

## Mother Russia by Luba George

### Soviets say: 'Too many Indians'

*The U.S.S.R. is openly taking the Club of Rome position on the issue of Third World population growth.*

**T**he Soviets' officially stated policy on the Indian population question appeared in the latest issue of the Soviet English-language magazine *Asia and Africa Today*, just in time for a United Nations-sponsored Conference on Population and Development in India held Feb. 17.

The Soviets call attention to the "violent demographic explosion" internal to India itself. The article reads: "...Every one and half seconds a child is born in the country. The population grows by a total of 13 million a year. India was the first among other countries to introduce a system of birth control. Yet the population growth rate remains high. If the same rate continues, one billion people will be living in India by the year 2000, that is, one out of every six people in the world (and today this is one out of every seven) will be an Indian."

The Soviet line on the Indian population question is identical with that of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Club of Rome, and the Harriman-Bundy group at the "Population Crisis Committee" in the United States in espousing massive reduction of black-, brown-, and yellow-skinned populations in the developing sector.

K. C. Zachariah of the World Bank was quoted on the front page of the Feb. 17 *Wall Street Journal* commenting on the demographic problem with Central America: "The story is simple. They didn't die." The "looming nightmare" of "overpopulation" is

caused by "a death dearth," concludes the *Journal*.

The IMF and World Bank are pushing Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi against the wall on the population question. Evidence of that can be found in her latest statement on that issue at the Feb. 17 Conference on Population and Development.

Prime Minister Gandhi, in her inauguration speech at the Conference titled "Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development," addressed the delegates from 33 countries with the following words:

"Developing countries cannot afford to opt for a long-term process of controlling population through development. They just do not have the time for this. Development is for the advanced countries, as prosperity itself is the effective contraceptive. . . ."

"India is one of the first countries to adopt family planning as a national policy. . . . Our target is to achieve a rate of 60 [births] per thousand by the end of the century. It has already come down 127 per thousand to 140 per thousand. . . ."

Indian Minister of Planning Chavan declared afterwards: "Zero Population Growth can be achieved [in India] by the end of the second decade of the next century." Such pronouncements follow exactly the Soviet-IMF-Club of Rome prescription for India.

While there is no excuse for the Indian government's capitulation on this issue, nonetheless the pressure on India is key in explaining the "tilt" that

has occurred. It is no coincidence that among those who attended the Population Conference in India included neo-Malthusian spokesmen Alexander King of the Club of Rome and Helmut Schmidt, former West German chancellor.

What's qualitatively new about the Soviet population policy statement which appeared in the Soviet issue of *Asia and Africa Today* is not the content but the openness with which it is expressed. (In private *EIR* has been told by Soviet diplomats, "Indians are a bunch of incompetents. They don't know what they're doing and you can't develop the country.")

It is not well known that a key founder of the Club of Rome was Dzhermen Gvishiani—son-in-law of the late Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin. In an exclusive interview with *EIR*, Dr. Alexander King, co-founder of the Club of Rome, described how in 1967, David Rockefeller picked up Aurelio Peccei, an employee of Gianni Agnelli, to establish a Malthusian coordinating center.

"Strangely enough," said King, "it was a Russian, Dzhermen Gvishiani, who was one of the first to respond. . . . I wrote to Peccei, put him in touch with Gvishiani. . . ." Gvishiani attended a Vienna founding session of the Club, and has continued to collaborate with it through the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Vienna (see *EIR*, June 23, 1981).

The *Asia and Africa Today* statement is racist on two counts: its content, and the contrast between Soviet prescriptions for India and other developing-sector nations, and Soviet policies of encouraging maximum population growth among Russians. As with Hitler's child-encouragement policies for Germans, so it is with Mother Russia and her blood and soil.