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India bigger, more populous than Europe, has more races, religions, languages and people

By Michael T. Malloy
UPI Staff Writer

NEW DELHI (UPI)—An Indian pilot with a name like Mukherjee put his skilled hands on the controls of a giant jetliner one day this week and brought a plane-load of tourists into Calcutta airport with deft precision.

At the same moment, another Indian with a name like Mukherjee, threw his numbed weight against the wood and leather harness of a crude rickshaw. He dragged his tourist into the streets of Calcutta with the blank eyes and sweating flanks of an overworked cart horse.

The neatly turned-out pilot and half-naked, barefoot coolie are worlds away from each other in education, politics and the amount of food they put into their stomachs. But by the standards of the paradoxical "nation" of India, they have many things in common.

They are both dark and slim and obviously different from their burly, fair-skinned, fellow citizens in northwestern India.

They both speak a sophisticated language called Bengali. They look down on India's 13 other "official" languages as crude and barbarous dialects.

They are both Hindus, yet they live in a country which contains more Catholics than Ireland and more Moslems than Egypt.

The two Mukherjees are worlds away from each other. But they are also worlds away from most of the 440 million other Indians who make this the most complicated, confusing nation on earth.

India can only be described in extremes and paradoxes like the Mukherjees.

Compare it for instance with another sub-continent — Western Europe. India is bigger and more populous. It includes more races, religions, languages, peoples and social classes.

Yet India, somehow, is a single nation.

The nation sprawls over 1,221,880 square miles, enclosed in a great irregular triangle. The triangle's southernmost point reaches as far south as Venezuela. Its northwestern corner is 2,000 miles away, in the latitude of the U.S. state of Oklahoma.

The second highest mountain in the world—K-2—is located on this northwestern shoulder. An imaginary superman with a 2,000-mile vision could see all of India if he climbed to the top of this five-mile high peak.

Looking toward the Indian plains, he would see range on range of snowcapped mountains directly below him. Slant-eyed, Tibetan-speaking, Buddhist monks turn prayer wheels and sip yak butter tea on the mountain-sides. Grey-green tents of the Indian army are pitched around the monks' monasteries to guard against further Red Chinese incursions.

Similar tents are pitched further south in the beautiful Kashmir valley, which is disputed between India and Pakistan.

The fair-skinned Kashmiris, many of whom have blond hair

and blue eyes, live in a world of their own, where clear trout streams rush down from pine clad mountains and palatial houseboats drift lazily on the gleaming Dal Lake.

Further south, and over another range of mountains, lies the stories Punjab. This is a country of sturdy, independent farmers who own their own land and have the highest standard of living among the Indian peasantry.

The Punjabis are fighters as well as farmers. They call their land "the sword of India," and send more of their sons to the army than the people of any other state.

Below the Punjab lies the Indian capital of New Delhi.

The capital is the most strategic location in India. It lies near the headquarters of the great Indus and Ganges river valleys, which make up the rich and ancient plains of Hindustan.

South of the great river valleys of Hindustan, India begins to change. The people become darker as the traveler crosses the Deccan plateau of central India. Their language changes from the ancient Sanskrit based tongues of the north to the soft accents of the Dravidian languages. The differences are as great, or greater, as the transition from Norway to Sicily.

The southerners are divided into four states, including a narrow, coastal strip of Kerala which was once ruled by the only freely elected Communist regime in the world. At the same time, Kerala is the most Christian state in India, and the only one where more than half the people can read and write.

Democrats make 'progress' in Treasury deficit field

By Lyle C. Wilson
UPI Staff Writer

The Democrats are making progress in the field of Treasury deficits. Their deficits are getting bigger.

President Kennedy has not yet matched the whopper turned in by Dwight D. Eisenhower for the fiscal year 1959. But Kennedy is gaining. Ike's big red number was \$12.4 billion.

Kennedy began modestly at first. His fiscal year 1961 Treasury deficit was a mere \$3.8 billion. In fiscal '60 Ike had turned up a surplus of \$1.2. But that trend was too good to last. After a modest first-year beginning, Kennedy came up in fiscal '62 with a Treasury deficit of \$6.3 billion. Secretary Douglas Dillon toted up the Treasury's books as of last May 31 and found that for the first 11 months of the current 1963 fiscal year, the Treasury deficit was an imposing \$10.6 billion. Dillon expects that figure to have shrunk some this month so that when the fiscal year ends at midnight, June 30, the deficit will be down to about \$8.8 billion.

Trend Is Set

But the upward trend is well established. Dillon estimates that the deficit in the next, 1964, fiscal year will hit \$11.9 billion. That figure may be somewhat gimmicked because it is a matter of pride and politics with the Kennedys to keep their deficits below the 1959 whopper charged to Ike. Even so, the recorded and estimated Kennedy deficits for fiscal 1961-64, inclusive, total \$32.7 billion. The final figures are likely to be even larger.

When the President sent to Congress 18 months ago the budget for the current, 1963, fiscal year he predicted a surplus of \$463 million. Kennedy's economists are wishful thinkers, however. They misled him into a calculation that a booming business revival would greatly boost Treasury revenue in fiscal '63. They did not press for economies in government spending as a hedge against any revenue miscalculation.

In A Trap

On their advice, Kennedy finds himself entrapped in the quicksand of deficit spending with no chance of being rescued in his first White House term and not much hope of rescue if he is president for another four years beyond that.

Deficit spending has become a political way of life, especially for the Democrats. Kennedy economists have toyed with the idea of a pump priming spending program to give the economy a shot in the arm. They turned finally to a massive tax reduction which would be accompanied by more Treasury deficits at least through fiscal year 1967. They have not much interest in exploring the possibility of reducing government spending toward a balanced budget.

There are sober warnings that endless deficits—27 since 1930—seriously undermine the purchasing power of the dollar. The buck is worth about 45 cents now as compared with what it could buy in 1930. Sober warnings, too, that the unfavorable balance of international payments hurts the U.S. dollar.

Criticizes Deficit

President Alfred Hayes of the New York Federal Reserve Bank said in an April speech before the Economic Club: "The international payments deficit remains much too high. A prolongation of heavy deficits cannot fail to damage the dollar badly."

Hayes was talking about the dollar in your pocket and your dollar in the bank. President Kennedy's proper pride in his place in history may turn his economists to consider economy before he leaves the White House. And it may turn his foreign aid advisers to think harder about the imbalance of international payments and their effects on your dollars in pocket and bank.

Poultry group names Eugenean

PORTLAND (UPI)—George Lamont of Eugene was elected president of the Oregon Poultry and Hatchery Association at its annual meeting during the weekend.

The association went on record opposing any legislation which would provide high support prices for wheat unless it makes special provisions for feed wheat prices in the Pacific Northwest at rates comparable to corn in the Midwest.

N. L. Bennion, Oregon State University poultry specialist, told the group that Oregon has the potential to pick up an extra \$246 million in annual income "if we have free wheat or feed wheat at a price comparable to corn in the Midwest."

AT ANY RATE, WAVE

LONDON (UPI)—An extract from the English version of a Continental handbook on camping reads:

"The turkey isn't an enemy of camping. On the contrary to other southern countries people are only coming to your tent on a wave and this only if you wave them away as they signal different from us, so if you want them to come here you have to wave away and the other way around."

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Leone has scant chance of success

ROME (UPI)—Emergency Premier Giovanni Leone today began his government's first—and possibly last—full week of official activity.

The chances appeared better than even that his minority government would fall soon after President Kennedy leaves town July 2. Kennedy is scheduled to arrive in Rome Sunday evening.

Leone was expected to go before Parliament Thursday or Friday to ask for a vote of confidence for his cabinet, which is composed entirely of Christian Democrats.

Political observers said debate on the confidence motion is likely to be broken off Saturday night and not be resumed again until after Kennedy's departure.

Since the Christian Democrats control only 260 seats in the 630-member chamber of deputies, the government could fall as soon as the vote is taken.

Then President Antonio Segni would have to entrust someone with putting together another cabinet or call new national elections to try to get Italy out of the political stagnation and uncertainty that have prevailed for nearly six weeks.

Teen-age girls failing to get adequate diet

By Gaylord P. Godwin
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI)—An Agriculture Department nutritionist says the fear of being overweight is keeping many teen-age girls from eating adequate diets.

"Whether they are fat or not, most teen-age girls are afraid they are or might be," said Dr. Evelyn Spindler. "That is one reason why a good many of them are not eating adequately."

Dr. Spindler, who works in the department's Federal Extension Service, said there are other reasons why some teen-age girls are poorly nourished.

No Milk

"They skip breakfast," she said, "they eat poor snacks (one-fourth of a day's calories may come from snacks), and they drink no milk—or not enough."

Dr. Spindler said the problem is to erase the fear of being overweight from the teen-age mind by showing the girls how they can have normal weight and still eat good, nutritious meals.

She said it is important that youngsters understand how a good diet contributes to correct weight as well as shiny hair, clear skin, and good posture.

Dr. Spindler said teen-age girls are going to do what their friends do—snack, party, and even skip a meal from time to time.

'Empty Calories'

"This need not be especially bad," she said, "if the youngster does it sensibly. She can snack on nourishing foods as well as on 'empty calories.'"

Dr. Spindler's comments were made in the wake of a cooperative study of the diets of 274 teen-agers in three Idaho communities which showed that 30 per cent of the youngsters did not eat enough proper foods.

The study by the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Idaho Department of Public Health included the seven-day diet records of 150 girls and 124 boys.

The record showed that the youngsters who did not eat the proper foods were eating less than half the recommended allowances of one or more nutrients.

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