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ORISSA REVIEW





Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is inaugurating the "Ama Gaon" Scheme at village Shankarpur in Tangi Choudwar Block of Cuttack district on 21-8-1994 organised by Panchayati Raj Department.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is taking salute at the State Level Independence Day Parade at Bhubaneswar on 15-8-1994.

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KHARIF PROGRAMME OF ORISSA STATE FOR 1994

Crop	Area '000 hectares	Produce '000 MTs	Productivity Kgs/ha
Rice	4,240	6,405	1,510
Maize	180	222	1,235
Jowar	25	21	820
Bajra	5	5	980
Ragi	270	278	1,030
Small Millets	56	34	610
Total Cereals	4,776	6,965	1,460
Arhar	168	144	860
Mung	196	121	615
Biri	282	175	620
Other Pulses	68	37	545
Total Pulses	714	477	670
Total Grains	5,490	7,442	1,360
Wheat	185	216	1,170
Gram	262	169	645
Chickpeas	15	9	620
Moong	120	66	550
Other Cereals	582	460	790
Other Grains	20	264	2,380
Other Cereals (excl. pulses)	35	257	1,320
Cotton (bales)	6	121	1,460
Total Fibre	76	8	220
		650	1,540



Prodigious NEHA : six-year old girl performing spectacular hour-long breakdance at Rabindra Mandap on September 1, 1994

Employment in the Unorganised Sector

S. C. Panda

In today's world giving employment to the teeming millions has been a major concern for all the Governments. In India we have a very piquant situation where there are large number of job seekers and less number of jobs to accommodate them. In all the developing countries and specially in India, the over-increasing population is a major factor for this growing unemployment. Even though Government is taking several measures to contain the population growth nevertheless all States are seized with the problem of finding adequate employment opportunities to the large number of unemployed and severely under employed persons for better management of the human resources.

There is no denying the fact that there are not enough jobs in the organised sectors, i.e. in Government and Government undertakings. In fact, both Central Government and State Governments have made announcement for a ban in recruitment in Government sectors/reduction of 10 per cent in higher posts in Central Government in order to lessen the burden on Government exchequer. Due to the wide ranging economic reform measures taken by Government of India there is bound to be ;

- (i) liberalisation of economy,
- (ii) competition in world market due to globalisation and open trade practices , and
- (iii) privatisation.

This has prompted the public sector undertakings to compete with private undertakings and multi-nationals otherwise they will be simply swept away in the process of globalisation. Naturally there is shrinkage in jobs in the organised sector in India.

However, there is vast scope for employment in the informal sector which is otherwise known as unorganised sector mostly in urban areas. Urban areas in India have been developing faster than the rural areas. The per capita income in the agricultural sector has been almost stagnating since fifties while non-agricultural income has increased at a faster rate. The average per capita income in the agricultural sector at 1970-71 price stagnated around Rs.405 between 1951 and 1985 where in the non-agricultural sector it rose from Rs.593 in 1951 to Rs.1,227 in 1985. The gulf between agricultural and non-agricultural income or in other words, between rural and urban areas income has been widening and non-agricultural per capita income which was only 15 times the agricultural per capita income in 1951 has now risen by nearly 3 folds. There is also visible difference between quality of level of living between rural and urban areas in terms of housing, water supply, medical facilities, transport and communication, and other facilities. No wonder the urban areas exerts a great pull over the landless labourers and others who have no reliable source of gainful employment in the rural areas. The absence of opportunity in rural areas exerts a push effect whereas better standard of living, job opportunity in urban areas have a pull effect.

Of course, this should not give impression that life in urban areas must be far superior for all those living in the cities. There is a wide disparity in the level of income and living standards existing in any city. However, cities have a concentration of large industries as well as small scale industries which attracts a strong service sector such as trade, transport, banking, insurance, medical and entertainment facilities etc. both in the formal and informal sectors. Income level in formal sectors is very high as entry thereto is difficult because of the insistence of high skills, qualification and experience etc. One of the main attractions of the rural poor into the cities is high income and assured living standards in the formal sector workers and they come in the hope that some day they will enter the charmed circle. So many

of them spend their entire life time in the informal sector waiting for the chance that never comes. The growth rate of urban population is generally higher than the rural areas.

The experience of the eighties shows a slightly slower urban population growth at 3.09 per cent per annum compared to 3.83 per cent per annum in the seventies. The number of cities increased from 216 to 296 during the period. The number of metropolises (population over 1 million) increased to 23 showing an increase of 11 during the decade. Among metropolises Visakhapatnam (5.71 per cent per annum), Hyderabad (5.33 per cent) and Ludhiana (5.24 per cent) had the highest growth rate whereas compound annual growth rates in major metropolises like Calcutta (1.73 per cent) and Madras (2.25 per cent) were less than national awards.

Population growth in urban areas is much higher than those in rural areas mainly on account of immigration factor otherwise, the growth of urban population is in fact lower in view of the unfavourable male to female ratio with large proportion of the single male and generally higher awareness of the need to restrict the female size. The steady inflow of rural poor into urban areas has put tremendous pressure on the available facilities in the field of housing, sanitation, pipe water supply, transportation etc. development of which cannot keep pace with the tremendous growth of urban population. Consequently there has been sharp deterioration in the civic amenities leading to the development of shanty towns, lot of pressure on local transport facilities, woefully inadequate sanitation adding to the tremendous air pollution already existing in the cities.

In spite of these repellent factors, flow of rural poor into the cities continues from day to day. Most of them are landless labourers with no skills except in cultivation for which there is no scope in cities. The emigrants from village into the cities include not only unskilled landless labourers but also skilled artisans whose skills have either become outdated with the arrival of

the relatively high-tech implements or not required by the rural societies in adequate measure. Unskilled rural workers who migrate into the urban areas are first absorbed in the unorganised or informal sectors and then seek an entry into the formal/organised sectors where entry restrictions are relatively more difficult. For the emigrant from rural area the possibility of well paid job within reasonable period is not high unless he improves his skills first and acquires a degree of sophistication normally required in the formal/organised sectors. However, the village artisans like smiths, carpenters, weavers, masons etc. with good skills in their vocation can get entry into the urban modern sector with relatively greater ease than the illiterate because of their skills.

Rapid expansion of Government administration and organised industrial sector have led to rising incomes in the urban areas thus creating a demand for basic needs like food, transport, day to day normal requirements and so on. These developments have promoted the growth of vast commercial sector as a part of traditional sector which seems to have large capacity to absorb migrants from the rural areas. Establishments in formal sector also provide such opportunity for vertical movement within the sector i.e. from low paying to relatively high paying functions. For example some of these avocations also throw up wholesalers, bulk-buyers and manufacturers as "organised segments of the unorganised market" which are relatively better paying. New entrants into the unorganised sectors, however, take up work as hawkers, pedlars, transport workers, household servants etc.

Apart from this there are also industrial enterprises in the unorganised sector mainly organised on proprietary lines or self employment basis. Workers are mostly family members or casual workers. Although most enterprises are in the service sector, quite a few are in the simply manufacturing sector producing cheap garments, toys, fancy food items, running fast food joints etc. Now a days in all cities and even in metropolitan areas moving restaurants, selling fast foods are

common sight. Simply manufacturing activities such as preparation of paper bags from waste papers are also quite popular since these bags have a ready market with grocers, shop-keepers etc.

Unorganised sector characteristics can be listed as—

- (1) Small size in labour and capital employed
- (2) Informal organisational structure mostly family owned.
- (3) Use of indigenous technology
- (4) Lack of access to stake benefits
- (5) Little dependance on formal credit agencies
- (6) Competition and unprotected product
- (7) Direct distribution of products to the consumer.
- (8) Dealing in second hand goods
- (9) Recycling of waste materials
- (10) Operation in temporary premises and no-entry-restrictions.

Most of informal sector establishments do not work within the frame-work of rules and regulations of state machinery. One of the major reasons for this phenomenon is that such enterprises can not afford to satisfy the conditions laid down by the authorities. Licensing by municipal authorities often lead to harassment because of the non-compliance with innumerable restrictions many of which are in fact, beyond their means to comply with. Resource constraint is another aspect from which these units suffer.

Linkages with organised sector can certainly help the unorganised sector. An example of the linkages between organised and unorganised sector is leather goods industries. Established leather good manufacturers with renowned brand names like Bata often get the leather goods such as slippers, shoes, belts, travel goods, garments etc. manufactured by leather workers in the unorganised sector but provide an assured market

for their products and supply them raw materials, patterns, designs etc. and even credit facilities. Such back-up support from the formal sector strengthens the informal sector, improves the incomes and provides assured gainful employment to the workers. The companies can also supply them improved machinery and accessories to enhance the finish and durability of the goods.

Association of workers can also do wonder for the unorganised sector. Many co-operative societies of workers have been able to look after availability of raw materials, credit facilities and market for the informal manufacturing sectors. Running co-operative society, however, needs managerial skills of a fairly high order with capable leaders who have abilities, character and honesty to make success of the group. Group dynamics makes running the society difficult than individual business. This is one of the reasons why industrial co-operative societies always succeed except where they have poor leadership.

Some associations of women such as "Papad" have also made a success in business and this unit is absorbing food products made as per their standards by women working in their own homes. This manufacturing is unorganised but marketing is well organised. In fact, such a work is best suited to women working in one informal sector. They have manufacturing skills but they lack skills for marketing. Nor do they have time and energy to spare for this job which needs considerable movement for establishing contact, booking orders, collecting bills, etc. This is clearly a full time job that needs expertise and falls in the formal sector.

In the unorganised sector a disturbing factor of obstruction to work by trade unionism is absent. Trade union staff are discouraging many companies for providing chauffeur-driven cars to their executives. They are asking their executives either to keep their own car or, appoint own drivers for company cars. This is a reverse process from formal into informal employment although it is the ambition of every driver to end up as a chauffeur. If companies do

not want to own their transport, cooperation of transport operators can be formed and linked with various factories/companies so that whenever a need arises society vehicle can be hired. Now-a-days, even in Government offices this practice has been started. The West Bengal government do not purchase new cars for various companies rather they allow these officers to have private transport at government fixed rate to be used for official purpose. This will ensure demand in the organised sector being met by the unorganised sector.

A question is often raised : Is the unorganised sector in the urban areas a temporary "Parking lot" for the rural migrants or is it a permanent scenario of the urban areas ? Where the organised sector is expanding faster than inflow of rural labourers, it would be possible for it to absorb the labourers available in the unorganised sector and only those who are not in a position to acquire minimum skills required would be left in the unorganised sector. Even the unorganised labourers would be able to improve their skills because the pool of unskilled labourers in the unorganised sector would have shrunk. However, from the experience it is seen that the inflow of labour is increasing but the growth of employment in the organised sector is decelerating/decreasing. The employment elasticity of economic growth in India is diminishing. For example according to a recent Planning Commission study, 1 per cent growth in GDP has been accompanied by 0.6 per cent growth in employment during 1972-73 to 1977-78. This factor continues to be reasonably high at 0.55 during next 5 years upto 1982-83

but declined steadily to 0.38 per cent during the next 5 years, i.e. from 1983—88. Hence it is seen that employment generation has been slowed down in the organised sector—both in offices and factories. Against this back ground, possibility of labour absorption from the informal into formal sector, in the urban areas is declining rather than improving.

In this scenario there is vast scope for employment specially self employment in the unorganised sector. It has to be treated as a part of the long term scenario in the urban areas. We shall, therefore, have to take measures to improve the earnings in this sector by improving the skills. (b) putting in place back-up support facilities for marketing, (c) input supply, (d) credit etc. to these sectors. It is necessary for social workers and socially oriented administrators to (1) act as counsellors for this sector, (2) to improve working of their organisation, (3) to keep a watch over their functioning, (4) to arrange for their training facilities, (5) to establish linkage with the formal sector etc. These would require considerable patience but would be highly rewarding in terms of satisfaction. What is necessary is not "formalisation of informal sector", which will be an extremely difficult process but support of the organised sector to the unorganised sector through proper linkage and back-up support facilities which would lead to improvement in productivity, skills and income generation in this sector.

*Director of Employment,
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RESTRICTION ON RECRUITMENT LIFTED

With a view to improving the employment opportunities of eligible young people of the State, Chief Minister has been pleased to order that in existing restriction of the Government in respect of filling up of the base level posts arising out of retirement is lifted with effect from August 9, 1994.

Role of Teachers Through Ages

Prof. Jagannath Mohanty

1. In the Ancient Past

The role of the teachers in the life and culture of the people has been eulogised through ages both in the East as well as in the West. The most ancient literature the Vedas have rightly observed, "*Matru devo bhava, Pitru devo bhava, Acharya devo bhava*" i.e., the Mother, the Father and the Teacher have been given the highest regard by the society. An ancient Indian prayer also sings "Guru Brahma, Guru Vishnu, Guru Devamaheswar", i.e., "The teacher is Brahma, the God of creation; he is Vishnu, the God of Maintenance; he is Maheswar, the God of Destruction. He is the whole universe and God Supreme". Manu, the ancient Law giver, has said, "A Teacher is the image of Brahma, a father is the image of Prajapati and a Mother is the image of Earth."

Education has always been regarded as a joint venture and as a cooperative process. That is why, the Upanishad enunciates that the teachers and students should live together (*Sahana bhavantu*) eat together (*Sahana bhunaktu*), acquire knowledge together (*Saha Veeryam Karabavahe*), make the education dynamic (*Tejaswina Vadhwitamastu*). Concomitant with joint endeavour there are the general human weakness of hatred and jealousy, may be due to self-interest or professional rivalry. The learned work Upanishad has very candidly observed, "Let not hatred divide us" (*Ma vidweshavahai*) The meaning of the very term Upanishad implies "sitting together and discussing an issue" in a related manner. Thus the ancient Indian education was very much in accordance with the principles of modern psychology which emphasize that learning in order to be effective should be interactive, Participatory and self-discovery.

Similarly in the West, Socrates, the wisest man in Greece" went about the streets of

Athens giving knowledge through dialogues and discussions. It is reported that the richmen from far and near used to send their sons to follow Socrates on his walks and listen to his wise words. About Aristotle, the famous Greek Teacher, his student Alexander once expressed "I was grateful to my father (Phillip of Macedon) for living and to my teacher for living well. According to Aristotle teachers should have benevolent disposition of parents towards students and talk frequently about virtue. Even prior to him, Plato, the distinguished teacher of Aristotle in his immortal work *Republic* writes about the role of teachers for 'improvement of mind and body' and 'promotion of virtues'. Like intellectual and spiritual father, the teacher of the ancient East and West led his students" from the darkness of ignorance to the light of knowledge".

2. During the Middle Ages

In India Buddhists and Jains held the teacher in high esteem. In the famous birudakam Sutosmu, son of Sudas says, "You are my master, my teacher, Yea, my deity, I accept your words accepting them with bowed head". Similarly, according to Jainism Tirthankar is the greatest and ideal teacher and his words are of the highest authority. The teacher (guru) was regarded as above all gods and the grace of Guru was the supreme benevolence beyond words. According to Manu, Charak and others, the teacher was revered by his students like a king, parent and God. It was believed that only through blessings of the Guru that the real knowledge could be acquired by students. Even in the *Mahabharat* and *Ramayana*, the preceptors like Viswamitra, Vasistha and Dronacharya were given highest reverence.

Medieval saints and poets like Tulsidas, Surdas, Sundardas, Kabir, Nanak and others praised the role and significance of the teachers and advised the people to pay the greatest devotion and deference to the Gurus. Kabir has very nicely said, "if Teacher and God both are standing before me, whom should I pay obeisance? I bow to you my teacher who guides me to God". In the 18th Canto of *Bhagavat*

Gita Arjun as a true disciple told to Srikrishna, "All my doubts are cleared. I have got wisdom. My mind is now steady. Your advice will be carried out." Modern teachers should make themselves capable and deserve such glowing tributes from their students. In the Roman and Anglican civilisations the teacher was given high regards and required to play a very important role in imparting knowledge to and moulding character of their students.

3. In the Modern Age

Swami Vivekananda exhorted teachers, "Serve the children of the Lord, if you have that privilege. If the lord grants that you can help any of the children, you are blessed. Do it only as a duty." Dr. Radhakrishnan (1949) in the Report of the University Education Commission aptly observed, "The Teacher's place in society is of vital importance. He acts as the torch for the transmission of intellectual traditions and technical skills from generation to generation and helps to keep the lamp of knowledge burning. He not only guides the individual but also, so to say, the destiny of the nation. Teachers have, therefore, to realise increasingly their special responsibility to the society. On the other hand, it is incumbent on the society to pay due regard to the teaching profession and to ensure that the teacher is kept above want and given the status which will command respect from his students. In the recent past, measures have been taken to improve the economic, social and professional status of teachers and I have no doubt that in the years ahead such difficulties as remain will be removed."

Dr. Zakir Hussain (1959) has also very strongly described the role of teachers, "The teacher is indeed the architect of our future. Society can neglect him at its own peril. The teachers too should unequivocally reciprocate to the society's interest in their welfare and try to do their best for the welfare of students under their charge. The Secondary Education Commission (1953) succinctly has mentioned, "Every teacher and educationist of experience

knows that even the best curriculum and the most perfect syllabus remains dead unless quickened into life by the right method of teaching and the right kind of teachers". Humayun Kabir (1961) has also added, "Teachers are literally the arbiters of a nation. Smt. Indira Gandhi (1966) has said in the same vein, "Our two million teachers are the custodians of our future. We talk of honouring and cherishing teachers, but do our actions match our words? We have no right to hold teachers alone to a vow of self sacrifice."

Teachers of today as in the past have to play a leadership role. They are in quest of truth and are creative artists. Dr. D. S. Kothari (1966) has rightly discussed in the Report of the Education Commission, 1964-66, "The role of education is vital for the progress and development of our country. This places a special responsibility on teachers at all levels of education. Equally is important that Government and other institutions do the utmost possible to provide to teachers conditions of work and service which will enable them to do their best for education and research".

According to H. G. Wells "the teacher is a Real Maker of History". Henry Adams remarks, "A parent gives life but as parent he gives no more. A murderer takes life, but his deed stops there. A teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops". Sir John Adams says, "The teacher is maker of man". Henry Van Dyke has aptly observed, "Sing the praise of the unknown teachers. Great generals win campaigns, but it is the unknown soldier who wins the war. Famous educators plan new systems of pedagogy, but it is the unknown teacher who directs and guides the young. He lives in obscurity and contends with hardship. For him no trumpets blare, no chariots wait, no golden decorations decree. He keeps the watch along the borders of darkness and makes the attack on the trenches of ignorance and folly. Patience is in his daily work; he strives to conquer the evil powers which are enemies of the youth. He awakens the sleeping spirits. He quickens the indolent, encourages the eager and steadies the unstable. He communicates his

own joy in learning and shares with body and guards the best treasures of his mind. He lights many candles which in later years will shine back to cheer him. This is his reward. Knowledge may be gained from books but the love for knowledge is transmitted only by personal contact. No one has ever deserved better respect than the unknown teacher. No one is more worthy to be enrolled in a democratic aristocracy, king of himself and servant of mankind".

4. Conclusion

In the emerging society the role of teachers has been more complex and complicated, more exacting as well as challenging. It has been realised of late that for all-round development of the personality of teachers and students, equal emphasis should be laid both on curricular and co-curricular activities. And for making education meaningful and relevant, various extension and community centered activities need be organised from time to time. There should be close relation between the society and educational institutions. Teachers should be more responsive and sensitive to the societal problems and do their best not only in involving themselves but also in involving the students in various programmes. Such participation will be conducive to the promotion of national development and making education more realistic as well as goal oriented. Teachers need play a pivotal role in the programmes like extension or community-oriented activities and co-curricular programmes. For this, their attitude should change positively and they should acquire necessary knowledge and skills for properly planning, organising, monitoring and evaluating these programmes. The Faculty members should thus perform a wide spectrum of

functions starting from teaching to research, from students' performance evaluation to organisation of extension and curricular activities. All this will not only promote professional competence of teachers, but also accelerate the pace of national reconstruction.

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PANDIT NILAKANTHA DAS JAYANTI

The 110th birth anniversary of Pandit Nilakantha Das was celebrated on August 5 at Soochana Bhavan, Bhubaneswar with Ministers, I. & P. R., Panchayati Raj, P.G & P.A. and Shri Nityananda Mohapatra in the dias. The Jayanti was also celebrated at the Orissa Legislative Assembly. Hon'ble Speaker, Minister, P.G. & P.A. and many other prominent citizens paid their homage in memory of Pandit Nilakantha Das.

A Tribute to

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan

An Exponent of Indian Cultural Heritage

Chandi Prasad Mohanty

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a versatile statesman of dimensional repute, Guide and Philosopher and basically a venerable teacher with an incalculable influence was indeed a sage of Indian cultural heritage who created an awareness amongst the masses amongst the million by kindling in them a spirit of confidence. He started giving flaming speeches in mammoth gatherings and wrote patriotic writings relentlessly with an earnest appeal to the public not to be moved with the intriguing diplomacy of the westerners. The impetus he gave was so effective and a measured one that the Indian Civilisation and its cultural heritage built over ages were reinvigorated with a new zeal and zest. This multi-facet and towering personality is Gurudev Radhakrishna. His birthday is commemorated as Guru Divas throughout the country in acknowledgement of his legacy and contribution for the youngsters.

Born on 5th Sept. 1888 in a modest Brahmin family in the village Tirutani lying 40 miles away from North-Western tract of Madras, Radhakrishnan had shown every sign of eminence from his childhood. His father Biraswamee was professionally a god-worshipper who had provided all

opportunities for his early education. At the age of twenty he post-graduated in philosophy standing First class First from Madras University. The doctoral thesis prepared by him on the ethics of the Veda and Upanishad created a new dimension in the world of philosophy in the year 1908. He worked as Assistant Professor and thereafter Professor in the Department of Philosophy in Madras University from 1909 to 1918. Thereafter he worked as Professor of Philosophy in Mysore University. On request from Chancellor, Calcutta University he joined as "Professor V George" and worked in the University from 1921 to 1931. In the meantime the First Edition of his book entitled "Indian



Philosophy" was released. He was the Chair-person of "Indian Philosophical Congress" from 1925 to 1937. His another book "The Hindu View of Life" was released in 1926 in Oxford University and as a result, his reputation as a Philosopher got a global dimension. The same year he had the honour to deliver a historic speech in Harvard University on the occasion of sixth International Philosophical Congress. In 1932 another book entitled "An Idealist view of life" was released. The book contains a philosophical approach as to

how an ideal way of life can be well maintained. The same year he was honoured with the post of Vice Chancellor of Andhra University.

For his extra-ordinary distinction he became Professor in Oxford University. He taught Eastern Religion and Ethics there and quite successfully brought about a comfortable coordination between Eastern & Western Philosophy. The British Academy honoured him with a fellowship. His book "Eastern Religion & Western Thought" is a unique publication in the branch of Philosophy. During his tenure as Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University from 1939 to 1948 he brought about a number of educational reforms. As a diplomat his

reputation was beyond measure. He led the Indian delegation to UNESCO during 1946 to 1952. His friendship with late Prime Minister of USSR Mr. Stalin helped India to strengthen its ties with Soviet Russia. In 1947 Gandhiji advised him to edit the "Bhagavat Gita" in English which he promptly accomplished. On one occasion Gandhiji told him humorously, "I am your Arjuna, you are my Krishna, I am like Arjuna confused". In 1948 the book, "The Future of Civilisation" and in 1950 another book the "Dhamma Pada" were published. He was awarded the highest honour of U.K. the "Order of Merit" for his profound scholarship.

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was in fact a wise saint. Once he commented "Man is not an aggregate of chemical compounds. He is not a slot machine with predictable responses to outer stimulation. He is not a puppet in the hands of fate, nor a pawn in the cosmic chess, moved by impersonal forces of nature, future or destiny, unless we accept the will of man as free, his dignity turns into a myth, his optimism into an

illusion and history a fate". His strong belief was that "The Absolute Bramhan is not only immanent but transcendent, the absolute are God and Souls, Samsara is a succession of spiritual opportunities".

This multi-dimensional personality was a versatile statesman, philosopher and diplomat who had spent his entire life for the cause of humanity, non-alignment and world peace. By virtue of his diplomatic acumen he was awarded Bharat Ratna and was honoured with the Templeton Foundation Award of America. Dr. Radhakrishnan breathed his last on April 17, 1975 at the age of eighty six. Though he is no more amongst us his patriotic fervour and vision of philosophy will always guide us in saving our motherland from all odds. Let us come up with all our gratitude and sincere tributes to this immortal soul.

Productive
I. & P.R. Department
Bhubaneswar

RAJABHASA SAMMELAN

Governor, Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy who attended as the Guest Speaker in Rajabhasha Sammelan, sponsored by Home Ministry, Government of India at Soochana Bhavan said "Hindi is an effective medium for exchange of ideas and fostering human relationship". Addressing the representatives from West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Andaman Nicobar islands on August 13 Shri Reddy lauded the efforts of Rajabhasha Prachar Samiti to popularise Hindi at Government and non-government levels. Deputy Minister, Home, Shri Ramlal Rahi said, if encouraged, Hindi would assume importance as official language. He called for hearty co-operation to achieve the target. NALCO Chairman Shri S. K. Tamatiya and Shri S. B. Das also addressed the Conference.

- Hon'ble Governor of Orissa exhorted the freedom fighters on August 9 at Saheed Minar, Bhubaneswar.
- Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik felicitated Pragya Paramita Mohanty of BJB College for securing the highest mark in the state in Arts in Annual +2 Examination.
- Hon'ble Justice Shri R. N. Prasad, Chairman, National Commission for backward classes met the Press at the State Guest House on August 17.

Panchayat Administration : Orissa Style

Biswaranjan Mohanty

Administration is mainly responsible to execute various policy programmes undertaken by the State in the interest of the people. Administration is the basic-structure of State. Without administration State would be in-effective, Government would be meaningless. The British rule in India had designed the Indian Administration to "meet the tasks of the State. The maintenance of law and order, revenue collection and help in retention of administrative powers were the main responsibilities of the British administration in India. The services provided by the administration were vital to the success of the British rule. That type of administration affected the entire social-India in the pre-independence period. Then came 15th of August, 1947. The people of India became the masters of India's destiny. "Independent India elevates 'We' the people of India' to the status of rulers and besides sets larger goals which are developmental and egalitarian.¹ The constitution of India made elaborate arrangement for the creation of all India and State administrative services. The advent of Independence and the incorporation of federal framework necessitated considerable expansion in the structure and function of the administration. It is necessary here to note that parliamentary democracy both at the Centre and at the provincial levels adopted by the Constitution encouraged dispersal of administrative units and delegation of administrative power to the units. As the functions of the Government are proliferating, decentralisation is inevitable. In the interest of efficiency and popular participation, the Central Government has delegated some legislative, administrative and financial powers to the State Governments.

The State Governments have delegated certain developmental power to the local-self

Government. The need to explore and blossom grassroot democratic bodies is a strong logic for decentralisation of power. It gives opportunity to the local people for their participation in the administration. Local self-government is said to be the 'Magna Carta' of the people. It works both at the urban area and at the rural area. Urban local self-government works at the Municipalities (for the cities), at the N.A.Cs (for the small towns). Rural local self-government works at the district level as Zilla Parishads, at the block level Panchayat Samitis, and at the village level Gram Panchayats. This rural administration refers to local-self Government at the district, block and village levels. We call it 'Panchayat administration'.

Panchayat administration is a movement framed to promote happily with the participation of the rural people. It is a tool of assisting the local people to assist themselves for improving their living standard. Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, the Constitution of India under Article 40, provides, "the State shall take steps to organise village Panchayats and endow them with such power and authority as may be necessary to enable them function as units of local self-government.² Thus Panchayati Raj system was strengthened to ensure active cooperation of the people in developmental and democratic society-making. Under this policy a sound administration framework was designed for the districts, the block and the Gram Panchayat levels. The Balavantray Mehta Committee of 1956 (constituted to study and recommend the community development activity) proposed three-tier system of Panchayatiraj in order to widen people's participation in the developmental works at the community level.

The proposals of this B.R. Mehta Committee were approved by the National Development Council in 1959 and came into operation in 1961.

We are to analyse the panorama of Orissa Panchayat Administrative system in this background. As there is a rise in the study and critical evaluation of the State and local

administration and politics, we are attempting to observe the working of Panchayat administration in Orissa. The urgent problem that draws attention of the public is the development of the Indian village. The main aim of the Panchayat administration is to organise village management for rural reconstruction. Panchayat administrative set-up was introduced in Orissa alongwith other States of India in 1952. This set-up was framed in which welfare agencies of Government were to operate together as a 'Team' with the active cooperation of the local people. It intends to cultivate democratic order at the grassroots level of the Nation.

The Orissa Grama Panchayat Act was passed in 1948. The Orissa Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Act was passed in 1959. These Acts were modified from time to time. In 1968, Zilla Parishads were abolished. But the year 1991 is of great significance in the working of Panchayat administration in Orissa. The Janata Government led by Mr. Biju Patnaik has revolutionised the pattern of Panchayatiraj in Orissa. The 73 Amendment of the Constitution of India has also promised to revitalise this democratic decentralisation system. It provides certain broad guidelines for the working of Panchayat administration.

The year 1992 is a landmark in Orissa Panchayat administration because elections to the Panchayat bodies were held after a long gap. The novel feature of the election is that 30% of Panchayat seats are reserved for the women candidates. The other important feature is formation of a State Finance Commission to review the financial slot of the Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti. Formation of a separate Election Commission to conduct Panchayat Elections is being set up soon. The Orissa Gram Panchayat Act, the Orissa Panchayat Samiti Act 1991 were enacted to give more power to the Panchayatiraj institutions.

We observed during the study that there are about ten villages in a Gram Panchayat having the population of about two thousand. The Sarpanch is the Chief Executive of the Gram

Panchayat. He is elected by the people of the Gram Panchayats concerned directly for five years. The Assistant Sarpanch (Naib Sarpanch) is there to assist him. This post is reserved for women members if the Sarpanch is a male Member. The Assistant Sarpanch is elected by the ward members. The function of the Gram Panchayat includes social welfare programmes, small scale industry, social forestry and public distribution system etc.

There are about twenty Gram Panchayat Samitis in a Panchayat Samiti. The Chairman is the political head of the Panchayat Samiti. He is elected by elected Members of the Panchayat Samiti consisting of Panchayat nominees. The Sarpanchas of the Gram Panchayat of the Panchayat Samiti area are also the members of the Panchayat Samiti having no right to vote. There is also a Vice-chairman to help the Chairman. The Panchayat Samiti is the political council of the community development block for the area. The Block Development Officer is the administrative head of the block. He is also the Chief Executive of the Panchayat development work. The other government officers include Gram Panchayat Extension Officer, Industrial Promotion Officer, Cooperative Officer, Social Welfare Officer etc. There are village level workers (Gram Sevak and Gram Sevika) to help these officers in their working at the village level. The Panchayat Secretaries are also attached to the various Gram Panchayats in order to assist the Gram Panchayat in their working. 30% of reservation for the women are provided in addition to the reservation of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe members in the Panchayat bodies. The Panchayat Samiti has various Committees to attend different development work. It has no resources of its own. It gets funds mainly from the State.

Proposed Zilla Parishad is to work at the district level for monitoring district development and supervising Panchayatiraj institutions of the district. The rural development works in the district are organised by district rural development agency in Orissa. The State Government desires to give the power of Planning, control and supervision of

developmental activities to the Zilla Parishad at the district level. The Chairman of the Panchayat Samitis, M.Ps and M.L.As, district level Government officers are to be associated with the Zilla Parishad. The President and the Vice-President of the Zilla Parishad are to be elected from among the members of the Zilla Parishad. The District Collector is to act as the Chief Executive of the Zilla Parishad.

This Panchayat administration is essentially an area development network designed to facilitate institutionalised socio-economic welfare. For this purpose, the Panchayat area is generally reorganised from time to time on the basis of population. Although Panchayat administration falls within the provincial Government's purview, the Central Government is also providing necessary guidelines from time to time. At the State level, there is a department for Panchayatiraj. This department is headed by a Director for administrative purpose. There is also a Secretary for this department to link the Directorate with the secretariat supervision. The District Collectors and the Sub-Collectors provide assistance to the Directorate in supervising Panchayatiraj institutions. The Development Commissioner of the State guides the Panchayat administration. Once Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said while making assessment of the working of the Development Commissioners (on 7-5-1952):—

"Do the job yourself, instead of doling out advice to others merely and instil into the vast millions of workers, men and women, who actually do the job, a sense of partnership and a sense of cooperative performance. Then alone community programmes would be a success. If you think it is your business to sit in a big office, and issue orders then you are no good for this job. You better go somewhere else and do some other job. Whether it is the Development Commissioner or administrator, he must take a spade and dig. No man connected with this scheme will be effective if he merely sits in an Office".

Thus, 'there is a general feeling that the Development Commissioner, with his position,

prestige and wide powers has been able to coordinate and speed up development activities on a State-wide basis'.³ Mention should also be made that the State Cabinet alongwith the Chief Minister provides policy framework for the smooth administration of the Panchayatiraj institutions.

Structural-cum-functional profile of the Panchayat administration is thus indicated in this brief paper. A review of the performance of the Panchayat institutions would reveal that its role in cultivating democratic and development oriented leadership is not satisfactory. But it grows. It may also acknowledge that Panchayatiraj has increased the pace of political consciousness both among leaders and people in the rural areas.⁴

Panchayatiraj institutions should not be used as the tools in the game of nasty politics. The administrators associated with Panchayatiraj work should exercise their responsibility with a sense of social mission.

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On the occasion of the
International Literacy Day (September 8)

Total Literacy in the State : an Appraisal

Dr. D. C. Mishra

The State occupies the twentythird position in the literacy map of the country; during 1991 census. The State scores 48.55% as against the national average of 52.11%. Populationwise the State ranks eleventh which explains that the State has a higher growth rate and lower literacy status. The progress in term of planning prospects will be retarded if the situation continues to be unchanged.

Literacy is a skill through which an individual can have mastery over symbols in written form and is able to code or de-code the written message which is done through simple reading, and written message which is done through simple reading and writing. The other aspect of literacy goes beyond comprehension which relates to the term of "making a full being" to survive as a civilised citizen in this world.

Now the entire state is under the spell of Total Literacy Programme, through State literacy mission activities. The attempt was first made during 1989, to launch the programme of mass literacy without going for centre based education methods. During these 4 years the achievement is not distinctly visible but the mass consciousness has been elevated to a desired level.

Out of thirty newly reorganised revenue districts in Orissa the following districts have already been working in the frame work of Total Literacy Campaign, and their enrollment figure also can be seen as indicated against each. Rourkela, though not a separate revenue district has been accepted as a project area for the purpose of total literacy programme. All these districts (including the Project Area) have received funds from G. O. I. (Government of India).

Name of the District/Project	Enrollment for basic literacy within 15—35 Age
1. Sundargarh	1,74,024
2. Rourkela	79,000
3. Ganjam	7,82,631
4. Gajapati	2,10,920
5. Keonjhar	3,10,630
6. Kalahandi	3,06,602
7. Nuapada	1,29,656
8. Dhenkanal	2,31,155
9. Angul	2,50,139
10. Bolangir	3,72,645
11. Sonepur	1,46,128
12. Koraput	2,49,077
13. Malkangiri	2,50,000
14. Nayagarh	1,70,471
15. Sambalpur	3,43,000
16. Jharsuguda	94,714
TOTAL	41,00,792

In addition to the above, the following districts have been working for post-literacy activities for the neo-literates which were given basic literacy in the phase-I (One year period) with Government of India funding support through Zilla Saksharata Samiti (ZSS).

District/Project	Enrollment in P.L.C.
1. Sundargarh	71,453
2. Rourkela	31,032
3. Ganjam	3,58,761
	4,61,246

This task has also been entrusted to some of the established NGOs working in the State for achieving total literacy in the districts other than those mentioned above. These agencies have been working from the academic session 1993-94 and Government of India have sanctioned funds for immediate implementation of the activities under total literacy component.

LIST OF NGOS WORKING FOR TLC IN THE STATE

Name of the District	Name of the agencies	Identified enrollment
1. Jagatsinghpur	Paradeep	Age— (15-35)
	Saksharata Samiti	4,818
2. Cuttack	Jaya Bharati Sathi Samaj	31,380
3. Bhadrak	VARSA	3,654
4. Jajpur	NIIRD	5,400
5. Jajpur	Jayanti Pathagara	4,856
6. Mayurbhanj (Thakurmunda)	Bapuji Yuba	
	Parisad	8,427
7. Puri	(A) Nilachala Seva Pratishthan	9,538
	(B) Grama Unnayan Samiti	6,743
	(C) Bidyut Club	5,767
	(D) Bharatseva Parisad	6,130
	(E) Institute of self employment and rural development	4,577
	(F) Balikapileswarapur Yuva Sangha Pathagar	5,648
TOTAL		68,938

But what has been the achievement so far? It is very difficult to report the exact number of neo-literates who have achieved basic literacy but it is realized that mass participation in development activities and awakening of mass consciousness have not been satisfactory as expected in a progressive society.

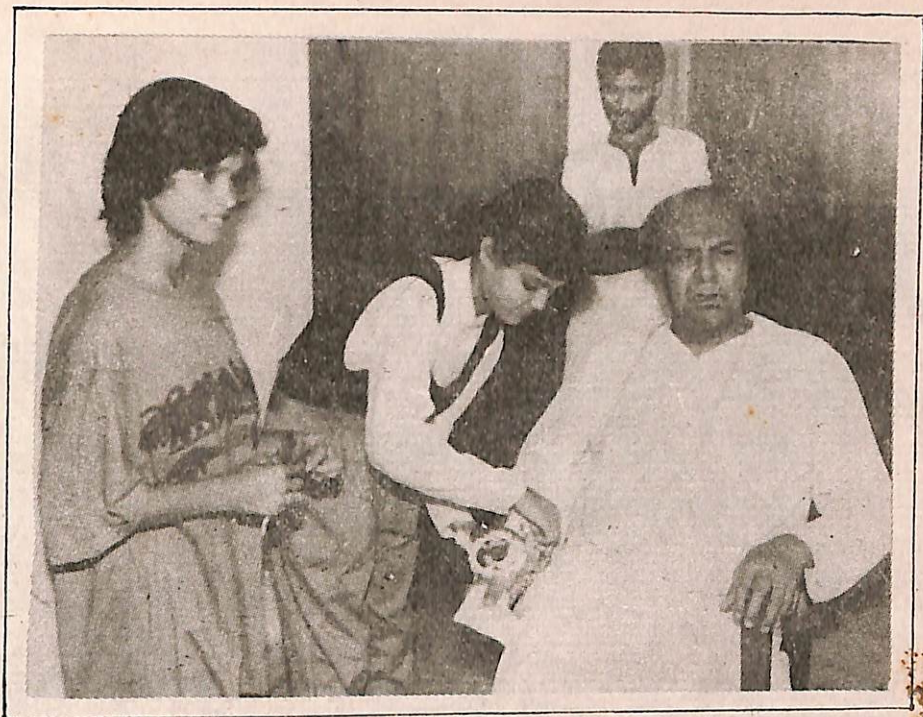
The Janasikhya Nilayams are already functioning in the State in about 1300 Gram Panchayats. The main activities of these JSNS are related to the continuance of education of new literates for post-literacy stage. These JSNS are required to plan and conduct activities in close collaboration with agencies operating the post-literacy programme under ZSS in different districts. There should not be any duplication of similar activities by various agencies, so that the achievement of these programmes can be assessed and compared by Saksharata Samities.

Now Education for All (EFA) is designed to make big strides in respect of six districts in the State, i.e.

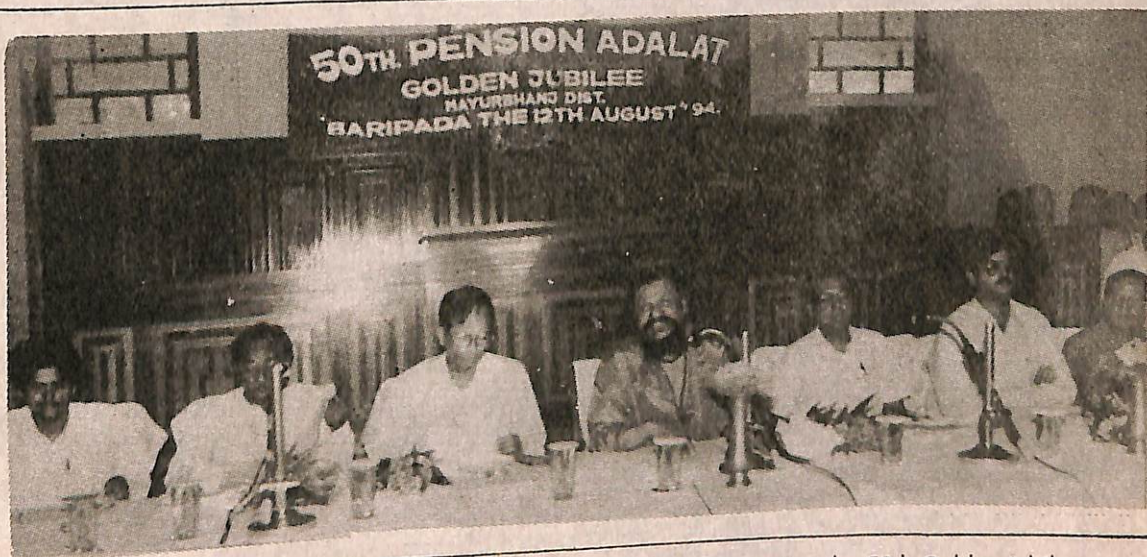
Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Gajpati, Dhenkanal and Angul. The objectives of the scheme are very much linked with total literacy and post-literacy activities. The entire system of Primary education in these districts is required to be improved to such an extent so that all children in the age group of 5 plus can attend school. And quality of teaching is ensured in every institution by providing improved infrastructure in terms of building, teachers and teaching learning materials. The Village Education Committee has to play a vital role in integrating the educational activities under, formal and nonformal and literacy programmes; managed through Government and non-Government agencies in the State. This should be continuously monitored so that one can expect a higher trend of literacy and better quality of Primary education in our State, as quickly as possible. Now the time has come to establish a cordial atmosphere and a close link between Government and non-Government agencies under one umbrella. Let there be a uniform planning at Block Level so that common objectives, i.e. higher enrollments, better quality education and mass literacy are achieved without further loss of time. Then only we can call this movement a mass movement. The Present environment has to be changed particularly in the rural sector to build up confidence among the youth and the old, who have been denied access to education so far. The present policy guideline on Education has to be linked with developmental activities so that each and every revenue village finds a common window for receiving the programme package that is to be designed and delivered at grass-root level. Annual assessment of the objectives in terms of quality has to be made on priority basis. This may give a positive hope for a better quality of life in the days to come.

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Girls offering RAKHI to the Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik at his residence on 21-8-1994.



Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patsani , Minister, P.G. & P.A. is inaugurating the 50th Golden Jubilee Pension Adalat at Baripada on 12-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik giving inaugural address at the Seminar "Employment in Orissa" held in Secretariat Conference Hall on 6-8-1994 organised by the Planning & Coordination Department.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik inaugurating the International Workshop on Jute and Kenat seeds in Hotel Kalinga Ashoka, Bhubaneswar on 23-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik inaugurating the Star Nite at Rabindra Manadp on 28-8-1994 in aid of flood victims of Orissa.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik inaugurating the Swimming Pool at Cuttack on 31-8-1994 on the Local Self Government Day. Sayed Mustafiz Ahmed, Minister, Health and Shri Trilochan Kanungo, Chairman, Cuttack Municipal Corporation were present.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik speaking at the premises of MESCO Steel Plant at Duburi after going round the steel plant site on 29-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is addressing at the inaugural function of the new building complex of B. K. College of Art at the foothill of Udaygiri on 5-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik speaking at the 27th State Flood Control Board meeting held at Secretariat Conference Hall on 19-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik addressing the meeting of State Planning Board held in the Secretariat Conference Hall on 27-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is launching products of Lap Top Computers by the Leenee and EHTP Unit of Bhubaneswar in Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar on 2-8-1994



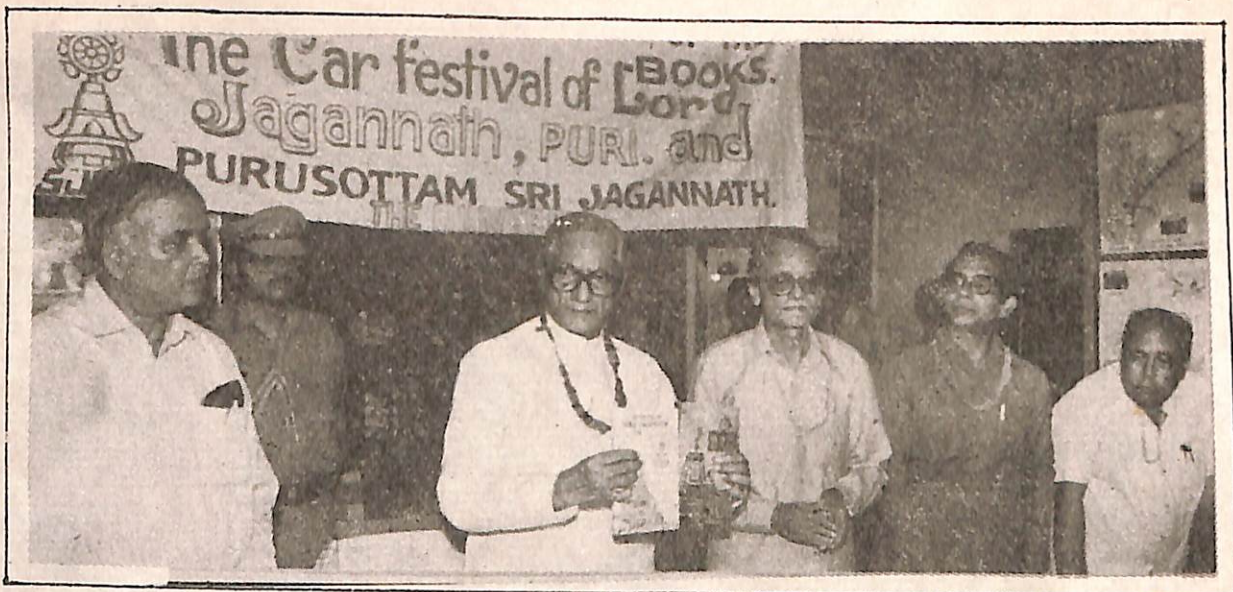
Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is addressing at the inaugural function of Loka Samparka Bhavan at Bhubaneswar on 15-8-1994. Minister, I. & P. R. Shri Bairagi Jena; Secretary, I. & P. R. Shri Subas Pani and Director, I. & P. R. Shri Surasen Jena were present.



Orissa Governor Hon'ble Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy speaks on the occasion of Local Self Government Week Celebration at Jubilee Town Hall, Berhampur on 31-8-1994.



A meeting of Project Officers, DRDA was held on 20-8-1994 at Narangarh in Khurda district. They were discussing the demonstration on production of cost effective building materials.



Orissa Governor Hon'ble Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy releases a set of books on Lord Jagannath at a function jointly organised by the Universe and Shree Jagannath Research Centre, Puri at 'THE UNIVERSE', Cuttack on 17-8-1994.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is addressing at the 9th Annual State Level Convention of Women entrepreneurs at Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar on 12-8-1994.

A Leap Forward Nuapada's Sports Agenda

Asit Tripathy

Nuapada district, located along the western extremities of Orissa was carved out of the Kalahandi district for effective organisation of development measures and efficacious measures against rural poverty, the ever-lurking threat of mass migration and sometimes untimely morbidity and even fatalities. The creation of the new district was an administrative landmark for this remote area. The decision making shifted to its own people, as it were. The small size, compact jurisdiction and eager participation of elected representatives in the development process has hastened successful implementation of rural development measures like never before. However, the enthusiasm witnessed in the area of social and cultural integration through sports development and display of youth energy in community development work such as plantation and protection of forest, has been unprecedented.

Sports has got a real filip in the new district. Formation of the District Athletic Association and its endeavours in collaboration with Sportsmen & Administrators has provided real encouragement. The District Athletic Association (DAA) organised a number of sports events which drew unparalleled response from the rural-folks. The first inter-G.P./N.A.C. foot-ball tournament was held in July '93 drawing as many as 93 G.Ps and two N.A.C. teams, culminating in a rousing finale at Nuapada. The novelty of Sarpanches donning the Cap of team managers was a pleasant surprise for the chief guest Shri A.U. Singh Deo, Honourable Minister of Sports and Culture, Government of Orissa. He paid tributes to the District Administration in his speech and wished other districts emulated this novelty. The football tournament was followed by

G. Dharmalingam Memorial Marathan, run from Tarbod to Nuapada, a distance of 25 K.Ms, to commemorate the memory of late Shri G. Dharmalingam, Director of Settlement, who sadly, demised succumbing to viral malaria.

Then, there was the unique event of Archery Competition where traditional bows and arrows were mightily displayed by the colourful tribals inhabiting the 1400 odd. sq. kms. of forest area of the district. The spectacle was organised in the remote block of Boden and the prize winners were fittingly honoured by H.E. Governor of Orissa Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy during his visit to Nuapada in the month of December, 1993.

However, the most glorious moment in the nascent district's sports history most deservedly came when thousands of sportsmen and women, boys and girls participated in the DAA meet, held in the month of February 1994. The National High School ground was prepared with the limited means available with the District administration in a deserving manner, erecting a boundary wall around it, land levelling and constructing a make-shift pavilion. The sacred flame was carried from the southern-most tip of the district in the Block of Sinapali by wildly enthusiastic youths which passed from village to village, cheered all the way, traversing a journey of more than 140 K.Ms. Officials, N.G.Os, Youth Clubs and Public representatives and people at large ran the village-laps culminating in a frenzied entry into the freshly christened Unity stadium, in a blaze of colour and pageant.

500 chosen athletes, selected from villages, screened at Block level, marched past in the fashion of Olympic event. The district shall never forget the exciting two days of sports and the spirit of closeness and bonhomie it brought into the force. It was, as if the infant district confidently crossed the Rubicon, heralding a supremely confident adolescence with promises of quick and profitable maturity.

Our guests, the three Arjun Award Winners, Michel Kindo (Hockey), Shri Romen Ghosh (Badminton) and Shri Sunil Patra (Body-building)

mingled with the participants and encouraged the new district's efforts.

Shri Sunil Patra, in a stunning display of body building prowess, captivated the gawking youngsters. India's current Women Hockey Teams, custodian, Miss Nita Dumre, M.Ps veteran Tennis Champion Shri Ramavatar Jain and a host of sports celebrities also received honours in the event.

The Sports Calender of 1994 has begun with a bang. When the monsoon lashed the parched fields of the widely scattered villages, thumping of the foot-ball was heard. The second district foot-ball tournament was organised in a more scientific manner. The Block level qualifying rounds were completed last month. Two best teams of the Block were raring to play in the finals held between 10th and 15th of August at the National High School Field at Nuapada. The DAA was fully seized with all preparations. The matches were held in accordance with the World Cup format and rules. The Sarpanches, being the main spirit behind the efforts were acting as superbly committed professionals and combatant team managers. Unlike last year, the matches were played in a more professional spirit. Each team turned out in its new sparkling trade mark jerseys. More often than not, people's enthusiasm was at its highest peak. Each team had its designated colours, with Panchayat Samiti and District insignia.

In addition to the 10 G.P. qualifiers 4 direct entry teams were drawn from the Khariar-road

and Khariar N.A.Cs teams, Nuapada and District Police teams. Fourteen teams played the finals on a knock out basis. There was a breathless competition to bag certificates and mementos. New-found patrons were also vying with one another offering support in the shape of prizes like Cups and Shields in memory of their dear and near ones. The second district football tournament at Nuapada was graced by Hon'ble Minister, H & T.W. Shri Ghasiram Majhi. Komna team won laurels for being the champion and Sinapali team became runners-up. The winners were greeted with loud cheers amidst a spectacular gathering of nearly ten thousand spectators at the valedictory function. When sports become a rallying force amongst people, petty differences give way to eager participation and there is steel resolve in the air. A positive climate is built which defies cynicism, and dark clouds of despair in the horizon are swept away.

In another vein, with a large number of people actually playing, real talent, ever present amongst people will surface. India's bane has been too few people play and we always crib that a nation of 900 countries draws nought in medal tally. We forget, that a small country like Cuba has twenty times more people actually playing and deservedly getting prizes. This irony is sought to be thrown overboard by Nuapada's grassroot strategy, so that real talent filters upward.

*Collector & District Magistrate,
Nuapada.*

SADBHAVANA DIVAS

The State-level Sadbhavana Divas, sponsored by I. & P. R. Department, was celebrated at Soochana Bhavan with the Minister, Shri Bairagi Jena in Chair. Minister Sayed Mustafiz Ahmed who attended as the Chief Guest called upon people to be cautious against "divisive forces". Dr. Manmathnath Das, noted historian who attended as the Chief Speaker stressed the need for mustering support of alien nations vis-a-vis Kashmir problem. Former Minister Shri Nityananda Mahapatra attended as Guest Speaker. Director, I. & P. R. Department, Shri Surasen Jena administered the oath of national integration.

Commercial Banks and Rural Development in Orissa

Natabar Khuntia

Rural India plays a very important role in our economy. Three-fourths of our population live in villages and agriculture sector alone contributes around one-third of our gross domestic product (GDP). The picture is different in Orissa. In Orissa 87 per cent of our population live in villages and agriculture is the most dominant factor in our State economy. It contributes more than 50 per cent to the State domestic product (SDP). This agriculture sector also provides employment to about 64 per cent of working force. Therefore, economic development of the state much depends upon the development of rural area.

Development of agriculture needs, among others, adequate capital for its modernisation to increase its production, productivity and income generation. Till nationalisation of major banks in July 1969, Co-operatives alone were providing agricultural credit. But the demand for credit was so vast that Co-operatives alone were not in a position to meet the needs. Commercial banks were asked, after nationalisation, to provide credit to agricultural sector on priority basis by expanding their branch net-work in rural and semi-urban areas. During last two and half decades, the commercial banks have responded to the needs of rural Orissa and expanded their branch net-work in remote corners and provided credit for alleviation of poverty, modernisation of agriculture and creation of employment opportunities. At the time of nationalisation there were only 100 bank branches in Orissa which has been increased to 2,140 as at the end March 1994. Of the total branches, more than 75 per cent is located in rural areas. Commercial banks had deployed only Rs.62 lakhs in agricultural sector as at the end of June 1969 which has been increased to Rs.524 Crores as at the end of

December 1993. Outstanding advances of rural branches in Orissa stood at Rs.800 Crores as at the end of December 1993. Outstanding advances of semi-urban branches stood at Rs.550 Crores. It is estimated that of Rs.550 Crores, Rs.225 Crores have been deployed for rural lending. Besides a portion of urban branch advances is also deployed in rural lending. Urban branch outstanding advances stood at Rs.1,038 Crores and out of this, about Rs.200 Crores are deployed in rural development. Hence of the total outstanding advances of Rs.2,388 Crores, Rs.1,225 Crores have been deployed in rural development. It is more than 50 per cent of total outstanding advances—a good achievement indeed. This is one side of the story.

Outstanding advances is not the sole indicator of judging achievement of banking sector in financing different economic activities. Repayment of loans which enables recycling funds is another very important indicator which shows the real achievement of a bank in financing different economic activities.

Mounting of overdues, though is a national problem, but unfortunately it is more acute in Orissa. The repayment position of commercial banks in Orissa of different categories of rural sector loans give a very discouraging picture. Recovery position of short term farm loan, medium term farm loan and other priority sector loans stood at 33 per cent, 25 per cent and 34 per cent respectively. Recovery position at national level is above 50 per cent. Mounting of overdues restricts the banks to disburse more loans. Commercial banks, to augment their resources, avail refinance from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). But as per refinance eligibility norm, unless a commercial bank branch achieves 50 per cent recovery of agricultural term loan, it cannot avail unlimited refinance. Its refinance eligibility is restricted. In Orissa most of the bank branches are not in a position to avail unlimited refinance from NABARD. This is a bottle-neck in free flow of funds to Orissa from NABARD.

Outstanding figure does not reveal the real position. Outstanding is increasing mostly due to application of interest and there is not much disbursement of fresh loans.

Since July 1991, Government of India, among other sectors has been reforming banking sector. Social banking tide has been receded. Nationalised banks have been allowed to raise capital to the extent of 49 per cent from the capital market. Thrust has been shifted to profitability and capital adequacy. There is a threat of merger or closure. Small agricultural loans are not profitable. Again due to poor recovery performance banks are not much interested to lend in rural sector. Previously there was cross subsidisation. Nationalised Banks were earning more income from large borrowal and deposit accounts and of this earning, they were spending some portion in subsidising the excess expenditure in rural lending. But now the Government of India is encouraging private sector banking. Some new private sector banks have been set up and some more are going to be set up. They will operate with computers and other electronic gadgets. Large depositors and borrowers would go to them, as a result the nationalised banks would be left with medium and small depositors and borrowers. How can they earn more profit? How they will serve the small rural sector efficiently?

Under the backdrop of above we suggest the following for improving rural lending activities in Orissa.

- Mounting of overdues is the major problem of banks in rural areas. Banks are not working in isolation. All rural development schemes are being sponsored by Government Departments. They should not ensure only disbursement of loan, at the same time, they should assist banks in full utilisation and recovery of loans. There should be loan recovery target for each Government Officer concerned.
- All political parties and leaders should not encourage defaulters. In their respective area they should co-operate the bankers

for recovery of dues. At present, if any body is a defaulter of Co-operative Society, he can not contest any election. But this provision should be extended to commercial bank loans. None can contest any election from Village Panchayat election to Parliament election, if he is a defaulter of any kind of loan either availed from Co-operative Bank/Society, Commercial Bank or Government. This would definitely help in recovery of loans.

- Public Demand Recovery Act and Orissa Miscellaneous Provisions Credit Operation (Banks) Act are applicable for recovery of bank loans extended under Government sponsored schemes and agricultural purposes respectively. Certificate cases can be filed before certificate officers for speedy recovery of loans. But unfortunately banks are not getting the required co-operation from government. Recovery process through certificate cases should be expedited to have exemplary effects on borrowers.

As per the recent policy guidelines announced by Reserve Bank, banks are now to set up specialised branches to finance high technology based agricultural projects in each state. Immediately the Convenor of the concerned State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) is supposed to set up a branch. This type of specialised branch would, perhaps, prefer to finance agro based projects. Take for example through tie-up arrangements with sugar industries, banks may finance sugarcane growers. In Orissa many special projects can be taken up. Mushroom cultivation is becoming very much popular in Orissa. Mushroom processing plants can be financed and the bank can make tie-up arrangements with processing plants for extending loan to mushroom growers. Under this circumstances Government of Orissa should identify these type of projects and take up with the specialised branch for financing them. Government of Orissa should also follow up with bank concerned to open a specialised branch as early as possible.

Under the present banking policy no new private sector bank would come to Orissa—particularly for financing rural development projects. The public sector banks operating in Orissa at present would continue to supplement the efforts of the co-operatives. But unless there is adequate recovery, commercial banks will not be interested to deploy further funds taking into account of present banking policy which is aimed at profitability. The Government of Orissa should not only ask the banks to disburse more loan, at the same time all possible co-operations should be extended to ensure proper utilization of loans and recovery thereof. Co-operative movement should be strengthened. This sector provides credit at lesser management cost.

It is a good sign that the Chief Minister of Orissa has appealed through news-papers

recently to borrowers to repay loans taken from co-operative societies and banks. This would have positive impact on borrowers to repay loans. Other people's representatives in their respective area should also appeal to the borrowers to repay the loans so that credit flow will continue. Government machinery should also cooperate and utilize its extension agencies and administrative net-work for recovery of loans. Unless concerted efforts are made, commercial banks, perhaps, would not play the same role which they are playing during last quarter century after nationalisation.

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NATIONAL NUTRITION WEEK (September 1—7)

People's awareness campaign is being geared up for maintaining sound health which depends on intake of nutritious foods in a hygienic condition. Government have augmented various welfare schemes for pregnant women, nursing mothers and babies and many such schemes are in operation in the Adivasi concentration areas and ICDS blocks. Various facilities are also being extended through different health centres in the State.

It is found that nearly 40 per cent pre-school children are below the line of nutrition and nearly 40 per cent to 50 per cent women are victims of bloodlessness. Despite accelerated growth of food production and expansion of health services in the State, lack of nutrition still persists and it is mainly on account of exploding population. Health Minister, Sayed Mustafiz Ahmed in a message has appealed to the young couples to plan their family, grow vegetables in their kitchen gardens, rear cows & chickens for milk & eggs and maintain small fish ponds in their homestead land. "Employees of the Agriculture, Fishery and Animal Resources Departments and all Voluntary Agencies in the State do have a specific social responsibility to generate awareness among the people in this regard", said the Minister.

On the occasion of the *Ganesa Puja*, September 9

GANESA : the Foremost God of Hindu Pantheon

S. S. Panda

Ganesa, other-wise known as Vighneswara, is worshipped by Hindus as the deity presiding over all impediments. So much so, every auspicious ceremony of the Hindus has to begin with an invocation to him. Sudramuni Saraladasa, the eminent poet of Orissa of the fourteenth century has also invoked Ganesa in the beginning of his famous work "Mahabharata".

Vighneswara is known by many names, such as Ganapati, Ekadanta, Heramba, Lambodara, Surpakarna, Gajanana and Guhagraja. The *Taittiriya Aranyaka* and the *Narayan Upanishad* refer to Vakratunda, Danti, etc. In the *Ganesa Atharva-Shirsa*, he is referred to as Ekadanta, Vakratunda and Danti. In the *Baudhayana Dharma Sutra*, the Lord is referred to as Vighna, Vinayaka, Sthula, Hastimukha, Ekadanta and Lambodara.

Unlike in the State of Maharashtra, where Ganesa is worshipped universally by all in innumerable temples all over that state, in Orissa, the image of Ganesa is found in the southern niche of almost all Siva temples and worshipped by pupils during the *Ganesa Chaturthi* or *Haritalika Vrata* annually, which falls on the 4th lunar day of the bright fortnight of *Bhadra*. Jatni town in Khurda district celebrates the Ganesa Puja on a grand scale with numerous richly decorated earthen images of Ganesa. In recent times, radiant images of Ganesa are being ritualistically worshipped on the day of Ganesa Chaturthi in almost all educational institutions in Orissa and at strategic joints and sheltered sports of Orissan towns.

Ganesa has a rich nomenclature. Some of his lesser known synonyms in Orissa are Bala-Ganapati, Taruna Ganapati, Bhakti

Vighneswara, Vira Vighnesa, Laksmi Ganapati, Uchhista Ganapati, Maha-Ganapati, Urddhva Ganapati and Pingala Ganapati.

Uchchhista Ganapati is worshipped with a view to achieving certain desired objects. As described in the *Kriyakramadyoti*, *Mantramaharnava* and *Uttara Kamikagama*, this four-armed god has a nude Devi, named Vighnesvari, seated in his lap. His two hands carry the *Pasa* and the *Ankusa*. The third hand holds a *ladduka* and his fourth hand is used in embracing the Devi about her hip. It is the proboscis, but not one of his hands, which is in contact with the private parts of the Devi. Such an image, which is very rarely found, is enshrined in a small temple near the *Paschima Dwara* (Western Gate) of the famous Jagannath Temple at Puri and is worshipped as Bhandu Ganesa. The local legend says that during the time of Kanchi expedition King Purusottama Deva appeared woeful when he witnessed combat soldiers were multiplying in the opponent's camp. He was informed that the presiding Devi of Kanchi Raja was begetting legions of soldiers in no time. In exasperation, King Purusottama prayed to Ganapati for help and the letter came to his rescue by obstructing the passage of the *Yoni* of the Devi (from which soldiers were teeming forth) with the help of his proboscis. To commemorate this unique event, he brought this rare image of Ganapati from Kanchi and installed it in the temple precinct of Lord Jagannath at Puri. Similar icons of Uchchhista Ganapati are found in the Nageswaraswami temple of Kumbhakonam and Nanjangodu in Tamilnadu.

At Sonapur one eight-handed figure of Maha Ganapati (18th C) is found in the Suresvari temple. He is seen to be seated on a *Visvapadma pitha* with his Sakti on his left lap holding a *Danta* (his broken tusk), *Ankusa*, *Sakti*, *Gada* (mace), *Kumbha* (water-vessel), *Sarpa*, *Padma* (Lotus) and a bow with arrow in his eight hands. His other adornments are a *Sarpopavita* and a *Karanda Mukuta* with the crescent moon.

As Parsva-devata, Ganesa is either in the seated, standing or dancing posture. In the

temples of the early period, he is generally in the seated posture, while in temples of the 10th century AD and later, he is depicted in the standing or dancing posture. In most of the seated images Ganesa is depicted as eating *Modaka* or *Laddu* from the *Laddupatra* by picking it from his left hand or with the help of his proboscis by extending it towards left. But in a rare four-handed image of Ganesa (7th C) found in the precinct of the Kumari temple at Banei in the district of Sundargarh the proboscis is turned toward right.

Besides this images of Ganesa, we find two beautiful *Nrta Ganapati* (dancing Ganesa) images in the *Banesvara* and *Bhutesvara Siva* temples at Banei. It is believed that in around 10th-11th century, the *Somavamsi* kings of Orissa introduced and popularised the image of *Nrta Ganapati*. This image is seen as *Parsvadevata* at *Algam*, *Ghoradia*, *Vaidyanath*, *Parahat* and also at *Bhubaneswar* (in the *Patalesvara* temple in the *Lingaraj* compound). At *Harishankar* we find a magnificent detached image of dancing Ganesa. The *Nrta Ganapati* image (11th C) of the *Banesvara* temple of Banei is eight-handed, and is seen to be dancing on the back of his *Vahana Musika*.

The dancing Ganesa image of the *Bhutesvara* temple at Banei is four-handed and seems to have belonged to the 18th C.

The image of *Sthanaka Ganesa* (standing Ganesa) gradually replaced the seated one in around 10th century AD. We find a beautiful four-handed standing image in the *Bahirangesvara* temple at *Dhauri* near *Bhubaneswar*, where he is seen to be standing in *Dvibhaga* on a *Padmapitha*.

In the entrance of the *Jagamohana* halls of the *Kosalesvara Siva* temple of *Vaidyanath* and *Kapilesvara Siva* temple, *Charda*, eight-handed dancing Ganesa and four-handed standing Ganesa images are found. The placement of Ganesa as *Dvarapala* alongwith *Kartikeya* is rarely found in Orissa.

Ganesa is carved in the ninth position, just after the *Saptamatrikas*, the first position being

assigned to *Virabhadra* in this panel. It signifies his role as a teacher.

Diminutive figures of *Ganesa* and *Kartikeya* are found on the pedestal of the *Uma Mahesvara* images also. At *Patnagarh*, diminutive seated *Ganesa* figures are found. *Nrta Ganapati* figures are also found carved on the *Jagamohana* pillars of the *Kosalesvara Siva* temple of *Patnagarh* and *Svapneswara Siva* temple at *Talgaj* (*Kamsara-Majhipali*).

As *Avarana Devata*, miniature seated *Ganesa* figures are found carved on the railing of the southern balcony of the *Jagamohana* hall at *Vaidyanath*, in the three *Ramesvara* group of temples at *Baud* and in the *Gelabai*. A four handed dancing *Ganesa* figure is also carved at the *Chausathi Yogini* temple of *Ranipur Jharia*.

In the centre of the *Dvara-lalata-vimba* of the early temples such as the *Siva* temples at *Narla* and *Huma*, and in *Brahmesvara* temple small images of *Nrta Ganesa* are also found.

Big figures of *Ganesa* are carved on monolithic rocks at *Chandikhola* and *Nrusinghanath*. Even on the *Pabhaga* of the *Indralath* brick temple of *Ranipur Jharia* and *Baud* temple, a small standing figure of *Ganesa* is carved.

On a rock in the midstream of the river *Mahanadi* at *Sonepur*, where open-air worship of goddess *Lankesvari* is performed, we find the figure of *Ganesa* carved on the rock, which denotes *Tantrik* influence. "*Lankavartaka*" (the *Lankesvari* gorge) finds mentioned in a *Telugu Choda* copper plate charter of the 11th century AD. The female counterpart of *Ganesa*, *Gajanana* tops the list of 64 *Yogonis* according to the *Skanda Purana*. In the 22nd niche of the *Chausathi Yogini* temple of *Ranipur Jharia* in Orissa we find elephant headed *Gajanana*, the female counterpart of *Ganesa*. This elephant headed *Yogini* is seen to be seated in *Lalitasana* in the *Chausathi Yogini* temple at *Bheraghat* (*Madhya Pradesh*), although the *Ranipur Jharia* *Yogini* is seen to be dancing in *Adbhuta* posture.

It is apparent that the worship of *Ganesa* alongwith other Hindu gods and goddesses

especially related to Saivism was very popular in Orissa from the early Christian era. Now also the Ganesa Chaturthi Day is celebrated with much pomp and gaiety all over the State.

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GANESA
Kumari Temple, Bonai (Sundargarh)
Circa 8th century A.D.



NRITTA GANESA
Banesvara Temple, Bonai (Sundargarh)
Circa 11th century A.D.



STANDING GANESA
Bahirangesvara Temple, Dhauli (BBSR)
Circa 13th century A.D.



NRITTA GANAPATI
(Carved on monolithic rock)
Narsinghnath (Bargarh)
Circa 15th century A.D.



NRITTA GANESA
Bhutesvara Temple, Bonai (Sundargarh)
Circa 18th century A.D.



GANESA WITH SAKTI
Suresvari Temple, Sonepur
Circa 18th century A.D.

Ocean for the Human Welfare

Dr. R. C. Pattnaik

Our earth appears to be the only planet in the solar system, which contains a large amount of water. About three fourths of its surface are covered by oceans and seas with average depth of thirteen hundred feet. The space occupied by the oceans and seas is three hundred times more than that of the land. Everywhere in ocean or sea we find life, abundant near the surface and less dispersed at the greatest depths.

The ocean is accepted as the place where life has begun in the earth. Now as it is understood on the basis of scientific findings, the earth would have been a different kind of place if there were no oceans or seas in it. There should have been no life in it. The living landscape could have been converted to a vast waste desert packed with sand and stones everywhere. Among other functions it is a great reservoir of heat. It levels up the temperature, provides a least expensive form of transport, a major sight for recreation, a store house of metals and minerals, a vast source of proteinous foods and energy which are increasing requirements for a developed and developing society.

Not only today but since the beginning of human civilisation the oceans have been used as a high-way and store house. Men went down the sea long before they learned the composition and properties of oceanic water and about the living things that swell in it. So many strange ideas arise concerning the ocean and its mysterious inhabitants. Once it is thought that the sea was a mysterious place filled with many strange and wonderful things, inhabited by giants, charming goddesses, and strange monsters. But man's desire for new riches and his curiosity about this strange world was stronger than his superstitions and the fear of the unknown. The greatest mariners were Phoenicians who sailed completely round Africa some seven hundred years before the birth of Christ. Columbus, the man of supreme adventures, could reach near the American

continent by crossing the Atlantic. Magellan sailed partly around the world, died in the Philippines and his men completed the rest of first voyage around the globe. In 1872, H M S challenger sailed on oceanographic expedition to study the truths of the seas in a scientific manner. And as a result of work of such great oceanographers now we know a good deal about oceans and seas.

From the beginning of the ancient civilisation man has used the sea as a means of transport for flourishing his trade and commerce. We know that the brave sons of Orissa were in trade with South East Asian Countries through the sea routes and by that they flourished in the past. Now the major products used for our day to day life are transported throughout the world in ocean vessels. This is probably the cheapest form of transportation and hundred times cheaper than transporting such materials in land. Now the submarines are being used for carrying the bulk materials even beneath the polar ice caps.

Although oceans are vast storehouse of water, which exist to the extent of 96% by weight we do not depend upon it for our domestic purposes, for it is salty. But there is scarcity of fresh water in deserted areas. Desalination seems to be the only means of solving the age-old problem of mankind in such areas. Now a few desalination units are in operation mostly in coastal desert areas. Proposals of large scale nuclear desalination facilities, when come up, can be very effectively implemented.

Apart from ocean's lulling aesthetic glamour and awe-inspiring beauty we look to oceans for salt and fishes. Man extracts about sixty crore tonnes of food from the oceans annually by fishing. The actual food producing potential of the ocean is however several hundred times greater than the present rate of production. If efficient method of harvesting is developed, the sea could yield about thirty times more than the present rate of fish production. The Japanese were really advanced in this respect. It is a matter of pleasure that many of our young entrepreneurs are being increasingly involved in such operations near the coastal areas of Paradeep and Balasore in Orissa.

The ocean is also a vast storehouse of many metals and minerals. Now forty-four elements have been counted from the single drop of sea water. Of course, common salt, scientifically speaking the sodium chloride, a very valuable resource of man, occurs to the extent of eighty percent. The common salt is an indispensable article of our diet, a valuable food preservative and a widely used chemical in industries. This salt was an important article of commerce in ancient world. Apart from common salt and salts of alkali and alkaline earth metals, there are some rare elements which are very important and valuable. There is plenty of gold and diamond in oceans and seas. So we regard the ocean as *Ratnakar* or a 'bejewelled mine'. Although gold is found in negligible fractions in a liter of sea water, it runs into thousands of million of tonnes when related to the world ocean. If all gold could be extracted from the seas and oceans, it could be distributed at the rate of more than three tonnes for each one of us. Similarly silver will be sixty and thorium and Molybdenum will be 100 tonnes per capita basis.

The plants and animals found in the oceans are an immensely valuable resource. If it is possible we would be able to harvest about 360 million tonnes of food annually.

We have seen that the ocean can provide us with food and other things. It can also provide us with energy. The sea is continuously in motion. The ebb and flow of the tides occur with unflinching regularity. Vast indeed must be the power that sets the sea in motion. The thousand of millions of kilowatts of energy generated by the tidal waves are completely wasted. So also the case of energy of wind waves.

The heat content pattern of the ocean is uneven. The vertical temperature gradient can be put to work. Geothermal power plants could be built. The World ocean will be able to supply unlimited amount of energy once tidal wind and thermal power stations are constructed.

Thus the riches of the ocean some day will be the last hope for survival. Fortunately we cannot destroy the resources of sea as we are doing in the land. Yet we have made certain inroads upon the vast population of fishes and other animals that dwell in the sea by atomic explosions and other pollution means. Let us be aware of it for better future of mankind.

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NEW RURAL UPLIFT SCHEME

With a view to translating into reality, the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi the State Government have launched "Ama Gaon" rural development programme on August, 21 (Rakhi Purnima). Chief Minister, Shri Biju Patnaik inaugurated the programme and spoke as the Chief Guest at Sankarpur in Tangi-Choudwar block and hoped that the scheme would help decentralisation of power and comprehensive development of villages. He urged that womenfolk to strive hard to achieve break-through in rural development programme. Dr. Damodar Rout, Minister called for determined efforts to quicken the pace of economic progress. Irrigation Minister, Shri Bijoy Mohapatra and Family Welfare Minister, Dr. Kamala Das, Health Minister, Sayed Mustafiz Ahmed, Minister, Mass Education, Shri Prafulla Chandra Ghadei, Revenue Minister, Shri Surendra Nath Nayak and Finance Minister, Shri Bed Prakash Agrawal urged people to shun narrow outlook and join hands in implementing new schemes for rural development.

Collector, Shri Tirthabasi Sahu, who gave the introductory remarks elucidated the idea of rural uplift. M.L.A. Shri Raj Kishore Ram was in Chair.

50TH PENSION ADALAT AT BARIPADA

Dr. Prasanna Patsani, Minister, Public Grievances and Pension Administration chaired the Golden Jubilee Pension Adalat at Baripada on 12-8-1994 and finalised 104 cases out of 106 presented for the purpose.

EMPLOYMENT ASSURANCE SCHEME

During March-July, 1994, 1,32,270 persons were provided employment under the Employment Assurance Scheme.

SURPLUS LAND DISTRIBUTED

130.806 acres of surplus land were distributed among the landless people between March and July, 1994.

BIO-GAS PLANT SET UP

1134 Bio-gas Plants have been set up in the State between March-July, 1994

Health Services for the people

Dr. R. C. Rout

"Health Service" in its very nature is mainly preventive. 'An ounce of prevention is far better than a pound of cure'. And moreover in a poor and developing country like ours, the main thrust of the "Health Services" should veer round prevention and not curing rare and highly expensive diseases which only save one or two lives.

Two small examples will make the statement clear :

"Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD), is quite prevalent in our country. The main aetiology of this chronic disabling disease is—'streptococcal infection' in childhood and growing adolescence period. It may start as a simple sore-throat or rheumatic arthritis involving large joints of a child or with arthritis (joint pain) and fever which is called "Rheumatic fever". It cures itself with proper, partial or no treatment at all. But those children who are treated properly do not develop complications in their latter lives. And those who are either not treated properly or with no treatment at all develop serious complications of Rheumatic Heart Disease. This needs prolonged medical treatment with costly drugs almost for entire life and later cardiac surgery which is highly expensive. The cost of one cardiac surgery can help cure thousands of RF affected children for whole life.

Another example is Ischaemic Heart Disease (IHD) seen among elderly, sedentary, obese and people having scanty physical exercise and smoking habits. It starts as a mild pain in left chest called ICS (Intermediate Coronary Syndrome) and ends as massive myo-cardiac infarction (AMI) and death. It needs cardiac by-pass surgery then and most of our statesmen and top level officers are undergoing CBS outside our country with heavy flow of money from our nation to foreign countries.

This serious and potentially fatal disease could be almost controlled with health education

and regular check up which needs practically no expenditure at all. The cost of one CBS will go in a long way to prevent thousands of people having potential danger of getting IHD. Moderate physical exercise, low fat diet, quitting of smoking, control of diabetes and elevated blood pressure (Hypertension), minimizing stress and strain and a few more things will prevent heart attack to a larger extent.

Similarly in the grass root provision of safe drinking water, adequate nutrition to children, carrying and nourishing mothers, timely vaccination against communicable diseases and prompt treatment of killer diseases like diarrhoea and malaria etc. will prevent more than three fourths of all diseases prevalent in the society.

The State Government is doing a praiseworthy work in relation to Family Welfare Programme. This programme along with MCH (Maternity and Child Health) and Immunization (UIP) programme has done excellent work in the field of health services. It has not only controlled population explosion but also IMR (Infant Mortality Rate), MMR (Maternal Mortality Rate), Childhood diseases and diseases during pregnancy.

The FW programme at present carried out in each district with CDMO, ADMO (FP) and PHC medical officers needs some modification. The above officers entrusted with other important work are not able to devote their entire time for FW programme. Hence under the leadership of DFW there should be one District Family Welfare Officer of the rank of CDMO in each district, one Subdivisional FWO in each Subdivision of the rank of SDMO and one or two Medical Officers in PHC to be designated as PHC FWO.

At present more and more people are being attracted towards the FW programme and most couples are having children ranging from two to three. There are very minor percentage of couples having more than 3 children, even rural illiterate people have much interest in these activities and are with limited number of children. Research in the line of present methods of tubectomy, minilap, vasectomy and

MTP operations has become necessary to minimise failures and complications in these procedures which is the main cause of some unpopularity in FP works. Research should also be taken in traditional methods of birth control like use of castor and neem seed oil, use of leaves of some tribal herbs and in homeopathic medicines. Involvement of voluntary agencies (Non-Government Organisations) in FW programme is only making the work complicated and some time the aim is not achieved as most of the NGOs are politically based and composed of young with no definite aim and guidance.

Rather involvement of Panchayats in Health Services at grassroot levels will be more beneficial. Provision of drinking water,

Sanitation programme, construction of drains, latrines in villages, cleaning of ponds and water reservoirs, opening of fever treatment and slide collections and diarrhoea treatment centres in Sub-Centres under supervision of S. I. and LHV are few of them.

There is no objection to provision of more funds to Medical Colleges and different specialised and super specialised Departments for improvement in quality of treatment and teaching but the main area of "Health Services" i.e. for the people at grassroot level should not be over-looked.

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MORE AYURVEDIC DISPENSARIES STRESSED

Attending as the Chief Guest of the anniversary celebrations of the Charitable Ayurvedic Clinic, a Rotarian's free gift, at Rotary Bhavan, Bhubaneswar on August, 30 Orissa Governor Hon'ble Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy said that despite tremendous progress in the field of modern science Ayurved and traditional Indian medicine have remained the only hope for victims of many deadly diseases. Modern medicine fails to gather momentum in all communities in India on account of high cost and lack of comprehension on a wide spectrum. Ayurved in India, represents the wisdom of thousand years of civilization. To preserve our ancient tradition of Ayurved and to continue to give our people an access to these inexpensive remedies and to protect this ancient intellectual property of our civilization from the cross-commercial exploitation of multi-national drug companies, Shri Reddy stressed the establishment of more Ayurvedic dispensaries. He commended the members of the Rotary Club for their commitment to the community-oriented activities.

OMFED MAKES A HEAD-WAY

The Orissa State Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited (OMFED) has earned a profit of Rs. 22.52 lakhs during 1993-94. Collecting milk through 801 village Dairy Co-operative Societies of which 46 Societies are being run by women, it procures nearly 1 lakh litre of milk per day and sells nearly 1.50 thousand litres of surplus milk to Bihar and West Bengal. Though the national per capita production of milk is 250 grams, the State is trying to increase its potential to reach an appreciable target. At present, Orissa's per capita production of milk is less than 60 grams. Last year, OMFED has sold nearly 2.56 lakh K. G. of Ghee and has captured markets in Calcutta, Ranchi and Jamsedpur.

A sum of Rs. 6.3 crore Dairy Development Authority is being planned for procurement, sale and processing of milk in the tribal and backward districts of the State. It is endeavouring to expand the capacity of Bhubaneswar Dairy from 75 thousand litres to 1 lakh litres and Sambalpur Dairy from 10,000 to 30,000 litres per day and set up a highly sophisticated dairy plant at Berhampur under the Indo-Swiss Project.

Glimpses of the flora in the Mahanadi Valley

Mrs. Prajna Paramita Behera

The Mahanadi, the greatest river of Orissa, has its origin from the spurs of Sihawa hills near Sihwa approximately 100 Km. south-east of Raipur district of Madhya Pradesh. Entering Orissa near Sankra of Madhya Pradesh it flows south-east up to Sambalpur district and then turns to south up to Sonepur and then further east to pour down upon the delta at Naraj, 7 k.m. west of Cuttack and then finally meets the Bay of Bengal near Cuttack.

The State Orissa is divided into two distinct zones by the river Mahanadi, i.e., Gangetic plain province lying on the north of the river and Deccan province lying towards the south of the river.

Due to wide range of topography and climatic variations the state shows diversified flora and the valley of Mahanadi, covering a large area, is floristically more interesting having a wide range of floristic composition and rich vegetable wealth. Flora along the valley is rich in dominant species mostly evergreen, but some deciduous, epiphytes, climbers along with many cultivated crops, and watery species.

In the forests alongwith the Mahanadi valley Sal is a predominant species covering a larger area with its various subspecies like Asan, Piasal, Bahara, Harida, Arjuna, Anla, Mahul, Sisoo, Gambhari, kusum, Kurum, Giringa, Kochila, Bandhan, Jamu, and Kendu. Along with the above tree species other economic trees found in the upper Mahanadi valley are Khaira, kangada, Rohon, Jhingan, Karla, Sahaj, Dhaura, etc. Teak is found in small patches in the forest. In the Phulbani district special types of plants like *Centaurium noxburghii*, *stemodia*, *viscosa*, *Jussieua repens*, *vallis Bolanacea*, *Urginea indica*,

Alpinia malaccensis, *Allophyllus Berratus*, *Blumea oxydonla*, *Cleisthanthus patulus*, *Rungia repens* etc. are found.

The forests are also rich in many important plants, including medicinal, oil yielding, timber yielding plants. They have high commercial and aesthetic values. Tamarind, *Patalagaruda*, *Nim* are medicinally important plants. *Daba-bamboo*, *Salia bamboo* are useful in paper industry. *Barakoli*, *Bel*, *Mango*, *Tal*, *Khajuri*, *Jamu* are fruit-yielding plants. Palmrose oil grass, lemon grass, *Aswatha*, *Bara*, *Babul* are also common along the Mahanadi valley. *Palasa*, *Kanchana*, *Champa*, *Sunari*, *Ashoka*, *Siris*, *Dhatabiphool* are important for their beautiful flowers.

The littoral and swamp forests are mostly distributed along the coastal tracts of Balasore, Cuttack, Puri and Ganjam districts. Bhitarkanika in the district of Cuttack harbours a rich and luxuriant mangrove vegetation although in other regions like Paradeep, Hukitola, Kujanga, Jambu, etc. In these areas species like *Rhizophura mucronota*, *Heritiera monor*, *Excoecaria agollocha*, *Acanthus ilicifolius*, *ceriops Kardelia*, *Phoenix pacudosa*, *Avicennia alba*, *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, *Aegicerassps* are found in abundance.

Along the riverside various types of cereals, pulses, oil-seeds, crops and varieties of vegetable are cultivated. Rice is the most dominantly cultivated crops. Wheat, *bajra*, gram are also important cultivated crops. Among pulses *Harada*, *mung* are cultivated. Oil-seeds are less produced which include groundnut, mustard and til. In rice fields weeds like *Ammania*, *Ilysanthus*, *Utricularia*, *Hygrophila* species are dominant. Various vegetables are also cultivated which include onion, tomato, cabbage, potato, sweet potato, cauliflower and many other leafy vegetables.

The river water is full with many fully submerged, submerged, free floating and amphibious hydrophytes. Among free floating plants are *Padma*, *Kaini*, *Panisiuli*, *Panisingada*, etc. Submerged plants include *ceretophyllum demersum*, *Hydrilla*

verticillata, *Vallisneria spiralis*, *Ottelia alismoides*, *Potamogeton irialicus*, *Eichporna Cranipes*, *Monochoria Vaginatis*, *Lemna* species, *Wollfia*, *Pistia stratiodes*, *Salvinia*, *Azolla*. Among amphibious plants *sunsunia*, *kalam*, *koilikhia*, etc. are common. Various algae are also found in abundance.

Nirmuli is most abundant epiphyte. Other epiphytes are *Varda roxburghii*, *Utricularia*, etc. *Capparis*, *Jasminum*, *Diocoreas* etc. like climbers and scrambles are found in the forests.

Grass is found in abundance all around. Among grass species like *Dub*, *musial*, *kaila*, *khasa*, *panasi* are very much common type.

Though a large number of plant species are identified in the Mahanadi valley, it is still fragmentary and far from complete and a lot of study has to be done to have a complete picture of flora along the Mahanadi valley.

Local name of the Plant and its Botanical name :

Sal—*Shorea robusta*, Asan—*Terminalia tomentosa*, Piasal—*Pterocarpus indicus*, Bahara — *terminalia belesica*, Harida — *terminalia chebula*, Arjuna—*Terminalia arjuna*, Aonla — *Emblica officianalis*, Mahula— *Madhuka longifolia*, Sisoo—*Dalbergia sisoo*, Gambhari—*Gmelina arborea*, Kusum—*Sleichera trijuga*, Kurum—*Adina cordifolia*, Giringa—*Pterospermum xylocarpus*, Sunari—*Cassia fistula*, Kochila—*Strychnos nox-vomica*, Bandhana—*Ougeinia oogeinensis*, Jamu—*Syzygium cumini*, Kendu—*Diospyros melanoxylon*, Khaira—*Acacia catechu*, Kangada—*Xylia xylocarpa*, Rohon—*Soymida febrifuga*, Jhingan—*Olinia wodier*, Karla—*Cleistanthus collinus*, Sahaj—*Terminalia*

tomentosa, Dhaura—*Anogeissus latifolia*, Teak—*Tectona grandis*, Tamarind—*Curcuma longa*, Patalagaruda—*Rauwolfia serpentina*, Nim—*Azadirachta indica*, Babe bamboo—*Bambusa arundinacea*, Salia bamboo—*Dendrocalamus strictus*, Barakoli—*Zizyphus mauritiana*, Bel—*Aegle marmelos*, Mango—*Margifera indica*, Tal—*Borassus flabellifer*, Khajuri—*Phoenix sylvestris*, Jamu—*Syzygium cumini*, Palm rose oilgrass—*Cymbopogon martini*, Lemon grass—*Cymbopogon flexuosus*, Aswatha—*Ficus religiosa*, Bara—*Ficus benghalensis*, Babul—*Acacia arabica*, Palasa—*Butia monosperma*, Kanchana—*Bahaunia variegata*, Champa—*Michelia champaca*, Sunari—*Cassia fistula*, Ashoka—*Saraca ashoka*, Siris—*Albizia lebbek*, Dhatabiphool—*Woodfordia fruticosa*, Rice—*Oryza sativa*, Wheat—*Triticum sativum*, Bajra—*Pennisatum thyphoideum*, Gram—*Cicum dritienum*, Harada—*Cajanus cajan*, Mung—*Phasiolus aureus*, Groundnut—*Arachio hypogea*, Mustard—*Branica guncea*, Til—*Sesamum orientale*, Cabbage—*Branica arborea*, Patato—*Solanum luberosum*, Sweet potato—*Ipomoea balatus*, Cauliflower—*Branica oleracea*, Kain—*Nelumbo nucifera*, Panisiuli—*Nymphaea alba*, Panisingada—*Nymphoides cristalo*, Sunsunia—*Marsilea quadrifida*, Kalam—*Ipomoea reptans*, Koilikhia—*Asterkantha longifolia*, *Nirmuli*—*Cuscuta reflexa*, Rasama—*Varda roxburghii*, *Dub*—*Cynodon dactylon*, *Musial*—*Iseilema wightii*, *Kaila*—*Andropogon annulatus*, *Khasa*—*Andropogon squarrosus*, *Panasi*—*Pollinia eripoda*,

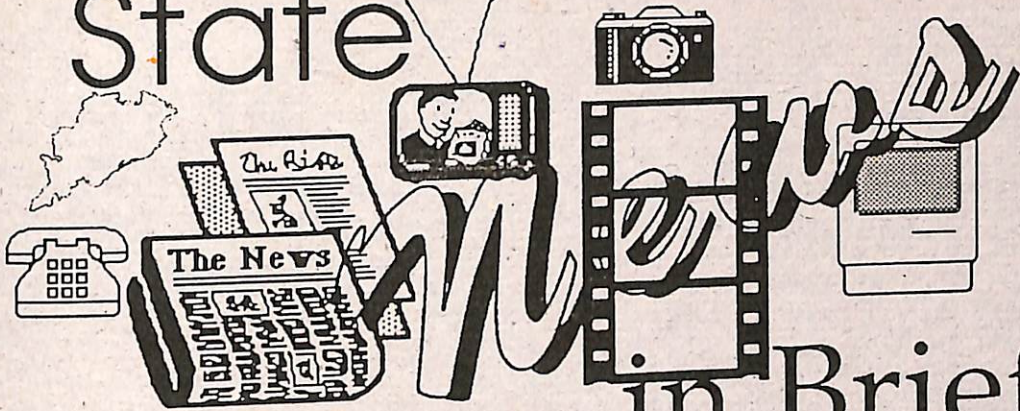
Lecturer in Botany,
Government College,
Phulbani (Orissa)

■ Shri N. R. Nayar, Director and Shri R. K. Ramanathan, Company Secretary of Indian Rare Earth Ltd. presented a cheque of Rs. 1.50 lakh to Chief Minister on August 17, in aid of the flood victims of Orissa.

■ The state level seminar on Fisheries was inaugurated at Bhubaneswar by Shri Surya Narayan Patra, Minister, Fisheries & ARD on August 19.

■ The 68th birthday of Hon'ble Governor, Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy was celebrated at Raj Bhawan on August 20.

State



in Brief

MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF TEACHERS' DAY

"The 33rd Guru Divas is being celebrated all over India on September 5, 1994. On this occasion, I accord my hearty good wishes and greetings to all teachers of my State.



SHRI BIJU PATNAIK
Chief Minister

The shape of future society is determined from the type of education the teachers impart to their pupils and the ideals they inspire them to follow. The responsibility of a teacher is thus greater than others and for this, teachers are more honourable than others in the society.

The National Teachers' Welfare Fund has been set up since 1962 to help the needy, afflicted and sickly teachers and their families. The National Teachers' Welfare Fund has been instituted to serve a noble cause. I call upon my countrymen, my sisters and brothers to donate generously to this Fund."

"The 33rd Guru Divas is being celebrated on September 5, 1994 as usual all over the country. On this occasion, I extend my sincere wishes to the teachers of my State.



Shri Prafulla Ch. Ghaderkar
Minister, School & Mass Education

Today is the sacred birth day of the great scholar, philosopher and guru late Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. His ideals, sound moral character and laudable leadership are remembered for ever. Since the hoary past gurus have occupied highest position in our society and at the national level. The contribution of a guru is highly significant in imprinting the character of his pupil and making him an ideal, dutiful and patriotic one. So on this auspicious occasion, I extend my good wishes to the teachers on behalf of the State and call upon them to lead the life of ideal teachers to fulfill the pledge of building the nation."

making him an ideal, dutiful and patriotic one. So on this auspicious occasion, I extend my good wishes to the teachers on behalf of the State and call upon them to lead the life of ideal teachers to fulfill the pledge of building the nation."

Ajnana timirandhasya jnananjana Salakaya
Chaksurnmilitami yena tasmei srigurabe namah.

"We celebrate September 5 as the Guru Divas every year. This day is remembered as the sacred birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President of India who was a Teacher and Philosopher par excellence.



Shri Chaitanya Majhi
Minister, Higher Education

It is needless to say that the worship of Guru has been an integral part of the spiritual tradition of India since ages. We have a firm belief that the very purpose of our birth and attainment in life become futile without the grace of Guru. In a developing nation like India, the ideal teachers are the real guide for bringing about social reformations.

Starting from our first acquaintance with the alphabets till we achieve erudition and illumination of conscience at the highest step of life, a teacher's contribution plays an important role. It is our primary duty to accord our highest regard to the teachers for their inestimable contributions to the society. We should hope for their all round development. We once again reaffirm our commitment to this noble endeavour.

I wish, let the ideals of the great guru and philosopher whose birthday we are celebrating today as the Guru Divas lead us a kindly light."

MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT DAY

In a message issued on the eve of the celebration of the Local Self-Government Day (August 31) Urban Development Minister, Shri Nalinikanta Mohanty said:



Shri Nalinikanta Mohanty
Minister, Urban Development

"The Local Self-government Day is a sacred day, a day of pledge. The aim of the local self-governance is to protect democratic values and ensure social justice to people. In this democratic

country the role of civic agencies is very significant. Under the able leadership of Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik the elected representatives in the civic bodies completed two years of their tenure. They have been successfully steering forth all development activities in a democratic process. We have to strive continually in a disciplined and dedicated way to remove urban poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy. We have to protect our environs.

By adopting a measure to reserve one-third seats for the women in the civic bodies, the process of placing them in the mainstream of democracy has been effectively achieved. State Government have fulfilled the long cherished hope and aspiration of the people by giving Corporation status to the two major municipalities of the State, Cuttack and Bhubaneswar.

The State Urban Development Agency (SUDA), the District Urban Development Agency (DUDA), Community Management, the Habitat Management, the low priced house building Kalinga Kutir Yojana and Water Supply and Sewerage Board, etc. have been set up to serve the citizens effectively. Specific plans have been chalked out to extend befitting educational, health, drinking water, roads, house building and employment facilities even to the poorest families living in the urban areas. Besides these, needful services like bus communication, house building, health centres, lighting of streets, Sulava Sauchalaya, recreation parks, play grounds, Kalyan Mandaps, tree plantation for the protection of environment etc. have been effected. With a view to abolishing scavengers' service flush latrine system has been made compulsory. As a result of this public confidence and dignity of living have been restored.

In this context, I hope for better public awareness and cooperation for all round development of all municipal and civic bodies."

PLANNING BOARD MEET

Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik asked the State Planning Board to put forth effective guidelines with a view to stepping up progress so that Orissa could be on par with other developed States.

Presiding over the State Planning Board meeting held at Bhubaneswar on August 27 last he said Orissa's progress was not spectacular in comparison to her natural resources and available facilities. Despite a long coastline and expansion of production measures our target in prawn export from the State has rather languished—a mere out-turn of Rs.100 crores, he said and added, besides analytical survey of each process of development the programmes should be well monitored.

Deputy Chairman of the Board Shri Prasanna Kumar Patnaik who gave the introductory remarks revealed that the suggestions of the recently constituted 10 task forces needed thorough discussion.

DRDA MEET ON KALINGA KUTIRA YOJANA

A meeting of the District Rural Development Agency Project Officers sponsored by the State Urban Development and Housing Department was held at Narangarh Kalinga Kutir Project premises on 20-8-94 with Panchayati Raj Department Director, Shri Surendranath Tripathy in Chair to discuss expansion of the house-building material production centres and utilisation of the materials particularly in constructing fire-proof school buildings at a cheaper rate. A proposal to set up 100 such centres cropped up recently and the measures to implement the scheme figured in the meeting.

EXECUTION OF VARIOUS SCHEMES (JANUARY—MARCH, 1994) UNDER JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA

Rs. 28.48 lakhs has been spent under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana to sink 316 wells for irrigation. Rs. 150.92 lakhs and Rs. 155.65 lakhs have been spent to dig 345 irrigation tanks and 322 village ponds respectively which would provide irrigation to 3,539.90 hectares. Under drinking water supply scheme, 431 wells have been dug at the cost of Rs. 74.69 lakhs. Rural roads stretching over 2,671.28 Kms. were constructed at the cost of Rs. 57.21 lakhs. 341

school buildings were constructed at the cost of Rs. 142.45 lakhs. 21 homestead lands were developed for housing at the cost of Rs. 1.72 lakhs. 1,549 houses, 110 Panchayat buildings, 163 houses for miscellaneous purpose and 707 sanitary latrines were constructed at the cost of Rs. 194.36 lakhs, Rs. 43.85 lakhs, Rs. 37.01 lakhs and Rs. 9.48 lakhs respectively. 5163 houses were constructed at the cost of Rs. 735.16 lakhs of which 3,022 houses were provided to S.C. families and 2,141 houses to S.T. families. The scheme has also generated 17.102 lakhs mandays. Under Million Well Scheme 8,574 wells were dug at the cost of Rs. 1,526.69 lakhs to irrigate 3,868.40 hectares and has created 36.507 lakhs mandays. For village and community forest cover 83,000 sapplings were planted in 135.58 hectare lands at the cost of Rs. 98.72 lakhs. Under horticulture scheme, a sum of Rs. 10.9 lakhs was spent in 36.20 hectare lands.

BACKWARD CLASS COMMISSION

Justice R. N. Prasad, the Chairman of National Backward Class Commission during his discussion with State Harijan and Adivasi Welfare Ministers, Shri Ghasiram Majhi at the State Secretariat on 18-8-94 put accent on early constitution of a special directorate to speed up the process of enlistment of State backward classes in Central categories and furnish correct information as required. Meanwhile, the State Government has directed the different voluntary agencies, organisations of backward people to submit answer sheets in favour of their claims for enlistment to National Backward Class Commission, State Backward Class Commission and the State Government.

LORD JAGANNATH IS NOT MERELY A CULTURAL ICON

Shri Reddy

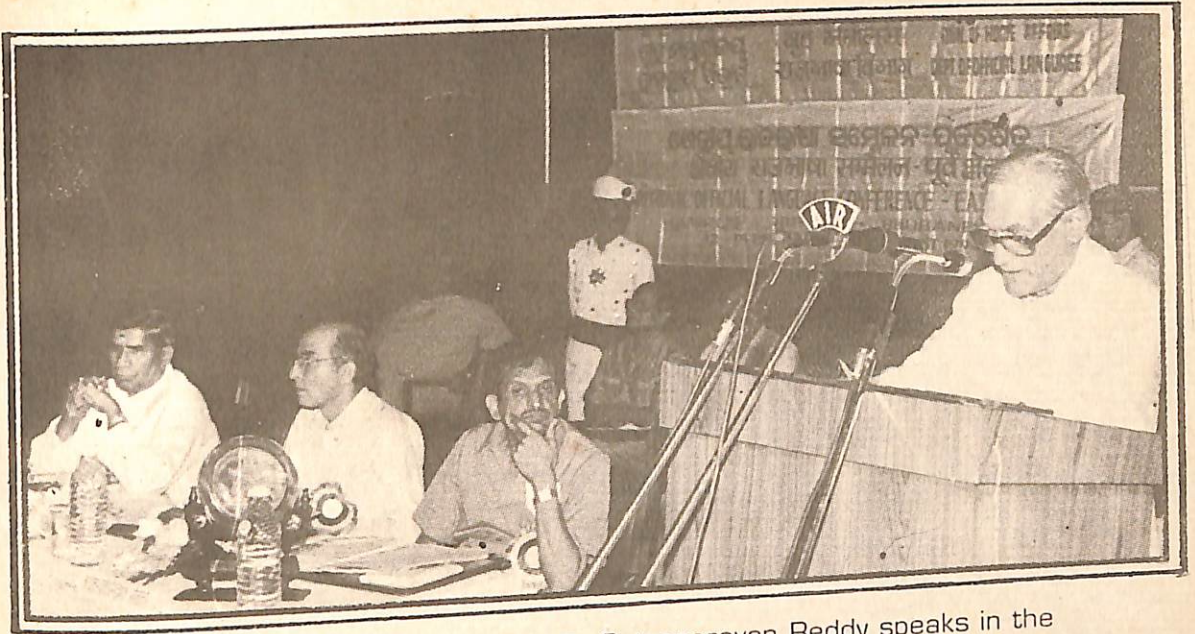
Lord Jagannath is not merely a cultural icon of the people of Orissa, but also a core symbol of the great living tradition of Indian culture, said Governor Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy, while releasing a set of books on Lord Jagannath, edited by Shri Sarat Chandra Mohapatra, at a function jointly organised by the Universe, Cuttack and Shri Jagannath Research Centre, Puri on August 17 at Cuttack. Lord Jagannath, the symbol of tolerance, good-will and universal brotherhood, is worshipped by all irrespective of caste, creed and religion. Research and modern scholarship are the appropriate vehicles to carry these ideas to people all over the world, he opined. Commending the efforts of the organisations for their dedication and zeal in preserving the syncretic traditions of Lord Jagannath, Shri Reddy urged the masses to uphold these values and hand it down to succeeding generations as a cherished legacy.

Justice Naba Kishore Das, Shri Sarat Chandra Mohapatra and Shri Girija Bhusan Patnaik also threw light on Jagannath traditions. Shri Patita Paban Mohapatra presented a brief resume of the books and Prof. K.S. Behra thanked the august assembly.

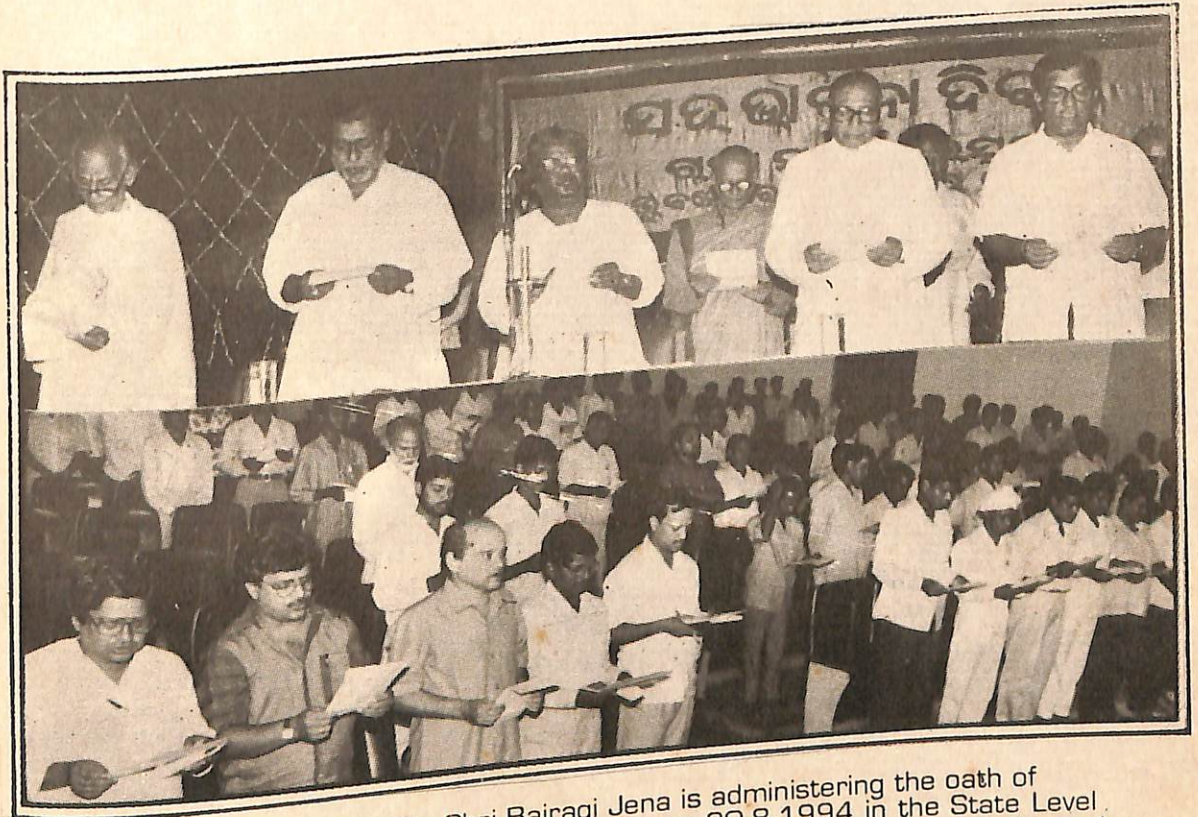
LOK SAMPARK BHAVAN

Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik inaugurated the newly constructed Lok Sampark Bhavan on August, 15 in the premises of Information and Public Relations Department, Bhubaneswar. Shri Patnaik said "the I&PR Department shoulders a heavy responsibility to spread the message of developmental activities in rural areas, particularly in Adivasi areas. The Information Officers in the State should inculcate in them a spirit of adventure and genuine concern to help modernise the primitive society in Orissa." He urged the print media to disseminate similar views and fix priority on probing, investigating and spreading constructive news items. Minister, Shri Bairagi Jena presided over the function.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Shri Subas Pani in his introductory remarks highlighted the measures adopted by the Department recently to reshape and ramify its activities. He said the new Conference Hall for press meet in the Bhavan would facilitate quick transmission of news. The Director I&PR Department, Shri Surasen Jena offered a hearty vote of thanks.



Orissa Governor Hon'ble Shri B. Satyanarayan Reddy speaks in the Rajghasa Sammilani organised by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India at Soochana Bhawan on 13-8-1994.



Minister, I. & P. R., Shri Bairagi Jena is administering the oath of Sadbhavana Divas at Soochana Bhavan on 20-8-1994 in the State Level. Sayed Mustafiz Ahmed, Minister, Health and other dignitaries were present.



Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik is addressing a public meeting at P.M.G.Square on the occasion of Local Self Government Day on 31-8-1994 organised by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation.



Minister, Information and P. R. Shri Bairagi Jena is addressing a meeting at Bhadrak on the occasion of Local Self Government Day organised by Bhadrak Municipality. Shri Prafulla Samal, Minister, Labour and Employment attended this function on 31-8-1994.