

ANTAR RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD BULLETIN

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ARSP Wish you all Happy 77th Independence Day

LIVE AROUND-THE-CLOCK : Global DELIBERATIVE CONCLAVE

OUR DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS



Our distinguished panel from left to right: **H.E. Dr. Mahendra Pal Chaudhry** (Former Prime Minister Fiji), **Hon'ble Shri V. Muraleedharan** (Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs, GOI), **Hon'ble Mr. Alan GANOO, GCSK** (Minister of Land Transport and Light Rail. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Mauritius), **Dr. Ausaf Sayeed** (Secretary CPV & OIA, MEA) **Amb. Vijay K. Nambiar** (Sherpa G20/C20), **Amb. Virendra Gupta** (President, ARSP)

ARSP has achieved a remarkable feat by organizing a unique event titled "Live Around-the-Clock: Global Deliberative Conclave" which lasted for 24 hours. This event, held from July 22nd to July 23rd, 2023, highlighted the global reach of the Indian diaspora and its embodiment of the principle "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" – the belief that the world is one family. The initiative aimed to strengthen the bond between India and its diaspora across more than 100 countries through the Civil Society 20 (C-20) platform.

Operationalizing this vision, the Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP), in partnership with Vivekananda Kendra, Chinmaya mission, Vaishvik Hindi Parivar, PIO TV and Centre for Studies in International Relations has engaged with the vast Indian diaspora spanning approximately more than

100 countries through the Civil Society 20 (C-20) platform. The aim was to underscore the significance of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" in fostering global peace, harmony, and prosperity. Comprising more than 35 million individuals, the People of Indian Origin (PIO) and Non-resident Indians (NRIs) act as cultural ambassadors of India, disseminating its rich heritage and philosophy worldwide.

The conclave showcased the enduring connection between the Indian diaspora and their motherland, emphasizing their role as cultural ambassadors and disseminators of India's rich heritage. The diaspora's impact spans various sectors, including music, dance, yoga, spiritual teachings, and cuisine, contributing to India's soft power. The event highlighted the diverse linguistic interactions, with English, Hindi, Bhojpuri, Malayalam, Telugu,

and Gujarati, fostering a sense of "Kutumb Bhaav" or one family. The event successfully brought together representatives from over 100 countries, including legislators, academicians, artists, and entrepreneurs, underlining the importance of the "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" philosophy in global interactions.

The diaspora's enduring connection with Mother India enhances India's soft power, rooted in elements like Indian music and dance, Yoga, spiritual teachings, Ayurveda, and renowned Indian culinary delights. These expressions encompass Bharatiya Jeevan Mulya (Indian ethos), which extends beyond cultural connections to deep personal and communal bonds they cultivate in their adopted countries. The guiding philosophy "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah Sarve Santu Niramayah" permeates various sectors such as

education, science, technology, and trade, embodying the Indian way of thinking. Participants, throughout their brief 5-7 minute presentations, discussed, performed, and gave presentations revolving around these aspects. Participants shared their experiences in their adopted nations and contemplated strategies to disseminate Indian Sanskriti (culture) while exploring India's role in this transformative journey. This event provided a platform to showcase their artistic abilities and uphold their traditions, culture, values, language, and music, preserving their historical heritage.

A lifetime effort of the leader and

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founder Shri Baleshwar Agrawal who played a key role in establishing ARSP, contributed significantly to bringing diaspora issues into India's foreign policy formulation. Over the years, ARSP has become an important non-governmental organisation connecting people of Indian origin worldwide. It acts as a voice for the diaspora, articulating concerns to the Indian government and engaging with various Ministries and Departments for Overseas Indian Affairs, External Affairs, and Culture.

Expanding the legacy forward, **Shri Shyam Parande**, renowned for his expertise and extensive connections within the diaspora community, has played a pivotal role in ensuring the success of this unique event. As the Secretary General of ARSP, he skillfully brought together representatives from more than 100 countries, encompassing various spectrums and walks of life, including legislators, academicians, artists, and entrepreneurs. His deliberate efforts and zeal have consistently embraced the significance of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," or "One Earth, One Family, One Future," across the globe. This visionary perspective envisions a world where the virtues of empathy, mutual respect, and harmonious coexistence guide mankind in safeguarding itself from extinction by rekindling the beatitude of Mother Earth.

Ambassador Virendra Gupta, President of ARSP commenced his address by acknowledging the unfolding of the comprehensive 24-hour program, which serves as a tribute to the 103rd anniversary of the revered Secretary General of Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, Shri Baleshwar Agrawal. He praised Shri Baleshwar Agrawal's unparalleled historic contribution through his diaspora outreach efforts. The diaspora's expansive presence

across the globe, spanning from east to west, was highlighted as a testament to their global dispersal. He emphasized their flourishing presence across the entire geographical spectrum, from the northernmost reaches to the southernmost corners, and underscored their impactful roles even within nations where their numbers might be modest. Acknowledging the pivotal role of the Indian Diaspora, Ambassador Virendra Gupta outlined two crucial catalysts that have driven their evolution. The first catalyst was the commitment to equity enhancement, with pride in their affiliation with India. He highlighted Prime Minister Modi's leadership as a transformative figure since 2014, whose engagement with the diaspora on domestic and international fronts has integrated their contributions into India's foreign policy fabric. Under his guidance, the diaspora has actively fostered India's global friendships, interconnectivity, and collaborative ventures.

Hon. Shri V. Muraleedharan, Union Minister of State for External Affairs & Parliamentary Affairs, delivering his ministerial address he acknowledged the significance of the momentous occasion, as he joined them for the groundbreaking 24-hour global event focused on the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam." He highlighted that India's leadership role in the G20 provides a historic platform to showcase the nation's rich heritage, encompassing Indian philosophy, ancient wisdom, and the civilizational ethos that promotes the concept of the world as one family. Highlighting the visionary approach of India's Prime Minister, he emphasized the "Jan Bhagidari" effort intrinsic to India's G20 presidency—a mass movement wherein every Indian, irrespective of age or occupation, contributes actively. He illuminated the pivotal role of the Indian diaspora as a force multiplier in advancing India's growing soft power. He

DISTINGUISHED PANEL



Ms. Manika Jain (Additional Secretary -Diaspora Engagement), **Shri Shyam Parande** (Secretary General, ARSP), **Shri Anil Joshi** (Chairman, Vaishvik Hindi Parivar), **Dr. Amit Singh** (Professor, JNU), **Dr. Rajiv Nayan** (Secretary-General, Indian Association of International Studies), **Dr. Raghuvanh Sinha** (Professor, JNU) **Shri Narayan Kumar** (Hon. Director, ARSP)

pointed out that over 200 Indian-origin individuals have assumed leadership roles in 15 countries, illustrating the ascendancy of the Indian diaspora in global political and governmental spheres. Shri Muraleedharan extended heartfelt wishes for C20 as it emerged as a unifying force, ultimately contributing to a people-centric approach to India's G20 presidency.

Amb. Vijay K. Nambiar, G20 Sherpa, Former Ambassador of India and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, humbly takes the floor to address the gathering. He commends the persistent efforts of the Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP) in fortifying this vital connection. He emphasizes recent affirmations from India's External Affairs Ministers, reflecting pride in traditions, confidence in the future, and a steadfast commitment to internationalism. Amb. Nambiar underscores the importance of multilateralism, which currently faces challenges from nationalism and mercantilism. Amid these challenges, the United Nations remains central to international relations, requiring protection and preservation. Upholding international law is paramount, necessitating institutions' evolution in line with contemporary needs. He shared how in the context of the Global Summit, Prime Minister Modi's proclamation acknowledged the crucial role of the global south, inhabited by three-quarters of humanity. India's developmental experiences, shared meticulously, encompass vaccines, digital public

goods, financial inclusion, digital governance, satellite technology, and more. India's G20 Presidency introduces the concept of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), recognizing its transformative impact on financial inclusion. The Indian Diaspora, with 18 million individuals across 136 countries, emerges as a vital force, contributing significantly to India's GDP and embodying Prime Minister Modi's perspective of "brain gain" over "brain drain." Their contributions span technology, investment, and cultural exchange, prominently represented in Silicon Valley. The diaspora holds potential to strengthen India's self-reliance by diversifying global supply chains, and fostering a resilient economy.

He urges the cultivation of values that harmonize with compassion and the environment, paving the way for a truly sustainable "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam." In this journey, he encourages the youth to rise as beacons of change, embodying the G20's tagline: "You are the light."

Hon. Shri Alan Ganoo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mauritius expressed appreciation to the President of Antar Rashtriya Sahyog Parishad, Ambassador Virendra Gupta, and the Secretary General of the Parishad, Shri Shyam Parande Ji, for organising the memorable event. Reflecting on India's history and the trajectory of its diaspora, Honorable Shri Alan Ganoo highlighted the enduring phrase, 'the sun never sets on the Indian diaspora,' as a testament to their legacy of resilience

and triumph over colonialism. He described the journey from subjugation to leadership, where descendants of traders and laborers evolved into dynamic global leaders, embodying the essence of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – the belief in a shared world family. This diaspora's universal influence spans across continents and islands, serving as a living testimony to human connectivity. He proceeded to delve into three facets of his address. Firstly, he illuminated the facets of Indian immigration in Mauritius, unveiling the historical journey of the Indian presence in the island nation. Secondly, he recounted the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mauritius and India in 1948, a pivotal step in their shared history. Lastly, he shared reflections on India's current G20 presidency, encapsulating the collaborative potential of nations for a harmonious future. He concluded by intertwining the past and present, celebrating the resilience and triumphs of the Indian diaspora. He highlighted the enduring partnership between Mauritius and India as exemplifying the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, shaping a shared destiny. He encouraged the audience to remember the struggles that have shaped them and let their shared history illuminate the path to a harmonious future.

H.E. Dr. Mahendra Pal Chaudhary, Former Prime Minister, Fiji, complimented the efforts that ARSP has been putting for effectively raising the pennoncelle "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam". Dr. Chaudhary

emphasised that the timeless essence of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" holds profound relevance in the modern world. Originating from the Upanishads, this ancient wisdom underscores the interconnectedness of all beings and things. "The World is One Family" encapsulates a philosophy that binds all life forms on Earth, transcending time and addressing current challenges. He stressed the importance of preserving cultural identity, including language. He expressed concern for the Hindi language, particularly in English-speaking countries, and underscored efforts to safeguard and promote the language as vital for preserving cultural heritage. Acknowledging the Indian diaspora, numbering approximately 35 million across 100 countries, Dr. Chaudhary lauded its role as a powerful cultural and philosophical ambassador. He called for maintaining ties with India and drawing inspiration from its journey towards becoming a global superpower.

Ambassador Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, Secretary (CPV & OIA), Government of India drawing from his extensive diplomatic experiences across diverse nations, emphasised the diaspora's role as a robust resource for the nation, especially during transformative times as India progresses into the realm of Amrit Kaal. He accentuated the importance of nurturing new avenues of engagement. Initiatives connecting diaspora professionals directly with counterparts in India are underway also exploring collaborations with top global universities, aiming to interface with academia and institutions. Also expressed the important role of ARSP for leveraging the diaspora's collective wisdom, and expressed determination to navigate the intricate tapestry of globalization.

H. H. Swami Mitranand ji, Spiritual Teacher, Director of National

Projects, All India, Chinmaya Yuva Kendra (AICHYK), in his address delved into the remarkable essence of the Indian diaspora and its significant impact on the global stage. Drawing inspiration from the ancient Maha Upanishad, Swami Mitranand ji emphasized that this profound sentiment echoes through centuries of Indian thought. The perspective of viewing the universe as a divine manifestation goes beyond mere moral commendation; it represents an inherent truth. Swami Mitranand ji further delved into the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita, specifically highlighting Chapter 10, where Lord Krishna elaborates on the essence of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. The threefold path to divinity prescribed by Lord Krishna serves as a blueprint for a harmonious and balanced existence. He invoked the metaphorical concept that "the sun never sets on the Indian diaspora," symbolizing the widespread dissemination of wisdom and light across the globe.

Shri Santosh Gangwar, Former Minister of State with independent charge in the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the Government of India. He underlined how Indian communities are universally acknowledged as catalysts of progress, whether in the realms of social initiatives, economic pursuits, or centres of technological innovation. The ethos of India, rooted in cooperation and unity, plays a pivotal role in guiding these collective endeavours. He articulated the collective aspiration to witness India's progress while acknowledging that wherever the Indian diaspora resides, it is concurrently nurturing progress. This harmonious interplay between the homeland and the diaspora is exemplified through diverse global models, signifying a shared identity that transcends geographical boundaries. Applauding the efforts of the ARSP

and the participation of more than 100 delegates representing various corners of the world serves as a crucial platform. He stressed the importance of united action by the diaspora to uphold cherished values. He voiced optimism upon observing the diverse array of social organizations represented, noting that the Indian diaspora across the globe is steadfastly embracing and preserving core Indian values through expressions in art, cuisine, and lifestyle choices.

Amb. Dnyaneshwar Mulay Member, National Human Rights Commission of India in his address Embracing the 3 Ds - Diaspora, Development, and Democracy - Amb. Mulay elaborates on the diaspora's pivotal role in India's developmental landscape. With their presence spread across the globe, the diaspora significantly contributes to India's GDP and holds immense potential to bolster India's self-reliance agenda. Their diverse contributions, particularly in technology and investments, exemplify their significant influence in shaping India's growth trajectory. He encouraged participants all to recognize the potent potential of these three pillars in shaping a brighter world for generations to come.

Ambassador Shashank, Ex-Foreign Secretary of India eloquently sheds light on the often-overlooked struggles of the Roma community. He passionately asserts that the Roma community, with its historical and scientific evidence of suffering, is an integral part of the Indian diaspora family. astute observation highlights the remarkable diversity within the Indian diaspora. He underscores that while the majority of countries globally have populations smaller than 60 million, the Indian diaspora thrives with impressive variations in numbers across different nations.

raises a pertinent aspect of the diaspora's impact, emphasizing that their contributions, whether small or large in numbers, hold immense significance. His valedictory note stands as a testament to the power of unity and the shared human experience, irrespective of numerical proportions, reminding us all of the importance of inclusivity and recognizing the struggles faced by various communities within the Indian diaspora.

Ambassador Vinod Kumar conveyed his pride in witnessing Indians abroad hold prestigious positions with utmost dedication, emphasizing that their impact extends beyond themselves to benefit others. He commended the diaspora's contributions to humanitarian efforts, including disaster relief, showcasing the wide-reaching impact of their initiatives. He praised the transformative change brought about by Prime Minister Modi's government, recognizing the Indian diaspora as an integral part of Indian Foreign Policy. He acknowledged the increasing importance given to the Indian diaspora, ensuring their active involvement in shaping the country's global engagements. He stressed the need for a structured approach to support and acknowledge the diaspora's efforts. He highlighted the enduring commitment of Antar Rashtriya Sahyog Parishad (ARSP) in fostering people-to-people connections, building bridges, and embracing the beliefs of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

Dr. Rajni Sarin ARSP member, expressed her immense joy and honour as the 24-hour global deliberative conclave concluded. She conveyed gratitude and highlighted the interconnectedness of all life forms as depicted in the ancient Upanishads. She emphasized the importance of preserving India's

cultural attire and extended her appreciation to the esteemed participants for their insightful contributions.

This resounding success brought together a diverse array of perspectives, insights, and experiences from the Indian diaspora and prominent leaders. This gathering, orchestrated by Antar Rashtriya Sahyog Parishad (ARSP), has illuminated the profound significance of the Indian diaspora in shaping a harmonious and interconnected world.

Throughout the discussions, it became evident that the Indian diaspora serves as a potent bridge, fostering unity, cultural exchange, and economic growth across the



globe. From the powerful words of spiritual leaders to the pragmatic views of diplomats and policymakers, a common thread emerged – the diaspora embodies the ethos of "One Earth, One Family, One Future." This principle resonates deeply with the ancient Indian philosophy of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," encapsulating the essence of unity, compassion, and shared destiny.

Their contributions span various domains, from technology and science to commerce and politics. The stories shared by speakers highlighted how the diaspora's connection to their Indian heritage remains strong, allowing them to excel while nurturing their cultural roots.

The conclave emphasized the transformative power of initiatives that promote people-to-people connectivity and cultural exchange. The importance of acknowledging and supporting the diaspora's efforts was underscored, recognizing their capacity to amplify India's soft power and foster global friendships. The commitment of the Indian government, particularly under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, to integrate the diaspora into the fabric of foreign policy and development initiatives was acknowledged as a significant stride toward greater engagement.

It is evident that the Indian diaspora's journey is an embodiment of the

principle of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam." This conclave reaffirms the commitment of individuals, organizations, and governments to continue fostering strong connections, promoting shared values, and working together toward a brighter and more harmonious global future. The confluence of perspectives and shared vision showcased throughout this event has undoubtedly strengthened the bonds of the global Indian family and resonated with the principle of a united world, where borders fade in the light of interconnectedness.

*Report By Priyanka Sharma
Sewa International*

Civil20 India 2023, HELD AT JAIPUR



As Chair of G20 India's Civil Society Engagement Group, Amma shared that a pathway of hope for the world's future has opened through C20's deliberations. Humanity must work as a unified whole to ensure long-term existence and safety for the planet.

The summit was organised from 29-31 July 2023 at Jaipur. More than 700 delegates from India and worldwide participated in the three-day event, with Amma as Chair of the official Engagement Group for India's G20 Presidency.

Dignitaries present during the inaugural ceremony included Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Govt. of India; Smt. Shakuntala Rawat, Hon'ble Minister of Industry, State Enterprises & Devasthan, Govt. of Rajasthan; Swami Amritaswarupananda Puri, Troika, C20 & Vice Chairman Mata Amritanandamayi Math; Shri M, Core Committee Member, C20; Shri Vijay Nambiar, Sherpa C20 India, and Former Ambassador of India to Pakistan; H.E. Mr. Federico Salas Lotfe, Ambassador, Embassy of Mexico; Ms. Nivedita Bhide, C20 Core Committee; Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi, MP, Rajasthan; Shri Joginder Singh Awana, MLA, Rajasthan; Shri Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator; Dr. Vinay Sahasrabudhe, Sous-sherpa C20 India; Shri Ah Maftuchan, Sherpa C20, Indonesia; Shri Niklaus Gugher, Member of the National Council (Switzerland); Shri Abhay Thakur, G20 Sous Sherpa; Amb. Virendra Gupta, President ARSP, and Shri Shyam Parande, Secretary General,

ARSP.

The main highlights of the Jaipur C20 summit are the release of the C20 Policy Pack and the C20 Communique—C20's policy recommendations developed by 16 Working Groups after extensive discussions with civil society organisations and policymakers worldwide. These essential documents were handed over to the G20 Secretariat.

In her address at the gathering, **Amma** expressed: "One of the key insights that arose from the deliberations was that in order to ensure the long-term existence and safety of humanity, it is necessary to embrace certain overarching values and principles and work together as a unified whole. Indeed, the emergence of such a sentiment can be seen as a positive sign, opening the path for hope.

"There will always be some people who will discourage us and obstruct our progress. We should never allow them to shake our confidence and conviction in fulfilling our svadharma [personal duty]. Only if we have self-confidence can we benefit society through our efforts. Self-confidence is helpful for making forward progress. We convene meetings now, but we

should make it possible for our hearts also to meet.

She also said: "**The ethos of VasudhaivaKuṭumbakam—'The world is one family'**—should be incorporated into the school curriculum. Humanity's future path, contemplation and actions must reflect a degree of this shared sense of unity. If not, our greed will reach such a pinnacle that it will threaten our very existence. Nature has been giving us strong indications over the past several years that this is the direction in which we are headed. If we do not heed these warnings from nature and God, human beings will very soon be added to this planet's list of extinct creatures.

Amma concluded: "May we be able to see the world as a beautiful flower, with each nation as a petal one of its petals. This beautiful and priceless Earth is a rare blessing that God has bestowed to humans and our fellow creatures. May her beauty and joy never wane, and may she live forever, spreading happiness and fragrance to everyone, always. May divine grace bless everyone to realise the dream of Vasudhaiva Kuṭumbakam—'The world is one family.'"

Addressing the delegates **Shri**

Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Defence, Govt. of India, said: "India assuming the presidency of G20 has presented us a historic opportunity to address global challenges through discussion and dialogue. Hopefully, we can also come up with a response to them. Based on the philosophy of *vāsudhaivakūṭumbakam* and worshipping various manifestations of nature, the Indian civilisation doesn't believe in 'othering' anyone based on parameters like race or religion.

"We have never seen others as different from ourselves. The ancient Indian concept of 'as is the microcosm, so is the macrocosm' has great significance in a world facing drastic climate change and environmental degradation due to mankind's insatiable greed. The approach of 'one world, one family' provides a much better way to live our lives and design our socio-economic structures."

Shri Rajnath Singh added: "Civil society organisations have been an intrinsic part of Indian history for thousands of years. They played a significant role in shaping the socio-cultural and political fabric of our society. While kings upheld the rule of law or dharma, civil society groups were instrumental in operationalising its ideals in the society. Structures like Buddhist Sanghas, merchant guilds, temples and ashrams fostered a sense of unity and harmony among people and participated in social affairs, assisting the king in the business of governance.

"Civil society organisations are essential for functioning of a democracy as they enable citizens to engage in dialogue and cooperative efforts to achieve national objectives. They are not antithetical but complementary to the state apparatus. Many of the Indian Government's landmark socio-economic initiatives have been supported by their herculean efforts."

Shri Rajnath Singh also said: "There is a healthy growth of civil society organisations across the globe, and they are positively impacting policy-making in various areas. Even though they complement the government, the functioning of the two is vastly different. The Government apparatus is more rigidly organised and institutionalised. It cannot act in a hasty manner on novel, untested

ideas, otherwise chaos and instability may injure the social wellbeing.

"This is where civil society groups can play a significant role due to their fluid, informal and nimble-footed structures which provide a huge scope for new ideas and processes to play out in the society. Civil society organisations act as incubators for new practices which can be scaled up from the micro to macro level by the Government. We have many examples in this regard, like the provision of mid-day meals to school students."

He added: "Comparative advantages of civil society groups and traditional government structures can be harnessed for the overall progress of the society. The former can act as force multipliers for the government. Their efforts for the betterment of vulnerable groups have significantly altered the social and economic landscape of India in a very positive measure. There is no better example of this than Amma, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, herself."

On such a momentous occasion, it was clear that the C20 team, with all its 16 Working Groups, had undertaken their work with utmost sincerity, love, and dedication. Each and everyone worked a day in and day out to explore, gather the necessary information, research, polish, and finetune the grassroots-level problems of people.

C20 conducted hundreds of conferences and events to create much-needed awareness. A total of 200,000 people from around the world participated in online, hybrid, and physical discussions, seminars, and conferences. Perhaps, C20 India can claim credit for bringing in the largest number of participants and conferences in the history of C20 since its inception ten years ago. Together, they were able to create awareness about the need to embrace a more compassionate approach in all areas of life and effortlessly incorporate the aspect of compassion into all activities.

Ambassador Vijay Nambiar, Sherpa C20 India and Former Ambassador of India to Pakistan, said, "During the past eight months, more than 1,000 meetings have been held across 60 cities in India and abroad under the aegis of C20, attended by over 184,000 people covering 74 nationalities. The 16 Working Groups of C20 have proposed a wide array of policy recommendations on each of their thematic areas. They have also come up with specific examples of successful work that has already been done by civil society organisations in each area of focus which could be replicated elsewhere in the world."

He added: "Civil society organisations are both the bridge and the moral compass that transcend the state and prevent it from atomising society. They enhance public accountability by making the state more responsive with more inclusive development policies through building a larger consensus on social goals.

"India has been highlighting the major issues facing the global community in the present fragile global environment. The C20 has also been playing a big role in this direction. The civil society calls on the UN and the G20 to take bold action, including through substantial financial commitments, to help achieve the critical Sustainable Development Goals. Civil society around the world should have sufficient space to play a fitting role in the implementation of this agenda."



The G20 (Group of 20) is a forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union. It works to address major issues related to the global economy. C20 provides a platform for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) around the world to voice people's aspirations to the world leaders in G20. ■

To be Continued.....

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU & DR WILLIAMS SHARE COMMON DESTINY ON TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hit another triumph by chairing and hosting the G-20 meeting in New Delhi, Sept 9-10, and it is a great salute to him as India celebrates its 76th anniversary on August 15, 2023. India continues to make it big, astounding in a world of political acrobatics. Modi will speak on behalf of several counties that have no voice, particularly CARICOM and Africa.

Oh, what an honour as decades earlier India was deemed to be a depressed society, but today India stands tall, even taller than several developed societies.

Coming closer home, India, Trinidad and Tobago achieved Independence from Britain in August 15, 1947 and Trinidad and Tobago August 31, 1962, some 15 years apart, and both countries remained as members of the Commonwealth of Nations, only that shortly after Independence, India opted to become a republic, the first nation to do so, while Trinidad and Tobago opted for a republican system of government in September 1976. Yet both nations have maintained very cordial relationships over the years, noted with reciprocal Prime Ministers' visit over the years.

Trinidad and Tobago's first Prime Minister, Dr Eric Williams, in a tribute marking India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru's 75th birth anniversary in Trinidad, has hailed him for his enthusiasm in his Community Development initiative which was launched on Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi on October 2, 1952, covering 25,000 villages with a population of 16 million people. Hear Dr Williams speaking, "I was able, " to see one of these village projects during my visit to India in 1961, and it in Nehru's words a sustained effort to eradicate poverty".

Dr Williams recalled that he met Mr. Nehru for the first time in 1946 who was lecturing to Oxford undergraduates in an Oxford tearoom and he was contemplating switch in West Indian history, and this was, "an opportunity to meet in flesh the then foremost champion of colonial independence".

"It was not until July 1961 that I met Mr. Nehru, although I had been in communication with him on the Chaguaramas issue in 1958, "His special attraction for me at that time was his personal interest in national economic planning and his extensive historical writings which I had been reading. We met again in 1962 at the Prime Ministers' Conference on the European Common Market when I was able to discuss the question of British Guiana with him'

And from Dr William's dissertation, despite there was a serious issue about indentureship, India and Trinidad and Tobago, maintained a feeling of kinship. And what is needed today is a despite urgency to rekindle these initiatives in the year 2023 and beyond.

There is still some time to dust off the several MOUs in the offices of both countries to commence work on them, and things could only go better and there would be an improved, sustained and benevolent relationship. And an excellent source was the High Level Committee headed by the illustrious diplomat and respected personality, Dr L.M.Singhri who visited several diasporic countries, including Trinidad and Tobago, and I had presented some thoughts.

There should be a well-structured annual Distinguished Lecture Series among India and its several diasporic countries highlighting culture, history, economics and philosophy linking these countries, as this will also refresh the linkages.

The recent television and radio linkages hosted by the International Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) with Indians in approximately 107 countries is an extremely positive undertaking and its vibes sound interesting and worthy of commendation. Apparently, this initiative is the brainchild of former High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, Amb. Virendra Gupta and hopes that very fruitful and meaningful actions would come to the fore which could well be a reference, resource project for all generations as it would rewrite new paradigms and

remove oceans boundaries that the world in one human family at all times.



Paras Ramoutar

Relations between India, Trinidad and Tobago have shifted from a mere manifestation of cultural and religious manifestations to business, banking, economics, trade, steel, petroleum, insurance. This marks the new conduct of economic diplomacy. The opening of the Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Cultural Co-operation, even it took over 50 years to come into fruition, it stands as a monumental instrument for the further deepening of co-operation. Young people should be awarded the PBS Awards

Additionally, India should relax its visa requirements for persons wishing to visit. There should be a permanent committee to oversee matters of mutual concerns, with membership from both countries; publication of a quarterly magazines to share information appointing journalists to submit articles; establish the Mahatma Gandhi Cultural Centers in other countries; establish an International Children's Fund to assist poor children in need of health care and wellness; the works of Gandhi, Tagore, Nehru, Radkrishnanan and Vivikenanda must become more visible; airlinks between Air India and Caribbean Airways.

Former Indian Prime Minister Atal Biharee Vajpayee told Fourth Diaspora Conference that there were various forces of history that prompted our people to settle abroad, and this kind of international movement of people will only accelerate in the future.

We must remember that the sun never sets on the Indian diaspora... India is in all of us. Happy Independence Day, August 2023

Obituary

HISTORIAN, WRITER PROF. BRINSLEY SAMAROO DIES

The Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad expresses profound sorrow and extends its deepest condolences on the unfortunate demise of the distinguished Indo-Caribbean Historian, accomplished author, erudite academic, former government minister, and esteemed Professor Emeritus at the University of the West Indies, Dr. Brinsley Samaroo. Dr. Samaroo passed away on July 9, 2023, at the age of 84.

Dr. Brinsley Samaroo held the distinguished position of Professor of History at the University of the West Indies, located in St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. His illustrious career encompassed multifaceted roles, including that of a senator, minister, and member of Parliament within the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Dr. Samaroo's contributions to academia and politics spanned over five decades, during which he emerged



as a prominent figure.

Having pursued advanced studies in history at esteemed institutions such as the universities of

Delhi and London, Dr. Samaroo imparted his knowledge by teaching courses in New World and South Asian history at the University of the West Indies. Subsequently, he assumed the position of Senior Research Fellow at the University of Trinidad and Tobago. At the political forefront, he held the position of Leader of the Opposition in the Senate from 1982 to 1986 and served as an elected member and government minister from 1986 to 1991.

Dr. Samaroo's intellectual contributions extended to the realm of literature, as evidenced by his notable works, including titles such as "India in the Caribbean," "The Art of Garnet Ifill: Glimpses of the Sugar Industry," "Adrian Cola Rienzi: The Life and Times of an Indo-Caribbean Progressive," and "The Price of Conscience: Howard Noel Nankivell and Labour Unrest in the British Caribbean in 1937 and 1938."

The legacy of Dr. Brinsley Samaroo is survived by his beloved wife, Joan, and his daughter, Kavita. His invaluable contributions to the fields of history, academia, and politics shall continue to resonate, leaving an indelible imprint on the intellectual and societal landscape. The Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad joins in mourning this profound loss and pays tribute to the remarkable life and achievements of Dr. Brinsley Samaroo.

US LAWMAKERS TO PARTICIPATE IN RED FORT ADDRESS OF PM MODI ON INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

In a symphony of bipartisanship and cross-continental camaraderie, a distinguished ensemble of US lawmakers is poised to embark on a transcendent voyage to the captivating land of India. Their purpose? To partake in the resplendent Red Fort address, a stirring oration to be delivered by the venerable Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the auspicious occasion of the nation's Independence Day, August 15.

This bipartisan delegation, choreographed by the Indian-American virtuoso Congressman Ro Khanna and his distinguished counterpart Congressman Michael Waltz, assumes the mantle of leadership. Together, they ascend as co-chairs of the august Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, a beacon of unity transcending political divides.

Khanna, with a heart awash in ancestral history and personal



resonance, shared, "To lead this bipartisan odyssey to India and partake in the jubilant festivities of India's Independence Day is a tribute to my lineage. A lineage intertwined with the very fabric of India's struggle for liberation. It is a journey suffused with profound significance for me, steeped in personal legacy and shared destiny." With poised anticipation, he envisions rendezvousing with luminaries ranging from Prime Minister Modi to the virtuosos of business, technology,

cricket, and Bollywood, a medley of diverse brilliance.

The voyage holds the promise of forging a deeper confluence of ideals and aspirations, sculpting a more robust tapestry of collaboration between the two nations. Amidst the grandeur of the historic Red Fort, these emissaries shall stand witness as Prime Minister Modi's voice reverberates across time, resonating with echoes of freedom and the spirit of a sovereign India.

Their sojourn will lead them through the cultural kaleidoscope of Mumbai, Hyderabad, and New Delhi, where the corridors of power, innovation, and creativity intersect. Here, they will converse with captains of industry, torchbearers of technology, luminaries of government, and the enchanting world of Bollywood. Their journey shall also be sanctified by a visit to the hallowed grounds of Raj Ghat, a memorial consecrated to the indomitable Mahatma Gandhi, a

pilgrimage that distills the essence of India's nonviolent struggle for freedom.

In this hallowed endeavor, Khanna and Waltz shall be joined by an assembly of legislators, each bearing a torch of purpose. Deborah Ross, Kat Cammack, Shri Thanedar, Jasmine Crockett, Rich McCormick, and Ed Case shall collectively compose a harmonious ode to unity

and shared values.

For Congressman Khanna, this grand voyage finds a poignant synergy with the arcs of history. His grandfather, Amarnath Vidyalkar, a resolute sentinel of India's liberation, stood side by side with Mahatma Gandhi during the crucible of incarceration, eventually finding his rightful place in India's inaugural parliament.

In this gathering of hearts and intentions, the past resonates, the present beckons, and the future unfurls in a dance of promise. As the bipartisan symphony embarks on this chapter of camaraderie, the ties between nations grow stronger, harmonizing the chords of diplomacy, partnership, and the undying pursuit of human rights and pluralism. ■

FRANCE TO OFFER 5-YEAR SCHENGEN VISA FOR INDIAN ALUMNI UNDER NEW EDUCATION PROGRAMME

President Macron has announced France's goal to welcome 30,000 students from India by 2030

France unveiled its ambitious objective of welcoming 30,000 students from India by the year 2030. This endeavor is rooted in a profound desire to nurture academic brilliance, fortify cultural ties, and cultivate enduring camaraderie between these two nations.

In pursuit of this fresh initiative, France has conceived a novel plan: the issuance of a five-year Schengen circulation visa designed exclusively for Indian alumni. This distinctive program was announced during the recent visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Paris, where France ceremoniously rolled out the metaphorical "red carpet" for Indian students and alumni.

In its comprehensive elaboration of this program, the French embassy emphasized a compelling philosophy. It posited that when an Indian student graces France's academic milieu, even for a solitary semester, an intricate bond is woven—an affinity that warrants nurturing and cherishing. Within this framework, graduates of Indian origin, who hold a Master's degree or higher and have devoted at least a semester to studying in France, become eligible for a special five-year short-stay Schengen visa. This exclusive provision for Indian alumni serves as a conduit to maintain close-knit connections with France and their counterparts within the French educational landscape.

Emmanuel Lenain, the esteemed French ambassador, underscored the vigor of their efforts to translate the directives set forth by Presidents Macron and Modi into tangible



benefits for students. He articulated France's longstanding identity as an inclusive and diverse nation, brimming with eagerness to share its opulent cultural heritage and world-class educational avenues with Indian scholars. In his words, "For Indian students, France shall perpetually stand as your confidant, and we shall exhaust every effort to ensure that your academic and life journey within our nation is nothing short of extraordinary."

The embassy further elaborated on these specialized programs, emphasizing their holistic nature. They provide comprehensive instruction in the French language and extend to a wide spectrum of academic disciplines, enabling Indian students to excel in their studies and transition seamlessly into the French educational ecosystem. This carefully considered decision underscores France's steadfast commitment to streamlining the experiences of Indian scholars, making their sojourn as seamless as possible.

President Macron's proclamation of France's intent to host 30,000 Indian students by 2030 resonates deeply. It conveys the nation's unwavering conviction that welcoming a greater

number of Indian students is a testament to its dedication to academic excellence, cultural harmony, and the enduring amity between these two vibrant nations. The embassy encapsulated this sentiment aptly, articulating that this audacious goal exemplifies France's strong belief that embracing Indian scholars will engender academic brilliance, cultural enlightenment, and lasting kinship.

In light of this momentous initiative, the embassy and the French Institute unveiled the forthcoming "Choose France Tour 2023." This education fair, orchestrated by the French government and Campus France, is set to unfold across four major Indian cities: Chennai (October 8), Calcutta (October 11), Delhi (October 13), and Mumbai (October 15). An unparalleled platform for Indian students and their parents, this event will facilitate direct interactions with representatives from over 40 esteemed French higher education institutions. The fair promises to unveil an extensive array of study options, thereby charting an informed path toward higher education.

Moreover, as a testament to the burgeoning economic ties, the embassy highlighted the presence of 570 French companies in India, collectively employing more than 400,000 individuals. Graduates who bear the hallmark of French qualifications thus gain access to a vast spectrum of professional avenues, collaborating with globally acclaimed organizations—an opportunity that further underscores the significance of this educational alliance. ■

SINGAPORE'S FORMER INDIAN-ORIGIN MINISTER SUBMITS AN APPLICATION TO QUALIFY FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

In a significant moment in Singaporean politics, Tharman Shanmugaratnam, a respected Indian-origin former senior minister, has entered the political arena by applying for a certificate of eligibility to participate in the upcoming presidential election. This move holds deep significance as it reflects the determined step of a statesman who has left an indelible mark on Singapore's political landscape. With rich heritage and extensive experience, Tharman seeks to guide the nation's cultural evolution and maintain its global prominence. The 2023 presidential election is set to take place in September, coinciding with the conclusion of President Halimah Yacob's six-year term. Tharman's candidacy is



noteworthy, given his distinguished career that spans various roles, including Deputy Prime Minister and positions in international institutions. His call to evaluate candidates based on accomplishments rather than affiliations resonates strongly.

This election marks a departure from previous ones, where ethnicity determined eligibility. President Halimah's choice not to seek a second term paves the way for this transformative transition. The 2017

election was confined to the Malay community, making Halimah Yacob the sole contender. Now, a diverse group of candidates, including Ng Kok Song and George Goh, have stepped forward, each contributing a unique vision for Singapore's future. As this electoral saga unfolds, Singapore stands at a pivotal juncture, poised to inscribe a new chapter in its democratic journey. With a multitude of identities, promises, and aspirations converging, the presidential election's outcome will undoubtedly shape the nation's history. The nation eagerly anticipates the democratic evolution that lies ahead, where the fusion of the past and the future will determine Singapore's trajectory. ■

INDIAN-AMERICAN WOMAN SHOHINI SINHA NAMED HEAD OF FBI FIELD OFFICE IN SALT LAKE CITY

Sinha has an exceptional track record in counter-terrorism investigations and extensive experience within the agency.

Shohini Sinha, an accomplished figure of Indian-American origin, shines as a symbol of excellence in counter-terrorism efforts. Rising from her distinguished journey, she now leads as the special agent in charge of the FBI's Salt Lake City field office in Utah. FBI Director Christopher Wray's announcement marks her ascent to this esteemed role, reflecting her dedicated career safeguarding the nation from terrorism. Sinha's trajectory unfolds



Baghdad. Notably, she excelled in cyber security, bridging national

through time, beginning in 2001 when she joined the FBI as a special agent. Her path led her through various locales, from Milwaukee to Guantanamo Bay, London, and

security and cybercrime concerns. Her promotion to executive special assistant to the FBI Director in 2021 attests to her impact on high-level initiatives. Armed with psychology and mental health counseling degrees, Sinha's journey harmoniously blends her law enforcement and mental health backgrounds, serving as an inspiration for future generations. ■

DAYS TO REMEMBER

in September, 2023

September 01 : Uzbekistan : Independence Day

September 02 : Vietnam : National Day

September 05 : Teachers Day

September 08 : International : Literacy Day

September 14 : Amavasya ●

September 14 : Hindi Divas

September 15 : International Day of Democracy

September 23 : Saudi Arabia : National Day

September 27 : World Tourism Day

September 29 : Purnima ■

BBS upgrades to high definition, leaving behind standard definition era

In a significant advancement in Bhutan's broadcasting landscape, the Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation (BBS), officially launched its high definition, HD, broadcasting format on 26 July 2023, leaving behind the standard definition era. The occasion was graced by H.E. Mr. Sudhakar Dalela, Ambassador of India to Bhutan, H.E. Dr. Tandi Dorji, Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade, and other dignitaries.

The transition to HD broadcasting was met with great enthusiasm, as it promises viewers an enhanced and immersive television experience with crisper images and richer colours. The upgrade marks a crucial step in the nation's technological progress, aligning it with global broadcasting standards.

"The move by BBS to transition from standard definition to high definition is a very big milestone because it reflects the technological advancement that BBS has made. The quality of picture that will be broadcast by BBS and the sound systems will contribute immensely to



the people viewing BBS channels from now onwards," said Dr. Tandi Dorji, Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade.

Officials from the Embassy of India in Thimphu praised Bhutan's advancements and said India will continue fostering strong bilateral ties through technological collaboration. "We will continue to partner with BBS. India and Bhutan enjoy a very special friendship and cooperation and we have a very strong development

partnership with Bhutan. We hope to build on this strong India-Bhutan friendship in the coming years, meeting the requirements of the future," said Ambassador Sudhakar Dalela.

The HD up-gradation project which cost Nu 250 M was funded by the Government of India. The BBS now plans to procure a high-definition outdoor broadcasting system and implement a virtual studio, among others.



BHUTANESE RANGERS WIN PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

In recognition of their major success in protecting tigers, other threatened species, and their habitats, the Sarpang Divisional Forest Office won the International Ranger Award on 25 July 2023.

The biological corridor three (BC3) ranger team were among the nine winners of the award this year.

The award recognised the rangers who worked in remote and often dangerous territory, demonstrating a lasting and deep commitment to their work, taking pride in serving the community, and conserving the natural environment.

The team contributed immensely towards minimising wildlife poaching, preventing illegal trade of wildlife products and mitigating human-wildlife conflict in the region, while also conducting exemplary monitoring and community education work.

The award ceremony was conducted virtually by the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA).

The awards were created in 2020 with the aim to highlight and felicitate the extraordinary work that rangers do in protected and conserved areas worldwide.

It intends to improve rangers' capabilities, raise awareness about the critical role they play in conservation efforts, and help share rangers' unique stories and perspectives.

The prize money ranges between USD 10,000 to 25,000.

H.E. Mr. Loknath Sharma, Minister for Energy and Natural Resources said that rangers are the unsung heroes of conservation, working tirelessly to safeguard the diversity of life and preserve the beauty of nature. "It is our responsibility to raise the profile of rangers as professionals and an advocate for their recognition at the world stage," the Minister said.



Recognising the importance of rangers, the Department of Forests and Park Services in partnership with the World Wildlife Fund Bhutan, endorsed the Global Ranger Code of Conduct with a total of 1,330—1,177 male and 165 female—rangers being trained on the conduct.

The International Ranger Award aims to recognise all types of rangers including indigenous, communities and volunteer rangers employed in protected and conserved areas.

DIPLOMATIC POSTINGS

Shri Prabhat Kumar (IFS: 1991), presently Special Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of South Africa**.

Dr. T.V. Nagendra Prasad (IFS: 1993) presently Consul General, Consulate General of India, San Francisco, has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Kazakhstan**.

Ms. Shubhdarshini Tripathi (IFS: 1994) presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Kazakhstan, has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Serbia**.

Shri Sandeep Chakravorty (IFS: 1996), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Indonesia**.

Shri Manish (IFS: 1997), presently Consul General, Consulate General of India, Vancouver has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Cyprus**.

Shri Manish Gupta (IFS: 1998), presently Consul General, Consulate General of India, Sydney has been appointed as the **next High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Ghana**.

Ms. Namgya C. Khampa (IFS: 2000), presently High

Commissioner of India to the Republic of Kenya, has been concurrently accredited as the **next Ambassador of India to the Federal Republic of Somalia, with residence in Nairobi**.

Shri Devesh Uttam (IFS: 2003), presently Joint Secretary in the Ministry has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Lithuania**.

Shri Deepak Miglani (YOA: 2006), presently Director in the Ministry of External Affairs has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe**.

Shri P. K. Ashok Babu (IFS: 2007), presently Consul General, Consulate General of India, Cape Town has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**.

Shri Bhaskar Bhatt (YOA: 2007), presently Director in the Ministry of External Affairs has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to Burkina Faso**.

Shri Prashant Kumar Das (YOA: 2008), presently Consul General, Consulate General of India, Phuentsholing has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea**.

Dr. Irshad Ahmad, presently Counsellor in the Embassy of India, Muscat, has been appointed as the **next Ambassador of India to the Syrian Arab Republic**.

2047 में विकसित भारत का तिरंगा फहराएंगे-प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी



आज देश 77वां स्वतंत्रता दिवस मना रहा है। इस खास मौके पर देश के प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी भी देशवासियों को स्वतंत्रता दिवस की बधाई दे रहे हैं। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी आज लाल किले की प्राचीर से भाषण दे रहे हैं और इसी दौरान उन्होंने भारत के भविष्य की भी झलक दिखाई। उन्होंने लाल किले की प्राचीर से कहा कि मोदी की गारंटी है कि अगले 5 साल में भारत दुनिया की टॉप 3 इकोनॉमी में शामिल हो जाएगा। इसके अलावा उन्होंने ये भी कहा कि 2047 तक भारत विकसित देश बन जाएगा। इसके अलावा उन्होंने ये भी बताया कि मौजूदा समय में उठाए गए कदम अगले 1000 साल में भारत का स्वर्णिम भविष्य बनाएंगे। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने भी कहा कि दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा लोकतंत्र और अब जनसंख्या के मामले में भी अग्रणी देश। इतना बड़ा देश, मेरे परिवार के 140 करोड़ सदस्य आज स्वतंत्रता दिवस मना रहे हैं। यहां आप प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के भाषण से जुड़ी हर छोटी-बड़ी बातों की जानकारी ले सकते हैं।

• इस बार प्राकृतिक आपदा ने देश के अनेक हिस्सों में अकल्पनीय संकट पैदा किए, जिन परिवारों ने इस संकट को सहन किया है मैं उन सभी परिवारों के प्रति अपनी संवेदना प्रकट करता हूँ, राज्य-केंद्र सरकार मिलकर उन सभी संकटों से मुक्त होकर तेजी से विकास की ओर आगे बढ़ेंगी, ये विश्वास दिलाता हूँ,

• देश मणिपुर के लोगों के साथ है, मणिपुर के लोगों ने कुछ दिनों से जो शांति बनाए रखी है,

उसको आगे बढ़ाए। शांति से ही समाधान का रास्ता निकलेगा। केंद्र और राज्य की सरकार मिलकर उन समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए भरपूर प्रयास कर रही है और करती रहेगी।

हम जो भी करेंगे, जो भी कदम उठाएंगे, जो भी फैसला लेंगे, वो अगले एक हजार साल तक अपनी दिशा निर्धारित करने वाला है, भारत के भाग्य को लिखने वाला है।

• **Demography**
Democracy और **Diversity** की त्रिवेणी भारत के हर सपने को पूरा करेगी। मैं देश के नौजवानों को कहना चाहता हूँ, आज अवसरों की कमी नहीं है। आप जितने अवसर चाहेंगे, ये देश आसमान से ज्यादा अवसर देने का सामर्थ्य रखता है।

• आज G20 होस्ट करने का भारत को अवसर मिला है। पिछले एक साल से देश के हर कोने में जिस प्रकार से G20 के अनेक आयोजन व कार्यक्रम हुए हैं, उसने देश के सामान्य मानवी के सामर्थ्य से दुनिया को परिचित करवा दिया है। भारत की विविधता को दुनिया अचंभे से देख रही है, जिस कारण भारत का आकर्षण बढ़ा है।

• हमने पीएम किसान सम्मान निधि के माध्यम से ढाई लाख करोड़ रुपये किसानों के खाते में जमा किए हैं। हर घर में शुद्ध पानी पहुंचे, हमने जल जीवन मिशन पर 2 लाख करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए हैं। हमने आयुष्मान भारत योजना के तहत हमने 70 हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए हैं, ताकि गरीब को दवाई मिले, उनका अच्छे से इलाज हो। हमने पशुधन को बचाने के लिए करीब-करीब 15 हजार करोड़ रुपये टीकाकरण के लिए लगाये हैं।

• जन औषधि केन्द्रों ने देश के सीनियर सिटिजन को, देश के मध्यमवर्गीय परिवार को एक नई ताकत दी है। इसकी सफलता को देखते हुए अब देश में 10 हजार जनऔषधि केन्द्र से बढ़ाकर 25 हजार जन औषधि केन्द्र बनाने का लक्ष्य रखा है।

• सरकार अगले महीने पारंपरिक कौशल वाले लोगों के लिए 13,000 से 15,000 करोड़ रुपये के आवंटन के साथ विश्वकर्मा योजना शुरू करेगी। यह मोदी की गारंटी है कि भारत अगले 5 वर्षों में दुनिया की शीर्ष तीन अर्थव्यवस्थाओं में अपनी जगह बनाएगा।

• वाइब्रेंट बॉर्डर गांव को देश का आखिरी गांव कहा जाता था। हमने वह मानसिकता बदल दी। वह देश का आखिरी गांव नहीं है। आप सीमा पर जो देख सकते हैं वह मेरे देश का पहला गांव है...मुझे खुशी है कि इस कार्यक्रम के विशेष अतिथि इन सीमावर्ती गांवों के 600 प्रधान हैं। वे यहां लाल किले पर इस कार्यक्रम का हिस्सा बनने आए हैं।

• देश में रेल आधुनिक हो रही है तो वंदे भारत ट्रेन भी आज देश के अंदर काम कर रही है। गांव-गांव पक्की सड़कें बन रही हैं तो इलेक्ट्रिक बसें, मेट्रो की रचना भी आज देश में हो रही है। आज गांव-गांव तक इंटरनेट पहुंच रहा है।

• मेरा दृढ़ विश्वास है कि 2047 में जब देश आजादी के 100 वर्ष मनाएगा तो देश एक विकसित भारत होगा। मैं यह बात अपने देश की क्षमता और उपलब्ध संसाधनों के आधार पर कहता हूँ...लेकिन समय की मांग तीन बुराइयों से लड़ने की है – भ्रष्टाचार, वंशवाद और तुष्टिकरण।

• 2019 में प्रदर्शन के आधार पर आपने मुझे एक बार फिर आशीर्वाद दिया। अगले पांच साल अभूतपूर्व विकास के हैं। 2047 के सपने को साकार करने का सबसे बड़ा स्वर्णिम क्षण आने वाले पांच साल हैं। अगली बार 15 अगस्त को इसी लाल किले से देश की उपलब्धियों और विकास को आपके सामने रखूंगा।

• **चलता-चलाता काल चक्र, अमृत काल का भाल चक्र, सबके सपने अपने सपने, पनपे सपने सारे, धीर चले वीर चले, चले युवा हमारे, नीति सही रीति नई, गति सही राह नई, चुनो चुनौती सीना तान, जग में बढ़ाओ देश का नाम.**

आतंकवाद को किसी भी रूप में बरदाश्त न करना भारत की विदेश नीति का मुख्य केन्द्रबिंदु : विदेश मंत्री डॉ. एस. जयशंकर

विदेश मंत्री डॉक्टर सुब्रहमण्यम जयशंकर ने कहा है कि जी-20 बैठक के दौरान भारत ग्लोबल साउथ की चिंताओं को वैश्विक मंच पर रखने का प्रयास कर रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि आर्थिक दबाव के कारण इस क्षेत्र के कई देश अपनी आर्थिक प्रगति जारी नहीं रख सके हैं और अपने सतत विकास लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने के लिए संघर्ष कर रहे हैं।

आकाशवाणी समाचार से विशेष बातचीत में डॉक्टर जयशंकर ने कहा कि जलवायु परिवर्तन इन देशों की विकास प्रक्रिया में सबसे बड़ी बाधा है। उन्होंने कहा कि समान अवसर सुनिश्चित करने के लिए धन राशि और हरित प्रौद्योगिकी प्रदान करके विकसित देशों को विकासशील देशों के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धताओं को पूरा करने के लिए आगे आना चाहिए।

विदेश मंत्री ने कहा कि जी-20 को दो प्रमुख मतभेदों – यूक्रेन संकट के कारण पूर्व-पश्चिम



के बीच मतभेद और उत्तर-दक्षिण के बीच मतभेद को दूर करना है। डॉक्टर जयशंकर ने कहा कि भारत अब कुछ हद तक महत्वपूर्ण स्थिति में है और हमें पूर्व-पश्चिम और उत्तर-दक्षिण के बीच मतभेदों को दूर करना होगा। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि जी-20 शिखर सम्मेलन में इसे हासिल करने का बड़ा दायित्व होगा।

डॉक्टर एस. जयशंकर ने बातचीत में भारत की पास-पड़ोस प्रथम नीति के विस्तार पर जोर दिया और पड़ोसी देशों को सहायता देने के तौर-तरीके तथा भारत की मजबूत वैश्विक छवि पर अपने विचार साझा किये। विदेश मंत्री डॉक्टर सुब्रहमण्यम जयशंकर ने आकाशवाणी समाचार से विशेष साक्षात्कार में कहा कि भारत की पड़ोस प्रथम नीति ने देश की वैश्विक छवि को मजबूत किया।

विदेश मंत्री ने मेरी माटी-मेरा देश अभियान पर भी अपने विचार साझा किये। उन्होंने कहा कि भारतीय अब अपने भारत और इसके दृष्टिकोण के बारे में गर्व और विश्वास महसूस करते हैं। डॉक्टर एस. जयशंकर ने कहा कि हर घर तिरंगा और मेरी माटी-मेरा देश जैसे अभियान आम जनता को अपने देश के प्रति प्रेमभाव का रास्ता प्रशस्त करते हैं।

निर्माणाधीन राम मंदिर दुनिया के चौथे बड़े मंदिर में शुमार

अयोध्या में भगवान राम मंदिर के निर्माण के लिए बुधवार, 5 अगस्त को भूमिपूजन हुआ। आज इस महत्वपूर्ण घटना के मौके पर प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने मंदिर की नींव रखी। इसके साथ ही, मंदिर के भव्य निर्माण का कार्य भी शुरू हो गया है। विवरण के अनुसार, अयोध्या में बनने वाले राम मंदिर का प्लान लगभग 37 साल पहले तैयार किया गया था। पहले के नक्शे में मंदिर में तीन शिखर थे, लेकिन नए नक्शे के अनुसार, अब मंदिर में पांच शिखर होंगे। इस मंदिर की ऊँचाई 161 फीट होगी, लंबाई 268 फीट होगी और चौड़ाई 140 फीट होगी। मंदिर का कुल क्षेत्रफल 67 एकड़ होगा। यह जानकर हैरानी होगी कि इसके कारण यह मंदिर दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा मंदिर बनेगा। मंदिर के निर्माण की पूरी होने की आशा अगले 3 साल में है।

यह जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि विश्व का सबसे बड़ा और भव्य मंदिर न केवल भारत में बल्कि विदेशों में भी स्थित है। दुनिया के 10 सबसे बड़े मंदिरों में से 4 मंदिर विदेशी भूमि पर स्थित हैं। दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा मंदिर अंगकोरवाट है, जो कंबोडिया में स्थित है और उसका क्षेत्रफल 402 एकड़ है। कुछ धार्मिक गुरुओं ने भी राम मंदिर को इसी तरीके से बनाने की

विचारधारा दी थी। इसके अतिरिक्त, एक मंदिर अमेरिका में और दो मंदिर इंडोनेशिया में स्थित हैं। अंगकोरवाट मंदिर का विस्तार 156 एकड़ के क्षेत्र में है, जो कंबोडिया में स्थित है। भारत का सबसे बड़ा मंदिर तमिलनाडु के श्रीरंगनाथ स्वामी मंदिर है, जिसका क्षेत्रफल 156 एकड़ है। हालांकि, श्रीराम जन्मभूमि तीर्थ क्षेत्र ट्रस्ट ने योजना बनाई है कि मंदिर का क्षेत्र 108 एकड़ तक बढ़ाया जाए। अगर ऐसा होता है, तो क्षेत्रफल के आधार पर यह मंदिर दुनिया के चौथे सबसे बड़े मंदिर के रूप में उभर सकता है।

यह नया मंदिर न केवल एक धार्मिक स्थल के रूप में महत्वपूर्ण है, बल्कि यह भारतीय संस्कृति, शिल्पकला, और वास्तुशास्त्र की एक महान प्रतिष्ठा है। इसका निर्माण एक महाकाव्य की तरह है, जिसमें समय, श्रम, और सामर्थ्य का संघटित प्रयास है। मंदिर की शिल्पकला और वास्तुशास्त्र में दिखाई देने वाली महानता दुनिया भर के लोगों को



आकर्षित कर रही है। भगवान राम के मंदिर के निर्माण के पीछे एक महत्वपूर्ण सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक संदेश है। यह निर्माण दरअसल भारतीय संस्कृति की विविधता और एकता का प्रतीक है। यह दिखाता है कि भारत एक ऐसा देश है जहां धार्मिकता के साथ-साथ सभी धर्मों के लोगों को समाहित करने की क्षमता रखता है। भगवान राम के मंदिर का निर्माण एक नई शुरुआत की ओर प्रयास है, जो हमें हमारे अतीत की महिमा को समझने और मानने का एक और मौका देता है। यह मंदिर हमारे समृद्ध धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक विरासत को साक्षात्कार कराने का संकेत है, और आगामी पीढ़ियों को इस महत्वपूर्ण अंश के प्रति समर्पित करता है।



भारतीय स्वाधीनता के अमृत महोत्सव के अवसर पर विशेष



सूर्यकान्त त्रिपाठी निराला
(21 फरवरी, 1897 - 15 अक्टूबर, 1961)

सूर्यकान्त त्रिपाठी निराला का जन्म बंगाल की महिषादल रियासत (जिला मेदिनीपुर) में 21 फरवरी, 1897 में हुआ। वसंत पंचमी पर उनका जन्मदिन मनाने की परंपरा 1930 में प्रारंभ हुई। निराला की शिक्षा हाई स्कूल तक हुई। बाद में हिन्दी संस्कृत और बांग्ला का स्वतंत्र अध्ययन किया। उन्होंने दलित-शोषित किसान के साथ हमदर्दी का संस्कार अपने अबोध मन से ही अर्जित किया। निराला के जीवन की सबसे विशेष बात यह है कि कठिन से कठिन परिस्थितियों में भी उन्होंने सिद्धांत त्यागकर समझौते का रास्ता नहीं अपनाया, संघर्ष का साहस नहीं गंवाया।

सूर्यकांत त्रिपाठी निराला की पहली नियुक्ति महिषादल राज्य में ही हुई। उसके बाद संपादन, स्वतंत्र लेखन और अनुवाद कार्य की ओर प्रवृत्त हुए। उन्होंने कोलकाता से प्रकाशित 'समन्वय' का संपादन किया, 'मतवाला' के संपादक मंडल में कार्य किया, इसके बाद लखनऊ में गंगा पुस्तक माला कार्यालय में उनकी नियुक्ति हुई जहाँ वे संस्था की मासिक पत्रिका सुधा से संबद्ध रहे। इसके बाद मृत्यु पर्यन्त इलाहाबाद में रह कर स्वतंत्र लेखन और अनुवाद कार्य किया। उनकी पहली कविता 'जन्मभूमि' प्रभा नामक मासिक पत्र में, पहला कविता संग्रह अनामिका नाम से तथा पहला निबंध 'बंग भाषा का उच्चारण' मासिक पत्रिका सरस्वती में प्रकाशित हुआ। अपने समकालीन अन्य कवियों से अलग उन्होंने कविता में कल्पना का सहारा बहुत कम लिया है और यथार्थ को प्रमुखता से चित्रित किया है। वे हिन्दी में मुक्तछन्द के प्रवर्तक भी माने जाते हैं। उनके द्वारा प्रकाशित काव्य संग्रह परिमल की भूमिका में उन्होंने लिखा है—“मनुष्यों की मुक्ति की तरह कविता की भी मुक्ति होती है।”

सूर्यकांत त्रिपाठी 'निराला' की काव्यकला की सबसे बड़ी विशेषता है चित्रण-कौशल। निराला के चित्रों में उनका भावबोध ही नहीं, उनका चिंतन भी समाहित रहता है। इसलिए उनकी बहुत-सी कविताओं में दार्शनिक गहराई उत्पन्न हो जाती है। निराला जी काव्य भाषा में शुद्ध खड़ी बोली का प्रयोग प्रचुर मात्रा में हुआ है। खड़ी बोली पर उनका पूर्ण अधिकार था। उनका विश्वास था कि कवि को अपने भावों के अनुरूप भाषा का प्रयोग करना चाहिए। निराला की काव्य रचना (कवितायें) अपने देश और उनकी भाषा का प्रतिनिधित्व करती हैं। निराला जी ने अपनी काव्य भाषा में भावों के अनुरूप ही शब्दों का प्रयोग किया है। उनकी काव्य भाषा में खड़ी बोली के साथ-साथ अंग्रेजी तथा उर्दू शब्दों का भी प्रयोग किया है।



भारति, जय, विजयकरे !

भारति, जय, विजयकरे !
कनक-शस्य-कमलधरे !

लंका पदतल शतदल
गर्जितोर्मि सागर-जल,
घोता-शुचि चरण युगल
स्तव कर बहु-अर्थ-भरे ।

तरु-तृण-वन-लता वसन,
अंचल में खचित सुमन,
गंगा ज्योतिर्जल-कण
धवल धार हार गले ।

मुकुट शुभ्र हिम-तुषार
प्राण प्रणव ओंकार,
ध्वनित दिशाएँ उदार,
शतमुख-शतरव-मुखरे !