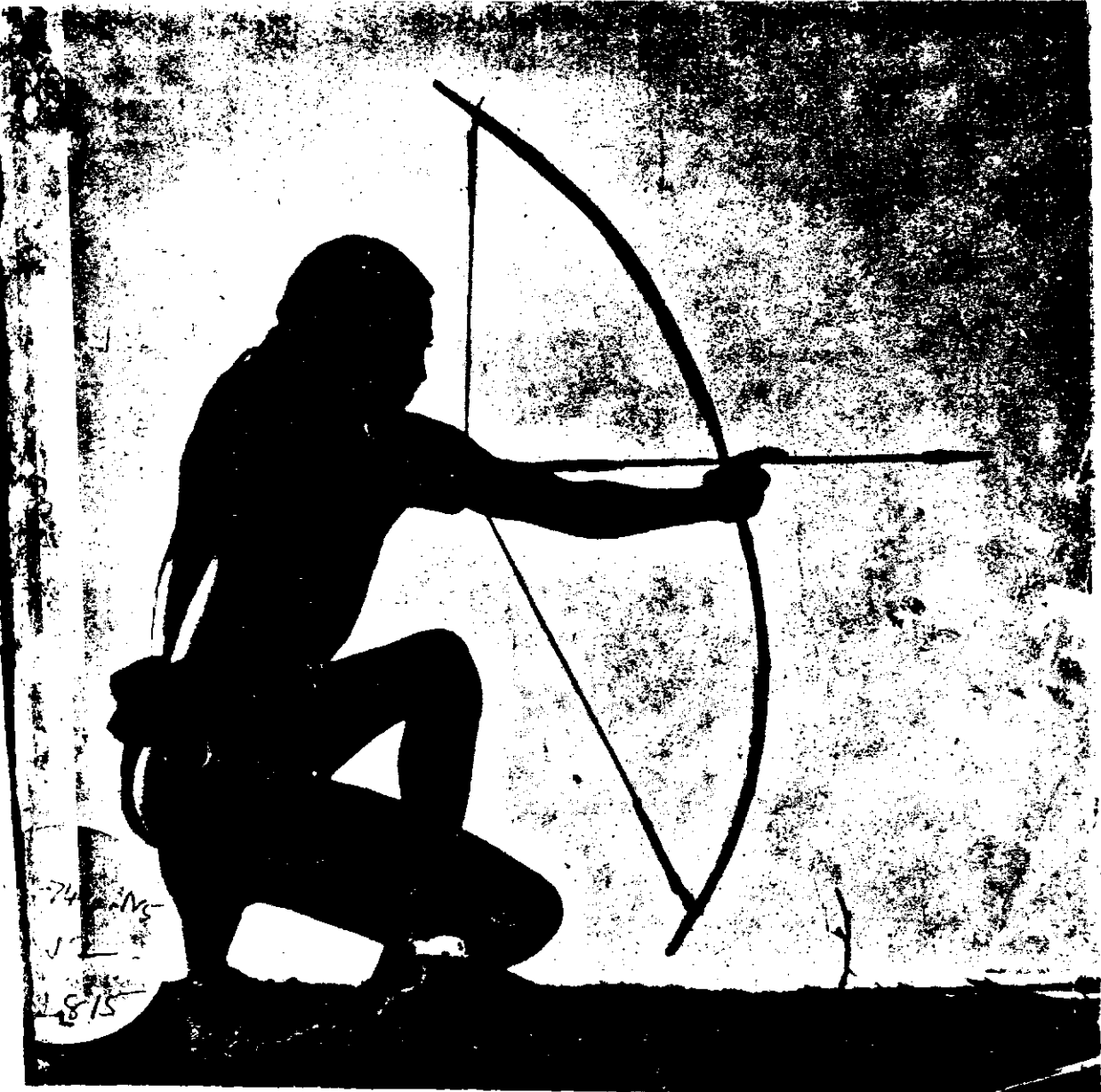


BROCHURE
containing
the speeches delivered at the
CONFERENCE
held in Delhi on the 7th, 8th and 9th June, 1952,
to discuss **PROBLEMS** dealing with



the **SCHEDULED TRIBES** and the **SCHEDULED AREAS**

दूरके करले निजेर बन्धु,

परके करले भाई ।--(मः रविन्द्रनाथ ट्योर)

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**The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, being escorted to the Conference Hall by
Dr. K. N. Katju and Shri L. M. Shrikant.**

FOREWORD

In view of the importance and urgency of the problems of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Areas and the sumptuous grants made by the Central Government to the various States for the amelioration of the conditions of the Scheduled Tribes and the development of the Scheduled Areas, a conference was held in the Central Hall of Parliament House on the 7th, 8th and 9th June, 1952, with the following two objects in view:—

- (a) to suggest a right approach to a number of problems concerning the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Areas in various States in India; and
- (b) to make constructive suggestions on the general lines for the practical working of the welfare schemes in the light of experience gained through the working of various schemes of development of various States and non-official institutions interested in the tribal welfare.

The Chief Secretaries of the various State Governments were requested to detail delegates for the conference. The Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh, Delhi, was also requested to send their representatives to attend this conference. In addition to the Members of Parliament, well known Anthropologists, Social Workers, Missionaries and others interested in the Tribal welfare work, also attended the conference. The invitees were also requested to submit papers on various subjects connected with the tribal welfare in order to help in the drawing up of the agenda of the conference. On receipt of papers which were altogether 41 in number, it was, however, found that some of these were not up to mark, and therefore it was decided that the conference

should discuss problems concerning the following three subjects only:—

- (i) Education of Tribals (No. of papers received—10);
- (ii) Tribal economy (No. of papers received—6);
- (iii) Grants-in-aid given to State Governments under Article 275 of the Constitution (No. of papers received—11).

2. The task of the conference was made easy on account of the previous circulation of the memorandum on Tribal Welfare adopted by the Tribal Committee of the Indian Conference of Social Work at its meeting held in Calcutta on the 29th and 30th December, 1951, (of which I happened to be the Chairman). The conference was the first of its type where social workers of various institutions connected with tribal welfare work, the tribal representatives in Parliament and State Legislatures and well known Anthropologists met at a common platform to discuss various problems connected with the tribal welfare. The conference also made it possible for the Officers-in-charge of the Tribal Welfare in the various States to meet together for the first time for exchange of views with the Central Government regarding the grants given to the States from Centre for the welfare schemes. As the conference was held in the Central Hall of the Parliament House, Members of Parliament, specially the Tribal representatives, showed a very keen interest in the conference and took an active part in its proceedings by delivering speeches. They desired to have a bigger conference to which all the Scheduled Tribe Members of the various Legislatures in the different States should be invited. I, however, feel that if we are to come to grips with the problems of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Areas, a quiet and

cooler atmosphere is absolutely necessary for the conference with a limited number of people really interested in the subjects, and who have given sufficient time and thought to them, to partake in it.

3. The conference was inaugurated by the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and addressed by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and the Minister for Home Affairs, Dr. K. N. Katju, who was also the Chairman of the conference. For want of time it had not been possible to pass resolutions in the conference. This Brochure contains the addresses of the President, the Prime Minister and the Minister for Home Affairs and also the various speeches that were delivered at the conference, for general information. The general views of the conference are indicated in my concluding Hindi and English speeches. I have also given in a separate Brochure some of the papers which were received on the three subjects discussed in the conference. It has not been possible to print all the speeches delivered in the conference on account of the bulkiness of the Brochure. For the same reason, most of the speeches printed in this Brochure, have been abbreviated in order to include only such matter as had a direct bearing on the subjects discussed. I hope that the publication of the Brochure will indicate the lines

on which various problems concerning the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Areas are to be tackled. It is also hoped that in future more time will be given by all concerned to the study of these problems. It will not be out of place to mention here that the total expenditure on the conference has not amounted to more than Rs. 3,000 which is a very modest sum taking into consideration the conveniences and the facilities given to all those who attended the conference.

4. I am thankful to the Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh, Kingsway, Delhi, for making arrangements for the stay of non-official invitees to the conference and for the trouble and expense they have undertaken in making their stay comfortable. I am also thankful to the authorities concerned of the Delhi University who also placed a few rooms in the Gwyer Hall Hostel at our disposal for the delegates to stay in. Thanks are no doubt due to all those persons who very kindly attended this conference and made it a success.

L. M. SHRIKANT,
Commissioner

for

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

New Delhi,

the 19th September, 1952.

M E S S A G E S

106, Constitution House,
New Delhi.

2nd June 1952.

My dear Lakshmidas Bhai,

I thank you for your kind invitation to the Conference to discuss problems concerning Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas to be held on Saturday the 7th June 1952. I regret my inability to attend it. The problems which are to be considered by the Conference demand urgent solution if our Scheduled Tribes brethren are to be brought to the level of the advanced classes socially and economically as they have already been brought politically by means of the introduction of adult franchise. I hold the view that the only way of helping these classes socially is by the introduction and rapid spread of Basic Education or Nai Talim to be imparted by specially trained, competent and sympathetic teachers. For the solution of their economic troubles, work by starting their co-operative societies on the model we have adopted in Bombay will be an effective remedy. We must have

a number of selfless workers who are prepared to live amidst them and in their conditions and help them against exploitation by money-lenders, traders and unscrupulous Government employees. As regards the economic development of tribal areas, we should put special emphasis on developing cottage and village industries suitable to local conditions and bring a modern outlook to bear on them. Mere grants-in-aid to the present administrative machinery will not achieve any results. I thank you and wish your deliberations all success.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) B. G. Kher.

To

Shri L. M. Shrikant,

Commissioner for Scheduled Castes
and Scheduled Tribes, South Block,
New Delhi.

चीफ मिनिस्टर,

गवर्नमेंट आफ बम्बई ।

सेक्रेटरियेट, बम्बई ।

ता० ५-६-५२

साई श्री श्रीकान्त,

हिन्द के पिछड़े हुए वर्ग के प्रश्नों की चर्चा के लिये वहाँ परिषद रखी गई है यह जान कर मुझे आनन्द हुआ । अपने देश में हरिजनों और पिछड़े हुए वर्ग की जन संख्या करोड़ों से गिनी जाती है । उन लोगों की उन्नति किये बिना हम कभी आगे नहीं जा सकते । कम से कम सब के लिये खाना, कपड़ा और मकान का सब से पहले प्रबन्ध करना चाहिए । शिक्षण का प्रबन्ध भी इतना ही अनिवार्य है । गांधी जी ने शुरू से ही इस प्रश्न का महत्व देख लिया था और स्वराज्य प्राप्ति के अपने कार्यक्रम में उस को

प्रथम स्थान दिया था । कांग्रेस भी हमेशा आदिम जाति के उद्धार का कार्य करती रही है । अपने विधान में भी इस प्रश्न पर पूरा ध्यान दिया गया है और केन्द्रीय और प्रान्तीय सरकारें खास महकमों रख कर इस कार्य पर ध्यान दे रही हैं । मुझे आशा है कि थोड़े ही वर्षों में हम हरिजनों और आदिम जाति के उद्धार के कार्य को पूरा कर सकेंगे और भारत के सब नागरिक स्वराज्य का सच्चा फायदा उठा सकेंगे ।

आप के अहम कार्य की में सफलता चाहता हूँ ।

आप का—

हस्त० मुरारजी देसाई