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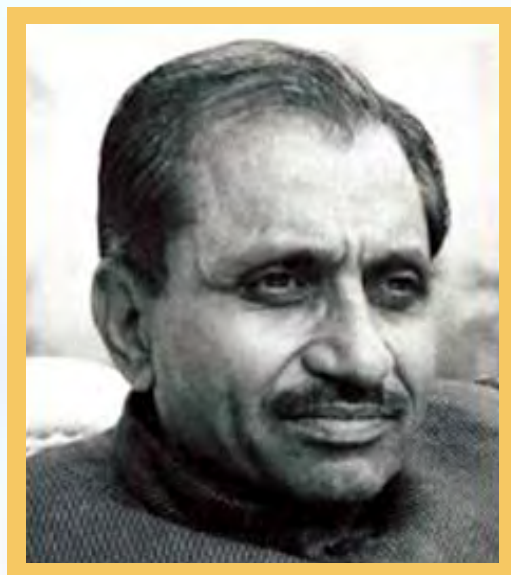


3 Years Of Modi Government

Modi Is Not Indira,
Indira Was Not Modi

India and Israel:
Technology, Innovation
and Smart Cooperation

विकास और सुशासन के
तीन वर्ष



“Let the different political parties try to evolve a Philosophy for themselves. Let them not be mere conglomerations of persons joined together for some selfish ends.”

-Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya

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3 Years – Prime Minister Modi’s Compelling Narrative of Transformation



Dr. Anirban Ganguly

These three years have been particularly traumatic for the India baiters, while Prime Minister Modi’s action invests in the consolidation and validation of Indian nationhood, they also unsettle those whose business in the last seven odd decades has been to dilute Indianness, it is they who feel threatened and ill at ease with this near-cessless reference to India.

So dominant, so focused and so compelling has been the India narrative that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has succeeded in generating, in the last three years, that it is continuously and ceaselessly occupying centrestage in all our debates and discussions. The Indian dream, the Indian growth story, the Indian civilisational dimensions, the global Indian narrative, the changing and altering dynamics of Indian society, the restructuring of a number of societal equations are the narratives that have dominated and continue to dominate the mind and media space in the last three years.

This obsession with India is something that a vocal and intellectually influential section is uncomfortable with. Used to the trappings of power all these years and decades, India for them was a dispensable commodity, at best a notion that one need not be overly worried about. Whether you like him or not, whether you appreciate his energy, his focus and his rock-determination and ram-like energy, one has to concede to Prime Minister Modi, that in the last three years, he has succeeded in centring all our debates on his vision for India and on his ways and approaches in bringing that vision to fruition.

These three years have been particularly traumatic for the India baiters, while Prime Minister Modi’s action invests in the consolidation and validation of Indian nationhood, they also unsettle those whose business in the last seven odd decades has been to dilute Indianness, it is they who feel threatened and ill at ease with this near-cessless reference to India. It is these and their larger networks and wider cabals who keep kicking up dust-storms to create an image of India reflecting their inner selves – an India, that according to them is crumbling and disintegrating.

Terrorists and separatists and present day extortionists who go by the name of naxals or Maoists and their urban sympathisers and voices are the other lot who have repeatedly faced the wall in the last three years. The image of Prime Minister Modi waving from inside the Chenani-Nashri tunnel, for example, was enough to set the alarm bells ringing, lest they lose out to the new narrative that PM Modi is weaving across the Valley, lest they become irrelevant, lest radicalism faces defeat before PM Modi’s development story, they let loose hired stone-pelters and terrorists in pockets across the state and bid their sympathisers in the national capital and in television studios across the country to kick up a dust storm again. It is these actions, these images of supposed disintegration that they conjure and which keeps their mills running, their talking shop warm and their machinery well-oiled; after all in the denigration of India always lies their greatest reward.

In the last three years that PM Modi took over the reins of the chariot of the Indian state, these elements, with support from certain mainstream intellectual and political groups or conglomerates have continued their tirade and their efforts to either falsify or retard our collective march. The groups supporting them or furthering their agendas are either doing it out of conviction or out of their

acute hatred for the persona of Narendra Modi. The communist parties fall in the first category, their faith in India, their belief in the need for an Indian grand narrative is at best dubious, at worst non-existent. The Congress under Rahul Gandhi falls in the second category, their support of separatism, their speaking up for subversive elements and disruptionists, their efforts to light or fan conflagrations on various occasions, rises essentially from their leaders' acute hatred for Narendra Modi – a leader who has actually dared to break and cut through the cordon sanitaire that the 'first' family of Indian politics had carefully and craftily thrown across the political spectrum.

While the Left is increasingly faced with confusion and an inability to restructure or restate itself and is turning itself into an appendage of the Congress's first family, thanks to a certain over-zealous leader who has contracted the 'bourgeois' disease of political comfort, the Congress is on the wane under the spell of an intermittent leader, whose spasmodic energies are only visible when abusing PM Modi. The effort of trying to create and alternate counter narrative to PM Modi's narrative, is completely absent, the demands that the creation of such a narrative usually makes on the mind and the collective intellect is too exacting to be seriously

heeded to by them.

In the middle or at the end are the regional and micro-dynastic parties, many of whose leaders and workers have accepted PM Modi as their leader in the deep recesses of their hearts. In private and in close circles, they do not hesitate to articulate, that for them PM Modi is the leader, the one who, at this point of time, is capable of charting out a new direction and of imparting a new momentum to the Indian story. Many of these parties are now leaderless or with leaders who are confused or are fading, unable to create a new narrative. Their common apprehension of Narendra Modi is not shared by their rank and file; it is not adhesive enough to keep them from going astray. PM Modi's India narrative is compelling, it attracts them, they see the vast multitude responding to it and read their own irrelevance if they resist or denigrate it.

In three years, among the many things that he has upturned or altered, Prime Minister Modi certainly continues to alter the dimensions and structures of Indian politics and thinking for the better and this will be among his finest and most historic contribution to the transformation of Indian polity.

Salient Points of PM Modi's addresses at the concluding ceremony of Narmada SewaYatra in Madhya Pradesh on 15th May, 2017



- I salute all those who have taken part in the #NarmadaSevaYatra. The 'Punya' from this Yatra will benefit the 125 crore people of India.
- Maa Narmada has been our lifeline for so many years. Maa Narmada is a life giver.
- MP CM Shivraj Chouhan understood the threats the Narmada is facing at a right time & began to work on saving the river.
- I am very happy that the MP Government is working on afforestation.
- The Narmada Seva Yatra is a unique mass movement in our history.
- The biggest strength of a democracy is Jan Bhagidari.
- We are seeing great enthusiasm towards Swachh Bharat Mission.
- We are seeing the commendable strides Madhya Pradesh is making in Swachh Bharat Mission. I congratulate Madhya Pradesh.
- Success of Swachh Bharat Mission is not due to governments, it is due to people
- The document presented by the MP Government is futuristic with several learnings.
- Our aim is to double the income of farmers in 2022.
- The Narmada Seva Yatra has ended but the Yagya has begun, to achieve the aims with which we commenced this Yatra.

PM Modi's press statement during the State visit of Prime Minister of Mauritius to India on 27th May, 2017



- It gives me great pleasure to welcome Prime Minister Pravin Jugnauth and his delegation to India.
- We are truly honoured, Excellency, that you have chosen India for your first overseas visit after taking on the new responsibility as Prime Minister of Mauritius earlier this year.
- Your visit reflects the depth of our ties that have endured and enhanced over two centuries. And, our bonds are not limited to Governments. They extend to our people and societies who take pride in our shared

roots.

- Our bonds have flourished despite time and distance. Today, they weave a rich tapestry of friendship in diverse areas.
- Today, we have taken another leap in our bilateral agenda. As frontline states of the Indian Ocean, Prime Minister Jugnauth and I agree that it is our responsibility to ensure collective maritime security around our coasts and in our EEZs.
- The conclusion of the bilateral Maritime Security

Agreement today, will strengthen our mutual cooperation and capacities.

■ We have also taken a decision to renew the life of the Coast Guard Ship Guardian, that was provided to Mauritius, under a grant assistance programme.

■ The agreement today on a 500 million US dollars Line of Credit from India to Mauritius is a good example of our strong and continuing commitment towards the development of Mauritius.

■ It will also help in the implementation of priority projects. Prime Minister Jugnauth and I welcome the progress in ongoing projects. India will extend full

support for the timely execution of projects identified between our countries.

■ We applaud the leadership shown by Prime Minister Jugnauth in drawing attention to the importance of renewable energy. The signing and ratification of the framework agreement on International Solar Alliance by Mauritius has opened up new vistas of regional partnership for both countries in this field.

■ I thank Prime Minister Jugnauth for his vision and support to our relationship. And I look forward to working closely with him in the coming months as we put into action the decisions we have taken today.

Salient Points of PM Modi's 'Mann ki Baat' programme on All India Radio on 28th May, 2017



- India's diversity is our strength.
- We are proud that people from all faiths live in India in a harmonious manner.
- I said that during the holidays get out of your comfort zone, do something new. I am glad lot of people shared their experiences with me.
- I am happy to see youngsters are taking interest in lives of our freedom fighters, who spent their lives in jail.
- Today we remember Veer Savarkar on his Jayanti. He spent time at the 'Kaala Pani' and there he wrote a lot.
- People from all over India were imprisoned in the cellular jail.
- Connecting with nature is nothing but connecting with ourselves.
- Nature always refreshes us.
- Our ancestors conserved nature, we must show the same compassion towards future generations.
- Yoga is integrating the world today.
- Yoga guarantees both wellness and fitness.
- I got a very interesting suggestion- since its 3rd Yoga Day, why not 3 generations of a family come together & practice Yoga.
- Focus on waste management.
- Making cleanliness a mass movement.
- I am very happy people are evaluating our work in great detail. I welcome this.
- Constructive criticism strengthens our democracy.
- Mann Ki Baat has connected me with every Indian, in a very special way.



**Dr. Uttam
Kumar Sinha**

India and Israel: Technology, Innovation and Smart Cooperation

With cooperation between India and Israel gaining momentum, aspects like science and technology can become new drivers in furthering ties. The importance of cooperation between the two countries in defence and cyber security needs no reiterating. However, a need for greater joint ventures in innovation will be critical to the sustainable development model that India is pursuing. Bringing together perspectives from scientific aspects to human dimensions, and considering their applications to management and policy can have quantifiable gains. In the light of this, the field of biotechnology and nanotechnology will assume great significance as will efficient irrigation methods. Given below are a few suggestions for cooperation and joint ventures between India and Israel.

Science and technology in Israel is one of the most developed sectors with over 4 per cent of the GDP allocated for civil research and development. Not surprisingly, it is a technological powerhouse. Since its independence in 1948, much of Israel's progress has been achieved through its innovative abilities in the applied sciences. With very limited natural resources, Israel has emphasised on scientific research both for its territorial protection and development through investment in military infrastructure and agriculture. Today, Israel has the highest concentration of start-ups in the world, which have given rise to innovations in fields as diverse as software development, artificial intelligence,

irrigation, GPS navigation and cherry tomatoes. It would hence be very useful to have an Israeli Tech Park in India, which would give a large base in Asia for Israeli innovations, a platform for Indian entrepreneurs to cooperate and benefit from Israeli experience and an opportunity for joint research and development in specified areas of interest. The scope for cooperation and joint ventures with Israel is humungous. A Tech Park would be a concrete way of giving impetus to this. The Tech Park needs to be in an area where there is ready availability of local expertise. Suitable areas could include Bengaluru, Goa, Hyderabad, Chennai, Pune, and Noida.

One of the main focusses of the park could be on Israel's expertise on Internet of Things (IOT). Internationally, by 2020, it is expected that 26 billion objects will be connected to the Internet, not including PCs, tablets and smart phones, and that 90 per cent of new vehicles will be connected to the Internet and to each other, and to public infrastructures. IOT is going to be the biggest wave of the Internet, surpassing mobile internet and cloud computing, and a major money grosser. According to Eric Schmidt, the Executive Chairman of Google, Israel is currently a global leader in this field.

There are a number of Indian enterprises/innovations which are doing a lot of R&D in the IOT sector, but they do not have the experience of the Israeli industry. It would be a great leap forward to have

joint ventures with Israeli Companies innovating in IOTs in various verticals like agro-tech, infrastructure management, cargo management, manufacture processing, administrative controls, trading and e-commerce, health care, etc. The IOT cooperation would be greatly received by the Indian industry. Equally it will give an expanding market to Israel.

Of specific interest to India would be cooperation in Artificial Intelligence and Augmented Reality. Israel has emerged as a leader creating augmentation platforms, which have wide application in healthcare, training and entertainment. Another vertical with a lot of potential is 3D printing, which Israel has excelled in. A number of successful start-ups are now using 3D printing for infrastructure, prosthetics, fashion designing, etc.

Cooperation in IOT would open up potential cooperation in related Cyber Security issues, especially those concerning infrastructure connectivity, individual and enterprise security, security of data, etc. In this vertical too, Israel has prominence and there is tremendous scope for joint ventures with Indian public and private sector entities, which also have considerable expertise.

Israel's pre-eminence in agricultural research has for long been widely appreciated in India. Israel is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, with 60 per cent of the land classified as desert, and only 20 per cent arable land. Due to long-term holistic planning and cutting-edge technology, Israel not only produces most of its own food, but also exports \$1.3 billion worth of agricultural produce annually. It has also cornered a large chunk of the floriculture market.

Israel's innovations in water management, recycling, desalination, and cost effective ways of converting air moisture into potable water, along with development of state-of-the-art greenhouse equipment, seed and livestock propagation, fertilizers and pesticides have enabled Israeli agriculture to prosper despite limitations of space and aridity. Israel

has pioneered water management ideas that can help solve the problems of waste, inefficiency and pollution of water that is being experienced in many part of the world. India's water management policies have a lot to emulate from Israel. There is indeed great value in the "Israel model". How else can one explain that with rainfall deficiency almost half of 1948 average, Israel's economy has grown 70-fold. The state's role in effectively propagating water conservation along with drip irrigation (micro-irrigation) has made the vast stretches of desert bloom.

Israel's successful research on drought-resistant plants would be of great interest to India where large areas of arable land are frequently afflicted with drought. The engineered plants not only require only 30 per cent of the usually required water, they yield bigger harvests and stay fresh longer. In addition, Israeli R&D has developed high value-added and innovative farm products that enable them to compete in markets with lower-cost producers. One such innovation is to develop ways to make perishable foods last 3-4 weeks longer, a matter of interest for India where an estimated Rs. 50,000 crore worth of food is wasted each year. These are areas which are going to get great traction for joint ventures in a potential Tech Park.

Israel has learnt advanced techniques of cloud seeding through injecting clouds with iodine to increase the percentage of water that each cloud yields, prevention of pollution, soil conservation and drainage, landscaping to redirect floodwaters, computerised calculations to chart routes of runoff water and the strategic placement of trees and crops done with IOT. Israel is now poised to disrupt the desalination industry with a low-cost, off-grid, scalable and environmentally friendly module using only solar power. India would certainly benefit from these innovations and water conservation based Joint Ventures can be an important vector of the Tech Park.

The burgeoning cosmetic industry is another potential area for cooperation. India has ancient traditions of Ayurveda and herbal medicines, which

have globally become increasingly popular, as have Israeli cosmetics. Tie-ups could be of interest.

Israel has also emerged as a global leader in Skills Development. Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, the Aharon Ofri MASHAV International Educational Training Center (METC), could be asked to set up a regional centre in India, which could contribute to getting skilled labour in various fields, which could boost the Make in India initiatives.

Cooperation with Israel would also be useful in the area of traffic management, which is a major bugbear in most cities. Israel has perfected a digitised parking and monitoring system which could be started as a pilot project in Delhi and NCR and if successful

could be suitably adapted and given to other cities.

Summing up

In an interconnected world increasingly at risk, the value of sharing knowledge, ideas and innovation cannot be underscored. Technology is blurring national borders and in the process claiming for a joint future, a future of possibilities, to manage the challenges of security and development. India-Israel relations can become a harbinger of the great Indian tradition of Sri-yantra – the convergence of science, policy and people.

(The writer is a Fellow at the Institute for Defence & Studies & Analysis (IDSA) Inputs from Dr. Prabha Rao, Senior Fellow at IDSA)



Claude Arpi

The Dream Corridor?

In recent months, the One Belt and One Road (OBOR) initiative and its avatar, the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) have received a tremendous coverage in the Indian and Foreign press.

In India, the question has been: should India participate in the Belt and Road Forum organized by President Xi Jinping in Beijing in early May.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi finally declined the invitation, for the good reason that the CPEC passes through part of Indian territory; further, it is often perceived as a project which first and foremost serves China's interests; Beijing has so far been unable to dispel this feeling.

What is the OBOR initiative?

In 2013, when President Xi first spoke of a project "envisioning a trade and infrastructure network that would connect Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient land and sea routes," very few realised that the OBOR 'initiative' had many similarities with the 'Great Game' of the 19th century.

At the time of its new birth, the OBOR's declared objective was to increase connectivity with Europe. However, a simple look at a map showed that practically, India was left out of the scheme, while the creation of several economic corridors mainly benefited China.

In June 2015, Steve Levine wrote in Quartz magazine that the infrastructure that the British built everywhere during the 19th century "enabled their power like bones and veins in a body. ...Great nations have done this since Rome paved 55,000 miles (89,000 km) of roads and aqueducts in Europe. In the 19th and

20th centuries, Russia and the US established their own imprint, skewering and taming nearby territories... Now it's the turn of the Chinese."

For Xi, the OBOR is an essential part of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, the 'Chinese Dream'; though Xi states that the OBOR "will serve the long-term interests of all countries involved in the Belt and Road Initiative." But have not trade and geopolitical control always worked hand in hand.

And as for Pakistan, the CPEC, a crucial constituent of the OBOR, will be a game changer ...if it happens. The CPEC architects are aware that Pakistan is the plaque tournante for controlling the Belt and the Road; the 2,700-kilometre corridor stretching from Kashgar to Gwadar which will link two worlds: Central Asia (via restive Xinjiang) in the north and Europe and Africa (via the maritime route) in the south.

A dream come true

When President Xi Jinping visited Islamabad in April 2015, he pledged an eye-popping 46 billion dollars (today upgraded to 62 billion) for the CPEC. While for Beijing the mega project was a vital element of the OBOR, for Pakistan the 'game-changer' could bring prosperity to the entire region.

It is true that Xi brought with him munificent gifts for Pakistan: the Chinese billions would boost Pakistan's flagging economy with massive energy and infrastructure projects. This included an additional 12,000 megawatts to Pakistan's national grid through coal, hydro and renewable energy projects.

The Corridor would have railways, roads, optical fiber cables, dams, pipelines! Observers marveled at

Beijing's generosity, but lately, the 'beneficiaries' have started realizing that the project may first benefit Beijing!

OBOR, doomed to fail?

Already in August 2016, the South China Morning Post wrote: "Eerie similarities with Japanese scheme 20 years ago suggest a future of white elephants, wasted money and corruption on a scale never seen before."

Columnist Tom Holland commented: "Facing a deep slowdown after years of investment-fuelled growth that culminated in a huge property and stock market bubble, the leaders of Asia's largest economy come up with a cunning plan. By launching an initiative to fund and construct infrastructure projects across Asia, they will kill four birds with one stone."

He cited (1) using China's excess steel mills, cement plants and construction companies to preserve jobs at home; (2) bringing neighbouring countries more closely into China's economic orbit; (3) promoting China's currency as an international alternative to the US dollar thereby undermining the influence of institutions based in Washington and (4) leading to China's regional hegemony.

This defines quite precisely Beijing's objectives.

The economy of the corridor

Is it a boon for Islamabad? Even in Pakistan, some have doubts. Salman Rafi Sheikh, a research analyst wrote in Asia Times: "The CPEC continues to look like a mystery, wrapped in an enigma. In the absence of agreements stipulating and documenting both countries' interests, the CPEC is creating problems that would strip Pakistan of whatever benefits the multi-billion-dollar project promises."

The author certainly has a point. There is a lot of secrecy around the project. For example, Pakistan's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was recently curious to know the details of rate of interest for the loans obtained from China.

The secretary of the Ministry of Water and

Power gave some figures: there were 19 power projects under the CPEC with the capacity of 12,114 MW; of which 3,960 MW were from coal, 2,714 MW from hydro projects, 900 MW from solar projects and 4,260 MW from imported coal.

The amazing part is that after the COP21 accords, while the planet is abandoning coal as an energy source, China is financing new coal projects in Pakistanin some cases with Chinese coal!

Beijing has agreed to provide a US \$ 6 billion loan for road infrastructure and 2.8 billion for railways 'on lowest interest rate'. While these loans are at a reasonable 1.6% interest, in some other cases, they can be as high as 6 or 7%. Will Pakistan be able to repay these loans?

By including the cost of insurance, also paid to a Chinese insurance company, the cost of borrowings could surge to 13%: "Adding insult to injury, the government has already exempted income of Chinese financial institutions from dividend income tax," said The Pakistan Herald.

In March, The Nikkei Asian Review mentioned that two international lending institutions (IMF and World Bank) as well as Pakistan's Central Bank raised serious concerns about the debt burden of the mega China-led infrastructure program.

High cost of Security

There is a serious security issue too. Suppose the scheme becomes 'unstable' due to terrorism (presently localised in Pakistan, but which can be easily exported to Xinjiang), the cost of the project would tremendously shoot up. This deeply worries Beijing.

In January, The Dawn reported that Pakistan has deployed 15,000 military personnel to protect projects under the CPEC.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on the CPEC noted: "Both forces will work under the interior ministry, in coordination with the provinces."

Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa claimed that there is a 'hostile agenda' against CPEC; but he affirmed that the Pakistani

security forces were ready to counter any threat.

Islamabad has deployed troops of the newly-formed Special Security Division (SSD) to provide protection to CPEC projects, and it has created a special Maritime Security Force unit to defend Gwadar.

The question is who will pay? Pakistan for the time being, but many in Pakistan realize that the Chinese ‘gift’ is in fact a costly one.

Will Chinese forces participate in the protection of the corridor?

Chinese troops in Gwadar, the maritime entry to the CPEC, is worrisome, to say the least.

Other aspects of the project

An example, many Pakistani companies expressed strong concerns over Chinese companies dumping cheap goods in Pakistan. These companies get heavy tax exemptions, which gives them an advantage vis-a-vis local entrepreneurs, and once the CPEC is functional, Pakistani markets may be flooded with Chinese goods.

Another issue, a study recently published in the Oxford Review of Economic Policy and conducted by the Saïd Business School has found that “low-quality infrastructure investments pose significant risks to the Chinese and the global economy.” The authors argued that over half of the infrastructure investments in China have destroyed rather than generated economic value.

This is valid also for future OBOR projects. The study authored by Atif Ansar, Bent Flyvbjerg, Alexander Budzier and Daniel Lunn is based on the large database, which analyzed 95 large Chinese road and rail transport projects, and 806 other transport projects.

Dr Ansar commented: “It is a myth that China grew thanks largely to heavy infrastructure investment. It grew due to bold economic liberalisation and institutional reforms, and this growth is now threatened by over-investment in low-grade infrastructure. The lesson for other markets is that policy makers should place their attention on software and deep institutional reforms, and exercise far greater caution in diverting scarce resources to large-scale physical infrastructure projects.”

The conclusion is that massive infrastructure investment programmes are not a viable development strategy for developing countries such as Pakistan, Nigeria or Brazil, which dream of using China’s model of economic development. But it is perhaps too tempting for Pakistan.

India’s position

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Chinese President Xi Jinping at the G20 Summit in Hangzhou in China, he raised the topics of terrorism originating in Pakistan, as well as the CPEC project. Modi told Xi that New Delhi and Beijing must be sensitive to each other’s ‘strategic concerns’, which include terrorism from Pakistan, the CPEC crossing through Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK) and India’s membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group?

As the project crosses Indian territory in PoK, the CPEC is unacceptable for India. Delhi cannot pretend that nothing is happening and forget about the legality of the accession of Jammu & Kashmir State to India.

Conclusions

The Corridor is first and foremost a vital investment for Beijing, which is slowly ‘buying’ the strategic link between the Belt and the Road; Beijing could soon control its new dominion, Pakistan. For India, it will be a game changer as it will then directly face China on two fronts, the northern and the western.

What looks like a masterstroke on paper could turn into a nightmare for both China and Pakistan. Regarding India’s participation at a time Pakistan continues to fuel unrest in the Kashmir Valley (with the silent consent of China), how can China get Delhi’s blessings for such an unsuitable project?

Today China and Pakistan are gambling, India need not rush into the ‘initiative.’

(The author is a veteran columnist, sinologist and has been living in India for more than four decades)



भूपेन्द्र यादव

विकास और सुशासन के तीन वर्ष



साथ है
विश्वास है
हो रहा
विकास है



प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में पिछले तीन वर्षों के शासनकाल के दौरान सरकार के कदमों से देश की छवि में व्यापक रूप से बदलाव आया है। इस दौरान ये सरकार एक निर्णायकारी सरकार के रूप में उभरी है और यही कारण है कि प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी की प्रशासकीय छवि, लोक-कल्याण को समर्पित नीतियों, मजबूत इच्छाशक्ति और सशक्त नेतृत्व की असीम क्षमता की स्वीकृति पूरे विश्व में देखने को मिली है।

जब तीन साल पहले केंद्र में सत्ता-परिवर्तन हुआ था, तो केंद्र की पूर्ववर्ती संप्रग सरकार पर लगातार भ्रष्टाचार के आरोप लगे थे। लेकिन, तीन वर्षों के शासनकाल में श्री नरेंद्र मोदी की वर्तमान सरकार ने अपने सुशासन के जरिये आम जनता के बीच यह सन्देश प्रसारित करने में सफलता प्राप्त की है कि देश में एक पारदर्शी और उत्तरदायी सरकार चल रही है। इसका प्रमुख कारण है कि सामाजिक, आर्थिक और प्रशासनिक बदलावों को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार ने बड़े कदम उठाए हैं और सरकार की छवि एकदम बेदाग

रही है।

जहां तक देश को एक आर्थिक शक्ति बनाने की बात है, तो अब तक देश को एक राजनीतिक यूनियन कहा जाता था; लेकिन जीएसटी कानून पारित कराकर देश को एक आर्थिक शक्ति बनाने की अपनी दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति का परिचय सरकार ने दिया है। ये श्री नरेंद्र मोदी की सरकार के नेतृत्व की दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति ही है कि वो गरीबों के हित और काले धन पर चोट करने के लिए नोटबंदी जैसा साहसिक निर्णय लेने में नहीं हिचकी। इस निर्णय पर विपक्ष ने जो दुष्प्रचार किया था कि नोटबंदी से देश की आर्थिक प्रगति रुक जाएगी, वो भी पूरी तरह से निर्मूल सिद्ध हुआ।

प्रधानमंत्री की गरीब कल्याण की नीतियों के कारण देश की गरीब जनता के मन में उनके प्रति एक प्रकार का विश्वास उद्भूत हुआ है, जिसकी अभिव्यक्ति जनादेश की कसौटी पर भी दिखाई देती है। मोदी सरकार की उपलब्धियों में नोटबंदी के निर्णय के अलावा अनेक योजनाएं भी रही हैं। इनमें

जनधन योजना के जरिये लगभग पच्चीस करोड़ खाते खुलवाना, उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत निर्धारित समय में दो करोड़ गैस वितरण के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त कर लेना, मुद्रा योजना के तहत दो करोड़ से अधिक के लोन बाँटना, सभी गांवों में बिजली के निर्धारित लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करना, प्रधानमंत्री सिंचाई योजना के तहत रुकी हुई परियोजनाओं को पूरा करना, आदि सरकार की पहलों से देश की प्रगति के ढाँचे को विस्तार मिला है।

वहीं दूसरी तरफ बैक्रोप्सी इन्सोल्वेंसी एक्ट, माइंस एंड मिनिरेल्स एक्ट, एससी-एसटी एक्ट में परिवर्तन, शत्रु संपत्ति एक्ट, बेनामी सम्पत्ति एक्ट, जीएसटी, बैंकों के कानून में सुधार, आदि अनेकों विधायी कार्य जो लम्बे समय से प्रस्तावित पड़े हुए थे, उनपर त्वरित गति से सरकार ने विधायी कार्यवाही कर उन्हें अमलीजामा पहनाया है। इसके अलावा एक बड़ा परिवर्तन प्रधानमंत्री ने पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग को संवैधानिक दर्जा देने का निर्णय लेकर किया है, जिसकी मांग लम्बे समय से की जा रही थी।

सरकार की एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण पहल डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था को ताकत प्रदान करना है। इससे देश में मनरेगा, निर्धन छात्रों को छात्रवृत्ति, वंचित वर्गों को सब्सिडी, आदि चीजों का आम लोगों तक लाभ पहुंचाने में पारदर्शिता आयी है तथा बिचौलियों की भूमिका समाप्त हुई है। डिजिटल अर्थव्यवस्था के द्वारा जहां कर चोरी पर अंकुश लगेगा, वहीं मध्यमवर्गीय लघु व्यापारियों को भी इससे लाभ मिलेगा। इस दिशा में मोदी सरकार द्वारा लाए गए भीम एप को एक डिजिटल क्रांति माना जा रहा है।

रक्षा नीति की बात करें तो ये देश पहली ऐसी मजबूत इच्छाशक्ति वाली सरकार है, जिसने सेना के जवानों को सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक की अनुमति दी। हमारे जवान सीमा पार पाकिस्तान के कब्जे वाले कश्मीर में गए और आतंकी कैम्पों को ध्वस्त करके सकुशल वापस लौट आए। प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी की उक्त नीतियों और योजनाओं की सफलता का प्रमाण तीन साल के अंदर हुए ज्यादातर चुनावों में भारतीय जनता पार्टी की विजय से मिल जाता है, साथ ही इस दौरान भाजपा नीत एनडीए का विस्तार भी हुआ है।

अगर इन तीन सालों के दौरान देश के बजट का अध्ययन किया जाए तो ग्रामीण भारत को केंद्र में रखते हुए बजट का निर्माण हुआ है। इससे

पूर्व जो बजट बनते थे, उनका निर्माण शहरी क्षेत्र को ध्यान में रखकर होता था। लेकिन, वर्तमान सरकार ने ऐतिहासिक बजट का निर्माण करते हुए न केवल 'सबका साथ सबका विकास' की अपनी प्रतिबद्धता को साकार करने की दिशा में एक और कदम बढ़ाया है, बल्कि ग्रामीण भारत के जीवन में परिवर्तन को भी एक आकार दिया है।

भारतीय जनता पार्टी की सरकार अब जब तीन वर्ष पूरे करने जा रही है, तब हमारे विचार-प्रणेता पं. दीन दयाल उपाध्याय का जन्मशताब्दी वर्ष भी चल रहा है। पं. दीन दयाल उपाध्याय ने अन्त्योदय की परिकल्पना हमारे समक्ष रखी थी। तीन वर्षों के दौरान सरकार ने अपनी समस्त नीतियों और योजनाओं का आधार अन्त्योदय को ही माना है। अन्त्योदय की परिकल्पना को धरातल पर साकार करने के लिए केंद्र सरकार द्वारा गरीब कल्याण की अपनी नीतियों और योजनाओं का लाभ 'आधार' के कानून के द्वारा पारदर्शी ढंग से लोगों तक पहुंचाने की व्यवस्था की गयी है। इसके जरिये गरीबों के जीवन में आर्थिक और सामाजिक परिवर्तन का मार्ग प्रशस्त हुआ है। इसके अलावा स्वच्छ भारत अभियान, बेटी बचाओ-बेटी पढ़ाओ आदि योजनाओं के जरिये सरकार ने सामाजिक परिवर्तनों की दिशा में भी कदम उठाए हैं।

हालांकि इन तीन वर्षों के दौरान विकासकार्यों की राह में सरकार को अनेक चुनौतियों का भी सामना करना पड़ा है। विपक्ष द्वारा अक्सर संसद को बाधित किया गया, नोटबंदी के मुद्दे पर सरकार का असहयोग किया गया और इससे सम्बंधित दुष्प्रचार किया गया। इस तरह की और भी परेशानियां विपक्ष ने खड़ी कीं, मगर सरकार पूरे धैर्य सहित देश के लोगों को साथ लेकर देश के विकास की राह पर सतत बढ़ती रही। कुल मिलाकर अपनी समस्त नीतियों के द्वारा सरकार द्वारा न केवल भारत के सभी क्षेत्रों का संतुलित विकास करने का प्रयास किया गया है, बल्कि उस विकास में देश के सभी वर्गों को भागीदार बनने के लिए अवसर प्रदान करने का काम भी हुआ है।

(लेखक भारतीय जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय महासचिव एवं राज्य सभा सांसद हैं।)



**Vaibhav
Chadha**

PM Ujjwala Yojana Reaches 2 Crore Beneficiaries in Less Than A Year



On April 3, 2017 Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted, “*Matter of immense joy & pride that the number of beneficiaries of PM Ujjwala Yojana has crossed 2 crore in less than a year!*” On May 1, 2016 PM Narendra Modi had launched Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) at Ballia, Uttar Pradesh. PMUY seeks to provide 5 crore LPG connections free of cost to BPL households along with a support of Rs 1600 per connection by 2019. The target set for the year 2016-17 by the Government was to reach 1.5 crore households but the Petroleum Ministry headed by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan accomplished the task of reaching 33% more households than was planned for the whole of 2016-17 in just 11 months.

The identification of eligible BPL families will be made in consultation with the State Governments

and the Union Territories. This Scheme would be implemented over three years, namely, the FY 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19¹. District nodal officers of Bharat Petroleum, Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum have been appointed across India for implementing the scheme at the ground level.

Brief Modalities of the PMUY scheme are given as under²:

- The connection will be issued to women member of BPL house hold who suffers from at least one deprivation as per SECC 2011 (Rural) data.
- Preference to be given to SC/ST BPL families and the states having lower LPG coverage than the National average as of 1st January 2016.
- Cash assistance of Rs 1600/- per connection will be

1 http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/cabinet-approves-pradhan-mantri-ujjwala-yojana-scheme-for-providing-free-lpg-connections-to-women-from-bpl-households/ (last visited on 23rd May, 2017)

2 <https://indane.co.in/pradhan-mantri-ujjwala-yojana.php> (last visited on 24th May, 2017)

provided by the Government for each New connection and shall comprise of following :

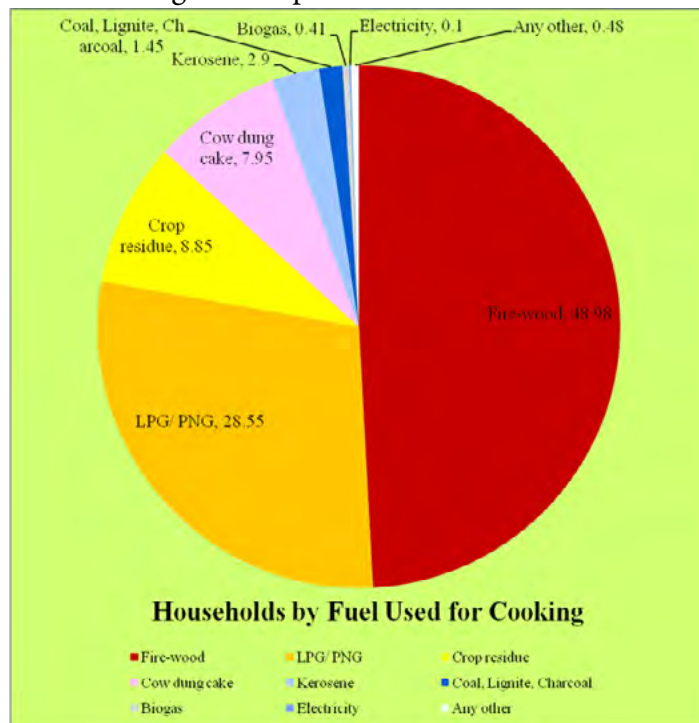
- Security deposit of 14.2 kg / 5 kg cylinder
- Security deposit of pressure regulator
- Suraksha Hose (1.2 M)
- Installation /demonstration charges payable to distributor
- Cost of issue of DGCC booklet

While the connection charges of Rs 1600/- will be reimbursed by the Government of India, OMCs would provide the option of EMI to interested beneficiaries towards the cost of stove and first supply of gas. OMCS will recover the EMI from the subsidy amount payable to consumer for each refill.

Union Government has allocated a fund of Rs 8000 crore towards implementation of this scheme. PMUY was introduced by the Government to provide clean cooking fuel to the poor rural households. LPG connection under this scheme shall be issued in the name of the woman of the household. PMUY is largely expected to benefit the Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe households which live in the most remotest and backward regions of the country.

In India, out of 0.2 billion people using fuel for cooking; 49% use firewood; 8.9% cow dung cake; 1.5% coal, lignite, or charcoal; 2.9% kerosene; 28.6% liquefied petroleum gas (LPG); 0.1% electricity; 0.4% biogas; and 0.5% any other means³. It is surprising to know that even 70 years after independence 10 crore households out of the total 24 crore households in the country are still deprived of LPG connections and have to rely on primary sources of cooking fuels such as charcoal, crop residues, dried dung cakes, wood...etc. These primary sources of cooking generate high levels of household air pollution that has 1,000 times greater chances of penetrating deep into human lungs. Also, these cooking fuels emit harmful substances such as carbon monoxide, benzene and particulates...etc which result in diseases such as pneumonia, blindness and asthma, tuberculosis, chronic bronchitis and lung cancer. The foremost victims of such harmful particles are women and children who are exposed to *Chulha* (hearth) where food is generally cooked in rural areas.

Women in India who use fuels such as wood, crop residues and dried dung to cook are nearly 50% more likely to suffer from cataract than those who use cooking gas⁴. Indoor air pollution is a bigger killer than outdoor air pollution in India with the recent global burden of diseases report listing the former as second biggest killer and latter as fifth largest. Around 1.3 million people died of indoor air pollution in 2010 whereas death because of outdoor air pollution was around 6.20 lakh. Indoor air pollution is second biggest killer after high blood pressure in India⁵.



While launching the scheme in Ballia, PM Narendra had said, *“This is a Government for the poor. Whatever we will do, will be for the poor.”* PMUY aims to fulfill the concept of *“Antyodaya”* (serving the last person in the queue) coined by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya as the poor and downtrodden of the country have at last started getting their dues. After 3 years of Modi Government at the Centre, people are realizing that this Government’s agenda of *“Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas”* is not merely an election rhetoric but an inclusive mission to transform the lives of 125 crore Indians.

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3 http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_highlights.html (Houselisting and Housing Census Data Highlights, 2011) (last visited on 24th May, 2017)
 4 <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/oMwnyidgzZD5RWdR7WbCVI/Women-using-polluting-cooking-fuel-more-prone-to-cataract-s.html> (last visited on 24th May, 2017)
 5 <http://www.hindustantimes.com/delhi-news/indoor-air-pollution-kills-a-million-people-every-year-in-india/story-c5PMwJBiTLqSnkxJoysJ.html> (last visited on 24th May, 2017)



अनंत विजय

मोदी सरकार के तीन साल, कहाँ है विपक्ष ?

पारंपरिक आंकलन के मुताबिक किसी भी सरकार के लिए तीन साल के बाद जनता के मोहभंग का काल होता है और विपक्ष उसका ही फायदा उठाते हुए अपनी राजनीति करता है। सत्ता में अपनी वापसी की जुगत लगाता है। पर, इस वक्त पारंपरिक राजनीति को नरेन्द्र मोदी का मजबूत नेतृत्व और बीजेपी अध्यक्ष अमित शाह की अकाट्य रणनीति ने नकार दिया है। एक के बाद एक विधानसभा चुनाव में बीजेपी की जीत से पार्टी के हौसले बुलंद हैं और विपक्ष के हौसले पस्त हैं।

केंद्र में नरेन्द्र मोदी की अगुवाई वाली एनडीए सरकार के तीन साल पूरे हो रहे हैं। सरकार के उठाए गए कदमों के बारे में सब जगह चर्चा हो रही है, लेकिन स्वस्थ लोकतंत्र में बगैर विपक्ष के बारे में बात किए कोई चर्चा पूरी नहीं होती है। आज जब सरकार ने तीन साल पूरे कर लिए हैं और प्रधानमंत्री की लोकप्रियता में लगातार इजाफा हो रहा है, तब विपक्ष के बारे में, उसकी नीतियों और कार्यक्रमों के बारे में विचार करना और जरूरी हो गया है।

पारंपरिक आंकलन के मुताबिक किसी भी सरकार के लिए तीन साल के बाद जनता के मोहभंग का काल होता है और विपक्ष उसका ही फायदा उठाते हुए अपनी राजनीति करता है। सत्ता में अपनी वापसी की जुगत लगाता है। पर, इस वक्त पारंपरिक राजनीति को नरेन्द्र मोदी का मजबूत नेतृत्व और बीजेपी अध्यक्ष अमित शाह की अकाट्य रणनीति ने नकार दिया है। एक के बाद एक विधानसभा चुनाव में बीजेपी की जीत से पार्टी के हौसले बुलंद हैं और विपक्ष के हौसले पस्त हैं। प्रमुख विपक्षी दल अपने नेतृत्व की क्षमताओं से जूझ रहा है और अन्य क्षेत्रीय दलों के नेताओं की अपनी अपनी महात्वाकांक्षाएं हैं।

इस वक्त अगर देखें तो कांग्रेस में भ्रम की स्थिति बनी हुई है; पार्टी ये तय नहीं कर पा रही है कि पश्चिम बंगाल में वो सीपीएम का साथ छोड़कर तृणमूल कांग्रेस का हाथ पकड़े या फिर सीपीएम के साथ बनी रहे। तृणमूल कांग्रेस के साथ जाने को लेकर कांग्रेस की राज्य इकाई में विरोध के स्वर उठ रहे हैं। बंगाल में पार्टी के सबसे मजबूत नेताओं में से एक अधीर रंजन

चौधरी ने एक तरह से बगावत के संकेत दे ही दिए हैं। ममता बनर्जी भी कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष से मिल रही हैं, लेकिन कांग्रेस के नेता मानस भुइया को अपनी पार्टी से राज्यसभा का उम्मीदवार बनाने का एलान कर पार्टी को झटका भी दे रही हैं।



कांग्रेस पार्टी में कई स्वयंभू नेता अलग-अलग तरीके का बयान देकर पार्टी की मिट्टी पलीद करने में लगे हैं। तीन तलाक के मुद्दे पर कपिल सिब्बल ने जिस तरह से राम का नाम उछाला उसने कांग्रेस की छवि को खासा नुकसान पहुंचाया। कांग्रेस को अब ये समझने की जरूरत है कि अल्पसंख्यक तुष्टीकरण का दौर अब लगभग खत्म हो चला है।

भारतीय संविधान सबको समान अवसर की बात करता है। ऐसा लगता है कि कांग्रेस के नेता संविधान की प्रस्तावना को भी भुला बैठे हैं। दूसरे राहुल गांधी के अध्यक्ष बनने को लेकर जिस तरह से सालों से भ्रम बना हुआ

है, उसने भी पार्टी के नेताओं के बीच कंप्यूजन की स्थिति पैदा कर दी है। और



जब नेता ही कंप्यूज रहेंगे तो पार्टी का तो भगवान ही मालिक है।

दूसरी तरफ अगर हम क्षेत्रीय दलों की बात करें तो बिहार में सत्ता में सहयोगी लालू यादव और नीतीश कुमार के बीच सबकुछ ठीक चल रहा है, ऐसा विश्वास के साथ कहना मुमकिन नहीं है। जब लालू यादव के ठिकानों पर छापा पड़ा तो जिस तरह से बीजेपी को नए सहयोगी के लिए लालू ने मुबारकबाद दिया, उससे साफ है कि गठबंधन मजबूरी में चल रहा है। नीतीश और लालू यादव स्वाभाविक सहयोगी नहीं हैं, बल्कि सत्ता के लिए साथ हैं। जैसे ही नीतीश कुमार को यह लगेगा कि लालू के बगैर भी उनका काम चल सकता है, वो फैसला लेने में एक मिनट की देरी नहीं लगाएंगे।

अखिलेश यादव और मायावती अपनी-अपनी पार्टी की समस्याओं से जूझ रहे हैं। मायावती के सामने पार्टी को बचाने का संकट तो है ही, उनके भाई पर अकूत संपत्ति जमा करने का भी आरोप लगा है। अखिलेश के सामने शिवपाल की चुनौती तो है ही, योगी आदित्यनाथ की सरकार तमाम तरह के



जांच के आदेश भी दे रही है।

अब बचते हैं, नवीन पटनायक। नवीन बाबू को भी बीजेपी से कड़ी टक्कर मिलने की उम्मीद है और उनको तय करना है कि वो विपक्षी दलों

की एकता में शामिल हों या नहीं। राष्ट्रवाद के इस दौर में फारूख अब्दुल्ला जिस तरह की बयानबाजी कर रहे हैं, उसमें उनकी पार्टी नेशनल कांग्रेस जिस दल या गठबंधन के साथ जाएगी उसको नुकसान हो सकता है। हरियाणा में चौटाला की पार्टी भी बिखरी हुई है, क्योंकि पिता पुत्र दोनों जेल में हैं।

दरअसल विपक्षी एकता की कोशिश कर रहे दलों के बीच भी विश्वास की भारी कमी है। अगर हम दक्षिण के राज्यों की बात करें तो एआईएडीएमके और वाईएसआर कांग्रेस तो बीजेपी के साथ होने को बेताब है। ले देकर बचती है सीपीआई और सीपीएम। सीपीआई का कोई जनाधार बचा नहीं है और सीपीएम भी आंतरिक कलह से जूझ रही है। पार्टी में सीताराम येचुरी को राज्यसभा में तीसरी बार भेजने को लेकर करात गुट और सीता गुट खुलकर



आमने सामने आ गए हैं।

बंगाल सीपीएम ने खुलकर येचुरी को राज्यसभा का तीसरा टर्म देने का प्रस्ताव पोलित ब्यूरो को भेज दिया है। करात गुट ने येचुरी को राज्यसभा में जाने से रोकने के लिए तीन चार तर्क दिए जिसे बंगाल यूनिट ने खारिज कर दिया। अब छह और सात जून की पोलित ब्यूरो की बैठक में इसपर फैसला होना है। सीपीएम को बंगाल से राज्यसभा की इस सीट को जीतने के लिए कांग्रेस की मदद चाहिए होगी।

राजनीति में हमेशा दो और दो चार नहीं होता है। उसी तरह से अगर देखें तो इन दिनों येचुरी विपक्षी एकता को लेकर सोनिया गांधी से कई बार मिल चुके हैं। कुछ लोग इस सक्रियता को राज्यसभा चुनाव में कांग्रेस के समर्थन से जोड़कर भी देख रहे हैं। अगर समग्रता में विपक्ष के हालत पर विचार करें तो यह स्वस्थ लोकतंत्र के लिए अच्छा संकेत नहीं है, लेकिन लोकतंत्र में सबकुछ जनता पर निर्भर करता है और जनता इस वक्त मोदी सरकार के कामकाज से खुश है, क्योंकि विपक्ष कोई विकल्प पेश करने में नाकाम रहा है।

(लेखक वरिष्ठ पत्रकार एवं स्तंभकार हैं। ये उनके निजी विचार हैं।)



Praful Shankar

Modi Is Not Indira, Indira Was Not Modi

One of the side effects of the stranglehold of the intellectual Congress-Left alliance over the narratives of post-Independence India is that the reference points for most analysis of our nation's recent history has come to be centered around the Congress party and the Nehru-Gandhi family. Rarely do political pundits venture outside these confines in their deliberations and even the few who do, tend to only look back as far as the Mughal dynasty.

Perhaps it is because of this reason that when confronted with the expanding base of the BJP and the pan-India popularity of the Prime Minister that the commentators have chosen to – almost instinctively – draw comparisons to the premiership of the late Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Howsoever superficial such associations may be, it is not difficult to see the motivations behind them. Both the Prime Minister and Mrs Gandhi are seen as charismatic mass leaders with powerful personalities and a no-nonsense attitude. There is also the subtle subtext in the implied correlation which comes with such comparisons- that the inclination of Mrs Gandhi to exert full control over her party and the country led to her declaring the Emergency and that if the electorate is not careful, history might be repeated with the current Prime Minister as well.

In fact, this is a theme around which the Opposition has looked to build their counter-narrative for the next general election. And while the irony of a Gandhi-led Congress shedding crocodile tears in the name of supposed dictatorships is not lost on most, it is more than likely that come the summer of 2019, one can expect the usual bout of fear mongering around

‘minority freedoms’ and ‘one man rule’ from the usual suspects.

Such a characterization – like most of the chatterati's presumptions about the Prime Minister – is more fiction than fact and representative of wishful thinking on the part of its narrators than an argument with any sort of factual merit.

As any unbiased political mind will be able to see, PM Modi and former PM Indira Gandhi are cut from very different cloths.

First let us consider the most obvious difference – that of their respective rise to the top of the political order.

The divergences could not be starker – Mrs Gandhi was born into one of India's wealthiest and leading political families while PM Modi hails from an ordinary home in Vadnagar.

During most of Mrs Gandhi's early political career, her father was India's Prime Minister and exerted immeasurable personal influence across the nation, even beyond the political domain. And while she did face political opposition when she tried to take control of the party, it cannot be denied that being the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru enabled her to almost inherit the Congress machinery and legacy from her father.

By comparison, when Narendra Modi started off as a swayamsevak in the RSS, the post of the Prime Minister would have been farthest from his mind. And even after his entry into the political arena; his rise to India's premiership was preceded by years of struggle – first as a normal party worker and later as the Chief Minister of Gujarat.

The differences can be seen to be even more striking once one studies their actions post their respective rise to PM's chair.

While the Indira Gandhi's premiership did certainly have its own moments of glory, it cannot be denied that it was under her leadership that the Congress began its steep descent into the corrupt and dynasty-centered entity it is today – a far cry from the towering institution it was during the freedom struggle.

As Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi systematically broke down her own party's internal democracy – pushing mass leaders, whom she saw as potential rivals, into the margins. Simultaneously, she anointed her son as her political successor and in doing so, she cemented the culture of dynastic succession in the party and killed the hope of any sort of meritocracy in the Congress forever.

Additionally, by handpicking her relatives and lackeys for key positions in both party and government, she became the fountainhead of state-sponsored systematic, cronyism in both government and private enterprise – a tragedy from which the nation is still struggling to recover.

Her desire for complete control along with her penchant for placing family over country finally resulted in the Emergency – the blackest period in post-Independent India, during which she dealt deadly blows to most of India's institutions from the Presidency to the judiciary and the press.

Now contrast this with the approach of the current Prime Minister – far from breaking down the organizational strength of his political party, he has only worked to strengthen it through the remarkably ambitious and efficient leadership of the BJP's current President and the Prime Minister's longtime collaborator, Shri Amit Shah.

Similarly, there has been no Congress-style High Command culture in the appointment of people to key posts as well. The Prime Minister's personal charisma had played a critical role in the success the BJP has

achieved in UP, Jharkand, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand and Haryana.

Yet, none of the Chief Ministers selected for the states are seen to be airdropped from Delhi. Rather, BJP CMs have been encouraged and supported to cultivate mass bases of their own and strengthen their local units – a stark contrast from what is seen on the other side where a hugely popular Capt Amarinder Singh had to threaten to leave the Congress in order to be able to wrest control of the Punjab Congress from the Gandhi dynasty's preferred CM candidate.

This spirit of divesting both power and responsibility has been reflected in the dealings of the NDA government as well. By first giving States a larger percentage of tax revenues and then through the successful legislation of the GST Bill, the Prime Minister has stayed true to his pre-election commitment of strengthening the federal structure of India's governance and divesting more power from the Center to the States.

Now compare this to Mrs Gandhi's decision to nationalize India's banks or her penchant for harassing and dismissing opposition-led state governments and one will get a truer picture of the varying style of the two leaders.

The propagators of such comparisons would do well to consider that the Prime Minister's ideological foundations are much different from their own. In the framing of his vision of a 'New India' and his dealings in matters of defense, trade and foreign policy, PM Modi has shown that his inspirations for leadership and service lie elsewhere – far away from the 'en vogue, socialist' heroes of Lutyens Delhi and much closer to the icons of Bharat's Indic heritage.

(The author is a keen observer of Indian politics and writes regularly on contemporary issues)



Brig Anil Gupta

3Year of Modi Sarkar

Kashmir Cauldron: Who stoked the fire

The Modi government has taken a very major decision and that is to find a permanent and lasting solution to the vexed J&K issue, as announced by the Home Minister. It will be pre-mature to celebrate, because it is not going to happen so soon, but the decision needs to be hailed. J&K is very dear to the heart of Modi government. It is the birthplace of the political ideology of the Party. The Party believes that the accession of the state with India and its integration with the rest of the country is non-negotiable. It wants the state to return to its pristine glory. However, cynics continue to criticise and question the decision of the government. Some of them have gone to the extent of demanding a road map and outline of the government's strategy to find permanent and enduring solution. They know that Rajnath Singh is not a green horn politician nor is he naïve enough to spill the beans beforehand. The cynics are always nitpicking, it is so annoying for the public. There is another extreme viewpoint propagated none other than the mother-son duo of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty. Both of them in different words have blamed the Modi government for the Kashmir turmoil. I do not think that they both are oblivious of history and do not know the real culprits of the mess in which Kashmir is today. They are only trying to mislead the public for gaining political brownies in the belief that the memory of Indian public is very short lived. The duo fully well knows that none other than the founder of their dynasty Jawahar Lal Nehru and his descendants Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and the Congress Party are responsible for creation of the so-called 'Kashmir Problem' and they are the ones who stoked the fire and kept the pot boiling which has led to the current situation in Kashmir. Let me highlight certain glaring

acts of the dynasty and the Congress Party for the benefit of the readers and the duo.

The history would have been different had Nehru not rejected the Maharaja's offer to accede to the Indian Union in September 1947. Despite knowing fully well the communal mindset of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, Nehru patronised him and insisted on he being made the Prime Minister before the accession which was not acceptable to the Maharaja. What followed thereafter is well known to the readers. Contrary to the advice given by the then Home Minister, Sardar Patel, Nehru unilaterally took the decision to go to United Nations Organisation (UNO) and thus internationalised the dispute between two neighbours. UNO under the influence of Anglo-American axis passed a resolution under Chapter 6 of the UN Charter (which is non-enforceable) and failed to ensure that Pakistan vacates the occupied territories of J&K. When the Indian Army was well poised to force The Pak Army to withdraw and liberate the entire state, Nehru once again agreed to a unilateral ceasefire. Thus the territory acceded by the Maharaja to the Indian Dominion was divided into two parts. India also lost the control of the strategic Gilgit.

Nehru did not stop here. He kept questioning the state's accession and referring to plebiscite in Kashmir both at home and abroad, thus sowing a seed of doubt in the mind of common Kashmiri who had fought the Pak aggression voluntarily alongside the Indian Army. Nehru kept his eyes closed to the machinations of Sheikh Abdullah who had mastered the art of stoking Kashmiri sentiments on communal lines and speak in different tone and language in Delhi & Jammu.

In his broadcast to the nation over All India

Radio on 2nd November, 1947, Pandit Nehru said, “We are anxious not to finalise anything in a moment of crisis and without the fullest opportunity to be given to the people of Kashmir to have their say. It is for them ultimately to decide ----- And let me make it clear that it has been our policy that where there is a dispute about the accession of a state to either Dominion, the accession must be made by the people of that state. It is in accordance with this policy that we have added a proviso to the Instrument of Accession of Kashmir.” This statement of Nehru was against the spirit and content of Indian Independence Act 1947 which gave absolute power of decision to the ruler and not the people of the state. If Nehru did not recognise the 1947 Act then why did he and the Congress party agree to the partition of the country?

In his press-conference in London on 16th January, 1951, Pandit Nehru stated, “India has repeatedly offered to work with the United Nations reasonable safeguards to enable the people of Kashmir to express their will and is always ready to do so. We have always right from the beginning accepted the idea of the Kashmir people deciding their fate by referendum or plebiscite. In fact, this was our proposal long before the United Nations came into the picture.”

As reported by Amrita Bazar Patrika, Calcutta, on 2nd January, 1952, while replying to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee’s question in the Indian Legislature as to what the Congress Government is going to do about one third of territory still held by Pakistan, Pandit Nehru said, “is not the property of either India or Pakistan. It belongs to the Kashmiri people. When Kashmir acceded to India, we made it clear to the leaders of the Kashmiri people that we would ultimately abide by the verdict of their Plebiscite. If they tell us to walk out, I would have no hesitation in quitting. We have taken the issue to United Nations and given our word of honour for a peaceful solution. As a great nation we cannot go back on it. We have left the question for final solution to the people of Kashmir and we are determined to abide by their decision.”

Nehru continued to complicate the issue by making statements and promises which he failed to fulfil. He also conceded to the insistence of Sheikh and his four member team to not to join the Constituent Assembly of India but to negotiate a special status for

the status from outside, a move which was strongly objected by Babasaheb Ambedkar, Sardar Patel and host of all other nationalist leaders. This led to inclusion of Article 370 in the Constitution. Nehru was also instrumental in adding Article 35A to the Constitution through a Presidential Ordinance. The list is endless. Nehru did not support the Praja Parishad movement in Jammu which was launched against the special status of the state. This resulted in widening the rift between the two regions of the state.

Indira-Sheikh Accord 1975 which paved the way for return to the state of discredited Sheikh Abdullah, who came with a vengeance and continued with his discriminatory policies leading to further rift between the two regions. Sheikh was succeeded by his son Farooq Abdullah, a one-time member of JKL in London. Continuing the dynastic tradition he also signed an agreement with Rajiv Gandhi. The manipulated elections of 1987, with the support of Congress Party, annoyed the vast sections of Kashmiris who decided to take to arms resulting in formation of HizbulMujahid. Farooq deserted at the crucial movement in 1989 leading to massacre of Kashmiri Pandits and their mass exodus from Valley. It started a new phase of armed militancy which soon turned into Pak –sponsored proxy war and cross-border terrorism. Wahabi influence began to grow at a rapid pace. But the Congress governments in the Centre kept their eyes closed to the happenings in Kashmir. Hawala money came in unabated, mosques and Madarsas mushroomed, forced exodus of minorities to change the demography of Valley was allowed without any interference from the Congress led Central government. Pan-Islamic agenda to shift the boundary between Jammu and Kashmir regions from traditional Pir Panjal to North of Chenab was facilitated by NC-Congress combine in the state. Interlocutors were appointed but their report was not even studied by the then Home Minister Chidambaram. I leave it for the readers to decide if what the mother-son duo has said is correct.

Modi government is working sincerely towards finding a lasting solution. The first and foremost priority is to bring normalcy back to Kashmir and cleanse South Kashmir from the clutches of terrorists. The government has addressed the issue by squeezing the terror funding and minimising Pak Army backed

infiltration of terrorists from Pakistan. The Army has been given a free hand to ensure dominance of the IB and LOC. To teach Pakistan a lesson the strategy has been revised from reactive retaliatory response to proactive, punitive actions with delegation of authority to field commanders. The Congress policy of buying temporary peace through appeasement has been fully suspended. NIA is vigorously pursuing the terror funding cases. Lot of big fish is likely to be netted. Counter-infiltration grid has been strengthened with additional manpower and high-tech gadgetry. The strategy of anti-terror operations has also been changed to include Cordon & Search, Seek & Destroy and Search & Destroy Operations. The results are very encouraging. Once the normalcy is restored the political process

is likely to commence that should involve the stake holders from Jammu and Ladakh as well. Any lasting and enduring solution to the vexed J&K issue has to be acceptable to all three regions of the State. “Jammu, Kashmir aur Ladakh-Sab Khush Sabhi Khushaal” is the nation’s expectation from Modi Sarkar.

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Shubhendu Anand

Interview

With

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Director of the Centre for Policy Studies,
(CPS), New Delhi

Madhya Pradesh has created history by posting the highest ever agricultural growth rate. As per the figures for year 2013-14 released by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO), Madhya Pradesh has registered a 24.99 per cent agricultural growth rate. This includes animal husbandry sector too. Notably, Madhya Pradesh enjoys an enviable distinction of being bestowed the prestigious Krishi Karman Award by the Government of India for the last two years in a row in recognition of its outstanding performance in agriculture sector. This rate was 20.16 per cent in year 2012-13 and 19.85 per cent in year 2011-12 in the State.

Noted demographer and social scientist **Dr. J.K. Bajaj** Director of the Centre for Policy Studies, (CPS), New Delhi, who has done an extensive research on the improvement of agricultural status of Madhya Pradesh in past 10-12 years, talks about his research and observation in this interview with **Shubhendu Anand**.

What made you choose Madhya Pradesh as the state for your research over other Indian states?

Madhya Pradesh is a predominantly agricultural state. It is the foremost state in the production of pulses and oilseeds and contributes one-fourth of the national production of these. It also contributes one-fifth of the total production of cereals. In the production of gram and soybean, the state is far ahead of others; as much as 40 percent of the national production of gram and 60 percent of soybean comes from here. The state has a share of 20 percent in the national production of masur as well.

Madhya Pradesh has seen extraordinary

transformation in agriculture in the last 10-12 years. Agriculture there was growing slowly even in the earlier period, but the period of around 2002 was actually a period of great decline in agriculture in the state. After 2002, the kind of change in all parameters of agriculture that we have seen is extraordinary. When you look at the graphs, they look spectacular; one feels indeed round to see the way the area under cultivation, the area under irrigation and the production of different crops have gone up.

Madhya Pradesh seems to have undergone a green revolution in the last 10-12 years. The state is said to have skipped the first green revolution and for long it was being said that Madhya Pradesh needs to go

through such a revolution. The state was experiencing some slow growth of agriculture, except for a few years at the beginning of the last decade when there was a precipitous decline. But there was no revolution. Finally we have seen a revolutionary growth of agriculture in Madhya Pradesh.

What have been your research findings? Could you please throw some light on it?

Madhya Pradesh is one of the more important agricultural states in the country. In the state, nearly 70 percent of the workers are engaged in agriculture. Only in Chhattisgarh and Bihar, the percentage of workers in agriculture is larger than that of Madhya Pradesh. On an all India basis this number is declining. In Madhya Pradesh, agriculture contributes 22 percent of the State Domestic Product (SDP); which is low compared to the proportion of workers involved in this sector but compared to the all-India average it is very high. At the all-India level only around 12 percent of GDP comes from agriculture. During the last ten years, the share of agriculture in GSDP has been declining in every state except in Madhya Pradesh, where it has remained more or less steady at 22 percent. And that is an indication of the kind of growth that is taking place in the field of agriculture in Madhya Pradesh.

Over these 10 years, the proportion of workers in agriculture has somewhat declined, which means that the average worker in agriculture is actually doing better. While everywhere the economic status of workers engaged in agriculture is declining, it seems that in Madhya Pradesh their status is actually improving. You can see this if you go to villages of Madhya Pradesh. You hear people saying that their situation has improved. It is very rare in India to hear the agricultural rural people expressing satisfaction at their situation. Much of the prosperity that you see in Madhya Pradesh is because of the improvement in the agricultural sector in the state. Improvements in agriculture have led to corresponding improvements in trade, manufacture and services, thus spreading prosperity all around.

Could you please share some significant data with us?

The following is the comparison of different parameters of agricultural development in the state. The numbers are triennial averages for the years mentioned:

<i>Year</i>	<i>2000-2003</i>	<i>2009-2012</i>
Gross Cropped Area	18 million hectare	22 million hectare
Gross Irrigated Area	4.5 million hectare	7.3 million hectare
Production of Wheat	5.5 million tonne	10.9 million tonne
Production of Gram	1.9 million tonne	2.8 million tonne
Production of Soybean	3.3 million tonne	6.4 million tonne

In the data above, you see that the production of several crops has almost doubled. This is largely due to the increase in gross irrigated area. This kind of sharp change in agriculture is what forms the basis of prosperity in an agrarian society. The increase in gross cropped area means the farmers are doing intense agriculture. Instead of one crop, they are now harvesting two crops from the same piece of land. And that's largely because of irrigation. The more irrigation you provide the more production of crops you get.

Because of the increase in production of wheat, per capita annual production of wheat in the state has increased to nearly 150 kg in 2009-2012 from 85 kg in 2000-2003.

There is no other state that has transformed agriculture so drastically.

What have been your findings in the allied sectors of agriculture?

The horticulture sector is also growing in Madhya Pradesh at 10% per annum. At present, the horticulture area covers 6% of the total sown area. Milk production has gone up from 5.28 million tonne (2001-02) to 8.84 million tonne (2012-13). Fish production has also gone up from 47,457 tonne (2001-02) to 85,235 tonne (2012-13). It went up further to 96,257 tonne in the year 2013-14.

Do you think it is justified to call Madhya Pradesh a 'BIMARU' state anymore?

Madhya Pradesh can't be called a BIMARU state anymore. In any case that is a very bad acronym and we should never have used this term to describe the heartland states of India. In the case of Madhya Pradesh,

I strongly feel that in this process of improvement of agriculture, there should not be any slackening. If the state keeps the same trend of growth in agriculture for next 10-15 years, Madhya Pradesh would become one of the more prosperous states in the country.

What are your suggestions to the state government following your research?

I feel that the great work being done in agriculture and irrigation should be continued. I am not saying that there should not be focus on trade and manufacturing, but nothing should be done at the cost of agriculture. Because agricultural prosperity is what becomes the bedrock for prosperity in trade, manufacture and services also.

The steps taken by the Madhya Pradesh government in improving the agricultural status and irrigation in the state should be talked about. So much is being done in that state, but hardly anything is being

talked about. Only a few know about this miracle that is happening in Madhya Pradesh. Let us celebrate the miracle, it shall give us the strength and encouragement to continue in the same direction.

Dr. Bajaj has compiled and edited a comprehensive Agricultural Atlas of Madhya Pradesh. The Atlas, to be jointly published by the Centre for Policy Studies and the Madhya Pradesh Council for Science and Technology is in press. Interview by Shubhendu Anand, a graduate of Tata Institute of Social Sciences and currently a student of law at University of Delhi and a Research Associate at SMPRF.

Shubhendu Anand is a law graduate and Senior Research Associate with SMPRF.

भारतीय जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष श्री अमित शाह द्वारा प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में केंद्र की भाजपा सरकार के तीन वर्ष पूरे होने के उपलक्ष्य में आयोजित प्रेस कांफ्रेंस में दिए गए उद्बोधन के मुख्य बिंदु:



■ प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में केंद्र की भारतीय जनता पार्टी सरकार ने इन तीन वर्षों में कई क्षेत्रों में असाधारण काम करके मील का पत्थर स्थापित किया है और एक महान भारत की नींव डालने का काम किया है।

■ लोकतंत्र में सरकार के कामकाज का सबसे बड़ा पैमाना जनानदेश होता है। 2014 में प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में केंद्र में भाजपा सरकार बनने के बाद देश में हुए सभी चुनावों में भारतीय जनता पार्टी ने अपने जनाधार को बढ़ाया है और ज्यादातर चुनावों में विजय प्राप्त की है।

■ देश की जनता यह मानती है कि मोदी सरकार गरीबों की सरकार है, देश के गौरव को बढ़ाने वाली सरकार है, पारदर्शी व निर्णायक सरकार है। देश की जनता मानती है कि श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी आजादी के बाद देश के सबसे लोकप्रिय लोकनेता बन कर उभरे हैं।

■ इन तीन सालों में देश की जनता का आत्मविश्वास बढ़ाने, दुनिया में देश की प्रतिष्ठा व मान-सम्मान में वृद्धि करने और देश की सोच के स्केल को बदलने में प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी सफल हुए हैं।

■ इन तीन वर्षों में देश की राजनीति से परिवारवाद, जातिवाद और तुष्टीकरण के अभिशाप को खत्म करने का काम हुआ है जो देश की राजनीति के लिए एक शुभ संकेत है।

■ आजादी के 70 सालों में जो चीजें हम अचीव नहीं कर पाए, मोदी सरकार ने इन तीन वर्षों में इसे अचीव किया है, इसलिए हमने तीन साल के पूरे होने पर अपने लोकसंपर्क अभियान का नारा बनाया है - साथ है, विश्वास है, हो रहा विकास है।

■ प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में केंद्र की भारतीय जनता पार्टी सरकार एक निर्णायक सरकार है, त्वरित फैसले लेने वाली सरकार है और

योजनाओं को समाज के अंतिम व्यक्ति तक पहुंचाने वाली सरकार है।

■ प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में केंद्र की भारतीय जनता पार्टी सरकार ने सभी दलों को साथ लाकर जीएसटी के माध्यम से 'एक राष्ट्र, एक कर' के स्वप्न को साकार करके दिखाया है जो एक बहुत बड़ी उपलब्धि है।

■ सर्जिकल स्ट्राइक करके सेना के जवानों ने जो वीरता दिखाई और प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने जिस राजनीतिक दृढ़ राजनीतिक इच्छाशक्ति का परिचय दिया, उससे भारत दुनिया में एक मजबूत राष्ट्र के रूप में प्रतिष्ठित हुआ है।

■ स्टार्ट-अप इंडिया, स्टैंड-अप इंडिया, स्किल इंडिया और मुद्रा योजना के माध्यम से देश भर में लगभग 8 करोड़ लोगों को रोजगार उपलब्ध कराया गया है।

■ आजादी के 70 साल बाद भी बिजली से वंचित देश के 18 हजार गाँवों में से लगभग 13 हजार से अधिक गाँवों में बिजली पहुंचाने का कार्य पूरा कर लिया गया है, बाकी बचे गाँवों में भी 2018 तक बिजली पहुंचाने का काम पूरा कर लिया जाएगा।

■ प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में भारत आज दुनिया में सबसे तेज गति से आगे बढ़ने वाली अर्थव्यवस्था है, महंगाई काबू में है, विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार अपने रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर है, सेंसेक्स 31000 को पार कर गई है, निफ्टी भी अपने उच्चतम स्तर पर है।

■ सार्वजनिक जीवन में शुचिता लाने के लिए और चुनावी राजनीति में से काले-धन के दुष्प्रभाव को निरस्त करने के लिए केश में लिए जाने वाले चंदे की रकम को दो हजार रुपये तक सीमित करने का साहस भी नरेन्द्र मोदी सरकार ने किया है।

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A Discussion on

ए न्यू इण्डिया: विचारधारा से विकास

at D.P.A. Auditorium, Lucknow University



SPMRF hosted Regional Writer's Meet, Kolkata Chapter at West Bengal on 29th April, 2017



SPMRF hosted Regional Writer's Meet, Kolkata Chapter at West Bengal on 29th April, 2017



स्मृति-शेष :

ऋषि परंपरा के उत्तराधिकारी थे अनिल माधव दवे

● संजय द्विवेदी

नैनं छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नैनं दहति पावकः ।
न चैनं क्लेदयन्त्यापो न शोषयति मारुतः ॥

श्री अनिल माधव दवे

6 जुलाई 1956 - 18 मई 2017

श्रद्धांजलि



कें द्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री अनिल माधव दवे, देश के उन चुनिंदा राजनेताओं में थे, जिनमें एक बौद्धिक गुरुत्वाकर्षण मौजूद था। उन्हें देखने, सुनने और सुनते रहने का मन होता था। पानी पर्यावरण, नदी और राष्ट्र के भविष्य से जुड़े सवालों पर उनमें गहरी अंतर्दृष्टि मौजूद थी। उनके साथ नदी महोत्सवों, विश्व हिंदी सम्मेलन-भोपाल, अंतरराष्ट्रीय विचार महाकुंभ-उज्जैन सहित कई आयोजनों में काम करने का मौका मिला। उनकी विलक्षणता के आसपास होना कठिन था।

वे एक ऐसे कठिन समय में हमें छोड़कर चले गए, जब देश को उनकी जरूरत सबसे ज्यादा थी। आज जब राजनीति में बौने कद के लोगों की बन आई तब वे एक आदमकद राजनेता-सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता के नाते हमारे बीच उन सवालों पर अलख जगा रहे थे, जो राजनीति के लिए वोट बैंक नहीं बनाते। वे ही ऐसे थे जो जिंदगी के, प्रकृति के सवालों को मुख्यधारा की

राजनीति का हिस्सा बना सकते थे।

भोपाल में जिन दिनों हम पढ़ाई करने आए तो वे राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ के प्रचारक थे; विचार को लेकर स्पष्टता, दृढ़ता और गहराई के बावजूद उनमें जड़ता नहीं थी। वे उदारमना, बौद्धिक संवाद में रूचि रखने वाले, नए ढंग से सोचने वाले और जीवन को बहुत व्यवस्थित ढंग से जीने वाले व्यक्ति थे। उनके आसपास एक ऐसा आभामंडल स्वतः बन जाता था कि उनसे सीखने की ललक होती थी।

नए विषयों को पढ़ना, सीखना और उन्हें अपने विचार परिवार (संघ परिवार) के विमर्श का हिस्सा बनाना, उन्हें महत्वपूर्ण बनाता था। वे परंपरा के पथ पर भी आधुनिक ढंग से सोचते थे। उन्होंने अपना संपूर्ण जीवन अविवाहित रहकर समाज को समर्पित कर दिया। वे सच्चे अर्थों में भारत की ऋषि परंपरा के उत्तराधिकारी थे। संघ की शाखा लगाने से लेकर हवाई जहाज

उड़ाने तक वे हर काम में सिद्धहस्त थे। 6 जुलाई, 1956 को मध्यप्रदेश के उज्जैन जिले के बड़नगर में जन्में श्री दवे की मां का नाम पुष्पादेवी और पिता का नाम माधव दवे था।

गहरा सौंदर्यबोध और सादगी

उनकी सादगी में भी एक सौंदर्यबोध परिलक्षित होता था। बांद्राभान (होशंगाबाद) में जब वे अंतरराष्ट्रीय नदी महोत्सव का आयोजन करते थे, तो कई बार अपने विद्यार्थियों के साथ वहां जाना होता था। इतने भव्य कार्यक्रम की एक-एक चीज पर उनकी नजर होती थी। यही विलक्षणता तब दिखाई दी, जब वे भोपाल में हुए विश्व हिंदी सम्मेलन में इसे स्थापित करते दिखे। आयोजनों की भव्यता के साथ सादगी और एक अलग वातावरण रचना उनसे सीखा जा सकता था।

सही मायने में उनके आसपास की सादगी में भी एक गहरा सौंदर्यबोध छिपा होता था। वे एक साथ कितनी चीजों को साधते हैं, यह उनके पास होकर ही जाना जा सकता था। हम भाग्यशाली थे कि हमें उनके साथ एक नहीं अनेक आयोजनों में उनकी संगठनपुरुष की छवि, सौंदर्यबोध, भाषणकला, प्रेरित करनी वाली जिजीविषा के दर्शन हुए। विचार के प्रति अविचल आस्था, गहरी वैचारिकता, सांस्कृतिक बोध के साथ वे विविध अनुभवों को करके देखने वालों में थे।

शौकिया पर्यटन ने उनके व्यक्तित्व को गढ़ा था। वे मुद्दों पर जिस अधिकार से अपनी बात रखते थे, वह बताती थी कि वे किस तरह विषय के साथ गहरे जुड़े हुए हैं। उनका कृतित्व और जीवन पर्यावरण, नदी संरक्षण, स्वदेशी के युगानुकूल प्रयोगों को समर्पित था। वे स्वदेशी और पर्यावरण की बात कहते नहीं, करके दिखाते थे। उनके मेगा इवेंट्स में तांबे के लोटे, मिट्टी के घड़े, कुल्हड़ से लेकर भोजन के लिए पत्तलें इस्तेमाल होती थीं। आयोजनों में आवास के लिए उनके द्वारा बनाई गयी कुटिया में देश के दिग्गज भी आकर रहते थे। हर आयोजन में नवाचार करके उन्होंने सबको सिखाया कि कैसे परंपरा के साथ आधुनिकता को साधा जा सकता है। राजनीति में होकर भी वे इतने मोर्चों पर सक्रिय थे कि ताज्जुब होता था।

कुशल संगठक और रणनीतिकार

वे एक कुशल संगठनकर्ता होने के साथ चुनाव रणनीति में नई प्रविधियों के साथ उतरने के जानकार थे। भाजपा में जो कुछ कुशल चुनाव संचालक हैं, रणनीतिकार हैं, वे उनमें एक थे। किसी राजनेता की छवि को किस तरह जनता के बीच स्थापित करते हुए अनूकूल परिणाम लाना, यह मध्यप्रदेश के कई चुनावों में वे करते रहे।

दिविजय सिंह के दस वर्ष के शासनकाल के बाद उमा भारती के नेतृत्व में लड़े गए विधानसभा चुनाव और उसमें अनिल माधव दवे की

भूमिका को याद करें तो उनकी कुशलता एक मानक की तरह सामने आएगी। वे ही ऐसे थे जो मध्यप्रदेश में उमा भारती से लेकर शिवराज सिंह चौहान सबको साध सकते थे। सबको साथ लेकर चलना और साधारण कार्यकर्ता से भी, बड़े से बड़े काम करवा लेने की उनकी क्षमता मध्य प्रदेश ने बार-बार देखी और परखी थी।

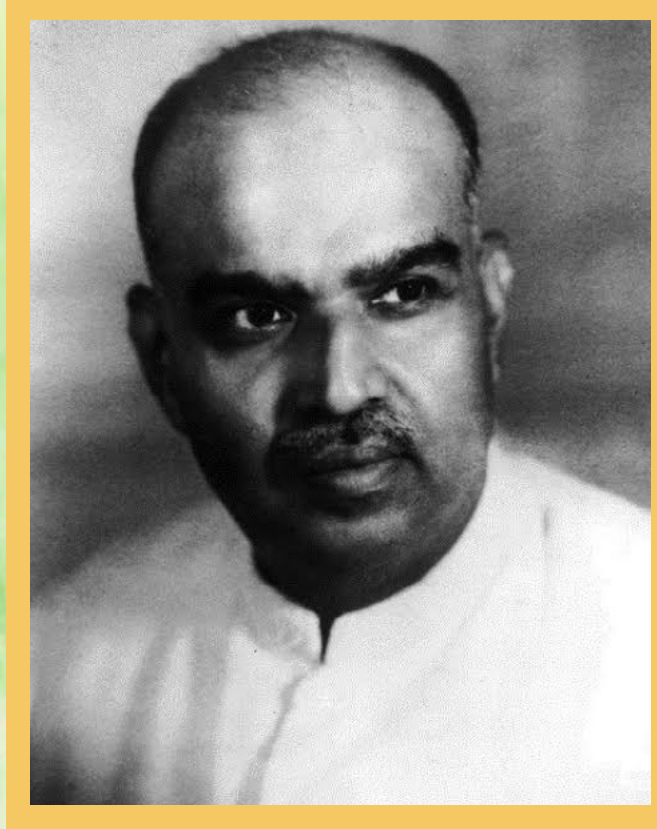
बौद्धिकता-लेखन और संवाद से बनाई जगह

उनके लेखन में गहरी प्रामाणिकता, शोध और प्रस्तुति का सौंदर्य दिखता है। लिखने को कुछ भी लिखना उनके स्वभाव में नहीं था। वे शिवाजी एंड सुराज, क्रिएशन टू क्रिमेशन, रैफिटिंग थ्रू ए सिविलाइजेशन, ए ट्रेवलॉग, शताब्दी के पांच काले पन्ने, संभल के रहना अपने घर में छुपे हुए गद्दारों से, महानायक चंद्रशेखर आजाद, रोटी और कमल की कहानी, समग्र ग्राम विकास, अमरकंटक से अमरकंटक तक, बेयांड कोपेनहेगन, यस आई कैन, सो कैन वी जैसी पुस्तकों के माध्यम से अपनी बौद्धिक क्षमताओं से लोगों को परिचित कराते हैं।

अनछुए और उपेक्षित विषयों पर गहन चिंतन कर वे उसे लोक-विमर्श का हिस्सा बना देते थे। आज मध्यप्रदेश में नदी संरक्षण को लेकर जो चिंता सरकार के स्तर पर दिखती है, उसके बीज कहीं न कहीं दवे जी ने ही डाले हैं, इसे कहने में संकोच नहीं करना चाहिए। वे नदी, पर्यावरण, जलवायु परिवर्तन, ग्राम विकास जैसे सवाल पर सोचने वाले राजनेता थे। नर्मदा समग्र संगठन के माध्यम से उनके काम हम सबके सामने हैं। नर्मदा समग्र का जो कार्यालय उन्होंने बनाया, उसका नाम भी उन्होंने 'नदी का घर' रखा।

वे अपने पूरे जीवन में हमें नदियों से, प्रकृति से, पहाड़ों से संवाद का तरीका सिखाते रहे। प्रकृति से संवाद दरअसल उनका एक प्रिय विषय था। दुनिया भर में होने वाली पर्यावरण से संबंधित संगोष्ठियों और सम्मेलनों में वे 'भारत' (इंडिया नहीं) के एक अनिवार्य प्रतिनिधि थे। उनकी वाणी में भारत का आत्मविश्वास और सांस्कृतिक चेतना का निरंतर प्रवाह दिखता था। एक ऐसे समय में जब बाजारवाद हमारे सिर चढ़कर नाच रहा है, प्रकृति और पर्यावरण के समक्ष रोज संकट बढ़ता जा रहा है, हमारी नदियां और जलश्रोत-मानव रचित संकटों से बदहाल हैं, अनिल दवे की याद बहुत स्वाभाविक और मार्मिक हो उठती है।

(लेखक माखनलाल चतुर्वेदी राष्ट्रीय पत्रकारिता एवं संचार विश्वविद्यालय, भोपाल में जनसंचार विभाग के अध्यक्ष हैं। ये उनके निजी विचार हैं।)



“The gigantic task of reconstruction, cultural, social, economic and political can be rendered possible through coordinated 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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