

# HIMMAT

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## HOW STRONG IS THE SOVIET INFLUENCE IN INDIA? P 5



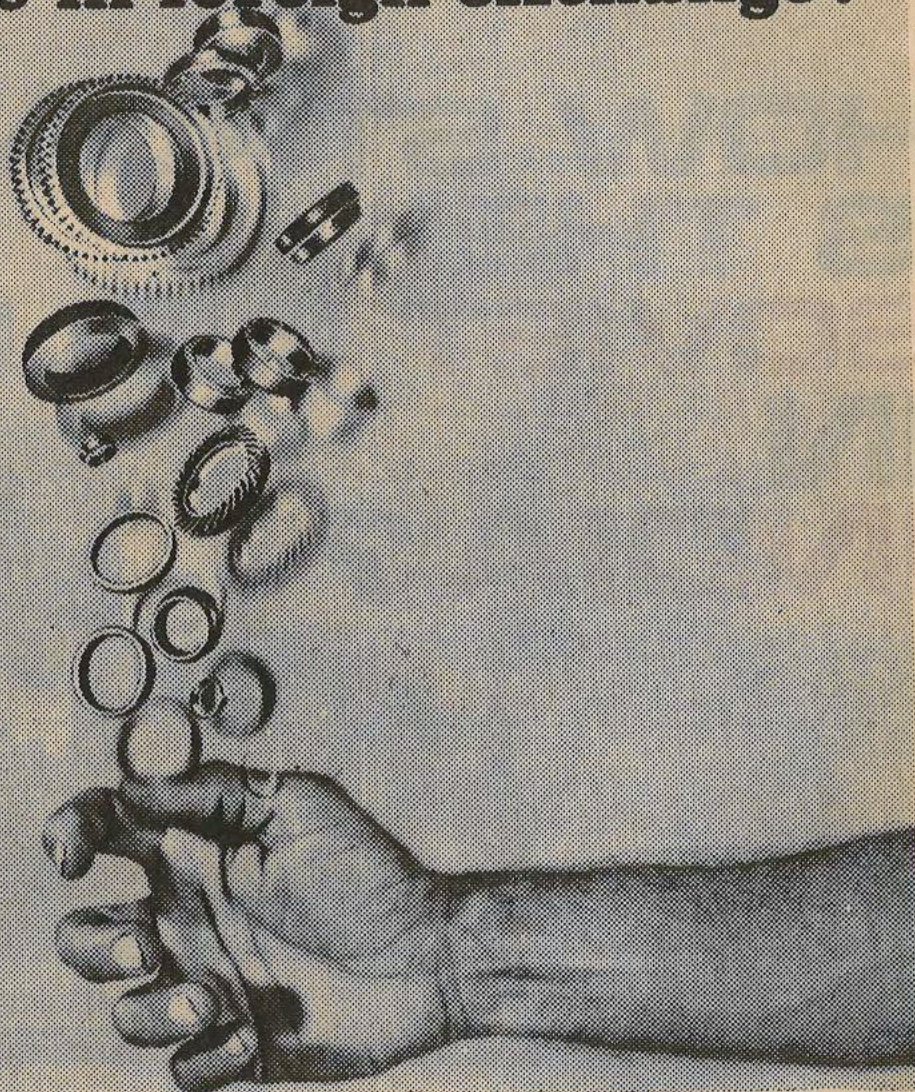
THE KREMLIN, MOSCOW

## WHAT AILS THE MAHARAJA P 7





## What can a team of young engineers and workmen do in 6 weeks with just Rs. 35 lakhs in foreign exchange?



### Save the country Rs. 2.5 crores in foreign exchange every year.

Just Rs. 35 lakhs in foreign exchange for a Ring Rolling Mill which will be saving the country imports worth Rs. 2.5 crores in every year of full production when it will roll two million pieces of rings ranging from 90mm to 200mm and weighing upto 6 kg, for anti-friction bearings,

automobile and other engineering industries.

The first of its kind in India, this Mill was erected and commissioned within six weeks of getting the equipment at site. Without any foreign expert. By a team of engineers with an average age of 26.

**Our strength is in our people as much as in our steel.**



**TATA STEEL**

TN. 3974

## EDITORIALS

### Chinks in the Congress

THE "debacle" of the ruling Congress party in the Bombay municipal elections has shown that there is an increase in the democratic awareness of our people. The average voter has seen that his vote can make a difference and that apathy and complacency in any party need not be tolerated. The large turnout in Bombay's poorer areas show that this realisation is sinking down to the grass roots.

The increased majorities of the extremist parties like the Jan Sangh, the Shiv Sena and the Muslim League and some violence that followed the results has shown, however, that the Indian democracy is not yet strong enough to withstand extremist elements. As long as they are feeble and powerless, they are tolerable. The moment they get too strong the delicately balanced structure of democracy could be upset.

Indians as a people have grown to love freedom and the slightest whiff of bullying by another nation or by a section of our own people, brings forth a strong reaction. Recent events within the Congress party itself are an indication of this.

In several Indian states Mrs Gandhi has used authoritarian measures and imposed her own henchmen. In Andhra, in a move to placate Telenganaites, she removed Mr Brahmananda Reddy and put her own man Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao as Chief Minister. Now she is reaping a whirlwind from her own partymen in Andhra and they have openly rebelled. To Orissa Mrs Gandhi dispatched her friend, Mrs Nandini Satpathy. Now the Orissa ministry has collapsed after only 8½ months in office. A majority of Orissa Congress MPs are pleased at Mrs Satpathy's exit and seem determined to replace her as the leader of the Congress Legislature Party before

the state mid-term elections. The Congressmen refused to tolerate any further Mrs Satpathy's contemptuous behaviour towards them. One wonders how long Mr Sarat Chandra Sinha, the Assam Chief Minister, also Indira's man, will last.

A former Bombay mayor, Dr Shanti Patel, a man who does not wear the stamp of opportunism like many others in the political arena, has said "the bureaucratic, highhanded and dictatorial way of running a democratic party has weakened the will of an average Congress worker to fight for Congress. Honest difference of opinion and dissent are treated with disfavour and vindictiveness." Such strong words from a sincere Congressman cannot be ignored.

If the Congress could take this chance to take a second look at its own internal structure, it would go much further in strengthening the democratic foundations of the country.

However, apart from our love of freedom, the very heterogeneous nature of India demands a strong personality as leader. In fact Indians like leaders with almost monarchical authority and Mrs Gandhi, called "the most powerful woman in the world" by "The Sunday Times", is fulfilling that role. "The Sunday Times" also calls her "a supreme and silken autocrat."

India is one Asian country where democracy seems to be flourishing and though not perfect, it does work. If our people could imbibe a sense of discipline and dedication, democracy would become a permanent feature. Democratic parties like the Congress need to work towards that. Then nothing could prevent India's growth as a distinguished and respected nation.

### What the French election reveals

LAST week was election week overseas — France, Bangladesh, Chile and Argentine, all went to the polls. The week before it was Ireland's turn.

As much as the political prognosticators would like to, no general signs of the time or trends of the future can be read into these elections. In France the conservative Gaullists with a reformist tint got back contrary to all predictions; in Bangladesh socialist Sheikh Mujib was returned overwhelmingly; in Ireland the old government was rejected and replaced by a more left-leaning coalition; in Chile the new parliament had much the same party balance as the old one (see page 9); and in the Argentine the Peronists were returned to power after almost seven years of military rule.

But in the absence of world-shaping conclusions the interested observer can gain from the French election an insight into the state of Western Europe. Although in the event the Gaullists were returned to power, the possibility of the Left Alliance gaining a parliamentary majority showed the build-in weaknesses of both the Common Market and the French Constitution.

What would have happened to the structure of the Common Market if in the Government of France were Communists who were radically opposed to the whole

concept of it and Socialists who were lukewarm about it? Western Germany would certainly have felt less secure and the opposition to the Common Market in Britain would have gained a considerable fillip. There are enough economic and nationalist strains already pulling at the Common Market.

In France itself the possibility of a Parliament being elected in radical opposition to the President revealed slits in the otherwise strong armour of the Gaullist Constitution. The French President's Government, unlike the US President's, has to have the confidence of Parliament. Pompidou could have been faced with the alternative of calling fresh elections or trying to ride roughshod over Parliament.

Bearing this in mind it is well that the French electorate opted for the stability which the Gaullists have given France since the historic day Le Grand Charles took power in 1958. It gives the three leading statesmen of Western Europe — Heath, Brandt and Pompidou — the opportunity to continue their work of reshaping Europe. Britain's entry into the Common Market and Brandt's Ostpolitik in the last two years have begun to change the continent. It is important that this work can continue, once begun.



# Briefly Speaking.....

The duty of a judge is to administer justice, but his practice is to delay it.

JEAN DE LA BRUYERE,  
1645-1696

## A chance for the landless?

THE Kerala Government is establishing India's first collective farm at a place 48 km from Cochin.

The plan sounds ideal. Two hundred and fifty landless agricultural families, half of them harijans, will run the 533 hectare farm which will be divided into five plots. Fifty families will run one plot and grow paddy, coconut, rubber, pepper, ginger, nutmeg, cloves and other cash crops.

The farm will also have a dairy. The 250 families will run the farm through forming a co-operative society. The Government will give them an initial capital of Rs 5 lakhs and also provide roads, water supply and electricity.

However, the catch comes in the selection of the families. Compulsory sterilisation is a pre-condition for eligibility and only couples having three children or less will be selected.

Though basically a good idea the pre-condition injects a gruesome heartlessness—perhaps even a new style of discrimination—into the whole project. Our landless millions do deserve a better chance but is it really fair to go about it this way?

## Indira not for China's way

ONE of the paradoxes of the '70s is that many Americans have come to admire China and look down on democratic India, writes the editor of New York's "Forbes" magazine, James W. Michaels.

Referring to enthusiastic reports in the US press of China's economic progress and hard working people, he warns Americans not to jump to the conclusion that a Communist dictatorship is the best course for a developing country. In 25 years of independence, he writes, India has rolled steadily ahead and confounded many of her critics by holding together.

Mrs Gandhi, whom Mr Michaels interviewed in New Delhi recently, doesn't think China's revolution will benefit India's poor: "I think that a violent revolution brings change faster, but it brings a lot of evil as well."

Yet India cannot hope to avoid change, said Mrs Gandhi. "The masses of the peasantry have political consciousness today and either we walk in step with them or they throw us off."

Mrs Gandhi's words ought to be noted by some of her own partymen who feel they have arrived and therefore can never be dislodged.

## Too much noise

THE city of Kobe, in western Japan, is afflicted by noise pollution. The decible rate has reached such a pitch that the city authorities have had to pass a new law: anyone adding to the noise has a choice of three months in jail or a 50,000 yen fine!

Not only are the sounds from air-conditioners, audio and musical instruments outlawed, but people are

liable to be fined if they argue too loudly or in any other way add to the noise. In fact married couples in Kobe have had to work out an alternative to settling disputes through a shouting match.

The imagination runs wild if one thinks, even for a moment, what would happen if such a law were imposed in Bombay!

One thing is clear: even if the city authorities collected a lot of money through fines they would spend it all in building many more jails!

## Driving home the point

IN bold red letters the word "caution" was posted on the back of a car being used for instruction by a Bombay driving school. Beneath it in smaller letters, the message continued: "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

Birbal wonders if most Bombay drivers have taken lessons at this school.

## Birbal

### UPON MY WORD!

Find as many words as you can from the TEN letters given below. The words must have four letters or more and must use the letter in larger type. At least one word must use ALL TEN letters. No proper nouns, plurals or non-English words allowed, nor variations of same verb (eg. tame, tames).

UPON MY WORD PUZZLE NO. 20  
C L R  
A N C H  
E O L

### ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 19

Effort, enter, enteron, entry, fear, fern, ferret, ferry, fore, forte, forty, free, fret, front, offer, reef, refer, rent, retry, rote, teer, tenor, tern, torrefy, tree, troy, tyre, yore, EFFRONTERY.

# How strong is Soviet influence in India?

by R. M. Lala

How much influence does the Soviet Union exert in India? What difference has the Indo-Soviet Treaty made to this country? These and other questions have been answered in the following article written for Forum World Features, London, which services about 200 newspapers around the world.

WHEN India signed the Treaty of Peace and Friendship with the Soviet Union on August 9, 1971, Indians were aware that it would be interpreted as the end of their non-alignment policy. For two years the Soviets had wanted India to sign this treaty, but India had declined because it was getting the benefit of the treaty without committing itself to any obligations.

When the 14-day Indo-Pakistan war erupted, the Soviet Union gave three-fold assistance to India:

—It exercised its veto in the United Nations on three occasions when the Security Council called for an immediate end to hostilities, thereby giving India the time required for Dacca to fall.

—It gave India through the treaty a reasonable assurance that China could not intervene without drawing the Soviet Union's wrath on itself, thus enabling India to deploy troops from the 10 mountain divisions facing China to form four fresh divisions for

East Pakistan.

—Soviet military hardware contributed significantly to the success of the 14-day war. While Soviet contribution to the Indian Air Force was well known, the surprise elements were the Petya patrol boats with four rocket launchers and the Osa missile boats which helped to set ablaze the main Pakistan harbour of Karachi and its oil stores. This naval action helped to hasten the end of the war.

What is perhaps even more impor-

a year between New Delhi and Washington. Some attempts are now being made to bridge the gulf between the two largest democracies in the world.

The pro-Soviet lobby in India has tried to use New Delhi's differences with Washington to separate India from the West as a whole, but the ploy has not worked, thanks to Britain's understanding of India's position before and during the Indo-Pakistan war as well as Britain's early recognition of Bangladesh. Britain's treatment of the Uganda Asians has further aroused the admiration of the Indian public and Indo-British relations today are better than before the Indo-Soviet treaty — proof that India



Indian (left) and Soviet (right) engineers taking measurements at the Bokaro Steel Plant erected with Soviet collaboration.

### SO THEY SAY

Old ivory is more beautiful and so are old trees. I see no reason why women should not look more beautiful when they grow old.

MRS INDIRA GANDHI

When I finish my term as President of India I shall come here and take up a job as a rubber tapper.

V. V. GIRI,  
While in Malaysia

We are very friendly with Pakistan but that does not mean that we cannot be friendly with India. Iran and India have ancient cultural ties and we always look upon India as a friend.

MADAME PARSAY,  
Iranian Education Minister

I think Uganda is paradise country in Africa.

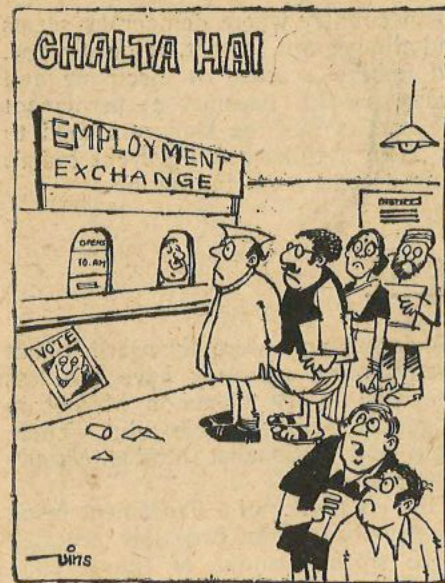
IDI AMIN

tant than the signing, under special circumstances, of the Indo-Soviet Treaty, is the continuing alienation of India from the United States. Last September the President of Mrs Gandhi's Congress Party launched an anti-CIA campaign, blaming it not only for espionage but for fomenting language disturbances and for student riots, and Mrs Gandhi too joined in the refrain.

A few weeks later, when Mr Nixon was re-elected President, greetings were exchanged for the first time in

is more concerned with national interests than with the dictates of a coterie who want to hitch the Indian wagon to the Soviet star.

Information Minister, Mr I. K. Gujral, one of the younger leaders close to Mrs Gandhi, told this writer that the reasons for India's friendship with the Soviet Union were partly due to the geographical location of the two countries. "We have also to concede that the Soviet Union has always stood by us in our difficulties. CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



"It looks like no party got an absolute majority in the Bombay elections."





# VERDICT!

## THIS WEEK HIMMAT . . .

**CONGRATULATES** Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Awami League for their landslide victory at the polls and **AWAITS** expectantly for fresh initiatives to normalise relations with Pakistan.

**IS GLAD TO HEAR** from Dr Kissinger that he is now "tilting" towards the outgoing Indian Ambassador in the US, L. K. Jha, but **WARNS** him that too much tilting could lead to a topple!

**READS** that the Soviet Union has now agreed to abide by the Universal Copyright Convention which came into force in 1952 and **WONDERS** whether this belated step is calculated to improve her bargaining position at the Helsinki conference.

**MOURNS** the death of Pearl S. Buck, the Nobel prize winning novelist, who throughout her life contributed so greatly to building bridges between the East and the West.

**BOWS** to Hindustan Conductors Private Ltd for securing an export order worth \$100 million from the multi-national Fairchild International of the US for electronic devices and **REGARDS** it a milestone in the growth of our technology and a tribute to individual enterprise.

**NOTES** that the Bharat Yuvak Samaj has threatened to compile a who's who listing "corrupt officials and politicians from village to state level" and **HOPES** that it will not be persuaded to abandon the project through corruption.

**SUPPORTS** the decision of the municipal commissioner of Bombay to collect "advertisement fees" from those who have disfigured the walls of buildings by using them for election propaganda and **SUGGESTS** that the money so collected be used to clean up those walls.

**LEARNS** that the total tax arrears of former Orissa Chief Minister Biju Patnaik and the companies controlled by him were Rs 8.12 million on February 15 and **WONDERS** whether he is following the footsteps of that illustrious Central minister who "forgot" to pay his income-tax for ten years!

## SOVIET INFLUENCE IN INDIA — from page 5

Why should we lightly throw away this friendship? The Treaty does not prevent us from being friendly with America or other nations."

India's links with the Soviet Union are mainly in three spheres: military, cultural and economic.

**Military** — Soviet military assistance has been the most important single factor in Indo-Soviet friendship. The United States has supplied Pakistan with \$3000 million worth of arms since 1954, according to Republican Senator William Saxbe. Mrs Gandhi says that India has paid the Soviet Union for all that it has purchased, but she required an assured flow of arms. Unlike Pakistan, India manufactures most of its regular hardware but is dependent on the Soviet Union for the purchase of sophisticated weapons, missiles, submarines and planes.

India already assembles MiG-21s. It has been able to manufacture the MiG-21-M, a version improved by Indian designers. The Soviet Union has also supplied the Indian Air Force with six squadrons of Sukhoi 7-B fighter-bombers, AN-12 transport planes, MI-4 helicopters, mobile radars and air-to-air missiles.

The army has 450 Soviet T-54 and T-55 tanks and 150 amphibious PT-76 as well as Soviet field artillery (which the Soviet Union has also supplied to Pakistan).

The Indian Navy has acquired four Soviet F Class submarines, five Petya patrol boats and six Osa missile boats with four quick-firing 30mm cannons. The Soviet Union has also supplied one tank landing ship, one submarine tender and other naval vessels.

There have been reports that the Soviets have given this naval and military assistance in exchange for a naval base in the Indian Ocean. This is not so. India's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister have repeatedly said that on principle India is against granting such facilities to foreign powers. In the event of a conflict in the region, however, this policy could be reconsidered.

**Cultural** — An Indo-Soviet Cultural Pact was signed in March 1972. More Soviet scholars have visited India since the Indo-Soviet treaty, while visas have been refused to American scholars for the past year. Indian cinemas have to screen their quota of Soviet films, which have not proved popular.

For many years the Soviets have led in the number of magazines which



**D. P. DHAR:**  
wants to dovetail our economy

have flooded the Indian market. The latest figures released by the Press Registrar of India reveal that the pictorial "Soviet Land" (issued simultaneously in 12 languages) with 550,000 copies is the largest circulating publication in the whole country. There are seven other Soviet journals which circulate in all about 100,000 copies. All journals are heavily subsidised, and some copies are distributed free.

In the year 1971, the Soviets published 382 books and pamphlets in India, of which 246 were in English. Their bestsellers are children's books, sold at give-away prices. At the bottom of popularity are their technical books for which there is a very poor response. British and American books still hold their ground in technical and scientific subjects. Since the treaty, the number of Indo-Soviet Cultural Society branches has jumped from 700 to over 1000.

**Economic** — While Indians have accepted dependence on the Soviet Union in the military field and co-operation in the cultural field, it is in the economic field that the crunch may come. India is the largest trading partner of the Soviet Union outside the East European bloc and the Soviet Union is emerging as India's largest trading partner. The Soviet Union buys and sells goods from India against rupee payments. In 1970-71 India's exports to the USSR were Rs 2100 million, whilst India's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

HIMMAT, March 16, 1973

## What ails the Maharaja

by Neerja Chowdhury

**O**N Saturday, March 3, three stowaways were discovered on the London bound flight of Air India. The discovery was made because three others were apprehended before they boarded the aircraft at Santa Cruz. All six possessed Portuguese passports.

Parliament reacted to this incident furiously. The Minister for Civil Aviation, Dr Karan Singh, was taken to task. Allegations were made that he had no guts to deal with the situation. The nation was not safe in his hands, some asserted.

The result was that on March 7, 15 persons were suspended. A lightning strike ensued. Two thousand officers and employees of Air India went off work. So did the pilots. A sign was posted outside the towering new building of the airline at Nariman Point offering its passengers endorsement to fly with other airlines. Flights were cancelled. The three day strike cost the company Rs 90 lakhs. The Managing Director of Air India, Mr K. K. Unni, who was visiting other countries, rushed back to start negotiations. A judge of the Bombay High Court was appointed to enquire into the incident.

### Undisputed negligence

Negligence on the part of Air India officials is undisputed. Now we learn that this is not the first time such an incident has occurred. Last month three TWA passengers are supposed to have made their way to an Air India flight, taking off about the same time for, mercifully, the same destination. Air India was not able to detect the error before take off. The TWA flight was delayed 2½ hours and a hue and cry was raised for the missing passengers.

It is believed that the stowaways avoided immigration and customs, and escaped through the domestic airlines exit. Once on the tarmac, with boarding cards from a previous Air India flight, it was not difficult to enter the aircraft. For having successfully accosted three of them the airlines officials are to be complimented.

The security arrangements at Santa Cruz airport are lax. Anyone can go through immigration, health, customs without his ticket being checked

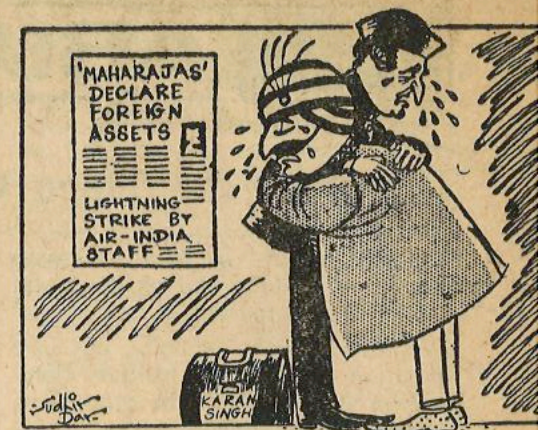
again. Bypassing the counter where boarding passes are issued is not impossible, particularly if there is a crowd. To avoid security checks and slip through the side doors which are sometimes guarded and sometimes not, is not beyond human ingenuity. So much depends on the alertness and endeavour of the staff concerned. Blaming the airport authorities or the Maharashtra police for the shortcomings in security arrangements is only passing on the buck. An airline of world repute like Air India should have adequate security of its own.

Having said all this about the lapses of the Air India staff, it is fair to say that the action of suspension by the Government of India was ham-handed. "Over-reaction" is the one word to describe the incident. Among those suspended were seven members of the cabin crew, who were in no way responsible for checking the number of passengers inside the aircraft. In any case, if the cabin crew were suspended, why not the commander of the flight who is overall responsible?

The airport manager of the International Airport Authority of India was not even on duty at the time of the incident. Checking the passengers is not supposed to be under his jurisdiction. Yet he was suspended. So was the duty officer of Air India, who had earlier in the week been complimented by the Managing Director and Commercial Manager of Air India for catching the three stowaways. The airport manager of Air India was suspended because on being told that the stowaways possessed no arms he asked the commander of the plane concerned to proceed and off load them at Cairo.

The airport manager has certain decision-making powers and is appointed on the basis of his capability and sound judgement. He is also capable of making an error of judgement. But then, so are Dr Karan Singh and his vociferous colleagues in Parliament. One wonders what scale of blunder would entail the resignation of the Minister of Civil Aviation. It would only be stretching the burden of responsibility for such incidents to its logical conclusion.

The furore in Parliament cornered Dr Karan Singh. To prove he was not in the pockets of the "overlords"



"Nobody thinks of our liabilities!"  
Courtesy, Hindustan Times, New Delhi

of Air India as was insinuated, he jumped into the pockets of the MPs who made the accusations. By doing so he only managed to reveal his own weak position. Irresponsible action of the Air India staff was countered by the irresponsible and overstrung reaction of the parliamentarians.

### Who is the Maharaja?

The ferocity of the recent reaction in Parliament may be explained by two factors: one, with increased air piracy in the world, a fear of what might have been had the stowaways carried bombs or hijacked the plane; two, pent up frustration at the workings of Air India. Many complaints have been aired recently. Many staunch supporters of the airline have turned sour. Tickets confirmed are suddenly found to be unconfirmed. Flights have been overbooked. Passengers have not been informed of delays. After hanging around the airport for hours, no responsible person is present to explain the cause of the delay. Evasive answers are given. Service even at the new Air India offices is so slow the passenger does not feel he is the Maharaja but that the man on the other side of the counter is probably one. It should not take much to set right the ground management of Air India. Air India was and remains among the finest of airlines in flight service and flying record. What then ails the Maharaja on the ground?

Air India, known throughout the world for its courtesy and punctuality, has been the pride of Indians. Sharp criticism of it often comes from a sense of disappointment in the people. One hopes that the graph of service and efficiency will climb upwards again.



## Threat to the Thieu Government

POLITICAL figures in South Vietnam who have kept in the shadows are now beginning to stir.

As the ceasefire is being put into operation and the Joint Military Commission tries to stop the guns from firing, these politicians are preparing to fire their salvos against the Thieu Government.

Article 12 of the Paris ceasefire agreement talks of the establishment of a three party National Council of Reconciliation and National Concord. President Thieu's Government and the National Liberation Front were obviously two parties. While the Paris International Conference on Vietnam was in progress former Premier Duong Van ("Big") Minh sent a strong letter demanding that the South Vietnamese neutralists, led by him, should be recognised as the third party.



"BIG" MINH: a modern Hamlet?

Minh's trump card is that he knows the NLF would prefer to work with him than with President Thieu. Minh believes that 65 per cent of South Vietnamese accept neither Thieu nor the Communists. Speaking to newsmen in Saigon in late February, he said, "I do not give myself the leadership. We must let the people speak up for their will and aspirations. Whoever is appointed by the majority must assume the responsibility. If the people appoint me, I will take the responsibility."

A six footer, General Minh is 57 and first came into prominence exactly 10 years ago when he led the bloody coup that toppled President Diem. But he was himself toppled three months later. During his term as Premier, both Americans and South Vietnamese were critical of him and accused him of not following a tougher line with the Communists.

Minh contested the Presidential elections in 1971 but withdrew. He called the elections a farce and accused Thieu of cheating. Today, he

is believed to have the support of key Buddhist leaders and some intellectuals. Another man who is expected to support Minh is 42-year-old Nguyen Cao Ky, who was Vice President under Thieu from 1967-71. Ky ran against Thieu in 1971, but like Minh, also withdrew before the poll and accused Thieu of rigging the elections.

Saigon observers rate Minh highly. He is known to frown on drinking, women and cards. His greatest asset is that he is known to be honest. Some Vietnamese think of him as a modern Hamlet, who didn't grasp at all the leadership opportunities that came his way.

If Minh and Ky do work together, President Thieu will face the toughest challenge he has had so far to his power in South Vietnam. Whenever it is held, the next South Vietnam election will certainly be worth watching.

### A "fishy" programme

THE Indian Ocean may cover a fifth of the world's marine surface, but it continues to be the most underexploited.

Nearly a 1000 million people live in more than 40 nations in the Indian Ocean region. Fish is available in plenty in the ocean but due to lack of modern equipment the developing nations in the region are at a disadvantage.

But now, with the help of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), 25 Asian and African nations are mobilising their resources to co-ordinate and implement a plan to develop the fishing industry.

At present, the total yield from the Indian Ocean is about 3 million tons. This is very poor, compared to the 24 million metric tons obtained from the Atlantic Ocean and 45 million metric tons from the Pacific Ocean. Experts believe the yield from the Indian Ocean could be increased tenfold with modern equipment.

Fish may therefore soon be within the reach of the common man and form a part of his daily diet and provide essential protein.

### Education — Chinese style

Most developing nations are confronted with the problem of many who get a higher education merely to chase the few "white collar" jobs available. Practical work on the land or in trades is looked down upon. This has widened the gap between the urban and rural people.

In China, new methods of education are being tried out in an attempt to prevent the growth of a new educated class. Students and teachers have to go and work in the villages or factories so that they acquire a first hand knowledge of what the ordinary people face daily.

But the systems of exams are also unique. The main aim is to find out the students' skill at analysis rather than to test how strong their memory is. Students are therefore allowed to consult books when answering questions. In some schools and colleges, the students are given the exam questions days in advance!

From the time they enter school, children are trained to think unselfishly, and to serve society. Use of pictures to communicate ideas is common.

In one lesson, for instance, a picture is shown of two children sitting on a bench, on their way home from school. They see an old lady who has fallen, with apples strewn all around her. The children keep their books on the bench and rush to the lady's aid. Then it begins to rain. The children are in a dilemma: should they protect their books or help the lady? They decide on the latter course. Returning from their act of kindness, they discover a soldier with an umbrella looking after their books and protecting them from the rain.

The children are then asked by the teacher whether they have had personal experiences of unselfishness. They are encouraged to think for the nation's good. In fact, one criteria for entry from primary to secondary schools and then to college is whether the student wishes to serve society or merely seeks education for his own benefit.

But the most important criteria for receiving higher education is the political aptitude of the student. All students are "nominated by the masses after repeated discussion", and then sifted by the local revolutionary committees. In Tsinghu University, near Peking, for instance this has resulted in the student body being composed of 45 per cent workers, 40 per cent peasants and 15 per cent soldiers.

## Can Chile lead the Marxist cause?

CUBA has slid silently into the slough of economic failure and Fidel Castro's blazing mission to light the way for the Latin American nations has been doused.

The reality of the Castroite disaster can be seen by the financial sacrifices Moscow has to make to keep Cuba going. Russia has deferred payment of Cuba's debt of £1600 million (this figure excludes military aid) until 1986 and thereafter to accept payment over 25 years at no interest; has granted new credits and will pay 22 per cent more than the present world price for Cuban sugar.



FIDEL CASTRO

The demise of Cuba as an ideological force in Latin America has meant that Chile has taken up the role of Marxist signposter to the future. Its Marxist President, Dr Salvador Allende, has captured the world's attention by his commitment to a Marxist transformation of society within a parliamentary framework. The question however is asked can a Marxist transformation of society take place without snuffing out freedom and

establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat as in Russia or China.

So far nothing like this has happened. On March 4 the Chileans elected a new Chamber of Deputies and Senate. This election, which was carried through fairly, was regarded also as the most important election in Chile's national history. It was seen as the people's verdict on the policies of Allende and his purpose of restructuring the whole of society. The result of the election, declared last week, showed the state of the parties pretty much as they were before the election. The Opposition has a comfortable majority in both Houses but failed to get the two-thirds majority Opposition leaders were hoping for in order to be able to impeach the President. The result means that the President will carry through his policies as before, or as he put it before the election "I will not change my policy for three million votes." So the election is neither an enthusiastic endorsement for Allende's policies nor a demonstration of overwhelming support for the Opposition's case against him.

But the future of Allende's Socialist experiment will be decided not in the voting booth but by the economic condition of the country and the Government's ability to make life tolerable and worthwhile for both the masses and the middle class. And it is here that Allende is running in-

to stormy seas. His revolution has given power to the workers, but has deprived them of the fruits of power and they are now worse off economically.

Housewives conducted a "March of the Empty Pots" to protest against food shortages. In August last truck-owners and lorry drivers struck against a nationalisation move on transport. The dislocation this and other strikes brought in the country meant that Allende had to turn to the Army to maintain law and order in many parts of the country.

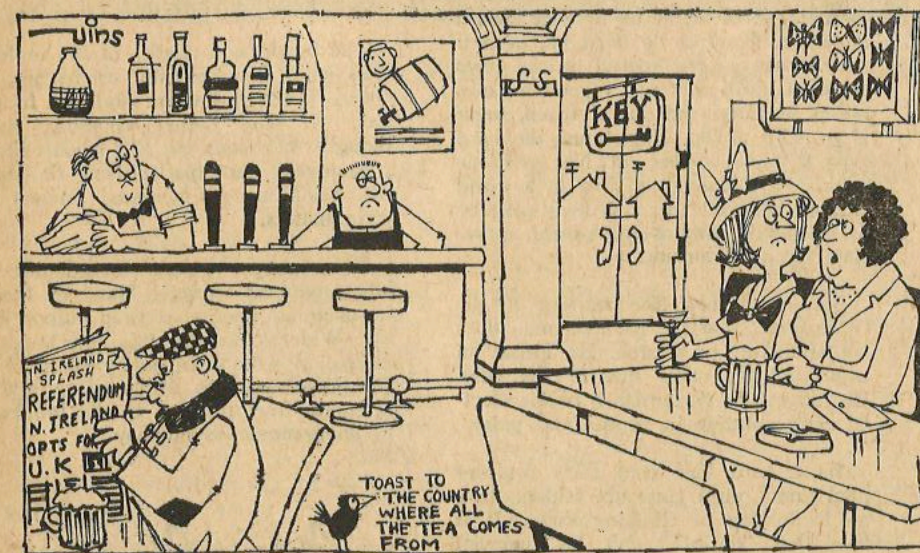
According to a report published in an opposition newspaper the country's economic position is catastrophic and that by May all its foreign exchange reserves will be gone, unless drastic action is taken. President Allende failed to state whether the report was accurate or not.

Despite the economic whirlwind that seems about to sweep down on Chile, Allende has been able to achieve certain things. One of the most dramatic successes of the Government has been a sharp reduction in the infant mortality rate by improved health services and by giving every child half a litre of milk a day.

A radical redistribution of what wealth there is in Chile was essential if democracy was to make any sense to the ordinary man. The arrogance of some of the foreign owned companies—notably the American ITT and the Kennecott and Anaconda copper combines—provided useful proof that the country would never be independent until it controlled its own basic resources. And this Allende has brought about.

Some observers think that Allende will now after the election try and reach an understanding with the Christian Democrat Opposition in order to win the domestic support he will need. The leader of the Opposition is former President Eduardo Frei and although he has strongly different political views from Allende the two men were close friends for 30 years. If agreement between the two men took place the extreme left would regard such a move by Allende as traitorous. Allende however only became President in 1970 with the support of the Christian Democrats who got his ratification through Congress.

The road that Allende will take to master the problems that await him is by no means certain. Other observers think he may turn to dictatorship. Whatever happens, however, his experiment in Socialism has proved to be more credible than the wild Marxist dogmatism of Fidel Castro.



"Paddy and I voted to stay with Britain because of the wonderful tea breaks."



## BEST WORLD PRESS

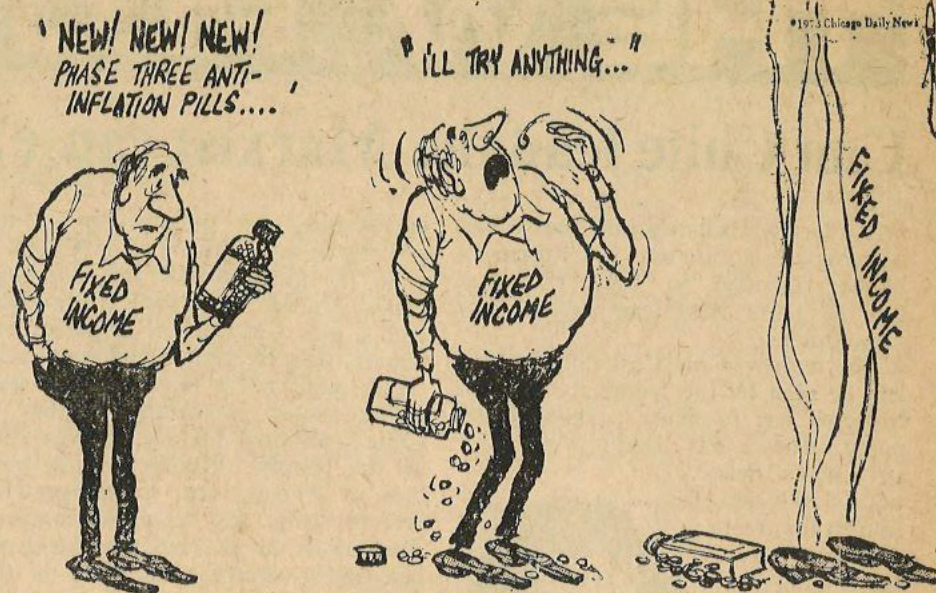
### Justice but not revenge

The Palestinian assault in Khartoum — like Israel's raids on North Lebanon and the shooting down of the Libyan aircraft — is depressingly coincidental with renewed efforts to seek an Arab-Israeli settlement. Israelis and Palestinians both share uneasiness whenever discussions appear to be serious. The Israelis are apprehensive about relinquishing the occupied territories which give them security. The Palestinians fear that the Arab governments may make a settlement without paying attention to their voice. To some extent, the fears of the two sides are justified — but not the actions taken to express them.

The US must continue with the discussions about a settlement which it has been having with King Hussein, President Sadat's national security adviser, and Mrs Meir. More important still, serious moves towards a settlement (which must pay adequate attention to the Palestinians) should help to isolate the Palestinian extremists. It would give hope to those Arabs who from despair and impotence applaud useless and ferocious deeds like those in Khartoum.

THE GUARDIAN, London

It would seem that this is a delicate period in the search for a peaceful solution to the ills of the Middle East. With the Vietnam ceasefire having taken shape, the hope of the world is for the emergence of a situation in which Arabs and Israelis will



Side-Effect Courtesy, Chicago Daily News

be able to live together in peace. This is surely not the time to escalate the fighting in any form.

THE JAPAN TIMES

### The French elections

The Socialist-Communist programme is one of illusory easiness and one should not be tricked by it. But then who should you vote for after taking into account this desire for change of which we have spoken? We have called the attention of Frenchmen to the gravity of the choice they have to make. Their place in the new world that

is being created around them depends on this choice. Their vote can throw everything into question, their money, their jobs, their standard of living, and consequently, their independence. Certainly, it will first be a question of shoving aside this Communist-inspired extremist programme. But beyond that, we must think of the future and the necessity of governing ourselves. The government of the future must be lighter, more liberal, make more room for initiatives on the international level. It also must associate itself more closely with Europe.

L'AURORE, Paris

## THIS INDIA

### FUTURE TRENDS

THE Bombay Municipal elections have brought to surface many undercurrents in the country. The verdict of one of the most politically conscious electorates could be an indicator of future trends. The Congress lost its top shine. The Jan Sangh gained ground. So did the Muslim League and Shiv Sena.

The insecurity of the Muslims about the possible changes in their personal laws was apparent. Many who would not have uttered "aye" for the Jan Sangh gave the party their civic vote because of the JS performance in clearing and cleaning, building and beautifying Delhi.

Atma Ram, working in a small scale Bombay industry, told his employer emphatically, "Don't vote for Indira Gandhi."

"Why not?" he was asked since he had been a staunch supporter of Indira and the Congress.

"She talks about garibi hatao. Where has garibi been hataoed?"

The 1971-72 euphoria is evaporating. Disenchantment with the Congress is

setting in.

The Government is to be felicitated for its high expectancy from the common man. He should not tire of the same old diet constantly served on new platters. Who else is so generously fed on attractive slogans which stimulate his mind and sharpen his sense of anticipation? Even if jobs are scarce, and food sparse, the smile on his face should linger on. Carefree he must be, even if rice is unavailable, petrol prices have spiralled, fares shot up, vegetables, oils, pulses may soon be out of reach, sugar is Rs 4.70 a kilo. Hope must die hard even if money peters out. Not everyone is privileged enough to live in a world of make-believe for such long periods. The common man of India must appreciate his good fortune.

But, alas! How disconcerting for the Government that the common man does not come up to scratch. He insists on inspecting the other side of the coin. He judges the performance of his elected representative in rupees and paise.

Some hard and cold facts confront him. Prices, once gone up, seldom show an inclination of climbing down. It is true that "garibi" can't be removed overnight, he says. But how has my lot been improved in the last two years' he asks himself. What about water sup-

ply? Electricity? Food prices? Travel facilities? Queues? Pollution? Life is becoming more and more difficult. Pressures of making both ends meet are mounting.

But coming back to the recent municipal elections in Bombay. The results, it is hoped, will help the Congress review its performance and priorities.

The heightened apathy of the middle class may be explained as having to choose between the fire and the frying pan. So why bother choosing, they thought. However, on the whole, there was greater participation from the people, exhibiting an increased interest in civic matters.

The younger people turned out in large numbers to vote. Many of them, in manning booths, showed responsibility. Wider issues like "the save Bombay campaign" were discussed by committees. Farsightedness was displayed in giving attention from now on to the problems of environment in Bombay.

*Neeraja Chowdhury*

HIMMAT, March 16, 1973

## Getting things done in Hong Kong

From David Bunton in Hong Kong

HONG KONG has had a new Governor for the last 18 months.

And Government policies in this British colony have recently shown a new compassion and urgency in matters relating to the ordinary people.

The new man, Sir Murray MacLehose, is undoubtedly one of the moving influences behind this.

It is said that after Hong Kong's 1967 riots (an overflow from China's Cultural Revolution), Whitehall sought, for the position of Governor, a man with the diplomatic and political experience to deal with a Peking increasingly taking part in world

He believes that with China returning to international life, Hong Kong could become the bridge to developing a healthy, living London-Peking relationship.

Since his arrival, Sir Murray has exercised what some of the press call a "New Deal" governorship. He walks to work (only five minutes, but Governors have always been driven!), has been known to catch a tram while in town and seems keen to mingle, where possible unrecognised, with the crowds and see how the people live, be it in a resettlement area or at the Chinese New Year Fair. Last year when serious floods made thousands



HONG KONG GOVERNOR CHATS WITH CHILDREN

affairs. So for the first time someone outside the colonial civil service was chosen.

A career diplomat, Sir Murray's foreign service appointments included Hankow, Prague, Wellington and Paris before being appointed political adviser to the Hong Kong Government in 1959. (He speaks fluent Mandarin and some Cantonese.) Later he was private secretary to British Foreign Minister George Brown and then Ambassador to South Vietnam, where his term saw the 1968 "Tet" offensive take place. He was British Ambassador to Denmark at the time of his appointment as Governor of Hong Kong.

homeless, the Governor was on the spot within minutes — not dressed for a formal occasion, either.

He is also determined to get things done. In his first policy speech to the Legislative Council, last October, Sir Murray set new targets for housing and education which were striking in their breadth.

Housing has always been a crucial issue, with three-quarters of the four-million-plus population living in the built-up area around the harbour (perhaps 12 square miles in all) at a density of 300,000 per square mile. Two million are refugees and an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

HIMMAT, March 16, 1973

## The week in INDIA

NEW DELHI — The Yugoslav delegation which recently visited India offered favourable terms to build three giant crude oil tankers for the Shipping Corporation of India which will be available by 1975-76.

— Hundred and forty-five bulls and heifers, the first of 744 head of cattle being imported by the Indian Dairy Corporation have arrived in India and started the Corporation on its massive programme for milk marketing and dairy development, popularly known as "Operation Food".

HARDWAR — The public sector Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has started manufacturing 200-megawatt generating sets, creating a new record in the indigenous manufacture of heavy electrical equipment in India.

AIJAL — The night curfew imposed in Mizoram on March 1 following an explosion at Aijal power house on February 28 was lifted last week.

ALLAHABAD — Students, demanding the immediate abolition of the rule of compulsory attendance before a university examination, forced their way into the office of Vice Chancellor B. R. Saxena and manhandled him.

HYDERABAD — The Central Government spent over Rs 9 lakhs in the last three months on the deployment of the Central Reserve Police in Andhra Pradesh.

— Nearly 2000 gazetted officers, who have been on strike in the Andhra region for the past two months, returned to work when the adviser to the AP Governor, Mr H. C. Sarin, assured them there would be no victimisation.

MAHAD — Work on the proposed Konkan railway was initiated at Goregaon in Maharashtra by the State's Minister for Buildings and Communications, Mr A. R. Antulay.

BOMBAY — The Maharashtra Government took over the wholesale trade of wheat by ordering the monopoly purchase of the foodgrains coming into the market at Rs 76 per quintal.

MADRAS — The Tamilnadu Government has invoked the Defence of India Rules to curb profiteering in commodities in short supply.

TRIVANDRUM — Kerala is facing a serious situation with the stoppage of practically all construction work following the suspension of cement supply from Tamilnadu, which has cut back cement production due to the 75 per cent power cut.



# The l-o-n-g wait for justice

by Sunit B. Kher

THE law's delays are proverbial. The problem is as old as the law itself. One reads of it in Herodotus. It confronted the Greeks who appointed six men to overhaul their legal system. It stared the Romans in the face and they appointed ten men known as the Decemvirs to tackle this problem. At present, it has assumed alarming and dangerous proportions in India.

Supreme Court cases rose from 6270 in 1969 to 8572 in 1971.

In the 17 High Courts the number of cases awaiting disposal rose from 3,78,038 in 1969 to 4,02,344 in 1971.

Pending cases in 1971, according to a rough estimate, is Calcutta High Court 77,000, Allahabad High Court 71,000, Bombay High Court 40,000.

Law has been very aptly described as an instrument of social engineering. No society where the machinery of justice functions tardily and inefficiently can make rapid progress in

the direction of securing social, economic and political justice. A quick and expeditious decision is the essence of any sound system of administration of justice. Justice delayed is justice denied and denial of justice virtually amounts to an abrogation of the rule of law and an invitation to anarchy and dictatorship.

## Too many appellate courts

One of the principal causes for the law's delays is the plethora of laws, central and state, which have been enacted since independence. The Law Commission, which was constituted in 1965, has observed in its report that between 1950 and 1957 Parliament had enacted over 600 Acts and the state legislatures had enacted over 2557 Acts. Since then, the volume of legislation, both Central and state, has continued to multiply. Moreover some of these statutes were hastily conceived and

badly drafted. All this legislation has increased the volume of litigation in the country.

While the volume of legislation has increased the number of judges appointed to deal with this legislation has not increased proportionately and this also has been a contributory factor to the mounting arrears in the courts. A mere increase in the number of judges without regard to their merit and ability will not however solve the problem. Efforts must be made to see that the subordinate judiciary and the High Courts are manned by men of exceptional ability and merit and this is possible only if they are offered better pay-scales, better pensions and attractive service conditions.

The apathy and indifference of the Central and state governments to the mounting arrears in the courts is also a major contributory factor to the law's delays. In spite of the persistent demand by the High Courts for a substantial increase in the judicial

personnel as well as in the number of courts, the governments concerned failed to act.

The equipment and building of court houses also received very little attention. Though the Central and state governments have been pouring money into a number of projects, the administration of justice which is one of the primary functions of the state has apparently not seemed to them to be of sufficient importance to deserve more financial assistance.

Another important cause for the law's delays is the multiplicity of appellate courts resulting in an excessive number of appeals. One comes across numerous cases which take years before they are finally disposed of because from the first court to the last, they pass through four or five appellate courts, and often the earliest judgement is restored after it has seen vicissitudes in the intervening courts.

## Court cases pending in 1971:

Supreme Court — 8,572  
Calcutta High Court — 77,000  
Allahabad High Court — 71,000  
Bombay High Court — 40,000

An appeal is not always the best means of getting a just decision, and merely increasing the number of appellate courts does not necessarily ensure the right decision. In order therefore to provide for quick and expeditious disposal of cases some of the intermediate appellate stages must be abolished. There must be only one appeal on questions of fact and a further appeal only by leave of court on really important questions of law.

Another source of delay is our slow procedural law. Under the cumbersome provisions of the Civil Procedure Code and the Criminal Procedure Code it takes a long time to get hold of the parties involved in a case and to bring them before the court. Furthermore the procedure for trial of cases is too elaborate and complicated and needs to be simplified.

After a civil case is filed and before it actually comes up for hearing in court there should be a pre-trial conference with the judge with a view to attempting an amicable settlement of the dispute. In a pre-trial conference with the judge each side learns for the first time about the strength of his adversary's case and the weakness of his own and is therefore in a mood to settle the matter on amicable terms.

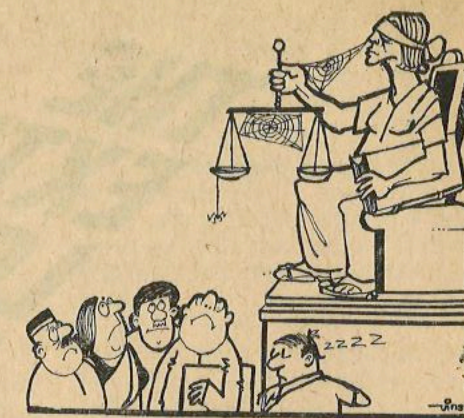
The experiment of a pre-trial conference was adopted in the United States since 1948 and has proved to be a remarkable success. It has been found that as many as two-thirds of the cases are settled in a pre-trial conference without any pressure on the part of the judge.

Rampant corruption in the process serving staff of the courts is also contributing to the law's delays. Only persistent and close scrutiny of the working of the administrative sections of the courts by the presiding judicial officers can control corruption. A summons may be kept back or its service inordinately delayed or neglected, a decree may not be issued in proper time, a copy may not be delivered or a payment order can be delayed. Delays or obstructions in these and similar other matters which cause hardship to the parties are utilised by the subordinate staff of the courts to make improper gains. All this naturally causes delay in the disposal of cases.

## Frequent adjournments

Notwithstanding the directive principle in Article 50 of the Constitution that the state shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the state a large number of states have failed to carry out the separation and this has also contributed to the law's delays.

Apart from the causes mentioned above a substantial measure of responsibility for the law's delays lies on advocates and judges. While the Civil Procedure Code and the Criminal Procedure Code clearly provide that the hearing of a case once begun should go on from day to day, but in practice, even after the case has reached the stage of trial, its progress is impeded by frequent adjournments. Adjournments are often granted for



the mere asking especially in the heavier cases.

As the Law Commission has observed in its report: "the most frequent causes of the adjournment of a hearing are that the court is pre-occupied with other cases and has no time to take up the case or cases or that the date is inconvenient to the parties or their pleaders. In fact, the convenience of the parties or the pleaders is probably the most usual cause of adjournments."

There is need for strictness in this matter on the part of the presiding judicial officers and they should not readily grant adjournments except for a really good cause. Advocates who take up more work than they can handle must be shown that the courts will not adjourn cases to suit their convenience. Advocates by their long-winded arguments and judges by reserving the delivery of judgments for several months further contribute to the law's delays.

The gentlemen of the long robe who spin out lengthy arguments citing numerous precedents and judges who deliver erudite judgments after having reserved them for months on end are not really assisting in the administration of justice but in fact impeding it. Litigants are only interested in a quick and commonsense adjudication of their rights.

In order to prevent the citation of numerous precedents in the course of arguments it is desirable that every 25 years there should be revision of laws and codifying statutes should be enacted. No precedents of a prior date should be allowed to be cited in a court of law.

Delays in the administration of justice are corroding the very foundations of our constitutional government. It is high time that the central and state governments woke up to the realities of the situation and gave serious attention to the solution of this problem which poses a grave threat to Indian democracy.

## GETTING THINGS DONE IN HONG KONG— from page 11

estimated 1500 a month continue to escape from China.

The Government has already housed 1.1 million in giant resettlement estates (one family per room) and another 700,000 in better quality "low-cost housing" with higher rental. But 300,000 still live in temporary housing or in squatter huts on the hillsides while a further 310,000 "share" the living space of other families. Sir Murray committed the Government to eliminate squatting and overcrowding and, over a target period of 10 years, to "build on such a scale that there is sufficient permanent, self-contained accommodation in a reasonable environment for every inhabitant".

In education the Government already provides free primary schooling for all and had been working towards a target of three years' secondary education for 50 per cent of the 12-14 age group. But "partial objectives", in the view of Sir Murray, "however necessary initially, make for distortion unless replaced by absolute objectives as soon as possible". He thus announced a new target of three years' secondary education for every child, as well as doubling the fourth

and fifth form places available and substantially increasing the opportunities for teacher training, technical and university education.

The Governor's speech also dealt with social welfare, recreational development, pollution, nature conservation, the current "Clean Hong Kong" campaign, the Government's determination to deal with drug addiction (at least one in 67 of the population is affected) and the increasing crime rate (violent crime is up 135 per cent in the last four years).

Since then a giant step has been taken towards establishing a form of social security — the absence of which has been a source of anxiety to Hong Kong's poor. A non-contributory system, starting in April, to provide monthly allowances of HK \$ 55 for those over 75 and HK \$ 110 for the severely disabled won public praise when it was recently announced.

There is always a danger, though, that the desire for quick results, in any sphere, may jeopardise their quality. This is a cause of deep concern to many teachers as the Education Department considers the possible introduction of "bi-ses-

sionalism" in secondary schools.

Many of the colony's primary schools are bi-sessional: ie. Some pupils attend the school from 8 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. then an entirely different lot of pupils and teachers use the same classrooms from 1.00 p.m. until 6.00 p.m.

Much in Hong Kong's future will depend on how certain issues are tackled. The local Communists manifesto for action in the coming 12 months lists some of them: it stresses "the problems of the working man" with regard to wages of blue collar workers, conditions in factories, crown rents, the rising cost of living (up 10 per cent in the last few months) and the spiralling crime rate—pointing out the authorities' lack of ability to deal with it.

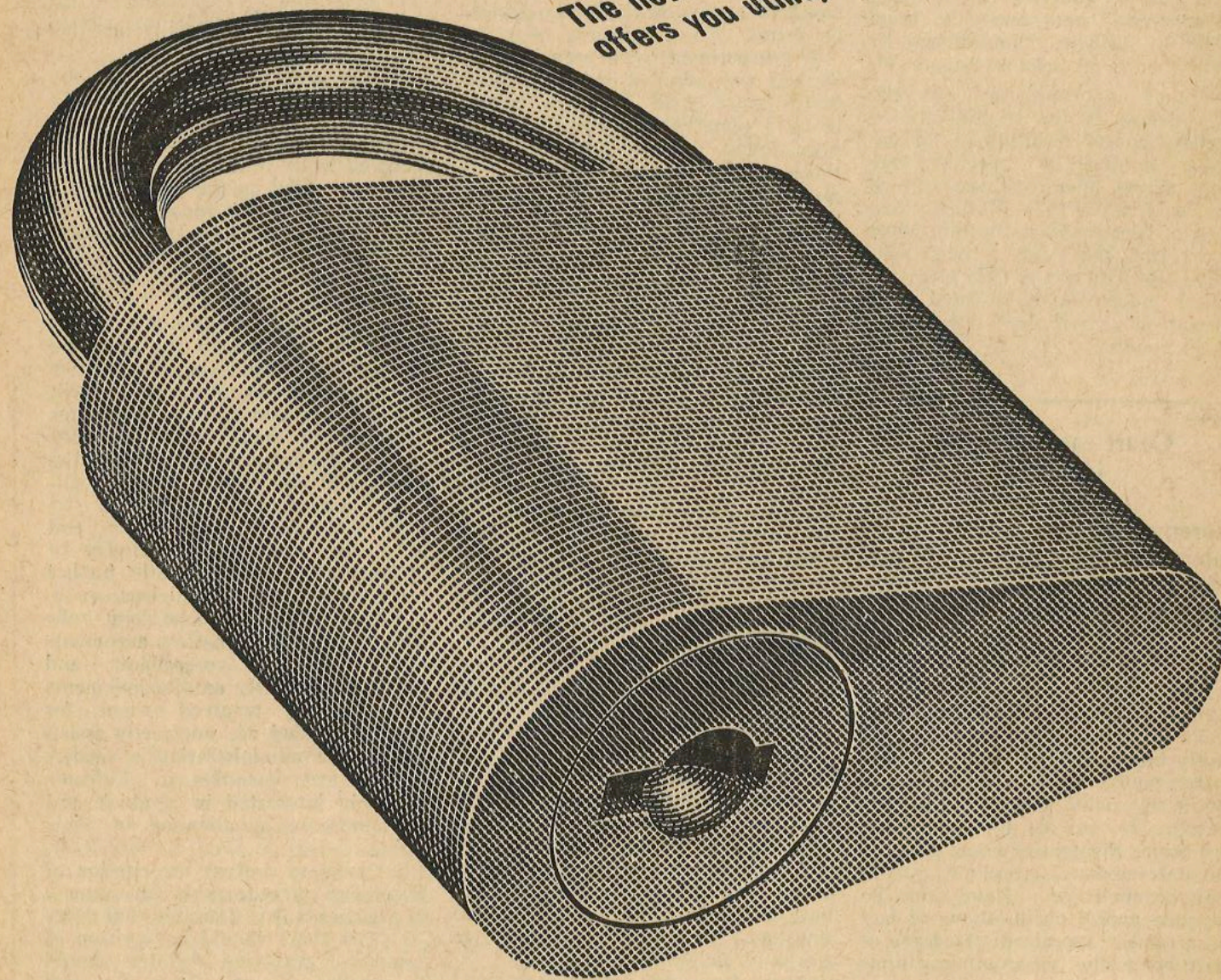
These are all problems that deserve attention. Especially if you care about the people who inhabit what is otherwise often regarded as just a super trading post or diplomatic beach-head.

Hong Kong's Governor has shown he has that quality. It is to be hoped that with his advisers, he can work out some practical solutions.



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## Best foreign aid is trade

by S. F. Barnes

Mr Stanley F. Barnes is a businessman and a world authority on the dairy industry who is at present in India. In recent years his experience in Asia has included a year in Pakistan as Dairy Development Adviser to the Government and seven years as Project Manager for the Australian Dairy Board in South-East Asia. In 1970 he was awarded the MBE for services to the dairy industry and international relations and also the Gold Medal of the Australian Society of Dairy Technology.

WHILE aid to developing countries since the war has been a major and essential factor in stabilising the situation, the progressive replacement of aid by trade is necessary to give developing countries an opportunity to earn foreign exchange. This need was referred to by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, in her address to the One Asia Assembly in the following words:

"Foreign aid is useful only if it comes without strings, and does not involve a crushing repayment burden. The best foreign aid is assistance to developing countries to stand on their own feet through trade and assistance in sophisticated areas in which they have not yet achieved proficiency."

All too often the wealth and technology of the West is used to develop synthetic products to replace the natural products of developing countries, or to compete on limited world markets. Cane sugar is mainly a product of developing countries but is continually facing competition with artificial sweeteners developed in the West. In addition, the EEC, which produces sugar beet at a considerably higher cost than that of cane sugar, insisted in 1968 on having an export quota of 1.2 million tons for their sugar. This sugar could only be exported at a competitive price with the aid of considerable export subsidies.

One recent technical achievement in Australia is the perfecting of a machine for picking tea. In Queensland, the sub-tropical northern state of Australia, the growing of tea is possible but the extremely high cost of labour has made tea production totally uneconomic. The new tea picking machine is claimed to be able to do the work of 100 labourers and is able to select and pick the bud and the two required leaves, without damage, by the use of vacuum tubes. The developers of the machine are hoping for extensive overseas markets and tea growers are now expressing hopes of being able to sup-

ply not only the Australian market with tea but of also being able to export.

As tea growing is highly labour intensive, tea has been produced to date, almost exclusively in developing countries where there is an ample supply of relatively cheap labour.

While the loss of the Australian tea market will be a serious blow to the present exporting countries, one cannot stop, in this technological age, the development of new machines. It is, however, important that we give serious consideration how such new developments are utilised. In an age

when unemployment in Asian countries is one of the factors leading to instability, it is the responsibility of employers to make maximum use of available labour whenever possible, within the framework of efficient production.

As far as my own country, Australia, is concerned, while we may not be in a position to stop the development of tea growing in Queensland I believe that the Australian Government should seriously consider the impact of such action on tea exports from developing countries and at very least insist on the acceptance of the following limitations:

- That tea grown in Australia should compete on an equal basis with imported tea and should not be subsidised or be protected by the imposition of a duty on imported tea.

- Any developing country losing a market for tea in Australia should be offered a market for other products, of equal value, in Australia.

- Under no circumstances should Australia export tea to compete with the present tea growing countries on the already over supplied world markets.

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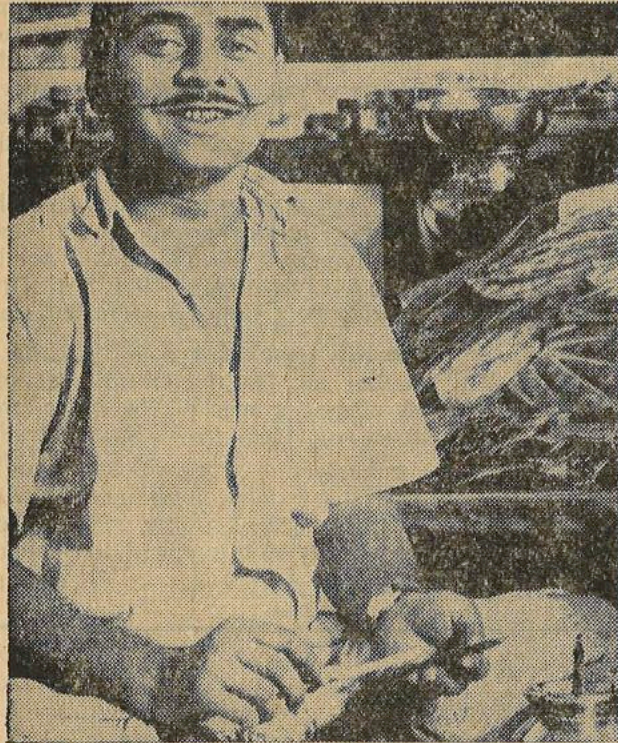
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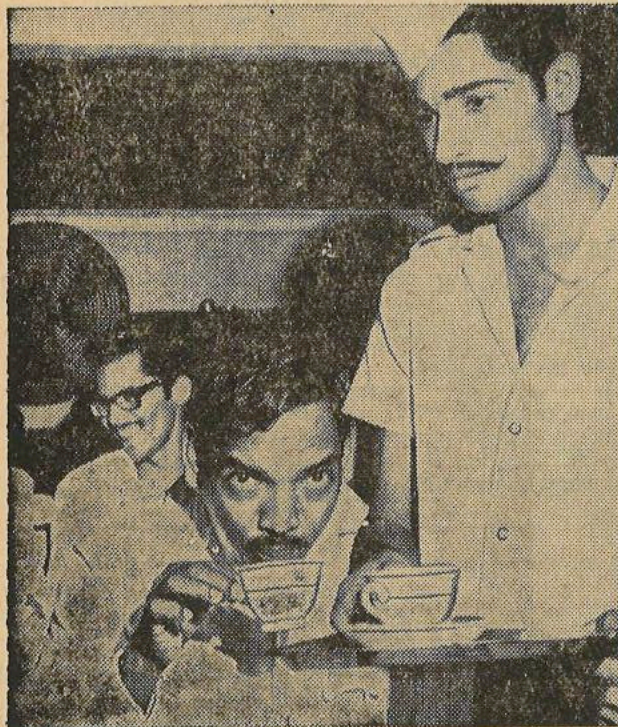
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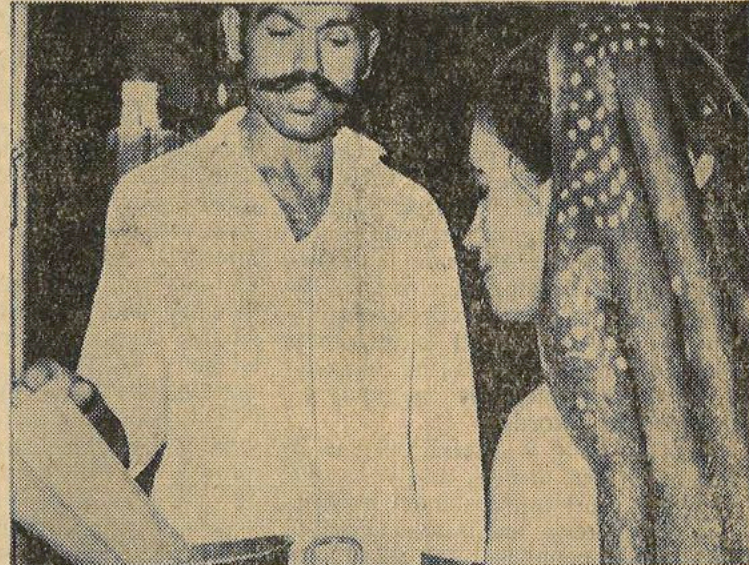
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## SOVIET INFLUENCE IN INDIA — from page 6

imports were only Rs 1049 million, leaving a trade balance of Rs 1000 million (over £50 million) in favour of India. The turnover grows by 15 to 20 per cent per year and the trade balance in favour of India continues.

In the early years of trade, India exported to the Soviet Union raw leather, tea, cashew nuts, textiles and ready-made garments. But the list has grown much longer and India now supplies the Soviet Union with a vast range of consumer goods, including lipstick and cigarettes. In addition India supplies electric motors, power cables, storage batteries, surgical instruments, dye stuffs, vacuum flasks and large quantities of footwear.

The principle items of import from the USSR, until recently, were machinery, including complete plants for steel and heavy electricals, newsprint, petroleum products and steel sheets. With aid from America cut off, India's dependence on the Soviet Union has grown for zinc, nickel, copper and other vital industrial raw materials. India has placed substantial orders with the Soviet Union for ships and power generators.

In the Indian Parliament, and in the press, charges have been levelled that the Soviet Union buys Indian goods virtually on barter and re-sells Indian products like ready-made garments and cashew nuts for foreign exchange in the Western markets. This charge has not been proved. There are also charges that the Soviet Union is paying India rock-bottom prices for pro-

ducts while at the same time palming off machinery that is outdated or superfluous to this country.

### Dovetailed economies

Indo-Soviet trade is moving into a new dimension with the efforts of India's Planning Minister, Mr D. P. Dhar, to "dovetail" India's economy into that of the Soviet Union. This would mean that certain plants and factories would be set up in India almost exclusively to meet the requirements of the Soviet economy. This would give the Soviet Union a commanding position and a lever with which to pressurise India if the dictates of Moscow were not followed.

The greatest bulwark against Mr Dhar's scheme for the dovetailing of India's economy with the Soviet Union's is the Indian people's love of country. Whatever society they may

want, they still cherish their freedom of action now and for the future.

When this writer asked Mr Chandra Shekhar, a left-wing Congress parliamentarian, how far India will depend on the Soviet Union economically he replied, "It depends a lot on the USA. If friendly relations develop between the USA and India there will be a balance. If not, our dependence on the Soviet Union will grow. The trouble is that the USA wants India to be anti-Soviet rather than self-reliant. Mrs Gandhi will not tolerate satelliteism. She wants to emerge as a leader of a big country."

What the Soviet Union really has to contend with is not the USA or Britain, but the spirit of the Indian people who pioneered the freedom struggles of the 20th Century. Such a people can hardly be expected to exchange their liberty willingly for a road that may lead to a subtle bondage.

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*The Journal of Medical News (The Medicine & Surgeon VIII 252—57 Feb. 1967)*

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## Wake up, Indian hockey

### Only five months to go to the World Cup

It was heartening to see the crowds back for hockey. That, however, turned out to be the most redeeming feature of the Gold Cup. The fare served hardly ever rose above the mediocre.

Take the final. It saw a clash between the two most formidable teams in the country, holders Indian Airlines and Border Security Force, Jullundur. The first meeting was reduced to a brawl. BSF's Narinder struck Airlines' forward Ghaffoor on the nose. Narinder's colleague Surjit hit Ashok Kumar on the knee.

## SPORT

The second leg, an afterthought by the organisers, fortunately did not produce any bloody scenes but the quality of the play seldom touched the heights. There was just one goal in this meeting, Ram Murthy scoring with a push following a corner. It was enough for BSF to regain the trophy by a 2-1 aggregate.

The Airlines' efforts to score were pathetic. Not long ago they boasted of one of the best forward lines in the country. They retain the same quintette, Monappa, Ashok Kumar, Govinda, Inam and Ghaffoor, but the old skill and opportunism are just not there.

### Mastermind fails

Inam is no longer the mastermind behind the Airlines' attack. He is too slow and ponderous. His lack of speed is more of a hindrance. Ashok Kumar appears to have lost even his stick-work. Monappa, Govinda and Ghaffoor keep switching positions to no avail.

The BSF were only slightly better. In Kulwant they have a lively forward. Ram Murthy is only a whit behind. Their strength, however, lay in their half-line, the best seen in the tournament. Narinder, Ajitpal and Harmeeek performed exceptionally well.

With such an efficient half-line, the BSF defence assumed impregnable proportions. They hardly ever allowed their opponents a clear look at the goal and whenever they were tested

Olympian Charles was not found wanting under the bar.

However, the fact remains that our forwards are woefully inadequate. Practically all the best in the land were on view and Northern Railway alone made an impression with Chand Singh, Balbir Singh, Randhwa, Ajit Singh, Harbinder and Jasminder.

Harbinder delighted with his speedy runs and clever distribution, while his brother Jasminder, on the right wing, made a tremendous impression.

Northern, however, were unlucky to be eliminated by Tata's via the tie breaker after they had tied one-one at the end of extra time in their quarter-final. The Northern forwards were foiled in the main by Cedric Pereira, who demonstrated that he was still one of the best goalkeepers in the country.

Even Cedric couldn't help Tata's, who were outplayed by a 4-0 aggregate

by the Airlines in the semi-final, while BSF just scraped past Corps of Signals by a 5-4 margin. Signals failed to convert a penalty stroke in the first leg which ended 2-1 in BSF's favour and this lapse had a great bearing on the ultimate outcome.

Raminder Singh, however, gave an outstanding display for the Signals with his scorching penalty corner hits. He is perhaps the best in the business today and, in view of the general poverty of our forwards, we will desperately need Raminder's ability to convert penalty corners.

With the second World Cup in Holland due just five months hence, the stock of Indian hockey, judged by performances in the Gold Cup, does not provide room for optimism. The Nationals to follow, one hopes, will live up to the expectations of the thousands who will swarm the BHA ground. But one can only hope.

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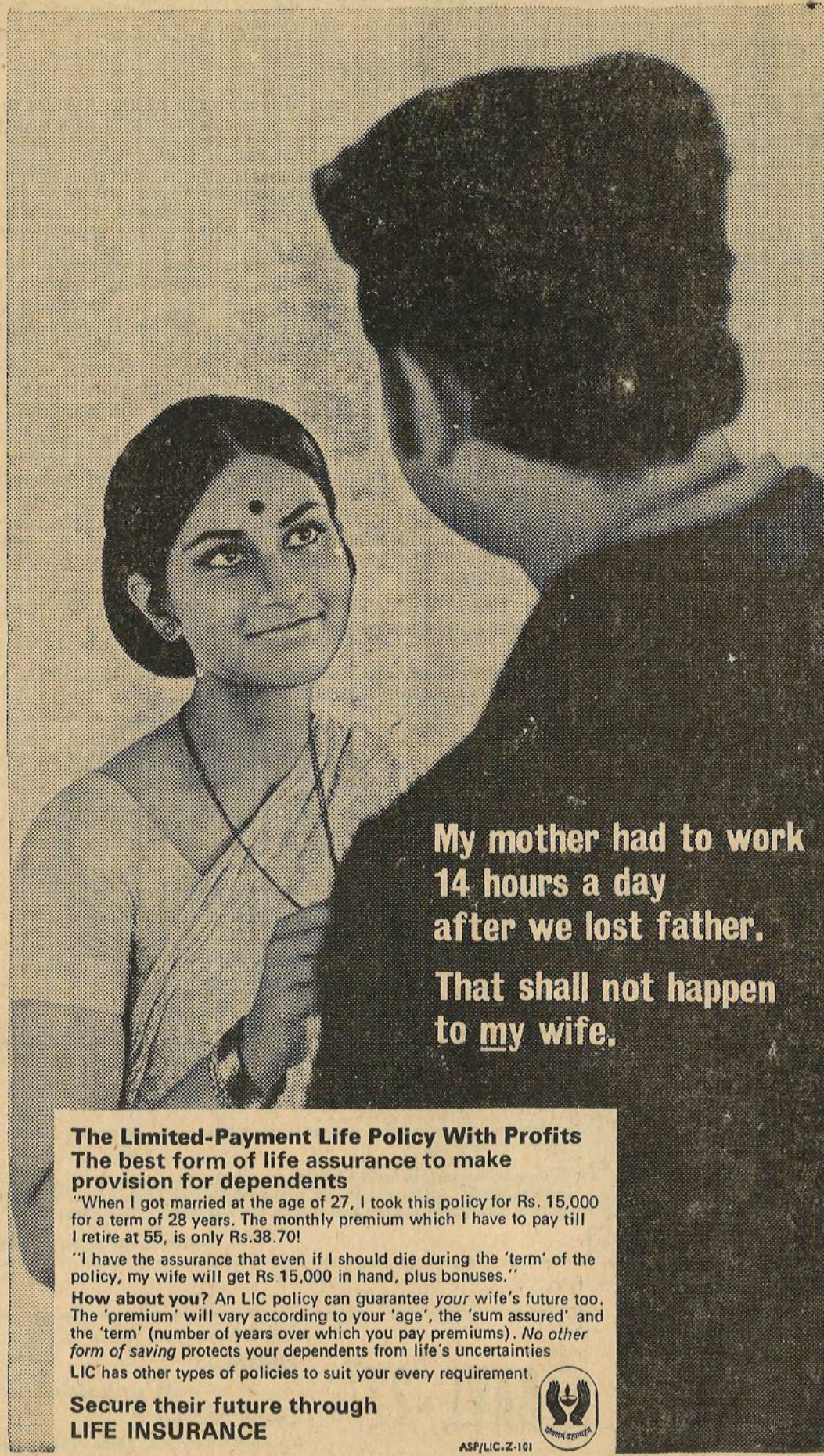
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# Letters

## Leave and licence

THE recent announcement by the Maharashtra Government of its proposal to introduce a Bill conferring standard Tenancy Rights on all flats taken on leave and licence or on company lease is a rather drastic step.

This Bill will deprive many retired people and investors who have put their entire life's earnings into ownership flats in order to get a regular income for their livelihood.

Before introducing such a Bill the Honourable Minister for Housing, Mr Mohite, should make a factual survey of the problem. Why is there such a tremendous need for leave and licence flats in Bombay? Can this system be wiped out entirely by the Bill?

Will such a Bill not encourage taking black money under the counter before letting out the flat on a standard rent basis to the flat seeker? What is the fate of thousands of owners who have already given their flats on leave and licence basis? What is the legal remedy for such cases?

The Honourable Minister should clarify the position as considerable panic has been created in the real estate market with this announcement.

K. V. SATYAMURTY, Bombay 54

## Air-conditioned MLAs

ACCORDING to a recent report the UP Vidhan Sabha has decided to spend Rs 14 lakhs on air-conditioning the residence of MLAs.

Is such a step necessary when there is famine, drought etc in the country?

This air-conditioning seems to have certain disadvantages apart from the huge amount spent. As human nature is weak it

may make many MLAs reluctant to get out of these palaces when their term is over. Even if they will have to leave they may be tempted to carry the air-conditioners with them!

J. KANNAMKULAM, Nagpur

## Cricket again

WHILE describing the recently concluded cricket series between India and England with various adjectives like, "memorable", "exciting", etc some critics have unnecessarily aimed their guns at "unconquered" Wadekar. It is a pity that they could not understand his policies.

Wadekar was right in not giving England enough time to square the series in the last Test. Those who cry for excitement must think of the nation first. It is impossible to please the crowd in the stadium all the time. One can hit a sixer from a particular ball but it is quite impossible to bowl out six batsmen with one ball.

Wadekar has taken over the captaincy at the right time. It is only because of his sound leadership, unrelenting efforts and accurate policies that India won three series in succession.

MAHENDRA N. GANDHE, Bombay 24

## Merchant was captain

READER Bhanu Kale of Bombay is wrong in commenting that Vijay Merchant is not a "former captain" of India. I have been fortunate to witness first class matches with foreign countries right from the Australian Services XI in the year 1946-47. If my memory is correct, at Chepauk, Madras, the Great Vijay led us against them. Afterwards, Merchant captained India against the Silver Jubilee Cricket Team in India but could not tour with India against Australia in the year 1947-48 which is when Lala Amarnath took over it. Merchant however never had the privilege of leading India in any "official" Test series.

KRISHNAMOORTHY, New Delhi 5

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## This was a Life

### DEMOSTHENES

383 — 322 BC

DEMOSTHENES was a silver-tongued orator. It is said that whenever he spoke, even the market-women in Athens pricked up their ears in rapt attention. His torrential eloquence and persuasive capacity stand unsurpassed in history. He has been a model for all succeeding ages.

He was born with a defect in his speech. But Demosthenes spared no pains to correct it. He spoke with pebbles in the mouth to cure stammering. He watched his motions in a looking-glass, in order to remove the distortion of features that accompanied his utterance. And on the seashore, when the waves were agitated, he declaimed aloud to get accustomed to the noise and confusion of public meetings.

He had to face the stings and arrows of life early in his youth. His father, a rich sword manufacturer, died when Demosthenes was only seven. His money was left in trust for the widow and the boy. But the three guardians misappropriated it and made no provision for either.

When Demosthenes was legally of age he sued the guardians for restitution. But they were men of power and influence who employed every means to defeat him. Demosthenes won in the end, only to find, as it often happens in such cases, that there was hardly any inheritance left to take.

He then started to earn his living as a lawyer and writer of speeches. In his legal practice he took only cases of the highest order and his political speeches were written on behalf of the Opposition who consisted of the war party. He argued relentlessly and mobilised support to wage war in order to contain the expansionist designs of Philip II, King of Macedon, and father of Alexander the Great.

When Philip II besieged Olynthus, Demosthenes in three great speeches known as the "Olynthiacs" urged Athenians to go to the rescue of that country. Another source of his fame was his rousing orations known as the "Philippics", again directed against that "pestilential Macedonian".

In 322 BC, following the defeat of the Athenians at Crannon, Demosthenes fled to Calauria and took refuge in a temple. On being pursued he committed suicide by taking poison.

F. M.





## Man's progress

by Rajmohan Gandhi

WE OF this age, heirs to the bitter and glorious legacy of centuries, are of course vastly more fortunate than our forebears.

The first of them started from scratch; we have inherited the experience of man over millennia. We can tread with confidence the paths tried by our predecessors and found useful. We can avoid the alluring detours that in the past led to pitfalls. The successes and mistakes of earlier ages fill our store of wisdom.

Modern life is tense, rushed, often callous, often supremely selfish. At its beginning the auto age was wondrous. It brought mobility. It enabled man to meet, know and co-operate with his fellows in a manner earlier generations did not even dream of. By now, of course, the very success of the revolution has virtually nullified it.

The runaway auto revolution is a mixed blessing. The jets threading through spaces once undefiled and regarded as heavenly have brought noise and hijackings.

Yet they—and their companions, rockets and spaceships—have also enabled man to catch a sight of the divine glimpse. The frog thought that the well was the world; man often felt that his village or bazar or country was the world; God alone was able to look at the whole planet. Our age has given man a measure of divinity. He is able to see the earth as a sphere, almost the way God does.

It is not spacemen alone who are thus blessed. Ordinary mortals approach the sensation when they fly in jets and look at the endless stretches below them or when they see our broad, round, beautiful earth on the movie or television screen.

Sages have informed us that God sees not only the whole world clearly, whatever the atmospherics, but also every individual. In one sweeping glance He takes in the American Indian, the Australian Aborigine, the Icelander, the Vietnamese peasant, the Calcutta beggar, Maggie Smith, Mao Tse-tung, General Amin and about three billion others. Man's capability is nothing like it. Yet he comes near. Not in a single split-second view,

not every single person on earth, but over a period of time the more fortunate modern man can picture closely large numbers of humanity in their varied forms. Man has won—or has he been granted?—a semblance of this divine attribute of being able to see vast numbers clearly.

To the Almighty a thousand years are, we learn, like an evening gone. Not quite in an evening but over 13 evenings modern man can watch Kenneth Clark's "Civilisation", covering a great span of time. Admittedly, there are gaps in the Clark version; he has missed much of what God sees and knows. Yet how lucky the viewers of this extraordinary film serial are. Their ancestors were deprived of this chance. Regrettably most of their contemporaries are also.

Man can look at space and at time in a God-like way. Is he not also learning to look at society, the human family, in a less self-centred, indeed God-like manner? Is his conscience not troubled when he learns of suffering or devastation in another habitation of the world, even if remote and unfamiliar? True, not all who speak of the masses or of great societies or popular democracies or enterprising ones have individual people, with their individual hopes, needs and longings, in mind. Sadly, many of them wish to exploit the social concept for their own commercial or political advantage. Yet we need not ignore the reality of man's concern for other individuals elsewhere in the world, or his willingness, and often his eagerness, to share the joys and sorrows of his fellows.

Man is not necessarily caught in a descending spiral. He is perhaps taking risks and liberties he should not take, and he has access to lethal toys. At the same time some of God's qualities have been passed on to him.

These reflections should induce man towards thoughtfulness and humility, not pride. He has been blessed with graces, opportunities and visions. Yet his task remains the same as always: to love, honour and obey his God and to care for his neighbour. The battle

to which he is called is also what it ever was: against his baser nature and inclinations, for honesty, purity, unselfishness and love; against self-centredness, for involvement in the lives of others.

The criteria of the spirit and of what is moral, ethical and socially responsible have not been altered by the march of time or the progress of man.

Gautama Buddha, 2500 years ago, was asked about the unrighteous practices in speech. He replied:

"In this matter a man is a liar: when he goes to the court of justice or the assembly, being brought up and forced to give evidence (they say to him):

"Now, good fellow, say what you know."

"Then he, though not knowing, says, 'I know': or knowing he says, 'I know not.' Or not having seen he says, 'I saw': or having seen he says, 'I saw not.' Thus to save himself or others, or for the sake of some trifling gain, he deliberately utters lies.

"Or else he is a backbiter in words. What he gathers here he spreads abroad to cause disruption there. What he gathers there he spreads abroad to cause disruption here. Thus is he a breaker-up of fellowships, no reconciler of those at strife.

"Or else he is one of harsh speech. His words are insolent and rude, bitter to others, scolding others, bordering on abuse, not making for balance of mind.

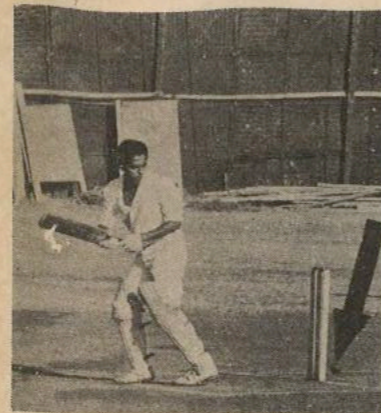
"Or else he is an idle babbler, speaking out of season, of things non-existent and irrelevant. A speaker is he of things unrighteous and unrestrained. He utters speech not worth treasuring up, unseasonable, out of place, without discrimination and not concerned with profit.

"Such are the four unrighteous practices in speech."

Can anyone question the validity of this practical advice?

Ancient truths are also modern truths. Conscious of them and living under their discipline, modern man, equipped with priceless gifts, can yet build a secure and noble world for his children.

COMPETITION No. 321  
SOLUTION



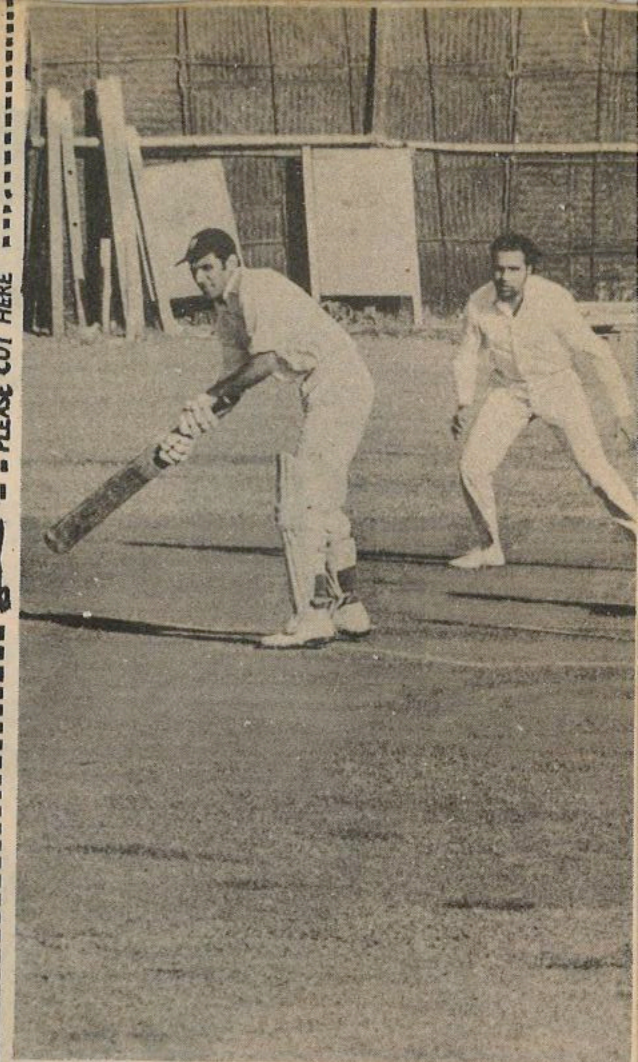
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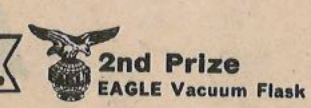
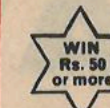
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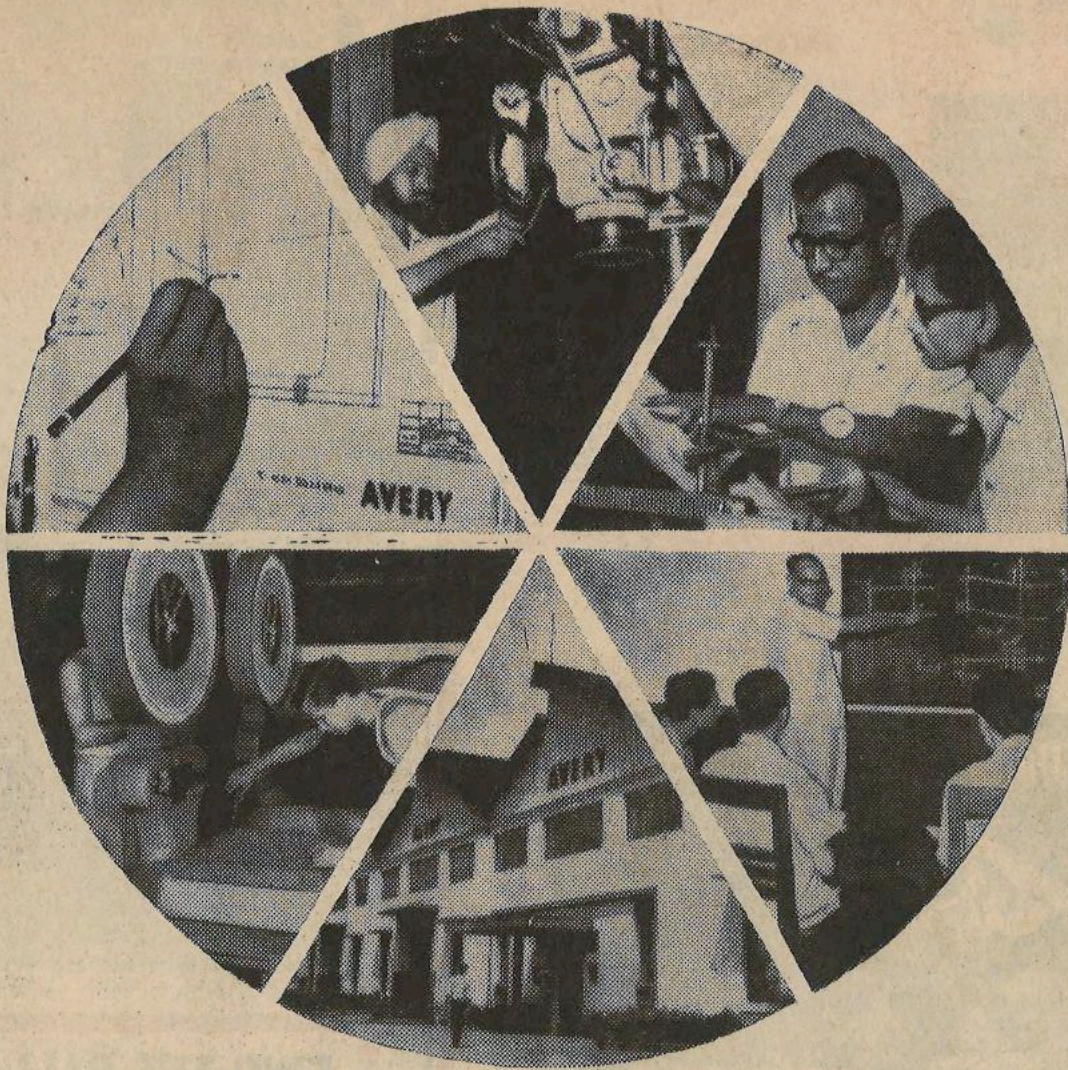
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The winner will be announced in the following issue. You may not send more than Six Entries in any competition. N.B. only one cross may be marked on each picture. The Editor's decision is final.

\*Each week half the prize of Rs. 50 will be awarded to the nearest entry. The other half will be carried forward to a "Jackpot" to be won by the first competitor who marks EXACTLY the centre of the ball. This Jackpot Prize will accumulate by Rs. 25 per week until it is won.

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