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3rd Annual Session 1986

FICCI Ladies Organisation
Federation House, New Delhi

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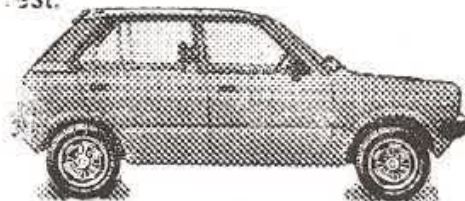
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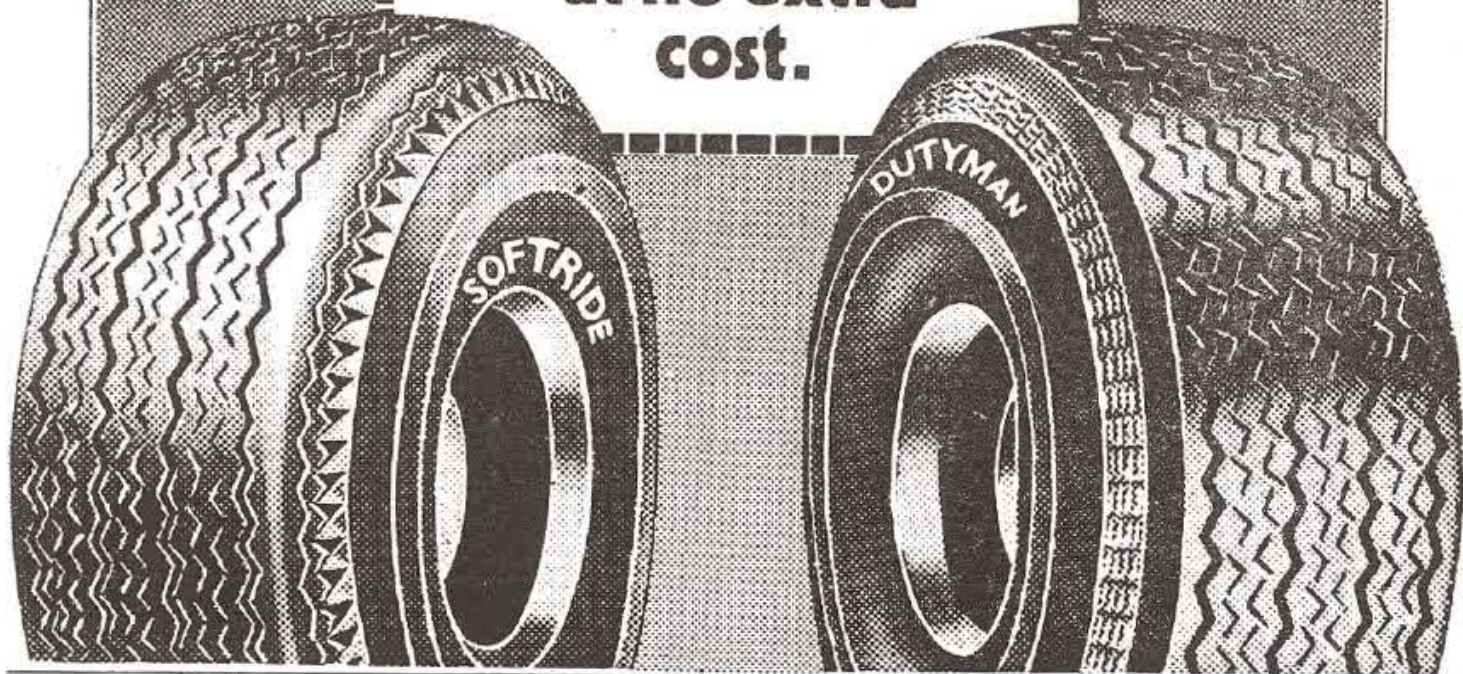
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नई दिल्ली
VICE-PRESIDENT
INDIA
NEW DELHI

March 3, 1986.

MESSAGE

On the occasion of the Third Annual General Meeting of the FICCI, Ladies Organization, I extend my felicitations to the Organization. My best wishes to the members for their laudable activities in the sphere of culture and social service.

(R. Venkataraman)



PRIME MINISTER

MESSAGE

I have been hearing from time to time about the activities of the FICCI Ladies Organisation. Their growing sphere of work symbolises a much larger movement in our country. More and more women are moving out of their homes to centres of economic activity and to the service professions.

If we believe in the concept of equality, we must give equality of education, work and status to women. If the nation stands to benefit by their contributions, we must encourage them in every way.

The increasing participation of women in the nation's economic and social life is also the most effective long term answer to the problems of population control, illiteracy, child-marriage, dowry, and the like with which we have been struggling for so long.

I send my good wishes for the success of the Third Annual General Meeting of the FLO.



FEDERATION OF INDIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Federation House, New Delhi-110 001

President

MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the FICCI Ladies Organisation is holding its Third Annual General Meeting on March 21, 1986.

The Organisation, I am happy to note, has, since its inception in 1983, initiated a number of socially useful programmes as also programmes to channelise the capabilities of its members into creative and constructive areas. These have included programmes for providing employment to destitute women, training in business management, tax management and company law. In addition, the FLO had organised a series of lectures on India in the 21st Century to make its members aware of the shape of things to come in the future, as perceived by eminent thinkers in the country. Under its auspices, a delegation of women entrepreneurs also visited USSR.

I hope that the FLO will continue to work in these areas in the future as well and dedicate itself to issues of social and national concern especially to those relating to women entrepreneurs.

I wish the Organisation every success in its future and send my best wishes for the Annual General Meeting.

(D.N. PATODIA)

March 14, 1986



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MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS,
SPORTS & WOMEN'S WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI-110001

March 18, 1986

M E S S A G E

I am delighted to know that FIOCI Ladies Organisation is holding its Annual General Meeting on 21st March, 1986.

Développement of women is basic to any effort for growth. In our country, women's participation in economic activities still tends to be traditional and their potential remains untapped. FLO is engaged in a praiseworthy endeavour to bring about a change and make women contribute as equal citizens, to national development. I send my best wishes to them on the occasion.


(Margaret Alva)

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FOREWORD

FLO has completed another year of its fruitful existence. The strides India has made in the recent past, in various sectors, under the leadership of Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi are remarkable. We have transformed into a vigorous democracy with a dynamic economic structure. It augurs well that a strong public opinion is generated, in recent days, against the exploitation of women and denial of their deserving rights. It will definitely be a landmark in our relentless effort towards emancipation of women.

Yet, our path of progress is strewn with problems and shortcomings. What are the problems that have held us back and what are the stumbling blocks which do not let us progress fast enough? If past experience is any guide, unity and discipline alone would lead us to progress. The apparent signs of normalcy in Punjab are disillusioned by the recent troubles. The communal frictions surface out quite often on flimsy grounds. The common man is reeling under the pressure of a soaring price level. We have yet to free ourselves from the bondage of poverty, destitution, over population, malnutrition and the like.

Progress can neither lie in the repetition of the past nor in its denial. New patterns must, inevitably be adopted but they must bear some organic relationship with the old. The success of our pursuits in any field depends on continuous adaptation of our ideologies to suit the everchanging pattern of development needs. Our ethos should be firmly rooted in tradition and yet reaching out to the promises of new scientific knowledge.

How do we ensure that the changes are consistent with our long term goals and realistic enough to reflect the felt needs of the people? They cannot come about by wishful thinking. All shades of public opinion should converge their thinking on the perspectives and problems of the future.

The spirit behind FLO adopting "India in the 21st Century" as its main theme for the year 1985 is to initiate a discussion to crystallise the possible directions of our developmental efforts in the coming century. The economic, social, cultural and technological imperatives and ramifications of the heralding century were discerned in a series of lectures held under our auspices. Mr. M.R. Masani, the celebrated parliamentarian and writer of eminence gave a lecture on Broader Concepts in Human Values; Dr. Karan Singh, the distinguished thinker and philosopher spoke on Dimensions of the Emerging Society; Dr. A.M. Khusro, an eminent economist and teacher delved on the Economic Challenges and Prof. M.G.K. Menon, a distinguished scientist and a Member of Planning Commission, and Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister depicted the challenges of science and technology.

Let me recapitulate the synthesis of their ideas and perceptions on the coming century. India has to enter the 21st century free from the shackles of poverty and taking its right place as one of the world's major industrial economies. Increased application of science and technology can find lasting solutions to poverty, destitution and the like. Modern communications and technology hold the key for consolidating our progress. The promise of the coming century is coupled with a fear psychosis emanating from the nuclear pile-up. A nuclear holocaust can wipe out the human race. More potent means of destruction on earth and in space are being produced although the existing nuclear stockpiles are sufficient for annihilation. The paradox is that while the superpowers channelise their men and resources for strengthening their nuclear citadels, a child in a remote corner of Africa or Asia is looking at food with uncomprehending eyes. We know better what it means to be that child.

No doubt, the emerging scenario is of mixed hue; of promise and dismay; of progress and peril; of prospects and shortcomings. It is ultimately the human values and considerations that have to decide the destiny of mankind.

Our economy faces different challenges. Industrial base is impressive in terms of the range of products and the level of technological sophistication in many fields. However, much of the Indian industry suffers from high cost and in many areas low quality. The export potential is not fully tapped. To educate our members on the inhibiting factors of the economy and how to overcome them, we organised a talk on 'Current Economic Prospects'. The speaker was Mr. M. Narasimhan, the then Principal, Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad.

About women entrepreneurship, much is talked about in these days. During the International Women's Decade 1975-85, several Seminars/Workshops were held in different parts of the world. In India also, we convened a couple of Workshops to discuss the modalities for evincing the interest of women in setting up industries, trade, enterprises etc. From the forum of FLO, we have been endeavouring to groom up a dedicated band of women entrepreneurs. We organised a variety of programmes to give the members the right exposure in matters related to management techniques, tax laws, communication skills etc. To name a few; five-day training programme on Tax Management and Company Law; a talk on 'Investment in Shares and Debentures' by Mr. M.K. Mohta; three-day Workshop on 'Communication Skills' and meeting with Mr. D.N. Davar, Chairman, IFCI, to discuss various financial facilities available to women entrepreneurs for setting up new ventures.

Development is not merely economic or material but something much wider, encompassing all aspects of human personality. We cannot neglect the preservation of our culture, the encouragement of our arts and the like. We must take cognisance of ancient lore and folk traditions. There cannot be any conflict between our traditional cultural ethos and modernity. Material wellbeing must be accompanied by the blossoming of inner resources, sharpening our perception and enhancing our range of feelings. With expanding knowledge, we should be able to look deeper within ourselves. To acquaint the members on the fineness and richness of Indian classical dances, a talk on 'Indian Classical Dances—Their Elegance and Grace' was given by Ms. Sonal Mansingh, the world renowned classical danseuse. Ms. Pandurangan, in her talk on 'The Personality of Rama', analysed the versatile character of Rama. We also had the opportunity to listen to Mr. Parthasarathy, the noted vedanta scholar who spoke on 'Relevance of Vedanta to the Present Day'. Another innovative programme was "Quiz Time" which generated a great deal of interest among the members.

An important event in this year's programme was FLO Delegation to the USSR and GDR. The delegation consisting of 14 members visited, in September, various parts of the USSR and GDR and had talks with women leaders in those countries. Also, we had the benefit of visiting various educational institutions, creches, cultural centres etc. Indeed, we have to learn a great deal from the USSR as to how efficiently the educational institutions can be run. I am hopeful, in the years to come, an institutional framework would be set up to facilitate bilateral cooperation between the two countries in social, educational and cultural fields under the umbrella of FLO. The two-member delegation from the Soviet Women's Committee which visited India recently, at our request, had a series of discussions with us to identify the areas of cooperation between the two countries.

To coincide with the International Women's Day and the visit of Russian Delegation, a talk was organised on Women's Rights which was well attended. The main speakers were Mrs. Promila Dandavate, Ms. Adelina Ivanova and Ms. M. Maximova.

Field visits were another strategy deployed to acquaint the members with the management philosophy. Members were taken to Modipon factory at Modinagar where latest technologies were put to use. Manufacturing processes, quality control measures, organisational structure, management philosophy, etc. were explained to the members by the officials of the factory.

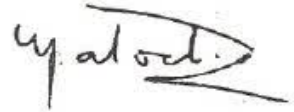
We organised our regular Governing Body and General Body meetings. Mostly these meetings were held in Delhi. Mention has to be made about three regional meetings viz. at Hyderabad, Calcutta and Bombay which were well attended.

I am thankful to the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi for the message of encouragement we have received from him. We are indebted to Mrs. Margaret Alva, Minister of State in the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports and Women's Welfare, whom we have called

couple of occasions. I am also thankful to various Government officials and others who extended maximum support to us in making this year's programme a success.

The details of this year's programme are given in the ensuing pages. Admittedly, much has to be done to put this infant organisation on a sound footing. I am sure, with the right support we are getting from FICCI, we would be able to diversify and strengthen our activities in the coming years.

The achievements for this year are not by my efforts alone. I received support from Mr. D.N. Patodia, President, FICCI, Mr. R.P. Goenka, President-elect, Mr. D.H. Pai Panandiker, Secretary General and FICCI Secretariat and especially from Ms. Nischint Arora and Ms. Daksha Warty for pursuing our programmes in the right direction. I am also indebted to the Governing Body and Working Committee of the FLO for giving me their valuable support. Also, I am grateful to our members in Delhi and out-station and even to non-members who are associated with us, directly or indirectly. To all of them, I express my warmest thanks.



(USHA PATODIA)

New Delhi
March 15, 1986

L I F E

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Life is a Gift

Life is an Adventure

Life is a Sorrow

Life is a Tragedy

Life is a Duty

Life is a Game

Life is a Mystery

Life is a Song

Life is an Opportunity

Life is a Journey

Life is a Promise

Life is a Love

Life is a Beauty

Life is a Spirit

Life is a Struggle

Life is a Puzzle

Life is a Goal

—Meet it

—Accept it

—Dare it

—Overcome it

—Face it

—Perform it

—Play it

—Unfold it

—Sing it

—Take it

—Complete it

—Fulfil it

—Enjoy it

—Precise it

—Realise it

—Fight it

—Solve it

—Achieve it

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LIST OF PROGRAMMES ORGANISED FOR THE YEAR 1985-86

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Date</i>
1. Indian Classical Dances—Their Elegance and Grace	Ms. Sonal Mansingh	27.6.1985
2. Governing Body Meeting at Hyderabad on 'Current Economic Prospects'	Mr. M. Narasimhan	11.7.1985
3. Talk on 'Personality of Rama'	Mrs. Prema Pandurangan	18.7.1985
4. Talk on 'Investment in Shares and Debentures'	Mr. M.K. Mohta	26.7.1985
5. <i>Theme Lecture</i> : India in the 21st Century on 'Broader Concepts in Human Values'	Mr. M.R. Masani	2.8.1985
6. Training Programme on 'Tax Management and Company Law'		16.8.1985
7. <i>Theme Lecture</i> : India in 21st Century on 'Emerging New Society'	Dr. Karan Singh	11.9.1985
8. Delegation to USSR		14.9.1985
9. <i>Sanjivini</i> : Indepth portrayal of specific problems relating to the emotional needs of women	Mrs. Saroj Rakyan	4.10.1985
10. Workshop on Communication		11.10.1985 — 14.10.1985
11. Visit to Modipon Factory		28.10.1985
12. Governing Body Meeting		6.11.1985
13. Visit to the Parliament		11.12.1985 & 18.12.1985
14. <i>Theme Lecture</i> : Talk by Dr. A.M. Khusro, 'New Perceptions of Economic Growth'		28.12.1985
15. Governing Body Meeting		17.1.1986
16. Talk by Mr. Parthasarathy		22.1.1986
17. Meeting with IFCI Chairman		27.1.1986
18. <i>Theme Lecture</i> : Talk by Prof. M.G.K. Menon, 'Advancement of Science and Technology and Global Entity'		8.2.1986
19. Quiz Programme		27.2.1986
20. Visit of U.S.S.R. delegation		(5—11 March 1986)
21. Meeting on 'Women's Rights'		8.3.1986
22. Governing Body Meeting		11.3.1986

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FLO AWARDS AND THEIR RECIPIENTS

1983

Award for Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur

Mrs. Beena Jain, Production Organiser of the Jain Laboratory (Mathura) was given the award for her contributions in the field of export promotion. Under her guidance and supervision, the Laboratory could achieve record production of ceramic lustres. This enabled the country not only to substitute the import of this item but also enter into export market. Mrs. Jain also trained several disabled women and widows for employment in her decoration home industry.

Award for Outstanding Woman Social Worker

This award was given to Mrs. Arunaben Desai for her contributions to emancipation of women, rehabilitation of destitutes and children etc. At the age of 21, she set up Vikas Vidyalaya in Wadhwan City (Gujarat), a home for destitute women, especially those who were forced into immoral traffic. From 40 inmates, at the time of setting up of the Vidyalaya, the number of inmates had grown up to 5,425, as on 1979. She started a number of income-generating schemes for women and children, such as, tailoring, embroidery, printing, etc. On the educational front also, her contributions were substantial.

1984

Award for Outstanding Woman Professional

Dr. (Mrs.) Rani Siromoney was given the award in recognition of her significant contributions in the field of modern Mathematics. A consultant at the Computer Centre of Maryland University, U.S.A. she has presented valuable papers at national and international conferences.

Award for Outstanding Social Welfare Institution for Women

The Shradhanand Mahilashram, Bombay was given the Award for the commendable services rendered by it to needy women and children for nearly six decades. Through special care centre and vocational education and training schemes, the Ashram has to-date provided shelter and assistance to over 10,000 women and children.

Award for Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur



Mrs. Shahnaz Husain, a pioneer in herbal beauty treatment has been given the award in recognition of her outstanding initiative as a woman entrepreneur. Beginning with Festival of India, she has made a mark in the Western market. Air-lifting of 11 consignments in ten weeks broke a 40-year British cosmetic sales record. Setting up a permanent counter in the French Perfumery Section of Selfridges and warm reception at Moscow Trade Fair bear testimony to her sound entrepreneurial qualities. Recipient of 'Woman of the Year 1984—Udyog Rattan Award', she is a member of the International Guild of Therapists. Her performance indeed is outstanding and merits recognition.

Award for Outstanding Woman Social Worker

Mrs. V. Veerammal, a noted social worker, has been given the award in recognition of her outstanding contribution in social work. Founder General-Secretary of Tamil Nadu Women's Welfare Association, her contribution encompasses upliftment of destitutes and orphans, emancipation of socially downtrodden and economically poor and education of the under-privileged. Constructive work lies at the core of her endeavours. As a trained teacher, Mrs. Veerammal dedicated herself to the teaching of young children, so also of girls and women at night schools. Tailoring and typewriting classes have helped many destitutes to become economically independent. Her contribution to the cause of the downtrodden is worth emulation.

Jury for 1985 consisted of :

- Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati
Chief Justice of India
- Dr. D.S. Kothari
Chancellor, JNU
- Mr. H.K.L. Kapoor
Chairman, UPSC
- Mrs Madhuri Shah
Former Chairman
University Grants Commission
- Mr. Abid Hussain
Member
Planning Commission
- Mr. D.N. Patodia,
President, FICCI

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THEME LECTURES

INDIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

FLO has adopted "India in the 21st Century" as the main theme for the year 1985. Four lectures on various aspects related to the theme were organised in New Delhi as per the details given below :

Lecture on Broader Concepts in Human Values

The first theme lecture on India in the 21st Century — Broader Concepts in Human Values was delivered by Mr. M.R. Masani, a parliamentarian and writer of eminence, on August 2, 1985. Mr. Masani said that there was no short cut to progress. Punctuality, hard-work and planning hold the key to

human progress. Taking the cue from Gandhi's teachings, he observed that purity of mind and self-discipline were the essentials for individual development. Mr. Masani highlighted the importance of inculcating social and moral values in students. It was the moral responsibility of the parents and teachers to groom up the younger generation in keeping with cultural ethos and tradition.

Mr. Masani described the pattern of ever changing human values. However, freedom, peace, liberty and solidarity form the bedrock of any society. Compromise on these values would adversely affect human progress.



Mr. M.R. Masani with Mrs. Hakeem Beteidia

Lecture On Emerging New Society

Dr. Karan Singh, thinker and philosopher, gave a lecture on 'Emerging New Society' on 11th September, 1985. He mentioned that science and technology had to shape the environment and consolidate the progress. Scientific knowledge should be used only for constructive purposes. If it was misused, science could wipe out the human race. The nuclear arms race of the super powers would malign the promises of the future. As the world's

largest democracy, India should work towards defusing the fear of a nuclear holocaust.

Dr. Karan Singh identified certain problems which had special relevance to India. Corruption had to be uprooted, population growth had to be arrested and discipline and self-respect should permeate to the grass-roots. Moral and spiritual values of our ancient society had to be restored. He called for an Indian Renaissance whereby the wisdom from the past was used creatively for the future.



Dr. Karan Singh flanked by Mr. D.N. Patodia and Mrs. Mahesh Patodia

Lecture on New Perceptions of Economic Growth

Dr. A.M. Khusro, the noted economist delivered a lecture on 'New Perceptions of Economic Growth' on 28th December, 1985.

Dr. Khusro said that the country was on the threshold of an industrial revolution nearly two decades after the green revolution. The right decision taken then helped us not only to become self-sufficient in foodgrains but also helped exporting them. A similar situation on the industrial front could be a reality in the next decade, if the country was able to make use of newly emerging oppor-

tunities in India and abroad. He underlined the need for increasing production and inducing healthy competition amongst the manufacturers of consumer and capital goods. Only viable industrial units should be allowed to survive. Dr. Khusro observed that in view of the vast untapped Indian market and its growing potential, the foreign collaborators were now interested in setting up joint ventures with the Indian partners on profit sharing basis. He underlined the need for simplification of the industrial licencing procedures. Referring to the higher rate of growth of population, Dr. Khusro said that it had, to a great extent, nullified the fruits of development.



Seated from L to R : Mr. D.N. Patodia, Mrs. Abha Dalmia, Dr. A.M. Khusro and Mrs. Usha Patodia.

Lecture on Advancement of Science and Technology and Global Entity

Prof. M.G.K. Menon, an eminent scientist, Member of Planning Commission and Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister spoke on Advancement of Science and Technology and Global Entity on 8th February, 1986 at Federation House, New Delhi. He touched upon the origin and development of science, interactive relationship between science and technology, the prospects and achievements of science and the challenges ahead. Referring to the field of electronics, he depicted

the phenomenal changes that had taken place in technology.

Elucidating the structure of an atom in simple terms, Prof. Menon observed that a major nuclear breakthrough was on the anvil in India. India was committed to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. Newer and better technologies should emerge to help the human beings especially in reducing the drudgery. He, however, mentioned that there was a need for a more holistic approach to the management of scientific problems and to maintain the symbiotic relationship between human problems and scientific achievements.



Seated from L to R : Mr. D.N. Patodia, Mrs. Abha Dalmia, Prof. M.G.K. Menon and Mrs. Usha P

TALKS

Talk on Indian Classical Dances—Their Grace and Elegance

A talk by Ms. Sonal Mansingh, an exponent of Bharat Natyam and Odissi, on 'Indian Classical Dances—Their Elegance and Grace', was held on June 27, 1985. She outlined the origin of Indian classical dances and how they had matured into a powerful performing media. The philosophy of dance, meaning of various mudras, appreciation of beauty by gestures, difference between Indian and Western dances etc. were explained to the members.

Talk on Current Economic Prospects

Mr. M. Narasimhan, the then Principal, Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad, spoke on 'Current Economic Prospects' at Hyderabad on 11th July 1985. This talk was organised to coincide with the Governing Body Meeting of FLO held on the same day at Hyderabad.

Mr. Narasimhan, in his address, touched upon various social and economic problems which dragged the tempo of our development. The infra-structural constraints, raw material inadequacies, labour problems, low pick-up of capital market etc. affected the growth of the economy. Import substitution, easing the controls and procedures on licensing of industries, improving the efficiency of public and private sector etc. were some of the prescriptions he mentioned for revitalising the economy.

Talk on Personality of Rama

On July 18, 1985, Mrs. Prema Pandurangan, a scholar in Indian Philosophy gave a talk on 'The Personality of Rama' at Federation House, New Delhi. She elaborated the richness of

Indian mythology and tradition and exhorted the members to have faith in religion and moral values.

Talk on Investment in Shares and Debentures

Mr. M.K. Mohta, Member, FICCI Committee in his talk on 'Investment in Shares and Debentures', held on July 26, 1985, gave a very informative analysis of the operation of capital markets. He also gave a cue to the members as to when, how and where to invest.

Talk on Sanjivini

Mrs Saroj Rakyan and Mrs Vatula Subramanian, volunteers of Sanjivini, a voluntary organisation committed to bringing about greater understanding of mental health in order to promote peace and harmony in society, visited FLO on October 4, 1985. They explained the activities of Sanjivini and how they were endeavouring to rehabilitate the emotionally troubled people.

Talk on Vedanta

Mr. Parthasarathy, a scholar in Hindu Philosophy, had given a talk on Vedanta and its Application to Life on January 22, 1986 in New Delhi. He stressed the need to treat religion as a way of life. The quest for knowledge was the essence of life. He described the emergence of three categories of knowledge seekers. The first set of investigators laid down laws relating to the people and were called Politicians. The second set of investigators laid down laws to improve the living standards and were called Economists. The third set of investigators were called Scientists who directed their pursuits for the betterment of the world.

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MEETINGS AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Programme on Tax Management and Company Law

A training programme on "Tax Management and Company Law" was held from August 16–21, 1985. Eminent tax experts including Mr. R.S. Lodha, Mr. O.P. Vaish, Mr. M.K. Mohta, Mr. S.D. Nargolwala and Mr. N.S. Jain constituted the faculty. The participants were given basic knowledge about direct taxes viz. income-tax, wealth-tax and gift-tax. Also, the formation of companies, their working and rights and obligations of directors to shareholders were explained to the participants. Computation of tax procedures for submitting tax returns was also explained.

Meeting on Women's Rights

FLO celebrated International Women's Day by organising a meeting on March 8, 1986 at Taj Mahal Hotel on Women's Rights.

While welcoming the participants Mrs. Usha Patodia underlined the need for concerted efforts for emancipation of women. It should be a multi-disciplinary approach enlisting the cooperation of governmental and non-governmental organisations. Speaking at the occasion, Mrs. Promila Dandavate stressed the need to change attitudes towards women. Referring to the present controversy on rights of women in India, she said that right



Mrs. Usha Patodia at the centre flanked by Mrs. Maximova and Mrs. Ivanova on her right and Mrs. Manju Bharat Ram and Mrs. Promila Dandavate on her left.

thinking people should form a strong public opinion to free women from oppression, dependancy and the like. Women should be given equal rights, and protected against discrimination of wages.

The other speakers were Mrs. Maximova and Mrs. Ivanova, Members of the Russian Delegation, who spoke on the status of women in Russia and their achievements.

Mrs. Manju Bharat Ram proposed a Vote of Thanks.

Workshop on Communication

A workshop on 'Communication' was held from October 11-14, 1985 at Federation House. Pt. Ravi Shankar, the well-known exponent of Vedic Science, conducted this workshop. Members had shown keen interest and

learned the basics of communication skill.

Quiz Programme

An interesting Quiz programme was held in New Delhi on February, 27 1986. Mrs. Madhu Kanoria and Mrs. Karuna Khaitan were the moderators. Five teams contested. The team comprising Mrs. Manju Bharat Ram, Mrs. Sunanda Singhania, Mrs. Saroj Rakyan, Mrs. Manju Gupta and Mrs. Ninochaka Kothari were the winners.

Meeting with IFCI Chairman

On January 27, 1986 Members of FLO led by Mrs. Usha Patodia called on Mr. D.N. Davar, Chairman, IFCI to discuss the schemes of interest subsidy to women entrepreneurs extended by the IFCI from 1st January, 1986. Members were advised to avail the facilities for setting up industrial units.

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VISITS

FLO Delegation to USSR

A 14-member FLO delegation visited USSR from 14–21 September, 1985. The objective of the delegation was to explore the possibilities of cooperation between India and USSR in the manufacture of fashion garments, cosmetics, handicrafts etc. and to identify markets for exporting Indian goods. Also, the delegation studied in detail the functioning of scientific and cultural centres, higher educational institutions, kindergartens, creches etc. The delegation examined the environment which enabled women in the Soviet Union to contribute to national output and growth.

The delegation visited the major industrial cities viz. Tashkent, Bukhara, Samarkand, Moscow and Leningrad. They gained first hand informa-

tion about the working of various factories, centres of art, museums, educational institutions and had extensive discussions with women leaders.

Mention has to be made about the visit to a traditional embroidery factory in Tashkent. The factory, set up in 1939, manufactured a host of items ranging from bridal make-ups to shoes. The factory employed 1000 girls in addition to several part-time women workers who were allowed to carry work home. The work hours were from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The factory had facilities like rest house, medical centre, day care centre etc.

The delegation also visited a Kindergarten in Samarkand. The delegates took delight in the kind of care and coaching that were given to the



Members of FLO Delegation to USSR and GDR.

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children. The study hours in Kindergarten were minimum and well-planned. A health check-up was carried out each morning. There were facilities for both physical and mental development of the children. Almost 80 per cent of the expenditure on the child at the Kindergarten was borne by the state.

In Moscow, the delegation had an important meeting with the Soviet Women's Committee led by Mrs. Adelina Ivanova. She spelt out various measures taken by the Soviet Government for encouraging women to take up work and the creative manner in which the educational institutions were run etc.

Visit to GDR

The FLO delegation visited GDR on September 22, 1985. The delegates

paid a visit to a Kindergarten and Secondary School at Berlin and Potsdam. Children were trained in art, poetry, story telling, mathematics, gymnastics at a very young age. Most of the schools in GDR encouraged children to tend the gardens. One such garden was visited by the delegates. Also, they took the opportunity to hold discussions with various women leaders of GDR.

Visit of USSR Delegation

A two-member delegation of the Soviet Women's Committee comprising of Mrs Margarita Maximova, Head of the Department of International World Economy and Mrs Adelina Ivanova, Head of the Department of International Affairs visited India from 5—11 March, 1986. The delegation was sponsored by FLO. Their visit was

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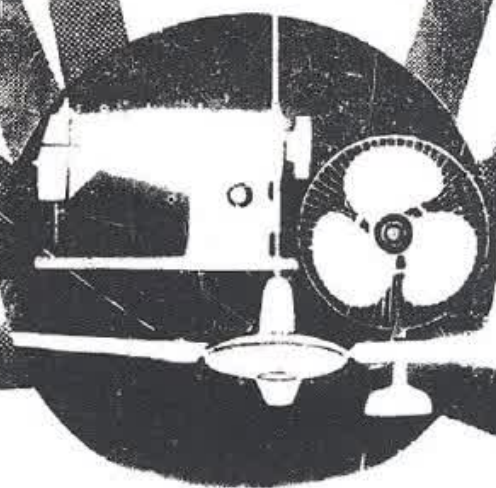
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to explore the possibilities of cooperation between India and USSR in social, educational and cultural fields. They visited Calcutta, Pilani (Birla Institute of Technology), Jaipur and Agra and interacted with leaders of many women's organisations. The visitors called on Mrs Margaret Alva, Minister of State in the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports and Women's Welfare. Issues of Disarmament, Education, Status of Women etc. figured in the discussion with the Minister.

Visit to Modipon Factory

Members of FLO visited Modipon Factory at Modinagar on October 28, 1985. They were taken around the factory and explained about different

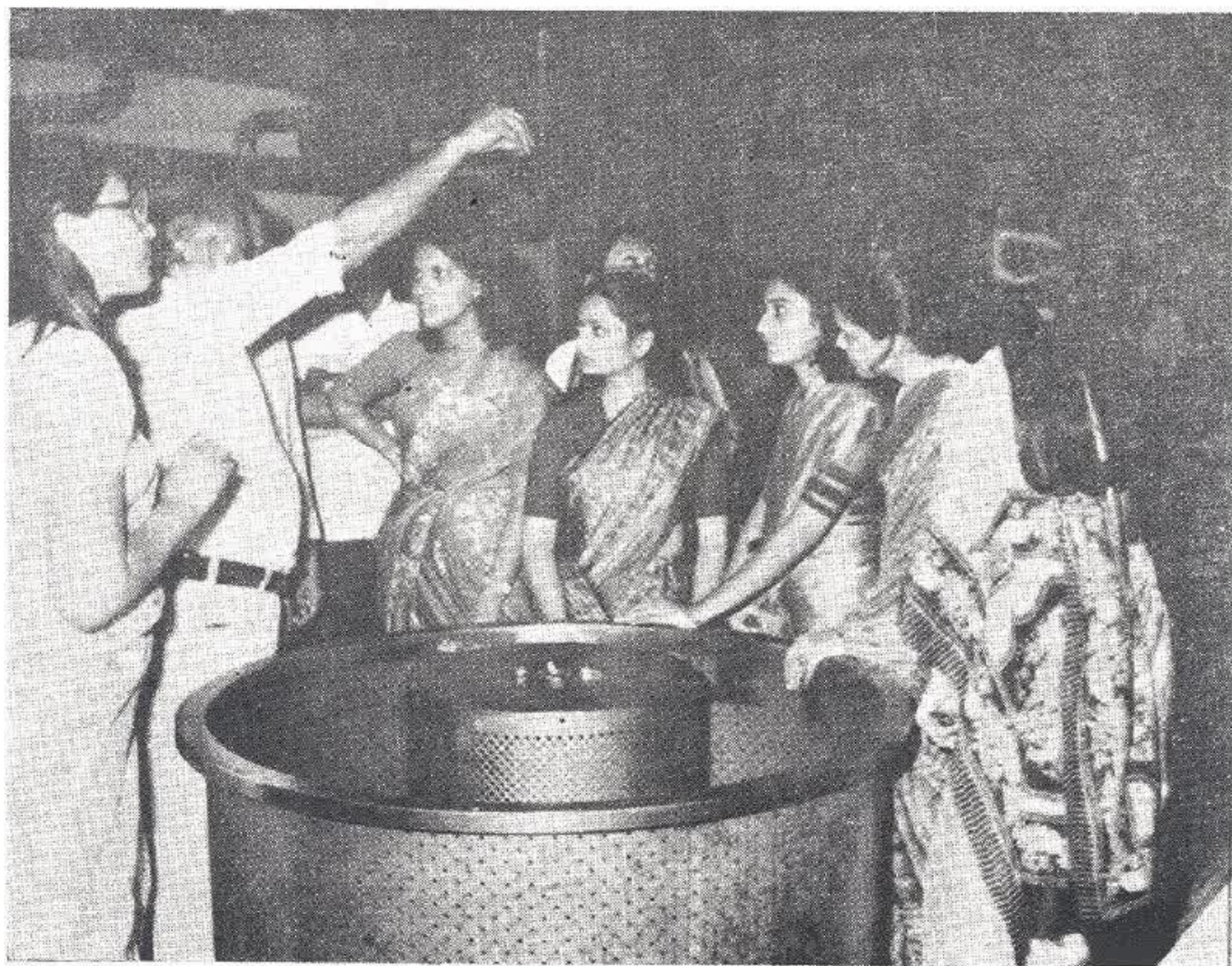
manufacturing processes and quality control measures.

Visit to Parliament

To acquaint the members with the Parliamentary proceedings and discussions, they were taken to Parliament on December, 11 and 18, 1985. Their visit was informative and enjoyable.

Other Activities

Mrs Usha Patodia, and Mrs Manju Bharat Ram, hosted lunches on 12th and 13th March 1986 respectively in honour of the ladies accompanying the U.S. delegation to the 10th Indo-U.S. Joint Business Council meeting held on March 12-13, 1986.



Members of FLO at Modipon Factory.

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The Governing Body and Working Committee of FLO

Mrs. Usha Patodia—President

Mrs. Sushila Goenka—Vice-President

Mrs. Abha Dalmia—Immediate Past President

The following members were nominated by President, FICCI, as the Governing Body and Working Committee of FLO for the year 1985-86 :

North

1. Mrs. Manju Bharat Ram
New Delhi
2. Mrs. Indu Jain
New Delhi
3. Mrs. Bina Modi
New Delhi
4. Mrs. Lekha Poddar
New Delhi
5. Mrs. Sunanda Singhania
New Delhi
6. Mrs. Krishna Mohta
New Delhi
7. Mrs. Meenakshi Gupta
New Delhi
8. Mrs. Rekha Khaitan
New Delhi
9. Mrs. Nirmal Jain
New Delhi
10. Mrs. Shobhna Bhartia
New Delhi

West

1. Mrs. Vimla Bajaj
Bombay
2. Mrs. Snehlata Poddar
Bombay
3. Mrs. Maya Somaiya
Bombay
4. Mrs. Rashmi Poddar
Bombay
5. Mrs. Veena Singhania
Bombay

East

1. Mrs. Sheila Kanoria
Calcutta
2. Mrs. Roma Bhagat
Calcutta
3. Mrs. Alka Jain
Calcutta

4. Mrs. Prabha Khaitan
Calcutta
5. Mrs. Sumitra Mody
Calcutta

South

1. Mrs. Deepak Banker
Madras
2. Mrs. Haja Shareeff
Madras
3. Mrs. Madhu Bhandari
Bangalore
4. Mrs. Anjana Somany
Hyderabad
5. Mrs. A.C. Muthiah
Madras

Working Committee—Delhi

1. Mrs. Aruna Dalmia
New Delhi
2. Mrs. Asha Modi
New Delhi
3. Mrs. Kamini Gangwal
New Delhi
4. Mrs. Karuna Goenka
New Delhi
5. Mrs. Madhu Kanoria
New Delhi
6. Miss Richa Jain
New Delhi
7. Mrs. Rekha Modi
New Delhi
8. Mrs. Shubhra Gupta
Delhi
9. Mrs. Sudha Jhunjunwala
New Delhi
10. Mrs. Vineeta Jain
Delhi
11. Mrs. Panna Bharat Ram
New Delhi

Daksha Warty—Secretary

Meetings of the Governing Body

<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1. May 20, 1985	New Delhi	4. January 17, 1986	New Delhi
2. July 11, 1985	Hyderabad	5. March 11, 1986	New Delhi
3. November 6, 1985	New Delhi		

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