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DEPARTMENT/MINISTRY

शाखा
BRANCH

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Subject

Press-clipping

11 5 1964

पूर्व निर्देश
Previous reference

बाद का निर्देश
Later reference

Flashlight on Allahabad

Water sold at burning gha
man for city to
within year

Industries (g) demographic

Foreigner rushes
from Delhi for
driver's funeral

body which is a necessary part of the ceremonies or get water for cooling the pyre. A bereaved gentleman told me that the people there had turned this erosion into a lucrative source of business. They charged 25 nP for every bucket of water that they supplied. The rate went up as the heat increased. Therefore, 60 water buckets were needed, Rs. 15 had to be paid. This particular person did not submit to this black mail and some of them went down near the water and started handing up water-filled buckets above. Thus the buckets, passing from one hand into another in the relay-race style, reached the desired spot without any cost. But not all go there in such numbers. Further, some bodies are brought from distant places for cremation here. The one or two persons accompanying them cannot physically get water in such fashion. They are thus forced to buy it. Some allege that those indulging in this business deliberately erode the bank. Will the authorities concerned take immediate steps to tackle the situation? The dead are also treated with scant respect at the local mortuary. A resident of another town complained to me on Thursday that pending the arrival of the relatives of a dead man, they had to keep the body at the local mortuary. But for its preservation there were no facilities. The body was about to decompose. Being new comers, it was with difficulty that they could procure ice to preserve the body. It was said that where so much money is spent on hill exodus and air-conditioning of offices it would not be much to have an air-conditioned mortuary here. If an air conditioner was beyond the means of a poor man when he was alive, at least make him cool before he burns on the pyre, they suggested.

Touching details

MORE touching details are now available about the road mishap last week in which a driver of a Mercedes-Larsen and Tubro Ltd. car killed some 30 people.

Kashmir and Abdullah

IN the welter of blood, passion and sorrow which the sub-continent has witnessed in the last few months, sadly reminiscent of 1947, one or two things clearly stand out. They could be turned to advantage if their significance was realized and we took the opportunity that they offer, for breaking through the stalemate that has bedevilled the relations between various parts of the sub-continent over the past 17 years.

I deliberately say, between 'various parts of the sub-continent', rather than between India and Pakistan, as I wish to emphasize that the overall political partition between the latter is only one aspect of the problem—the momentous and perhaps the governing factor, but still only one of several.

More than ever before, I think, it is apparent that :

(A): The people of this sub-continent are emotionally, culturally and socially so bound up with each other that no political boundaries can sever them. Obviously, religion, caste, creed and social habits play a predominant role in determining this alignment. In any event, there is ample evidence to show that by and large the Hindus of India are more concerned with the fate of their co-religionists across the frontiers, who are in fact Pakistanis, than with what happens to Indian Muslims, though they are Indian nationals.

Facts to be faced

This feeling is perhaps strongest in West Bengal regarding the Hindus in East Pakistan, but it is certainly not exclusive to it. Similarly, Pakistani Muslims are far more, if not only, concerned about the welfare of Indian Muslims than they are in that of their own non-Muslim nationals.

These are facts which have to be faced. However much one may preach the desirability, from the national point of view, of people thinking otherwise, they still continue to do so, 17 years after partition. And there is not the slightest indication that they will not continue to feel the same hereafter or that in moments of stress, this feeling will not find expression in actions as deplorable as those we have just been witnessing. Let us not forget either that these feelings were brought under control recently only by drastic punitive action taken by authority, and not by any upsurge of public opinion.

(B): The threat to the secu-

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rity of the sub-continent not only through internal rivalries and a struggle for power between the various people inhabiting it, or between India and Pakistan, but by extra-territorial forces e.g. the Chinese. This has made most sensible people realize that the security of the sub-continent is a joint responsibility, for all those in authority here, and that nothing is more dangerous for it than their mutual internal rivalries, as that will only pave the way, as they have in the past, for foreign domination.

Mistaken notion

To me, it seems that a realistic recognition now of these fundamental facts offers one an opportunity for a drastic rethinking of the whole relationship between India and Pakistan. The mistaken conception that the majority and minority in each country can live in splendid isolation from each other and their counterparts in the other country must go. The Kashmir problem is an acute symptom of this malaise. Pakistan considers it the most crucial cause. India does not accept this, but both recognize its seriousness.

32A

I have always held that the Kashmir problem is not one which affects only the people of Kashmir, or only one of the several constituent States of the Indian Union; it is one which affects the whole sub-continent and all its people. It should, therefore, be dealt with in that context. And if, as Sheikh Abdullah rightly stresses, the settlement of the Kashmir problem should be one that would bring India and Pakistan closer to each other, then it must be dealt with along with similar problems which affect various other parts of the sub-continent in the light of what has been urged above. Looked at in this light, we find that a similar problem arising out of partition exists in an acute form in three main areas :

(i) In Kashmir which is divided into two halves. Pakistan is more concerned about it than about any other area because Kashmir has a majority of Muslim inhabitants, and the bulk of the Pakistanis are Muslims.

(ii) In West Bengal and East Pakistan—as a result of the partition of Bengal.

much inter-city traffic, which has no business in the city, passes through here because the roads concern happen to pass through the city. For such traffic the will suggest building of roads outside the city skirts to lessen pressure on city roads.

The 1951 Master Plan it is said was not completely ignored. The Naini Industrial Estate and other new areas were built on the basis of the survey made then. But things having changed within this period a new survey was deemed necessary.

Shortage of technical hands

Among the difficulties the the office is facing, one shortage of technical hands. Although, apart from the associate planner there are the assistant planner, four statistical assistants, 12 survey assistants and two draftsmen they will need many more temporary hands to hasten the completion of the survey. Schools and colleges imparting the required training have been approached and a favourable response has reportedly been forthcoming.

But their biggest difficulty is lack of cooperation from the public. It is learnt that from among all the cities that this team has surveyed, ours has been the least cooperative. Instances were cited when even some post-graduates had given wrong information to the team. Although all the details gathered are to be kept confidential even then some people did not disclose their correct income, fearing that the same might be subjected to scrutiny for purposes other than the plan. This wrong information will lead to wrong conclusions and could stand in the way of a speedy completion of the survey. In congested areas the public was said to be fairly hostile as they imagined that the team had gone there to destroy the slums. All efforts to convince that their task was merely to collect data and suggest changes and that the implementation was not their job, fell on deaf ears. It is to be hoped that the public will offer their hearty cooperation.

(iii) In East and West Punjab —carved out of the old Punjab. Here, in one way, due to the induced exodus of practically all Hindus and Sikhs from West Punjab into India, and of Muslims from East Punjab into Pakistan, an uneasy equilibrium has been established, but the fire still simmers close under the surface. The majority of the Sikh holy shrines are in West Punjab, and the call of language and blood between the Punjab peasantry forcibly suppressed, still echoes across the frontier. It is not likely to die out in any conceivable future. At a moment of stress, a call to the Sikhs to fight a crusade to regain their holy places could drench Punjab in blood again.

Joint defence

This is the main issue between the two countries. The need for joint defence arises out of it. One can only join in defence when something that both parties cherish above all else is threatened, and that need overrides the urge to extract something from the other. If the latter feeling is predominant, as at present, then external danger is exploited in order to gain a strategic vantage point over the other, even at the risk of endangering oneself.

32B

Therefore, the first point has to be tackled first; the second will follow almost automatically after the first has been resolved.

As the implementation of the decision to partition itself has abundantly shown, haste in such matters is full of pitfalls. One must hasten, but slowly. A moratorium must first be imposed on all Indo-Pakistan issues and work begun on solving the main issue—symbolized by Kashmir for Pakistan and the minorities problem for India—both of which mean the same thing, if the thesis enunciated above is accented. And how can any one fail to accept it not only in the face of present-day facts but of the past? After all partition itself was only an attempt to solve it: and that it has not solved it is exactly what both India and Pakistan have been shouting at each other day in and day out for the past 17 years. And as Sheikh Abdullah



...cooperation to the team because ultimately they stand to gain by this.

Glaring malpractice

THAT water is sold right near the Ganga may come as a surprise to many. But it is a glaring malpractice that goes unchecked.

The mere sale of water would not have been so shocking. What makes matters grim is that this sale takes place near the Daraganj burning ghat. Thanks to the swift currents of the water, the ghat there is invariably eroded. The result is that, because the bank is thus very high, it is not possible to give either a holy dip to the

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Urgent need to deport Pak infiltrators

GAUHATI, May 10 (PTI)—A joint meeting of the executive committee of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee and the Assam Congress Parliamentary party held here yesterday under the presidency of Mr. Sarat Chandra Singha, president of the A.P. C.C., reiterated the previous decision of the P.C.C. executive that a deputation should wait upon the Congress President, the Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister to impress upon the Union Government the urgent need to deport Pakistani Infiltrators.

The meeting also decided that a deputation should wait upon the Home Minister just before the second Indo-Pak Home Ministers' Conference to urge him to have the P.C.C. resolution implemented.

The P.C.C., in its resolution, had urged the Union Government that a target date not later than March 31, 1965, be fixed to complete the deportation of Pakistani infiltrants in Assam.



**by Badar-ud-Din
Tyabji**



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says, this can only be solved now by bringing India and Pakistan closer to each other.

322

How is this to be done without impairing their sovereignty, their national dignity or their territorial integrity? Only by contributing to the common good—not by having to surrender to each other, but by voluntarily contributing to the benefit of the people of the whole sub-continent. The solution has to be one which benefits all the people, and all the affected areas—not any one part of it or one community alone, or even different communities in different area individually, but all communities all over the sub-continent equally.

For this purpose, I would suggest:

Water

Master Plan

be ready

THE Master Plan for Allahabad is expected to be ready within one year after which it will be placed before the public for the opinion and scrutiny.

The office of the Town and Village Planning Department U.P., has already started functioning in the city since March, 1964 under a city planner. At the

- (1) A moratorium of five years to begin with on all inter-Government disputes between the two countries.
- (2) The setting up of India-Pakistan Regional Councils to deal with the common problems of the three partitioned former areas of Kashmir, the Punjab and Bengal. These Councils should deal with questions of citizenship, travel, migration, resettlement, property, economic links between the divided halves of the former territories etc. They should start functioning with the minimum powers necessary to get them going with the avowed object of bringing the separated halves as close to each other as possible without affecting their respective sovereignties. A Central Indo-Pakistan Council should be empowered to watch their functioning; and to propose the enlargement, and if necessary, amendment of their functions and powers, at sixmonthly intervals after a regular review of their work.
- (3) The Central Council should immediately review the Indo-Pakistan passport and visa system in an effort to bring it in line, first with current international practice, and then to a form which would take into account the need for a closer relationship.
- (4) After the period of the moratorium is over the whole subject should be reviewed in the light of the prevailing sentiment in both countries.

I would earnestly request Sh. Abdullah to take the lead in the matter of bringing a realization of the importance of carrying through such a programme of reconciliation and cooperation between India and Pakistan in both countries. It would be a task worthy of his stature

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the office is housed in the mahapalika office building but shortly it is expected to shift to its own building.

The Master Plan will include Naini, Phaphamau, Jhusi and Bamrauli within its fold. Although this plan will initially cover an area with a radius of about five to seven miles, having the Junction station as the central point, the actual area under consideration will be 12 miles to make allowance for future development. This is necessary because the Master Plan is to be realised within 20 to 25 years during which expansion beyond the present built-up areas will definitely take place.

Vertical use of space

In a nutshell, the idea of the planners is to make each locality of the city self-sufficient by providing it with educational institutions, children's park, good shopping centre, broad roads, means of recreation for adults, playgrounds for boys, hospital and dispensaries, adequate water and power supply, sound drainage system and healthy residential quarters. It is said that for a healthy living about 60 to 70 persons should live on an acre of land. But in some localities of the town, where the density of the population is very high, as many as 300 to 400 people live on one acre. The plan will suggest that the space should be used vertically by building multi-storeyed buildings instead of the present single-storey bungalows occupying a vast area of land. Care will also be taken to