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Editor

Prabhat Jha, MP

Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Editorial Team

Ram Prasad Tripathy
Vikash Anand

Creative Editor

Dharmendra Kaushal
Vikas Saini

Subscription

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Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax: +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

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दृष्ट्वा तु पाण्डुं स्वर्गायुधैः सह
सुसंभ्रान् विजयते अर्जुनः
सर्वद्वेषप्रणशितः सर्वभयान्मृत्योर्मुखात्
॥२॥

*Sri Bhagvan said : Arjuna, how has this infatuation overtaken you at this odd hour?
It is shunned by noble souls; neither will it bring heaven, nor fame, to you.*

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 2)

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“In the last election, people gave power to BSP to remove goondaraj of SP, but Mayawati, her brothers and close associate Satish Mishra did a scam of Rs 10,000 crore by floating bogus companies,”

–Nitin Gadkari

“UPA’s Lokpal Bill is highly weak Bill, which abolishes the rights of the state governments and finally results in creating crisis for the country’s federal structure”.

– Arun Jaitley

“The team that gave us the Constitution of India had no member from Jan Sangh, BJP, RSS, VHP or Bajrang Dal. In fact they were associated with or known to Congress party, but they all together decided that in this country there could not be a reservation system based on religion. They had a vision to see that the country would face division if religion based reservation is allowed.”

– Narendra Modi

Letter to the Editor



Dear Editor,

Congress led UPA’s mismanagement of economic policy is leading the country towards a grave crisis. Depreciation of rupee has affected Indian students abroad. When rupee value is decreasing, Indian students who aspire to earn a foreign degree would have to spend more. The way rupee is behaving, I am wondering if I will have to shelve my study plans and take up a job. Even price of electronics goods like laptop, computer etc. has increased. People in our country are already facing skyrocketing prices of essential commodities. The entire scenario points to the fact that UPA has made life of common man tough.

Ashwini Kumar , Delhi



“Relevance of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay and his ideas in present context”

Articles invited

Insightful and inspiring articles on the life and great work of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay ji are invited for a special issue of Kamal Sandesh under the title “*Relevance of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay and his ideas in present context*”. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay remains a source of our inspiration, guiding us in our journey to restore the glory and greatness of *Maa Bharati*. We request his associates, co-workers, researchers, writers and journalists to become a part of this *vichara yatra* of Kamal Sandesh.

–Prabhat Jha, Editor

Write to us

The Editor,



**We welcome
Your views & Suggestions**

Editor,

Kamal Sandesh

Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas,
PP-66, Subramanya Bharati Marg,
New Delhi-110003

e-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in



Democracy murdered in Rajya Sabha by naked misuse of power

The last week of the last month of 2011

Date: 29 December

Place: The upper house of parliament where voices in defense of democracy reverberate.

The democracy was murdered there in the presence of the Prime minister and the Finance Minister right in the middle of night by naked misuse of power. It was really pathetic to see that Congress led UPA had no qualms of conscience in undermining the dignity of the parliament and implicating its name in the murder of democracy. The sight of the murder of democracy witnessed by the entire nation which was relayed live on all the TV channels. The Leader of the Opposition continued to assure the people that he had no objection even if the discussion on the Lokpal Bill seeking to end corruption in the country continued for the whole night. He also asserted that the government running away from debate in the parliament had no moral right to continue in power. But it could not deter the government which was shamelessly bent upon stifling the voice of democracy. Perhaps the Congress had forgotten that the entire country was watching them from morning till night. The internal rift within UPA was also exposed in the open. In the centre Congress and Trinamool share power but in the Rajya Sabha their relationship appeared badly tormented. Not only Lalu-Mulayam-Jaylalitha-Karunanidhi-Ramvilas-CPM-CPI including independents but everyone was awaiting the amendments in the Lokpal Bill. All of them had complete faith that Congress will bring in these amendments honestly and make the weapon of Lokpal more effective against corruption. But their hopes were belied.

The situation witnessed in Rajya Sabha after the government's failure to get constitutional status for government's Lokpal Bill in Lok Sabha gives rise to many doubts over UPA's ability to get the Lokpal Bill passed in the parliament. The approach of the Congress makes it clear that it doesn't want corruption in country to end. Congress has extended its full support to the corrupts. Congress wants to save the skins of the corrupt within its own fold. In his effort to save the Home Minister implicated in 2G spectrum scam, the prime minister has lost whatever credibility he had in the eyes of the people.

Why the government is shying away from amendments in government's Lokpal Bill? Will the voice against corruption be muzzled in the country? If people say that Congress is the progenitor of corruption then what is wrong in it? India wants an answer to this question from the Congress while people will have to see through the intention of the Congress. Who are giving protection to the corrupt? Who wants to see that corruption gets a new lease of life in the country?

The manner in which the Congress fled from the house only points to the fact that

Editorial...

ABVP 57th National Conference held in Delhi

It has been more than six decades since independence yet constitutional rights have not reached the masses. The dream of Ram Rajya cannot come true unless economical, political and social rights are granted to the citizens in proportionate way. To embark on this journey for the fulfillment of Ram Rajya we need to reinvent the philosophy of the Bhagwat Gita and Gandhiji." These were the energetic lines of former chief justice of India Shri R. C. Lahoti on the eve of the inaugural session of 57th National Conference of Akhil Bhartiya Vidyarthi Parishad. He expressed distress over the existing predicament and travails of the innocent people whose life has become pathetic and miserable due to



highly political motive and lost morality. Pointing at solutions he suggested that emphasis should be on moral ethics, culture and tradition. He lashed out at those who are perpetuating politics for their selfish desires. Making clear the visions of ABVP in its approach for national reconstruction he admired the enthusiastic efforts of ABVP when crisis and other strains gripped the society. Prof. Milind Marathe while making his introductory speech in the first session of the national conference conspicuously explained the ABVP aim of national reconstruction and cheered ABVP for its passionate and arduous effort that has been raised ever since the inception of the worlds greatest student organization. ABVP's credentials as an effective student organization have been established by the perseverance and struggle of its members. Ranging from the issues of Bangladeshi infiltration to the battle against corruption, ABVP has always set benchmark as a student organization. He reiterated the need for ethical, organizational and nationalistic approach if we want a solution for the prevailing problems. Smt. Manan Chaturvedi was honored the Yashwant Rao Kelkar Youth Prize by Justice R. C. Lahoti in the inaugural session itself. Stirring up zeal and gaiety in the delegates Manan Chaturvedi was vibrant in her speech. She asserted that for the establishment of an empowered society, woman's power has to shoulder the responsibility of the next generation for a well cultured and developed outfits. She urged the delegates present at the venue to feel the travails of the society and work for the eradication of pains and strains from the society. Those present on the occasion were ABVP's National General Secretary Shri Umesh Dutt, Reception Committee President, Former Lt. Governor Shri Vijay Kapoor, RSS Sah-Karyavah Shri Suresh Soni and Shri Duttatrey Hoshabole, BJP National General Secretary Shri Ravishankar Prasad, Former ABVP President Shri Rajkumar Bhatia, ABVP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Sunil Ambekar etc. ■

the prime minister is not going to continue in the office for long. The coalition is in the crisis. The mid-term poll is haunting the nation. The kinds of incidents that have taken place in the parliament are insult on the dignity to the parliament, constitution and its people. As the main Opposition party BJP should take the entire issue to the people and explain to them the entire episode through video presentation.

The people will have to come forward to avenge this insult as the relevance of Lokpal will remain intact only if democracy remains alive. If democracy does not survive then even enacting Lokpal will not help.■

President as protector and guardian of Indian Constitution must act during Constitutional breakdown : BJP

BJP leaders on January 2012 met the Hon'ble President of India Smt. Pratibha Patil to protest against the Government's complete subversion of Indian Parliamentary institution over the Lokpal Bill by not holding a vote in the Rajya Sabha. It sought the President's intervention to re-convene the House to enable voting on the crucial anti-graft legislation. The BJP delegation led by BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri LK Advani, Leaders of Opposition in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Shri Arun Jaitley met Smt. Patil and handed over a memorandum to her seeking the special Parliament session. Full text of the memorandum is given hereunder :

Dated: January 5, 2012

Mahamahim Rashtrapati ji,

We, the Members of Parliament belonging to the Bharatiya Janata Party, are constrained to encroach upon your time to place our grievance with regard to the complete subversion of Indian Parliament on the midnight of 29th December, 2011.

The Winter Session of Parliament was extended for 3 days from the 27th to 29th of December, 2011 for the purpose of considering and passing "The Lokpal and the Lokayukta Bill, 2011". The Bill had been passed in the Lok Sabha on the 27th December, 2011. The Rajya Sabha sat throughout the following day i.e., on 28th December, 2011 and Members repeatedly mentioned as to why the agenda for the Bill was not being circulated for discussion. We understand that Your Excellency had approved the consideration of the Bill by the Rajya Sabha in the afternoon of 28th December itself. However, the Government had other ideas. Since they did not have the majority to pass the said Bill, the Government's strategy was to either manage and win over some smaller political parties or, alternatively, to somehow drag the discussion of the Bill and not allow its passage. It was as a part of the strategy that the Bill was not taken up for consideration on 28th December, 2011.

The discussion started at 11 a.m. in the morning of the 29th December, 2011. It was scheduled to be an 8-hour discussion which would have ended by 7 p.m. and a vote taken thereafter. Several Members who had to vote had proposed certain amendments to the Bill. Most opposition parties and certain other smaller parties had made it clear in the course of the discussion that they would insist on three amendments, virtually common in nature, to the Bill being considered for a vote. The BJP itself had made it clear that they would support the Bill as amended by those three amendments. These parties which supported the three amendments themselves constituted the majority of the House. Clearly, the opposition was in a majority and the Government in a minority.

It became an open secret around 6 p.m. that the Government had failed to muster support of any of these smaller parties in the Rajya Sabha. Its' strategy now was to disturb the House and enforce its adjournment so that a vote could be avoided. The Government wanted to claim extra time in order to ensure that the political turn of events might help it to manipulate a majority. Besides prolonging the



discussion, the Government benches started raising an objection that the midnight was approaching and the vote could not be taken.

Rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States clearly states that a sitting of Council should conclude at such hour as the Chairman may direct. There have been on several occasions sittings of the Rajya Sabha continuing beyond midnight. Objections have been raised whether the day's sitting would end at 12 of the midnight. The Chair has consistently ruled relying on Rule 13 that the parliamentary day continues as long as the agenda of the day is not exhausted. Thus, 22nd December 1980, 17th September 1981, 8th May 1986, 29th December 1986, 14th December 1987, 11th May 1988, 12th October 1989, 13th October 1989 and 4th June 1991 are some illustrations when the House has sat beyond midnight. Obviously, the objection of the Government was not sustainable.

The Government benches then engineered disturbances; initially through a friendly party and subsequently by its own members. These disturbances were contrived to earn an adjournment so that a voting could be avoided. When governments disturb proceedings and the House is adjourned, it sets a terrible precedent which would always be pointed out by potential disturbers. The legitimacy of the House to question such future disturbances is denied. The effort to avoid a vote through contrived disturbances is a clear subversion of parliamentary democracy. A government which avoids a vote has no moral authority to continue in office. If a state government avoided a vote in a legislature in this manner, it could be argued that governance is not being carried on in accordance with the Constitution. How does the Indian political and constitutional system countenance a central government which does the same? When such a breakdown of the constitutional machinery takes place, the President as a protector and guardian of Indian Constitution must act. The President could advise the government to re-convene the Session and immediately take a vote. The government must be asked to explain the reasons why the House was disturbed through such contrived disturbances.

This incident has left a blot on India's parliamentary democracy. The nation looks up to Your Excellency, The President, to restore the credibility of India's Parliament.

Yours faithfully,

L K Advani

Nitin Gadkari

Sushma Swaraj

Arun Jaitley



Congress prevents nation from getting strong Lokpal : BJP

The Congress Party led UPA has on December 29, 2011 prevented the nation from getting a strong Lokpal. The strategy of the Bharatiya Janata Party and several other opposition parties was clear. We would defeat a weak and spurious Lokpal law but we would insist on amendments which would improve and convert the weak law into a strong law. We would insist on the passage of a strong law particularly in the Rajya Sabha where numbers were on the side of the Opposition. We had categorically mentioned that the consensus amendments amongst opposition parties on three basic issues, namely, protecting the legislative jurisdiction of the States by making a model law under Article 252, by liberating the appointment and removal process of the Lokpal from the clutches of the Central Government and by making the investigative process simpler and the investigative agency more autonomous, was non-negotiable. The intention was that these three changes be incorporated in the Government's draft and we would have approved the amended law.

The Government delayed initiating a discussion on the 28th of December and deferred it to 29th December 2011. It wanted to give more time and flexibility to its managers who wanted to

manipulate certain political parties. They did not succeed. Their allies were drifting away. The Trinamool Congress had a serious problem with the State's jurisdiction being usurped. The National Conference had its own objections. It became clear by the evening that the Government's attempt to manipulate majority had failed. The numbers were loaded in favour of the amendments which would have created a strong Lokpal mechanism.

Any honourable Government would have either allowed a vote as per the mood of the House and the Nation or agreed to certain amendments. The UPA wanted a weak Lokpal. It could do neither. It, therefore, decided to subvert the parliamentary institution. It requisitioned a friendly party to organize a disturbance but the friendly party had only three members. The disturbance was not effective enough. The Government filibustered with an endless debate which had

become repetitive towards the end. It was working towards an unacceptable argument that at 12 PM midnight the house would automatically stop working. The Government created a disturbance and got the House adjourned. At the stroke of the



Joint statement issued by Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Shri Arun Jaitley on 30 December 2011

midnight hour when the world slept, India awoke to a great fraud being played on its parliamentary democracy.

It is now crystal clear that this Government does not want a strong Lokpal. It merely wants a spurious and a phony mechanism which can be manipulated by the Government. The battle for creation of a strong and effective Lokpal shall go on.

The subversion of the Rajya Sabha last night by the Government by denying it the opportunity to make an effective legislation is a significant moral

scar on this government. The Prime Minister must now live with one more moral stigma. He won the 2008 vote of confidence through bribery. He has now led a government with subverted parliament and prevented it from legislating effectively on the Lokpal.

The UPA appears to be disintegrating. One of its allies had openly declared its intention to vote against it on a key issue. Another ally, the National Conference, had expressed reservations about the Government's resort to Article 253 for making this legislation. This is the beginning of the end of the UPA Government. Its allies will disintegrate and its voter base will shrink.

A big lesson for the UPA after yesterday's midnight fiasco would be that it pays to walk straight. The UPA appears to have lost that habit of being politically correct. Management, manipulation and fixing seem to be its only key areas of preference. Such fixers are good when the going is good. When the going is not so good even they collapse. This is what has happened yesterday.

A Government which shies away from a vote and uses extra constitutional methods to avoid a vote, loses both political and moral authority. The UPA Government has no right to continue even for a moment. We demand that the prime Minister and his Government must now resign and seek a fresh mandate on the issue whether it is their version of Lokpal. Let India decide whether it wants this Government's version of the weak Lokpal or our version of a strong and effective Lokpal. ■

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Weak Lokpal Bill introduced by UPA will create communal rift : Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

The BJP on December 24, 2011 sounded the poll bugle in Punjab by organizing a huge rally in Jalandhar district. In the rally the party highlighted poor governance of the Congress-led UPA government, corruption, inflation, black money stashed in foreign banks and a "weak" Lokpal Bill, also highlighted the "unprecedented" development brought about by the SAD-BJP government in the state.

The meet was attended by BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley, Chief Minister Shri Parkash Singh Badal, Lok Sabha MP Shri Navjot Sidhu and State affairs in-charge Shri Shanta Kumar.

While addressing the rally, Shri Gadkari slammed the Centre on the issue of black money by asking why was the UPA not disclosing the names of those who have unaccounted money in foreign banks. "When the BJP comes to power, it will bring back all the black money and use it to develop rural areas," he added.

Speaking on the Lokpal Bill, Shri Gadkari claimed that a weak Bill introduced by the UPA on the basis of caste and religion will create communal rift among the people.

In his address, Shri Arun Jaitley also spoke against the Lokpal Bill, calling it a "highly weak Bill, which abolishes the rights of the State governments and finally results in creating crisis for the country's federal structure". "As this Lokpal will



be created and removed by the government, the UPA will have the institution in its pocket," he added.

Shri Jaitley further went on to term the ruling alliance as not merely a political but a social alliance, which has mitigated the rift created by the Congress between Hindus and Sikhs.

"The huge turnout in SAD's Moga rally and today's rally is a reflection that the people are satisfied with their government," said the chief minister while addressing the gathering. Criticizing the UPA for its "step-motherly treatment" towards Punjab, Shri Badal claimed that he was committed to the State's development and had succeeded in his mission of developing infrastructure in rural Punjab. ■

A bill full of discrepancies and contradictions : Sushma Swaraj

The Lokpal Bill introduced in the parliament by Congress led UPA government received all round criticism from the people. While the bill was full of contradictions and discrepancies, the government failed to justify its various provisions. It only revealed a game plan of the Congress led UPA which rather than building consensus on the Bill moved ahead to create confusion and discord. In the Lok Sabha, the Leader of Opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj criticized its various provisions and sought to amend the Bill by making some constructive suggestions. She was right in her criticism while questioning certain provisions which could have never passed the test of judicial scrutiny. It was clear that Congress led UPA was never serious in getting Lokpal Bill passed and all its moves were aimed at hoodwinking the nation and misleading the people by creating confusion and doubts. We are publishing the synopsis of the speech delivered by Smt. Sushma Swaraj in the Lok Sabha on Lokpal and Lokayukta Bill on 27 December 2011 for our readers. The full text of the speech is being published separately in a booklet.

The issue of Lokpal is being debated in the country for the last one year. The movement launched by Shri Anna Hazare ji has further flared up this debate. The country was waiting with great curiosity that the Government will bring a strong Lokpal Bill during the Winter Session. But, the Bill brought by the Government has many shortcomings, this Bill violates the important provisions of the Constitution, there are enormous discrepancies in this Bill and this Bill has overlooked the sense of the House which was reached during the last Session. Our Constitution has some basic principles which cannot be tampered with. The power to legislate in regard to employees of the State Government is vested with the State Legislatures. A Bill should be enacted under Article 252 so that the State Governments could adopt it as it is or as they wish to do so. This Bill is being enacted to translate into action the Convention of the United Nations against Corruption. That is why



this has been brought under Article 253 of the Constitution. The law enacted under Article 253 is mandatory.

But, as per the Constitution amendment which has been brought, this is optional and the Government do not want to impose it on the States. This Bill is against our federal structure. On enforcement of this Bill, the Lokayukta Acts already in vogue in States will become null and void. The Government admits that this Bill has been brought under Article 253 of the Constitution then it should also be admitted that a law enacted under Article 253 is mandatory and not optional. The

Government has brought a Bill which is not only an attack on the federal structure of the country but it also dilutes authority of the States which are fighting corruption effectively. My other objection is related to the provision of reservation. The hon. Supreme Court has repeatedly said that the maximum limit of reservation will be 50 per cent but from the provision of this Bill, it is clear that the limit of reservation will be minimum 50 per cent and it can be anything above 50 per cent also. If there is limit of reservation of 50 per cent in Government's jobs then there is no reservation at all in respect of Constitutional posts and institutions. The Standing Committee has also stated that this reservation is not desirable. The Government has not only made a provision for reservation in respect of Constitutional institutions and exceeded the limit of 50 per cent but it has also brought religion based reservation. Whatever we are doing today is not going to do

anything good for the country. Religion based reservation will sow the seeds of further division of the country. How we can tolerate that a patently unconstitutional Bill is passed by this House? Therefore, I have asserted that this Bill should be brought under Article 252 and since religion based reservation is not as per the constitution, therefore, it should be as per the constitution. I allege that this Bill is very weak. We had said that the CBI should be free from the clutches of the Government but

have said that the Lokpal is totally in the grip of the Government. This Bill is full of discrepancies and contradictions. The Prime Minister has been brought under the purview of the Lokpal with so many safeguards and riders that no one can even touch him. If there is any complaint against the Prime Minister then the full bench of Lokpal will decide and 3/4th of the judges will decide whether an action should be initiated on it or not. Where from this concept of 3/4 th has come. I

The Department of Personnel and Training have administrative and financial control over CBI. The investigation and prosecution wings of CBI should be separated and it should be brought under the financial and administrative control of the Lokpal so that it may be free from the influence of the Government and work as an independent investigative agency. It will not only enable the Lokpal to have an established investigating agency under its control but also help in creating a strong mechanism to fight against corruption. All the temples, mosques, Gurudwaras, churches and schools have been brought under the Lokpal but 57 lakh employees belonging to lower bureaucracy have been kept out of its ambit. The Government has ignored the sense of the House. The sense of the House was that lower bureaucracy should be brought under the ambit of the Lokpal, the Lokpal and the Lokayuktas should be constituted and a Citizen's Charter should be there.

This Bill is against our federal structure. On enforcement of this Bill, the Lokayukta Acts already in vogue in States will become null and void. The Government admits that this Bill has been brought under Article 253 of the Constitution then it should also be admitted that a law enacted under Article 253 is mandatory and not optional. The Government has brought a Bill which is not only an attack on the federal structure of the country but it also dilutes authority of the States which are fighting corruption effectively.

what happened is totally contrary. The CBI could not be freed from the hold of the Government but the Lokpal has also come under the control of the Government. What is the need of the jurist when we have the Chief Justice of India in the appointing panel of the Lokpal. My amendment is that instead of the jurist, the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha should be included in it. The Government side is dominant in appointing the Lokpal and the method of his removal is all the more wonderful. The Government will remove and appoint the Lokpal and then claims that it will be very effective, independent and impartial.

have moved an amendment to make it 2/3rd. Section 24 has been added to this Bill. I do not know where from this section has come. The Standing Committee has not discussed about this provision then where from this section has come?

CBI is such a tool which converts the minority Government into majority. Therefore, we wanted that the CBI should be free from the clutches of the Government but now it has to report to four different authorities. The CBI shall report to the Lokpal for cases related to Group 'A' and Group 'B' officers, for Group 'C' and Group 'D' to the Central Vigilance Commission and to the Courts for the cases referred to it by the respective courts.

There is a confusion about the Lokpal and the Lokayuktas. The lower bureaucracy has been brought under the Central Vigilance Commission and the Citizen's Charter Bill is under the consideration of the Standing Committee. We want that a strong, effective and constitutionally valid Lokpal should be constituted.

Therefore, either accept all the amendments suggested by us and improve this Bill or the Bill should be referred back again to the Standing Committee and the Government should bring such a fresh Bill which meets the expectations of the people. ■

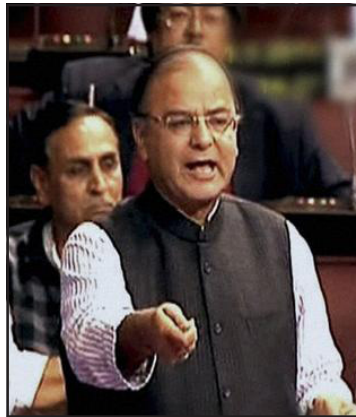
Weak & phoney mechanism to fight corruption is inadequate : Arun Jaitley

The Lokpal and Lokayukta Bill passed in Lok Sabha was introduced in the Rajya Sabha by Congress led UPA government for discussion. The Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley in his speech argued that by legislating weak and phoney mechanism the government was trying to create a smokescreen that it has performed its task. He tore into the Bill highlighting its provisions which were an assault on federalism as guaranteed by the Constitution of India and said that the government had introduced a constitutionally vulnerable Bill. We are publishing the synopsis of the speech delivered by Shri Arun Jaitley in the Rajya Sabha on Lokpal and Lokayukta Bill on 29 December 2011 for our readers. The full text of the speech is being published separately in a booklet.

History has today provided us an opportunity to legislate a strong and effective legal mechanism for investigation and punishment of the corrupt. We can squander this opportunity by legislating a weak and phoney mechanism and then create a smoke screen that we have performed our task. Alternatively, if we are sincere in our effort to combat corruption we owe it to our country to legislate effectively.

The present situation

Admittedly, we live in a society where people are losing faith in the integrity of governance. Political funding in the world's largest democracy is not transparent. Discretions available to those in governance at various stages are being misused. Land, mining, liquor, municipalities, natural resources, revenue departments etc. are hotbeds of corruption.



The silver lining appears to be a popular mood against corruption. There is both anger and revulsion in public. We, politicians and legislators, are being accused of wanting not to create an effective mechanism to fight corruption. The magnitude of corruption in certain recent transactions has aggravated public anger. The fact that the present government has been compelled to bring this half-hearted legislation is the first success of this anti-corruption mood.

Obviously, today's mechanism to fight corruption is inadequate. The investigative mechanism can be influenced by the State. The legal processes

are slow and time consuming. Fatigue sets in and the public revulsion against the corrupt is lost.

The silver lining appears to be a popular mood against corruption. There is both anger and revulsion in public. We, politicians and legislators, are being accused of wanting not to create an effective mechanism to fight corruption. The magnitude of corruption in certain recent

transactions has aggravated public anger. The fact that the present government has been compelled to bring this half-hearted legislation is the first success of this anti-corruption mood. We are all going to be judged at the end of the day as to where we stand in this crusade against corruption.

Do we support a phoney and weak bill or do we want to ensure a strong and effective law against corruption. Not only the government, its allies and every

political party in this House will be judged. Those who are willing to proclaim but unwilling to strike will be considered supporters of a phoney and a weak bill.

Was the Constitutional Amendment necessary ?

The Constitutional amendment which was defeated in the Lok Sabha will not give any special status to the Lok Pal or the Lokayukatas. It merely provided that there shall be a Lokpal at the Centre and the Lokayukatas in the States. An effective Lokpal can be possible through an ordinary legislation as through a Constitutional amendment. A smoke screen was created by the Champions of the Constitutional Bill by claiming that they wanted to give constitutional status to the Lokpal. A mere status gives no power or authority. It is the Lokpal Bill which gives the power and authority. Giving a constitutional status and providing for a hollow and weak Lokpal was a fraud on power. Even without a constitutional amendment, a simple law would be adequate. But this law was being enacted only to please somebody who had assumed a status without authority to the Lokpal would be a game changer.

It is no part of Parliament's job to legislate a superfluous constitutional amendment. In any case, the proposed Constitutional amendment unless it clarified that it was the exercise of parliamentary jurisdiction under article 252, it would have amounted to usurpation of the State authority.

What are the Issues?

I rise to support the very idea of a strong Lokpal. I equally rise
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to oppose a weak and fragile Lokpal. How do I judge this law? I will elaborate three different criteria.

1) Content of the Bill

The appointment process (clause 4) is controlled by the Government of the day. Three out of 5 nominees of the government are on the selection panel. The criteria for being a member of the Search Committee



We believe that the appointment of the Director of CBI should be made by an independent procedure. The collegium which appoints him must also appoint the Director of Prosecution. No one should be allowed to interfere in the CBI investigation – neither the Government nor the Lokpal.



is not specified. The removal process (clause 37) is again controlled by the government. If a citizen is aggrieved against the Lokpal, he can only petition through the government which will decide whether to move the Supreme Court or not. If the government finds a particular Lokpal to be inconvenient, it has the authority to suspend him. Why should it be the government instead of the Supreme Court which should have the power to suspend a Lokpal. Does the

Government want a sword of Damocles' to hang over the Lokpal so that should he fall out of line, the government is entitled to suspend him. The staff of the Lokpal (section 10) will be appointed by a panel submitted by the government.

The procedure of inquiry and investigation.

The procedure of inquiry and investigation is absurd. The Lokpal has no power to act suo moto. The Lokpal can act only on a complaint. When he receives a complaint he will first decide whether to proceed in a case and if it decides to proceed further, it can make a prima facie inquiry. He will then conduct a preliminary inquiry through its inquiry wing to decide whether there is a prima facie case or refer it to the CVC who will conduct a preliminary inquiry. In the case of category A & B officials, the CVC will refer the matter back to the Lokpal who will now take a view whether the matter should be referred to the CBI or any other agency or not. While referring the matter to the Lokpal he will hear the delinquent officer and disclose the line of investigation to him. When the CBI investigates the matter it will send the final report back to the Lokpal who will now become the prosecuting agency.

Nowhere in the world the prosecution and investigation come under different agencies. They maintain an arm's length distance. The Directorate of Prosecution has to be professional but it does not have to go outside the CBI. It should not go outside the CBI. Additionally, the power given to the Lokpal to tinker with the CBI's investigation is against all

known canons of investigation.

The position of CBI

We believe that the appointment of the Director of CBI should be made by an independent procedure. The collegium which appoints him must also appoint the Director of Prosecution. No one should be allowed to interfere in the CBI investigation – neither the Government nor the Lokpal. It is a well settled principle of the criminal jurisprudence that it is the power of the investigating authority to decide as to how to investigate and whom to prosecute. Section 25 of the Bill needs to be amended where the power of administrative and financial control, superintendence and direction over the CBI should be given to the Lokpal.

Similar amendment should be made in the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act.

Non Government organizations

The power under clause 14(1)(h) given to the Lokpal to investigate persons who are not public servants but are officials of societies, trusts and NGOs is improper. It is a revenge on civil society that such a provision is sought to be enacted.

Clause 55 of the Bill needs to be amended. It is no business of the Lokpal to start funding and providing legal aid to corrupt officials.

It is my case that the Lokpal will substantially be a

government appointee through the collegium. The Government control over the Lokpal will intrude into private societies and Trusts. The CBI-Lokpal relationship needs to be well defined. Without autonomous and independent CBI the Lokpal will be a crippled institution. The present procedure of investigation which is like a round robin needs to be amended and corrected. The protection

departmental proceedings (Clause 81(3)(b) is exclusively in the State domain.

Article 253 of the Constitution provides for enforcing India's international commitments. Why should the Government of India not prepare a model law and expect the States to follow it. Article 252 gives an adequate flexibility to the Parliament to make such a model law. There is no international commitment of India which deals with reservation on the basis of caste and religion in any international convention. If the Central government believes that it has power to make State Lok Ayukatas Act then the State powers will be eclipsed and all existing State Lokayukata Acts would be invalid.

The provision of clause 64(5) would be redundant. If the Centre had the exclusive jurisdiction to frame such a law then transition to State law would not be required. Constitutionally the correct course would be to frame a law under Article 252 after obtaining resolution of two States.

b. On Reservation

Whereas I support the affirmative action which the Constitution provides for reservation, this Bill provides for reservation on the basis of religion which is outside the Constitution. Additionally, the words 'not less than' provides for at least 50% of the Members of the Lokpal which in the

Whereas I support the affirmative action which the Constitution provides for reservation, this Bill provides for reservation on the basis of religion which is outside the Constitution. Additionally, the words 'not less than' provides for at least 50% of the Members of the Lokpal which in the present case would be five out of nine. It would exceed the 50% ceiling laid down by the Supreme Court. Why does the government want to kill the Lokpal even before it comes into existence.

given to the Prime Minister to hold his inquiry in camera lacks appearance of justice.

2. The government has brought a constitutionally vulnerable Bill.

a. Lack of legislative confidence

The State Lokayukata has two functions to perform. — The power to prosecute for criminal offences and the power to hold departmental inquiries against State employees. The power of criminal prosecution is available in the Concurrent List i.e. Entry, 1, 2, 11A in List-III. However, the power of taking departmental action against civil servants of the State is a power exclusively in the State domain i.e. Entry 41 of List-II. The power to take

present case would be five out of nine. It would exceed the 50% ceiling laid down by the Supreme Court. Why does the government want to kill the Lokpal even before it comes into existence.

c. Sense of the House

The sense of the House provided for a Citizen Charter and all civil servants to come under the Lokpal. Somehow, the government has proposed a separate legislation for Citizen Charter. We should be seen as honouring the sense of the House. The C and D category employees should be treated at par with A & B category employees. An additional facility can be given to the Lokpal to frame its own rules under which some of the functions can be delegated or some performed by the Lokpal or its delegatee.

Institution building is a challenging task. We are today attempting to create an integrity institution in India. Let us not subvert the institution even before it is formed. We need to create a powerful and independent Lokpal. Let us not create a subservient Lokpal. An effective Lokpal needs an independent CBI. We must not provide for a pliable and weak Lokpal. The Prime Minister has made it appear as though there is a conflict between fighting corruption and federalism. Both can coexist. We are in the process of creating history; if we create bad history, the generations to come will not pardon us. They will be compelled to correct the error into which we are falling. ■

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BJP march against 'murder of democracy'

Terming the failure of the Government to get the Lokpal Bill passed in Rajya Sabha by the UPA Government as planned conspiracy and a murder of democracy, BJP workers on December 30, 2011 staged a protest march from Delhi BJP Pradesh Headquarters to the Parliament.

Thousands of agitated workers were taken into custody at Parliament Street Police Station. Workers led by State unit chief Shri Vijender Gupta raised slogans: *Congress ne aadhi raat ko ki loktantra ki hatya, jantantra ki hatya, Manmohan sarkar, isteefa do, isteefa do, jantantra ki hatyari sarkar, barkhasht karo, barkhasht karo.*"

The workers tied black strips over their mouth and marched with black flags. BJP national vice-president Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi was also present and said the history of the Congress has been to betray the people at midnight.

"The former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had declared emergency at midnight of 24/25 June, 1975 and put lakhs of people in jails across the country. The character of the Congress is despotic and undemocratic. History is witness of the fact that whenever the Congress comes to power, the country has to suffer from corruption, price spiral and terrorism," Shri Naqvi said addressing the protest rally.

Addressing the workers before the protest march, Shri Gupta said the intentions of Congress Government were not good from the very beginning. Leader of the Opposition in Delhi Legislative Assembly Professor Vijay Kumar Malhotra told the demonstrators that now, the objective of BJP is to dislodge Congress Government because till this Congress misrule continues, 121 crore people of the country will have to face corruption, price spiral and terrorism.

Prominent party leaders Sarvshri Ramesh Bidhuri, Pravesh Verma, Ashish Sood, RP Singh, Subhash Arya, Yogendra Chadoliya, including other office bearers were present in the demonstration. ■

BJP to collect funds from common men to contest election : Prabhat Jha

BJP Madhya Pradesh unit on December 26, 2011 announced that it will contest the next election frugally and collect funds from ordinary people, not moneybags. The party will not seek election funds from the rich and rather collect donations ranging from Rs 5 to Rs 1,000 from public ahead of the 2013 elections, MP State BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha said while speaking in the two-day state executive meet in Gwalior. Tough decisions like this will have to be taken to rid politics of corruption, which thrives because of expensive elections, he said insisting that the party's MP unit will be a torchbearer in this regard. "Let's start from here to bridge the trust deficit faced by politicians." ■

BJP-SAD alliance set to return to power

Punjab is on the threshold of assembly elections once again. It will go to polls on January 30.

BJP this time again is fighting the Punjab assembly election in alliance with its old time ally the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD). In the last elections, BJP had contested 23 seats and won 19. After delimitation of constituencies it is the first assembly election in the State. This time again the Party is contesting the same number of seats with the difference that Batala and Garhshankar

constituencies contested by it have been swapped with Amritsar East and Ludhiana West contested by SAD in last Vidhan Sabha.

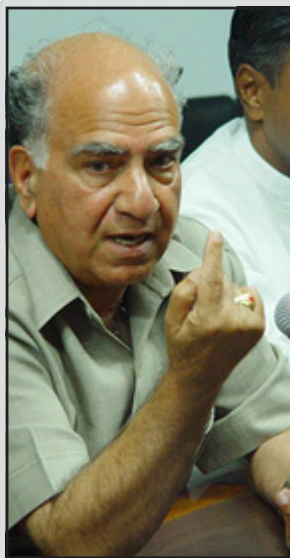
BJP-SAD alliance is as strong as ever. They are fighting the elections unitedly as one man. Although BJP is contesting only 23 seats yet, in the words of BJP Punjab State President Shri Ashwani Sharma, BJP impact will be felt in all the 117 seats in State.

SAD had contested the same number of 94 seats and won 48 securing 37.09 percent votes. BJP

secured 19 out of 23 it contested and got 8.29 percent votes. The Alliance had then dethroned Capt. Amrinder Singh led Congress government which could secure only 44 seats out of 116 it contested.

Congress-led UPA never for a moment did stand by Punjab which is undergoing the after-effects of terrorism which plagued the State about 15 years back ruining the economy of the State which at one time was the richest in the country. Rising above petty political considerations Punjab Chief

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Shri Shanta Kumar told *Kamal Sandesh* on phone that there is no anti-incumbency against BJP in the State. "We have neutralized it by changing our candidates where necessary". The delimitation of constituencies is also going to favour BJP, he claimed. Shri Shanta Kumar was confident that the BJP-SAD alliance will bounce back to power with still

greater majority. Punjab people are annoyed at "deliberate neglect" of their State by Manmohan Government and rampant corruption at the Centre, he added. People of Punjab will vote our alliance to power once again on the strength of its performance beyond expectations.



Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda was brimming with enthusiasm at the prospects of Badal government being voted to power once again. Speaking on phone from Jalandhar Shri Nadda said that rising prices and corruption, factionalism within Congress, discrimination against Punjab by Congress will be the undoing of the main opposition party in the State. On the contrary, Alliance government had done extremely well in ushering in development in the State, excellent roads, new flyovers and canals that irrigated dry land will stand in good stead to the BJP-SAD alliance. Power cuts have become a thing of the past, he claimed. The Party workers are united and happy at the way the party nominations have been given, claimed Shri Nadda.

BJP-SAD Alliance will bounce back to power : Ashwani Sharma

Shri Ashwani Sharma is the President of Punjab Pradesh Bharatiya Janata Party. For the last about two years when he was unanimously elected to this post, he has infused in the Party the youthful dash and dynamism. He put the party in election mode for the past one year down to the booth level. That is why the Party has taken the announcement of the election schedule for Punjab in its stride. He brims with confidence that the BJP-SAD alliance will bounce back to power with greater majority not “on the basis of tall promises but on the strength of solid performance”.

National Convener of BJP’s Literature & Publication Cell, Shri Amba Charan Vashishth, spoke to Shri Ashwani Sharma in New Delhi last week before the names of BJP candidates had been announced. He is himself contesting from Pathankot assembly constituency. Excerpts:



Now that election schedule in Punjab has been announced, how prepared is BJP for the challenge?

BJP is in top gear to face the election. It is not that we became active only after the elections were announced. We had been making preparations for the election for the past one year in a constructive manner. Our preparations are in full swing down up to the booth level. We had organized a very big rally on December 23 at Jalandhar which was the biggest in BJP history. It was a display of party unity and strength. The rally also held a mirror to how strong the BJP-SAD alliance was. This massive rally was addressed by BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkariji. Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Parkash Singh Badal and Deputy Chief Minister Sardar Sukhbir Singh Badal were also there and they addressed the people. Punjab party affairs in-charge Shri Shanta Kumar, National Vice-President and Election in-charge Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda were also there. Karyakartas

are brimming with great enthusiasm to ensure Alliance’s win. In a way the mood of BJP karyakartas appears to be that of celebrating a festival, the festival of elections in the State.

How different from the last is going to be the election scene this time?

The only difference is that last time we were in power and were seeking people’s mandate on the promise to usher in a clean and efficient administration. Today, we are in power. The BJP-SAD Alliance has acquitted itself well by coming up to peoples’ expectations. We have displayed accountability and transparency. The pace and extent of development during the last five years is in itself a record. People recognise this fact. Actually opposition Congress has nothing to find fault with the pace of progress registered under BJP-SAD alliance. All that they are now doing is only threatening the officers and the public that if we come into power, we will wreak revenge using the words like *maar diyange, kat diyange*. They have nothing to challenge our work.

We are more accountable towards the people. Comparatively the Alliance has done exceptionally well in comparison to previous Congress regime.

SAD is reported to have left 23 seats for BJP. Are you satisfied?

Yes. We demanded only that much seats. Two seats swapped between us, but the number of seats BJP will contest remains the same.

Is there any problem between SAD and BJP on number of seats or specific constituencies?

No, there is no problem. The alliance is fighting the election in complete harmony and unity as one unit and one man.

What was the criterion for selection of candidates?

Clean image, winnability, commitment towards the organisation and party ideology and contribution towards promotion and implementation of party programmes and policies..

This time election would be held as per the delimited constituencies. How far is this going to help or harm BJP?

It is the first election after delimitation of constituencies. BJP has swapped two seats with SAD. Yet, it makes not much difference. Our alliance will stand to gain from it.

What are BJP chances this time?

BJP has always played a prominent role in the State politics. We will continue to do so in future also Alliance government is dependent upon BJP. Although BJP is contesting only 23 seats, yet it will make an impact in all the 117 seats. As earlier, this time too BJP's contribution towards formation of a government in Punjab will be vital and crucial.

Are you yourself contesting elections to Vidhan Sabha?

I have never myself taken a decision about myself. Whatever will be decided by the party I will obey it most humbly. I am a disciplined soldier of the party. My only anxiety is that the party wins more seats than last time and the alliance is back in power.

What are the issues that are likely to dominate the electoral scene?

24 hour power supply with establishment of 5 new power projects are the hallmark of

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Badal government achievements. After one year we shall be selling electricity as do we sell agricultural products in the market. During Congress regime there used to be a 7-hour daily power cut. Business establishments were ordered to close at 7 in the evening.

A record 1,10,000 youth were given employment by BJP-SAD government in a most transparent manner.. Not a single complaint was received by the government. Every section of society was taken care of by the Government during its tenure.

How far is Manpreet Badal factor going to affect the SAD-BJP electoral prospects?

It will have no adverse impact on the alliance. Two of his nearest supporters have already deserted him.

BSP has announced candidates for all the seats. How would it affect the outcome of the result?

BSP will not harm us in any way. Wherever it makes a dent, it will not adversely impact our alliance.

Why should people vote for your alliance?

Because the people have seen unprecedented development at a fast pace. We are not seeking votes on the basis of our promises but on the strength of our marvelous performance. We have delivered much more than what we promised. Above all, rampant corruption at the Congress ruled Centre, resentment over UPA's proposal to allow 51% FDI in retail trade, rising prices and discrimination against Punjab on political grounds will work against the Congress.

Do you think BJP-SAD alliance will bounce back to power?

Most certainly with greater majority of seats than last time.

What are the positive and negative points of your alliance?

Our Alliance has won people's faith. Congress has no positive plan of action and development. Congress is not coming out with some constructive promises. It is only threatening both the bureaucracy and our supporters with dire consequences after they win elections. ■

We will go to the people on the basis of our work : Bishan Singh Chufal



As the Election Commission announced the polling dates for State assemblies, Uttarakhand has also entered into election mode along with other four States. The State will go to polls on 30th January 2012 and the counting will take place on 4th March 2012. Uttarakhand assembly has 70 seats with BJP government led by chief minister Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri in power in the State. In the last five years of BJP rule Uttarakhand can count on many achievements. Apart from becoming the first State in the country to create a dedicated ministry for bringing in necessary administrative reforms to reduce nepotism and red tape, the chief minister, the entire Cabinet and top officials of the State administration have declared their assets. Not only that the Lokayukta Bill, 2011 has been passed in the State assembly, the government has also passed the Uttarakhand Right to Service Act, 2011, the Uttarakhand Special Courts Act, 2011, and the Uttarakhand Transfer for Public Servants Act, 2011 creating a new era of hope, development and growth through an accountable and responsible administration. Even though the State faced discrimination at the hands of centre as the

Congress led UPA government abruptly withdrew the special package granted to Uttarakhand by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee led NDA government, the BJP government in the State was able to subsidise rice and wheat for both people below and above poverty line in the face of rising prices. On the basis of its achievements BJP hopes to renew its mandate in the coming assembly polls as BJP State President hopes to form the government with two-third majority this time. Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi and Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sinha from Kamal Sandesh spoke to Shri Bishan Singh Chufal last week just before the announcement of the first list of candidates in New Delhi. Excerpts :

BJP government has been in power in Uttarakhand for last five years. What are the major achievements of BJP government in these five years which the party plans to take to the electorate in the coming elections?

In the 2012 assembly elections we will go to the people on the basis of the work which BJP government did in the last five years. Our first achievement was to implement 108 Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay health services schemes. The people in the remote areas where not even a single doctor was available got immense relief from this scheme and

thousands of lives were saved and better health facilities were provided to infants. We also made provision for 50% women reservation in *panchayat* elections. It strengthened the process of women empowerment. We also started 'Gaur Kanya Dhan Yojana' under which financial assistance was given to the girl students passing intermediate examination. If a girl is born in the family, 'Nandadevi Kanya Yojana' has been started for her. The medical education was made possible in Rs.15,000/- only. Transparency was maintained in recruitments. In Uttarakhand there used to

be written exams followed by interview. In the written exams the candidates used to pass but in interview they used to get less marks. Candidates having access to power used to get selected. The system has been remodeled now. The other work was to provide food grains at cheaper rates. The price rise due to the wrong policies of the UPA government has made the life of the people miserable. We made arrangements for cheaper food grains. Today APL and BPL families are getting ration at cheaper rates in the entire State. The manner in which Hon'ble chief minister Shri Bhuvan Chandra Khanduri has brought Lokayukta Bill in the State so that corruption is reduced and public fund is invested in public works and people may get benefit has been appreciated everywhere. We will also go to the people with this achievement. Right to Services has enabled the people to get their papers in time. The other important achievement is about restoring rights over land. As per Forest Act 1980 the rights of the people over land were restricted which impeded the developmental works. Now that draconian provision of the law has come to an end and people can carry out developmental works on the civil and barren lands without seeking permission of the government of India. It has also enabled distribution of land to the landless. We will go the people with these developmental works.

When BJP forms the government the role of the organization becomes important as BJP is an organization based party. In the party, ideology and discipline are considered very important. How the organization and government worked together so that the achievements of the government were taken to the people by the organization?

In the last five years the organization and the government worked in complete harmony. We tried to take the achievements of the government to people through the organization. We have six Fronts and 35 Cells. They have their own team of office bearers. Our executive committees from *mandal* to district level have been constituted. We have organised many programmes

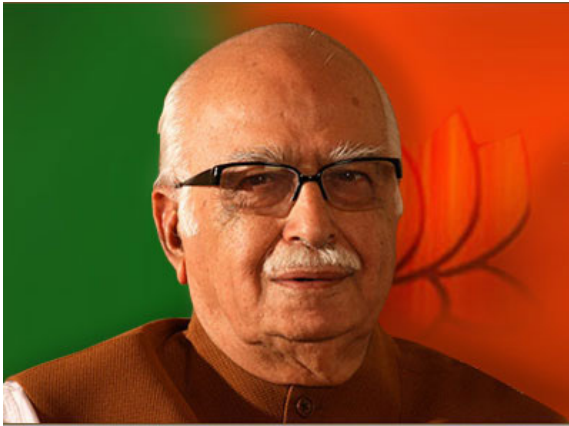
through these committees. We have organised training programmes from *mandal* to district levels. The training programme of Mahila Morcha and Yuva Morcha have been organized. In these training programmes sessions were organized on how to propagate the achievements of the government among the people. It has helped people to get a lot of information. Today, the organization has reached upto booth level in the State. A team has been constituted in the State which is taking the developmental works of the BJP government in the last five years to the people. Our MPs in the parliament are also raising the issue of discrimination meted out the State in denying industrial package, natural calamity relief and economic package by the Centre, we are making people aware of this sort of discrimination. We are a cadre based party. There is complete harmony between organization and government. We all are united in our aim to form the government in 2012 elections.

The organization has the responsibility to give good leadership to the people. Since the elections have been announced, how the party plans to select its candidates so that good candidates get elected by the people?

In view of the elections this time we have constituted teams at *mandal* and district levels to select good candidates. The names were identified after consulting all the activist of the party and on the basis of their recommendations. The State Selection Committee then considered these names. The basis of the candidate selection is the image of the candidate and his chances to win election. The name of such types of candidates were identified from among the activists and sent to the Central Parliamentary Board after considering them at the State level. The State Selection Committee has laid emphasis in its discussion with State election In-charge Shri Thawarchand Gehlot that the names of the candidates be finalized unanimously.

Recently Lokayukata Bill was passed in Uttarakhand. The steps were taken in the State to give clean administration and people oriented government. What kinds of impact of these steps do you seen among

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“Hard Power, Soft Power, Smart Power”

By L.K Advani

It was in the last quarter of 2011 that I undertook my Jan Chetna Yatra. I discontinued for a while, therefore, blogging. In this first quarter of the year 2012, I am resuming my blogs. It would be in place to recall that my shifting from Rajasthan, where I spent my first post-partition decade, to Delhi took place after the Second General Election of 1957.

It was in this election that Shri Vajpayee had been first elected to the Lok Sabha.

Party General Secretary and our chief Party ideologue, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya wanted me to set up the party's parliamentary office and assist the small group of MPs the party had. Since then I have been closely associated with the party's parliamentary wing. The association continues till today.

Looking back at the year just ended I issued a statement complimenting the party's new President Nitin Gadkari under whose leadership the party had become “considerably stronger and more vibrant.”

So far as the two Houses of Parliament are concerned, public opinion has been unanimous that both our party leaders
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Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley have always made outstanding contributions to the deliberations of Parliament. The Party is justifiably proud of them, who are Leaders of Opposition in the two Houses.

It is not only their individual performance in the House that evokes admiration, and raises the level of debate, but also their management of the parties which makes the BJP a really formidable opposition in Parliament.

Since Jana Sangh days, during the Session period, all party MPs from both Houses meet religiously every Tuesday, and discuss what has transpired in the earlier week, and what is likely to come up during the current week. BJP MPs tell me that Congress MPs privately envy how BJP members have easy access to their leaders and how at these weekly meetings, have no difficulty raising issues unhesitatingly.

It was during my incarceration in the Bangalore Central Prison during the 1975-77 Emergency that I read Alvin Toffler's FUTURE SHOCK, and became an admirer of the author. Later I read his THIRD WAVE and POWERSHIFT. Powershift

is an engrossing book which focuses attention on three major sources of power: the army, wealth and knowledge and traces the history of how power has been shifting from one to the other, and how in the present era, knowledge societies have come to wield exceptional influence.

Last week a friend from New York presented me the latest book on the same subject by a scholar who has specialised on how power has evolved in the modern world. This book, titled THE FUTURE OF POWER is authored by Joseph S. Nye, Jr., a former Dean at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

In the era of Kennedy and Khrushchev, Nye writes, power resources were measured in terms of nuclear missiles, industrial capacity, and number of men under arms and tanks lined up ready to cross the plains of Eastern Europe. But the global information age of the twenty-first century is quickly rendering these traditional marks of power obsolete, remapping power relationships.

The book is said to be “a new power narrative that considers

the shifts, innovations, bold technologies, and new relationships that will define the twenty-first century.”

The book uses three epithets repeatedly to qualify power: hard power, soft power and smart power. In his preface to the book the author quotes Secretary of the Defense Robert Gates urging U.S. Government to commit more money to ‘soft power tools’, including diplomacy, economic assistance and communications. U.S. military spending, he pointed out, was more than \$36 trillion. Joseph Nye has coined the phrase ‘smart power’ to describe a nation’s capacity “to combine hard and soft power into effective strategies in varying contexts.”

An interesting example cited by the author in the context of Pakistan going nuclear runs as follows:

In the mid-1970s, France agreed to sell Pakistan a nuclear reprocessing plant that could extract plutonium, a material that could be used either for civilian purposes or for bombs. Concerned about the spread of nuclear weapons, the Ford administration tried to stop the plant by buying off Pakistan with high-performance aircraft, but Pakistan refused the deal. Both the Ford and Carter administrations tried to prevail upon France to cancel the sale, but the French refused on the grounds that it was a legitimate sale for civilian purposes only.

Nothing seemed to work until June 1977, when I (the author) was in charge of Jimmy Carter’s nonproliferation policy and was allowed to present French officials with new evidence that Pakistan was

preparing a nuclear weapon. A top French official looked me in the eye and told me that if this were true, France would have to find a way to cancel the completion of the plant. Subsequently, he was as good as his word, and the plant was not completed.

“How did the United States accomplish this major objective? No threats were issued. No payments were made. No carrots were dangled or sticks brandished. French behavior changed because of persuasion and trust. I was there and saw it happen. This hardly fits the usual model of power that is prevalent in most editorials or in recent foreign policy books that do not consider persuasion a

form of power because it “is essentially an intellectual or emotional process”.

TAILPIECE

A major event of 2011 was Washington’s remarkable success in locating the perpetrator of 9/11, Osama Bin Laden in Abbotabad, Pakistan, and eliminating him.

A retired Indian Foreign Service Official gifted me on this New Year a book titled SEAL TARGET GERONIMO by Chuck Pfarrer I look forward with interest to reading this ‘inside story’ of that episode. Meanwhile, I have seen reports on the Internet quoting U.S. Special Operations describing this book as ‘a fabrication’ ■

Courtesy : blog.lkadvani.in

BJP asks China to probe incident involving Indian diplomat S Balachandran

The BJP on January 3, 2012 condemned the treatment meted out to Indian diplomat S Balachandran in China and demanded that authorities there conduct a thorough inquiry into the incident and ensure that it is not repeated as several Indian businessmen visit the neighbouring country. “The Chinese Government must conduct a detailed enquiry into the deplorable incident and take appropriate action against those responsible for ensuring that the Indian diplomat was provided adequate security and other facilities while he was on duty,” BJP spokesperson Shri Tarun Vijay said. He pointed out that though it was known that Balachandran is diabetic, he was not provided any food for six hours. Moreover, he was reportedly heckled while he was leaving. “A lot of Chinese goods come to India and our traders go there often. They are provided documents only in Chinese without any interpreters, and not given appropriate legal assistance or food. In some instances family members were also reportedly harassed,” Vijay alleged, demanding that such grievances be addressed. He said 30 Indians are in Chinese jails and government should make efforts to free them. “Such incidents do not contribute to the stated Chinese intention to strengthen bilateral ties particularly people-to-people ties and are completely contrary to the declared desire for friendship,” Vijay said. The BJP also demanded that India should increase its consulates in China from three to ten, insisting that even smaller countries like Indonesia and Malaysia have eight and six missions respectively. Presence of Indian media in China should also be enhanced, he said. ■

Congress 'hand' robbing the pockets of *aam aadmi* : Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

Addressing a huge public rally following the two day State BJP Executive committee meeting at Maharaj Bada, Gwalior on December 27, 2011 Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said that if the *Rajkumar* of Congress party Rahul Gandhi

Congress is neck deep in corruption and has made the life of poor miserable. Rise in prices, graft and scams never took place during Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's led NDA govt.

On that occasion Bharatiya Janata Party National president Shri Nitin Gadkari felicitated

people with the good works done by the Bharatiya Janata Party and inform them about development works done in the State.

Shri Chouhan said, "Madhya Pradesh is fast moving on the wheels of economic development, the growth rate of



feels that Mayawati's elephant is eating the money of Uttar Pradesh's poor, he should also tell the people of the country why the hand of Congress is robbing the pockets of the *aam aadmi* of the country.

Shri Nitin Gadkari said *Bhay*, *Bhookh* and *Bhrashtachar* (fear, hunger and corruption) – prevailing in the country – could be eliminated only after forming a National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government.

Shri Gadkari said the

State Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan for establishing a Hindi University in the State in the name of former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Addressing on the concluding day of the meeting Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said Congress is misleading people of the State by making ill publicity against the State BJP Government and it is the duty of the party cadres and office bearers to reach the

the State was minus 3 per cent in the year 2003 that has climbed to 10.06 per cent in 2011. The target for State's economic growth rate in the 12th scheme of the State has been set at 12 per cent."

He said that the development works have been carried out in the State like a drive and as a result the State that used to count among the *BIMARU* category is marching with the top three fastest developing growth rate States. Reiterating his allegations of partisan

attitude of the Centre with the State the Chief Minister said that the Congress is nervous with the good governance based development of the State as it is clearly seeing that its political base is shrinking in Madhya Pradesh and that is why it is trying to axe the interest of over 7.5 crore people of the State through the UPA Government of the Centre led by it, he added.

He said that the construction of roads worth Rs 16501 crore is going on in the State but the Union Government is neither providing its share for them nor is it de-notifying these roads despite request from us, despite this the BJP Government has decided to repair the ramshackle national highways passing through the State on our own expenses and for this Rs 120 crores have already been sanctioned.

During the meeting, Bharatiya Janata Party State President Shri Prabhat Jha said that Hindi syllabi will be prepared for medical, engineering and information technology courses in the State with the objective of ensuring emergence of talent from Hindi language-dominated areas. We are ready to give a fitting response to the Centre's step-motherly behaviour, he added.

Shri Jha said that BJP had provided political stability to the state. "In 2000, Congress used to say that BJP can never provide stability in Madhya Pradesh, but the things have changed now and we alone can provide a stable government to the state," Shri Jha said. BJP won two successive assembly elections (2003 and 2008) in the state, he said, adding that the party had

"trounced the Congress decisively".

He said that the Congress is leveling false accusation on our leaders and defaming them. This

delegates and talked with them, he lauded the arrangements of the meeting. Shri Chouhan reached the venue at 8.45 am and met field workers who were



should not be tolerated. He said that the structure of party organisation at district level should be extended to Assembly level.

The State president presented two important proposals on the last day of the State Executive Committee meeting. Shri Jha's proposals included Gwalior in national Capital region and to award Padam Vibhushan to the late leader Shitla Sahai.

On the second day of State BJP Executive Committee meeting, the CM met all the

pleased to find the CM among them. Shri Chouhan lauded the arrangements of staying the delegates as well as menu served to them. He praised the vehicle committee in-charge for making parking arrangements.

Among others National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ramlal, BJP National General Secretary and State in-charge Shri Anant Kumar, former CM Shri Sunderlal Patwa, National General Secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar and other senior leaders were present on the occasion. ■

MP assembly passes Hindi University bill

Madhya Pradesh Assembly on December 2, 2011 passed the historic Hindi University Bill, paving the way for setting up the first Hindi University in the state to be named after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Piloting the 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi University Bill-2011', the Higher and Technical Education Minister, Shri Laxmikant Sharma said that it was an historic occasion for the country and the state that Hindi University is being set up in Bhopal in the name of former Prime Minister. Vajpayee's love for his mother-tongue can be gauged from the fact that when he was External Affairs Minister of the country, he chose to address the UN General Assembly in Hindi, Girija Shankar Sharma of BJP recalled. The bill was passed unanimously by the house. ■

DHUMAL GOVT COMPLETES 4 YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIMACHAL Gadkari pats BJP govt., exhorts people to renew mandate in next year's election

From Our Correspondent

On December 30, 2011 Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal made history when his BJP government completed four years of his current second term as Himachal Chief Minister. With this he

with the sounding of local musical instruments and Kullu-Kinnaur *natis* (dance performances). The tribal Kinnaur troupe was led by local MLA Shri Tejwant Negi in the traditional dress.

kicked off BJP's election campaign for the next year's assembly poll due in December when he asked the people to renew their mandate to the Dhumal government as BJP had "fulfilled all the promises made



became the first non-Congress chief minister to serve the people in Himachal for that long.

Another history was created when a historic gathering of more than 25 thousand people thronged the historic Dhalpur maidan, the venue of the world famous Kullu Dussehra, to celebrate the historic occasion.

The star attractions of the day were the BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari and Prof. Dhumal. Shri Gadkari specially flew from Delhi to join the celebrations as the chief guest. As he arrived at the Dhalpur maidan he was greeted with traditional Kullu welcome

Complimenting Prof. Dhumal for completing four years of his present term, Shri Nitin Gadkari launched a scathing condemnation of the UPA government as the "most corrupt the country had since independence". He recounted UPA's numerous scams like 2G spectrum, commonwealth games, Adarsh housing and others to bring home to the people the fact how corrupt Manmohan government was. He regretted the government was not doing enough to bring back the black money stashed by Indians in foreign banks abroad.

Shri Gadkari virtually

in its manifesto within four years". He congratulated Dhumal government for having won 52 national awards for its achievements in various fields. This received a thunderous applause from the huge gathering.

Shri Gadkari said that a survey had disclosed that "over 60 percent party men approve of Dhumal government for good governance and development". He also said he had the report card of all the ministers and MLAs with him.

He alleged that those who were looting the country had been given a free hand by the

UPA government while farmers were forced to commit suicide. That a majority of the daily wagers were forced to survive on a paltry income of ₹ 1,000 per month in the country holds mirror to the kind of economic policies being pursued by Congress-led UPA.

Shri Nitin Gadkari said only BJP could provide a clean and efficient government to secure country's future as it had done during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee regime.

"The Congress has ruined the federal structure and has divided the nation on religious and communal lines to appease the voters," he alleged.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal thanked the people for their unstinted support to his government and BJP during the last four years. He promised that his government will work with greater zeal and enthusiasm to serve the people in a much better way in the times to come. He also availed himself of the opportunity to launch many new public welfare schemes and to extend many financial benefits to the students, anganwari workers and employees. He said his government had taken care of every section of society.

BJP National Vice-President Shri Shanta Kumar narrated what pro-people policies he had launched when he became chief minister in 1977 and 1990. He praised the Dhumal government for its great achievements and appealed to the people to vote BJP to power once again in the next year's elections.

BJP national general secretary Shri J. P. Nadda, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha President Shri Anurag Thakur MP, BJP State President Shri Khimi Ram MLA, PWD Minister Thakur Gulab Singh, Health Minister Dr. Rajiv Bindal, IPH Minister Shri Ravinder Ravi, State General Secretary Shri Ramsarup Sharma, and former BJP President Shri Suresh Bharadwaj, among others, also addressed the gathering and highlighted the fact that during the last four years BJP had won the assembly seats of Jubbal-Kotkhai, Rohroo and Renuka for the first time since the first elections in 1952. ■

Minister Sardar Parkash Singh Badal earnestly wanted that the inauguration of the Virasat-e-Khalsa Heritage Complex at Anandpur Sahib, a mammoth museum chronicling Sikh history, be performed by Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh but for narrow political considerations he did not come. After waiting for months, Sardar Badal had to do it himself on November 25 last in a mammoth gathering.

Because of anti-farmer policies of the Congress government at the Centre, Punjab which was at the vanguard of Green Revolution, was the worst sufferer. The situation has come to such a pass that agriculturists in the State are now looking for other vocations.

The prominent issues that will dominate the campaigning are the rising spectre of corruption, failure to bring back the black money stashed by Indians in foreign banks, attempt of UPA to allow 51% FDI in retail trade, discrimination against Punjab, failure to help the Punjab farmers, and the like. On the other hand, Punjab Congress is riddled with factionalism and has lagged behind in announcing its candidates. It has no positive and constructive plan of action to rid the State of its problems.

The election campaign of BJP was launched by its National President Shri Nitin Gadkari at Jalandhar with a massive rally on December 23 last which was also addressed by Punjab Chief Minister Sardar Prakash Singh Badal and Deputy CM Sardar Sukhbir Singh Badal.

BJP National Vice-President and State Party in-charge Shri Shanta Kumar and National General Secretary, State Election in-charge Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda and Secretary Organisation Shri Ajay Jamwal are leaving no stone unturned to secure for the Party a greater victory and ensure the return of BJP-SAD alliance back to power. ■

*(A Special Report by
A. C. Vashishth)*

***Kamal Sandesh Parivar
wishes a very happy
Vasant Panchami
to its esteemed readers***

MADHYA PRADESH**Agri growth rate of State reached in double digits due to farmer oriented schemes : Prabhat Jha**

BJP State president Shri Prabhat Jha MP has greeted the farmers of the State for the rise of agricultural growth rate. He said, "The agriculture growth rate of the State has reached in double digits due to the farmer oriented schemes of the Shivraj Singh Chouhan led Government."

Shri Jha further said that the national agriculture growth rate has registered a negligible hike of 0.4 per cent while Madhya Pradesh not only registered a record growth of 9 per cent in the field but also buried the BIMARU tag affixed to it since long. He said that agriculture in Madhya Pradesh is rain based, and the agricultural growth registered in adverse rain conditions in the State is only due to the generous facilities provided to the farmers by the State Government. The irrigation land in the State was increased from 35 to 50 per cent and in the process a total of over 8 lakh hectare of irrigation land was increased in the State, he added.

Shri Jha said that the successive Governments since independence never bothered to decrease the burden of interest on farmers' loans, but the BJP led NDA Government took this step for the first time in the history of the country and lowered the interest on farmers' loans. The Madhya Pradesh Government following the trend took the initiative of providing loan to farmers at just one per cent interest rate and became leader in implementing the farmers' oriented schemes.

The BJP State president said that the farmer oriented schemes of the State are even lauded by the Congress led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government at the centre.

During the past five years cooperatives provided generous loans of over Rs 19,750 crores to the farmers, he added. He said that in the same

time period, electricity tariff subsidy of Rs 5000

crore was provided and grant was provided for farming instruments, urea and seeds. Madhya Pradesh became talk of *choupals* across the country for providing Rs 100 per quintal on wheat and an attractive bonus on paddy, he added.

CM is public servant in democracy : Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Addressing the people of a village of the State Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that Chief Minister is a public servant in democracy. Madhya Pradesh Government is working with a sense of service and public service is the prime objective of the Government, he added. He said that everyone should



work with complete dedication and honesty where ever he is. Shri Chouhan informed that *Gauraksha Ahiniyam* has now been implemented in MP and cow slaughter will be a culpable crime under the Act.

Referring to *Beti Bachao Abhiyan*, Shri Chouhan said that the drive is being carried out in the state with a view to removing discrimination between daughters and sons and the campaign will be made successful through coordinated efforts. The Chief Minister attended *Shrimad Bhagwad Katha* with his wife. The CM met several bereaved families at Rehti and consoled them. He also interacted with villagers and extended New Year greetings to them.

KARNATAKA**State is developing fast like Gujarat : Sadananda Gowda**

On attracting investment, Karnataka is fast outpacing developed states like Gujarat, which was the role model at president, Chief Minister Shri D V Sadananda Gowda said.

Addressing the gathering at a two-day coastal business development summit, organised by Federation of Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FKCCI) in Mangalore, he



emphasised that this was possible with focus on industrialization in the last four years. The second Global Investors Meet (GIM) planned in Bangalore in June aims to attract an investment of Rs 6 lakh crore for Karnataka, he said.

The CM elucidated, among these 288 projects, 89 are in their final stages; six lakh jobs would be generated from the new industries. Shri Gowda declared that the government through the GIM will sustain its status as an investor-friendly State. He hoped that the coastal development summit will boost the economy of coastal Karnataka region. Industries with advanced technology are the need of the hour; however, environmental issues cannot be ignored, he said. Minister for Large and Medium Scale Industries Shri Murugesh R Nirani said the government will focus on setting up industries in two and three-tier cities in the GIM-2012. The government is committed to provide special package for investors looking at regions outside Bangalore, he added.

The Karnataka CM signed three Memoranda of Understanding which included setting up a subsidiary industry worth 1,100 crore and two hospitality industries worth 105 crore and 25 crore respectively.

UTTAR PRADESH

UPA Govt on way out : Naqvi

The Bharatiya Janata Party National Vice-President Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said that the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre was on its way out and that the Lok Sabha polls would take place soon after the Assembly elections were over in five states.



Speaking to media persons at the BJP state headquarters in Lucknow, Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said the BJP would launch an effective and aggressive poll campaign in UP from the second week of the current month. Shri Naqvi lambasted the Bahujan Samaj Party, the Samajwadi Party and the Congress for their appeasement policies and indulgence in corruption. While the Congress is the fountainhead of corruption and bad governance, the SP and BSP are its dubious branches, Shri Naqvi said. Shri Naqvi was in the state capital to preside over a meeting called to discuss media management in the coming Assembly polls. The meeting was attended by leaders entrusted with media management in all six regions of the State. ■

Continued from page 21

the people and how people are responding to this Bill?

The Lokayukata Bill enacted in the State was definitely for the purpose of ending corruption. The chief minister Shri Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri has set an example in the country by enacting the Bill. We have taken strong initiative in the direction of corruption free State. It will definitely benefit us in the 2012 elections. People want that corruption should end.

What kind of difference do you see between the last Congress government and the present BJP government which you feel should be projected before the people?

How much work was done during the last

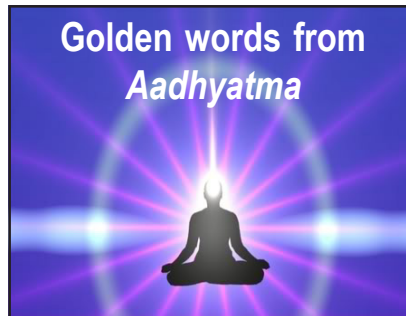
Congress government? How many kilometers of road were constructed? How many schemes for potable water were implemented? How many handpumps were laid down? We are going to the people with a comparative list of works that was done during Congress rule and in the time of BJP government. We have done many times more than what Congress had done during its time. We have also done better work in providing employment to the people. The economic development rate was rapid in our time. I have complete faith that people will give us two-third majority this time. ■

Art and science of stillness

The path of Evolutionary Enlightenment, like all enlightenment teachings, is a path of ego-transcendence. Here, transcending ego is not an end in itself - it's a means to a higher end. The reason we want to have the liberating experience of transcending our personal fears and desires and our culturally conditioned values is to open up some space within the self - space for evolution to occur.

It's important because being inspired by the idea of conscious evolution is one thing, while actually engaging in the process of evolution is something else altogether. Many people are moved by the notion of evolutionary becoming. But within themselves they are not free. They are trapped in psychological hang-ups and attachments, with little or no space for that which is new. Their souls are not liberated, and their choices and actions are still being shaped by unconscious adherence to values and perspectives that have nothing to do with being a liberated vessel for the evolution of consciousness and culture.

Merely being inspired by the potential for conscious evolution does not automatically give us access to the fearless inner freedom to actualise that potential. In order to find that freedom, to open up that space for the new, it is



essential that you liberate yourself to a significant degree from your personal fears and desires and your culturally conditioned values.

Inner freedom is not different from the goal of traditional enlightenment. In Evolutionary Enlightenment, the attainment of spiritual freedom is not the end of the path but, ideally, becomes the foundation from which to engage in conscious evolution. So the foundation of the path and practice of Evolutionary Enlightenment is nothing less than the position of traditional enlightenment itself. In order to release your own consciousness and psyche for the wider and deeper embrace of the life process that Evolutionary Enlightenment demands, you must disentangle yourself, you must significantly free yourself from your karma, history, culture and personal ego.

There are two ways to discover enlightened awareness: spontaneously, or through making noble effort... Spontaneous

experience often happens in the company of a spiritual master who has access to this unmanifest ground, or among a group of inspired individuals who have come together to share mystical truths. You can also, however, assume the posture of freedom and experience enlightened awareness simply through disciplined effort. Traditionally, the metaphor for this radical freedom has been the image of the seated Buddha, perfectly still, eyes closed, his awareness focussed within, his attention on the infinite nature of his own consciousness.

So the way to practise this radical position is to literally take the posture he is taking - to engage with what I call "the art and science of stillness" or the traditional practice of meditation... In learning how to be still, you are choosing to stand for and express that deepest part of yourself - that empty no-place before the beginning of time, before anything ever happened.

That formless ground of Being is always the deepest dimension of who we all are, and it is the ultimate source and wellspring of all that is. In that ground, nothing ever moves, because there is no time, form, subject or object. There is only One, eternally at rest and at peace. ■

(Courtesy: The times of India)