

भाग ४

श्री ५ को सरकार

परराष्ट्र मन्त्रालयको सूचना

मित्र राष्ट्र भारतका प्रधानमन्त्री श्री पी. वी. नरसिंह रावको २०४६ साल कार्तिक ३ गतेदेखि ५ गतेसम्म अर्थात् सन् १९६२ को अक्टोबर १६ देखि २१ तारिखसम्म सम्पन्न भएको नेपालको औपचारिक सद्भावना भ्रमणको अवसरमा जारी गरिएको संयुक्त विज्ञप्ति सर्वसाधारणको जानकारीको लागि प्रकाशित गरिएको छ ।

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

His Excellency Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister of India, is on an official goodwill visit to Nepal from October 19-21, 1992 at the invitation of the Rt. Hon'ble Girija Prasad Koirala, Prime Minister of Nepal. The Prime Minister of India is accompanied by His Excellency Shri R. L. Bhatia, Minister of State for External Affairs, and senior officials of the Government of India. He is also accompanied by his daughter, Shrimati Vani Devi, and by three of his grandchildren.

2. During his visit, the Prime Minister of India was received in audience by His Majesty the King of Nepal. He visited the Martyrs' Memorial in Kathmandu and paid homage to their memory. He was also given a Civic Reception by the citizens of Kathmandu. He had meetings with His Excellency Prime Minister G. P. Koirala, and with the leaders of the main political parties in Nepal. The Indian and Nepalese delegations led by the two Prime Ministers met for detailed discussions on issues of common interest.

3. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of warmth, friendship and sincerity, which mark the extremely close relationship between Nepal and India. In the course of these meetings, as also the earlier discussions at the official level that preceded the visit of the Prime Minister of India, a number of decisions were taken

४३६० (३)

आधिकारिकता मुद्रण विभागबाट प्रमाणित गरिएपछि मात्र लागु हुनेछ।

and steps finalised in order to further strengthen and expand bilateral cooperation. In the trade sector in particular, substantial improvements have been made in the access regime for Nepalese exports to India. These decisions were meant to build on the bilateral cooperation programme in a variety of fields worked out during the visit of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in December, 1991, and to help usher in a new era of such mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

TRADE

4. On the basis of discussions held between His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of India, it was agreed to improve and simplify the regime for export of Nepalese goods to India. These changes are listed below. They mark a watershed in the trade relations between Nepal and India, and should contribute significantly to enhancing Nepalese exports to India.

- The existing proforma clearance system will be abolished and will be replaced by a system of Certificate of Origin to be issued by HMG/N.
- In determining the eligibility of a Nepalese product for access to the Indian market free of customs duties and quantitative restrictions, Nepalese labour content will also be included.
- If the total percentage of the three components, i. e. the Nepalese labour content, the Nepalese material content, and the Indian material content, exceeds 50 percent, the product will have duty free and quota free access to the Indian market.

5. The above provisions will cover all Nepalese exports to India, except for a small negative list of items, for which this facility will not be available. Both sides have agreed on procedures to ensure that the Certificate of Origin system is efficiently and properly implemented.

6. The number of other issues relating to Indo-Nepal trade have also been resolved, which would further facilitate Nepalese exports to India. These are listed below:

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आधिकारिकता मुद्रण विभागबाट प्रमाणित गरिएपछि मात्र लागु हुनेछ।

- Movement of Nepalese private commercial vehicles from the Nepalese border to Calcutta/Haldia and back will be allowed on such vehicles being duly authorised by the Nepal Transit and Warehousing Company Ltd. or Nepal Transport Corporation or HMG/N and the necessary undertaking being given by them to the Indian customs authorities.
- Nepal may import goods from India by payment in freely convertible currency, in addition to the existing system of payment in Indian Rupees, for the import of such goods as HMG/N may choose. The Indian exporter will be entitled to all the export benefits made available by India for such exports in freely convertible currency.
- Nepal-to-Nepal movement of Nepalese vehicles and goods through India will be allowed without cash deposit or bond system upon the necessary undertaking given by the Nepalese customs authorities.

STAND-BY CREDIT

7. Reflecting the Government of India's desire to be fully supportive of the economic development and well-being of the people of Nepal, the Government of India have further agreed to enhance the revolving stand-by credit facility extended to Nepal from the level of (IC) Rs. 35 crores to Rs. 50 crores. The term of this agreement will also be extended from one year to three years. The special, concessional interest rate of 7 percent p. a. for this credit will also be maintained during this period.

JOINT VENTURES

8. The liberalised guidelines of the Government of India for investment in joint ventures abroad by Indian entrepreneurs would greatly simplify the procedures for setting up such ventures in Nepal. Together with the Certificate of Origin system, this will promote Nepalese exports to India as also the industrialisation of Nepal and local employment opportunities.

(५)

४३९
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WATER RESOURCES CO-OPERATION

9. Following up on the understandings reached and the decisions taken during the visit of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in December, 1991 on bilateral cooperation in this sector, both sides have agreed on a time frame for investigations, preparation of project reports etc. On the Karnali, Pancheswar, Sapta Koshi, Budhi-Gandaki, Kamala and Bagmati Projects, as also on the installation of flood forecasting and warning systems, the construction of flood protection embankments and on power exchange. The implementation of this detailed programme would prepare the ground for taking up some or all of these projects and to enter into required agreements. It was further agreed to explore the possibility of private sector participation in setting up of hydel projects. Both the governments agreed to give priority to undertake Pancheswar and Budhi Gandaki projects. It was agreed to investigate and study the aspects of navigation through river Koshi. It was also agreed that the supply of water to Nepal under the Sharada Barrage Agreement will be maintained.

TANAKPUR BARRAGE

10. With reference to the decision taken at the Second Meeting of the Indo-Nepal Joint Commission in New Delhi on December 4-5, 1991 regarding the Tanakpur Barrage, the following clarifications were agreed upon :

- The site at Mahendranagar municipal area in the Jimuwa village which is made available for tying up of the left afflux bund about 577 meters in length (within an area of about 2.9 hectares) to the high ground in the Nepalese side at EL 250 and the Nepalese land lying on the west of the said site/bund up to the Nepal-India border including the natural resources/endowment lying within that area remains under the continued sovereignty and control of Nepal and Nepal is free to exercise all attendant rights thereto.
- As referred to above, the Tanakpur Barrage Project does not make any consumptive use of water. No arrangement concern-

(६)

ing the tying up of the afflux bund to the left of the Tanakpur Barrage to the high ground on the Nepalese ^{side} shall be construed as depriving either country of its share in the storage projects envisaged at Pancheswar or similar other places on the Mahakali river upstream of the Tanakpur Barrage.

- The supply of up to 150 cusecs of water from the Tanakpur Barrage to irrigate between 4000-5000 hectares of land on the Nepalese side shall be made on a perennial/round the year basis as would be requested by Nepal. The construction of the portion of the canal up to the Nepal-India border for the supply of water shall be completed at the earliest.

- Regarding the supply of power to Nepal from the Tanakpur Power Station, both sides agreed that 20 million units would be supplied annually, free of cost, to Nepal. The modalities for the supply of energy shall be worked out.

11. Further, as some pillars on the Nepal-India border in the Tanakpur Barrage area are missing or in dilapidated condition, they would be put in place or renovated by May, 1993 under the auspices of the Joint Technical Level Nepal-India Boundary Committee, in consonance with the governing principles of territorial sovereignty and mutual respect.

POWER EXCHANGE

12. Recalling the decisions taken regarding power exchange during the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in December, 1991, the two sides agreed that the future quantum of exchange shall be considered by the High Level Task Force to be constituted.

B. P. KOIRALA NEPAL-INDIA FOUNDATION

13. The Bishweshwar Prasad Koirala Nepal-India Foundation, set up to honour the memory of the great Nepalese patriot, freedom fighter and statesman, was inaugurated by the two Prime Ministers on October 21, 1992. The MOU for setting up this Foundation was signed during the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in December 1991. The Foundation provides an institutional framework

(७)

आधिकारिकता मुद्रण विभागबाट प्रमाणित गरिएपछि मात्र लागु हुनेछ।

for promoting academic, cultural and technical exchanges and cooperation between India and Nepal, the specific thrust areas being agricultural research, science and technology, health, technical training, developmental and area studies and women's studies. The focus of the Foundation, which will be funded by the income from a trust fund to which both governments have contributed (IC) Rs. 2 crores each is on higher studies, research, in-service training of teachers, research scholars, technocrats etc.

INDIAN AID PROJECTS IN NEPAL

14. Both sides noted with satisfaction that the various Indian aid projects being taken up in Nepal following the visit of His Excellency the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in December, 1991 were being implemented smoothly. These include the establishment of the B. P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences at Dharan, the setting up of a new wing of the Bir Hospital in Kathmandu, the renovation of the Jayanagar-Janakpur-Bizalpur railway, the setting up of a telephone exchange at Rangeli and some new road projects like Biratnagar-Bhadrapur and Chatara-Birpur roads. Both sides will cooperate to ensure the successful completion of these projects.

15. In response to a request from HMG/N, the Government of India will take up a new project, the construction of 17 bridges on the western sector of the Kohalpur-Mahakali section of Mahendra Rajmarg. These bridges will ensure that the road is fully operational even during the monsoon season, and will thus ease transport problems in the western and far-western regions of Nepal served by this highway.

INDO-NEPAL HIGH LEVEL TASK FORCE

16. An Indo-Nepal High Level Task Force will be set up which will, as part of its mandate, ensure the successful completion of the above projects as also look into any new Indian Aid Projects in Nepal that might be proposed, such as B. P. Koirala Ophthalmic Institute, and the proposal for linking the Kohalpur-Mahakali section of the Mahendra Rajmarg to the Tanakpur Barrage.

(८)

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17. The Prime Minister of India conveyed an invitation to His Majesty the King of Nepal to visit India. The invitation was accepted with pleasure. The dates for the visit will be worked out through diplomatic channels. The Prime Minister of India also extended an invitation to His Excellency the Prime Minister of Nepal to visit India at his convenience. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Narendra Bikram Shah
Foreign Secretary
His Majesty's Government
of Nepal

Jyotindra Nath Dixit
Foreign Secretary
Government of India

October 21, 1992
Kathmandu.

आज्ञाले,
नरेन्द्र विक्रम शाह
श्री ५ को सरकारको सचिव

विभाग

मुद्रण

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मुद्रण विभाग, सिंहदरबार, काठमाडौंमा मुद्रित ।
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