

India—Garhwal

Kamet. A 13-man Indian expedition led by Anil Deb climbed Kamet (25,447 feet) on September 20. The summit team was deputy leader Pranesh Chowdhury and Sherpas Lapka Tsering and Nima Dorje.

Peaks above Balbala Glacier. An Indian expedition led by Dr. Amiya Kumar Hati climbed in northern Garhwal. Base Camp was above Mana at Chandhumka at 15,200 feet and Advanced Base on the Balbala Glacier at 16,400 feet. Camp II was set up at 18,000 feet on an unnamed glacier southeast of the Balbala on October 18. On the 19th Baidyanath Rakshit, Barun Kumar Ghosh and Sherpas Chhunje and Lapka started up P 19,800. A 400-foot rock wall required fixed rope. They gained the summit at 1:30 P.M. On October 21 from Base Camp Dhruba Jyoti Ghosh and Lakpa climbed a 19,000-foot peak to the east.

Mahalay and Mandani. Dr. G.R. Patwardhan, leader, S.N. Apte, and M.V. Gokhale with high-altitude porters Ganga Singh Negi, Dilip Singh, Bijendra Singh Negi and Kripal Singh Negi climbed above Gangotri. Base Camp was set up at Tapovan (14,500 feet) on June 1 and Camp I (15,000 feet) on June 4. Patwardhan and Gokhale climbed an unnamed satellite (17,200 feet) of Kedarnath Dome on June 5. Camps II and III (15,800 and 17,000 feet) were established on June 6 and 7. Apte, Gokhale, Bijendra and Kripal climbed virgin Mahalay (19,330 feet) on June 8 by way of the Ghanohim Glacier. Patwardhan, Ganga, Kripal and Bijendra established Camp IV (17,800 feet) on June 9. On June 10 Kripal and Bijendra climbed Mandani (20,320 feet) by a difficult route.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Panchchuli II, Kumaon Himalaya. Beautiful, needle-shaped Panchchuli II is the highest of five peaks, traditionally known as the "five ovens" used by the five Pandava brothers during their journey to the Ultimate at the end of the *Mahabharat*. It had beaten back nine earlier attempts, both foreign and Indian. We were on ice and snow from 10,500 feet on. We used 10,000 feet of fixed rope. Eighteen members, including deputy leader J.S. Negi, of the 26-man team reached the summit on May 26. We left the roadhead at Munsiri on May 3, followed the Uttari Balati Gal and in four days located Base Camp at 11,500 feet a kilometer above the snout of the Uttari Balati Gal. Camp I was at 14,000 feet on a terrace close to the third icefall, Camp II at 16,000 feet in the basin of the glacier and Camp III at 19,000 feet where the Uttari and Kakshini Balati glaciers fork. Camp IV was at 20,000 feet at the foot of the southwest ridge of Panchchuli II. Between Base and Camp I it was hazardous because of séracs and the constantly disintegrating glacier.