

Campus, Bangalore and Former Director, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

- (v) Prof. S. Brenner, FRS was prevented by illness from attending as a member of the committee but gave written evidence.

(c) The conclusions and major recommendations of the said committee are given in the attached Statement.

### Statement

#### Conclusions and Recommendations

Our conclusions can best be formulated by answering the questions:

- (i) What would Homi Bhabha have said about the state of TIFR at present?
- (ii) What would he have recommended for the future?

Concerning (i), he would undoubtedly have been excited about many of the areas of science being pursued at present. However, he would have been disappointed by the slippage in the international league in some areas. He would have been particularly concerned at the shortage of talented people joining the Institute. However, he would have been proud of his successors in authority for their undoubted skill in maintaining the very presence of TIFR (and, indeed, enabling it to grow) in a world where 'relevance' and 'wealth-creation' have had serious repercussions for similar institutions. Homi Bhabha would, we feel, have gone along with our own recommendations.

In the preceding text we have underlined specific - and in some cases detailed - recommendations. All are important but here we indicate the major ones.

#### Major Recommendations

1. Fundamental work in radio astronomy, molecular biology, solid state physics and computer science should be supported and augmented.
2. The Mumbai Molecular Biology work should be maintained and augmented and the Director and Council should make their agreement with this recommendation widely known, as a matter of urgency.
3. The pure mathematics group should be strongly supported and consideration given to merging pure and applied mathematics and theoretical computer science.
4. The 'purpose of TIFR' should be widely circulated.

5. A search Committee should be formed, as a matter of urgency, to seek candidates for the post of Director. The search should start well before the termination of Professor Singh's directorship.

6. Improvements should be made to the Administrator Office.

7. A committee should be formed to examine (i) promotion norms, (ii) the balance between term and permanent appointments and (iii) possibilities of enhancing recruitment worldwide, to achieve and maintain a senior faculty of the highest possible distinction.

8. Research should be organised in three individual schools, in:

Mathematical Sciences

Physics and Astronomy

Biological and Chemical Sciences

9. Action should be taken to improve technology transfer.

10. Science education and popularisation should be given a higher profile.

#### Construction of Over Bridges

2337. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of nine Railway Over Bridges in NCT of Delhi required under MRTS Project and to link these to the proposed Express Highway;

(b) the details of budget provision made during 1997-98 for the construction of these Over Bridges; and

(c) the details of time-schedule for the completion of these Bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

#### Rate of Poverty

2338. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
KUMARI UMA BHARTI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the highest among the other

poor countries in Asia as per the study conducted by the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the position of India vis-a-vis the other countries;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any ambitious scheme to remove poverty from the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which the above scheme is likely to be helpful in removing poverty from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Provision for Education/Health/Social Services

2339. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to ensure provision of 6% of GDP for Education, Health and other social services by 2000 AD;

(b) the details of success achieved so far service-wise, indicating the Central and State allocations; and

(c) the increase in percentage in population having access to education, health, sanitation and other social services during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) Approach paper to the 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) elaborates the Government's commitment to ensure provision of adequate resources for education, health and other social services. The Basic Minimum Services programme envisages access of all seven BMS namely, universal primary education, provision of safe drinking water, health facilities, housing for all, nutritional support to children, connectivity to unconnected villages and streamlining the public distribution system with a focus on the poor.

(b) According to 1996-97 (Budget estimates), the plan outlay for social services for centre, states and UTs was Rs. 30490.77 crore against Rs. 23178.56 crore in 1995-96 (revised estimates). Out of this total amount of

Rs. 30490.77 crore, a sum of Rs. 3132.97 crore is budgeted for general education, Rs. 814.30 crore for medical and public health, Rs. 1535.00 crore on family welfare and Rs. 1740.75 crore for housing.

(c) National programme on nutritional support to primary education is likely to cover 10.82 crore children in primary classes in all government, local body and government aided schools by 1997-98. In the area of primary health care infrastructure, 21853 primary health centres were in position in end March 1996 in addition to 132727 sub-centres and 2424 community health centres in the country. The number of primary health centres in end March 1994 and March 1995 stood at 21206 and 21536 respectively. According to the estimates prepared by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, 50 per cent of urban population was covered with sanitation facilities against 45.9 per cent in 1990.

#### Setting up New Board

2340. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a new Board to speed up Public Sector Core Projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up new Board to speed up public sector core projects.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Chinese Missiles

2341. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :  
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :  
SHRI PARSARAM BHARDWAJ :  
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "New Chinese Missiles target India and Russia-US Daily" appearing in "Times of India" dated July 11, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Indian Government thereto?

(c) the details of missiles positioned towards India;