PREFACE
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P R E F A C E

This dissertation has been prepared in lieu of four courses for the requirement of the M.A. Final Examination in Political Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

This dissertation is a modest attempt to discuss and analyse India's attitude towards the problems of Security and regional co-operation with the group of states known as South-East Asia. Many eminent scholars have explained various aspects of the Security and the regional co-operation in South-East Asia. But the precise impact of India on this region, has not been thoroughly examined. The present relationship between India and the vast and resourceful regions of South-East Asia has been described in this dissertation. Various aspects of Regional Co-operation have also been examined. An attempt has been made to explain the extent to which the interests of big Powers like the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, the People's Republic of China have played their part in shaping the destinies of this region. Ideological conflicts have created grave problems in this region. Therefore, the security and regional co-operation in this region are of great concern to India now than ever before for geo-political, ideological and economic reasons. The historical background and the geo-political factors as well as the traditional cultural ties of these states with
India have been described at length in the Introduction. Chapter I deals mainly with the newly emerging forces of the region, like Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and the Philippines, as also their individual struggles for independence; the recent politico-economic developments taking place in these countries have been thoroughly examined. The chapter has, therefore, become too long but it could not be summarised further without decreasing its value. Chapter II describes Vietnam's political issues and military solution. Chapter III deals with the interests of the U.S.A. in the region — Ideological, Strategic, Economic and Commercial. Chapter IV describes the Chinese Phantom - the struggle between Expansionism versus containment. Chapter V deals with Positive attempts at the problems of security and regional cooperation between India and South-East Asia. At the end a brief conclusion sums up the role of India - both present and prospective - in this region with its other international involvements consequent upon its association with the regional security and mutual co-operation.

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