



# The Nationalist

ISSN 2454-9401

Issue: November, 2016



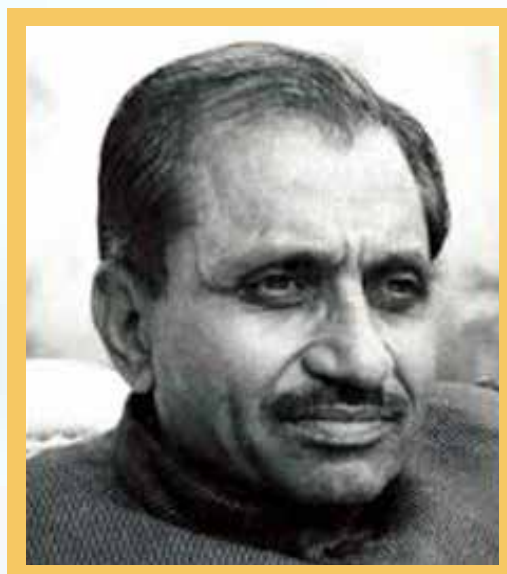
## India-Japan Civil Nuclear Energy Agreement



# विमुद्रीकरण की जरूरत

Salient Points of PM Narendra  
Modi's address to the Nation on  
8<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

An intellectual & political  
class works to denigrate idea  
of India



“It is also necessary that the philosophy of the party is not kept confined to the pages of the party manifesto. Members should understand it and devote themselves to translating it into action.”

**-Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya**

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# SUPPORT FOR DEMONETISATION IS WIDE – ONLY THE UNWISE AND UNETHICAL OPPOSE IT



Dr. Anirban Ganguly

*While some propagate their concern for the poor because of political reasons or simply because it is fashionable to do so, Prime Minister Modi's government has consistently and constantly striven for the empowerment and inclusion of the marginalised. In fact its governance and policy focus has been to realise that objective.*

In a little over 24 hours since he called for a feedback, over 5 lakh people responded to PM Narendra Modi's call and proffered their views on the move of demonetisation, in hundred hours over 10 lakh people responded to his call. In a truly participative exercise, a "Jan ki Baat" in the true sense, Prime Minister Modi reached out to the people directly and asked them to discuss his effort at eradicating black money and corruption through this move. The respondents overwhelmingly supported the move saying that it was necessary for comprehensively tackling corruption at various levels and for making the economy robust and resilient in the long run. The vast majority of the people of India have this earthy sense of purpose and know when a step is taking in earnest for their well-being. This direct outreach has demonstrated the faith that people at large have in the Prime Minister and in his move to cleanse the economy. People are willing to put up with inconveniences and roundly support the effort. With the Prime Minister's Office closely monitoring the situation and development, the responsiveness of the government to the situation and to suggestions is distinctly visible on the ground, leading to positive responses to the challenges.

Interestingly or ironically, those political parties and leaders who have made great capital in the name of fighting corruption and who have in the past, periodically called for cleansing public life and earned various sobriquets and laurels are the one who are howling most and loudest against this onslaught on black money and that too in the name of the "common people." Take the case of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, for example, she has been rabble rousing the streets of Delhi ever since the announcement of demonetisation was made. Ms. Banerjee professes to speak up for the "common people" while throwing up her irrational tantrums and ire at the Prime Minister who has himself said that this move was aimed at empowering the marginalised.

It would be useful to recall that as Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee presided over the Saradha Chit Fund scam, a scam of gigantic proportions involving about Rs. 2460 crores. A number of her political and social associates were involved in the Saradha issue and were in the know. The Saradha Chit fund scam left a trail of deaths and robbed the poor of their hard earned savings. Ms. Banerjee did not take to the streets then, choosing to remain silent or distancing herself from it all. She did not take out processions in support of the poor or the "common people" in whose name she has built a career in politics. Having often cried out against corruption, it is strange to see her today vocally oppose a historic move that is aimed at curbing and eventually eradicating the corroding malady of black money. Ms. Banerjee never issued any statement expressing support or concern for those family whose earning

members committed suicide unable to bear the loss of their savings because of the Saradha Scam.

Even at the level of governance Ms. Banerjee has been acutely insensitive to the plight of the tea garden workers. Conservative estimates point out that over 70 recorded starvation deaths have already occurred in the tea gardens of north Bengal in her tenure and each time she has either chosen to ignore or argue herself and her administration out of it. Starvation, penury, malnutrition and lack of access to medical facilities have led to these deaths and yet despite being in power now for over five years she has done precious little to alleviate the suffering and to improve the status of the tea garden workers. The Left Front rule in West Bengal has also been equally disastrous and “common people” have suffered most – with the breakdown of rural infrastructure, industry, healthcare and education.

While some propagate their concern for the poor because of political reasons or simply because it is fashionable to do so, Prime Minister Modi’s government has consistently and constantly striven for the empowerment and inclusion of the marginalised. In fact its governance and policy focus has been to realise that objective.

Professing to work for the empowerment and uplift of the poor while opposing policies and efforts that actually ensure their empowerment is not only not ethical politics, it is not wise politics either. Those who overlook that are in the long run, as they say, politically rejected or politically dead...

# SALIENT POINTS OF PM NARENDRA MODI'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON 8<sup>TH</sup> NOV, 2016



- पिछले ढाई वर्षों में सवा सौ करोड़ देशवासियों के सहयोग से आज भारत ने ग्लोबल इकॉनमी में एक “ब्राइट स्पॉट” के रूप में उपस्थिति दर्ज कराई है
- यह सरकार गरीबों को समर्पित है और समर्पित रहेगी
- देश में भ्रष्टाचार और कला धन जैसी बीमारियों ने अपना जड़ जमा लिया है और देश से गरीबी हटाने में ये सबसे बड़ी बाधा है
- हर देश के विकास के इतिहास में ऐसे क्षण आये हैं जब एक शक्तिशाली और निर्णायक कदम की आवश्यकता महसूस की गई
- सीमा पार के हमारे शत्रु जाली नोटों के जरिये अपना धंधा भारत में चलाते हैं और यह सालों से चल रहा है
- आज मध्य रात्रि से वर्तमान में जारी 500 रुपये और 1,000 रुपये के करेंसी नोट लीगल टेंडर नहीं रहेंगे यानि ये मुद्राएँ कानूनन अमान्य होंगी
- 500 और 1,000 रुपये के पुराने नोटों के जरिये लेन देन की व्यवस्था आज मध्य रात्रि से उपलब्ध नहीं होगी
- 100 रुपये, 50 रुपये, 20 रुपये, 10 रुपये, 5 रुपये, 2 रुपये और 1 रूपया का नोट और सभी सिक्के नियमित हैं और लेन देन के लिए उपयोग हो सकते हैं
- देशवासियों को कम से कम तकलीफ का सामना करना पड़े, इसके लिए हमने कुछ इंतजाम किये हैं
- 500 और 1,000 रुपये के पुराने नोट, 10 नवम्बर से लेकर 30 दिसम्बर तक अपने बैंक या डाक घर के खाते में बिना किसी सीमा के जमा करवा सकते हैं
- आपकी धनराशि आपकी ही रहेगी, आपको कोई चिंता करने की जरूरत नहीं है
- समय समय पर मुद्रव्यवस्था को ध्यान में रख कर रिजर्व बैंक, केंद्र सरकार की सहमति से नए अधिक मूल्य के नोट को सर्कुलेशन में लाता रहा है
- अब इस पूरी प्रक्रिया में रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा 2,000 रुपये के नए नोट के प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार किया गया है

## SALIENT POINTS OF PM MODI'S ADDRESS AT FOUNDATION STONE CEREMONY OF MOPA GREEN FIELD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT & ELECTRONIC CITY AT TUAM IN GOA ON 13<sup>TH</sup> NOV, 2016

■ Political instability had affected Goa's growth. And due to this instability, the state never realised its true potential.

■ I laud Manohar Parrikar for ushering in a political culture in Goa- that of taking Goa to new heights of progress.

■ Due to Manohar Parrikar, Goa saw political stability and formation of a Government that works for the welfare of the state.

■ If the CM, RM & me appreciate Goa, one may argue it is also about our political affiliations but a magazine recently lauded Goa's growth.

■ We read a week ago how Goa has emerged as Number 1 among the smaller states. This is due to the people of Goa.

■ As far as the airport is concerned, I am happy that we are fulfilling the promise made by Atal Bihari Vajpayee. This will benefit Goa.

■ A digitally trained, modern and youth driven Goa is being shaped today. This has the power to transform India.

■ I also want to talk about something else in Goa...on 8th November many people of India slept peacefully & a few are sleepless even now.

■ We took a key step to help the honest citizen of India defeat the menace of black money.

■ The people have chosen a government and they expect so much from it. In 2014 so many people voted to free the nation from corruption.



■ If any money that was looted in India and has left Indian shores, it is our duty to find out about it.

■ I was not born to sit on a chair of high office. Whatever I had, my family, my home...I left it for the nation.

■ Why do we have to put the future of our youth at stake? Those who want to do politics are free to do so

■ Yes I also feel the pain. These steps taken were not a display of arrogance. I have seen poverty & understand people's problems.

■ I know the forces up against me, they may not let me live, they may ruin me because their loot of 70 years is in trouble, but am prepared.

# विमुद्रीकरण की जरूरत और इससे अर्थव्यवस्था पर पड़ने वाला प्रभाव

● हर्षवर्धन त्रिपाठी

**वि**मुद्रीकरण के सरकार के फैसले ने एक नई बहस खड़ी कर दी है। कमाल की बात ये है कि विशुद्ध आर्थिक फैसले पर सबसे तीखी प्रतिक्रिया राजनीतिक नजरिये से आ रही है। और इससे भी कमाल की बात ये कि राजनीतिक नजरिये से आ रही प्रतिक्रिया के दबाव में आर्थिक नजरिये से आ रही प्रतिक्रिया की चर्चा तक नहीं हो रही है। सबसे बड़ी आलोचना सरकार के इस फैसले की 2 मूल वजहों से हो रही है। पहली देश कतार में खड़ा है, आम लोगों को बहुत परेशानी हो रही है। सरकार को पहले से बेहतर इंतजाम करना चाहिए था। दूसरी वजह ये कि काला धन रखने वालों पर सिर्फ पुराने नोट बंद कर देने से बहुत फर्क नहीं पड़ने वाला है। सरकार काला धन रखने वालों पर और कड़ाई क्यों नहीं कर रही है। विशुद्ध राजनीतिक नजरिये से इसकी समीक्षा करना, समझना देश के इतने बड़े फैसले के समय और ज्यादा जरूरी हो जाता है। अब इसमें तो किसी को भी एतराज नहीं है कि बड़े नोटों को बंद करने का फैसला समय की जरूरत के लिहाज से बेहद जरूरी था। क्योंकि, भारत में काले धन की अर्थव्यवस्था बहुत बड़ी हो गई है। कितनी बड़ी इसका अंदाजा इस तथ्य से लगाया जा सकता है कि भारत की पूरी अर्थव्यवस्था 2 ट्रिलियन डॉलर से ज्यादा की है। और एक सामान्य अनुमान के मुताबिक, कम से कम 20 प्रतिशत भारत की समानांतर काले धन की अर्थव्यवस्था चल रही है। विश्व बैंक का अनुमान है कि भारत में काले धन की समानांतर अर्थव्यवस्था जीडीपी के 27 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा है। और कई लोग ये भी मानते हैं कि भारत में पिछले एक डेढ़ दशक में काले धन की समानांतर अर्थव्यवस्था जीडीपी के करीब 50 प्रतिशत तक पहुंच गई है। यानी करीब 1 ट्रिलियन डॉलर की। इसका आधार भी है कि यूपीए सरकार के समय 12 लाख करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के घोटाले सामने आए। जाहिर है घोटाले की रकम अर्थव्यवस्था में पूरी तरह से सफेद धन के तौर पर तो आने से रही। इस आधार पर भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में जीडीपी का 50 प्रतिशत की एक काले धन की समानांतर अर्थव्यवस्था चल रही है। लेकिन, सबसे कम यानी 20 प्रतिशत के आंकड़े को ही लेते हैं। इस आधार पर भी भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में 460 बिलियन डॉलर यानी 30 लाख करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा की काले धन की अर्थव्यवस्था है। भारत में काले धन की अर्थव्यवस्था कितनी बड़ी है, इसे समझने के लिए ये थाईलैंड और अर्जेंटीना जैसे देशों की पूरी अर्थव्यवस्था से ज्यादा है। इतना ही नहीं भारत सरकार का कुल बजट यानी साल भर खर्च करने की रकम 16 लाख

करोड़ रुपये की ही है। इस पर एक तर्क बार-बार आता है कि अर्थव्यवस्था में नकद के रूप में काला धन बहुत कम है। ज्यादातर काला धन सोना, रियल एस्टेट और विदेशों में लगा हुआ है। लेकिन, इस तर्क को रखते समय जानकार इस बात का जिक्र करना भूल जाते हैं कि दरअसल सोना, रियल एस्टेट या विदेशों में जाकर काला धन होने वाली रकम पहले नकद के रूप में ही सफेद से काला धन बनती है। इसको और बेहतर तरीके से समझें तो अकाउंटेंट से अनअकाउंटेंट मनी हो जाती है। यानी सरकार की रकम लोग इस्तेमाल तो कर रहे होते हैं लेकिन, उस रकम पर किसी तरह की उत्पादकता नहीं होती है। और इसका उससे भी बुरा असर ये होता है कि ईमानदारी से कमाई करने वाले पीछे छूटते जाते हैं। हर साल भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था के बढ़ने की खबर के साथ एक और खबर आती है कि भारत में अमीर-गरीब के बीच की खाई बढ़ती जा रही है। उसकी सबसे बड़ी वजह यही काला धन है। इन तथ्यों के बाद इसक कदम की जरूरत पर सवाल खड़ा करना बेहद कठिन हो जाता है।

इतना तो तय है कि इससे सबसे ज्यादा फायदा गरीब और मध्यमवर्ग के लोगों को ही होने जा रहा है। वित्त मंत्री अरुण जेटली जब ये कहते हैं कि इससे अमीर-गरीब के बीच की खाई कम होगी, तो ये तथ्यों के साथ जुड़ता है। लेकिन, इस पर विरोध में एक बड़ा तर्क आता है कि काला धन रखने वाले नकद से आगे दूसरे तरीके खोज रहे हैं या चुके हैं, जिससे कि काले धन को खपाया जा सके। साथ ही ये भी सरकार सिर्फ इसी फैसले से काला धन खत्म नहीं कर सकती। इस विरोध को तो खुद प्रधानमंत्री भी मान रहे हैं। विमुद्रीकरण पर बीजेपी संसदीय समिति की बैठक में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने साफ किया है कि बड़े नोटों को खत्म करने का फैसला काला धन को खत्म करने के लिए शुरुआत भर है। और ये काला धन खत्म करने की सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता के लिए उठाए गए दूसरे कदमों के साथ एक बड़ा कदम है। अभी काफी कुछ किया जाना बाकी है। इसलिए ये विरोध भी सिर्फ विरोध के लिए ही किया गया लगता है। एक बात और जो कतार में लगे लोगों को देखते हुए कही जाती है कि सरकार की सही तैयारी न होने से ये कतार अभी अगले कम से कम 6 महीने खत्म नहीं होने वाली है। इसकी वजह बताई जाती है कि 14 लाख करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के 500 और 1000 के नोट बंद हुए हैं। इनकी जगह नए नोट लाए जाने हैं। क्योंकि, सरकार की महीने की नोट छापने की क्षमता 2 लाख करोड़ रुपये से कुछ ज्यादा ही नोट छापने की है। इस लिहाज से 14



लाख करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के नोट छापने में कम से कम 6 महीने लगेगे, वो भी पूरी क्षमता के साथ भारत सरकार के छापेखाने काम करेंगे तब। लेकिन, इस तर्क में भी काफी गड़बड़ है। गड़बड़ कहां है मैं बताता हूं भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक नोट मुद्रण प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, जो अब तक 1000 के नोट छापता रहा है, अभी 2000 के नोट छाप रहा है। 2 शिफ्ट में काम होने पर 133 करोड़ नोट छपा जा सकता है। और अगर 3 शिफ्ट में ये काम करे, तो 200 करोड़ नोट छापे जा सकते हैं। यानी करीब साढ़े छे लाख करोड़ रुपये के 2000 के नोट 2 महीने में छापे जा सकते हैं। सरकार ये काम इसलिए कर सकती है क्योंकि, सरकार ने नोट बैंक तक पहुंचाने का पहले का 21 दिन का समय घटाकर 6 दिन कर दिया है। इससे इस सरकार के किसी काम को करने की तेजी आसानी से समझा जा सकता है। यहां एक तथ्य ये भी समझना जरूरी है कि 2000 के नोट इस फैसले को लागू करने की तारीख यानी 8 नवंबर से भी पहले से छापे जा रहे थे। इसलिए प्रधानमंत्री के बार-बार 50 दिन मांगने के पीछे सरकार की तैयारी साफ नजर आती है। हां, ये जरूर है कि 500 के नोट बाद में छापना शुरू करने की वजह से 500 मूल्य की नकदी में थोड़ा ज्यादा समय लग सकता है। इन तथ्यों से इतना तो तय है कि प्रधानमंत्री ने देश के इतिहास का ये सबसे बड़ा फैसला पूरी तैयारी के साथ लिया है। हां, इसकी वजह से आम जनता को होने वाली दिक्कतों से इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता। लेकिन, जनता इसीलिए सरकार के फैसले के साथ खड़ी दिखती है क्योंकि, उसे लम्बे समय में अपना ज्यादा फायदा दिख रहा है।

इतनी परेशानी भरा फैसला सरकार ने क्यों लिया, इसकी वजहें हमने समझने की कोशिश की है। अब ये समझते हैं कि आखिर इससे आम लोगों को, अर्थव्यवस्था को और सरकार को किस तरह से फायदा होने वाला है। मोटे तौर पर 3 बड़े फायदे साफ दिख रहे हैं। काला धन बाहर आएगा या पूरी तरह से अर्थव्यवस्था से ही बाहर हो जाएगा। जिससे असल अर्थव्यवस्था की मजबूती होगी। दूसरा काला धन बनने पर तत्काल प्रभाव से बड़ी रोक लगेगी। हालांकि, इसका रुकना पूरी तरह से सरकार के इस फैसले को लागू करने के तरीके से तय होगा। तीसरी बड़ी बात ये होगी कि सरकार के पास कर के रूप में बड़ी रकम आएगी। इसे विस्तार में समझें तो कर चोरी करके कमाई गई बड़ी रकम फिर से अर्थव्यवस्था का हिस्सा बनेगी और इस पर लोगों को कर देना होगा। जिससे सरकारी खाते में रकम बढ़ेगी और इसी कर की रकम से ही देश के सारे तरक्की के काम होते हैं। और इसी आधार पर जीडीपी में भी बढ़त होगी। आधुनिक अर्थव्यवस्था के मानकों पर एक देश के आगे बढ़ने की सबसे जरूरी शर्तों में यही है कि देश के लोग बेहतर कमा सकें और उस पर ईमानदारी से कर दें। जिससे उस कर को सरकार फिर

से देश की तरक्की में लगाए और लोगों को नया रोजगार मिले। इस प्रक्रिया में ही देश की संपत्ति बनती है और इस पूरी प्रक्रिया से जीडीपी तय होता है। माना जा रहा है कि विमुद्रीकरण की इस प्रक्रिया से एक राष्ट्र के तौर पर भारत के मजबूत होने की कहानी एक जनवरी से काफी हद तक नजर आने लगेगी। सरकार का पूरा जोर ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को बैंकिंग के दायरे में लाना है। जनधन योजना और हर तरह की सब्सिडी सीधे खाते में देने के पीछे भी यही मूल विचार है। उसे आधार से जोड़कर ज्यादातर रकम को नकदी हस्तांतरण से बाहर निकालने की कोशिश है। ये होता भी दिख रहा है। तेजी से लोग इंटरनेट बैंकिंग और डिजिटल वॉलेट की तरफ बढ़ रहे हैं। एसोचैम के मुताबिक, 2022 तक भारत में 30 हजार करोड़ रुपये का कारोबार मोबाइल वॉलेट के जरिये होगा। ये अगर हुआ तो आने वाले दिनों में सरकार को कम नकदी छापने की जरूरत पड़ेगी। लम्बे समय में ये भी एक बड़ी सफलता होगी। एक और लक्षण साफ दिख रहा है कि आने वाले समय में ब्याज दरें घटने वाली हैं। लोगों को और उद्योगपतियों को आसानी से सस्ता कर्ज देने के लिए बैंकों के पास ढेर सारी रकम आ गई है। साथ ही काले धन की अर्थव्यवस्था पर चोट पड़ने से जरूरी सामानों के दाम की कीमत भी सही स्तर पर आएगी। यानी महंगाई में भी कमी देखने को मिलेगी। महंगाई सिर्फ खाने-पीने के सामानों में ही नहीं कम होगी। आम लोगों का घर खरीदने का सपना भी पूरा हो सकता है। सबसे ज्यादा काला धन रियल एस्टेट क्षेत्र में ही लगा हुआ है। वो काला धन कम होगा तो इससे घरों का सस्ता होना तय है। बैंकिंग और रियल एस्टेट पर देश के सबसे प्रतिष्ठित व्यक्ति दीपक पारेख का कहना है कि ये बहुत ही शानदार फैसला है। इससे कम से कम आधा से एक प्रतिशत ब्याज दरें घटेंगी। पारेख का ये भी कहना है कि भारत ऐसी मजबूत स्थिति में कभी नहीं रहा है। महंगाई कम होने और आसानी से कर्ज मिलने से उद्योगों को भी नए प्रोजेक्ट शुरू करने में आसानी होगी। और इसका सीधा असर लोगों को मिलने वाले नए रोजगार के तौर पर होगा। भ्रष्टाचार में बड़ी कमी तुरंत आती दिख रही है और अगर आगे सरकार ने इस मामले में कड़ाई बरती तो भ्रष्टाचार करने वालों को डर लगेगा। भ्रष्टाचार में आई कमी से विदेशी कंपनियां भी भारत में निवेश के लिए तैयार होंगी। साथ ही सरकारी दफ्तरों से चलने वाली फाइलों की रफ्तार में तेजी आएगी। कुल मिलाकर भारत में कारोबार करना आसान हो जाएगा। एक बहुत बड़ा फायदा नकली नोट पर रोक लगाने और आतंकवादियों को इसका इस्तेमाल करने से रोकने में होगा।

*(लेखक वरिष्ठ स्तंभकार और पत्रकार हैं)*

# INDIA-JAPAN CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT – SCALING NEW HEIGHTS

● Rajiv Nayan



India and Japan, at last, signed an agreement for cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy on November 11, 2016. Both countries took several rounds of negotiations, which helped the countries to resolve several sticky issues. Initially, limited information was released by the two governments, though the same day, the Indian foreign secretary held a media briefing in which he made several issues clear.

The joint document signed by the two countries lays down: “The present Agreement provides for bilateral cooperation in the field of Nuclear Energy. This would provide for the development of nuclear power projects in India and thus strengthening of energy security of the country. The present agreement would open up the door for collaboration between Indian and Japanese industries in our Civil Nuclear programme.”

Article 2 of the agreement lays down the scope of nuclear

energy cooperation between the two countries. The agreement involves ‘design, construction, support services for operation and maintenance activities as well as decommissioning of reactors.’ Significantly, Article 2 of the agreement explicitly mentions cooperation in ‘all aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle’ required for operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a nuclear reactor.

Several questions and concerns are being raised as they were raised in the past. In fact, these concerns had in the past delayed the cutting of the deal. The concerns and questions are coming in both the countries, though these concerns are separate in India and Japan.

Some in Japan argued that an agreement with India, a non-signatory to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

(CTBT), will undermine the nuclear regime. The reality is that India received a clean exemption in the guidelines of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) in 2008 and the CTBT is in coma. Instead India has been extending a moratorium on its nuclear test, and this is far more relevant than merely signing a non-existent treaty. India has an impeccable record. All the nuclear cooperation agreements signed by India are accompanied with relevant safeguard practices. So, there is no question of diversion of any item supplied for peaceful purposes to the military programme.

In fact, the India-Japan agreement also provides for a “system of accounting for and control of all nuclear material transferred pursuant to this Agreement and nuclear material recovered or produced as a by-product” under Article 5. Thus, India has adopted the best practices regarding responsible acquisition of nuclear civil nuclear energy materials. The point that a victim of the nuclear attack would find it difficult to sign a peaceful nuclear programme was intriguing. More so, the idea came from a country, which is enjoying nuclear protective umbrella and till the Fukushima incidents had used nuclear energy to generate about 30% of the country’s total electricity production, was definitely bizarre. Even the serious section of the Japanese policy making community found it non-serious and basically a deal-delaying ploy.

The argument that for a country that has stopped using nuclear energy and operating nuclear reactors, it is unethical to export them did have some merit. However, the moment the country started operating some of its reactors and decided to eventually operate its non-operational reactors and add a few more, even this ethical resistance evaporated. A tiny section that opposes nuclear energy all over the world kept clinging to this argument.

Other than the ethical and non-proliferation concerns, there were some practical commercial concerns of Japanese nuclear industry, a major driver for the India-Japan nuclear deal. As the Indian nuclear establishment was basically interested in Japanese technology, not in its reactors, Japanese industry did not find it commercially lucrative to enter into the Indian nuclear market. Only when India agreed to buy reactors, Japanese industry started seriously working for the deal. Now it will have

to partner with one of the Indian operators like the Nuclear Power Corporation India Limited. A Japanese company will still have less than 50 percent ownership in a nuclear venture. For a short period, Japanese industry wanted a solution to the nuclear liability issue.

Moreover, Japanese officials wanted proper assurance regarding export control enforcement and outreach for the Indian companies receiving Japanese goods. India has completely harmonised its export control system with the NSG guidelines and annexes. Besides, India increased its outreach activities for its companies. Some Japanese companies have also started giving export control training to employees of the Indian companies, which are receiving its goods. The agreement has provision for export control.

In India, too, there were, and to an extent, even now, there are some concerns. The India-US 123 agreement is a somewhat detailed document available in the public domain. However, the press briefing of the foreign secretary, Jai Shankar sought to clear the air after the signature ceremony. He informed that all the stages of India-US agreements for civil nuclear energy were compressed in one document for the India-Japan deal.

Implicitly, the foreign secretary conveyed that the template of the 123 agreement had been taken for drafting the India-Japan agreement. Administrative arrangements for India-Japan specific would be worked out later, although the technical annexure attached to the agreement already has some of the arrangements. But the basic parameters of the agreement are not different.

The termination clause, one of the concerns in India, exists in the agreement. As the Indian foreign secretary, rightly, pointed out that it exists most of the agreements. Article 14 of the India-Japan Agreement lays down details regarding termination of the agreement. Both countries are free to terminate the deal by giving one year written notice which may be withdrawn if a country changes its decision. However, if Japan terminates the agreement because of violation of the safeguards agreement, it may have to take the certificate of the International Atomic Energy Agency

regarding the non-compliance. The article 14 also discusses return of any transferred nuclear material, non nuclear material or equipment as well as spent fuel as a product of the materials supplied under the agreement. Another party may seek compensation because of the disruption caused by the return of goods. The note circulated along with the agreement puts some restriction on the right to get compensation.

So, is the concern in India that in event of its nuclear test, the deal will be nullified true? Theoretically, it is possible. Even in the India-US agreement termination clause exists, though nuclear test is not explicitly mentioned. The agreement with the US has provisions for consultation between the two countries and remedial action for India in case of termination. The agreement with Japan is not radically different. Nowhere does the India-Japan agreement mention termination because of nuclear test. The agreement with Japan also gives enough space for consultation.

India will continue to have its right to conduct nuclear test if the strategic environment changes dramatically and adversely affects India's security. In such a situation, in reality, both the US and Japan may appreciate the Indian situation. India's security interests are fast converging with both the countries. Quite importantly, by all the assessments, the next round of nuclear tests in the world will start either with the US or China. So, India may not have much difficulty in managing the situation after its own nuclear tests, which may follow after the tests of these countries.

Regarding reprocessing, too, seemingly, the India-Japan agreement has adopted the 123 model. Reprocessing will be done at a dedicated safeguarded site. In fact, India may help Japan in reprocessing its fuel which it sends outside. Moreover, India and Japan may in the future undertake joint Research and Development projects.

As of now, the article 2 sub-paragraph 4 of the agreement mentions, "technology for and equipment for uranium enrichment, spent nuclear fuel reprocessing, conversion of plutonium and production of non-nuclear material and plutonium may be transferred under this Agreement only when this Agreement is amended for that purpose." The Annexure B has a detailed

arrangement for the purpose. The agreement also has the provision for Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) and High Enriched Uranium (HEU). However, for HEU, an advanced consent from Japan is required.

The question emerges: why did India focus so much on entering into an agreement with Japan when so many countries were willing to do business with it and have already signed agreements for the purpose? Actually, Japan is preferred because of its reliability and trustworthiness. It is not known for imposing additionalities. Second, its technology is considered more advanced than many of the countries active in global nuclear reactor commerce.

Third, important Japanese nuclear companies have bought stakes in the companies of some of the supplier countries. An agreement with Japan will solve the issue of taking the consent from Japan for doing business with the companies of those countries. Fourth, Japan is emerging as an important strategic partner of India in managing Asian affairs. Together the two countries may push the idea of Asiatom.

Fifth, Japan, a country with high technology but declining population, may provide both a base and an opportunity for the Indian scientific force. It could be a win-win situation for both the countries. Indication comes that both the countries may do some innovative work for safety and security, though other countries have the similar provision in their agreements with India.

In the future, the two countries have to consolidate what they have agreed, covered and gained so far. The deal will turn out to be mutually beneficially for both. India will get much needed electricity and technological partnership and Japan will get a market for its companies which are facing a tough situation for several years even before the Fukushima incidents. Really, the sky is the limit for India and Japan in the nuclear and other strategic sectors.

*(The author is with the IDSA, New Delhi and is an expert on nuclear issues)*

# IRRATIONAL POLITICAL OPPOSITION ON DEMONETISATION

● Rajesh Singh



**O**n November 8, as the country was still absorbing the shock win of Donald Trump in the US presidential election, television news channels asked viewers to stand by for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation at 8pm. Hours before, the Prime Minister had met the three Service chiefs in the backdrop of continuing ceasefire violations by Pakistani forces which had claimed the lives of Indian jawans and civilians. Speculation was rife, though nobody had an inkling of what he would say. But one thing was sure: There would be some big bang announcement.

Prime Minister Modi did not disappoint. In a bold move that he knew would have far-reaching consequences, he presented before the people his Government's

demonetisation decision. It was, he said, meant to hit three targets: The black money economy, corruption, terror funding. He explained, to the extent he could in a televised address and within the time constraint, the rationale behind the move. Finally, he declared that the decision would be coming into effect from midnight—barely a few hours after his address.

The announcement seized the people's attention, both for its audacity and the swiftness of purpose. It left shocked the movers and shakers of the parallel economy. It made economic experts sit up and take notice. And it surprised his political rivals to an extent that the Opposition was sharply divided in its reaction.

So why did the Prime Minister chose to make the announcement himself? It could well have been done by the Finance Ministry. Had the issue been one of pure economics, perhaps then the ministry would have handled it. But Modi realised the political implications, both in terms of the response that would come from his and his Government's opponents and the fallouts in case the scheme faltered at the implementation stage. He appreciated the reality that the decision would inconvenience, even if in the short term, millions of people who had nothing to do with black money, who were honest bread-earners and paid their taxes regularly. And he knew that their inconvenience would be exploited by his rivals to fuel discontent among the masses and arouse sentiments against him, his Government and against the Bharatiya Janata Party ahead of a clutch of Assembly elections that are scheduled in various parts of the country in the coming months.

Therefore, none but the Prime Minister himself could lend credibility to the decision, none but he could convey to the people the sincerity of purpose of the move, and none but he could persuade them to swallow the bitter pill for the larger national good. The politics, Modi understood well for he has been in the arena for long enough now, would soon overtake the economics. And it would be played out not just in the television studios but also in Parliament and on the streets — some of his opponents are masters at this game.

But perhaps there was another reason for Modi to make the announcement. Only a leader who enjoyed a clean and non-corruptible image, and who led a Government untainted by graft, would sound believable in announcing a crackdown on black money. Thus, a party like the Congress, under whose dispensation, corruption hit new highs through the 2G spectrum and coal block allocation scams, is today being ridiculed by the people for condemning the Government's demonetisation drive. It simply does not have the credibility to talk against corruption. The same is true of those such as the Samajwadi Party and the Bahujan Samaj Party — both known more for graft-ridden deals than effective governance.

If Modi's opponents are seeking to reap a political harvest by convoluting the monumental decision, there is no reason why the ruling BJP should not go to the people to counter the distortion. By all accounts, the BJP has a head start. News reports filtering in from the ground show that while people have faced some inconvenience for a few days, the vast majority came out as willing to believe in Prime Minister Modi's appeal that sacrifice is needed to nail the corrupt. Journalists who have fanned out in the country, have been reporting from rural India where women waiting for a paltry sum in long queues at banks, say that "Modi's decision" is a war against the corrupt rich and not against the ordinary citizen.

A section of the political opposition, realising that they will be cornered in sensible debates, have resorted to obstructionism. Parliament has been disrupted on the issue, and the likes of Mamata Banerjee and Arvind Kejriwal have threatened massive street protests and have irresponsibly called for 'people's uprising'. Both are supposedly champions of integrity in public life. The Delhi Chief Minister owes his position to an anti-corruption movement spearheaded by social activist Anna Hazare. One would have expected him to compliment the Modi Government. Instead, he has stooped to making wild allegations. By contrast, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has shown maturity in welcoming the demonetisation decision as has the Janata Dal (United), Biju Janata Dal among others.

Meanwhile, the Government has set up various panels to tackle the crisis and the Prime Minister has been having a series of meetings to review the matter. Innovative measures likes providing facility to swipe cards for money at select fuel pumps, have been taken. Thousands of ATMs across the country are being recalibrated to deal with the money crunch. Banks are working overtime to handle the pressure. Certainly, the Narendra Modi Government is not idle.

*(Writer is a senior Columnist and journalist)*

# DEMONETISATION

## EXPLAINED

● Shreya Kedia

**T**he BJP Government's assault against black money dates back to 2011, (it was then in Opposition during the UPA Government) when it submitted to the then central government a slew of measures in a 95-page report on black money. The issue resounded yet again during the 2014 Lok Sabha election campaign when the BJP's prime ministerial candidate, Narendra Modi, promised to bring back black money from offshore accounts and also to fight it within the country. This was followed up by the formation of a special task force, two days after Mr. Modi took over as Prime Minister, under the chairmanship of Justice MB Shah, which submitted its report by December 2014, suggesting a few measures to the Government.

In its next move, the Government, while giving the tax evaders a chance to come clean, asked the defaulters to disclose their unaccounted income or assets by paying the applicable tax, cess and penalty totalling 45 per cent of the undisclosed income. Under this scheme, a total of 64,275 disclosures were made, from which Rs 65,250 crore was declared.

The Government's present surprise move, to change the national currency by replacing old Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 currency notes with new Rs 500 and Rs 2,000 notes, is a systematic extension of all these efforts. In a dramatic announcement, Prime Minister Modi walked the talk on black money during a public address on November 8, when he declared that the legal tender of high-value currency notes would be invalid from

midnight. However, this is not the end. The menace of black money runs so deep into the veins of the Indian economy that it is still a long road ahead before we move towards a corruption-free India.

**For smooth conduct of the demonetisation drive the Government has come up with certain proposals to avoid inconvenience:**

- Old notes can be deposited and exchanged at post offices and banks across the country before December 31.
- Government has set limits on ATM withdrawals and bank withdrawals per week, which keeps on changing.
- People, who due to some reasons, are not able to deposit their old notes by December 30, can go to specified offices of the Reserve Bank of India up to March 31, 2017 and deposit the notes after submitting a declaration form.
- On humanitarian grounds, exemption has been made on key utility payments like hospitals, petrol pumps, crematorium, Government milk booths, monuments etc.
- Withdrawal charges at ATMs have been waived. Toll tax at national highways too have been waived.
- To avoid shortage of low-value currency like Rs 50

and Rs 20, Government has made them available in SBI ATMs.

■ Separate queues are being maintained at banks and ATMs for senior citizens and for divyang people.

**Aim:**

**Tackle black money:** Black money refers to the money people stack with themselves, in the form of cash or assets, for which tax has not been paid. With a ban on high-value currency notes, people will be left with no other option but to declare their unaccounted income. They will either land up paying tax or will have to destroy cash as after December 31; it will be just worth a piece of paper.

**Combat counterfeit currency:** High-value currency of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 constitute for almost 80 per cent of the money in circulation in the economy. The replacement of old currency with new ones will eliminate fake currency from the system.

**Deal with terrorism:** It's a known fact that fake currencies were used for terror funding and other illegal activities, both within the boundaries of this country and across the border. A ban on counterfeit currency will put an end to arms smuggling and other activities by terrorists, Maoists and jihadis.

**Advantages: Long-term**

**Boost deposit base and savings:** The unaccounted cash in the economy, which is estimated to be to the tune of ₹4,500 billion, will ultimately make its way to the banks. This will boost the banks deposit base as well as savings. The notes will not come back to banking system and will hence increase the Reserve Bank of India's reserves. An increase in RBI reserve will help the RBI and the Government in multiple ways that can be beneficial for the economy. It can be used for infrastructural development and improve fiscal consolidation. Infrastructural investment will in-turn generate jobs.

**Reduce lending rates:** As banks' liquidity is bound to increase, which is already happening, banks are in

the process of reducing interest rates. Reduction in interest rates will help the small enterprises, the SMEs in particular. Until now a major roadblock for the banks had been non-performing asset and liquidity.

**Short-term:**

**Increase in taxes:** Notes deposited by people in banks will have to be explained if it is more than Rs 2.5 lakh. If someone did not pay tax or may be if they make sudden deposits, they will be questioned. If they fail to explain, they will be scrutinised and will be compelled to pay 200 per cent tax.

On the other hand, income tax authorities will have to be proactive in taking information from the banks so that those accounts are scrutinised. If they don't scrutinise those accounts then the benefit will flow. With an increase in income in bank accounts, income tax will have to be increased and also paid and levied by tax authorities. This will increase the Government's tax collection. The Government will also incur indirect taxes in the form of excise duty and sales duty.

**Reduce inflation:** People who had until now earned money through illegal ways will be now afraid to stack black money as they may be prosecuted by the Income tax department on the legitimacy of their income. This will cause deflation in the market. With better tax compliance, there will be an increase in the gross domestic product too.

**Moving towards a cashless economy:** Indian economy was until now heavily cash dependent in which 98 per cent of the transactions by volume and 65 per cent by value was made by cash. Not only is cash difficult to handle and carry, it became difficult for the Government to keep a track of the same. The demonetisation drive will help us move towards digital transaction and formal banking systems. Transactions can be done with the use of cards, cheques, drafts and online transfer. This will also boost the Prime Minister's Make in India and Digital India initiative.

*(Writer is a Columnist and journalist)*



# MODI GOVT'S WAR ON BLACK MONEY & CORRUPTION THROUGH THE PROCESS OF DEMONETIZATION

● Siddharth Singh



Prime Minister Narendra Modi had long ago signalled his determination to tackle the menace of black money head on. Early on in his tenure, he had taken ownership of this goal and announced his plan to compress the black economy. In the last two and half years that he has been in office, his government has rolled out several initiatives that have systematically built up this plan. These include a special investigation team on black money, the Jan Dhan Yojana-Aadhaar-Mobile money trinity, direct benefit transfers, incentives for e-payments and a disclosure window for black money among other measures. So in this context, Demonetization at this time is a significant step because it follows the disclosure window that the government had offered to black money holders. The Prime Minister had made clear at the time of announcing the disclosure window that it was the last opportunity for voluntary disclosures, and demonetization therefore was the

critical next step in the fight against black money and the larger process of transforming our economy into one that is efficient, transparent and clean.

There is enough evidence to suggest that the people in general have accepted Prime Minister Modi's initiative to cleanse the financial system. They have warmly responded to his appeal to bear the consequences of the decision on the 500 and 1,000 rupee notes. True, it has caused some difficulties to the common people in short term because people are queuing up in front of banks but no riotous situation has arisen anywhere, demonstrating that the people are with the government. They know that to achieve something great in long term, they have to pay a little price in short term.

It may take a few more weeks for the people to go leisurely to the nearest ATM to withdraw money. Government did allow public utility services to accept the old notes for a

few days just after ban because after all, the aim of the exercise — easily the most ambitious since Independence — is to rid the financial system of counterfeit notes, reduce corruption and take the anti-black money efforts to new heights.

The Modi government has clearly signalled its intention to move against illegal wealth. The currency swap deals with the stock of black money held by tax evaders. The challenge now is to ensure that the creation of new black money is minimized. There is no magic wand to solve what is a deep problem in India, but a committed government plus tax reforms such as the new goods and services tax (GST)—which creates incentives for producers to seek bills from their input providers—will be part of the solution.

In the long run, demonetisation will prove to be a significant positive move to the Indian economy and society. This also reflects India's anti-corruption drive and is very likely to improve the country's reformist stance. It will also provide a big boost to the government's financial inclusion drive, pushing more households towards efficient banking and payment infrastructure. The benefits of phasing out large paper currency are significant to an economy and even more to a society such as India where corruption was treated as an acceptable way of life. A step like this can result in the cleaning up of a system for which many believed it could not be done, as earlier attempts did not have significant impact. However, the decision by Prime Minister Modi is one of the most historic steps taken in independent India. A decision like this can help curb inflation, recapitalise banks, reducing the interest rates and making the economy vibrant, with capital inflows. The taxes will be spread to a much larger population. At present only 2.6 per cent of the Indian population pays taxes. Some just don't make enough and the others who do, siphon off the money. If this plan works, the ramifications of the currency demonetization can touch all parts of the Indian economy.

**Specific Advantages:**

1. Demonetization will help us to eradicate black money, corruption to some extent.
2. Due to lack of funding there will be no arms smuggling and all the terrorist activities will also be choked.
3. Counterfeit currencies are being used for financing terrorism which is being run by the enemy in India. Now Govt's bold move of demonetization will enable the government to fight counterfeit currency/terrorist funding activities.
4. Card transactions will slowly replace the cash transactions in our daily activities.
5. Exchange of money in banks can only be done producing a valid identity card like PAN, Aadhar card and electoral card. By doing so it will be easy for the government to track the money which is being exchanged in banks.
6. Financial Intelligence Unit will track all details of the transactions from the banks. So now it is really difficult to get rid of the black money.
7. This decision will bring in more transparency in real estate sector. More transparency will have more credibility, making it more attractive to the foreign investors as well as domestic investors.
8. Housing prices could witness downward pressure, helping revive demand in the sluggish housing segment.
9. It will help the common man by putting an end to the artificial increase in Real Estate, Higher Education and Healthcare transactions bringing them within the reach of the common man.

So in conclusion, the Demonetization of high value currency notes in India will provide a big boost for Digital India. Reduction in cash transactions will help multiply digital and plastic transactions such as cheques, credit card and mobile wallets. PM Modi has tightened the seatbelts and honest Indians are optimistic about the joyride ahead.

*(Siddharth Singh is a Research Scholar in School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi)*

# AN INTELLECTUAL & POLITICAL CLASS WORKS TO DENIGRATE THE IDEA OF INDIA

● Dr. Anirban Ganguly



**T**he Pantheon in Paris is a must-visit for all those who wish to see for themselves the manner in which the French people venerate those who have contributed to articulating, narrating and shaping civilisational France. Inspired by the vision and idea of the French civilisation, driven by patriotism to perpetuate and disseminate that idea of France and of French ideals and values, in it rests personalities who instilled the sense of the nation in ordinary minds and hearts. The final resting place of Napoleon Bonaparte—one of the first modernisers of France and of Europe as a whole—at Les Invalides also evokes strong emotions; the sign of celebrating patriotism and of generating a certain pride in nationhood as a legitimate act exudes these commemorative corners, symbols and

institutions.

As one climbed down to the Crypt, the final resting place of the immortals of France's cultural and intellectual spirit, an overpowering sense of their contribution, the fierce and yet rich and deep debates that these personalities generated, their ceaseless civilisational quest of articulating and shaping the French ethos and of situating it in the wider world while interpreting other civilisations, all came to the fore.

Voltaire, who was convinced that all knowledge came from India, especially from the banks of Ganga, had his corner in the Crypt and opposite him rested

Rousseau, that formidable shaper of political discourse. Emile Zola, Victor Hugo, who perhaps more than anyone else shaped the French mind, Alexandre Dumas, Louis Braille, who through his creation of the Braille gave new light, all find a place of honour. Each of them had an inspiring epitaph summarising the ideas and ideals that they embodied.

One saw how students came in regular batches—the Pantheon is next door to the Université Sorbonne — and were taken around by teachers who explained the contributions, the oeuvres, the life and times of these greats. The manner of preserving the remains of these personalities suggested a concrete realisation of their indispensability in shaping and preserving civilisational France. The remains of some of those activists and leaders who died resisting Nazi occupation of France and were leaders of the iconic French Resistance Movement, were relocated to the Pantheon in 2015, indicating that the process of identifying patriots, nationalists and heroes is an active and ongoing process among the French.

But this could perhaps have been possible because of this habit which, even in the midst of intense political tussle, argues that the idea of France, the idea of her integrity

and sovereignty and of her triumph is an idea that is non-negotiable and undisputed. No false debates or callow messiahs, patronised and promoted by vested political groups and interests, have ever promoted the idea of questioning the very idea or raison d'être of France, of La République or the patrie.

In India, however, ever since the founding of the Republic, there has been an intellectual and political class which has worked to generate a negation, denigration and hatred towards the idea of the nation, of civilisation and of inherited wisdom and values. These groups have intensely worked to create Indians who would spite at the very idea of India and revel in announcing its impending demise and in doing so would receive accolade and approbation. They never allowed a true veneration of true heroes in this country.

While Narendra Modi symbolises the urge to celebrate the perennial idea of India and evolve a positive ethos leading to a new national narrative, those making the most noise today are actually the ones who have always viciously laboured to dissolve all that we have stood for, civilisationally.

*(This article was first published in  
The New Indianexpress on 19th November 2016,  
[http://www.newindianexpress.com/magazine/voices/2016/nov/19/an-intellectual--  
political-class-works-to-denigrate-idea-of-india-1539714--1.html](http://www.newindianexpress.com/magazine/voices/2016/nov/19/an-intellectual--political-class-works-to-denigrate-idea-of-india-1539714--1.html))*

# विमुद्रीकरण: जनभावना को भांपने में असफल विपक्ष

● शिवानन्द द्विवेदी



**के**द्र सरकार द्वारा पांच सौ और एक हजार रुपये के नोट बंद करने के फैसले के बाद से ही विपक्षी खेमे में भूचाल की स्थिति है। इस साहसिक एवं ऐतिहासिक निर्णय के दूरगामी नफा-नुकसान पर बहस करने की बजाय कुछ राजनीतिक जमात के लोग पूरी बहस को भटकाना चाहते हैं। चूंकि शुरुआत से ही सरकार के इस निर्णय को लेकर तमाम परेशानियों के बावजूद आम जनता के मन में एकतरफा समर्थन का भाव खुलकर दिख रहा है, लिहाजा कुछ राजनीतिक खेमे के लोग इस पर चर्चा करने से भागते नजर आ रहे हैं। सदन में भी वो मुद्दे पर बहस करने की बजाय केवल शोर-शराबे की स्थिति पैदा करने एवं बहस से कतराने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हालांकि सरकार पहले दिन से इस मुद्दे पर बहस करने को तैयार है लेकिन विपक्ष की समस्या यह है कि अगर शान्तिपूर्ण बहस सदन में हुई तो वे ही बेनकाब होंगे।

इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि इस निर्णय से आम जनता को कुछ परेशानियां जरूर झेलनी पड़ी हैं। लेकिन देश का सामान्य जन अपनी कुछ दिनों की परेशानियों को दरकिनार कर इस ऐतिहासिक निर्णय को स्वीकार कर चुका है, लेकिन बड़ा सवाल यह है कि वो कौन लोग हैं, जो इस निर्णय को स्वीकार करने से कतरा रहे हैं? वो कौन लोग हैं, जो इस निर्णय को वापस लेने के लिए असफल रैलियां

कर रहे हैं? वो कौन लोग हैं, जो महंगी गाड़ियों और एसपीजी सुरक्षा में जाकर दो घंटे में अपना चार हजार रुपया निकालने के बावजूद भ्रम फैलाते हुए झूठ बोल रहे हैं कि पैसा नहीं मिल रहा? वो कौन लोग हैं जो भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ चल रही इस खुली जंग में भ्रष्टाचार बंद की बजाय 'भारत बंद' का राग अलापने लगे? एक सवाल यह भी है कि जो लोग ऐसा कर रहे हैं, वो ऐसा क्यों कर रहे हैं?

इस सवाल पर पड़ताल करने से पहले जरा 'कतार' पर बहस कर लें। कांग्रेस उपाध्यक्ष राहुल गांधी ने अपने चार हजार रुपये तो दो घंटे में निकाल लिए, लेकिन लोगों को गुमराह कर रहे हैं कि पैसा नहीं निकल रहा है। अगर वे ईमानदारी दिखाते तो सबके सामने स्वीकार करते कि "हां मैं कतार में लगा था और मुझे मेरा पैसा मिला, लेकिन नहीं उनकी जबान तो कुछ और बोल रही है।

दरअसल, राहुल गांधी को यह बात बखूबी पता होनी चाहिए कि इस देश की आम जनता को 'कतारों' से कभी समस्या नहीं रही है। 70 साल की सरकारों, जिसमें लगभग साठ साल कांग्रेस ही सत्ता में रही है, ने इस देश

की आम जनता को कतार में खड़े रहने की आदत डाल दी है। यह वही जनता है, जो कभी सिलेंडर गैस, तो कभी यूरिया, तो कभी रेल टिकट के लिए आए दिन कतारों में नजर आती रही है, इसलिए इस जनता को अब कतारों का भय दिखाने की राजनीति सफल होती नहीं दिख रही है।

यकीनन इस देश में 70 वर्षों में जो लंबी कतार कांग्रेस ने खड़ी की है, उसे नोटबंदी के इस फैसले से खड़ी हुई कतार ने तोड़ दिया है। यह वह कतार बन रही है, जिसमें देश का आम जन खड़ा होकर बिना किसी डर के, भय के अपने हक के लिए और देश के भविष्य के निर्माण के लिए खड़ा होने को तैयार है। यह कतार ईमानदारों की कतार है। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने जो यह कतार बनाई है, इस कतार में किसी भ्रष्ट, बेईमान और चोरी से काली कमाई करने वाले की हिम्मत नहीं हो पा रही कि वो खुलकर खड़ा हो सके। लिहाजा यह ईमानदारी का उत्सव मना रहे देश की ईमानदार जनता की कतार है।

इधर, भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ चल रही इस लड़ाई का लगातार विरोध कर रहे दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री अरविन्द केजरीवाल की अपनी कोई विश्वसनीयता नहीं रही है। वे खुद कभी लालू यादव, तो कभी किसी और के समर्थन में खड़े होकर अपनी साख पर बट्टा लगा चुके हैं, लेकिन अब जब देश की आम जनता के साथ कालाधन और भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ चल रही इस निर्णायक लड़ाई का समय आया, तो वे बंगाल की मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी के साथ मिलकर इसका विरोध करते नजर आ रहे हैं। वैसे तो बिना किसी प्रमाण और बुनियाद के किसी पर भी आरोप लगाने के रोग से ग्रसित दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री अनेक बार सुबूत न दे पाने की वजह से अपनी फजीहत भी करा चुके हैं, लेकिन आज एकबार फिर वे बिना किसी सुबूत के मनगढ़ंत बातें कर रहे हैं। दिल्ली की जनता के मन में यह

सवाल बेजा नहीं उठ रहा है कि ममता बनर्जी और दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री के बीच आखिर किस मुद्दे पर एका की स्थिति बनी है? ममता बनर्जी, मायावती सहित कई नेता ऐसे हैं, जिन पर भ्रष्टाचार के आरोप भी लगे हैं, लेकिन आम जनता के मन में यह सवाल है कि दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री अरविन्द केजरीवाल आखिर क्यों इनके साथ खड़े हैं?

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के इस फैसले से आतंकवादियों को फंडिंग करने वालों, माओवादियों को संसाधन मुहैया कराने वालों, तस्करों, अपराधियों, भ्रष्टाचार करने वालों की पीड़ा तो जायज है, लेकिन इन चंद नेताओं की इस फैसले के खिलाफ एकजुटता भी कम शक नहीं पैदा करती है? ऐसे में बड़ा सवाल जनता के जेहन में है कि जब पंजाब में चुनाव होने हैं, तो क्या आम आदमी पार्टी को चुनाव में इस्तेमाल करने के लिए जुटाए गए धन के रद्दी हो जाने की चिंता सता रही है? यह सबको पता है कि पारदर्शिता की बात करने वाली आम आदमी पार्टी काफी समय से अपने आय और व्यय का ब्यौरा सार्वजनिक नहीं कर रही है।

खैर, कतार लंबी जरूर है, लेकिन बंदोबस्त ऐसा है कि उस कतार में कोई बेईमान और भ्रष्ट ज्यादा देर टिक नहीं पाए। वैसे भी प्रधानमंत्री मोदी की अच्छी बात यह है कि वो प्रमाण-पत्र देने वालों की परवाह किए बिना, जनहित में दशकों से काम करते हुए यहां तक पहुंचे हैं, जिनका डूब रहा है, वे बौखला रहे हैं। आम लोग थोड़ी परेशानियों के बावजूद इस मुहीम के साथ कतारबद्ध होकर खड़े हैं। यही वजह है कि लाख कोशिशों के बावजूद नोटबंदी के खिलाफ की जा रही कुछ रैलियों को विरोध का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।

*(लेखक डॉ श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी रिसर्च फाउन्डेशन में रिसर्च फेलो हैं एवं नेशनलिस्ट ऑनलाइन डॉट कॉम के सम्पादक हैं।)*

# IMPRESSIONS OF A YOUTH FROM THE STAGE OF LOKMANTHAN 2016

● Dr. Ananya Awasthi



Last week, I got a wonderful opportunity to attend “Lokmanthan”, a Colloquium of ‘Nation First’ Thinkers and Practitioners held in the city of Bhopal. Having reached Bhopal, initially I wasn’t very sure of what to expect out of this *ideation platform as a young learner*. Fortunately so, it turns out, that all the knowledge, thoughts and experiences that I ended up learning through the medium of public discourse and brainstorming sessions, has in fact been by far the most intellectually stimulating exercise that I have ever attended. Hence in this article, I am sharing some relevant learnings which are particularly useful for the young and the “new” generation of India and the rest of the modern world.

As opposed to the western mind set of reductionist globalization, the focus of “Lokmanthan” was on the philosophy of Integral Humanism where all the discourse and learnings were universally aimed at humanity as a

whole. Refuting plurality of souls, the idea of oneness amongst people of all races, caste, creeds & geographies was established. Most importantly, it was emphasized that this idea of *collectivity* was not opposed or antagonistic to the idea of “Nation First” thinking. Hence identifying with your nation and the rest of the humanity were rightfully described as being capable of peaceful co-existence.

With this larger vision various discussions were directed at addressing current challenges like Decolonizing Indian Minds, Rashtriyata (Nationality) in Neo-liberalism and Globalization, Identity, Aspirations and National Integration and Role of Art, Culture, History and Media in Nation Building. Various Academicians, Intellectuals and writers, Policy makers, Artists and Students from all over the country had come together at this forum not with concept of passively prescribing text book learning but to use this

platform as a medium to ideate on burning issues facing contemporary society.

India and its history were aptly described as a “wonder” by J Nandakumar who explained how even though our country had faced numerous invasions and counter cultural influences in the past, there was still a thread of “*Rashtriyata*” which was binding us all together. Hence even though for an outsider, India might seem to be a crucible for diverse identities, intrinsically there was a common bond of collectivity and common Indian values that we all shared. Unfortunately, this diversity in modern times has been perceived as a source for anti-nationalist and centrifugal forces, especially so in a democratic political structure like that of India. The reason for this sorry state of affairs is that the western philosophies and notions of modernity perceive social identities to exist in water-tight compartments and do not see them as an organic whole with the shared values of “*Rashtriyata*” percolating through them. Tarek Fatah added to this by stating that *religious and social identities are and should not be antagonistic to nationalistic thinking*. Thus being an Indian, irrespective of castes, religion and colour, it is our duty to be honest and committed to collective values of nation building.

An important distinction made by Dr Anirban Ganguly, Director of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation was the difference between the meaning of “scientific modernization and blind westernization”. He explained how the political hegemony since the establishment of Western Education system by the British, had led to a process of cultural homogenization in India. This in turn has led to a situation where the western education system in India has become a source pool for western ideas of consumerism, conflict and market thinking; thus completely ignoring the essence of Indian teachings and sustainable living. On the other end of the spectrum, Smt Smriti Irani explained how Indian way of living and thinking was not to be confused with feudalistic and backward thinking. Illustratively on the issue of gender equity she stated that “Regression does not come wrapped around in a Saree”. Thus explaining how following traditional values and lifestyles including indigenous clothing, food and outlook did not mean we were rejecting ideas of social justice and universal rights. Instead it meant how youth, both boys and girls can

take this country forward while respecting national duty and Indian traditions and at the same time also following universal notions of gender equity and social empathy for one and all.

**Social inclusion** was a very strong theme in the panel discussions where challenges related to empowerment of Scheduled Caste and Tribal population were discussed. Milind Kamble, a social entrepreneur who is also the founder of Dalit Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) was probably the best choice for a guest speaker. I personally found his thoughts to be very progressive. Instead of harping on social identities and reservations, he spoke about how PM Modi’s Stand Up India campaign and initiative like DCCI were generating employment for lakhs and lakhs of young SC entrepreneurs. In his own words rather than “asking for jobs”, SC youth were increasingly being made self-sufficient to “give jobs”.

Hailing this Lokmanthan as the beginning of a new era in India, Shri Rinpoche, ex-prime minister of Tibet explained how **Terrorism** had become a market place; which would very soon *collapse on its own weight*. On the same lines, actor Anupam Kher, over and above his star attraction, in very simple terms explained the importance of family values, ‘nation first’ outlook and the importance of speaking the truth when it comes down to the matters of national security and taking strict action against forces which were anti-national in nature. He explained how the so called intelligentsia influenced by the misplaced notions of modernity, had made the youth so defensive about his/her patriotic values. Thus he advised the youth not to fear failure in the light of stiff opposition from fissiparous tendencies; and to put all their efforts in constructive nation-building.

**Folk culture and art** was best exemplified by Dr Shetty, who explained how the world was undergoing a post-modernism phase, where all the western notions of art and culture are increasingly been rejected in favor of native representations of art and philosophy. This correlates with how there is a renewed focus on Yoga, Ayurveda, Vedanta, Sustainable way of Indian living and native art world-wide. Hence he advised the young population to identify this change in Global thinking



and learn to respect and appreciate its own culture, art and oral/folk heritage. Also the famous artist, Smt. Sonal Mansingh, much like her dance inspiringly explained how Krishna destroyed the snake Kaliya to prevent the river Yamuna from getting polluted and poisoned. Thus using Indian culture and its traditions as medium to reflect on how even our mythological stories and heroes had displayed consciousness for Environmental Sustainability, which is so very important in the current scenario of Global warming and Environmental degradation.

Summing up the session, Shri Chandra Prakash Dwivedi, our very own Chanakya from the TV screens asked us to finally contemplate upon the relevance and the utility of these intellectual discourses in the current context. He went on to describe how these learnings were of use only if these were disseminated beyond the walls of Lokmanthan, out into the mainstream discourse. Just like how a seed is planted in fresh soil, so were these values

and teachings meant to be planted in the fresh minds of today's youth. Most importantly, he warned us all that a good thought wasn't enough to bear any plant let alone a fruit. Invoking M.S. Gowalkar's observations- that what had harmed India the most all these years was not so much the wrong doing of those who were dishonest to the nation; but that it was the INACTION and Indifference of the "Sajjan" (Good) people who chose not to act upon what they knew was the right thing to do. Similarly, all that I am sharing with you today, from the mind-churning exercise that was held at the "Lokmanthan" 2016, is of no practical use, if all of us, including me do not act upon what we have learnt and what we know to be in the national interest. Hence we need to act and ACT NOW to build strong foundations for this nation based on shared values of nationalism, humanism, social justice, harmony and empathy through the lens of a nation-first outlook as also with an orientation towards progressive and holistic thinking.

*(The author is an expert in public policy and health and has been working and writing on these issues)*

# लोकमंथन: बौद्धिक विमर्श में एक नई परंपरा का प्रारंभ

● संजय द्विवेदी



## लोकमंथन देश - काल - स्थिति

**भो** पाल में संपन्न हुए लोकमंथन आयोजन के बहाने भारतीय बौद्धिक विमर्श में एक नई परंपरा का प्रारंभ देखने को मिला। यह एक ऐसा आयोजन था, जहां भारत की शक्ति, उसकी सामूहिकता, बहुलता-विविधता के साथ-साथ उसकी लोकशक्ति और लोकरंग के भी दर्शन हुए। यह आयोजन इस अर्थ में खास था कि यहां भारत को भारतीय नजरों से समझने की कोशिश की गयी। विदेशी चश्मों और विदेशी विचारधाराओं से आक्रांत भारतीय बौद्धिक विमर्श में यह एक नए युग का आरंभ भी था।

### बहस थी पर कड़वाहटें नहीं:

हमारी सभी प्रदर्शन कलाओं, साहित्य, धर्म, पत्रकारिता और हाशिए के समाजों के प्रतिनिधि भी इस चिंतन पर्व में शामिल थे, किंतु कड़वाहटें कहीं नहीं थीं। दलित इंडियन चैंबर आफ कामर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री के प्रमुख मिलिंद कांबले ने जब यह कहा कि “दलित अब मांगने नहीं देने वाला बनेगा” तो सभागार तालियों से गूंज उठा। आयोजन की सफलता इस अर्थ में बहुत महत्व की है कि इसमें ‘भारत प्रथम’ या ‘देश सर्वोपरि’ के विचार से जुड़े विचारक, लेखक, कलावंत, चिंतक और युवा शक्ति के प्रतिनिधि शामिल हुए। एक शासकीय आयोजन होने के बाद भी इस पर सरकार की छाया नहीं थी। मुक्त चिंतन और

विचारों का आदान-प्रदान हुआ। तीन दिन के आयोजन में राजनेताओं के नाम पर मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान उनके संस्कृति मंत्री सुरेंद्र पटवा के अलावा सिर्फ डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी, स्मृति ईरानी, राम माधव और विनय सहस्रबुद्धे ही मंच पर आए और बोले। मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान ने अपने प्रस्ताविक स्वागत भाषण में अपनी स्वाभाविक विनम्रता के साथ कहा कि लोकमंथन में हो रहे व्यापक विमर्श से अमृत निकलेगा और वह हमारे लिए पाथेय होगा।

पहले दिन शुभारंभ सत्र में स्वामी अवधेशानंद, शिक्षाविद और राज्यपाल ओमप्रकाश कोहली राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ के सहस्रकार्यवाह सुरेश सोनी ने अपने विचार व्यक्त किए। इस सत्र का मूल स्वर यही था कि भारत को अपनी अस्मिता के आधार खड़ा होना चाहिए। वहीं राज्यपाल कोहली ने उपनिवेशवाद से लड़ने के लिए एक प्रबल स्वदेशी आंदोलन की जरूरत पर बल दिया। उनका कहना था कि आधुनिक शिक्षा प्रणाली हमें जड़ों से काट रही है। लोकमंथन इस मायने में खास था कि यहां विविध ज्वलंत विषयों पर सार्थक संवाद हुआ। औपनिवेशिक मानसिकता पर प्रहार करते हुए वक्ताओं ने देश की शक्ति और जड़ों की ओर लौटने की बात

कही। इस आयोजन में आए राजीव मल्होत्रा, तारिक फतेह, डा. कमलेश दत्त त्रिपाठी, अनुपम खेर, डा. चंद्रप्रकाश द्विवेदी, सागदोंग रिनपोछे, विवेक देबेराय, रामबहादुर राय, अशोक मलिक, कमलकिशोर गोयनका, प्रो. मकरंद परांजपे, मुकुल कानितकर, प्रो. अशोक मोडक, डा.विद्याविंदु सिंह, मौलाना सैयद अतहर हुसैन देहलवी, ए.सूर्यप्रकाश, राकेश सिन्हा, स्वामी मित्रानंद, अद्वैता काला,मधुर भंडारकर, बलदेव भाई शर्मा, प्रो. गिरीशचंद्र त्रिपाठी, डा. अनिर्वान गांगुली, तुफैल अहमद,प्रो. रमेशचंद्र शाह सरीखे वक्ताओं ने भारतीयता के आधार पर एक नया आकाश रचने की बात कही। कुल मिलाकर यह आयोजन एक ऐसी भावभूमि पर खड़ा था जहां से भारत की शक्ति और उसकी वैश्विकता के दर्शन हो रहे थे।

### कलाकारों ने भरे रंग:

आयोजन में लोककलाकारों और रंगकर्मियों ने भी रंग भरे। उनकी विविधता से भरी प्रस्तुति जहां भारतीयता के लोक को गौरववान बना रही थी वहीं आनंद के भारतीय परिप्रेक्ष्य को पारिभाषित कर रही थी। भारतीय परंपरा में संवाद की अनंत धाराएं हैं और इसके आधार पर समाज रचना के अनेक प्रयास हुए हैं। लोकमंथन इस अर्थ में खास रहा कि इसमें बौद्धिक आतंक और किसी पर कुछ थोपने के बजाए मुक्त चिंतन हुआ। शर्त एक थी 'राष्ट्र सर्वोपरि'। इस आयोजन की एक खास बात यह भी रही कि बड़ी संख्या में युवाओं ने सहभाग किया। आयोजकों ने पहले दिन से इस बात पर नजर रखी थी कि लोकमंथन में युवाशक्ति का अधिकतम सहभाग सुनिश्चित हो। 956 प्रतिनिधियों ने तीन दिन बहुत आनंद के साथ इस पूरे समारोह में सहभाग किया।

### देश-काल-स्थिति का चिंतन:

लोकमंथन दरअसल देश-काल-स्थिति के तीन सूत्रों पर विमर्श का मंच बना। औपनिवेशिक मानसिकता मुक्ति और भारतीयता का अवगाहन इसका मूलमंत्र था। विमर्श के सभी सत्रों में इसी सोच की अभिव्यक्ति दिखी। भारत का संकट यह है कि यहां की सारी बौद्धिकता उधार ली गयी विचारधाराओं से आक्रांत है। भारत में रहकर भारतीय तत्व और उसके सत्व पर सोचने वाले बुद्धिजीवियों का या तो अकाल रहा है या उन्हें साजिश और इरादतन हाशिए पर लगाए रखा गया। अंग्रेजी शासन में जहां भारत और भारतीयता से नफरत करने वाले बुद्धिजीवी रोपे गए वहीं आजादी के बाद वे वटवृक्ष बन चुके थे। वे भारतीय होकर भी अभारतीय चिंतन की जकड़बंदी से बंधे हुए थे। उधार ली गयी विचारधाराओं और पश्चिमी चिंतन से जुड़ा यह गिरोह हर भारतीय तत्व को

हिकारत से देख रहा था। शिक्षा से लेकर समाज और परिवार में इसी तत्व को स्थापित करने की कोशिशें हुईं। दिल्ली की सरकारों में बैठे नेताओं ने सारा बौद्धिक ठेका औपनिवेशिक मानसिकता के गुलाम बौद्धिकों और वामपंथी विचारकों को सौंप दिया। ऐसे में कैसा भारत बना वह सबके सामने है। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि हमने आत्मदैन्य से भरी हुयी पीढ़ियां तैयार की। भारत का स्वाभिमान, उसका चिंतन, उसकी कलाएं और उसके लोकाचार सबको एक अजीब नजर से देखा जाने लगा। लोकमंथन के बहाने हमें हमारी शक्ति को जानने और उनका पुर्नपाठ करने के अवसर भी मिले हैं। इस बहाने भारतीय बौद्धिकता को एक नया आकाश मिला है। हमें इस बात को स्वीकारना होगा कि 2014 के लोकसभा चुनाव दरअसल भारतीयता की उसी सोई हुई शक्ति का प्रकटीकरण थे, जो औपनिवेशिक मानसिकता से मुक्ति के लिए आतुर है। जनशक्ति अब भारत को भारतीय नजरों से देखना चाहती है और राजनीतिक व सामाजिक संस्कृति में बदलाव की पक्षधर है।

### सिर्फ सत्ता परिवर्तन नहीं:

इस परिवर्तन काल में सिर्फ सत्ता परिवर्तन से भारत के मानस को मुक्ति नहीं मिलेगी। उसे राजनीतिक संस्कृति, बौद्धिक संस्कृति के भी भारतीयकरण की प्रत्याशा है। राष्ट्रीयता को नए परिप्रेक्ष्य में देखे जाने की जरूरत है। आजादी के सात दशकों की यात्रा को एक दिन में पलटा नहीं जा सकता है। इसके लिए लंबी और सधी हुयी, सुदीर्घ तैयारी की जरूरत है। किंतु भारतीय बौद्धिक विमर्श में भारतीय विचारों का हस्तक्षेप जरूरी है, क्योंकि इसी भावभूमि के आधार पर हम शेष क्षेत्र में बदलाव का अभियान प्रारंभ कर पाएंगे। अरसे से लांछित, हाशिए पर लगाई गयी विचारधारा को मुख्यधारा में लाने के लिए सचेतन और निरंतर प्रयासों की जरूरत है। भारत के औदार्य और उसकी वैश्विकता को साधने वाली संस्कृति के प्रति यदि दुनिया में आदरभाव है तो हमारे अपने इसे लेकर संशय में क्यों हैं। क्यों हम हमारी भाषा, वेशभूसा, कैलेंडर से लेकर जन्मदिन और दीक्षांत समारोहों तक औपनिवेशिकता की लंबी छाया मौजूद है। अपनी भाषा, वस्त्रों, विचारों, ग्रंथों, मानबिंदुओं, अर्थचिंतन, लोकाचारों और संस्कृति को लेकर हममें इतनी दीनता क्यों है। यह आत्मदैन्य ही सारे संकटों का कारण है। इससे मुक्ति के बिना पर भारतीयता के अधिष्ठान पर खड़े कैसे हो सकते हैं। लोकमंथन जैसे आयोजन भारतीय विचारों और मार्ग पर भरोसा बढ़ाते हैं। वे हमें आत्मविश्वास देते हैं, और कुछ करने के लिए हौसला भी।

*(लेखक माखनलाल चतुर्वेदी राष्ट्रीय पत्रकारिता एवं संचार विश्वविद्यालय, भोपाल में जनसंचार विभाग के अध्यक्ष और 'मीडिया विमर्श' पत्रिका के कार्यकारी संपादक हैं।)*

# PM MODI'S JAPAN VISIT: BRINGING A NEW VIGOUR & SUBSTANCE IN A TRULY GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

● Siddharth Singh



**P**rime Minister Narendra Modi recently concluded the third annual summit meeting with his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe to discuss the future of a broad-based and action-oriented partnership between India and Japan. This is a great time for India and Japan to bond, with the personal rapport between Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Prime Minister Modi giving the India and Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership a new vigour and substance.

In last two and half years under Modi regime in India, country has moved on the path of more integration into the global economy, reforms to unify the country into a single market through a Goods and Service

Tax, measures to expedite clearances, cut red tape and liberalise foreign investment norms in critical sectors of the economy like defence, railways, insurance and construction, as well as proactive external engagement, key to powering a calibrated engagement between India and Japan. Whereas in Japan also, a stimulus package for economic revival signals that Japanese Prime Minister Abe's economic revitalisation plan is working. In a nutshell, India and Japan are poised well to advance the special strategic global partnership befitting a new era for the relations between the two countries. Both countries are responding to these dynamics. Indeed, economic relations between India and Japan have vast potential for growth, given the obvious complementarities that exist between the two

Asian economies, including India's huge and growing market and its resources, especially human resources.

The bilateral trade between India and Japan has increased from about USD four billion in 1999-2000 to USD 14.52 billion during 2015-16. Besides, cumulative FDI inflows between April 2000 and March 2016 have grown to USD 20.96 billion. Clearly, there is a lot of space for India and Japan to boost business linkages.

Deeper engagement in Defence would benefit both India and Japan as both countries have identified Defence as an important area of strategic cooperation. The India and Japan agreements on Defence Exchange and Technology Cooperation along with a government nod for up to 100 per cent FDI in India's Defence sector open up great opportunities for industry to collaborate in research, development and production of aircraft and equipment.

Continuing the success of collaborating on high-speed rail links, India and Japan could look at cooperation on a second high-speed rail project, which Japan is keen to fund. The Indian Railways has identified at least five other corridors—Delhi-Mumbai, Mumbai-Chennai, Delhi-Kolkata, Delhi-Nagpur and Mumbai-Nagpur for running 300 kmph or higher speed trains, which add up to a win-win scenario for India and Japan.

India and Japan have signed a landmark civil nuclear cooperation deal after talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Shinzo Abe, a move that will boost bilateral economic and security ties. This agreement will enhance cooperation in the energy sector. This is a win-win scenario as this agreement will help pave the way for Japan to export nuclear technology to India. With Japanese companies in possession of key elements such as safety components and the construction of domes of nuclear powerplants, such an accord with Japan is crucial for India's energy needs. The deal would allow Japan to export nuclear technology to India, making it the first non-NPT signatory to have such a deal with Tokyo. It would also cement the bilateral economic and security ties as the two countries warm up to counter an assertive China. There was political resistance in Japan - the only country to suffer atomic bombings during World War II - against a nuclear deal with India, particularly

after the disaster at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant in 2011. Japan is a major player in the nuclear energy market and an atomic deal with it will make it easier for US-based nuclear plant makers during his interaction with Japanese PM, Modi also pitched for strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of disaster management and risk reduction.

Some of the important sectors in which MoU have been signed between India and Japan during PM Modi's recent Japan visit are as follows:

■ **SKILL DEVELOPMENT:** Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) between the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship of India, Government of India and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, Government of Japan on the Manufacturing Skill Transfer Promotion Program. MOC envisages training 30,000 Indian youth in the Japanese styled manufacturing in the next 10 years.

■ **ISRO AND JAXA:** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ISRO and JAXA concerning Cooperation in the Field of Outer Space. The MOU also provides for establishing JWG and sign Implementing Arrangements to carry out specific cooperative projects.

■ **AGRICULTURE:** Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan in the Field of Agriculture and Food Related Industry. It aims to deepen the bilateral cooperation in the fields of agriculture and food industries that includes food value chain networking and protecting Geographical Indication (GI) of agriculture products.

■ **URBAN DEVELOPMENT:** MoU between National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited and Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development. It would enable cooperation between the two organizations promoting investment in infrastructure projects in railways and transportation; port terminals; toll roads; airport terminals; urban development; logistics; and any supporting industries for these sectors.

■ **TEXTILES:** MoU between Textiles Committee, Ministry of Textiles, GoI and Japan Textiles Products Quality and Technology Centre (QTEC) in theField of Textiles. It aims to improve quality of Indian Textiles for conformity assessment for Japanese market.

■ **DISASTER MANAGEMENT:** MOU between the State Government of Gujarat and Hyogo Prefectural Government, Japan. The present MOU seeks to promote mutualcooperation between Gujarat and Hyogo in the fields of academics, business, cultural cooperation, disaster management and environmental protection.

In conclusion, While PM Modi has demonstrated India's resolve to refuel the India's development story by way of facilitating Japanese businesses and investments, there is renewed confidence among the Japan Inc who are well-versed with PM Modi as a result-oriented leader. Both countries stand to gain from their Global strategic partnership.

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# भारतीय जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष श्री अमित शाह द्वारा पंजाब की स्थापना के स्वर्ण जयंती महोत्सव में दिए गए संबोधन के मुख्य बिंदु



- पंजाब की स्थापना के स्वर्ण जयंती अवसर पर वीरों, गुरुओं व संतों की इस पावन धरती को नमन करते हुए मैं अपनी ओर से एवं प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की ओर से राज्य के लोगों को हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ
- 10 साल तक केंद्र में यूपीए की जो सोनिया-मनमोहन की सरकार चली, उस दौरान हर कोई देश की सीमाओं को अपमानित करके चला जाता था, मोदी सरकार के ढाई वर्षों में यह नजारा बदला है
- आज पूरी दुनिया को मालूम पड़ा है कि हिंदुस्तान की सीमा से छेड़खानी नहीं कर सकते, अगर ऐसा किया तो ईंट का जवाब पत्थर से दिया जाएगा
- यह एक सुखद संयोग है कि पंजाब जिस वर्ष अपनी स्थापना का स्वर्ण जयंती समारोह मना रहा है, उसी वर्ष गुरु गोबिंद सिंह जी का 350वां प्रकाश उत्सव भी आ रहा है, केंद्र सरकार और भाजपा इस वर्ष को गुरु गोबिंद सिंह

जी की स्मृति वर्ष के रूप में मनाने के लिए विशेष प्रयास करेगी

- आजादी के बाद देश के किसानों के लिए सबसे ज्यादा काम करने वाली यदि कोई सरकार बनी है तो वह भारतीय जनता पार्टी की मोदी सरकार है
- कृषि, उद्योग, ग्रामीण विकास, रोजगार, अर्बन डेवलपमेंट या फिर स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की बात हो, हर क्षेत्र में, हर दृष्टि से इन 10 वर्षों में पंजाब को एक आदर्श सूबा बनाने का काम अकाली-भाजपा गठबंधन ने किया है
- देश में खाद्यान्न की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए जब हरित क्रांति की शुरुआत हुई तो पूरे देश के अनाज के भंडार भरने का काम भी पंजाब के किसानों ने ही किया था। पंजाब के बगैर अन्न के क्षेत्र में देश की

स्वायत्तता की कल्पना भी नहीं की जा सकती

■ पंजाब भारत का जिगर है। प्राचीन काल से ही पंजाब की देश और धर्म की रक्षा के लिए शहादत व बलिदान की महान परम्परा रही है

■ चाहे 1965 की लड़ाई हो, चाहे 1971 की लड़ाई हो, चाहे कारगिल की लड़ाई हो या फिर चाहे आज आतंकवाद से लड़ाई हो, पंजाब कभी भी बलिदान देने से पीछे नहीं हटा

■ सरदार भगत सिंह, उधम सिंह, लाला लाजपत राय, मदन लाल धींगरा जैसे कई वीर युवाओं ने देश के लिए बलिदान दिया

■ हम जहां एक ओर पंजाब के युवाओं के बलिदान पर गर्व करते हैं, देश की सीमा की सुरक्षा में लगे पंजाब के वीर जवानों के साहस व शौर्य पर गर्व करते हैं, हरित क्रान्ति में पंजाब की भूमिका पर गर्व करते हैं, वहीं दूसरी ओर पंजाब के युवाओं को नशेड़ी कहने वाले लोग पंजाब का मेंडेट लेने के लिए आये हैं

■ जो लोग पंजाब की युवा शक्ति पर गर्व नहीं कर सकते, पंजाब की वीरता पर गर्व नहीं कर सकते, किसानों के पसीने पर जिनको अभिमान नहीं है, उनको पंजाब का वोट लेने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है



# THE EUROPEAN UNION LAUNCH OF THE MODI DOCTRINE AT BRUSSELS ON *8<sup>th</sup> November 2016*



The revised edition of *The Modi Doctrine: new paradigms in India's Foreign Policy* was launched at Brussels on the 8th November 2016. The Europe-India Chamber of Commerce (EICC) and the Indian Embassy in Brussels organised the book launch and discussion.

Hon'ble Member of Parliament Dr. Swapan Dasgupta spoke at length on the occasion on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign policy and overall vision of governance. Dr. Anirban Ganguly, Director Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation & one of the editors of the volume spoke on the dimensions of Prime Minister Modi's foreign policy and how it is redefining India's engagement with the world. Ambassador of India to Belgium and the European Union, H.E. Manjeev

Puri spoke about Prime Minister Modi's engagement with the EU and his larger vision for India-Europe ties. Shri Shishir Bajoria, Chairman Bajoria Group of Companies and Director of EICC proposed the vote of thanks.

Among those who participated in the book launch were Mr. Geoffrey Van Orden MBE, MEP, Chairman, Delegation for Relations with India and Mr. Jo Leinen, MEP, Committees on Environment, Foreign Policy & Constitutional Affairs. H.E. the Ambassador of Bhutan in Belgium-EU was also present on the occasion. Members of the Chambers of Commerce, Indian diaspora, officials of the European Union, experts and other members of the diplomatic corps were present on the occasion.

## DISCUSSION ON DEMONETISATION

### *Long Term & Short Term Benefits*

by

**Prof. Santosh Mehrotra** (Senior Economist, Professor JNU)

&

**Shri Harshvardhan Tripathi** (Senior Journalist – Commentator)



- Counterfeit currency will drastically drop after Govt's decision of Demonetisation & it will help in dismantling Terrorism financing in India.
- By Demonetisation, Govt. has dismantled the terror financing network for atleast next 4 to 5 yrs.
- It will take maximum of 2 months to return back to complete normalcy of cash. So, 6 month time frame given by opposition is false.
- Biggest beneficiary of Demonetisation process of Modi

Govt. is that honest citizen who has never evaded any tax in his life.

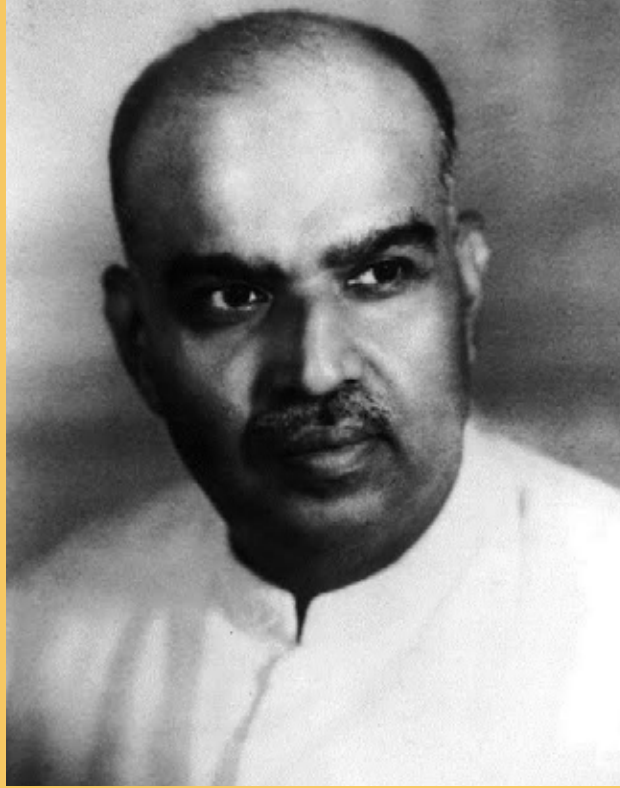
- Demonetisation will increase the transparency in the system which will encourage FDI from foreign countries.
- With this move of the PM, there has been a significant rise in the deposits made in the banks across India.
- More money in the banks will lead to a fall in the rate of interest on loans charged by banks.

# Discussion on “DEMONETISATION, DEMOCRATISATION & NEW VISION OF GOVERNANCE”

*Ashok Malik* (Senior Columnist & Author)  
in Conversation with  
*Prof. Bibek Debroy* (Member, NITI Aayog)

Date : 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2016





“The gignatic task of reconstruction, cultural, social, economic and political can be rendered possible thought coordinated efforts of bands of trained and disciplined efforts of bands of trained and disciplined Indians. Armed with the knowledge of Indian’s past glory and greatness, her strength and weakness, it is they who can place before their country a programme of work, which while loyal to the fundamental traditions of India civilisation will be adapted to the changing conditions of the modern world.”

**-Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee**  
*Convocation Address delivered at Gurukul Kangri  
Viswavidyalaya, Haridwar, 1943*

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**Published By:**

**Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation**

9, Ashoka Road New Delhi - 110001

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