

TABLE 13
Milk production
 (in lakh tons)

| | 1971-72 | 1981-82 | 1985-86 | 1985-86 per capita production in kg |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Bihar | 17.5 | 20.4 | 24.2 | 31.8 |
| India | 211.7 | 334.0 | 423.1 | 56.7 |
| Punjab | 21.4 | 34.9 | 40.2 | 220.9 |

free, nuclear power plants would be the best available choice.

Transportation. Transport development is essential to open up the state to its own population. There is hardly any question that at least six more bridges are required to span the Ganges across the state. Preferably these bridges should be two-level—one for the railroads and the other for motor vehicles. The rivers Kosi, Gandak, Ghaghara, and Son, as well as the Ganges, ought to be made navigable for barges to carry freight. Even seasonal use of these rivers for freight transport would benefit the economy. Further, an extensive network of rail lines, connecting to the interstate rail lines, needs to be developed in both north and south Bihar.

It can be done

These are some of the basic programs needed to make Bihar move. If such programs are implemented, some of the social problems will vanish, though not all. What is certain is that without such large-scale infrastructure programs, the state cannot be kept in one piece.

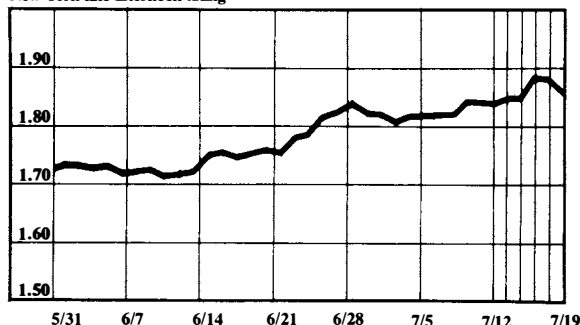
To achieve success in these basic areas, Bihar will have to put more people to work than it can mobilize. At the same time, completion of each phase of work in the basic areas will lead Bihar to become an agro-industrial state able to absorb manpower at a faster rate than the expected growth of its population. Such a process will provide meaningful and productive employment not only to the landless laborers in the rural areas, but also to those now practicing fraud in the streets of Patna to make a living.

What will Bihar look like? It will be an agro-industrial state producing some food crops, many cash crops, including cattle fodder to keep its cattle away from grazing. It will mine coal, iron ore, bauxite, copper, ore, pyrites, fireclay, and other ores abundantly available in the state. It will have the basic industries, such as more steel mills, aluminum plants, copper extraction plants, machine tools, engineering industries, etc. The population will be employed in agriculture, mining and quarrying and basic industrial and engineering manufacturing activities. But the real bulk of employment has to be generated in developing a highly productive small-scale industrial sector, with a few people in each enterprise and advanced machine tools. It is a necessary and realizable vision.

Currency Rates

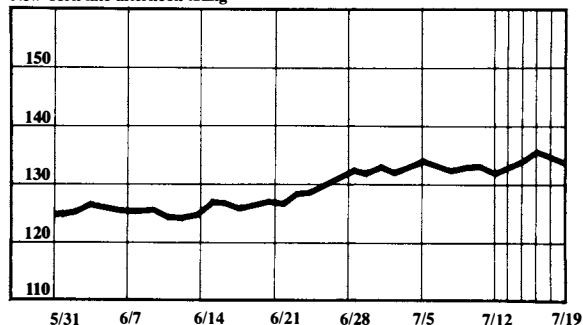
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



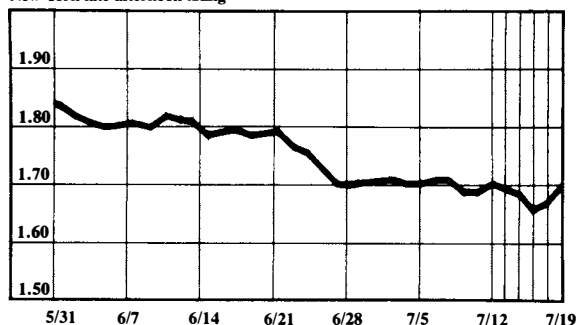
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

