

# On Men & Matters

—R. V.

## MR. V. KRISHNAMOORTHY

THE CONFERMENT of the Business Leadership Award on Mr V. Krishnamoorthy, Chairman and Managing Director of the Bharat Heavy Electricals, in succession to industrial giants like Mr J. R. D. Tata, Mr Arvind Mafatlal and Dr Bharat Ram is unique in more sense than one. In the first place, the award has gone to a professional manager who does not hold any financial interest in the enterprise. Secondly, it is a recognition of the efficiency of some of the public sector enterprises and public sector managers in the entire panorama of industrial structure and management in the country. It was stated at the Award conferment ceremony that the selection committee had reviewed the performance of industrialists and professional managers regardless of the sector to which they belonged and reached the unanimous conclusion that Mr Krishnamoorthy deserved the award by virtue of his outstanding performance as Chairman and Managing Director of the BHEL. It was also the unanimous view of the elite audience who had gathered in their thousands to witness the ceremony that there could have been no better choice.

On the sudden demise of Mr Krishnan who was the Project Administrator of the Heavy Boiler Plant at Tiruchi, Mr Krishnamoorthy was appointed General Manager of the unit at the early age of 42. He galvanized the organization within a short time, reached production of the rated capacity, wiped out the losses and earned a profit—a rare feat in public sector enterprises. Mr Krishnamoorthy had the vision to foresee the need to keep abreast

of the advanced technology in the field and he concluded several collaboration agreements with international power equipment manufacturers in the United States. The research and development organization set up by Mr Krishnamoorthy bears testimony to his concern for quality and efficiency. The export order from Malaysia for two boilers to match 60 MW units initially and three 120 MW units later against stiff competition from developed countries has brought credit not only to Mr Krishnamoorthy but to the country also. Mr Krishnamoorthy is not only an excellent manager of materials but an



Mr V. Krishnamoorthy

equally great manager of men and he has an enviable record of staff and labour relations. During his stewardship of the Boiler Plant at Tiruchi, there was not a single day's loss of production through strike or lock-out. Calm, simple, soft-spoken and friendly, Mr Krishnamoorthy is the personification of the best definition of a gentleman. We are sure that the award he has received is only the first of a series of national and international distinctions that are coming his way in the years ahead.

## HAILE SELASSIE

THE DEMISE of Haile Selassie, former Emperor of Ethiopia, at the ripe age of 83 removed from

the scene an ancient and colourful symbol of monarchy. Reputed to be in the direct line of descent from King Solomon and Queen Sheba, Emperor Haile Selassie ruled over Ethiopia for 57 years until he was thrown out by a military coup last year. He also fled from his country and took refuge in the United Kingdom during the Italian aggression under the fascist leader, Mussolini, in the early thirties of this century and suffered many privations. Under his leadership, Ethiopia remained steadfast with the non-aligned countries and supported all progressive measures in the United Nations. He encouraged the development of modern industries and invited co-operation and assistance from abroad. A person of liberal views, he was always respected by the African as well as Asian countries. The saying 'Uneasy lies the head that wears the Crown' was too true in his case.

## Newly-discovered "Grains" of matter

SERPUKHOV (USSR): A discovery of major significance was recently made by Soviet physicists and the scientists of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN). Two experiments were conducted independently by the mixed groups of physicists in the Institute of High Energy Physics on a high-capacity Serpukhov accelerator (near Moscow). The two groups of experimentors, applying different methods of research, obtained the same results. They discovered a particle, neutral meson, whose mass exceeds twice that of proton.

The newly-discovered particle, which was named *h-meson*, is extremely short-lived, its life-span being the 10 in minus 23rd power part of a second. In the scientists' view, the discovery of the new particle, which has been added to the group of known "grains" of matter, will bring about new revelations in the field of nuclear research.