

STANI INVASION OF KASHMIR WILL BE REPULSED  
SHASTRI'S FIRM DECLARATION  
INDEPENDENCE DAY SPEECH FROM RED FORT

New Delhi, Sravana 24, 1887  
August 15, 1965.

Speaking from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the occasion of the Independence Day, the Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, declared that Pakistan would not be allowed to annex any part of Kashmir. Shri Shastri said, "Pakistan has invaded Kashmir. I use the word 'invasion' deliberately. It is absurd to say that civilian raiders have infiltrated into Kashmir from the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Pakistan bears full responsibility for the attack. Pakistan had banked upon an internal revolt in the wake of the attack."

Shri Shastri said it was a matter of surprise that while India had extended her hand of peace and friendship, Pakistan had chosen to invade Kashmir. He added, "Pakistan intends to step up trouble in Kashmir. Under the circumstances, there is absolutely no scope for talks. We cannot even think of that. We want peace in Kashmir. But when we are attacked, it becomes the responsibility of the Government to meet force with force."

In a tribute to the people of Kashmir, the Prime Minister said that they were facing the situation courageously. The Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs of Kashmir had stood up against the raiders unitedly. They were determined to throw out the raiders. The Kashmir Government, headed by Shri G.M.Sadiq had handled the situation with great courage. "I congratulate the Kashmir Government and my brothers and sisters in Kashmir for their valour. On behalf of you all, I assure them that the nation stands solidly behind them. We will throw out each one of the raiders," Shri Shastri added.

The Prime Minister....

The Prime Minister said we were faced with a grave situation. The people had to be prepared for sacrifices. What was happening in Kashmir might not end in a matter of days. It was not as if the raiders would withdraw in a day or two. It was difficult to say how long this threat would last. Pakistan intended to annex Kashmir by force and it was likely that she would make it a prestige issue. Shri Shastri warned, "We have our national self-respect too; we have certain responsibilities to discharge. I want to state it categorically that Pakistan will not be allowed to take even an inch of our Kashmir."

The Prime Minister made an impassioned appeal for unity at this juncture. "A great responsibility rests on us. We must sink our differences. There is no place for agitations, hartals and movements. We have to march forward unitedly in order to remove the threat to our territorial integrity. If there are disturbances in the country, how can we defend our borders with single-minded devotion? Our armed forces and our police are defending the border with courage. We are grateful to you. By maintaining peace in the country, we will strengthen our hands. We should eschew communalism and casteism," Shri Shastri said, and added, "I am confident that every one will heed my appeal for unity and peace. We have to defend our borders and defeat the designs of those who cast an evil eye on us. The honour of the flag under which we stand today has to be upheld. We may perish but we will not allow the honour of our flag to be sullied. India will continue to progress and prosper. May be, India will do something to contribute to the world."

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Referring to his visits abroad, the Prime Minister said  
had been received enthusiastically in all the countries he had  
visited - the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Canada, the United King  
and the U.A.R. He had had extremely useful discussions in all  
countries. Despite differences in ideology, India had maintain  
cordial relations with all nations. India had pursued a policy  
peace and friendship formulated by the great leader of India,  
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The world was watching India with great  
interest. "A great responsibility rests on us. We should not do  
anything which will show us in bad light. We want peace in the  
world and friendship with all. We want to make our inamible contri-  
bution in this regard," Shri Shastri said.

The Prime Minister said that the world was faced with a  
delicate situation. No one could predict how the situation would  
develop. Viet Nam was a danger spot. It was difficult to say  
the situation  
might take. India desired a peaceful settlement of Viet  
Nam. China was the sole exception. China was not interest  
in peace, either in Viet Nam or in India. The Chinese were extreme  
critical of India. They had criticised his visit to Belgrade.

Shri Shastri said that China wanted to keep up tension in  
India so that the nation's development effort was hampered. China  
did not seem to like the fact that India pursued an independent po-  
litical system and had evolved  
her own method of developing her economy.  
Shri Shastri said India had followed certain principles/for a long  
time. China was not happy about the Indian approach and the Indi-  
an way of life. China wanted to hurt India.

In a reference to Kutch, the Prime Minister said that India had made it clear that unless Pakistan withdrew from Kutch completely, there would be no talks. This had not been achieved. Pakistan had withdrawn from Kutch. She would have no troops, no police and no posts in Kutch. India would have complete civil control over the territory. An agreement to this effect was signed. India accepted the agreement as she was not in favour of disturbance of peace in any part of the world.

### ECONOMIC PROGRESS

The Prime Minister said that in 1947 when India became free, a great responsibility was cast on the people. It was the duty of every Indian to discharge this responsibility honestly and conscientiously. It was natural that on the attainment of freedom, the representative Government of the people should try to improve their living conditions. As long as they were bound by the chains of slavery, they had no hand in the building of the nation. Now, they were engaged in overhauling the economic structure with a view to ameliorating the lot of the common man. The nation had recorded progress in many fields. They were also faced with a number of difficulties. It was the endeavour of the Government to reduce the nation's dependence on others. During the short span of 15 years, many big industrial projects had been launched. Oil had been explored and was being produced. Its production was expanding. Under the British rule, electricity was available to only a few cities. Power supply had now been extended not only to towns but to villages. A large number of villages in all States had been electrified. Government had formulated schemes with the purpose of stepping up production capacity of the

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country. India did not want to remain dependent on imports of machinery. She had reduced her dependence to some extent. We want to produce machinery for cement factories, textile mills, steel plants and fertiliser factories in our own country. This will help us to increase our economic strength," Shri Shastri said.

#### FOURTH PLAN

The Prime Minister said, "We have drawn up big plan to achieve economic progress. Huge investments have been made. We had to resort to deficit financing for this purpose. Now we have the draft of the fourth Plan before us. We have to find resources for the fourth Plan without resorting to deficit financing. Deficit financing brings inflation in its train. I am aware of the difficulties of the people. Whatever Plan we draw up - even if it is very big and ambitious - falls short of the requirements of the people. The needs of the people cannot wait indefinitely. Looking at the needs of the people we feel we have to move fast and have to be prepared for sacrifice if need be. A Plan of the size of Rs. 21,500 crores has been drawn up. It is expected to receive final approval soon. We are determined not to resort to deficit financing to finance the Plan."

#### AGRICULTURE

The Prime Minister said increased agricultural production deserved to receive the maximum attention. He added, "This is the biggest question before us. We must produce more rice and more wheat. If we continue to import and expand our foreign exchange on food imports, our economy will be adversely affected and we will remain economically weak. Food shortages inevitably lead to a rise in...

rise in prices. High prices add to the difficulties of <sup>the</sup> people. There is, therefore, no escape from hard work in the field in order to produce more. It is not impossible to increase our agricultural production. We have resources and we have manpower. We must develop them properly and efficiently. We should devote ourselves to the task determinedly. The Fourth Plan will accord the highest priority to agriculture. We will spend the maximum possible amount on agricultural development."

The Prime Minister appealed to the cultivators and to Government officials connected with agricultural development to do their utmost to increase the yield. He also appealed to the traders to realize their responsibilities to the people. A great responsibility rests on those engaged in the distribution trade. Government was prepared to help them. Shri Shastri said that the Central and State Governments desired to take over the procurement and distribution of foodgrains gradually. But in the present situation, it was not easy to do so. The traders should keep in view the prevailing conditions in the country.

The Prime Minister expressed the hope that during the next five years production would be increased to an extent ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~ ~~was~~ ~~no~~ ~~longer~~ ~~dependent~~ ~~on~~ ~~food~~ ~~imports~~. Simultaneously, industrial production should be stepped up.