

Occasional Paper - 3

from

The Library

Raj Bhavan, Kolkata

Governor Anthony Lancelot Dias

Anthony Lancelot Dias was the Governor of West Bengal from 1971 to 1977. After Professor Nurul Hasan's collections of books in the Raj Bhavan Library, Governor Dias' collection is the largest. But it is modest. A list of the books gifted by him and Mrs. Dias is carried at the end of this Occasional Paper.

We are privileged to present in this issue selected speeches by him and articles by his son-in-law, the distinguished Indian Diplomat

Peter Sinai, Mrs. Maya Ray, wife of the then Chief Minister Siddhartha Shankar Ray, the eminent columnist Shri Hiranmoy Karlekar and a definitive overview of Governor Dias' tenure by Shri P.K. Sarkar who was Governor Dias' Secretary during almost the whole of Governor Dias' tenure. Smt. Mira Gupta, wife of Shri Ranjit Gupta (ICS, 1927) who was Chief Secretary in the sixties and Professor Ramaranjan Mukherji have also contributed separate reminiscences.

Librarian

Oath of Office

I, Anthony Lancelot Dias, do swear in the name of God that I will faithfully execute the office of Governor of West Bengal and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of West Bengal.



Calcutta,
The 21st April 1972.

Contents

1. Introduction.
2. Remembering Mr. Dias — P. K. Sarkar
3. Governor Dias' Tenure In West Bengal : Some Highlights—Peter Sinai.
4. Mrs. Joan Dias — Maya Ray.
5. Anthony Lancelot Dias : The Firm But Invisible Hand — Hiranmay Karlekar.
6. Memories of Bygone Days — Mira Gupta.
7. A Wonderful Chancellor : A Reminiscence — Professor Ramaranjan Mukherji.
8. A communication from Archbishop Henry D' Souza.
9. List of Governor Dias' Public Interactions.
10. Inaugural Broadcast by Governor A.L. Dias
11. Selected speeches by Governor A.L. Dias
12. A Minute by the Governor of West Bengal on the Shrubbery Grounds, Darjeeling.
13. Farewell Broadcast by Governor A.L. Dias.
14. List of Governor A.L. Dias' books in the Raj Bhavan Library.

Remembering Mr. Dias

By

P.K. Sarkar

The catalogue of the A.L. Dias collection of books - though small in number - in the Raj Bhavan Library and the select list of his public interactions, both of which form part of the contents of this Occasional Paper, reflect his catholic outlook, his openness to the cosmopolitan culture of the state and its capital city, as well as the circle of his friendships transcending conventional lines.

Anthony Lancelot Dias was Governor of West Bengal for more than six years. This period can be viewed in three distinct segments. First, President's Rule 1971-1972 (and again briefly in 1977). Second, 1972 to 1977 when the Congress Ministry under Siddhartha Shankar Ray was in office. And, third, about five months from the State elections in June 1977 which ushered in the Left Front Ministry under Jyoti Basu to the beginning of November 1977. The distinct styles of governance appropriate to each of the three segments are clearly discernible.

When A.L. Dias was named Governor of West Bengal the state was already under President's rule. The liberation struggle across the border had led to an influx of 7.5 million refugees into the state. The politics of violence in Calcutta and in certain areas of the state seemed to be having a spiraling effect. The planned killing of policemen had its inevitable effect on the law and order machinery. A large number of districts were affected by natural disasters. Investment and growth were stymied by a number of intertwined factors.

The challenge was met with determination and courage. The rich and varied experience in district and secretariat positions in the state of Maharashtra (and the undivided Bombay Presidency earlier) and at the Centre as well as in special positions like the Chairmanship of the Bombay Port Trust was of immense value and no time was lost in assuming the role of active leadership. The combination of roles - head of state and head of

government - seemed to come naturally.

The highest priority was of course law and order. The "morning meetings" in Writers' Buildings with the Chief Secretary, Home Secretary and police chiefs began the day's proceedings. The minutes were prepared and circulated within an hour and the follow-up of decisions was relentless. There was intense pressure on the senior officials to exert themselves and matters pending for decision for a long time were quickly settled. Confrontation with politically motivated associations did not make A.L.

Mr. Dias was keenly aware that the problems of law and order couldn't be tackled in isolation. Initiatives were taken on a wide front : agriculture, minor irrigation, food administration, education, redetermination of plan priorities, and investments in infrastructure, to mention some of the major areas of thrust. The 1971 and 1972 Speeches and Broadcasts in the Raj Bhavan Library provide a glimpse of the concerns and initiatives during this period though his correspondence and minutes in the Departmental files that came to him for decision do not form part of the Record

* *Speeches and Broadcasts 1971*, Page 5, in the Raj Bhavan Library. The full text of this broadcast is reproduced in this Occasional Paper.

Dias popular with a section of government employees but he did not flinch from dealing firmly with "breaches of the public

servants' code of conduct or lapses in fulfilling the twofold tasks of any administration - firstly prompt response to the people's needs and redress of their grievances and speedy implementation of development schemes. Secondly, fearless discharge of the functions of law and order without committing excesses and by making a special effort to secure the confidence and cooperation of the people in restoring peace and stability."*

Room collection. Associating non official organizations like the Bharat Sevasram Sangha, Ramakrishna Mission, Missionaries of Charity in the extensive relief works and the trust reposed in them yielded rich dividends. The positive response of the press generally to initiatives taken by the Governor was of great help.

The State elections of March 1972 brought in Siddhartha Shankar Ray as Chief Minister with the Congress and its allies in an overwhelming majority in the Assembly. The shift to low gear and

concentrate on matters close to his heart. There was of course the informal advisory role: Ministers would come calling for consultations with him on intricate matters concerning policy or administration. There was a relationship of cordiality and trust with the Chief Minister and the members of the Council of Ministers.

Food policy and the public distribution system were of course his forte. Hands-on experience at different levels and in difficult times led him to "the inescapable conclusion that the basis objective of food to the conventional role of the governor provided A.L. Dias with the time and opportunity to

** Speech at the Rotary Club of Calcutta 10th August, 1973 from Speeches and Broadcast 1973.

See also speech at the workshop of the Protein Foods Association of India on the 20th November, 1972.

policy, namely, the equitable distribution of food at reasonable prices to the vulnerable sections of the community, cannot be secured through the unrestricted operation of the free market economy but only by planned, prudent and deliberate management of available food supplies. This objective necessarily implies State intervention in a substantive way and on a continuing basis."** It is indeed a matter of regret that the book he was writing on food policy and which was almost

ompleted never saw the light of day.

During the period 1972-1977 the CPI.M and its allies had boycotted the Assembly and were therefore not part of the legislative process. Their grievance about the "rigged" State Assembly elections of 1972 remained a sore point. Aware of the importance of keeping open the channels of communication with these parties, A.L. Dias repeatedly instructed his staff to be extremely cautious in this regard. Yet, on a particular occasion, there was a slip up when an M.P. with a trade union

delegation had been sent away from the North Gate of Raj Bhavan without following the procedures and courtesies laid down. The Governor was not happy, to say the least, and expressed his displeasure in no uncertain terms!

There is an interesting sidelight to this episode. Jyoti Basu and a heavyweight group of representatives from all the constituent LF parties had come to meet the Governor at Raj Bhavan with prior appointment. This time the security and other staff - anxious to avoid any faux pas - ushered the entire delegation into his room in the quickest possible time. The Governor welcomed them all and as they sat down and were about to begin their discussion after the customary pleasantries, it was Jyoti Basu who sharply asked one of the persons who had come in with his group to leave as he had no business to be there. An ingenious reporter had managed to go in unidentified, mingling with everyone in the large group and generally conveying the impression that he was a member of the delegation.

Throughout his six years in West Bengal A.L. Dias - as

- Speech at the opening session of the Vice-Chancellors' Conference, 26th August, 1975 from *Speeches and Broadcasts 1975*.

Chancellor of the Universities - remained in very close touch with the Vice-Chancellors who confided in him and often unburdened their woes on him. He valued greatly the counsel of eminent Vice-Chancellors like the late Dr. Satyen Sen. A.L. Dias also took the lead in organizing the first ever Conference of Vice-Chancellors with the Chief Minister and the Ministers in charge of Education and Finance participating. This was a two day Conference with a heavy agenda, held in Raj Bhavan, and conducted with remarkable aplomb. The themes recurring in his Convocation speeches as also in the speech* that he delivered at the Conference with Vice-Chancellors reflect his concerns over the course of higher education in the state.

Mr. Dias was genuinely fond of touring the districts. Perhaps it was the archetypal District Officer in him, but he always welcomed an opportunity to visit relief works, development projects, educational and other institutions, or to attend special occasions in the districts. Darjeeling was of course an area of

special interest and visits there were more frequent. Typically, during visits to the districts, there would be a meeting in the Circuit House with district-level development officials and a separate one with MLAs, MPs, Chairmen of Municipalities, and representatives of political parties. In between there would be informal sessions with the District Magistrate for whom there was usually a word of advice or encouragement. And, invariably, the salient points emerging from the meetings along with the Governor's personal observations and suggestions would be sent to the Chief Minister or the concerned Ministers through demi-official letters.

Mr. Dias also had a special interest in work for and with the sick and the disabled and in welfare activities generally. For him the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount had a deep personal meaning and his visits to homes for leprosy patients in Purulia, Bankura, Kalimpong and elsewhere were a moving occasion for all those who accompanied him. He presided over the public meeting addressed by Jean Vanier in the Loreto House auditorium and encouraged and supported him in founding the first community in the state - Asha Niketan - for persons with mental handicaps. Likewise, the keen personal interest taken by him was of crucial importance to Hermann

Gmeiner - the founder of SOS villages for children in many countries - and Tara Ali Baig to set up a beautiful village in Salt Lake in the quickest possible time. Mrs. Dias devoted her time and energy generously to mobilize support for the Village. Both Asha Niketan and the SOS Children's Village represent a unique approach in their respective fields of work and owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Dias. Their help and encouragement to organizations like AIWC, Nari Seba Sangha and the All Bengal Women's Union are also fondly remembered by senior members.

A word about some of the notable foreign dignitaries who visited Calcutta during his period as Governor and stayed in Raj Bhavan would be in order. There was of course the galaxy of distinguished foreign visitors who came to West Bengal in 1971 to make a personal assessment of the critical situation emerging from the liberation struggle across the border. But the most memorable occasion was the visit of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman following the birth of Bangladesh and the State Dinner hosted by the Governor for the visiting Prime Minister and the Indian Prime Minister in the resplendent Banquet Hall. The banquet speeches by the two Prime Ministers were relayed by A.I.R. and public enthusiasm was at its peak.

There were many other visits by foreign dignitaries during this period including an "unscheduled" overnight stay by President Nikolai Podgorny and his entourage en route to Hanoi when the resources of Raj Bhavan's Hospitality set-up were stretched to the limit. The challenge was successfully met, thanks to the dedicated staff and the Russians were effusive in their praise. Almost invariably, the receptions for the visiting dignitaries were not just formal state functions but lively and warm social occasions. The presence of the Chief Minister and Mrs. Maya Ray contributed immensely to the *joie de vivre*.

Another memorable occasion in the colonnaded Banquet Hall during this period was the farewell given to the legendary Amiya Babu who had been in charges of the culinary side of Raj Bhavan's famed hospitality for decades and who had a way with distinguished guests staying in Raj Bhavan. Amiya Babu dressed himself in the style of the early 20th century Bengali babu - shirt tucked into his dhoti, bandhgala coat, and shining black shoes. He had a fund of stories on how he had mitigated the frowns of VIP guests through the culinary route. Frequent visitors including Prime Ministers and Presidents knew him by name. Every member of the Raj Bhavan staff was invited to the farewell tea

party for Amiya Babu and Mr. Dias gave his personal attention to the planning of the party and saw to it that it was an occasion to remember.

Even before the State elections in June 1977 A.L. Dias had completed his five year term as Governor of West Bengal. The Left Front Ministry under Jyoti Basu was sworn in by him at a most impressive ceremony held in an ambience of simple elegance on the grounds of Raj Bhavan. The programme of ceremonies was planned in meticulous detail. The invitation list was long and unprecedented as regards the number of guests. So great was the popular enthusiasm that there was a suggestion that the uninvited might be allowed to come into the grounds and to stand in a separate enclosure so that they too could witness the historic ceremony. This caused some anxiety among those responsible for the bandobast and the security police were at wits' end. In the end it was Jyoti Basu who intervened and said that those without invitation cards would wait outside and, after the ceremony, march in procession to BBD Bag for a celebration in front of Writers' Buildings.

During this phase of his Governorship, Mr. Dias' role was circumscribed by the fact that his five year term had ended and that a new Governor would soon be

named. There were of course the routine functions of a Governor to be attended to. And there was golf and gardening, and of course reading and western classical music. Also, there was the growing interest in Rabindrasangeet and more time for his collection of bonsai. There was focused attention during this period on the preparation of inventories of art objects, period furniture, crockery, cutlery etc. and on the internal systems and procedures followed in Raj Bhava. There were also the finishing touches to the development of the Shrubbery Gardens in Darjeeling in accordance with plans drawn up earlier.

While preparing the inventories it was found that about a decade and a half ago several articles of Raj memorabilia had been given away to Victoria Memorial and Fort William. Of the two portraits of Marquess Wellesley - the builder of Government House during the years 1799 to 1803 - the Governor wanted any one of them to be brought back and reinstalled in Raj Bhavan. Enquiries made of Fort William elicited a polite - but nevertheless shocking - response that the pictures had been sent to Dehra Dun for display in the military museum there but had subsequently been destroyed! Later, thanks to continued and persuasive efforts by Deputy Secretary Jagannathan, the Caesar busts were

retrieved from Fort William and these now adorn the South Entrance Hall.

Despite the changed relationship with the new Ministry, decorum and propriety were scrupulously observed and personal contacts with Chief Minister Jyoti Basu and his Cabinet colleagues were always marked by affability. With the naming of the new Governor the round of farewells for Mr. and Mrs. Dias began and it was touching to see how close they had come to the people of the state during their six years here. On the eve of their departure from the state there was a gracious farewell dinner for them hosted by the Chief Minister and his Council of Ministers at the Great Eastern Hotel.

Ending on a personal note, the author would like to record what a privilege it was for him to have work with Mr. Dias as Secretary to the Governor. In the middle years of one's career this was a unique learning opportunity and the experience and insights gained from a ring side seat during a crucial period of change in the history of the state were invaluable. One recalls with affection and gratitude the gentle guidance of a distinguished senior in whom the qualities of head and heart blended so harmoniously.

The correspondence and minutes of Governor A.L. Dias would doubtless provide interesting

inputs for appreciation of the events and undercurrents of the period. Regrettably the preservation of records has been neglected in the past and it is only recently that the Raj Bhavan Library and Record

Room are being systematically organized thanks to the personal initiative and interest of Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi.

GOVERNOR DIAS' TENURE IN WEST BENGAL.

— Some Highlights—

Peter Sinai

In August 1971, soon after taking over in Calcutta, Governor Dias was confronted with a ticklish problem. A file was placed before him recommending dismissal under article 311 (2)(C) of the Constitution of 13 CPM activists, who were Government servants in Writers' Building, responsible for much of the indiscipline and discontent in State Govt. Offices. Previously there had been hesitation to pass such orders as it could well lead to yet another bandh, a series of which had brought government to a standstill. Governor Dias was not to be hurried. As there was insufficient evidence in some of the cases, he called for more particulars from the police. The Government Servants Conduct Rules were reviewed by him and amended to ensure that demonstrations, protests, marches and speeches against the government were made punishable. Having decided that the situation called for shock treatment, he

carefully considered the timing for action. He decided on the week before the Pooja holidays when the CPM or any other party would find it difficult to mount massive demonstrations. In this he was proved right. Elaborate preparations were made to deal with the inevitable fall-out of a dismissal order. A skeleton contingent of trams and buses, as well as suburban trains were to ply with police protection. Staff in government offices was asked to stay overnight and provision made for their supper and breakfast the next morning. The orders were then signed. There were banner headlines in all the national newspapers.

Immediately after the orders were signed, there was a storm of protest not only from the CPM but also from other political parties and trade unions. The CPM called for a state-wide bandh. Come the bandh day and the public saw that unlike on previous occasions, transport was

plying. All office phones were manned and informed enquirers that they should report for duty to avoid being marked absent. As a result, office attendance was nearly normal. For the first time in the recent history of West Bengal, a bandh had been broken. Public confidence was gradually restored. In this new climate it was possible to reactivate development work statewide. Governor Dias, enthusiastically assisted by Mrs. Dias, actively involved themselves in development work. He toured the districts, took steps to strengthen the administration, established a good rapport with the bureaucracy and addressed the problems caused by floods, food shortage, seven and a half million refugees from East Pakistan and the Naxalite trouble.

Gardening had always been a passion for Mr. Dias, and in Raj Bhavan one his greatest joys was the upkeep of the garden and grounds. Along with the Garden Superintendent, many pleasurable hours were spent planning the layout including the setting up of a section for bonsai. By mid January, in time for the Republic Day Reception on the well manicured East Lawn, the grounds were a riot of colour with flowers of every description.

In Darjeeling also the garden surrounding the blue-domed Raj

Bhavan, meticulously maintained by the devoted malis, was a feast for the eye and soul. The romplings of his grandchildren in this idyllic setting are recorded on his cine-film, another of his abiding hobbies.

Behind the Raj Bhavan was a large open area known as 'The Shrubbery' where Pandit Nehru often addressed meetings. There were many proposals for using this space. The gardener in Governor Dias hit on the idea of converting this into a public park with a sunken garden and a hot-house for plants. The result was spectacular, framed as it was by a significant view of the Kanchenjunga Range. Nor did the gardens in Barrackpore escape his attention and care!

In Raj Bhavan an inventory was compiled for the first time of the historic objets d'art, paintings, etchings, carpets etc. 64 chandeliers were listed.

Tippu Sultan's silver throne along with 2 silver maces were among the treasures retrieved from the storage cellars. These were all spruced up and displayed to their best advantage, providing an impressive setting for the stream of visiting VIPs, both Indian and International, whom Governor and Mrs. Dias enjoyed entertaining- on formal occasions in the glittering banquet hall, as also in the informal setting of their private suite.

Besides visiting Heads of State and

Government and prominent personalities in the field of the arts, Mother Teresa was a regular visitor, while the Governor and, more so, Mrs. Dias visited her at Nirmal Hriday.

Governor Dias always looked back with affectionate nostalgia on his tenure on West Bengal. He and Mrs. Dias had come to love the people and felt that in turn they had been taken into their hearts, as witnessed at the time of their departure in November 1977, when there was a groundswell of affection from people in all walks of life. He cherished the loyal devotion of his staff, both office and household, including the cooks, bearers and malis, and continued to keep in touch with them and take interest in their welfare till the last.

Mrs. Joan Dias

by

Maya Ray

To speak of Mrs. Joan Dias is to bring to one's mind the memories of a person of immense charm, affability, graciousness and elegance.

I first met Joan in the early seventies, when her husband was the Lt. Governor of Tripura. My husband and I had gone there on an assignment and were invited to tea.

I found myself transported into a warm and comfortable home, which is always difficult, when a place has been inhabited by previous

Governors with diverse tastes and with furniture supplied by the Governments of the day!

Subsequent to the General Elections held in 1971, the Indian National Congress came to power, and the then Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi appointed Mr. Dias, as requested by my husband, as the Governor of West Bengal. This was in 1972. It was during this time that I was able to renew my acquaintance with Joan once more.

This developed into a close friendship which I found invaluable. In 1972 I was elected to Parliament from a rural constituency, having to work with three District Congress committees consisting of Darjeeling, Phansidewa (Naxalite Territory) and Raigunge I often met Joan in those days while passing through Calcutta (totally informally of course) and used her as a sounding board regarding the problems I faced, particularly of unemployment. She always found time for me and although she had four accomplished daughters, I became her fifth.

In Calcutta, with her exquisite taste, she converted the Government House into a cosy and comfortable home, which again is very difficult to do in a replica of "Kedleston Manor" (Lord Curzon's property in England)!

Joan was extremely popular with all strata of society for she was very outgoing and could make every one

she met, comfortable in her presence. She could stretch out to them and I know the efforts it takes, for I too faced this when I later became a Governor's wife in Punjab. She had not an iota of the aura of her position as the First Lady about her.

There was so much that I learnt from her, for I, being in Parliament and away from my home in Calcutta, was apt to be impatient (though never with my clients while practicing as a Barrister). It was Joan who taught me how to balance my priorities, with social and professional obligations along with my Parliamentary commitments.

I recollect an incident. The Governor Tony Dias was in Moscow at the time and had barely reached Russia when Joan fell seriously ill and had to be hospitalized. My husband immediately rang Tony and asked him to return as soon as possible, as decisions had to be taken. We were all terribly worried and upset. Fortunately she recovered slowly but surely, and returned to resume her responsibilities here in Calcutta.

Leila their third daughter was married to the eldest son of another accomplished lady - Mrs. Tara Ali Baig. The church wedding took place in Calcutta.

After his tenure as Governor ended Tony and Joan both lived in Delhi for sometime before returning to Bombay and we were fortunate to

keep in touch with one another. Her youngest daughter Marie was an artist and taught in a well known school in Delhi. Many years later we met Noella one of her other daughters in New York. Her eldest daughter Rowena was married to Peter Sinai, who was in the Foreign Service.

Regretfully our hectic lives in India have not enabled me to keep in touch with them - but then time waits for no one.

Anthony Lancelot Dias:
The Firm But Invisible Hand

by

Hiranmay Karlekar

Beginning with Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, one of the tallest men ever in Indian politics, West Bengal has seen several distinguished governors including Kailash Nath Katju, Harendra Coomar Mookerjee, and Padmaja Naidu. Barring, however, Dharma Vira, none of them had to cope with such turbulent times as its ninth Governor, Anthony Lancelot Dias who was sworn into the office on August 21, 1971.

Rajagopalachari's tenure (15 August 1947 to 21 June 1948) coincided with the difficult aftermath of Independence, Partition, the massive communal violence that preceded and followed

the latter and the arrival in the State of hundreds and thousands of Hindu refugees from East Pakistan. Yet, the Mahatma was still alive, the country had stalwart leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Independence on 15 August 1947, had triggered a massive swell of optimism that enabled it to take even the most severe challenges in its stride. In West Bengal itself, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, an able administrator and a development visionary, took over as Chief Minister, from Prafulla Chandra Ghosh, on 14 January 1948.

Dr Kailash Nath Katju, a noted jurist, who followed Rajagopalachari as Governor, and who left a deep impression on public mind with his quiet dignity, did not, therefore, have a squally passage though West Bengal was, during almost the whole of his tenure (21 June 1948 to 1 November 1951), in the throes of the insurgency launched by the undivided Communist Party of India at its Second Congress in Kolkata from 28 February to 6 March 1948. The CPI, however, had formally abandoned its violent line through a Statement of Policy issued following a Politburo meeting in April 1951 and West Bengal had settled down to a steady course of development by the time Dr Harendra Coomar

Mookerjee had taken over as Governor on 1 November 1951.

Dr Mookerjee, whose tenure lasted until 3 November 1956, has perhaps been the most popular Governor of the State. While the fact of his being a Bengali might have counted, what won the hearts of the intelligentsia and the rest of the people was his scholarship and utter simplicity. The public, therefore, received Padmaja Naidu, who succeeded him, with a certain coldness. She, however, quickly dissolved it by her immense grace and dignified charm and had emerged as a highly popular figure by the time she had demitted office on 1 June 1967 after enjoying the longest tenure of all Governors till date.

Unlike Dharma Vira, who came with the reputation of being an iron-fisted administrator and whose "strong medicine" produced sharp reaction, Dias assumed office quietly and administered with a firm but invisible hand. There can be no under-estimation of the challenges he faced. Political instability haunted the State. The two United Front Governments which had been formed following the Congress's defeat in the Assembly elections on 2 March 1967, had lasted nine and 13 months respectively-the first being dismissed by Dharma Vira in November 1967 after it had lost its majority following defections, and

the second having collapsed following Chief Minister Ajoy Mukherjee's resignation in March 1970. Violence was rampant with supporters of the Congress, the Bangla Congress, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), the Forward Bloc, the Revolutionary Socialist Party, the Socialist Unity Centre, the Praja and Samyukta Socialist Parties, and the student, youth and trade union front organizations of all of them, engaged in bitter turf conflicts labelled in Bengali as "elaka dakhalar ladai". The expression, which literally means "battles for capturing areas" was used to mean battles for capturing other parties' strongholds.

Industry, hard hit by the recession that had set in from the beginning of 1967, had been hobbled by the militant trade unionism resorting to tactics like the gherao (besieging) which involved prolonged intimidatory confinement of management personnel, generally in their offices, and, sometimes, violence, to compel acceptance of union demands. The countryside was rocked by pitched battles among the peasant organizations of the various parties and forcible occupation of lands and/or harvesting of standing crop, of medium and large farmers. Even

small farmers of rival political parties were not spared.

The State's administration, which was bitterly divided along partisan lines, had become a blunt instrument. Rival organizations of Government employees fought openly. To restore order and efficiency to the administration, to say nothing of the rest of the State, was a gargantuan task. Dias brought to discharging it impressive administrative skill honed through years of carrying out tough assignments. A member of the Indian Civil Service, he had been Lt. Governor of Tripura before assuming his gubernatorial office. As Chairman of Bombay Port Trust, he had administered the highly complex "ship-to-mouth" programme that kept India's public distribution system functioning with United States' wheat, sent under Public Law 480. Later, as Union Food Secretary, he had done much to mitigate the devastating consequences of the drought that hit several States, particularly Bihar, in the second half of the 1960s.

What, however, must have been most useful to him in discharging his duties as West Bengal's Governor, was his stint as Maharashtra's Home Secretary. This was because the State was under President's Rule and he had officially to preside over its administration as Governor until the

Assembly elections of March 1972 returned the Congress and its electoral ally, the CPI, to power with a massive majority. There was a great deal of tough and controversial administrative action, including a spate of encounter killings, during these months. Those who knew him, however, have always maintained that his was a firm but moderating presence. That they were not far wrong is clear from the fact he emerged from the period without any controversy surrounding him and left office on 6 November 1977 as a respected man.

After an elected Government, headed by Chief Minister Siddhartha Shankar Ray, assumed office in March 1972, Dias meticulously confined himself to his constitutional role. Yet he played his part in making a difference wherever he could. As Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, he did much to rid the organization of the indiscipline and irregularities that had had come to affect it in West Bengal's years of turmoil and that threatened to undermine its status as an outstanding institution with a rich collection of exhibits. He did the same with the Victoria Memorial, Kolkata, of which too he was the Chairman of the Board of Trustees in his official capacity.

It is not surprising then that Dias won many admirers with the passage

of time. When he demitted office on 6 November 1977, West Bengal bade sad farewell to a gentleman administrator who spoke softly but acted with resolve and achieved much.

Memories of Bygone Days
by
Mira Gupta

I first met Mr. Anthony Lancelot Dias when he came to West Bengal as Governor, though my husband the late Ranajit Gupta, ex-Chief Secretary, had known him during his service career. Soon, we became very friendly and Mr. & Mrs. Dias became Tony and Joan to us. Mr. A L Dias was an ICS officer of the Bombay (later Maharashtra) cadre.

When I first met them, I found them to be very amiable and correct in behaviour with everybody. We felt that the glamour of Raj Bhavan was restored after the days of Miss Padmaja Naidu. They used to take lot of interest in official functions of Raj Bhavan and people also felt enthused to attend all the functions. We could feel that the

atmosphere of Raj Bhavan was changing. The menu as well as service at the State receptions on the 15th August and 26th January changed for the better. I recall that, after each of these functions, we would sit for a while with Mr. P K Sarkar, then the Secretary to the Governor and his wife Leena, in the Secretary's office room comparing notes.

Gradually our relationship became quite informal. Occasionally, Mr. Dias use to ring up and say "Ronu, what are you doing tonight? Do come over and let us all have dinner together". Usually, we would have dinner in their sitting room where a small table was laid for the occasion. Of course, dinner was preceded by couple of Chhota pegs of Scotch whisky. We would also invite them to our house for a meal. Joan was so good in telling funny stories.

My husband was in charge of the West Bengal branch of the Indian Red Cross Society and the Governor was the head of the organization. So they had many things to discuss. The Governor's personal efforts and support helped to improve the services rendered by the Red Cross. While Mr. Dias and my husband often discussed issues concerning West Bengal, Joan and I usually discuss gardening, interesting recipes and also people known to both of us. The evenings

were most enjoyable. In addition, we were some times invited to formal dinners hosted by the Governor in honour of visiting dignitaries. I recall meeting so many interesting personalities during these functions. Earlier when my husband was Chief Secretary, we used to meet visiting dignitaries and it was good to meet some of them again.

Joan was particularly happy about coming to West Bengal because she was born here. Her father Mr. Vas was the first person of Goan origin to join the ICS and Mr. Dias I believe was the second. As District Magistrate, Bankura, Mr. Vas had done commendable work in famine relief. Joan was born in the D.M's bungalow and was really excited at the prospect of revisiting Bankura. Both Joan and Tony were fond of gardening and they redesigned the Raj Bhavan gardens. I particularly recall the Christmas lunches, which were celebrated in style. Festivities started with the traditional egg nog at about 11 a.m. Their charming daughters, (there were four of them, Rowena, Noella, Laila and Marie, out of whom two or three would almost invariably be present) used to look after the guests. This was followed by buffet lunch with a special menu. Roast turkey, ham and Christmas pudding used to feature prominently in these lunches. The luncheon parties used to go on till about 3 p.m.

I have seldom seen a livelier person than Joan. Of course, both of them had such pleasant personalities that spending time with them was always extremely enjoyable. Joan was also deeply involved in Social Work. An important project launched by her was the SOS village in Salt Lake where orphan children were provided with a home. The PWD Minister Bhola Sen provided full support from the State Government. The whole concept was new and a dedicated team under the leadership of Joan designed and built the entire village. Other ladies also got involved because the first lady of the State was leading the team. Now the SOS village stands as unique institution in the state and I am reminded of the pioneering efforts of Joan Dias.

Memories of Mr. and Mrs. Dias take me to Darjeeling. They were genuinely fond of Darjeeling and used to spend four to six weeks there twice a year. After Miss Padmaja Naidu no other Governor spent so much time in Darjeeling. Since we had a house in Darjeeling and were regular visitors there, we could observe how the local people looked forward to these visits by the Governor. Darjeeling used to be spruced up for these occasions. All the important citizens of Darjeeling were invited to tea parties at Raj Bhavan. In addition, guests used to come up from Kalimpong, Kurseong and Siliguri to attend these

functions. The local people represented to the Governor their problems and Mr. Dias, as usual, lent a helping hand. I particularly remember Mrs Thondup as a regular visitor. She was married to the brother of the Dalai Lama and had established a thriving Tibetan Refugees Self-help Centre at Darjeeling. She was a very good friend of ours. She was also a great cook in the Chinese and Tibetan cuisine and sometimes used to bring food prepared by her to the Raj Bhavan.

A memorable event in Raj Bhavan, Darjeeling was the stay of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her family as guests of the Governor and Mrs. Dias. Miss Padmaja Naidu also came with Mrs. Gandhi. Miss Naidu had been looking forward to a holiday in Darjeeling in the house she loved so much and knew so well. Unfortunately her stay was cut short by ill health and she had to return to Delhi.

Both the Governor and Mrs. Dias made it a point to attend a large number of public functions while in Darjeeling. This brought them in close touch with the local gentry as well as common people. During his tours Mr. Dias patiently heard people who brought local grievances to his notice. He personally took up many of these with the Deputy Commissioner and other local

officials. Major issues were followed up with Departments in Calcutta. Gradually the people of Darjeeling started regarding the Governor as their friend.

Both my husband and I were very fond of Darjeeling. From my personal experience over four decades I can say that Governors like Dr. H C Mukherjee, Miss Padmaja Naidu and Mr. A L Dias had a special rapport with the hill people. Dr. B C Roy also spent weeks at a stretch in Darjeeling. He would hold cabinet meetings there with a retinue of senior officials in tow. The locals sometimes expressed their annoyance over so many jeeps moving up and down the streets and destroying the peace and quite of the queen of hill stations! But it was all in good humour. And looking back, I cannot help feeling that the physical presence of the "Government" in Darjeeling had a political significance of its own.

Tony and Joan were broad minded and compassionate, conscientious in the performance of their assigned duties, devoted to their family and friends, and had a natural dignity and poise befitting their position. But, above all, I remember them as good human beings and I am grateful to Governor Mr. Gopal Krishna Gandhi for this opportunity to pay my tribute to their memory.

A Wonderful Chancellor -
A Reminiscence

by
Professor Ramaranjan Mukherji

A telephone call from Raj Bhavan, Kolkata, came some day in December 1972, and the representative of Raj Bhavan requested me to see His Excellency Sri Anthony Lancelot Dias. It was in the second fortnight of December 1972. In 1972, Calcutta was experiencing a chilly winter, reminding one of the winter which Delhi experiences these days. That was the day of my first meeting with His Excellency A.L. Dias who was the Chancellor of all Universities in the State.

My very first acquaintance with His Excellency inducted in me an idea that the Governor of West Bengal was fully aware of his duties as Chancellor of the entire University system of the State. The Acts of all State Universities had made the Governor the Ex. Officio Chancellor of all the Universities, implying thereby that the Governor is supposed to wear two hats - the hat of the Governor and the hat of the Chancellor. In his capacity as the Governor, His Excellency is

required to keep close watch over the functioning of the Government and to send periodical reports to the Centre in regard to the functioning of the State Government. In his capacity as the Chancellor, His Excellency is required to advise the Vice-Chancellor and to see to it that the provisions of the Acts and Statutes framed under the University Acts are implemented properly. His Excellency is required further to maintain liaison with the University system and the State Government, so that the State machinery supports the University administration in its endeavour to impart quality education to the younger generation. My first exchange of ideas with His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias indicated that he was fully aware of those two sets of responsibilities which he is required to discharge in his capacities of Governor and Chancellor.

In the very first meeting, the personality of His Excellency impressed me very much, because of its ability to discharge moral and social, ethical and spiritual values. As my acquaintance with him grew deeper and deeper I could trace in him the grace of the Divine being which prompted him to visit Church regularly every Sunday. At the end of the first meeting which lasted for about forty-five minutes, during which the problems of the University system of the country were discussed, His Excellency

congratulated me for my appointment as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Burdwan and said "We are very happy to have you as our Vice-Chancellor for the second term in the University of Burdwan". It may be mentioned here that before this, I had a short-term beginning from March 1970, but the tenure could not be completed, because of the unstable conditions in the State, particularly the growing indiscipline among the student community, and the extremist activities.

As my acquaintance with the style of functioning of His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias became deeper and deeper I could trace the strict disciplinarian in him. He was of opinion that in order to impart quality education it is necessary to build up suitable infrastructure in the shape of library and laboratory, talent and instrument, but what is more necessary is enforcement of discipline. He was fully aware of the fact that indiscipline was an expression of frustration in students, and consequently he suggested remedial measures for combating this indiscipline. In one of his Convocation Addresses delivered at the University of Burdwan he was pleased to observe:

"Above all it requires discipline. I am painfully aware that student indiscipline is the biggest problem that confronts our educational Institutions. Yet I feel

that it is a problem that is often exaggerated. I believe that the majority of our students want to pursue their studies conscientiously. I have great faith in these young people in whom I have found much idealism, self-sacrifice and patriotism. Indiscipline is an expression of frustration arising out of a communication gap between student and teacher, student and parent, student and the wider community in which he lives. It is our duty to build bridges of understanding. Only then can we divert youthful energies to constructive purposes? Here the teachers of the Universities have a big role to play. They must strive to understand the causes of the frustration of our youth and be more responsive to their needs and aspirations. Greater participation by students in the affairs of the University must gradually be brought about. A sense of belonging must be inculcated so that the present barriers between the University authorities and the teachers on the one hand and students on the other cease to exist."*

His Excellency Sri A.L. Dias asked the Vice-Chancellors of the State Universities to submit periodical reports to him in regard to the functioning of the Academic Bodies, implementation of academic programmes, structuring of plans for development of the University. He

was the first to advise me to prepare a 25-year perspective plan for the University, side by side with formulation of 5-year plan, so that the University can have a fixed target before it. At the same time, he was conscious of the fact that the University cannot remain an ivory tower dissociated from the society and consequently advised that the system should come closer to the community through implementation of special programmes relating to extension. That time the University Grants Commission had floated the concept of three-dimensional activity of the faculty, namely teaching, research and extension. This philosophy continued for sometime, but, unfortunately, the parameter of extension has been done away with totally in recent years.

His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias floated the idea of visiting Universities in his capacity as Chancellor and exchanging ideas with representatives of the administration, members of the faculty as also members of the student community, so that he can project his own views relating to the development of the University and at the same time got himself enriched

- Speeches and Broadcasts 1972, pp-108.

after ascertaining the views of the members of the faculty and the student community. At this point of time, it may be mentioned that when the creator of modern Bengal, Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, the Second Chief Minister of West Bengal established the University of Burdwan, he clearly indicated in the preamble to the Burdwan University Act that the proposed University will be required to take care of the granary of Bengal and at the same time the growing industry of Durgapur region through introduction of courses in Agriculture and Technology, suited to the needs of the community around. His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias frequently referred to this dream of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy and advised the University to introduce new courses in emerging areas after ascertaining the needs of the community around.

The contribution made by His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias to the field of academic administration as also to the stock of human knowledge prompted the University of Burdwan to honour him with conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Literature at its Annual Convocation held in 1980. By his hard and dedicated work throughout his career Shri Dias had distinguished himself as one of India's front-ranking Civil Servants, but above all it is his humanitarian approach and the keenness of

establishing discipline in all sectors of social life that had distinguished him as one of the great leaders of the Nation broaching the philosophy of "Selfless Service", so fondly encouraged by Indian culture from the dawn of human civilization. The achievements of His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias are detailed below:

Date of birth : 13th March 1910.

Education : B.A. Economics (Hons.) in the first Class, University of Bombay; B.Sc. (Economics) from the London School (1930-33). Awarded the London Cobden Club Gold Medal for Economics and the Hugh Lewis Prize of the London School of Economics (1932). After graduation, spent one year at Magdalene College, Cambridge (1933-34).

Service : Entered the Indian Civil Service in 1933; allotted to the Bombay cadre and served in various capacities as Collector, Director of Land Records and Settlement Commissioner; Secretary and Supply Commissioner, Food & Civil Supplies Department; Secretary, Education Department 1952-53; Secretary, Agriculture Department, 1955-57; Secretary, Home Department, 1957-60; Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, 1960-64; Chairman, Goa Land Reforms Commission, 1962.

Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Food, Ministry of Food & Agriculture, 1964-69; Chairman, Central Warehousing Corporation, 1964-69; Chairman, Modern Bakeries, 1967-69. Awarded the Padma Vibhushan in January 1970 for services rendered particularly as Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Food, Ministry of Food and Agriculture. On the occasion of this award the citation mentioned: "Shri Dias negotiated import of foodgrains with great ability and success; and under his direction and supervision relief operation and distribution of foodgrains were imaginatively organized and efficiently administered. Shri Dias's service as Secretary in the Department of Food in a period of unusual difficulties was of an exceptionally high order. By his high and dedicated work Sri Dias has distinguished himself as one of India's front ranking civil servants."

Appointed Lt. Governor of Tripura in January 1970 and Governor of West Bengal (August 1971 - November 1977) and made his contributions in the field of Food Administration, Agricultural

Development and administrative reorganization. At the time of his appointment in 1971 as Governor of West Bengal he successfully tackled a number of difficult problems and situations with which the State was then confronted. He was responsible for organising and implementing effectively a massive relief operation to deal with unprecedented influx of evacuees into Tripura and West Bengal from East Pakistan.

Appointed Member of the Board of Governors of the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa (1970-74);

Elected Honorary Fellow of the London School of Economics, 1978;

Chairman, Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, 1976;

Chairman, National Book Trust, 1978.

A Communication
from
Archbishop Henry D' Souza

I have been able to write a few lines on Governor A.L. Dias. My memory is not quite strong. Hope the facts are correct.

Mr. A.L. Dias was Governor of West Bengal during the turbulent 70s, when political instability was rampant. In fact President's rule in the State was imposed during his tenure and Governor Dias functioned as the Head of Government for a period of time.

Known for his integrity and competence, Governor Dias remained impartial and just in all his actions and decisions. He was humane and understanding of the problems of his entourage and dealt with them kindly, though firmly. During the Presidential rule, when West Bengal had won some international recognition (I forget the exact details), the employees of Writers Building asked for a holiday. Governor Dias' reply was characteristic: "This honour should encourage us to work harder".

Governor Dias was a fervent Catholic. He was at Sunday mass regularly. When on tour, he would enquire about the nearest Catholic Church and be present for the Sunday service in whatever language it was conducted. On such occasions, he always played down

any public acknowledgement of his presence.

I met Governor Dias and his very gracious wife on several occasions. I was always impressed by their affability and simplicity. Both of them endeared themselves to all those with whom they came in contact.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

H.D' Souza
Archbishop Emeritus of Calcutta
THE PRESBYTERY
St. Thomas' Church
9/3, Middleton Row
Kolkata-71.

Date : 19.10.2006.

A SELECT LIST OF
GOVERNOR A. L. DIAS'
PUBLIC INTERACTIONS
IN
WEST BENGAL

22nd August, 1971 Radio
Broadcast from All India Radio,
Calcutta.

6th September, 1971 Charity
Dance Recital Organised by the
South Eastern Railway Women's
Organisation at Kala Mandir,
Calcutta.

2nd October, 1971 Gandhi
Ghat, Barrackpore, in connection
with the National Integration
Pledge Campaign on the occasion
of the birthday of Gandhiji.

10th October, 1971 Inaugural
Festival of the National Crime
Prevention Week, 1971, at Ranji
Indoor Stadium, Calcutta.

28th October, 1971 Reception
held by the Christian Association
of Calcutta in honour of the
Governor and Shrimati Dias at
the Don Bosco School, Calcutta.

30th October, 1971 Golden
Jubilee Celebration of the Indian
Red Cross Society, West Bengal
State Branch held in the Marble
Hall, Raj Bhavan, Calcutta.

30th October, 1971
Inauguration of the
Symposium on "Tele-
Communication in India - Growth
and Gaps" at Birla Industrial and

Technological Museum
Auditorium, Calcutta.

2nd November, 1971 Special
Week-day Multi-Media Publicity
Campaign on "West Bengal
Today" sponsored jointly by the
Ministry of Information and
Broadcasting, State Information
and Public Relations Department
and the C..M.D.A. at the Calcutta
Information Centre.

5th November, 1971 Concluding
Ceremony of the Birth Centenary
Year of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan
Das at the auditorium of the
Chittaranjan Seva Sadan and
Cancer Hospital, Calcutta.

5th November, 1971 Seminar of
Haldia Complex organized by the
Calcutta Regional Centre, Indian
Institute of Chemical Engineers
and co-sponsored by Calcutta
Port Commissioners and Indian
Oil Corporation Ltd., at the Kala
Mandir, Calcutta.

9th November, 1971 Seminar on
Export of Engineering Goods
from the Eastern Region
organized by the Engineering
Export Promotion Council at
Firpo's, Calcutta.

5th November, 1971 First Meeting
of the West Bengal Citizens'
Council held in the Council
Chamber of Raj Bhavan,
Calcutta.

19th November, 1971 Annual
Convocation of Calcutta

- University held at the Rabindra Sadan, Calcutta.
- 5th December, 1971 Broadcast from All India Radio, Calcutta, after declaration of National Emergency by the President of India.
- 16th December, 1971 Investiture Ceremony of the St. John Ambulance Brigade (India), No. II (west Bengal) District, at Raj Bhavan, Calcutta.
- 28th December, 1971 Thanksgiving Ceremony at the St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta.
- 4th January, 1972 Meeting of Folk-Lore Scholars held at Writers' Buildings.
- 6th January, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the Durgapur City Centre.
- 6th January, 1972 Annual General Meeting of the Raniganj Chamber of Commerce.
- 12th January, 1972 Opening ceremony of the New Cossye Bridge at Midnapore.
- 13th January, 1972 Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of the Vidyasagar Nor-Resident Students' Centre, Midnapore.
- 15th January, 1972 Visit to the Lions Multi-Project Centre at Ballygunge, Calcutta.
- 22nd January, 1972 Third Quarterly Meeting of the Central Committee of the All India Manufacturers' Organisation.
- 26th January, 1972 Radio Broadcast from the All India Radio, Calcutta, on the Republic Day, 1972.
- 26th January, 1972 Unveiling of the Statue of Martyr Kshudiram Bose.
- 30th January, 1972 Visits Gandhi Ghat, Barrackpore on the occasion of the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- 16th February, 1972 Reception given by Messrs. India Steamship Co. Ltd., on board the ship "Indian Valour" at Kidderpore Dock.
- 19th February, 1972 Opening ceremony of the new school building of the Bengal Service Society at Sapgachi 1st Lane, Topsia, Calcutta.
- 20th February, 1972 Address at the Calcutta University, on the occasion of the Fifty-Ninth Science Congress in Calcutta.
- 22nd February, 1972 Lunch Meeting of the Rotary Club of Calcutta, at the Great Eastern Hotel.
- 23rd February, 1972 Inauguration of the Branch Office of the Entrepreneurial Guidance Bureau, Indian Investment Centre, Calcutta.
- 25th February, 1972 Annual General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

- 28th February, 1972 Visits
Haldia.
- 6th March, 1972 Charity
Film Shows for the benefit of the families of the Indian Armed Forces at the Calcutta Information Centre.
- 9th March, 1972 Radio
Broadcast to the people of West Bengal.
- 24th March, 1972 At the session of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly.
- 31st March, 1972 Unveiling ceremony of the New Bust of Sir Asutosh Mookerjee at the Calcutta University.
- 4th April, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the Third Regional Pharmaceutical Conference organized by the All India Manufactures' Organisation, West Bengal State Branch, Calcutta.
- 6th April, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the New Building of the Calcutta School of Music.
- 14th April, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the Reading Room and the Book Stall of the Gandhi Memorial Committee, Calcutta.
- 10th May, 1972 Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Tea Association of India, North Bengal Branch, held at Gymkhana Club, Darjeeling.
- 13th May, 1972 Annual Convocation of the University of Burdwan.
- 17th May, 1972 Annual General Meeting of the Rotary Club of Darjeeling.
- 20th May, 1972 Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of the New Hooghly Bridge.
- 22nd May, 1972 Birth centenary celebration of Raja Rammohan Roy at Darjeeling.
- 29th May, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the Darjeeling Branch of the Central Bank of India at Darjeeling.
- 18th June, 1972 Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Indian Journalists' Association, Calcutta.
- 24th June, 1972 Conference of the District Officers.
- 24th June, 1972 Annual Festival of Sri Ramkrishna Mahamandal at the International Guest House, Dakshineswar.
- 29th June, 1972 Annual General Meeting of the Ladies Study Group at the Auditorium of the India Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.
- 6th July, 1972 Inauguration of the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee memorial National Convention at Mahajati Sadan.
- 27th July, 1972 Inaugural function in celebration of the First Decade

- Anniversary of the Association of World Federalists, Calcutta.
- 12th August, 1972 Birth Centenary Celebrations of Sri Aurobindo at Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta.
- 14th August, 1972 Celebration of the Twenty-fifth Independence Jayanti at the Assembly House.
- 15th August, 1972 Celebration of the Twenty-fifth Independence Jayanti at Gandhi Ghat, Barrackpore.
- 19th August, 1972 Inauguration of the "Open House" of the Indian Institute of Experimental Medicine at the Institute's premises at Jadavpur.
- 31st August, 1972 Prize Distribution Ceremony of J.B.N.S.T.S. at the Parish Hall, St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta.
- 2nd September, 1972 Inauguration of the Show of Floral Decoration by Shrimati Uma Basu of "Kusumika" in connection with the Twenty-fifth Independence Jayanti at the Calcutta Information Centre.
- 3rd September, 1972 "Onam" Festival of the Calcutta Malayalee Samajam at Shri Shikshayatan Hall, Calcutta.
- 9th September, 1972 Inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Sasi Bhusan Dey Free School of Boys and Rajrajeswari Free School for Girls, Calcutta.
- 9th September, 1972 Seminar on Child Nutrition organized by the West Bengal Women's Food Council at the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Calcutta.
- 10th September, 1972 Birth Centenary Celebration of late Ranjit Sinhji organized by the Cricket Association of Bengal at the Eden Gardens, Calcutta.
- 13th September, 1972 Founder's Day Celebration of La Martiniere School, Calcutta.
- 13th September, 1972 Annual Function organized by the National Service Scheme Unit of Rabindra Bharati University at Rabindra Sadan, Calcutta.
- 2nd October, 1972 Meeting organized by the Gandhi memorial Committee, West Bengal, and opening of the Exhibition of Khadi and Cottage Industries Projects at the Maidan.
- 11th October, 1972 Annual Sports and Speech Day of the St. Paul's School, Darjeeling.
- 31st October, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the New Extension of Mary Scott Home for the Blind at Kalimpong.
- 9th November, 1972 Executive Development Programme on "New Perspectives in Industrial

- Relations" of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta.
- 12th November, 1972 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of the Catholic Association of Bengal at Don Bosco School Ground, Calcutta.
- 20th November, 1972 Inauguration Ceremony of the Calcutta Workshop of the Protein Foods Association of India at the Park Hotel, Calcutta.
- 25th November, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the Red Cross Month of the Indian Red Cross Society, West Bengal State Branch at Raj Bhavan.
- 4th December, 1972 Banquet in honour of His Excellency the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
- 5th December, 1972 Special Convocation of the University of Calcutta for conferring the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws on Mr. Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.
- 14th December, 1972 Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Indian Standards Institution in the Eastern Region at Kala Mandir, Calcutta.
- 15th December, 1972 Inauguration ceremony of the Seminar on continuous castings and the 26th Annual Technical Meeting organized by the Indian Institute of Metals at Grand Hotel, Calcutta.
- 18th December, 1972 Prize distribution ceremony of St. John's Diocesan Girls' H.E. School, Calcutta.
- 22nd December, 1972 Inauguration of the Children's Little Theatre - 22 Festival at Aban Mahal, Calcutta.
- 23rd December, 1972 Inauguration of the Charity Programme held by the West Bengal Council for Child Welfare at the Rabindra Sarobar Auditorium, Calcutta.
- 26th December, 1972 Opening of the Book Exhibition in connection with the 33rd Indian Political Science Conference at the new building of the University College of Law, Calcutta-19.
- 29th December, 1972 Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony for the Rapid Transit System at Calcutta.
- 16th January, 1973 Reception of the Relics of Sri Aurobindo at Aurobindo Bhavan, Calcutta.
- 21st January, 1973 Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Blind Boys' Academy of the Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur.
- 23rd January, 1973 Inauguration Ceremony of the International

- Netaji Seminar organized by the Netaji Research Bureau at Netaji Bhavan, Calcutta.
- 26th January, 1973 Broadcast from the All India Radio, Calcutta Station, on the Republic Day.
- 30th January, 1973 Death Anniversary Celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi at Gandhi Ghat, Barrackpore.
- 30th January, 1973 Inauguration Ceremony of the Centenary Celebrations of Midnapore College.
- 4th February, 1973 Closing function of the 5th National Book Fair organized by the National Book Trust, India, at the Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta.
- 5th February, 1973 Annual General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta.
- 9th February, 1973 Address at the Session of the Legislative Assembly.
- 15th February, 1973 Annual Convocation of the Jadavpur University.
- 3rd March, 1973 Opening Ceremony of the New Science Block of the La Martiniere Girls' School and Combined prize Distribution Ceremony of the La Martiniere Boys' and Girls' Schools.
- 4th March, 1973 Seminar on "Planning and Performance" organized by the Women's Coordinating Council, West Bengal.
- 11th March, 1973 Annual Convocation of the North Bengal University held at the University Campus.
- 19th March, 1973 Inauguration of a Book Exhibition on Rabindranath Tagore organized by the Tagore Research Institute at the Calcutta Information Centre Exhibition Hall.
- 23rd March, 1973 Inauguration of the 17th Annual All India Conference organized by the West Bengal State Branch of the Indian Public Health Association at the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta.
- 24th March, 1973 Inauguration of the Seminar on Industrial Safety and Productivity organized by the Directorate General, Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes at the Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta.
- 29th March, 1973 Annual Convocation of the Institute De Chandernagore and Inauguration of the Indo-French Cultural Week.
- 6th April, 1973 Prize Distribution Ceremony of the All India Highway Motor Rally for the Eastern Zone Competitors held by

- the Automobile Association of Eastern India.
- 11th April, 1973
Inauguration of a performance by the Japanese Troupe of Traditional Art Dancers at Rabindra Sadan, Calcutta.
- 15th April, 1973
Birthdays Anniversary Celebrations of Jain Tirthankar Mahavira held by Jain Bhawan at the Calcutta Information Centre.
- 21st April, 1973
Special Convocation of the Jadavpur University held for conferring Honorary Degree of Doctor of Literature on Shri Probhat Kumar Mukhopadhyay and Shri Balaichand Mukhopadhyay and Doctor of Engineering on late Professor Gopal Chandra Sen, ex-Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University.
- 24th April, 1973
Inauguration of a 3-day Course of Business Management for Women organized by the Management Development Centre at the Grand Hotel, Calcutta.
- 14th May, 1973
Inauguration Ceremony of the International Mountaineers' Meet at the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling.
- 16th June, 1973
Annual Convocation of the University of Calcutta held at the Rabindra Sadan.
- 29th June, 1973
14th Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Jagadish Bose National Science Talent Search at Shri Shikshayatan College, Calcutta.
- 30th June, 1973
Ceremonial function for Presentation of Tamrapatras to 156 Freedom-fighters at the Mahajati Sadan, Calcutta.
- 3rd July, 1973
Function held at Raj Bhavan, Calcutta, in connection with the Launching of the Scheme "Each One Adopt One" of the Oriental Chamber of Commerce.
- 7th July, 1973
First Installation Ceremony of the Rotaract Club of Belur at the Princes Grand Hotel, Calcutta.
- 11th July, 1973
Annual General Meeting of the West Bengal State Board of the All India Manufacturers' Organisation at the Grand Hotel, Calcutta.
- 10th August, 1973
Installation Dinner Meeting of the Rotary Club of Calcutta at the Great Eastern Hotel, Calcutta.
- 21st August, 1973
Inaugural Ceremony of Sri Aurobindo Bhavan, Burdwan.
- 8th September, 1973
Inauguration of a Symposium on the "Recent Advances in Plastics in

- Packaging" organized jointly by the Plastics Institute, Calcutta Centre and the Indian Plastics Federation.
- 30th September, 1973
Inauguration of the Total Health Care Project at Narendrapur.
- 15th October, 1973
Inauguration of the Special Session of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- 1st December, 1973
Inauguration Ceremony of the Red Cross Month of the Indian Red Cross Society, West Bengal State Branch, at Raj Bhavan.
- 22nd December, 1973
Opening Ceremony of the Exhibition on the occasion of the Birth Centenary Celebrations of Prabhupada Srila Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Goswami Thakur.
- 24th December, 1973
Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Nilratan Sircar Medical College and Centenary Celebrations of the Campbell Medical School.
- 12th January, 1974
Inauguration of the Exhibition organized by the Ancillary Industries Development Committee at Durgapur.
- 12th January, 1974
Annual Convocation of the Jadavpur University.
- 13th January, 1974
Centenary Celebrations of the Leprosy Mission at the Parish Hall of St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta.
- 15th January, 1974
190th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Asiatic Society and the 150th Birth Anniversary of Raja Rajendra Lal Mitra.
- 23rd January, 1974
Inauguration of the Forty-sixth Session of the Nikhil Bharat Banga Sahitya Sammelan at Tamluk.
- 26th January, 1974
Radio Broadcast from the All India Radio, Calcutta Station, on the Republic Day.
- 29th January, 1974
36th Anniversary Celebrations of the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Gol Park, Calcutta.
- 7th February, 1974
Function in connection with the Handing over of Honorary Degree to Ostad Ali Akbar Khan at the Rabindra Bharati University, Calcutta.
- 9th February, 1974
Annual Convocation of the University of Calcutta.
- 21st February, 1974
Ramkrishna Mission Vidyapith, Purulia, on the occasion of his visit to the Vidyapith.

- 22nd February, 1974 Address at the Session of the Legislative Assembly.
- 3rd April, 1974 Visit to Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore.
- 20th April, 1974 Annual Convocation of the Burdwan University.
- 24th May, 1974 Annual Convocation of the North Bengal University.
- 24th May, 1974 Opening Function of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling.
- 29th June, 1974 Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Library Buildings of the Indian Statistical Institute on the Birth Anniversary of Late Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis.
- 5th July, 1974 Ceremonial Parade on the occasion of the change of name of "I.N.S. Hooghly" to "I.N.S. Netaji Subhash".
- 6th July, 1974 187th Anniversary Celebrations of the Indian Botanic Garden and the Inaugural Ceremony of the Vana Mahotsava at the Botanic Garden.
- 8th July, 1974 54th Anniversary of Sisir Kumar Institute, Calcutta.
- 13th July, 1974 Inaugural Function of the Centenary Celebrations of Swami Rama Thirtha.
- 20th July, 1974 Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Jagadis Bose National Science Talent Search, Calcutta.
- 25th July, 1974 82nd Foundation Day Celebrations of the Bangiya Sahitya Parisad, Calcutta.
- 8th August, 1974 Annual Banquet of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, India Association, Calcutta.
- 31st October, 1974 Inaugural Function of the New Building of St. Robert's Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling.
- 13th November, 1974 Radio Broadcast inaugurating the Bhagwan Mahavira 2500th Nirvana Mahotsava.
- 6th December, 1974 Inauguration of the National Management Conference at the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Gol Park, Calcutta.
- 9th December, 1974 Inaugural Meeting for "Exchange of Experience in the Foundry Industry between Selected Developing Countries in Asia and the Far East".
- 10th December, 1974 Inauguration of a Seminar on Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Provisions of the Constitution of India and their Actual Implementation organized by the University of Calcutta.

- 20th December, 1974 Annual Convocation of the Jadavpur University.
- 22nd December, 1974 Inauguration of the 35th Session of the Indian History Congress.
- 25th December, 1974 Inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Session of the All India Medical Conference, Calcutta.
- 29th December, 1974 Address on the occasion of the Bhagwan Mahabir's 2500th Nirvan Mahotsava, Calcutta.
- 30th December, 1974 Inauguration of the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya.
- 30th December, 1974 Unveiling of the Bust of Shri Aurobindo and Inauguration of the All India Conference on "The Relevance of Shri Aurobindo Today" at the Aurobindo Bhavan, Calcutta.
- 15th January, 1975 Inauguration of the South Asia Tourism Year Celebrations.
- 20th January, 1975 Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Saroj Nalini Dutt Memorial Association.
- 23rd January, 1975 Reunion Function organized by the Students Reunion Committee of the Institute of Jute Technology.
- 23rd January, 1975 Netaji Birthday Meeting organized by the Netaji Research Bureau, Calcutta.
- 24th January, 1975 Inauguration of the function of the All India Congress of Social Workers organized by the Youngmen's Welfare Society.
- 26th January, 1975 Radio Broadcast on Republic Day.
- 29th January, 1975 37th Anniversary Celebrations of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Gol Park, Calcutta.
- 12th February, 1975 Reinstallation Ceremony of the lost Vishnu Murti at the Bangiya Sahitya Parishad's Museum, Calcutta.
- 20th February, 1975 Inauguration of the Eastern Indian Science Camp - 1975 organised by the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, Calcutta.
- 21st February, 1975 Address at the Session of the Legislative Assembly.
- 8th March, 1975 Annual Convocation of the University of Calcutta.
- 29th March, 1975 Inauguration of the Amir Khusrau Septingenary Celebrations organized by the Iran Society, Calcutta.

- 9th April, 1975 Inaugurations of the Foundation Day Celebrations of the University of Calcutta and the 25th Anniversary Celebrations of the Indian Republic.
- 12th April, 1975 Inauguration of the 32nd Bengal Library Conference on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Bengal Library Association at Jhargram.
- 18th April, 1975 Inauguration of Energy Seminar sponsored jointly by the Asiatic Society and the Calcutta Management Association.
- 30th April, 1975 9th Convocation at the North Bengal University.
- 8th May, 1975 Unveiling Ceremony of the Statue of Rabindra Nath Tagore at Rabindra Sadan, Calcutta.
- 1st June, 1975 Radio Broadcast on the occasion of starting of the Originated Programme from A.I.R., Siliguri.
- 2nd July, 1975 Annual Installation Dinner Meeting of the Rotary Club of Calcutta.
- 12th July, 1975 Annual Conference of the Federation of Insurance Institutes, Calcutta.
- 16th August, 1975 Unveiling Ceremony of the Statue of Sri Aurobindo in front of the North Gate of Victoria Memorial, Calcutta.
- 26th August, 1975 Opening Session of the Vice-Chancellor's Conference held in Raj Bhavan, Calcutta.
- 5th September, 1975 Annual State Function of the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare at Rabindra Sadan, Calcutta.
- 13th September, 1975 Founder's Day Celebration of La Martiniere Schools, Calcutta.
- 13th September, 1975 Apex International Convention at Parish Hall, Calcutta.
- 20th September, 1975 Prize Distribution Ceremony of the JBNSTS.
- 30th September, 1975 Centenary Celebrations of the Zoological Garden, Alipore, Calcutta.
- 5th October, 1975 Thanksgiving Ceremony on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Founding of the Missionaries of the Charity and Mother Teresa.
- 18th October, 1975 Tenth Annual Conference of the National Council of Catholic Women of India.
- 23rd November, 1975 Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the United Bank of India.

- 23rd November, 1975 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of St. John Ambulance Association, West Bengal State Centre.
- 28th November, 1975 Annual Convocation of the North Bengal University.
- 4th December, 1975 Inauguration of a Regional Symposium on "Museums and Cultural and Scientific Exchanges" organized by the Indian National Committee for International Council of Museums at the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, Calcutta.
- 19th December, 1975 Annual Convocation of the Jadavpur University.
- 23rd January, 1976 Inauguration of the Second International Netaji Seminar organized by the Netaji Research Bureau, Calcutta.
- 26th January, 1976 Radio broadcast on Republic Day.
- 29th January, 1976 Foundation Day Celebration of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Gol Park, Calcutta.
- 13th February, 1976 69th Annual Dinner held by the Mining Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India.
- 14th February, 1976 Inauguration of the David Hare Bicentenary of Birth Celebration.
- 14th February, 1976 Opening ceremony of Bharat Refineries Ltd., Calcutta.
- 20th February, 1976 Annual Convocation of the University of Burdwan.
- 20th February, 1976 Speech at the Session of the Legislative Assembly under Article 176 of the Constitution of India.
- 20th February, 1976 Inaugural Address at the All India Museum Camp and the Auditorium held at the Indian Museum, Calcutta.
- 28th February, 1976 Telecast Message on Habitat Day.
- 9th March, 1976 First Annual Convocation of the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya.
- 13th March, 1976 Annual Convocation at the University of Calcutta.
- 29th March, 1976 Inauguration of a Research and Development Workshop organized by the Association of Indian Engineering Industry (Eastern Region).
- 8th May, 1976 Inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the AIWC at Darjeeling.
- 15th May, 1976 Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.
- 17th June, 1976 Annual General Meeting of the St. John

- Ambulance Association, West Bengal.
- 27th June, 1976 Public Reception in honour of the new Cardinal, His Eminence Lawrence Cardinal Picachy, held by the Catholic Association of West Bengal.
- 1st July, 1976 Unveiling Ceremony of the statue of Dr. B.C. Roy on the occasion of his 94th Birthday.
- 1st July, 1976 Inauguration of Dr. Bidhan Ch. Roy Smriti Databya Chikitsa Kendra and Project for Cancer Diagnostic Centre.
- 17th July, 1976 Diamond Jubilee Celebration of the Ashutosh College, Calcutta.
- 26th July, 1976 Inaugural Function of the Centenary Celebrations of the Indian Association, Calcutta.
- 29th July, 1976 Centenary Celebrations of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.
- 5th August, 1976 Visit to the Indian Institute of Management.
- 18th August, 1976 Seminar on Family Planning held at Rabindra Sadan, Calcutta.
- 14th September, 1976 Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Jagadish Bose National Science Talent Search.
- 17th September, 1976 Annual Convocation of the University of North Bengal.
- 20th September, 1976 Public Meeting to pay homage to the Late Sarat Chandra Chatterjee on the occasion of his Birth Centenary Celebrations.
- 28th September, 1976 Launching Ceremony of the Vessel Seaward Defence Boat Mark II of the Indian Navy.
- 15th December, 1976 Inauguration of Food Corporation of India's Modern Rice Mill at Durgapur.
- 16th December, 1976 Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Calcutta Technical School.
- 30th December, 1976 Annual Convocation of the University of Jadavpur.
- 11th January, 1977 Annual Conference of the Indian Psychiatric Society.
- 12th January, 1977 Golden Jubilee Celebration of the West Bengal College and University Teachers' Association.
- 14th January, 1977 Visit to Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management, Calcutta.
- 14th January, 1977 Inauguration of the 4th Industrial Relations Conference organized by the Council of Indian Employers.
- 21st January, 1977 Inauguration of the XXXII Joint Annual Conference of Association of Physicians of India.

- 21st January, 1977 Inauguration of a Seminar on Prospects and Possibilities of Small Scale Chemicals Industries organized by the Bharat Chemical Manufacturers' and Distributors' Association.
- 23rd January, 1977 80th Birthday Anniversary Celebrations of Netaji.
- 26th January, 1977 Radio Broadcast on Republic Day.
- 29th January, 1977 Thirty-ninth Foundation Day Meeting of the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture.
- 5th February, 1977 Annual Convocation of the University of Burdwan.
- 7th February, 1977 Annual General Meeting of the Asiatic Society.
- 12th March, 1977 Inauguration Ceremony of a Seminar on Automatic Control organized by the Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering Division of the Institution of Engineers (India).
- 23rd March, 1977 Address at the Session of the Legislative Assembly under Article 176 of the Constitution of India.
- 9th April, 1977 Inauguration of the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Yogic Sangh at Mahajati Sadan.
- 11th April, 1977 Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Calcutta Deaf and Dumb School.
- 12th April, 1977 Twelfth Annual Convocation of the Indian Institute of Management.
- 14th April, 1977 Inauguration of the New Building of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Eastern India Regional Council.
- 16th April, 1977 Annual Convocation of the University of Calcutta.
- 15th July, 1977 Prize Giving Ceremony of the Merchants' Cup Gold Competition at the Royal Calcutta Golf Club, Tollygunge.
- 12th August, 1977 Final Passing-out Parade and Graduation Ceremony of the Marine Engineering College.
- 22nd August, 1977 Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Jagadish Bose National Science Talent Search.
- 19th October, 1977 Thanksgiving Mass at St. Thomas Church and Reception at Loreto House, Calcutta.
- 30th October, 1977 Farewell Address - Broadcast and Telecast.

The Inaugural Broadcast

By
Governor A.L. Dias

Radio Broadcast by Shri A.L. Dias,
Governor of West Bengal, on
August 22, 1971, at 8 p.m.

Dear Friends,

I deem it a great privilege and honour to have been called upon to participate with you in a common task - the task of restoring to West Bengal her rightful place in the forefront of the national endeavour. Modern India grew up in the image of reascent Bengal and the country owes a profound debt to Bengal's genius. Who can forget the contributions to the nation and the world of such towering personalities as Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Swami Vivekananda, Rabindranath Tagore, Shri Aurobindo, Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The enormous tragedy enacted by the Pakistan Army in Bangla Desh has cast a long and dark shadow over the sub-continent and threatens the security and stability of our country. West Bengal, so strategically situated and having a special emotional involvement, has a crucial role to play. She has, in the past, led India in dedication to the nation. In this moment of extraordinary danger the country is again looking to West Bengal.

Never before in history has any State been called upon to cope with so great and sudden an influx of evacuees which has added a new dimension to the sufferings and anxieties of the people. But the magnificent way in which this State has spontaneously shouldered the major burden of the present national crisis proves beyond doubt that Bengal retains her capacity for creative and humane solutions to human problems. I have had recent experience of dealing with the evacuee problem in Tripura and propose taking an early opportunity of visiting some of the evacuee camps.

I have no illusions about the magnitude of the task before us. It is formidable, complex and challenging. I am acutely aware of the wide spectrum of problems which confronts the State. It will be my endeavour to study and deal with them with an open mind and in a spirit of humility, service and dedication to the people irrespective of party affiliation and station in life.

I earnestly appeal for united action. Many factors have disrupted and indeed paralysed much of our social and economic activity, impeding our progress and interfering with our capacity to meet the challenges we face. It is even said that the cement of our society is losing its cohesion. In our system no view is excluded, no interest

unrepresented. We seek to create a consensus in the interests of the community as a whole and the dialogue continues even after the concensus is framed. But the system cannot work if it is allowed to degenerate into sectarianism, or if one part of the community wages war on another. In this hour of crisis it is our sacred duty too put aside our differences and stand unitedly behind the Government. We must refrain from actions which create disunity and thus serve the enemy.

Let us bury the hatchet and implement in practice the unanimous resolve of all political parties to condemn and banish the politics of violence and assassination. Each of us must fulfil his own responsibility to book. I appeal to employer and employee, worker and industrialist and to every segment of society to search positively for areas of agreement and compromise instead of dwelling only on points of discord. Only thereby can we revive the economy, protect the weaker sections of the community from destitution, provide a fair deal to all and evoke social discipline from within.

The positive measures very recently announced by Shri Siddhartha Sankar Ray and Shri Mainul Haq Chaudhuri should go a long way towards bringing about the

revitalization of the economy. Without this no real dent can be made on the massive and mounting problem of unemployment. I will strive to see that these measures are implemented forthwith so that the wheels of industry can get moving again and a climate for fresh investment is created. My endeavour will be to remove the obstacles inhibiting industrial growth and to adopt special measures for starting new ventures both in the public and private sectors. Decisions will, I hope, be shortly taken on certain major projects which would widen the scope of employment opportunities for our young men.

It is vital that captains of industry, big and small, should become acutely conscious of the social purposes they must fulfil. For our situation, the acquisitive society is out of date. Entrepreneurship among the sons of the soil must be encouraged and our traditional fondness for the white-collared job or the professions must give way to active participation in the industrial resurgence of the State. For this the role of the worker is crucial. His welfare and that of his family and indeed the nation's economic growth depends not merely on providing employment but

LATE CITY *

THE SUNDAY STATESMAN

Reg. No. MB 1828
Reg. No. 4 1829
Reg. No. 58 1830

CALCUTTA SUNDAY AUGUST 22 1971

20 Paise



Chief Justice of Calcutta Court, Mr P. B. harya, administering the of office and secrecy to West Bengal Governor, A I. Das, in Calcutta on rday On Mr Das's left us his wife—Statesman.

Dias Sworn In As W. Bengal Governor

By a Staff Reporter

TO the booming of a 17 gun salute Mr Anthony Lancelot Dias was sworn in as West Bengal's new Governor in the ornate throne room of Raj Bhavan, Calcutta, on Saturday afternoon. He is the State's seventh Governor since independence.

The oath of office was administered by the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court Mr P. B. Mukherjee. The Union Minister M. Siddhartha Ray, the Mayor, members of the Consultative Corps, senior State Government officials, Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta and Rabindra Bharati Universities and prominent citizens were among the distinguished gathering.

The new Governor will broadcast from the Calcutta station of AIR today (Sunday) at 8 pm.

Our Special Representative adds: Soon after the swearing-in, the new Governor had a brief meeting with the Chief Secretary Mr N. C. Sen Gupta. The subjects of their discussion were not known, but some official circles pointed out that the three obvious issues were Bangladesh evacuees, floods and the law and order situation.

A meeting of the Consultative Committee of Parliament for West Bengal having been fixed for Wednesday, the Union Minister M. Siddhartha Ray, Mr Sen Gupta and a few other senior officials of the State Government will have to be present in Delhi at that time. The general expectation was that after their return to Calcutta, the Governor would like to have a series of meetings with the officials.

Meanwhile, a small group of

officials with Mr B. R. Gupta as convenor, who had been entrusted some time ago with the task of suggesting necessary orientation of the State Government's overall approach to the law and order problem, had one meeting at which quite a few suggestions were understood to have been considered. These are likely to be discussed with the Governor when he meets Home Department and police officials on the law and order issue.

ensuring that this employment is productive. We must see that he gets a square deal and an increasing participation in the decision making process but he alone can ensure that this participation is directed towards the actual increase in production.

Whilst we must continue to attend urgently to the problems of the urban areas, particularly Calcutta, we must, at the same time, alleviate the lot of the common man in the rural sector without which national development is impossible. Much progress in the State has already been achieved in this field but a reappraisal of our objectives and programmes is necessary to ensure that the spectacular advance in agricultural technology is made available to the farmer, and especially the small farmer so that the momentum of the Green Revolution can be accelerated and sweep the entire countryside. For this purpose special attention will be paid to effective and speedy implementation of land reforms and the expansion of agricultural credit facilities, especially for the small farmer. I am confident that the goal of self-sufficiency in food can quickly be reached from the fertile soil of this State. In tackling this problem I hope to draw upon my experience gained as Food Secretary in the Government of India. It is vital also that we should aim at a balanced economy in the rural areas and, in the wake of agricultural

development, special measures will have to be taken to encourage small scale and agro-based industries. The growing trend towards concentrating industries only in the urban areas and the consequential excessive urbanization with all its evils must be arrested.

I would like to make a special appeal to the youth so as to provide constructive channels for their idealism. There must be understanding in dealing with the problem of youth unrest and awareness of their many frustrations. Economics is not the only answer to this problem; the challenge must be met on the moral plane. We must place our confidence in our young people, who, in any case, inherit our society and are the torch-bearers of Bengal's past and the catalysts for bringing about a better life for the people of this State. But the youth must, on their part, appreciate that there are no shortcuts to genuine achievement or to learning, no substitutes for hard work. If they accept the dignity of labour in practice, there will be much scope for generating employment among them both in the urban and rural areas. We cannot build anything through violence and indiscipline and we should be able to rely on young people to exercise some discernment to build anew rather than break indiscriminately our national heritage.

I come now to the role of the public servant. The welfare of the people and security of the State depend in large measure on the quality of his work. Admittedly he has had in recent years to labour against heavy odds. But that should be no excuse for him to fail in his duty to give of his best with courage and dedication. While Government will endeavour to redress legitimate grievances, no Government can condone indiscipline, lethargy and disregard for the prescribed Conduct Rules. There will, therefore, be no alternative but to deal firmly with any breaches of the public servants' code of conduct or lapses in fulfilling the two-fold tasks of any administration - firstly prompt response to the people's needs and redress of their grievances and speedy implementation of developmental schemes. Secondly, fearless discharge of the functions of law and order without committing excesses and by making a special effort to secure the confidence and co-operation of the people in restoring peace and stability.

Increasing employment, laying the basis for a Welfare State, resurgence of the economy and a renaissance of West Bengal's glorious past in responding to the grave crisis facing this State and the nation as a whole, cannot be brought about in an atmosphere of fear, panic, violence and indiscipline. Above all the co-operation of the

entire public in the national endeavour will alone enable us to direct our efforts towards removing the causes of our present sufferings, material as well as spiritual, so that every Indian in this State can feel that, in Tagore's words, "his mind is without fear and the head is held high".

I have learnt with much sorrow of the suffering of the people in the districts which have been seriously affected by floods. Relief measures have already been taken, but I would like to assure the people in the affected areas that no effort will be spared to extend to them such further measures of relief as are necessary. I am visiting the flood affected areas very shortly.

Allow me to conclude on a personal note. During my last 18 months in Tripura, which has traditional links with Bengal, I have had some opportunity to familiarize myself with the events here. In Agartala, I lived in the house where Tagore composed some of his works. I belong to a generation which was brought up to recognize Bengal's leading role in laying the foundations for India's future. Incidentally, I also have a personal tie on account of the fact that half a century ago, in 1919, my wife's father, as Collector of Bankura was decorated for meritorious service fighting the famine in that district. My wife, in fact, was born in

Bankura. We, therefore, cherish this opportunity to serve the people of this State and play our part with you in dealing with the enormous problems before us.

Jai Hind

* * *

Speech delivered by Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal, on the occasion of the Annual Sports and Speech Day of the St. Paul's School, Darjeeling, on 11th October 1972

I thank you for the warm welcome you have extended to us. It is always a pleasure to escape from my stuffy office room whether at Raj Bhavan or Writers' Buildings and to share for a while the lively and refreshing atmosphere of a school. Stepping across your portals my mind flashed back over fifty years to my own school days. Trite, though it may sound, those were indeed the best years of my life. Looking back I recall how different the scene then was. The motor car was as much a subject of curiosity as a space vehicle is today. Parents and teachers were regarded with awe and respect. The cane was the school master's favourite instrument for enforcing discipline and I have painful memories of punishment on that part of my anatomy most associated with such attentions. Life then was simple and a rupee went

far. My pocket money was just four annas or twenty-five paise a week, but with it I could have my fill from the tuck shop. The British Empire was still in the noon-tide of its glory, though eminent Indians, whose names are household words now, had already begun to unfurl the banner of freedom. I still remember Armistice day of 1918. Our Principal having lined us up, gave each boy a Union Jack, which we, little Indians, vigorously waved whilst lustily singing "Rule Britannia, Britannia Rule the waves".

What a transformation of that scene we now witness! In the last half century the changes have been breath-taking. The most momentous, for us, was the achievement of Independence after much struggle and sacrifice. Remember that you boys studying in this school have been born free. There have been, over the last fifty years, many wars in the world and in our own country. In the most recent conflict, India's involvement arose from a commitment to uphold truth, freedom and justice. Spectacular advances in science and technology have given man power over nature and material resources undreamt of by our ancestors. We have explored the outer fringes of space and, perhaps, in the not too distant future, some of you may very well take a ride to the Moon. The computer today is becoming as common as the abacus was in my childhood. It can

deal with vast quantities of information at lightning speed and put this processed data at the disposal of administrators, managers and Governments.

What has brought about this sudden and revolutionary change? Human life goes back a million years but it was only 10,000 years ago that Neolithic man discovered the art of grinding stone to give it an edge, with which to fell a tree or kill a wild goat. In a sense this was the birth of technology. Civilization dawned 5,000 years ago and man acquired increasing dominance over his environment. The pace of change only began to quicken with the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution nearly 200 years ago. But in the last 25 years the advances in science and technology have been fantastic. The real difference between the earlier ages and our present one, is man's control over inanimate power - harnessing the wind, the power of steam, electricity and most recently, nuclear energy. This breakthrough has made man the conqueror of nature, and has enabled him to generate almost unlimited material resources.

And yet to what extent has this helped to improve the quality of life? Has it contributed to man's real happiness? As Arnold Toynbee has said "Man's conquest of nature has been brilliant but the misuse of his victory has been tragic". Never,

perhaps, in its history, has humanity been faced with so many baffling problems relating to peace and war, power and authority, the pollution of the environment, the control and use of knowledge for the greatest good of the greatest number in the human family.

Recently a group of about fifty scientists, economists, educators and businessmen, known as the Club of Rome, tried to envisage what the world would be in the year 2000 and the picture which emerged was alarming. Man is heading, they said, towards disaster. By the year 2000 - less than 29 years hence - the world may have 7 billion people, twice as many as now. To feed, clothe and endow them with the barest material necessities would result in a rapid exhaustion of the earth's resources. Moreover, the environment would be so polluted that the world would no longer be a livable planet. Of course, this somber and gloomy forecast has been challenged by other scientists, but it certainly makes us pause and think.

Perhaps the most depressing feature of the world today is the spectre of poverty. Barbara Ward, the noted economist, who wrote "The Rich and the Poor Nations" and a recent book on the Environment, has highlighted the cruel contrasts in the world today between the developed and prosperous countries and the poor

and developing nations. Even within a particular country there are glaring disparities between the rich and the poor. We are, therefore, faced with the heart-breaking paradox that whilst science on the one hand has enabled man to generate untold wealth, he has yet to discover how to share it equitably between the people of the world.

Let us turn our attention for a moment to our own country. Though democracy has been firmly rooted and the country has made tremendous strides in the last 25 years yet half our people still continue to live below the poverty line. And it is poverty not only of the body but also of the mind and spirit. Millions of children still do not have a square meal, or any schooling whatsoever; others get little beyond a rudimentary education. Only an infinitesimal percentage of children in this country can afford a complete and many-faceted education, such as you enjoy at St. Paul's. Glancing through your school chronicle I see that apart from academic studies you have a wide range of activities from athletics, music and dramatics to hobby classes, mountaineering and horticulture. Privileges carry with them responsibilities. This realization of your good fortune should make you deeply conscious of the role you are expected to play in the future, particularly for the under-privileged in our society. We

must, each in his own little way, respond to the Prime Minister's mission to eradicate poverty. Garibi Hatao must not be an empty slogan. You have been imbued at St. Paul's with a strong sense of social obligation, you have been trained in leadership and initiative, in standards of honour, conduct and manners. I have learnt with gratification that St. Paul's boys have been given every encouragement in social welfare activities which teach you to put service before self.

When you go out into the world, remember that the future of the nation is its youth. It will be a tough world but also a world of challenge and opportunity. No textbooks, class room lectures, parents or teachers, however good, can do more than equip you to educate yourself for the practical world outside the four walls of your class room. You are lucky to be living at a turning point in the history of the human race. You will not be able to seize this great opportunity unless you face it with the zest of youth, in a spirit of idealism, generosity of heart and compassion. Try not to be impatient of the failures of past generations. Gandhiji rightly said that feelings of hostility, bitterness and illusion lead nowhere. Young and old must join hands in a spirit of tolerance to make life better. A single generation cannot create a paradise overnight, but every little

step in the right direction is worthwhile.

A little while ago we witnessed a moving commemoration service. This was a time for reflection and remembrance of all those, teachers and students alike, who have contributed towards building the splendid traditions of St. Paul's. The staff consists today of men and women who are giving the best years of their lives in dedicated service to this institution. On this occasion, I would particularly like to mention Mr. Gibbs, your Rector, who, after 9 years, may shortly be leaving you. From all accounts he has left his mark on this school and has worked with a sense of mission and a deep involvement in the ideals which make education relevant to the contemporary world. He has our best wishes for his future career. I congratulate all the prize winners on their success in the class room and on the playing field. To those who have not won prizes I would only say, that in life what matters most is not so much getting to the top as trying to get there. I wish all of you good luck and happy holidays.

* * *

Speech delivered by Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal, at the Inauguration of 35th Session of the Indian History Congress in the Jadavpur University Campus on the 22nd December, 1974

Mr. President, Dr. Bose, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a privilege to inaugurate this 35th Session of the Indian History Congress and to address so distinguished an assembly of scholars. I am happy that this Congress is being held after 19 years in this intellectually alive and historic city. Since the last one-and-three quarters of a century, Calcutta has always had a many faceted cultural life - one aspect of which has been to reflect the traditions of radical and progressive social reform in an all-India context. Its own past - controversial, often provocative of many new trends in Indian culture and rich in cultural memories - has always stood for one ideal at least, that of secularism, of a catholic acceptance of the diversity of its population and tolerance of the ideologies that make up the fabric of our national heritage. I have no doubt that the Indian History Congress too stands for the maintenance of similar traditions.

Purely as a citizen of India, as a beneficiary of the results of your studies, may I place before you some questions which may be within the purview of your deliberations. I wonder if historians when they gather together stop a while and consider why is it that they are professionally engaged in studying the past? Is it merely for the

esoteric pleasure of remembering long forgotten happenings, or because the like to argue about the significance of what has happened - happenings which may not be repeated again? I wonder if historians are only concerned with thinking about the past without any consideration of its relationship to what will happen in the context of the constraints established by that past? Or do historians look at history in terms not of facts alone or of accounts about isolated happenings but in terms of relationship between similar or consequential happenings, thus endeavouring to identify trends, happenings in their sequence amounting, as some philosophers say, almost to regularities? If they do, do you consider whether these trends or semi-regularities in history have any effect in terms of the future? Do the principles of causation enter into your deliberations?

I have just completed reading a fascinating little book titled "Toynbee on Toynbee" which is a record of a series of conversations between Professor Arnold Toynbee and Mr. G.R. Urban also a historian on the nature of history. In this book there is a passage quoted from the astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle's of Men and Galaxies which reads :

"Chance effects occur in science, and in all human activities. This is

indeed, is one of the biggest problems the historians has to face up to, perhaps his biggest problem - to separate chance effects, noise as the physicist calls it, from systematic trends. I often suspect that some of my historical colleagues make the mistake of thinking it necessary to know everything about everything no serious attempt has been made to separate what is random from what is systematic. Serious arguments about signal and noise hardly ever arise in physics (The historian) is not quite sure what is important and what is trivial, so everything has to go in".

Professor Toynbee's answer to this challenge is :

" I suppose in both physical science and in the study of human affairs the test of the difference between what is chance and what is law - regularity is one's conception of the structure of non-human nature and the structure of human nature. There must be some common element of regularity in human nature as well as in physical nature. I think the difference is one of degree.

The objective accident of death and the subjective difficulty of predicting what in the long run is going to seem significant to people make it extremely difficult for historians to distinguish signal from

noise. Hoyle is quite right, and I can't see a solution to this problem".

It appears to me that history can become an uninteresting subject indeed - no more than a chronological progression, a chronicle of recorded facts - if it is not related to certain broad groupings of the segments of the past and has no bearing at all on the understanding of our situation in the present or on the path to progress in the future. A learned British historian, Vincent Smith in his account of Akbar, the Great Mogul quoted the saying of a British historian that the people of India have no history, apart from kingly doings, since the life of the common people of the peasants, the middle class and the learned groups has had no change during the last 20 centuries and more. This was commonly believed by many traditional historians - that there was nothing to be learned from the record of the past in India, except pleasant stories.

This gathering knows very well that such a belief is not correct. Since Indian Independence, there has accelerated a movement for studying the life of ;the people of this land, in terms of their labour, their culture, their handicrafts and industry, their religion, their social structure, their payment of rent and revenue from the villages, the patterns of authority, law and order

in different regions, in short their everyday conditions of existence. Such studies have been conceived by historians in terms of certain trends, which lead them to come to broad analytical conclusions about the course and current of Indian History. The books and articles of scholars such as Jadunath Sarkar, Jawaharlal Nehru, K.M. Panikkar, C.S. Sardesai, Neelkanta Sastri, Surendranath Sen, S.S. Sarma, Irfan Habib or Romila Thapar have different facets and interpretations to offer on Indian history; they are all informed with the dynamics of evolution and transformation in our past, dynamics based on the life of the people, as well as that of the State. It is such enquiry into the past which brings alive to the average citizen the reasons and the specific character of the maintenance of the unity in diversity that is Indian national life. Such an approach to history cannot but fail to illuminate the path along which our country will travel in the future. History can have no relevance if it is not related to the present and to the future. I am reminded of the words of an eminent historian, E.H. Carr that history :

"is a continuous process of interaction between the historian and his fact, an unending dialogue between the present and past.. a dialogue between the events of the past and progressively emerging future ends... To enable man to

understand the society of the past and to increase the mastery over the society of the present is the dual function of history".

Surely, the historians assembled here can, through their deliberations at this and future meetings, tell us what are the elements of strength in our national life, on which we can build for the future.

At the same time it is important that the historian realizes that in the study of human affairs the question of selecting what is significant and what in the future may prove significant is most important. Ideally the historian should attempt a disinterested study of the past but we know how difficult this task is. I am tempted to quote Arnold Toynbee again. He says :

"It's the criterion of objectivity we are trying to find. As far as an historian is guided by disinterested curiosity, he is probably on safe ground, but then the curiosity itself is subjective, because we aren't omnivorously curious about everything. Any study of human affairs is bound to be selective." A fact in history is not really something concrete, like a brick or a stone, that you can pick up and handle; a fact is man-made in a sense - it is the result of a selection from the raw material. Even a brick is a selection from the world's clay. This is our difficulty. I think here

historians have a lot to learn from physical scientists, because scientists are extremely honest about the truth. They are ready ruthlessly to scrap their most cherished hypothesis if one single piece of evidence makes a hypothesis untenable. It's a point of honour with scientists. Now, a fortiori, historian ought to have this sense of honour : we ought always to be ready to think again, to discard the most cherished systems or selections of facts or attitudes toward so-called facts if further research calls for changes - not only because of the discovery or manufacture of new facts, but because of further reflection about existing so-called facts too".

Before I conclude I would like to say a word about Jadavpur University. Jadavpur itself has a rich heritage, which goes back to the days of the National Council of Education at the beginning of this century, when through munificence of a group of patrons of learning and technology, such as Subodh Chandra Basu Mallick and Brajendrakishore Roychaudhuri, and through the hard work of patriotic scholars such as Sakharam Ganesh Deuskar, Benoy Kumar Sarkar, Radhakumud Mukherjee and many others, a nucleus was built up for developing a patriotic tradition in the diffusion technology and vocational education. The history of this

endeavour itself and the many vicissitudes through which the idea of national education has had to go, is in itself a subject worthy of historical study, if historians wish to contribute in a social context to the planning and recycling of education today. In such a context, I am sure that the scholars of Jadavpur will have much to offer to their guests, in the next few days.

I wish the deliberations of this Congress all success and hope that they will be carried out in a calm, objective and rational atmosphere. I am sure that other scholarly institutions in Calcutta have extended their cordial welcome to delegates from different parts of the land. May our guests in this city have a happy and fruitful time in this season of good cheer.

* * *

Speech delivered by Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal at the Inauguration of the David Hare Bicentenary of Birth Celebration at the Presidency College Auditorium on 14th February, 1976.

It is indeed a privilege for me to be associated with this evening's celebration of the bi-centenary of David Hare's birth. We are assembled here to pay our homage to a man who was a true pioneer in every sense of the term.

We cannot but be amazed at the philanthropic urge and zeal which

moved this Scottish watch-maker of Calcutta at the height of his business career to court a life of sacrifice dedicated to the improvement of the intellectual and moral condition of a subject people. Largely because of incessant warfare, political unrest, and the consequent insecurity of life and property, the state of education in the country at the beginning of the 19th century was stagnant and totally unsatisfactory. Society was in the grip of a narrow orthodoxy and irrational beliefs and practices had choked the vitalizing currents of enquiry and pursuit of knowledge.

It was at this critical juncture that David Hare made a correct estimate of the educational needs of the Indian people. His discussions with Raja Rammohun Roy and other progressive leaders led to the conviction that while the prevalent condition of vernacular education must be improved by the supply of better text books and in other ways, the benefits of the liberalising forces of Western education must be brought within the reach of the people by introducing English education among them. The lead which David Hare and Raja Rammohun Roy and a few other notable citizens of Calcutta took in establishing the Hindu College is well-known.

It is to David Hare's efforts primarily that the change in the pattern of traditional education

which opened Bengal to the influence of rationalism and modern science must be traced. Whilst many notable Indians of the time felt the urge to combat social evils it was David Hare who went a step ahead and suggested that ignorance, superstition and prejudice could best be overcome through modern education. Hare felt that lasting benefits from the battle against social ills could be achieved only through the process of education.

The revolution in thought and ideas brought about by the efforts of David Hare and his associates was the precursor of the Bengal Renaissance which placed Bengal in its position of pre-eminence in the country. The Public Committee of Instruction in one of its reports appreciated "the valuable work" done by the Hindu College and said that it has "surpassed expectation,a command of the English language and a familiarity with its literature and science have been acquired to an extent rarely equaled by any school in Europe..... The moral effect has been equally remarkableAnother generation will probably witness a very material alteration in the notions and feelings of the educated classes" How prophetic these words were, for it is this generation, it may be recalled which produced men like Vivekananda, Tagore, Shri Aurobindo and the galaxy of leaders

who dominated the intellectual life of the nation.

We remember David Hare today not only as the greatest friend and benefactor of the Hindu College which was the first English College in the whole country but also for his close association with the School since named after him and with the Calcutta Medical College. Hare's association with the Calcutta School Book Society and the Calcutta School Society must also be recalled. His was a full life and his interests were varied. His activities encompassed the Agricultural and Horticultural Society and the Asiatic Society. He also played an important role in bringing about improvements in the condition of indentured labour emigrating to places such as Mauritius. The life of David Hare symbolizes the human qualities that go into the process of true education. Education is not just teaching and learning within the four walls of the class room. David Hare was himself not a highly educated man in the formal sense; yet he was one of the principal architects of modern education in the country. During his daily round of the institutions with which he was associated he paid attention to all those matters which distinguish true education from mere learning. He was completely at home in the community of students and visited them at their homes in sickness and in distress.

In the intellectual and cultural mosaic of modern India the far-reaching influence of western education is easily seen. David Hare represented an influence which was alien but not unacceptable to India. Assimilation rather than conflict and rejection has been the essence of the Indian tradition. On his part David Hare belonged to the ruling race but he did not come to India to rule. There was no tinge of racial superiority or condescension in his attitude to Indians. His vision and catholicity of outlook can best be illustrated by the fact that when he started his school he placed as much emphasis on the proper teaching of Bengali as he did on English. He did not accept the dogma of religion but lived the life of a true Christian which endeared him to the people of this city who showered on him their love and affection in many ways. And today a grateful nation pays deep homage to him for his selfless service in the cause of education.

Before concluding I would like to take this opportunity to announce a grant of Rs. 5,000/- from the Governor's Benevolent Fund for the purpose of instituting a special medal or scholarship in commemoration of the bicentenary of the birth of David Hare. The details in respect of the scholarship or medal may be worked out by the Celebration Committee headed by our Chief Justice.

A Minute
by
The Governor Dias
on
The Shrubbery Grounds,
Darjeeling

It might be of some future interest to record a brief note regarding the Shrubbery Grounds and the plan for its development as a public park. This parcel of land admeasuring a little over 2 acres situated on the west of the Durbar Hall and forming the rear portion of the Raj Bhavan Estate has been offered by me to the State Government (vide my letter dated 19th April 1976 to the Chief Minister and his reply D.O. No. 235 - CM dated 21st April 1976 gratefully accepting the offer).

The Raj Bhavan Estate or rather what remains of it is situated on the Birch Hill area. Over the years land and buildings of the Estate have been given either for the use of the State Government or the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute or the Zoological Park. The present Raj Bhavan is situated on the site on which there was a house occupied by the Lieut.-Governors when they visited Darjeeling. The house and surrounding Birch Hill areas were acquired from the Maharaja of Cooch Behar for the official residence of the Lieut.-Governor in

the time of Sir Ashley Eden (1877-79). The portion of the Birch Hill on which the original house stood was known as "The Shrubbery" and this probably explains why the open flat land to the rear of the estate came to be known as the Shrubbery Ground. It is doubtful if there ever was a shrubbery in this part of the estate; the grounds must, for long, have been used for games or pitching tents. It commands a magnificent view of the Kanchenjunga Range and the valleys below and when developed should be a great tourist attraction.

In offering this land to the State Government I have stipulated that it should be utilized as a public park to be developed by the Parks and Gardens Wing of the Forests Department and that the lay-out and the main features for landscaping should receive my approval. During my recent stay in Darjeeling (May-June 1976) I visited the Shrubbery Grounds on several occasions with a view to determine the lay-out of the public park and its main features. I also had discussions with the officials of the Parks and Gardens Wing of that Department.

In my view the public park should be developed on lines which are briefly set out below :-

(a) There is already a separate road leading to the Shrubbery Grounds and another approach - a narrow pathway - on the south-

western boundary which could serve as an additional entry or exit point. It is only these two roads which should be kept open for the public. Members of the public will not be allowed to approach the Shrubbery Grounds by the road which passes through the Raj Bhavan Estate and leads to the Durbar Hall.

(b) I have roughly demarcated the eastern boundary between the Shrubbery Grounds and the Raj Bhavan Estate, but the demarcation will be finalized in October 1976. A vegetative screen should be erected so as to shield the Durbar Hall from the view of those visiting the Shrubbery Grounds.

(c) The present little hill feature situated towards the eastern boundary not only offers vantage scenic viewpoints but lends itself to terrace gardening, rock gardening and the cultivation of a variety of ferns, flowering shrubs, succulents etc. on all sides of this hill feature.

On the summit of this hill feature, there is a wooden structure presently occupied by the Security Staff when the Governor is in residence. This structure should be demolished and a well-designed glass house constructed. This glass house should contain a representative collection of orchids, cacti, flowering and

ornamental plants and shrubs and Bonzoi or miniature trees. The latter has been a hobby of mine for some years. My private collection is in the Raj Bhavan, Darjeeling glass house. I shall be happy to donate a part of this collection of mine for the Shrubbery Ground glass house.

(d) The upper portion of the hill feature facing the west should be converted into a three-tiered terrace garden on which flowering shrubs and seasonal flowers should be cultivated. The lower portion which gradually slopes and merges with the flat ground should be converted into a rock garden. Between the rock and the sunken garden there may be a small run off channel to divert water flowing down the slope.

(e) At the base of this rock garden I have suggested that there should be a sunken water garden similar to the one which exists to the west of the Raj Bhavan Guest House. The sides of the sunken garden should be terraced; there would be a small circular pool in the center through which rain water should be siphoned through underground pipes to the hill sides. I have suggested to the Director, Parks and Gardens, what the shape of the sunken garden should be as well as its other features. The present stone

stairway on the hill feature should be continued so as to provide a way down to the bottom of the sunken garden.

(f) I have approved the following features of the tentative lay-out plan prepared by the Parks and Gardens Wing :

(i) The scheme of pathways in the park. The feasibility of having crazy pavement on the pathways may be explored.

(ii) A low terraced feature stretching almost the entire length of the southern boundary of the Shrubbery Grounds on the inner side of the fence. On the terraced portion there should be flowering shrubs and seasonal flowers. On the outer side of the fence I have suggested a number of medium sized flowering trees or bushes, such as, *Deutzia Corymbosa*, *Echeveria Glauca* etc.

(iii) The construction of a cantilevered log look-out cabin on the northern boundary immediately overlooking the Richmond Hill. The servants' quarters of the latter are an eyesore and must have a vegetative screen and eventually a row of tall trees. It would be desirable to cover the roofs of the servants' quarters with climbers.

(iv) Soil conservation works must be undertaken on the northern and southern slopes. The northern slopes should be

planted with rhododendron, magnolia and other low and medium height trees; the southern slopes should have flowering shrubs, lilies etc.

(g) The footpath from the northern boundary leads to two points from which an excellent view of the snows and the valley can be obtained. Both these 'viewpoints' should be developed. At the first viewpoint there is space only to provide a few benches but on the flat circular ground a little lower down another Look-out Log Cabin may be provided. To the east of this log-cabin there is sufficient land on which provision may be made for a Tea Room and public conveniences.

(h) The vegetable garden presently used by Raj Bhavan will naturally have to be sacrificed for the public park. The present servants' quarters existing on the site may also have to be demolished unless the structure can be so camouflaged as to blend with the surroundings or to be converted for some other purpose. The quarters for the staff of the Parks and Gardens Wing will have to be provided elsewhere. It may be possible to make available - at least temporarily - the quarters presently occupied by Raj Bhavan

staff in the Richmond Hill property.

(i) Apart from the hill feature and the sunken garden the other features of the park will be well-manicured lawns, small rockeries, beds of seasonal flowers and a central feature of rows of flower beds, either circular or oval in shape, so located as to balance the hill feature and the sunken garden.

(j) In due course picnic spots can be developed on the northern slopes.

(k) Benches should be provided only on the periphery of the northern and western boundaries of the grounds. The placement and design of these benches may be submitted for approval.

(l) I approve of the Parks and Gardens Wing's suggestion of constructing a medium-sized aviary to house Himalayan birds species. I suggest this aviary should be located on the low ground lying to the south-west corner overlooking 'Rivers Hill', the residence of the Deputy Commissioner.

With my permission the Parks and Gardens Wing have already started work on the site and are presently working on the hill feature which it should be possible to develop fairly quickly. Work has also started on the sunken garden and I hope it will be possible to

complete this work in the course of the next 2 or 3 months. The work on the southern fence also should be completed before October. Meanwhile I shall expect the Parks and Gardens Wing to finalise the plan and design for landscaping in accordance with the suggestions made in his note and the discussions with the Director. This plan may be submitted for my approval as soon as possible. Work may start on different parts of the ground. It is essential that plans and estimates for the glass house on the hill feature, the two look-out log cabins, the tea house and public conveniences, the aviary as well as for other items of work should be finalised without delay and submitted for my approval after scrutiny by the Forests Department. It would be good if planting of shrubs, preparation of flower beds, the central circular or oval flower garden, the planting of flower, shrubs etc. on the sunken garden could be completed by the end of September so that a formal opening of the public park could take place by the end of October or early November.

June 18, 1976.

Sd/- A.L. Dias

Governor of West Bengal.

A Minute
by
The Governor Dias
on
The Shrubbery Grounds, Darjeeling
(2nd Note)

During my stay in Darjeeling I visited the Shrubbery Grounds and was delighted over the progress made in implementing the plan broadly outlined in my note date June 18, 1976. The Special Officer of Parks and Gardens Wing, Shri Guha Neogi, and his staff deserve to be commended for having done so much in so short a time. The Shrubbery Grounds have already assumed a new look and the Chief Minister after visiting the grounds on 3rd November said, in a letter to me, "This is going to be the best spot in Darjeeling".

I had made the following further suggestions to the Special Officer, Parks and Gardens Wing :-

- (1) The rock garden around the hill feature is coming up very well. I hope that the work on the sunken garden will be completed in a couple of months time so as to enable the terraces to be planted with flowers to bloom during the next summer. I have suggested that the pipe to siphon off water that will inevitably collect in the sunken garden,

especially during the rains, should be laid via the shortest route to the north-eastern boundary.

- (2) The attempt to raise flower beds along the long southern border has not been very successful owing to the overhanging trees. I have, therefore, suggested that in this border we should concentrate on planting flowering and other shrubs with a 1 ft. to 1½ ft. scalloped border bed in which dwarf varieties of seasonal flowers may be planted. There are also certain seasonal flowers, e.g. salvia, cineraria etc. which do well in the shade and, therefore, can be interspersed with the shrubs.
- (3) The proposal to demolish the existing wooden structure on the hill feature and to put up a new glass house at a cost of Rs. 50,000/- needs to be reconsidered. I have carefully examined the existing wooden structure which is in excellent condition and is spacious enough for the purpose in view. All that is necessary is to replace some portions of the wooden panels in the frontage and on the sides by glass; the front portion of the roof may also be of glass. I have also suggested that a small extension may be erected in front of the existing wooden structure. This

projection would have dwarf walls of rough hewn stones and the upper portion would be of glass and rough hewn log supports. The resultant saving in cost would be quite considerable.

- (4) For the summer and winter seasons we should have along the northern boundary mixed or herbaceous flower beds of the different seasonal flowers of tall, medium and dwarf heights similar to the mixed borders in the Raj Bhavan garden.
- (5) The terraces on the hill feature should also follow the same pattern of a mixed border of different seasonal flowers.
- (6) I think some more varieties of fast growing creepers may be planted along the fence erected to shield the Richmond Hill servants' quarters.
- (7) The glass house when it eventually materialized should house different varieties of flowering plants, cacti, bonsai etc. as in the case of the glass houses in the Lloyd Botanic Garden or the Raj Bhavan. We should also plant some varieties of low growing flowering trees at places where they do not obscure the view, e.g., *Lucula*, *Acer Japanica* (there is one outside the Governor's office room in Raj Bhavan) etc. I presume that a sufficient number of

rhododendrons have been planted on the northern slopes.

(8) The plans for the two 'look out' enclosures seem appropriate except that we should give both these structures the log cabin effect by using rough hewn logs wherever possible.

(9) It is important that this park should have sufficient supply of water especially during summer months. Otherwise all the effort to beautify the grounds will be rendered infructuous. The Special Officer should make suitable arrangements in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner, the Public Health Engineering and the Municipal authorities.

16th November 1976.

Sd/- A.L. Dias

Governor of West Bengal.

Farewell Broadcast

By

Governor A.L. Dias

It has been a great privilege to serve the State and the people of West Bengal for over six years. On the eve of my departure I would like to convey to the people of West Bengal my sincere wishes for their happiness and prosperity.

When, in 1971, I came here as Governor I must confess I did so with some trepidation, for this State - then under President's Rule - was faced with serious challenges, some of them of an unprecedented nature. I recall particularly, the situation caused by the influx of millions of people from across the border and by the urgent need to provide them with temporary refuge. The spontaneous help and goodwill of the people and the magnificent response of the administration enabled Government to meet this and many other problems, which threatened this State. The unstinted cooperation extended by all sections of the people during those critical months will remain one of my treasured memories.

My experience in this State has convinced me that the progress of the country is inextricably bound with proper attention being paid to the problems of West Bengal and of the Eastern Region generally. There has not always been adequate

appreciation of the successive and heavy burdens which the people of West Bengal have had to shoulder since the Forties.

I have utilized every opportunity to focus attention on certain matters, affecting the welfare of the State, which seemed to me of the utmost importance. These are the promotion of intensive agriculture, the optimum utilization of ground water resources, a system of well maintained and up-to-date land records, balanced regional development, including the hill areas, through growth centers like Siliguri, Haldia and Kalyani, a public distribution system covering the minimum essential needs of the people, and an atmosphere in educational institutions conducive to study and research. I have no doubt that, with the lead taken by the State Government and the support of the Central Government, West Bengal will achieve rapid progress in all these fields in the coming years. May I say here that among West Bengal's greatest assets is an enlightened awareness of emerging political and social trends and an exemplary harmony among all sections of the community irrespective of caste and creed.

As I leave, my thoughts turn to the personal plane. One could not have hoped for a more favourable milieu in which to work and live. The rich cultural heritage which is

so much a part of the daily life of the people of the State has made our stay here a most rewarding experience. In order to have first hand acquaintance with the problems of the countryside, I have travelled far and wide in the State and, during my tours, I have always been touched by the cordiality and friendliness of the people whom I met. To the Press, I owe a special word of thanks for their cooperation and understanding.

Even though I shall no longer be an active participant, I shall watch with keen interest, your progress towards a better and richer life. As we bid you farewell, my wife and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the warmth and affection shown to us. We leave the State with heavy hearts cherishing happy memories of our stay here and our many friends and well wishers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. S. Chatterjee', written in a cursive style.

BOOKS IN GOVERNOR A.L. DIAS' COLLECTION
 RAJ BHAVAN LIBRARY, KOLKATA
 - A LIST -

Philosophy, Religion

Aurobindo, Sri

Light to Superlight
 (Unpublished letters of Sri
 Aurobindo) / with explanatory
 notes by Arun Chandra Dutta., -
 - Calcutta : Prabortak
 Publishers, 1972. 231p.: ports.;
 22 cm.

Wormholes, loose binding.

Has "this book on Mahaguru
 Shree Aurobindo is offered as a
 token of our love and regard to
 Mr. A.L. Dias, Governor of
 West Bengal by Arun Chanddra
 Dutt, President, Prabartak
 Sangha" on flyleaf.

808.6 Aur

Bergin, Robert

This apocalyptic age : a
 commentary on prophecies
 relating to these times ... and
 their portents. -- Calcutta : Ptg.
 at East India Printing
 House, 1970. 146 p.; 17.5 cm.
 Paperback binding weak

Has "Joan Dias" written on
 flyleaf.

228 Ber

Bhattacharya, Birendra Kumar

Logic, value and reality / by
 Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya ;
 foreword by Sarvepalli
 Radhakrishnan. - Calcutta :
 University of Calcutta, 1961. 5
 p.l., 285 p.; 25 cm.

Has "Presented with best
 compliments to H.E. Shri A.L.
 Dias Governor of West Bengal,
 B.K. Bhattacharya 21.6.74" on
 flyleaf.

160 Bha

Cobb, Stanwood

Security for a failing world. -
 New Delhi : Baha'i. Publishing
 Trust, 1971. xviii, 202p.; 18 cm.
 Indian edition 1971.

297.89 Cob

Hooshmand Fathea'zam

The new garden. -- 5th ed. --
 New Delhi : Baha'i Publishing
 Trust, 1971. 4p.l., 171 p.: port.;
 18 cm.

211 Fat

Le Joly, E.

Remain in my love :
 meditations on the gospel of St.
 John. - 2nd edition. - Allahabad

: Sant Paul Publication, 1973.
352p.; 18.5 cm.

Has " Presented to Mr.
A.L. Dias Governor of West
Bengal and Mrs. Dias by the
author in
respectful homage E. Le Joly dated
24.11.74" written in blue ink on
flyleaf.

242 Jol

Lesser, R.H.

The fringe of His garment. -
Ajmer : St. Ansetm's Press, [
1974]. Iv, 132 p.; 17.5 cm.

Paperback binding weak

Has "To dear Mrs. Dias with a
pleasure that you may do more
than touch the fringe of his
garment, R.H. Lesser" (no date)
on flyleaf.

231.2

Les

Muktananda Paramahansa, Swami
Chitshakti vilas : the play of
consciousness. -- Ganeshpuri :
Shree Gurudev Ashram, 1976.
xxiii, 268 p.: front.,
plates,ports.;21.5 cm.

Has Governor Dias' signature in
red ink on inside cover, 1976
(no date, month)

153.7 Par

Nathmal, Muni

Gravitation of morality / Muni
Nathmal; tr. By N.Sahai. -
Churu (Rajasthan): Adarsh
Sahitya Sangh, 1969. 4 p.l., 107
p.; 18.5 cm.

English version of 'Naitikta ka
Gurutvakarshan'.

Wormholes.

170 Nat

Navajata

Shri Aurobindo. - New Delhi :
National Book Trust, 1972. xiii,
127 p.: ill., plates, ports.; 18 cm.
Paperback jacket brittle.

Book bears " To H.E. Sri A.L.
Dia's with best wishes by
Navajata dated 8.7.72.

922,94 Nav

The proclamation of Baha'u'llah
to the kings and leaders of the
world. - Haifa : Baha'i World
Centre, 1967. xiv, 127 p.; 21
cm.

297.89 Bah

Ranganathanada, Swami

The pilgrim looks at the World.
-- Bombay : Bharati Vidya
Bhavan, , 1974. - v. ; 22 cm.
Library has : v.1

Has "Presented by the author"
written by A.L. Dias in his own

hand (red ink) written on inside cover with the date 12.2.1975.

204 Ran, vol.1

Sandeha nivarini: dialogues with Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba / ed. By N. Kasturi.. - 5th edition. -- Bombay : Rattan Lal Trustee, Sri Sathya Sai Education Foundation, 1970. 2 p.l., 141 p.; 18 cm.

Book bears "Joan Dias" on flyleaf

291.2 Kas

Sarkar, Jagdish Narain

Islam in Bengal (Thirteenth to nineteenth century). - Calcutta : Ratna Prakashan, 1972. viii, 92 p.; 22.5 cm.

Wormholes, pages acidified and brittle spine

Has "With kindest regards to Sri A.L. Dias, J.N. Sarkar, 8.1.73" by author written on flyleaf.

297.7 Sar-2

Satprem

Sri Aurobindo or the adventure of consciousness / Satprem ; tr. from the French by Tehmi. - Pondicherry : Sri Aurobindo Society, 1970. 335 p. ; ill., plates, ports.; 21.5 cm.

Wormholes

"A.L. Dias, Raj Bhavan, Calcutta" written on flyleaf.

153.7 Sat-2

Speaking among friends the history and faith of the Dawoodi Bohra. - Bombay : Dawoodi Bohra Friendship Guild, 1965. 1 p.l., 30[2] p.: plates, ports.; 24 cm.

Wormholes

Has Governor Dias' signature in red ink on inside cover.

297.88 Dbf

Sudharma, Svami

Bhagavati sutra ; tr. with English and notes based on the commentary of Abhayadeva Suri by K.C. Lalwani. -- Calcutta : Jain Bhavan, 1973. - v.; 22 cm.

Library has : vol. 1.

Wormholes

Has a poetic inscription in three colours - green, magenta and red signed by "K.C. Lalwani, April 15, 1973" and "May be kept in Raj Bhavan Library," written by Governor Dias in red ink in 1974.

294.482

Lal

Syedna Taher Saifuddin, Dr.

A Philosophical discourse ; with a commentary by Y. Najmuddin. - Bombay : Al-

Jamea-Tus-Saifiyah, 1965. - v.;
24 cm.

Library has : vol.1

Wormholes

Has "May be kept in Raj
Bhavan Library, A.L. Dias,
1974 written by Governor Dias
in red ink on flyleaf. Has
Governor Dias' signature in red
ink on inside cover.

140 Sai

Tridandiswami Sri Srimat Vilas
Tirtha Goswami Maharaj

Sri Chaitanya's concept of
theistic Vedanta. - Madras :
Sree Gaudiya Math, 1964. x,
192 p.; 22 cm.

181.48 Gos

Tulsi, Acharya

My religion : its center and
circumference / by Acharya
Tulsi; tr. by N. Sahal. - Churu
(Rajasthan) : Adarsh Sahitya
Sangh, 1969. 3 p.l., 142p.; 18
cm.

English version of 'Mera
dharma : Kendra aur paridhi' -
t.p.

Wormholes.

202 Tul

Social Sciences

The Bengal Club (1827 - 1970). -
Calcutta : Printed at the
Statesman Press, 1970. 122 p.:
plates; 27 cm. Includes the
article " A short history of the

Bengal Club (1827 - 1927) / by
H.R. Panckridge. Pub. in 1927.

Wormholes

Extensive underlining in
pencil and ink.

367.954 Pan

Bhattacharya, Bimal Kumar.

Insanity and criminal law / B.K
Bhattacharya. - 2nd edition. --
Calcutta : Eastern Law House,
1964. xxiv, 134 p.; 19 cm.

Wormholes

Has " Presented with best
regards of the author to H.E. Shi
A.L. Dias" written on flyleaf
with the author's signature.

364.34 Bha

Chakraborty, Raghubir

Human Rights and the United
Nations. - New Delhi :
Progressive Publishers, 1958.
218 p.; 22 cm.

Has Governor Dias' signature in
red ink on inside cover with the
year 1976 (no date, month).

323.4 Cha

Chattopadhyaya, Debiprasad

Individuals and societies : a
methodological inquiry. - 2nd
ed. - Calcutta : Scientific Book
Agency, 1975. x, 281 p.; 22.5
cm.

301.018 Cha

Colmcille, Mother Mary

First the blade : history of the I.B.V.M. (Loreto) in India, 1841-1962. - Calcutta : Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay, 1968. vii, 333 p. : front., map, ports.; 22 cm.

Frontispiece of Rev. Mother M. Delphine Hart, IBVM 1st Superior, India, 1841.

Wormholes and loosened

Has "A.L. Dias" written on flyleaf.

373.209 Col -1

Dasgupta, S.

Fundamentals of incentives and incentive wage systems for industrial units. -- Calcutta : N.M. Roychoudhury, 1972. xvi, 156 [2] p.: ill.; 25 cm.

Wormholes

Has "Presented to A.L. Dias Governor of West Bengal" written on first page in red ballpoint ink, signature illegible.

331.28 Das

Dutta, Kalikinkar

Renaissance, nationalism and social changes in modern India. -- Calcutta : Bookland Pvt. Ltd., 1973. 4 p.l., 166 p.; 21.5 cm.

Has Governor Dias's signature in red ink on inside cover, with the year 1972 (no date, month)

301.240954 Dat

Eastern Shipping Corporation Ltd.

T.S. Dufferin (1927-1952) - training ship. - Bombay : Silver Jubilee Celebration Committee, [1952]. 3 p.l., 105 [2] p.: ill., plates, ports; 25 cm.

Wormholes

Has "A.L. Dias, Raj Bhavan, Calcutta" written on flyleaf.

359.54 Duf

Ghosh, S.K.

The Interpol : International Criminal Police Organisation. - Calcutta : Pub. by the author for Law Research Institute, 1976. 136p.; 22.5 cm.

Wormholes

Has a label affixed on flyleaf 'To Sri A.L. Dias, Governor, West Bengal with the best compliments of the author, S.K. Ghosh, 20.7.76.

Acc. No. 4944

Mukherjee, Haridas

Sri Aurobindo and the new thought in Indian politics : being a study in the ideas of Indian nationalism, based on the rare writings of Sri Aurobindo in the daily Bande Mataram during the year 1906-1908 / Haridas Mukherjee, Uma Mukherjee. - Calcutta : Firma KLM, 1964. xlviii, 393 p.; 22 cm.

Wormholes

Has "To Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal, with best regards Uma Mukherjee Dr., Haridas Mukherjee 10.11.75" on flyleaf.

320.11 Muk

Rotary Club, Calcutta

Fifty Golden Years; The Rotary Club of Calcutta, 1970. 66 p.: front., plates; 24 cm.

Wormholes

Acc No.4943

Sri Aurobindo

The foundations of Indian culture. - Pondicherry : Sri Aurobindo Ashram, 1968. 3 p.l., 421 p.; 22.5 cm.

Has 'A.L. Dias" written on flyleaf.
301.2

Aur

West Bengal - an analytical study sponsored by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Calcutta. - New Delhi : Oxford & IBH Publishing Co., 1971. xi, 208 p.: ill., fold. maps, plates; 24 cm.

Water stain

Has "Presented to Sri A.L. Dias with warm respect, Raghubir, 8.1.75" written on flyleaf.

330.954142 Bcc-1

Literature

Mukherjee, Dr. Ramaranjan

Imagery in poetry : an Indian approach. -- Calcutta : Sanskrit Pustak Bhandar, 1972. 3 p.l., viii, 168 p.; 22.5 cm.

Has "To Sri A.L. Dias with profound regards Ramaranjan Mukherjee 16.12.72" on flyleaf.

808.1 Muk

Travel

Carvalho, S.A.

The Bandel Church and Hooghly : a historical study of the foundation of Hooghly in 1579 by the Portuguese Pedro Tavares, its golden days as the greatest port in the Mogul Empire, its destruction by the

Emperor Shah Jahan, and the miracle of our Lady of Bandel. - Krishnagar : St. Joseph's Press, [1972]. 4 p.l., 159 p. ill., maps; 18 cm.

275 Car -1

Rangoon : guide book. - Rangoon : Directorate of Information, [1969]. 222p. : ill., plates (some col.); 18.5 cm Fold. map at end. Paperback jacket damaged.

915.91 Ran

Egon Ronay's Dunlop guide 1973 to hotels, restaurants, inns in Great Britain and Ireland. - London: EgonRonay Organisation in association with Hutchinson Pub. Group, 1973. 730p.: ill.;21 cm. Has "Joan Dias" written on flyleaf.

728.502 Er

Biography

Gibran, Kahlil

The prophet. - London : William Heinemann, 1939. 4 p.l.,118 p.: front., plates ; 20 cm. "Wishing you the very best " - Nazim dated 13 November,

1943.

922.97 Gib

Gopalan, A.K.

In the cause of the people : reminiscences. - Bombay : Orient Longman, 1973. 2 p.l., 299 p. : plates; 22 cm.

"To His Excellency Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal with compliments of Orient Longman Ltd" - R.N. Das dated 4 February, 1973.

923.254 Gop

Kasturi, N.

The life of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. - 2nd ed. - Bombay : Ratan Lal, Trustee, Sri Satya Sai Education Foundation, 1971. 2 p.l., v, 236 p.: map, ports, plate; 18 cm.

American Edition editorially revised in collaboration with N. Kasturi by Charles Penn and others. Has "Presented to Joan Dias" written on flyleaf.

922.94 Kas

Kasturi, N.

Sathyam Sivan Sundaram . -- Prasanthi Nilayam, Anantapur

Dist. (A.P.) : Sanathana Sarathi
Office, 1968- 1972. - v. : plates,
ports; 19 cm.

Library has : Part I (1926 -
1960) : The life of Bhagawan
Sri Sathya Sai Baba. 7th ed.
1968. - Part III. Pub. in 1972.
Has "Presented to Joan Dias"
written on flyleaf.

922.94 Kas / SSS

Larsson, Flora

My best men are women. -
London : Hodder & Stoughton ,
1974. 187 p.; 22cm.

Wormholes

"Presented to Mrs. Dias by Brig.
Bevan of the Salvation Army"-
flyleaf.

920.7 Lar

Murphet, Howard

Sai Baba - man of miracles. -
Madras : Macmillan Co. of
India Ltd., 1971. 208 [3] p.; 18
cm.

Has "Joan Dias" written on
flyleaf.

922.94 Mur

Nag, Jamuna

India's great social reformer :
Raja
Rammohun Roy. - New Delhi :
Sterling Pub., 1972. 3 p.l., 167
p.:
front., facsim., 21.5 cm.

"To Mrs. Joan Dias with
compliments - Jamuna Nag
dated 17 February, 1973."

923.6 Nag

Rash Behari Basu : his struggle for
India's independence / editor-
in-
Chief; editor Sabitri Prasanna
Chatterjee. - Calcutta : Biplabi
Mahanayak Rash Behari Basu
Smarak Samity, 1963. xxxx,
596 p.: facsim., plates, ports.;
22 cm.

923.254 Cha / RB

Tagore, Saumyendranath

Raja Rammohan Roy. - New
Delhi : Sahitya Akademi, 1966.
63 p.: 22 cm.

Wormholes

923.654 Tag

Tapasyananda, Swami

Sri Sarada Devi : the Holy
Mother
(Her life and conversation) / life
by Swami Tapasyananda;
conversations tr. By Swami
Nikhilananda. - Mylapore,
Madras: Sri Ramakrishna
Math, 1969. viii, 463 p. :
plates; 21 cm.

Book bears the signature of
Shri A.L. Dias on back of cover.

922.94 Sat

Tej Bahadur Sapru : profiles and tributes / edited by K.N. Raina and K.V.Gopala Ratnam. - [Chandigarh] : Tej Bahadur Sapru Commemoration Volume Committee, 1971. xxviii[ii], 280 p. : plates; 24 cm. Presented to Shri A.L. Dias from R.C. Agarwal. The book bears the signature of Shri A.L. Dias.

923.4 Rai

History

Choudhuri, Aswini Kumar
Sibi King Vessantara ; his country and cultural heritage. - Calcutta : the author, 1974.vii, 136 [7] p.: maps, plates; 24.5 cm.

Has "With author's best compliments presented to Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of W. Bengal, A.K. Choudhuri 27.1.75" on flyleaf.

901.90954 Cho

Hofman, David
The renewal of civilization. - London : George Ronald, 1960. 126 p.; 16 cm. Pages acidified

297. 87 Hof

Mukherjee, B. N.

The Paradas : a study in their coinage and history. - Calcutta : Pilgrim Publishers, 1972. [xiv], 149 p.: map, plates; 21.5 cm.

Wormholes

Has Governor Dias' signature in old ink on inside cover and "To Honourable Sri A.L. Dias with the best of regards B.N. Mukherjee, 7.4.72" written on flyleaf.

332.46 Muk

Sinha, Brojo Kishore

The Pilgrim of Noakhali (A souvenir album of Gandhiji's Peace Mission in Noakhali) / photographs and story by Braja Kishore Sinha. - Calcutta : the Photographer, 1948. 2 p.l., 11 p. : 34 plates; 19.5 x 25 cm.

Has "To H.E. Mrs A.L. Dias with compliments from B.K. Sinha (the author) 32 Asutosh Mukherjee Road , Calcutta 700020" on flyleaf.

779 Sin

Sur, A.K.

History and culture of Bengal / Dr. A.K. Sur; with a foreword by Dr. Kalidas Nag. -- Calcutta : the Author, 1972. 231 p. : front, plates; 22 cm.

The book bears the signature of A.L. Dias on flyleaf.

901.90954142 Sur

West Bengal Governor (1971-1977 : A.L. Dias) Minute of the Governor of West Bengal on the Shrubbery grounds, Darjeeling and the Shrubbery Darjeeling inauguration by Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal on 5th June, 1977. - (Darjeeling : Printed at the Govt. Press, 1977). 1 p.l., (9) p.; 24 cm.

Acc. No. 5162

West Bengal Governor (1971-1977 : A.L. Dias) Speeches & broadcasts from August 21 to October 30, 1977.—Calcutta : West Bengal Government Press, 1977-78. 7 vol. ; 22 cm.

001.542 Dias/S

Bengali

Coomar, Madan Mohan

Bharat-markin baniyyer pathikrit : Ramdulal De (1752-1825).; bhumika by Ramesh Chandra Majumder. - Calcutta : Bangiya Sahitya Parisad, 1976. xi, 96 [1] p.: ill., plates (some col.) genealogical table, 21.5 cm.

Brittle and wormholes

"Presented to our beloved Governor Shri Anthony

Lancelot Dias and Shrimati Joan Dias with the best compliments and regards of the author dated 15 July, 1976" - flyleaf.

Acc No. B266

Mukhopadhyay, Uma

Bharater sadhinata andolane 'Jugantar' patrikar dan ba sriaurobindo o bamlaye biplobbad / Uma Mukhopadhyay and Haridas Mukhopadhyay.-Kolkata : Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay, 1972. viii, 202 p.: ports; 22 cm.

"To Shri A.L. Dias, Governor of West Bengal, with best regards" - Uma Mukherjee and Haridas Mukherjee - flyleaf.

Acc. No. B267

Setting and layout by Ashim Ghatak, Subir Kumar Mondal, Tapan Mukherjee and
Tuhin Mukherjee.
Printed by the staff of the Raj Bhavan Press, Kolkata.