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Editorial

Science and Foreign Relations : National security depends far more upon the total scientific potential than upon anything else. To attain this end there must be free flow of unclassified scientific and technological information. Scientists should have ample scope and facilities to move about freely and come in contact with the eminent scientists in different parts of the world. The authorities in power should endeavour to afford at least the minimum facilities and encourage the free movement of scientists and exchange of their ideas with scientists of reputation working in similar fields in other parts of the world. This aspect of international security is slowly gaining importance and it is hoped that time is not far off when the scientists will contribute a mighty share towards international plenty, security and prosperity.

In recent years several books on "Secrecy and Security Relations as applied to Science" have been published in America. In these publications it is made clear that intellectual freedom of investigation, utterance and communication is the pre-requisite for real scientific advancement. This observation has been made by the American scientists with reference to the conditions prevailing in America. A closer examination of this observation will reveal that what is applicable to America is equally applicable to every other country in the world. The experience of British, French and other European scientific men is in full conformity with that of the American scientists.

Professor A. V. Hill in his Presidential Address to the British Association has asserted that complete abandonment of secrecy in Government policy, particularly in industry and finance, is out of question and that some control measures are inevitable in the interest of national security. But the freedom of conscience of the scientists must be given ample scope to bring out the best of it for the security of the nation. The existence of anti-scientific trends in any country should be eradicated if the scientists are to take care of the foreign relations. These trends are responsible for the misunderstandings and miscalculated judgments, which invariably hinder the furtherance of real scientific progress in any country. All these defects will be removed if the scientists realise that prestige

of science is not their personal property but a trust, meant for being passed on to coming generations not only in their country but in other countries as well.

If the international security is to prosper and grow strong day by day the scientists and the State should work hand in hand and solve all the intricate problems that confront the industrial and economic advancements of the different nations in the world. For this, there must be ample scope for the scientists in different parts of the world to exchange their ideas and thereby enrich scientific knowledge. Days are fast approaching when the scientists will have greater responsibilities than the politicians in shaping the policy of their nations and establishing a harmonious concord of international fraternity and prosperity.

Rice Delegation to Japan: 'Observe and learn more, should be the motto of the scientists. The authorities in power have recognised the importance of this saying and consequently have sent a delegation of three eminent Indian Scientists in the field of rice culture, to Japan. It needs no mention that today Japan occupies the top rank in the list of rice producing countries of the world.

The members of the delegation are:

- (1) Dr. N. Parthasarathy (Leader) Director, Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.
- (2) Sri M. B. V. Narasinga Rao, Paddy Specialist, Coimbatore.
- (3) Sri Pareja from Bihar.

Leader of the delegation as well as Sri M. B. V. Narasinga Rao, belong to Madras. The members will observe and study all aspects of rice cultivation and gain consequently a clear conception of the contributory causes for the phenomenally high yield of paddy in Japan. They are congratulated on their happy and useful delegation to study all about rice cultivation in Japan. It is fervently hoped that after their return to India they will do their best to step up the average acre yield of paddy in their respective spheres of activity and thus relieve the food shortage in the country.