

**MERITORIOUS ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY PROMINENT
INDIAN LEADERS TO THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA AFTER
THE PROCLAMATION OF ITS INDEPENDENCE IN 1945**

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

In the critical years after the Proclamation of Indonesia's Independence on August 17, 1945, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, as a prominent and outstanding Indian Leader, had provided full moral and diplomatic support to newly born Republic of Indonesia. This crucial support had strengthened the Indonesian national struggle to successfully thwart attempts by the Dutch Government to regain control over Indonesia.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru convened international conferences in support of Indonesia in April 1947 and in 1949 in New Delhi.

Under his leadership, India alongwith Burma and other newly independent countries persuaded the UN Security Council to intervene and resolve the conflict between Indonesia and the colonial Dutch Government.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK

Shri Biju Patnaik, a trained pilot, acted as an emissary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and flew several missions to Indonesia without caring for the Dutch military blockade.

One of his most notable missions was to fly Indonesia's Vice-President, Dr. Mohammad Hatta, to New Delhi from Bukit Tinggi in West Sumatra. He also kept the Indonesia fighters in Yogyakarta supplied with medicines and other essential items. His VT-CLA aircraft was shot down by Dutch forces in Yogyakarta on July 29, 1948.

SHRI MUHAMMAD YUNUS

The veteran Indian Freedom fighter and a close associate of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Muhammad Yunus was appointed to the post of first Indian Representative to Indonesia. Above all, he became vital link of communications between President Soekarno, vice-President Mohammad Hatta and Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in supporting Indonesian national struggle to defend its independence during a very sensitive and crucial period of Indonesia.

SHRI P. R. S. MANI

Shri P. R. S. Mani, a war journalist, had actively covered and broadcast news of Indonesian struggle against the Dutch military forces to the international community.

Later, Shri P. R. S. Mani was appointed to be Indian Representative to Indonesia as successor to Shri Muhammad Yunus. He took part in the Afro-Asian Conference in New Delhi 1949 in support of Indonesian independence, and endeavoured to consolidate and deepen ties between India and Indonesia to their mutual benefit.