

Libny - Gave

TIMES OF INDIA 12-3-01

US doesn't want India to progress: Krishna

The Times of India News Service

BANGALORE: Chief Minister Krishna said on Sunday that there is an "intense undercurrent of hostility" from the USA to India, as it fears the latter's capacity to export hundreds of items to the international markets.

Speaking at a function to release a book by former J&K Sadr-e-Riyasat Karan Singh on his (Singh's) 70th birthday, Krishna alleged that the US did not want India to progress, prosper and become strong. "There will be number of international traps set by developed countries for developing countries like India but we will not fall into them as long as eminent thinkers like Singh are around us," he added.

Krishna recalled his days as opposition MP in the Rajya Sabha during late 60s when Singh was in Congress. He said; "I was a fire-breathing socialist who opposed the privy purses. many in his party wanted privy purses to continue,



Fouzia Hamza

Chief Minister Krishna discusses a point with former Jammu and Kashmir Sadr-e-Riyasat Karan Singh at a function to release the latter's book, *As I See It — The Karan Singh Reader*, in Bangalore on Sunday.

but Singh took a principled stand for its abolition. He is a man of conviction."

Singh rued that fundamentalist forces had gained in strength referring to Taliban's decision to destroy the Bamiyan Buddha statues in Afghanistan. However, he expressed confidence that India would be able to combat this effectively.

The book titled *As I See It — The Karan Singh Reader*, is published by Full Circle. It offers a representative selection of his writings and has been divided into seven sections — India, Philosophy, Education, Political Life, Interfaith Harmony, World Peace and Global Consciousness.

'J&K ceasefire futile': The unilateral ceasefire in Kashmir is a futile exercise as it had not been backed by political initiatives, Singh told reporters here. The truce will be meaningful only if it is accompanied by initiative to restore peace.