

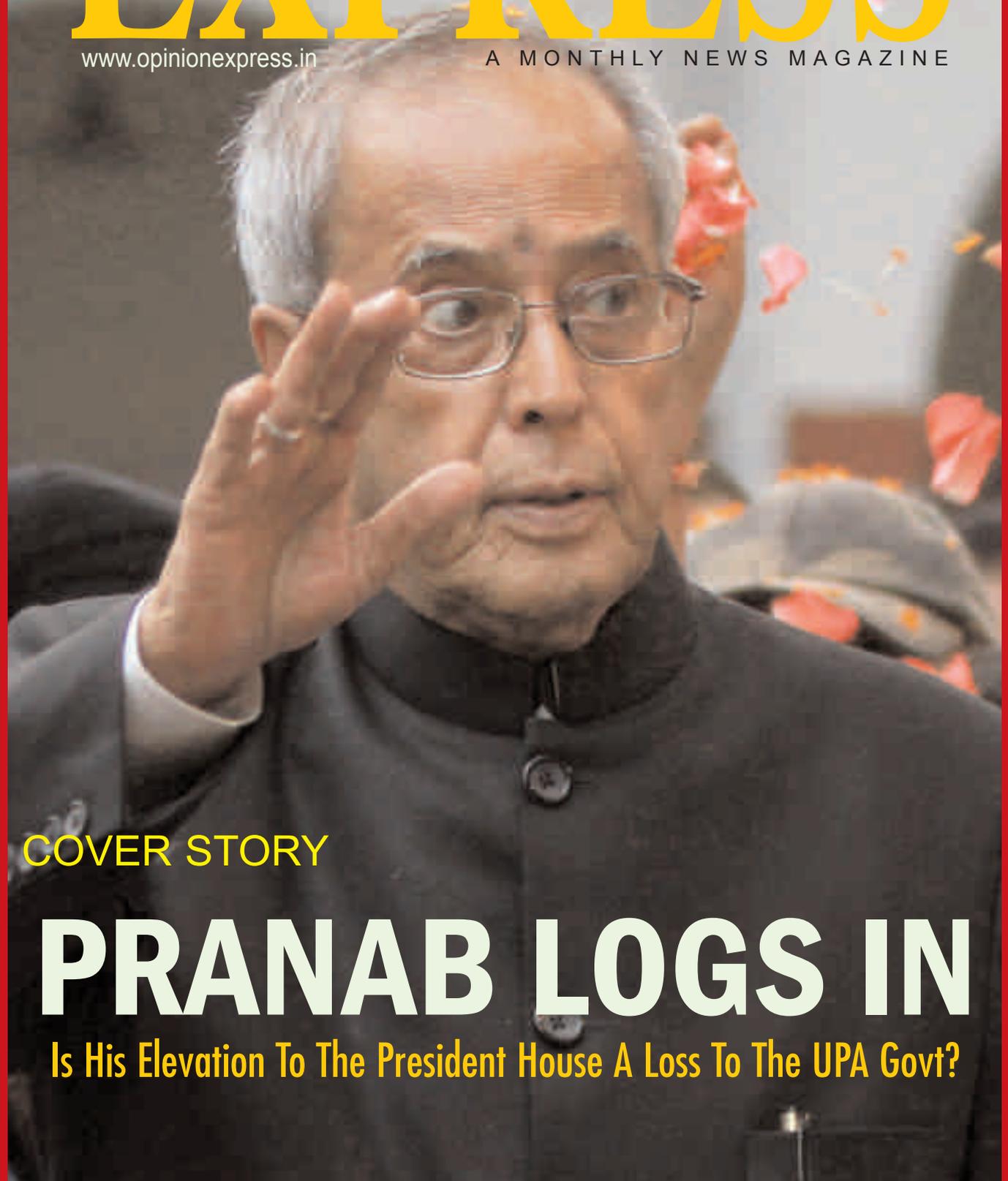
OPINION

Vol 20 | No 8
August 2012 | Rs 20

EXPRESS

www.opinionexpress.in

A MONTHLY NEWS MAGAZINE



COVER STORY

PRANAB LOGS IN

Is His Elevation To The President House A Loss To The UPA Govt?

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The magazine is published and printed by
**Rajiv Agnihotri for Opinion Express
Communications & Entertainments Pvt
Ltd, from 2 Ashok Nagar, Lucknow And
printed at Kumpu Graphic Press.**

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Rise & fall of Anna movement



India is a huge country, larger than a continent. Hetrogeneity, not homogeneity, has always been the mantra of Social Homogeneity of Indian ethos, which is a must for any progressive society. It boosts and develops adequate debates that ensure proper social and intellectual churning to have the much needed social fermentation for a change, the Vyavasthaa parivartan, as both Baba Ramdev and Anna Hazare say. There is no alternative to free thinking and frank expression for jettisoning the evil of hypocrisy. True, but that is why the pre- Independence type Common Platform (C.P.) is required, which, like the then Congress or the subsequent JP Movement, may not be bound and integrated for ever, it will at least play a very important role in bringing the urgently needed Second Freedom. Corruption remains a restricted agenda for "have " and certainly for not "have nots" in India hence the Anna movement created huge effect in urban India but it could not penetrate rural India. Secondly, the rural India is driven by caste & religious divide hence an all India movement could not be constructed by Anna & Co. Team Anna targeted ruling Congress party with special focus on Sonia Gandhi, Is not Mrs. Sonia Gandhi a honourable Member of our Parliament, elected by none other than Indians? Ask the electorate if you dare, not the M.P. She was a target for corrupt practices but important members of team Anna focused on secular image thus diluting core issue of corruption and the debate was expanded to Baba Ramdev and later Narendra Modi type of polity. It ensured that right wing people associated with RSS & BJP were thrown out of the movement resulting in instant collapse of the entire movement. Let us be free from doubts. Let there be a C.P. and adequate social and political fermentation. The nectar of required awakening will be born automatically. The concept of Hindu votes, though ideal and all engulfing, is getting a shattering blow by the current I.T. and economic revolutions of modern age. Whether Hindu or Muslim, all vote banks will have to be treated in a common crucible, as for example, done by competent persons like Narendra Modi, Nitish Kumar, and Shivraj Singh Chauhan who interpreted and transformed the Faith to mean developments in their respective states of Gujrat, Bihar and M.P. Ultimately, it is development, not any religious leaning, that will survive the fermentation oriented test of time. It will need various gears.

Look at China. Religion has utterly failed to bring social harmony, daal-roti, medicines, shelter and the sukoon for all, and above all the much needed National Pride and Gold for India, as possessed by a modern German or Japanese, and an old Britisher. Anna group, not Anna Hazare himself. The confused group will get enlightened or dissolved in the healthy atmosphere created by the apologists of the RASHTRANEETI on a C.P. Then the corruption oriented politics will be transformed/ reformed or ousted. Parishkaar or Bahishkaar. They opposed Congress and Modi simultaneously, that created more confusion than bringing solution to the entire movement against corruption. No body should ever now venture to ignore the perenial sufferings of the hapless masses, which Maoists claim to highlight and amplify. It is a stark reality that is impossible to understand by the opulence born well to do ruling the roost in society, market, religion and the politics that intends to frame and tame all. Their representation on the C.P. will have to be there. Hegde seems to be a righteous and comfort loving gem of society. He must be very happy to bless the C.P. once it is shaped. Let us pray that some apologist of the RASHTRANEETI becomes thread of the ANNA-RAMDEV needle to enter the flower like hearts of honest Indians of consequences from every walk of life to form a coveted garland for Bharat Mata. Is Arvind Kejriwal ready for that ?

Classical error of entering electoral politics is a death nail to the entire movement, Indian are immune to certain way of life when it comes to politics. It is a pure game of give and take, team Anna with extremely limited resources may not be in a position to offer any tangible benefits to hapless Indians, General Elections 2014 for team Anna will be a great disaster. What a waste of huge effort and public support!

Prashant Tewari

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P 19 Kapil Sibal a rare oasis in the desert



Ansari follows Radhakrishnan

Only second veep to get the second term

History repeated itself on Tuesday after five decades when United Progressive Alliance nominee Hamid Ansari was re-elected Vice-President. He became the second Vice-President to get a second consecutive term after S. Radhakrishnan, who enjoyed two terms from 1952 to 1962.

Mr. Ansari won with a thumping majority against the National Democratic Alliance candidate Jaswant Singh. He polled 490 votes against Mr. Singh's 238. There was never any doubt about the victory of Mr. Ansari, given the numerical strength of the UPA and other parties supporting him.

The NDA zeroed in on senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Mr. Singh essentially for political reasons. Having faced dissensions within its ranks in the presidential election, the alliance wanted to demonstrate that that was a one-off incident and no meaning should be read into it. Its purpose was served as it managed to line up all the constituents behind Mr. Singh.

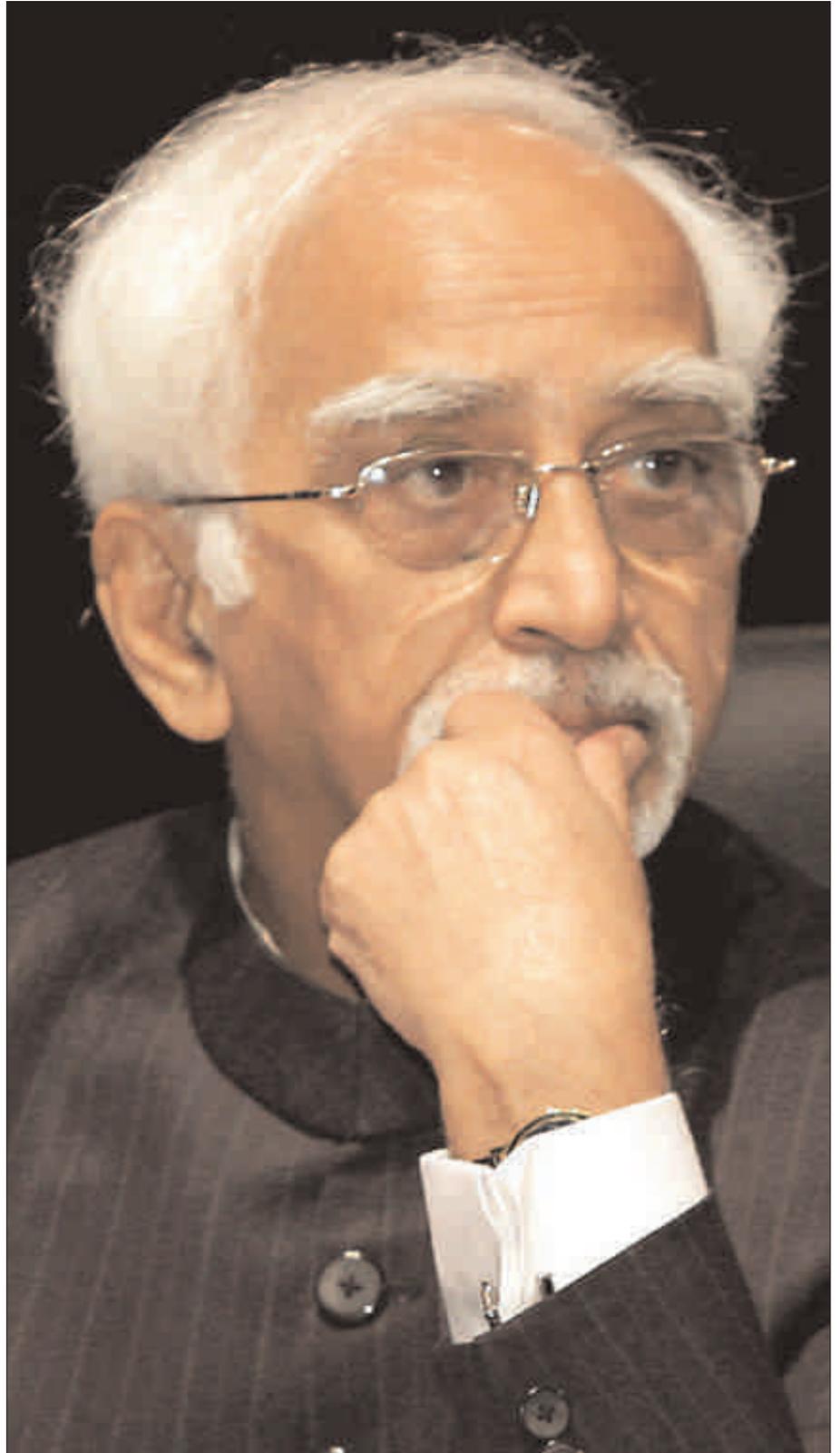
The JD(U) and the Shiv Sena broke ranks with the BJP and voted in favour of Pranab Mukherjee in the presidential election.

Out of the 790 members of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha who form the electoral college for the vice-presidential election, three are vacant — Mr. Mukherjee was elected President, Vijay Bahuguna became Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and the election of BJP MP J. Shanta was set aside by High Court.

Of the remaining 787 members, 47 MPs did not cast their votes. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pawan Kumar Bansal said 21 members from the Biju Janata Dal, 11 from the Telugu Desam Party, 6 from the Congress and supporting parties, including ailing Union Minister Vilasrao Deshmukh, and two nominated members did not cast their votes. T.K. Vishwanathan, Lok Sabha Secretary General and Returning Officer, said eight votes were declared invalid.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi had named Mr. Ansari as the second choice of her party for the Presidential election after Pranab Mukherjee.

As Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Mr. Ansari faced criticism when the Opposition parties expressed unhappi-



ness at the manner in which he “abruptly” adjourned the House on the night of December 29, 2011 during the debate on the Lokpal Bill. Barring that

one occasion, the first stint of the 75-year-old former IFS officer and Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh University was devoid of controversy.

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. PRESIDENT



UPA's trouble-shooter faces no challenge

PA Sangma no match to Pranab's popularity across the spectrum

OE Bureau

United Progressive Alliance (UPA) candidate Pranab Mukherjee wins the presidential race by beating NDA-backed PA Sangma by a huge margin as he scored more than 558,000 votes crossing the required half-way mark of 5,25,140 votes.

His rival, former Lok Sabha speaker P.A. Sangma, was way behind with 239,966 votes as counting continued, Mukherjee's polling agent Pravin H. Parikh said. "He has crossed the halfway mark. He is the president-elect," Parikh said.

The win was anticipated as Mukherjee had the backing of the Trinamool Congress, the Rashtriya Janata Dal, the DMK, the Forward Bloc and Samajwadi Party but also National Democratic Alliance (NDA) ally Janata Dal-United and Shiv Sena.

"I am very happy. I thank everybody for their love and support. I thank all the people of my country," Mukherjee told a Bengali news channel.

"In the last one month I have covered the entire country. And with the emotions and feelings that I have sensed in the common people revolving round this presidential election, it felt like it was not a presidential election but a general election.

"I am very happy, and I will strive to live up to the expectations and faith that people have bestowed on me," Mukherjee said in his first comments.

Officials opened the ballot boxes in Room 63 of Parliament House with representatives from both candidates present.

The first wooden box that was opened contained the votes of MPs cast in Delhi Thursday when the election took place.

Congress leaders including Home Minister P. Chidambaram, Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office V. Narayanasamy and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Rajiv Shukla were in the room.





Mukherjee will be administered the oath of office by the Chief Justice of India on July 25 at the Central Hall of Parliament.

The contest was between UPA candidate Pranab Mukherjee and opposition-supported Purno Sangma, a former Lok Sabha speaker.

The odds were heavily stacked against Sangma the man who has never lost any election from 1977 till 2008. And Sangma's defeat to Mukherjee, would mean that for the first time in 35 years that he would be left without any 'current' designation.

Ever since he threw his hat into the presidential ring, Sangma has been clinging on to the 'conscience vote', 'miracle' and 'hope' rhetoric.

Sangma had indubitably brought in an element of excitement into the 2012 presidential poll which even made former Uttar Pradesh chief minister Mulayam Singh Yadav fumble during Thursday's poll, rendering his vote invalid.

Earlier in the day his daughter Sharmistha Mukherjee said the family

will celebrate only after he was sworn in. However, celebrations began at Mukherjee's native village Birbhum in West Bengal much before the results were announced. Party leaders have also been visiting his residence with boxes of sweets to be distributed when the results are announced.

The counting of ballots were conducted amidst tight security in Parliament House in the presence of authorised representatives of both Mukherjee and Sangma. The ballot boxes of votes cast in Parliament House

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were taken up first for counting after which those from the states were opened.

Pranab Mukherjee's win will bring an end the lament of Bengalis of not seeing a local boy occupying the highest constitutional post of the country.

Mukherjee, often referred to as the best Prime Minister India never had, began his political career in 1969 and has served in every Congress cabinet since Indira Gandhi was Prime Minister.

Trinamool Congress (TMC), Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), JD (S), CPI-M, YSR Congress and Forward Bloc have also extended their support to Mukherjee along with NDA partners Janata Dal-United and Shiv Sena.

About 95 percent of the 4,896 electorate exercised their franchise to elect India's 13th president at polling centres set up at Parliament House and 30 state and union territories.

The president is elected by an electoral college of MPs and members of state assemblies.

All MPs except those nominated to parliament are eligible to vote. There



are 776 MPs; each MP's vote equals 708 votes.

There were 4,120 assembly members eligible to vote. The value of a legislator's vote is variable depending on the population of the state the member represents.

Besides the support of the UPA led by the Congress, Mukherjee enjoyed the backing of the Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal and Janata Dal-Secular. Constituents of the Bharatiya Janata Party-led National Democratic Alliance, Janata Dal-United and Shiv Sena, also extended their support to the former finance minister besides the CPI-M and Forward Bloc. Sangma, a member of the Meghalaya assembly, is supported by the BJP, Akali Dal, Asom Gana Parishad, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, AIADMK and Biju

Besides the support of the UPA led by the Congress, Mukherjee enjoyed the backing of the Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal and Janata Dal-Secular.

Janata Dal.

P.A. Sangma, a former Lok Sabha Speaker, jumped into the fray playing the tribal card with the initial support of the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK).

The BJP and Akali Dal decided to back Sangma, who quit the NCP, the party he founded with Sharad Pawar, to contest the election.

Profile

Son of Kamada Kinkar Mukherjee and Rajlakshmi Mukherjee, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, born on 11th December, 1935 in a small village, Mirati of Birbhum District in West Bengal. Kamada K Mukherjee was a respected freedom fighter spent more than 10 years in British jails. Pranab's father was an active member of Indian National Congress and was also a member of West Bengal Legislative Council from 1952 to 1964. So, it was quite obvious that K K Mukherjee's son Shri Pranab Mukherjee would join active politics following his father's foot-steps, after brief career in academic world (after obtaining masters degree in Political Science and History and degree of Law from Calcutta University, he joined as a professor in a college of Birbhum District of West Bengal).

Shri Pranab Mukherjee's parliamentary career begun as a Rajya Sabha member from Congress Party in 1969. Thereafter, he re-elected in 1975, 1981, 1993, and 1999. His ministerial career begun in 1973 as the Deputy Minister, Industrial Development. After that he hardly looked back. When he was the Finance Minister of India during 1982 to 1984, EuroMoney Magazine rated him as the best Finance Minister of the world. Thereafter, barring a brief period, Shri Mukherjee, served the country as a cabinet Minister, more or less in every National Congress Ministry. At present, he is the External Affairs Minister of Dr.Manmohan Singh's cabinet and as a senior member of the Ministry, he is consulted by the Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh before taking any major decision regarding welfare of the country and his valuable comments and suggestions made him practically indispensable.

Prez First Speech



I am deeply moved by the high honour you have accorded to me. Such honour exalts the occupant of this office, even as it demands that he rises above personal or partisan interests in the service of the national good.

The principal responsibility of this office is to function as the guardian of our Constitution. I will strive, as I said on oath, to preserve, protect and defend our Constitution not just in word but also in spirit. We are all, across the divide of party and region, partners at the altar of our motherland. Our federal Constitution embodies the idea of modern India: it defines not only India but also modernity. A modern nation is built on some basic fundamentals: democracy, or equal rights for every citizen; secularism, or equal freedom to every faith; equality of every region and language; gender equality and, perhaps most important of all, economic equity. For our development to be real the poorest of our land must feel that they are part of the narrative of rising India.

I have seen vast, perhaps unbelievable, changes during the journey that has brought me from the flicker of a lamp in a small Bengal village to the chandeliers of Delhi I was a boy when

Our national mission must continue to be what it was when the generation of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Rajendra Prasad, Ambedkar and Maulana Azad offered us a tryst with destiny: to eliminate the curse of poverty, and create such opportunities for the young that they can take our India forward by quantum leaps.

Bengal was savaged by a famine that killed millions; the misery and sorrow is still not lost on me. We have achieved much in the field of agriculture, industry and social infrastructure; but that is nothing compared to what India, led by the coming generations, will create in the decades ahead.

Our national mission must continue

to be what it was when the generation of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Rajendra Prasad, Ambedkar and Maulana Azad offered us a tryst with destiny: to eliminate the curse of poverty, and create such opportunities for the young that they can take our India forward by quantum leaps. There is no humiliation more abusive than hunger. Trickle-down theories do not address the legitimate aspirations of the poor. We must lift those at the bottom so that poverty is erased from the dictionary of modern India.

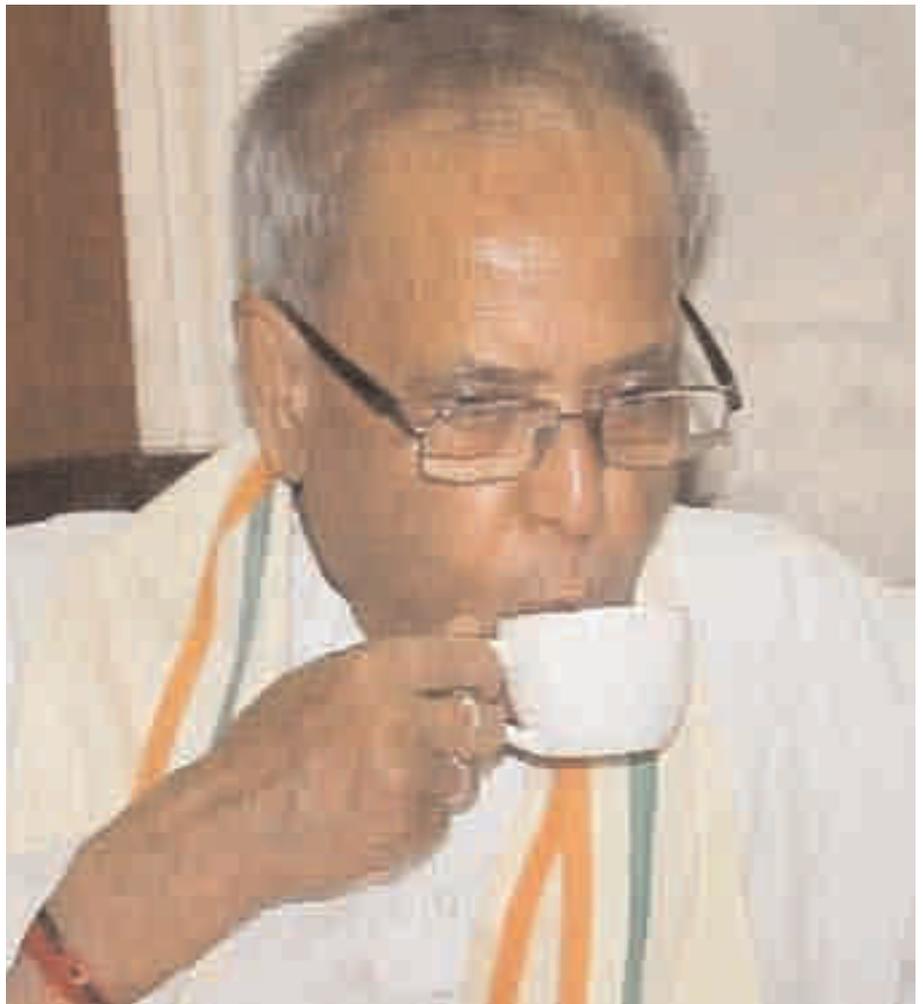
What has brought us thus far, will take us further ahead. India's true story is the partnership of its people. Our wealth has been created by farmers and workers, industrialists and service-providers, soldiers and civilians. Our social harmony is the sublime co-existence of temple, mosque, church, gurudwara and synagogue; they are symbols of our unity in diversity.

Peace is the first ingredient of prosperity. History has often been written in the red of blood; but development and progress are the luminous rewards of a peace dividend, not a war trophy. The two halves of the 20th Century tell their own story. Europe, and indeed the

As Indians, we must of course learn from the past; but we must remain focused on the future. In my view, education is the true alchemy that can bring India its next golden age. Our oldest scriptures laid the framework of society around the pillars of knowledge; our challenge is to convert knowledge into a democratic force by taking it into every corner of our country. Our motto is unambiguous: All for knowledge, and knowledge for all.

world, reinvented itself after the end of the Second World War and the collapse of colonization, leading to the rise of great institutions like the United Nations. Leaders who ordered great armies into the field, and then understood that war was more barbarism than glory, transformed the world by changing its mindset. Gandhiji taught by example, and gave us the supreme strength of non-violence. India's philosophy is not an abstract in textbooks. It flourishes in the day-to-day life of our people, who value the humane above all else. Violence is external to our nature; when, as human beings, we do err, we exorcise our sins with penitence and accountability.

But the visible rewards of peace have also obscured the fact that the age of war is not over. We are in the midst of a fourth world war; the third was the Cold War, but it was very warm in Asia, Africa and Latin America till it ended in the early 1990s. The war against terrorism is the fourth; and it is a world war because it can raise its evil head anywhere in the world. India has been on the frontlines of this war long before many other recognized its vicious depth or poisonous consequences. I am proud of the valour, conviction and steely determination of our Armed Forces as they have fought this menace on our borders; of our brave police forces as they have met the enemy within; and of our people, who have defeated the terrorist trap by remaining calm in the face of extraordinary provocation. The people of India



have been a beacon of maturity through the trauma of whiplash wounds. Those who instigate violence and perpetuate hatred need to understand one truth. Few minutes of peace will achieve far more than many years of war. India is content with itself, and driven by the will to sit on the high table of prosperity. It will not be deflected in its mission by noxious practitioners of terror.

As Indians, we must of course learn from the past; but we must remain focused on the future. In my view, education is the true alchemy that can bring India its next golden age. Our oldest scriptures laid the framework of society around the pillars of knowledge; our challenge is to convert knowledge into a democratic force by taking it into every corner of our country. Our motto is unambiguous: All for knowledge, and knowledge for all.

The weight of office sometimes becomes a burden on dreams. The news is not always cheerful. Corruption is an evil that can depress the nation's mood and sap its progress. We cannot allow our progress to be hijacked by the greed of a few.

I envisage an India where unity of purpose propels the common good;

where Centre and State are driven by the single vision of good governance; where every revolution is green; where democracy is not merely the right to vote once in five years but to speak always in the citizen's interest; where knowledge becomes wisdom; where the young pour their phenomenal energy and talent into the collective cause. As tyranny dwindles across the world; as democracy gets fresh life in regions once considered inhospitable; India becomes the model of modernity.

As Swami Vivekananda in his soaring metaphor said, India will be raised, not with the power of flesh but with the power of the spirit, not with the flag of destruction, but with the flag of peace and love. Bring all the forces of good together. Do not care what be your colour-green, blue or red, but mix all the colours up and produce that intense glow of white, the colour of love. Ours is to work, the results will take care of themselves.

There is no greater reward for a public servant than to be elected the first citizen of our Republic.

Jai Hind

The hilarious chaos of the presidential race

Ashok Mitra

Nothing could be more bizarre. But, then, what else do you expect from this most bizarre of lands? Please take a look at the political geography of the country. The Congress has no control over the state administration in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Sikkim, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Tripura, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karnataka, Goa, Gujarat. It is a junior partner of the National Conference regime in Jammu and Kashmir. It has a chief minister in Maharashtra, where it shares power with the Nationalist Congress Party. Given the shameful scandal over the Adarsh apartments, in which the names of three successive Congress chief ministers have got involved, the party's reputation though is at its lowest in the state.

Currently, Andhra Pradesh, too, has a Congress chief minister. His days would however seem to be numbered. The party hack, under whose stewardship the Congress was able to oust the Telugu Desam Party from the state government and who was duly installed as chief minister by the party, succeeded in strengthening the Congress organization in the state to a remarkable extent; at the same time, he built a small egg nest of a few thousand crore of rupees through diverse shady deals; the party did not demur. He died in a helicopter crash. His son claimed to succeed his father as chief minister. His logic seemed impeccable: if Rajiv Gandhi could be prime minister on the assassination of Indira Gandhi, and now Rajiv's son was being taken for granted as heir-presumptive for the same position, what was wrong if in Andhra Pradesh a similar arrangement was followed? The Supreme Madam in New Delhi who takes all the crucial decisions in the Congress, turned down the son's prayer. He took the path of rebellion. To teach him a lesson, the Central Bureau of Investigation was set after him, he was arrested and charged for the sin of expanding the luscious



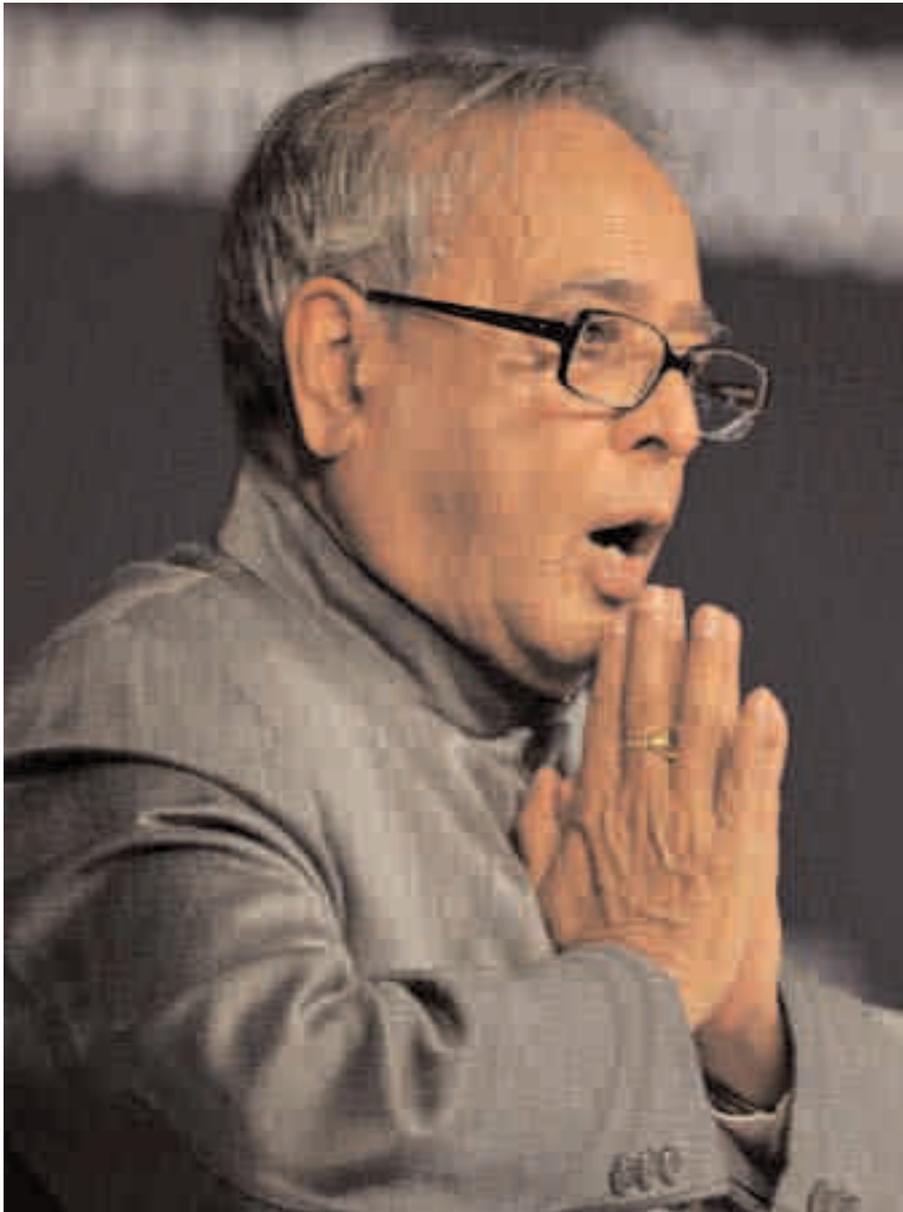
To proceed further with the narrative, in Uttarakhand, the Congress heads the state administration, but only with the help of some independent members in the assembly, it is really a situation of touch and go. In Rajasthan and Haryana, the Congress-led regimes would appear to be in a somewhat stabler position.

financial empire his father had bequeathed him. The people of Andhra Pradesh did not like this. They have made mincemeat of the Congress in the recent series of by-elections in the state and hailed the incarcerated youngster as their new hero.

To proceed further with the narrative, in Uttarakhand, the Congress heads the state administration, but only with the help of some independent members in the assembly, it is really a

situation of touch and go. In Rajasthan and Haryana, the Congress-led regimes would appear to be in a somewhat stabler position. Even so, given the seething anger everywhere against corruption and rising prices, one never knows what the immediate future holds, more so since in both the states, allegations of murky financial transactions or even more murderous doings are pending against quite a few Congress ministers. In Delhi, despite the party controlling the state administration, it has received a severe drubbing in the recent municipal corporation election. Travel to the East. Assam has a Congress chief minister. He has, however, his hands full with the nearly intractable issue of separatism ever on the boil. In such other northeastern states as Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland or Mizoram, the colour of the government is really irrelevant, the modality of administration is by and large the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act.

To sum up, over three-quarters of the country and state governments have no allegiance to the party which heads the government at the Centre. And, of course it has been of late a pre-



The rate of industrial production is plummeting towards zero, GDP growth is way down, the same finance minister is now heard to squeak: everything is not lost, if the monsoon is good and the international price of crude petroleum dips, we could yet live to see another day. The international rating agencies take little notice of this finance minister's gibberish and make their own assessment. So do the scheming brains who decide on the trajectory of finance capital movements across the globe. They have voted their no-confidence in the Indian rupee and are pulling out of Dalal Street.

globe. They have voted their no-confidence in the Indian rupee and are pulling out of Dalal Street. The external value of the rupee is falling down, down, down in the manner of the London Bridge in the nursery rhyme.

It is a bankrupt government run by a decrepit party. So what; the finance minister, who, along with the prime minister, has been at the helm of things when these frightening developments affecting the economy were taking place, is the choice of the Congress as the next president of this august republic. Everybody, almost everybody, is sprinting to endorse his candidature. Rush, rush, rush, important sections of even the leading Opposition alliance have opted to support the Congress nominee. The party has been reduced to a rubbishy non-entity in the state where it was once the strongest - Uttar Pradesh. Nonetheless, both the Bahujan Samaj Party, which ruled the state for the preceding five years, and the Samajwadi Party, which has succeeded it, have sought to elbow out each other in their eagerness to announce their faith in the candidate of a party which has an insignificant presence in their state. The media are in raptures over the prospect of a national consensus emerging on the choice of

carious existence for the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance regime in New Delhi. Its prime minister, on his own admission, has no control over the government he nominally presides over, supposedly because of the constraints of coalition rule. The licensing system is long dead and gone, but allocation of development blocks for oil and natural gas or telecommunication spectrums has provided unbelievable opportunities to practise favouritism, leading to the piling up of private fortunes of mind-boggling magnitude. Charges of corruption fly thick and fast against ruling politicians. Ministers get arrested. Prices keep soaring. The authorities themselves increase, or connive in increasing, prices. The government's minions have the cheek to suggest that raising prices is the best way to fight inflation. Money is spent like water in the name of national security while there is no money for a universal public

distribution system. A finance minister, who till the other day was asking countrymen not to worry while the rest of the world might go to the dogs, and that our 'fundamentals' were very sound, the rate of growth of gross domestic product was threatening to touch 9 to 10 per cent, foreign exchange holdings were bursting at the seams, we had nothing to fear except fear itself. The latest reality buzz tells another story.

The rate of industrial production is plummeting towards zero, GDP growth is way down, the same finance minister is now heard to squeak: everything is not lost, if the monsoon is good and the international price of crude petroleum dips, we could yet live to see another day. The international rating agencies take little notice of this finance minister's gibberish and make their own assessment. So do the scheming brains who decide on the trajectory of finance capital movements across the

the next * rashtrapati*. Ideology is, of course, long dead. Even issues of policy are of no concern. What apparently matters is to explore how to make one's way through the web of devious strategic calculations. For one or two leaders of this or that party, perhaps it is a deal struck behind the scene over a pending case before the CBI, or a deal to avert the possibility of the CBI launching a criminal prosecution. For some others, the calculation is a shade more far-sighted. Should the polls in 2014 lead to a parliamentary impasse, the person who is first called for consultation by the president for constituting the new government would be in an advantageous position; it would therefore be wise to try and develop a mutual relationship with the person who at this instance has emerged the best bet.

That is it. The presidential race has been reduced to a phenomenon in the bettors' market. The stakes are high and, if the gossip is to be believed, money is no consideration. In this hilariously chaotic situation, there are still three outstanding developments calling for special comment. The first is the crisis the presidential poll has caused to the other assumed-to-be national party, the Bharatiya Janata Party. To it, the election of the new rashtrapati is a subsidiary issue, the occasion is being used to thrash out who should hold the party's mantle in the national polls two years hence. In the process, the lustre of religious fundamentalism has, to all accounts, dimmed a bit. That calls for celebration; after all, it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good. The second amusing development is the predicament the lady chief minister of you-know-which-state has landed herself in on account of her over-arching ambition. It never rains but pours; a high court judgment has been an additional unkindly cut for her. After a long string of successes, she is suddenly facing an awesome debacle. Just as water finds its own level; so too, it seems, does dishwater.

But the most interesting spectacle has unfolded in the ranks of the Left, till now, considered to be the citadel of the policy of the principle. The leading element in the Left has decided that there is no way for it not to support the Congress nominee - one of the principal architects of neo-liberalism which has brought the country to its present mess and further immiserated the working classes - in the presidential race. It has mentioned two factors which have influenced its otiose decision. First, it has



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discerned a fast growing convergence of support for the Congress candidate and has, like a good boy, chosen to fall in line. It has thereby betrayed an innate passion for coming together with each and all, and this supersedes ideo-

logical and policy fissures howsoever fundamental. Would it not be more honest on its part, someone could naughtily chip in, to dissolve itself and merge its identity in the corpus which claims to be the great national consensus, the Congress? The second pretext proffered by this party of the Left will do credit to a dyed-in-the-wool regional formation. Rather than dilating on it, let us close this discussion by narrating the gist of a Bengali folk tale. The ruler of a small kingdom loved to indulge in an innocent little pastime. Every morning, the royal sentry would pick two down-and-out vagabonds seeking alms in the capital's main thoroughfare, bind them hand and foot and throw them in the royal courtyard. The officially designated royal torturer would then take over, bow to the king, unleash his whip and start administering by turn fierce lashes, 25 at a time, on the two beggars until they breathed their last. It so happened one morning that one of the two beggars contributing to the entertainment, writhing in pain, gathered the last reserve of his strength and pride in his fading voice and whispered to the other beggar: "How lucky I am, this most honourable Royal Torturer, what do you know, hails from my own village." Then he died.

A COMMITMENT TO PEACE & PROGRESS



President Hon'ble Rajkeswur Purryag & then Deputy Prime Minister of Mauritius in a earlier recorded interview

The Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Rajkeswur Purryag explains why he is hopeful of stronger India Mauritius relations in the future.

According to Mr.Purryag, the present government of Mauritius under its dynamic leader Hon. Navinchandra Ramgoolam is committed for building even stronger ties between the two countries. Here, Mr.Rajkeswur Purryag in an exclusive interview with Rajiv Agnihotri touches all the relevant issues.



Heartest congratuations to Mr Hon'ble Rajkeswur Puryyag for been elected as the fifth President of Republic of Mauritius. Hon'ble President is blessed with rich political experience that includes the post of Speaker of the National Assembly, Deputy Prime Minister of the country, various important ministiral positions. It is said of him that he excercised his duties with objectivity and impartiality throughout his political career.

Hon'ble President had a modest background. He patiently worked his way to the top. Hon'ble President is an example for Gen next, specially to the PIO community to draw inspiration from the dedication and sense of purpose.

Hon'ble President became attorney in 1973 and joined the labour Party. He contested general elections in 1976. He occupied various important ministerial positions and became a huge influence on the politics of Mauritius eversince. He was Minister of Social Security in 1980 to 1982, Minister of Health from 1984 to 1988, Minister of Economic Development & Telecommunications from 1995 to 1997. He was appointed as the Deputy Prime Minister with the portfolio of Foreign Affairs And International Commerce. In 2005, He was became Speaker of the National Assembly.

Hon'ble President Rajkeswur Puryyag is decorated with the highest constitutional position of the country. Opinion Express have huge expectations from him. We have no doubts that he will "uphold the standard of the Presidency " And leave a mark in the history of the island country as one of the best serving President of the country.

Team "Opinion Express" congratulates H.E. Hon'ble President for the great achievement and we hope that it will facilitate consolidation of India Mauritius bilateral relationship.

From Opinion Express Team – Mauritius.



I think there will be a greater movement of tourists and people between the two countries, thus not only the economic ties but the religious and cultural ties will be strengthened. The Indian community in Mauritius is frequently visiting India and I hope that the Indian citizens will also come to Mauritius.

OE. It under the leadership of Hon. Navinchandra Ramgoolam, that the relationship between the two countries has grown manifold, what future do you foresee for strengthening the relationship even further in sectors like tourism and economy?

KP. Yes, I think the relationship between India and Mauritius has been further consolidated by Dr. Navin Ramgoolam and we are working together to set the economic sector within the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation and we know this initiative was put forward by Mauritius, and that today Mauritius, India, Australia and other member states of the Indian Ocean Rim are playing a very important role to promote the economic interest of the member states. I think within that association, our relationship is further consolidated in the economic sector. As for our tourist sector, we have recently received many Indian businessmen who have come to Mauritius to invest in the tourist sector and I know one or two groups who are actually constructing hotels. Once this construction is over, it will enhance the relationship between our two countries.

I think there will be a greater movement of tourists and people between the two countries, thus not only the economic ties but the religious and cultural ties will be strengthened. The Indian community in Mauritius is frequently visiting India and I hope that the Indian citizens will also come to Mauritius.

OE. Mauritius has done exceedingly well on the economic front in the last few years. The Island being the gateway of African continent can work as a catalyst between the



Asian & African economic areas but unlike Hong Kong, Mauritius till date is not recognized as it should be, what special efforts are being undertaken by your government to promote this vital issue on the global scale?

KP. Yes, you see that Mauritius has done very well not for the last two or three years but in the last two decades.

Since our independence, we are striving very hard to put in place a strategy for the socio-economic development of the country and after thirty years of independence, today we can say that we have achieved a certain level of economic development as you know that and today Mauritius is considered as a success story of the African continent. Earlier Mauritius was not known neither in the African continent nor in the international community. It is now that Mauritius is being cited in all forums despite being the small island, we have achieved tremendous growth in the economic front. Therefore, we are doing everything possible within our means today to position ourselves as a hub of eco-

Again I must say that we have come out with a plan of action to review our educational system so as to adapt it within our concept of economic development and cater to our needs both in terms of infrastructure as well as human resource development. We are doing a lot of work to prepare ourselves in order to position Mauritius as a hub to provide link as a gateway between Asia and Africa.

nomical activities and poised to become gateway between Asia and Africa. In that context, we are creating a freeport, as the Government of Mauritius has invested a lot of money for the port of Mauritius just to create support to attract business here and we are trying to develop a very strong service economy. So, we are trying to re-engineer our economy in such a way that we have skills in Mauritius to be able to become a service economy and to provide necessary manpower. Again I must say that we have come out with a plan of action to review our educational system so as to adapt it within our concept of economic development and cater to our needs both in

terms of infrastructure as well as human resource development. We are doing a lot of work to prepare ourselves in order to position Mauritius as a hub to provide link as a gateway between Asia and Africa.

OE. Mauritius is an international tourist destination but the exchange of tourists between India and Mauritius is in single digit percentage to their overall tourist strength. What measures are being taken at the Government level to boost tourist exchange between the two countries?

KP. You have rightly said Mauritius as an international tourist hub. Today



Well, we must say that India has made a lot of progress in the industrial field and the progress has been so much that India today has become an industrial power in the world. India is an economic power in waiting, what is important is unity, peace and stability along with the economic progress because unless you have peace, stability and unity, economic progress in real sense cannot be achieved.

we receive more than 500,00 tourists mainly from Europe.

From India we have very little tourist inflow. We are doing our best to get Indian tourists to come to Mauritius but it all depends on the tourists themselves.

Mauritius has established a reputation as a tourist destination which is known in India. I think that Ministry of Tourism will perhaps hold certain manifestation in India to promote Mauritius as a tourist destination in the Indian community.

OE. Indian businessmen are very keen to invest in Mauritius through Freeport and MOBAA, what are the incentives that Mauritius offers?

KP. There is a package of incentives that has been put in place to attract businessmen in Mauritius specially in MOBAA. We have a bi-lateral agreement with India, which is one of the most favourable agreement. I think we have a very interesting package which has to be taken into account by future investors who want to invest in Mauritius.

OE. What is your message for the people of India on the occasion of 50th year of their Independence?

KP. Well, we must say that India has made a lot of progress in the industrial field and the progress has been so much that India today has become an industrial power in the world. India is an economic power in waiting, what is important is unity, peace and stability along with the economic progress because unless you have peace, stability and unity, economic progress in real sense cannot be achieved. Similar conditions are existing in Mauritius, for example coordination with all the main communities here, we have been able to create a political and social stability in order to make the economic development. So I think that India since independence has made a lot of progress that needs to make more progress in order to cater for its population and for this you need to have peace, stability and unity.

KAPIL SIBAL

A RARE OASIS IN THE DESERT

● Pradeep B

A recurrent theme in the Indian newspapers, over the past two decades, and one that is getting increasingly pronounced with the passage of time, has been the lumpenisation of Indian politics. Given the misdeeds of A Rajas and Kalmadis, the image that has formed in the minds of the Indian masses of the archetypal Indian politician is one of shameless corruption, venality, nepotism and parochial regionalism. Add to these the blatant use of muscle power by political mafia dons and there emerges the picture of an utterly sordid state of political affairs and political actors. In fact, this state is the culmination of a long process of lumpenisation of Indian polity that started in the 70s and became more and more pronounced in the succeeding decades. Gone are the days when Indian politics was peopled predominantly by legal luminaries, eminent educationists, social activists and visionary statesmen. The giants of yesterday have been replaced by the pygmies of today in all their short statured grotesqueness. In this murky world, the pursuit of Mammon and power has uprooted the anchors of values, ideals and ethics.

It is thus refreshing to come across, even though sparingly, exceptions that stand out among contemporary Indian politicians. Kapil Sibal belongs to this rare, vanishing tribe of eminent individuals still left in Indian politics. His background, talents, accomplishments and above all values and ideals compare well with the best of India's glorious political past. Born to renowned advocate in what is now Pakistan, Sibal's family was uprooted in the wake of India's partition. Starting life afresh, the family settled in Delhi in the 1960s and young Kapil on the strength of his aca-





democratic excellence found his way into the elite St. Stephens College from where he graduated. In spite of getting selected for the premier Indian Administrative Service in 1973 he chose to follow his heart and joined the legal profession after acquiring possibly the best credentials therefor - a stint at the Harvard Law School. Known for his almost encyclopaedic knowledge of law he made his mark in the Indian courts and was appointed the additional Solicitor General of India in 1989.

His personal qualities mark him out from the run-of-the mill Indian politician. A facile command over the English language, razor-sharp wit, an astounding grasp of complex issues, quick of repartee and irresistible in debate, he has made his presence felt in Parliament as also as the Congress party's official spokesperson. Known for his deeply secular outlook, a modern belief in scientific and technological progress, honesty and integrity, an instinctive aversion to injustice and exploitation, he has

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never shied away from taking on orthodox and fascist forces. On the personal front his intellectual sophistication comes through in his penchant for writing poetry which he taps out, on his own admission, on his Blackberry in the few

free moments of peace and solitude he gets during flights. Contrary to the public persona, he comes across as an unassuming person with an old world grace and impeccable manners exuding a disarming charm.

There is however an irony in all this. These very qualities of his, exceptional as they are, sometimes make it a rather difficult for him to mix and match with the hoi polloi of Indian polity - an impediment, even shortcoming, for any gifted politician. People who do not interact with him closely, are thus likely to get the impression of an aloof, even arrogant person. At times, this limits his effectiveness in moulding public opinion, persuading political peers and attaching to the grassroots of the electorate.

Nevertheless, we can take heart from the fact that while Indian polity, unfortunately, has its Rajas and Kalmadis, we also have in our midst the likes of a Kapil Sibal, a veritable oasis in a vast desert of mediocrity. May his tribe increase!

WHOM IS MODI HELPING?

● **Rajinder Puri**

Proponents of strong Hindu nationalism view Gujarat Chief Minister Mr. Narendra Modi as their icon and India's future hope. Progressive and secular forces view him as a dangerous threat to the nation's unity. Both views seem to be misconceived. There seems to be a great difference between Mr. Modi's image and his reality. Either wittingly or otherwise his actions are harming the prospects of so-called Hindu nationalists and helping those of so-called progressive and secular forces.

Mr. Modi swung into an overdrive in the last week of May this year. The pact he sealed with BJP President Mr. Nitin Gadkari to enable the latter get a second term was on the precondition that the party administer humiliating treatment to BJP leader Mr. Sanjay Joshi. The party's surrender provoked three quick responses in these columns that predicted what eventually occurred. Dissidence in the Gujarat BJP grew. Mr. Joshi started an anti-Modi poster campaign from which he dissociated himself only after the damage was done in order to avoid disciplinary action by the party. And Mr. Modi's growing stature as the future prime ministerial candidate created serious misgivings both in the central parliamentary leadership of the BJP as well as among the NDA allies.





Mr. Modi bulldozing his party up to this point may be attributed to nothing more than vaulting ambition. Corporate India that owns media solidly backs him. Mainstream media commissions opinion polls that hail him as India's greatest living vote-getter. It must be pointed out though that his vote-getting prowess has never yet been demonstrated outside Gujarat. Mr. Modi's impatience to get ahead was understandable. What is less understandable is his unprovoked attack on Bihar politicians as recently as June 11th.

Mr. Modi criticized Bihar's politics for being caste based and therefore the reason of the state's backwardness. Surely Mr. Modi knew that the nation was in the thick of a Presidential election for which reason unity within the NDA was absolutely essential? Even allowing for his unconcealed ambition to be the prime ministerial candidate in the next general election what need was there for Mr. Modi's tearing hurry to initiate a dispute with his chief rival, Bihar chief Minister Mr. Nitish Kumar? Was he such a political novice as to be oblivious of the crucial need for NDA unity at this point of time during the

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Presidential poll? Inevitably Mr. Kumar responded to tear NDA unity to shreds. BJP's Bihar leader Mr. Sushil Modi's lame explanation that Mr. Narendra Modi was referring to the RJD and not the JD-U did not wash.

The question arises: is Mr. Narendra Modi so apolitical as to be unaware about the need for NDA unity at this point of time?

Indeed there are several past developments related to Mr. Modi that continue to puzzle. There was no compulsion for Mr. Modi to allow Mrs. Sonia Gandhi's political secretary, and

acquaintance of accused money launderer Hasan Ali, Mr. Ahmed Patel, to get elected unopposed to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat. The fact that Mr. Patel subsequently reciprocated by his intervention to help Mr. Modi get the central government to lift the ban on cotton export in March this year is another matter.

The Karachi Chambers of Commerce invited Mr. Modi to address them in Pakistan to expound on Gujarat's model of economic development. This invitation could not have been extended without the blessing of



The fact is that so far Nitish did not see any challenge to his position in the NDA, because Advani, Sushma, Jaitly, Gadkari are busy pulling each other down. But now he sees Modi as a challenge. So he grabs the easiest-to-use stick "secularism" to hurl at Modi. In one of my earlier comments I had mentioned that "secularism" has been shamelessly used by politicians only at the time of elections to frighten the Muslims who vote en-bloc.

The fact is that so far Nitish did not see any challenge to his position in the NDA, because Advani, Sushma, Jaitly, Gadkari are busy pulling each other down. But now he sees Modi as a challenge. So he grabs the easiest-to-use stick "secularism" to hurl at Modi. In one of my earlier comments I had mentioned that "secularism" has been shamelessly used by politicians only at the time of elections to frighten the Muslims who vote en-bloc. And do you believe the denials of many commentators about the existence of Muslim vote bank ?

Let me try a prediction. If Modi does not back down then Nitish will join hands with the Congress before 2014. Congress will not mind because it has no hope of coming to power in Bihar. What happens to BJP is difficult to say because dreams of many of its leaders have been shattered with the rise of Modi.

**Krish
06/21/2012**

Modi IS a politician. Even Gandhi, opposing Bose, supported Seetharmiah for APCC President. Nehru totally blacked out Patel, Bose and many others. Why is it not feasible that ISI and Pak Army supported Modi's invitation to sow doubts about his character in his supporters' minds When Centre, responsible for our borders overlook Chinese doublegame and invite their commerce, why not Modi?

**v.haribabu
06/21/2012**

the Pakistan army and the ISI. China's Ambassador to India was feted in Gujarat where he promised substantial Chinese investment in the state. This followed Mr. Modi's several earlier trips to China seeking investment. The Ambassador also expressed satisfaction with Gujarat schools for teaching Mandarin to their students. Beijing of course continues to violate its solemn written assurance given in 2005 that precluded China's claims on Indian territories with settled populations as exist in Arunachal Pradesh. All this does not bother Mr. Modi.

It seems not to bother self-professed proponents of strong Hindu nationalism or cheer the self-professed

proponents of secular and progressive policies. One suggests that both sides review their opinions. They should ask: whom does Mr. Modi help, and whom does he harm?

20-Jun-2012

Sir, can anyone deny the existence of caste and religion based politics in India particularly when elections are round the corner ? And if Nitish is a messiah of development and not caste why was he flustered with a remark that was aimed at his predecessor and at the shameless politicians of UP ? Everyone seems to have ignored the fact that Modi had mentioned UP also in the same breath.

Famine of political intent condemns India to droughts

● Shankkar Aiyar

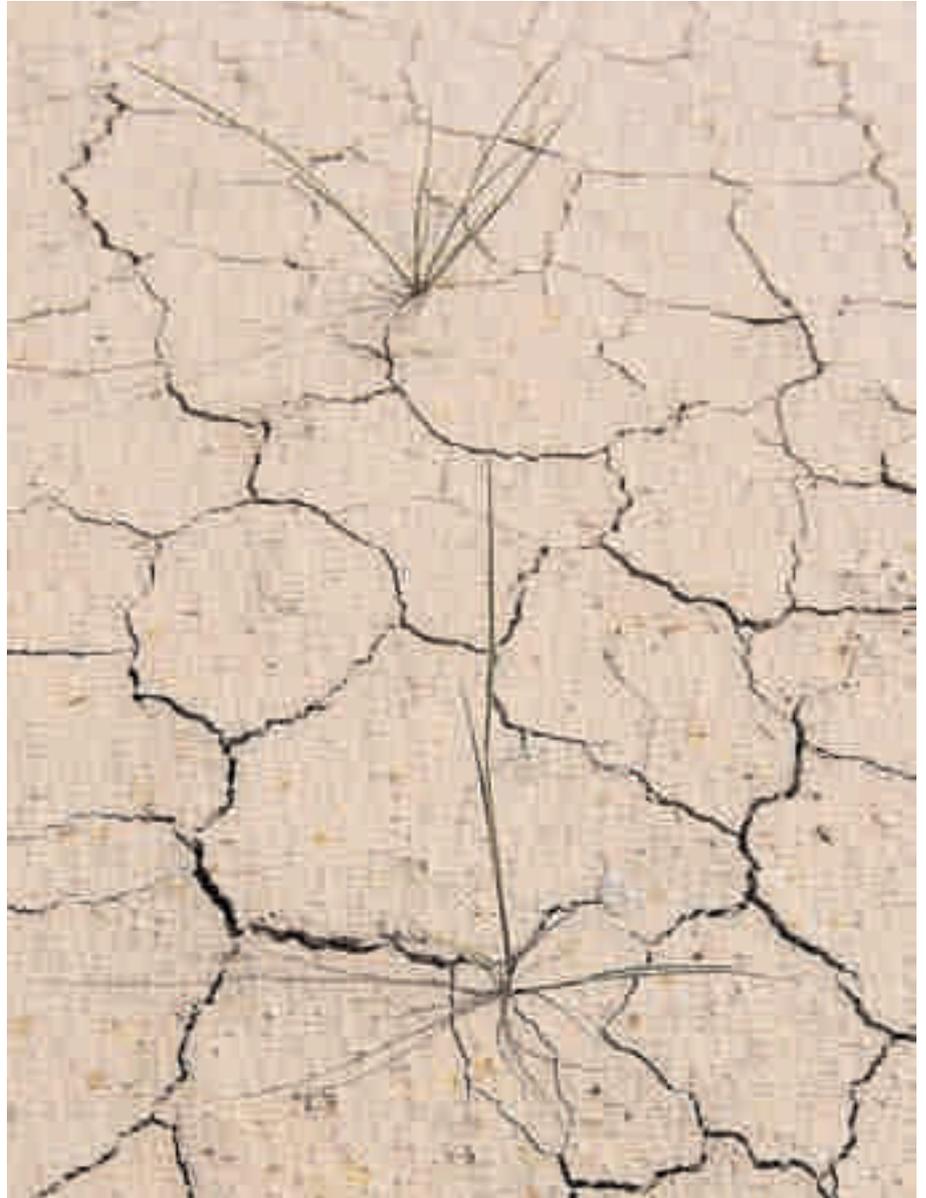
The question that begs to be asked is why the spectre of draught should haunt India 65 years after independence.

Later this week, the Government of India will come out of the closet. It will accept that the nation is faced with a drought. Don't expect the acceptance to be explicit; the exact phraseology defining the condition is yet being coined. The possible implications for the economy are grave: lower output, higher prices, higher subsidies, higher deficit, higher inflation and lower GDP growth. On Tuesday, the Empowered Group of Ministers on drought will meet to discuss the steps that the government will take. There will be a lot of motion-PDS, supply of diesel, seeds and power, and of course, MGNREGA-but don't hold your breath for any strategic movement.

The question that begs to be asked is why the spectre of drought should haunt India 65 years after Independence. It is the famine of political intent that condemns India to the spectre of droughts. This will be the third officially accepted drought in 10 years. India faces at an average two every decade. Across India, nearly 90 districts are classified as drought-prone and over 60 districts are notified as flood-prone. Which simply means, in any year, nearly 70 million hectares of cultivable land is prone to the vagaries of the rain gods.

Consider the challenge. India has 2.5 per cent of the world's land and 4 per cent of fresh water resources to support 15 per cent of the world's population. By 2050-probably earlier-the population is estimated to touch 1,650 million which means demand for food will touch 450 million tonnes as against current output of 250 million tonnes. Also, demand for water will rise. Already water is being mined by farmers in nearly 100 districts; of the 400 towns, nearly 200 are face water scarcity; glaciers are receding; and water bodies being concretised. India in 2012 must know it has to act.

The equation of supply promises a solution for rising demand. India



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receives an annual precipitation-snowfall and rain-of 4,000 billion cubic metres. Allowing for evaporation/transpiration, the runoff available in rivers is 1,869 BCM, of which India uses barely a third, or 690 BCM. Very simply, two-thirds of the water we receive is wasted, draining into the ocean. Rainfall is asymmetric, varying from 100 mm in Rajasthan to 11,000 mm over Brahmaputra. More importantly, 70 per cent of rainfall occurs in 100 days while the need for water is spread across 365 days. India obviously needs to upgrade storage and management of water. It is



not an alien thought. India's track record though is pathetically poor.

Over 553 irrigation projects are running behind schedule, over 150 dating to 1960s. Of the 253 projects sanctioned under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme between October 1996 and March 2008, only 100 projects were reported as completed, of which 12 were found "incomplete". Not surprisingly, 65 years after Independence, India can store only 225 BCM of water-or less than 14 per cent of potential. Per capita storage at about 190 cubic metres is miniscule compared to 2,486 cubic metres for China, 3,388 metres for Brazil and 5,961 metres for US. As a result, half the 192 million hectares of cropped land is dependent on rains.

Maybe dams are damned. It is arguable that an alternate idea-a combination of modern micro irrigation and heritage conservation methods managed by communities-could work. Sorry, but there is no grand idea visible. The track record on the bits and pieces isn't any better. The Planning Commission in its 12th Plan talks about millions of water bodies wherein "storage capacity has been eroded by poor maintenance and siltation". Restoration would require resources, manpower and a capacity to involve communities. Since 2009, the government has spent a total of Rs 1,000 crore. So how many have been restored? Point is: is that enough

The first step to a solution is awareness. The government by its own admission is unable to track the magnitude of scarcity or surplus. There is no record of destroyed water bodies. It tracks the levels of only 81 reservoirs.

and do we know where it has gone? In 2010, the government created the mission on micro irrigation but it would need micro forensic probe to figure out the outlays and outcomes. It could be a hot thought so why do it in homeopathic doses? Indeed, India spends barely Rs 26,000 crore on irrigation. To get an idea of neglect, figure out the ratio to GDP.

The first step to a solution is awareness. The government by its own admission is unable to track the magnitude of scarcity or surplus. There is no record of destroyed water bodies. It tracks the levels of only 81 reservoirs. Ground water depletion is a serious issue but it has only 60,000 observatory wells in a country with 30 million ground water structures. Can we trust the government's judgement?

In February this year, the Supreme Court asked the government to set up a

panel to implement the interlinking of rivers project. The project was mooted first in 1970s by irrigation minister K L Rao and then expanded upon by Captain Dinshaw Dastur. Costing over Rs 4.5 lakh crore, the "garland canal" would transfer water from surplus river basins to deficit regions by building 32 dams and use a web of 29 links to deliver 173 BCM of water to irrigate 34 million hectares, generate 34,000 MW of power and deliver drinking water to 100 towns.

The idea was revived in 2002 by the Vajpayee regime only to be dumped by the UPA. The challenges of environment and cost are significant but so are the benefits. In 2008, an NCAER study said that over "a 13-year period, gains amount to more than 5 per cent of GDP on a cumulative basis" and that food grain output would jump to over 390 million tonnes. Although the Supreme Court asked the government to act in February, no movement is visible.

This is not an argument for a solution or the occasion to argue one solution versus another. It is about the lack of urgency within the government about what is a persistent crisis. In a democracy there is a cost to doing anything. There is also a cost to doing nothing.

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(Shankkar Aiyar is a senior journalist who specialises in the politics of economics)**

BIG IDEAS FOR INDIA 2050



**VIJAY GOVINDARAJAN &
ANANT SUNDARAM**

India's growth has slowed. Inflation is back, foreign direct investment has plummeted, and its currency is sinking. After two decades of impressive growth, optimism appears to have ebbed. In the minds of many, India's shine has dimmed.

But today's woes are a mere bump. Consider the long-term potential: the US has GDP per capita of \$45,000 while India has one-thirtieth of that. No one expects the average Indian to get to US levels right away, but it is reasonable to expect that (s)he can aspire to,

say, at least one-third of that- implying 10x income growth, to \$15,000- by 2050. This would mean GDP addition of over \$20 trillion annually, or the equivalent of one-and-a-half times the current US economy.

Achieving such growth requires three principles at its core: it must be purposeful, democratic, and sustainable.

Why purposeful? Purpose generates excitement, is unifying and makes growth transformational. In a country with deep socioeconomic, urban-rural and cultural divides, a sense of purpose is a necessary condition for its many factions to align behind deep

change.

An example of a purposeful idea is the Ganga-Cauvery river link, one suggested four decades ago. Consider its potential implications for agriculture, drinking water, sanitation and transportation, while simultaneously mitigating flooding problems in the North and drought in the South. Moreover, it will generate millions of jobs and thriving communities along the waterways, while creating upstream and downstream business opportunities.

There will be legitimate objections - notably around environmental consequences for river deltas- to overcome. But, in the decades since the idea was



proposed, India has surely developed the scientific, technological, and governance capabilities to address them.

Why democratic? Ensuring buy-in for such growth requires people to believe that the resulting wealth creation will be inclusive. While the past two decades have created a great deal of wealth, it has also concentrated that wealth. For example, the net worth of just the 50 richest Indians now amounts to one quarter of GDP.

Much of India's recent growth came from taking advantage of globalization of markets, knowhow and resources. But India primarily adopted a 'gatekeeper' strategy: foreign companies were welcome if a well-heeled Indian partner could be found. This is an undesirable approach as it allows the already overly affluent gatekeepers to skim the wealth created from the 10x growth.

India needs the best in capabilities that the global economy possesses in order to grow. But getting those requires a mindset change. India must not only refashion policy towards multinationals in an inviting manner, but also in a way that allows its middle class to participate. India should consider, for example, requiring multinationals to raise at least 49% of the equity capital directly from the public. Such a simple strategy not only obviates a need for gatekeepers, but also democratizes future wealth creation.

Why sustainable? Business-as-usual in natural resource use is a non-

starter. Take the example of CO₂ emissions. While the world produces every \$1,000 of GDP by emitting three-quarters of a ton of CO₂, India needs 1.5 tons. This inefficient fossil fuel utilization mirrors that in the use of other natural resources such as air, water, minerals and metals.

India dismisses such concerns by asserting its people are frugal: after all, the average Indian emits one-twentieth the CO₂ of the average American. India also points to the inherent unfairness in the West having become rich by having a 'carbon party' that made possible cheap wealth creation. But such assertions miss the point. Given the scale of India's growth needs, resource use at current levels of inefficiency- with attendant emissions, waste, and pollution- will degrade the planet's natural environment on an unimaginable scale. Pushback is inevitable.

Instead of viewing sustainability as an imposed burden, India should see it as an innovation opportunity. Here is an idea. Why not produce nuclear energy from thorium, found abundantly in India? Research into thorium - including by Indian scientists - goes back decades. It could be a source of inexpensive energy, be easily scaled, presents no meltdown risk, uses existing nuclear waste, degrades to safe radioactive levels in hundreds (rather than tens of thousands) of years, and obviates weaponization possibilities. Can India fast-track and install, say, two or three demonstration projects to

learn from them a workable business model that can be rapidly scaled?

The larger point here is that India's growth aspirations cannot be put back in the bottle. The examples offered here are just that. Why not take it a step further: let's design a contest called "10 Big Ideas for 10x Growth." The only requirement for submissions should be for proponents to justify how their idea fosters national purpose, promotes democratic wealth creation and sustains the environment.

We recognize that enabling such growth will require investments in education, rural development, and improved governance. The starting point, however, has to be bold leadership - one driven by a sense of legacy. India's current leader was a key architect in paving the liberalization path two decades ago. To bookend his career, he must revitalize the country's sense of optimism, by proposing a growth platform based on our three core principles.

Now, that could leave a lasting legacy.

Vijay Govindarajan, ranked #3 in the 2011 Thinkers 50 list of greatest management thinkers in the world, and Anant Sundaram are professors at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College, USA

WAY FORWARD For India to achieve a higher rate of growth in the coming decades, it's important for its people to believe that future wealth creation will be inc.

World Bank Mired In Dysfunction: Mess Awaits New Head

● Bob Prouty, Forbes

It's presidential inauguration time in Washington. Not for the person who will helm the federal government—that comes in six months—but instead for Dr. Jim Yong Kim, the man taking the reins of an organization even more lumbering, and far less accountable: the World Bank.

With 188 member countries and an army of 9,000 employees and consultants, Kim will lead one of the world's most powerful institutions—charged with saving the world's poor—but also one of its most dysfunctional. It is an endlessly expanding virtual nation-state with supranational powers, a 2011 aid portfolio of \$57 billion and little oversight by the governments that fund it.

And—according to dozens of interviews over the past few weeks, atop hundreds more over the past five years, plus a review of thousands of pages of internal documents—problems have gotten worse, not better, at the World Bank despite more than a decade of reform attempts. Kim, the Dartmouth College president tapped by President Obama to lead the bank, stands little chance of fixing things, say insiders, unless he is prepared to completely revamp the current system. "The inmates are running the asylum," says a former director.

Part of the problem is philosophical: No one, starting with outgoing president Robert Zoellick, has laid out an articulated vision for what the World Bank's role is in the 21st century. For example, economic superpower China remains one of the bank's largest and most valued clients, even as it doles out development money to other countries and bullies the bank from aggressively investigating corruption.

Part of the problem is structural: Internal reports, reviewed by FORBES, show, for example, that even after Zoellick implemented a budget freeze



Part of the problem is structural: Internal reports, reviewed by FORBES, show, for example, that even after Zoellick implemented a budget freeze some officials operated an off-budget system that defies cost control, while others used revolving doors to game the system to make fortunes for themselves or enhance their positions within the bank.

some officials operated an off-budget system that defies cost control, while others used revolving doors to game the system to make fortunes for themselves or enhance their positions within the bank. Why not track all the cash? Good luck: Bank sources cite up to \$2 billion that may have gone unaccounted for recently amid computer glitches.

Sadly, the last part is cultural: The bank, those inside and outside it say, is so obsessed with reputational risk that it reflexively covers up anything that could appear negative, rather than address it. Whistle-blower witch hunts undermine the one sure way to root out problems at a Washington headquarters dominated by fearful yes-men and yes-women, who-wary of a quick expul-



sion back to their own countries- rarely offer their true opinions.

Zoellick declined to speak with FORBES for this piece, though that's not surprising. I've covered the bank for the past five years and have been ritually denied access to anyone in a mid-to-top-level post. The blockade ended just before FORBES went to press, when the bank conducted a carefully monitored conference call with two staffers who run the global "Open Data" initiative. The bank's media relations spokesman was permitted to be quoted by name. That this is considered openness epitomizes the problems that Kim now inherits.

Like most out-of-control bureaucracies, the World Bank started with lofty and idealistic goals. Facing a planet in ruins near the end of World War II, it was created along with the International Monetary Fund at a conference of leading Western economists -trying to find ways to address the economic instabilities that they believed led to war-and to guarantee it would never happen again.

Having successfully helped rebuild Europe and Japan, the World Bank eventually expanded into a truly global agency, notably in the 1970s under the leadership of Robert McNamara, who took on the goal of a poverty-free plan-

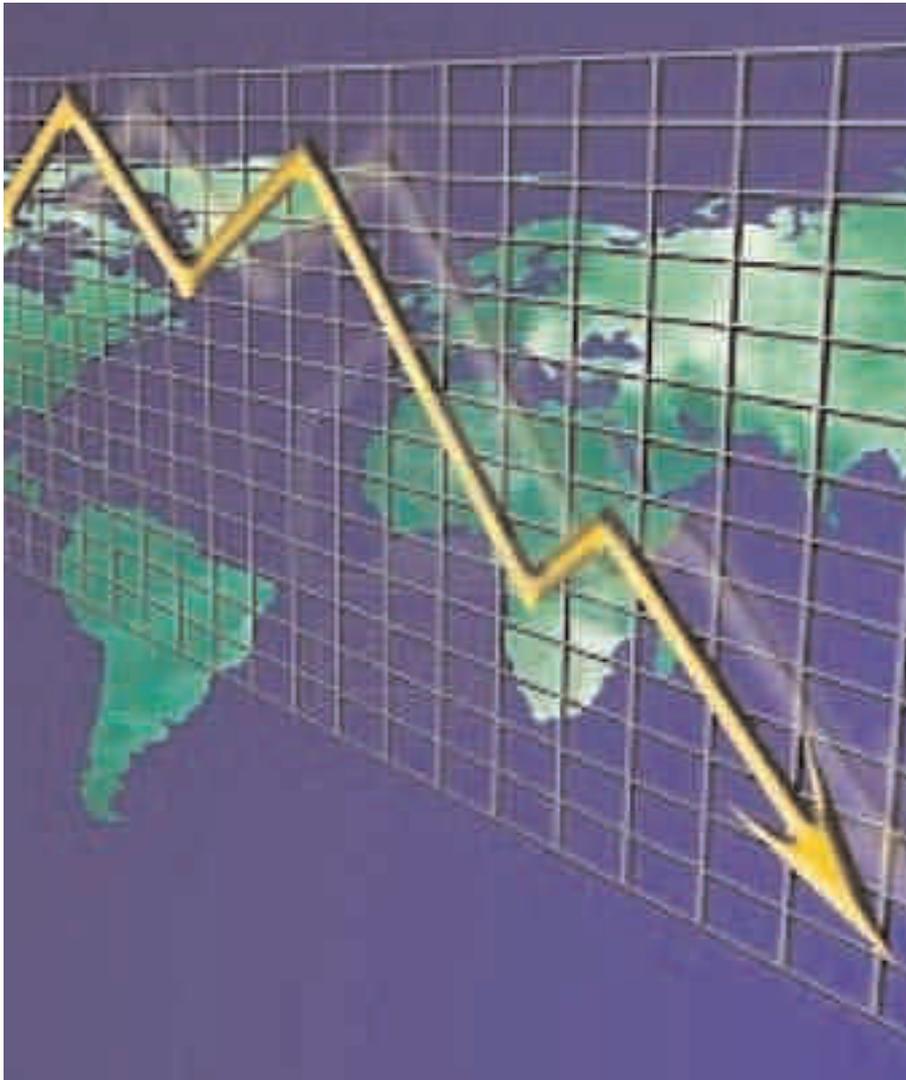
Having successfully helped rebuild Europe and Japan, the World Bank eventually expanded into a truly global agency, notably in the 1970s under the leadership of Robert McNamara, who took on the goal of a poverty-free planet in his search for redemption after his role in the Vietnam War. Donor nations fund the bank with billions of dollars annually, which it then doles out to fight poverty worldwide.

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In terms of its governance, the World Bank has always operated under a gentleman's agreement that allows the U.S.-its largest shareholder with 16% of the vote-to pick its president, while the other 187 member-governments flow into a 25-member board. The process for its funding, grants and loans is absurdly complicated, but in essence it combines capital from its donor -countries, plus self-generated income through the sale of bonds. While often confused with the IMF, which provides financial stability to governments, the World Bank's role is at least supposed to be only development projects-like building dams, roads,

schools, even fish farms-although it has muddied those boundaries over the last 20 years. Unlike the IMF, the bank deals with both the public and private sectors, and as the number of projects and amounts of money have escalated, so has the mischief, corruption and cover-ups, since no agency has the power to audit them.

In 2005 George W. Bush tapped Paul Wolfowitz as president to clean the place up. To his credit, Wolfowitz made rooting out corruption his primary mission. But the former Pentagon official also came in like an occupying power. According to internal documents obtained by FORBES, the board and Wolfowitz engaged in a game of trench warfare so vicious that the minutes of some board meetings had to be sanitized to keep the world from knowing what was really going on.



These moves, however, all fell at the margins. The bank's core problems grew unabated. Zoellick appeared to continue Wolfowitz's corruption battle, boosting the budget and the number of investigators in the bank's corruption-fighting arm-which led to the bagging and debarring of a record number of companies for corruption and bribery, including Germany's Siemens and Britain's Macmillan Publishers.

"Certainly the World Bank in its official attitude has changed," Volcker tells FORBES. "Now I can't tell you how much that's penetrated into the field staff ... or the people who make the loans."

Last year a little-known internal bank review was done on the effectiveness of the bank's corruption-fighting efforts. At first, according to the report's lead author, Navin Giri-shankar, Zoellick's team asked the evaluators-based inside a semi-independent bank unit-not to review the Volcker restructuring until they had more time themselves to see how it was working. The investigators agreed, focusing instead on the end results that ultimately matter, anyway-the "quality of the bank's operations," particularly in countries that suffer heavily from corruption and poor governance.

The bank's corruption fighters are too focused on specific development projects and not enough on the budgets of poor countries, where bank funds-more than \$50 billion since 2008-are commingled with a country's income and may not be used for its intended purpose. These funds go down a rabbit hole and are almost impossible to track.

It was a bold report that shook the bank, and Zoellick's team worked hard to discredit it. "In the beginning they wanted to push us toward examining countries where they felt there would be successes," says Girishankar, considered one of the best analysts inside the agency. "Then the sampling was questioned, as were the findings that the bank is not consistent in fighting

Perhaps Wolfowitz's heavy-handed style would have eventually paid dividends. He did, after all, declare war on the bureaucracy. But he also fell prey to the insular culture, giving his girlfriend at the bank special considerations that undercut his credibility and led to his resignation.

So in came Zoellick. He had a stellar resume, serving as the U.S. trade representative, an assistant Treasury secretary and deputy secretary of state. Joining the bank in 2007 he immediately calmed the waters. Facing a global food crisis, followed by a financial crisis, he shoveled loans out the door at record levels to help keep the world's poorest from being buried alive. He then turned around and sought-and last year received-healthy financial increases from the bank's member countries.

When arriving at the bank he was flabbergasted at the glass ceiling for women-despite 20 years of studies and internal promises to change it. Within five years he could boast that half of his top managers were female. Zoellick was also shocked to learn that the bank sold its old data and surveys in its

8,000 "datasets" going back 50 years. He ordered it to be given out for free and made available to all-except for the sensitive stuff-under what he calls the Open Data program.

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But numerous managers and vice presidents that I spoke with inside the bank say that corruption continues unabated. Five years ago a commission led by Paul Volcker drilled into the bank and called it a massive problem. He recommended restructuring the bank's corruption-fighting unit, including moving the leadership into a more powerful notch in the bureaucracy. Zoellick adopted everything in the Volcker plan, but there are big questions today whether it's having a deep impact.



corruption and improving governments across countries."

A similar report that the bank buried, attacked and then ignored was done by another respected internal investigator, Anis Dani. This report found a "dramatic dip" in the quality-meaning effectiveness, impact and results-of bank projects over the past five years, says Dani. He also found a seemingly premeditated effort to remove the only whistle-blower function within the bank that dealt with all its projects, called the "Quality Assurance Group." Zoellick's team dissolved it in 2010, and while the bank maintains that it is working on replacing it with something else, Dani calls that claim "hogwash."

The study, presented to the board in February of this year, was objected to by the bank's senior managers, who preemptively produced their own Power-Point presentation that found a lot of the same problems that Dani did. (That report has never been released.)

None of these apparent attempts to blunt unwelcome news comes as a surprise to Carman L. Lapointe, who has worked as the UN's chief internal watchdog since 2010. Before that Lapointe was the auditor general of the World Bank, where her team issued 60 internal reports per year on what was really going on inside the agency. "Carman's reports were-how can I put it-a bit can-

At the most fundamental level the World Bank has a mandate problem. Economist Adam Lerrick, a longtime critic of the organization, argues that it lost its bearings lending to middle-income countries "that don't need the money," like the BRIC -countries-Brazil, Russia, India and China-rather than sticking with development projects in the world's poorest and most fragile states.

did," laughs a bank vice president who supported her. But it led to Lapointe being gently walked out the bank's door in late 2009. "We were pretty blunt with what had to be said, and that's not what those at the top of the bank want to read," Lapointe tells FORBES. "The bank's management -didn't want to hear the tough messages. They are very reluctant to be held to account." The bank wouldn't comment on that,

although Lapointe says she confronted Zoellick before leaving, and he told her he'd been blindsided by his own top-managers.

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The bank argues that it makes money from lending to the BRICs, which allows it to lend still more money to the poorest nations. In a 2006 study, however, Lerrick drilled down into the bank's books and found real annual losses of \$100 million to \$500 million per year on its loans-although accounting maneuvers painted a rosier picture of the financials. It's hard to believe the situation has improved in the wake of the financial crisis.

"The World Bank should be in the development business, not the lending business," says Lerrick. "Its scarce donor-backed funds should be channeled to countries that do not have access to private-sector capital." Volcker has previously likened the bank's we-must-lend attitude, ominously, to Fannie Mae.

Hardly a month now passes without an announcement that the World Bank is lending China a ton of low-interest money-say \$300 million to clean up a polluted lake-only to watch China turn around a few days later and announce a similar-sized zero-interest loan, or grant, to a poor sub-Saharan nation, winning extra global clout.

Nowhere is the problem clearer than with China, the world's second-largest economy-and the World Bank's second-largest customer behind Mexico, having borrowed more than \$30 billion over the past few decades. When China in 2007 threatened to stop borrowing from the bank unless the agency toned down its new corruption-fighting plan-according to a secret internal bank memo, obtained by FORBES-the bank's top managers went into a panic and quietly caved. "The bank is desperate to keep its best clients," explains Lerrick.

A decision was made inside the bank – announced on its website but wrapped in diplomatic jargon – that they would benchmark each country individually on corruption, rather than against one global standard. The practical result was an easing of the rules for the biggest violators, such as China.

Zoellick, who prides himself on his relations with China's leaders, did nothing to alter it. Indeed, in the report issued last year by Girishankar, he confirmed that this was happening. "There are several countries, including those with very big geopolitical influence and a strong voice on the bank board, where the bank had to find a way to deal with it," he says.

It gets worse: Hardly a month now passes without an announcement that the World Bank is lending China a ton of low-interest money-say \$300 million to clean up a polluted lake-only to watch China turn around a few days later and announce a similar-sized zero-interest loan, or grant, to a poor sub-Saharan nation, winning extra global clout. Meanwhile, inside the bank's Washington headquarters, China is increasingly assertive on the board level, while bank managers kowtow to



China. Case in point: In the China office at the bank in Washington, one staffer's job, according to a recently retired senior bank official, is to closely examine every World Bank document the bank creates that mentions Taiwan to make sure that it uses language China approves of. If it doesn't, the language is altered.

When Zoellick took office five years ago, he instituted, he says, a flat budget on the agency-which, to outside eyes, remains at roughly \$2 billion annually for administrative overhead. He did it because he felt it would instill discipline on the global staff and honestly felt they could do more with less. Unfortunately, FORBES has learned, the staff simply did an end-run around the president.

"No one believed we had a flat budget except him," laughs a senior vice president. "We're spending trust funds like there's no tomorrow. So where is the flat budget? Everyone just got money from bank owners in a different capacity."

"Trust funds" are the World Bank's dirty little secret, their version of

Congressional earmarks. There are hundreds of them, funded by dozens of countries and dedicated to virtually every poverty-type project you can think of. And they have been growing so phenomenally that they now provide \$600 million annually, or 30% of the bank's total administrative budget.

Many donor countries do this because they don't want their money sitting in a general bank fund that the bank can use for anything it wants. But since they have various arms of the bank administering these funds, there's even less oversight than there would have been otherwise. And while those trust funds are generally not supposed to go toward administrative overhead, they often do anyway, say bank insiders, which many countries are unaware of. FORBES has turned up examples-such as with Italy-in which arms of the bank have been charging headquarters and individual countries for the same salaries and expenses, helping to enrich bureaucratic fiefdoms.

FORBES has also discovered a whole layer of bank officials who have learned how to game the system or



expand their influence through its constantly revolving doors. It's not unlike the way that U.S. officials retire and then go to work for the contractors they associated with while in government service.

As just one example, "Lead Education Specialist" Luis Crouch helps manage the billion-dollar Global Partnership for Education, run out of the bank's headquarters. Crouch is a revolving door within a revolving door—over the past ten years he has shuttled back and forth between the bank and Research Triangle Institute, a nonprofit that sells education tests to the bank and USAID, according to a USAID consultant familiar with the deals who says Crouch consistently favors RTI. Asked about his apparent conflicts of interest, Crouch declines to comment, while bank spokesmen also decline.

With such off-book shenanigans going on, perhaps it's not shocking that last December more than \$2 billion suddenly started appearing, disappearing and reappearing across the online budget accounts (and computer screens) of bank units around the world, according to staffers responsible for those budgets. In some accounts they showed huge deficits where none had been, while in others there were sudden surpluses. This was popping up in unrelated units across the bank's computer networks—and driving everyone crazy trying to figure out what was

happening. One insider likened it to the game whack-a-mole—only with hundreds of millions of dollars shooting up in different spots and vanishing from others.

One possibility could be that it was massive hacking—an incessant problem at the bank. Another explanation is that it was simply "Computers Gone Wild"—perhaps the IT network on its own playing a game. Others suspect the explanation may be more nefarious. One thing for sure: It eroded confidence in the World Bank's controls.

Zoellick's hands-off management style didn't help, either. He delegated most day-to-day functions to a deputy, Caroline Anstey, as well as delegating to her and two others the chairing of most board meetings—which is normally the function of bank presidents. The board meets twice a week, and yet Zoellick shows up maybe once a month. At the beginning they groveled for his attention, until he started going behind their backs to get information directly from their bosses (the finance ministers of their countries).

Indeed, Zoellick fashioned himself more in the role of a statesman than a bank CEO. He is rumored to be eyeing a senior job in a Romney Administration. Given this, bank insiders say that Zoellick's goal—with bigger career perches in mind—has been to simply manage the agency in a way that there is no noise or blame that could be affixed to him.

That meant not taking big risks. In late 2008 Zoellick tapped former Mexican president Ernesto Zedillo to chair an independent commission to study the issue of giving smaller and poorer countries a bigger seat at the World Bank governance table. That report was sent to Zoellick when it was completed last year, who promptly gave it to the board—but not before adding a cover letter saying it doesn't necessarily represent his views. "Why did he have to do that?" Zedillo asks FORBES. "It was very obvious it was an independent report. He didn't have to say that. He was not the author of the report at all. I think he's afraid some country members will jump to his neck, blaming him for the report. They can blame me if they don't like it."

One of the Zedillo commission's biggest conclusions is that "the board should be a real board and not an executive board," says Zedillo. "The board should handle strategic matters and oversee seriously the activities of the bank. Right now it has a conflict of interest."

"You cannot be the overseer and also the approvers of the operations," he adds with a laugh. "But that's been a practice since the bank was established. ... Do they really think the World Bank will be relevant in 10 to 15 to 20 years if you keep it the way it is now? The answer is no."

IS WAL-MART DESTROYING AMERICA?

Facts About Wal-Mart That Will Absolutely Shock You

● Kapil Dudakia, Bureau Chief UK

America absolutely loves Wal-Mart. 100 million customers visit Wal-Mart every single week in this country. But is Wal-Mart good for America? That is a question that most people never stop and ask. Most of us love shopping in big, clean stores that are packed with super cheap merchandise, but the truth is that Wal-Mart is destroying America in a lot of ways.

As you will see below, Wal-Mart has destroyed tens of thousands of small businesses and countless manufacturing jobs over the past couple of decades. Wal-Mart has become a gigantic retail behemoth that sells five times more stuff than any other retailer in the United States. Unfortunately, a large percentage of all the stuff sold at Wal-Mart is made overseas. What that is costing the U.S. economy in terms of

Wal-Mart has become a gigantic retail behemoth that sells five times more stuff than any other retailer in the United States. Unfortunately, a large percentage of all the stuff sold at Wal-Mart is made overseas.



THE FOLLOWING ARE FACTS ABOUT WAL-MART THAT WILL ABSOLUTELY SHOCK YOU....

1 The average U.S. family now spends more than \$4000 a year at Wal-Mart.

2 In 2010, Wal-Mart had revenues of 421 billion dollars. That amount was greater than the GDP of 170 different countries including Norway, Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates.

3 If Wal-Mart was a nation, it would have the 23rd largest GDP in the world.

4 Wal-Mart now sells more groceries than anyone else in America does. In the United States today, one out of every four grocery dollars is spent at Wal-Mart.

5 Amazingly, 100 million customers shop at Wal-Mart every single week.

6 Wal-Mart has opened more than 1,100 "supercenters" since 2005 alone.

7 Today, Wal-Mart has more than 2 million employees.

8 If Wal-Mart was an army, it would be the second largest military on the planet behind China.

9 Wal-Mart is the largest employer in 25 different U.S. states.

10 According to the Economic Policy Institute, trade between Wal-Mart and China resulted in the loss of 133,000 manufacturing jobs in the United States between 2001 and 2006.

11 The CEO of Wal-Mart makes more in a single hour than a full-time Wal-Mart associate makes in an entire year.

12 Tens of thousands of Wal-Mart employees and their children are enrolled in Medicaid and are dependent on the government for health-care.

13 Between 2001 and 2007, the value of products that Wal-Mart imported from China grew from \$9 billion to \$27 billion.

14 Amazingly, 96 percent of all Americans now live within 20 miles of a Wal-Mart.

15 The number of "independent retailers" in the United States declined by 60,000 between 1992 and 2007.

16 According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Wal-Mart spent 7.8 million dollars on political lobbying during 2011. That number does not even include campaign contributions.

17 Today, Wal-Mart has five times the sales of the second largest U.S. retailer (Costco).

18 The combined net worth of six members of the Walton family is roughly equal to the combined net worth of the poorest 30 percent of all Americans.

All over the country, independent retailers are going out of business because they cannot compete with Wal-Mart and their super cheap Chinese products. Often communities will give Wal-Mart huge tax breaks just to move in to their areas. But what many communities don't take into account is that the introduction of a Wal-Mart is often absolutely devastating to small businesses....



about free enterprise and competition and working together to build up this country, and Wal-Mart is destroying all of that.

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lost jobs and lost revenue is incalculable. But Wal-Mart is a perfect example of where our economic system is headed. Our economy is becoming completely and totally dominated by highly centralized monolithic predator corporations that ruthlessly crush all competition and that will stoop to just about

anything in order to cut costs. In the future, will we all be working for gigantic communal entities that funnel all of the wealth and economic rewards to a very tiny elite? That sounds very much like how communist China works, and red-blooded Americans should want no part of that. America is supposed to be



A study of small and rural towns in Iowa showed lost sales for local businesses ranging from -17.2% in small towns to -61.4% in rural areas, amounting to a total dollar loss of \$2.46 BILLION over a 13-year period.

When we buy stuff made by people working for slave labor wages in China, we destroy good paying American jobs and we make America poorer. This is a point that I have tried to make over and over.

Wal-Mart often tells one thing to the public and then does another thing in private. Sadly, the truth is that Wal-Mart does not care about U.S. manufacturing jobs. Wal-Mart just wants to get products as cheaply as they possibly can, and most of the time that means getting them from China.

Just check out this first-hand testimony from an 81-year-old retired apparel manufacturer...

I was president of the Southwestern Apparel Manufacturers Association. There was a meeting sometime between 1985 and 1990. Walmart had contacted our organization and asked if

A study of small and rural towns in Iowa showed lost sales for local businesses ranging from -17.2% in small towns to -61.4% in rural areas, amounting to a total dollar loss of \$2.46 BILLION over a 13-year period. When we buy stuff made by people working for slave labor wages in China, we destroy good paying American jobs and we make America poorer. This is a point that I have tried to make over and over.

they could meet with us at our beautiful Apparel Mart we had here in Dallas, which has now been razed, because all the independent merchants don't exist that used to come to it. Two people from Walmart came down and they said they were going to be sourcing goods from overseas and we would have to meet those prices for consumer products and to get ready for it—we are going to be sourcing the world. Walmart was the only company that came out and said this.

It was sort of shocking: I was selling them some merchandise at the time.

On the back of their trucks it was saying "Bring it Back to America!" They had the big "keep it in America" program going at that time on the big signs in the stores. Meanwhile when I reminded the buyer of that, she told me, "that is just for domestic consumption, we're going to buy at the cheapest we can anywhere on earth."

As I have written about previously, the United States has lost more than 56,000 manufacturing facilities since 2001.

We are losing millions of good jobs that cannot be replaced. If you can



Walmart's market power is so immense that the even the largest suppliers must comply with its demands for lower and lower prices because they cannot afford to have their goods taken off its shelves. Companies that used to manufacture products in the United States, from Levi's jeans to lock maker Master Lock, were pressured to shut their U.S. factories and moved manufacturing abroad to meet Walmart's demand for low prices.

support a family selling electronics or running a general store. But you can't support a family working at Wal-Mart. The vast majority of the jobs that Wal-Mart creates are very low paying. Large numbers of Wal-Mart employees are actually on welfare, and this is part of the reason why we have seen such an explosion in the number of the working poor in America.

At this point, more than 40 percent of all jobs in America are low wage jobs and the middle class is rapidly disappearing.

If we do not support American jobs and American manufacturers they will continue to go away and the welfare rolls in this country will continue to explode.

There is not going to be any prosperity in this country without jobs. Unfortunately, most Americans simply do not understand how good jobs are being systematically destroyed in America every single day.

The path that America is headed on today is only going to end in complete and total disaster. We are being transformed from a wealthy nation into a poor nation. In the end, we will be dominated by a very tiny elite and everyone else will either be among the working poor or will be totally dependent on the government. Our system is supposed to be about open, honest competition. But that is not what Wal-Mart is about. Wal-Mart is about crushing small businesses and manufacturers here in America and getting us all to buy their super cheap Chinese-made goods.

believe it, the United States has actually lost an average of about 50,000 manufacturing jobs a month since China joined the World Trade Organization in 2001.

Last year, the U.S. trade deficit with China was the biggest trade deficit that one nation has had with another nation in the history of the world, and Wal-Mart played a huge role in that.

In fact, Wal-Mart has actually been forcing some U.S. manufacturers to pack up and move overseas. The following is from a recent article by Amy Traub....

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lower and lower prices because they cannot afford to have their goods taken off its shelves. Companies that used to manufacture products in the United States, from Levi's jeans to lock maker Master Lock, were pressured to shut their U.S. factories and moved manufacturing abroad to meet Walmart's demand for low prices.

Unfortunately, the vast wealth that Wal-Mart is sucking out of our communities is not put back into our communities. The profits are funneled out to Wal-Mart executives and shareholders. We may enjoy the low prices, but very little of the money that we give to Wal-Mart gets recycled in our local areas.

In the old days, you could actually

IS DEATH AN ILLUSION?

EVIDENCE SUGGESTS DEATH ISN'T THE END

● Robert Lanza

After the death of his old friend, Albert Einstein said "Now Besso has departed from this strange world a little ahead of me. That means nothing. People like us ... know that the distinction between past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion."

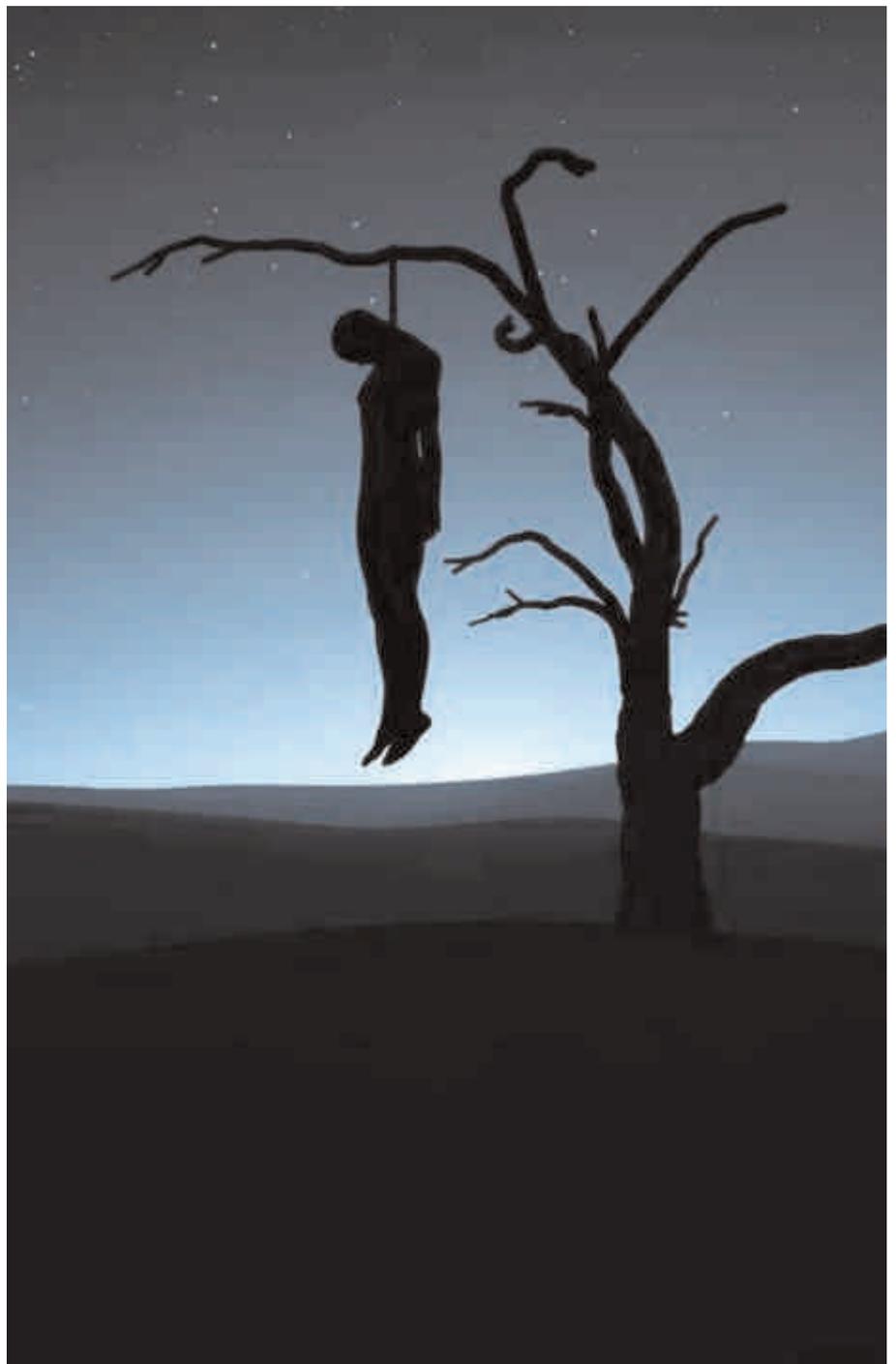
New evidence continues to suggest that Einstein was right - death is an illusion.

Our classical way of thinking is based on the belief that the world has an objective observer-independent existence. But a long list of experiments shows just the opposite. We think life is just the activity of carbon and an admixture of molecules - we live awhile and then rot into the ground.

We believe in death because we've been taught we die. Also, of course, because we associate ourselves with our body and we know bodies die. End of story. But biocentrism - a new theory of everything - tells us death may not be the terminal event we think. Amazingly, if you add life and consciousness to the equation, you can explain some of the biggest puzzles of science. For instance, it becomes clear why space and time - and even the properties of matter itself - depend on the observer. It also becomes clear why the laws, forces, and constants of the universe appear to be exquisitely fine-tuned for the existence of life.

Until we recognize the universe in our heads, attempts to understand reality will remain a road to nowhere.

Consider the weather 'outside': You see a blue sky, but the cells in your brain could be changed so the sky looks green or red. In fact, with a little genetic engineering we could probably make





everything that is red vibrate or make a noise, or even make you want to have sex like with some birds. You think its bright out, but your brain circuits could be changed so it looks dark out. You think it feels hot and humid, but to a tropical frog it would feel cold and dry. This logic applies to virtually everything. Bottom line: What you see could not be present without your consciousness.

In truth, you can't see anything through the bone that surrounds your brain. Your eyes are not portals to the world. Everything you see and experience right now - even your body - is a whirl of information occurring in your mind. According to biocentrism, space and time aren't the hard, cold objects we think. Wave your hand through the air - if you take everything away, what's left? Nothing. The same thing applies for time. Space and time are simply the tools for putting everything together.

Consider the famous two-slit experiment. When scientists watch a particle pass through two slits in a barrier, the particle behaves like a bullet and goes through one slit or the other. But if you don't watch, it acts like a wave and can

Or consider Heisenberg's famous uncertainty principle. If there is really a world out there with particles just bouncing around, then we should be able to measure all their properties. But you can't. For instance, a particle's exact location and momentum can't be known at the same time. So why should it matter to a particle what you decide to measure? And how can pairs of entangled particles be instantaneously connected on opposite sides of the galaxy as if space and time don't exist? Again, the answer is simple: because they're not just 'out there' - space and time are simply tools of our mind.

go through both slits at the same time. So how can a particle change its behavior depending on whether you watch it or not? The answer is simple - reality is a process that involves your consciousness.

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exact location and momentum can't be known at the same time. So why should it matter to a particle what you decide to measure? And how can pairs of entangled particles be instantaneously connected on opposite sides of the galaxy as if space and time don't exist? Again, the answer is simple: because they're not just 'out there' - space and time are simply tools of our mind.

Death doesn't exist in a timeless, spaceless world. Immortality doesn't



We generally reject the multiple universes of Star Trek as fiction, but it turns out there is more than a morsel of scientific truth to this popular genre. One well-known aspect of quantum physics is that observations can't be predicted absolutely.

Einstein put it). Other experiments with huge molecules called 'Buckyballs' also show that quantum reality extends beyond the microscopic world. And in 2005, KHC03 crystals exhibited entanglement ridges one-half inch high, quantum behavior nudging into the ordinary world of human-scale objects.

We generally reject the multiple universes of Star Trek as fiction, but it turns out there is more than a morsel of scientific truth to this popular genre. One well-known aspect of quantum physics is that observations can't be predicted absolutely. Instead, there is a range of possible observations each with a different probability. One mainstream explanation, the "many-worlds" interpretation, states that each of these possible observations corresponds to a different universe (the 'multiverse'). There are an infinite number of universes and everything that could possibly happen occurs in some universe. Death does not exist in any real sense in these scenarios. All possible universes exist simultaneously, regardless of what happens in any of them.

Life is an adventure that transcends our ordinary linear way of thinking. When we die, we do so not in the random billiard-ball-matrix but in the inescapable-life-matrix. Life has a non-linear dimensionality - it's like a perennial flower that returns to bloom in the multiverse.

"The influences of the senses," said Ralph Waldo Emerson "has in most men overpowered the mind to the degree that the walls of space and time have come to look solid, real and insurmountable; and to speak with levity of these limits in the world is the sign of insanity."

Robert Lanza has published extensively in leading scientific journals. His book "Biocentrism" lays out the scientific argument for his theory of everything.

mean a perpetual existence in time, but resides outside of time altogether.

Our linear way of thinking about time is also inconsistent with another series of recent experiments. In 2002, scientists showed that particles of light "photons" knew - in advance - what their distant twins would do in the future. They tested the communication between pairs of photons. They let one photon finish its journey - it had to decide whether to be either a wave or a particle. Researchers stretched the distance the other photon took to reach its own detector. However, they could add a scrambler to prevent it from collapsing into a particle. Somehow, the first particle knew what the researcher was going to do before it happened - and across distances instantaneously as if there were no space or time between them. They decide not to become particles before their twin even encounters the scrambler. It doesn't matter how we set up the experiment. Our mind and its knowledge is the only thing that determines how they behave. Experiments consistently confirm these observer-dependent effects.

Bizarre? Consider another experiment that was recently published in the prestigious scientific journal *Science* (Jacques et al, 315, 966, 2007).

Scientists in France shot photons into an apparatus, and showed that what they did could retroactively change something that had already happened in the past. As the photons passed a fork in the apparatus, they had to decide whether to behave like particles or waves when they hit a beam splitter. Later on - well after the photons passed the fork - the experimenter could randomly switch a second beam splitter on and off. It turns out that what the observer decided at that point, determined what the particle actually did at the fork in the past. At that moment, the experimenter chose his past.

Of course, we live in the same world. But critics claim this behavior is limited to the microscopic world. But this 'two-world' view (that is, one set of physical laws for small objects, and another for the rest of the universe including us) has no basis in reason and is being challenged in laboratories around the world. A couple years ago, researchers published a paper in *Nature* (Jost et al, 459, 683, 2009) showing that quantum behavior extends into the everyday realm. Pairs of vibrating ions were coaxed to entangle so their physical properties remained bound together when separated by large distances ("spooky action at a distance," as

PANTEL TECHNOLOGIES: BRIDGING THE GAP



While most of the technology makers are fighting for their share in the market, trying to fetch whatever extra penny possible from the customer's pocket, there are quite a few like Pantel Technologies, which plan to pave their own way. Pantel Technologies, a Noida based young, Information Technology devices organization unlike its competitor's wishes to sell its devices for some good. Rather than simply selling their tablet pc, they want to sell the concept; how their tablet pc can be of great use to the consumer. Within its few months of investiture, it has not just made a mark with its product's quality, but it has also gained respect for itself with its chosen decisions and path. It's tie-ups with various brands in diverse sectors have made statements throughout the country.

Pantel Technologies base tablet, Penta T-Pad IS701R is very reasonably priced, so as to make it affordable to the masses. India being a developing country, more than half of the population resides below poverty line.

For an instance, Pantel Technologies base tablet, Penta T-Pad IS701R is very reasonably priced, so as to make it affordable to the masses. India being a developing country, more than half of the population resides below poverty line. Reaching them has always been an issue; we have always fallen short of facilities for middle and lower classes. Penta T-Pad in such state plans to connect people and decrease the rural-urban gap as much as possible. Penta T-Pad IS701R is loaded with 1GHz processor and inbuilt DDR2

256MB RAM powering Android 2.3 Gingerbread operating system and a high resolution 7 inch touch screen. Its added features like wireless connectivity with high-speed networking support, is good enough to help you stay connected anywhere, anytime. Further Pantel Technologies alliance with BSNL adds to its reach and connectivity at affordable prices for all.

Thus, Pantel Technologies though a young organization, is taking all the mature decisions to win the customer's and country's heart.

PANTEL TECHNOLOGIES: TRANSFORMING INDIA



A simple, small yet powerful internet tablet pc holds the ability to revolutionize the way things work. From education, healthcare, governance, social welfare, disaster management, etc., every sector would eventually transform for its better, promises Pantel Technologies. Pantel Technologies is a young Information Technology devices company, based in Noida. Within few months of its investiture it has earned the credibility and status of one of the most affordable tablet pc maker of the country. With times to come, Pantel Technologies with its range of tablets, marketed under the name of Penta T-Pads plans to leverage its technical strength to be part of this transformation.

According to Pantel Technologies, an internet tablet pc has the ability to accelerate learning. Through digitized content, learning can be made available from anywhere, anytime and anyplace. With the help of technology and real-time learning collaborations, tablet can aid in custom-made education to masses. The only hindrance that education sector is facing today is cost and connectivity. Cost to procure a tablet pc

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and enormous task of generating digital content, to switch thousands of courses and materials to digital content. And connectivity issues, to be able to connect to masses.

Pantel Technologies in this regard, with an alliance with BSNL, oldest and

largest communication service provider of India, has already started contributing to the sector by subsidizing its Rs 7,500 Penta T-Pad to just Rs 3,000 for rural students. And in times to come, plans to come with the ability which would let sharing and review of handwritten notes possible; things like automatic grading, video tutorials would be available on the tablet pc. Pantel Technologies is also keen on network independent applications, where users can download assignments for days, or weeks at a time and need not be online always.

A lot can be done in Healthcare arena. Right from the upcoming remote patient monitoring, to Telemedicine 2.0, internet tablets can help in better care of the patients. This would facilitate bedside patient scans, leading to improved accuracy of data collected and an increase in data efficiency. With tablet pc, doctors can also access data at the bedside, the nurses' station, or from various other points of service with fewer disruptions in care. Thus, Pantel Technologies plan to increase the physicians mobility and accessibility through its range of tablets. With the possibility of real-time communications,

automation of forms, processes, and workflows, it wishes to ease the process for hospitals as well as patient.

Pantel Technologies affordable range of internet tablet pcs also opens avenues for government's e-governance projects. Pantel Technology believes a lot of gaps can be plugged through the use of technology in governance, including corruption. With apt applications, software, and connectivity, the major source for corruption, lag in governmental projects, Intermediaries can be eliminated. With Internet tablet pcs fundamental functionality, information on move; rather than physical file management, through e-file management on cloud

India is a land of opportunity and poverty at the same time. And Pantel Technologies wishes to explore the opportunity by removing poverty. Pantel Technologies believes in giving back to the society. It believes through its technology it has so much to give back, by educating, by aiding them facilities, by connecting them to the world.

services, the information would be available anywhere, anytime for faster and better decisions for better governance.

Cloud Services and internet tablet pc, are one of the best technological inventions till date. Together they not just make data, content available, useful in various sectors but also secure.

India is a land of opportunity and poverty at the same time. And Pantel Technologies wishes to explore the opportunity by removing poverty. Pantel Technologies believes in giving back to the society. It believes through its technology it has so much to give back, by educating, by aiding them facilities, by connecting them to the world. Pantel Technologies might not be able to provide best of medical equipments, but it promises to connect you through best of doctors through internet, through internet tablet pc. The organization in the same direction has subsidized its rates for rural India.

Genext Mobile Telephony Rides On wireless Signals

According to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), over 85 percent of the world's population is covered by a commercial wireless signal and approx. 5 billion mobile phone subscriptions subsist in the world. The growing penetration of these networks in many low- and middle-income countries surpasses other infrastructure such as paved roads, electricity, and dwarfs fixed Internet deployment. This means, it might not be physically possible to reach at a place, but thanks to the wireless technology, you could certainly reach out to your friend, family or a patient through an internet able device. And with the mounting speed of data transmission possibility, greater personalization and citizen-focused public health and medical care is now possible.

Pantel Technologies, an Information Technology and Communication devices organization, promoting novel ICT products under the brand name of

PENTA in the Indian market, is keen on making most from this data connectivity opportunity. With its global presence including its offices in London, Hong Kong, Mauritius, Singapore, and Seoul - apart from a network of offices across India, the organization has an edge in technology and research in national as well as in international market. Penta T-Pads have been known for their affordable rates and an extensive range of products in the global internet tablet pc market. Pantel Technologies' products are available in multiple sizes of 7", 8" and 10"; with varied options to stay connected like Wi-Fi enabled, Dongle enabled and tablet pc's with SIM slots.

Pantel Technology believes in creating best use of technology in all the spheres of life. With increasing pressure on healthcare sector to perform under multiple health challenges, chronic staff shortages, and limited budgets, the organization plans to come out with an affordable, handy internet tablet pc for healthcare sector,



as an integrated physician's workflow solution. Pantel Technologies has listed out various ways in which it can aid in medical care through its Penta T-Pad, including managing emergencies and disasters, telemedicine, appointment reminders, community mobilization and health promotion, treatment compliance, mobile patient records, information access, patient monitoring, health surveys and data collection, surveillance, health awareness raising, and decision support systems.

A lot has been already done and a lot is in process regarding the same through a mobile, mHealth. With availability of smart phones, rural areas are getting connected through it. Countries like Bangladesh, initiated with SMS messages to educate the inhabitants on various health related issues, which has educated and saved lots of life. Similar other projects have been carried out under the mHealth umbrella. Through its range of internet tablet pcs, Pantel Technologies wishes to enhance the patient as well as healthcare's experience. With wider screen, affordable range, farther more abilities than a smartphone, Penta T-Pad is a much better option. Further add-ons like dictation, speech-to-text software, portable keyboards, docking stations, and stylus pen navigation all make it easier to use medical software to capture, access, and transmit information.

A few ways in which an internet tablet pc, Penta T-Pad can be used right away in healthcare sector would be:

- **Wound Care:** Through the help of an inbuilt camera, photographs of the wound can be clicked initially, and can be compared with on further stages, aiding physicians to be well assured if the current prescription is giving the desired effect, or is it suiting the patient or not.

- **Patient Care:** It is easier and better to keep a track of patients with an internet tablet pc. With the help of an RFID readers attached/ in-build in a tablet, that can scan barcodes at patient beds, the physician and the patient care/nurse can get automatic updates about patients movement, or get alerts about patient's needs.

- **Medication Management:** Connectivity capabilities on tablet PCs through a wireless/ dongle or SIM Slot helps in streamlining the entire medication process by sending orders quickly. For pharmacies inside or outside the medical facility, the physician can contact directly and get it asap.

- **Drug Interactions:** Internet Tablet pc

makes it easier to get instant access to drug related interactions, and at the same time document the patient's reaction to the drug.

- **Diagnosis Aid:** Quite a lot of times a physician requires to consult notes, references, previous cases history, or fellow physicians when making a diagnosis. Internet tablet PC, makes the process quicker and easier for a timely, quality, and accurate diagnosis.

- **Treatment Care:** With an internet tablet, it is possible to quickly create a treatment plan, and then track progress of the intended regimen.

- **Medical Updates:** It is possible to stay updated with the latest medical updates on the move. You could subscribe to any good medical magazine/



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online information website and the patient as well as physician can stay up to date.

- **HIS:** Hospital Information System is aptly utilized with an internet tablet pc. In many cases, large errors have been introduced into the health records system when charts were written, and then copied, and then entered into the computer later. With the help of Penta T-Pad, the internet tablet pc, it is possible to make an entry on real-time basis, reducing errors in many cases and also an ability to manage or access the system/ information from anywhere, anytime.

- **Lab Results:** Instead of waiting for lab results, they can be sent instantly to the physician and then on shared with

the respective patient with a tablet PC, providing instant access to results and hence, prescription.

- **Medical Imaging:** Internet Tablet pc makes receiving imaging results on the fly possible. Physicians and specialists for reference can have x-rays and other images in their tablet pcs and help patient immediately. Or in cases where a patient cannot go to the doctor, due to its unavailability in the remote areas, can send its reports to the doctor in the city and get prescribed and hence cured.

Lastly to conclude, the Penta T-Pad through internet connectivity can facilitate two-way communication between individuals and health service, consultation between health care professional,

inter-sectoral communication in emergencies, health monitoring and surveillance, and access to information for health care professionals at point of care. This would mean, physician can be in touch with patients and vice-versa, instantly form or revise a medical record, implement the decided/ prescribed treatment plan, check back the old patient history, retrieve the results, wirelessly on the move.

Penta's T-Pad is a scalable resolution to the growing healthcare challenges, fabricated with latest technologies. It is functionally extensible and competent enough to incorporate and interface with other systems effortlessly. Its relevance are being tested in varied scenarios as improving timely access to emergency and general health services and information, managing patient care, reducing drug shortages at health clinics, enhancing clinical diagnosis and treatment adherence, among others. With times to come, Pantel Technologies through its Penta T-Pad wishes to reach and treat the remotest of areas and together built a healthy India.



SAREH FAR

A Persian wonder in India



Sareh is a born artist. From childhood she used to perform on stage as a theater actor. That was just a passion, an interest beside education and dance. Sareh have never learnt any specific form of dance but it comes as easily as breathing to her.

Studies were always an important and major part of her life. But Sareh got a lot of joy and positive energy from her involvement in creative fields like dancing, anchoring and acting. It has always been an attempt to follow what she love the most. Sareh have completed bachelor in GENETICS and then for further study she moved to India. A master in biochemistry and

some research on Genetic disorders are what she

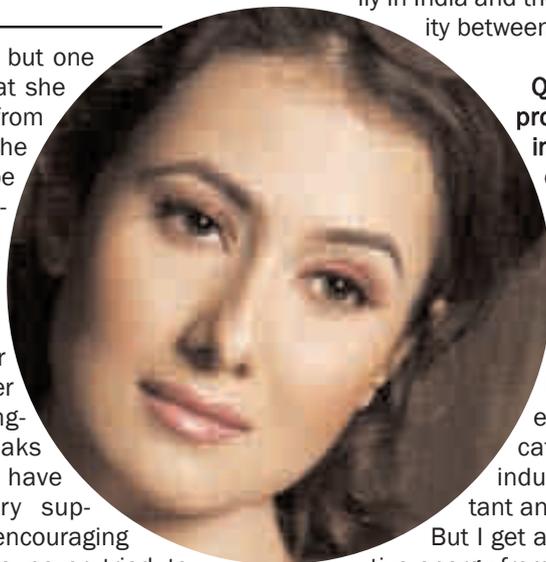


VITAL STATS

Height | 5'5
 Bust | 32; Waist | 25 Hips | 36
 Shoulder | 14
 Eyes color | Hazel
 Hair color | Light brown
Campaigns | MCdonald, Pantaloons, Bare, Nitara, Monster job, jewellery shots for punita trikha, Amity campus, Elite export house, launch of Sony Ericsson, Ayur(beauty products) TVC, HDFC bank, VIVANTE real estate, Burn drink promotion, Nokia TVC, Light house club. ICC T20 TVC.

got from India but one more thing that she have gained from India which she could never be able to experience it in Iran is modeling and fashion.

Sareh dedicates her success to her liberal upbringing. She speaks on, "they have been very supportive, encouraging and have never tried to stop me from following my passion. If it had not been for them, I would have never achieved whatever I have achieved today. They have always stood by me through thick and thin. That's why I carry knowledge of science, knowledge of dance, knowledge of acting and fashion".



Q&A

Q Your inclination to stay and work in India is guided by instinct or circumstances?

Inclination to stay here in india is all about instinct...i love india

Q How do your demarcate Indian & Iran society? Can do draw any parity between them?

India has freedom that no other country offers. You could feel the freedom easily in India and the culture are in parity between India and Iran.

Q You are medical professional, what inspired you to join entertainment industry?

Dancing,acting ,modeling. they are talking about art. I love art, all are my passion. better to say interests beside my education. Studies are, indubitably, an important and major part of life. But I get a lot of joy and positive energy from my involvement in creative fields,It has always been an attempt to follow what I love the most. When you know how to prioritize things, striking a balance is not at all difficult.

Q What you like most about India?

People.

(Inputs from Mumbai Bureau)

SALE ALERT AT METRO SHOES

***Metro Shoes Ltd*., the leading footwear brand of India announces its annual sale starting from with Flat 50% discount on every shoe you lay your eyes on*. This sale will be across all stores of Metro Shoes present in Gurgaon, Noida and Gaziabad (Excluding Oplant Mall and Shipra Mall) Women can choose to their comfort from pointed-toed sling back sandals, flip-flops, wedges, boots to ballets, bridal footwear, clutches, bags, wallets and more! Men can also pick from a wide variety of slip-ons, loafers, formal shoes to edgy boots, chappals and more
Discount : Upto 50% off*
Availability : Across all Metro Shoes outlets *present in Gurgaon, Noida and Ghaziabad (Excluding Oplant Mall and Shipra Mall)**

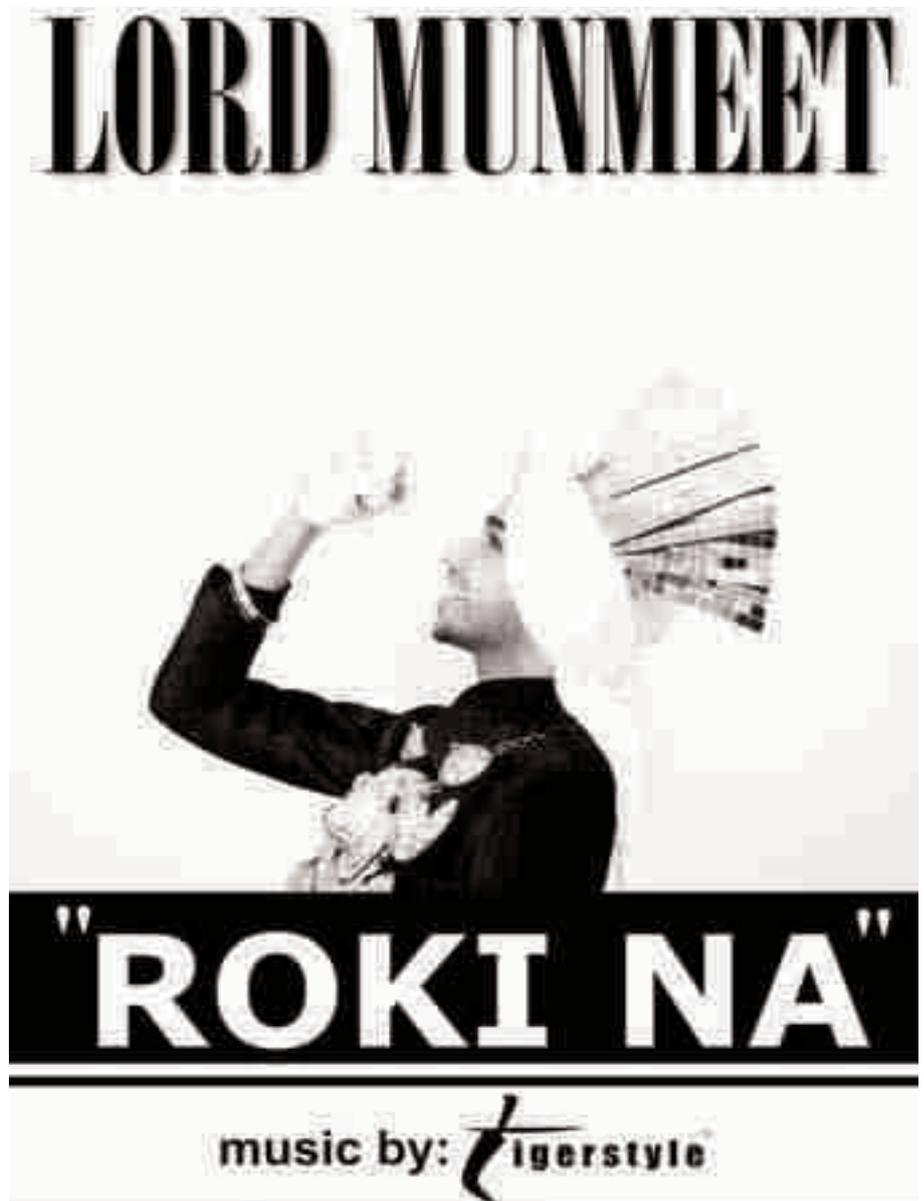


LORD MUNMEET BROTHER OF SINGER 'RAMEE' READY TO RELEASE "ROKI NA" FT TIGERSTYLE -

London: Immediate Release
Glaswegian based singer Munmeet Singh Sandhu aka Lord Munmeet went straight in to the top ten itunes chart in under 12 hours of release with his latest release "Roki Na" (Don't Stop Me) and is still riding high in the charts. This young talent has already been play listed across the world including, USA, Canada and Dubai and is ready to hit the stage up and down the country. After a much controversial stage name calling himself "LORD" Munmeet set the record straight on his twitter account by proving he is actually a Lord in Scotland for protecting land in Glencoe. The tweet showed a

Munmeet had his first taste of fame with his debut album DIL MILDE which he released with his sister, who is now known as 'Ramee' most popularly known for her recent release Ghetto Refix with Mumzy Stranger and Tasha Tah. Their debut music album was produced by Bollywood music producer Atul Sharma and gave him their first taste of success worldwide

certificate presented to Munmeet as Lord Munmeet Singh. Munmeet had his first taste of fame with his debut album DIL MILDE which he released with his sister, who is now known as 'Ramee' most popularly known for her recent release Ghetto Refix with Mumzy Stranger and Tasha Tah. Their debut music album was produced by Bollywood music producer Atul Sharma and gave him their first taste of success worldwide. Lord Munmeet may be an unusual name but everyone will find out why this young artist has named himself with Lord in the next few weeks! With his edgy style and supporting a "Disco Turla" Munmeet brings the edgy look to the traditional turban. Being a Sardar,



Munmeet says he wants to keep his turban and still be fashionable " My statement look will be a disco Turla, it's something I thought would stand out from the normal turla's. everyone is loving it so far" Having been trained from an early age from the "RSNO - Royal Scottish National Opera" a separate institution that dedicates to teach classical music in depth in Scotland. Munmeet has also trained with the Giani from the Sikh Temple to perform Kirtan and Shabads. Munmeet then went on to being trained

by Guru ji - Prakriti Dutta - "She has taught me voice control and ragas. Not just to rehearse the ragas and the favoured popular sargams, but to invent my own from changing shudh and komal notes" With all the experience and new look, Munmeet's career is just about to take off! Roki Na is produced by Scotland based producers Tigerstyle who have also produced for Bollywood and known British Asian Artists. ROKI NA - is just the beginning for this young talent! Roki Na out now on itunes.

Wise Synchronization - Prolific Brazil and Persistent India...

● Carlyta Maria Mouhini

O i and Namashkar !The similarities between Brazil and India go back few centuries back with both India (Goa) and Brazil being a part of the Portugal colony and eventually Goa's 50 th year liberation from Portugal and Brazil's Independence from the Portuguese Empire .

The Indians are as warm and effusive as Brazilians. India along with Brazil too has huge symbiosis. The tension between wealthy south Brazil and struggling north Brazil is striking like the difference between the leading metros and towns in all directional India. The wealth quotient is heavily measured and 20 per cent of population controls 88 per cent of the Brazilian land.

At a recent discussion in the BIRC (Brazil, India, Russia and China) Summit recently held in Rio in June 2012, one of the speakers in a moment of great introductory note mentioned that a country that has corruption at an organizational level can correct itself out of this spiral but India — where retailing of corruption has been established — has created a quagmire for itself. So we have situations where there is a price for jobs or even school admissions.

India, China and Russia increased their respective investment shares of GDP over the latest decade- Brazil, too, but at a much slower rate. India has done this mostly through reducing barriers to inward foreign-direct investment and opening up free trade agreements between the Small and Medium scale (SMEs) industries.

Brazil's consumption is a large 63.1% of GDP, and that too unchanged over the latest decade. And for a developing economy, the investment share is remarkably low in levels, 16.4% of GDP in 2008 compared to India's 32.2% share.

Currently India's average income is low compared to its peers. Among the BRIC countries, India's welfare measure (per-capita income) is the lowest, and that ranking is not expected to change by 2014! Brazil, on the flip side is still stuck on the economic adolescent. The country is now enjoying the economic



Prez Dilma and PM Manmohan Singh



Prez Lula and former India prez Mrs patil

benefits of policy reform and open capital markets. The next step for Brazil is to adopt investment policies to reduce social inequities significantly. The saving and investment story adds up to a level of productive capital stock. Without investment, there is no capital stock growth. And without capital stock growth, there is little productive GDP growth. The capital stock is constructed as investment plus non-depreciated capital.

India in the past few decades has been tormented with terrorism whereas Brazil is almost untouched by the low measured terrorist attacks. Brazil is also 64 places ahead of India on the HDI ranking. Most significantly damaging for India's hugely unbalanced social strata is that the urban elite and upper middle class children have grown up in a comfortable unknown planet cocooned comfortably from that inhabited by 42 per cent of India's population that lives below the poverty line. Few months of compulsory internship in India's villages for all our youth would perhaps do a world of good!

80 per cent of India's children who study in rural schools, quality education have remained uncertain. For the other 20 per cent who study in India's urban schools, it is a mind numbing routine of rote learning and a stampede to score the highest marks in exams. Moreover the Educational Trustees and Governmental funds never see the daylight in the rural school management or in the school premises due to the political corruptions and its jargon for self benefits!

On the other hand, India spends 4 per cent of its GDP on education. Brazil

spends 6per cent. Brazil's schools have excellent infrastructure. Teacher absence is not an issue as it is in India. There is a teacher for every grade in 70 per cent of Brazil's schools, something that you can say about less than 30 per cent of India's school In India and Brazil when the people act, we can force politicians to listen. Brazilians did it to pass Ficha Limpa Bill, forced Dilma to veto parts of the Forest Act and rallied behind the open vote like time and again in India the Chief Minister's seat shifted from one politician to other ones for momentary reforms!

Ever since the Goldman Sachs report said that Brazil, Russia, India and China will be among the largest and fastest growing economies by 2020, we pull out this gem at every conceivable opportunity

According to Ms Patricia from the Brazilian Consul - Bombay, "The BRIC report is over five years old. During this time our economy has grown healthily and our GDP today is a great advertisement for the power of compounding growth". India's ranking on the Human Development Index (HDI) has only worsened and this year has slid down to 134. It clearly states that unless India addresses its education and social inequities, the projections of a sustainable super economy will continue to be unstable. In the context of the BRIC report the comparison of Brazil and India have reflected that urban India's elite and middle class should do more to set standards in everyday life in building empathy for India's disadvantaged and India must address the all pervasive 'retailing of corruption' in order to fulfill its potentiality.

Arnab Kar is an upcoming fine art and fashion photographer based out of Washington

DC, USA. Born in Calcutta, India and grew up in Ranchi (now in Jharkhand) and did his MBA from Bangalore. Arnab is an *hobbyist and semiprofessional photographer who is also a software engineer and has worked in various non-profits and multinationals including World Bank, Fannie Mae and Deloitte Consultancy. Although his first love is fashion photography he is equally enjoys nature photography. His unique style of photography involves combining fashion with nature and landscape. He has been published locally in various magazines for his photos of fashion shows including international fashion show 'Mercedes-Benz New York Fashion Week', Mercedes-Benz Swim Week, Miami. He has also worked with several designers for their fashion catalogs. His style of photography tends to be a bit on the edgy side and also part of the appeal.



WIDE ANGLE





Strategic Location

- Located in the Rajpur Creek on the West Coast of India
- Advantageously positioned along International Shipping Routes
- 42 Nautical miles South of Mumbai
- 160 kms from Mumbai by road
- 42 kms off NH 17 and the Rail Network
- Identified node on DMIC & DFC

Immediate Hinterland

Roha, Khopoli, Mahad, Patalganga, Nagothane, Navi Mumbai, Mumbai, Thane-Belapur, Nasik, Pune

Secondary Hinterland

Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and the land locked States of North India

Connectivity

By Road

Northern Shore SH 96, SH 92 and SH 90
Southern Shore SH 97 and SH 98

By Rail

Connectivity - Northern and Southern Bank
Proposed Alignment: Agardanda - Indapur - Mangaon

Development Potential & Planned Facility

Phase I - 5 Berths :

- 4 Multipurpose Berths, 1 Ro Ro Terminal
- Capacity to handle 30 million tonnes
- Dedicated Approach Channel with a depth of 14.5 m chart datum
- Extensive land bank for development
- Waterfront encompassing Northern and Southern Banks

SEZ & FTWZ

Port based multi-product SEZ inclusive of FTWZ

Dedicated world-class infrastructure for warehousing & logistics
State of the art cargo handling equipment transportation & support infrastructure facilities

Cargo Potential

- Containers
- Steel
- Automobiles / Automobile Components
- LNG
- POL
- Minerals
- Coal
- Chemicals
- Fertilizers
- Cement
- Iron Ore
- Edible Oil, etc.

BIPL
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AN INTEGRATED INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

PORT DIGH
Digh Port Limited

Gateway To Maharashtra

PENTA T-Pad[®]

Grab the future



“Penta T-Pad Tablet PC(s), multi-functional devices that appeal to different consumers in different ways.

