



PRIME MINISTER

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

EMBARGOED UNTIL DELIVERY

SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER AT THE COMMONWEALTH STUDY
CONFERENCE, MELBOURNE, 12 May 1986

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA I WELCOME ALL PARTICIPANTS
IN THE SIXTH DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S COMMONWEALTH STUDY CONFERENCE.
AUSTRALIA IS HONOURED TO JOIN WITH INDIA AS HOSTS AND I PARTICULARLY
WELCOME YOU, MR JHA, AS PRIME MINISTER GANDHI'S REPRESENTATIVE.

YOU WILL LIVE THROUGH THIS CONFERENCE INCREASINGLY CONSCIOUS OF
THE PARADOX THAT THE MOST OBVIOUS PERMANENT FEATURE OF OUR
EXISTENCE IS THE FACT OF CHANGE. THE THEMES OF THE CONFERENCES
MAKE THE POINT FOR US - OURS IN 1962 WAS "HUMAN CONSEQUENCES OF
THE CHANGING INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE";
YOURS, A GENERATION LATER, IS "MANAGING CHANGE IN AN INDUSTRIAL
SOCIETY".

BUT THAT DOESN'T REALLY BEGIN TO TELL IT ALL. WHEN I STRUGGLE
HOW BEST TO CONVEY THE DIMENSION OF CHANGE IN THAT GENERATION
BETWEEN MY CONFERENCE AND YOURS, I AM INEVITABLY DRIVEN BACK TO
THE WORDS OF KENNETH BOULDING, AN AMERICAN SCHOLAR: "I WAS
BORN IN THE MIDDLE OF HUMAN HISTORY. THE WORLD IN WHICH I
LIVE TODAY IS AS DIFFERENT FROM THE WORLD IN WHICH I WAS BORN
AS THAT WORLD WAS FROM THE WORLD OF JULIUS CAESAR".

IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE TO SPEAK OF THE GENERATION BETWEEN CANADA
1962 AND AUSTRALIA 1986 IN THOSE TERMS.

CONSIDER FIRST THE SPECTACULAR DEVELOPMENTS IN COMPUTER AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY WHICH HAVE CHARACTERISED WHAT HAS BEEN RIGHTLY IDENTIFIED AS THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION. THE PACE OF CHANGE IN THIS AREA IN A SINGLE GENERATION HAS BEEN FRENETIC.

THOSE OF US WHO CAN REMEMBER THE OFFICE OF 1962, RECALL LONG-DISTANCE PHONE CALLS AS AN EXPENSIVE, DIFFICULT, BIG PRODUCTION ITEM; DOCUMENT COPIES BEING PRODUCED WITH CARBON PAPER AND CUMBERSOME ELECTRO-MECHANICAL CALCULATORS. THE COMPUTER WAS A LABORATORY CURIOSITY. OUR INFORMATION BASES WERE THEREFORE REGIONAL, INCOMPLETE AND ALWAYS OUT OF DATE.

TODAY WE HAVE ACCESS TO WORLD-WIDE COMMUNICATIONS AT THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON; EXCHANGE RATES QUOTED IN NEW YORK ARE AVAILABLE HERE IN MELBOURNE WITHIN SECONDS.

POWERFUL COMPUTERS PROVIDE ACCESS TO DATA BASES AND DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS AND ARE ACCESSIBLE FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK. PHOTOCOPIERS LINKED TO WORD PROCESSING COMPUTERS AND TO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, FACILITATE THE WIDEST DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION AND THUS ENABLE TOTALLY RELEVANT CONSULTATION.

THE SPECTACULAR DEVELOPMENTS OF THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION ARE, OF COURSE, NOT SPENT OR EVEN WANING. ON THE CONTRARY THE PACE IS QUICKENING. IN IMMEDIATE PROSPECT IS AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM WHICH COMMUNICATES WORLDWIDE IN VOICE, TEXT, GRAPHICS, DATA AND IMAGE - THE INTEGRATED SYSTEMS DIGITAL NETWORK. AND JUST BEYOND THAT, ONE CAN ANTICIPATE SUCCESS FROM WORLDWIDE RESEARCH PROCEEDING NOW INTO SO-CALLED FIFTH GENERATION COMPUTING - LEADING TO A DEGREE OF INTELLIGENCE IN THESE MACHINES.

MAY I SAY PARENTHETICALLY THAT IF YOU THINK THIS IS FRIGHTENING THEN I JUST ASK THE MALE MEMBERS OF THIS AUDIENCE TO CONSIDER THE HEADLINES IN SATURDAY'S MELBOURNE AGE; "THE DAY WHEN DAD CAN ALSO BE BORN MIGHT NOT BE FAR AWAY". THE REPORT WENT ON: "MANY SCIENTISTS AGREE ON THE PROBABILITY OF MEN GIVING BIRTH, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST ISSUE OF MAGAZINE 'NEW SOCIETY'.

"SOME AMERICANS THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN WITHIN FIVE YEARS, IT SAYS".

AND JUST TO GIVE IT A COMPLETELY LOCAL TOUCH, THE REPORT CONTINUES: "AN AUSTRALIAN EXPERT, ALAN TROUNSON, DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF EARLY HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AT MONASH UNIVERSITY, IS QUOTED AS SAYING THE TECHNICAL AND ETHICAL DIFFICULTIES WOULD BE ENORMOUS BUT IT COULD BE DONE ... "

THAT WAS PRECISELY THE LANGUAGE OF THE SCIENTISTS IN THE DECADE BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ATOMIC BOMB.

THIS REPORT MAY CAUSE A CERTAIN WRY AMUSEMENT - IT WILL CERTAINLY CAUSE MATURE-AGE GENTLEMEN LIKE SIR ERIC NEAL AND MYSELF TO BE GLAD THAT WE WERE BORN WHEN WE WERE - BUT IT SURELY HIGHLIGHTS THE FACT THAT NO ASSUMPTION IN RESPECT TO OUR PHYSICAL WORLD IS INVIOLATE.

THAT I SPEND RELATIVELY LITTLE TIME ON THE VAST POLITICAL CHANGES OF THIS PAST GENERATION IS NOT TO DENY THEIR FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE. THE PROCESSES OF DECOLONISATION HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED. SOUTH AFRICA, WHERE A GREAT MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE HAVE STILL TO ACHIEVE SOVEREIGNTY AND CONTROL OF THEIR OWN DESTINY, STANDS OUT LIKE AN ISLAND OF REACTION IN A SEA OF CHANGE.

TODAY, THE RECENTLY INDEPENDENT NATIONS BRING A TOTALLY NEW DIMENSION TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS - THEIR CONCERNS AND PRE-OCCUPATIONS FEATURE PROMINENTLY, IF NOT YET SUFFICIENTLY, ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA.

AND MAY I SAY, IN PASSING, THAT WE OF THE COMMONWEALTH ARE ENTITLED TO BE PROUD OF ITS ROLE IN THIS TRANSFORMATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE. THIS UNIQUE INSTITUTION REPRESENTS A QUARTER OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, AND NOW, A THIRD OF ITS SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT NATIONS.

AS I HAVE SAID ELSEWHERE, WE MEET AS EQUALS BECAUSE, HOWEVER FALTERINGLY AT TIMES, WE HAVE TOGETHER LEARNED THE LIMITS OF POWER. THE COMMONWEALTH HAS DEVELOPED A PARTICULAR CAPACITY TO RECOGNISE IN TIME THE NEED FOR CHANGE; TO DISCUSS CIVILISED DIRECTIONS FOR CHANGE; AND, AT IMPORTANT TIMES, TO BE AN EFFECTIVE AGENT FOR CHANGE.

IF THIS GENERATION BETWEEN OUR CONFERENCES HAS WITNESSED THESE CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE, THE ECONOMIC CANVAS IS ALMOST EQUALLY UNRECOGNISABLE.

A PARTICULAR FEATURE OF THE PERIOD HAS BEEN THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF NORTH ASIA - OF CHINA AND JAPAN ESPECIALLY - AND THE ECONOMIC DYNAMISM OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC BASIN.

I WOULD VENTURE TWO OBSERVATIONS IN THIS RESPECT. FIRST, THE REVOLUTION WHICH IS OCCURRING IN CHINA IS THE SINGLE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT OF OUR TIME. SECOND, THE PATTERN OF DYNAMIC ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THIS REGION WILL CONTINUE TO CHARACTERISE THE PERIOD TO THE END OF

THIS CENTURY.

BUT VIRTUALLY IN ALL REGIONS THE PACE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHANGE HAS ACCELERATED DRAMATICALLY OVER THE LAST FEW DECADES.

PERHAPS THE MOST ENCOURAGING DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD ECONOMY OF TODAY AS COMPARED WITH A GENERATION AGO IS THAT VIRTUALLY EVERY COUNTRY IS CONSIDERABLY RICHER. THAT OF ITSELF IS REMARKABLE.

BUT PERHAPS MORE REMARKABLE ARE THE NEW PATTERNS OF DEMAND FOR GOODS AND SERVICES IN THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR, WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THAT WEALTH.

SOCIAL GOODS AND SERVICES HAVE BECOME FAR MORE IMPORTANT IN THE DEMANDS MADE ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM. THIS IS EVIDENT IN THE INCREASED DEMAND FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH-CARE, URBAN TRANSPORT AND TOWN PLANNING.

IN SO MANY COUNTRIES CHANGING SOCIAL VALUES HAVE BEEN REFLECTED ALSO IN INCREASED PARTICIPATION BY WOMEN IN THE WORK-FORCE - WHICH IN TURN HAS REQUIRED A NUMBER OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ADJUSTMENTS AND THE PROVISION OF A RANGE OF NEW SERVICES INCLUDING CHILD CARE FACILITIES.

MORE GENERALLY, SPENDING ON SERVICES HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY, FAR FASTER THAN SPENDING ON GOODS THEMSELVES. THIS IS ESPECIALLY SO IN THE OLDER INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES. AND THERE HAS PROBABLY BEEN NO MORE DRAMATIC A RISE IN THE DEMAND FOR SERVICES THAN IN THOSE AREAS WHICH NOW FORM THE LEISURE INDUSTRY.

ONCE THE PRESERVE ONLY OF THE RICH, MORE AND MORE INDUSTRIALISED NATIONS ARE CHOOSING TO SPEND THEIR INCREASED WEALTH ON MORE LEISURE, BRINGING WITH IT AN ASSOCIATED DEMAND FOR COMPLEMENTARY GOODS AND SERVICES.

THOSE DEMANDS HAVE REQUIRED A REDIRECTION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED, ESPECIALLY AS ONLY A SMALL PROPORTION OF THIS INDUSTRY IS CAPABLE OF BEING TRADED ACROSS NATIONAL BOUNDARIES. BUT TO THE EXTENT THAT INCREASED LEISURE HAS MEANT INCREASED TOURISM, THERE ARE CONSIDERABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

WHEN REFLECTING ON THESE CHANGES, ONE MUST APPRECIATE HOW FUNDAMENTAL HAVE BEEN THE STRUCTURAL AND SYSTEMIC ADJUSTMENTS TO BE ACCOMMODATED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SCENE.

THESE DEVELOPMENTS IN PART REFLECT MASSIVE SHIFTS IN PATTERNS OF WORLD TRADE AND INVESTMENT. BUT FOR MANY OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES THEY ALSO PRESENT NEW CHALLENGES.

AS NEW CENTRES HAVE DEVELOPED THE EXPERTISE TO PRODUCE THE TRADITIONAL PRODUCTS OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AT COMPARABLE OR BETTER QUALITY AND FOR LOWER COST, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE HAD TO EXAMINE CLOSELY THE KINDS OF ACTIVITY IN WHICH THEY ENGAGE.

FOR MANY WORKERS AND MANAGERMENTS IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD THAT HAS MEANT QUITE RADICAL CHANGES IN THEIR WORK PATTERNS. AT TIMES INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIES HAVE RESISTED THE NECESSARY CHANGES - AND HAVE CHOSEN TO SHELTER FROM THE EMERGING PRESSURES. INDEED IN SOME AREAS - MOST RECENTLY AGRICULTURE - THE TENDENCY HAS BEEN

TO RAISE THESE WALLS RATHER THAN REDUCE THEM.

IN A SENSE THAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FACTOR IN HUMAN BEHAVIOUR - THE CORN LAWS OF SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ENGLAND HAVE HAD MANY PRECURSORS AND DESCENDANTS. BUT INCREASINGLY WE IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD ARE COMING TO REALISE THE COSTS NOT ONLY TO THE WORLD ECONOMY BUT ALSO TO OURSELVES OF SEEKING SHARPLY TO DENY OURSELVES THE BENEFITS OF GOODS PRODUCED MORE CHEAPLY BY OTHERS. WHAT IS CLEAR IS THAT THE PACE AT WHICH THAT RECOGNITION CAN AFFECT OUR ACTIONS IN TRADING RELATIONSHIPS DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON HOW QUICKLY OUR SOCIETIES ARE WILLING TO ADAPT.

ONE RELATED DEVELOPMENT, IS THE EMERGENCE OF "POST-INDUSTRIALISATION" PROBLEMS IN SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SUCH AS BRITAIN. IN THESE CASES THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED SLOWDOWN IN THE RATES OF PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH AND MAJOR SHIFTS IN EMPLOYMENT PATTERNS.

OLD SECTORS SUCH AS TEXTILES, IRON AND STEEL MAKING AND SHIPBUILDING HAVE BEEN SEVERELY AFFECTED, WHILE NEW SECTORS - NOTABLY HIGH TECHNOLOGY, SOPHISTICATED BANKING AND INSURANCE SERVICES - HAVE GROWN AT FANTASTIC RATES.

IF WE ARE TO BEGIN TO COPE WITH AND MANAGE CHANGE OF THE DIMENSIONS I HAVE OUTLINED THEN MAY I SUGGEST, HUMBLLY, THAT CERTAIN THINGS ARE ALMOST SELF-EVIDENTLY NECESSARY.

HAVING RECOGNISED THE FACT AND ACCELERATING RATE OF CHANGE, WE SHOULD NOT BE AFRAID OF IT. THAT INFINITELY MARVELLOUS MECHANISM, THE HUMAN MIND, WHICH CONTINUALLY AMAZES US WITH ITS CAPACITY FOR TRIUMPHS OF TECHNOLOGICAL ENGINEERING HAS, IF WE WISH TO HARNESS IT,

THE SAME CAPACITY FOR GENIUS IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL ENGINEERING.

IF WE ARE TO STRIVE FOR THAT SYMMETRY THEN WE MUST RECOGNISE WHAT ARE THE CONSTANTS OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR AND SO IDENTIFY THE BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A PROGRAM OF SOCIAL ENGINEERING TO MATCH THE CHALLENGE OF OUR TIMES. THE RELEVANT CONSTANTS FOR OUR PURPOSES WOULD SEEM TO BE

- A) MEN AND WOMEN WILL SEEK TO ACHIEVE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE STANDARD AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THEMSELVES AND THOSE DEPENDENT UPON THEM
- B) THEY WILL SHAPE THESE ASPIRATIONS ON THE ASSUMPTIONS AND ATTITUDES OF A PAST ENVIRONMENT
- C) THEY WILL NOT NORMALLY IDENTIFY THEIR CAPACITY TO SATISFY THOSE ASPIRATIONS WITH OTHERS BEYOND THEIR OWN ORGANISATIONAL GROUPING IN THE ECONOMY

I DO NOT PRETEND THAT THIS IS AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST BUT I BELIEVE IT IS SUFFICIENT FOR OUR PURPOSES.

IT MEANS THAT WE WHO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY IN GOVERNMENT, IN THE TRADE UNIONS, AS EMPLOYERS, INDIVIDUALLY OR IN ORGANISATIONS, SHOULD STRAIGHTFORWARDLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE LEGITIMACY OF THIS ASPIRATION FOR AN IMPROVED STANDARD AND QUALITY OF LIFE. FOR THE FACTS OF OUR EXPERIENCE, AND AN INTELLIGENT ANTICIPATION OF THE FUTURE, CAN NOT DENY IT.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT CIRCUMSTANCES MAY NOT REQUIRE A PAUSE FROM THE PROCESS OF IMPROVEMENT - INDEED SUCH A PAUSE MAY BE THE VERY CONDITION FOR ENSURING SUBSEQUENT SUSTAINABLE GROWTH IN STANDARDS.

HOWEVER, IF AGAINST ALL THE EVIDENCE, WE DENY OR SEEK BLINDLY TO FRUSTRATE THESE ASPIRATIONS WE WILL, AS SOCIETIES, IN FACT BE DIMINISHED BY THE FORCES OF CHANGE WHICH MAKE SUCH IMPROVED STANDARDS POSSIBLE.

THE NEXT IMPLICATION FOR US FROM OUR LIST IS THAT WE MUST CONSTANTLY AND ASSIDUOUSLY ATTEMPT TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY, AND ITS IMPORTANT CONSTITUENT ORGANISATIONS, INFORMED ABOUT THE ELEMENTS OF CHANGE IN OUR DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT. WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN AN APPROPRIATE ASSUMPTION OR ATTITUDE IN SHAPING YOUR ASPIRATIONS EVEN FIVE YEARS AGO MAY BE QUITE INAPPROPRIATE TODAY.

IF YOU WERE A MONOPOLY OR A VERY SUBSTANTIAL SUPPLIER OF A NON-SUBSTITUTABLE COMMODITY IN STRONG INTERNATIONAL DEMAND, THEN THAT FACT WOULD HAVE INFORMED THE THINKING AND THE DEMANDS OF THOSE ENGAGED IN THAT INDUSTRY. WE ALL KNOW HOW RAPIDLY THAT TYPE OF SITUATION CAN AND HAS BEEN CHANGING. IT IS NO GOOD BEMOANING OUT-OF-DATE ATTITUDES IF UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION IS NOT DISSEMINATED.

IN MY OWN COUNTRY, WE WERE ABLE IN THE POST WAR PERIOD TO BUILD UP A GROWING MANUFACTURING SECTOR, ABSORBING A MASSIVE IMMIGRATION INTAKE, BEHIND A HIGH PROTECTIVE APPARATUS OF TARIFFS AND QUOTAS. A HUNGRY WORLD AND A EUROPE DEVASTATED BY WAR PAID HIGH PRICES FOR THE PRODUCE OF OUR EFFICIENT PRIMARY INDUSTRY. THIS WAS SOON SUPPLEMENTED BY THE INITIAL BOOM IN OUR VASTLY EXPANDED EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES.

THAT PICTURE HAS CHANGED BEYOND RECOGNITION. EUROPE, THE LARGEST IMPORTER OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS HAS NOW BECOME, IN PRODUCT AFTER PRODUCT, THE LARGEST PRODUCER AND EXPORTER AS A RESULT OF MASSIVE SUBSIDIES UNDER ITS COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY.

IN THE AREA OF MINERALS A COMBINATION OF MASSIVE NEW SUPPLIERS AND PRODUCT SUBSTITUTION HAS DRAMATICALLY CHANGED THE ASSUMPTIONS AND REALITIES OF THE PAST.

IF WE IN AUSTRALIA ARE EFFECTIVELY TO MANAGE CHANGE, IF WE ARE TO HARNESS AND DIRECT THE ENORMOUS CAPACITIES WE HAVE TO GROW IN AND WITH OUR REGION, THEN OUR PEOPLE, AND THEIR ORGANISATIONS, MUST BE INFORMED OF AND COME TO UNDERSTAND THESE AND OTHER FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES SHAPING THE NEW ENVIRONMENT WITHIN WHICH WE OPERATE.

THE PACE OF CHANGE IS SO FRENETIC, IT MAY BE ARGUED THAT IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO DISCHARGE THIS RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM THE COMMUNITY. IT IS TRUE THAT THE RATE OF CHANGE CREATES ITS OWN PROBLEMS. IT ALSO PROVIDES ITS OWN INSTRUMENTS. NEVER BEFORE HAS SOCIETY HAD AVAILABLE TO IT SUCH A RANGE OF INSTRUMENTS FOR ITS OWN INFORMATION. IT IS FOR ALL OF US I HAVE MENTIONED WITH SUCH RESPONSIBILITY, TO USE THESE INSTRUMENTS, DEMOCRATICALLY, SO THAT WE SHALL HAVE, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, A COMMUNITY SHAPING ITS ASPIRATIONS, FORMING ITS ATTITUDES ON THE MOST RELEVANT AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION BASE.

THE FINAL, AND IN MANY SENSES, THE MOST IMPORTANT IMPLICATION FROM OUR LIST IS THE NEED TO FOSTER SOME COMMUNITY OF INTEREST AND PURPOSE IN OUR SOCIETIES. IT SIMPLY IS NOT TRUE THAT THE DESIRES OF WORKERS FOR IMPROVED STANDARDS AND OF EMPLOYERS FOR IMPROVED PROFIT ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE OR ANTAGONISTIC.

RATHER THE INDISPUTABLE TRUTH IS THAT BOTH ARE MORE LIKELY TO ACHIEVE THEIR LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS BY ATTEMPTING TO ARRIVE AT SOME SHARED PERCEPTIONS AS TO HOW TO OPTIMISE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

NO UNIFORM PRESCRIPTION CAN BE GIVEN FOR THIS PROCESS. WHAT WE ARE SEEKING, I BELIEVE WITH QUITE SOME SUCCESS, TO DO IN THIS COUNTRY MAY NOT BE APPROPRIATE IN THE CULTURE AND TRADITIONS OF ANOTHER.

BUT I DO ASSERT THAT WITHIN YOUR OWN FRAMEWORKS, THE APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS SHOULD BE EMPLOYED TO SEEK WHAT DEGREE OF CO-OPERATION IS POSSIBLE. THE NEW INVESTMENT, WHATEVER ITS MATERIAL FORM, HAS NO IDEOLOGY, NO PREJUDICE. ITS OPTIMUM CAPACITY TO HELP PRODUCE GOODS OR SERVICES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE WHO INVEST IN IT AND THOSE WHO WORK WITH IT WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE MEASURE OF THEIR INTELLIGENT AND RATIONAL CO-OPERATION. TO DO THAT MAKES SENSE IN ANY SOCIETY.

MAY I MAKE TWO POINTS IN CONCLUSION.

FIRST, I HAVE FROM NECESSITY SPOKEN FROM MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE AS A CITIZEN OF A DEVELOPED COUNTRY. I HAVE HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE AND PRIVILEGE FIRST AS LEADER OF THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND NOW AS PRIME MINISTER TO COME TO KNOW MY COUNTRY WELL, AND IF YOU WILL PERMIT ME, TO LOVE IT DEEPLY.

I THINK I KNOW ITS STRENGTHS AND ITS WEAKNESSES AS WELL AS ANYBODY. I CERTAINLY WOULD NOT SAY THAT WE ARE A MIRROR IMAGE FOR ANY OTHER PEOPLE - AND I GUESS SOME FROM ABROAD WOULD SAY THEY ARE GRATEFUL FOR THAT.

BUT I DO BELIEVE, THAT THE CONSTANTS OF HUMAN BEHAVIOUR TO WHICH I HAVE REFERRED TRANSCEND NATIONAL BOUNDARIES, CULTURAL TRADITIONS AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS. AND I DO BELIEVE THAT, PROPERLY UNDERSTOOD AND BUILT UPON THEY DO OFFER A BASIS FOR OPTIMISM IN ANY COUNTRY THAT WE CAN AS INTELLIGENT HUMAN BEINGS PROVIDE THAT SYMMETRY OF SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL GENIUS.

FINALLY, I BELIEVE IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REMEMBER THAT THIS IS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE. IF THERE IS ONE CHANGE ABOVE ALL OTHERS THAT DISTINGUISHES THIS AGE FROM ANY OTHER IT IS THE CAPACITY WE HAVE CREATED TO OBLITERATE LIFE FROM THIS PLANET.

EVERY OTHER EFFORT WE MAKE TO MANAGE CHANGE IN AN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY, WILL HAVE BEEN POINTLESS AND THE ULTIMATE INSULT TO THE HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, IF WE DO NOT AS NATIONS BEND OUR BEST EFFORTS TO THE GRADUAL, MUTUAL, VERIFIABLE REDUCTION AND THEN THE ELIMINATION OF THE ACCUMULATED NUCLEAR ARSENALS OF THIS WORLD.