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4/21/75

NYT

Satellite Shot Hailed by Leaders of India

By **BERNARD WEINRAUB**

Special to The New York Times

NEW DELHI, April 20—Indian scientists and government officials were exultant today over yesterday's launching from the Soviet Union of the nation's first space satellite.

President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, in a speech in Bombay, congratulated "our scientists and technologists who have been helping the Government and the people in putting India on the map along with other developed countries."

Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, president of the Indian Science Congress association, termed it "another proud day for all Indians."

The 800-pound spacecraft was launched with the aid of a booster rocket from the Soviet Union that hurled the satellite into orbit. The launching came 11 months after India's underground nuclear explosion in the Rajasthan Desert.

The nuclear blast, the nation's first, was widely criticized abroad. Critics said that India, an impoverished nation, was squandering her resources on a nuclear program and that the decision to set off the blast had advanced the arms race and had opened the way for other nations to become nuclear powers.

Reports here said that Soviet assistance had been required for electronic components, the nitrogen gas spin system, on-board sophisticated tape recorders for storing data, solar cells for converting solar energy into

electricity and chemical batteries for storing electricity.

The key source of Soviet assistance, however, was the use of a powerful booster rocket. The Soviet Union agreed to provide the launcher under a May, 1972, agreement.

The Press Trust of India, one of the two news agencies that unofficially reflects the Government line, issued a long set of questions and answers today about the satellite.

One of the questions was: What is Aryabhata's mission in space during these six months?

The answer was: "Almost the same as that of Sputnik 1 and the first American satellite Explorer 1. Aryabhata's payload includes instruments to carry out three experiments in space. One set of instruments will look for X-rays in space. Another set aims at detecting high energy neutrons and gamma

rays at times of intense solar activity. The third instrument will detect electrons in the ionosphere and ultraviolet radiation in the night sky."

The cost of the launching and satellite was reported to be about \$6-million.

Shipping/Mails

Incoming

TODAY, APRIL 21,

AUSTRAL PILOT (Farrell), Capetown May 11; sails from Joralemon St., Brooklyn.

KUNGS HOLM, Swed. Amer.; left Cristobal Aerial 16; due 2 P.M. at W. 48th St.

Outgoing

SAILING TODAY

Trans-Atlantic

ATLANTICA IBERIA (Africanica), Lisbon May 3; sails from Global Marine Terminal, N.J.

AFRICAN DAWN (Farrell), Praia (April 29, Dakar 30, Conakry May 7 and Matadi 12; sails from Joralemon St., Brooklyn.

PILOT (Farrell), Capetown

6.28

CABINET OFFICIAL IS OUSTED IN INDIA

Mrs. Gandhi's Abrupt Action
Deepens Party Tensions

35-75
By BERNARD WEINRAUB

Special to The New York Times

NEW DELHI, March 4—

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has abruptly dismissed an outspoken Cabinet official, stirring controversy in the capital and deepening the tensions in the dominant Congress party.

The official, Mohan Dharia, Minister of State for Works and Housing, was unexpectedly dropped on Sunday for publicly urging Mrs. Gandhi to open a dialogue with Jaya Prakash Narayan, the ailing, 72-year-old follower of Mohandas K. Gandhi who is leading an anti-corruption movement against the Congress party.

What makes Mr. Dharia's dismissal significant is that the move signals Mrs. Gandhi's impatience at critics within the party and her own anxiety about Mr. Narayan—called J. P.—whose movement is serving as an umbrella for the opposition. Moreover, the ouster of Mr. Dharia was a triumph for the Soviet-supported Communist party of India, which has denounced him and several others for supporting a dialogue with Mr. Narayan.

Role of Communists

To Mr. Dharia the Communists have a vested interest in keeping Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Narayan apart. So long as the two are at odds, Mr. Dharia maintains, the Congress party will depend increasingly on the Communists for support.

Mr. Dharia is a widely respected figure in Parliament and was part of the 60-member Council of Ministers, which includes Cabinet ministers, ministers of state and deputy ministers. "I am drifting into a confrontation," he said on Sunday. "But I cannot help it because I am saying what people want and that is a dialogue with the opposition, especially with J. P."

Ironically, Mr. Dharia is a member of the so-called "Young Turk" wing of Congress, an outspoken, left-wing branch of the party that supported Mrs. Gandhi in 1969 when the party split. At that time, Mrs. Gandhi overcame its old-guard leadership and was supported by militants and socialists seeking dramatic economic and social change.

Meeting Ruled Out

Although radical, the Young Turks "have always been staunchly anti-Communist and have expressed blunt concern about growing Communist influence in the party. The dismissal of the 50-year-old lawyer and former socialist has been front page news here in the last two days. Mr. Dharia declined to meet Mrs. Gandhi last night and is set to make a statement tomorrow in Parliament.

One of Mr. Dharia's strong supporters, Chandra Shekhar, said in a statement: "If it is sought to use this action as a deterrent and to silence the voice of constructive dissent in the party, it will fail in its objective. Mohan is a crusader for certain values and he is a tenacious optimist. He was trying in vain to reconcile incompatible positions. The talk of politics of commitment and the expedient and convenient course of statecraft have hardly any meeting point in today's context."