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the economic structure of India; we are attempting to construct a statistical picture of that structure. This work, I hope, will be important and useful in this great effort of economic planning—the effort to take her future in her own hands and to determine what she wants that future to be.

#### SPEECH BY MR. G. TAGUCHI

*(Electric Communication Laboratory, Tokyo, Japan)*

I would like to express my great pleasure of having the opportunity to work here in India together with Professor Mahalanobis and so many other scientists of the world. I do hope to be able to contribute my modest share in the great work undertaken by the Indian Statistical Institute. I am very glad to be forced to speak here a few words in spite of the fact that I can't speak English well, even as in Japan it is a courtesy that the guest is forced to drink wine although he does not drink wine.

#### SPEECH BY PROFESSOR RAGNAR FRISCH

*(University of Oslo, Norway)*

I hope you will forgive me for striking a personal note in what I have to say.

I have never been able to work up any enthusiasm for books or articles describing travelling in foreign countries. They have always bored me immensely. In my very young days, however, I noticed to my surprise, that there was one exception : accounts of travelling in India. I also discovered another thing which I could not explain in any rational way. I found particular satisfaction in reading the poetry of Rabindra Nath Tagore which had been translated into Swedish, a language that we, Norwegians, read easily.

Later, in my more mature age, I found new examples of this unexplainable affinity to the Indian way of thinking. It came through contacts with outstanding representatives of India which I had the good fortune to meet when working in the United Nations Organization. In spite of the material differences in the conditions of India and my own country I always felt that there was something fundamental in the outlook which we had in common.

One little event is so characteristic of this that I must relate it. Some years ago, Professor Mahalanobis gave a lecture in Oslo to our economics students. He kept them spell-bound for an hour and a half talking about economic problems in India and the way they handled the National Sample Survey. After the lecture when Mahalanobis and I and some other Faculty Members had an informal gathering I had a slip passed on to me from four or five students asking me to find out whether it would be possible to conclude an arrangement so that these students could come to India to work.

Some years later, when Professor Mahalanobis asked me to come as a United Nations Expert to help in the economic and statistical planning work in India, I had several doubts of a practical sort, but so far as the task itself was concerned it filled my heart immediately and completely. I think that most scientists, and perhaps economists in particular, have one experience in common. Although they may find great satisfaction in solving a particular problem say, a mathematical problem—an intellectual satisfaction in the solution for its own sake—they feel that this satisfaction is *nothing* as compared to the inner joy they feel when they know that their efforts have contributed something, however little, to eliminating the sufferings of man. In the end this is the only thing that can give a lasting satisfaction. This was the spirit in which I joined in the work for a better India.

## TWENTYTHIRD ANNUAL REPORT : 1954-55

During my weeks here I have tried to rationalize and explain this surprising affinity which I have always, since my green youth, felt towards the Indian way of thinking. And this morning it suddenly dawned upon me that an explanation exists. It is something exceedingly simple but absolutely fundamental in the economic and political situation of our time.

The key is in the simple yet penetrating idea which your Prime Minister Nehru expressed in a speech reported in this morning's newspapers. Referring to the way in which India had won its independence and the way in which it is now working towards the banishment of poverty, illiteracy, ill-health and malnutrition, he said: "The soil of this country is very peculiar. *In this soil nothing will take root if it is not peacefully planted.*"

This undoubtedly is the key which explains why I, and in a general way, so many Norwegians, feel that the people of India and we have a basic common attitude towards the problems of our time.

Your Prime Minister also specified what is needed now in India: hard thinking and hard work. Both are equally necessary. I cannot imagine any other five words which are more characteristic of the soul and spirit of this great Institution whose anniversary we are celebrating, than just these: hard thinking and hard work. May that always be its soul and spirit.

### ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT, SHRI C. D. DESHMUKH

Distinguished visitors, visiting scientists, my colleagues and co-workers, ladies and gentlemen,

You have heard Professor Mahalanobis refer to my translation to a position of functionless dignity. I propose to signalise this by contenting myself, more or less, with conducting the proceedings of this meeting. But it was not only for that reason that I suggested that our distinguished scientists should address a few words to us; I thought it only proper that we should hear and listen to, with respect and attention, the observations of this array of scientists which has come here to collaborate in our research and to give us words of appreciation and encouragement. On behalf of the Institute, I cannot thank them enough for their generosity. I am sure you will have realized that theirs is a labour of love and that by no other force, not even money, could you have collected together this galaxy of international talent that you see here today. I do not know if you are aware, that this place is called "Amrapali", that is to say, a mango-grove. I like to think that here in this Institute with its international collaboration, both in the way of experts and trainees, we have the latest version of our old 'Ashramas' or hermitages and I am quite certain that throughout the corridors of history this particular 'Ashrama' could not have been better.

I said that I will content myself with only conducting the proceedings of the meeting, but there are one or two matters which have been referred to with which, I think, I should deal. One is this: the question of the implementation of the announcement that I made last year. I said that the Government of India have decided that the Indian Statistical Institute should be developed as the focal centre for professional training and research on the same lines as higher technological Institutes and be given powers to award diplomas of professional training and qualification, and selected officers from Ministries should be trained in statistical work in the Institute for a suitable period. The question of the Institute being given power to confer degrees would be considered later when the Institute is fully developed. However, I quote, 'I should say that within a measurable period this