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BULLETIN

OF THE CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES (SANKAR FOUNDATION)



GANDHIJI, UN AND WORLD PEACE

Gandhi jayanthi is a day of renewal of our faith in, and rededication to, the values dear to the Father of the Nation. Gandhiji's life, work and death testify to the triumph of Truth and Love over hatred and violence. The spirit and light that emanated from him "extended beyond India and beyond time." India, the world and humanity at large need more than ever before that spirit and that power of non-violent action.

"I worship God as Truth and there is no other God than Truth," he declared. God, said the Mahatma, never occurs in person but always in action. His conception of God and religion transcended all faiths and frontiers. No one understood better than he the essence of every religion and none was more aware of its shortcomings. In his own words: "If I could not accept Christianity either as a perfect or the greatest religion neither was I then convinced of Hinduism being such." The world of today needs the religion of Gandhi because it is not religion that is being practised. It is not religion in the strict sense of the term. It is faith in innate human goodness and the invincibility of human spirit. It is religion based on Truth and Love and religion that thrives on non-violence. It is religion that he preached and practised applying it in daily life to individual problems, to collective work and to political goals as well. Religion is a means to self-realization and politics a means of promoting social good. As such there could be no conflict between religion and politics. Gandhiji asserted the point thus: "Those who say that religion has nothing to do with politics do not know what religion means". Satyagraha "his supreme achievement" demonstrated that "there is a greater power in life than force."

October is also the month in which the United Nations was born. At the end of the Second World War was created this world body to promote peace and cooperation among nations. The UN Charter declared that its object was to save succeeding generations of people from the scourge of war. The UNESCO proclaimed its goal as building defences in the minds of men, as war begins in the minds of men. Ironically as many people have been killed by violence since the UN came into being during the last fifty six years as in that terrible second world war.

The strength of the United Nations lies in two things—its longevity and its numerical strength with all but four of the 193 countries of the world being its

members. Beyond that the UN's claims to success are negligible. Its finances are weak, credibility low and influence limited. The UN has been functioning according to the commands of the big powers, especially the United States. Kofi Annan, the suave Secretary General of the United Nations, must be aware of the quip that the Secretary General is more a Secretary than a General! The UN's biggest failure is its inability to curb arms race and proliferation of lethal weapons and to prevent local wars that have taken a heavy toll of life and property in different parts of the world.

The latest menace to world peace comes in the form of terrorism. IT means not only the exciting Information Technology but also the most dreaded menace—international terrorism. With money being available in plenty thanks to the rise of drug mafia and legitimacy being provided by dubious religious doctrines and self-proclaimed leaders of bigotry and promoters of hatred there has risen a global network of terrorists threatening world peace and security. The terrorist who kills innocent people is no martyr even if he kills himself in the process. Such a terrorist is a maniac and menace to society. Worse still he has acquired access to latest technology and most dangerous weapons. Therefore the fight against terrorism is a global fight. Weapons alone are not enough. Collective thinking and common effort at every level, both macro and micro, will have to be generated to fight the new menace.

The roots of violence lie in poverty, illiteracy and ignorance. This is where Gandhiji and the United Nations become more relevant now than before. We must turn to the message and mission of Gandhiji to wipe out poverty and injustice. As Pope John Paul II once said development is another name for peace. Who else but the United Nations can undertake such a massive work of eliminating want, disease and ignorance? The American President said that the century's first war is against international terrorism. But the real war should be against the source of all violence and terrorism—poverty, bigotry illiteracy and injustice. And everyone and every nation must join in that war to ensure world peace.

- The Editor

"Gandhiji's life and death will remain a witness to the faith that men may still overcome misery, cruelty and violence by Truth and Love."

- Kingsley Martin

Centre for Policy Studies and Sankar Foundation celebrated the annual award presentation and Teacher's Day function on September 3, 2001. Sri D.V. Subbarao, Chairman Bar Council of India and Vice-President, Sankar Foundation presided. Sri S.R. Rao IAS Chairman, Visakhapatnam Port Trust was the Chief Guest. Sri A. Sankar Rao Managing Trustee and Smt. A. Yesodha Sankar Rao felicitated the guests of honour. Noted litteratuer Sri Balantrapu Nalinikanta Rao received the annual literary award and a cash prize of Rs. 5,000/- Sri C.Sitaramamurti the nonagenarian scholar and teacher and Sri Syed Mastan, social activist were felicitated on the occasion.

CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES FELICITATION ADDRESS

Presented to SRI CHELLAPILLA SITARAMA MURTI

We deem it a rare privilege to have the opportunity of felicitating Sri Chellapilla Sitarama Murti on the eve of Teacher's Day, in the midst of so many distinguished persons on September 3, 2001. To have him, a teacher of teachers, a doyen among scholars, an intellectual Colossus and a literary and cultural bridge between the glorious past and the vibrant present, as our honoured guest, is indeed an honour to us and to everyone present at the memorable event. A product of modern Andhra renaissance, he had the rare good fortune of receiving inspirational instruction from such celebrities as Sir R. Venkataratnam Nayudu, Dr. Vemuri Ramakrishna Rao, Sri Peddada Ramaswami, Kalaprapurna Sri Chilakamarthi Lakshminarasimham, Kalaprapurna Sri Devulapalli Krishna Sastri and Ramayana Pravachana Siromani Sriman Sribhashyam Appalacharyulu. Combining traditional values with modern outlook he has been an outstanding torch-bearer of our heritage and culture.

Born on November 13, 1908 to Sri Chellapilla Ramayya garu and Smt. Somamma garu he went to school in Peddapuram and college in Kakinada. An arts graduate of the first batch of Andhra University, he took the Master's degree in English securing the first rank from the Nagpur University. After a brief spell of service as Junior Inspector of Cooperative Societies and as personal assistant to the Principal of P.R. College, he embarked in 1938 on his long and distinguished career as Lecturer in English working in Kakinada, Rajahmundry and Cuddapah. His superannuation in 1963 was followed by teaching assignments, at their request, in Engineering College, Kakinada, CSR Sarma College, Ongole and Ideal College, Kakinada of which he was Principal for two years. The efficiency and dignity with which he moulded countless number of students, some of whom rose to high positions in India and abroad, and the values he instilled in their minds are always recalled with grateful admiration not only by them but also by those privileged to know him during the last six decades.

"99 out of 100 attempts in info-terrorism and cyberwarfare by computer hackers may fail but one can cause a lot of damage." - Walter Lacquer.

As an author and translator of scholarly discourses into English he has enriched our literature and ennobled our spirit. Among the widely acclaimed works and renderings into English done by him are Tiruppavai of Sriman Sribhashyam Appalacharyulu's discourses, Lectures on Valmiki Ramayana, Women in Valmiki Ramayana, Venkateswara Prabhata Seva, Hanuman - A Study, Mukundamala and Adityahridayam. That another book is in print speaks volumes for his indefatigable spirit and tireless pursuit of knowledge.

Honours and laurels, like the 92 eventful years of his life, sit lightly on his broad shoulders. His teachings have moulded many. His presence is a source of strength and inspiration to us all. His blessings will continue to guide us in our future endeavours.

May, the great Lord whose message he has been spreading through his writings and by his own example, bless him and his family with excellent health and many more years of active life; May he reach the coveted century, another milestone in his noble life, in good health.

- September 3, 2001

FELICITATION ADDRESS

Presented to -JANAB MOULANA SYED MASTAN

It is an honour for Centre for Policy Studies to felicitate Janab Moulana Saheb at the memorable function on September 3, 2001 in the presence of so many eminent persons. It is our good fortune to have the opportunity of honouring him on the eve of Teacher's Day and in so doing we are only honouring ourselves. A quintessential Muslim upholding the ideals of Islam, he is an embodiment of Indian values and a crusader for communal harmony and universal brotherhood. Age has not withered his zest for constructive work and faith in innate human goodness.

Born on January 5, 1919 to Janab Syed Hussain and Begum Sydani Saheba, he grew up in Rajahmundry, then the hub of Andhra culture. His father taught him Koran, Arabic and Persian while in school he picked up command of English. Educated in Rajahmundry in Model Secondary School and Government Arts College, he joined the government service and after 38 years of service in the Department of Registration in different places in Andhra Pradesh he retired as Sub-Registrar. Decades of strenuous work and burdens of family life did not corrode his spirit and pursuit of intellectual activities. After retirement he took the Masters degree in Sociology from the Nagpur University and continued to write vigorously and prolifically on a variety of subjects. Leading newspapers carried his letters and comments and All India Radio invited him to deliver talks on religious festivals.

The three books he has authored- The Quest for Truth, Real Shadows and Luminaries of Urdu Literature have been well received like his booklets on

Bhagavad Gita, Koran, Granth Saheb, Bible and History of Gautama Buddha. It is a happy coincidence that Sri C. Sitaramamurti, who is also being felicitated on this day, wrote the Foreword to his book, The Quest for Truth in which he described Mastan Saheb as a "devout Muslim, an erudite scholar, profound thinker, a sensitive writer" with a liberal outlook and humanistic approach. A Member of the Authors' Guild of India, and a member of Visakha Peace Committee, he was for five years a Member of the Andhra Pradesh State Haj Committee. For twenty years he celebrated with fervour the birthday of Prophet Mohammed at Visakhapatnam with the aim of promoting religious understanding and love for fellow human beings. He deservedly earned the admiration of the people when years ago he raised Rs. five lakhs and constructed a Sivalayam-cum-community prayer hall for people of all faiths and a mosque at Owk, 40 miles from Nandyal.

Moulana Saheb is an upholder of our secular values and promoter of social dignity and religious harmony. His innate goodness and sincerity of purpose have endeared him to all classes of people in Visakhapatnam and North Andhra. May God bless him with good health and many more years of useful work to society.

September 3, 2001

FELICITATION ADDRESS

Presented to SRI BALANTRAPU NALINIKANTA RAO

We deem it a rare honour to offer felicitations and warm congratulations to Sri Balantrapu Nalinikanta Rao on the joyous occasion of presenting to him our annual literary award. In honouring him with the award we are honouring a great tradition of Telugu literature enriched by his illustrious father the late Sri Balantrapu Venkata Rao garu, one of the celebrated duo of Venkata Parvateesa Kavulu. Worthy sons of a famous poet writer, dramatist, and publisher he and his distinguished younger brother Sri Balantrapu Rajanikanta Rao, have won acclaim all over the country for their multi-faceted contributions to the world of letters.

Initiated early in his life into writing and publishing Nalinikanta Rao attracted attention when he, as a fourteen year old boy, translated the poem Abou Ben Adhem into Telugu as 'Suvarnapatram' which was published in the prestigious journal Bharati. As a student of the P.R.College he won the Gen. Macdonald Medal for proficiency in English in the B.A. examination in 1937. After studying for two years in Madras Christian College he took over the educational and entertainment sections to the Chennapuri Andhra Mahila Sabha and started directing plays and features, including programmes for children for All India Radio. Taking the Law degree from the Madras Law College in 1946 he plunged into journalism in 1948. He was fortunate to have received the guidance of Sri Kotamraju Rama Rao, the famous editor of National Herald of Lucknow in 1948. A year later he came under the

influence of another leading editor, Sri Gora Sastry, when Nalinikanta Rao joined 'Telugu Swatantra' as assistant editor. In November 1949 began his long twenty four-year old association with the Madras Mail which celebrated its centenary in 1968.

As adviser to EMESCO and later as editor of some of its publications Sri Nalinikanta Rao launched pocket book scheme and other publications which became immensely popular. Twenty Prabhandas beginning with panchakavyas and Sri Devulapalli Krishna Sastri's poems compiled and edited by him were brought out. Ever since his translation into Telugu of the Communist International which was adopted by the Andhra Communist Party in 1935, Nalinikanta Rao has been tirelessly promoting literature in various ways—as writer, translator, editor and compiler. Only recently in his 86th year he brought out his late father's famous work "Seesapadya trisathi" paying literary homage to his father Sri Venkata Rao garu.

Sri Balantrapu Nalinikanta Rao, a doyen among our litterateurs, is loved and admired for his learning and endearing humility. An uncompromising upholder of our rich cultural and literary heritage embellished by his great father and equally renowned father-in-law Sri Peddada Ramaswamy garu, Sri Nalinikanta Rao shuns publicity. Centre for Policy Studies invokes the blessings of Lord Almighty on him and his family for good health and many more years of useful work!

September 3, 2001

REMINISCENCES

SRI C. SITARAMAMURTI'S reply to the felicitation :
Ladies and Gentlemen,

All of us know that 5th September is the hallowed Birthday of Sri Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, an eminent educationist, a masterly exponent of Indian philosophy and culture and scholar-statesman who filled prestigious positions with dignity and distinction—Professor of philosophy in Mysore, Madras, Calcutta and Oxford Universities, Vice-Chancellor of Andhra and Benaras Universities, Ambassador to Soviet Russia, Vice-President and later President of India. And it is in honour of such a celebrity that his birthday is observed as Teacher's Day. I was a Lecturer for three decades (1938-68) and Principal for a couple of years (1970-72). On earlier occasions, former students of mine from Kakinada, Rajahmundry, Cuddapah and Ongole approached me with invitations to be their Guest of Honour on the Teacher's Day, I appreciated their love and regard for me but pleaded with them to excuse me from embarrassment, as an ocean separated me from the dignitary in whose honour this day was being celebrated. They were my students; they had consideration for my sensitive feelings and did not press their proposals. They left me free.

Thirty years after my retirement from educational occupation, Dr. Prasanna Kumar, Director of Centre for Policy Studies met me with an invitation from Sankar Foundation to be their guest on the Teachers' Day. It was a surprise flung on me. For I had no claim on their goodwill; none of them happened to be a student of mine. I advanced the plea of my unworthiness to be their guest, as a vast sea separated me from the stalwart in whose honour the Day was being celebrated. But Dr. Prasanna Kumar was not a student of mine; he was a tough person; not so easily manageable; he was not prepared to take a refusal from me. He took liberty with me, as his father, the founder of the Andhra Scientific Company, was an esteemed friend of mine. With a shrewd twinkle, he slyly enquired whether I considered it proper to cause disappointment to the distinguished elite of Visakhapatnam. I had no choice; I nodded consent. That was how my friend succeeded where my beloved students failed earlier.

I am beholden to the organiser of this function for their magnanimity in inviting me to receive their loving felicitations on this Day. Any teacher feels proud and happy to be thus honoured; and I am no exception. I express my profound thanks to all of you. I am glad that some of my former students are present here to participate in the rejoicings of this occasion. They have enriched me with an inexhaustible treasure of their love and esteem which I warmly cherish. And in return I can only invoke the Lord's gracious blessings on them and their families. As lecturer, my work was concerned with imparting knowledge to students and equipping them with skills which would serve them in gaining academic degrees. I strove to discharge this duty to the best of my ability; and my students gave me the fullest co-operation all through my career and made me contented and happy.

Permit me to make a digression and let you know how I chanced to get into the teacher's profession. After graduation in 1928 with Economics for the optional subject, I submitted an application for a job in the Cooperative Department and I received, within a fortnight, orders of appointment as clerk in the office of the Deputy Registrar of cooperative societies, Rajahmundry. I met our Principal, Dr. Ramakrishna Rao garu, to receive his blessings before joining service. He was happy that I got a pensionable job with bright prospects and blessed me. At the same time, he made an observation that career in the Department of Education would have been more congenial to one like me. In the course of my brief stint of two years in the Cooperative Department, I had to face three transfers, at short intervals from Rajahmundry to Visakhapatnam, back to Rajahmundry and finally to Nellore, for no fault of mine and in the name of official exigencies. The officers were kind to me and got me promotions and increased emoluments at appropriate times. But I was a misfit in that service and felt suffocated with the monotonous array of dull duties and badly

needed a change. I wrote to our Principal requesting him to give me a Tutor's job in the College; and sought his guidance in my studies for M.A. Degree as a non-Collegiate candidate. He graciously offered the post of Personal Assistant to the Principal as there was no vacancy of a Tutor in the English Department and promised help in my studies; that generous gesture brought me back to my alma mater in August 1930. Though Dr. Ramakrishna Rao garu retired and went back to his native place, Masulipatnam in 1932, he continued to give me excellent guidance (by post) in my studies and with his blessings I took my M.A. Degree of Nagpur University in 1938 with the First Rank among successful candidates. The saintly leader of the Brahma Samaj, R. Venkata Ratnam Naidu Garu, the revered preceptor of Dr. Ramakrishna Rao Garu, Peddada Rama Swami Garu and a host of eminent personalities, was the Adviser to the Maha Raja of Pithapuram in the governance of his Educational Institutions. He evinced a lot of interest in me; and he was immensely pleased with the distinction I earned in the M.A. Examination. I did not know how it happened: the College of Commerce, Wardha and D.A.V. College, Lahore offered me appointments as Lecturer in English in the scale of Rs. 150-250. I showed him these offers and sought his advice and blessings. There was no vacancy of a lecturer in our College; and even if it was created afresh for me; it would carry a scale of Rs. 80-130. Naidu Garu thought for a while and posed a question before me: "I do not want you to forsake your alma mater, you have been serving for the past eight years, on consideration of a better scale of emoluments. Think over this and let me know your decision". His word was law to me as to many other young people who came under his benign influence. I consulted my mother and she expressed total agreement with his view. I continued serving the college in my new assignment as Lecturer from 1938 and I have had no occasion to regret my decision. The Maharajah transferred his educational institutions to Government control in 1952; and we, the employees became subject to Government Rules, both for privileges like pensionary benefits and disadvantages like transfers to other places. The Government gave me an opportunity to enjoy new pastures at Rajahmundry (1957-62) and Cuddapah (1962-63). And the students at both places extended to me enthusiastic cooperation and my colleagues treated with love and esteem. I had a pleasant stay at both places. After retirement from Government service, I had an offer from C.S.R. Sarma College, Ongole in 1964 of Headship in the Department of English for a term of 5 years. I welcomed this generous gesture of the Management, had a pleasant stay with students and staff, and finally took retirement in 1968. Principalship of Ideal College, Kakinada, was a Providential blessing; it was the unanimous wish of the founders, most of them reputed Doctors of Medicine and former students of mine, that I should take charge of the Institution in its formative years. That position marked the crown of

my professional career. It fulfilled my legitimate ambition which by a conspiracy of malevolent elements, failed to maternalise while in Government service. I finally retired in 1972 with full satisfaction with a career which gave me pleasure and happiness throughout.

In closing, let me pay my humble tribute to my teachers and acknowledge the immense benefits I have received from them. I have fond memories of the affection showered on me by my teachers in my school career in A.E.L.M. (now ULSM) High School at Peddapuram, during 1918-24. Spotting my interest in English, they gave me special attention, encouraged to acquire more knowledge by suggesting collateral study of books in addition to the prescribed texts. And this endeavour resulted in my getting the highest mark in English for the school in the S.S.L.C. Examination (1924). During my studies in P.R. College, Kakinada, I enjoyed the special privilege of receiving similar help and guidance from Principal, Dr. Ramakrishna Rao Garu and Prof. Peddada Rama Swamy Garu, both erudite scholars and impressive and inspiring Lecturers in English. They were eminent educators as well. With an uncanny instinct, they could discover the talents, latent in their students and drew them out and fostered them with abundant care. They were responsible for training me to develop skills in writing and speaking, in singing and acting. They chased away my nervous trepidation, made me bold to face the challenge of competing with fellow students in such extra-curricular activities. Again, be it noted, that their lectures were not limited to covering a syllabus, a curriculum; they were extensive, comprehensive, taking in their gamut, ethical issues and spiritual values. These professors set before their students certain ideals, inspired them to adopt a universal outlook and cultivate cosmopolitan sympathies; and thus equipped them with equipoise and courage of conviction to face challenges in life. That was how they set a model for the profession of teaching not by precept alone but by practice also, by making their lives exemplary. They deemed their mission as teachers as a sacred calling and not as a bread-winning profession.

We too claim that we are 'teachers'; where do we stand before them? Mere pigmies before giants! Yet we receive honours as teachers to-day, owing to the magnanimity of the love of citizens and the esteem they have for the teaching community. I have exploited

Abandoned babies in China . . .

"About 100,000 babies are abandoned every year in China in department stores, ditches, even on rubbish dumps. Zhang Yuxia, Director of the Hefei Children's Welfare Institute, explains: "Ninety percent of the children here have been abandoned, 60% are disabled, and 70% are girls. Sometimes they leave them right outside the gate; the mothers are migrants from the countryside."

(John Gittings in Guardian Weekly
August 30- September 5, 2001)

your indulgence and inflicted this rigmarole on you. Thank you, indeed, for the patient hearing you have extended to this nonagenarian today.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENVIRONMENT

PROF. M.N. SASTRI

The development strategies currently adopted by international financial institutions such as the World Bank and all countries are essentially based on the neo-classical economic model developed by John Maynard Keynes (1883-1946). This model measures economic growth in terms of the rate of growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita which is defined as the value of goods and services produced within a country during a given period. Another measure is Gross National Product (GNP) per capita which represents the value of all goods and services produced by a country during a given period even if the production units are located outside the country. These are the two parameters we come across in all economic surveys.

All governmental programmes are aimed at achieving higher and higher GDP growth rate which is considered as an index of the health of the country's economy. If the GDP growth rate falls even marginally lower for a given period as against the preceding period, a recession is considered to have set in and the competence and performance of the state, industry and other productive activities become the subjects of intensive scrutiny. The GDP or GNP is thus a measure of the prosperity of a nation. The GDP per capita values of industrialized nations are several times (e.g. USA-\$31,500 and UK-\$21,200) higher than those of developing nations (e.g. India \$1,720, Sri Lanka \$2,500, Pakistan- \$2,000 and Bangladesh - \$1,380) (1999 figures).

A growth-oriented approach is thus a dominant feature of all countries through promoting their individual interests at the fastest possible rate "through manipulation of property and wealth so as to maximize the short-term exchange value to the owner". Such an approach with rapid accumulation of wealth is beginning to prove detrimental for the long-term welfare of the biosphere through adverse environmental impact. This is a consequence of the omission of the parameter of natural resources in determining economic growth. Currently growth is determined in terms of savings and capital investment and human resources but ignoring the component of natural resources. This is because the post-war period enjoyed the availability of abundant natural resources (which form part of the ecosystem) at very low cost from the Americas, Australia and the African and Asian colonies and were hence considered infinite.

But with the rapid growth of population and consumerism in the wake of the technological progress, a stage has been reached when the natural resource

component becomes a crucial factor in measuring economic growth. It is easy to see that economy which represents the product of population and the natural resources, grows as population and the per capita natural resource get bigger. But while the population is growing, the natural resource component does not show an increase. For example, the surface of the Earth does not increase nor the solar energy flux which is the sole source of sustenance of the ecosystem comprising all animal and plant life and the nutrient (carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus and sulphur) cycles. As a result, the economical growth is occurring only at the expense of the ecosystem leading to environmental degradation. According to the World Commission on Environment (the Brundtland Commission) by the time the world population growth stabilizes around 9 billion by 2050, a five to seven-fold increase in energy and other resources will be required to raise the consumption level of the developed world to that of the industrialized world. It is obvious that at such high levels of resource consumption, the ecosystems will collapse and the health and quality of life of a majority of the world population will be in jeopardy. We are already seeing the signs of the impending catastrophe in the form of the greenhouse effect, ozone layer depletion and land and water degradation.

Economists have now realized that a true definition of growth should encompass the notion of sustainability at the national and global levels in terms of natural resources and life supporting ecosystems as well as environmental factors. A sub-discipline called environmental economics now aims at reconciling economic growth with protection of the environment through defining suitable models for sustainable development through political and economic wisdom that will enable our generation to bequeath more or less an entire ecosystem and ethical code of environmental conduct to the future generations. Needless to say that the implementation of such programmes becomes possible only through an appreciation of our obligation to posterity by the polity and the society.

The denouement that could result from an aggressive pursuit of economic growth at the cost of natural assets has been ably summed up by a Cree Indian Chief in the following words.

"Only after the last tree has been cut down
Only after the last river has been poisoned
Only after the last fish has been caught
Only then will you find that money cannot be eaten"

GURUDEV SRI RABINDRANATH TAGORE III

- Sri Challa Sivasankaram

Tagore extensively travelled abroad. He had a special liking and interest for Japan. He gave lectures of far-reaching import in Japan. The lectures as usual

were frank, forthright and candid. Mincing of words was unknown to Tagore. There were occasions when the host country felt hurt by the remarks and observations of Tagore in his lectures against the policies of the Government. As the Gurudev was a dove of peace and stickler for practice of Ahimsa for its own sake his mind used to vehemently revolt against any attempt of any Government towards disturbance of peace in any form. He went to Japan as the land where the Sun rises first and as a land of hard-working people and above all as a land that accommodated Buddhist philosophy to flourish un-interfered by the government. (Japan follows Satyasai Baba's principles for good life. The Japanese devotees of Satyasai Baba constructed a miniature Prasanthinilayam in their country). His war of lectures was against war, violence and aggression to grab the territory of any other country.

In 1924, Tagore paid a visit to China which country received love as much as his mother country got from him. China's age-old exchange of emissaries of culture and seekers of truth he remembered throughout his life and treated China as a great country of noble past, fine culture. In one of his lectures in China in 1924, he said that nations that have relied on violence and exploitation for acquisition of power and wealth have either been destroyed or are even now reverting to barbarism. He quoted the Sanskrit verse which says "with the help of unrighteousness men do prosper, with the help of unrighteousness men gain victories over enemies, with the help of unrighteousness men may attain whatever they desire. But they perish at the root". His visits to China and Japan led to first conscious attempt in the history of Asia to formulate the idea of Asian unity. Then was formed an organization of the name, "Asiatic Association" in Shanghai. At the inauguration representatives of all Asian countries were present. Inspiration for the movement was acknowledged to Gurudev Tagore, whose teachings permeate the issued declaration. The convention was thus a predecessor to the Asian Relations Conference held in New Delhi-23 years later (in the year of India's independence).

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan says that Rabindranath strove to lift the veil of ignorance from the mind of man and give a spiritual orientation to education. Tagore's views on education bear in its bosom seeds of modern and classical type of tuition. The magic hand of Gurudev transforms by its godly touch any branch of education into a monolith of Catholicism and sublime humanism. He wanted education grow unfettered like the trees that spread their roots in the soil and their branches in the sky without consulting any architect for their plan. The school at Santiniketan grew out of an institution, which was called Brahman Vidyalaya. For Gurudev initiation into higher life, into the world of spirit was the central objective. The spirit of India from supernal Rig Vedic age perpetuated, continued to show its spiritual power blossomed in her great

men like Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Gurudev Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi (all the three were contemporaries) Indian wealth is the wealth of mind, affluence of psyche. Whatever injustices and errors had been perpetrated in the vast history of man's chequered existence the Rishis of India bear testimony to the inexhaustible and innate value of the spirit of India. Tagore was convinced to believe that we must free education from the chains of an evil past, from its ignorance and errors. We must liberate children from the blind tyranny of and indiscriminate dictates of the old. Doctrinarianism disgusts Tagore. He was like the great Wordsworth the Poet of Nature. The sap of the poesy of Gurudev was supplied from the lap of Mother Nature. His highly spiritual creations were an admixture of classical orient and the renaissance occident. Like the great English Poet P.B.Shelley, he was soaring higher and higher into the regions unlimited by space and time. Like Lord Shiva, the Digambara he expanded to the limitless sky and fathomless under regions. He was first and last a poet, a romantic poet liberated from the depressing strings of past. He was man in his fullest and integral aspect. An integrated personality himself he was like Valmiki who produced the world's first epic Srimadramayana. Out of his fertile genius ceaselessly flowed sweetest marvels of human imagination and idealism.

(To be continued)

SANKAR FOUNDATION **Visakhapatnam**

Performance Highlights/Major Events of Sankar Foundation. Visakhapatnam for the period from 25.07.2001 to 24.09.2001.

Sri D.D. Prasada Rao, Administrative Officer

21.08.2001 : Shri S.K. Chakravarthi, Managing Partner and Shri V.M. Jacobson, Chief Executive from Drillcon Contractors visited our Hospitals and spoke to our doctors and appreciated the services of Sankar Foundation. Mr. Chakravarthi also promised to help the Foundation.

24.08.2001 : Visit of Railway Officials :

Shri V.N. Tripathi, Divisional Railway Manager, Waltair Division and Shri H.K. Padhee, Divisional Manager (on transfer to Calcutta) and Shri V.Balaram, Additional Divisional Manager visited Sankar Foundation Eye Hospital and Woman & Child Hospital. They were immensely pleased on seeing the services being rendered at Eye Hospital and Woman & Child Hospital and appreciated the work of the doctors. They have promised to help the Foundation in the near future.

Gokhale on Gandhi : "He is a man among men; a hero among heroes, a patriot among patriots and we may well say that in him Indian humanity at the present time has reached its high water mark."

24.08.2001 : Visit of Helpage India Top Executives :

Mrs. Indrani Rajdurai, Joint Director, South, Chennai, Lt. Cl. A. Phillips, Programme Adviser and Shri Raja Mohammad, State Incharge, Hyderabad of Helpage India visited our Eye Hospital. Smt. Rajdurai intensely observed all the activities and services of Eye Hospital to the poor and needy. Dr.R. Suryanarayana Raju explained patiently our services to the guest visitors. Mrs. Rajdurai appreciated Shri A. Sankar Rao garu, Founder. Managing Trustee for his benevolent decision to serve the poor and the doctors and staff for their dedicated services. Mr. D.D. Prasada Rao, Administrative Officer has accompanied the Helpage India team.

01.09.2001 : Visit of Senior Divisional Manager, LIC.

Shri R. Thamodharan along with his family visited our Hospitals. He thanked the management of Sankar Foundation for having given him an opportunity to visit these Hospitals and to know personally the excellent services being rendered by Sankar Foundation. He promised that he will do some help to the Foundation in the near future.

02.09.2001 : Happy get Together of Sankar Foundation Family :

A simple but dignified function was held to celebrate 71st birthday of Shri A. Sankar Rao garu, our Managing Trustee. It was a happy and pleasant occasion of get together of the doctors, paramedical and administrative staff of Sankar Foundation. Shri Challa Sivasankaram, Trustee presided over the function. In the beginning "Veda Ashirvachanam" was given by vedapandits of Simhachalam Devasthanam. Smt. & Shri C. Hanumanta Rao performed "Jyothi Prajvalana". Shri Challa Sivasankaram garlanded Shri A. Sankar Rao and Smt. Yesodha Sankar Rao. Dr. A. Prasanna Kumar, Executive Trustee presented shawl to Shri A. Sankar Rao and to Smt. Yesodha Sankar Rao and spoke about Shri A. Sankar Rao garu and Smt. Yesodha Sankar Rao garu. Floral greetings were conveyed by all the doctors and staff. Dr. N.V.L. Narasimha Rao, Dr. N. Rukmini. Dr. N.V. Bhaskara Rao, Dr. R. Suryanarayana Raju, Dr. Ajay Sharma and D.D. Prasada Rao, spoke. Shri T. Satyanarayana and Shri K.G.K. Achary also felicitated Sri Sankar Rao.

04.09.2001 : Eye & Gynaec Camp at Ramabhadrapuram :

A free Eye & Gynaec Camp was sponsored by H.P.C.L. Regional Office. Visakhapatnam organised at Ramabhadrapuram, Vizianagaram District. Shri Ranaji Gupta, Senior Regional Manager (Retail), who inaugurated the Eye Camp has stated that about 4 crores have been spent by HPCL, in India for Community Services and nearly 15 Lakhs have been spent by the Regional Office in these parts for the welfare of the

people. He has stated that H.P.C.L. is always in the forefront in serving the SCs, STs, Backward and economically backward classes of the society. Shri K.S. Shetty, Senior Personnel and Administrative Officer inaugurated the Gynaec Camp. Smt. S. Annapurna, Project Co-ordinator, Community Development Centre (CDC) explained about their activities and thanked Sankar Foundation and HPCL for arranging the Eye and Gynaec Camp at their place. Dr. N.V.L. Narasimha Rao, Ophthalmic Surgeon and D.D. Prasada Rao, Administrative Officer spoke on the occasion. Dr. T. Raveendra, Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dr. B. Indira, Gynaecologist and Shri K.G.K. Achary, Joint Manager - Resources were present.

In all 520 patients were screened and 240 selected for cataract surgery in the Eye Camp and 41 women patients were screened at the Gynaec Camp.

19.09.2001 : Shri C. Suryanarayana, Managing Director, Hi-Tech Engineering Private Ltd, Kakinada and Convenor of Shri Vivekananda Seva Samithi, Kakinada visited out both Eye Hospital & Woman and Child Hospital. He was highly impressed with the work done by the concerned doctors and staff of both the Hospitals under the guidance of Shri A. Sankar Rao garu. He met our Managing Trustee, Shri A. Sankar Rao garu. He promised to Shri K.G.K. Achary, Joint Manager - Resources that he will definitely take such a step, which will not only strengthen the Sankar Foundation at present but also will be highly helpful for the future.

DONATIONS:

26.09.2001 : Shri C. Suryanarayana garu, Managing Director, Hi-Tech Engineering Pvt. Ltd, Kakinada donated Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only).

Sankar Foundation profusely thanks Shri C. Suryanarayana garu for the noble gesture.

30.07.2001 : A donation of Rs. 5,000/- was received from Shri A. Sanyasi Naidu of Paridi, Vizianagaram District.

11.08.2001 : A donation of Rs. 5,000/- was received from Smt. Sudarshini, Bangalore.

A donation of Rs. 5,000/- was received from Smt. Indumati, Bangalore.

We thank the donors for their gesture.

WELCOME:

Dr. B. Indira M.D., has joined the Sankar Foundation Woman & Child Hospital as Asst. Gynaecologist on 25th August 2001. We welcome her into our fold.

VITAL STATISTICS OF EYE HOSPITAL & WOMAN & CHILD HOSPITAL

A) SF EYE HOSPITAL :

(From 2nd June 1997 to 24.09.2001)

i. Total outpatients Screened / Treated	1,15,120
ii. Total Operations performed (By Microsurgery & Phaco Method)	15,500

B) SF WOMAN & CHILD HOSPITAL :

(From 6th Feb 1998 to 24.09.2001)

i. Total Outpatients Screened/Treated	89,025
ii. Caesarians Operations performed (LSCS)	407
iii. Normal Deliveries conducted	1,646
iv. Tubectomy Operations performed (FP)	515
v. Hysterectomy Operations performed	141
vi. Umbrella Vaccinations (BCG, OPV, HEP-B, DPT, MMR, TETANUS, MEASLES)	20,068

The misery of the Afghan people . . .

"... a country where 10% of the people were wiped out, 30% became refugees and about one million are currently dying of hunger The only one whose heart had not yet turned to stone was the Buddha statue of Bamian. With all his grandeur, he felt humiliated by the enormity of the tragedy and broke down. Buddha shattered to tell the world of all this poverty, ignorance, oppression and mortality. But heedless humanity heard only about the demolition of the Buddha statue. I reached the conclusion that the statue of Buddha was not demolished by anyone; it fell down out of shame. Out of shame for the world's ignorance of Afghanistan." - Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Director of the movie Kandahar in the Guardian Weekly of August 30- September 5, 2001.

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(Soudamini, 10-50-19, Siripuram, Visakhapatnam - 530 003)

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Trustees :

Shri K. Parvati Kumar
Shri D.V. Subba Rao
Dr. A. Prasanna Kumar (Director)