



## HARNESSING YOUTH ENERGY FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

National Seminar on "Youth as an Agent of Social Change" has strongly condemned the cult of violence currently prevailing among the youth. It has recommended that immediate steps must be taken to curb this tendency, particularly, if their participation is sought in efforts to establish a just social order. Reaffirming faith in the "Gandhian way" the countrywide participants felt that it is the only way of bringing about change in the social and economic structure.

The three-day Seminar was organized by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development to coincide with International Youth Year. Its main objective was to develop a strategy for involving youth in various programmes of social change and development.

In his inaugural address on March 18, Shri Anand Sharma, M.P. emphasized that there is a need for revolutionary

change in the attitudes and values of youth themselves for ensuring unity, integrity and strength of the nation. Recognizing the potentialities of youth to contribute to change and development, Dr. D Paul Chowdhry, the then Director, NIPCCD stressed need to create a conducive environment.

Speaking on the role of youth in removal of social injustice, Mr P M Tripathi, Associate Secretary, Association of Voluntary

Agencies in Rural Development said that given the right kind of guidance and motivation, they can really do wonderful work in accelerating the process of change towards a just society. He said that their indomitable spirit has been able to build up substantial pressure on the government and vested interests as well as on enlightened public opinion.

Dr K V Sridharan of Deen Dayal Research Institute called upon youth to themselves initiate action against deep rooted social evils. He was speaking

