

Father of Anne Frank dead Guard against rumours, PM tells NCC cadets

BASEL, (Switzerland) August 20 (AP): Otto Frank, father of Anne Frank, whose diary about Nazi persecution shocked millions throughout the world, died early today. He was 91.

The German-born Frank was the sole survivor of his family of four ferried out in 1944 by Nazi raiders from the backroom of an Amsterdam warehouse where they had been hiding for more than two years in an attempt to escape the holocaust.

He was liberated by Soviet troops from Auschwitz death camp in 1945, at about the time Anne died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen camp, at the age of 15.

Returning to Amsterdam, Frank found Anne's Dutch-language diary in the backroom of the warehouse on Prinsengracht Canal, along with fairy tales and other stories she had written while in hiding.

Their hiding place, at Prinsengracht became a museum and a center of pilgrimage.

Frank, a native of Frankfurt and descendant of an old Jewish-German family, was decorated for bravery as a German officer in World War I.

Frank's wife died in Auschwitz, Anne and her sister in Bergen-Belsen that was liberated by the British troops.

Nanubhai, eminent freedom fighter

AHMEDABAD, August 20 (UNI): Eminent freedom fighter and social worker, Mr. Madhukant Majumdar, popularly known as Nanubhai, died early today at the Vadilal Sarabhai Hospital here, following a brief illness. He was 56.

A bachelor, Nanubhai is survived by his parents, two brothers and three sisters.

Nanubhai took part in the freedom struggle through the activities of the "vayam shala" during the 1942 Quit India Movement.

He joined the Bhodan movement launched by Acharya Vinoba Bhave in 1954 and was a devoted follower of the late Jayaprakash Narayan.

Nanubhai worked untiringly for the rehabilitation of the victims of last year's flash floods at Morvi.

Shreepad Laxman, leading pleader

AURANGABAD, August 20 (PTI): Mr. Shreepad Laxman, alias Appasaheb Newasekar, a leading pleader of Aurangabad died here this morning. He was 77.

Mr. Newasekar was elected to Hyderabad legislative assembly in 1952 on a Congress ticket and was the whip of the legislative Congress party. He was also closely associated with several cultural, social and educational institutions.

He is survived by wife, three sons and three daughters.

Labour's views on economic issues

By Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, August 20: A memorandum conveying the labour point of view on economic issues which will, among other things, come up at the forthcoming meeting of the Commonwealth heads of government of the region was handed to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, by a delegation here today.

The meeting is scheduled to be held in Delhi from September 4 to 8.

Allegations traded in Bengal house

By Our Special Correspondent

CALCUTTA, August 20: The ruling left front and opposition members today charged one another with attempts to disturb peace and create chaos in different parts of West Bengal.

During the Zero hour in the assembly, much heat was generated when the Congress (I) member, Mr. Rajani Dholi's allegation made in course of an adjournment motion was disallowed.

He alleged that the CPM supporters had torn down or even burnt down the national flag in more than one place in Midnapore and Burdwan on Independence Day. The CPM members loudly denied it.

Mr. Nirmal Bose (F.B.) drew the attention of the house to some comments made by the editor of a Delhi English daily about Bengal. He said the house should unanimously protest against this "slander". It was more regrettable, he added, that the editor also happened to be a Rajya Sabha member, nominated by the President of India.

Bank finalises credit plan for Bengal areas

DARJEELING, August 20: A Rs. 54-crore credit plan has been finalised for Darjeeling, Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri districts in North Bengal.

According to Mr. J. V. Shetty, general manager of the Central Bank of India, which has prepared the plan, a regional rural bank with a working capital of Rs. 1 crore had been sponsored for North Bengal.

Haffkine unit subject to writ under art. 226

From Our Legal Correspondent

BOMBAY, August 20.

ACCORDING to Mr. Justice A. N. Mody at the Bombay high court, the Haffkine Bio-Pharmaceutical Corporation Ltd. could be subjected to a writ by the high court in exercise of powers under article 226 of the constitution.

The judge reached this conclusion after holding that the corporation was an "authority" within the meaning of article 12 inasmuch as the government of Maharashtra had complete control over it, though styled as an autonomous body. Not only did the government hold 100 per cent of its issued capital, but had powers to appoint directors and the government controlled its rule-making powers.

He was allowing with costs a petition filed by Bapu S. Mazgaonkar and G. N. Gadekar challenging the validity of rules framed by the respondent corporation and less favourable to its employees.

The Haffkine institute, a department of the government, was in 1975 converted into two autonomous bodies, one for research and the other for production. The government resolution of April 30, 1975, stipulated, in so far as the corporation was concerned, that servants in the employ of the department would enjoy terms and conditions of service "not less favourable" than their then existing ones.

The Haffkine Sanshodhan Shiksha Karmachari union, of which petitioner Mazgaonkar was the general secretary, protested against the rules and regulations framed by the corporation contending that they were not in accordance with the government resolution. In the view of the judge, the pre-conversion terms and conditions of service of the employees thus formed part of the employees' "contractual rights" unalterable save in accordance with the applicable law.

It was the contention of the petitioners that several important conditions of service, such as those relat-

ing to earned leave, half-pay leave, maternity leave, house building advance, family pension etc., had been altered to the prejudice of the employees. Although difficult to evaluate monetarily the loss to the employees caused by the alterations, the impression was inescapable, according to Mody J., that several benefits to the employees were either reduced or taken away, without any corresponding benefits elsewhere, making the "overall position less beneficial" to them. This was clearly in contravention of the government resolution, he said.

Stating that the option given to the employees of the department was only for the purpose of selecting either of the two autonomous bodies to be created, the judge observed that it did not lie in the mouth of the respondent corporation to contend that the employees were estopped, after making their choice, from making a grievance about the new rules and regulations. Said the judge, it was the corporation which was "really estopped from acting contrary to the (government) resolution."

The judge was further of the view that the new rules were "not valid rules" since they were not reserved for the decision of or approval by the government.

Consequently, the judge directed the corporation to apply to the second petitioner (G. N. Gadekar) and the employees represented by his organisation the conditions of service which were not less favourable than those available to them till August 31, 1975, and also directed the state government to enforce its resolution of April 30, 1975, against the corporation. "By virtue of its overriding powers" contained in the articles of association, the more favourable terms and conditions available to the employees were not to be taken away, the judge added.

Mr. Madhukar Soodhak appeared for the petitioners; Mr. C. J. Shah with Mr. A. J. Rana represented the two autonomous bodies; and Mr. S. M. Dixit appeared for the state,

unity and discipline. "Both are the need of the hour."

Mrs. Gandhi said NCC could make valuable contribution to national integrity and character building. It must make a marked improvement towards efficiency and discipline not only among themselves but also for the nation as a whole.

The three service chiefs were also present at the function. The Prime Minister presented a trophy to Karnataka, adjudged the best NCC directorate this year.

Mrs. Gandhi said that in a modern nation everyone must have defence consciousness and some defence skills also.

During the colonial times, there was a systematic effort to make the nation to give up defence traditions. Indians were denied higher posts. There was a divorce of military training. As a result there was emasculation of the country. But later the British realised the need to enlarge the army and enlist Indians.

The Prime Minister saw NCC as an important link between the defence and the education system. It was a nursery for those persons taking up full-time defence careers.

She said NCC prepared the people for greater participation in case of conflict with other nations. There was a sense of adventure in it which was so sadly lacking and was now growing.

The Prime Minister said there had been some complaints that NCC was not being run as it should have been. There was probably no truth in it.

Some students, she said, had met her because of such gossip. Something must be done to see that instructors fulfilled the assignments given to them.

Earlier, Mr. C. P. N. Singh, minister of state for defence, announced that NCC officers, on completion of 15 years of service, would be promoted to the rank of major. About 400 officers would be immediately benefited from this.

On completion of 21 years of service a number of them would be made lieutenant-colonels. Those left out would be given a selection grade pay.

Motion on Mhow events allowed

By Our Special Correspondent

BHOPAL, August 20: The chief minister, Mr. Arjun Singh, yesterday sprang a surprise in the vidhan sabha by readily agreeing to a debate on an opposition adjournment motion on the recent disturbances at Mhow in the wake of the Morebad killings.

Several opposition members had given a notice of adjournment motions on the Mhow incidents in which a man and a woman were killed.

As soon as the speaker, Mr. Y. D. Sharma, referred to them and sought an official statement, Mr. Arjun Singh got up to indicate that the government had no objection to a formal discussion on the incidents and requested the chair to allot time for it.

Not only the opposition but even a section of the treasury benches appeared surprised by the chief minister's move.

The finance minister, Mr. Krishnapal Singh, pointed out that when the Janata party was in power it never allowed such a discussion. He said the chief minister's gesture underlined the democratic credentials of the Congress (I).

The atmosphere generated by Mr. Arjun Singh's gesture was a little vitiated by the procedural wrangles that followed on a call-attention motion on the same subject—Mhow incidents.

Many, including some in the ruling party, were astonished when the chair admitted the call-attention motion after the adjournment motion and allowed its sponsor, Mr. Motilal Vohra (Congress-I), to read it out.

Revolver snatched away in Imphal

IMPHAL, August 20 (PTI): One person was killed and a revolver was snatched away from a guard in two separate incidents in the capital this morning, police sources here said.

According to the police, some unidentified persons entered the house of one assistant commandant of Manipur Rifles and made a vain bid to take away his revolver. On being resisted by the assistant commandant, a tussle ensued which left one of the intruders killed by an accidental firing from the revolver.

In another incident, three unidentified persons snatched a revolver from the guard of the civil supply minister, Mr. Y. Irabot Singh, in the Porompat area, five km from here, sources added.

Plea for judicial probe into riots

By Our Correspondent

SANGLI, August 20: The indu

Ekata Andolan organisation, which has been set up for establishing unity among the Hindus and for safeguarding their interests, has appealed to the government to conduct judicial probes into the recent communal riots in different parts of the country, including Kalyan, Moradabad, Mhow, Meerut and Kashmir.

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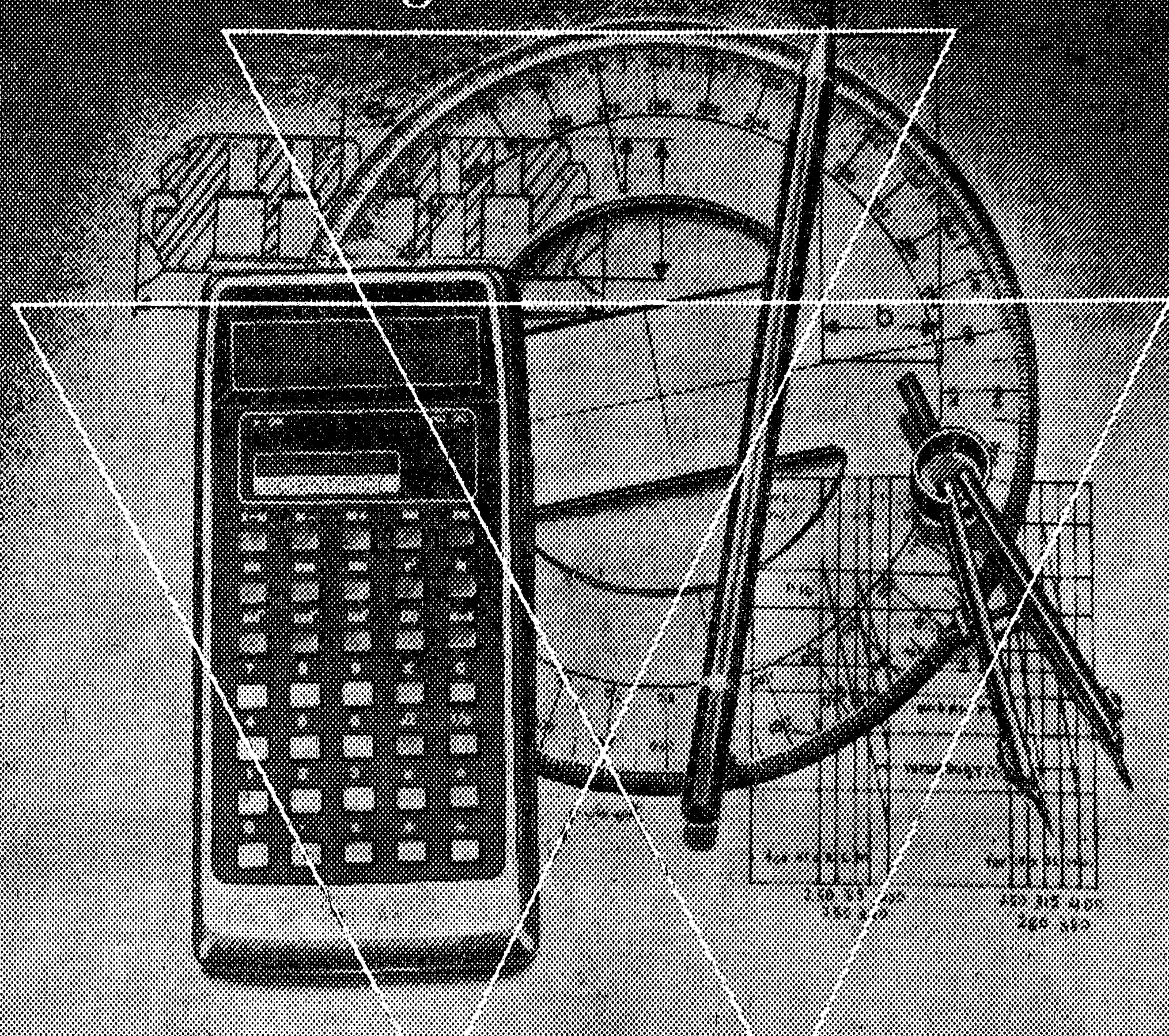
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