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READING & DICTATION
EXERCISES FOR
SPEED DEVELOPMENT

March 2024

₹60

Reading and Dictation Passages have been marked for 20 words each, so that the same can be dictated for 80 to 160 wpm speed.

Exercise 1

I am very happy to be present here today for opening the new building of your University. All that you²⁰ have said about this new University, which is only six years old, is commendable in many respects. Although you have⁴⁰ not had adequate equipment and the necessary wherewithal in the beginning, these serious shortcomings did not bother you. In right⁶⁰ earnest you started the work.

One might feel sorry, but I am sure no one will feel surprised to know⁸⁰ that in its seventh year this University does not possess departments in subjects like Sanskrit and English on the side¹⁰⁰ of arts and Physics, Chemistry, Anthropology and Geology on the side of science. I need not say much about the¹²⁰ importance of the Sanskrit language which, besides having its own vast treasure of knowledge, is verily the mother of¹⁴⁰ the present-day Indian languages of the North. The study of English language and literature is also essential for a¹⁶⁰ university student, for it is a language which many in our country have been cultivating for the last two hundred¹⁸⁰ years and which is recognised as a medium of international expression by virtue of its being the language of a²⁰⁰ number of countries. Equally important is the study of chemistry and physics which are in a way the basic sciences²²⁰ which go to form the foundations of all technical and scientific knowledge.

As for anthropology and geology, these two subjects²⁴⁰ have special significance for your State. Inhabited as your State is by a number of tribal people speaking different tongues²⁶⁰ and having different customs and possibly belonging to different ethnic groups, no other State in India provides such favourable conditions²⁸⁰ and opportunities for the study of anthropology as yours. In respect of geology also, I feel that its study should³⁰⁰ have special importance for the University of Gauhati, for the benefit of not only Assam but the whole country. Assam³²⁰ is so rich in mineral wealth, which is yet to be tapped. And so far as the production of oil³⁴⁰ goes, your State has its virtual monopoly in India. I am glad you have not been discouraged by these shortcomings,³⁶⁰ but you are endeavouring to create departments in these subjects as early as possible. I have not the least doubt³⁸⁰ that the Government of India will on their part, do all that is possible to enable you to do so.⁴⁰⁰

ETHNIC: racial; WHEREWITHAL: means;
GEOLOGY: study of earth structure;
ANTHROPOLOGY: study of mankind.

Handwritten shorthand notes corresponding to the text on the left, written in a cursive shorthand style on lined paper.

Exercise 2

I must congratulate you on maintaining high academic standards in your University. It has been said in certain quarters that²⁰ for the last few years some of our universities have relaxed their standards. I cannot verify how far it would⁴⁰ be correct to say so, but if there is any truth in it, this trend is to be deplored and⁶⁰ discouraged, because universities must always look ahead and after imparting education, must, of necessity, be upright, even strict, in the⁸⁰ matter of conferring degrees, distinctions or honours. You have done the right thing in sticking to this ideal from the¹⁰⁰ very beginning.

I am one with you that in order to be fully useful to the people for whom¹²⁰ a university serves, it ought to be a teaching body. I am glad that in your planning you have kept¹⁴⁰ this point in view. I hope the building which you have been good enough to invite me to open today,¹⁶⁰ marks the beginning of your undertaking in that direction. Apart from imparting education, which is after all the real aim¹⁸⁰ of a university, it will also help you to co-ordinate and centralise your academic activities. What has particularly pleased me²⁰⁰ in the Vice-Chancellor's Address is his reference to the fact that your University is likely to provide a great²²⁰ meeting place for the different racial and linguistic groups inhabiting Assam. My own view is that a University, besides being²⁴⁰ a seat of learning, should also be a centre of real cultural activity. For the mixing of people professing different²⁶⁰ faiths, speaking different tongues and having different customs and traditions, no other place can be more suitable than a university.²⁸⁰

This is because a university is singularly free from any kind of bias and the din and turmoil of politics.³⁰⁰ It provides an ideal atmosphere for all people to come close together and understand each other. I need hardly point³²⁰ out that you will be rendering a great service not only to your State but to the whole of India,³⁴⁰ if you keep this objective before you. You will have rendered a great service to the nation if by sticking³⁶⁰ to your resolve you succeed in bringing all these groups together by providing them equal opportunities, thereby promoting mutual understanding³⁸⁰ and the good of all. I am thankful to the Vice-Chancellor for having invited me to open this building⁴⁰⁰ and for giving me an opportunity to address you today. I wish your University a bright future and hope it⁴²⁰ will succeed in tiding over the difficulties and will be counted as one of India's great seats of learning and education.⁴⁴⁰

VERIFY: to check genuineness; LINGUISTIC: based on language...

Exercise 3

Reproduction and multiplication of books and other things is one of the characteristics of modern age. It someone wrote a²⁰ book in ancient times, the writer could have only one copy of the hand-written manuscripts. If more copies were⁴⁰ required, the whole thing had to be rewritten in hand by a scribe, which was an expensive and an arduous⁶⁰ job. Today, on the other had, if we want reproductions of a book or a given event, we have at⁸⁰ our disposal not only the printing press but a few other scientific devices. Multiplication of things in the present age¹⁰⁰ appears to be a mere child's play. In earlier days if a good drama was staged and it happened to¹²⁰ gain popularity, only those could benefit from it who were physically present when that play was staged. That is because¹⁴⁰ the actors could not manage to be at more than one place at a time. Even if a play was¹⁶⁰ re-staged, no one could guarantee that it would be rendered with the same skill and have the same effect on¹⁸⁰ the audience as the original play staged earlier.

All that has changed today. Now we can have a play staged²⁰⁰ simultaneously at several places. We can have it cinematographed and in this way also reproduce the original voice of every²²⁰ actor. This is what is generally known as a film. Cinema is a very powerful medium for projecting ideas. It²⁴⁰ can create excellent effect on the audience if it has well-groomed actors, nice dialogues and conveys a good moral.²⁶⁰ But it is equally potential in its destructive powers if the characters are immoral so that their life, as portrayed²⁸⁰ in films, tends to degrade rather than raise society.

The capacity of the drama to do good or evil is³⁰⁰ limited in the sense that it can influence only those who see it enacted at one place at a time.³²⁰ But the capacity of the film is unlimited because of its reproductions and the large number of people who can³⁴⁰ see it any number of times at any number of places. It is, therefore, very necessary to be cautious in³⁶⁰ the production and use of films in order to ensure that they are utilized for the good of society. Broadly³⁸⁰ speaking, cinema may be said to have three main objectives, namely, education, recreation and propaganda and these have utmost importance.⁴⁰⁰

SCRIBE: writer; ARDUOUS: difficult;
SIMULTAMEOUSLY: at the same time.

Handwritten shorthand notes in a cursive style, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are organized into approximately 20 horizontal lines, each containing a series of symbols and abbreviations. Some lines include small numbers (e.g., 20, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200, 220, 240, 260, 280, 300, 320, 340, 360, 380, 400) which likely correspond to the superscripted numbers in the printed text. The shorthand appears to be a form of shorthand used for note-taking or dictation.

Exercise 4

After all, books can give only a part of the knowledge which is desirable for man to acquire. Far²⁰ more than books, it is the experience, the contacts and the environments which go to constitute an individual's knowledge. Cinema⁴⁰ can be a great help in acquiring knowledge from all these different sources because it can extend to incredible limits⁶⁰ the field of our visual and auditory experience. It is a truism that things which we see with our own⁸⁰ eyes influence us far more than things which we hear from other's mouths. Things which we see on the screen¹⁰⁰ may not be leaving as lasting an impression on us as things which we see in our actual life,¹²⁰ but nevertheless, scenes of the screen are more effective than descriptions read in print or heard through ears.

As for recreation,¹⁴⁰ it is also of many kinds. There is recreation which besides being entertaining is also educative. There can also be¹⁶⁰ something which is recreative but morally injurious. I cannot claim to have seen many films. Actually, I have not had¹⁸⁰ many occasions to see them. But I am told by many a friend that quite a number of our films²⁰⁰ belong to the later category and that far from being a genuine source of recreation or education, they only stimulate²²⁰ sensuousness. Such films have a particularly bad effect on younger minds. May be that such films are more popular than²⁴⁰ others. It is also possible that such films may be more paying. It might be said by some that films²⁶⁰ are produced on a commercial basis and, therefore, the producers have to produce only what is in demand. It may²⁸⁰ also be said that the principal function of the cinema is to provide entertainment, in which case producers have to³⁰⁰ be guided by popular taste.

All these good points might be adduced for the sake of argument. But I would³²⁰ like to point out to those connected with our cinema industry that if they want to render real service to³⁴⁰ the public and I do believe it should be their ideal, all these arguments should be of little consequence to³⁶⁰ them. At any rate, these are secondary considerations. The primary consideration must be service of the people. No service can³⁸⁰ be real unless it safeguards the genuine interests of those who are sought to be served. I would request film⁴⁰⁰ producers to think over this and ask themselves as to what their real aim is. The aim has to be⁴²⁰ service of the people, which is not incompatible with commercial success. But commercial success without service is hardly worth anything.⁴⁴⁰

INCREDIBLE: unbelievable; ENVIRONMENTS: surroundings; SENSUOUSNESS: controlled by senses.

Handwritten shorthand notes in a cursive style, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are organized into approximately 20 horizontal lines, each containing a series of shorthand symbols and abbreviations.

Exercise 5

My interest in basic education, goes back to the day when Mahatma Gandhi convened a conference at Wardha for discussing²⁰ this subject. A few prominent educationists and workers in the cause of national education had also been invited to attend⁴⁰ this conference. I have been in touch with the progress of this system of education ever since. I am, therefore,⁶⁰ happy to have got this opportunity to come here and speak to you about this problem,⁸⁰ although I know I might be repeating the views expressed by me earlier. It also likely that the views¹⁰⁰ which I express are not in consonance with those of others, particularly of educationists. Besides, it is also to be¹²⁰ seen how far my views fit in with the policy which is being pursued by the Central and State Governments¹⁴⁰ in this connection and how far it is practicable to modify that policy. Therefore, I hope what I am going¹⁶⁰ to say will be taken as my personal opinion and that you will discuss it as such with an open¹⁸⁰ mind without fear or favour.

It will be agreed that the system of education, right from the first primary class²⁰⁰ to the highest university course, which we are following today, is the same as introduced by the British Government in²²⁰ this country. We have not been able to introduce any fundamental change in that system even after the attainment of²⁴⁰ Independence. It is pointless to blame anyone for it, because the peaceful manner in which the transfer of power took²⁶⁰ place made it inevitable that along with the governmental machinery and other things, the system of education should also come²⁸⁰ to us as a heritage of the old regime.

It is now our duty to give thought to each one³⁰⁰ of these problems and decide in the light of present-day conditions how they can be solved and then to³²⁰ act upon what we have decided. There is no doubt that in introducing this system of education, the principal motive of³⁴⁰ the British Government was to secure as much advantage as possible for establishing itself in this country. The Britishers also³⁶⁰ thought that as compared to their own culture and literature there was nothing much in Indian culture and literature which³⁸⁰ might be said to be worth preserving. There is no doubt in course of time their views underwent some change.⁴⁰⁰

CONSONANCE: harmony; HERITAGE: to get from past.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Devanagari script, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are written in a cursive shorthand style on a set of four horizontal lines. The text is a summary of the printed text, capturing the main ideas and key words in shorthand form.

Exercise 6

The progress of science in Europe meanwhile confirmed them in their view that scientific education could be imparted only through²⁰ the medium of English. Consequently, partly for the sake of administrative convenience and partly to propagate their own language and⁴⁰ culture they stick to their own system of education which they introduced in this country. There is no doubt that⁶⁰ the education received by our earlier generations was based on this very system. Those people knew little of Indian literature⁸⁰ or culture and hardly felt drawn towards it, although a few Indian scholars who were inspired by English education did¹⁰⁰ study Indian literature and wrote a good deal in praise of it.

Thus we find two schools of thought in¹²⁰ this country. The followers of one school believe that our own language alone can be the medium of education and¹⁴⁰ until that is done, education is bound to remain confined to a small section of society and will never spread¹⁶⁰ among the masses. The other school of thought thinks that in this scientific age our country cannot cut itself adrift¹⁸⁰ from European thought and that at least higher education should continue to be imparted through the medium of English. If²⁰⁰ that is not done, they argue, we shall fail to pull our weight and lag behind other nations in the²²⁰ race for material progress. These views, as a matter of fact, apply not only to the medium of instruction but²⁴⁰ actually to the whole system of education.

Our people have responded more and more to the call education during²⁶⁰ the last 50 years and this is evident from the phenomenal increase in the number of educational institutions. In 1911-12²⁸⁰ when Burma and Pakistan were also part of India, there were 186 Universities and colleges in India, as³⁰⁰ compared with 537 in 1946-49, though Burma and Pakistan had separated, leaving India smaller³²⁰ in area and population. It is clear from the figures that there is a wide-spread demand for educational facilities. This³⁴⁰ demand is no longer confined to towns alone, but is evident among people of the rural areas also. One result³⁶⁰ of this spread of education has been that many educated people find themselves unemployed. Government jobs and service in private³⁸⁰ undertakings offer limited openings for the educated. Only a small fraction of successful scholars can be absorbed in them.⁴⁰⁰ A large majority of the educated are averse to taking up their parental occupations. As a result of their education,⁴²⁰ they have lost the capacity to take up those occupations and they are not equipped to follow any other either.⁴⁴⁰

ADRIFT: to go aside; PHENOMENAL: large.

Handwritten shorthand notes in a cursive style, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are organized into lines, with some lines containing numbers (e.g., 1911-12, 186, 537, 1946-49) and others containing symbols and abbreviations. Some lines are marked with 'x' at the end.

Exercise 7

Mahatma Gandhi who had anticipated all this, thought that this system of education which is so expensive would not do²⁰ if education was to be brought within the reach of every Indian, rich or poor. He, therefore, thought of a⁴⁰ new system of education which has come to be known as Basic Education and which Indian and foreign educational experts⁶⁰ have declared to be highly useful. According to Gandhiji, as far as I understood him there are two basic merits⁸⁰ in this new system. Firstly, education under this system is imparted not merely through books but through some kind of¹⁰⁰ practical work so that the knowledge which children acquire will not be the result of mere memorising but of actual¹²⁰ experience. He thought, and some of the leading educationists were at one with him, that knowledge acquired in this way¹⁴⁰ created a degree of consciousness, efficiency and a feeling of self-reliance, all of which would come handy to one when¹⁶⁰ starting life.

Secondly, the other merit in this system, according to him, is that it brings education for all within¹⁸⁰ the pale of practical possibility, because the handicrafts on which children would be working would bring some return in terms²⁰⁰ of money which would go, at least in part, to meet the expenses of their education. He was convinced that²²⁰ unless young scholars made this contribution towards their own education, universal education in India would never be possible. The result²⁴⁰ of all the discussions and experimentation in the field of education during the last 16 or 17 years is, in²⁶⁰ my opinion, the same that we arrived at in our discussions in the first Conference held at Wardha. Educationists had²⁸⁰ admitted the utility of the new system but considered children's contribution towards their education as not only impossible but undesirable.³⁰⁰

Our experience, on the other hand has demonstrated both the utility as well as the practicality of the system. My³²⁰ remarks are essentially with reference to primary and secondary education. Little has been done so far to apply this system³⁴⁰ to higher education. It is not, therefore, possible to say anything about it on the basis of experience. In spite³⁶⁰ of all that has been done in this field so far, it is a pity that this system has not³⁸⁰ received the encouragement which it deserved and which we could have given it after achieving independence from the British rule.⁴⁰⁰

ANTICIPATED: forecasted; CONSCIOUSNESS: awareness.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Devanagari script, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are written in a cursive style on lined paper.

Exercise 8

As far as I can say, the reason is that although the utility of the new system has been proved,²⁰ our faith in the old system of education remains unshaken. That is also why most of those who are engaged⁴⁰ in the work of education have not given much thought to the new system. All that we can say is⁵⁰ that even today the new system has not gone beyond the experimental stage. Our Government as bit decided to popularise⁸⁰ it as a part of its constructive programme, let alone doing anything practical for it. I know that in the¹⁰⁰ various conferences we have had so far, resolutions have been adopted in favour of it and Government agreed that the¹²⁰ new system should be adopted, but actually it has not been done. Consequently, educational institutions of the old type are¹⁴⁰ daily increasing and whatever budgetary provision Government makes under the head "Education" is spent mainly on keeping the old system¹⁶⁰ of education intact.

Naturally, the new system has received little encouragement. My own view is that unless fundamental changes are¹⁸⁰ made in the current system, the sad state of affairs that we see today will become sadder. The feeling of²⁰⁰ discontent among the educated and their utter dissatisfaction with life will continue to grow. I would, therefore, urge that all²²⁰ those concerned with the education of children, our educationists, universities and the governing bodies of colleges and schools, education ministers,²⁴⁰ etc., should give not only theoretical consideration to this problem, but do something practical to change the present system of²⁶⁰ education. Unless this is done the problem would become more and more complicated.

I am very happy that the new²⁸⁰ organisation has been carrying on its work undeterred by difficulties. I cannot say that its activities have influenced educational trends³⁰⁰ in the country to any considerable extent, but I must admit that whatever is being done by it, is of³²⁰ great value to the country. Its usefulness would be realised when, sooner or later, compelled by circumstances, we shall have³⁴⁰ to introduce fundamental changes in the system obtaining today. At that time the experience acquired by workers of the new³⁶⁰ organisation will come handy. As I said earlier, our experiment in the sphere of primary and secondary education has been³⁸⁰ successful and we can confidently recommend the new system to our countrymen at these two stages. We cannot say the⁴⁰⁰ same in respect of higher education in view of the inadequacy of our experience. Therefore, I attach great importance to⁴²⁰ your work. I hope the unfavourable atmosphere will not detract your workers and they would continue to do their job.⁴⁴⁰

COMPLICATED: complex.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Urdu script, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are written in a cursive style on lined paper.

Exercise 10

The Minister knows that the Administrative Staff College in Hyderabad is a premier institution running on excellent lines. But²⁰ you have given just Rs.2.5 lakhs as grant in this year's Budget. I suggest such an organisation⁴⁰ must be encouraged. Similarly, for the scientist going abroad you have provided only Rs.1.25 lakhs in the⁶⁰ Budget. It is a very small amount. This should be increased. The Education Ministry should lay more stress on the⁸⁰ extra-curricular activities of the students. Study tours, excursions, the NCC and the NSS should be given¹⁰⁰ encouragement. The Earn-as-you-Learn has also to be encouraged. It has not picked up in our country,¹²⁰ but we should give more encouragement to this scheme. Because in a poor country like ours there are many students¹⁴⁰ from the middle class families. If you can introduce a scheme like Earn-as-you-¹⁶⁰learn, at least in some centres, on an experimental basis, that would be helpful.

Regarding the role of the Student¹⁸⁰ Unions, also you must review, because in certain universities like Delhi University and some other universities, elections to these Unions²⁰⁰ are comparable to the General Elections and most of the time of the students is being lost in the direct²²⁰ elections. In earlier days, the Student Unions were formed by indirect elections. The class leaders used to be elected and²⁴⁰ those leaders used to elect the executive of the Union. Whether we should go back to that system, should be²⁶⁰ examined because of the role of the Students Union. I do not want abolishing of the Unions as a whole²⁸⁰ but a different method for elections to these Unions must be examined.

Then, I strongly, oppose any move for an³⁰⁰ All India Service in Education. If you have got any thought like that, we will firmly oppose it and all³²⁰ the non-Congress States are opposed to any new All India Service, particularly in education, because teachers going from one place³⁴⁰ to another would not help. It will not help at all. Regarding adult education, also the literacy rate in 1951³⁶⁰ was 16 per cent and it has just come to 36 per cent in 1981, after 30 years.³⁸⁰ Just you have 20 per cent increase. There are still 425 million illiterates in this country and if⁴⁰⁰ you take the 15-35 years age group they are now 210 million. It is a very⁴²⁰ explosive situation. You must do something to remove adult illiteracy, voluntary organisations should be encouraged to take up this task.⁴⁴⁰

Handwritten shorthand notes in Devanagari script, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are written in a cursive style on a grid of horizontal lines.

PREMIER: first, prime; (PREMIERE; first performance)
ABOLISHING : to remove.

Exercise 11

Madam, I rise firstly to support the Constitution Amendment Bill 1983, but I am not supporting the Representation of the²⁰ People Bill, 1988. I have got serious objections to certain provisions of the amending Bill. Madam, you are⁴⁰ quite aware, and the nation is also aware, that there have been frequent promises from the side of the Government⁶⁰ that the Government is very serious about bringing about comprehensive electoral reforms. As a matter of fact, never has there⁸⁰ been the occasion when the Government really put into shape in concrete terms, what it really means by electoral reforms.¹⁰⁰ But, so far as we are concerned, we put forth certain suggestions in specific form which may be considered as¹²⁰ practical, viable suggestions, propositions and ingredients to bring about appreciable changes in the present electoral system of our country.¹⁴⁰

I do not venture to say that all the measures which we have suggested constitute the final ingredients for a complete¹⁶⁰ and final reform of the electoral system in our country because the concept of election changes with changing times. Since¹⁸⁰ I do not have much time, I would not like to discuss it. But, so far as we are concerned,²⁰⁰ we placed before the Government certain ingredients which should be considered as inevitable propositions for bringing about certain changes in²²⁰ the electoral system. Those include, amongst others, acceptance of the principle of proportional representation, state funding of elections, elimination of²⁴⁰ moneypower and muscle power, stoppage of misuse of media, reduction of corrupt electoral practices and impartial and independent Election Commission.²⁶⁰

Madam, I leave it to you and to the House. There was commonality of views on these items. On²⁸⁰ certain items even the Congress Party also expressed its commonness in their view. But please find out which of these³⁰⁰ components have formed a part of the present Bill, barring one and two. Anyway, at this stage, I want to³²⁰ say something about the comments made by my friend particularly in regard to proportional representation in India. He has a³⁴⁰ misconceived idea, and he is ignorant of the electoral history of this country. Number one, is it a fact³⁶⁰ that always the Muslims voted for the Muslims or that always the Hindus voted for the Hindus? Had it been³⁸⁰ the case, I think, many of us would not have seen the chamber of this House either this or that.⁴⁰⁰

COMPREHENSIVE: detailed; ELIMINATION: removal;
IMPARTIAL: independent; INGREDIENTS: elements to form the whole.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Urdu script, corresponding to the printed text on the left. The notes are written on a set of horizontal lines and include various symbols and abbreviations used in shorthand.

Exercise 12

A large number of people, I think majority of the people, are still not infected by communal ideas. They are²⁰ very much secular so far as they exercise their voting right. But here once you accept the principle of proportional⁴⁰ representation in our electoral system, you are encouraging communal forces, you are dividing India communally, I do not find any⁶⁰ rationale in this idea. If we have to accept this, then, Madam Deputy Chairman, then you have to negate the⁸⁰ history of your party. The Congress Party did not get the votes of a particular section or a particular community.¹⁰⁰ People voted for the Congress Party on secular ideas, not on communal ideas. Therefore, it is not that idea. If²⁰ that idea is there, I think it needs severe condemnation. It is you who encourage communal feelings in the electoral⁴⁰ processes.

My friend has rightly pointed out that the concept of proportional representation is based on arithmetic might. We want¹⁶⁰ proportional representation because it has been our experience that some party, particularly the Congress has occupied majority of the seats¹⁸⁰ on the basis of minority votes secured by them. Few Members are elected to this House or that House or²⁰⁰ in any other electoral process securing the majority of the total votes. If you want really to judge the will²²⁰ of the people, if you want to have democracy based on the will of the people, the majority of the²⁴⁰ people, the present system does not fulfil that objective. You get elected, even I get elected, not on the basis²⁶⁰ of the majority of the total votes but on the basis of the minority of the votes. I think, everybody²⁸⁰ will agree that this cannot be a sound principle of democracy. I don't say that there may be means and³⁰⁰ modes of proportional representations.

There cannot be a cut and dried mode of proportional representation. What we want is that³²⁰ the Government should accept the principle of proportional representation so that there can be reflection of the people's will proportionately.³⁴⁰ Therefore, I am rather very much disappointed with the comments made by my friend. Please allow me to make this³⁶⁰ comment. As a matter of fact these are not at all electoral reforms. It is rather a caricature of reforms.³⁸⁰ On the other hand, this amending Bill puts certain impediments on political parties in our country. I would give only⁴⁰⁰ two examples. One is registration. You will find there are lots of information to be given by a political party⁴²⁰ to the Commission and the political party will bound to furnish that information to the Election Commission.⁴⁴⁰

RATIONALE: reason; CARICATURE: to appear ridiculous; IMPEDIMENTS: hindrances.

Handwritten shorthand notes in Progressive Shorthand script, corresponding to the typed text on the left. The notes are written on a set of four horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom, and descender lines) and use various symbols, dots, and strokes to represent the words and structure of the text.

Exercise 13

I am happy that the Government has emphasised its commitment to non-alignment but in the process of their commitment²⁰ to non-alignment, they have tried to use the phrase genuine non-alignment. I shall not quarrel with my friend⁴⁰ about words. But what is non-alignment? Non-alignment is not a mantra. Non-alignment is the basic fundamental right of⁶⁰ every sovereign country. When we are not committed -- and there is no prior commitment to any power block -- we take⁸⁰ our decision on what our policy should be, on its merits on any given issue. And if this cannot be¹⁰⁰ genuine, it cannot be non-alignment. So to use the word genuine non-alignment in a sense, is a contradiction¹²⁰ in term. In any case, I hope, what he means by genuine and what we meant by genuine, are the¹⁴⁰ same and there is no concrete difference in the word. Today foreign relations do not cover only consular or diplomatic¹⁶⁰ relations. They cover trade, economic development, technological co-operation and many other things. Foreign relations also fall into different spheres and¹⁸⁰ categories.

It is needless for me to point out the importance of our relations with the Soviet Union in many²⁰⁰ of these fields. Soviet Union has always stood by us in every hour of our crisis and in every²²⁰ problem that we have had to face. This can be said of few other countries and we recognise this invaluable²⁴⁰ assistance. I shall not dilate on this, I am sure, my friend understands what I am trying to convey. At²⁶⁰ the same time, I need not emphasize the necessity of our working out economic and developmental relations with the United²⁸⁰ States, Japan, West Germany and other Western countries. They have the technology and they have the financial resources to play³⁰⁰ a leading role in giving assistance to all developing countries. But we have to recognise the complementary nature of any³²⁰ assistance that we can get either from the Soviet Union or from the Western countries. This complementary nature of assistance³⁴⁰ is very clear and does not require any elaboration. There is one other aspect to which I would like to³⁶⁰ draw the attention of the Honourable Minister. This is very often forgotten. We are not really an under-developed country. ³⁸⁰Next to the United States and USSR, the largest reservoir of technological skills do exist in India.⁴⁰⁰

It is unfortunate that we have not been able to utilise fully the

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technological manpower and trained skills that⁴²⁰ we have in this country in plenty. However, this very reservoir of technological skills and trained manpower can become a⁴⁴⁰ useful element and an asset in our foreign relations. We can in certain fields become an aid giving country. Giving⁴⁶⁰ of aid does not necessarily mean giving only financial aid. We can very well compete with the so-called developed⁴⁸⁰ countries in certain fields through the export of our technology and skills, such as, in sugar, in cement, in textiles⁵⁰⁰ and in many other fields. In fact, we can probably be more helpful to the less developed countries than the⁵²⁰ highly developed and complex technologies of the West.

This is a field which needs to be carefully explored in our⁵⁴⁰ foreign relations. In the context of our extremely friendly relations which the Honourable Minister mentioned with countries, like Iran and⁵⁶⁰ the Arab States, our technical services can be offered to mutual advantage and this could become an extremely useful cementing⁵⁸⁰ factors in our relations. This would apply with equal emphasis to the countries of Africa and South East Asia. While⁶⁰⁰ on this subject, I would like to give one interesting instance. One of my colleague in this House, was telling⁶²⁰ me the other day that he once suggested that we take on the technical survey, free of cost of the⁶⁴⁰ hydro-electric potential of Indonesia and how this could have been a contribution from us to the development process of⁶⁶⁰ Indonesia. This is a field where we have the manpower, the skills and the competence.

I do not know what⁶⁸⁰ became of this suggestion. Probably this is buried in bureaucratic files neatly tied up with red tape. I am not⁷⁰⁰ disclosing any secret, if I were to recall one of my own experiences in this context. Some years ago, I⁷²⁰ made a submission to the Ministry of External Affairs that we should consider assisting Zambia on the building of the⁷⁴⁰ railways. We did not take sufficient interest in this project. Finally, China took the work on hand and has now⁷⁶⁰ completed the job. Surely, if China could have done it, we would have also done it. Sir, I can⁷⁸⁰ only call it our lack of interest in the railways as an example of our bureaucratic indifference and incompetence lying therein.⁸⁰⁰ If we had undertaken their railway, our Bhilai Steel Plant, Locomotive Works and the Coach Factory would have been kept⁸²⁰ busy for at least 20 years. I presume that my friend might say that this should have been raised earlier.⁴⁴⁰

COMMITMENT: to trust; ELABORATION: to detail out;
RESERVOIR: a store for fluids; POTENTIAL: hidden strength;
BUREAUCRATIC: official.

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Exercise 14

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Constitutional pundits rightly pointed out that free and fair election is the essence of democracy.²⁰ So, the Government which has faith in democracy is expected to introduce necessary reforms to have free and fair elections.⁴⁰ So, in the Constitution Amendment Bill 1988, as well as representations to the⁶⁰ Government have taken some necessary measures to remove the defects in our electoral system and restore free and fair⁸⁰ elections in our process. Sir, I extend my full support to the Constitution Amendment Bill, 1988, which reduces¹⁰⁰ the voting age from 21 years to 18 years. No doubt, it is a drastic change and there was a¹²⁰ great demand for this change from the younger generation. But I am to remind this House that there are some¹⁴⁰ State Governments which have already introduced this change.

Our Government reduced the voting age from 21 years to 18 years.¹⁶⁰ So in consonance with that line, the Central Government has also come forward to reduce the age by amending the¹⁸⁰ Constitution. But here I would like to remind one thing that when the voting age was 21 years, it is²⁰⁰ quite common in all the States that so many voters at the age of 18, 19 or 20 years have²²⁰ enrolled their names. When you reduce the age from 21 years to 18 years, it is quite natural that the²⁴⁰ people who are at the age of 15 or 16 years may also come forward to enrol their names in²⁶⁰ the electoral rolls. To avoid this influx I would like to appeal to the Government that without any delay, the²⁸⁰ multi-purpose card must be introduced. I am glad that the government has given an assurance to introduce the identity³⁰⁰ card system. It is in the right direction.

Sir, the Honourable Minister, in the name of reforming the electoral process has³²⁰ taken some steps to curb the rights of the States. For example, under Section 13 he has introduced a new³⁴⁰ section by which all the officers and members of the staff who are actually under the control of the State³⁶⁰ Government are brought under the control of the Election Commission during the election period and not only for control, but³⁸⁰ also for discipline purpose and other purposes, they are under their control. Sir, earlier they were assisting the Election Commission.⁴⁰⁰

There was no difficulty to the Election Commission. But now the Central Government want control on the officials and want to⁴²⁰ conduct the election with its own power. In the name of giving powers to the Election Commission, it has amended⁴⁴⁰ this,

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it has moved this proposal with a bad motive . The Election Commission we know in theory, is an independent⁴⁶⁰ body. There is no doubt about that. But in practice, it is under the control and direction of the Central⁴⁸⁰ Government. If the Government is very particular about this amendment, then my honest opinion is that it should have consulted⁵⁰⁰ the State Governments before putting this proposal. But, to the best of my information, this Government has not consulted any⁵²⁰ State Government. Without consulting the State Governments, it has taken the officials of the State Governments under its control.

Sir,⁵⁴⁰ here, a right move is regarding the recognition of political parties, and definition of political parties. I am not against⁵⁶⁰ this clause. But the dangerous thing is this. Which is a political party? The decision of the Election Commission is⁵⁸⁰ final on this question. That is a dangerous thing. There must be room for decision by Court. If the decision⁶⁰⁰ of the Election Commission is final, then there will be no democracy because, as I state earlier we know by⁶²⁰ experience that the Election Commission is under the control and influence of the party in power at the Centre.

This⁶⁴⁰ Bill has included some more offences to disqualify a candidate from contesting elections. In principle, I am not against this.⁶⁶⁰ But, is it necessary? Why should we enlarge the number of grounds? There is no need at all. If anybody⁶⁸⁰ is convicted by the court, it is the people who reject him in the poll. Why do you unnecessarily increase⁷⁰⁰ the grounds for disqualification? It will give room for the talk that the Government is always for restricted democracy and⁷²⁰ not for liberal democracy. We cannot give room for such suspicion or apprehension by the people. I am not against⁷⁴⁰ this in principle. Of course, in case of certain valid grounds, it may be necessary. But at the same time,⁷⁶⁰ if you enlarge the grounds in this way, the party in power, either at the Centre or in the States⁷⁸⁰ will misuse the power to disqualify any contesting candidate. For example, one or two persons in a local area may⁸⁰⁰ be influential. But with the help of the local police, they may get punished thereby preventing them from contesting⁸²⁰ the election. That is why the clause which include more grounds for disqualification must be deleted from this Amendment.⁸⁴⁰

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RESTORE: to give back; INFLUX: sudden inflow.

Exercise 15

Sir, this is the time to look at the performance of the general fiscal situation. I have listened with some attention²⁰ to the remarks from the Opposition. Everybody is worried. I heard my friend speaking and the Honourable Members just now⁴⁰ who spoke also and talked about the problems of the size of the deficit of no-Plan expenditure, the question of continuing⁶⁰ inefficiency of relatively less efficiency of public enterprises or the fear of the debt trap. These are familiar battle cries⁸⁰ on the side of the Opposition. At the same time, if you heard the earlier debates, the demand on behalf¹⁰⁰ of the States for net added transfer of resources from the Centre to States is still growing. The pressure is¹²⁰ mounting. There is a demand for additional subsidy and continuation of excise subsidies.

Then, on the one side, we talk¹⁴⁰ about efficiency in economic management, on the other side we find different State Governments and particularly, some of the neighbouring¹⁶⁰ State Governments indulging in populist approach towards repayment of loans from the banks or other sectors of the Government. Now,¹⁸⁰ it is very difficult to reconcile the economic rationality of the demand and the economic rationality of the comments that²⁰⁰ the Opposition Members are trying to make. Let us look at the hard facts. The question is whether the economy²²⁰ is growing in terms of growth rate of the GNP. This can be checked in terms of figures available here. The fact is that it is²⁴⁰ growing at a very fast pace. In fact, the expected rate of growth of real income in the current year²⁶⁰ is likely to be around 8 per cent, which is much higher than what we have seen in the recent²⁸⁰ years. If you look at the sectoral composition of performance thanks to the bountiful monsoon and a more imaginative agricultural³⁰⁰ strategy, particularly the food production, we are finding a better performance in the food production sector. Of course, we depleted³²⁰ our buffer stock but as a result of the better crops and with some imports we are trying to replenish³⁴⁰ our buffer stocks. Industrial growth has been very encouraging although in the last few months there has been a tendency³⁶⁰ at deceleration and we hope by the year-end, the things will level up and our performance in the industrial³⁸⁰ sector will be well above the recent performance. It should be crossing 10 to 11 per cent mark altogether.⁴⁰⁰

I heard my friend talking about the Consumer's Price Index. There is no doubt that there is rise in⁴²⁰ the Consumer's Price Index and the consumer faces the real punch but the increase

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has not been as alarming as⁴⁴⁰ we think, particularly if we look at the recent drought and the risk of likely increase in price which did⁴⁶⁰ not take place. Now so far as the Consumer's Price Index is concerned, it is closely related to the liquidity⁴⁸⁰ in the economy. It is true that the liquidity is growing because disposable income has been growing because of different⁵⁰⁰ kinds of payments that we have committed whether it is the Fifth Pay Commission and the cascading effect of that⁵²⁰ in the rest of the economy or the other salary settlements, Dearness allowances and all that. This leads to demand⁵⁴⁰ inflation. But on supply side if our buffer stock position is right and releases are timely and adequate, all the⁵⁶⁰ operations both on the supply side and on the demand side of the buffer stock are efficient that we should⁵⁸⁰ have no fears. It seems to me the very fact that the price index has not been rising at a⁶⁰⁰ very rapid pace, shows that the supply management, so far as the essential commodities are concerned, has been somewhat efficient⁶²⁰ and this has given us a relatively better balance with demand.

Now, so far as the wholesale price index is⁶⁴⁰ concerned, it is very encouraging. As a matter of fact, there was a slight pressure but if you take the⁶⁶⁰ latest figures, there has been a deceleration there. What is particularly encouraging is that in the agricultural product group the⁶⁸⁰ rate of increase in the wholesale price index has been much less compared to the non-agricultural commodity group. However,⁷⁰⁰ the fact remains that the resource position of the Government is under strain. When we talk of resource position, we talk⁷²⁰ of three components. Number one, what is the rate of the domestic savings, particularly the net figures have been under⁷⁴⁰ serious stress. Fortunately, the household sector performance has been good but the performance at the corporate sector level, and particularly,⁷⁶⁰ the saving in the public sector of the corporate sector has been discouraging and much more discouraging has been the⁷⁸⁰ rate of the savings in the Government sector. So this is one area where substantial correction is required in order⁸⁰⁰ to generate adequate resource for investment. The second component is related to revenue. Now if you take the total revenue⁸²⁰ picture, the direct taxes constitute 14 percent and indirect taxes constitute 85 percent which are increasing every year.⁸⁴⁰

FISCAL: relating to money; POPULIST: popular;
 RATIONALITY: based on reason; DEPLETED: to exhaust;
 REPLENISH: to fill up again; DECELERATION: to decrease gradually;
 SUBSTANTIAL: large.

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Exercise 16

Mr. President, it is no accident that Indonesia is the first country I have visited since my assumption of office.²⁰ Indonesia and India are neighbours who share a common cultural heritage and whose record of peaceful cooperation over the centuries⁴⁰ can perhaps be regarded as a model for relations between States. In the more recent past, our peoples inspired one⁶⁰ another in a mutually reinforcing struggle to rid ourselves of colonial domination. Since our emergence as independent States. We have⁸⁰ been engaged in the task of consolidating our freedom. Both our countries have adopted the principles of Panchshila. In a¹⁰⁰ world characterised by competition between power blocs, we concluded that a policy of non-alignment was best calculated to consolidate¹²⁰ our independence and to foster our political and economic development in directions best suited to the genius of our people.¹⁴⁰ Our common assessment that military alliances afford an illusory sense of security and cannot provide enduring strength has been fully¹⁶⁰ vindicated by developments which have taken place since we first enunciated the policy of non-alignment. While referring to the¹⁸⁰ period shortly after we became independent members of the comity of nations I cannot but recall with pride and gratification²⁰⁰ the initiatives our countries took to pave the way for Afro-Asian unity at the historic Bandung Conference.

The ASEAN²²⁰ countries have formulated proposals calculated to ensure their stability and security from external interference. We fully share the concerns and²⁴⁰ aspirations of the ASEAN countries and have pledged our cooperation in the attainment of their objectives. The concept of the Indian²⁶⁰ Ocean as a Zone of Peace constitutes yet a further assertion on the part of the litoral and hinterland States²⁸⁰ of their concern over the tension and the serious intensification of the arms race caused by the expansion of Great³⁰⁰ Power presence in our region. Indonesia and India are among the largest countries in Asia and the world and our³²⁰ constructive and close cooperation could contribute significantly to the creation of conditions of peace and stability in the region to³⁴⁰ which we belong. Mr. President, there is a wind of change in Asia. Important developments have taken place in Indo-China³⁶⁰ in the recent past. The termination of the conflict in that region is a matter of particular gratification since it³⁸⁰ has brought to an end a long period of bitter and avoidable human suffering but more difficult task lies ahead.⁴⁰⁰

The new situation which has emerged is of great significance for Asia since it opens up the prospect of a⁴²⁰ constructive and fruitful relationship among the States in the region based on sovereignty,

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territorial integrity and cooperation and mutual⁴⁴⁰ benefit. The situation in the sub-continent has changed fundamentally since the emergence of Bangladesh as an independent nation in 1971.⁴⁶⁰ We have been earnestly engaged in the process of establishing a climate of durable peace in our region and are⁴⁸⁰ determined to persist with these efforts. In West Asia, the situation will remain tense as long as forcible occupation of⁵⁰⁰ Arab territories is not vacated and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are not recognised.

These various developments have⁵²⁰ tended to underscore the question of security and development in the Asian context. Mr. President, it is our belief that⁵⁴⁰ in the ultimate analysis, these can most effectively be assured through the establishment of stability and internal strength both in⁵⁶⁰ the national and regional contexts. Our thinking in this regard corresponds to the Indonesian concept of resilience. The fabric of⁵⁸⁰ peace and stability can be further strengthened through bilateral, economic and cultural cooperation which can gradually be extended to assume⁶⁰⁰ a multilateral character. History and political circumstances have prevented Asian nations from developing an Asian consciousness or a sense of⁶²⁰ regional unity and identity. I am confident that through the promotion of closer cooperation and understanding between the nations of⁶⁴⁰ our region we can take decisive and meaningful steps towards the attainment of a goal which would undoubtedly be in⁶⁶⁰ the interest of all our people.

Mr. President, both our countries are engaged in the monumental task of improving the⁶⁸⁰ quality of life of our peoples. We realize that we must undertake the responsibilities of economic development and social justice⁷⁰⁰ with the same vigour which motivated our struggles for independence since freedom can become secure and meaningful for our people⁷²⁰ only if it has social and economic content. The responsibility to make the less developed countries economically strong has to⁷⁴⁰ be accepted by the international community as a whole as an essential pre-requisite for durable peace and security and the⁷⁶⁰ developed and rich countries have an obligation to promote this process. It is equally necessary for the developing countries to⁷⁸⁰ assist one another by sharing their resources and skills and by establishing close links for mutually beneficial economic cooperation. Indonesia's⁸⁰⁰ reserves of natural resources are happily abundant and I have been gratified to see what remarkable progress your Government has⁸²⁰ made in the development of these resources. We in India have made our own efforts to develop our technology.⁸⁴⁰

FOSTER: strengthen; GENIUS: intelligence; RESILIENCE: flexibility.

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Exercise 17

Madam, I do not have animosity towards that language and I do not have any hatred towards that language. I²⁰ have got great respect for the Hindi-speaking people and for the Hindi language. But I will not give it⁴⁰ more love and more respect that I would give to my language. I love my own language and my⁶⁰ own mother-tongue more than any thing else. That is the point we are stressing. Is it not a fact⁸⁰ that these people get more advantages because of this? In the year 1950, it was said that Hindi would¹⁰⁰ be the official language of India and English also would continue. Then in 1965, because of the agitation¹²⁰ in the South, they extended it for another ten years, and now they say that Hindi would be the sole¹⁴⁰ official language. If at all a person is to be considered really an Indian, he should tolerate the Hindi imposition¹⁶⁰ and he must read and write in that language. That is what it comes to. Then, Madam, they say that¹⁸⁰ Hindi is spoken by a majority of the people. What is majority or minority here? It is a sentimental issue²⁰⁰ and it should not be treated as a majority or minority issue. This has to be considered and treated as²²⁰ a matter of justice and truth. They should consult the people of South India on this issue. Fretting and fuming²⁴⁰ should not be the policy, and vindictiveness and vituperation should not be the policy. This is the real feeling of²⁶⁰ the people of the southern part of the country. Now, Madam some speaker just now mentioned that if you simply²⁸⁰ go into the markets of Chennai, you will find the people speaking in Hindi and understanding Hindi.

Then, I tell³⁰⁰ you one more thing about the Hindi language. They talk about majority and minority. What is majority? Majority means 51³²⁰ per cent of the population of this country who are speaking Hindi, but even according to the Census Report, it³⁴⁰ was stated that 42 per cent of this country are in a position to understand Hindi. Even among this³⁶⁰ 42 per cent, there are other groups belonging to the languages like Punjabi, Urdu, etc as such and so³⁸⁰ on. Even among this 42 per cent every body is not in a position to understand Hindi at all.⁴⁰⁰

Even if that⁴²⁰ per cent includes the people scattered all over the country, throughout the length and breadth⁴²⁰ of the country, I can understand. But these people are confined to

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three or four States only, that is, Rajashtan,⁴⁴⁰ Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Simply because some people somewhere in the northern part of the country understand this⁴⁶⁰ language, you cannot ask the persons from the southern part of this country to accept it and you cannot ask⁴⁸⁰ the people from the southern part of the country, particularly the Tamilians, to learn this language and accept this as⁵⁰⁰ the sole official language, read this Constitutional language and follow this language, do all the day-to-day transactions and⁵²⁰ other transactions, political or social, in that language.

I have a very good language, a language which is very ancient.⁵⁴⁰ I do not know when it was born. It was born even before the appearance of mud and stone, a⁵⁶⁰ language spoken by my forefathers, a language in which our poets have given sermons and written scriptures, a language in⁵⁸⁰ which not only sermons, and scriptures are available in plenty, but thousands and thousands of literary works and novels are⁶⁰⁰ there. But I am not asking that language to be introduced as the sole official language for the whole of⁶²⁰ this country. If at all anybody has to come forward and ask others to learn a particular language, it is⁶⁴⁰ I who should ask them to learn this language. But nobody would come forward and say, "let us introduce Tamil⁶⁶⁰ as the sole official language." Why don't you think that if you are really an Indian, you should have that⁶⁸⁰ important language which is your language and, if you should and, if you at all are an Indian, you should accept that important language⁷⁰⁰ also?

Madam, in our Constitution, we have accepted the community called the Anglo-Indian community. We have accepted that community⁷²⁰ in our Constitution and that Anglo-Indian community is a minority community and that minority community speaks English and English⁷⁴⁰ as its mother-tongue. Then, is it not the bounden duty of the citizens of India to think that English⁷⁶⁰ which is spoken by this community and which community has been accepted in the Constitution, is also accepted as one⁷⁸⁰ of the official languages? Madam, English is not the mother-tongue of the Britishers alone. They had also to import⁸⁰⁰ many words from so many sources and English has become a very wonderful thing and it has now become a⁸²⁰ language which is understood by the entire world. It is a language through which we can understand technical know-how.⁸⁴⁰

VITUPERATION: to abuse; SCRIPTURES: holy books;
SERMONS: message from holy books.

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Exercise 18

I thank you majesty for the gracious words of welcome you have just spoken. My wife and I have been²⁰ overwhelmed by the warm and affectionate welcome given to us since we set foot on this friendly land, I have⁴⁰ been looking forward to this visit as it gives us a most welcome opportunity to further strengthen the bonds of⁶⁰ friendship existing between our two countries. Your Majesty's visit to India two years ago is still vivid in our memory.⁸⁰ It is remembered for having opened new avenues of cooperation in diverse fields.

Iran has been a cradle of human¹⁰⁰ civilisation. Her contribution to common heritage of mankind can hardly be over-emphasised. This glorious country has been responsible for¹²⁰ many an illustrious chapter in the history of human endeavour in the field of Government, art, culture, music and poetry.¹⁴⁰ For millions of my countrymen, even for those who have not been fortunate enough like us to have visited this¹⁶⁰ great country. Iran is not a strange land. The aroma of Iranian culture and civilisation has permeated Indian literature and¹⁸⁰ philosophy since many a century. This visit thus provides us an opportunity to reaffirm the links of history and culture²⁰⁰ which bind our two peoples and provide an unshakable foundation for a multi-dimensional relationship of friendships and cooperation between²²⁰ India and Iran of today. The ancient civilisation to which we are heirs, mould our responses to the challenges we²⁴⁰ face in the present era. They enable us to make our distinctive contribution to the world community. It is our²⁶⁰ common endeavour to modernise our economies without the disadvantages accompanying the processes of industrialisation and technological change. This we hope²⁸⁰ to achieve by stressing the importance of a balance between man, whose welfare is our prime concern, and his environment.³⁰⁰ It is only appropriate for me to say that our present visit is but one in a chain of visits³²⁰ undertaken by the leaders of our nations in recent years. We had the privilege and honour to welcome Your Majesties³⁴⁰ nearly two years ago in India. Our Prime Minister visit to Iran in 1994 was a most memorable³⁶⁰ one for us here. It was a great pleasure for us to receive Prime Minister only last month. Fruits of³⁸⁰ these visits are now for everyone to see. New vistas of cooperation between India and Iran have been opened.⁴⁰⁰

This cooperation is based on our own technological capacities and physical and financial resources. We are maintaining a continuing dialogue⁴²⁰ between our two countries on issues of common concern and in finding new ways of augmenting and deepening the range⁴⁴⁰ of our industrial and scientific collaboration. Indo-Iran

economic cooperation already provides a model for other developing countries. We in⁴⁶⁰ India will do our utmost to promote and develop this mutually beneficial relationship and raise it to new heights. My⁴⁸⁰ Government is convinced that a constructive relationship between India and Iran based on close cooperation and political understanding has been made⁵⁰⁰ and will continue to make a signal contribution to the stability and peace of our region.

Our cooperation is not⁵²⁰ limited to bilateral relationships alone. In the international arena, we are engaged in creating an environment of peace and cooperation.⁵⁴⁰ Both our countries are parties to the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of peace free from foreign⁵⁶⁰ military presence and rivalry. Both are working together in various international institutions to bring about a new world economic order,⁵⁸⁰ based on inter-dependence, equality and justice. Great changes are taking place throughout the world, both in the political and⁶⁰⁰ economic spheres, throwing up new challenges and responsibilities. At this juncture, Iran is fortunate in having Your Majesty's wise and⁶²⁰ far-sighted leadership. We have watched with satisfaction and happiness the phenomenal progress made by Iran over the last few⁶⁴⁰ years. Your profound comprehension of the world forces and of the inter-connection between world peace and the reduction and⁶⁶⁰ elimination of the glaring economic disparities among nations has made Iran play an important role in the struggle to bring⁶⁸⁰ about a more just international economic order. We welcome Iran's emphasis on regional cooperation in trade and development and share⁷⁰⁰ your vision that such cooperation will lead to global peace and secure regional environment which will deny any possibility of⁷²⁰ interference by outside forces.

We fully support your efforts to gain complete control over your national resources and to avail⁷⁴⁰ of the limitless opportunities in advances in Science and Technology for raising the living standards of all your peoples. I⁷⁶⁰ had visited your beautiful country nearly eight years ago. Within the few hours I have been there, I have seen⁷⁸⁰ unmistakable proof of the great progress made by Iran under your statesmanship. Mr. President, Sir, during the next few days⁸⁰⁰ I hope to acquaint myself more with this remarkable progress made by Iran in social, economic and technological fields as⁸²⁰ much as to visit a few famous centres of learning which have inspired countless generations all over the world.⁸⁴⁰

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PERMEATED: to absorb, to get into; ENVIRONMENT: atmosphere;
ELIMINATION: to remove.

Exercise 19

Rise to inform this august House of the status of discussions with the United States on civil nuclear energy co-operation.²⁰ Substantive aspects of this are reflected in the Joint Statement that US President Bush and I agreed upon⁴⁰ during my visit to Washington DC last year. I would like to use this occasion to outline the context⁶⁰ and core elements of the Joint Statement, before detailing the status of the ongoing negotiations. Hon'ble Members are aware that our⁸⁰ effort to reach an understanding with the United States to enable civil nuclear energy cooperation was based on our¹⁰⁰ need to overcome the growing energy deficit that confronts us. As India strives to raise its annual GDP growth rate¹²⁰ from the present 7-8 per cent to over 10 per cent, the energy deficit will only worsen. This may not only¹⁴⁰ retard growth, it could also impose an additional burden in terms of the increased cost of importing oil and natural gas,¹⁶⁰ in a scenario of sharply rising hydrocarbon prices. While we have substantial reserves of coal, excessive dependence on coal-based¹⁸⁰ energy has its own implications for our environment. Nuclear technology provides a plentiful and non-polluting source of power to meet²⁰⁰ our energy needs. However, to increase the share of nuclear power in our energy mix, we need to break out²²⁰ of the confines imposed by inadequate reserves of natural uranium, and by international embargos that have constrained our nuclear programme²⁴⁰ for over three decades.

Established through the vision of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and sustained by the commitment of scientists like Dr. Homi Bhabha,²⁶⁰ our nuclear programme is truly unique. Its uniqueness lies in the breadth of its overarching vision: of India mastering²⁸⁰ a three-stage nuclear programme using our vast thorium resources, and mastering more complex processes of the full nuclear fuel cycle.³⁰⁰ Consequently, our civilian and strategic programmes are deeply intertwined across the expanse of the nuclear fuel cycle. There are³²⁰ hardly any other countries in a similar situation. Over the years, the maturation of our nuclear programme, including the development of³⁴⁰ world-class thermal power reactors, has made it possible to contemplate some changes. These are worth considering if benefits include gaining³⁶⁰ unhindered access to nuclear material, equipment, technology and fuel from international sources. However, international trade in nuclear material, equipment and technologies³⁸⁰ is largely determined by the Nuclear Suppliers' Group an informal group of 45 countries members including the United States.⁴⁰⁰

But more importantly, in the Joint Statement, the United States implicitly acknowledged the existence of our nuclear weapons programme.⁴²⁰ There was also public recognition that as a responsible State with advanced nuclear technologies, India should acquire the

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same benefits and advantages⁴⁴⁰ as other States which have advanced nuclear technology, such as the United States. The Joint Statement offered the possibility⁴⁶⁰ of decades-old restrictions being set aside to create space for India's emergence as a full member of a new nuclear⁴⁸⁰ world order. On our part, as Hon'ble Members may recall from my suo motu statement last year, we⁵⁰⁰ committed ourselves to separating the civilian and strategic programme. However this was to be conditional upon, and reciprocal to,⁵²⁰ the United States fulfilling its side of the understanding. I had stressed that reciprocity was the key and we expected that the⁵⁴⁰ steps to be taken by India would be conditional upon and contingent on action taken by the United States.⁵⁶⁰ I had emphasized then and I reiterate today that no part of this process would affect or compromise our strategic programme.⁵⁸⁰ I now come to the negotiations that have taken place in the past few months. While these have been principally with⁶⁰⁰ the US, there have been discussions with other countries like Russia, UK and France as well. At the political level,⁶²⁰ I have maintained contact with President of France, President Putin of Russia, Prime Minister of the UK. I have also⁶⁴⁰ raised this subject with the Heads of State/Government of Norway, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, etc. all members of the NSG. I also met President Bush in New York last September and discussed implementation statement. In the same⁶⁸⁰ period, several American Congressional leaders and policy-makers have visited India in the past few months, many of whom met me.⁷⁰⁰ We have amply clarified our objective in pursuing full civil nuclear energy cooperation for our energy security and to reassure⁷²⁰ them of India's impeccable non-proliferation credentials.

At the official level, we have constituted two groups comprising key functionaries concerned with⁷⁴⁰ strategic and nuclear matters. They included the Department of Atomic Energy, the Ministry of External Affairs, the Armed Forces and my Office.⁷⁶⁰ These two groups were respectively mandated to draw up an acceptable separation plan, and to negotiate on this basis.⁷⁸⁰ The directive given to both groups was to ensure that our strategic nuclear programme is not compromised in any way, while⁸⁰⁰ striving to enlarge avenues for full civil nuclear energy cooperation with the international community. The negotiations by our officials have been⁸²⁰ extensive and prolonged. These have focused on four critical elements to focus on the nuclear facilities development in this area.⁸⁴⁰

SUBSTANTIVE: existing in reality;

INTERTWINED: to twist together; **IMPLICITY:** implied.

SUO MOTU: out of free will;

IMPECCABLE: without any defect;

MANDATED: ordered under law.

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Exercise 20

Sir, the Honourable Member, has very ably summed up in a way the total situation, so far as irrigation is²⁰ concerned and the problem that arises in this context. The question was of a limited nature and we did try⁴⁰ to give all the answers that the Honourable Member wanted. But now he has tried to amplify some of the⁶⁰ things that he wanted to elicit from the Government, I will try to answer as best as I can. It⁸⁰ is true that there would be a shortfall in our achievement of irrigation target at the end of the Sixth¹⁰⁰ Plan. The Sixth Plan target is 13 million hectares and the likely achievement is going to be 11 million hectares.¹²⁰

Thus there will be shortfall of two million hectares. As I answered to the question, the main constraint is that¹⁴⁰ of resource. I mentioned the figure of Rs. 1,650 crores as additional Central assistance for two years plus¹⁶⁰ 20 per cent step-up in market borrowings for the programme in 1993-94 as compared to last¹⁸⁰ year. I want to clarify that this is not the figure which would be made available for irrigation. This is²⁰⁰ the total additional that the Government has made available to the States in the State sector. We do hope that²²⁰ the States would be able to use as much of these additional resources that have been made available to them²⁴⁰ to reach the target and expedite irrigation programmes, about whose importance the Honourable Member very rightly stressed. It is a²⁶⁰ very important sector of our development and in a way, all future development in agriculture and in other areas can²⁸⁰ only come from irrigation and development of agriculture, which depends on provision of water. I cannot say that the targets³⁰⁰ would be reached with these additional funds because it all depends how much priority the State Government would give in³²⁰ allocating these additional resources so far as irrigation development is concerned.

Another constraint is that the inputs sometimes are not³⁴⁰ available, which hinders development of irrigation works. It is true that some time back, that was the situation and we³⁶⁰ were passing through a great scarcity, which unfortunately, we are not still able to get over. It is not true³⁸⁰ that the cement allocation has been reduced from six million tonnes, as stated by the Honourable Member to five million tonnes.⁴⁰⁰

But the problem is that even the allocations are not made available by the cement factories because of many other⁴²⁰ things. In the last year or two there have been various serious

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cuts in electricity for cement works and this⁴⁴⁰ slowed the supply of cement for irrigation works to the extent we wanted. We in the Ministry of Irrigation have⁴⁶⁰ set up an Inter-Ministerial Group. We are constantly in touch with the Cement Controller, who also attends these meetings.⁴⁸⁰ The State Government's requisition are received and we try to sort out the thing. I can say as of now⁵⁰⁰ no serious complaint about this has been received. We have tried to streamline the distribution of cement to various States⁵²⁰ and project authorities.

Another very important point raised by the Honourable Member is: Why do we create potential when the⁵⁴⁰ potential already created is not being utilised? This is a serious problem. The figure for utilised potential is, unfortunately, growing.⁵⁶⁰ In 1993-94 the figure of unutilised potential was 2 million hectares and it has gone up⁵⁸⁰ in 1995-96 to four million hectares. On the one hand, we have completed some irrigation works⁶⁰⁰ provided more potential; on the other hand we have not been able to utilize it through the various methods that⁶²⁰ are available to us. This problem has been with us for quite a few years. It is because of this⁶⁴⁰ situation of lag between potential created and its utilisation that in 1984-85 the Command Area Development⁶⁶⁰ Programme was introduced. It has been going on in a number of States, and a number of Projects have⁶⁸⁰ been started.

All the things that the Honourable Members mentioned regarding the field channels, water management technique, provision of water to⁷⁰⁰ the tail-enders, rotational irrigation, drainage and cross drainage works, all these form part of the CAD Programme.⁷²⁰ We have further strengthened the CAD Programme this year by announcing that Rs.25 crores would be made⁷⁴⁰ available to the Command Area Development Authority, where the performance is found to exceed the target for the construction of⁷⁶⁰ field channels and we would be able to assist them more than what they normally get. Lastly, the Honourable Member mentioned⁷⁸⁰ that we have a potential of 110 million hectares. This is true. According to the surveys carried out⁸⁰⁰ as on today our water resources minor, medium, ground water etc. is 110 million hectares, of which we⁸²⁰ have utilised just about 50 per cent. If we continue the rate of development we would have utilised all this.⁸⁴⁰

AMPLIFY : detailed; ELICIT: to seek; REQUISITION: to ask for;
CONSTRAINT: restriction; POTENTIAL: hidden strength.

Handwritten notes in Urdu script, including dates like 1993-94, 1995-96, and 1984-85, and various phrases related to the text.

Exercise 21

I have great pleasure in associating myself with the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Chandigarh Press Club. Chandigarh is the²⁰ symbol of a new India, it is the City Beautiful. At the time of its creation, Jawaharlal Nehru declared "Let Chandigarh be⁴⁰ the first large expression of our genius flowering on our newly earned freedom". Representing the indomitable spirit of the people⁶⁰ of Punjab and Haryana, the city has symbolized the resurgence of modern India. In keeping with this vibrancy, the media in⁸⁰ Punjab has also been at the forefront of journalism in our country. Many of our finest journalists at the national level cut¹⁰⁰ their teeth here in Chandigarh. This city has been a fine training ground for journalists. Today morning, I had the¹²⁰ privilege of attending the 125th anniversary celebrations of The Tribune. The Tribune was born in Lahore,¹⁴⁰ but it blossomed here in Chandigarh. It did so because Chandigarh provided the intellectual, social and political environment in which media¹⁶⁰ could freely develop and grow. I salute Chandigarh and the people of Chandigarh. May your city continue to grow as¹⁸⁰ a role model in all walks of life.

I would like to pay a special tribute to the media in Punjab,²⁰⁰ and indeed in neighbouring Jammu & Kashmir, for standing up to the forces of terrorism and anti-national forces and for²²⁰ defending democracy and democratic values. I have always believed in the importance of a free press. It is the ultimate²⁴⁰ check against the tyranny of authority. As I have often said, I do sincerely believe that there is no grievance,²⁶⁰ howsoever extreme and desperate, that cannot be redressed through democratic means. Our democracy gives everyone the right to articulate any²⁸⁰ grievance in a democratic manner. However, no civilized society can tolerate violence and extremism. Extremism of any form, based on³⁰⁰ any divisive ideology, cannot be tolerated in any civilized, democratic society. Any group that claims to represent the interests of a³²⁰ people must be willing to test its popularity through democratic means and accept the people's verdict. It is through the³⁴⁰ legislature and in the media that public opinion has to be won over to a cause. Not by killing innocent people.³⁶⁰ Not by denying media its freedom to survey news and views. Many journalists have defended the freedom of the press³⁸⁰ against the tyranny of terrorism, bigotry and separatism. They were willing to do this by paying with their lives.⁴⁰⁰

We are proud of our media and its contribution to shaping public opinion for nation building and social change.⁴²⁰ The high standards of journalism prevailing in our country, in spite of the

Handwritten shorthand notes in Devanagari script, corresponding to the typed text on the left. The notes are written in a cursive style and include some numbers like 125, 140, 160, 180, 200, 220, 240, 260, 280, 300, 320, 340, 360, 380, 400, 420.

commercial pressures on media, testify to the robust⁴⁴⁰ traditions of independent journalism. Our free press has emerged as an important guarantor of democratic and human rights. Our media⁴⁶⁰ has given voice to the voiceless. It has ensured that every minority and marginal group is heard, is seen, is⁴⁸⁰ involved in the mainstream. Media has been described as the last line of defense for freedom and democracy. Media holds⁵⁰⁰ a mirror to society. It constitutes an early warning system. Its assessments on numerous policies alert the nation to the⁵²⁰ prevailing situation and signal us to be mindful of the future challenges and opportunities. However, with the rapid growth of⁵⁴⁰ media in recent times, qualitative development has not kept step with quantitative growth. In the race for capturing markets,⁵⁶⁰ journalists have been encouraged to cut corners, to take chances, to hit and run. I believe the time has come⁵⁸⁰ for journalists to take stock of how competition has impacted upon quality.

Consider the fact that even one mistake,⁶⁰⁰ and a resultant accident, can debar an airline pilot from ever pursuing his career. Consider the case that one wrong operation⁶²⁰ leading to a life lost, and a doctor can no longer inspire the confidence of his patients. One night of sleeping⁶⁴⁰ on the job at a railway crossing, an avoidable train accident, and a railwayman gets suspended. How many mistakes⁶⁶⁰ must a journalist make, how many wrong stories, how many motivated columns before professional clamps are placed? How does the⁶⁸⁰ financial media deal with market moving stories that have no basis in fact? Investors gain and lose, markets rise and⁷⁰⁰ fall, but what happens to those reporters, analysts, editors who move and make markets? Are there professional codes of conduct⁷²⁰ that address these challenges? Is the Press Council the right organization to address these challenges? Can professional organizations of journalists,⁷⁴⁰ like the Press Club for example, play a role? I have often heard it said that the Press Club is⁷⁶⁰ just a watering hole, a meeting place and nothing more. However, I am impressed by the fact that the⁷⁸⁰ Chandigarh Press Club is aspiring to be more. You have built conference facilities, meeting rooms. You can bring these buildings alive by⁸⁰⁰ making use of them to reflect, to discuss, to debate among yourselves. Where is media headed? How can you reach⁸²⁰ global professional standards. This is important when we have to deliberate and take same positive stand for the future.⁸⁴⁰

GENIUS: great talent;

RESURGENCE: to rise again;

TYRANNY: cruelty;

BIGOTRY: intolerance; CLAMPS: stoppers.

Handwritten notes in shorthand script, likely corresponding to the text on the left. The notes are written in a cursive style with various symbols and abbreviations.

Exercise 22

Sir, the other day when I initiated the debate, I spoke only for five minutes and during that time I²⁰ made a reference to Article 39 and Article 41. I also submitted that in spite of thirty-three⁴⁰ years of our Independence States could not implement the Directive Principles with reference to that. I also made a⁶⁰ mention to the exception of the West Bengal Government and the Government of Maharashtra. I was discussing the question as⁸⁰ to the necessity of the introduction of this particular Bill. I said at that time that on many occasions we¹⁰⁰ referred as problems from outside. For example, when there is a price rise, it is usually said that there¹²⁰ is price rise in all countries and, therefore, we cannot help it. It is with reference to the I would¹⁴⁰ also like to invite the attention of this august House and the Hon. Minister as to what is the position¹⁶⁰ abroad. As far as this is concerned, if we have to look to other Constitution, a reference of which has¹⁸⁰ been made to the Constitution of the world; we find there are about 21 countries in the world wherein²⁰⁰ this right to work has been recognised and out of this 21 countries China, Japan, Russia²²⁰ are there; not only this, Ireland from whom we look this inspiration for Independence has also included this right²⁴⁰ to work as a Constitutional right.

Not only this, there are other countries also who thought not to include²⁶⁰ the Right to Work as a Fundamental Right in their Constitution have provided for unemployment benefits. We find that there²⁸⁰ are about 28 countries which include Switzerland, Sweden and Australia. It is because of this, I would request³⁰⁰ the Hon. Minister for Law to consider the Constitution of these particular countries who have recognised this particular right and then³²⁰ consider whether the time has not come after 60 years of independence and especially when we could not implement³⁴⁰ the Directive Principles. Whether the time has not come now to consider very seriously this particular problem as to whether³⁶⁰ this right should be enshrined in our Constitution as one of our Fundamental Right? As far as our country³⁸⁰ is concerned, the Government of West Bengal unanimously passed a resolution to this effect and without exception all agreed⁴⁰⁰ to it.

I would also like to invite the attention of the House to Rule 23 of the Declaration of Human⁴²⁰ Rights which makes a provision of this right to work and a directive has been given that all developing countries⁴⁴⁰ should provide such a right as a fundamental right in their Constitution. This matter was debated:

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Exercise 23

Sir, if democracy is to survive, the Government which swears by democracy, must guarantee that nobody would die of hunger.²⁰ If this is not guaranteed and if this hope is not kindled in the hearts of millions of our people,⁴⁰ our democracy would be meaningless. This has been stated practically by all jurists, all political leaders and social workers. Now,⁶⁰ I would like to know the difficulties. If we take into consideration that this right is not included what are the⁸⁰ effects? When I was speaking over the Resolution moved by my esteemed colleague regarding North-Eastern situation, I made a¹⁰⁰ mention that the time had come when you should provide work to the people or allowance if the work could¹²⁰ not be given. At that time, the Hon. Minister had said that this was matter which concerned the Law Ministry.¹⁴⁰ Therefore, I would like to invite the attention of the Law Minister again on this particular point.

There is¹⁶⁰ a problem of law and order in this country. The crime is on the increase. There is dissatisfaction everywhere. there¹⁸⁰ is unrest amongst the students. Students feel that even if they take any number of degrees, they are not assured²⁰⁰ of a job. We all know that with 90 per cent marks they do not get admission even in medical and²²⁰ engineering colleges. Even after getting MBBS and BE degree, we are seeing what is happening²⁴⁰ in Delhi? Questions are being raised in this particular House. The number of people below poverty line is increasing every²⁶⁰ year. If we see this particular data, I think a time has reached when we must introspect and find out the²⁸⁰ reasons for the same. The question that arises then is, how these people are to live? May I ask the³⁰⁰ Hon. Minister a question? Should they starve? If they declare that they are going to die would you prosecute them³²⁰ for an attempt to commit suicide? Should they beg? In that case, you would prosecute them under the prevention of³⁴⁰ Begging Act. Should they steal? If they do so, you would prosecute them under IPC. What should they³⁶⁰ do? How should they live? Therefore, it is in this background that we have to consider this matter very seriously³⁸⁰ and we have to decide as to whether the time has come to think seriously about this particular matter.⁴⁰⁰

During all these years, enough lip-sympathy has been tendered by all of us without any exception. I believe that⁴²⁰ time has come when we must go beyond this lip-sympathy and we must give something in the shape of⁴⁴⁰ concrete proposal so that the Government and the Parliament can tell the downtrodden

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and unemployed and affected people that the⁴⁶⁰ Parliament of India really means business and that it does not believe in giving only lip-sympathy. If we take⁴⁸⁰ into consideration this particular aspect and if we really enshrine this particular right in the Constitution, I believe a new⁵⁰⁰ hope will be kindled in the hearts of the millions of young people in our country. Younger people will feel⁵²⁰ that when they would attain the age of 18, it would not be necessary for them to roam from⁵⁴⁰ place to place in search of a job; they would be assured of a job and they would be very happy.⁵⁶⁰ There would not be uncertainty in life. The unrest and strikes in the colleges and schools will stop. The problem⁵⁸⁰ of students unrest cannot be solved if⁶⁰⁰ we guarantee them this particular right of work for which I have made a humble attempt through this particular Bill,⁶²⁰ to be included under Article 19. We see in big cities they trek in thousands and thousands of people from the⁶⁴⁰ villages in search of jobs. The position in my district is that every month money orders worth Rs. 180 crores are⁶⁶⁰ received from Mumbai from the Ratnagiri citizens living in Mumbai. There are no youngsters in the villages, only old persons⁶⁸⁰ live in the villages, looking after agriculture. This is happening because we could not provide any work to people in⁷⁰⁰ the villages.

When these people go to the metropolitan cities for work, do they get it? I am reminded of an⁷²⁰ old adage, to which a reference was made by our Hon. Finance Minister, a very interesting adage, which is applicable here.⁷⁴⁰ On a dark night and a dark room, people go in search of a black cat when in fact there⁷⁶⁰ is none. This is the position with reference to jobs in the metropolitan cities.

Under these circumstances; I believe that⁷⁸⁰ we have to take into consideration this problem very seriously. Unemployment is growing everywhere. If we take into account the data,⁸⁰⁰ it is very serious problem which will become worse, if we do not take some serious steps in time now.⁸²⁰ With these words, I conclude my speech for the need for providing employment to all young people in the country.⁸⁴⁰

KINDLED	:	to inspire;
JURISTS	:	judges of the court;
INTROSPECT	:	self examination;
STARVE	:	to die of hunger;
ADAGE	:	saying;

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Exercise 24

Sir, I rise to support the Bill brought forward by the Hon. Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance. Banking is²⁰ a service of vital importance to industry, commerce and agriculture. It is concerned with the creation of credit money and⁴⁰ its distribution between various users such as industry and agriculture or between institution and individuals. In fact the smooth working⁶⁰ of a modern economy depends on the proper regulation of credit with which the banks are concerned. The question, therefore,⁸⁰ of recruitment of the personnel of banking institutions assumes great importance. The Banking Commission has recommended the establishment of such¹⁰⁰ a Commission in its Report in 1972. In fact, Government have been rather late in bringing forward this¹²⁰ very important and necessary piece of legislation. Before nationalisation, some of the big commercial banks had made some arrangements of¹⁴⁰ their own for retirement of their staff. The Institute of Bank Management and the Reserve Bank of India through the¹⁶⁰ Bankers' Training College run some short term and long-term courses for recruitment and training of bank staff. But these¹⁸⁰ arrangements are not adequate even to meet the requirements for recruitment of higher cadres. The largest proportion of banks staff²⁰⁰ consists of clerks and cashiers. The recruitment policies followed by most of the Indian banks before nationalisation were not based²²⁰ on either scientific lines. In several cases even minimum qualifications were not insisted upon. The Banking Commission has reported that²⁴⁰ in many cases people who had not even passed matriculation examination were recruited as clerks. There was no proper evaluation²⁶⁰ of the aptitude or capacity and very often caste and relationship determined the choice of candidates. Lack of training facilities²⁸⁰ however, aggravated the problem and banks found themselves with staff which had neither aptitude nor ability to carry out the³⁰⁰ jobs assigned to them.

The Bill, therefore, is welcome. It seeks to provide for proper methods of selection for recruitment.³²⁰ It provides for the establishment of a body corporate to be called the Banking Service Commission. It shall be the³⁴⁰ duty of the Commission to hold competitive examinations to recruit people for clerical and allied cadres, junior officers cadre and³⁶⁰ such other officers' cadre as the Central Government may by notification, specify. It shall consist of a Chairman and³⁸⁰ persons who in the view of the government are men of integrity, ability and have experience of finance and business administration.⁴⁰⁰ The Bill rightly attaches great importance to selection of people for the clerical cadre

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because the clerical staff constitute the⁴²⁰ largest proportion of the total manpower and it is they who give the banking service to the people.⁴⁴⁰ Rapid expansion of banking ensures further that many of them will soon get promotion to the officers' cadre. It has been⁴⁶⁰ estimated that every clerk can hope to reach the officers' cadre in 10 or 12 years time. Every clerk is⁴⁸⁰ therefore, a potential officer. But to be effective, recruitment should attempt to attract appropriate skills and attitude and search for⁵⁰⁰ suitable talent should not be restricted to the first point of entry in the bank at the clerical level. It⁵²⁰ should so be extended to attract sufficient number of persons who possess executive skill. With the functional enlargement of the⁵⁴⁰ banks, they require the service of experts, such as agricultural scientists and those who are experts in engineering. Recruitment of⁵⁶⁰ such personnel should also be considered by the Banking Commission. A provision in the Bill enables the Government to increase⁵⁸⁰ the proportion of such junior staff from 25 per cent to 33 per cent. In my view it⁶⁰⁰ is a welcome provision.

There is a provision that a certain percentage shall be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.⁶²⁰ This percentage has to be determined according to the general principles and also the requirements of the banks. One⁶⁴⁰ provision says that the Commission will have certain advisory functions. It is an important provision. We know how in Government⁶⁶⁰ service very difficult problems of promotion and seniority arise. It is better that they are solved by a third body⁶⁸⁰ rather than the superior officers who have sometimes prejudices against people working under them. I hope this provision will be⁷⁰⁰ used for that purpose.

I will not take any more time of the House by dilating on the details of⁷²⁰ the Bill. I hope the Hon. Members will accept the basic idea behind the Bill. The establishment of a Commission⁷⁴⁰ on the lines envisaged will impart objectivity and impartiality in the recruitment procedures of the banks by prescribing uniform qualifications⁷⁶⁰ and eligibility standards applicable in all public sector banks and thereby help to tap the right type of persons for⁷⁸⁰ the banking industry. Finally, there is a last clause which says that the Government may extend the provisions of this Bill⁸⁰⁰ to other banks. If the Banking Service Commission could cover the recruitment of other commercial banks also, so much the better.⁸²⁰ We will have uniform standards for recruitment of personnel in all the banks. With these words, I support the Bill.⁸⁴⁰

- AGGRAVATED : worsened;
- POTENTIAL : strength;
- IMPARTIALITY : independence;
- PREJUDICES: bias;
- DILATING : to enlurge;

Handwritten notes in Urdu script, likely a shorthand or summary of the text, covering the entire length of the printed text.

Exercise 25 (Legal)

Learned counsel, has submitted that the amendment in question changes the identity of Fundamental Rights while omitting to take into account²⁰ the crucial factor that social backwardness was a 'cause' of economic backwardness and not its 'consequence'. While relying on the⁴⁰ decision in Saurav Yadav and others which held that open category is open to all and horizontal and vertical reservations⁶⁰ are methods of ensuring representation in public places, he has argued that the right to equality of the persons⁸⁰ belonging to SC, ST and OBC communities is impacted by reducing their seats in open category.¹⁰⁰ He would reiterate that rule of equal status shall apply while reading Article 46. Lastly, he has submitted that¹²⁰ confining each social category to its extent of reservation would result in communal reservation, which, in turn, would result in¹⁴⁰ breach of Equality Code and thereby, damage the basic structure of the Constitution.

Learned counsel, referred to the phraseology of the¹⁶⁰ provisions under consideration and submitted that while Articles 15(4) and 15(5) refer to socially and educationally backward classes,¹⁸⁰ Article 16(4) is directed towards backwardness and inadequate representation. According to him, the impugned provisions of Articles 15(6)²⁰⁰ and 16(6) have left aside the key elements of "social backwardness" and "inadequate representation" while providing for EWS reservation.²²⁰ These provisions, therefore, are rather opposed to the spirit of the existing provisions. The learned counsel has again urged that²⁴⁰ Article 46 should be read under the rule of equal status and by excluding SC, ST and OBC²⁶⁰ communities, the said rule is violated. According to the learned counsel, keeping SC, ST and OBC²⁸⁰ communities outside of its scope and bringing in economically weaker sections within it was never the idea of Article 46.³⁰⁰ He has also submitted that no constitutionally recognised commission has been set up for determination of the financial incapacity or capacity³²⁰ of a candidate, as in the case of OBCs. Learned senior counsel, has argued that there was³⁴⁰ no dimension of equality, other than what was rooted in Articles 14 to 16 of the Constitution. Relying³⁶⁰ on passages of judgments in Kesavananda, which indicated that new dimensions of equality could be discerned having regard to new³⁸⁰ challenges, he has submitted that those observations were not endorsed by other judges in that cases referred in the Judgements earlier.⁴⁰⁰

As a result, the amendment cannot sustain itself on the ground that it gives shape to another facet or dimension of equality.⁴²⁰ Learned counsel has further contended that economic criteria cannot be the sole criteria for the basis of classification, and if it is to be taken⁴⁴⁰ as a sole criterion, Indra Sawhney has to be revisited, which

Handwritten notes in Urdu script, including references to articles 15(4), 15(5), 15(6), 16(6), 46, SC, ST, OBC, and EWS.

cannot be done by this Bench of 5 Judges case.⁴⁶⁰ Learned senior counsel, in addition to the arguments already advanced, would submit that ten per cent. reservation in⁴⁸⁰ open category in favour of forward class reduces the availability of seats in open category for other classes and communities, in particular⁵⁰⁰ the persons belonging to the creamy layer category in OBCs. This, according to him, would damage the basic structure⁵²⁰ of the Constitution. Learned senior counsel, and the learned counsel, Mr. Sachin, have also made their⁵⁴⁰ submissions as interveners. All of their submissions, which are akin to the submissions already noticed above, need not be elaborated. However, in sum and substance, their additional submissions⁵⁶⁰ had been that the amendment in question, which states 'not more than ten per cent. of the total seats in each category'⁵⁸⁰ has to be interpreted as providing ten per cent. reservation for EWS in each category. One of the interveners provided⁶⁰⁰ the statistics as to the percentage of people working in each category to submit that the exclusion of SCs, STs⁶²⁰ and OBCs is invalid as they are still inadequately represented in State services. Further, they submitted that the⁶⁴⁰ current strength of Bench is not competent to overrule Indra Sawhney case wherein it was explicitly held that reservation cannot be based solely⁶⁶⁰ on economic criteria. Yet further, discussing the power of⁶⁸⁰ Parliament under Article 368, it was posited that the Parliament has the power to amend the Constitution by way of 'addition, variation or repeal' and not by breaking down⁷⁰⁰ the basic structure of the Constitution.

In part challenge to the amendment in question the Learned senior counsel, Mr. Gopal has taken⁷²⁰ a stance different than other petitioners, and has contended that the amendment in question is violative of basic structure of the Constitution⁷⁴⁰ only to the extent of the words 'in addition to the existing reservation and' which need to be severed and that the⁷⁶⁰ rest of the part, which provides classification on the economic criteria for extension of special provisions for the advancement of⁷⁸⁰ economically weaker sections excluding classes already covered under Articles 15(4) and 16(4), was permissible. The learned counsel has,⁸⁰⁰ otherwise, supported the amendment in question on two grounds. First, that the insertion of the Economically Weaker Sections is⁸²⁰ perfectly valid as a class for the extension of special provisions for their advancement, admissions and for reservations in posts.⁸⁴⁰

IMPACTED: big effect.
 IMPUGNED: contradicted.
 DISCERNED: to understand.
 ELABORATED: detailed.

Handwritten notes in shorthand script, including the following legible fragments: OBCs, 6, SCs, STs, OBCs, 6, 368, 15(4), 16(4).

Exercise 26 (Legal)

On behalf of the Respondent, it was urged that the cheque was given for repayment of the aforementioned loan amount of Rs.30 crore for which the accused company agreed to repay the principal amount in two installments with first installment⁴⁰ of Rs.10 crore payable on 31.03.2015 and the second installment of Rs.20 crore.⁶⁰ The accused company had to pay interest @ 15 per cent per annum on the said principal amount of loan and⁸⁰ such interest was payable monthly on the 15th day of every month, which was in consonance with the dates and the¹⁰⁰ cheque amount. It was urged that the accused company along with the Appellant deliberately and with the mala fide intention¹²⁰ gave the cheque to defraud the Respondent to take loan from it and subsequently to usurp the loan amount and¹⁴⁰ hence had closed the bank account. The Appellant being the signatory was directly liable along with the accused company.¹⁶⁰ The Appellant was actively involved in the day to day affairs of the company as can be inferred from the aforementioned loan¹⁸⁰ agreement signed by him as well.

We may note that some of the SLPs being withdrawn,²⁰⁰ in respect of the SLPs in question, the interim order was made absolute with the direction for urgent listing²²⁰ as criminal proceedings had been stayed. Learned counsel for the parties stated that they will file short synopsis not²⁴⁰ running into more than three pages each and will not take more than 15-20 minutes each for their respective submissions.²⁶⁰ On the basis of the aforesaid we heard the arguments when we granted leave and reserved the judgment. The Appellant²⁸⁰ had submitted the synopsis in advance. The Respondent however, despite assuring that they would submit the synopsis has not cared³⁰⁰ to do so and we have gone on the basis of the record. This position is prevalent right and we do not consider³²⁰ it appropriate to wait any more. We assume that the Respondent is not interested in rendering any further³⁴⁰ assistance to the Court by filing synopsis. Fortunately for them, for the reasons to be recorded hereinafter, they have not³⁶⁰ really suffered the consequences thereof. The issue whether the respondent is a Secured Financial Creditor or an Unsecured Financial Creditor³⁸⁰ within the meaning of the said Code is not something we can deal with the proceedings under the said Code or any appeal preferred therefrom.⁴⁰⁰

The only issue with which we are concerned with is whether during the pendency of the proceedings under the said Code⁴²⁰ which have been admitted, the present proceedings under

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the N.I. Act can continue simultaneously or not. We have no⁴⁴⁰ hesitation in coming to the conclusion that the scope of nature of proceedings under the two Acts and quite different⁴⁶⁰ and would not intercede each other. In fact, a bare reading of Section 14 of the IBC would make it clear⁴⁸⁰ that the nature of proceedings which have to be kept in abeyance do not include criminal proceedings, which is the⁵⁰⁰ nature of proceedings under Section 138 of the N.I. Act. We are unable to appreciate the plea⁵²⁰ of the learned counsel for the Appellant that because Section 138 of the N.I. Act proceedings arise⁵⁴⁰ from a default in financial debt, the proceedings under Section 138 should be taken as akin to civil proceedings⁵⁶⁰ rather than criminal proceedings. We cannot lose sight of the fact that Section 138 of the N.I. Act⁵⁸⁰ are not recovery proceedings. They are penal in character. A person may face imprisonment or fine or⁶⁰⁰ both under Section 138 of the N.I. Act. It is not a recovery of the amount with⁶²⁰ interest as a debt recovery proceedings would be. They are not akin to suit proceedings.

It cannot be said that the⁶⁴⁰ process under the IBC whether under Section 31 or Sections 38 to 41⁶⁶⁰ which can extinguish the debt would ipso facto apply to the extinguishment of the criminal proceedings. No doubt in terms of the⁶⁸⁰ Scheme under the IBC there are sacrifices to be made by parties to settle the debts,⁷⁰⁰ the company being liquidated or revitalized. The Appellant before us has been roped in as a signatory of the cheque⁷²⁰ as well as the Promoter and Managing Director of the Accused company, which availed of the loan. The loan agreement⁷⁴⁰ was also signed by him on behalf of the company. What the Appellant seeks is escape out of criminal liability⁷⁶⁰ having defaulted in payment of the amount at a very early stage of the loan. In fact, the loan account⁷⁸⁰ itself was closed. So much for the bona fides of the Appellant. We are unable to accept the plea that if⁸⁰⁰ proceedings against the company come to an end then the Appellant as the Managing Director cannot be proceeded against.⁸²⁰ We are unable to accept the plea that Section 138 of the N.I. Act proceedings are primarily⁸⁴⁰ compensatory in nature and that the punitive element is incorporated only at enforcing the compensatory proceedings.⁸⁵⁶

MALAFIDE: in bad faith;

USURP: to possess illegally;

SYNOPSIS: brief;

INTERCEDE: to plead in favour of;

ABEYAMCE: to keep floating;

IPSO FACTO: in very fact.

Handwritten notes in Urdu script, including references to Section 138 of the N.I. Act and Section 31, 38, 41 of the IBC.