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A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON
THE NATIONS OF SOUTH ASIA
(Received in August 1984)

September 1984

Author: Elizabeth R. Curtiss
PREFACE

This bibliography continues the monthly series compiling analytic material on the nations of South Asia. The countries included are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. This selective reference work is intended to support research on the foreign relations, governments, politics, and economies of the nations of South Asia. Material included is both retrospective and current, and represents works received, cataloged, or indexed, in August 1984.

Citations are arranged geographically and listed alphabetically by author within each country section. Works bearing on more than one nation are entered under each country concerned. There is a general South Asia section for works analyzing more than three countries.

Word processing was accomplished by Alberta Jones-King.

There is little analytic or anecdotal insight in this work by a retired Indian Army colonel who subsequently pursued a successful political career with the Akali Dal. However, the final chapter includes the author’s observations during a vacation in Afghanistan in 1981. According to the author, New Delhi's reluctance to criticize Soviet occupation forces has perceptibly eroded the goodwill which Afghans previously felt toward individual Indians. Gill found his countrymen in Afghanistan clustered in the major cities, with few cities containing enough Sikhs to support a gurdwara. Gill describes the practice followed by Murtaza and Shahnawaz Bhutto, of harrassing the Pakistani ambassador then resident in Kabul. This attention may have hastened the premature death of the ambassador during his assignment. (index)


A bomb blast outside the Peshawar headquarters of Gulbaddin Hekmatyar, an Afghan insurgent noted for his disputes with other guerrilla leaders, has caused Islamabad to instruct all Afghan insurgent groups and unmarried refugees to leave the city. Gulbaddin blames the Soviet-directed Afghan intelligence agency, KHAD, for the explosion. Islamabad feels that KHAD has been able to penetrate Peshawar's refugee population because it has grown so large—300,000 people in a city of 500,000. Islamabad may also wish to make a gesture against the insurgents because the indirect Geneva negotiations are scheduled to begin again on 25 August. Although there is little hope of success for the talks, both sides remain committed to the process.


The Afghan resistance originated in the late 1970s in opposition to reforms undertaken after the Saur Revolution. According to the author, it also grew out of the same political-religious subgroups which have appeared throughout the Islamic world. The US policy of supplying the Afghan guerrillas through compatible factions within friendly Islamic countries is likely to increase rather than lessen the divisions from which the resistance suffers. France is attempting to recognize internal Afghan leaders, such as Professor Rabani, in hopes of undercutting the influence of self-interested outsiders. Iran is especially dangerous, as it covets a major regional status and casts a greedy eye even on some Soviet Islamic republics. Soviet goals continue to shift in response to tactical reverses in Afghanistan. (notes)

This comprehensive overview of the situation in Afghanistan reflects the Kabul government's official optimism because the reporter's 10-day visit was restricted to Kabul and surrounding government-controlled villages. Sethi has included specific official figures for such diverse categories as Soviet casualties and students at the Young Pioneer Palace. Remarks made by Babrak Karmal during an interview are recorded verbatim, including the observation that, "We are optimists and we are patient people...We know the people of Pakistan want peace with the brothers in Afghanistan. Either the military junta of Zia will come to terms with reality or the people of Pakistan will move to remove the obstacles."

**BANGLADESH**


Khanaker Mostaque Ahmed, who was president of Bangladesh for several months in 1976, and subsequently imprisoned until 1980, now heads a banned political party and asserts that the fence which India is erecting just inside its border with Bangladesh is an insult to the smaller nation. Mostaque urges that the problem of illegal immigration allegedly existing between the two countries be referred to the United Nations. K. F. Rustamji, who was Director General of India's Border Security Force from 1965 to 1974, and who has actively participated in official studies of the population influx from Bangladesh, feels the fence will not solve the problem. Rustamji suggests that checkpoints could be established on the roads, with guard-dogs and low-flying aircraft used to patrol other border areas. Rustamji says Bangladesh should not feel insulted by the fence, and recommends the problem be referred to a bipartite tribunal.


India is the world's largest producer of jute, but its sizeable domestic consumption of the product leaves Bangladesh as the world's largest exporter. During the 1970s, rapid increase in Indian and Chinese jute purchases sustained a stable price level despite growing competition from petroleum-derived synthetics. These substitutes are attractive to buyers because they are not subject to unpredictabilities in the weather. The large oil companies can make these synthetic products as a sideline, without anxiety about profit margins, so it is impossible to predict the future of the market for natural jute. (bibliography, index, notes, tables)

**INDIA**


The government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has found a Sikh leader, Santa Singh, who is willing to undertake repairs on the Golden Temple. This makes Singh a maverick in his religious community since most Sikhs are unwilling to
repair the buildings, until after the Army leaves the premises. The Akal Takht, the central committee of the Sikh community, has made immediate moves to excommunicate Singh, a Sikh leader with long ties to the Congress-I party. New Delhi may counter by attempting to limit or remove the Akal Takht's authority over Sikh religious matters, which is vested in the 1925 Sikh Temples Act. It appears that New Delhi welcomes the chance to keep the Sikh community divided, and has found the repairs issue a useful device.


In the face of conflicting evidence, New Delhi has decided to adjust its defense strategies on the assumption that Pakistan has gained the advantage in South Asia's nuclear capability race. Islamabad's longstanding defense ties with China may have yielded nuclear fruit, including a test site for a Pakistani detonation. New Delhi has prepared a media offensive for the US Congress, which is scheduled to reconsider whether current military commitments to Pakistan are compatible with Washington's official objective of limiting the nuclear club.


Sikhs in Canada and the United States have taken out protest marches and angry demonstrations in front of Indian government offices. Many expatriate Sikhs who formerly did not support the idea of an independent homeland have begun praising the late Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale to their children, and calling for the retaliatory death of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Such inflamed feelings result from sensationalist news coverage, which tends to handle the late extremist as if he were a religious leader. Strong feelings are also fanned by the confusion resulting from New Delhi's ban on reporting from Punjab. Perhaps more moderate opinions can prevail in the fullness of time, but Sikh leaders in the US are pressing Congress for an investigation of human rights violations against India's Sikhs. The agitators carefully note New Delhi's warm relations with Moscow.


Although India's state and center governments, as well as private enterprises, have been using computers for almost 2 decades, the nation has not yet crossed the threshold of electronic efficiency. India needs increased supplies of all types of electronic equipment, to meet more modern standards than are currently prevailing in the country. Indians in all sectors need to think of management and job performance in conjunction with a smooth-running, data-processing operation. These enhanced familiarities can be made more readily if computer technicians will avoid needlessly technical jargon. Various chapters of the book describe computer roles in economic planning, health care, agriculture, industry, social welfare, and transportation, which is currently India's most computerized sector. There is a brief, non-specific discussion of computers in defense. (appendices, diagrams, index, tables)

The states of India rely on the federal government to balance their annual budgets because the federal constitution denies them the right to levy income and certain other taxes. The federal constitution establishes a Finance Commission to determine allotments. However, the legislatively-established Planning Commission has become a much more important source of funds to the states, despite its inefficient criteria for distribution. Until recently, the two commissions had no common members, allowing states to keep separate records for each budgeting process. The author recommends that members of both commissions be appointed for 5-year terms, with overlapping termination dates. The author further urges that a single formula be fixed to weigh the requirements of the different states. In past years, some more affluent states have received bigger allocations than those more in need. (tables)


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On 2 July 1984 the National Conference government of Jammu and Kashmir was dismissed by a recently-appointed governor. Although out-going Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah had earned widespread scorn for his pronounced lack of interest in the minutiae of government, his dismissal caused an outpouring of protest. Shops in Srinagar, the state capital, remained shut for a week. The state legislators who had defected to Congress-I from the National Conference were obliged to accept armed escorts. National opposition parties, from the conservative Bharatiya Janata Party to the Communist Party of India-Marxist, issued statements in support of the dismissed government. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has claimed she had nothing to do with the dismissal—a claim which is belied by the fact that Indian Airlines cancelled civilian flights to bring troops to Srinagar on the day before Abdullah was sacked. The new chief minister, who is heavily protected, is married to Abdullah's equally ambitious younger sister.


On 3 August 1984 a bomb blast in Madras International Airport claimed 32 lives. Sri Lanka has requested an investigation by a joint commission with Indian participation, but New Delhi has refused on the grounds that Sri
Lanka's Tamil problem is an internal matter. Colombo counters that it cannot deal effectively with the terrorist threat so long as the Tamil "tigers" are able to maintain bases in adjacent areas of India. With India's federal elections due before January 1985, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi cannot afford to further alienate south India's Tamil voters, so she must adhere to a tough line against the Sinhalese-dominated United National Party government in Colombo.


There is little analytic or anecdotal insight in this work by a retired Indian Army colonel, who subsequently pursued a successful political career with the Akali Dal. However, the final chapter includes the author's observations during a vacation in Afghanistan in 1981. According to the author, New Delhi's reluctance to criticize Soviet occupation forces has perceptibly eroded the goodwill which Afghans previously felt toward individual Indians. Gill found his countrymen in Afghanistan clustered in the major cities, with few cities containing enough Sikhs to support a gurdwara. Gill describes the practice followed by Murtaza and Shahnawaz Bhutto, of harassing the Pakistani ambassador then resident in Kabul. This attention may have hastened the premature death of the ambassador during his assignment. (index)


Spurred by continuing terrorism, as well as by increased threats against high government officials, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has agreed to the formation of a new paramilitary force. The new group, to be called the National Guard, could reach 40 battalions, about half the size of the Border Security Force and Central Reserve Police. Some aspects of the National Guard's mission appear to overlap with the Border Security Force, but the prospective National Guard task of protecting VIPs has attracted support at the highest levels. The idea originated with the Research and Analysis Wing, which drew universal condemnation for its failures in detecting and analysing events leading up to the retaking of the Golden Temple.


When the Army reopened the Golden Temple, intending to admit only a few Sikh worshippers, the flood of the faithful quickly altered their plans. However, the large throngs were inadvertently compelled to corroborate the government's allegations of terrorism, after seeing the scars of fighting throughout the holy complex. Repairs which the soldiers made after retaking the temple have been undone by worshippers, although it is unclear whether they wish to maintain the disrepair as a rebuke to the government, or to earn merit by doing the work later with their own hands. Meanwhile, Sikh opposition leaders are not the only ones to find their ranks divided. Further cleavages exist among this community in the Congress-I itself, where Sikhs are sharply split between followers of President Gianni Zail Singh and Durbara Singh. Congress-I's support in rural Punjab has disappeared. During a recent "meet the people" campaign, legislators were not offered so much as a glass of water.
"The Sixth Five Year Plan estimated that at the beginning of the Plan (March 1980) about 12 million persons were usually unemployed in the country, of whom 3.47 million were educated (matriculation or above). The Plan further estimates that there would be about 34 million fresh entrants in the labour force during 1980-85... The programs included in the Plan are expected to generate employment equivalent to 34 million standard person years." The state sector of the economy, which receives heavy tax investment, does not create a correlative number of jobs. The educated unemployed can only be served through assistance in developing entrepreneurial operations. The maldistribution of wealth in India is a further limitation on investment in the private sector, as it cuts down the number of decision-makers, and therefore, the number who will take positive decisions to risk capital.


In this telephone interview, General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, President of Pakistan, insists that his country has not played a role in the Punjab Sikh disturbances in India, even though it is possible some of the weapons were smuggled into India across the Pakistan border. Zia further reiterates his hopes for the South Asia Regional Conference (SARC), as well as the hope of entertaining a high-ranking Indian visitor soon, maybe even Prime Minister Indira Gandhi or her son, Rajiv. Zia contends that he will not offer himself for the presidency, that Benazir Bhutto is free to come home to Pakistan whenever she likes, and that he accepts New Delhi's assurances that there are no more Al-Zulfiqar terrorist training camps in India. Often humorous, Zia reflects on his birth and early childhood in what is now Indian Punjab, saying that he is a fully patriotic Pakistani. "Whatever was there, we left if for you to look after..." He also denies controlling the press in Pakistan and assisting the Afghan mujahiddin.


India's Hindus are determined not to be subjugated again. For centuries they have mounted inadequate defenses against invaders, satisfying themselves with relegating their conquerors to lower castes after the interlopers vanquished the natives militarily and politically. Today's Indians are united behind a strong defense budget. Nevertheless, as the largest nation in the area, they do not face threats which justify state-of-the-art high technology and and a two-fleet blue-water navy. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has therefore begun describing the US Navy's presence in the Indian Ocean, and even the unsettled status of Antarctica, as major dangers to India's sovereignty. She has attempted to retain superiority over her nearest neighbors by demanding assurances that they will not grant regional bases to outside powers, that their militarization will remain at a low level and be augmented only in consultation with India, and that any outstanding problems will be resolved bilaterally.

India has an abundance of low grade coal and swift-flowing streams from which to produce electricity. Nevertheless, large parts of the country are without power, or cannot depend on its reliability to their homes, farms or workplaces. The amount of money lost last year from electricity outages was equal to the gain in the nation's rate of growth. Political complications thwart improved service, because India employs seven people to produce each kilowatt, compared to the international average of less than two. Plant managers frequently sell off their best supplies of energy to blackmarket bidders. More and more Indians are installing private generators in homes and workplaces and on farms. This comprehensive article expounds on the problem which the World Bank has called the single greatest obstacle to India's economic self-realization.


Leaders of India's major opposition parties gathered for a "summit conference" in Srinagar, Kashmir in 1983. Although no miraculous unification resulted, the conferees did take the unprecedented step of issuing a consensus declaration about the rights of state governments. This book is a compilation of the speeches delivered at Srinagar, a white paper prepared by the Janata government of Karnataka, and the text of the declaration. (photographs)


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Sathe, India's popular Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers, contends that India's greatest economic problem is the concentration of wealth, which limits purchasing and investment decisions. Instead of maintaining separate public and private sectors, there ought to be a single sector for "national enterprises," in which labor, capital, and government interests each have three seats on the boards of managing directors. Pressure on urban enterprises could be eased by protecting traditional cottage industries, which employ surplus rural labor right in its home districts. Such changes are unlikely to take place under the present political party structure. Politicians' only paid positions are in legislatures, leading them to fetter themselves to the dominant socio-economic interests in their constituencies. The book gives a lively analysis of the economic challenge facing India today. (appendices, index, notes, tables)
Burma is still waiting for Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to reciprocate an official visit which General Ne Win made to India in 1980. Other gestures which might increase Rangoon's goodwill toward New Delhi include the repatriation of Buddhist documents which the British brought to India before Burma gained its independence, and building a Buddhist temple using the soils from Burmese shrines. Despite a recent bilateral agreement in Burma's favor on maritime boundaries, tensions still remain between the two states. For various reasons, Burma is friendlier toward China on its northeastern border, than toward its Indian neighbor on the west.

Nepal's small, urban elite is convinced that New Delhi cannot appreciate the problems of a tiny, landlocked nation which is squeezed between two giants. Nevertheless, Indian nationals in Nepal receive a warmer welcome than the citizens of any other South Asian nation. Kathmandu's foreign policy has diverged from New Delhi's path when the Royal Nepalese Government recognized the former governments of Afghanistan and Kampuchea, and made only the mildest condemnation of the American invasion of Grenada. However, since more than 50 percent of Nepal's foreign aid comes from India, along with numerous temporary residents, Kathmandu exercises special sensitivity when expressing displeasure to New Delhi. Uncontrolled immigration remains the toughest issue unresolved between the two neighbors.

New Delhi's longtime goal of creating a domestic arms industry has brought about the capacity to produce military hardware in large volumes, but not at advanced levels of high technology. While the policy-makers seek some western arms purchases in order to maintain a nonaligned defense policy, the United States is not likely to make a major sale to India because the two countries lack a common strategic interest, and US equipment is too complicated and expensive for India. The United States also imposes conditions on its sales and tries to limit dissemination of technological "secrets." The Soviet Union is likely to remain India's main supplier because its defense wares are sturdy, cheap, and free of strings.

The budget ratio among India's three services currently stands at 70:20:10 (Army:Air Force:Navy), reflecting past foreign and defense policy requirements and aspirations. However, this ratio may begin to change as India seeks to build a two-ocean blue-water navy, and the Air Force makes major off-the-shelf purchases to counter Pakistan's new F-16s. India's Army has played little role in the nations' two biggest challenges: economic development and quelling of civil disturbances. As civil disturbances become larger, more focussed, and more violent, the Army may find its involvement in the restoration of civil order increasing. (tables)
NEPAL


This Moscow-based publication regards the uncompleted mission of Nepal's fifth 5-year plan (1974/75-1979/80) as the inevitable result of encouraging private investment. Another cause of Nepal's grueling poverty is the backward social relations prevailing among the rural majority, specifically landlord-tenant relationships. The current government of Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand, however, is making efforts to develop the rural areas. "The Soviet Union views with understanding Nepal's efforts to overcome backwardness and attain economic independence." Several Soviet-assisted projects are described in the article. The Zone of Peace advocated by King Birendra is put into an East-West nuclear context.


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PAKISTAN


In the face of conflicting evidence, New Delhi has decided to adjust its defense strategies on the assumption that Pakistan has gained the advantage in South Asia's nuclear capability race. Islamabad's longstanding defense ties with China may have yielded nuclear fruit, including a test site for a Pakistani detonation. New Delhi has prepared a media offensive for the US Congress, which is scheduled to reconsider whether current military commitments to Pakistan are compatible with Washington's official objective of limiting the nuclear club.


Benazir Bhutto, the expatriate chairperson of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) says that the rival Jamaat-e-Islami has imposed preconditions on an all-party opposition to martial law, and the PPP rejects all such demands in talking with other opposition parties. Disputes which have been reported
among PPP leaders reflect their inability to meet under the current government, which restricts their travels. If the politicians could talk together, they would have no trouble in coming to an agreement. Bhutto says the PPP's main concern regarding the Afghan refugees in Pakistan is that they be safely and happily returned to their homeland at the earliest possible date. Not being in power, Bhutto does not have enough information to reach a decision regarding negotiations with Kabul. She closes by saying: "We think there should be structural changes within the armed forces of Pakistan, because the people cannot be held hostage to an unelected institution forever."


A bomb blast outside the Peshawar headquarters of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, an Afghan insurgent noted for his disputes with other guerrilla leaders, has caused Islamabad to instruct all Afghan insurgent groups and unmarried refugees to leave the city. Gulbuddin blames the Soviet-directed Afghan intelligence agency, KHAD, for the explosion. Islamabad feels that KHAD has been able to penetrate Peshawar's refugee population because it has grown so large—300,000 people in a city of 500,000. Islamabad may also wish to make a gesture against the insurgents because the indirect Geneva negotiations are scheduled to begin again on 25 August. Although there is little hope of success for the talks, both sides remain committed to the process.


Pakistan's linguistic quotas were originally limited to the federal service, and intended only to redress the numerical under-representation of Bengalis. Since 1972, the quota system has grown to include all the provinces, as well as various tribal groups within Baluchistan and Northwest Frontier Province. The complexities of the system have had the effect of discouraging some worthy candidates from attempting government service, of delaying the filling of vacancies, and of reinforcing invidious distinctions among provinces and intra-provincial groups. These are fixed costs which it would be extremely difficult to eliminate, although they might be minimized below current levels. The supporting documentation in this article is specific and thought-provoking. (notes)


The Hurs of Sind are a spiritually-motivated hereditary brotherhood of bandits and murderers who terrorize neighbors whose actions or words seem disrespectful toward the Pir of Pagaro, a Sindhi religious leader. Lambrick's obscure historical novel, which purports to be the life story of a Hur captured in 1942, combines the author's knowledge of Sind and of the Hurs with a manuscript left by an unnamed prisoner, in order to illustrate the social, religious, and operational habits of the Hurs. The book has gained new relevance because the current Pir of Pagaro, who supports the martial law regime, has deputized his Hurs to assist in suppressing Sind's sudden crime wave. The narrative describes many actual events from the 1930s and 1940s, giving an overwhelming impression that the Hurs fight crime with violence. Lambrick was a police officer who led part of the operation against the Hurs in the early 1940s. (bibliography, maps, notes)
Several members of the US Congress have begun an attempt to suspend certain military aid to Pakistan, in light of apparent evidence that country is pursuing a nuclear armament capability, and may have passed the point of no return. Conservative American legislators have succeeded in softening the conditions of a proposed cutoff, so that the suspension of aid would only occur if the administration could not certify that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear device. The cutoff proponents had wanted to make high technology weapons conditional on certification that Pakistan was not actively seeking a nuclear capability. In a year which should see national elections in the US, India and Pakistan, support for the measure may be demonstrated by moderate Republicans anxious to register public support for full restoration of democratic process in Pakistan. The F-16 program provides the best opportunity for American leverage over Islamabad; about half the planes already are in Pakistan, and playing a role in the nation's air defense.


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Political scientists once believed that a nation was strengthened by having the military take control of government in its early years. In Pakistan, however, the weaknesses of the government's institutions have been transmitted to the military during the 7 years of martial law. The military leaders have gradually widened their goals to encompass general reform throughout Pakistani society, but have devoted the major share of their resources to consolidating support among immediate associates. The population has been alienated by the increase in defense spending, and what Rizvi calls "colonization of the economy", which sets quotas for military personnel in the many state-run enterprises. The military's former luster has been further tarnished by close cooperation with conservative Sunni leaders, consistent campaigns to denigrate partisan politicians, and allotment of choice farm land to military associates. (notes)
Pakistani strategists, according to Sareen, have mistakenly viewed India as the nation's chief enemy, when in reality current agreements with the US are only a first step to superpower demands for bases and eventual capitulation by Pakistan in foreign and domestic policy goals. Most of the book consists of interviews. There are extensive comments by President Zia-UL-HAQ, and Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. Opposition leaders whose views are recorded include: S. Shahnawaz, K. H. Khurshid, Ghaus Baksh Bizenjo, Mawab Mohammad Akbar Bugti, Nasirullah Babar, Aftab Ahmad Sherpao, Abdul Wali Khan, Aitzaz Ahsan, Mian Murtaz Daultana, Mian Arshad Husain, Mian Mahmud Ali Khasuri, Farooq Leghari, Sirdar Shaukat Hayat Khan, Tikka Khan, S. M. Zafar, Murtaz Ali Bhutto, Iqbal Haider, Ghafoor Ahmed, Hameeda Khuro, Mairas Mohammad Khan, Sardar Sherbaz Khan Mazuri, and J.A. Rahim. (index, photographs)

"Zia's Terror Against Pakistan Students." Arabia, The Islamic World Review, July 1984, p. 16.

Following the arrest of student activists of the Jamiat-e-Tolba, many detainees were tortured. Three students display burn scars in accompanying photographs, while in another photograph a large group looks out from a small cage-like cell. The vehemence of government opposition to the Tolba may stem from the group's unwillingness to compromise with those who promote supposedly un-Islamic values in education. With elections due, the government may also be concerned about the group's widespread popular support. Islamic student organizations from around the world, including several in the US, have called for investigations into Pakistan's treatment of imprisoned Tolba members. (photographs)

SOUTH ASIA


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Regional cooperation is a new and growing element in the foreign policies of South Asian countries, and responds to increasing deterioration of several aspects of regional public life. Smaller economies wish to expand economic cooperation in order to increase local imports without undermining their nascent industrial sectors. Migrant populations, both legal and illegal, affect all nations' relations with near neighbors. Finally, what Panda calls 'existential governments' have replaced earlier steady regimes. The new policy-makers make frequent short-term adjustments simply to promote regime survival, and must explain their actions to their neighbors frequently in order to prevent an outbreak of massive official trans-border violence.

**SRI LANKA**


On 3 August 1984 a bomb blast in Madras International Airport claimed 32 lives. Sri Lanka has requested an investigation by a joint commission with Indian participation, but New Delhi has refused on the grounds that Sri Lanka's Tamil problem is an internal matter. Colombo counters that it cannot deal effectively with the terrorist threat so long as the Tamil "tigers" are able to maintain bases in adjacent areas of India. With India's federal elections due before January 1985, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi cannot afford to further alienate south India's Tamil voters, so she must adhere to a tough line against the Sinhalese-dominated United National Party government in Colombo.


Sri Lanka's government has proposed to the All-Party Conference that a second house be added to the national parliament. In the second house each of the island's 25 districts would have two representatives elected by the present DDCs (district development councils). This would give the three Tamil-majority districts of Northern Province more members than the three Sinhalese-majority districts. Tamil leaders have not made any reaction to the proposal, except to inquire what powers the second chamber will have, and how it will work. Meanwhile the various communities remain as polarized as before, and the meetings of the All-Party Conference, which have been suspended, show no sign of reconvening.


Liberalization of Sri Lanka's economy has brought prosperity to Colombo's shipping industry. Various types of facilities are being expanded, through financing arranged by private sources in Sri Lanka cooperating with governments and agencies of Japan, Denmark, and others. Sri Lanka is also enhancing its ports at Trincomalee and Galle, in expectation that Colombo will even-
tually prove unable to accommodate the nation's entire shipping demand. This article includes highly specific information about the port's facilities, who is paying for each type of technology, and access to the port. It details the commercial usages available in one of South Asia's key ports.


Tea is Sri Lanka's largest export, but it has proven to be a resource which cannot be manipulated to increase foreign exchange income. East African competitors receive higher pre- and post-tax profits, which make them unwilling to consider a producers' cartel. Long-established processors, packagers and distributors exert enough leverage in the tea-buying market that Sri Lanka cannot attempt to replace these operations with domestic enterprises. While India's tea industry faces the same problems, they donot play such a dominant role in the larger, more diversified economy. (bibliography, indices, notes)