SECTION IV: OBSERVATIONS
Chapter XIX

CONCLUSIONS

In the preceding pages an attempt has been made to study the Government of India's approach towards various social and economic matters that came before the United Nations during the last ten years. The study is based on the official records of the speeches made by the Indian Delegations to the General Assembly and its committees and to the Economic and Social Council. As it was impracticable to consider every economic and social problem, only major ones, in which India had keen interest, were studied.

India believes that the economic and social inequality or injustice is one of the root causes of war. If the world wants to get rid of wars, it must try to abolish this injustice. India firmly holds that the United Nations, through the ECOSOC and its Specialized Agencies is doing valuable work in this direction. The Indian Delegations give due importance to the activities of the ECOSOC and Specialized Agencies.

The Indian Delegations always championed the cause of economically un-developed and under-developed countries. They emphasized that to help the economic development of these countries was in the interest of world peace, of the countries rendering aid and of those receiving it. India helped to increase awareness of the responsibilities of rich countries.
Owing to India's insistence, a number of countries, big and small, began to consider this new approach seriously. India praised the United Nations' work in the field of economic development of under-developed countries and the technical assistance programmes. She paid tribute to the Specialised Agencies carrying out plans for economic, social, cultural and physical development of the countries of the world.

As a number of countries in Asia are economically backward, the Indian Delegations' championship of the economically backward countries received a tinge of Asianism. India always tried to safeguard the interests of Asian and African countries in the U.N. She worked vigilently to ensure that Asia and Africa are given due recognition in all the programmes of the General Assembly, ECOSOC and of the Specialized Agencies. The Indian Delegations always criticised the tendency to consider the problems from a western angle.

India paved the way for greater participation of small nations in almost all of the activities and debates in the U.N. The problems facing the Asian and the African countries are to a great extent similar. Naturally, these countries came closer in a group. This group is known as Afro-Asian bloc in the U.N. India contributed much towards the formation of this group.

Following India, a number of small countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America began to take lively interest in the programmes and activities of the U.N. India helped to explode
the myth that 'international' means 'European'. She stressed the necessity of considering all problems from a purely international angle. India created an awareness among Asian-African countries that they are equal members of this great organization of the world.

The Indian Delegations did not take part in the hot issues before the U.N. such as forced labour. India wished to bridge the gulf between the two blocs rather than to widen it. It tried to save the U.N. from becoming a forum of fruitless allegations and counter-allegations. India believed in the peaceful ways of solving all international problems and held that U.N. was the best available platform for solving international disputes.

There were certain occasions on which India's Delegations criticized the U.N. The criticism was, however, healthy and constructive. The main points of India's criticism were (i) neglect towards Asian interests, (ii) duplication of work due to want of enough co-ordination between the various organs, and (iii) high administrative costs.

India was opposed to any major constitutional change in the structure of the U.N. That was why she did not favour any proposals seeking such changes, viz. proposal to increase the total membership of the ECOSOC or of the Security Council. She did not favour the total revision of the Charter.

India championed the cause of the non-self-governing territories. She strove to get these territories heard and represented, wherever possible, on the regional economic and
social commissions and committees. She emphasized that the U.N. should widen the scope of all of its programmes so as to benefit non-members also. Whenever various covenants came before the U.N. for adoption, India always proposed that these covenants should be applied to the non-self-governing territories also, where they are needed most.

The Indian Delegations contributed much towards the establishment of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). In every session, the Indian Delegations emphasized the need for establishing IFC and SUNFED. The IFC has been established and the creation of SUNFED is at present under consideration.

To sum up, India sought to popularise a new approach to the problem of peace. She attached greater importance to the activities of the ECOSOC, and of the Specialized Agencies which, according to India, are building permanent conditions essential for peace. A number of countries are becoming increasingly inclined towards adopting this new approach.

India's membership of the U.N. was beneficial to her as well as to the Organization itself. India believes in the role of the U.N. as a world organization striving for peace. The Indian Delegations contribute their share to make the U.N. more stronger and more beneficial.