fill this gap in the literature. His recent stay abroad has convinced him that this story of India's fiscal and monetary policies under the Plans needs to be told objectively and yet sympathetically.

The author divides his account into five chapters. Chapter I introduces the problem. The next three chapters discuss the three Plans and the fifth chapter concludes the story.

The professed focal point of this book is to describe and evaluate the Indian experiment in economic development with reference to the objective of development with stability. Stability is to be understood as stability of wholesale and consumer prices and a fair degree of equilibrium in external payments. Short and long-term aspects of the problem are to be analysed distinctly. The scope for employing inflation as an instrument of growth, both to stimulate investment and mobilise savings, is to be assessed. Indian experience is to be used as an illustrative case for drawing lessons for other developing countries.

Large parts of the three chapters on the three Plans consist of straightforward description in words of such tabular data as are already available in many places including the little Pocket Book of Economic Information, Ministry of Finance. Readers averse to looking at numbers can

Policy and Stability

be thankful to the author for paraphrasing the contents of tables found in the little booklet on financing of Plan outlays, receipts and expenditures of the Centre and the States, price variation, changes in money supply etc.

The sections on monetary policy are largely confined to the narrow aspect of the price effects of lending and interest rate changes. The investment aspect of monetary policy is pretty nearly neglected.

Looking at the data the author finds that all manner of price rises are associated with all manner of income growth. Finding large price rises juxtaposed with low income growth or *vice versa*, the author is quick to exhort us against concluding that there is an inverse relation between growth and inflation. In summing up his observations he says, "What seems to emerge is that there is no *rigid* short-term relationship between money supply variation and changes in real output in so far as price stability is concerned." My lament, however, is that the author has set down no firm hypothesis or a set of hypotheses characterising the relationship under study. Search for a proof without knowing the proposition cannot, naturally, be a very fruitful activity.

The author records his view on the long-run aspects of the problem as under: "There is little doubt

that in the long run any significant disparity between the rates of growth of money supply (broadly defined) and real national income would lead to changes in the general price index, a rise if the rate of money supply is larger and vice versa."

This is a longish statement of the proposition that the long-term relationship between money supply and price changes is a direct one. However, the author's general conclusion on the subject of inflation and growth—a conclusion, which he hazards on the basis of *his* experience (the Indian experience I believe) and *anybody's* commonsense, is that inflationary financing could be helpful to growth provided it is used on a modest scale. He qualifies himself thus: "A rise in prices of anywhere up to say 5 per cent per annum could be regarded as modest." Furthermore, we are warned that the price rises must not be persistent but intermittent. In view of this latter qualification one would feel that Mr Simha is not prescribing an average upward drift of prices of 5 per cent per annum but that in any year the price rises should not be larger than 5 per cent.

Interpreted in this manner, this policy judgement would fail to find support either in recorded experience or in that malleable catch-all which he chooses to call commonsense. What lesson can we draw from the Indian experience on the efficacy of monetary policy in assuring stability? The author's answer is as follows: "What is important is that in the fiscal as well as monetary spheres, the action must be in the *correct* direction and there must be a willingness to adapt, even to the point of withdrawal, policies and measures to new situations and, in this respect, the Indian authorities seem to have done pretty well." As if this level of generality is not enough, the author adds: "Another lesson that one can draw from the Indian experience is that stability as an ideal can go far in achieving stability. This of course is a very elementary proposition that where there is a will there is a way."

In this reviewer's opinion, *Development With Stability* is just another addition of 100 plus pages to the tell-tale literature on monetary policy

and planning in India. Is it that the monetary economist of India lack the will to be analytical? This must be true otherwise they must have found a way to produce better stuff. After all, where there is a will there is way!

AUDIT IN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

Practical Aspects of Co-operative Audit by R. Srinivasgopalan. 62 pages.

G. S. Kamat

THIS publication is not a book in the regular sense. It is a collection of articles written by Mr Srinivasgopalan, a retired co-operative official, in the *Madras Journal of Co-operation*. Obviously, the subject of co-operative audit has not been completely covered. Even as it is the arrangement of chapters is not very logical. After mentioning the two sides of audit work, namely mechanical audit and audit proper, the author describes and discusses technical audit at disproportionate length (nearly 22 pages) and the chapter on audit proper is disposed of in hardly three pages. The chapter relating to audit of special types of societies covers only marketing and housing co-operatives. There is also a chapter on "Irregularities and Frauds". The booklet will need a rearrangement of topics so as to give to a reader a complete idea of the subject matter.

There is no doubt, however, that one gets a glimpse of the ripe experience of the author and it must be said to his credit that he has explained in simple language the manner in which accounts have to be maintained in societies and how they have to be checked in audit.

The subject of audit is assuming increasing importance because the number and variety of co-operatives is growing very fast. Proper maintenance of accounts in these societies is necessary to watch their progress and development of their activities, and their audit goes to convince people and the financing banks about

the solvency and creditworthiness of the societies.

Actually there is dearth of trained auditors in the co-operative sector. The approach of a co-operative auditor has to be slightly different from that of other types of auditors, in the sense that the co-operative auditor, in addition to doing the normal duties of an auditor, has to educate the staff and the management of the co-operatives in the proper maintenance of books and accounts and in following the procedures that will help them to maintain the co-operative character of the units. This is evidently a difficult task because it has to be performed in a relatively weaker sector of the economy that is being organised on democratic lines.

To a certain extent the booklet will come in handy for auditors and office bearers of the co-operatives. For auditors, it contains suggestions for facilitating their day-to-day work, while for those in charge of the management, it will prove a guide in many respects. The author might usefully undertake to treat the subject in a complete manner.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

A Survey of Handicrafts in South Mysore by B. D. Kale. Brought out by J. S. S. Institute of Economic Research, Dharwar. 501 pages. Rs. 35.

Bahuroopee Gandhi by Anu Bandyopadhyaya. Published by Popular Prakashan, 35C, Tardeo Road, Bombay-34. 171 Pages. Rs. 4.

NEW INDUSTRIES IN RAJASTHAN

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INCOME DISPARITIES (Continued from Page 4)

national income, this is going to be a colossal task.

The low-income classes can hope for some improvement immediately if public expenditure on education, health, provision of drinking water etc. is greatly enlarged. The question is to find the resources to do this on a scale enough to meet the minimum consumption requirements without affecting the resources needed for investment.

These thoughts may now be summed up as follows:

- (i) The type of structural change envisaged in the current strategy of development does not permit of any significant alteration in the pattern of income-generation.
- (ii) If we accept that the basic direction of structural change envisaged in our plans is the right one for realising growth and self-reliance objectives, the main emphasis of redistributive policy will be in the fields of property relations, and reduction in disparities in consumption expenditures.

(iii) These will imply a rapid expansion of the public sector—in production, distribution, as well as financing operations.

(iv) Correspondingly, the role to be played by the private sector in future development has to be restricted to small or medium-scale operations in all fields.

(v) The incomes and consumptions of the large number of low-income earners will have to be subsidised on a large scale. For this purpose, the tax, price and trading policies will need to be drastically adjusted.

(vi) The set of policies will have to be such that they will significantly reduce the larger disposable incomes and enlarge total consumption. If this has to be combined with large public sector responsibilities for economic growth, the magnitude of resources at the command of the public sector has to be increased manyfold.

*A hundred years ago was born
a stalwart of our literature*

MAHAVIR PRASAD DWIVEDI

*Through a journal he
moulded new language*

J. P. CHATURVEDI

ON May 15, 1864, a child was born in a small village, Daulatpur, on the banks of the Ganga in the Rai Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh. This child was to become the maker of the modern Hindi prose, Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi.

The first quarter of the present century has been recorded in the histories of Hindi literature as the Dwivedi Age, and Dwivedi is next only to Bharatendu Harish Chandra in his influence on the future cause of Hindi literature. The surprise is that Dwivedi himself was neither an outstanding poet nor even a great prose writer. Yet he made Hindi, and if he had not been on the scene, the progress and tenor of Hindi would have been very different and certainly much poorer.

Then how did he do it? He achieved it in the role of a great editor and a great critic. Although Dwivedi was a well-known writer before he took up the editorship of the monthly *Saraswati* in 1903, it was during his twenty-year period of the editorship of *Saraswati* that Hindi journalism found its base. It was under his care and devotion that a large number of Hindi poets and writers prospered. He gave a new direction to Hindi poetry and a new breadth and vision to Hindi journalism.

POETRY IN EVERYDAY TONGUE

Before Dwivedi came on the scene, Hindi poetry was written in Brij Bhasha which had been the language of Hindi poetry from Gujarat to Bengal and from Lahore to Hyderabad. It had produced great poets of the eminence of Surdas, Tulsiidas, Bihari, Dev, Keshav, Bhushan, Gwal, and Bharatendu. Dwivedi's own predecessor on *Saraswati*, Jagannath Das Ratnakar,

was one of the best Brij Bhasha poets of the twentieth century. Those who wanted to write poetry in Hindi automatically turned to Brij Bhasha. But Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi enunciated a new principle. Like Wordsworth in *The Lyrical Ballads* he laid down that the language of poetry should be everyday speech. He wanted no difference in the vocabulary of poetry and prose. He upheld the cause of intelligibility. Therefore, when Maithili Sharan Gupta wrote some poems in Brij Bhasha and sent them to *Saraswati*, Dwivedi wrote back to him: "Your poetry has been written in the old language. We welcome in *Saraswati* poems that are written in the language of every-day conversation." It was such insistence on the one side and the maintenance of high standards in *Saraswati* on the other that prompted many authors rising to write in Khari Boli, the language of Hindi prose today. The prestige of seeing oneself in print in *Saraswati* was great indeed.

Founded in 1900, *Saraswati* had become the hallmark of literary perfection and it published articles and poems from the very best people.

Dwivedi was a critic of rare knowledge and vigour. Actually he occupied the coveted *gaddi* in *Saraswati* because the proprietor of the Indian Press, Chintamani Ghosh, had been impressed by the thoroughness with which Dwivedi had criticised some Hindi text-books published by the Indian Press. He was so unsparing in his criticism that he landed himself in many controversies with eminent writers. But that only served to improve the Hindi literary scene and also build up taste among readers.

A SEPOY'S SON

Not that Dwivedi stinted praise where it was due. Mr Bhagwan Das Kela, eminent Hindi writer on economics and politics, once narrated to me an incident. He wrote a book, *Bharatiya Shasan*, which was the first work in Hindi on Indian administration. *Saraswati* took notice of it and said: "It is useful even to the *acharyas*." The result was that the first edition of the book was sold out in no time. More than a dozen editions of the book have since been published.

Mahavir Prasad was the son of a "sepoys" whose battalion had rebelled in 1857. So he left army service and worked on a very small salary of Rs. 10 for a *goswami* at Bombay. Mahavir Prasad had his schooling in the district school of Rai Bareilly and later in the schools at Fatehpur and Unnao, but could not afford college education. He found a job of Rs. 15 in Ajmer and later became a telegraphist in the G.I.P. Railway on a salary of Rs. 20. His regularity, honesty, integrity and hankering after knowledge impressed his superiors and he was promoted. When he left his railway service, he was the head clerk in the office of the General Traffic Manager of the Midland Railway at Jhansi. When the Midland Railway was amalgamated with G.I.P., he reverted to Jhansi to be the head clerk in the office of the District Traffic Superintendent. His salary was Rs. 150.



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One day his British chief asked him to come to office at 8 o'clock in the morning and also tell the other employees to do so. Dwivedi replied that while he would have no objection to come, he could not force others. As the chief did not appreciate it, he resigned. Many efforts were made to persuade him to withdraw his resignation, but he preferred to work on a remuneration of Rs. 20 from *Saraswati*. And until his retirement from *Saraswati* he could not get the salary that he was getting from the railway office.

FOUR PRINCIPLES

Dwivedi adopted for himself four principles when he took over the whole-time editorship of *Saraswati*. In his own words: "After taking over the responsibilities of editing *Saraswati* I set up some ideals for me. I resolved that (1) I shall maintain regularity of time; (2) I shall try to be the confidant of the proprietors; (3) I shall always keep in mind the interest of the readers without caring for my personal profit or loss; (4) I shall never swerve from the right path."

Publication being delayed, or issues being skipped, was common in journalism in those days, but during the entire period of Dwivedi's editorship, *Saraswati* was not once stopped or delayed. His proprietors regarded him as a member of their family and never interfered with his freedom as editor. Regarding the interest of the readers he explained in an article in 1933 how many temptations came in his way. But "I used to become deaf and dumb and gave to *Saraswati* only such material as I thought was useful to the readers. I always cared for their taste and was always careful to see that they should not move away from the right path because of any of my actions. I used to correct the language of the articles so that more and more readers may understand it easily. I never saw whether this word was of Arabic or Persian or Turkish. I used to see only this: whether most of my readers would understand this word, this sentence or this article. Knowing well that I knew very little, I never tried to give false impression of my scholarship."

About the fourth objective of never swerving from the path of duty, he said: "Those who have seen my notes and the views published in *Saraswati* can appreciate how far I have followed the path of justice. Knowingly I have never compromised with my conscience. I have never cared for anybody's favour, nor have I been afraid of anybody's anger."

A STANDARD PROSE

When Dwivedi embarked on his ministration, Hindi prose was not standardised. But he took care to give in *Saraswati* a standardised Hindi vocabulary and style. Mistakes were corrected and there was a public discussion of the writing style. He even went to the extent of criticising Kalidasa and *Kalidasa ki Nirankushata* (arbitrariness of Kalidasa) in one of his famous articles that evoked a great controversy. He came in conflict with Mr Bal Mukand Gupta, a great Hindi stylist and a journalist, and these controversies focused attention in respective merits and demerits of various styles of Hindi prose writing. Gradually the Hindi world veered round to the Dwivedi school of thought.

Dwivedi will always be remembered for the number of writers he spotted and encouraged. Maithili Sharan

Gupta, Gaya Prasad Shukla Sanehi, Ram Naresh Tripathi, Thakur Gopal Sharan Singh, Shri Nathu Ram Sharma Shankar, Lochan Prasad Pandey, Bal Krishna Sharma Navin are some of the Hindi poets who blossomed forth through *Saraswati*. He published short stories from Jwala Dutt Sharma, Chandradhar Sharma Guleri, Prem Chand, Bishambar Nath Sharma Kaushik and Sudarshan. *Saraswati* was not confined to poetry and fiction. Its canvas was large and comprehensive. If there was an article on "Chinese Turkistan", there was one on "Walt Whitman" published as early as 1913 together with an article on "Maha Kavi Bharavi" or "Shamsul Ulema Maulavi Syed Ali Bilgarami". Writers like Lala Lajpat Rai wrote about Lala Hans Raj. Govind Ballabh Pant wrote on "Improvement in Agriculture", Purushottam Das Tandon on "Wealth and its Use", Padma Singh Sharma on "Poet Bihari Lal", Ram chandra Shukla on "What is Poetry", Babu Rao Paradkar on the "Time of Vararuchi", Lala Hardayal on the "Need of Hindi Propaganda in Panjab", K.P. Jayswal on "Vikram Samvat", Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi on "Self-Sacrifice", Gauri Shankar Hira Chand Ojha on "Prashnottar Ratnamala", Dr Beni Prasad on "Utilitarianism", Dr Ganganath Jha on "Material Advantages of Philosophy", Sri Prakasa on the "Medium of Instruction", Kamta Prasad Guru on "Hindi Grammar", Edvin Greaves on "Kaithi" and Mishra Bandhu on "Poetry of Shridhar Pathak."

Dwivedi gave to Hindi a large number of prominent journalists. Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi, Haribhau Upadhyaya and Venkatesh Narain Tiwari are some of the prominent journalists who had been deputies of Dwivedi apart from his colleagues and successors like Padam Lal Punna Lal Bakshi and Devi Dutt Shukla.

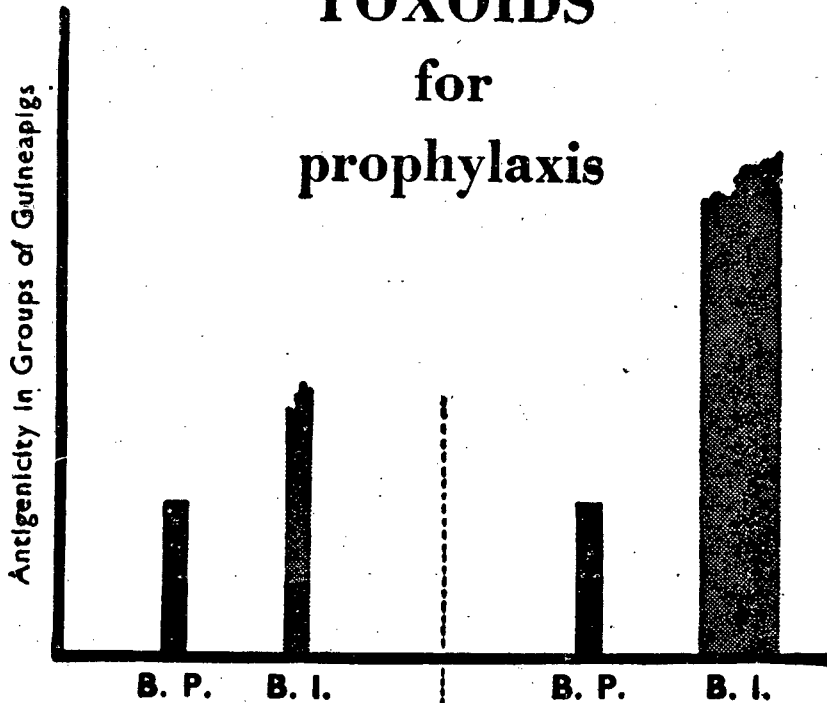
COSMOPOLITAN OUTLOOK

It was with this sense of gratitude that the Hindi world celebrated Dwivedi Mela at the time of his golden jubilee in Allahabad and produced the *Dwivedi Abhinandan Granth* which remains the finest commemoration volume in Hindi. The Kashi Nagari Pracharini Sabha held a special function in his honour in Banaras. Dwivedi gave away his entire collection of books and manuscripts to the Sabha.

Dwivedi was sometimes regarded as a harsh character. He was exacting and punctilious; favour or prejudice did not play any part in his way of thinking. To some it seemed a position quite inflexible in the present-day conditions of the country. But he stuck to his self-chosen code braving all the difficulties. He left no children; his wife had died early. And when he retired from *Saraswati* he tried to do some service to his village as the president of the Gram Panchayat, but he was not happy. He died at the age of 74.

Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi has given to Hindi literature something which cannot be judged in terms of quantity. Of course he wrote and translated many books like *Kalidasa Ki Nirankushata*, *Kumar Sambhav Sar*, *Bekan Vichar Ratnavali*, *Sampatya Shastra*, *Hindi Mahabharat*, *Natya Shastra*, *Naishadh Charit Charcha*, *Prachin Pandit Aur Kavi*, *Veni Samhar*, etc. But his major contribution is to have created a climate of sturdy, informed, correct and simple writing. He published articles on science and technology and character sketches of famous scientists. *Saraswati* gave to Hindi journalism intellectual zest and a cosmopolitan outlook.

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G. Ramamurti

I HAD been in Konaseema in several executive capacities and known the area and its people so well that I had never a doubt that one day or other the densely populated fishing villages would come to their own.

In those days the fisherfolk of the villages were constantly at feud with one another, earning a lot but squandering a lot more on quarrels both in and out of courts. Their gullibility and fear of the arm of the law were exploited by white-collared gentlemen both official and non-official, and of course by the tradesmen.

Except as a matter of duty I would not have gone to the villages inhabited by these fishermen as it meant travel at snail's pace by boat through winding streams which contained only slush during the ebb time. At the end of each trying journey, all I would encounter was a conglomeration of ill-looking huts. The stench of putrefied fish and of backwaters was so terrible that I could stand at a place for an hour with the greatest difficulty, and depart to another fishing village of the same type.

Konaseema, literally meaning garden area, is roughly triangular in shape, bounded on two sides by the outlets of the river Godavari and on the third by the Bay of Bengal. All along the river banks and on the seashore are fishermen's villages. In most villages there are none others than fishermen, and that is an advantage as well as a disadvantage. When united, they are unapproachable and no one's writ except their own runs there. When quarrelling they are still unapproachable on account of their violence.

This is how it was more than two decades ago. But the fortunes of the

fishermen have gradually improved, especially as a result of the plans.

The most important turning point in the lives of these poorly-clad sea-loving and hard-working fishermen was when they formed the Konaseema Fishermen's Central Co-operative Society.

The Society started working in September 1962 with a membership of 28 institutions and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 10,300. It made good within an incredibly short period of three months and exported 10.5 tons of fresh fish and prawns

SHAMBU

Malinda Topa



And he fills the sky and earth.....

to several places including Hyderabad. In 1963-64 there was a great leap forward in the affairs of the Society. The membership rose to 117, covering 6,200 fishermen, and the paid-up capital to Rs. 55,659. A feature of this growth is the zeal with which members of other communities have helped the fishermen. The general manager of the Society, an officer of Government, is working in an honorary capacity to make the society a success.

The eighth of April this year was a proud day for the Society. A master plan for fishery development in Andhra Pradesh, to be implemented through the Konaseema Fishermen's Central Co-operative Society, was inaugurated that day. Under the master plan, for which the State Government has given Rs. 1.5 lakh as loan towards the share capital of the Society and the Government of India has paid Rs. 5 lakh as loan towards working capital, fish production is to be increased to 6,600 tons. The Central Society will give 120 units of fishing requisites as well as mechanised boats together costing Rs. 10 lakh, to member societies. In turn the member societies will deliver the fish to the Central Society. Besides putting fish on sale, the Central Society will also keep some portion of the catch in a cold storage plant. The giving of training to fishermen and the purchase of quick transport vans is also part of the master plan.

The total investment under the scheme for a period of three years is expected to be Rs. 55.28 lakh and the receipts are estimated to be of the order of Rs. 72.30 lakh leaving a margin of net profit of Rs. 13 lakh. The annual fish production in the area will increase by as much as 33 per cent and the income of the members will be more than doubled, leading to improvement in their living conditions.

Fish is a perennial crop. The fisherman need not sow the seed and wait for some months before he can reap the harvest. Every day of the year is a harvest day for him. He is thus more fortunate than the more sophisticated agriculturist.

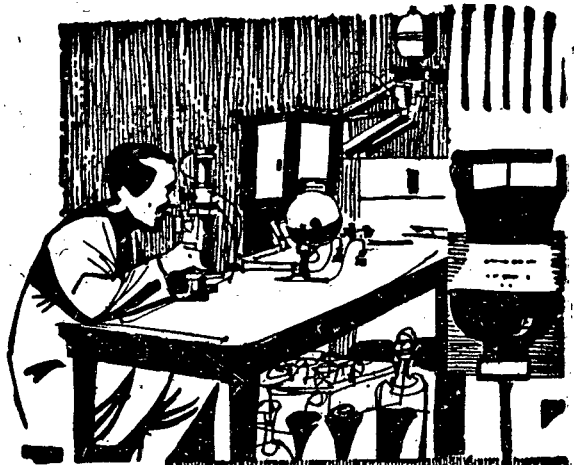
Of course, the fisherman has his own difficulties. His catch depends on the season and on weather. But Konaseema can be proud that it has begun to tap the resources of the sea in a big way.

3

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CALCUTTA



1,028 Million Dollars For Fourth Year

INDIA has been offered external assistance of 1,028 million dollars (Rs. 490 crore) by the Aid India Consortium for the fourth year of the Third Plan.

This brings the total assistance from the Consortium for the four years of the Third Plan to 4,445 million dollars.

Individual contributions (in million dollars) from the member countries are: U.S.A.—435; West Germany 95; U.K.—84; Japan—60; Canada—41; Italy—36; France—20; the Netherlands—11; Austria—1; and the World Bank and the International Development Association—245.

About half of the assistance offered is expected to be untied to specific projects, so as to enable India to finance the imports she needs.

The offers were made at the tenth meeting of the Consortium countries held in Washington on May 26 under the chairmanship of the World Bank.

IDA GIVES 90 MILLION DOLLARS

In pursuance of these offers, the first untied credit, of 90 million dollars (Rs. 42.84 crore), has been given by the International Development Association for expanding selected industries which manufacture capital goods, such as commercial vehicles, industrial machinery and construction equipment. The credit will make available the necessary foreign exchange for importing capital machinery.

U.P. Does Well in Craftsmen Plan

Uttar Pradesh has nearly achieved its Third Plan target of a two hundred per cent increase in the out-turn of skilled craftsmen. Of the 10,632 additional seats, 9,536 have already been introduced providing training in 26 engineering and 12 non-engineering trades.

The number of industrial training institutes has also reached the Plan target of 44. The State will now turn out 16,000 skilled craftsmen every 18 months.



From Bhopal to Dhuvaran

The Heavy Electricals, Bhopal, has produced a **huge current transformer** of the capacity of 132,000 volts, and also a giant air-blast circuit-breaker of 132 kV for the first time in the country. Both will be used on the now completed Dhuvaran project in Gujarat.

Heavy Electricals has undertaken to manufacture 54 current transformers and 13 voltage transformers for the Gujarat and Assam Electricity Boards. It has so far produced 125 transformers of 750 to 75,000 kV capacity.

Rocket Agreement

India has come to an understanding with France for co-operation in a programme of space research for peaceful scientific purposes. A memorandum was signed on June 1, by which India will soon begin manufacturing sounding rockets of the French Belier and Centaure types. The French will supply four Centaure rockets for experiments at the Thumba by the end of 1964.

Water for Bokaro Plant

A dam will be built on the Damodar river at Tenughat in Bihar to meet the water requirements of the proposed Bokaro steel plant and of the proposed thermal power station at Bhojudih in West Bengal. An agreement has been reached on this project between Bihar and West Bengal.

Mysore Exceeds Minor Irrigation Target

Mysore State has already exceeded by 2,000 acres its Third Plan target for minor irrigation which was 1.14 lakh acres. It will spend Rs. 6.75 crore this year towards bringing 15 lakh acres of land under minor irrigation by the end of the Plan.

In Rajasthan, irrigation facilities were available for 11.46 lakh acres in 1963-64, as against for 8.92 lakh acres in the previous year. Actually 9.31 lakh acres were brought under irrigation, as compared to 6.57 lakh acres in 1962-63.

SNIPPETS

Exports in April marked a record monthly increase of Rs. 10.1 crore. The total value was 69.1 crore for the month... The Mettur tunnel hydro-electric project, being built with Soviet help at a cost of Rs. 3.96 crore, will be completed by September... Work has started on the Cauvery water supply and sanitation scheme for Bangalore city; it will cost Rs. 26 crore... A national institute will soon be set up in Bombay to give training in co-operative management... The thermal power station of the Barauni oil refinery has been commissioned. It has a capacity of 24,000 kW... A high-power trade delegation left New Delhi for South America... A 41-mile long rail link between Virudunagar and Manmadurai in Madras State has been opened to traffic... The following companies have raised further capital: Indian Telephone Industries: Rs. 73 lakh in equity shares of Rs. 100 each. Indian Oil Company: Rs. 1.64 crore in equity shares of Rs. 1,000 each. The Gujarat State Fertilisers Company Limited, Ahmedabad: Rs. 13 crore in shares of Rs. 100 each. The Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, Delhi: Rs. 2 crore. The Plantation Corporation of Kerala: Rs. 80 lakh... A poultry project, for producing protein-rich food, will be initiated at Babugarh in U.P. with assistance from Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign Committee...

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that cough
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A BENGAL
IMMUNITY
PRODUCT

60 Students Map A Village

THE Planning Forum of Chikkaiah Naicker Mahajana College, Erode (Madras), undertook in March a socio-economic survey of Oonjapalayam, a village seven miles from the college, in the Modakkurichi Panchayat Union area. Sixty students took part in the investigation. They also undertook slum clearance work in the village.

The survey revealed that all the villagers were agriculturists except a teacher and a few workers employed in the railways and a few coolies. There were 46 families owning about 266 acres of land with an average of six acres per family. Fourteen families had no land of their own and worked on the land taken on lease from others, the average holding being four acres per family. Methods of cultivation were primitive. There was only one iron plough, though improved seeds and manure were being distributed by the officials. The village had no cottage or small-scale industry.

The average annual income of a family was Rs. 531, the total annual income of the village being Rs. 26,550. About 90 per cent of the villagers agreed that their living conditions were better than before as a result of planning.

A YEAR'S WORK

DURING the academic year 1963-64 the Planning Forum of the University of Saugor organised a number of programmes on Plan publicity. Inaugurating the meeting of the Forum on August 28, 1963, Mr. Justice G.P. Bhutt, Vice-Chancellor of the Saugor University and chairman of the Forum, stressed the need for democratic planning for the economic progress of the country. He exhorted the students to take keen interest in the Plan.

The Forum observed the National Plan Week in October. A debating competition was held in this connection on October 29, the subject being "Is National Integration Impossible

FORUM EVENTS

Reporting the Activities of
College Planning Forums

Without Emergency?" Professor C.S. Avasthi, Head of the Philosophy Department, presided. Twenty students took part in the debate. The Forum also organised an inter-school debating competition under the chairmanship of Professor J.N. Mishra. The running shield was awarded to Lakshmi Bai Higher Secondary School. The subject of the debate was "Is Third Five Year Plan Proving Successful?"

Next day a seminar was held on "How Can We Hold The Price Line?"

On October 20, the Forum invited Mr. K. Raghu Ramaiah, Union Minister.

The Forum organised a visit to Chandia tank, 40 miles from Saugor, in December. Teachers from all the departments and nearly 100 students took part. On the way they also visited Shahabad. In January a Kavi Sannam was held in which 15 well-known poets of the city took part. The annual day was held on February 28.

TOBACCO RECORD

Exports of tobacco touched a record figure—Rs. 22.5 crore—in 1963-64, Rs. 3.25 crore more than in the previous year.

The State Trading Corporation has entered into a contract to supply 2,000 tonnes of Virginia tobacco, valued at Rs. 46 lakh, to the Soviet Union from this year's crop.

MARRIAGE AGE & BIRTH RATE

(Continued from Page 13)

Actually it may not even be so much in future for at present there is a correlation between the family planning practices and the marriage performed at higher ages by the educated and culturally advanced sections of population.

It may be a fair conclusion that if Indian girls marry at 19, the birth rate may decline by one-eighth to one-sixth and *not by one half*. If the birth rate is to be really halved, it should be the strategy of our country to adopt family planning and family limitation methods.

TABLE II

Female Mean Age at Marriage and Birth Rates (Computed) by States

STATE	Female Mean Age at Marriage			Birth Rates (Computed)		
	1941	1961	Difference	1941-50	1951-60	Difference
1. Kerala	N.A.	19.97	N.A.	37.4	38.9	+1.5
2. Assam	16.33	18.54	+2.21	46.7	49.3	+2.6
3. Madras	16.13	18.14	+2.01	35.7	34.9	-0.8
4. Punjab	15.43	17.46	+2.03	41.2	44.7	+3.5
5. Mysore	16.17	16.33	+0.16	36.9	41.6	+4.7
6. West Bengal	13.24	15.86	+2.62	35.4	42.9	+7.5
7. Gujarat	...	...	...	42.2	45.7	+3.5
8. Bombay Maharashtra	14.26	15.76	+1.50	41.0	41.02	+0.2
9. Andhra Pradesh	11.90	15.26	+3.36	43.1	39.7	-3.4
10. Bihar Bihar/Orissa	13.42	14.81	+1.39	39.0	43.4	+4.4
11. Orissa	...	...	...	37.2	40.4	+3.2
12. Uttar Pradesh	13.08	14.43	+1.35	38.6	42.9	+4.3
13. Rajasthan	13.54	14.22	+0.68	42.5	42.7	+0.2
14. Madhya Pradesh	13.85	13.87	+0.02	46.1	43.2	-2.9

Bharthla Raises Two Crops on Sandy Soil

THIS is the story of Bharthla, a village in the Samrala block in the Ludhiana district of Punjab. The village has a population of 502. The total cultivated area is 1,830 acres, with 250 acres under irrigation.

Until recently Bharthla was backward and lagged behind in the race of progress. There was no consolidation of holdings and the land was divided into small plots. Wells were the only source of irrigation. The soil was sandy. Groundnut, the main crop, were sown by primitive methods, and the yield was low. The village had a road of sorts but even bullockcarts could not use it the year round.

But the village has now changed for the better with the introduction of the

Intensive Agriculture District Programme. (Ludhiana is one of the seven districts selected for the Package Programme in 1961-62). Four pumps have been installed. The villagers have begun using fertilisers and the yield of the crop has doubled. They now get 18 to 20 maunds of groundnut per acre in place of 8 to 10 maunds. What is more, they raise two crops on their lands, groundnut followed by wheat and gram. Consolidation of holdings has been completed. Small plots have been allotted to agriculturists and non-agriculturists for digging compost pits and building houses. Besides, most farmers now own a set of latest tools.

And what about the village road? The Village Volunteer Force, which was formed for the emergency, proved rather inactive. Members were asked to extend their helping hand for the work but the response was poor. With the help of the few volunteers who came forward the block officials began to work on the road. When they started working 70 more volunteers came forward and took up the work. The result was that the 1½ mile

long road was completed in the course of three days. Anyone going to Bharthla today will find a good road and a signboard proclaiming proudly the name of the village.

INDER SINGH, MALWAI

WHAT IS 'NOMAD'?

'Nomad' is the abbreviation for Navy Oceanographic Meteorological Automatic Device. It is a boat-shaped structure, twenty feet long and ten feet wide. It is provided with automatic meteorological equipment and radio transmitter. Every six hours, it automatically turns itself on and measures air temperatures, sea surface temperatures, atmospheric pressure, and speed and direction of wind. By shortwave radio this information is automatically transmitted in Morse code. Normally the broadcast can be heard at a distance of 400 miles. Nomad has been anchored at a point mid-way between Madras and Port Blair in the Andamans.

BANISH HEADACHE

ALCID tablets give immediate relief from headache, cold, flu, feverishness and muscular pain. ALCID is a harmless but effective pain-killer that goes into action as soon as it is taken. Just two tablets of ALCID can kill pain quickly and effectively.

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WE TELL YOU YOU ASK US

Questions from readers on planning and development will be answered on this page. It might be noted that the purpose of this service is to provide information. But we won't be able to entertain trade queries.

Prospects For Corporations

Mr N.K. Sarkar, Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur (U.P.)

- (1) What are the prospects for the public corporations in India?
- (2) How far is autonomy maintained in the public corporations?
- (3) What is the scope of its accountability?
- (4) What is the pricing policy of the corporations?

ANSWERS: (1) Public corporations in India, such as the Industrial Finance Corporation, the Life Insurance Corporation and the State Bank, have been playing a definite and important role in the various fields of the Indian economy for promoting the development effort. In view of this fact, the public corporations will be encouraged to enlarge gradually. This is also evidenced by the fact that more and more corporations are coming into existence year after year.

(2) A corporation is established under a special Act passed by Parliament and the Act provides for complete autonomy in the affairs of the organisation. However, every corporation works under the overall supervision of some Ministry which lays down the general policy for the corporation. Within the framework of this policy, the corporation has all authority in its day-to-day working.

(3) As a corporation is set up by an Act of Parliament, it is answerable to Parliament. It is subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General whose comments, along with the annual report of the corporation, are submitted to Parliament. Parliamentary committees like the Public Accounts Committee, the Estimates Committee and the Committee on Public Sector Undertakings have powers to scrutinise the affairs of a corporation. The

accountability of a corporation is thus fully ensured.

(4) The pricing policy is generally fixed by the Government on the basis of public utility of the commodities produced. For this purpose, the corporations can be divided into two categories—(a) public utility services such as the Damodar Valley Corporation and the transport corporations; and (b) industrial undertakings including the public limited companies set up under the Indian Companies Act, 1956.

In the case of the former, the pricing policy is to cover only the cost and expenditure, without any profit. In the latter case, a reasonable profit is provided which would contribute to the depreciation fund and the recovery of the capital invested and also would leave a margin for expansion of the industry. It might be pointed out that our development plans assign an important place, in the scheme of resource mobilisation, to surpluses of Public Sector Undertakings.

Value Of Rupee

G. S. Abdul Hameed, Chikmagalur (Mysore)

What was the value of the rupee ten years or so ago?

ANSWER: The value of the currency depends on several factors. Also there are different kinds of value—such as external and internal. It is a highly technical subject.

Broadly, the wholesale price index is considered an indicator of the internal value of the currency. Taking 1952-53 as the base year (equal to 100), the wholesale price index at the end of May 1964 was 144. This means that now one has to pay Rs. 144 for the commodities which were available at Rs. 100 in 1952-53, thus suggesting that the value of the rupee has gone down by 44 per cent during the past 12 years. Or, to put it in another way, the value of the rupee, in terms of the present rates—say,

100 paise today—was 70 paise only in 1952-53. This gives a broad idea of the internal value of the rupee, although it is not scientifically accurate.

The external value of the rupee is fixed by the Government in consultation with the International Monetary Fund. The official par value of the rupee is: Rs. 4.76=1 dollar. This value has been constantly maintained since 1949; thus indicating that there is no change in the value of Indian currency in the international market during the past fifteen years.

Service Charges

Dipak Kumar Roy, Itahar (W.B.)

How much has India to pay every year by way of service charges? What are the resources to meet them? Is it possible to meet them by investment in the public sector?

ANSWER: The amount of service charges, which mainly consist of interest on the loans the Government has taken, varies from year to year as the debts increase or decrease. In 1963-64, India paid Rs. 284.66 crore towards service charges. The amount included Rs. 241.79 crore as charges on debts within the country and Rs. 42.87 crore on loans from foreign agencies.

The service charges on internal loans and also the payment of loans are met from the revenue receipts in the exchequer. Those on the external debts are met mostly from the exports. Every effort is being made to increase the production and exports so that we earn more to pay off the debts and buy more what we need most for building our economy.

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Treat me like a king, said Porus when Alexander defeated him in the Punjab twenty-two centuries ago. Alexander did so, and Porus made him an unusual present - 30 pounds of steel. Even in those days India's iron was famous in the world. Apart from the skilled craftsmen the tribal people in the remotest forests have been making iron. They did so centuries ago, and they are doing so even now. The picture shows a family of iron-makers around a furnace in a tribal village in Bihar.

Courtesy : TISCO NEWS