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Editorial Notes

The outlook

A feeling of uncertainty about the future development of the country seems to pervade after the sudden demise of our late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. We shall certainly miss his dynamic personality and push. Since we had become so accustomed to his energetic drive we now wonder whether we shall be able to maintain the same rate of progress or improve it without that external urge. It is now necessary for us to exercise our minds in introspection and rely on our own internal urge to further the progress without waiting for a similar successor.

Whoever may be the next prime minister and whatever may be his character or the policy he may adopt, it must be our duty to cooperate with every effort for the betterment of this country in particular and the world at large. It is very gratifying to find that democratic choice has fallen on the genial personality of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri with whom co-operation will be easy.

Farakka Barrage & Haldia Port

The problem of maintaining and improving the navigability of the River Hooghly is still with us. The continued siltation and increasing frequency of bore tides has led to thought of methods for increasing the head-waters by the construction of a Barrage at Farakka and the establishment of a port at Haldia. Some new problems that might arise as a consequence of these proposals are discussed in a paper read by Sri Kapil Bhattacharjee at a recent Meeting of the Association of Engineers. The paper is published in this issue.

To aid those who have to deal with technical features of ship design we have included in this issue some of the common formulae frequently required and some hints regarding procedure in design to minimise labour.