

basis of study of economic data for the development of the country, it is to be hoped that the Government of India will take early steps to give effect to the recommendations of the experts and arrange for an

Economic Census of India at an early date, even if the Economic Advisory Organisation recommended by Sir Arthur Salter is to wait till the new Constitution is in operation.

NEWS

WHY HAS TECHNOLOGY FAILED IN THE THIRD WORLD?

... "In many developing nations there are wide gaps between grand schemes and snail-paced progress, between official claims and realities in the field, participants [in a seminar, 'Communication and Education,' run by U. Guadalajara, Mexico] found. Claudio de Moura Castro [a Brazilian economist] called for greater reliance on 'low-tech' solutions, such as books, radio and the blackboard. Brazil, he said, has an elaborate computerized data bank, 'but nobody uses it.' Why look to costly high-technology transmission of information, he asked, when the job could be done more easily and more cheaply through the copying machine and the mails? ... Educational technology in the third world, said Oscar Soria [Ajijic Inst. of Internatl. Education], has gone through two stages: great expansion, followed by disappointment.

There has been progress, he said, but the hoped-for miracles never materialized. Much technology 'went into decay. Successes have been islands in an ocean of failure,' he concluded. Specifically, 'there are no global solutions to illiteracy.' He thought developing countries may have come to 'the end of the importation of foreign solutions and that time and patience are needed to create local solutions.' The solution, he added, is not a gadget in orbit but training people on the ground to handle technology."

[(Fred M. Hechinger in *New York Times* 12 Mar 85, p. C9). Reproduced with permission from Press Digest, *Current Contents*®, No. 18, May 6, 1985, p. 13, (Published by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA.)]

ARGUMENTS AGAINST BLOOD DOPING

... "There are ... compelling arguments against the practice of blood doping. Even autologous blood is unsafe if it is not collected, stored, and transfused under careful medical supervision. If its use were to be permitted in prestigious international competitions, such as the Olympics, it would be inconsistent and unrealistic to ban it from highly competitive inter-collegiate sports programs; serious joggers would also be sorely tempted to use transfusion if it were medically acceptable and offered the prospect of a slightly improved best time in the Boston Marathon. Widespread recreational use of blood transfusions would inevitably result in serious injury to many normal, healthy persons ... Blood is a drug ...

Like other drugs, blood should be given only for medical indications. In 1976 the Medical Comm. of the Internatl. Olympic Committee formally condemned the practice of blood transfusion for athletes in good health. As of this writing, however, neither the Internatl. Olympic Committee nor the US Olympic Committee has explicitly forbidden blood doping. They should."

[(Harvey G. Klein (Natl. Insts. of Health) in *New England Journal of Medicine* 312(13):854-6, 28 Mar 85) (Reproduced with permission from Press Digest, *Current Contents*®, No. 23, June 10, 1985, p. 12. Published by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA.)]
