



# THE NATIONALIST

An Indian perspective

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Special Article

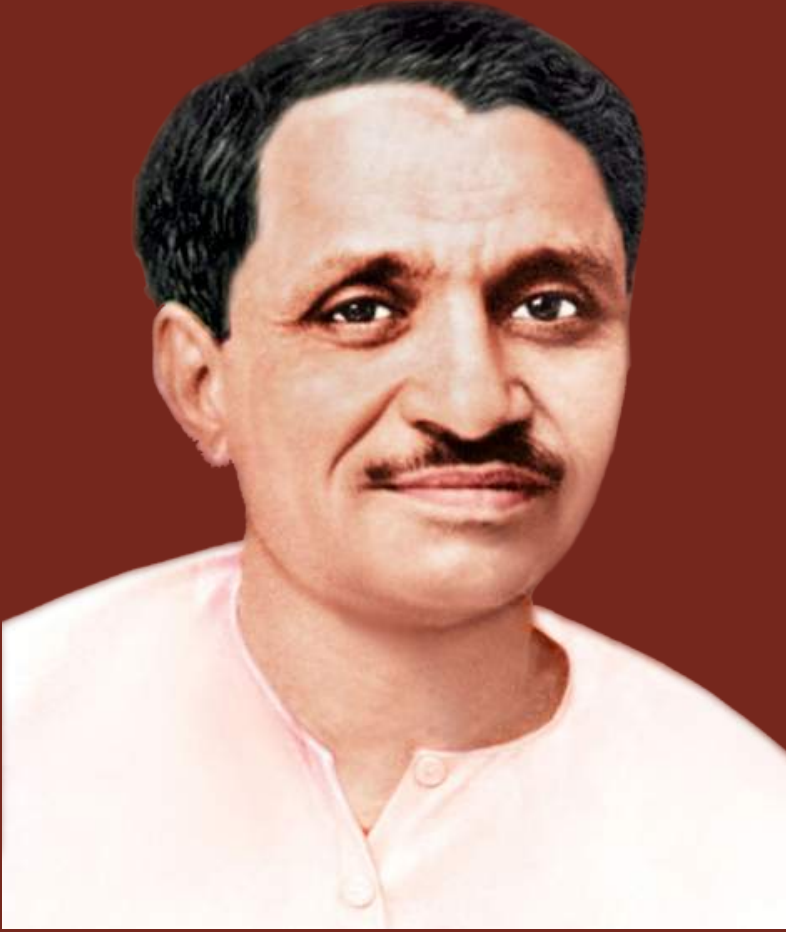
- **Modi's Trinity of Schemes which will Growth-Boost India**
- **North East India and the Modi Government**

**Modi Govt's Major Initiatives in Agriculture Sector in 1 Year**

**India's World of Diplomacy Special Coverage**

**Modinomics: Financial Inclusion and Engaging With the Poor**

## राष्ट्र का विचार लेकर आगे बढ़ें तो एक और एक मिलकर दो नहीं ग्यारह होंगे



“व्यक्तिगत, दलगत या वादगत कोई विचार लेकर चलने से प्रगति नहीं हो सकती। राजनीति आखिर राष्ट्र के लिए ही है। यदि राष्ट्र का विचार छोड़ दिया, यानी राष्ट्र की अस्मिता, उसके इतिहास, संस्कृति, सभ्यता को छोड़ दिया तो राजनीति का क्या उपयोग? राष्ट्र का स्मरण कर कार्य होगा तो सबका मूल्य बढ़ेगा। राष्ट्र को छोड़ा तो सब शून्य जैसा ही है। राष्ट्र का विचार लेकर आगे बढ़ें तो एक और एक मिलकर दो नहीं ग्यारह होते हैं।”

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## *Burre Din* - GONE

When Prime Minister Modi addressed the nation from Mathura on the occasion of the completion of one year by his Government he reiterated his commitment and that of his Government and Party to work for the last woman/man standing. He talked of his Government's larger national objective as being "Susashan" – "Good Governance" and the effort to make society feel secure after a decade of uncertainty, stagnation, insecurity and lack of direction.

Prime Minister was right when he said that a new faith, a new energy and a new dynamism is visible and this was because a year ago people took the right decision to vote for change, to vote for an alternative and to vote for hope and aspiration. That hope and aspiration has not been belied in the last one year – instead it has only been strengthened.

Those whose divisive political agendas have gone into oblivion, in the last one year, whose parlance of conflict and hate are not working anymore or those who have drained the resources of this country, for the last so many decades, in order to fill

their own or their dynastic coffers, are the ones who are unable to see the change or to digest its reality and freshness. Since they have most often run the country as a fiefdom or at the behest of some unelected or unelectable coterie of "policy-advisors", they have a fear or are uncomfortable with the approach of running this country in a spirit of a "Pradhan Santri" – Chief Guard or a "Pradhan Trustee" – Chief or Managing Trustee. True to his word, Prime Minister Modi has been in fact looking at governance in this country in the last one year as a "Pradhan Santri" and as a "Pradhan Trustee".

Dynasts or Communists can hardly understand both these terms in the Indian context. The ordinary people, the farmer, the villager, the tiller, the peasant, all neglected for the last six decades can recognize these terms and it is they who are feeling empowered and enthused. In fact those who have suddenly realized their new found concern for farmers are the ones who have allowed, for over 60 years, around 3 lakh famers to die. Those who are crying loudest and falsely about the Narendra Modi Government neglecting farmers have never tried

to find solutions to their plight despite being in power for so long.

Addressing a massive gathering at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's birthplace, PM Modi described how Mahatma Gandhi, Rammanohar Lohia and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya shaped India's political thinking and of how in their philosophy the poor, the village, the farmer and village upliftment were central. In the last one year, the Narendra Modi led BJP Government has in fact exclusively focused on empowering and connecting all of these. Every major scheme that has been launched, every new initiative that has been rolled out has been done for the benefit of these sections, for the welfare of the unattended and for the well-being of the marginalized.

Power circles and power centres are being dismantled and power brokers have disappeared. Scam and corruption scandals – a regular and weekly feature during UPA2 – are no longer heard of. No news of nepotism, no news of corruption has been heard of in the last one year. Every ounce of energy is dedicated towards the welfare of the marginalized through imaginative and innovative measures. Who but the Narendra Modi Government could have thought of allocating a percentage of the money that comes

from the coal auction process to the setting up a Foundation that will work for the benefit and welfare of Tribals of the region from where the coal comes. In essence the Narendra Modi Government is one which believes and works for the re-energisation of India and of national resources and systems.

Truly, let us rejoice, the bad days – *Burre Din* – are over and the good days – *Acche Din* – are here.

- Dr. Anirban Ganguly  
*Director, SPMRF*

## PM Modi's Letter on Economic Issues



My dear fellow citizens,

One year ago, you had entrusted me with the task of building a new India and putting a derailed economy back on track. We have achieved a lot. Economic growth has been revived, and is amongst the fastest in the world. Inflation is substantially down. Fiscal prudence has been restored. Confidence is up. Foreign investments have increased. This positive outlook is endorsed by major rating agencies and international institutions across the world.

Bold reforms pending for decades have been implemented. Diesel

prices have been decontrolled. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is slated to be introduced next year. By facilitating companies to Make in India through a focus on Ease of Doing Business, new jobs are being created. Cooking gas subsidies are being paid directly to beneficiary bank accounts under PAHAL – ensuring the right amount of subsidy, reaches the right people, at the right time. FDI limits in insurance, railways and defence production have been raised. Moreover, we have embraced the states as equal partners in national development, working as Team India in the spirit of cooperative and

competitive federalism.

Political interference in public sector banking decisions is a thing of the past. Transparent coal auctions and allotments have mobilized potential revenues of Rs. 3.35 lakh crores to coal-bearing states over the lifespan of mines. And reform in the Mines Act has replaced a discretionary mechanism with a transparent auction process. To combat black money, a Special Investigation Team has been appointed and a new stringent law passed.

Nearly Rs. 1 lakh crores of public investment have been allocated in this year's budget to improve physical as well as digital connectivity. A comprehensive transformation of the railways into a locomotive of growth has begun. Stalled highway projects are being restructured and revived. Power generation is at an all-time high. A new National Infrastructure Investment Fund has been set up with an annual government funding of Rs. 20,000 crores.

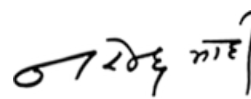
Economic growth benefits all Indians. Growth however, has meaning only if it empowers the poor, farmers, women, as well as middle and neo-middle classes of all communities. To enable us to continue paying remunerative prices to our farmers, we secured a

permanent 'peace clause' at the WTO. The world's largest financial inclusion project has brought banking to the doorsteps of the poor, opening a record 15 crore plus bank accounts with deposits of over Rs. 15,800 crores. An affordable social security system including pension, life insurance and accident insurance, has already witnessed 6.75 crore enrolments in its first week. MUDRA has been set up with a corpus of Rs. 20,000 crores to help our small businessmen, who despite being our biggest job creators have historically been starved of credit.

A lot has been achieved. However, this is just the beginning. There is much more to be done and I know your expectations are high. A year ago I gave you my word that while I might perhaps commit errors, I would always act with pure intentions and spend every available moment working for a better India. I have kept my word. I seek your continued support, suggestions and blessings in building the India of our dreams.

Always in your service.

Jai Hind!



NARENDRA MODI

## Text of PM's Address at the Launch of DD Kisan Channel



ये बात हमें मान करके चलना पड़ेगा कि अगर हमारे देश को आगे ले जाना है, तो हमारे देश के गांवों को आगे ले जाना ही पड़ेगा। गांव को आगे ले जाना है तो पेशे को प्राथमिकता देते हुए उसके बढ़ावा देना ही पड़ेगा। ये सीधा-साधा भारत के आर्थिक जीवन से जुड़ा हुआ सत्य है।

देश के किसानों के सामने लाल बहादुर शास्त्री जी के ने लक्ष्य रखा, जय जवान, जय किसान का मंत्र दिया और युद्ध की विभिषिका का **Background** था, देश भक्ति का ज्वार था। हमारे देश के किसानों ने इस बात को पकड़ लिया, और देश के किसानों ने तय कर लिया कि हम अन्न के भंडार भर देंगे। हमारे देश के किसान ने उसके बाद कभी भी हिन्दुस्तान को भूखा नहीं मरने दिया। किसान की जेब भरे या न भरे, देश के नागरिकों का पेट भरने में कभी कमी नहीं रखी है। इस सच्चाई को समझने के बावजूद, हम बदले हुए युग को देखते हुए हम परिवर्तन नहीं लाएंगे तो परिस्थितियां नहीं पलटेंगी।

अगर हम फिर से एक बार आधुनिक विज्ञान को, **technology** को गांव और खेत खलियान तक पहुंचा देंगे तो देश का सामान्य व्यक्ति, देश का नौजवान जो खेती से भागता चला गया है, वो फिर से खेती के साथ जुड़ सकता है और देश की अर्थ व्यवस्था को एक नई गति दे सकता है। लेकिन इसके लिए हमें एक विश्वास पैदा करना पड़ेगा एक माहौल पैदा करना पड़ेगा। हमारे देश में कृषि में **multiple utility** की दिशा में हम कैसे जाए, **multiple utility** में कैसे

जाए, जिसके कारण हमारा किसान जो मेहनत करता है उसको लाभ हो।

इन समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए किसान तक अनुभवों की बात पहुंचाने के लिए और किसान के माध्यम से पहुंचाने के लिए एक प्रयास ये है किसान चैनल और इसलिए एक बात हमें माननी होगी कि हमारे कृषि क्षेत्र में बहुत बड़ा बदलाव लाना जरूरी है। आज **global economy** है हम **satellite** पर ढेर सारा पैसा खर्च करते हैं एक के बाद एक **satellite** छोड़ रहे हैं। उन **satellite** के **Technology** का **Space Technology** का सबसे बड़ा अगर लाभ हुआ है तो वो लाभ हुआ है मौसम की जानकारियां अब करीब-करीब सही निकलने लगी है। मैं जिस किसान चैनल के माध्यम से, मैं हमारे किसानों को आदत डालना चाहता हूँ कि वे इस मौसम विज्ञान को तो अवश्य टीवी पर देखें और मैं हमारे प्रसार भारती के मित्रों और किसान चैनल वालों को भी कहूंगा कि एक बार किसान को विश्वास हो गया कि हां भाई ये बारिश के संबंध में, हवा चलने के संबंध में, धूप निकलने के संबंध में बराबर जानकारी आ रही है तो उसका बराबर मालूम है कि ऐसी स्थिति में क्या करनी चाहिए वो अपने आप रास्ता खोज लेगा और परिस्थितियों को संभाल लेगा ये मुझे पता है।

कृषि में उत्पादन के साथ उसकी अर्थनीति के साथ जोड़कर ही चलना पड़ेगा और उसमें एक मध्य मार्ग काम करने के लिए सरकारी तंत्र किसान चैनल के



माध्यम से प्रतिदिन आपके साथ जुड़ा रह सकता है। आपको शिक्षित कर सकता है, आपका मार्गदर्शन करता है, आपकी सहायता कर सकता है।

हमें अगर बदलाव लाना है तो जिस प्रकार से विश्व में बदलते बदलावों को समझकर अपने यहां काम करना होगा। मौसम को समझकर काम की रचना कर सकते हैं। उसी प्रकार से हम **Technology** के द्वारा बहुत कुछ कर सकते हैं। आज दुनिया में कृषि के क्षेत्र में **Technology** के क्षेत्र में बहुत काम किया है। हर किसान के पास यह संभव नहीं है कि दुनिया में **Technology** कहा है वो देखने के लिए जाए...विदेश जाकर के देखें, नहीं है। मैं चाहूंगा कि इस किसान चैनल के माध्यम से नई-नई **Technology** क्या आई है वो नई-नई **Technology** किसान के लिए सिर्फ मेहनत बचाने के लिए नहीं उस **Technology** के कारण परिणाम बहुत मिलता है। **Technology** का **Intervention** कभी-कभी बहुत **Miracle** कर देता है। हम उसकी ओर कैसे जाए?

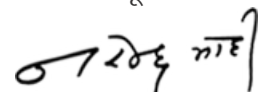
मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस किसान चैनल के माध्यम से एक व्यापक रूप से देश के कृषि जगत में बदलाव कैसे आए। आर्थिक रूप से हमारी कृषि समृद्ध कैसे हो और जब हम कृषि की बात करते हैं तब बारिश के सीजन वाली कृषि से आप भटक नहीं सकते 12 महीने, 365 दिन का चक्र होता है।

हमारी कृषि को तीन हिस्सों में बांटना चाहिए और हर किसान ने अपने कृषि के जपउम जंडसम को तीन हिस्सों में बांटना चाहिए, ऐसा मेरा आग्रह है और प्रयोग करके देखिए। मैं विश्वास से कहता हूँ कि मैं जो सलाह दे रहा हूँ उसको स्वीकार करिए, आपको कभी सरकार के सामने देखने की जरूरत तक नहीं पड़ेगी। हमारी कृषि आत्म-निर्भर बन सकती है, हमारा किसान स्वावलंबी बन सकता है और हमारे कदम वहीं होने चाहिए, सरकारों पर **dependent** नहीं होना चाहिए और मैं इसलिए कहता हूँ कृषि को तीन हिस्सों में बांटकर चलना चाहिए एक-तिहाई जो आप परंपरागत रूप से करते हैं वो खेती, एक-तिहाई **Animal Husbandry** चाहे आप गाय रखें, भैंस रखें, दूध का उत्पादन करें, मुर्गी रखें, अंडे रखें, लेकिन एक तिहाई उसके लिए आपकी ताकत लगाइए और एक तिहाई आप अपने ही खेत में **Timber** की खेती करें, पेड़ उगाए, जिससे फर्नीचर के लिए जो

लकड़ी लगती है न वो बने। आज हिंदुस्तान को **Timber Import** करना पड़ रहा है। जंगल हम काट नहीं सकते तो उपाय यही है और उसके लिए भी जमीन खराब करने की जरूरत नहीं है। आज हमारे देश की हजारों-लाखों हेक्टेयर भूमि कहां बर्बाद हो रही है। दो पड़ोसी किसान हो तो एक तो हमारे देश में सब छोटे किसान है, बड़े किसान नहीं है, छोटे किसान है और देश का पेट भरने का काम भी छोटे किसान करते हैं। बड़े किसान नहीं करते, छोटे किसान करते हैं। दो-तीन बीघा भूमि है, पड़ोसी के पास तीन बीघा है, तीनों भाई हैं, लेकिन बीच में ऐसी दीवार बना देते हैं, बाढ़ लगा देते हैं कि दो-तीन मीटर उसकी जमीन खराब होती है।

उसी प्रकार से हमारे देश के हर तहसील में मैं कहता हूँ एक-दो प्रगतिशील किसान हैं, प्रयोग करते हैं, सफलतापूर्वक करते हैं। उनके खेतों का स्पअम **Live Telecast, Video Conferencing** खेत से ही हो सकता है। खेत में इस सरकार जाए, चैनल वहां लगाए, वो किसान दिखाएं घूम-घूम कर, देशभर के किसान देखें उसके पत्र-व्यवहार की व्यवस्था कर दी जाए। सारे देश के किसान उसको पूछते रहेंगे कि भई आप यह कर रहे हैं मुझे बताइये कैसे हो सकता है, मेरे यहां भी हो सकता है। हमारे देश में प्रगतिशील किसानों ने ऐसे पराक्रम किये हैं। मैंने कई किसानों को जानता हूँ जिन्होंने **Guinness Book of World Records** में अपना नाम दर्ज कराया। मैं एक किसान को जानता हूँ मुस्लिम नौजवान है, पिता जी तो खेती नहीं करते थे वो खेती में गया और आलू की पैदावर प्रति हेक्टेयर सबसे ज्यादा पैदा करके दुनिया में नाम कमाया उसने। अगर मेहनत करते हैं तो हम स्थितियों को बदल सकते हैं। और इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ कि हम किसान चैनल के माध्यम से जहां भी अच्छा हुआ है, प्रयोग हुए हैं उसको हम करना चाहते हैं। आप पंजाब में जाइये हर गांव में एक-आध किसान ऐसा है जो **Technology** में **Master** है। वो जुगाड़ करके ऐसी-ऐसी चीज बना देता है और वो जुगाड़ शब्द ही **Papular** है।

किसान चैनल के माध्यम से जो नई शुरुआत की गई है वह देश के गांव और गरीब किसान को जोड़ने का प्रयास है, जिसे मैं आधुनिक विज्ञान के साथ जोड़ना चाहता हूँ, मैं जिसे **Satellite** की **Technology** के साथ जोड़ना चाहता हूँ, जिसको अपना भविष्य बनाने का रास्ता बनाने के लिए तैयार करना चाहता हूँ उस काम को हम सफलतापूर्वक करेंगे।



NARENDRA MODI

## हम दिनकर जी के सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं: मोदी



दिनकर जी का पूरा साहित्य खेत और खलिहान से निकला है। गांव और गरीब से निकला है। और बहुत सी साहित्यिक-रचना ऐसी होती है जो किसी न किसी को तो स्पर्श करती है, कभी कोई युवा को स्पर्श करे, कभी बड़ों को स्पर्श करे, कभी पुरुष को स्पर्श करे, कभी नारी को स्पर्श करे, कभी किसी भू-भाग को, किसी घटना को स्पर्श करे। लेकिन बहुत कम ऐसी रचनाएं होती हैं, जो अबाल-वृद्ध सबको स्पर्श करती हो। जो कल, आज और आने वाली कल को भी स्पर्श करती है। वो न सिर्फ उसको पढ़ने वाले को स्पर्श करती है, लेकिन उसकी गूंज आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए भी स्पर्श करने का सामर्थ्य रखती है। दिनकर जी कि ये सौगात, हमें वो ताकत देती है। हर किसी को मालूम है भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ जब लड़ाई चली, तो यही तो दिनकर जी की कविता थी, जो अभी प्रसून जी गा रहे थे, वो ही तो कविता थी जो नौजवानों को

जगाती थी, पूरे देश को उसने जगा दिया था और उस अर्थ में वे समाज को हर बार चुप बैठने नहीं देते थे। और जब तक समाज सोया है वो चैन से सो नहीं सकते थे। वे समाज को जगाये रखना चाहते थे, उसकी चेतना को, उसके अंतर्मन को आंदोलित करने के लिए, वे सिर्फ, अपने मनोभावों की अभिव्यक्ति कर-करके मुक्ति नहीं अनुभव करते थे। वे चाहते थे जो भीतर उनके आग है, वो आग चहुं ओर पहुंचे और वो ये नहीं चाहते थे कि वो आग जला दें, वो चाहते थे वो आग एक रोशनी बने, जो आने वाले रास्तों के लिए पथदर्शक बने। ये बहुत कम होता है।

जैसे कुछ लोग रामायण, महाभारत, वेद, उपनिषद उसकी श्लोक वगैरह जिस प्रकार से मुखपाठ बोलते हैं ऐसे दिनकर जी के शब्दों के पीछे रमण हुए हजारों लोग मिलेंगे। और उनको उसी में आनंद आता है उनको लगता है कि मैं दिनकर जी की बात आवाज

पहुँचाऊंगा। मेरी बात लोग माने या न माने, दिनकर जी की बात दुनिया मानेगी। और दिनकर जी को "पशुराम की प्रतीक्षा" थी और दिनकर जी अपने तराजू से भारत की सांस्कृतिक उतार-चढ़ाव को जिस प्रकार से उन्होंने शब्दों में बद्ध किया है। वे इसमें इतिहास भी है, इसमें सांस्कृतिक संवेदना भी है, और समय-समय पर भारत की दिखाई हुई विशालता, हर चीज को अपने में समेटने का सामर्थ्य, दिनकर जी ने जिस प्रकार से अनुभव किया है जो हर पल दिखाई देता है। और प्रकार से दिनकर जी के माध्यम से भारत को समझने की खिड़की हम खोल सकते हैं। अगर हममें सामर्थ्य हो तो हम द्वार भी खोल सकते हैं। लेकिन जरा भी सामर्थ्य न हो, तो खिड़की तो जरूर खोल सकते हैं। ये काम दिनकर जी हमारे बीच करके गये हैं।

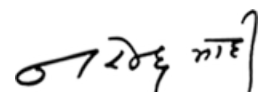
दिनकर जी ने हमें कुछ कहा भी है, लेकिन शायद वो बातें भूलना अच्छा लगता है, इसलिए लोग भूल जाते हैं। एक बार, कुछ बुराईयां समाज में आती रहती हैं, हर बार आती रहती हैं। करीब हर प्रकार के अलग-अलग आती रहती हैं। लेकिन किसी ने जाति के आधार पर दिनकर जी के निकट जाने का प्रयास किया है, उनको लगा कि मैं आप की बिरादरी का हूँ, आपकी जाति का हूँ, तो आप मेरा हाथ पकड़ लीजिए अच्छा होगा। और ऐसा रहता है समाज में, लेकिन ऐसी परिस्थिति में भी दिनकर जी की सोच कितनी सटीक थी वरना, उस माहौल में कोई भी फिसल सकता है। और वो स्वयं राज्यसभा में थे राजनीतिक को निकटता से देखते थे, अनुभव करते थे, लेकिन उस माहौल से अपने आप को परे रखते हुए, उस व्यक्ति को उन्होंने मार्च 1961 को चिट्ठी लिखी थी। उस चिट्ठी में जो लिखा गया है बिहार को सुधारने का सबसे अच्छा रास्ता ये है, कि लोग जातिओं को भूलकर गुणवान के आदर में एक हों। याद रखिए कि एक या दो जातियों के समर्थन से राज्य नहीं चलता। वो बहुतों के समर्थन से चलता है, यदि जातिवाद से हम ऊपर नहीं उठें, तो बिहार का सार्वजनिक जीवन गल जाएगा। मार्च 1961 में लिखी हुई ये चिट्ठी, आज बिहार के लिए आज भी उतना ही जागृत संदेश है। ये किसी राजनीति से परिचित के शब्द नहीं है, ये किसी शब्द-साधक के शब्द नहीं है, ये किसी साहित्य में रुचि रखने वाले सृजक के शब्द नहीं है, एक ऋषि तुल्य के शब्द हैं जिसको आने वाले कल

दिखाई देती है और जिसके दिल में बिहार की आने वाली कल की चिंता सवार है और तब जाकर शब्द, अपने ही समाज के व्यक्ति को स्पष्ट शब्दों में कहने की ताकत रखता है।

बिहार को आगे ले जाना है, बिहार को आगे बढ़ाना है और ये बात मान कर चलिए हिंदुस्तान का पूर्वी हिस्सा अगर आगे नहीं बढ़ेगा, तो ये भारत माता कभी आगे नहीं बढ़ सकती। भारत का पश्चिमी छोर, वहां कितनी ही लक्ष्मी की वर्षा क्यों न होती हो, लेकिन पूरब से सरस्वती के मेल नहीं होता, तो मेरी पूरी भारत माता मेरी पूरी भारत माता उजागर नहीं हो सकती और इसलिए हमारा सपना है कि पूर्वी हिन्दुस्तान कम से कम पश्चिम की बराबरी में तो आ जाएं। कोई कारण नहीं पीछे रहे। अगर बिहार आगे बढ़ता है, बंगाल आगे बढ़ता है, असम आगे बढ़ता है, पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश आगे बढ़ता है, नार्थ-ईस्ट आगे बढ़ता है, सारी दुनिया देखती रह जाएगी, हिन्दुस्तान किस तरह आगे बढ़ रहा है।

दिनकर जी का भी सपना था बिहार आगे बढ़े, बिहार तेजस्वी, ओजस्वी, ये बिहार, सपन्न भी हो। बिहार को तेज और ओज मिले किसी से किराए पर लेने की जरूरत नहीं। उसके पास है उसे संपन्नता के अवसर चाहिए, उसको आगे बढ़ने का अवसर चाहिए और बिहार में वो ताकत है, अगर एक बार अवसर मिल गया, तो बिहार औरों को पीछे छोड़कर आगे निकल जाएगा।

हम दिनकर जी के सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं और उनकी साहित्य रचना की 50 साल की यात्रा आज भी हमें कुछ करने की प्रेरणा देती है, सिर्फ गीत गुनगुनाने की नहीं। हमें कुछ कर दिखलाने की प्रेरणा देती है और इसलिए आज दिनकर जी को स्मरण करते हुए उनकी साहित्य रचना का स्मरण करते हुए हम फिर से एक बार अपने आप को संकल्पबद्ध करने के अवसर के रूप में उसे देखें। और उस संकल्प की पूर्ति के लिए दिनकर जी के आशीर्वाद हम सब पर बने रहे और बिहार के सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए सामर्थ्य के साथ हम आगे बढ़ें।



NARENDRA MODI

## PM Modi's Speech at the International Buddha Jayanti Celebration



जब भगवान बुद्ध की चर्चा होती है तब ये स्वाभाविक है कि आज के युग में उन्होंने जो कहा था, उन्होंने जो जिया था और उन्होंने जीने के लिए जो प्रेरणा दी थी क्या आज के मानव-जाति को, आज के विश्व को, वो उपकारक है क्या? अगर युद्ध से मुक्ति पानी है तो बुद्ध के मार्ग से ही मिलती है। कभी-कभार लोगों का भ्रम होता है कि सत्ता और वैभव, समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिए पूर्ण होती है लेकिन भगवान बुद्ध का जीवन इस बात को नकारता है। जब भगवान बुद्ध की तरफ देखते हैं, एक सातत्य नजर आता है। भीतर की करुणा उनके रोम-रोम में प्रतिबिंबित होती थी, प्रवाहित होती थी।

आज पूरे विश्व में एक चर्चा है कि 21वीं सदी एशिया की सदी है और इसमें कोई दुविधा नहीं दुनिया में, मतभेद नहीं। इस विषय में सभी मानते हैं कि 21वीं सदी एशिया की है। जिन लोगों ने '21वीं सदी एशिया

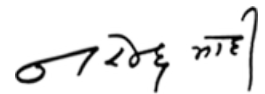
की सदी' की कल्पना की है, शायद उन्होंने एक पहलू की ओर नहीं देखा। बुद्ध के बिना कभी एशिया की सदी 21वीं सदी नहीं बन सकती। बिना बुद्ध न '21वीं सदी एशिया की सदी' हो सकती है.. और बुद्ध ही है जो '21वीं सदी एशिया की सदी' को विश्व में एक प्रेरणा का कारण बना सकते हैं और वो प्रेरणा क्या है? विश्व संकटों से जूझ रहा है, एक-दूसरे की मौत पर उतारू हैं, हिंसा अपनी चरम सीमा पर है। विश्व का भौतिक भू-भाग रक्तरंजित है, तब करुणा का संदेश कहां से आएगा? मरने-मारने की इस मानसिकता के बीच प्रेम का संदेश कौन दे पाएगा और वो कौन ताकत है, कौन सी शख्सियत है जिसकी बात को दुनिया स्वीकारने के लिए तैयार होगी, तो जगह एक ही दिखती है। किनारा एक ही जगह पर नजर आता है, वो है- बुद्ध। मानव जाति जिन संकटों से गुजर रही है उसके लिए भी, विश्व को भी रास्ता दिखाने के

लिए ये मार्ग है। अपने ही जीवनकाल में कोई विचार इतना प्रभावी हो सकता है क्या? नहीं हो सकता है। दुनिया के ढेर सारे विचार प्रवाहों को हम देख लें, उस विचार के जनक के कार्यकाल में.. वो विचार न इतना फ़ैला है, न इतना प्रचारित हुआ है। बाद में उनके शिष्यों के द्वारा फ़ैला होगा। शासकीय व्यवस्थाओं के माध्यम से फ़ैला होगा लेकिन किसी व्यक्ति के जीते-जी.. अगर वो कोई नाम है, तो एक ही नाम है पूरे विश्व में, वो है बुद्ध। विश्व के कितने बड़े भू-भाग पर ये विचार-प्रभाव पहुंच चुका है और जन-सामान्य की प्रेरणा का, श्रद्धा का केंद्र बन चुका है। उस अर्थ में ये मानना होगा कि बुद्ध के साथ जितनी बातें जुड़ी हुई हैं.. कभी-कभार इस पहलू को देखते हैं तो लगता है कि बुद्ध ज्ञान-मार्गी भी थे। जब तक **Conviction** नहीं होता, जब तक विचारों के तराजू पर चीजें तौली नहीं जातीं, जब तक **comparative study** करके **better decide** नहीं होता है तब तक दुनिया अपने आप चीजों को स्वीकार नहीं करती है। बुद्ध की बातों में ज्ञान मार्ग की ताकत थी, तभी तो विश्व ने उनको स्वीकार किया होगा, विश्व ने तराजू पर तौल कर स्वीकार किया होगा।

भगवान बुद्ध ने व्यक्ति के विकास के लिए जो मंत्र दिया है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे बड़ा कोई संदेश नहीं हो सकता है। आज दुनिया की कितनी ही **management** की किताबें पढ़ लीजिए, व्यक्ति विकास के लिए कितनी ही **lecture**, कितनी ही ग्रंथों को ऊपर-नीचे कर लीजिए, मैं समझता हूँ कि बुद्ध का एक मंत्र इसके लिए काफी है। एक तराजू में व्यक्ति विकास के सारे विचार रख दीजिए, सारे ग्रंथ रख दीजिए और दूसरे तराजू में भगवान बुद्ध का एक तीन शब्द का मंत्र रख दीजिए, मैं समझता हूँ तराजू बुद्ध की तरफ ही झुकेगा। वो क्या मंत्र था? व्यक्ति विकास का उत्तम मंत्र था 'अप्प दीपो भव' मैं समझता हूँ 'अप्प दीपो भव' से ऊपर व्यक्ति के जीवन की उर्ध्वगामी यात्रा के लिए और कोई रास्ता नहीं हो सकता है और उस अर्थ में मैं कहूँ कि स्वयं भगवान बुद्ध.. कुछ लोग कहते हैं कि वो पूर्व के प्रकाश थे, ज्यादा इस रूप से उनको वर्णित किया जाता है लेकिन मैं मानता हूँ कि शायद उनको पूर्व के प्रकाश कहते समय हमारी कल्पना शक्ति की मर्यादा नजर आती है, हमारी कल्पनाशीलता की

मर्यादा नजर आती है। लगता तो ऐसा है कि पूरे ब्राह्मांड के लिए वो तेज पुंज थे। जिस तेज पुंज में से, समय-समय पर जिसकी जैसी क्षमता प्रवाहित होने वाले प्रकाश को वो प्राप्त करता था और इसलिए वो अपने-आप में एक तेज पुंज थे, उस तेज पुंज से प्रकाश पाकर के हम भी उस दिव्य मार्ग को कैसे प्राप्त करें, जिसमें करुणा हो, जिसमें साथ लेने का स्वभाव हो, जिसमें औरों के लिए जीने की इच्छाशक्ति हो और उसके लिए त्याग करने का मार्ग हो।

बुद्ध ने हमें ये जो रास्ते दिखाए हैं, उन रास्ता को लेकर के जब हम चलते हैं तब.. भगवान बुद्ध ने अष्टांग की चर्चा की है और मैं मानता हूँ कि अष्टांग के मार्ग को जाने बिना, पाए बिना बुद्ध को नहीं पा सकते हैं और उस अष्टांग मार्ग में भगवान बुद्ध ने जो कहा है एक सम्यक दृष्टि, दूसरा सम्यक संकल्प, तीसरा सम्यक वाणी, चौथा सम्यक आचरण, पांचवा सम्यक आजीविका, सम्यक प्रयत्न, सम्यक चेतना, सम्यक ध्यान, ये अष्ट मार्ग.. **right view, right thought, right speech, right conduct, right livelihood, right effort, right conciseness, right construction** ..भगवान बुद्ध ने ये अष्ट मार्ग हमारे लिए सूचित किए हैं।



NARENDRA MODI

# Modi's Trinity of Schemes that will Growth-Boost India

• *Hindol Sengupta*

A couple of months ago, I was at the Harvard Club in Manhattan. There was something happening in India that the West did not quite understand. Something I had tried to explain in my new book “Recasting India: How Entrepreneurship is Revolutionizing the World's Largest Democracy.” Something about an India the West was blind to. Like the American Dream, I tried to explain, there was an Indian dream. But that dream had been long stifled by the bad politics, and even more intellectual rhetoric. Could it be, now at last, that moment when after 1,000 years India seeks, and even finds, its renaissance moment?

But I was asked - even if that were true - what does that mean in real policy terms on the ground. For the last one year, then, I have travelled extensively on the ground. From villages in Uttar Pradesh to Karnataka, from tiny hamlets in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand to tribal parts of Odisha, I have tried to find out if something is intrinsically changing.

On the basis of this, I want to focus this piece on three interconnected policy initiatives that I believe are not enough understood or highlighted. The first is the creation of the Mudra

Bank to focus on getting ample finance to the informal sector. Why is this critical? This is because the informal



sector and its contribution to the Indian economy are very scantily understood. Indian economic punditry focused for most of the years after independence on mammoth (often hemorrhaging or heavily propped up through false monopolies or subsidies) state-run enterprises. Then, in the last two decades, the entire focus has been large incorporated companies and their movements on the stock exchange. More recently, the spotlight has been on start-ups – mostly those that use technology.

In spite of all this, half of the Indian GDP comes from what we often, derisively, call the informal sector. Credit Suisse says 90% of the Indian workforce is engaged in informal work, especially in rural areas. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development notes that 65% of manufacturing work is done by firms that have less than 10 employees. Between 1999 and 2009, 75% of all new factories were built in rural India and 70% of the new manufacturing jobs were created

there.

The so-called small scale industries deliver 40% of Indian exports and 45% of industrial output. The informal sector has consistently grown faster than the formal sector for the last two decades and creates one million new jobs every year.

Who are the beneficiaries of this sector? Let us look at the handloom sector, for instance. As the Oxford economist Devaki Jain has pointed out, 75% of four million handloom workers are women. In handicrafts, where even in the middle of the global economic downturn in 2010-11, exports grew, of 7 million workers, 48% are women. With growing demand even in urban India for natural products, khadi now gives jobs to 14 million people – a rise from 12.5 million between 2012-13 and 2013-14.

That's not all. Do you know that according to National Sample Survey data 75% of informal sector firms are owned by scheduled castes, schedules tribes and other backward castes? These companies also deliver 71% of the manufacturing and 60% of trading in the informal sector. Two-thirds of the handloom sector workers come from the underprivileged castes and most of them work in the rural areas. More than half of the workers in handicrafts are from minority or underprivileged groups.

All of this is done on the back of precious little policy support. The biggest problem is availability of finance, of credit. The informal sector regularly gets less than 10% of the bank credit available. Imagine a sector, and a set of entrepreneurs, who deliver 50% of the GDP and 90% of employment with less than 10% of available credit. What could they achieve if made more mainstream, if more finance, for instance, is made available to them?

This is where the Mudra (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency) Bank comes in. It will, hopefully, take the right steps towards providing an economic ecosystem that takes into India's realities – not what Western punditry believes India's priority ought to be. Access to more, and better, finance, would transform the informal sector, enabling greater investment in design, research and development, logistics, quality control and marketing. The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India Raghuram Rajan has spoken about how “Make in India” needs to also have a very strong component of “Make for India.” Devaki Jain says India needs to move from considering only a capital-led growth model to a wage-led growth model. All of this can happen only when there is greater depth and support to the informal sector. But curiously when we talk about manufacturing, we think of

SEZs to lure away iPhone making from China, not a boost to Indian handicrafts.

The fundamental point here is that if there is one thing that helps alleviate poverty, it is... having money. Now you would think that much is basic but not quite in Indian punditry which still believes Rs. 100 a day is great poverty alleviation even when most of the funds are being stolen. Narendra Modi is right when he says that MNREGA is the best example of the lack of imagination in social schemes in India in the last 67 years. It is also a prime example of how tepid and indeed timid our horizon of relief for the poor is. At best, MNREGA could be step one in the journey (and therefore it still exists) but the step two is the validation of citizens as financial or economic individuals. The Jan Dhan Yojana, in the Guinness Book of Records now, converts citizens into economically valid individuals who have an extra layer of financial identity now with bank accounts. Bank accounts are the first step towards institutionalized savings, interest earnings and credit off-take. It is the difference between knowing about democracy and experiencing it, between voting and being able to question your local MLA.

The last – and perhaps most vital – part of this process is the transfer of funds without leakage. The Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme of LPG is

now the world's biggest such delivery of Government funds having overtaken Brazil's famed Bolsa Familia<sup>1</sup>. That this can be done in India – where for six decades we could not fix the “leaky bucket” called PDS, where Rajiv Gandhi famously told Atal Bihari Vajpayee that “when one rupee has to travel out of Delhi to distant parts of India, it wears off” – is certainly a new beginning. One has reason to believe that this trinity of schemes, the Brahma, Vishnu, Mahesh, as it were, of delivering money into the hands of the people who most need it will give the growth-boost India so desperately needs.

(Hindol Sengupta is the author of six books, including the forthcoming *Being Hindu* (Penguin, Fall 2015). His last book *Recasting India: How Entrepreneurship is Revolutionizing the World's Largest Democracy* (Palgrave Macmillan) was nominated for the Hayek Book Prize, one of the world's most prestigious non-fiction awards. He is the only Indian, and the youngest writer ever, to be nominated for the Hayek Prize. Hindol is also Editor-at-Large for *Fortune India*.)

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*1 Bolsa Familia is a Brazil Government social support cash-transfer scheme instituted in Brazil which has benefited over 12 million people.*



# North East India and the Modi Government

•Prof. Gangmumei Kamei

**A**ny political change in mainland India reaches the eastern frontier of India always late. The general election of 2014 generated an earth shaking Modi wave in the country; this wave reached the Brahmaputra valley in Assam and eastern Himalayas in Arunachal Pradesh. The Modi wave produced a far reaching change in the state of Assam in the Brahmaputra valley by winning 7 Parliamentary seats for the BJP. The BJP recaptured one Parliamentary in Arunachal Pradesh. It supported the National People's Party (NPP) of former Speaker Purno A. Sangma in Meghalaya and Naga People's Front (NPF) of Neiphiu Rio in Nagaland. There was intense fight between the BJP and other two parties, Congress and NPF in Manipur. As a result the Party is expanding in the nook and corner of the State of Manipur.

The new Modi Government included two leaders of the region in its Council of Ministers, Shri Kiren Rijiju of Arunachal Pradesh and Shri. Sarbananda Sonowal of Assam. Shri Rjiju, in the past one year, has emerged as the most popular face of young tribal India

through his commendable achievements. In the post election period there were



Assembly elections in Arunachal Pradesh in which BJP won 11 seats thus becoming the main opposition in the Assembly of Arunachal.

Significant fallout of the election in the politics of Nagaland was the emergence of Mr. T.R. Zeliang as the Chief Minister of Nagaland. The support given by Prime Minister Modi to the NPF Ministry has produced political stability in the state leading to a formation of a coalition of 59 members. One hopes T.R. Zeliang will provide a unifying leadership to the various Naga groups in his state.

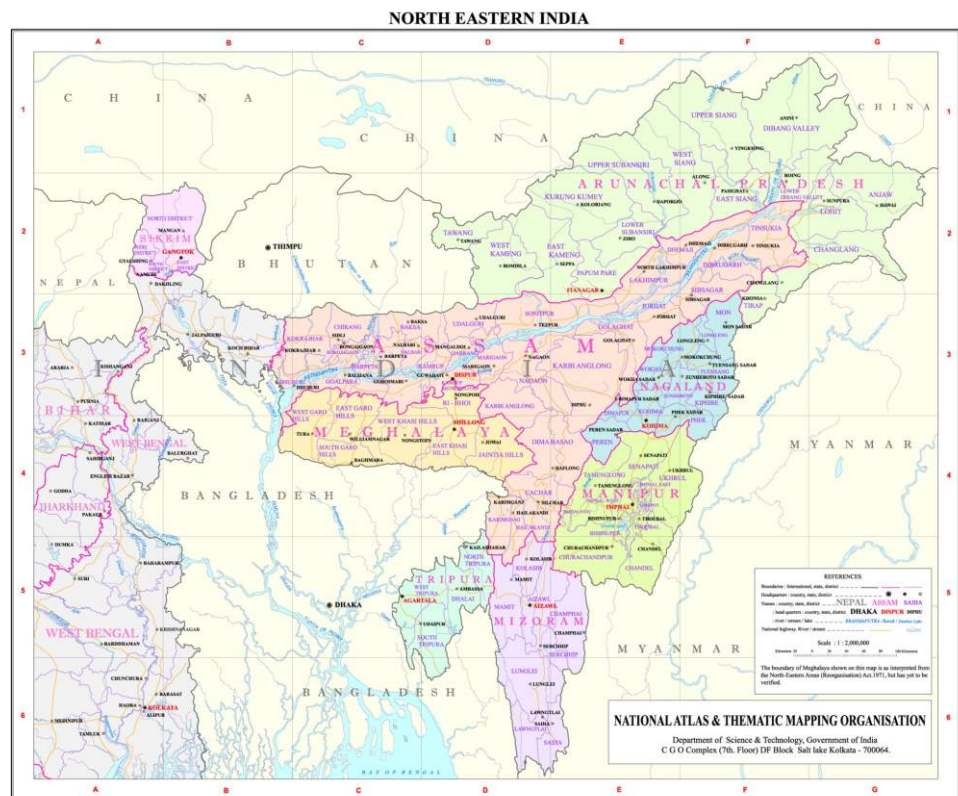
Prime Minister Modi has continued a productive and positive talk with the Naga underground raising the issue between Government of India and the Naga people. He is determined to solve the problem with good will towards all under the leadership of the veteran northeast hand, R.N. Ravi, the Chief Interlocutor.

The Municipal election in the state

of Assam has gone in favour of BJP and full preparation is going on for the Assembly election in 2016. It is most likely that the BJP will capture power in the ensuing election.

The schemes of the Modi Government like Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna, which opens bank account for the poor and the common people, is being implemented in the Northeast. Another scheme Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Campaign) is reaching the hills and vales of the region. The programme for female education known as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is going on as well and is attracting attention. The state governments have started introducing pension schemes under the direction from the Modi Government and loans are being given to the small entrepreneurs.

In the first session of Parliament in 2014 itself, displaying its deep commitment to the development and progress of the Northeast, the Narendra Modi led BJP



Government announced the establishment of a National Sports University to be located in Manipur; an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Assam; an Indian Film Institute in Arunachal Pradesh and a Science Research Institute in Nagaland.

The Prime Minister has also inaugurated the rail link from Assam to Arunachal Pradesh, from Meghalaya to Assam. The Government is also proposing a bus service from Imphal to Mandalay in Myanmar to promote trade and travel. Connection between Tripura and Bangladesh is being promoted. Arunachal is also receiving attention in all aspects. Prime Minister Modi's policy is to bring and bond the people of Northeast with the mainland of the country.

He proposes economic development and cultural relationship between the people. The BJP wants development, good governance and social harmony in the region.

A most popular slogan of PM Modi is “Unless Northeast India is developed the whole country cannot be said to be developed”. He himself visited all the states in the region. Mention may be made of his visit to Sangai Festival in Manipur and Hornbill Festival in Nagaland. His direction to his cabinet colleagues to pay visit to all the states of the region has led to a gearing up of governance of the states which are ruled by non BJP dispensations. People have started feeling that the Centre is looking after the Northeast. The Central Ministers are now paying visits to the region every fortnight. The DoNER Ministry which was established by Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee is seriously looking after the problems of development under the supervision of Dr. Jitendra Singh, MoS PMO and DoNER. The North Eastern Council (NEC) is being activated to implement a proactive North East development agenda. The Look East Policy now renamed 'Act East Policy' is gaining momentum in India's foreign policy towards Southeast Asian countries.

The Birth Centenary of the legendary Ranima Gaidinliu, a freedom fighter of the region is being celebrated. The Prime Minister announced in Bangalore that a commemorative coin of Rupees One Hundred and a coin of Rupees Ten will be issued and an airport in the region will be named after her. This has generated great goodwill among the people of the region. It was a recognition that was long overdue and PM Modi has made it happen.

In the organisation front, the BJP has started a massive membership drive since November 2014. The Party has enrolled 4,53,728 members online in the states of Northeast including Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and Sikkim. The state of Assam alone has enrolled 24, 21,302 members. BJP has emerged as the most formidable political party in the region. The people have responded greatly to the call of the party which promises hope, opportunities and great future for them.

*(The author is a veteran scholar, academic, historian & leader of Manipur)*

# Modi Govt's Major Initiatives in Agriculture Sector in 1 Year

• *Siddharth Singh*

## 1. Major relief measures for farmers announced by Prime Minister:

In a major initiative, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi had announced on 8th April 2015 that farmers will now be eligible for input subsidy if 33 percent or more of their crop is damaged. Earlier, farmer would be eligible for subsidy only when the crop damage was 50 percent or more. The Prime Minister had also announced enhancement of the existing quantum of financial assistance by 50% in case of crop losses. These compensatory measures have been carried out after revising the norms under National Disaster Response Fund/ State Disaster Response Fund which came in effect from 1st April 2015. A special dispensation was made for the farmers affected by hailstorms in different parts of the country during February/March 2015 and they had been given assistance under the new norms.

### The enhanced input subsidy norms in various categories are as follows:

- In case of agriculture crops, horticulture crops and annual plantation crops, the input subsidy

has been hiked from Rs 4500 per hectare to Rs 6800 per hectare in rainfed areas. In the assured irrigated areas, it has been hiked from Rs 9000 per hectare to Rs 13500 per hectare.

- In case of perennial crops, the quantum of input subsidy has been hiked from Rs 12000 to Rs 18000 per hectare.

- For those, engaged in sericulture, the input subsidy has been hiked from Rs 3200 - Rs 4000 per hectare to Rs 4800 – Rs 6000 per hectare.

In case of other farmers having land holding of more than 2 hectare, they were also made eligible for above mentioned relief measures, subject to limit of 2 hectare as compared to earlier limit of 1 hectare.

## 2. Steps taken to increase productivity : Soil Health Card

Soil Health cards are necessary to ensure that only requisite nutrients are applied in the soil in a balanced manner to enhance productivity of specific crops in a sustainable manner. Soil Health Cards (SHCs) will be issued to all 14 crore holdings in the country. About 248 lakh samples are to be analyzed in 3 years'

cycle. This comes to about 83 lakh samples per year.

Since 2007-08 to April 2014, an amount of only Rs. 112 crore was released for soil testing laboratories whereas after May 2014 onwards an amount of Rs. 86 crore has been released. An amount of Rs. 568.54 crore has been approved to make soil health cards available to 14.50 crore farmers during next three years. The following uniform norms are prescribed for sampling:

- I. In the irrigated areas, samples will be drawn in a grid of 2.5 ha.
- ii. In rainfed areas, sampling will be done in a 10 ha. grid.

**Details in a Soil Health Card include:**

- Values on soil parameters such as pH, EC, N, P, K, S, Zn, Fe, Mn, Cu & B.
- Recommendation on appropriate dosage of fertilizer application based on test values and requirement of crop, use of organic manures and soil amendments to acidic/ alkaline/ sodic soils.

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**3. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY)**

Groups of farmers would be motivated to take up organic farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna (PKVY). Fifty or more farmers will form a cluster having 50

acre land to take up organic farming under the scheme. In this way during three years 10,000 clusters will be formed covering 5.0 lakh acre area under organic farming. There will be no liability on the farmers for expenditure on certification. Every farmer will be provided Rs. 20,000 per acre in three years for seed to harvesting of crops and to transport produce to the market. During the 12th Five Year Plan, Rs. 1,495 crore will be required for this scheme. Rs 300 crore has been allocated for the scheme during the year 2015-16. The Government has enhanced subsidy amount from Rs. 100 to Rs. 300 per hectare to promote the use of organic fertilizers. A special scheme with allocation of Rs. 100 crore has been launched in North-Eastern Region for promotion of organic farming and export of organic produce.

**4. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)**

The Objectives of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana include:

- The ensuring of access to some means of protective Irrigation to all Agricultural Farms (Har Khet Ko Pani).
- To increase agricultural production and Productivity and enhance farm Income.
- Per Drop More Crop

### **Programme Components include:**

- Creation/Repair/restoration / Renovation of water resources (Ministry of Water Resources)
- Development, Strengthening and creation of Distribution Network from source to farm (Department of Land Resources)
- Promotion of efficient water conveyance and field application devices like Drip and Sprinklers (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC))
- DAC will be the Nodal Agency

#### **Budget for 2015-16**

- Rs.1800 Cr for Micro irrigation (DAC)
- Rs. 1500 Cr for Distribution network (DoLR)
- Rs.1000 Cr for water resources ( MoWR)
- These sums are in addition to Rs. 1000 Cr provided to MoWR under AIBP.
- Proposed Implementation Strategy
- Funding pattern 75:25 for General States and 90:10 for North-Eastern and Hilly States.

### **5. Promotion of National Market through Agri Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF):**

Key Features of ATIF

- Central Sector Scheme for Promotion of National Agricultural Market through Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) for Rs.200 crores to be implemented during 2014-15 to 2016-17.
- The Scheme envisages initiation of e-marketing platform at the national level and will support creation of infrastructure to enable e-marketing in 642 regulated markets across the country.
- For creation of a National Market, a common platform across all States is necessary. It is, therefore, proposed that a Service Provider be engaged centrally who would build, operate and maintain the e-platform on PPP (Build, Own, Operate, Transfer - BOOT) model. This platform would be customized/ configured to address the variations in different states.
- As an initiative of deregulation, States have been advised by the Government of India to bring fruits and vegetables out of the ambit of APMC Act. In pursuance of this advisory, 12 States have, so far, either de-regulated the marketing of fruits and vegetables or have exempted from levying of market fee.

### **6. Price Stabilisation Fund**

- Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has approved the Price

Stabilisation Fund (PSF) as a Central Sector Scheme, with a corpus of Rs.500 crores, to support market interventions for price control of perishable agri-horticultural commodities. The intervention is expected to regulate price volatility through procurement by State Govt. and Central agencies of selected produce, maintenance of buffer stocks and regulated release into the market.

- For this purpose, the States will also set up a revolving fund to which the States will provide matching funds as released from the central corpus fund i.e. in the ratio of 50:50. The ratio of Centre-State contribution to the State level corpus in respect of North East States will however be 75:25. The revolving fund is being mooted so that requirements for all future interventions can be decided and met with at the State level itself. Central Agencies will however set up their revolving fund entirely with the advance from the Centre. Releases from the Central Corpus will be subject to prior setting up of the State level Corpus.

- Rs 5 cr sanctioned to SFAC (Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium) to create a buffer stock of 1800 mt of onions and 4000 mt of potatoes.

- Rs 5 cr sanctioned to NAFED

(National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited) to create a buffer stock of 5000 mt of onions.

## **7. Use of Information Technology in Agriculture:**

- Use of m-kisan Portal has gathered unprecedented momentum. This portal gives information & advisories to farmers in their own language with respect to the crops/agricultural practices opted for by them and as applicable for their location. Number of SMSs sent by scientists, experts and officers throughout the country since the new Government took over has been more than 486 crore as against 100 crore of SMSs sent during one year since 25.05.2013.

- Latest addition is the Doordarshan's 24 hours Kisan Channel – the first of its kind in India which will exclusively cater to the farmers. A unique initiative of the Narendra Modi Government to connect and empower the farmers of India.

*(Siddharth Singh is Research Associate at SPMRF)*

# Implications of India-Iran Chabahar Port Deal

**I**n a sign of intensifying strategic cooperation, New Delhi reached an agreement with Teheran on May 7 to develop the Chabahar Port in Southeast Iran. The project is expected to increase trade and economic engagement between the two countries. By developing the strategic Chabahar port, India will have a sea-land access not only to landlocked Afghanistan, but also to other Central Asian states. The port will be used to receive and to ship a variety of products, though the initial focus seems to be on energy products, and especially crude oil.

Chabahar will effectively be a way station for energy imports coming from the Gulf region and destined for Afghanistan and Central Asia. It will also be a gateway to the Middle East, and possibly Europe, for exports originating from Afghanistan and Central Asia.

The geopolitical implications of this project are huge. This may be one of the most consequential developments in the broader region for quite some time. If everything goes according to plan, then the creation of new trade routes stretching from the northern reaches of Central Asia down to Chabahar, in southern Iran, can change the whole

dynamics in the region. Middle Eastern energy exporters will be able to reach new markets in Asia, and Central Asian states - and also Afghanistan - will be able to better connect with markets in the Middle East and Europe.



The main reason India wants to develop Chabahar is to allow itself easier access to Afghanistan but also to Central Asia - an energy-rich region that is very appealing to energy-starved India. Pakistan refuses to let India use Pakistani territory for transit to and from Afghanistan, so India sees Iran as the next-best option. Chabahar project will set up a notable competitive dynamic with Gwadar port in Pakistan. The rapidity with which this issue has been addressed is indicative of the new strategic sense and vision that has informed Indian foreign policy in the last one year of the Modi Government.



# Modinomics: Financial Inclusion and Engaging With the Poor

• *Abhishek Pratap Singh*

**A**s the Modi Government finishes one year in office it endeavours to promote financial inclusion as a key policy agenda to drive economic growth.

As the Narendra Modi Government completes one year in office the direction of his priorities and reflection of his agenda can be well gauged from the actions taken in the past one year. No doubt, “foreign policy dynamism” with a sincere effort to strengthen relations with the neighbourhood, deepening economic engagement and warmth in relation with major powers are key areas of achievement but there have been “defining efforts” to serve the domestic constituency well.

On this dimension one sees broadening “areas of financial inclusion” and strengthening “social security levels” in India through sincere and well formulated policy efforts with long term implications towards India's growth and rural transformation. It marks the ability of the state to ensure “diffusion of economic benefits” to those at bottom of society and reflects convergence in goals of economic policy towards increased economic growth horizontally.

The flagship scheme in this direction was “Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana” (PMJDY) to enable each household in the country to have access to at least one bank account. The scheme has drawn opening of 1.5 crore accounts on the day of its launch, mopping Rs 4,813.59 Cr from the market in the form of deposits and a potential check over “subsidy rigging” and diversion of funds.

In keeping with the Government's spirit and vision of generating a sense of social security, a National Pension Scheme, named “Atal Pension Yojana” will become effective from 1 June 2015. Considering the interest of large scale employment in the unorganized sector of India the scheme intends to bring pension benefits to allow people to avail “social security with income guarantee” in post retirement years. It aims to provide financial security to ageing Indians with an attempt to promote a “culture of savings and investment” among the underprivileged sections of the society.

The launch of “Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency” (MUDRA) Bank on 8 April, 2015 with a corpus of Rs 20,000 crore and a credit guarantee corpus of Rs 3,000

crore is another milestone with the capacity to unleash the potential of small and medium scale enterprise (SMSEs) in India. It offers access to insurance, credit, loans and other financial instruments to help them establish and grow their micro businesses where largest share of participation is of the SC/ST communities.

Reposing its faith in a “gender just society” the Modi Government announced 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' Scheme with an initial corpus of Rs 100 crore in hundred districts all across the country. It aims to down turn the prevailing trend of decline in child sex ratio (CSR) of India in order to build a fair and demographically balanced Indian society. In addition, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also launched 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme', a small savings scheme as a part of the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign to encourage parents to save for the education and future of their girl child. This shows a high level of sensitivity towards addressing “gender concerns” among the key priorities of the Modi government.

In the same direction announcement of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) is a key step towards extension of life insurance cover at a very low cost of investment. Similarly, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

(PMSBY) is another step in the right direction to ensure “economic guarantee” in case if an earning member of a family becomes permanently disabled or dies an accidental death. These schemes draw on the parallel of converging social security with economic benefits.

In one of the world's largest cash based subsidy scheme the Government launched the “Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme” on November 2014 in 54 districts and extended it all over the country with effect from January 1, 2015. It aims to make LPG subsidy standardization and prevent unauthorized sale of cylinders to the benefit of oil companies and consumers both.

Considering the rise in economic domain and realm of financial benefits as key pillars of new economic order and activity all these efforts are directed towards “greater financial integration and inclusion” in India with a positive synergy. The future is optimistic as PM Modi said in a conference on financial inclusion in Mumbai organized to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that “You must come out with innovative financial inclusion instruments” along with a 20-year road map for financial inclusion in India.

*(Abhishek Pratap Singh is a Research Scholar at JNU)*

## Modi@365 – Why Narendra Modi's Push For Toilet Building is So Crucial?

• Rastriya Prahari

**A** critical focus area for the Swachh Bharat Mission and the Swachh Vidyalaya Programme is building of toilets in households and schools. The Government aims to build 12 crore toilets over the next five years. By Independence Day 2015, Prime Minister Modi has promised that all Government schools in the country would have separate toilets for girls. We must understand why this is an important objective for overall social and economic development of the country. Building toilets not only has an intrinsic value as people do not need to defecate in open areas but also has numerous extrinsic benefits. When someone sits down and carries an appraisal of Swachh Bharat after a few years, he/she must account for both these forms of benefits.

Figures from Census 2011 give a very grim picture of the prevailing situation. Currently, 53 percent of Indian households do not have a toilet within their premises. A minor proportion of these (3.2 percent of all households) have access to public toilets. This means that overall almost half (49.8 percent) of

the households in the country currently have to defecate in the open. Thus, it is quite evident why there is an urgent need for the Government to address this massive shortfall. Toilet Building would also generate numerous other positive factors which tend to increase both private and social benefits.

Firstly, lack of toilets in schools lowers educational outcomes. Studies have shown that drop out ratio especially among girls can be lowered by building proper toilet facilities in schools. Many children have to miss meals to avoid using the toilet during school hours. This problem is more acute for teenage girls who often end up missing school because of lack of toilets. Building separate toilets for boys and girls is absolutely essential if school attendance and learning outcomes are to be improved.

Secondly, studies have shown that human excreta contain a large number of germs which may cause diseases like Diarrhoea. Living in densely populated settlements without sanitation facilities increases exposure of children to these pathogens, thereby increasing

the probability of disease and infections. These diseases have been known to lead to stunting among children. Thus, reducing open defecation can help the Government in countering the malnutrition problem in the country.

Thirdly, in the past there have been numerous incidents when women have been molested while on their way to the village common areas or fields for defecation. A study in Bihar reports that half of the households that did not have a toilet wanted one for “safety and security”. Modi's push for building toilets could help in reducing such crimes in North India.

Fourthly, studies have indicated that privileged and disadvantaged children alike are faced with stunted growth due to the bane of open defecation. This is because open defecation is a “public bad” and has negative externalities. Even households which have private toilets suffer if people in their neighbourhood continue to defecate in the open. This is one reason why a state sponsored and organized plan is required to counter the problem. Toilet building has important social benefits.

Fifth, 0.3 percent of the 24 crore plus households in the country use sanitation facilities wherein the night soil has to be removed by

humans. Through this massive drive of building toilets the Government taking on this social evil of manual scavenging and aims to finally end it in our country. Depending on various estimates, one can safely say that lakhs of Dalit households depend on this activity for their household income. The Government will not only liberate them but seems to be determined to ensure that schemes for providing them with alternate employment be implemented. This has to be done with efficiency and rapidity. The larger question is how is it that in the last six decades this social evil has not been eradicated – especially those who have, at every occasion, professed to follow the Mahatma's ideals?

The Government must showcase this programme and its multi-dimensional impact to counter myths surrounding its development model. Its extensive focus on this campaign could help in showing how it seeks to balance incentivising economic growth with social welfare programmes.

## Modi Govt@365: Transparent, Corruption Free, Efficient, Decisive, Pro-people, Inclusive and Development Oriented Good Governance

**A**ll those tearing into Prime Minister Narendra Modi for doing nothing in his first year in power, would have done that anyway even if he had performed wonders. The shrunk Opposition has failed to accept that someone whom they have spent years abusing has now become the Prime Minister. The Congress habituated with a rubber-stamp Prime Minister like Manmohan Singh and used to the durbar culture of 10 Janpath is finding it even more difficult to adjust to the changed realities.

A number of small and big economic decisions have been taken to incentivize growth, to advance the welfare plank of the Prime Minister and to facilitate a smoother business environment. The trio of pro-poor schemes, JAM, that is, Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar and Mobile, is easily the best inclusive package unveiled by any government since Independence. Once fully operative, it would provide huge benefit to the poor and the marginlaised. A year is too short a time in the life of a nation. After more than six decades,

some 30% of the people still subsist below the poverty-line.

Among the big-ticket reforms, there is the increase in foreign direct investment in the insurance sector from 26% to 49%. FDI in both defence and railways is permitted. There has been a remarkable spurt in the coal and power sectors.

**There hasn't been even a whiff of corruption in the past 12 months, it has been a year of genuine cooperative federalism, there has been no complaint of the Centre using investigative agencies to get at rivals, it has been a year of greater transparency in allocation of mineral resources, and the list goes on. The Government also managed to get a lot of legislative business done in last one year which is again an instance of cooperative federalism in working.**

**The Government moved swiftly on increasing India's pension and insurance cover—7.5 crore people signed up in just the first 12 days of the schemes being in operation. Hiking royalties on minerals while making their auction easier was intended to give states more money. The telecom auction was transparent.**

Besides, the Prime Minister has run a tight ship; there is no reckless expenditure by ministers. Nor abuse of discretion. There is not even a whiff of scandal about the Modi Government.

There hasn't been even a whiff of corruption in the past 12 months, it has been a year of genuine cooperative federalism, there has been no complaint of the Centre using investigative agencies to get at rivals, it has been a year of greater transparency in allocation of mineral resources, and the list goes on. The Government also managed to get a lot of legislative business done in last one year which is again an instance of cooperative federalism in working.

It was a year in which the

Government accomplished a mammoth and unattended work of financial inclusion by opening 15 crore Jan Dhan bank accounts and promised a whole new era of financial inclusion since each account has a Rs 5,000 overdraft as well—to the extent this would be backed by direct cash transfers of subsidies. In another major shift, the Government moved swiftly on increasing India's pension and insurance cover—7.5 crore people signed up in just the first 12 days of the schemes being in operation. Hiking royalties on minerals while making their auction easier was intended to give states more money. The telecom auction was transparent.

If we view the performance of the Government then there is a lot it has accomplished already. The energy and commitment it has shown in empowering the marginalized, in creating a sense of social security in the country is something that has not been felt in decades.

*SPMRF Desk*

## Remembering the other 'Panditji'

• Anirban Ganguly

**I**t is a reflection on the overall direction that education has taken in this country in the last six decades, that our young learners grow up and graduate, often knowing and internalising what Karl Marx had to say of India, of the Indian peasantry and the War of 1857, but remain ignorant of what Indian thinkers -- those who created eras through the power of their mind and action -- had to say about their own roots, civilisation and soil.

While we have centres galore in the academia which dissect and disseminate theories of class and class conflict in India, we have very few centres or perhaps none which study integral humanism, dharma and cohesive living, political thoughts and social thoughts of Indian masters and examine them under the Indian civilisational rubric. The general ignorance and bewilderment, on hearing the name of PanditDeendayalUpadhyaya is a direct manifestation of this selective approach to India's indigenous repository of thought and ideas.

In the last one year, the process of correcting that historic neglect has begun with Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself often speaking of Upadhyaya publicly and naming a number of his flagship social schemes



after him as a tribute to the man's contribution to and conviction of the need to work for an integral progress and growth of Indian society by reaching out to the last woman/man standing.

Indeed, integrality defined Upadhyaya's life and work. A complex polymath, in a short life of 51 years, Upadhyaya straddled many worlds and dimensions. Rising from deep poverty, battling against odds of milieu and inequality of opportunities, yet displaying a razor-sharp intellect and a deft organising capability and a complete dedication to work for organising the Indiansamaj, Upadhyaya rose on to become not only a leading political

mind and leader of his era, but more importantly to make a lasting contribution to India's political life and narrative by implanting deep in her body-politic, seeds which would one day emerge as the banyan-trunk of an alternate political vision and direction. A vision and direction which, challenging the dominant Nehruvian and Marxian political framework, sought to chart out a new path for India, a path that would be in consonance with and would facilitate her rise as a civilisational state.

The spark of uncommonness shone early in Upadhyaya's life; it is said that when dacoits struck one night at their house, and flung "Deena" on the floor and trampled his chest threatening to kill him if all valuables in the house were not surrendered, young Deena is said to have told them that he had heard that dacoits looted the rich and protected the poor, "but you are killing me, a poor boy." Struck by such direct and disarming indictment the bandit leader and his gang are said to have abandoned their looting plans.

Empathy for the marginalised and a strong sense of rectitude formed the other defining aspect of his character. The late Nana Deshmukh, the other stalwart of the Jana Sangh movement, once recalled how Upadhyaya, disturbed at having inadvertently given a bad coin to a poor vegetable seller, returned to find it and change it for her. "A sense of

guilt could be seen on his face", remembered Deshmukh, "We returned to the vegetable seller and told her what had happened. She said "who will find you bad coin? Go along, whatever you have given is all right." But Deendayalji would not listen. He searched in the old woman's heap of coins and found out the bad paisa. Only after he had given her a good one did a look of relief and satisfaction light up his face." "Greatness", observed Deshmukh, was a part of Upadhyaya's nature.

The resolve to dedicate himself for national regeneration was made early by Upadhyaya when he got attracted to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. 'For a swayamsevak of the Sangh', wrote Upadhyaya, in a moving and prescient letter to his maternal uncle in 1942, 'work for the samaj and the country has the first priority; his personal affairs must stand aside.' In the next quarter century that Upadhyaya lived, until his tragic and violent death, his life always and unfailingly adhered to and revolved around that self-oath.

In the same historic letter Upadhyaya articulated another of his fundamental aspiration -- that of working for evolving a balanced society where each one and every limb grew equally, 'what good it is to the samaj', he wrote, 'If a certain individual happens to achieve greatness for himself? It is rather a harmful development. It is good for



the body as a whole to register all-round growth, but if the legs alone were to grow fat while the rest of the body remains thin and lean it would lead to the disease called elephantiasis.'

This conviction of the need for an integral growth eventually grew into the pole star of Upadhyaya's life; it became, so to say, the prime mover of his actions, both political and philosophical. Upadhyaya's lasting legacy remains as a philosopher of Integral Humanism -- a hope radiating articulation he had come up with in the midst of a raging a raging Cold War internationally and a political atmosphere at home that was undergoing deep churnings, phases of confusion and bouldersement.

The standing aside of personal affairs combined with a total self-effacement turned Upadhyaya into a formidable organiser and a deeply admired leader and guide among the workers of the then fledgling Jana Sangh. Stories abound on how 'Panditji', as Upadhyaya was fondly addressed, bonded with the ordinary karyakartas and inspired their confidence. After day-long electioneering in Kashi in the first general elections in 1952, an associate recalled how Upadhyaya, on seeing a worker finding it difficult to roll chapattis, went to him and "taking the rolling pin from him demonstrated the right method of

making and baking a chapatti. Like a loving mother teaching her daughter, he started gently instructing him in the art of chapatti-making."

In fact it was this organic connect with the workers that enabled Upadhyaya to lay the foundations of a political party that would eventually turn into a formidable force in the political firmament of the country. It is this boundless capacity of his to organise that led Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee to once observe that he would have changed the political map of the country if he "could get two Deendayals."

It was this self-effacing character of his with a complete dedication to the ideals of national uplift and to India that led Sri Guruji – M.S. Golwalkar, the second chief of the RSS, to describe him as an "ideal swayamsevak" to whom alone the credit must go of "starting from scratch and building up such an imposing organization (Jana Sangh) from its very foundation up." For Golwalkar, Upadhyaya was the ideal to be emulated, in a moving condolence speech, a rare occasion when he allowed his emotions expression; Golwalkar exhorted everyone to "make him [Upadhyaya] an ideal for the kind of all round perfection he had attained."

Hectic political action did not prevent Upadhyaya from being a prolific writer and evolve into a

profound thinker. Be it economics, or political thought, education or the Constitution, be it language, culture or deep Indian philosophy, Upadhyaya, in a short and action packed life, had articulated positions on all of these, gradually weaving a comprehensive philosophy for national action. In doing this, he succeeded in evolving perhaps one of the most detailed and comprehensive critic of the Nehruvian consensus, allowing alternate political movements to crystallize around it and leaving behind a cogent and rich detail of the evolution of India's post-independence political life.

Upadhyaya's core formulation and vision of governance, of the type of State and system, displayed his ability to coalesce and harmonise India's civilisational thought-experience with present-day realities and exigencies. For India, the Indian State, the Indian apparatus of governance and leadership, Upadhyaya argued that the ideal to be achieved was that of a "Dharma-Rajya." And true to his style he contemporized that "Dharma-Rajya" into an achievable goal for the present.

The late philosopher-administrator Chaturvedi Badrinath, perhaps best summed up the ideal of Upadhyaya's 'Dharma-Rajya' when wrote, 'The agenda of future India must lie, Deendayal Upadhyaya suggests, in overcoming social disorder, which

can be achieved only when India has regained its self. That self lives in its abiding faith in the truth that no social order can survive on the basis of inequality and division. Inequality and division can only destroy human worth, not uphold it. What can uphold and sustain is dharma. Hence his vision of future India is Dharma-Rajya, which is not a theocratic State, nor is there in it inequality and division.'

When Prime Minister Modi observes the first anniversary of his government at Nagla Chandrabhan, Upadhyaya's birthplace in Mathura, he shall be essentially reiterating his commitment to achieving the ideal of Upadhyaya's 'Dharma Rajya', a State free of inequality and of division, he shall announce and set the agenda for a future India.

(Courtesy: [www.rediff.com](http://www.rediff.com), 25th May, 2015)

## PM Modi's Visit to China: Linking Knowledge Society with Innovating Society



**P** Prime Minister Narendra Modi went on his three day China visit from 14 to 16 May. This tour of Prime Minister Modi was of paramount importance for both the Nations. It not only augmented the bilateral partnership and economic cooperation between India and China but also enhanced the friendship among the two ancient civilizations of the world. It was the first time ever that the Chinese President hosted any leader outside Beijing during an official visit. President Xi Jinping received PM Modi warmly in Xi'an, which is in

his home province. Friendship between both the leaders took a new dimension. President Xi accompanied PM Narendra Modi to the Big Wild Goose Pagoda and South City Wall where Shri Modi was given a Ceremonial Reception. Shri Narendra Modi also presented the Chinese President with a few archaeological drawings of excavations at Vadnagar, Gujarat which was one of the places visited by great Chinese traveler Xuanzang.

Wide-ranging discussions with President Xi Jinping, high level delegation talks and meeting top Chinese CEOs formed the core part

of the visit. Prime Minister Modi also travelled up to Beijing where he met Chinese Premier Li Keqiang. At the Joint Press Conference, with the Chinese Premier, discussions took place concerning peace and tranquility in the border region. Emphasize was on the need to turn India-China relationship into a source of strength for each other and a force of good for the world. Also, the 'Nathu La route' for visiting Kailash Mansarovar that would become operational by June was news for cheer for both the sides.

A meeting of 'India-China Forum of State/Provincial Leaders' was held in Beijing where the Prime Minister while reiterating his vision of 'Team India' emphasized on the Centre-State coordination needed for overall development of entire Nation. Shri Modi considered the 'India-China Provincial Leaders Forum' to be historic and a unique move that would further deepen the economic ties between both the Nations.

While speaking at the 'India-China Business Forum', having an interaction with the top Chinese business officials and investors in China's commercial capital Shanghai, PM Modi put emphasis on 'Make in India' initiative of the Government of India. He presented

to them the picture of a transforming India where doing business was now turning easier. He said, "India has always been a knowledge society. You have been an innovating society."

Prime Minister Modi got the chance to visit two of the most noted Universities in China. At the Tsinghua University in Beijing, PM Narendra Modi stated that India-China bilateral cooperation and International partnership was important for success of both the Nations. He clearly expressed India's strong desire for enhancing people to people contact between both the nations.

While launching the Centre for Gandhian and Indian Studies at Fudan University, PM expressed joy that in his three day visit he got the opportunity to interact with students in two noted universities. Speaking at the launch of the Centre, PM Modi referred to Mahatma Gandhi as a 'Yug Purush' and a 'Vishwa Manav.'

In order to connect better with the Chinese people directly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi even set up his account on Chinese social media platform Weibo. Just as he debuted on Weibo prior his tour, Chinese netizens largely appreciated this move of the Indian Prime Minister. His address to the Indian

Community in Shanghai was a keenly awaited programme. The Diaspora waited eagerly to listen to the Indian Prime Minister on the last day of his China visit. Enthusiasm gripped the venue as PM Modi interacted with the people.

He left China optimistically that the visit would strengthen India-China bilateral relations in times to come. PM thanked President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Keqiang and the people of China for their warmth and hospitality.

**India and China signed 24 deals during Modi's visit to the country. Here is the complete list:**

1. Protocols between India and China on the establishment of consulates-general at Chengdu and Chennai and the extension of the consular district of the Consulate General of India in Guanzhou to include Jiangxi province.

2. MoU between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship of India and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of China on cooperation in the field of vocational education and skill development.

3. Action plan on cooperation in setting up of the Mahatma Gandhi

National Institute for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in Ahmedabad/Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

4. MoU between India and China on consultative mechanism for cooperation in trade negotiations.

5. MoU on cooperation between the ministry of External Affairs of India and International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

6. Action plan between the National Railway Administration of China and the ministry of railways of India on enhancing cooperation in the railway sector. (2015-16).

7. MoU on education exchange programme.

8. MoU between the Ministry of Mines of India and the Ministry of Land and Resources of China on the cooperation in the mining and minerals sector.

9. Space Cooperation Outline (2015-2020).

10. Protocol on health and safety regulations on importing Indian rapeseed meal between the export inspection council, ministry of commerce and industry of India and the general administration of quality supervision, inspection and quarantine.

11. MoU between Doordarshan and China Central Television on cooperation in the field of broadcasting.

12. Agreement between the Ministry of Tourism of India and the National Tourism Administration of China on cooperation in the field of tourism.

13. MoU on establishing India-China think-tanks forum.

14. MoU between India's Niti Aayog and the Development Research Centre, State Council of China.

15. MoU between India's Ministry of Earth Sciences and the China Earthquake Administration concerning cooperation in the field of earthquake science and earthquake engineering.

16. MoU between India's Ministry of Earth Sciences and the State Oceanic Administration of China on cooperation in the field of ocean science, ocean technology, climate change, polar science and cryosphere.

17. MoU on scientific cooperation between Geological Survey of India, Ministry of Mines of India and the China Geological Survey, ministry of land and resources of China in geoscience.

18. MoU between the Ministry of External Affairs of India and

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China on establishment of states/provincial leaders' forum.

19. Agreement on the establishment of sister-state/province relations between state government of Karnataka and provincial government of Sichuan of China.

20. Agreement on establishment of sister-city relations between Chennai and Chongqing of China.

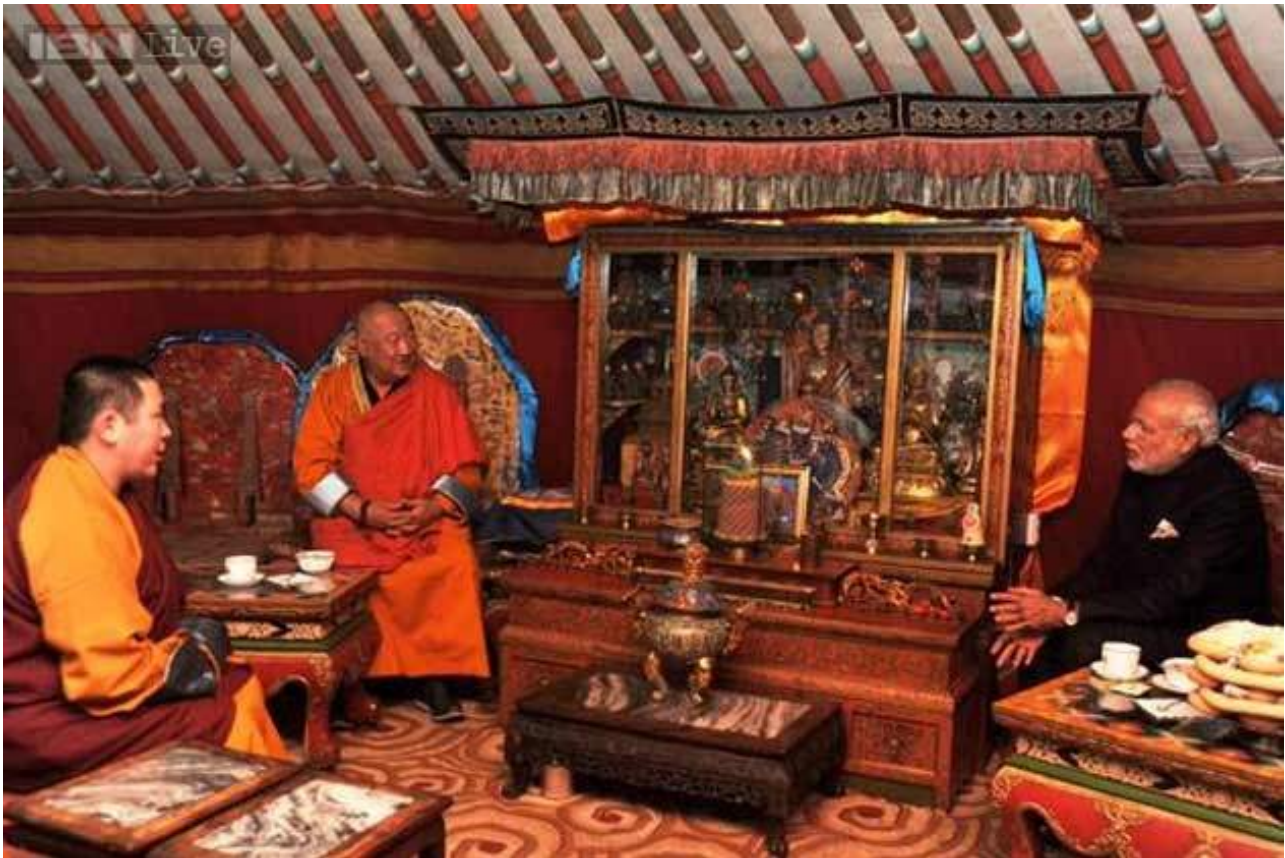
21. Agreement on establishment of sister-city relations between Hyderabad and Qingdao of China.

22. Agreement on establishment of sister-city relations between Aurangabad and Dunhuang of China.

23. MoU between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Fudan University on the establishment of a centre for Gandhian and Indian studies.

24. MoU between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Yunnan Minzu University on the establishment of a yoga college.

## Mongolia Visit: An Integral Part of India's Act East Policy



On May 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached Mongolia. This was the second leg of his three nation tour. The Mongolia visit was historic and attached paramount importance as it was the first ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister. PM Modi was warmly welcomed in Mongolia held high level delegation talks. Various agreements were signed between both the nations. PM Modi expressed his delight to have got the opportunity to visit Mongolia and said that Mongolia was an integral part of India's Act East Policy.

PM Modi hoped that this historic

cooperation with Mongolia would deepen cooperation in border security and cyber security as well. He was optimistic that a new era of partnership would develop between both the nations.

PM Modi paid a visit to the Gandan Monastery. He also presented a Bodhi Tree Sapling to venerated Hamba Lama. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Great Khural (Parliament of Mongolia) and also participated in the Mini Naadam Festival, a rare honour accorded to a visiting dignitary.

Mongolia is also an integral part of India's Act East Policy. The



destinies of India and Mongolia are closely linked with the future of Asia Pacific Region. Both countries can work together to help advance peace, stability and prosperity in this region.

The agreements that were signed, point to the depth of the relationship. These cover economic relations, development partnership, defence and security, and people-to-people contacts. India announced that India will provide a Line of Credit of One Billion U.S. dollars to support expansion of Mongolia's economic capacity and infrastructure.

Supporting development of human resources is the best way to secure a nation's development.

India reiterated its commitment to continue efforts in Mongolia. India will increase the ITEC training slots for Mongolia from 150 to 200. India will also establish an India-Mongolia Joint School.

PM Modi also laid the foundation stone for the expansion and upgrading of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Centre of Excellence for Information and Communication Technology. Cooperation between National Security Councils will provide a strategic framework for cooperation. India has also agreed that it will help establish a cyber security centre in Mongolia's defence and security establishment.



## PM Narendra Modi's France Visit

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi visited France from 10th April till 12th April 2015. Following are some aspects which made PM Modi's visit to France a crucial one and has signified a major shift in India-France relations.

(1) Enhancing India's air capabilities:

Prime Minister Modi, seriously concerned over critical shortages in the defence sector, took a bold decision to go for a Government-to-

Government deal for the procurement of Rafale aircrafts, acknowledged and certified by the Indian Air Force as the best combat aircraft in this category. He secured a commitment from the French to deliver two squadrons (36 aircrafts) in fly away conditions in record time at substantially improved terms than earlier offered which would significantly bring down the costs.

(2) Major step in augmenting indigenous nuclear energy





capabilities:

Signing of a MoU between L&T of India and Areva of France during Prime Minister's visit to manufacture the vessels and large forgings in India is a huge boost to the "Make in India" initiative. It also brings India into the select group of a very few countries in the world that will have this technical capability, opening up new avenues for India in peaceful use of nuclear energy. The project will enhance our independence in our nuclear energy programme. It will also support indigenous manufacture of pressurised vessels for various kinds of chemical and other industries. NPCIL Pre-Engineering Agreement with French AREVA would reduce the cost of the Jaitapur nuclear power project and contribute to finalizing a viable techno-commercial package.

(3) France's total support to India on combating trans-border terrorism

(4) Agreements between ISRO and

CNES (French National Space Agency) for reinforced cooperation in Space:

France is India's leading partner in Space and to further reinforce this cooperation, three agreements were signed between ISRO and CNES which allow joint launch and fabrication of satellites.

(5) 20 pacts signed between India and France: With 'Make-in-India' being the theme, the two sides signed about 20 pacts, covering areas like civil nuclear energy, urban development, railways and space. During the PM's three-day stay, France pledged 2 billion euros for sustainable development in India as PM Modi invited investments and technology from this country. PM also visited the manufacturing facility of aircraft manufacturer Airbus which announced its decision to enhance outsourcing in India from 400 million euros to 2 billion euros over the next five years.

## PM Narendra Modi's Germany Visit

From 12th April to 14th April the Prime Minister embarked on his visit to Germany. His visit brought a paradigm shift in India-Germany ties. The two nations agreed to

enhance co-operation in a wide range of issues. The visit to Germany opened up new avenues for upgrading India's technological capabilities. The Prime Minister gave tangible traction to his



conviction that to make his dream of 'Make in India' real, India has to acquire high technological capabilities and achieve world class skill competencies. Germany is the ideal partner to achieve these goals. PM Modi's historic speech in the Hannover Fair converted many into believers in India's success story and a promising future. The Hannover Fair, the largest industrial trade fair in the world, saw a strong and highly visible campaign on "Make in India", which left a deep impression on the minds of the global industry assembled at the Fair.

Prime Minister made an effective case for emergence of India as a global manufacturing hub. India had the largest ever presence in the Hannover Fair, with 14 States, 120 CEOs and 350 companies participating in the Fair. Prime Minister and Chancellor Merkel identified steps to advance collaboration in specific priority sectors: manufacturing, urban and smart city development, Clean Ganga Mission, railways, renewable energy, urban waste and water management, skills development, education, environment, language and Science & Technology. Letters of Intent were also signed in the fields of renewable energy and urban development. Modi also

unveiled Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Hannover. Some of the highlights are as follows:

1. Both leaders spoke in favour of a free trade agreement between the European Union and India. PM Modi said that this was important for the expansion of India as a manufacturing hub.
2. The joint statement by both countries recognized the establishment of a working group on urban development.
3. PM Modi promised to set up a mechanism to help German companies invest and do business in India — something that he has done only for Japan and the US.
4. While addressing a diaspora event in Berlin, PM Modi said that India would lead the way in dealing with climate change. He added that India is not answerable to the world in relation to climate change.
5. The two countries said stronger educational exchanges will be encouraged along with collaborations between universities.

## PM Narendra Modi's Canada Visit

**W**hen Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi landed at the Airport in Ottawa on 14th April 2015, it marked the beginning of a very special and historic visit. Canada's PM Mr. Stephen Harper said that this was the first stand-alone bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister in forty-two long years. From Ottawa to Toronto to Vancouver, PM Stephen Harper travelled with PM Modi. He

received him warmly at the Ceremonial reception. Taking to twitter, the Canadian PM, highlighted every step taken to strengthen partnership with India. PM Modi became the first Prime Minister to arrive in Canada in a stand-alone bilateral visit in 42 years. His visit was largely welcomed by Canada, a country home to a big Indian diaspora. PM Modi held hectic talks with Canadian PM



Stephen Harper and addressed an 8,000-strong audience of Indo-Canadians at Toronto's Ricoh Coliseum. It was an event similar to the PM's Madison Square Garden event in the US.

**Energy Security and Nuclear Co-Operation:** A new era in the field of bilateral nuclear co-operation began when an agreement on the procurement of uranium for civilian nuclear power plants was signed between India and Canada. This agreement will also help India in her clean energy initiatives. The Uranium supply contract with Canada is extremely significant. Canada was the original supplier of Uranium as also heavy water pressurized nuclear reactors to India in mid 50s. The nuclear programme of India and Canada had many commonalities as India's early nuclear programme was supported by infusion of Canadian technology. As both India and Canada specialize in utilization of natural Uranium and pressurized heavy water technology, India has inherent advantages in nuclear co-operation with Canada. Signing of an MoU for assured supply of Uranium for 5 years is thus a major contribution to India's energy security. India and Canada also agreed to cooperate in safety and regulatory aspects of nuclear energy.

**India and Canada Come Closer:** PM Modi announced that India has

liberalized the visa policy for Canada. The issuing of Electronic Visa Authorisation for tourist visa for Canadian nationals was announced. Canadian nationals will also be eligible for ten-year visas now.

**Some of other highlights of his visit are as follows:**

1. PM Harper and PM Modi agreed to increase collaboration in the fields of energy efficiency, oil and gas development and renewable energy.
2. India and Canada looked forward to an investment of CAD \$2.5 million in five health innovations in India by Grand Challenges Canada and its Indian partner – the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology.
3. Air Canada has said that it plans to have direct flights from Toronto to New Delhi – an outcome that we believe came after the PM's bilateral visit.
4. Both leaders vowed to deepen cooperation in fighting against terrorism and violent extremism.
5. 13 MoUs were signed between the National Skill Development Council of India and 13 Canadian colleges, institutes, and Sector Skills Councils in the fields such as agriculture, automotive, aviation, construction, healthcare, hydrocarbons and IT.

## PM Narendra Modi's Visit to Seychelles



Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid a visit to Seychelles from March 10 to March 11, 2015. He visited Seychelles as part of three-nation tour for cementing strategic partnership with the island countries of Seychelles, Mauritius and Sri Lanka. Narendra Modi is first Prime Minister to visit Seychelles in 34 years. Previously, late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had visited the country in 1981.

### Key facts:

- Both nations agreed to set up a joint working group to promote ocean based economy i.e. on Blue Economy. In this regard, India committed to provide all help to Seychelles.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi also announced free visa on arrival (VoA) and free visas for three months facility to the citizens of Seychelles.
- Four agreements and MoUs were signed between both the countries. They were signed in the fields of renewable energy, hydrographic survey, electronics navigation and infrastructure development.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi also inaugurated a Coastal Surveillance Radar system (SSRS). The surveillance system has been set up in Seychelles with the help of India.
- India also announced that it would provide 2nd dossier aircraft to the island nation to enhance maritime security.

## PM Narendra Modi's Visit to Mauritius



**P**rim Minister Narendra Modi visited Mauritius between 11 March and 12 March 2015 as part of his three nation tour to Seychelles, Mauritius and Sri Lanka. India and Mauritius signed five pacts during PM Modi's visit. The Prime Minister also addressed the country's National Assembly and attended a public reception. During his visit, five Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) were signed between the two nations. These include:

MoU in the field of Ocean Economy

MoU on Programme for Cultural Cooperation for the year 2015-18

MoU on the Protocol for the importation of fresh mangoes from India

MoU for the Improvement in Sea

and Air Transportation Facilities at Agalega Island of Mauritius

MoU on Cooperation in the field of Traditional System of Medicine and Homeopathy

Besides on 12 March 2015, Prime Minister Modi joined the National Day celebrations in Mauritius as the guest of honour and also greeted people of the Island nation and offered prayers by pouring Ganga Jal at Ganga Talao, Mauritius. He also addressed the National Assembly of Mauritius and attended the programme to mark the commissioning of the Barracuda, a ship in the service of the National Coast Guard of Mauritius. He also paid homage to the valiant Aapravasis for their human spirit and also described the Aapravsi Ghat as signifying the enduring links between India and Mauritius.



## PM Narendra Modi's Sri Lanka Visit

**P**M Modi's visit to Sri Lanka was the first stand alone bilateral tour by an Indian Prime Minister since 1987. He inaugurated the reconstructed Northern Province railway line during his two-day, four-city visit to Sri Lanka. PM Modi signalled in more ways than one that he would like to flag off a new start to India-Sri Lanka ties, that could put them on track to the “golden chapter” that he had promised earlier. His emphasis on India's support for a “united” Sri Lanka was deeply appreciated. PM Modi struck the right resonances during the historic first prime ministerial visit to Jaffna, which clearly struck a chord with the Sri Lankan Tamil community there. The Prime Minister, handed over 27,000 new homes to Tamils who had become homeless during the civil war displaying India's deep concern for their welfare.

He also stressed the need to go beyond the Thirteenth Amendment in terms of the political empowerment of the Tamil minority. There was another message, equally powerful, in the flagging-off and in the inauguration of a slew of

projects: that of an Indian intent to deliver on its promises of development. The rail line is one of the regrettably few major Indian infrastructure projects to have been completed in the post-war period. Some of the agreements are as follows:

- The agreement on cooperation between customs authorities is a step which will simplify trade and reduce non-tariff barriers on both sides.
- India stands ready to help Trincomalee become a petroleum hub and announced that New Delhi will provide a fresh Line of Credit of up to USD 318 million for the railways sector in Lanka.
- Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka agreed to enter into a Currency Swap Agreement of USD 1.5 billion to help



## Bhutan Visit

**In keeping with the government's diplomatic priority of 'Neighbourhood First', the Prime Minister invited leaders of all SAARC countries for the oath-taking ceremony in May 2014.**

**P**M Modi said “Bhutan & India share a very special relationship that has stood the test of time. Thus, Bhutan was a natural choice for my 1st visit abroad.”

### **New initiatives:**

During PM Modi's tour, both countries reaffirmed

their commitment to extensive development cooperation and discussed ways to further enhance economic ties. Some of the key points of Modi's visit to the Bhutan are as follows:

1. India and Bhutan reiterated their commitment to achieving the 10,000 MW target in





hydropower cooperation and not to allow their territories to be used for interests "inimical" to each other.

2. Modi inaugurated one of India's assistance projects - the building of the Supreme Court of Bhutan and laid foundation stone of the 600MW Kholongchu Hydro-electric project, a joint venture between India and Bhutan.

3. India also announced a number of measures and concessions including the exemption of Bhutan from any ban on export of milk powder, wheat, edible oil, pulses and non-basmati rice.

4. The two sides recalled the free trade arrangement between them and the expanding bilateral trade

and its importance in further cementing their friendship.

5. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also mooted the idea of an annual hill sports festival with India's northeastern states along with Bhutan and Nepal.

6. Modi announced doubling of scholarships being provided to Bhutanese students in India which will now be worth Rs 2 crore.

7. India will also assist Bhutan set up a digital library which will provide access to Bhutanese youth to two million books and periodicals.

## Nepal Visit

**F**irst bilateral visit in 17 years by an Indian PM took place when PM Modi visited Nepal in August 2014. He made a second visit in November for the SAARC Summit. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's historic visit to Nepal focused on the 4 Cs - cooperation, connectivity, culture and constitution - to enhance bilateral ties. During the visit, Modi assured Nepal that India did not want to interfere in its internal affairs. Seeking to allay fears of Indian interference in Nepal's affairs, the Prime Minister said India has no intention to "dictate" anything to Nepal which should choose its own course in its endeavor to build a stable and prosperous democratic republic. He said while addressing the Constituent Assembly, "Nepal is a truly sovereign nation. We have always believed that it is not our job to interfere in what you do but to support you in the path you decide to take."

### **Some of key takeaways of the visit are as follows:**

1. On cooperation, India had announced USD 1 billion line of credit (LoC) to Nepal.
2. The two sides also agreed to conclude a Power Trade Agreement (PTA)



3. India also offered assistance for development of Janakpur, BarahaChhetra and Lumbini, including linking Lumbini with the Buddhist circuit of India, based on specific proposals from government of Nepal.
4. India handed over Advanced Light Helicopters 'Dhruva' Mark III to the Nepalese Army.
5. India announced an additional USD 1 billion Line of Credit to Nepal.
6. An Agreement on 'Electric Power Trade, Cross- Border Transmission Interconnection and Grid connectivity' was signed.
7. An agreement was reached to expedite the 6,720 MW Pancheshwar Multipurpose Development Project pending for over 17 years.
8. A Motor Vehicle Agreement was signed and Delhi- Kathmandu Pashupatinath Express bus service was also launched.

## Japan Visit

PM Modi's first bilateral visit outside South Asia was to Japan. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's five-day visit to Japan saw the latter nation pledging financial support for building infrastructure in India. Sticking to his 'Make in India' slogan, Modi gave an open invitation to Japanese companies to consider India as a 'competitive low-cost manufacturing hub'. The visit also saw India-Japan relations being upgraded to the level of 'Special

Strategic Global Partnership'. Some of the key takeaways of the PM Modi's Japan visit are as follows:

1. PM Modi's 3D mantra: Inviting Japanese investors to 'Make in India', PM Modi said, "There is no better place than India for Japanese investors. India is one of the most competitive markets in the world." Addressing Japan's Nikkei Exchange, Modi said that India offers the three essential 'Ds' for businessmen to thrive namely; Democracy, Demography and Demand.



2. **Bullet trains:** With Japan committing to fund bullet trains, the dream of running high-speed trains on Indian tracks is now a step closer. Modi's dream project got a big push after Japan expressed readiness to provide financial, technical and operational support to introduce bullet trains in India in a joint statement. The first high-speed train is expected to run between Ahmedabad and Mumbai at an estimated cost of around Rs 60,000-70,000 crores.

3. **Two nominees of Japan in PMO's special team:** PM Modi in his Japan tour announced that a special management team would be set up directly under the Prime Minister's Office to facilitate investment proposals from Japan.

4. **'Special Strategic and Global Partnership':** Japan and India have upgraded their partnership to the level of 'Special Strategic and Global Partnership' with the signing of a defence pact for regional stability and Tokyo's decision to double FDI in India. The two sides stressed on the importance of the regularisation of bilateral maritime exercises as well as on Japan's continued participation in India-US Malabar series of exercises.

5. **Japan to invest over \$34 billion in India:** Japan announced doubling of its private and public investment in India to about \$34 billion over the

next five years. The 3.5 trillion yen (\$34 billion) of investment from Japan to India including Official Development Assistance (ODA) during a 5-year period will be under the aegis of India-Japan Investment Promotion Partnership for development of projects including infrastructure and building of smart cities.

6. **Japan lifts ban on 6 Indian entities:** Japan lifted ban on HAL and five other Indian entities, which had been imposed in the aftermath of the 1998 nuclear tests, amid Modi's assertion that cooperation between the two countries in defence and security will get a "new direction". The removal of the ban will enable these companies to have cooperation with Japanese firms, including transfer of technology.

7. **Modi deplors 'expansionist' tendency of some countries:** Modi deplored the "expansionist" tendency among some countries which "encroach" upon seas of others, in oblique comments against China which is having a maritime dispute with Japan. He said, "We have to decide if we want to have 'vikasvaad' (development) or 'vistarvaad' (expansionism) which leads to disintegration. Those who follow the path of Buddha and have faith on 'vikasvaad', they develop."

## Myanmar Visit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Myanmar came at a very crucial period and with the objective of re-initiating an outreach towards one of India's most ancient civilisational neighbours. As part of his emphasis on re-connecting with the neighbourhood, bringing connectivity as the top priority during his meetings with Myanmar leaders is of urgent need. In India, we often say Myanmar is our "gateway" to the East.

As the Modi government brings in a renewed push to India's Look East policy with an "Act East" policy, Myanmar's geostrategic position becomes all the more important for India to put the necessary connectivity links with the country and the wider region.

PM Modi's reaching out to Myanmar and the ASEAN, in the spirit of 'Act East', therefore, signaled the beginning of a realignment and shall breathe a fresh dose of energy and dynamism both into the ASEAN and East Asia Summit multilateral forums.

Both sides see India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway an opportunity for industrial cooperation. Both countries spoke about the need for more direct air



links, as well as an India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway, and the Kaladan multi-modal transport project. Myanmar President Thein Sein said that as India grows and develops, Myanmar will also benefit.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Myanmar President Thein Sein, at their meeting at Nay Pyi Taw, also discussed other economic ties and cooperation in the oil and gas sector, as well as the need for more cultural contacts, including sending Myanmar students to Nalanda University.

PM Modi attended the ASEAN-India summit and the East Asia Summit in Myanmar. During the tour, he met with leaders of 40 countries. PM Modi also meet Myanmar democracy icon and opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

## Australia Visit



**P**M Modi became the first Indian PM to visit the country in 28 years. He visited Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra. PM Modi was the first ever Indian PM to address a joint sitting of the Australian Parliament.

MoUs in various fields like arts and culture, tourism, combating narcotic trafficking, transfer of sentenced persons and social security benefits and coverage were signed.

Defence cooperation to cover

research, development and industry extended.

Framework for Security Co-operation, which talks of greater co-operation in counter-terrorism and maritime exchanges were also signed during the visit.

Australia returned to India two antique sculptural masterpieces, which were allegedly stolen from temples in Tamil Nadu - one of which was a Nataraja Shiva Idol and the other sculpture was of Ardhanariswara.



## सही दिशा में विदेश नीति

• विवेक काटजू

प्रधानमंत्री के रूप में नरेंद्र मोदी के एक साल पूरे कर लेने के साथ ही उनकी नीतियों और कायरों की गहन समीक्षा हो रही है। विशेष ध्यान उनकी विदेश नीति पर दिया जा रहा है। मोदी ने विदेशी मामलों में सक्रिय रुचि प्रदर्शित की है। इसी का नतीजा है कि न केवल इस क्षेत्र के, बल्कि दुनिया भर के अन्य देशों के साथ भारत के संपर्क-संवाद में एक नई ऊर्जा दिख रही है। वह अपनी एक खास तरह की कूटनीतिक शैली से दूसरे देशों के साथ भारत के संबंधों को नया आयाम दे रहे हैं। यह आजादी के बाद भारत की सरकारों द्वारा अपनाई गई शैली और रीति-नीति से कई मायनों में अलग है। चूंकि यह शैली नई और गैर परंपरागत है इसलिए स्वाभाविक रूप से उसके बारे में तरह-तरह की प्रतिक्रियाएं सामने आ रही हैं। पाकिस्तान नीति को छोड़कर मोदी किसी भी मामले में अपनी विदेश नीति में लड़खड़ाए नहीं हैं। पाकिस्तान नीति जरूर भ्रम का शिकार नजर आ रही है। इसे उस शुरुआती दौर में वापस ले जाने की जरूरत है जब मोदी ने तत्कालीन विदेश सचिव सुजाता सिंह की इस्लामाबाद यात्रा को रद्द कर दिया था। मोदी सरकार ने विदेश नीति में जो पहल की है उनमें से कुछ ऐसी हैं जो आने वाले दशकों में भारत के हितों को पूरा करेंगी। ऐसी ही एक पहल मोदी की सेशल्स और मारीशस के रूप में हिंद महासागर के दो द्वीपीय देशों की यात्रा है। यह दुखद है कि विदेश नीति के समीक्षकों और विद्वानों ने इन यात्राओं को उतना महत्व नहीं दिया जितना कि अपेक्षित था। इस गलती के ऐतिहासिक कारण हैं। भारत की विदेश और सुरक्षा नीति का निर्धारण करने वालों ने ऐतिहासिक रूप से अपना ध्यान उन खतरों की ओर केंद्रित रखा है जो देश की भू-सीमा से उभर सकते हैं। ऐसा इसलिए है, क्योंकि प्राचीन काल से भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप के

पश्चिमी क्षेत्र की भू-सीमाओं से ही लोगों का आना होता रहा है, खासकर खैबर और बोलन दररें से, जो कि अब पाकिस्तान में हैं। इन्हीं इलाकों से प्राचीन और मध्य युग में घुसपैठिए भी आते रहे हैं। लिहाजा भारत के नीति-नियंताओं के मन में यह बात घर कर गई कि भारत को अपनी भू-सीमाओं की हिफाजत करनी है। यही संदेश आजादी के बाद पाकिस्तान के हमलों से भी उभरा। यह बात अलग है कि पाकिस्तान के सभी हमले नाकाम हो गए। 1962 में चीन के साथ युद्ध के दौरान भी ऐसा ही हुआ। लंबे समय से यही धारणा कायम रहने के कारण भारत ने समुद्र से उभरने वाले खतरों की अनदेखी कर दी।



भारत के पूर्वी और दक्षिण इलाकों से व्यापारी और विद्वान दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया गए और उन्होंने वहां पहुंचकर एक गहरा सांस्कृतिक संबंध स्थापित किया। ये सब आज भी मौजूद हैं। सच है कि इन क्षेत्रों से कभी कोई खतरा नहीं उभरा। मुगल शासकों ने नौसेना और जहाजों के विकास के प्रति कोई दिलचस्पी नहीं दिखाई। यह दिलचस्पी तब भी नहीं दिखाई गई जब मुस्लिमों को हज पर ले जाने वाले जहाजों पर हमेशा से समुद्री लुटेरों का खतरा मंडराता रहा। इसके बाद यूरोपीय लोग समुद्री रास्ते से भारत आए। भारत में ब्रिटिश आधिपत्य का एक प्रमुख कारण उसकी उन्नत नौसेना भी थी। चूंकि भारतीय राज्यों के पास कोई समुद्री शक्ति नहीं थी इसलिए उनके लिए ईस्ट इंडिया कंपनी का सामना करना असंभव हो गया। अब समय आ गया है जब भारत को यह अहसास करना होगा कि राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के लिए हिंद

महासागर सबसे अधिक अहम होगा। यह जरूरी है कि इस संदर्भ में की गई ऐतिहासिक गलतियों को सुधारा जाए। जैसे-जैसे अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर भारत की भूमिका बढ़ रही है वैसे-वैसे हिंद महासागर का महत्व भी बढ़ रहा है। यह भारत के व्यापार कॉरिडोर का सबसे प्रमुख मार्ग होगा। भारत इस मार्ग के जरिये ऊर्जा और खाद्यान्न के संदर्भ में अपनी आयात जरूरतों को भी पूरा कर सकता है। इसके साथ ही यह निर्यात का भी मार्ग होगा। भारत में उत्पादन का स्तर और अधिक बेहतर होने के साथ निर्यात के अवसर भी बढ़ेंगे। लिहाजा यह जरूरी है कि भारतीय नौसेना को एक शक्तिशाली निकाय के रूप में विकसित किया जाए। यही वह वजह है जिसके चलते सेशल्स और मारीशस सरीखे देशों का महत्व बढ़ जाता है। भारत के दीर्घकालिक समुद्री हितों के लिहाज से ये देश बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। ये देश खुद बहुत अच्छी स्थिति में नहीं हैं और उन्हें अपनी सुरक्षा के लिए सहयोग की आवश्यकता है। सेशल्स के लिए भारत नजदीकी सहयोग वाला देश है। मारीशस 1968 में अपनी आजादी के बाद से सुरक्षा सहयोग के लिए भारत के साथ जुड़ा रहा है। यह साझेदारी मजबूत ही हुई है, क्योंकि मारीशस की आबादी का बहुमत भारतीय मूल का है। यही समूह आजादी के बाद से एक राजनीतिक शक्ति केंद्र बना रहा है। प्रधानमंत्री नवीन रामगुलाम के शासन के अनेक वर्षों के बाद मारीशस भारत के साथ अपने सुरक्षा संबंधों को आगे बढ़ाने के प्रति एक तरह की अनिच्छा का प्रदर्शन कर रहा है।

सेशल्स के साथ बातचीत की प्रक्रिया कई वर्षों से चल रही थी, लेकिन यह प्रक्रिया संप्रग सरकार के समय धीमी और बेनतीजा थी। संप्रग सरकार सेशल्स के साथ संबंधों में आमूल-चूल बदलाव लाने के लिए जरूरी प्रतिबद्धता दिखाने के प्रति हिचकती रही, लेकिन मोदी ने यह नजरिया बदल दिया। अपने पहले ही साल में उन्होंने एक ऐसे देश की यात्रा करने का फैसला किया जहां पिछले 34 साल से कोई भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री नहीं गया

था। बदलाव को महसूस करने के लिए यही अपने आप में काफी है।

मोदी की यात्रा के दौरान सेशल्स में बुनियादी सुविधाओं के विकास के संदर्भ में एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए। इस समझौते पर अमल का काम प्राथमिकता के आधार पर किया जाना चाहिए। इसी तरह मारीशस के संदर्भ में भी एक महत्वपूर्ण समझौता किया गया। इसका संबंध समुद्री और वायु परिवहन में सुधार से है। इस बारे में भी कई वर्षों से बातचीत चल रही थी। यह न केवल भारत, बल्कि मारीशस के भी हित में है कि इस समझौते पर सही तरह और बिना किसी देरी के अमल हो। सेशल्स और मारीशस, दोनों ही देशों में मोदी का ध्यान देना व्यापक अर्थ रखता है और इसका संबंध केवल सुरक्षा मामलों तक सीमित नहीं है। संबंधों के विकास के लिए सबसे अच्छा तरीका यही है कि संबंध किसी एक खास मकसद पर केंद्रित न हों। मारीशस के संदर्भ में तो यह और अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है, क्योंकि इस देश के साथ हमारे रिश्ते खून के हैं। इन मामलों में एक और पहलू है। हिंद महासागर का क्षेत्र आने वाले दिनों में गहन समुद्री प्रतिस्पर्धा का क्षेत्र बन जाएगा। चीन ने पहले ही समुद्री सिल्क रोड परियोजना का ऐलान कर दिया है। इसके तहत वह हिंद महासागर के देशों के साथ करीबी रिश्ते कायम करना चाहता है। भारत के दीर्घकालिक हितों के लिए यह जरूरी है कि राजनीतिक वर्ग विचारधारा और राजनीतिक मामलों को सामरिक नीति पर हावी न होने दे ताकि देश की समग्र ऊर्जा को अर्थव्यवस्था और शक्ति के विकास में लगाया जा सके। यदि ऐसा नहीं होता तो देश पीछे छूट जाएगा। देशों के बीच क्रूर खेल में उन लोगों के लिए कोई दया नहीं दिखाई जाती जो आगे खड़े होने का अवसर गंवा देते हैं।

(लेखक विदेश मामलों के विशेषज्ञ है एवं विभिन्न देशों में भारत के राजदूत रहे हैं)

साभार: दैनिक जागरण, 25 मई, 2015

# The Fall of UPA's Crony Capitalism – A Year of Reform

• Arun Jaitley

Look back at the situation that existed a year ago before the NDA Government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office. The Government wanted to centralize power in its own hands rather than promote non-discretionary and rule-based governance. “For Sale” signs hung over all Ministries. Spectrum was allocated at throw away prices to the favoured few. Investors lost their investment. Ministers, civil servants, investors were jailed and prosecuted. Coal blocks were allocated at virtually no price. Environmental clearances were up for sale. The Congress Party leaders had become rent seekers and name lenders. They were partners in a large number of companies which got coal blocks allocated. The discretionary and arbitrary allotment motivated by collateral considerations led to prosecutions of many and a virtual paralysis of the coal mines sector. It had an adverse impact on user industries such as the power sector. Even the former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh was not spared on account of the self-destruct policies of the UPA. The courts had to intervene and cancel the allocations. The mining sector provided for a statutory mechanism of allocation based on the obsolete principle of “first come first served”.

The State Governments – some of the poorest in the country – were taken for a ride. They got very little out of valuable resources such as mines in their States. Even gold imports were controlled by a few. This was crony capitalism at its very worst. Businessmen and industrialists lined up to Ministers and party functionaries to seek favours. Chits were regularly issued from party functionaries to Ministers indicating the name of the allottee to be favoured with State largesse. In this chaotic regime, nepotism reached its climax when investigative agencies such as the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate were directly controlled by political individuals. Dubious appointments were made to these agencies. Political opponents and inconvenient business persons were harassed. The agencies whose primary job was to unearth corruption had themselves been corrupted. Courts had to regularly intervene to seek action against the possible guilty. Investing in India inherently included the risk of prosecution. Was it any wonder that investors fled the country? This had



disrupted the business environment in the country.

Where do we stand one year later? The whole parade of industrialists lining up outside South Block and North Block is now over. The corridors are empty, the silence cheery. FDI increased from \$20.8 billion in 2013-14 (Apr13–Feb14) to \$28.8 billion in 2014-15 (Apr14–Feb15). The others are in advance stages of the approval process. The environment Ministry has set up institutional mechanisms whereby clearances based on objective criteria are being routinely granted. The regime of an unlegislated tax on environmental clearances is over. The spectrum auction has fetched over rupees one lakh crores. A few coal blocks being auctioned have fetched over rupees two lakh crores. There is no role of Ministers except in laying down policy. Prices are determined by a market mechanism and the successful bidder is determined by auction. The word “corruption” is being removed from India's political dictionary. The environment of “prosecute the investors” has been completely reversed. There is a thrust towards reforms and liberalization but no crony capitalism, no harassment. The “scam and scandal, corruption and retribution” Raj is behind us.

With the fiscal deficit contained and Government's revenues improving, the emphasis is now on strengthening

social security and social sector schemes. Over 15 crore Jan Dhan accounts have been opened. An effort is now on to put money in those accounts. Besides, Government schemes for the weaker sections, the LPG subsidy is now being transferred directly to over 12.6 crore beneficiary households. The insurance scheme for accidental death launched on 9.5.2015, in the first nine days, has 5.57 crore policy holders. This scheme involves a premium of Rs.12/- per year. The life insurance scheme involves a premium of Rs.330/- per year and has 1.74 crore subscribers in the first 18 days. The Atal Pension Yojana has been well received. The un-pensioned section of the Indian society will become a pensioned one. The MUDRA bank will assist 5.77 crore small entrepreneurs in raising funds. The distressed farmer has been given relief under the liberalized norms. Additional money has been allocated for MGNREGA. The enhanced resources of the State will be increasingly used towards infrastructure creation, irrigation and social sector schemes. Herein lies the difference between UPA's crony capitalism and institutional destruction and NDA's liberalization and anti-corruption, combined with an emphasis on both strengthening institution building and social security for the poor and vulnerable.

*Courtesy: www.bjp.org, press release, 19th May, 2015*

## Fighting From The Top

• *Ram Madhav*

**I**t was about a year ago that the BJP won the general election in a spectacular manner. The slogan at that time was “Congress-mukt Bharat” — a country free of the Congress. The Congress in that slogan stood for a particular political culture that has come to be identified with the politics that the 100-year-old party practised.

The BJP wanted the country to be rid of that political culture, the hallmark of which has been corruption, nepotism, lack of public accountability, skewed economic thinking that made political capital of poverty and freebies the purchasing power for votes, dubious secularism and disregard for national security and integrity. The so-called Congress culture has brought unprecedented hardship, misery and despondency to India and its people and finally they revolted, using the time-tested weapon of the vote.

In the BJP and Narendra Modi, people didn't see just an alternative to the Congress and its leadership; they rather looked at them with hope for an alternative political culture. One year down the line, the real test for us was whether we had succeeded in giving that confidence to the people of the country.

Winning elections is an important

part of the life of a political party. In the last year, the BJP has faced elections in eight states,



lost one and formed governments in the remaining seven. Two of these elections have become much talked about — Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir. Politics sometimes presents us with difficult choices — difficulty, but choice too. A pragmatic politician should look at the choices also, which we did in J&K. Contrary to propaganda in some sections, we didn't compromise even an inch on national or state interest, while exploring options to serve the people of the state for which an overwhelming mandate was given to us. “Compromise is to politics what devotion is to friendship,” said John Morley in his book, *On Compromise*. But we proved in J&K that not compromise, but conviction is what drives our politics.

In victory or alliance or defeat, our distinct politics has played an important role. We lost where we failed to uphold that distinction and

won where we did. A cadre-based party like the BJP can afford to lose elections, but not the faith of the cadre. In victory and defeat, this is the lesson we have learnt.

People saw in Modi a leader with integrity and honesty. One year down the line, people are not disappointed. We have not only run a clean government but also demonstrated our commitment to transparency and accountability in public life. We are giving a great push to e-governance and digital India programmes that will ensure greater transparency in governance.

The biggest asset for this government in its fight against corruption has been the incorruptible leadership of the prime minister himself. Former PM P.V. Narasimha Rao had once said during his regime that corruption should be eradicated from the top. It is not enough to catch hold of a small-time corrupt official in a local office and pretend that we are fighting against corruption. It has to be removed from the top, so that the process can percolate downwards. Under Modi, we have achieved that.

Development is inspired by the spirit of “Antyodaya” — the welfare of the last man is an article of faith for this government. For the Congress, the poor — like the minorities — are just a vote bank. Perpetuating poverty, not ending it,

has been their politics. As long as there are poor people, there will be the Congress brand of politics of the poor, where you only have to invent a new slogan every now and then. How else can we explain the dismal situation that, after six decades of independence and so much cacophony about garibihatao, etc, our BPL population is 45 per cent and 60 per cent of our rural women don't have access to toilets? Who is responsible for a situation where 20 million youngsters join the workforce every year while we add not even two million jobs, leaving close to 18 million jobless every year?

For the BJP, not just alleviating but completely annihilating poverty is the target. We are not the merchants of the poor like the Congress; we are a death-knell for poverty. The Modi government has launched several programmes like the Jan DhanYojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, irrigation schemes, etc to wage war on poverty. Its skills development and Make in India campaigns are aimed at generating employment for millions of able youngsters.

Infrastructure is key to development and prosperity. Infrastructure development has great potential for employment generation, too. Thanks to decades of misrule, our infrastructure is in a pathetic condition. The Modi

government has accorded the highest priority to this core sector. To that end, a responsible and humane amendment is sought by this government to land acquisition. For over a century, we struggled with an obsolete and anti-farmer Land Acquisition Act, 1894. In 2013, the UPA government introduced some amendments to it that swung the pendulum to the other extreme, harming the cause of landowners as well as infrastructure developers, including the government.

In order to achieve a balance, the Modi government has introduced the fair compensation and rehabilitation act of 2014, which seeks to ensure the highest levels of compensation to farmers while assuring infrastructure development that is much needed to kick start our stagnant economy. One of the main reasons for poverty in our country is that almost 55 per cent of our population — the majority being young — is forced to depend on agriculture, which produces 15-20 per cent output. In China, only 15 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture. In order to make agriculture profitable, we need to find alternative means of employment for underemployed rural youth through manufacturing, big industry, infrastructure, etc. Our demographic dividend is not going to last for more than a decade or so. Already our birth rates are

stagnating. If we miss exploiting that dividend now, we will not get the chance after a decade.

The reforms to the land acquisition act and the push given to development in infra-related areas like mining should be seen from this perspective. They are not meant to help corporations. Instead, they are going to be a boon for the poor and underdeveloped sections of our society. Short-sighted criticism and campaigns by opposition parties to stall these progressive reforms will only hurt the poor. Our government is committed to going ahead with the reforms, so that we can win a decisive war on poverty in the next 10 years.

In 2003, while cruising on the Shanghai river and looking at the Chinese economic miracle, then PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee had commented that India had lost 20 years. In the early 1980s, India and China were at the same economic level. Modi is determined that we will not lose another 20 years. Negative politics may serve the opposition in the short term. But Modi is a leader with a long-term vision. People have faith in him and under his leadership, our government will take the country to new heights.

*The writer is national general secretary of the BJP*

*Courtesy: The Indian Express, 23rd May 2015*

## Modi Govt: In the League of the Greats

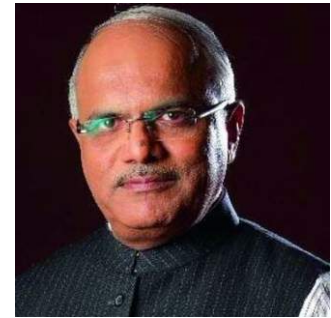
• *Vinay Sahasrabudhe*

**P** rime Minister Narendra Modi's government completes one year in office. Clearly, one year is not long enough to pass judgement, although it is not too short to not draw conclusions. Central to this debate is the question whether the Modi government has brought anything new to the table. Has the government really made a difference? If yes, how?

**There are three key areas in which the Modi government has made a distinct mark. The first, obviously, is external affairs. At the core of foreign policy remains his strategy of building relations with emphasis on mutuality of interests. Second, people-oriented welfare policies sans populism. Third comes his catch-the-bull-by-the-horns approach where one requires a huge amount of courage of conviction.**

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distinct mark. The first, obviously, is external affairs. At the core of foreign policy remains



his strategy of building relations with emphasis on mutuality of interests. Second, people-oriented welfare policies sans populism. Third comes his catch-the-bull-by-the-horns approach where one requires a huge amount of courage of conviction.

In so far as his proactive foreign policy is concerned, Modi's performance can only match two of his illustrious predecessors. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on the one hand and Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the other. Nehru had his role cut out—make newly independent India's presence felt on the international canvas. Vajpayee's job was relatively more difficult. He had to garner the support of the very forces in world politics whose wrath he had braved in the wake of Pokhran 2.

In this backdrop, several new initiatives and fresh approaches mark the Modi government's foreign policy. Right at the



inauguration of his government, Prime Minister Modi gave a 'friendship-with-all' signal by inviting the heads of all neighbouring countries. Building on these initial overtures, he almost unequivocally gave another message signalling the supreme importance of mutuality.

Be it Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal or Bangladesh, all now know very well that friendship with India is a two-way process. India need not be a big brother, but will also not close its eyes to anti-India politics being played or policies being pursued by any of its neighbours. Those promoting attacks from across the border have now realized that India can and will pay them back in their own coin.

With the land-swap treaty getting the nod, Bangladesh will no longer be able to deny infiltration, which will eventually pave the way for taking them back. Besides, the prime minister's push for mutual-interest-based relationships with all major international powers, such as the US, Japan, China and Australia, has helped observers decipher his talk of G-all as against traditional blocs like the G-8 and G-20. Besides, his choice of countries to visit—Seychelles, Mongolia and Fiji—has made many established foreign policy experts sit up and

reassess Modi's ability to discover a niche role for India in world politics.

What the media has largely ignored is the fact that the prime minister's visits abroad have accrued several concrete gains for the country. To name a few, Saudi Arabia's consent to not charge on-time delivery premiums on supply of crude oil, resulting in the saving of crores of rupees. Besides, ONGC has succeeded in obtaining a drilling contract from Vietnam. Also, Australia has agreed to supply uranium.

**The Modi government has subtly communicated that it believes in empowerment; once empowered, entitlement will naturally follow. Mudra Bank, too, is a right step in this direction and if pursued vigorously, it will further promote entrepreneurship among the weaker sections of society.**

Years ago, I had a chance to hear Modi, then chief minister of Gujarat, addressing villagers, mainly farmers from Dholavira in Kutch. While listening to their woes about not receiving electricity bills

on time from the state electricity board, he had the courage to tell them that non-receipt of bills could not be a reason for non-payment. It is his confidence in the collective wisdom of the people that drives Modi to swim against the tide.

This takes us to another area in which the Modi government has made a significant departure—the strategy to deal with poverty and deprivation. While the Jan-Dhan Yojana has provided a sound foundation for other social security programmes offering life insurance, accident insurance and pension, the government has decidedly avoided the lure of doling out money. There are absolutely no free lunches in the Modi regime. In fact, in several of his speeches, he has stressed the need for empowering the poor and the disadvantaged sections to fight poverty. And this certainly is a significant departure from the United Progressive Alliance philosophy of entitlement first, empowerment later.

As against this, the Modi government has subtly communicated that it believes in empowerment; once empowered, entitlement will naturally follow. Mudra Bank, too, is a right step in this direction and if pursued vigorously, it will further promote entrepreneurship among the

weaker sections of society.

The Modi government also needs to be credited for taking some tough calls. One of them is accepting the recommendations of the finance commission with regard to increased allocation of resources to states. Similarly, the government seems to be successfully walking the tightrope between governance and the compulsions of electoral politics.

At the World Trade Organization, India's concerns were recognized and its suggestions accepted. Similar determination was shown by the government while winding up the Planning Commission and replacing it with the NITI Aayog. The government also went ahead with the National Judicial Appointments Commission, against the views of influential sections in the legal fraternity.

One may criticize the Modi government for a number of reasons. But one cannot deny the fact that it is a government that is ready to own responsibility and, more importantly, is led by a Karta (doer).

*Vinay Sahasrabuddhe is vice-president of the BJP.*

*Courtesy: www.livemint.com, opinion, 25th May, 2015*

# India of the Ages is Rising, Signalling a New Twilight

• *AnirbanGanguly*

**T**he last one year since May 2014 has been a year of profound shift. Through a steady and sure movement forward, India's rise as a civilisational state has begun. The advent of an epochal shift brings about the generation of ideas, of concepts, visions and

**“A country that works or moves in the shadow of philosophy sustains for a longer duration (and) Those who work with ideology will one day or the other topple” (or that) “Ideology has its limitations. Philosophy is unlimited. And that is why the philosophy of India that the entire world is a family, that's the philosophy we are taking with us to move forward.”**

actions that have defining capacities. The last year has seen many such actions and articulations, each, perhaps in its own way, having a deep impact on India's ongoing directional change.

When heads of SAARC nations converged in New Delhi last May, to attend the swearing-in of the new



government, it symbolised a new shift that could permeate the vision of SAARC. When PM Narendra Modi spoke of developing SAARC into a shared zone of prosperity, it heralded a new narrative, which aspired to bind the region closer.

The Prime Minister's speech at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2014 signified for India a major shift on the world stage after a decadal slide. His call to recognise yoga universally and the immediate and overwhelming endorsement it received worldwide firmly and globally established the Indic way of life and re-affirmed the civilisational faith that the Indic way is the way to harmonious and cooperative global living.

When Modi spoke at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York and argued that the need of the hour for the world was to work on the basis of a philosophy and not ideology, that “a country that works or moves in the shadow of philosophy sustains

for a longer duration (and) Those who work with ideology will one day or the other topple” (or that) “Ideology has its limitations. Philosophy is unlimited. And that is why the philosophy of India that the entire world is a family, that's the philosophy we are taking with us to move forward”, he introduced a profound philosophical position that was unique to Indic civilisational thought. It signified a new source of inspiration for India's action on the world stage.

The repeated allusion to the Asian century, to the rekindling and re-activating of civilisational linkages to make the Asian century a reality, the Prime Minister's call for engagement between the rising powers of Asia, as when he made his historic speech at Tsinghua University during his just-concluded China visit, are also indicative of this profound shift in India's self-perception and her perception of the world. The conviction that India can and aspires to shape the Asian century, that the century shall be defined by the rise of India and the formation of a multi-polar world order, have increasingly shaped her external outreach in the last one year.

Involving the diaspora as active stake-holders in the shaping of India's destiny and in the consolidation of her standing on the

world stage, the outreach to India's past civilisational zones, be it in the Indian Ocean Region or the Asia Pacific, expressing the faith, as the Prime Minister did during Buddha Jayanti celebrations, that the creation of the Asian century can be done only with Buddha as its fulcrum and centre, have all initiated a deep redirection of forces and currents in the region and beyond. The effects of this recalibration are yet to be felt in its entirety.

Meanwhile, the faith that India has still something to do for herself and for humanity is being reinforced, as Sri Aurobindo wrote, nearly a century ago, “India of the ages is not dead nor has she spoken her last creative word; she lives and has still something to do for herself and the human peoples... And that which must seek now to awake is not an anglicised oriental people” but a collectivity, a civilisation that aspires for India to “recover her deeper self”.

Truly, it is a “new twilight” that we are living through, “not of an evening but a morning Yuga-sandhya”.

*Courtesy: The New Indian Express, 23rd May, 2015*

# FROM RED TAPE TO RED CARPET



## ★ INITIATIVES FOR EASE OF DOING BUSINESS ★

### CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

#### Actions Completed

- ★ Unified online portal (Shram Suvidha) for:
  - Registration of Labour Identification Number (LIN)
  - Submission of returns
  - Grievance redressal
- ★ Combined returns under 8 labour laws
- ★ Online portals for Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) for:
  - Real-time registration
  - Payments through 56 accredited banks
- ★ Online application process for environmental and forest clearances
- ★ 14 government services delivered via eBiz, a single-window online portal
- ★ Investor Facilitation Cell established
- ★ Dedicated Japan+ Cell established
- ★ Consent to Establish/NOC no longer required for new electricity connections
- ★ Documents reduced from 7 to 3 for exports and imports
- ★ Option to obtain company name and DIN at the time of incorporation
- ★ Simplified forms for:
  - Industrial Licence
  - Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum
- ★ Many defence sector dual-use products no longer require licences
- ★ Validity of security clearance from Ministry of Home Affairs extended to 3 years
- ★ Extended validity for implementing industrial licences
- ★ No distinction between partial and full commencement of production for all products
- ★ Colour-coded maps for locations requiring NOC from the Airports Authority of India hosted online

#### Measures Underway

- ★ Eliminate requirement of minimum paid-up capital and common seal
- ★ Integrate processes for obtaining PAN, TAN, ESIC and EPFO registration with incorporation of company
- ★ Single-window clearance for import and export

### STATE GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

#### Actions Completed

- ★ Online consent system for Pollution Control Board (Gujarat)
- ★ GIS-based land identification system (Gujarat)
- ★ Online consent system for environmental clearances (Chhattisgarh)
- ★ Extended validity of consent under environmental provisions (Chhattisgarh)
- ★ Unified process with single ID for VAT and Professional Tax registration (Maharashtra)
- ★ Number of procedures and time for getting an electricity connection reduced (Maharashtra)

### eBiz Vision

www.ebiz.gov.in

*To transform the business environment by providing efficient, convenient, transparent and integrated electronic services to business throughout the business life cycle. 14 Government of India services have been integrated.*

- ★ Commercial benches established in Mumbai High Court (Maharashtra)
- ★ Creation of Invest Punjab, as a one-stop clearance system for investment projects (Punjab)
- ★ 131 industries exempted from consent requirement by Pollution Control Board (Punjab)
- ★ Real-time allotment of TIN - Taxpayer Identification Number (Delhi)
- ★ Online application portal for residential and industrial building permits (Delhi)
- ★ Commercial benches established in High Court (Delhi)

★ Online portal for construction permits for institutional and commercial buildings (Delhi)

- ★ Static check posts replaced by mobile squads (Uttarakhand)
- ★ Green industries exempted from inspection by Pollution Control Committee (Puducherry)
- ★ Checklist for 86 government services and delivery timelines across 23 departments/organizations made available on Karnataka Udyog Mitra, an online portal (Karnataka)

#### Measures Underway

- ★ Online portal for the grant of construction permits (Mumbai)
- ★ Joint inspection by all departments to grant NOCs for construction permits (Mumbai and Delhi)
- ★ Simplified procedure to install electricity connection in 15 days (Delhi)

## Setting up of a new Ammonia-Urea Complex at Namrup in Assam on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Basis

**F**inancial restructuring of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited.

The Union Cabinet recently gave its approval for setting up of a new Ammonia-Urea Complex of 8.64 Lakh Metric Tonnes annual capacity with an estimated investment of Rs. 4500 crore at Namrup in Assam on Public Private Partnership (PPP) route by a Joint Venture (JV). In the proposed JV, a PSU of Department of Fertilizers namely Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), Government of Assam and Oil India Limited (another PSU) shall have 11%, 11% and 26% equity holding respectively and balance 52% by private/public sector entity(ies) which would be inducted through a competitive bidding process.

The Cabinet also approved the financial restructuring of BVFCL by waiving off entire cumulative interest (Rs. 774.61 crore as on 31.03.2015) till date accrued on GOI loans & a loan of Rs. 21.96 crore and conversion of GOI loans of Rs. 594.71 crore as interest free loan. It will enable the BVFCL to participate



as equity partner in this project and will sustain the operation of the existing plants during the interim period till the new plant comes into operation.

The new plant will be highly energy efficient unit of international standard with latest technology and with same amount of natural gas available to the existing units, the production of urea from the new unit will be more than double i.e. 3.6 to 8.64 lakh Metric Tonnes annually. With this, India is likely to start export of urea. Govt. would save about Rs. 600 crore annually due to reduction in cost of production and import substitution. The entire production of urea from this unit shall be neem coated so that benefits of neem coating are available to the farmers of the North-Eastern region also.

*SPMRF Desk*

## Approval for Revival of the Sindri Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation India

The Modi Government recently gave its approval for the revival of closed urea unit of Fertilizer Corporation India Limited (FCIL) at Sindri (Jharkhand) with an investment of Rs. 6000 crore. This unit was lying defunct and was not in operation since 2002. Therefore, the unit and other associated facilities were lying unutilized. It is important to mention here that there is no functional urea unit in the Eastern part of the country except two small units at Namrup (Assam). The annual consumption of urea in the country is approximately 310 LMT, out of which 230 LMT is produced indigenously and rest is imported. To enhance the production of urea indigenously, the Modi

Government had earlier approved the revival of Talcher (Odisha) & Ramagundam (Telangana) units of FCIL by PSUs through 'nomination route' and Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) & Gorakhpur unit of FCIL through 'Bidding route'. Now Sindri unit is approved for revival through 'Bidding route'.

The setting up of a new unit at Sindri will meet the growing demand of urea in the States of Bihar, West Bengal and Jharkhand. It will also ease the pressure on railway and road infrastructure due to long distance transportation of urea from Western and Central Regions and thereby saving in Government's subsidy on freight. It will also accelerate the economic development of the region. Apart from the growth of regional economy, this unit will create opportunities for 500 direct and 3000 indirect employments.

-SPMRF Desk



## Public Discussion on: Redefining Governance & Foreign Policy: Discussing 1 Year of the Modi Government, JNU, New Delhi, 22nd May, 2015

On 22nd May 2015, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation (SPMRF) organized a public discussion in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) New Delhi, on the occasion of the completion of one year of the Narendra Modi Government. The title of the discussion was: “Redefining Governance & Foreign Policy: Discussing One Year of the

Narendra Modi Government.” SPMRF partnered with the students and scholars' forum of JNU “India First”, in organizing the discussion.

The programme saw the participation of a large number of students, scholars and a select group of faculty members. The panelists were, K.G.Suresh, senior journalist and senior consulting editor DD News, Jayadeva Ranade, foreign affairs expert , China





specialist and former Additional Secretary Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India and Nitin Gokhale, defence and security analyst and senior journalist.

K.G.Suresh spoke in detail about the change in perspective and attitude towards governance that has come about in the last one year and dwelt at great length on some of the flagship schemes of the Narendra Modi Government and of how it has made a difference and evolved a connect with the vast majority of people. It was evident, Suresh argued, that there was clear, decisive, purposeful and goal-driven leader and leadership in the country in the last one year.

Jayadeva Ranade spoke at length on the pragmatic approach of Narendra Modi's foreign policy of how in the last one year dimensions of that policy have been redefined by this strong element of pragmatism that the Prime Minister has introduced. India's neighbourhood policy, her outreach to the IOR, to the Asia-Pacific and the East as well as the inclusion of the Make in India dimension were all discussed in detail.

Nitin Gokhale spoke on how the defence sector, facing a decay of colossal neglect, has been re-energised in that last one year and

how that has instilled a sense of purpose and energy in the forces. Gokhale discussed in detail how the Rafale deal shall boost India's airpower and pointed out that it was a dynamic step forward that has introduced great energy in the defence sector. He also pointed out how a new DPP has been envisaged etc.

Dr. Anirban Ganguly, Director, SPMRF, initiated the discussion and summed the entire session. He pointed out that the Government under Prime Minister Modi was in fact working for all sections, especially the marginalized and was empowering them, giving them a sense of security and empowerment. He referred in some detail to the MUDRA Bank initiative and of how it was a major step forward to strengthen the unorganized sector in India, especially the SC & ST entrepreneurs.

A lively question and answer session followed the presentations and great interest was seen among the participants and there was a positive enthusiasm for the Government's efforts.

- SPMRF Desk

# केंद्र सरकार के प्रति जनता का विश्वास बढ़ा है: अमित शाह



26 मई, 2015 को भारतीय जनता पार्टी की श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में जो सरकार बनी उसका ठीक एक साल आज समाप्त होने जा रहा है। देश के लोकतंत्र के इतिहास के लिए और भाजपा के लिए भी गत साल कई मायनों में नए रिकार्ड स्थापित करने वाला रहा। भाजपा के लिए यह गौरव की बात है कि देश की जनता ने जो पहली बार किसी गैर-कांग्रेसी दल को सरकार बनाने का मौका दिया वो भाजपा को दिया। और देश के सभी हिस्सों से करीब-करीब भाजपा और एनडीए का प्रतिनिधित्व आज संसद में, इस सरकार में आज साझीदार है। अरुणाचल में भाजपा का सांसद है तो कच्छ में भी भाजपा का सांसद है। लेह लद्दाख में भाजपा का सांसद है तो कन्याकुमारी में भी भाजपा का सांसद है। इस देश में सरकार के प्रति अविश्वास का जो संकट पैदा हुआ था उसको इस सरकार ने समाप्त किया है। पहले देश की

सरकार पर इस देश की जनता को भरोसा नहीं था कि यह सरकार देश को कहां पर ले जाएगी। देश के प्रधानमंत्री को देश की कैबिनेट पर भरोसा नहीं था और ब्यूरोक्रेसी को प्रधानमंत्री पर भरोसा नहीं था। आज वो विश्वास का संकट टल गया है। दुनिया भी बड़े भरोसे से आनंद और आश्चर्य से भारत की प्रगति को देख रही है। हर क्षेत्र में इस सरकार ने नई-नई पहल की है और परिणाम भी पाए हैं। यह सरकार विजिबल सरकार रही है। पहले सरकार को ढूंढना पड़ता था। अब शायद मीडिया से भी आगे आकर सरकार प्रोएक्टिव होकर जनता की दिक्कत के समय में जनता के साथ दिखाई पड़ रही है। जम्मू-कश्मीर में बाढ़ आती है तो कुछ ही घंटों में वहां मंत्री और प्रधानमंत्री दिखाई पड़ते हैं। पड़ोसी देश नेपाल में अगर भूकंप आता है तो तुरंत ही सरकार प्रोएक्टिव होकर नेपाल में दिखाई देती है। तमिलनाडु में यदि

भारतीय मछुआरों पर संकट आता है, फांसी दी जाती है तो भारत सरकार हस्तक्षेप करती है। किसी क्रिश्चन पादरी को अफगानिस्तान में अगवा किया जाता है तो भारत सरकार दखल करके उसको छुड़ाकर लाती है। इस सरकार ने प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय की गरिमा को पुनः स्थापित किया है। एक जमाना था जब हर मंत्री दस साल तक अपने मंत्रालय का प्रधानमंत्री होता था। और प्रधानमंत्री को कोई प्रधानमंत्री ही नहीं मानता था। भाजपा इस स्थिति में परिवर्तन लाई है। आज हरेक मंत्री स्वतंत्रतापूर्वक अपने मंत्रालय का काम कर रहे हैं, फैसले ले रहे हैं। उन पर कोई मंत्री समूह नहीं थोपे गए हैं। मंत्रियों को काम करने की स्वतंत्रता दी गई है। प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय का गौरव पुनः स्थापित हुआ है। यह सरकार पालिसि पैरालिसिसि से बाहर आई है। जैसे ही समस्या सामने आती है इसके निवारण के लिए यह सरकार तुरंत प्रोएक्टिव होकर अगर जरूरी है तो नीतियों में परिवर्तन करने के लिए तत्पर रहती है और इसके अच्छे परिणाम हमें मिले हैं। 10 वर्षों तक देश की जनता किसी एक चीज से अगर सबसे ज्यादा त्रस्त थी तो वह भ्रष्टाचार था। 10 वर्षों तक हर महीने कोई न कोई घपला या घोटाला, लाखों करोड़ों रूपयों के भ्रष्टाचार जनता के सामने आते थे, जो जनता के आत्मविश्वास को हिलाकर रख देता थे। और दुनिया में भी हिन्दुस्तान की साख इन घोटालों के कारण दिन-प्रतिदिन गिरती जा रही थी। लोकसभा चुनाव के वक्त हमने वचन दिया था कि हम भ्रष्टाचार को इस व्यवस्था से उखाड़कर फेंक देंगे। मुझे बताते हुए बहुत आनंद हो रहा है कि एक वर्ष में हमारे विरोधी भी इस सरकार पर भ्रष्टाचार का कोई आरोप नहीं लगा सकते। ये भाजपा की मोदी सरकार की बहुत बड़ी उपलब्धि है।

संघीय ढांचे को मजबूत करने के लिए मोदी सरकार ने जितना किया उतना शायद आजादी के बाद किसी सरकार ने नहीं किया। योजना आयोग भंग कर नीति आयोग में राज्यों के सीएम को शामिल किया गया जिससे योजनाएं राज्यों की आवश्यकता के अनुरूप बनें। इससे विकास और कल्याणकारी जो भी योजनाएं बनेंगी उसे वास्तविक रूप देने से जनता को फायदा होगा। खदानों की पारदर्शी नीलामी से आने वाली पूरी रकम राज्यों के विकास के लिए देने का निर्णय एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। संघीय ढांचे के

अनुरूप राज्यों को साथ लेकर चलने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाते हुए 14वें वित्त आयोग की सिफारिशों के तहत केंद्रीय करों के लाभांश में 10 फीसदी वृद्धि करते हुए राज्यों का हिस्सा 32 फीसदी से बढ़ाकर 42 प्रतिशत कर दिया गया। कोयला खदान की नीलामी से जितनी भी राशि आएगी वह बिना किसी पक्षपात के शत-प्रतिशत राज्यों को जाएगी। यह संघीय ढांचे को मजबूत करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। इस प्रकार टीम इंडिया की भावना को मोदी सरकार ने देश के समक्ष रखा है।

‘मेक इन इंडिया’ और ‘स्किल डेवलपमेंट’ जैसी पहल बेरोजगारी दूर करने में बेहद कारगर साबित होंगी। कृषि पर निर्भरता कम करने और स्वरोजगार को बढ़ावा देने के लिए हमने मुद्रा बैंक की योजना शुरू की। मुद्रा बैंक के जरिए 10 हजार से 10 लाख रूपये का लोन उपलब्ध कराने की योजना है। प्रधानमंत्री सिंचाई योजना के तहत 14 प्रतिशत असिंचित भूमि को सिंचन के दायरे में लाया जाएगा। पहले कुदरती आपदा आती थी तो किसानों को सही मुआवजा नहीं मिलता था। हमने पहले के 50 फीसदी नुकसान के साथ-साथ 33 फीसदी नुकसान पर भी मुआवजा देना तय किया है। मुआवजे का दायरा एक हेक्टेयर से बढ़ाकर दो हेक्टेयर कर दिया गया है। मिट्टी हेल्थ कार्ड के तहत कौन सी खाद कितनी मात्रा में डालनी है, खेत में कितना पानी कितने अंतराल पर डालनी है, कौन सा फसल अधिकतम फायदा देगा इसकी सलाह दी जाती है। राजस्थान में इसके लिए पायलट प्रोजेक्ट की शुरुआत हुई है।

सुरक्षा, सम्मान, समृद्धि, संवाद और संस्कृति के आधार पर विदेश नीति तय करते हुए प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र भाई मोदी ने सामरिक दृष्टि से महत्वपूर्ण देशों की यात्राएं कीं। केंद्र की मोदी सरकार ने एक ठोस रक्षा नीति बनाई है।

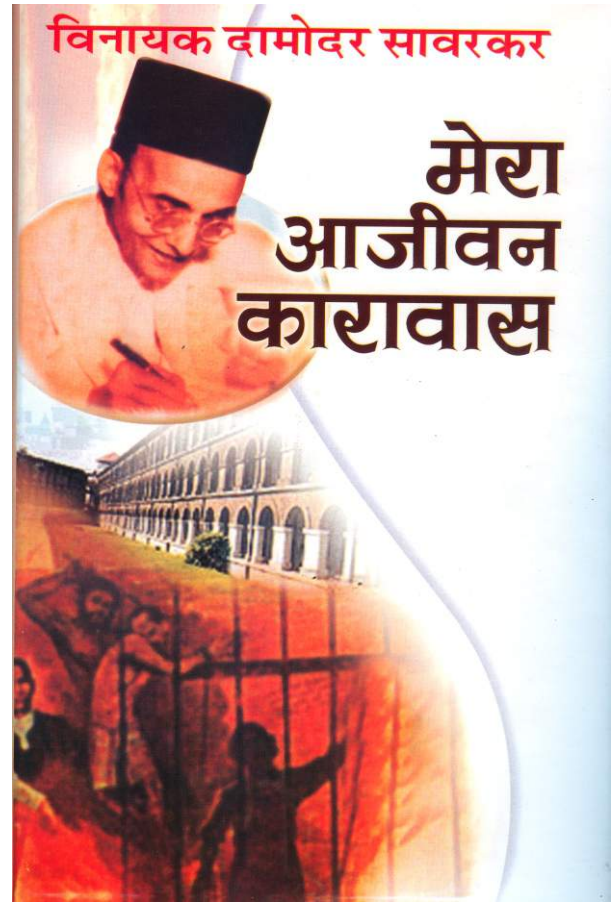
# विनायक दामोदर सावरकर – ‘मेरा आजीवन करावास’

• शैलेन्द्र कुमार शुक्ल

कभी-कभी मन खुद से ही विद्रोह कर उठता है, जब उसके सामने यह यक्ष प्रश्न खड़ा होता है कि क्या कभी देश भक्त भी देश द्रोही हो सकता है, क्या वह व्यक्ति जो जीवन पर्यंत भारत माँ को परम वैभव दिलाने के लिए संघर्षरत रहा हो, अपनी जवानी कुर्बान कर दिया हो वह कभी भारत माँ के दामन को दागदार कर सकता है, उत्तर कभी नहीं कभी नहीं... लेकिन इसी देश में महान क्रांतिकारी विनायक दामोदर सावरकर को देशद्रोही तक घोषित किया जाता है, माहात्मा गांधी के हत्या के आरोप में जेल में भी डाला जाता है। सोचिए उस इंसान पर क्या गुजरी होगी जो गुलाम भारत में फिरंगियों द्वारा दी गयी शारीरिक यातनाएं झेला हो और आजाद भारत में अपने बांधवों द्वारा दी गयी देश द्रोही होने की मानसिक यातना। लेकिन यह भी शाश्वत सत्य हैं कि सावरकर जैसा क्रांतिकारी कभी देशद्रोही हो ही नहीं सकता, अगर समाने वाला सत्य असत्य से परे निष्पक्ष होकर इस विशय पर आत्मावलोकर करे।

भारतीय स्वतंत्रता के पुरोधा और महान क्रांतिकारी विनायक दामोदर सावरकर द्वारा लिखित पुस्तक “मेरा आजीवन करावास” उनके जीवन-संघर्ष पर आधारित है। दो खंडों और लगभग 40 अध्यायों व एक परिशिष्ट में विभक्त दुर्लभ दस्तावेज है। 20 मई 1863 में नासिक जिले के भागुर ग्राम में जन्मे सावरकर द्वारा स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के उनकी भागीदारी की गाथा है, सेलुलर जेल में उनके उपर हुए बर्बर अत्याचार से आम जन को साक्षात्कार कराता है।

भारत की आजादी के बाद से नेहरूवादी इतिहासकारों ने जिस प्रकार महान क्रांतिकारियों के योगदान, उनकी स्मृतियों व विरासत के साथ अन्याय और उसे तोड़ मरोड़ कर की गयी विडंबनात्मक प्रस्तुती की उससे यह पंक्तियां बरबस ही याद आ जाती हैं “वक्त गुलशन पर पड़ा तो लहू हमने दिया, बहार आई तो कहते है तेरा काम नहीं” पंक्तियों को चरितार्थ करती हैं। “मेरा आजीवन करावास” पुस्तक में उन्होंने अंडमान और कालापानी की कैद से जुड़े अपने अनुभवों से अपने पाठकों का साक्षात्कार कराया



है। इस पुस्तक में उन्होंने उन सभी यातनाएं, भावनाएं, दर्द और वृत्तांत दिए जिसे उन्होंने कालापानी की कैद में सहा और अनुभव किया था। उनकी शैली हमेशा प्रखर और क्रांतिकारी रही। उनकी किताबों का हर शब्द देशप्रेम के रस में डूबा होता था। उनके विचार क्रांतिकारी थे और यही वजह है कि उनकी किताबों में भी आपको यही चीज देखने को मिलती है” सवारकर के साथ साथ भारतीयता को जानने के नजरिए से यह पुस्तक सर्वाथा उपयोगी साबित होगी। करीब 483 पृष्ठ के इस पुस्तक को पढ़ते समय आपको कहीं से भी ऐसा नहीं लगेगा कि आप विशयांतर हो रहे हैं, क्रमबद्धता और देशकाल तथा वातावरण का जिवंत वर्णन आपको एक नए आयाम से परिचित कराएगा।

## Mera Ajeevan Karawas

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**“The world is large enough for all of us to stand by the maxim - live and let live - and to inaugurate the establishment of a confederation of free countries, each having the liberty to develop itself on the basis of its own culture and traditions and contributing its share to the spirit of Man which recognizes no barrier of race, religion or colour.”**

**- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee**



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