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held at Columbia, Idaho, October 28-30, 1962, their common concern for issues relating to the conduct of national integration, appropriate adult education activities, and the educational role of the home, family and various organizations. Numerous fields of cultural exchange and educational cooperation were recommended, reflected by specific steps to be taken by government agencies and departments, universities and colleges, social welfare groups, political and religious bodies, trade unions, local groups, and the National Service Corps. (This report also contains the information supplied by the Chief Minister of Assam, as well as by the Indian Minister of Health, National delegates and officers, and the American delegates.) (P)

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# ADULT EDUCATION AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION

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# ADULT EDUCATION AND NATIONAL INTEGRATION

Report of the Seventeenth  
NATIONAL SEMINAR, GAUHATI  
October 26-28, 1969

INDIAN ADULT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
17-B, INDRAPRASTHA MARG  
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## Introduction

The 17th National Seminar, organised by the Indian Adult Education Association, was held in Gauhati from October 26-28, 1969. The subject of the Seminar was *Adult Education and National Integration*. Prof. M. M. Begg, Principal, School of Correspondence Courses and Continuing Education, University of Delhi, was the Director of the Seminar.

The draft working paper was placed before the plenary session in Gauhati on October 26, and was accepted by the delegates as the basis for discussion and study.

The Seminar was inaugurated by Shri B. P. Chaliha, Chief Minister of Assam. Shri Chaliha emphasised the need for a sound system of adult education in the country which will feed the illiterate masses with information, enlighten their mind and improve the standard of their life.

The Chief Minister stressed the need for life-long education to enable the adults to meet the challenge of rapidly changing society.

He stressed that the literate sections of the society "can be continually fed by the press and appropriate publication of suitable books for national integration while the mass media of communication such as radio, cinema and television should be largely utilised for the masses."

Shri Chaliha also laid stress on personal contact for creating a sense of oneness in the people. The necessity of arranging visits between the people of different regions of the country, to make them know each other, was also emphasised by Shri Chaliha.

Shri J. B. Hagjer, Education Minister of Assam, in his presidential address, said the role of education in general and adult education in particular should be to remove hatred, ill-will and violence from the society for the maintenance and promotion of peace.

The question of National Integration has become so desperately urgent for our country at the present juncture that no nation can ignore the subject "without peril". Unless the problem is solved in courageous and imaginative manner, no other problem of the country will be even nearer solution, Shri Hagjer added.

Shri G. C. Sarma Barooa, Director of Public Instruction, Assam, in his welcome speech, acquainted the delegates with the political and cultural history of

Assam and her people. Discussing at length the problem of adult education, he said that illiteracy in our country is of such a staggering magnitude that it may be unrealistic to wait for the attainment of universal literacy.

While every effort has to be made progressively to wipe out illiteracy from the country, the adult education programme may also take up measures for imparting knowledge and skills and cultivating interests and attitudes for real Indian citizenship, he added.

The Seminar studied the concept of national integration including its different aspects and its promotion through adult education, different programmes of adult education to promote national integration and the role of various organisations in promoting national integration through adult education.

#### Messages

Messages were received from the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Home Minister, Education Minister, Labour and Rehabilitation Minister, Dy. Chairman and Member, Planning Commission, State Minister of Education, Dy. Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, State Chief Ministers and Vice-Chancellors.

120 delegates, of whom 27 were women from 16 States and Union Territories, attended the Seminar. Ministries of Education, Food, Agriculture, C.D. and Cooperation and Planning Commission were represented. Delegates from the Universities of Delhi, Baroda, Sardar Patel, Karnatak, Punjabi, Rajasthan and Jamia Millia also attended.

In the plenary session on Oct. 26, the delegates divided themselves into five groups. Normally the topics for the group discussion were elucidated in the Plenary Session. Thereafter the groups discussed those topics and presented their reports next day to the Plenary Session for discussion by all the delegates.

The Governor of Assam and Nagaland gave a reception to the delegates at Raj Bhawan, Shillong. Reception was also given by the Chief Minister and a luncheon by the Education Minister. Excursions to various places of interest in the State were arranged. Cultural programmes were also organised.

The Seminar concluded on Oct. 28. The valedictory address was delivered by Shri S. C. Rajkhowa, former Director of Public Instruction, Assam. A summary report of the Seminar was presented by the Director, Prof. Begg.

The Seminar was marked by an atmosphere of friendliness and good humour. The delegates lived together and met together at sessions and at meal times. All this contributed towards a rich social experience and the success of the Seminar. The President of the Association, Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta, stayed with the delegates throughout the period of the Seminar and was a great source of inspiration to them.

## Director's Report

The 17th National Seminar on *Adult Education and National Integration* organised by the Indian Adult Education Association was held at Gauhati from October 26 to 28, 1969.

120 delegates from 16 States and Union Territories of India participated in the deliberations.

The Seminar was inaugurated by Shri B. P. Chaliha, the Chief Minister of Assam on October 26.

Shri J. B. Hajjer, the Education Minister, Assam, presided.

The main topic *Adult Education and National Integration* was divided into three specific issues:

1. Concept of National Integration including its different aspects and its promotion through Adult Education.
2. Different Programmes of Adult Education to promote National Integration.
3. Role of various organisations for promoting National Integration through Adult Education.

All the three issues were discussed by each of the five groups.

Considering issue No. 1 the consensus of opinion was that a nation can be called integrated when its constituent members feel that they belong together in a double sense, that they share certain elements of a common heritage and that they have a common destiny. This consciousness of belongingness accompanied by a feeling of oneness which transcends caste, colour, creed, region, language or religion, is the essence of National Integration which is necessary for national development and the happiness and prosperity of the common man. This feeling of oneness is to be achieved in all aspects of national life—economic, social, religious, moral, political, cultural, educational, emotional etc. It implies tolerance and respect for the views of others and understanding of their needs and a desire to take part in a mutual effort of removing disparities or disabilities.

It was emphasised that National Integration does not mean or imply a complete uniformity or an absence of diversity. India has been a country where ideas, cultures, though diverse, have thrived together because of a thread of unity



that has permeated throughout ages, because of the very basic philosophy of tolerance and the attitude of live and let live !

While discussing item No. 2 it was emphasised that bringing about National Integration included a removal of prejudices which cause disintegration and the building up of a sense of belonging to one nation.

It was felt that the existing programmes of Adult Education should be utilised for promoting National Integration. Amongst the existing programmes were mentioned :

1. Adult Literacy classes.
2. Rural discussion groups.
3. Provision of reading material.
4. Cultural programmes.
5. Organisation of camps such as work camps and study camps.
6. Excursions, educational tours etc.
7. Adult Schools, Vidyapeeths etc.
8. Extension lectures organised by Universities and colleges.

It was however felt that there should be two broad categories of programmes of Adult Education for the promotion of National Integration :

- (i) Programmes for educated adults.
- (ii) Programmes for illiterates and neo-literates.

The content of Adult Education for both the groups would include :

- (i) More and more knowledge about life, customs, and traditions prevailing in various parts of the country.
- (ii) Emphasis on the people, places, events and movements which have contributed towards the utilization of objectives of National Integration.
- (iii) Avoidance of reference which discourages or humiliates a certain section of the society.

The content could be both curricular and non-curricular and the methods both formal and informal. The following programmes were suggested :

1. production of literature, text-books, films, plays and other audio-visual material.
2. organization of inter-state, inter-regional exchange of people who would stay for some period with families in the other region in order to imbibe life, culture and tradition of the particular region.
3. organization of inter-state travel.
4. organization of inter-state cultural programmes.
5. organization of exhibitions depicting the life, culture and natural resources of other states.

6. organization of inter-state games and sports.
7. utilization of all mass media of communication such as radio, press, television to foster national integration.
8. development of a scientific attitude.
9. cultivation of democratic spirit for settling differences.
10. acceptance of the fruits of technology on a national basis for social action, and of an increased secular outlook on civic issues.
11. appreciation of the diversity of India's cultural heritage.
12. Tolerance of the life and customs of people in other parts of India.

It was felt that the concept of national integration needs strengthening by an interpretation of philosophical ideas in keeping with the modern requirements of our democratic and progressive nation.

In considering the organisations that should be involved in promoting National Integration through Adult Education, the following were considered important :

#### **I. Governmental Organisations**

- (a) Ministries of Education and Youth Services, Labour and Employment, Information and Broadcasting, Food and Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation, Home Affairs, Railways, Ministries of Health and Family Planning and Urban Development and the Department of Social Welfare.
- (b) State Departments of Education, Agriculture and Rural Development (Cooperative, Panchayat, Community Development), Social Welfare.

#### **II. Statutory Organisations**

- (a) Universities/colleges/schools
- (b) Central and State Social Welfare Boards
- (c) Panchayati Raj Organisations.
- (d) Local Bodies.

#### **III. Voluntary Organisations**

- (a) Labour Unions
- (b) Bharat Scouts and Guides.
- (c) Social Welfare Organisations, e.g., Mahila Mandals, Youth Clubs, Farmers Clubs, Mahila Samities,

- (d) Indian Adult Education Association and its affiliated bodies.
- (e) Student Unions.
- (f) Teachers Associations.
- (g) National Service Corps

This agency when fully established, as it is expected to be in the near future, can help bring about national integration in several ways, such as, organising work camps and undertaking self-help projects.

- (h) Serva Seva Sangh

This All India Organisation may take promotion of National Integration as one of its activities particularly in the rural areas.

- (i) Religious Organisations

True religion can be of great help in promoting national integration because all religions extol virtues like tolerance, helpfulness, fellow-feeling, selflessness and truthfulness and these common features can be emphasised instead of highlighting differences.

#### IV. Mass Media Communication Agencies

##### Films

- (a) The main appeal of films is universally recognised. Instead of themes directly concerned with national integration, film producers can help by including subtle and indirect suggestions for national integration in their usual stories. Such suggestions are imbibed consciously and become a part of the thinking, feeling and willing processes of an individual, thus orienting his behaviour towards the desired end, without producing any conflicts in his mind.

- (b) Press

The press is a powerful mass medium of communication which should be used more effectively for bringing about national integration. It should be made to feel a greater sense of responsibility towards promoting the cause of national integration and should avoid emphasising the differences. Besides newspapers, magazines, books also need to be published in all languages dealing with subjects relating to national integration.

- (c) Radio

Radio coverage has increased tremendously. But its use as a medium of adult education for national integration needs to be increased considerably. Dramas, skits, folk music etc. should be broadcast for this purpose. Special programmes for women and youth are also needed.

- (d) Television

All India coverage of television is going to be available by 1972. It will, therefore, be appropriate if steps are taken now to consider the possibilities of using this powerful mass medium for promoting national integration. A pilot experiment may be started in Delhi where TV is already provided.

## Recommendations

1. The Seminar recommends that Adult Education for promoting National Integration is necessary not only for the illiterate or the relatively less educated but is essential for all the citizens of the country so that the nation as an integrated and unified force can work whole-heartedly and harmoniously to achieve the goals set out in the Constitution.

2. *The Seminar, realising the need to enunciate clearly the concept of National Integration, suggests that the concept of an integrated nation should mean a community of people where everyone has a sense of belonging to and a feeling of oneness with the nation overriding all differences of caste, creed, regional and cultural disparities; accompanied by tolerance, respect for and appreciation of the views, beliefs and ways of life of others.*

3. In view of the importance of National Integration in the life of the people, programmes for the promotion of National Integration should form an integral part of all Adult Education activities.

4. The Seminar is of the view that intensive use be made of governmental, statutory and voluntary organisations and mass media communication agencies for the promotion of National Integration.

5. The Seminar is strongly of the view that universities have a vital role to play in promoting National Integration, hence recommends that Boards and Departments of Adult Education be established in universities which will also serve the purpose of conducting research and training relating to the promotion of National Integration.

6. Considering it necessary that a philosophical basis should be provided for National Integration, the Seminar recommends that the philosophical and cultural heritage of the country be interpreted and new ideas evolved to meet the needs of our modern democratic and progressive nation so that national goals could be pursued harmoniously.

7. As Social Education departments or organisations in the States are most concerned with the programme of educating adults, and are in close touch with the masses, these departments need to be strengthened considerably if an effective programme for promoting national integration is to be launched. The Seminar therefore, recommends, that in those States where Social Education Departments are not in existence now, should revive them and provide adequate staff for an enhanced

programme of Social Education. In other States, the existing Social Education Departments and their personnel should be augmented.

8. To promote National Integration, it is necessary that all prejudices and ideas militating against integration be removed and the Seminar recommends that to achieve this purpose, the existing text-books in schools and colleges be scrutinised and revised, if necessary, keeping this specific purpose in view.

9. In order to meet the requirement of functional literacy in a developing country like ours and to promote National Integration it is necessary to revise the present syllabus of Adult Literacy classes. Therefore, the Seminar requests the Indian Adult Education Association that a workshop to revise the syllabus in the light of current need and to prepare suitable text-books based on the revised syllabus be organised.

## Inaugural Address

SHRI B.P. CHALIHA  
*Chief Minister, Assam*

I am thankful to the Indian Adult Education Association for the honour they have done on me in asking me to inaugurate the 17th National Seminar which proposes to discuss a very important subject namely 'Adult Education and National Integration'. It is for the first time that a National Seminar on adult education is being held in this part of the country and I am thankful to the Indian Adult Education Association again for selecting Gauhati as its venue.

Rapid developments that have taken place since our attainment of political freedom has brought about profound changes in our society. India being a new-born democracy with teeming millions of people, the bulk of which is illiterate has to struggle hard to keep abreast of time. The need of a sound system of Adult Education in the country has been all the more necessary to feed the illiterate masses with information, to enlighten their mind, to improve the standard of their life through slow reforms in the forms and customs of family life, to acquaint them with the recent development of science and technology having a direct impact on the society and above all to inculcate in them a sense of citizenship and community living. To my mind efforts of Adult Education should enable the masses to transcend not only individual selfishness but also regional selfishness and work hard as free citizens of the country to build up great mansion of democracy and thus to realise the dream of Mahatmaji's 'Ram Raj'.

Friends, I am no expert in the field. It is left to the distinguished gathering to discuss in the sessions of the Seminar and come to a decision as to how best the work of extreme national urgency should be taken up.

I would, however, like to share one or two ideas with you. In this context, it is worthwhile considering to what extent and in what ways the traditional forms and organisations of popular education can be utilised to meet the new needs.

Even in respect of formal adult education through the written medium we must not confine ourselves to a programme for removing mere illiteracy. We must not forget that the schools and colleges provide knowledge of the social forces of yesterday. As education is a life-long process, the product of the schools and colleges will fail to keep abreast of the rapidly changing society unless the community provides them with necessary facilities for continuous education or rather re-education for adjusting their minds to the new social forces emerging out of the rapid changes taking place around them.

In such a situation, the literate section of the society can be continually fed by the Press and appropriate publications of suitable books for National Integration while the mass media of communication such as radio, cinema and television should

be largely utilised for the masses. Organisation of symposia, study-circle, exhibitions, drama, cultural programmes, exchange of visits between people of different parts of India etc. may go a long way to help creating a sense of Indianness in the minds of the people.

Personal contact is of great value in creating sense of oneness in the people. In this sense the places of pilgrimage in India were giant social institutions conducive to national harmony. In the days of yore, people had to cover every inch of their country either on foot, or by boat, bullock cart, horses, elephants or camels. In those days when the pilgrims move from Dwaraka to Prayag, or Rameshwaram to Tirupati or from Kamakhya to Srikshetra on pilgrimage, they had the chance of coming in contact with people of different regions at each successive lap of their journey. This gave them a chance of knowing the country and the people, which in no small measures, contributed towards national integration. But in these days of fast means of movement, there is no scope to the traveller for coming in contact with the people to the areas they go through. It has, therefore, been a modern necessity to arrange for exchange of visits between the people of different regions of the country to make them know each other for developing an idea of Indianness in them.

Now coming back to different means of mass communication media, it can be safely said that Cinema, if properly used, can create social awareness, for it can present problems realistically and almost imperceptibly influence large sections of the people at a time. In Cinema, recreational, cultural and educative methods are combined and one is not conscious that he is being educated. It makes the people see the problems in the concrete. But in order to utilise this very important modern vehicle of communication for education purpose, it is necessary that its potentialities should be exploited by deliberate designs. The motion picture industry can hardly be expected, out of commercial considerations, to devote itself to any aspect of social education, be it national integration or eradication of illiteracy. It is, therefore, necessary that appropriate agency should be created for production of films for educating the masses.

So far as radio is concerned, the problem is easier as it has made its way even to the interiormost villages of India. Development of a sound radio-programme can rid the country of various tensions leading to unhappy situations.

Television is yet to reach the masses of India. It combines the methods of cinema with those of the radio. So when it comes to the country, it will be of immense value for mass-education.

Stories built up on the legends and epics of India may contribute a lot towards national integration. Talks, discussions, meetings, cultural functions, dramas etc. if purposefully organised may effectively help different programmes of Social Education including those of national integration.

I do not propose to hold up the deliberations of the Seminar any longer. I have no doubt in my mind that your discussions in the Seminar will help in evolving an effective programme of adult education to fight regionalism and sectionalism and to foster National Integration.

I wish the deliberations all success.

## Presidential Address

SHRI J. B. HAGJER

*Education Minister, Assam*

It is a rare privilege to be in the midst of the distinguished educationists of the country. I am, therefore, profoundly grateful to the "Indian Adult Education Association" for giving me an opportunity to be in the midst of such a group of persons from all over the country who have assembled here to discuss the problems of adult education. The selection of the subject for discussion in the Seminar, viz., "Adult Education and National Integration", has been very much appropriate to the moment when only a few weeks ago the demon of communalism raised its ugly head in a part of our dear land killing hundreds of our innocent fellow-men.

The first thought, I would like to share with you, is about the role which education in general, and adult education in particular, should play in removing hatred, ill-will and violence from the society for the maintenance and promotion of peace. It is a stupendous task to infuse the Gandhian ideals of tolerance and peaceful living in the minds of the illiterate millions of India. But it has to be done if we are to build up a welfare state to which we are committed. I am sure that the distinguished gathering will threadbare discuss the problems and will recommend ways and means for educating the people for living in co-operation and friendship with his fellow-men.

While I am of firm opinion that adult education can play a big role in fostering national integration, I am often tempted to ask myself the question "What is adult education?" Is it merely removal of illiteracy? If it is so, adult education will be a bygone necessity as soon as elementary education becomes universal. It is no doubt a major necessity of the twentieth century, when new social forces have been generated by the extremely rapid development of science and technology; but it alone is not adult or social education. It should provide scope also for the literate few of the country to ensure a continued growth of their minds to enable them to keep pace with the quickly changing circumstances. Education, if it is to be of any value, must be a continuing process of assimilating knowledge and adjusting oneself to the ever changing environment.

There is a paradoxical situation in India. Along with the spread of elementary education and, also, perhaps, as a result of mass literacy campaigns in India, the percentage of literacy has gone up. But, on the other hand, the number of illiterates in the country is ever on the rise. Influx of people into our



country from outside and an alarmingly high birth-rate, together with fall in the death-rate of the people in the country, have contributed towards the rapid growth of the illiterate population. If, therefore, the size of the illiterate mass is to be reduced, adult education should pay heed to effective population education. The illiterate masses have to depend largely on others for information on planned parenthood, as much as on farming or co-operation. They are often inhibited by superstitions and are reluctant to accept the scientific methods of family planning or farming. It is an educative process to psychologically prepare the people for the acceptance of new ideas, be it in the field of family planning, agriculture, co-operation or community development. While attempts should be made to spread literacy and education which plays an important role in enabling the individuals to acquire necessary knowledge from available literatures on the subjects, conditions should be created for illiterate adults for acquiring these knowledge in an informal way. Voluntary social organisations, community centres, libraries and clubs, etc., can play an important role in organising such informal education through discussions, debates, exhibitions and fairs, etc.

The political structure under which India has chosen to live, viz., Democracy based on universal adult suffrage, necessitates a vigorous adult education programme for training the masses in citizenship. The primary concern of adult education in this respect should be to strengthen the intellectual and moral defences against two serious dangers, viz., the uncritical and credulous acceptance of propaganda as truth and the breakdown of the sense of solidarity. Every citizen of the country, whether literate or illiterate, should be made conscious of his obligations to the nation and this awareness of obligations will make them good citizens. Enlightened citizenry is a pre-condition to the success of Democracy. If, therefore, the tender sapling of Indian Democracy is to thrive, adult education should take upon itself to create an "Enlightened Citizenry" in the country.

The need of social education is not a modern idea. It existed in the ancient days also. But the Social Education Institutions, as they existed in this part of the country in the past, were mostly of the socio-religious type, and they worked with remarkable success for almost a static society. The growing complexities of life in the modern times have necessitated orientation of these institutions. The "Namghar", a socio-religious institution of the past in Assam, therefore, has made room for Libraries, Community Centres and Clubs, etc. which have become a common meeting place of the members of the modern cosmopolitan community. Through these institutions adult education should teach the people of the new values, familiarise them with new social relationship and introduce them to the new techniques and the modern civilisation.

Now, coming back to the subject matter of the Seminar, I would like to impress upon you that the question of National Integration has become so desperately urgent for our country at the present juncture, that no nation can ignore the

subject without peril. Unless this problem is solved in a courageous and imaginative manner, no other problem of the country will be even nearer solution. This has special significance in the background of the recent unfortunate happenings to which I referred to earlier in India as well as in the context of our national ideal of a 'Welfare State'. People should be taught to subordinate their individual group, linguistic or regional interest to the general well being of the nation. Methods and media for doing this will have to be discussed by the distinguished gathering in the sessions of the Seminar. I would, however, like to share one or two views with you.

Cultural and Recreational programmes can go a long way in bringing about emotional integration. Pictures, dramas and cultural items prepared on the subject of National Integration may help people in educating them without knowing that they are being educated. As indicated in the Inaugural Address, exchange of visits of the people may help them know their country and their fellow-men. India being a vast country with extreme diversities, the common man has hardly any idea of her vastness and her diverse population. While publication of easy pamphlets on various aspects of the country may help broadening the ideas of the literate section, exhibitions on "Know Your India", may help the common illiterate masses to know about their country which will naturally help National Integration.

As I am not a specialist in the field of adult education, I refrain from giving details of the methods and media of fostering national integration through adult education. It is left to you, the moulders of adult education, to discuss and suggest the same.

Before I conclude, I offer my thanks to you all for coming over here from the distant-most corners of India to participate in a Seminar on a subject of extreme national urgency.

I wish the Seminar all success.

## APPENDICES

## Synopsis of Discussions

### Item I

*Concept of National Integration including its Different Aspects and its Promotion through Adult Education.*

### Concept

All the groups agreed that National Integration means the feeling of oneness as a nation. It means that every individual should be wedded to a common outlook of fraternity as the people of India, irrespective of caste, colour, creed, region, language or religion. The feeling of oneness should be achieved in all aspects of life—economic, cultural, educational, political and linguistic.

### Promotion Through Adult Education

The groups felt that national integration through adult education could be promoted in the following ways :

- (1) Making people understand the fundamental principles enshrined in the constitution.
- (2) Making them better understand their duties, rights and privileges.
- (3) Giving them a better understanding of socialistic society, the democratic set-up and the national goals.
- (4) Inculcating scientific attitude and rational approach to everything.
- (5) Promoting respect for law and order.
- (6) Finding and emphasising things which are the concern of all Indians such as devotion to non-violence, music and art.
- (7) Celebrating and utilising national days and occasions connected with national heroes.
- (8) Making people realise the importance of pilgrimages in bringing about national integration.
- (9) Making them appreciate the variety and diversity in language, dress, culture etc. of our people.
- (10) Fostering tolerance among the various groups and communities.
- (11) Guarding them against regionalism, communalism, casteism and linguism.

The media of mass communication and production of relevant literature will go a long way in helping to promote national integration through adult education.

## Item II

*Different Programmes of Adult Education to Promote National Integration.*

The groups suggested the following programmes of adult education to promote National Integration :

- (i) Imparting of knowledge about life, customs and traditions prevailing in various parts of the country.
- (ii) Emphasising on the importance of well-known individuals, places, events and movements which have contributed towards the realization of national integration.
- (iii) Producing literature, text books, films, plays, and other audio-visual materials emphasising national integration.
- (iv) Organising inter-state, inter-regional exchange of people who would stay for some period with families in the other regions in order to imbibe life, culture and tradition of that particular region.
- (v) Organising inter-state travels.
- (vi) Organising important festivals of other states.
- (vii) Organising music, folk art programmes of other states.
- (viii) Organising exhibitions depicting the life, culture and natural resources of other states.
- (ix) Organising community singing, common prayer, games and sports.
- (x) Establishing cultural centres of different states in each state.
- (xi) Organising touring squads of university students specially trained to work for national integration, to work among people of different states.
- (xii) Organising visits by religious or spiritual scholars who could move around the country meeting people and holding discussions.
- (xiii) Organising seminars for leaders in the field of religions, language, politics, economics etc. to think of ways and means of promoting national integration within their sphere of influence.
- (xiv) Incorporating in text books for adults and children lessons that promote an understanding of the social history, current problems, and the cultural wealth of the different parts of the country.
- (xv) Producing documentary films conveying the ways of living, the geography, the culture, the social set-up of people of the different parts of the country.
- (xvi) Utilising all mass media of communication to promote national integration.
- (xvii) Making necessary changes in the training of teachers responsible for imparting literacy education to adults. The syllabus should include as to how they can deal with subjects relating to national integration. Suitable books be prepared and distributed. This will go a long way in achieving the desired objective.

- (xviii) Including sports and games in social education programmes for promoting national integration.
- (xix) Translating best literature of one language into the all other Indian languages.
- (xx) Organising extension programme by the universities.

**Item III**

*Role of Various Organisations for  
Promoting National Integration through  
Adult Education.*

The following organisations were recommended by the groups for promotion of national integration through adult education :

**(1) Official Organisations :**

**(a) Ministry of Education and Youth Services :**

The Ministry of Education and Youth Services should allocate sufficient funds for special projects on national integration to be undertaken by it or the States and voluntary agencies. It should also provide necessary guidelines to all the States and voluntary organisations.

**(b) Ministry of Labour and Employment.**

The Ministry of Labour and Employment should lay emphasis on National Integration through its network of Workers Education Centres at all levels.

**(c) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.**

**(d) Ministry of Food, Agriculture, C.D. and Cooperation.**

The Ministry of Food, Agriculture, C.D. and Cooperation should revive the Social Education programme and develop the programme of Bharat Darshan.

**(e) Ministry of Railways :**

Railways have played a substantial role in promoting National Integration. They can further augment it by introducing various schemes of liberal space in the carriages for advertisements and slogans promoting national integration.

**(f) State Departments of Education, Agriculture, and Rural Development (Cooperative, Panchayat, Community Development) and Social Welfare.**

**(2) Statutory Organisations :**

**(a) Universities and Colleges :**

The universities and colleges can substantially contribute towards the promotion of national integration through various ways.

The universities :

- (i) Establish a Department of Adult Education in the university.
- (ii) Arrange extension lectures on national integration.
- (iii) Sponsor or conduct research on different aspects of national integration and get the results published.
- (iv) Offer facilities like library, class rooms and equipments for the promotion of national integration.
- (v) Producing literature on national integration.

**(b) Central and State Social Welfare Boards :**

The Central and State Social Welfare Boards can profitably include national integration in its various programmes.

**(c) Local Bodies.**

Local Bodies can help in organising festivals and functions.

**(3) Mass Media Communication Agencies**

**(a) Press.**

It was agreed that press is a powerful mass media of communication which should be used more effectively for promoting national integration. Besides newspapers, magazines, books also should be published in all languages on subjects relating to national integration.

**(b) Radio**

Programmes like dramas, folk music to promote national integration should be regularly broadcast.

**(c) Television**

Television is a very powerful mass media of communication for national integration. Its coverage will increase in the years to come, but to launch this programme on a massive scale, a pilot project may be started in Delhi where TV is already there.

**(d) Films**

Films like television can also go a long way in promoting national integration.

**(4) Voluntary Organisations**

The voluntary organisations already engaged in such activities should accelerate their tempo. There was general consensus that voluntary organisations are in a unique position to inculcate ideas like selfless service to the community and the nation, sacrificing personal gain for national gain etc.

*(a) Political Organisations :*

Political parties have a special role to play in promoting national integration. Seminars or Workshops on national integration for political leaders should be organised.

*(b) Religious Organisations*

Religious organisations can substantially help in promoting national integration. Lessons such as tolerance, helpfulness, fellow-feeling, selflessness and truthfulness are found in all religions and should be taken advantage of. Religious organisations which promote communalism should be discouraged.

*(c) Trade Unions :*

The Trade Union leaders should draw-up codes of conduct wherein damage to national property, creation of a feeling of segregation on the basis of caste, religion etc. should be deplored.

**(5) National Service Corps**

The groups unanimously agreed that National Service Corps recently established in the Universities can help bring national integration in several ways, such as organising work camps and undertaking self-help projects.

**(6) General Suggestions**

One group gave the following general suggestions to promote national integration :

- (a) A symbol depicting national integration could go a long way in giving visual publicity to the concept. The Indian Adult Education Association may take suitable steps to have a proper symbol produced through an All India competition or by some other means.
- (b) National Solidarity Day, which is October 20, every year could be effectively used to achieve the goal of national integration.
- (c) Exchange of teachers among different states as well as motivating them to learn other Indian languages.



## Messages

**President, Shri V. V. Giri**

I am glad to learn that the Indian Adult Education Association will hold its 17th National Seminar on 'Adult Education and National Integration,' at Gauhati, in October 1969. I send my greetings to the delegates who will attend the Seminar and my best wishes to the organisers for its success.

**Vice-President, Shri G. S. Pathak**

I am glad to know that the Indian Adult Education Association is organising its 17th National Seminar at Gauhati on 'Adult Education and National Integration' from the 26th to the 28th October, 1969. I congratulate the Association for arranging such Seminars on problems facing the country. I hope the discussions will be fruitful.

I send my best wishes for the success of the Seminar.

**Home Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan**

I am glad to know that the Indian Adult Education Association propose to hold a Seminar on 'Adult Education and National Integration' at Gauhati on October 26, 1969. Education is possibly the most powerful vehicle of social change. Adult Education has a prime of place in the scheme of things mainly as an accelerator of the process and as a means which can help us to rise above narrow loyalties and unite to work for development.

The Indian Adult Education Association has been doing commendable work in this field. I trust the proposed Seminar would evoke enthusiasm among the people for the cause of adult education.

My good wishes.

**Education Minister, Dr. V. K.R.V. Rao**

I regret I have to deny myself the pleasure of associating myself with this important Seminar since I shall be abroad during that period. However, I would like to send my best wishes for the success of the Seminar, whose subject is of vital importance for the country today.

**Labour and Rehabilitation Minister, Shri J.L. Hathi**

In a country like ours where primary education had for long been neglected, the sizable portion of the adult population was forced to live in the penumbra of illiteracy. The valuable work done by voluntary associations like the Indian Adult Education Association has been bringing light to the people. I hope the Association will continue its mission unabated, since it is only through properly guided education that we can achieve true national integration. The proposed Seminar will certainly provide an unique opportunity for exchange of views on the best possible manner in which adult education can be utilized to promote national integration.

I send my best wishes for the success of the Seminar.

**Chief Minister of Haryana, Shri Bansi Lal**

The expansion of educational programmes is essential for forging the bonds of common citizenship, harnessing energies of people and developing the natural and human resources of the country. It is, therefore, of utmost importance that official and non-official organisations should make joint and concerted efforts to wipe out illiteracy from the country.

The Indian Adult Education Association has been doing excellent job by serving the cause of education. I hope it will show still better results in future.

I send my best wishes to the organisers and participants of the 17th National Seminar being held at Gauhati and hope their deliberations would help to expedite the process of educating the masses.

**Chief Minister of Mysore, Shri Veerendra Patil**

I am glad to note that the Indian Adult Education Association, New Delhi, is organising the 17th National Seminar at Gauhati to discuss the problems of Adult Education and National Integration in the last week of Oct. 1969. I am aware of the good work the Association is doing since last 30 years. It has done the best to popularise Adult Education.

I wish the Seminar success.

**Chief Minister of Nagaland, Shri Hokishe Sema**

A cursory glance over the progress of the advanced nations would show that three things have gone to speed up their march : Education, Administrative efficiency and correct priorities. But education takes the place of precedence. How can you expect a nation with 30 per cent literate men and women to understand the significance of democracy and respect the over all national needs and demands as against their own problems. In this world of fierce competition and highly organised societies only an educated nation can keep its head high. Although over half a century has passed since we started our adult education, our progress has been woefully slow. I wish if it could be accelerated. Today, when over about 100 delegates from all over the country representing the Central and State Ministries and Departments, Universities and other Organisations are meeting, let me hope some effective methods to fulfil our long cherished dream of educating every adult in the country, would be evolved.

I wish the organisers all success.

**Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Dr. D. R. Gadgil**

I am happy to learn that the Indian Adult Education Association is organising a National Seminar at Gauhati on the theme of "Adult Education and National Integration". At present, we require maximum goodwill and unity in our country to face the great tasks before us. We have to integrate the people of our country and organise them for common tasks. Through suitable programmes of adult education, organised by the State Governments and voluntary organisations like the Indian Adult Education Association, we should be able to motivate adults to take an appropriate part in this endeavour. I hope that the Seminar will pay attention to this problem in all its bearings. I hope that the Seminar will be able to formulate an action-oriented programme for all concerned.

I wish the Seminar all success.

**State Minister for Education, Shri Bhakt Darshan**

I am glad to learn that your Association is proposing to organise its 17th National Seminar at Gauhati on the theme of "Adult Education and National Integration" in the last week of the next month. This is a very appropriate and timely idea and deserves support from all quarters.

It is really a matter of great anxiety for us that the question of adult education has not so far received as much attention as it deserves. Our democracy cannot be successful as long as our vast masses of people are not only literate but are sufficiently educated; and I feel even our very existence as a united and unified nation cannot be guaranteed. The whole concept of national integration depends on the fact that our masses are sufficiently educated and are in a position to realise the advantages of keeping the country united and integrated.

I, therefore, hope that the National Seminar that you are proposing to hold at Gauhati will inspire all people interested in this work to put in still more enthusiastic labours in this field, so that our goal is achieved as early as possible. I, therefore, send my very best greetings and good wishes to all the participants of the Seminar and wish them all success.

**Member, Planning Commission, Shri B.D. Nag Chaudhuri**

I am happy to learn that the Indian Adult Education Association is organising the 17th National Seminar from 26th to 28th October, 1969 and is bringing out a Souvenir on this occasion.

The number of illiterates in our country runs into 150 million adults in the age group of 15-44. Our efforts in this direction do not seem to have made the necessary dent into this problem. The magnitude of the problem is such that it is a handicap to the entire developmental process. Unless we can make sufficient progress towards removing illiteracy whether through functional literacy concept or through any other method our entire developmental effort will be seriously retarded. Voluntary organisations like the Indian Adult Education Association has a serious responsibility towards the removal of illiteracy. The token of its success will be what fraction of this problem they can solve and to what extent they can enlist the voluntary cooperation and support of our youth and other citizens.

I hope the seminar will not only have a fruitful discussion but will throw up concrete suggestions for action and will result in greater efforts in the operation of programmes of adult education. I shall look forward to the discussions of the seminar and the results that follow with interest.

I wish the Seminar every success.

**Deputy Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Dr. Sarojini Mahishi**

The Indian Adult Education Association which is organising the 17th National Seminar deserves all appreciation. In the context of the International Education Year, this is all the more important. Education is the most basic need in the country today.

I wish the Seminar all success.

**Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras, Shri N.D. Sundravadivelu**

I am glad to learn that the Indian Adult Education Association is organising its 17th National Seminar at Gauhati from the 26th to 28th October, and that the subject chosen for the Seminar is "Adult Education and National Integration." In the context of the conditions prevailing in the country now, it is very essential that citizens should be educated on their duties and responsibilities. The country needs the dedicated services of the educationists at the different stages of education. It is heartening to know that the Indian Adult Education Association has been serving the cause of adult education for over thirty years. I hope the discussions in the Seminar will result in the formulation of policies and programmes which will contribute to the enlightenment and uplift of the masses of the people.

I wish the Seminar every success.

**Director, Department of Out-of-School Education, UNESCO,  
Shri A. Deleon**

As you know, over several years UNESCO has followed with interest your various activities in the field of education and we value the links that have developed with your Association. The message you received from the Director-General in 1967 for the National Seminar on the role of schools in the promotion of adult education is a testimony to this.

UNESCO wishes every success for the National Seminar which, I am sure, will clarify the significant contributions which adult education can make to the process of national integration.



## List of Delegates

### ANDHRA PRADESH

1. *Miss Williamson, E.S.*, Church of South India, Cuddapah.

### ASSAM

2. *Shri Ahmed, Ashrafuddin*, Social Education Organiser, Barkhetri Bongsar Development Block, Distt. Kamrup.
3. *Shri Ali, Md. Hatem*, Social Education Organiser, Boitamari Development Block, P.O. Boitamari, Distt. Goalpara.
4. *Miss Amiya Gogai*, Lady Social Education Organiser, Central Jorhat Dev. Block, Distt. Sibsagar.
5. *Shri Boroowaah, B.*, Social Education Organiser, Gavan Development Block, Distt. Darrang.
6. *Shri Bhattacharyya, A.C.*, Social Education Organiser, Mayang Development Block, P.O. Jagi Rd., Bhakatgaon, Distt. Nowgong.
7. *Shri Bhuyan, C.K.*, Asstt. Director of Education, NEFA, Shillong.
8. *Shri Bhuyan, S.K.*, Social Education Organiser, Jorhat Development Block, Jorhat-B, Distt. Sibsagar.
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10. *Shri Chakaravarty, S.*, Social Education Organiser, Nongstoin, Sonapahar Development Block, P.O. Nongstoin.
11. *Shri Chamuah, R.N.*, Social Education Organiser, Kathitali Development Block, Rengeng.
12. *Smt. Choudhary, M.*, Lady Social Education Organiser, Dimoria Development Block, Dimoria, Distt. Kamrup.
13. *Miss Das, S.K.*, Lady Social Education Organiser, North Karimganj Development Block, Distt. Cachar.
14. *Shri Das, S.C.*, Social Education Organiser, Ramkrishnanagar Development Block, P.O. Ramkrishnanagar, Distt. Cachar.
15. *Shri Dasgupta, S.*, Social Education Organiser, South Karimganj Development Block, P.O. Nilambazar, Distt. Cachar.
16. *Shri Dutta, N.*, Social Education Organiser, Rongram Development Block, P.O. Rongram, Goro Hills.
17. *Miss Gohain, D.*, Lady Social Education Organiser, Lanka Development Block, P.O. Lanka, Distt. Nowgong.

18. *Shri Goswami, R.*, Social Education Organiser, Chenga Development Block, Distt. Kamrup.
19. *Shri Kakab, B.*, Social Education Organiser, Gouripur Development Block, P.O. Gouripur, Distt. Goalpara.
20. *Shri Kolossingh, S* , Social Education Organiser, Mawkyrwat Distt., U.K.J. Hills.
21. *Shri Majumder, S.M.*, Principal, Post Graduate Training College, Jorhat.
22. *Shri Mandha, L.P.*, Social Education Organiser, Chokpot T.D. Block, Chokpot P.O., Distt. Garo Hills.
23. *Shri Pathak, K.C* , Social Education Organiser, Baska Development Block, Massapur P.O., Distt. Kamrup.
24. *Shri Patwari, B.N.*, Block Development Officer, B.D.O. Dimoia, Somapur.
25. *Shri Paul, J.C.*, Social Education Organiser, Bilasipara Development Block, Stage II, Raniganj.
26. *Shri Phukan, N.*, Social Education Organiser, Central Jorhat Development Block, Distt. Sibsagar.
27. *Miss Rani, F.E.*, June Cottage Mission Camp, Shillong.
28. *Shri Roy, N.N* , Joint Secretary, Bajali Pregati Sangh, Pathsala, P.O. Pathsala, Distt. Kamrup.
29. *Shri Saikia, G.C* , Social Education Organiser, Huwraghat T.D. Block, P.O. Howraghat, Mikir Hills
30. *Shri Saikia H.K.*, Social Education Organiser, Golaghat North Development Block, Dergaon.
31. *Miss Saikhumi*, Lady Social Education Organiser, Ayal Tribal Development Block Stage II, Mizo Distt., P.O. Syal.
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34. *Shri Sarmah, U.N.*, Social Education Organiser, P.O. Makum, Hapjan, Development Block, P.O. Makum.
35. *Shri Saxena, G.K* , Asstt. Development Commissioner, Deptt. of Development, Gauhati.
36. *Shri Talukdar, B.K* , Lecturer, Deptt. of Education, University of Gauhati, Gauhati.
37. *Shri Thaisen, H.*, Distt. Social Education Officer, Diphu, United North, Cachar & Mikir Hills.
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42. *Shri Anjani Kumar*, Secretary, Inter University Board of India and Ceylon, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi.
43. *Shri Begg, M.M.*, Principal, School of Correspondence Courses & Continuing Education, Delhi University, Delhi.
44. *Shri Chaturvedi, B.N.*, Dy. Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Delhi Administration, Delhi.
45. *Shri Dutta, S.C.*, Hony. General Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association, 17-B, Indraprastha Marg, New Delhi.
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59. *Shri Patel, I.J.*, Vice-Chancellor, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar.
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82. *Shri Thippeswamy, C L.*, Distt. Social Education Officer, Chitradurga.
83. *Shri Viswamoorthy, P.*, Syndicate Member, Karnatak University, P.O. Siruguppa, Bellary Distt.

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84. *Shri Aier, I.T.*, S.I. (Adult Education), Govt. of Nagaland, Directorate of Education, Kohima.
85. *Shri Metha, T.*, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Govt. of Nagaland, P.O. Kohima, Nagaland.
86. *Miss Shuya, B.*, Editor, Ketho Mukovi, Kohima.

#### ORISSA

87. *Shri Rout, D.D.*, Dy. Director of Public Instruction, Govt. of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

#### PUNJAB

88. *Dr. (Miss) Amrit, Kaur*, Research Fellow, Deptt. of Educational Research, Panjabi University, Patiala.

#### RAJASTHAN

89. *Shri Bhai Bhagwan*, Principal, Janta College, Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, Udaipur.
90. *Shri Charan, C.D.*, Principal, Bhartiya Vidya Mandir, Bikaner.
91. *Smt. Dandiya, C.K.*, Director, Deptt. of Adult Education, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

92. *Shri Garg, B.S.*, Principal, Panchayati Raj Training Centre, Rajasthan Vidya-peth, Udaipur.
93. *Shri Gupta, B.B.*, Inspector of Schools, Ajmer.
94. *Shri Jaisani, K.M.*, Director, Lok Shikshan Vibhag, Rajasthan Vidyapeth, Udaipur.
95. *Shri Kurawat, B.L.*, Dy. Director of Education Govt. of Rajasthan, Udaipur.
96. *Shri Lohani, L.K.*, Inspector of Schools, Bhilwara.
97. *Shri Makhan Singh*, Inspector of Schools, Bikaner.
98. *Dr. Mehta, M.S.*, President, Indian Adult Education Association, Seva Mandir, Udaipur.
99. *Smt. Mukerjee, M.K.*, Asstt. Director, Panchayat & Development, Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
100. *Shri Pandia, R.P.*, Convener, Literacy Committee, Praudh Shiksha Samiti, Bikaner.
101. *Shri Paul, Y.S.*, Organising Secretary, Praudh Shiksha Samiti, Praudh Shiksha Bhawan, Bikaner.
102. *Shri Shah, L.R.*, Director, Centre for Continuing Education, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
103. *Shri Sharma, M.R.*, Headmaster, Govt. Sadul M.P. Higher Secondary School, Bikaner.
104. *Shri Soni, R.N.*, Organiser, Adult Education, Govt. Sadul Higher Secondary School, Bikaner.
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106. *Miss Patankar, Prema S.*, Member, Adult Education Association, Madras, 15, Ramachandra Iyer St. T. Nagar, Madras.
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#### UTTAR PRADESH

103. *Dr. Chatterjee, B.B.*, Prof. of Psychology, Gandhian Institute of Studies, Rajghat, Varanasi.
109. *Shri Pande, B.M.*, Registrar, Gandhian Institute of Studies, Rajghat, Varanasi.
110. *Sri Srivastava, R.S.*, Head of the Training Deptt., Literacy House, P.O. Singarnagar, Lucknow.
111. *Miss Sudarshan Kumari*, Junior Research Fellow, Gandhian Institute of Studies, Varanasi.

112. *Shri Tripathi, Veerendra*, Literacy House, P.O. Singarnagar, Lucknow.
113. *Smt. Trivedi, Sheela*, Principal, Family Life Centre, Literacy House, P.O. Singarnagar, Lucknow.

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117. *Shri Maitra, S.N.*, Secretary, Bengal Social Service League, 1/6, Raja Dinendra St., Calcutta.
118. *Smt. Maitra, S.*, C/o Bengal Social Service League, 1/6, Raja Dinendra St., Calcutta.
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<i>Secretary</i>	Shri D. Sarma
<i>Administrative Coordinator</i>	Shri N. R. Gupta
<i>Chief Rapporteur</i>	Shri J. L. Sachdeva
<i>Group Chairmen :</i>	Shri I. J. Patel
	Shri B. L. Kurawat
	Dr. T. A. Koshy
	Shri Satyen Maitra
	Shri D. Rout
<i>Group Rapporteurs :</i>	Shri B. M. Pande
	Dr. (Miss) P. Chari
	Dr. (Miss) Amrit Kaur
	Dr. (Miss) Sushila Mehta
	Shri S. M. Majumder



## Programme

**Sunday 26th October, 1969**

10.00 to 11.45 a.m.

### INAUGURAL FUNCTION

1. Invocation Song
2. Welcome Address
3. Inaugural Address—*Chief Minister of Assam*
4. Messages
5. Seminar Director's Address
6. Presidential Address—*Education Minister of Assam*
7. Vote of Thanks—*Dr. M.S. Mehta*
8. National Anthem

12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m.

### FIRST PLENARY SESSION

- (a) Discussion and Finalization of Working Paper,
- (b) Formation of Groups and Committees.

2.00 to 2.30 p.m.

### SECOND PLENARY SESSION

- (a) Elucidation of Item No. 1 of the Working Paper.

2.30 to 4.15 p.m.

- (b) Group Discussion on Item No. 1.

4.30 p.m.

Reception by the Chief Minister of Assam.

**Monday 27th October, 1969**

9.00 to 11.00 a.m.

### THIRD PLENARY SESSION

- (1) Elucidation of Item No. 2 of the Working Paper.
- (2) Consideration of Group Reports on Item No. 1.

2.30 to 3.00 p.m.

### FOURTH PLENARY SESSION

- (a) Elucidation of Item No. 3 of the Working Paper.

3.00 to 5.00 p.m.

- (b) Group Discussion on Item No. 3.

6.30 to 8.15 p.m.

- (c) Cultural Programme.

**Tuesday 28th October, 1969**

9.00 to 11.00 a.m.

### FIFTH PLENARY SESSION

Discussion of Group Reports on Item No. 2 & 3.

11.15 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Finalization of the Seminar Report.

2.30 to 4.00 p.m.

### SIXTH PLENARY SESSION

- (1) Director's Report.
- (2) Recommendations.

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on Adult Education