Item 6: Address of the President of the Institute, Shri M. Hidayatullah

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

"I am very happy to be with you at the conclusion of your Annual General Meeting which incidentally is also an occasion for very meaningful seminar and discussions. Recently in Srinagar I had an opportunity of visiting and speaking to the branch there. I was so happy to see the Institute growing not only in Delhi but spreading its activities far and wide. In Srinagar also there is a band of very dedicated members of the Institute. I think the credit goes to the Director and the Chairman of our Institute for their inspiring care.

"You must have been pondering over the problem of deteriorating administration in some places in our country. We are facing the evil of corruption and inefficiency which seem to creep into new spheres of administrative activity and functioning. If we have to succeed we must eradicate corruption. Unfortunately this disease is spreading rather than receding. This is retarding all progress, creating black money and helping inflation.

"We have soon to implement the Seventh Five Year Plan. As each plan comes, the task becomes greater. We spend more on its execution and the area of our activity is wider. This requires efficiency in planning and execution, involving punctuality and devotion. If these two fail and to it is added sloth and corruption, we stand to lose rather than gain in the next five years. Each plan needs to be consolidated and its achievements taken to the optimum level. Too much hurry at the end, while good time is lost to begin with, results in our targets remaining unachieved or in being executed haphazardly. The plans are internally compact and the work is integrated so that deviation and incomplete execution of one part can ruin the plan in many ways.

"We must also remember that during their execution the plans suffer from man-made disruptions and natural calamities. We have to foresee these possibilities and provide for them in our schemes. We must also periodically assess the work done to find out the errors, shortcomings and delays. The variety in the Plans when examined in detail, discloses that they ranged from agriculture to the most sophisticated industry and covered urban as well as rural economy and thus required different strategies for successful execution.

"We have not sufficiently informed and instructed the people about these ambitious plans. After all the success of the plans is made or marred by the very people for whom they are intended. It is necessary to make them aware that peace leads to prosperity and the Plans can never be fruitfully executed unless the people cooperate. If law and order situation (to take only one example) is not favourable and strikes and lock-outs take place, the Plans can get delayed resulting in more expenditure because prices are spiralling all the time to unattainable levels within the projected time. Therefore, unity of purpose and unity in execution is the right climate for success.

"We had at one time thought in terms of Plan holidays. I had been one of the first proponents of this scheme. I think execution of one Plan should be followed by a period of consolidation and collection of funds for the next Plan. Thus we shall be able to have much better results. But this has not found favour.

"I am glad that the Institute is keeping itself up-to-date. Its commitment to the task of improving administration is 10

not only laudable but is being achieved satisfactorily. I have noticed during the years I have been your President that new ideas and new avenues of action are in evidence. I am confident that we shall continue the tempo of our march forward in the the years to come.

"I take this opportunity to congratulate the Institute, the Chairman, the Director, the Faculty and the Staff. They have really done their very best in the year gone by. I also congratulate the prize-winners in our Annual Essay Competition. I wish you all success in your work. "Thank you".