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JP: Response to autonomy meet encouraging

MADRAS, July 20.

Sarvodaya leader Jayaprakash Narayan said today that the response to the proposed conference on the State autonomy "is very encouraging."

He told UNI that he and his colleagues were going ahead with the preparatory work for the conference which might be held by the end of September next.

Mr. Narayan said other details like the venue and the number of persons to be invited were being worked out. He made it clear that the conference being convened by him was "entirely non-partisan."

Mr. Narayan declined to comment on the criticism of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister P. C. Sethi on the role of Sarvodaya workers in the surrender of dacoits and his (Mr. Narayan's) remarks on the concentration of power.

Mr. Sethi had stated yesterday in Bhopal that he would not spare Mr. Narayan if he criticised the Prime Minister. He quoted Mr. Narayan as having said that there should not be concentration of power in one hand—UNI.