

ANTAR RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD BULLETIN

Monthly Newsletter of Indian Council for International Co-operation

Vol. 32 No. 3

MARCH, 2019

(16 Pages including Cover)

THE BOER WAR



The reader has seen in the previous chapters (last issue of Bulletin) what was the condition of the Indians in South Africa at the outbreak of the Boer War and what were the steps taken so far in order to ameliorate it.

In 1899, Dr. Jameson carried out his raid on Johannesburg in pursuance of the conspiracy which he had entered into with the owners of the gold mines. The conspirators had expected that the Boer Government would come to know of the raid only after they captured Johannesburg. Dr. Jameson and his associates badly blundered in this calculation of theirs. They fell into another error when they imagined that even in a case of the plot being discovered, untrained Boer farmers could do nothing against sharpshooters trained in Rhodesia. The raiders had likewise expected that a large majority of the population of Johannesburg would receive them with open arms. Here too the good Doctor was reckoning without his host. President Kruger had full information beforehand. With great deliberation, skill and secrecy he made preparations to meet Dr. Jameson and simultaneously arranged to arrest his fellow conspirators. Dr. Jameson,

therefore, was greeted by the Boers with gunfire before he had reached anywhere near Johannesburg. The Doctor's party was in no position to try conclusions with the army which faced them. Arrangements were similarly complete for preventing a rising in Johannesburg. None dared raise their heads and the millionaires of Johannesburg were dumbfounded in consequence of President Kruger's action. The result of his excellent preparations was that the raid was disposed of with a minimum of loss in men as well as money.

Dr. Jameson and his friends, the owners of gold mines, were arrested and placed on their trial without delay. Some were sentenced to be hanged. Most of these convicts were millionaires; but the Imperial Government could do nothing for them, as they were guilty of a raid in broad daylight. President Kruger became an important man all at once. Mr. Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, sent a humble cablegram to him, and appealed to his sense of mercy on behalf of the convicted magnates. President Kruger was perfect master of his own game. He had no apprehension of his independence being challenged by any power in South Africa. The conspiracy of Dr. Jameson and his friends was a well-planned affair in their own eyes, but to President Kruger it seemed to be an act of insensate folly. He therefore complied with Mr. Chamberlain's humble request and not only did not enforce the sentence of death against any of



✍ M. K. Gandhi

the convicts but granted them all full pardon and set them free. But things could not go on like this for any length of time. President Kruger knew that the Jameson raid was only a minor symptom of a serious malady. It was impossible that the millionaires of Johannesburg should not endeavour to wipe out their disgrace by all means in their power. Again, nothing had been done to carry out the reforms for which the Jameson raid purported to have been organized. The millionaires, therefore, were not likely to hold their peace. Lord Milner, the British High Commissioner in South Africa, had full sympathy with their demands. Mr. Chamberlain, too, while expressing his appreciation of President Kruger's magnanimity towards the Jameson raiders, had drawn his attention to the necessity for reforms. Everyone believed that an appeal to the sword was inevitable. The demands of the Uitlanders were



calculated in the end to extinguish Boer domination in the Transvaal. Both the parties were aware that the ultimate result would be war, and both were therefore preparing for it. The war of words which ensued was worthy of note. When President Kruger ordered out arms and ammunition, the British Agent warned him that the British would be compelled to bring troops into South Africa in self-defence. When British troops arrived in South Africa, President Kruger taunted the British and pushed forwards his preparations for war. Thus each side was protesting against the other's activities and strengthening its own preparations.

When President Kruger had completed his preparations, he saw

that to delay any longer was to play into the hands of his enemies. The British had an inexhaustible supply of men and money. They could, therefore, afford to bide their time, gradually preparing for war and in the meantime ask President Kruger to redress the grievances of Uitlanders, and thus show to the world that they could not help waging war as he refused to grant redress. Then they would enter the war with such grand preparations that the Boers could not stand the shock and would have to accept British demands in a spirit of humiliation. Every Boer man between eighteen and sixty years in age was a skilled fighter. Boer women, too, were capable of fighting if they chose. National independence had with the Boers all the force of a religious principle. Such a brave people would not suffer humiliation even at the hands of a world empire. President Kruger had already arrived at an understanding with the Orange Free State. Both the Boer republics followed an identical policy. President Kruger had not the slightest intention of accepting the British demands whether in full or even to the extent of satisfying the Uitlanders. Both the republics, therefore, thought that war being inevitable, for them to give any more time to the British was only to give them a chance of advancing their preparations. President Kruger thereupon delivered an ultimatum to Lord Milner, and at the same time mobilized troops on the frontiers of the Transvaal as well as the Free State. The result of such action was a foregone conclusion. A world empire like the British would not take a threat lying down. The time limit laid down in the ultimatum expired and Boers, advancing with lightning speed, laid siege to Ladysmith, Kimberley and Mafeking. This great war thus broke out in 1899. The reader will remember that one of the causes of the war alleged by the British was the treatment accorded to the Indians by the Boers.

The great question, as to what the Indians in South Africa should do on

this occasion, now presented itself for solutions. Among the Boers, the entire male population joined the war. Lawyers gave up their practice, farmers their farms, traders their trade and servants left their service. The British in South Africa did not join the war in anything like the same proportion as the Boers. However, a large number of civilians in Cape Colony, Natal and Rhodesia enrolled themselves as volunteers. Many distinguished English traders and lawyers followed suit. I now found very few lawyers in the court where I was practicing as an advocate. Most of the senior members of the bar were engaged in war work. One of the charges laid against the Indians was, that they went to South Africa only for money-grubbing and were merely a deadweight upon the British. Like worms which settle inside wood and eat it up hollow, the Indians were in South Africa only to fatten themselves upon them. The Indians would not render them the slightest aid if the country was invaded or if their homes were raided. The British in such a case would have not only to defend themselves against the enemy but at the same time to protect the Indians. We Indians carefully considered this Charge. All of us felt that this was a golden opportunity for us to prove that it was baseless. But on the other hand the following considerations were also urged by some:

"The British oppress us equally with the Boers. If we are subjected to hardships in the Transvaal, we are not very much better off in Natal or the Cape Colony. The difference, if any, is only one of the degree. Again we are more or less a community of slaves; knowing as we do that a small nation like the Boers is fighting for its very existence, why should we be instrumental in their destruction? Finally, from a practical point of view, no one will take it upon himself to predict a defeat for the Boers. And if they win, they will never fail to wreak vengeance upon us." □

(To be continued)

A.R.S.P. Bulletin

A NEWS & VIEWS MONTHLY
Published Since 1987

Editor

Keshav G. Parande
(M): 98113 92777

Printer

Avon Printers

D-6, Ranjit Nagar Comm. Complex,
New Delhi-110008
(M): 93123 05230
E-mail: a1printers@gmail.com

Publisher

Keshav G. Parande
Pravasi Bhawan
50, Deendayal Upadhyay Marg,
New Delhi-110002
(M): 98113 92777

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Website

www.arspindia.org

Price

Rs. 5/- per copy
Rs. 500/- for Life

DR. CHEDDI JAGAN : My FATHER

Nadira Cheddi Jagan

(This Article is being published on completion of birth centenary of Dr. Cheddi Jagan, former President of Republic of Guyana)

My father's parents came to Guyana as children of indentured immigrants from India in 1901. His journey from Port Mourant, a small rural village in the eastern part of Guyana, to become the first freely elected President of Guyana, until his return to Port Mourant where he was cremated, spanned over half a century. During that period, he did what few men have done in their lifetime: he committed himself to a single goal of freedom for his country and people and never wavered.



(22 March, 1918 - 03 March, 1997)

He was a man of the people. In Guyana he is called the **Father of the Nation**. In many ways his struggles and his accomplishments are so intertwined with the history of his country that sometimes it is difficult to study one without the other.

In his autobiographical work "The West on Trial" Dr. Jagan wrote how during his student days in the USA, Mahatma Gandhi's great struggle influenced his life. *"Because I had a good memory and wanted good grades, I specialized in the exact natural sciences. Outside these subjects, all that interested me were the writings of Mahatma Gandhi on the Indian question; at that time, India was in the forefront of the struggle for Independence. Our heroes Lenin, Gandhi and King taught me how to change Guyana and inspired me to struggle."*

Dr. Cheddi Jagan, was known for many things: As a radical politician, a revolutionary, a statesman, a visionary, a prolific writer, a commanding and eloquent orator, and a man of vision. Dr. Jagan was also a grassroots leader and educator; he was able to break down the complexities of the modern world in simple language for his grassroots supporters to understand. He was above all a humanitarian - genuinely devoted to the cause of liberating mankind from poverty and exploitation.

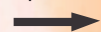
For myself and our family he was also the warm-hearted son, brother, husband, father and grandfather. I am very proud to have had such a wonderful father. He was a warm and loving, kind and sometimes stern parent. Although he was a very busy person, he made time to spend quality time with my brother and me. My

mother Janet Jagan wrote this about him: *"As a family man, he was a role model. He did his best to give his 5 brothers and 5 sisters an education. He was a loving son to his mother and father, helping them as they had helped him. To his own children he was a caring father - a hero. He enjoyed being a grandfather and had fun with them, as well as guiding them. I recall how he would cut fruit for them and encourage them to eat local foods and not so many sweets. As a husband, he*

was understanding and demonstrated his genuine belief in the equality of women."

Perhaps, one of the most remarkable aspects of Cheddi Jagan's life was his consistent struggle for justice, never compromising his beliefs and always advocating equality, unity and struggle. Unlike many before him and after, he never sold out the people. He was first of all, an honest man, a man of genuine integrity, and it is these values which made him unique in the realms of leadership. Even those who disliked him the most, never doubted his honesty or his intentions. In his whole lifetime there was never a shadow cast by any doubt of his integrity.

He certainly ranks among the most brilliant and progressive thinkers of our times. He was able to reshape the





political and ideological landscape of Guyana in a way no other politician succeeded in doing.

He was instrumental in leading the assault against the colonial authorities to grant constitutional changes which ultimately led to universal adult suffrage. He led the struggle for independence to Guyana and even though independence was denied him by the colonial power, there could be no doubt that it was he who blazed the independence trail by voicing Guyana's case at the United Nations and spurring the Guyanese people around the idea of a free and independent Guyana. He fought for democracy after it was taken away from the Guyanese people by the PNC regime. He fought for debt relief and debt rescheduling which he saw as a yoke around the necks of people in the developing world. And in the later period of his life, he championed the cause of a New Global Human Order which was endorsed by the UN General Assembly.

In his fifty years of struggles, Cheddi Jagan travelled and mingled with the highest and the lowest - he dined with Kings and Presidents and also felt comfortable at the table of the humblest worker. He was a humble man of no pretensions. He could have been a rich professional, but he chose another path. He was disinterested in the material things of this life.

Today as we celebrate his life and times, it is necessary for us to focus on his main contributions to Guyana, those aspects of his legacy, which will live on and inspire others to follow in his footsteps. First he was a man

committed to his country and people. His goal in life was to bring freedom and equality and prosperity to the Guyanese people. He believed in national liberation, a staunch fighter in the fight against colonialism, and an internationalist, joining the fight against injustice and poverty all over the world.

The Cheddi Jagan Research Centre is located at Red House in Georgetown, Guyana – Dr. Jagan's residence from 1961-1964 while he was Premier of British Guiana. The Centre houses his archives - his writings and speeches; a photographic exhibition of his life and his role in the struggle for Independence and the restoration of democracy in Guyana. We run a web site on the Internet – Cheddi Jagan Research Centre (www.jagan.org). We offer a close up view of the work that Dr. and Mrs. Jagan did over the period of their entire lives, by allowing you an insight into many articles and speeches never before published. To commemorate Dr. Jagan's 100th Birth Anniversary, in March 2018 we included a database allowing easy access to the documents located at the Centre. There you also will have a chance to watch videos and to listen to audio tapes of his speeches on different issues. With over five decades of historical information pertaining to the history of Guyana to sort through, we continue to develop and expand our website. I invite you to visit us in Guyana or online at www.jagan.org

I want to thank the organizers of this lecture and hope that in the coming years we will see many reflective studies and discussions on the life and

times of Cheddi Jagan. This is a wonderful and profound way to remember him.

In closing I would like to read you a quote made by my father in 1964:” *I first wanted to be a doctor. Didn't want to be merely a specialist and craftsman and cure individual aches and ills. I wanted to cure the ills of society. I want to know that I have served humanity as a human being. All of us want recognition - I am not interested in recognition conferred on the basis of my bankroll. When I would have passed away, I would like it to be recorded that Jagan did his bit in the service of humanity.*

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The Global Cultural Order and Bharat

✍ Dr. Ruchi Verma

On 11th of March 2019, Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (Indian Council for International Co-operation) (ARSP) hosted a round table discussion on The Global Cultural Order and Bharat. The chief guest of the programme was Shri Saumitra Gokhale, a pracharak of HSS (Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh) in Caribbean countries, Canada and the United States of America.

Shri Shyam Parande, the Secretary General of ARSP introduced the chief guest and gave the opening remarks. In his remarks he emphasised on the immense role that Indian diaspora had played in the making of a nation. India's culture is its biggest asset. The diaspora has been prominently involved in spreading this culture in all corners of the world which has forms the basis of soft power.

Shri Gokhale while initiating the discussion echoed that global cultural order atleast for the past few centuries was western dominant culture, reason was obviously colonialism. But now that hegemonical binds are breaking. He extended the point of soft power. There are two types of power- Hard and Soft. Hard power constitutes of economic growth and military. However, soft power as defined by Joseph Nye is the ability of a country to persuade others to do what it wants without force or coercion.

In India, after independence there is a steady growth in the hard power of the country. But still there is a huge gap if it is contrasted in the world scenario as India constitutes the 16 percent of total population but constitutes only 4.5 percent of the world GDP. Though the trends are going upward and India is showing steady upward movement in each and every human Index. However, India's soft power was always the influential one. Ideas

coming from India had tremendous attractiveness to the other countries.

A history of changing settlements and political power, India's culture was shaped by centuries of adaptation, re-creation and co-existence. The cultural heritage of India finds expression in the ideas, practices, beliefs and values shared by communities across long stretches of time, and form part of the collective memory of the nation. India's physical, ethnic and linguistic variety is as staggering as its cultural pluralism, which exists in a framework of interconnectedness. When Swami Vivekananda went to Chicago in 1893 for the Parliament of World's Religions, his ideologies and thoughts based on the Indian culture got the outstanding welcome and recognition. Swami Vivekananda observed that India had contributed so much to the world.

Underlying the diversity of India's culture is the continuity of its civilization from the earliest times to the present and of the later additions by different influences. In some instances, its cultural heritage is expressed as pan-Indian traditions not confined to a particular locality, genre or category, but as multiple forms, levels and versions inter-linked yet independent from one another.

In modern times the ideas of Indian culture is having a great influence in the other parts of globe. Indian cultural elements like Yoga, Ayurveda, Sanskrit language, food and other, people are turning towards them. Many countries like Argentina, Peru, Chile, and Venezuela have great respect and regards for India. World is now moving towards a holistic approach. So, the ideas in regard of spiritualism, imbibed in the long history of India's tradition and culture,

are gaining prime importance. Not only in the field of spirituality and culture but in other fields also like in business, medical these ideas are circulating.

Recognition of Yoga by United Nations, recognition and demand of Indian CEO in the global companies, increasing demand for Ayurveda practitioners from India are some of the examples to show the importance of India's culture influence across the globe. Entire world is very intrigued how in spite of so much diversity, it is coexisting so peacefully. To see the holistic view is the uniqueness of India. Harmony is the key idea for this peaceful coexistence. He also emphasized the role of Indian diaspora. He echoed just as India is growing, diaspora is also growing. By this growth of Indian diaspora the interactions with the world will increase, so the importance of Indian values will increase.

Prof. Shashibala, Joint Secretary of ARSP and Dean of Bhartiya Vidhya Bhawan, extended the discussion by sharing her own thoughts and experiences. She emphasized on family values, Indian traditions, food habits and also focuses on emerging trends. Amb. Virendra Gupta, President of ARSP in his concluding remarks said that earlier the messages of Indian culture were confined to very few people but now there is wider outreach. Globalisation has rapidly changed the culture but due to these inherent values of culture, India has been able to create a space for itself. Apart from the superficial effects provided by cinema and other, how one can see the inner strengths of Indian values, it certainly requires a serious introspect in one's own ways. □

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE REJECTS UK'S CLAIM OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER CHAGOS ISLANDS

✍ Anil Goel

In a major victory for Mauritius, the UK has been ordered by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to hand back the Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean to Mauritius "as rapidly as possible". The 13 to one majority decision came after the United Nations' highest court ruled that continued British occupation of the remote Indian Ocean archipelago is illegal. The only judge dissenting from the main opinion was an American.



A protester outside the Houses of Parliament in London. (Photograph: Andrew Winning/Reuters)

The Chagos archipelago, home to the military base of Diego Garcia on lease to the United States, is half way between Madagascar and Kanyakumari. The Chagos Archipelago or Chagos Islands (formerly the Bassas de Chagas, and later the Oil Islands) are a group of seven atolls comprising more than 60 individual tropical islands in the Indian Ocean about 500 kilometres south of the Maldives archipelago. This chain of islands is the southernmost archipelago of the Chagos-Laccadive Ridge, a long submarine mountain range in the Indian Ocean.

UK used secret threats to keep Chagos Islands, court hears

Although the majority decision by the international court of justice in The Hague is only advisory, the unambiguous clarity of the judges' pronouncement is a humiliating blow to Britain's prestige on the world stage.

The case was referred to the court, which hears legal submissions over international boundary disputes, after an overwhelming vote in 2017 in the UN assembly in the face of fierce opposition from a largely isolated UK.

Delivering judgment, the president of the ICJ, Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, said the detachment of the Chagos archipelago in 1965 from Mauritius had not been based on a "free and

genuine expression of the people concerned". "This continued administration constitutes a wrongful act," he added. "The UK has an obligation to bring to an end its administration of the Chagos archipelago as rapidly as possible and that all member states must cooperate with the United Nations to complete the decolonization of Mauritius."

The UK retained possession of the Chagos archipelago, which includes the strategic US airbase of Diego Garcia, after Mauritius gained its independence in 1968, effectively paying Mauritius more than £4m for the islands.

The British government refers to it as British Indian Ocean Territory or BIOT. About 1,500 native islanders were deported so the largest island could be leased to the US for the airbase in 1971. These natives have never been allowed to return home.

In its submission to the ICJ last year, Mauritius argued it was coerced into giving up the Chagos Islands. That separation was in breach of UN resolution 1514, passed in 1960, which specifically banned the breakup of colonies before independence, lawyers for Mauritius said. The UK government argued that the court did not have jurisdiction to hear the case. The ruling will be referred back to the

UN general assembly, where it will be debated. The assembly vote in 2017, following the Brexit referendum, revealed the UK's international influence to be on the wane, with many EU countries failing to support a fellow member state and even traditional allies such as Canada abstaining.

A British Foreign Office spokesperson said: "This is an advisory opinion, not a judgment. Of course, we will look at the detail of it carefully.

The defence facilities on the British Indian Ocean Territory help to protect people here in Britain and around the world from terrorist threats, organised crime and piracy." Welcoming the ruling, the Mauritian government said it was a "historic moment in efforts to bring colonialism to an end, and to promote human rights, self-determination and the international rule of law".

Mauritius's prime minister, Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, said: "Our territorial integrity will now be made complete, and when that occurs, the Chagossians and their descendants will finally be able to return home."

Namira Negm, legal counsel of the African Union, which played an important role in the proceedings, said: "It is unthinkable that today, in the 21st century, there is a part of Africa that still remains subject to European colonial rule.

David Snoxell, coordinator of the all-party parliamentary group in the Chagos Islands, said: "This is a searing indictment of the UK detachment of the Chagos archipelago from Mauritius in 1965 and its subsequent defence of that action. The UN general assembly must now decide what to do about this post-colonial legacy, including the human rights of the Chagos Islanders. □

Goodwill DELEGATION FROM TRINIDAD VISITS PRAVASI BHAWAN

Dr. Ruchi Verma

Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP) hosted a 22 members delegation from Trinidad and Tobago on 7th March, 2019 at Pravasi Bhawan. The programme was organized under the aegis of Diaspora Research & Resource Centre (DRRC). The delegation was on a 15 days pilgrimage and cultural tour of India.



Trinidadian Delegates Interact with ARSP Members

Know Your Roots etc.

Shri Abhay Agrawal and Shri Mukesh Aggarwal gave information about the medical facilities available in India and assured the support of PIO Chamber of Commerce & Industry to members interested in doing business with India. Shri Amit Gupta spoke about the emerging opportunities

Welcoming the delegates, the Chairman of DRRC Amb. Anup Mudgal briefed them about the philosophy and activities of ARSP and DRRC. He mentioned about the warm and cordial relations between India and Trinidad & Tobago. He spoke about the growing power of India and suggested that the 32 million Indian Diaspora can benefit from its engagement with rising India. He said that DRRC has been set up by ARSP to establish a qualitative relationship with the diaspora.

Speaking about the global financial and social positioning of the Indian diaspora settled in over 100 countries, he said that the Indian diaspora has performed exceedingly well in all aspects of political, social, economic and technological fields. A conservative estimate puts their total net-worth at around one and a half trillion dollars.

Most of the delegates from Trinidad and Tobago were visiting India for the first time and were very emotional.

They wished to connect with 'Bharat Mata' and start a fruitful and interactive relationship. They expressed the desire to learn Indian classical music and dance. They spoke about the popularity of Indian cinema, music and Indian dresses in Trinidad & Tobago.

The delegates expressed concern over the rising influence of western culture among Indo-Trinidadian youth and the need to connect the youth with Indian thought and culture. One of the delegates spoke about the dual identity issue of Indo-Trinidadians. Other queries pertained to medical tourism and spiritual tourism.

Responding to the queries and views of the delegates Prof Gopal Arora informed that the Indian government has introduced many schemes to encourage engagement of diaspora youth with Mother India. He mentioned about various schemes like ICCR scholarships, Know India Programme (KIP), Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC),

in India in the field of commerce and business.

One of the delegates raised the issue of Brain Drain in Trinidad & Tobago and said that many young Trinidadians move to USA and Europe in search of better opportunities and this has resulted in lack of trained manpower in Trinidad. He wanted to know how India is dealing with this problem. Prof. Amba Pande of JNU said that the Brain Drain is now being seen as Brain circulation as many professionals return to India after working abroad. Amb. Rajesh Sachdeva said that the problem of Brain Drain affects smaller countries, possibly due to lack of opportunities. India is a big country and therefore professionals find good opportunities in India. He also mentioned that Indians working abroad remit around 70 billion dollars every year to India.

The delegates were very happy to interact with ARSP members as expressed the desire to continue their relationship with ARSP. □

53rd Know India Programme (KIP): Youth Engagement



From L to R- Stacy Hinds, N. Ramprasad, David G. Pollard, Shyam Parande, Anup Mudgal, Yogesh Punja and Smt. Padmaja

On 15th of February 2019 (Friday) at the Pravasi Bhawan, Diaspora Research and Resource Centre (DRRC) – Antar- Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP) hosted an interactive session for the 40 participants of 53rd KIP batch, from Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Mauritius, Portugal, Sri Lanka, South Africa, and Fiji.

The head of the DRRC provided a detailed briefing to the batch on contemporary developments in India and also the latest on the diasporas activities and performances. The batch was also informed about the programme and outcomes of the last Pravasi Bhartiya Divas, which had a special focus on youth and technology. The participants recalled that the Indian diaspora, thanks to their hard work, creativity, emphasis on higher education and adaptability had emerged as one of the most vibrant diasporas anywhere in the world. The batch was also informed about some latest facts about diaspora and their achievements.

Currently there are 33 million members of Indian diaspora settled in close to 100 countries. They have performed exceedingly well in all

aspects of political, social, economic and technology fields. The beauty of Indian migration both inward and outward was its diversity.

There was also a workshop conducted by a representative of Vision India Foundation on the theme 'Engaging with Youth' in which several



KIP Delegates & Members of ARSP

developmental issues relating to India and contributions of youth were discussed. The participants were provided with the details of the available channels for their engagement with the relevant organisations in India. They were also informed about the opportunities available for diaspora youth in India for higher education through ICCR scholarships, short term capacity building programme under the ITEC,

the KIP facility and the government of India scheme for finding roots by the members of the diaspora.

Head of the missions from Fiji, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago were also present during the programme. They briefed the participants especially from their respective countries about the strengths of Indian economy, higher education, technology and the democratic institutions. They told the participants that during the KIP attachment, they can learn a lot about the way the Indian developmental processes were being carried out with significant opportunities and challenges. Some of these experiences would also be very useful in their own countries and societies. They added that initiatives such as

KIP, help the youth to gain exposure and knowledge. It helps the PIO's youth to connect with their roots and get exposure about the Indian way of life. This is a great opportunity to engage and connect with India.

During the interactive session the participants provided their views about India based on their various attachments and also raised some issues for seeking clarification. The



essence of this discussion is summarised as under:

The participants were quite impressed with their visit not only to reconnect with their roots but also to witness what India had achieved in various spheres of socio, economic and political developments. They said that they felt proud of these achievements, especially the economic growth, higher education, technology and management of a complex and pluralistic democracy. They felt in spite of a major difference in the scale at which India and their countries operate, they were going back with rich experiences and lessons learnt for better addressing some of their own socio economic challenges.

Some participants felt that while economic growth is laudable

objective, there was a need to pay greater attention to sustainability and cleaner means of progress. They were a bit shocked at the level of pollution. However they were given the detailed briefing about the reasons for the high pollution level in the cities as also the steps being taken by the government for addressing this problem. They were informed about such initiative as Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, cleaning of rivers, solar alliance and the series of other steps.

Some members expressed doubts and queries about the OCI entitlements and provisions and they were provided relevant information. They requested that the procedures and requirements for enabling documentation should be further simplified as in the giritiya societies; it was not easy to obtain documents of

origins. They also wanted more facilities and support for tracing their roots. They were informed about the GOI schemes and support offered by various states in this regard. However they felt that there was a greater need for handholding by the authorities for addressing this emotionally sensitive need.

The participants appreciated the efforts of DRRC not only for their outreach initiatives but also for their campaign for creating an online database of diaspora organisations in India and abroad. They were also happy to learn that DRRC would support in publications of research and other articles by diaspora authors and youth.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks and high tea.

Form IV (See Rule-8)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Place of Publication | : | New Delhi |
| 2. Periodicity of Publication | : | Monthly |
| 3. Printer & Publisher's Name | : | Keshav G. Parande |
| 4. Whether citizen of Indian | : | Indian |
| Address | : | 'Pravasi Bhawan', 50, Deendayal
Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi-110 002 |
| 5. Editor's Name | : | Keshav G. Parande |
| Whether citizen of Indian | : | Indian |
| Address | : | 'Pravasi Bhawan', 50, Deendayal
Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi-110 002 |
| 6. Name and address of the | : | Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad |
| individuals who own the | : | 'Pravasi Bhawan', 50, |
| newspaper and are | : | Deendayal Upadhyaya |
| partner or share-holders | : | Marg, New Delhi-110 002 |

I, Keshav G. Parande, on behalf of the Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, declare, that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

March 10, 2019

sd/-
(Keshav G. Parande)

PM Modi CONFERRED with SEOUL PEACE PRIZE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with the Seoul Peace Prize for 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth. The award will be presented to Modi by the Seoul Peace Prize Foundation at a mutually convenient time.

The Seoul Peace Prize was established in 1990 to commemorate the success of the 24th Olympic Games held in Seoul. The award was established to crystallise Korean people's yearning for peace on the Korean peninsula and in the rest of the world.

While conferring the award on Modi, the award committee recognised his



PM Narendra Modi receives Peace Prize from Seoul Peace Prize Foundation, South Korea

contribution to the growth of Indian and global economies, crediting 'Modinomics' for reducing social and economic disparity between the rich

and the poor. The committee lauded Modi's initiatives to make the government cleaner through anti corruption measures and demonetisation. The committee also credited him for his contribution toward regional and global peace through a proactive policy with countries around the world under the 'Modi doctrine' and the act east policy.

He is the 14th recipient of the award and the past laureates included former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and renowned international relief organizations like Doctors Without Borders and Oxfam. □

INDIAN-AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGIST ANNEETH KAUR HUNDLE NAMED SIKH STUDIES ENDOWED CHAIR AT UC IRVINE

Anneeth Kaur Hundle has been named the Dhan Kaur Sahota Presidential Chair in Sikh Studies at the university's School of Social Sciences. The \$2 million endowed chair-housed in the Department of Anthropology-was created in 2017 with a \$1.5 million gift from Drs. Harvinder and Asha Sahota and \$500,000 from the UC Presidential match for Endowed Chairs programmes.



"I'm excited to have the opportunity to build on my existing expertise and advance Sikh studies scholarly research in local, transnational and global contexts, and I look forward to promoting cross-religious-ethnic and racial community outreach and engagement via Sikh studies ad anthropology with this position," Hundle said. □

KISSY CHANDIRAMANI BECOMES THE FIRST HINDU DEPUTY IN SPAIN

Kissy Chandiramani, of the Popular Party, has taken office as a deputy for the constituency of Ceuta on 12th February, replacing Juan Bravo Baena, current Minister of finance, Industry and Energy of Andalusia. In addition, Chandiramani has sworn to abide by the Constitution in its first session of teh Plenary, acquiring in this way the full status of Deputy, as established in teh Rules of the Congress. □

PADMA LAKSHMI APPOINTED UNDP'S GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

United Nations: Indian-American television personality Padma Lakshmi has been appointed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as its newest Goodwill Ambassador, supporting the agency's fight against inequality and discrimination around the world.

In her new role, the Emmy-nominated television personality and award-



winning author will mobilise support for the Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on fighting inequality, discrimination and empowering the disenfranchised. Lakshmi was named the Goodwill Ambassador by UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner in a ceremony at the UNDP headquarters in the city. □

Amb. Sanjiv Arora is the New Secretary (OIA & CPV)

Senior Diplomat Sanjiv Arora took charge of Secretary Overseas Indian Affairs & Consular Passport and Visa (OIA & CPV) on February 1, 2019 in place of Amb. Dhyanshwar Mulayz. Ambassador Arora joined the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1984 and has served in various capacities at Headquarters and abroad. Before his last posting as Indian Ambassador to Lebanon, he served as Additional Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), New Delhi from October-December 2016, Ambassador to Qatar from August



Amb. Sanjiv Arora

2012-October 2016, and Consul General in Houston, Texas, USA from November 2008-July 2012. His first posting was in Egypt (1985-88) where he learnt Arabic. He has also served in Saudi Arabia (1988-1991), Germany (1994-1998), Sri Lanka (1999-2000) and the Czech Republic (2000-2003).

Mr. Sanjiv Arora was India's longest serving Ambassador to Qatar and was awarded the 'Sash of Merit' by HH the Emir of Qatar for his contribution to enhancing bilateral ties. □

Amb. Akhilesh Mishra Takes Charge as DG-ICCR

Amb. Akhilesh Mishra joined as Director General of Indian Council for Cultural Relations on 25th February, 2019. Mr. Mishra belongs to the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) which he joined in 1989. Before joining as Director General he was Ambassador of India, Maldives.

Mr. Mishra's previous assignments include: Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, heading the Northern Division dealing with India's relations with Nepal and Bhutan, Joint



Amb. Akhilesh Mishra

Secretary in charge of Multilateral Economic Relations Division; Deputy Chief of Mission in Kabul (Afghanistan); Deputy High Commissioner in Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania); Deputy Consul General in San Francisco (USA); Deputy Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi; and in different capacities in Indian Embassies in Kathmandu (Nepal); Rome (Italy) and Lima (Peru); Consul General of India in Toronto, Canada. □

DIPLOMATIC POSTINGS

Shri Pranay Kumar Verma (IFS:1994), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.**

Shri Sanjiv Kohli (IFS:1988), presently High Commissioner of India to New Zealand has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to the United Republic of Tanzania.**

Shri Muktesh Kumar Pardeshi (IFS:1991), presently Ambassador of

India to Mexico, has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to New Zealand.**

Dr. K. J. Srinivasa (IFS:2002), presently Consul General, Consulate General of India, Johannesburg, has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.**

Shri Rajeev Kumar (IFS: 2001), presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Senegal has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to the**

Republic of Mozambique.

Shri Viraj Singh (IFS: 1997), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Tajikistan.**

Ms. Ruchira Kamboj (IFS: 1987), presently High Commissioner of India to the Republic of South Africa has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Royal Kingdom of Bhutan.** □

The Royal Bhutanese Embassy Celebrates His Majesty The King's 39th Birth Anniversary

The Royal Bhutanese Embassy, New Delhi joined the nation in celebrating the 39th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty The King of Bhutan on 21 February 2019 at the Royal Bhutanese Embassy. About 300 Bhutanese including Bhutanese working in New Delhi and Bhutanese students studying in and around New Delhi participated in the celebrations. Shri Sudhakar Dalela, Joint Secretary (North) and Officials from the Northern Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India also joined the celebrations.



singing of the national anthem and presenting of the guard of honour by the Royal Bhutan Army personnel stationed at the Royal Bhutanese Embassy.

Guest at the celebrations addressed the gathering on the importance of the occasion. He said that this auspicious day has provided an opportunity for the Bhutanese people to pray for His Majesty The King's long life and offer our deep and humble gratitude for the selfless and priceless leadership with which His Majesty guides the destiny of our country and ensure its continued well-being and security. He also said that it is an opportunity for all Bhutanese to pledge with our body, speech and mind to serve the Tsa-wa-sum and work with greater dedication and commitment, each in our own way, to build an ever-brighter future for our country.

The celebration began at 0945 hrs with the hoisting of the national flag,

Ambassador V. Namgyel as the Chief



The program then moved to the celebration grounds, which began with the singing of the *Zhabten* for His Majesty The King and cake cutting ceremony. This was followed by cultural programs by the popular Bhutanese artists from the Film Association of Bhutan and Bhutanese students in and around New Delhi. Celebrations also included other entertainment and games competition among the participants.

The celebration concluded with all those present joining in the *Tashi Labey*. □

His Majesty The King Inaugurated The Fifth Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition

On 21 February 2019, His Majesty The King inaugurated the Fifth Royal Bhutan at the Tendrelthang in Samdrupjongkhar District. His Majesty The Fourth Druk Gyalpo and members of the Royal family also graced the exhibition. The Prime Minister, cabinet ministers, senior government officials and representatives of Samdrupjongkhar District, the ambassador of India to Bhutan and officials from the neighbouring Indian state of Assam also attended the inauguration ceremony.



This year's exhibition was dedicated to the 39th birth anniversary of His Majesty The King and was organised by a committee led by the Samdrupjongkhar *Thromde*. To commemorate the birth anniversary, the organisers offered birthday cakes,

while the members of the community from *Samdrupcholing* and *Jomotshangkha Drungkhag* put together a cultural performance to open the exhibition.

Ministry of agriculture, private nurseries, and the armed forces developed the gardens in the main exhibition centre. Besides the gardens, the exhibition had stalls displaying local artists' works and souvenirs, traditional medicine, tourism information booth and food courts run by entrepreneurs.





Unlike in the past, this year's exhibition was extended beyond the main exhibition centre to include the entire thromde (Municipal) areas, with the participation of the local community and businesses. The gardens developed outside of the main exhibition venue will remain as a permanent feature of the town, as one of the overarching objectives of the exhibition is to bring about a lasting transformation of living spaces. His Majesty granted over 1,700 saplings for the permanent gardens.

painted.

The flower exhibition ended on 27 February 2019 and over 17,000 people visited the exhibition.

The flower exhibition has transformed Samdrupjongkhar town into a beautiful garden with blooming flowers at the doorstep of every building and along the streets. The structures have also been freshly

transformed. The Royal Bhutan Flower Exhibition was initiated upon Royal Command in 2015, with the vision of fostering beautiful living spaces and promoting economic activity. □

□

THE 13TH BHUTAN-INDIA MEETING ON BORDER MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY

The 13th Bhutan-India meeting on Border Management and Security was held on 14 February 2019. The Bhutanese delegation was led by the Home Secretary, Sonam Tobgay and the Indian side was led by Indian Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba.



At the meeting, both sides reaffirmed its commitment to further strengthen the existing relationship.

along the border areas, the relevant agencies of both sides will continue to strengthen the existing mechanisms. Both sides expressed satisfaction on

the present mechanisms of information sharing and cross border coordination at all levels. Cross border crimes, improving coordination between the counterparts of the two countries, strengthening security arrangements and other mutual concerns were discussed. The next round of the meeting is scheduled to be held in India. □

The meeting noted that while the security situations have improved

DAYS TO REMEMBER

in April, 2019

April 02 : International Children's Book Day

(This day is the birthday of Hans Christian Anderson who is the author of many famous children's stories. Children are inspired to pick up a book and start reading. The aim is to increase children's access to books.)

April 05 : Amavasya ●

April 06 : International Day of sport for Development & Peace

(Sport builds up healthy body and mind. It brings people closer together, erase cultural, linguistic and geographic barriers and promoter personal integrity, fair play and honorable competition.)

April 07 : W.H.O. -World Health Day

(Each year, a theme is selected for World Health day that highlights an important area of public health concern in the world. In 2017 the theme is Depression.)

April 08 : International Roma Day

(The International Roma Day is a day to celebrate Romani Culture and raise awareness of the issues Romani people are facing. The day was officially declared in 1990 in Serock in the honour of the first major international meeting of Romani representatives in Chelsfield, London in April 1971.)

April 13 : Baisakhi

April 14 : Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti

April 19 : Purnima ●

April 21 : United Kingdom : Her majesty the Queen's Official birthday

April 22 : Mother Earth Day

(Earth and its ecosystems provide life and sustenance to everything. This day aims to raise awareness that we have a responsibility to promote harmony with nature.)

April 23 : World Books & Copyright Day

(This day which happens to be the birthday of William Shakespeare, is celebrated as a world-wide tribute to books and authors to encourage everyone to discover the pleasure of reading.)

April 26 : Tanzania- Union Day

April 26 : World Intellectual Property Day

(The term 'intellectual property' refers to the right of creative people to 'own' whatever they produce, such as literary or artistic works, short stories, novels, films which others should not copy. Intellectual property rights of others should be respected and not violated.)

April 27 : South Africa : Freedom Day

April 28 : Day of Safety

(The purpose of observing this day is to promote the prevention of accidents and diseases related to the workplace.)

April 30 : Netherlands : Queen's Birthday □

चीन में हिन्दी

पड़ोसी देश चीन में बच्चों का एक स्कूल ऐसा भी है, जहां हिन्दी पढ़ाई जा रही है। यह स्कूल शंघाई से सटे चच्यांग प्रांत के खछयाओ शहर में है। यह चीन में पहला और एकमात्र स्कूल है, जहां हिन्दी का अध्यापन हो रहा है। साल 2010 में स्थापित इस स्कूल में 2013 से हिन्दी पढ़ाने की शुरुआत हुई। स्कूल में हिन्दी सीखने के साथ-साथ बच्चों को भारत की संस्कृति और अन्य जानकारियों से भी अवगत करवाया जाता है। इसमें बच्चों को हिन्दी के अक्षर ज्ञान के अलावा हिन्दी लेखन में भी निपुण बनाया जा रहा है।

यह स्कूल एक उदाहरण है कि चीन में पिछले 40 सालों में कितना बदलाव आया है। खुले द्वार की नीति लागू होने से पहले यह देश पूरी दुनिया के लिए एक पहली था, बाहरी जगत चीन को संदेह भरी निगाहों से देखता था। न कोई चीनी कंपनी अन्य देशों में निवेश करती थी और न ही विदेशी कंपनियों को चीन में प्रवेश की इजाजत थी। इसी तरह, चीन में सिर्फ और सिर्फ चीनी (मैंडरिन) माध्यम के ही स्कूल थे। बस गिने-चुने विश्वविद्यालयों में हिन्दी सहित कुछ विदेशी भाषाओं के विभाग थे। उस दौर में शायद ही कोई इस बात की कल्पना कर सकता था कि चीन में इतनी आसानी से अंग्रेजी या अन्य विदेशी भाषा सीखने की छूट होगी। चीन लंबे अरसे तक अंग्रेजी से परहेज करता रहा है। लेकिन हाल के वर्षों में हुए तेज औद्योगिक विकास का नतीजा यह हुआ कि चीन में एक बड़ा मध्यवर्ग तैयार हो चुका है। चीनी लोग देश-दुनिया घूमने की चाहत रखते हैं, मौका मिलने पर विदेश भी जाते हैं। हालिया रिपोर्टों के मुताबिक, विश्व में सबसे अधिक खर्च करने वाले पर्यटक चीन के ही होते हैं। ऐसे में, उन्हें अंग्रेजी या दूसरी अन्य भाषा सीखने की जरूरत महसूस होती है।

चीन के लोग बाहरी सभ्यता, संस्कृति, फिल्मों आदि से प्रभावित दीखते हैं। उन्हें अब क्रिसमस, अंग्रेजी न्यू ईयर और हैलोवीन आदि मनाने से भी ऐतराज नहीं। बावजूद इसके कि चीन में ईसाई धर्म में विश्वास करने वालों की संख्या बहुत कम है। फिर भी क्रिसमस के दौरान चीनी मॉल, बाजार व संस्थान क्रिसमस के रंग में रंगे रहते हैं। यहां विदेशी फिल्में देखने का चलन भी बहुत है। बॉलीवुड की फिल्में लोगों द्वारा काफी पसंद की जाती हैं, क्योंकि आम चीनी लोगों की



शंघाई स्थित शाओशिंग विद्यालय परिसर



विदेशमंत्री सुशमा स्वराज के साथ शंघाई विश्वविद्यालय के हिन्दी पीठ के अध्यक्ष प्रो. नवीन चन्द लोहानी और प्राध्यापकगण

सोच और परिवारों का दायरा अब भी भारत के ज्यादा नजदीक हैं। इसलिए लोग दंगल और सीक्रेट सुपर स्टार जैसी फिल्मों को देखकर सपने पूरा करने का हौसला पाते हैं और दुःख-दर्द को भी महसूस करते हैं।

चीन के कई देशों के साथ मजबूत व्यापारिक संबंध हैं। ऐसे में, बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी नागरिक व्यापार, नौकरी, पढ़ाई आदि के सिलसिले में चीन में रहते हैं। चीन में प्रवास करते हुए इन्हें काफी कम दिक्कतें पेश आती हैं, क्योंकि स्थानीय लोग बड़ी आसानी से विदेशियों को स्वीकार करते हैं। यही कारण है कि आप्रवासी यहां लंबे समय तक रहना चाहते हैं, लेकिन उनके सामने बच्चों की शिक्षा की समस्या आती है। इस जरूरत को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्कूल पूरा करते हैं, जहां अंग्रेजी के साथ-साथ प्रमुख विदेशी भाषाएं भी सिखाई जाती हैं।

चीन में हजारों की तादाद में आप्रवासी भारतीय रहते हैं। वहीं टैक्सटाइल सिटी के नाम से प्रसिद्ध खछयाओ में भारतीयों की संख्या करीब चार हजार होगी। लेकिन अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में संचालित स्कूल न होने से उनके बच्चे बेहतर शिक्षा हासिल नहीं कर पा रहे थे। इसी जरूरत को देखते हुए 2010 में शाओशिंग इंटरनेशनल स्कूल की शुरुआत हुई। चीनी और भारतीय लोगों द्वारा स्थापित इस स्कूल में साल 2013 में हिन्दी भी शामिल हो गई। यहां एलकेजी से आठवीं कक्षा तक हिन्दी वैकल्पिक विषय के रूप में पढ़ाया जाता है। इच्छुक छात्र दसवीं तक भी पढ़ सकते हैं। हाल में कुछ विद्यार्थियों ने हिन्दी में दसवीं की परीक्षा भी पास की। वर्तमान में इस स्कूल में 18 देशों के कुल 268 बच्चे हैं, जिनमें से 65 छात्र-छात्राएं हिन्दी सीख रहे हैं। हिन्दी सीखने वालों में तीन चीनी बच्चे भी हैं, जिन्होंने एलकेजी, यूकेजी में इस बार प्रवेश लिया है। इस स्कूल में ऐसे बच्चे भी पढ़ते हैं, जिनके पिता

भारतीय और माँ चीनी मूल की हैं।

यहां बता दें कि चीनी समाज में पहले की तुलना में बहुत खुलापन आ चुका है। इसमें जाति, धर्म आदि का भेद भी नहीं है। युवा चीनियों द्वारा अपनी पसंद के विदेशी से शादी करने को लेकर आमतौर पर कोई ऐतराज नहीं होता। चीन में व्यापार करने वाले बहुत से भारतीय पुरुषों ने चीनी युवतियों के साथ विवाह किया है। कुछ योग संस्थान भी संयुक्त तौर पर चीनी-भारतीय जोड़ों द्वारा चलाए जा रहे हैं।

शाओशिंग स्कूल की तरह चीन के हर छोटे-बड़े शहर में तमाम इंटरनेशनल स्कूल खुल चुके हैं। इनमें विदेशी बच्चों के साथ-साथ चीन के उच्च मध्यवर्ग के बच्चे भी पढ़ते हैं, जो अंग्रेजी या अन्य विदेशी भाषाएं सीखते हुए विदेशी संस्कृति के बारे में जानकारी हासिल करते हैं। चीनी परिजन इस बात से बेहद खुश होते हैं कि उनके बच्चे इतने कम उम्र से एक विदेशी भाषा सीख पा रहे हैं। चीनी लोगों द्वारा अपने बच्चों को इंटरनेशनल स्कूलों में भेजने की एक वजह यह भी है कि चीनी शिक्षा व्यवस्था बहुत प्रतिस्पर्धा और रटने की प्रति पर आधारित है। आर्थिक रूप से सक्षम परिजन अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्कूलों में व्यावहारिक शिक्षा दिलवाना बेहतर समझते हैं।

स्कूलों के अलावा विश्वविद्यालयों में भी विदेशी भाषाओं का अध्ययन-अध्यापन हो रहा है। इस समय यहां के 16 विश्वविद्यालयों में हिन्दी पढ़ाई जा रही है। भारत और चीन के व्यापारिक संबंध बेहतर होने से चीनी नौजवान हिन्दी का अध्ययन कर रहे हैं। हिन्दी सीखने से उन्हें भारत स्थित चीनी कंपनियों में आसानी से नौकरी मिल जाती है। दूसरी ओर, भारतीय युवा भी चीनी सीखकर अपना भविष्य संवार रहे हैं। □

—चाइना रेडियो हिन्दी से साभार

प्रवासी भारतीय भारत के एम्बेसडर बने

दक्षिण कोरिया के सियोल में प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने कोरिया में रहने वाले प्रवासी भारतीयों को सम्बोधित करते हुए कहा कि भारत और कोरिया के बीच आत्मीयता का यह संपर्क नया नहीं है। प्राचीन काल में भारत की राजकुमारी सूरीरत्ना हजारों किलोमीटर की यात्रा कर यहां आई थीं। यहां पर भारतीय मेध और कौशल का बहुत सम्मान है तथा भारत के लोग कोरिया में रिसर्च और इनोवेशन में योगदान दे रहे हैं।



सियोल में प्रधानमंत्री मोदी भारतीय समुदाय को संबोधित करते हुए

भारत और कोरिया के संबंधों का उल्लेख करते हुए उन्होंने कहा की हमारे सुदृढ़ सम्बन्धों का आधार व्यापारिक समझौता नहीं है बल्कि इसका मुख्य आधार है पीपल टू पीपल कॉन्टैक्ट। 3 करोड़ भारतीय जो विदेश में रहते हैं वे भारत के एम्बेसडर हैं, उनकी कड़ी मेहनत, अनुशासन से दुनियाभर में देश की साख बढ़ी

है। यही कारण है कि कोरिया के साथ हमारे संबंध मजबूत रहे हैं और मजबूती के साथ बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। कोरिया और भारत शांति, स्थिरता और समृद्धि को बढ़ावा देने में कदम से कदम मिलाकर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं।

श्री मोदी ने कहा कि हम आज दुनिया में सबसे तेजी से बढ़ने वाली बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था हैं। हमारी

अर्थव्यवस्था के आधार मजबूत हैं। दुनिया में सबसे तेज गति से आगे बढ़ने वाली अर्थव्यवस्था भारत की है और अगले कुछ ही साल में भारत पांच ट्रिलियन की अर्थव्यवस्था बनने में तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहा है। भारत में आज जीएसटी सिस्टम का हिस्सा है। पहले सरदार वल्लभ भाई पटेल ने देश को एक किया था, उसके बाद आर्थिक रूप से देश के एकीकरण का काम जीएसटी ने किया है। डिजिटल इंडिया से भारत के लोगों के जीवन में तेजी से बदलाव लाए गए हैं। देश के सवा लाख गांवों में ऑप्टिकल फाइबर पहुंचा दी गई है। दुनिया में भारत को इन्वेस्टमेंट के लिए सबसे उचित जगह माना जा रहा है, देश को पिछले चार साल में रिकॉर्ड 263 बिलियन डॉलर का एफडीआई प्राप्त हुआ है। □

भारतीय हस्तशिल्प की विदेशों में लोकप्रियता



इंडिया एक्सपो मॉर्ट एंड सेंटर में चल रहे 47वें आई.एच.जी.एफ. दिल्ली मेला स्प्रिंग-2019 के दौरान प्रतिभागी कंपनियों का मनोबल बढ़ाने के लिए मेले में केन्द्रीय कपड़ा राज्यमंत्री अजय टमटा पहुंचे और जिनका स्वागत मेला अध्यक्ष राजेश कुमार जैन ने किया। केन्द्रीय कपड़ा

राज्यमंत्री अजय टमटा ने कहा कि ईपीसीएच विभिन्न क्षेत्रों की कला और संस्कृति को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आई.एच.जी.एफ. दिल्ली मेला जैसा मंच प्रदान कर उत्कृष्ट कार्य कर रहा है। विभिन्न शिल्प समूहों में बड़ी संख्या में छोटे और मध्यम उद्यम, उत्तम और गुणवत्ता वाले

हस्तशिल्प उत्पादक बनाने में जुटे हैं और इस मेले ने अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय खरीद समुदाय के सामने देश के निर्यातकों को अपनी रचनात्मकता और शिल्प कौशल को प्रदर्शित करने के लिए एक विश्वस्तरीय मार्केटिंग प्लेटफार्म प्रदान करने में हमेशा से सकारात्मक और महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। मेला निर्यात के जरिए विदेशी मुद्रा कमाने में भी अग्रणी रहा है, जो 1986-87 में महज 387 करोड़ रुपये था और 2017-18 में 23,029.36 करोड़ रुपये पर पहुंच गया है। यह जानकर बहुत प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि 2018-19 के 10 महीनों के दौरान 13, 26 : की सकारात्मक वृद्धि के साथ हस्तशिल्प निर्यात 21,460.56 रुपये का हो चुका है। उन्हें उम्मीद है कि यदि यह ट्रेंड बरकरार रहा तो 2018-19 के नतीजे सकारात्मक रहेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि इस मेले में प्रदर्शित, विभिन्न क्राफ्ट क्लस्टरों में कारीगरों और शिल्पकारों द्वारा निर्मित उत्पादों को देखने के बाद कहा जा सकता है कि भारतीय हस्तशिल्प उत्पादों से कहीं कम नहीं है। □

पर्यटन के साथ स्वास्थ्य लाभ एवं गर्मी की छुट्टियों का आनन्द ले

Island Jungle Health Resort

(एशिया के सबसे बड़ी Wild Life संचुरी, चितवन नेशनल पार्क, नेपाल में)



- पंचकर्म (सौना बाघ, शिरोधार, मासिवा इत्यादि)
- मर्म विन्दु चिकित्सा
- योग-आसन, ध्यान, प्राणायाम
- प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा जल, मिट्टी द्वारा
- जीवन-शैली, खान-पान पर व्याख्यान
- वातानुकूलित (AC) कमरे/सुईट



● Wild Life Activities such as Elephant Ride, Tharu Folk Dance

सम्पर्क : हिमालयन होलीडेज
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वाया-गोरखपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश)

OBITUARY

ARSP Veteran Shri Prem Chand Bharadwaj passed away on 03 March, 2019 at the age of 89. He was a stalwart who served ARSP in various capacities during his 29 years long association. He was ARSP Joint Secretary during 1994-96 and Secretary during 1996-2000. He was the editor of ARSP Bulletin for 15 years from 2002-2017. ARSP deeply mourns the demise of Shri PC Bharadwaj and offers respectful tributes to noble soul.



Prem Chand Bharadwaj
28 January, 1930-03 March, 2019

- Deepest condolences. He contributed a lot for the growth of ARSP and continued to take interest in its activities until his last despite failing health. My respectful regards. RIP.

- **Amb. Virendra Gupta (President, ARSP)**

- It is really sad to rue a person like Shri Prem Chand Bharadwaj ji who worked with Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad for more than 25 years. He was also a Secretary of ARSP and subsequently became an editor of Monthly News Bulletin published by ARSP for fifteen years.
- Shri Bharadwaj ji had a wide network of contacts amongst bureaucrats and literatures. He was a link between earlier generation who worked with late Shri Baleshwar Agrawal ji and the present team of ARSP.
- His constant contact through phone calls, e-mails, text messages and "Shair-O-Shairi" bounded many of us together. He never shied away from courting controversy and yet befriended people.
- I had the privilege for calling on him at his residence, where he lived alone and was served by some servants, and had a cup of tea early in the morning after my morning walk.
- I used to always wonder the way his neighbours helped him out, one neighbouring family serving him breakfast and the other providing him with the dinner. He usually had interaction via internet till late at night.

ARSP Parivar offers condolences and prayers for his Sadgati.

- **Shyam Parand (Secretary General, ARSP)**

PCB: A Man for All Seasons

PCB. That is how I used to call him. Our relationship started when I came to Delhi as editor of English Weekly Organiser. I was associated with ARSP through Baleshwarji when I was in Mumbai. So, naturally the ARSP office in Delhi was my first halt. One day when the office was closing PCB came there and I instantly found my friend-philosopher-guide.

Every time someone would part company saying "jyenge to phir milenge" (will meet again if alive) he would immediately correct saying "milenge to jeete rehenge" (keep meeting and we will live long). That was his philosophy of living long. He was one person who lived alone but was never felt lonely.

PCB knew how to keep oneself busy. His knowledge of Urdu was very good. Every time I needed to speak somewhere, I would ask for opening lines or some relevant couplet in Urdu. With great enthusiasm he would dictate and be adamant on correcting my pronunciation of Urdu words.

PCB was a stickler for rules and very punctual. Naturally he expected everyone around him to be the same. His love and dedication for ARSP kept the newsletter alive and printed and published on time month after month. The greatest tribute to him would be to imbibe his qualities, sense of humour and dedication towards the work one undertakes. The comfort of having a person like PCB by your side is a great feeling. But now with him gone, the feeling that you had a person like him will always be with us.

- **Seshadri Chari (Former Editor Organiser)**

PC Bharadwaj ji was a veteran of ARSP who served the organisation for more than two decades in all probability he was next to Baleshwarji in Age. Also after Baleshwarji as Secretary General probably he was first to be designated Secretary in 1996-98 the post he held for 5 years. He used to take keen interest in all affairs and as Editor of Bulletin he made solid contribution for several years. Bulletin was the most regular activity in ARSP for quite some time. My respectful homage to the departed soul.

- **Raj Kumar Bhatia (Sr. Vice President, ARSP)**



Rabindra Prasad Adhikari, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Civil aviation, Government of Nepal died in air crash on 27 February in Nepal. He was fifty years old. He headed the Nepalese Parliamentary delegation in July 2016 when ARSP organised programme in Parliament Annexe, RIS and South Asian University (SAU).

ARSP offers heartfelt condolences on his untimely demise and prays for the noble soul to rest in eternal peace.

Rabindra Prasad Adhikari ARSP pays humble tributes to the departed soul. □