

ANTAR RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD BULLETIN

Monthly Newsletter of Indian Council for International Co-operation

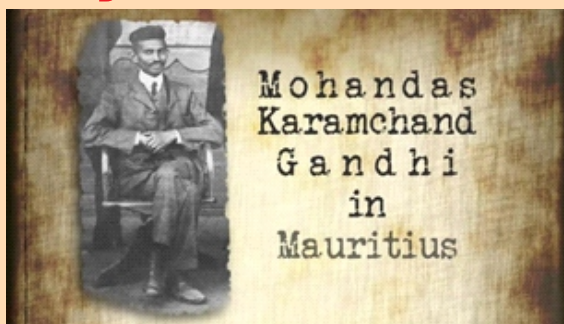
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(16 Pages including Cover)

दीपावली की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

GANDHIJI'S VISIT TO MAURITIUS



On its way to India from South Africa the ship Naushera, in which Gandhi was traveling has an unscheduled stopover in Mauritius. He and his family transited in Mauritius for more than 15 days in 1901.

An outcome of a mere chance, this visit was a blessing in disguise for both Mauritius and India. Mauritius.

- He became familiar with the local prevailing conditions of the Indentured Labourers - Girmitiyas and was appalled by the abject poverty and humiliations they were going through.

- He exhorted them to fight for their social, economic and political rights. He also advised them to educate their children and to take part in politics. His interaction with them brought about their intellectual transformation.

- After leaving the shores of Mauritius he convinced his friend Manilla Doctor, a lawyer from London to come to the island, as the plight of the Indentured Labourers preoccupied

his thoughts even several years after leaving the island.

- Manilla Doctor stayed in Mauritius from 1907 to 1911 and did very good public work, gained affection of the poor Indians and became a friend in need as he fought all their cases freely in the court of justice.

- Gandhi ji and Manilla Doctor both fought for the Abolition of Indian Indentured Labour, which was finally stopped in 1924.

- Gandhi ji also came in touch with many eminent Mauritians before his death in 1948 and encouraged them to work for the social, economic and political betterment for all Mauritians. (RK. Boodhun, P Luchmaya, J N Roy and B. Bissoondoyal) just to name a few.

Dr. K. Hazareesingh former DG Mahatma Gandhi Institute even wrote to him and got a reply thereafter.

These actions of his changed the history of Mauritius.

- Gandhi ji's Salt march on 12th of

March in 1930 is symbolically the day the father of the Mauritian nation, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam chose for the celebration of the independence of Mauritius in 1968. Today even the Republic Day is celebrated on the same date that is 12th March. India.

- He referred to Mauritius in both his prayer meetings and other Speeches in different places in India.

- Gandhi ji repeated that in our small island both Hindus and Muslims were living in harmony and that this could happen even in India.

- He was so kind to tell his fellow countrymen that this tiny little island, Mauritius could teach India something.

This is an indication that Mauritius and Mauritians have always shared a special relationship with Gandhi Ji. His brief stay has and is still having a longlasting impact on the 20th and 21st century Mauritius.

**Mookhesswar Choonee GOSK
Former High Commissioner of
Mauritius to India.**

GANDHI JAYANTI, 'PRAVASI KAVYA SANGH' ORGANIZES 'KAVYA GOSHTHI' IN THE NETHERLANDS

To commemorate Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, 'Pravasi Kavya Sangh' an arm of the Eindhoven-based Cultural Group in The Netherlands, Sanskriti & Sanskaar organized Kavya Goshthi at the Gandhi Centre, the cultural epicentre of the Indian Embassy in The Netherlands.

H. E. Mr Gince Mattam, the Deputy Secretary of The Netherlands

Mission, The Hague's Ex-Deputy Mayor, Rabin Baldewsingh and world-renowned Hindi Poet and Writer, Smt Pushpita Awasthi graced the occasion by presiding, lamp lighting and garlanding the bust statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

Mahesh Vallabh Pandey (creative writer, novelist, poet, lyricist and podcaster), one of the Convenor of the Event opened up the Event with a short speech and introducing the Program for the day.

Director of the ICCR, Gandhi Centre, Smt. Tara Pathak kick-started the event with her speech, welcoming the poets, guests and the audience.

After the kick-off, Indian poets in The Netherlands, Ms Saloni Bhatnagar, Ms Priyanka Singh, Mr. Vishwas Dubey, Ms Jayita Datta, Mr. Rakesh Pai, Ms Manasi Sagdeo Mohril, Mr. Alok Sharma, Mr. Anup Sharma, Ms Soni Verma, Mr. Jignesh Karnik, Ms Shilpam Chandra, Ms Shivangi Shukla, Mahesh Vallabh Pandey and Sunil Sharma mesmerized the audience with their self-composed and elegant poetries celebrating the themes of Nation and Father of the Nation.

In the presence of the Chief Guest, internationally acclaimed and renowned Poetess and Writer, Ms Pushpita Awasthi donned the stage



and the event, as the Chief Poetess to mark the occasion, celebrating India's 75 years of Independence and the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. She in her own words, appreciated and praised the recitations. She also enlightened the Poets on the art and genesis of writing poems.

The ceremonious event was concluded by Mr. Sunil Sharma, one of the other Convenor of the event, with a memorable closing speech and thanking the partners without whom the event would not have been made possible.

Finally, the event came to a close by an bright & cheerful speech by the Gandhi Centre Director, Mrs. Tara Pathak thanking the Chief Guests, the audience, and the Pravasi Kavya Sangh's core team group members, Mahesh Vallabh Pandey, Sunil Sharma, Saloni Bhatnagar and Rakesh Pai.

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ON THE OCCASION OF FIJI NATIONAL DAY



H.E. Kamlesh Shashi Prakash High Commissioner of the Republic of Fiji to India & Amb. Saurabh Kumar, Secretary (East, M.E.A.) Lighting lamp of friendship between India and Fiji

Chief Guest, Shri Saurabh Kumar, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Excellencies, President of ICCR, Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, Pray for India, Mr. Ashok George

Distinguished Guests, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen. Bula, Namaste and a very Good evening to all!

It is my pleasure to welcome each one of you for joining us today to celebrate our 52nd anniversary of independence.

In particular, I wish to thank our Chief Guest, Mr. Saurabh Kumar, Secretary (East) for taking the time out of his busy schedule to grace this occasion.

I also thank all Excellencies,

President ICCR, our Guests of Honor and all Friends of Fiji, especially our nationals for your esteemed presence. Vinaka!

Our Chief Guest is no stranger to Fiji. He has in fact served in Fiji at one of the most interesting times in our history, and

you have also returned from Fiji lately after a very successful 5th Fiji-India Foreign Office Consultation.

10th October 1970 was a moment of pride for all Fijians as we received the instruments of independence after some 96 years of colonial rule.

Fijians celebrated our national day in Fiji and around the world, with the theme "A Transformed, Inclusive, and United Fiji" on Monday, 10th October with the customary address by His Excellency Ratu William Katonivere, the President of the Republic of Fiji where he noted with pride how Fiji saw a peaceful transition to independence, from a low-income agrarian economy with limited resources to seeing remarkable progress and developments over the past 52 years.

Today, Fiji is a middle-income, service driven economy, with notable progress in socio-economic, educational, cultural, political and other spheres of life.

We are a vibrant democracy, a regional hub with strong shipping and air connectivity, modern ICT infrastructure, diverse and educated workforce and with people and business enjoying great progress and prosperity in a serene environment with a quality lifestyle.

Our bilateral relations with India remain strong. In fact, these have strengthened especially after Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's visit to Fiji in 2014.

That visit by Prime Minister Modi was ground-breaking for the Pacific as it laid the foundations of new relationships with 14 leaders of the Pacific Island Countries, in forums where Fiji also wields strong influence and leadership.

Apart from the robust friendship between our two countries, cooperation spreads across various areas such as trade, investment, agriculture, education, healthcare, defence, communication, sugar, sports, SMEs, Broadcasting, climate change, and renewable energy.

Several MOU's have been signed between the 2 countries in these



sectors.

The 5th Foreign Office Consultation that was convened lately has seen further opportunities to deepen our engagements in many of these areas.

Our cooperation at International Forums have been strong, and we have always supported Indian candidature at various international fora and vice-versa.

At international platforms, we are united by common interests and agenda, and we value the sturdy support from India toward climate change and the Oceans agenda for which our Honourable Prime Minister, Frank Bainimarama has been the Flag Bearer for the SIDs.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Fiji and India also share strong cultural and historical ties.

As you know, it was in 1879 that Indian indentured labourers were taken across to work on the colonial plantations in Fiji.

This year marked 143 years of presence of the Girmiteer's, and we remembered and celebrated their contributions in the development of

the country in this very Hall on 15th May this year.

Today, I can proudly say 143 years later, and 52 years after our independence, Fiji is among a few countries in the world where Indian culture is flourishing and Hindi is spoken widely.

About 38% of population is of Indian-decent and all citizens of Fiji are recognised as Fijians and united by common and equal citizenry under the new constitution.

Hindi is recognised as an official language and our Constitution is written in 3 languages including Hindi.

Fijians continue to frequent India for Tourism, Treatments and Terath, in addition to visiting families, for business and for education.

Yesterday I was delighted to participate in the closing ceremony of the 61st Know India Program with the Antar Rastriya Sahiyog Parishad that was aimed at familiarizing the Indian diaspora youth with Indian culture and economic developments amongst others, and we are delighted to have our Fijian youth amongst us tonight!

This and the other programs of the MEA run by ICCR have served to further strengthen our cultural relations and enable our students to undergo studies in India, and I am pleased to see the programs resume 2 years after the pandemic.

Fijians value the standing of India at the global stage, and the strong support you grant to the SIDs.

To us, a strong India means a stronger world community. That strength we saw by way of

Vaccine support to numerous countries of the world including to Fiji to combat Covid-19 enabled us to have 100% vaccination in the country, and a record recovery from the perils of the pandemic. Likewise, without fail, we have received timely support from you as a first responder in times of natural disasters.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this year Fiji prepares for its general elections which are likely to be held in the coming months.

Like in the past, India has again extended generous assistance to the Fijian Elections Office (FEO) and we are thankful for that.

In collaboration with the Government of India, Fiji will be hosting the next World Hindi Conference which is scheduled to be held in February next year, and we look forward to your participation.

Finally, I wish to thank the Chief Guest and all of you for being part of today's celebration.

I wish to also thank in particular ICCR for granting us the use of this venue, and the NGO-Pray for India for jointly hosting tonight's function.

Aapke saheta ke bagayr, yeh program mumkin nahi hota. Hum aapke abhari hai, aur tahe dil se dhanyavaad dete hai. Aap sabhi ko Deepawali ki haardik shub kamanaye, aur A very Happy Fiji Day to you all!

Thank you for listening!

Speech delivered by H.E Kamlesh Shashi Prakash High Commissioner of the Republic of Fiji on the occasion of Fiji National Day in Azad Bhawan, ICCR on 15th October, 2022.

His Majesty The King of Bhutan ON A Royal Visit TO India



His Majesty The King of Bhutan arrived in Delhi on 14th September on a Royal Visit and met with the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi. Prime Minister Modi received His Majesty at his official residence at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg.

His Majesty and Prime Minister Modi discussed issues of mutual interest, and reaffirmed the commitment and friendship that has defined the special and exemplary relations that exist between Bhutan and India.

His Majesty The King granted an Audience to the Minister of External Affairs, Dr S Jaishankar on 15th September 2022. While in Delhi, the Foreign Secretary and senior officials of the Government of India were also granted Audiences.



His Majesty visited the Royal Bhutanese Embassy in Delhi, and granted an Audience to the Ambassador and staff working at the Embassy.

Thereafter, His Majesty travelled to the United Kingdom with Her Majesty The Gyalsuen to attend the state funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

THEIR MAJESTIES CELEBRATE DASSIAN WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE HINDU COMMUNITY



His Majesty The King, Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen, and Their Royal Highnesses Gyalsey Jigme Namgyel and Gyalsey Ugyen Wangchuck celebrated Dassain with the people of the Hindu community at Lingkana Palace on 5th October 2022.

His Majesty granted Dassain tika to the Prime Minister, Home Minister, senior officials from the Zhung Dratshang and government, and representatives from a cross section of society, who were invited to Lingkana Palace.

A 3-day Durga puja was held at the Lingkana Palace, and tika imbued with blessings were sent to all dzongkhags to be distributed to the people.

Dassain tika is traditionally placed upon the forehead of family members by the head of the family, symbolizing the bonds that ties families together.

Dassain is the most important festival for the Hindu population in Bhutan- a time to renew and strengthen familial and community bonds.

Pandit Narayan Sigdel, who led the Durga Puja at Lingkana Palace, said that Dassain tika and blessings from Their Majesties this year held even greater significance, as the nation is emerging from the difficult years of the pandemic.

“Dassain tika carries the blessings of wisdom and protection. Our scriptures say that The King is Vishnu personified, who was born on earth as Rama to defeat evil and reincarnates multiple times as Dharmaraja to ensure that good always prevails. We have witnessed His Majesty’s blessings and protection in the wise leadership and care which safeguarded the people of Bhutan during the pandemic,” he said.

HER MAJESTY THE GYALTSUEN OF BHUTAN GRACED THE COMMEMORATION OF WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY AT THE PEMA CENTRE SECRETARIAT



Her Majesty The Gyaltshen graced the commemoration of World Mental Health Day at the PEMA Centre Secretariat on 10th October 2022.

World Mental Health Day is observed every year on 10th October. This year's global theme is "Making Mental Health & Well-Being for All a Global Priority."

The event included the launch of a website and social media handles for The PEMA Center Secretariat, Hospital-based Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment and Care Services, The PEMA Helpline Services and Anti-bullying Guidelines.

The website and social media handles will serve as a platform to update information and activities related to mental health and ease accessibility to services.

The PEMA helpline services will include counselling services, mental health service information, mobilizing psychosocial support, referral and follow up. These services can be availed through 1010 and 112. Mental Health related calls will be directed to The PEMA Centre Helpline numbers.

Hospital-based Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment and Care Services is established to provide an effective referral pathway for persons with SUD through a continuum of care approach. This will offer an increased access to evidence-based SUD treatment practices at the Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital, which will be extended to other regional referral/district hospitals in time.

The Anti-bullying Guidelines for educational institutions have been developed to nurture a safe and harmonious learning environment for children and youth. The guideline will provide a strategic reference for educational institutions to support their anti-bullying initiatives.

These initiatives and services are geared towards promoting and supporting psychosocial wellbeing of all Bhutanese.



60TH KNOW INDIA PROGRAMME (KIP) PHOTOGRAPH'S



61st Know India Programme (KIP)

Dr. Ruchi Verma
Research Fellow-DRRC & ARSP



On 14 of October 2022 (Friday) at the Malviya Smriti Bhawan, Diaspora Research and Resource Centre (DRRC) – Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP) hosted an interactive session for the 40

participants of 61st KIP batch from 7 countries namely- Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Mauritius, Myanmar, South Africa, and Fiji.

H. E. Kamlesh Shashi Prakash, High Commissioner of the Republic of Fiji, **H.E. Mr. Arunkoemar Hardien**, Ambassador of the Republic of Suriname, and **H.E. Dr Roger Gopaul**, High Commissioner of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago graced the occasion with their presence. **Mr. M S Patiyal**, Director, (OIA-II), MEA also attended the event. **Eminent Professor Surendra Gambhir** from University of Pennsylvania, USA was the Chief Guest of the occasion.

This time the students and faculty of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, Delhi University also joined the programme. The main highlight of the event was the vibrant interaction between the students and the KIP participants. They exchanged their views, thoughts and desire to work in

collaboration for the betterment of their countries.

Prof. Gopal Arora, Secretary, ARSP introduced the works of ARSP and its linkages with diaspora for nearly five decades. He also informed them about the diaspora related activities especially for youth organised by DRRC.

Amb Anup Mudgal, founder Chairperson, DRRC spoke about the contemporary developments in India and also the latest on the Diasporas activities and performances. He also highlighted that DRRC has been set up to carry the discourse with diaspora to more substantive areas and transform the way of engagement with diaspora. He mentioned that DRRC is trying to bring the youth from diaspora and from India in the same platform so that they can discuss and share their vision and dreams, since the best ideas and practices emerged though discussion.



Prof. Surendra Gambhir spoke about the language preservation and language loss in various communities in India's diaspora. He briefed the participants about the studies in language contact situations. He also mentioned about the koineization process in theoretical linguistics. He exclaimed that languages of diaspora are bound to disintegrate due to coming in contact with other dialects, but he suggested that India can help in preservation of the language by sending experts from India and introducing Hindi as a foreign

technology and the democratic institutions.

H. E. Kamlesh Shashi Prakash, High Commissioner of Fiji urged the KIP participants to use this KIP platform as a foundation to connect with diaspora youth. This is a great opportunity to engage and connect with India. He asked them to cherish these memories and share their wonderful experiences with others.

H.E. Mr. Arunkoemar Hardien, Ambassador of Suriname encouraged the participants that

for higher education through scholarships, short term capacity building programme under the ITEC, various schemes of ICCR and the government of India schemes for the diaspora.

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 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 development and technology. 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 expressed that they are going back with rich experiences and lessons learnt for better addressing some of their own socio economic challenges.



language in the diaspora countries. India can also start an online language course which will help people to connect to the languages.

Shri Mukesh Aggarwal, Vice President, ARSP spoke about the significant works of ARSP towards the diaspora and neighbouring countries. He also mentioned 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.

Heads of Mission and diplomatic representatives briefed the participants especially from the view point of their respective countries about the strengths of Indian economy, higher education,

during the KIP attachment, they should learn 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.

H.E. Dr Roger Gopaul, High Commissioner of Trinidad & Tobago, appealed to the KIP participants to embrace their traditional culture and values and rather than looking towards the west, try to find the solutions within the core values of pluralism, diversity and unity of Indian civilization.

Mr M S Patiyal, Director, OIA-II, MEA provided the participants with the details of the Know India Programme and also about the opportunities available for diaspora youth in India

Heads of Mission, diplomatic representatives and the participants appreciated the efforts of ARSP and 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.

In the end, **Shri Narayan Kumar**, Hon. Director, ARSP in his concluding remarks acknowledged that youth are important pillar of any society and diaspora youth will play an important role in enhancing the image of India around the world.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks presented by **Dr Ruchi Verma**, Research Fellow, DRRC and distribution of certificates to the KIP batch for their active participation. ■

30 HOURS SHORT TERM COURSE ON “INDIAN DIASPORA: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES”

Dr. Ruchi Verma
Research Fellow-DRRC & ARSP

INAUGURAL SESSION



Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad-Diaspora Research and Resource Centre (under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India) in association with Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College, University of Delhi, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) introduced a novel **30 hours short term course on “Indian Diaspora: Interdisciplinary Perspectives”**.

The inaugural session of the course was organized on **12 October 2022** at the auditorium of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Khalsa College. **Amb. (Ms) Manika Jain**, Additional Secretary, OIA-II, MEA chaired the session. **H.E. Dr Roger Gopaul**, High Commissioner of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago was the Chief Guest of the occasion. The session was moderated by **Dr Jasvinder Kaur Bindra**, Writer & Assistant Professor, SGND Khalsa College.

Dr. Gurmohinder Singh, Principal, SGND Khalsa College, in his welcome remarks mentioned that diaspora has recently emerged as an important subject of research. The contributions of diaspora are immense. They act as the building bridges between India and their

adopted countries. He also said that Ministry has initiated various valuable schemes and policies for diaspora. He congratulated everyone and stated that this course will be beneficial in providing comprehensive and systematic study on diaspora.

Shri Shyam Parande, Secretary General, ARSP in his welcome addresses mentioned that Indian diaspora is everywhere and is one of the most vibrant communities in the world. He stated that ARSP is doing the work very closely with Indian diaspora for over 50 years. He mentioned that **Shri Baleshwar Agrawal**, the founding Secretary General of ARSP was one of the key members of High Level Committee on Diaspora and it was his idea to host Pravasi Bahrtiya Diwas for the Indian diaspora. Shri Parande also spoke about the contributions of Indians in every aspects of the society whether political, economical or social.

Amb. Anup Mudgal, Founder Chairperson, DRRC briefed the participants about the importance of studying the diaspora. He mentioned that peaceful and mutually beneficial

international relations are very important for the development and progress of any nation. It can be done through government to government level. But at people to people level, the influence is much more impactful. In this part, diaspora come forward as the most important asset. He lay out that this course is an attempt to give the students a bird eye view about the international relations and how diaspora plays an important role in achieving this.

Prof. Gopal Arora, Secretary, ARSP & Convener of the course explained the participants about the course. He mentioned that Indian diaspora is the largest in the world and the largest recipient of foreign remittances. He further explained the entire course structure divided into different themes covering different aspects related to diaspora.

Amb. Manika Jain, Additional Secretary, OIA-II, spoken about the importance of diaspora. They are the first cultural ambassadors of India. India is represented worldwide by them. She mentioned that Ministry deals with 4C's- Connect, Celebrate, Contribute and Challenges, while engaging with diaspora. There are

several initiatives and schemes launched by the Ministry for diaspora and especially for youth. Amb. Jain also touched upon the challenges faced by the government or Ministry while connecting with them. She mentioned that diaspora is a heterogeneous group and each one has different set of difficulties and recognition. Immigration is also a

Commissioner of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago, talked about the migration of the Indian diaspora to Trinidad and Tobago as indentured labourers. They were the one who didn't go out for economic opportunities. They were taken away from their motherland by giving false promises by the colonizers. He exclaimed that the Indian diaspora in

values they cherish.

Shri Narayan Kumar, Hon. Director, ARSP in his concluding remarks acknowledged the contributions of Indian diaspora all over the world. Their commitment to community services has been appreciated by India as well as their country of residence. He also mentioned that



problem for which Ministry is looking into various agreements with different countries for the ease. She however, lauds the works of NGO's in maintaining the connection between government and diaspora and praised this initiative of DRRC.

H.E. Dr Roger Gopaul, High

gimitiya countries are still longing for their motherland and have deep affection towards India. He also stressed that Indian diaspora remains attached to their cultural values which believes in humanity and added further that despite scarce resources, Indian diaspora can show the way to the world, through the

this introductory course will help the students to learn about the important role and contributions of Indian diaspora worldwide.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks. ■

DEHRADUN CHAPTER

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ARSP, DEHRADUN CHAPTER, HELD ON 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2022

Executive Committee meeting of ARSP, Dehradun Chapter, was held on 20th September, 2022 at Dehradun. Following were present : Shri S S Kothiyal (President), Smt. Madhu Berry (Vice President), Shri Adesh Kumar Shukla (Secretary) and Executive Members- Shri P C Dangwal, Shri D K Bhatt, Shri T R Uniyal, Shri Rajesh Sharma, Shri Arun Shekhar Bahuguna and Shri Ajeet Singh Tomar & Uttarakhand Chapter- Shri Rajiv Berry (President), Shri D N Chandola (Vice President).

Meeting commenced with Silent Prayer followed by address by Shri SS Kothiyal, (President).

Shri Adesh Kumar Shukla (Secretary) read out the minutes of meeting of 21 August, 2022, of Dehradun Chapter. They discussed the activities planned for the year 2022 and also few suggestions brought out by members.

Dr. Ajit K. Saigal, Senior Consultant, Orthopedic Surgeon & President of ARSP, Varanasi Chapter was contacted by Shri D N Chandola on mobile phone to suggest date of workshop to be held at Dehradun. Short visit to local places around Dehradun was also discussed.

Decision on 5 days Good will visit to Gujarat was also taken. Meeting was declared closed with Vote of Thanks by Vice President, Dehradun Chapter. ■



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ANTAR-RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD, BHARAT **INDIAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION**

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Secretary-General
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NEW DELHI-110 002

Date : 26.09.2022

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF A.R.S.P.

Dear Member,

The Annual General Meeting of the **Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad** will be held at **4:00 pm on Friday, 28th October, 2022 at Pravasi Bhawan, 50 Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi-110002.**

You are requested to kindly attend the meeting.

Awaiting for an early confirmation.

Yours Sincerely

Shyam Parande
Secretary General

Agenda :-

1. Confirmation of minutes of the last AGM held on 21 December, 2021.
2. Report on the activities of ARSP including DRRC & CRSCR since the last AGM
3. Report on the Baleshwar Agarwal Birth Centenary.
4. Activity report by ARSP Chapters.
5. Consideration and adoption of Annual Income & Expenditure Account & Balance Sheet for the year 2021-22.
6. Appointment of auditors for the financial year 2022-23.
7. Matters related to Pravasi Bhawan.
8. Election of the President of ARSP for the next two years term.
9. Discussion on roadmap for year 2022-23.
10. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

NOTE : "For quorum requirements, the meeting may be recalled after 30 minutes on the same day & at the venue."

Members are requested to send their mobile contact as well as e-mail id at the earliest, for smoother communication for the AGM in case these are changed or not registered earlier. Those members unable to attend in person may avail Zoom Facility.

इंदौर शाखा

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद के इंदौर शाखा के सदस्यों की बैठक दिनांक 11 सितम्बर, 2022 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे निकुंज, 58 गोयल ग्रीन्स में आयोजित की गई। इस बैठक की अध्यक्षता डॉ. सुब्रतो गुहा ने की। इस बैठक में बी. पी. मिश्रा जी ने विगत वर्षों में इंदौर शाखा द्वारा किये गये कार्यों की प्रशंसा की और उन्होंने बताया कि निवर्तमान समिति द्वारा लिए गए निर्णयों को नई समिति भविष्य में निष्ठापूर्वक क्रियान्वित करेगी।

इस बैठक में आगामी वर्ष के लिए निम्नलिखित पदाधिकारी एवं सदस्य निर्वाचित किए गये : अध्यक्ष— डॉ. सुब्रतो गुहा, उपाध्यक्ष— (1) श्री सुमतप्रकाश जैन, (2) श्री शैलेन्द्र पशीने, सचिव—श्री प्रमोद कोठारी, सहसचिव—श्री सिधार्थ धवले, कोषाध्यक्ष—श्री अरविंद बंडी एवं सदस्य—श्री नरेन्द्र सिंघल, श्री विकास दवे, श्री मोहिनिश जगवानी एवं श्री कैलाश गर्ग। नई कार्यकारिणी शीघ्र ही सक्रिय होकर नियमित गतिविधि प्रारम्भ करेगी।

जब बापू 75 वर्ष के हुए

डॉ. राकेश पांडेय
सम्पादक, प्रवासी संसार

यह महावपूर्ण तथ्य है कि आजादी के बाद भले ही हिंदी को राजभाषा का दर्जा मिला हो किंतु आजादी से पहले हिंदी को राष्ट्रभाषा का दर्जा दिया जाता था। सोहन लाल द्विवेदी अपने संपादकीय में लिखते हैं कि हमें यह लिखते हुए गर्व होता है कि संसार की किसी भी भाषा में ऐसा ग्रंथ आज तक प्रकाशित नहीं हुआ जिसमें संसार के सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष के संबंध में इतनी भाषाओं के कवियों की कविताएं एक स्थान पर संग्रहित की गई हों। यह सौभाग्य राष्ट्र भाषा हिंदी को प्राप्त हुआ है अतः यह प्रत्येक राष्ट्र भाषा प्रेमी के लिए गर्व का विषय है। सुब्रह्मण्यम भारती कहते हैं कि धन्य गांधी जी आपने भारतवर्ष के उद्धार के लिए अवतार ग्रहण किया है जहां दरिद्रता का आज भी तांडव हो रहा है। जो अपनी स्वतंत्रता से वंचित हैं जो पतन के गर्त में समा गया है। मूर्छित लक्ष्मण को नागपाश से मुक्त करने वाले महावीर के समान आप हैं यह कहें, या इंद्र के कोप से उंगली पर गोवर्धन धारण करने वाले गोपाल कहकर आपकी प्रशंसा करें।

गांधी जीवे वर्ष शत, देश होय स्वाधीन! शांति स्थापन होय जग, मारग चलव नवीन!! उपरोक्त पंक्तियां महामना पं. मदन मोहन मालवीय की हैं, जब महात्मा गांधी 1944 में 75 वर्ष के हुए थे। उस समय गुलाम देश ने गांधी जी के जन्मदिवस पर अमृत महोत्सव मनाया था। आज देश अपनी आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव मना रहा है। ऐसे में उत्सुकता जागृत होना स्वाभाविक है कि आजादी से पहले महात्मा गांधी का अमृत महोत्सव कैसे मनाया गया था और देश में क्या भावना थी।

देश में आजादी को लेकर चारों ओर अंग्रेजों के विरुद्ध वातावरण बना हुआ था, देश के कोने-कोने में गांधी जी की अहिंसा के सिद्धांत के कारण आम आदमी भी देश की आजादी में अपनी आहुति देने के लिए तत्पर था। ऐसे में देश के कोने-कोने में गांधी जी के 75वें जन्मदिन पर अनेक कार्यक्रम आयोजित हुए और उनकी लंबी आयु की कामना की गई। इन तमाम अभिनंदन कार्यक्रमों के बीच में एक महत्वपूर्ण साहित्यिक कार्य सोहन लाल द्विवेदी ने किया कि गांधी जी पर एक अभिनंदन ग्रंथ सम्पादित किया। इस अभिनंदन ग्रंथ की भूमिका सर्वपल्ली राधाकृष्णन ने लिखी थी। उन्होंने अपने भावों को इस प्रकार व्यक्त किया था कि जब तक सभ्यता का चिह्न संसार में रहेगा,

गांधी जी का नाम आदर के साथ स्मरण किया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि जो उद्देश्य हम युद्ध के द्वारा प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं वे तो शांतिमय साधनों से भी प्राप्त हो सकते हैं। बर्बरतापूर्ण संसार में गांधी जी ही सच्चे प्रेम के तत्व को ग्रहण करने में अग्रगण्य हैं। उस समय इस अभिनंदन ग्रंथ के प्रकाशन में घनश्याम दास बिरला ने 1000 रुपये का सहयोग प्रदान किया था। वे कहते हैं कि गांधी जी की 75वीं जन्मतिथि के उपलक्ष्य में तरह-तरह के आयोजन हो रहे हैं।

महापुरुषों के तनिक संपर्क से भी पुण्य की वृद्धि होती है। इसलिए गांधी जी के संपर्क से इस ग्रंथ के द्वारा जो कुछ पुण्य लाभ हो उससे हम सबका कल्याण हो, ऐसी हमारी प्रार्थना है। पुरुषोत्तम दास टंडन ने कहा था कि महात्मा गांधी हमारे देश की अनुपम विभूति हैं। उनको पाकर हम अपनी दरिद्रता में भी भाग्यवान हैं। साधारण रीति से 75 वर्ष की आयु में मनुष्य क्षीण शक्ति हो जाता है किंतु अपने बापू की कल्पना हम सशक्त महारथी के रूप में करते हैं। उनकी बहुत आवश्यकता है। हमें इस आयु से संतोष नहीं। उनके 100 वर्ष पूर्ण होने की लालसा हमारे हृदय में भरी है। गोपीनाथ बारदोलाई ने अपनी भावना को इस प्रकार व्यक्त किया, 'मेरे लिए तो कोई भी कविता इतनी ऊंची नहीं हो सकती, जो महात्मा जी के अंतर की सहृदयता को व्यक्त कर सके, न ही कोई ऐसी भाषा ही समृद्ध जान पड़ती है, जो गांधी जी के जीवन की गरिमा को लिख सके।' इस प्रकार तमाम महापुरुषों ने गांधी जी को 75वें जन्मदिन पर बधाई दी और अपने भावों को व्यक्त किया। यह महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य है कि आजादी के बाद भले ही हिंदी को राजभाषा का दर्जा मिला हो किंतु आजादी से पहले हिंदी को राष्ट्रभाषा का दर्जा दिया जाता था। सोहन लाल द्विवेदी अपने संपादकीय में लिखते हैं कि हमें यह लिखते हुए गर्व होता है कि संसार की किसी भी भाषा में ऐसा ग्रंथ आज तक प्रकाशित नहीं हुआ, जिसमें संसार के सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुरुष के संबंध में इतनी भाषाओं के कवियों की कविताएं एक स्थान पर संग्रहित की गई हों। यह सौभाग्य राष्ट्र भाषा हिंदी को प्राप्त हुआ है, अतः यह प्रत्येक राष्ट्र भाषा प्रेमी के लिए गर्व का विषय है।

सुब्रह्मण्यम भारती कहते हैं कि धन्य गांधी जी आपने भारतवर्ष के उद्धार के लिए अवतार ग्रहण किया है, जहां दरिद्रता का आज भी तांडव हो रहा है। जो अपनी स्वतंत्रता से वंचित है, जो पतन के गर्त में समा गया है। मूर्छित लक्ष्मण को नागपाश से मुक्त करने वाले महावीर के समान आप हैं यह कहें या इंद्र के कोप से उंगली पर गोवर्धन धारण करने वाले गोपाल कहकर आपकी प्रशंसा करें? असीम दुःख देने वाली परतंत्रता की व्यथा को दूर करने के लिए आपने ऐसी औषधि का आविष्कार

किया है जो संसार के लिए अभिनव ही नहीं, अपितु सुलभ भी है। रामलिंगम पिल्ले ने कहा कि आज गांधी जी के तप की शक्ति ने संसार को आक्रांत किया है। छल और कपट राख हो गए हैं। वाद-विवाद टंडा पड़ गया है। सारी दिशाएं स्तंभित रह गई हैं। दीन-दुखियों के बंधु गांधी जी की जितनी भी प्रशंसा करें कम ही है।

सरोजिनी नायडू ने लिखा था कि तुम्हारे परिवर्तनहीन आंखों ने युगांतों के दृश्य उत्थान और पतन देखा है। तुम्हारी ये गंभीर भविष्यदर्शी आंखें भविष्य का क्या रूप देख रही हैं? इसमें संहार की स्थिति और लय इतनी तीव्र और कितनी अभूतपूर्व है। मेरी सिग्रेस्ट ने लिखा है कि यह कौन है, जो जगत के बीच से उस ओर चला जा रहा है, ईसा या बुद्ध? इस साधारण मार्ग पर शांति का यह अवतार जिसके माध्यम से विश्रामहीन भारत चरम चेतन की ओर आकर्षित है। इस प्रकार उपरोक्त चंद भाव तत्कालीन विद्वानों के हैं। कवि सुमित्रानंदन पंत ने लिखा था तुम मांसहीन तुम रक्तहीन, हे अस्थि-शेष तुम अस्थिहीन! तुम शुद्ध बुद्ध आत्मा केवल, चिर पुराण, हे चिर नवीन!! वीर रस की कवियत्री सुभद्रा कुमारी चौहान ने गांधी जी के अहिंसा के सिद्धांत को अपनी कविता में इस प्रकार वर्णित किया था बह चली तोप, गल चले टैंक, बंदूकें पिघली जाती हैं! सुनते ही मंत्र अहिंसा का अपने में आप समाती हैं !! पाषाण हृदय जो थे देखो वे आज पिघल कर मोम हुए, मैं 'राम' बनू इस आशय से 'रावण' के घर में होम हुए !!

इस प्रकार गांधी जी के सम्मान में तमाम देश के तत्कालीन वरिष्ठ कवियों और महावपूर्ण लोगों ने अपनी भावनाओं को व्यक्त किया है। जब सोहन लाल द्विवेदी ने बापू को यह ग्रंथ भेंट किया तो उन्होंने सेवाग्राम से एक पत्र लिखा,

भाई सोहन लाल जी,

आपकी कृति के गुण दोष बारे में मैं क्या कहूँ? काव्यों की परीक्षा करने की मेरे में कोई योग्यता नहीं पाता। मेरी स्तुति में जो काव्य लिखे गए हैं, उस बारे में मैं क्या कह सकता हूँ? हाँ, इतना मैं कह सकता हूँ, आपने परिश्रम काफी उठाया है। कोई भी शुभ परिश्रम व्यर्थ नहीं जाता है।

14 / 10 / 1944

बापू का आशीर्वाद
(लेखक की महात्मा गांधी पर रचित
तीन प्रतियाँ हैं)

प्रवासी लेखन समाज के सभी वर्गों और पक्षों को छूता है

डॉ. शैलजा सक्सेना



दिनांक 1 अक्टूबर को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद और वैश्विक हिंदी परिवार के संयुक्त आयोजन में प्रवासी भवन में कनाडा की प्रख्यात लेखिका डॉक्टर शैलजा सक्सेना से संवाद आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर एक काव्य गोष्ठी का भी आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम में अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद के महासचिव श्री श्याम परांडे, केंद्रीय हिंदी शिक्षण मंडल के उपाध्यक्ष श्री अनिल जोशी, श्री राहुल देव, श्री नारायण कुमार, श्री बी.एल. गौड़ आदि ने अपने विचार रखे। कार्यक्रम का सुरुचिपूर्ण संचालन श्रीमती अलका सिन्हा द्वारा किया गया। इस अवसर पर डॉ शैलजा की बहन श्रीमती शर्मिष्ठा की मौजूदगी विशेष रही।

कार्यक्रम में डॉ शैलजा सक्सेना द्वारा भी अपनी कुछ कविताएं सुनाई गईं जो श्रोताओं द्वारा विशेष रूप से पसंद की गईं। उन्होंने विदेशों में अपनी हिंदी यात्रा की जानकारी दी। इसमें अमेरिका और कनाडा में किया गया उनके द्वारा किया गया हिंदी शिक्षण, नाट्य प्रस्तुतियां व हिंदी संस्थाओं के साथ किए गए क्रियाकलाप शामिल थे। उन्होंने साहित्य कुंज के बारे में भी जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि हिंदी राइटर्स गिल्ड ऑफ इंडिया के साथ वह विशेष रूप से इन दिनों हिंदी के लिए क्या प्रयास कर रही है। उन्होंने हाल में केंद्रीय हिंदी संस्थान के सहयोग से प्रकाशित पुस्तकों कहानी संग्रह 'संभावनाओं की धरती' काव्य संग्रह 'सपनों के आकाश' का विशेष उल्लेख किया। उन्होंने अपने लेखन की भावी योजनाओं की भी जानकारी दी और प्रवासी समाज के समक्ष चुनौतियों का उल्लेख किया।

कार्यक्रम में श्रीमती शैलजा सक्सेना, श्री बी एल गौड़, अनिल जोशी, नरेश शांडिल्य, अलका सिन्हा, राकेश पांडेय, मनोज अबोध, सुश्री रूबी अनिल मीत द्वारा काव्य पाठ किया गया। इस अवसर पर डा राजेश कुमार, श्री विजय मिश्रा, डा धमेन्द्र प्रकाश सिंह, डा वेद प्रकाश, मनोज सिन्हा, सरोज शर्मा, अरुण जैमिनी ने भाग लिया।

DAYS TO REMEMBER

in November, 2022

November 08 : **Purnima**

November 09 : Cambodia - Independence Day

November 10 : World Science Day

November 11 : Poland- Independence Day

November 14 : Children's Day

November 15 : Brazil - Republic Day

November 16 : National Press Day

November 20 : Universal Children's Day

November 21 : World Television Day

November 23 : **Amavasya**

November 25 : Suriname - National Day



भारतीय स्वाधीनता के अमृत महोत्सव के अवसर पर विशेष



फिराक़ गोरखपुरी
(28 अगस्त 1896 - 3 मार्च 1982)

रघुपति सहाय "फिराक़" (28 अगस्त 1896 - 3 मार्च 1982), उन्हें उनके शायरी के उपनाम "फिराक़" गोरखपुरी से अधिक जाना जाता है, उर्दू भाषा के प्रसिद्ध रचनाकार हैं। उनका जन्म गोरखपुर, उत्तर प्रदेश में कायस्थ परिवार में हुआ। रामकृष्ण की कहानियों से शुरुआत के बाद की शिक्षा अरबी, फ़ारसी और अंग्रेज़ी में हुई। बाद में फिराक़ साहब इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में अंग्रेज़ी के अध्यापक रहे और उर्दू भाषा में अपनी रचनायें कीं।

कला स्नातक में पूरे प्रदेश में चौथा स्थान पाने के बाद आई.सी.एस. में चुने गये। 1920 में स्वराज्य आंदोलन में कूद पड़े। इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में 1930 से लेकर 1959 तक अंग्रेज़ी के अध्यापक रहे। उनकी उर्दू काव्यकृति 'गुले नगमा' को साहित्य अकादमी पुरस्कार, ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार और सोवियत लैंड नेहरू पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया। बाद में वे साहित्य अकादमी के सदस्य भी मनोनीत हुए। फिराक़ गोरखपुरी को साहित्य एवं शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में सन 1968 में भारत सरकार ने पद्म भूषण से सम्मानित किया।



फिराक़ ने अपने साहित्यिक जीवन का श्रीगणेश गज़ल से किया था। फिराक़ ने परंपरागत भावबोध और शब्द-भंडार का उपयोग करते हुए उसे नयी भाषा और नए विषयों से जोड़ा। फारसी, हिंदी, ब्रजभाषा और भारतीय संस्कृति की गहरी समझ के कारण उनकी शायरी में भारत की मूल पहचान रच-बस गई है।

दिवाली के दीप जले.

नई हुई फिर रस्म पुरानी दिवाली के दीप जले
शाम सलोनी रात सुहानी दिवाली के दीप जले

घरती का रस डोल रहा है दूर-दूर तक खेतों के
लहराये वो आंचल धानी दिवाली के दीप जले
शबनम की बिखरी बूंदो को चूमती हैं सूरज की किरनें
मौसम की मदभरी जवानी दिवाली के दीप जले

नर्म लबों ने ज़बानें खोलीं फिर दुनिया से कहने को
बेवतनों की राम कहानी दिवाली के दीप जले
लाखों-लाखों दीप-शिखाएं देती हैं चुपचाप आवाज़ें
लाख फसाने एक कहानी दिवाली के दीप जले

निर्धन घरवालियां करेंगी आज लक्ष्मी की पूजा
ये उत्सव बेवा की जवानी दिवाली के दीप जले
कितनी उदास रोशनी है इन जगमग जगमग दीपों की
किस बिरते पर तित्ता पानी दिवाली के दीप जले

लाखों आंसू में डूबा हुआ खुशहाली का त्योहार
कहता है दुःखभरी कहानी दिवाली के दीप जले
आज मुंडेरों से घर घर की नूर के चश्मे फूट पड़े
पिघले शोलों की ये रवानी दिवाली के दीप जले

कितनी मंहगी हैं सब चीजें कितने सस्ते हैं आंसू
उफ़ ये गरानी ये अरजानी दिवाली के दीप जले
मेरे सूने अंधेरे दिल का ऐसे में कुछ हाल न पूछ
आज सखी दुनिया दीवानी दिवाली के दीप जले

तुझे खबर है आज रात को नूर की लरज़ा मौजों में
चोट उभर आई है पुरानी दिवाली के दीप जले
जलते चरागों से सज उठी भूखे-नंगे भारत की
ये दुनिया जानी-पहचानी दिवाली के दीप जले

आज रात को बदहाली ने, खुशहाली का स्वांग भरा
बनी लक्ष्मी दुख की रानी दिवाली के दीप जले
भारत की किस्मत सोती है झिलमिल-झिलमिल आंसुओं की
नील गगन ने चादर तानी दिवाली के दीप जले

बुझे बुझे चेहरों से ऐ सखी आज के जश्ने-चरागों में
मैंने सुनी दुख भरी कहानी दिवाली के दीप जले
देख रही हूँ मैं सीने में दागे जिगर के चराग लिये
रात की इस गंगा की रवानी दिवाली के दीप जले

जलते दीपक रात के दिल में घाव लगाते जाते हैं
शब का चेहरा है नूरानी दिवाली के दीप जले
खूनी अशकों से जो बतियां कांपते हाथ जलाते हैं
ताजा करेंगी जख्म निहानी दिवाली के दीप जले

धेतु-धान-धन सब अफसाने आज की रात दिखाती है
लाखों घरों की बे-सामानी दिवाली के दीप जले
जुग-जुग से इस दुःखी देश में बन जाता है हर त्योहार
रंज ओ खुशी की खींचा-तानी दिवाली के दीप जले

रात गये जब इक-इक करके जलते दीये दम तोड़ेंगे
चमकेगी तेरे गुम की निशानी दिवाली के दीप जले
आज फरिश्ते देख रहे हैं अर्श-बरी के झरोखों से
सोजे-हिन्द की ये ताबानी दिवाली के दीप जले

जलते दिलों ने मचा रखा है आज की रात ऐसा अंधेर
चमक उठी दिल की वीरानी दिवाली के दीप जले
सैरे-चरागां देख देख के बे पतियाती आंखों में
हैरानी सी है हैरानी दिवाली के दीप जले

कितनी उमंगों का सीने में वक़्त ने पत्ता काट दिया
हाय जमाने हाय जवानी दिवाली के दीप जले
लाखों चरागों से सुनकर भी आह ये रात अमावस की
तूने पराई पीर न जानी दिवाली के दीप जले

लाखों नयन-दीप जलते हैं तेरे मनाने को इस रात
ऐ किस्मत की रूठी रानी दिवाली के दीप जले
खुशहाली है शर्ते ज़िंदगी फिर क्यों दुनिया कहती है
धन-दौलत है आनी-जानी दिवाली के दीप जले

बरस-बरस के दिन भी कोई अशुभ बात करता है सखी
आंखों ने मेरी एक न मानी दिवाली के दीप जले
छेड़ के साजे निशाते चरागां आज "फिराक़" सुनाता है
गुम की कथा खुशी की जवानी दिवाली के दीप जले

