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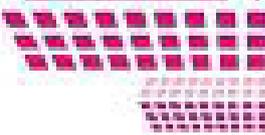
A MONTHLY NEWS MAGAZINE



COVER STORY

NEW YEAR CHALLENGES

After a landslide victory, the honeymoon period for the NDA government is over. The real test, now, begins

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Honeymoon over, now time to show results

The success in Jammu and Kashmir and Jharkhand have capped one of the most successful year of the BJP, which romped home with a thumping majority in May last. However, as the New Year begins, the proverbial six-month honeymoon period for the NDA government is about to be over. So, the focus now



should be on governance. Experts say that there are three issues Modi has to keep an eye on: These issues have emerged as problem areas from the experience of recent months, they are far from irresolvable and not even remotely crises. Even so, they need to be addressed as quickly as possible. First, however one may explain it, the government's pace of economic policymaking has been slower than expected. It has not helped that key legislations, such as those for enhancing FDI limits in insurance and opening up the coal mining sector, have been blocked or delayed by the Rajya Sabha. True, this has not always been the government's fault. The BJP's numbers in the Rajya Sabha are simply not large enough and the NDA is in a minority. Given the fractured nature of the Upper House, small but effective parties such as the Trinamool Congress and the CPI (M) have deployed a Duckworth-Lewis tactic of filibustering and punched well above their weight. They have disrupted the House and prevented voting on Bills. The Congress, actually much weaker and much more confused that its numbers in the Rajya Sabha suggest, has hidden behind these fringe parties and been happy to hurt the government.

Human exploitation in the industrial world is the biggest tragedy of recent times. From the factories exploiting children in the country's biggest cities like Delhi and Mumbai to the hinterland of Odisha and Jharkhand where children are still illegally employed as bonded labourers, his organisation has rescued them in almost all parts of country. He has advocated for stricter laws against child trafficking and labour and met with mixed success so far. While growing up, Satyarthi has said he was concerned about the plight of child labourers around him and it finally prompted him to start an organised movement. His early attempts to raid factories employing child labourers met with hostile reaction from the factory owners and at times the police but the significance of his work was slowly recognised. He also played an important role in the movement for Right to Education law for free compulsory education to children. Several prestigious awards have been conferred on him, including Defenders of Democracy Award (2009-US), Medal of the Italian Senate (2007-Italy), Robert F Kennedy International Human Rights Award (USA) and Fredric Ebert International Human Rights Award (Germany) etc.

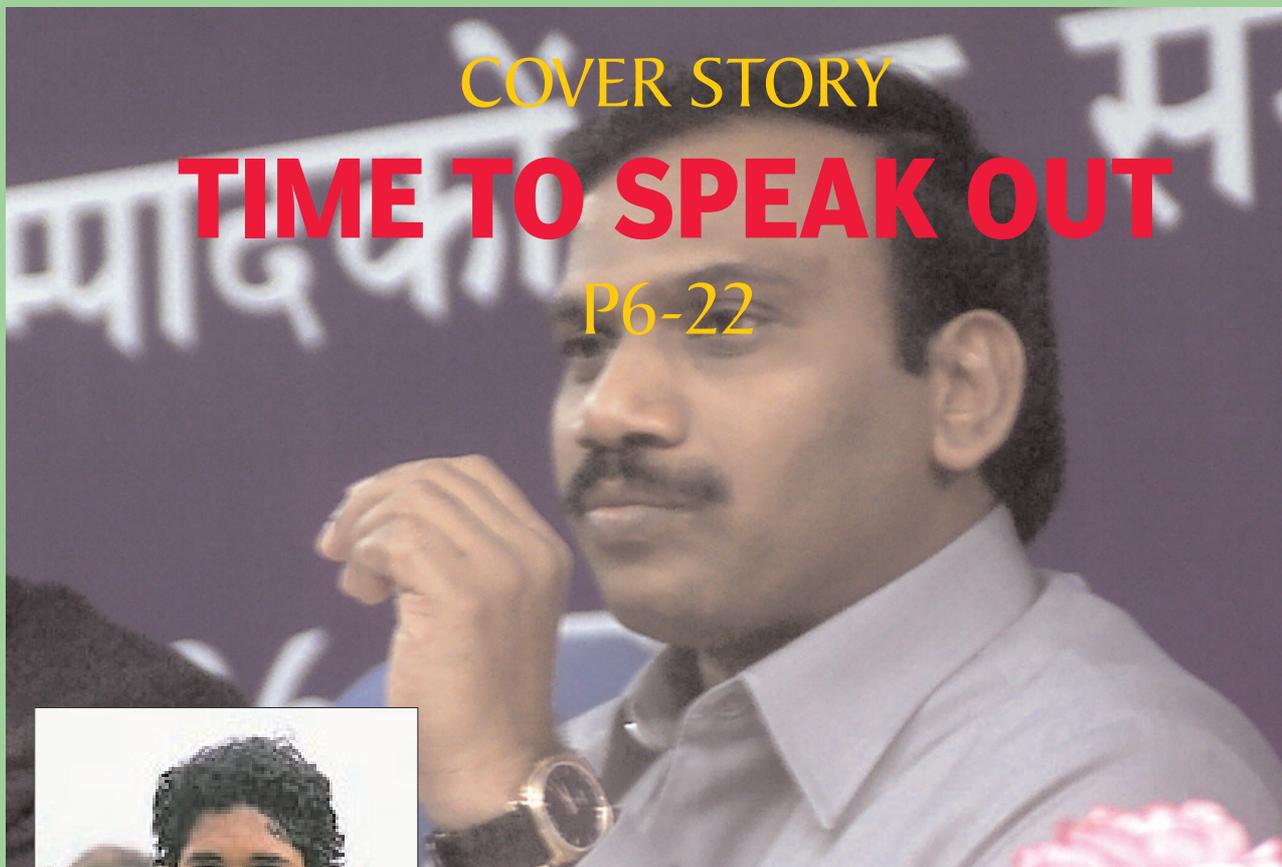
The national resources of the country are exploited by certain group of powerful industrialist with government tacit support. In August, while declaring the block allocation illegal, the court had remarked that they were done by an "ad-hoc and casual" approach "without application of mind" and without looking into aspects of "common good and public interest". The allocations lacked "transparent procedure" resulting in "unfair distribution" of a "national wealth" – coal – "which is king and paramount Lord of industry", the court had observed. The disputed coal block allocations to private companies were made on recommendations by a screening committee set up in 1992 to evaluate the merit of applications from such power-generating companies to run captive coal mines. The government companies were allocated coal blocks by the coal ministry through the government dispensation quota. Shares of metal companies like Jindal Steel, Tata Steel, Usha Martin and Hindalco fell in the stock market soon after the court order. Finally we are looking for justice for the common man to whom the countries resources actually belongs.

—Prashant Tewari, Editor-in-Chief

COVER STORY

TIME TO SPEAK OUT

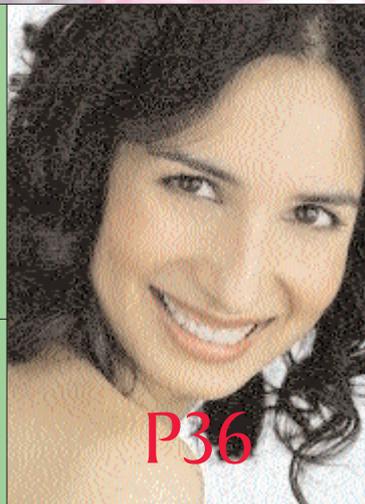
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THE CENTURIAN



ents was evident even before, brought to bear during the ICC Cricket World Cup 1999 when he lost his father but fought back the tragedy to play for India. Once more Tendulkar pays ode to his father through his bat.

Tendulkar had recently acknowledged his father's value system when he turned down a liquor endorsement that would have catapulted him in terms of money for sports endorsements.

Agencies

THE COMPLETE LIST OF SACHIN'S TONS

- 1 119 England Manchester Old Trafford 14 August 1990
- 2 148 Australia SCG, Sydney 6 Jan 1992
- 3 114 Australia WACA, Perth 3 Feb 1992
- 4 111 South Africa Wanderers, Johannesburg 28 Nov 1992
- 5 165 England MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai 12 Feb 1993
- 6 104 Sri Lanka SSC, Colombo 31 July 1993
- 7 142 Sri Lanka KD Singh Babu Stadium, Lucknow 19 Jan 1994
- 8 179 West Indies VCA, Nagpur 2 Dec 1994
- 9 122 England Edgbaston, Birmingham 8 June 1996
- 10 177 England Trent Bridge, Nottingham 5 Jul 1996
- 11 169 South Africa Newlands, Cape Town 4 Jan 1997
- 12 143 Sri Lanka Premadasa, Colombo 3 Aug 1997
- 13 139 Sri Lanka SSC, Colombo 11 Aug 1997
- 14 148 Sri Lanka Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai 4 Dec 1997
- 15 155 Australia MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai 9 Mar 1998
- 16 177 Australia M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore 26 Mar 1998
- 17 113 New Zealand Basin Reserve, Wellington 29 Dec 1998
- 18 136 Pakistan MA Chidambaram Stadium(2), Chennai 31 Jan 1999
- 19 124 Sri Lanka SSC Colombo 28 Feb 1999
- 20 126 New Zealand PCA, Mohali 13 Oct 1999
- 21 217 New Zealand Motera, Ahmedabad 30 Oct 1999
- 22 116 Australia MCG, Melbourne 28 Dec 1999
- 23 122 Zimbabwe Feroze Shah Kotla, New Delhi 21 Nov 2000
- 24 201 Zimbabwe VCA, Nagpur 26 Nov 2000
- 25 126 Australia MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai 20 Mar 2001
- 26 155 South Africa Goodyear Park, Bloemfontein 3 Nov 2001
- 27 103 England Motera, Ahmedabad 13 Dec 2001
- 28 176 Zimbabwe VCA Nagpur 24 Feb 2002
- 29 117 West Indies Queen's Park Oval, Port of Spain 20 April 2002
- 30 193 England Headingley, Leeds 23 Aug 2002
- 31 176 West Indies Eden Gardens, Kolkata 3 Nov 2002
- 32 241 Australia SCG Sydney 4 Jan 2004
- 33 194 Pakistan Multan Cricket Stadium, Multan 29 Mar 2004
- 34 248 Bangladesh Bangabandhu National Stadium, Dhaka 12 Dec 2004
- 35 109 Sri Lanka Feroze Shah Kotla New Delhi 22 Dec 2005
- 36 101 Bangladesh Bir Shrestha Shahid Ruhul Amin Stadium, Chittagong 19 May 2007
- 37 122 Bangladesh Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium Mirpur 26 May 2007
- 38 154 Australia SCG, Sydney 4 Jan 2008
- 39 153 Australia Adelaide Oval, Adelaide 25 Jan 2008
- 40 109 Australia VCA Nagpur 6 Nov 2008
- 41 103 England MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai 15 Dec 2008
- 42 160 New Zealand Seddon Park, Hamilton 20 Mar 2009
- 43 100 Sri Lanka Motera, Ahmedabad 20 Nov 2009
- 44 105 Bangladesh Zohur Ahmed Choudhury Stadium Chittagong 18 Jan 2010
- 45 143 Bangladesh Shere Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur 25 Jan 2010
- 46 100 South Africa VCA Nagpur 9 Feb 2010
- 47 106 South Africa Eden Gardens, Kolkata 15 Feb 2010
- 48 203 Sri Lanka SSC, Colombo 28 Jul 2010
- 49 214 Australia M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore 11 Oct 2010
- 50 111 not out South Africa Super Sport Park, Centurion 19 Dec 2010

Even as Sachin Tendulkar reached one of the most significant milestones of his career, he did not fail to acknowledge the efforts of the man who helped him there.

Sachin Tendulkar scored his fiftieth Test century in trying circumstances in the first Test of the India South Africa series at the Super sport Park in Centurion. While the match situation demanded that he keep his composure, the thoughts of his late father were not far from his mind.

Tendulkar later acknowledged that he wanted to dedicate his 50th Test century to his father because in his own words,

It was his birthday yesterday and he would have been 82. I wanted to do it for him.

Those who had been anxiously or eagerly awaited the big milestone moment for the maestro, even he could not have timed it better in keeping with the sentiment of the moment.

Tendulkar's determination and drive for the game but humble respect for his par-



CONSPIRACY

COVER STORY

OF SILENCE



It's time
Manmohan
Singh must
understand
that silence
and inaction
can be
equally
harmful as
dishonesty

PRASHANT TEWARI

The expression "Caesar's wife must be above suspicion," is used by Dr Manmohan Singh while addressing the AICC session in New Delhi. Forget Caesar's wife; should the Prime Minister, like Caesar, remain silent when people like A Raja and Suresh Kalmadi run away with aam aadmi's money?

COVER STORY

His honesty and integrity have never been on the debating table or questioned. On these grounds he has been well above the watermarks of doubt; but his silence has not been so. Dr Singh place in Indian history is assured with a sure credit must go to late P V Narsimha Rao who gave him a chance to become

the Finance Minister, the image as the 'Deng (Xiaoping) of India' - the reformer who liberated India from the shackles of the command economy and unleashed the entrepreneurial forces that transformed this ancient land.

We, the people of India, know that your integrity is beyond question. In a world

and time when ethics and honesty are at a premium, we rest assured that we are led by a person who, in his moral convictions, is pure as the driven snow. This is a given. Nobody needs to tell us how.

Here are some occasions when Manmohan Singh could have acted in time, but never did:



DEADLOCK: MPS MAKING A WALKOUT FROM RAJYA SABHA DEMANDING JPC PROBE OF THE SPECTRUM SCAM

2G SPECTRUM SCAM

It took over a year for the Prime Minister to act; it took over a year for the CBI to wake up. Had it not been for the PIL in the Supreme Court, the scam would have dragged on and on. Why did Singh not act when the then Telecom minister A Raja refused to listen? Why did the PM not act when Raja ignored Cabinet colleagues and asked them to keep off the Spectrum turf?

Why did the government not bring out the facts when the issue was debated in the Rajya Sabha over a year ago? Why did the PM act only after the Supreme Court comments on the tardy progress and questioned the CBI on its monumental silence?

Another point: If the PM had nothing to hide, why not agree for a JPC probe?

On the point of the demand for a JPC



in the 2G scam by the Opposition, PM have castigated the Opposition for disrupting a whole session of Parliament.

"One wonders what kind of politics the Opposition believes in when they do not have faith even in Parliament," he thundered. While wasting a whole session of Parliament is 'despicable', surely the Joint Parliamentary Committee or the JPC is also a tool in the hands of Parliament. Demanding a JPC is surely not un-parliamentary.

It has been conceded before, notably in the Bofors and the Securities scams. Why the reticence now? It's not only the Opposition, but even your own allies. Mamata Banerjee for instance, has let it be known that she would not be unhappy if the UPA accepts a JPC probe.

NIIRA RADIA TAPES

How come the Prime Minister was not aware of the fact that private conversations were being secretly taped? Such acts are allowed only for national security. Even if they were taped,



who leaked it to the media and why? The conversations were taped by a government agency and the tapes were in the possession of this agency. How come the tapes were leaked and what was the motive?

The PM was visibly upset while addressing the captains of the industry this month. But that shows that he was not under control of things. Even now, he is not able to pin-point who leaked the tapes to the media and why.

Now that the content of the tapes are in public domain, what action plan is prepared by you to hunt down culprits - incidentally all of them are high and mighty. Sir, this is a historic opportunity for you to act tough to ensure people have faith in democratic values practiced by us.



WELL BEYOND THE LOBBY: NIIRA RADIA HAS BEEN A COMMON THREAD

CWG SCAM

For four long months, all the dirt on Commonwealth Games was out in the open.

The stink too was there for everyone to 'smell' and squirm. But for the best

part, the PM adopted the three wise monkey strategy with a twist in the tale: see-no-scam, hear-no-scam, tell-no-scam. Why did the PM not step in early and stem the rot? He appointed an over-seeing committee only after the mess had spun out of control.

Even now, Suresh Kalmadi is talking

stupid; the CBI raided his establishments after full three months of uproar in the country.

Sir, we are sure that 90 days are enough to put any house in order that we expect Kalmadi must have done to destroy evidences. Surely, he plans to bid for the Olympics.



CRASHED: THE COLLAPSE OF THIS BRIDGE IN FRONT OF JLN STADIUM SYMBOLISED EVERYTHING THAT AILED CWG 2010 AND (INSET) THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHIEF SURESH KALMADI IS NOW A HUNTED MAN

THE CVC ROW

The Central Vigilance Commissioner is appointed by taking into confidence the leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. Three persons were shortlisted for the CVC post but the government ignored the dissenting note of Opposition leader Sushma Swaraj and appointed P J Thomas as the CVC. This despite the fact that he is an accused in the palm oil import scam in Kerala.

Sushma Swaraj had openly said that the Government was free to choose any one among the two other officers on the list of three, not Thomas. But the PM paid a deaf ear and went ahead. The government knew all along that Thomas, as the CVC, will not be in a position to investigate the 2G spectrum allotment scandal in which his own ministry was involved. An official with such a shadow of



UNDER CLOUD: CHIEF VIGILANCE COMMISSIONER PJ THOMAS

doubt should not have been made the CVC.

Now, the matter is before the Supreme Court which has questioned the manner in which Thomas got the job. Why was the PM so keen on Thomas who was under a cloud of controversy? He could

have picked up the next good officer on the list.

Well, like Caesar's wife, the PM should be above suspicion. But fact of the matter is that in all the serious corruption cases, it is Supreme Court rather than the government that is controlling

the events hence leading to an impression that government has lost credibility and strength to punish the corruption and punish the guilty. The country has lost over Rs 2.5 lakh crore (over \$50b) just because PM choose not to act in time.



TOWER OF DECIET: ADARSH SCAM IS A BIG DENT FOR THE CONGRESS

ON FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Dr Singh has argued that there multiple agencies investigating the various aspects of the 2G scam and therefore a JPC is unwarranted. "We have always strived to eradicate corruption and we will continue to do so. Our approach to corruption also gets clearly reflected in our actions," "These inquiries will be pursued vigorously. And it is my promise to you that no guilty person will be spared - whether he is a political leader or a government official, whichever party he may belong

to and howsoever powerful he may be."

Really, Prime Minister? "No guilty person will be spared"? Sorry to say, Prime Minister, we the citizens are not so sanguine. How many public servants have been prosecuted in Independent India for corruption? We can't think of any. And, it's nothing to do with our collective memory. We are waiting for your action plan to track down the culprits that are mentioned in Radia tapes.

Therefore, if as you really say, that your "approach to corruption gets reflected in our actions", what have you done to amend the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 - an Act that



HANDICAPPED: ARE UPA ALLIES WORKING AS A HANDICAP FOR THE PM?

should actually be renamed the "Prevention of Prosecution of Public Servants". Allow me the audacity to suggest four simple amendments to give teeth and substance to the Act and make it a real deterrent for public servants from going to the devil, now that your government has not thought of it.

One: Shift onus of proof on to the public servant. If Sukh Ram or Raja or any public servant is caught with assets disproportionate to his known sources of income, make it incumbent on him or her to show that the monies or assets were earned through legitimate means. If he can't, that should be a ground for guilt and prosecution.

Two: Ensure that there will be no stays granted or adjournments in cases involving public servants. They should be ones fast-tracked with continuous hearing. Otherwise, like the case against Sukh Ram, even after a decade and a half, the culprits will have the last laugh to the bank, or wherever they have stashed the cache.

Three: Prime Minister, mere fines aren't enough for public servants who indulge in illegal gratification. Physical incarceration should be the minimum



Unfortunately, Prime Minister, the impression we get is that you are hemmed in by the allies on the one side and the moods and whims of your party and its President on the other

penalty for what amounts to looting the nation.

Just these three amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act should go a long way in instilling the fear of consequences in the public servants who are tempted to reach into the national exchequer. If you claim to be acting against corruption, I wonder why your government has not even taken the first baby steps. Unfortunately, Prime Minister, the impression we get is that you are hemmed in by the allies on the one side and the moods and whims of your party and its President on the other. To her credit, Sonia Gandhi has made it known

publicly that you have her full support. We wonder why the Congress party and the allies don't get the message!

We urge you to stand up and be counted. And believe me, Prime Minister, we get this sense that the people of India will be with you, whatever your party and your allies may say. It's said that the only time you acted out of conviction was on the nuclear deal with the US. The grapevine has it that you even threatened to resign; if the Congress and your UPA allies don't throw weight behind the deal in Parliament. And, Prime Minister, you know what happened. Did the heavens fall or did you get your way? Should not that be a pointer to the way you should go? And, when and if you do go that route, of playing by your convictions, and hounding out the corrupt and those who bring us shame, we have no doubt in our mind that the citizens of India, to the man, will be behind you.

Sir, this is a historic opportunity for you to act tough to ensure people have faith in democratic values practiced by us in India, you are representing aspirations of over a billion people that is one sixth of human population hence the responsibility is enormous. God has been kind to you for providing you with a platform to deliver extraordinary service to our nation - please act!!

What is 2G spectrum scam?



TAINT STICKS: RAJA

From the time allegations of misappropriation during the bidding for allocation of 2G spectrum surfaced, till Telecom Minister A Raja's ouster, high drama charged both politics in Delhi and Tamil Nadu. So what exactly is the Spectrum Scam that led to all this?

WHAT IS SPECTRUM SCAM?

2G licenses issued to private telecom players at throwaway prices in 2008
 CAG: Spectrum scam has cost the government Rs. 1.76 lakh crore
 CAG: Rules and procedures flouted while issuing licenses

WHAT ARE THE CHARGES ON FORMER TELECOM MINISTER A RAJA?

CHEAP TELECOM LICENSES

1 Entry fee for spectrum licenses in

pegged at 2001 prices

- 1 Mobile subscriber base had shot up to 350 million in 2008 from 4 million in 2001

NO PROCEDURES FOLLOWED

- 1 Rules changed after the game had begun
- 1 Cut-off date for applications advanced by a week
- 1 Licenses issued on a first-come-first-served basis
- 1 No proper auction process followed, no bids invited
- 1 Raja ignored advice of TRAI, Law Ministry, Finance Ministry
- 1 TRAI had recommended auctioning of spectrum at market rates

FAVOURITISM, CORPORATES ENCASH PREMIUM

- 1 Unitech, Swan Telecom got licenses without any prior telecom experience
- 1 Swan Telecom given license even though it did not meet eligibility criteria
- 1 Swan got license for Rs. 1537 crore, sold 45% stake to Etisalat for Rs. 4200 crore
- 1 Unitech Wireless got license for Rs. 1661 crore, sold 60% stake for Rs. 6200 crore
- 1 All nine companies paid DoT only Rs. 10,772 crore for 2G licences



CHAMELEON: NIIRA RADIA AT ED HEADQUARTERS

OF QUEEN BEE AND HER COURTIER

She can talk casually about a designer gown she hasn't found an occasion to wear with industrialist Ratan Tata and chat up with the same ease with some of the most powerful people in politics, business and media to allegedly fix the telecom ministry for A. Raja. Kenya-born and London-educated Niira Radia was perhaps destined to fly high, but little did she know that she would be trapped by tell-tale tapes one day and be-



IN TOP LEAGUE: RADIA WITH THEN PM VAJPAYEE AND (BELOW) WITH MODI AND TATA

come the face of a multi-billion dollar scam.

Not many knew about her till Open magazine three weeks ago blew the cover off 5,800 reported taped conversations from Radia's phone over a six-month period in 2009 that stunned the nation with intimate disclosures about the incestuous world of the powerful and power-mongers.

The tapes show the chameleon lobbyist talking with top industrialists and star journalists, hard-selling DMK politician A. Raja's bid for the second stint at telecom ministry. Even as more skeletons tumble out of the closet and insinuations are being made about her being an agent of a foreign intelligence agency, there is very little known about her background and her meteoric rise to fame.

Radia, said to be in her fifties, moved to London from Kenya in the 1970s and schooled at the elite school Haberdashers' Aske's in northern London. She graduated from the University of Warwick and got married to UK businessman Janak Radia, a Gujarati. The marriage did not click and the divorced Radia moved to India in mid-nineties. She started off as Sahara liai-



son officer and soon became India representative of Singapore Airlines, KLM, UK Air.

It is during this time she forged her powerful contacts in the civil aviation ministry, the government and the media. By this time, Radia's sprawling Chhattarpur farmhouse was generating much buzz among New Delhi's bold and beautiful.

Some of her prized contacts included Ananth Kumar, civil aviation minister during NDA's tenure in 1998-99, and Ranjan Bhattacharya, foster son-in-law of

then prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. She tried to float an airline, Crown Air, in 2000, but the plan did not take off.

In 2001, she set up Vaishnavi Communications, followed by Noesis, Victom and Neucom Consulting.

Radia's big-ticket break came when she bagged all 90 Tata group accounts in 2001. She is rumoured to have such an influence over Ratan Tata that the top industrialist does not tolerate anyone speaking ill of her to his face. Another crowing moment was when Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Limited



IN THE EYE OF THE STORM: NIIRA RADIA COMING OUT OF ED OFFICE AFTER BEING INTERROGATED

joined her clients' list in 2008.

What made her tick?

"She was leveraging the power of her clients who are some of the most powerful businessmen in the country," Prashant Bhushan, a senior lawyer who filed a public interest litigation seeking the prosecution of Raja on the basis of the taped conversations of Radia, told IANS.

In 2009, her ambitions soared further as she moved from corporate lobbying to fixing the lucrative telecom ministry, resulting in a scam that depleted the national exchequer by billions of rupees.

Her overarching ambition perhaps became her nemesis when a suspicious IT department taped her conversations at the time of cabinet formation last year in UPA-II. Those tapes have now become part of the national conversation, showing a small elite subverting the system with impunity.

Fresh tapes of Radia's conversations released by Outlook magazine reveal her telling Tarun Das, then chief mentor of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), that DMK chief M. Karunanidhi was insistent party member Raja retain his portfolio, despite questions over the manner in which airwaves were allotted to telecom firms.

The government has told the Supreme Court that it authorised the tapping of PR executive Niira Radia's phone.

The government's response was filed by the

Ministry of Finance.

It said that the process of tapping Radia's phone began on August 19, 2008 after a complaint received by the Finance Minister on November 16, 2007. The complaint had alleged that Radia in a span of just nine

years built up a business empire worth Rs. 300 crore. Her overarching ambition perhaps became her nemesis when a suspicious IT department taped her conversations at the time of cabinet formation last year in UPA-II. Those tapes have now become part of the national conversation, showing a small elite subverting the system with impunity.

years built up a business empire worth Rs. 300 crore.

It also alleged Radia was an agent of foreign intelligence agencies and she was indulging in anti-national activities.

The affidavit states, "15 telephone lines including cell phones and SMSs of Radia and her associates were intercepted after the finance minister in November 2007

had received a complaint that the lobbyist had within a short span of nine years built up a business empire worth Rs. 300 crore and she was an agent of foreign intelligence agencies and was indulging in anti-national activities."

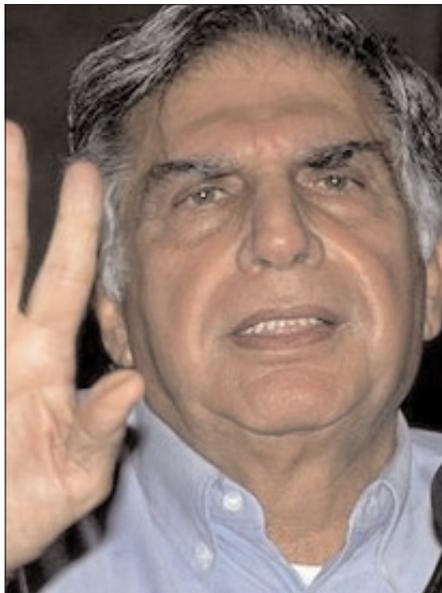




The Finance Ministry then sought the Home Ministry's clearance to tap Radia's phone lines. 5800 phone calls were tapped during two periods: 120 days in 2008 and 60 days during 2009.

A spokesperson of Radia's firm, Vaishnavi Corporate Communications, has denied these allegations, saying she has never indulged in anti-national activities. The statement says, "There are queries arising from a case which is sub-judice before the Honorable Supreme Court to which we are not a party. Therefore it is not within our knowledge and we cannot comment on the veracity of this. There are corporate vested interests which circulated an inadmissible and forged letter with malicious, baseless and derogatory content in November 2007. We had reached out to the media then and denied the same. We have complete faith in the investigative agencies. We hope that the forces working overtime to harm us will be duly identified and punished. As responsible corporate neither we nor our promoter have ever indulged in any anti-national activities."

The affidavit also states that the tapes were not leaked by the Income Tax Department. The government has also said that while the leak should be investigated, it cannot stop the media from publishing transcripts of the conversations on the leaked tapes.



Rata Tata, who is one of Radia's biggest clients and was on the leaked tapes, had last month filed a case against the government in the Supreme Court on the grounds that the leaked tapes encroached upon his right to privacy

Some of those conversations with politicians, industrialists and others have been leaked to the media and have been reported on widely.

Rata Tata, who is one of Radia's biggest clients and was on the leaked tapes, had last month filed a case against the government in the Supreme Court on the grounds that the leaked tapes encroached upon his right to privacy. Tata said that while he had no objection to any investigation by the government, his conversations with Radia that were made available to the public were of a personal nature and are irrelevant to charges like tax evasion and foreign exchange violations, which are among the reasons why Radia's phone was allegedly tapped from 2008-2009.

The tapes are also being used by the CBI to investigate the details of the 2G scam. Believed to be India's largest-ever scam, it saw 2G spectrum being given at what are described as inexplicably low prices by former Telecom Minister A Raja to companies who were later found to be ineligible by experts.

CBI raided Niira Radia and former TRAI chief Pradeep Bajjal in the on going investigation of 2G scam that rocked the nation. The Raja-Radia saga led the team to DMK doors wherein high profile Kanjimori connections are getting investigated.



MEDIA AND MEDIATION: VIR SANGHAVI AND BARKHA DUTT HAVE LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO ON RADIA TAPES

Journalism ethics row grips India

RADIAGATE HAS BROUGHT THE FOCUS BACK ON ETHICS IN MEDIA

Prakhar Misra

Finally the malice has reached fourth pillar of democracy, though there were some whisper campaigns running on internet but the final nail in the coffin is set in by the Radiagate episode. It poorly reflects the misuse of power enjoyed by certain individuals holding strategically important positions in the national media and selling the access to power to corporate interests. Now senior editors in India are considering putting in place systems to ensure ethical practices in journalism.

The move follows a scandal involving high-profile journalists after tapes of revealing phone conversations with an influential lobbyist were leaked. At the centre of the controversy are two well-known journalists, Vir Sanghvi and Barkha Dutt. Critics say they acted like deal-makers, not journalists. Neither denies the

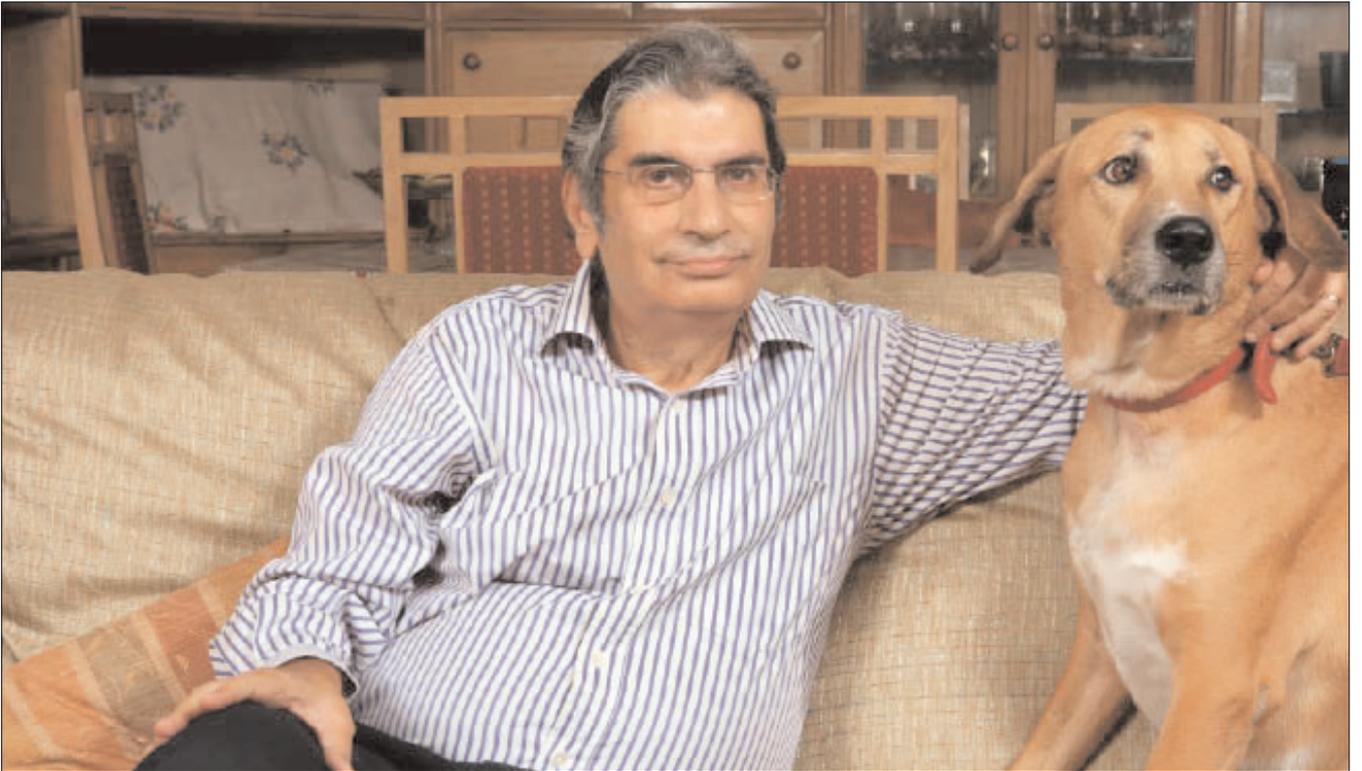
conversations took place, but they deny any wrongdoing. The larger question is why they have to do it? Money can be an important factor though both of them are paid handsomely by their respective employers. Sadly, their conduct shows a poor light of individuals who acquire power and indulge in proxy governance by corrupt means.

Ms Dutt is heard on tape offering to relay messages from the corporate lobbyist to politicians to influence the process of forming a cabinet.

Columnist Vir Sanghvi is heard offering a businessman a "rehearsed" interview.

'NO GREY AREAS'

"Journalists need to exercise their judgment and verify everything that is said by a source. There are no grey areas, it's black and white," Vinod Mehta, editor of Outlook magazine which published the tapes, said. Corporate lobbyists represent



"Journalists need to exercise their judgment and verify everything that is said by a source. There are no grey areas, it's black and white," **Vinod Mehta**, editor of Outlook magazine which published the tapes, said "Corporate lobbyists represent certain interests which should be clear to everyone."

Rajdeep Sardesai, the editor of the TV channel CNN-IBN, said: "Let us not overlook the fact that it is the media's unflinching attempts that have exposed these scams. Most of us are doing a very good job. In this competitive age, access is information which is where the politicians have co-opted the journalists."



certain interests which should be clear to everyone." Mr Mehta was among a number of participants who spoke in a debate held at the Press Club of India.

Rajdeep Sardesai, the editor of the TV channel CNN-Ibn, said: "Let us not overlook the fact that it is the media's unflinching attempts that have exposed these scams. Most of us are doing a very good job. "This rot is not new - it's been around for three decades at least." In this competitive age, access is information which is where the politicians have co-opted the journalists. Corporate India and politicians are subverting the system," he said. Rajdeep is having a valid point that media in the recent past have played a crucial role in streamlining clean governance. More than 100 tapes of conversations between corporate lobbyist Niira Radia and leading journalists were recorded as part of an authorised police tap. Police were acting on a request from income tax authorities investigating the alleged mis-selling of mobile telephone licences.

Last month, federal auditors said former telecommunications minister Andimuthu Raja had undersold mobile phone licences worth billions of dollars, resulting in an estimated loss of \$39bn to the exchequer.

It is not clear who leaked the tapes to the media. Transcripts of the conversa-

Just blaming Ms Dutt and Mr Sanghvi should not do any good to the country, the corruption malaise has reached in every section of the society. And the most disgusting fact here is that it is affecting the lower class of our country, people are suffering at large...

tions have appeared in the Open and Outlook magazines and have angered many Indians.

'Error of judgement'

In the tape recorded in the summer of 2009, Ms Dutt is heard discussing with Ms Radia who should be in the cabinet. Ms Radia was pushing for Mr Raja to be reinstated as a minister. Ms Dutt, currently group editor at NDTV is heard assuring Ms Radia that she would speak to a senior Congress party leader on her behalf. Barkha Dutt has apologised for "an error of judgement", but she insists that she has not done anything wrong.

Mr Sanghvi - who is heard offering a "fully scripted" and "rehearsed" television interview to Ms Radia's client, India's richest man Mukesh Ambani -

says he was "just stringing her along". Ms Radia works as a lobbyist for two of India's biggest industrialists Mukesh Ambani and Ratan Tata. Since the leaks, Mr Tata has gone to court saying that conversations between him and Ms Radia were "personal" and that the leaks violated his right to privacy.

But who is clean?

Just blaming Ms Dutt and Mr Sanghvi should not do any good to the country, the corruption malaise has reached in every section of the society. And the most disgusting fact of the entire corruption saga of the country is that it is affecting the lower class of our country, people are suffering at large and sectors like health, education, rural development, are the worst sufferer because they are largely funded by the government grants in a socialist country.

Today, political class, bureaucracy, judiciary and media are becoming syndicated tool in the hand of few powerful lobbies operating in the country thus directly challenging the ethics of democratic practice. Hence short listing Ms Dutt and Mr Sanghvi for the entire misadventure will not solve any problem.

Attached is a brilliant letter posted by fellow Journalist addressed to Dr Pranay Roy. He is putting a question mark on the "error of judgment" theory instigated by Ms Dutt and Mr Sanghvi.

**From: BV RAO
TO,
Dr Prannoy Roy,
Editor-in-chief,
NDTV**



Respected Dr Roy,

I am writing to apply for the post of Group Editor, English News, NDTV.

I am a journalist with 26 years experience. Throughout my career I have made innocent mistakes. I have been silly, I have been gullible and I have been prone to making errors of judgement. Frequently, when I am "desperate for khabar" I also fib to sources. I string them along so much that I have often tied myself up in knots.

In short, I'm just the right guy to lead the nation's most reputed English news channel.

I am aware, Sir, that you already have a silly, innocent and gullible editor prone to making honest errors of judgement. Those credentials were so clearly established on national prime time news the other day. Only an extremely innocent, very silly and highly gullible editor can do it with such aplomb.

Admittedly, Dr Roy, that's a tough record to beat. But the silly are never daunted by the odds...recall that stuff about fools rushing in where angels fear to tread.

I take heart from two facts: One, that you are perhaps the only editor-in-chief to value such sterling qualities in a group editor, and two, while you might be pretty happy with your in-house options, there are some good alternatives in the market you might want to look at.

It is your faith in and commitment to the cause of the ISGs (innocent, silly and gullible), Dr Roy, that has emboldened me to give the job a shot. I want to convince you that when it comes to these sterling qualities, I dig a lonely furrow...it's actually a deep trench because I have been at it for 26 years.

Sir, I suspect you will be extremely upset at the completely unconventional way in which this application is being framed. So, let me quickly give you three examples of the work I have done so far. Please judge me only by my work, not what I say about it on tape.

1. When I was just a few months into the profession, Akali Dal leader Sant Longowal was assassinated. His assassination followed Indira Gandhi's who was killed just a few months earlier. I had just subbed the copy when my chief sub asked me "what's the headline?" "Longowal calls on Indira Gandhi," I read out loud and proud. The chief sub leaped out of her chair in horror and grabbed the copy. She called me silly and stupid. She even proclaimed me "dangerous" and banished me from the news desk. You see, Dr Roy, I was editor material even then. Just that I was in wrong hands. Where were you, Dr Roy? I can't help wondering "why just Barkha, why is she so lucky"?

2. Once when I was editor of a small Delhi afternoon paper, we ran an expose on upcoming illegal structures in Connaught Place. We illustrated the story with a big picture of a multi-storey building shot stealthily. Next morning it turned out the building belonged to the newspaper's proprietor.

Error of judgement is passé, Dr Roy, I have monumental blunders on my hand.

3. More recently, I was in the middle of writing Counterfeit, my most most-read weekly column on notional affairs. Two big corporate houses were warring over some

PTO

goddamn national asset and I wanted to get to the bottom of things. Who better to get an insight from than the PR persons on both sides? The first guy took me out to lunch and explained his client's position. I was fully convinced he was right till the other PR took me out to lunch and explained her client's position. I was convinced she was right too. But I was two full, two convinced and too confused. So, I wrote about the food instead.

But then word got out. As you well know, our strict code of ethics lays down that a journalist can have only one free meal per topic. Fellow journalists were livid. But since nobody could prove quid pro quo, they pilloried me in public for being unethical and accused me in private of selling the profession cheap. I am however convinced most of them were just jealous of the extra meal I managed...but that's beside the point, the pillorying continued because they said "joh pakda gaya wahi chor".

I had to take matters into my hand because the cat seemed to have gotten my channel's tongue. I agreed to be grilled by my peers in full public glare. Four white haired gents turned up. For the first time the channel made a departure from the policy of not putting out any raw material on air and played the full unedited tape.

On air I made a clean breast of things. "I may have been greedy, I may have been hungry, but nobody dare accuse me of corruption," I said, clearly setting the contours of the debate. "But of course, it's been a learning experience. Looking back now with all that one now knows about dirty lobbyists, I have no hesitation in saying that it's perhaps best to carry one's own lunch box to work. I have since bought a Milton electric lunch box."

"No journalist is lily white," the oldest and gentlest of them all began, "I don't know of many journalists who carry their tiffin to office...." but I cut him short. "Nobody is lily white but all that you will discuss is one spot on my kurta? Why only me," I thundered. I wanted to punch all of them in their holier-than-thou faces but for form's sake I just bit my dry lips and somehow held my temper and my hand.

Many close friends upbraided me for appearing on the show. They told me I looked angry, sounded pompous and arrogant. They advised me not to mention the incident in this application because it would look rather silly trying to get an important job on the evidence of this show.

But that is the point I'm trying to make, Dr Roy. I am silly. And I did not stumble on silliness, innocence and gullibility "inadvertently" after 16 years of blemish-less journalism. I worked at it for 26 long years.

In other qualifications, I must point out that I am a damn good political reporter, even if I say so myself. In the thick of things such as the UPA's cabinet formation, all kinds of people call me to carry messages to the Congress party. Sometimes there are problems of non-delivery such as that message I did not give Ghulam Nabi Azad but I believe, because I'm a good journalist, even if this were about the NDA forming its cabinet, I would still be a busy courier boy.

I would have loved to attach copies of my work as a political reporter but sadly, Dr Roy, I have none. That is because I have never reported politics.

I know, I know...that is not consistent with my claim to being a good political journalist. I was just stringing you along, Dr Roy. When can I join?

Yours truly

B V Rao





CHEERS: WEN JIABAO AND MANMOHAN SINGH

THE DRAGON AND ELEPHANT STORY

Dr Rahul Misra analyses the finer points of Chinese Prime Minister's visit to India

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh said the festivals of China in India have played a crucial role in increasing awareness about both countries and their cultures. Addressing the closing ceremony of the Festival of China in India in Delhi, Dr. Singh said: "The Festivals of China in India and of

India in China have played a crucial role in increasing awareness and consciousness about each other's countries and cultures."

"We have been touched by the response of the people of China to the Festival of India in China. The people of India have on their part watched with ad-

miration the Shanghai Expo and the spectacular conduct of the Asian Games in China," he added.

The closing ceremony of the Festival of China in India also associated the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China.



The Prime Minister called India and China two great ancient civilizations that have flourished for thousands of years. "The constant exchange of ideas, scholars, goods and scriptures has enriched our relationship through the ages, and finds a strong resonance in modern times," said Dr. Singh.

He said the contemporary India-China relations are a product of the long evolutionary process of historical contacts, and the underlying emphasis of both civilizations on traditions and values; the arts and culture; dialogue; the spirit of adventure and the unyielding quest for progress and development.

Dr. Singh further said that six decades ago, as young nations, India and China

"We must significantly enhance our understanding of each other through greater exchanges in all fields, whether cultural, tourism, sports, students or scholars. We must close the information gap between us and learn about each other's achievements directly."

— Dr Manmohan Singh

rediscovered each other and understood each other's aspirations. The development of sound relations with China has since then been a constant feature of India's foreign policy.

"As the economic weight of the world shifts towards Asia, the steady development of India and China has opened new opportunities for the global economy. Our shared interest in creating a more equitable world order has transformed our relations beyond its bilateral dimension to a strategic and global partnership," said Dr. Singh.

"There is enough space in the world for both India and China to grow and fulfill the development aspirations of their respective peoples," he added.

The Prime Minister said the celebrations of the 60th anniversary would also open hearts and minds to usher in the next decades of India-China friendship and cooperation.

"We must significantly enhance our understanding of each other through greater exchanges in all fields, whether cultural, tourism, sports, students or scholars. We must close the information gap between us and learn about each other's achievements directly rather than through third sources," said Dr. Singh.

He maintained that the India-China cooperation would be the keystone of the Asian century.

Dr. Singh also applauded the role played by Premier Wen Jiabao in the advancement of the Strategic and Cooperative Partnership and said this has laid the ground for the future growth of India-China relations.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao arrived in India with an uncharacteristically large delegation of 400 businessmen. While trade will top the bilateral talks, issue of stapled visas for Kashmiri's and Pakistan were deliberately ignored to maintain harmony and warmth in relationship.

Jaibao's visit to India came at a critical time. Over the last one year, the two countries have seen strains grow over Chinese projects in PoK and the stapled visas that China has been issuing to travellers from Kashmir, indicating that it accepts Kashmir as a disputed region.

Admitting that China's relationship with India is fragile, China's envoy to India, Zhang Yan, recently said the relationship can be easily damaged. He, however, stressed upon the need to create "an environment of mutual trust" and added that the two countries can work together. "China will pose no threat to any country and pursue peaceful path of



HAND OF FRIENDSHIP: WEN JIABAO AND MANMOHAN SINGH

development. The dragon and elephant can work and prosper together," he said. Yan asked for the Indian government to therefore step in and prevent a war of words in public discourse.

In response, India's Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao said India and China share an evolving relationship. Ms Rao gently reminded the ambassador that China is being exposed to "India's vibrant democracy where there are many points of view."

India and China are home for more than a third of the world's population, share a 2,500-mile border and are expected to drive global economic growth for years to come. But ties between the two have been dampened by mistrust and even open hostility. The two countries have tussled over land and water rights, and more quietly over questions of intellectual property and employment visas.

While the irritants will be discussed

India and China are home for more than a third of the world's population, share a 2,500-mile border and are expected to drive global economic growth for years to come. But ties between the two have been dampened by mistrust and even open hostility.

threadbare, Indian officials say the relationship has many more dimensions that need to be explored. The two countries are celebrating 60 years of the establishment of diplomatic ties, and while much has changed in those years, there is still a large degree of mistrust that has to be bridged.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Here's are the highlights of the agenda of recently concluded Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao's visit:

- 1 Beijing is keen for agreements in finance, specifically setting up Chinese banks in India
- 1 They want to start talks on a free trade agreement
- 1 The two PMs will also talk about the progress, the rather slow progress, made in the boundary talks. Fourteen rounds have been held so far
- 1 China has not been forthcoming in its support for India for a permanent UN Security Council seat. So New Delhi is expected to bring up that issue as well

Focus Business - New Chinese approach?

India and China should be partners, not competitors, as the world tilts toward Asia, Prime Minister Wen Jiabao of China said in a speech here to hundreds of businessmen from both countries, "There is enough space in the world for the development of both China and India," Mr. Wen said, "and enough areas for us both to cooperate."

The countries are in the "process of rapid industrialization and urbanization" built on a foundation of fast and sustainable growth, he said. Now, they should "open our markets to each other so we can give strong support to each other's economic growth."

Trying to play down competition between the two countries, Mr. Wen said China and India should "draw upon each other," because they have a different mix of industries, products, technologies and expertise. "The 21st century is the Asian century," he said. "It is also the century in which China and India can make great achievements."

As the visit proceeded, a handful of deals were finalized or announced between companies from the two countries. Huawei, a leading Chinese manufacturer of telecommunications equipment, said Tuesday that it planned to spend \$2 billion to expand its Indian operations over the next five years, including a research and development campus in Bangalore that would employ 1,000.

Companies in the Reliance ADA Group, the Indian conglomerate controlled by Anil D. Ambani, said Wednesday that they would receive financing from Chinese banks totaling about \$3 billion, much of which would be used to buy goods from Chinese companies. Reliance Power, the group's energy company, said in October that it would buy boilers, turbines and generators for its coal power plants worth \$10 billion from the Shanghai Electric Group. On Wednesday, a company executive said it had secured financing for part of that deal from Chinese banks, while Reliance Communications said it would get a \$1.9 billion loan from China Development Bank.

Economically, "India and China both



Chinese officials have said they would like to see a trade agreement between the two countries, but Indian officials say there are too many concerns about subsidies in the Chinese market that could influence prices. When it is all over, perhaps the most important thing that can come from the visit this week is a plan to do it again, sooner, analysts said

can rise, but there are a lot of conflicts," said Ramgopal Agarwala, a former World Bank economist in China who is now a senior adviser to RIS, an emerging markets research organization in New Delhi. "Both sides want to sort them out, but no one knows how."

Business ties were frayed this year after Indian officials effectively banned the import of Chinese telecommunications equipment, citing security concerns, and clamped down on the percentage of overseas workers that foreign companies

could hire in India, a response to Chinese companies' bringing in Chinese workers to build power plants in India.

Chinese companies that have set up in India, like Lenovo and Huawei, have recorded disappointing profits and problems with distribution networks and bureaucracy, analysts say.

China's foreign direct investment in India is minuscule compared with that from the United States and Britain, and is dwarfed even by countries like Finland and Cyprus. From April 2000 to September 2010, Chinese foreign direct investment in India was \$52 million compared with \$9 billion from the United States, according to Indian government figures.

"From the Indian side, there has been a lot of suspicion of the strategic intentions of state-owned Chinese enterprises," said Jonathan Holslag, a research fellow at the Brussels Institute of Contemporary China Studies. "Over all, it has been very difficult for Chinese companies to get their share of the Indian market."

That does not mean that economic ties are nonexistent. Bilateral trade between the two countries is set to reach \$60 billion in India's current fiscal year, up from \$42 billion in the fiscal year that ended last March, and China is India's largest trade partner. Still, that relationship strongly favors Beijing - India exported \$11.6 billion to China in the last fiscal year.

Where and how to fix that imbalance is unclear, analysts and economists in India say.

Chinese officials have said they would like to see a trade agreement between the two countries, but Indian officials say there are too many concerns about subsidies in the Chinese market that could influence prices. When it is all over, perhaps the most important thing that can come from the visit this week is a plan to do it again, sooner, analysts said.

"I hope there will be a greater interest in knowing each other," Mr. Agarwala, the RIS adviser, said. "In my judgment, that would be a very concrete result."

— Dr Rahul Mishra



But can we trust China?

There is a new twist to the long-running boundary dispute between the two countries by knocking off nearly 1,600 km from its definition of China's border with India. A Xinhua report from Beijing on the eve of premier Wen Jiabao's visit to India described the Sino-Indian border as nearly 2,000-km long.

The Indian count of the operational border is a lot longer at nearly 3,500 km (not taking into account the line separating Pakistan Occupied Kashmir and China). The discrepancy is too large to be treated as an inadvertent error in Beijing.

So, where did the hundreds of kilometers disappear? China apparently no longer treats the line of nearly 1,600 km separating Jammu and Kashmir on the one hand and Xinjiang and Tibet on the other as a border with India.

China's recasting of the length of the border with India appears to be part of the Kashmir puzzle that Beijing has unveiled in recent years.

The other pieces include the recent policy of issuing stapled visas to Indian citizens from J&K, the reluctance to host a visit by the Northern Commander of the Indian Army Lt. Gen. B.S. Jaswal, the dramatic expansion of the Chinese activity in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir that includes the modernisation of the Karakoram Highway and the plans to construct a new rail line and oil pipeline between Kashgar in Xinjiang and the Gwadar port on Pakistan's Makran coast.

A day before Wen arrived in India, The Global Times – an English language newspaper published by the People's Daily, the official organ of the Chinese Communist Party – contra-

dicted the Indian figure of 3,500 km for the operational border between the two nations.

In an interview with the Indian Ambassador to China, S. Jaishankar, the Global Times asked about the reported tensions on the border. In response, Jaishankar said, "The reality contradicts any alarmist depiction of the situation on the border, whether in India or in China. We have a long common border of 3,488 km."

The maps for the central sector were quickly exchanged; but Beijing was reluctant to do the same in the western sector. Part of the problem was said to be Chinese concern about Pakistan's sensitivity to the delineation of the Sino-Indian border in J&K.

The new Chinese approach to the western sector reveals that India's problem could be much larger than the question of stapled visas. It might be about a fundamental ambivalence in Beijing about India's sovereignty over J&K.

India claims that China is in occupation of nearly 38,000 sq km of Indian territory in the Ladakh region of J&K. China is also in control of nearly 5,000 sq km of Shaksgam valley in PoK ceded by Islamabad to Beijing in March 1963.

Until now India has sought to negotiate its territorial disputes in Kashmir separately with Pakistan and China. India might now have to come to terms with the changing geopolitics of J&K, where India's two fronts with Pakistan and China come together.

Courtesy - Indian Express



NEW TIES: NEW ERA IN INDO-JAPANESE TIES HAS BEGUN

Japan to make India green: 24 green cities planned

Hemant Setya reports for OPINION EXPRESS from New Delhi

Japan is coming; rather they are consolidating their presence in India with an aggressive trade policy. Buoyed by a landmark free trade pact and the launch of nuclear negotiations, India and Japan are set to scale a new frontier in bilateral ties by launching 24 green cities in the proposed Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). 'Japan and India are planning to set up 24 green cities in the DMIC area,' Aftab Seth, a former Indian ambassador to Japan and a driving force behind the green initiative, told us in a Nikkie Eco meet jointly organized by India-Japan trade associations.

The green cities will include optimised energy supplies, 24-hour drinking water supply, bicycle and walking tracks, and waste and water recycling systems. Preparatory work has already started on pilot projects in seven green cities that

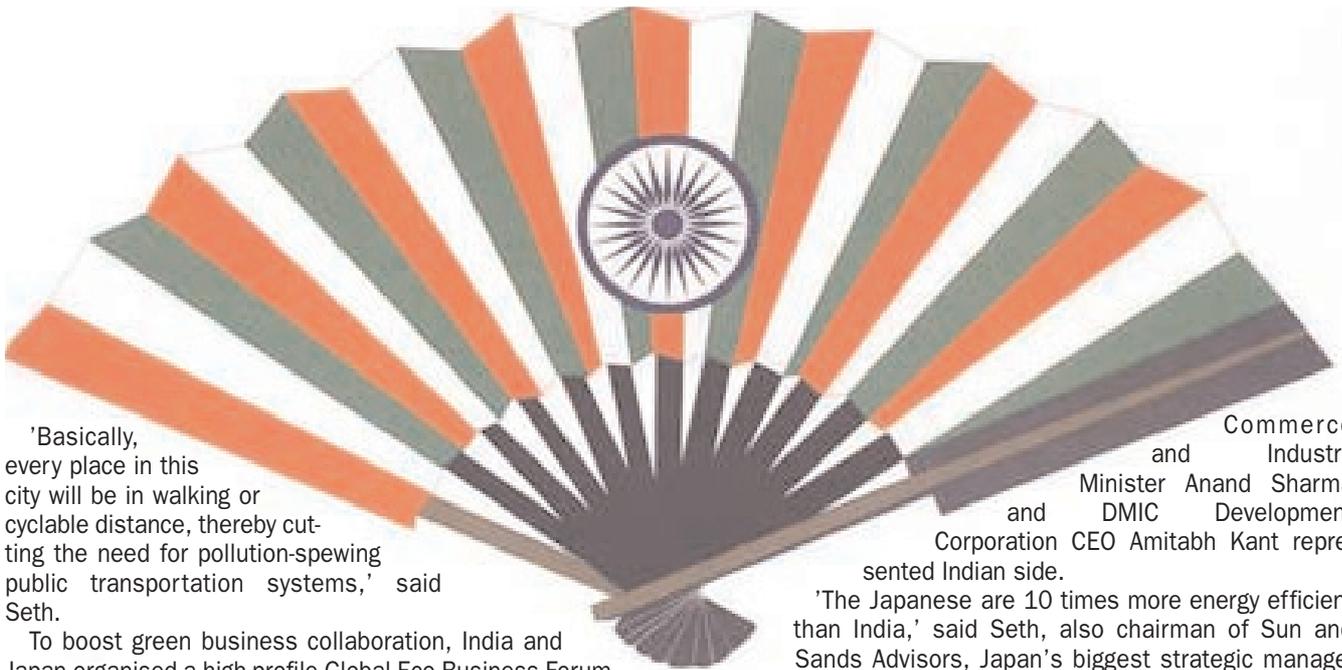
Envisaged as a global manufacturing and trading hub, DMIC is expected to be completed in five to seven years. 'Green cities and green technologies will be an important part of the DMIC. It will be like forging a sort of green alliance between India and Japan,' said Seth.

will be part of the DMIC, which is bigger in area than Honshu, the largest Japanese island, said Seth. DMIC, span-

ning six Indian states, is the most ambitious infrastructure project India has launched with Japan, a world leader in green technologies, and is expected to cost \$50-90 billion.

Envisaged as a global manufacturing and trading hub, DMIC is expected to be completed in five to seven years. 'Green cities and green technologies will be an important part of the DMIC. It will be like forging a sort of green alliance between India and Japan,' said Seth. The first of these cities will be developed in the Dholera investment region in Gujarat, 110 km from Ahmedabad.

Top Japanese companies like Hitachi, Mitsubishi and Toshiba shall be involved in designing and building eco-friendly towns along the DMIC that will pass through Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra.



'Basically, every place in this city will be in walking or cyclable distance, thereby cutting the need for pollution-spewing public transportation systems,' said Seth.

To boost green business collaboration, India and Japan organised a high-profile Global Eco Business Forum on Nov 30 that saw the participation of top Japanese companies like Hitachi, Toshiba and Mitsubishi. Senior Japanese officials, including Masakazu Toyoda, and Ryuji Yanagihara, an expert on green cities, participated in the summit.

Minister of Road Transport and Highways Kamal Nath,

Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma and DMIC Development Corporation CEO Amitabh Kant represented Indian side.

'The Japanese are 10 times more energy efficient than India,' said Seth, also chairman of Sun and Sands Advisors, Japan's biggest strategic management and financial advisory for cross-border business between India and Japan. 'It will be an opportunity for the Japanese to display to an influential and practising audience their talent in energy-saving devices and environment-friendly technologies,' he added.

The expanding green collaboration between India and Japan

also has a larger geo-strategic dimension as Japan looks at India's business potential afresh to counter China.

'The Japanese are steadily coming to the realisation that they have put too many eggs in the Chinese basket. There is an un-ease with China. India is seen in Japan as a more lucrative market than Vietnam or Indonesia,' said Seth, adding the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Pact (CEPA) next month is going to give a big boost to business ties between the two countries.

Japan has focused India to be a strategic investment point because the growth story of India has just begun, there is an estimate by the world bank that Indian economy is expected to grow at over 9% in the entire next decade hence leading the GDP expected to cross \$3 trillion by 2020. The growing economy is seeking huge investment in infrastructure sector to keep up with the over-all growth story of the country. Japan is strategically promoting trade and commerce interest in India to participate in the tremendous investment opportunity of life time.





ASSEMBLY LINE: A JAPANESE WORK PLACE

How do the Japanese do it?

Aftab Seth disseminated extremely valuable information for our readers about the Japanese work culture, style, preferences and mind set to our editor **Prashant Tewari**. Excerpts

Q Post recession, the strategic shift of global trade attention has shifted to Asia. China and India are the main growth engine of the global recovery. Japan is pioneer of cutting edge technology with surplus funds looking to for ideal investment opportunities. Now why India is having an advantage viz China if we put Japan strategic long term interest in loop?

A. Japan has a good deal of historical baggage with China on account of the war and the the exploitation of China from 1895 and the Sino Japanese war onwards till 1945.

Yet in cultural terms Japan is indebted to China . The script , the Confucian ethic and much of the technology relating to silk , pottery , lacquer ware and weaving came over the ages from China.

There is therefore a grudging admiration from historical times for China com-

pounded in recent years by the meteoric growth rates. Japan has exploited the new advantages presented by the Chinese market and has poured in many

Envisaged as a global manufacturing and trading hub, DMIC is expected to be completed in five to seven years. 'Green cities and green technologies will be an important part of the DMIC. It will be like forging a sort of green alliance between India and Japan,' said Seth...

billions of Dollars in investment in China.

Until recently the Japanese were not uncomfortable in doing business with China .

The growing assertiveness of China over the last 4 or 5 years has frightened many Japanese. The manner in which Chinese crowds attacked the Japanese embassy and consulates 5 years ago , in what appeared to be an orchestrated demonstration , combined with continuing friction over joint exploration for oil and gas has made the Japanese sit up and think.

In September 2010 the manner in which the Chinese bullied the Japanese into returning an arrested Chinese ship captain accused of ramming Japanese coast guard ships and then proceeded to stop the export of rare metals has really alarmed many Japanese.

India in comparison seems a less threatening country and equally a coun-

try of rapid growth.

The Japanese are diverting some of their attention and their money towards India for these reasons. The existence of flagship projects like the DMIC, itself the product of a growing political and strategic relationship makes investment in India more worthwhile.

Q The Japanese are perfectionist hence the technology used by them is build of high cost, India on the other hand is a highly cost conscious market, how do you see the two fundamental difference creating synergies for mutual benefit?

A. Yes Japanese costs are high because they value the product of their labour. But service for Japanese products, their long lasting qualities and the reliability of Japanese equipment outweighs the higher cost in the long run.

Q Top Japanese brands are household names in India but at people to people level, Indian are close to North America, Europe block, why Japanese government in the past have not attempted to translate commercial success in comprehensive success to improve bilateral relations?

A. The reason for Indian focus on the USA and the UK is clearly the result of language and the existence of a diaspora of 4 to 5 million Indians in both territories. This has meant more students, a 100,000 in the USA alone and more collaborative research for both the pure and the applied sciences. In contrast there are only 25,000 Indians in Japan and a little over 500 students.

The Japanese are fully aware that they need to heighten the connections in academia and so have made concerted ef-



. Maruti and TVS in Chennai are just 2 examples of Indian organizations trying to acquire the Japanese work ethic. Loyalty to the company, pride in one's work, however humble or lowly it may be, a desire for perfection in execution and an ability to relax after work in the company of colleagues are just a few aspects of the Japanese work culture.

orts to attract young talent from countries like India where the demographic graph is a rising one in contrast to Japan where the population is declining. The birth rate at 1.2 is not even replacement level so Japan is shrinking in numbers. The need to attract bright young Indians is obvious and universities like Keio have begun undergraduate classes in English in some campuses. The quality of Japanese technical education is high and Indians would benefit by going to study there. The trend must be encouraged by both sides.

Q DMIC is a most ambitious project undertaken by our government with external support, What role Japan is playing to structure the project - via government, quasi government and private sector initia-

tives?

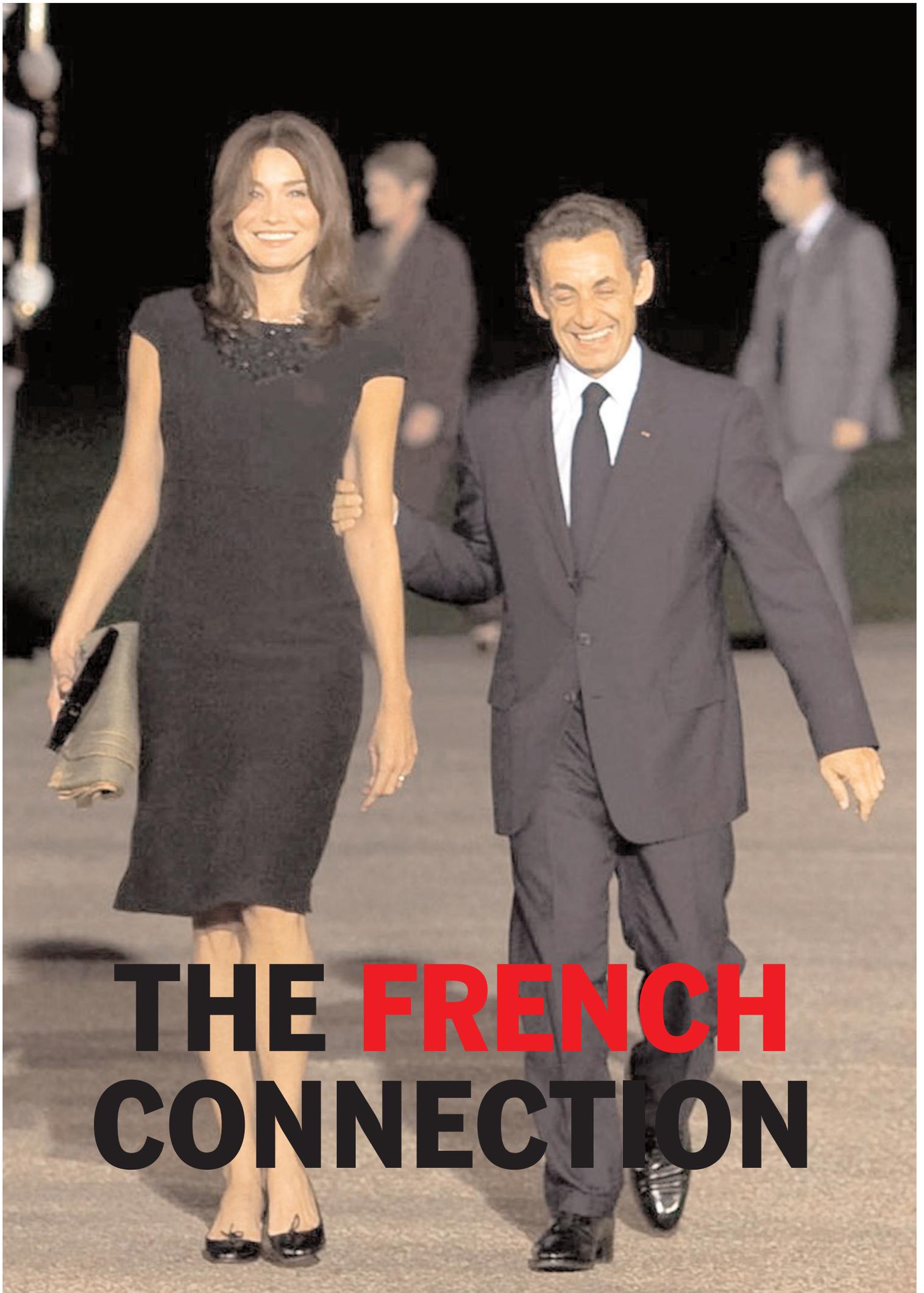
A. The Japanese embassy have recently added a title to the existing one for their Minister Economic and Commercial by calling him the Minister Infrastructure. This is significant in view of the important role being played by Japan in building India's infrastructure, underground railways and the entire DMIC. Jetro, JICA and METI in Japan are all equally engaged in promoting Japanese trade and investment. JETRO gives free accommodation to SMEs to help them set up offices here in India.

Q Tell us about the insight of Japanese work culture from the vast experience of working closely with them in the past?

A. Maruti and TVS in Chennai are just 2 examples of Indian organizations trying to acquire the Japanese work ethic. Loyalty to the company, pride in one's work, however humble or lowly it may be, a desire for perfection in execution and an ability to relax after work in the company of colleagues are just a few aspects of the Japanese work culture.

They have highly developed vocational schools and so the quality of electricians, plumbers, packers, restaurant workers, chefs, railway or bus workers and a host of other professionals is much higher than most developed countries. India has much to learn from this aspect of Japan.





THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Sarkozy bats for India's civil nuclear programme, UNSC seat

Capt Vinay Goyal report for OEMCL from New Delhi

French President Nicolas Sarkozy expressed his country's full support to development of India's civil nuclear programme but felt access to this industry was "restricted". Sarkozy backed India's entry into Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and its case for a permanent membership of the expanded United Nations Security Council, saying it was "unthinkable" to keep a country of over one billion out. French President visit may not have created buzz that US President Obama visit impacted India but in terms of pure government prospective, it was a great success.

"France is a friend of India. It will stand with it in its efforts in developing non-polluting energy and nuclear industry," the French President said addressing scientists at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). "We need to put an end to nuclear isolation of India. It was injustice done to India challenging your right to access to civil nuclear energy," India is now going to be a full-fledged member of the multilateral groups overseeing non-proliferation regimes, he said adding France would support India's application for candidacy of NSG. Sarkozy noted with "delight" that a French company Areva would be setting up nuclear plant at Jaitapur in Maharashtra that would go on to produce 10,000 MWe of "non-polluting" energy.

He, however, noted there was certain "inconsistency" in India's approach as while it wanted development of clean energy on one hand, at the same time "restricting access". "We cannot force upon India obligations without giving it the means to meet the obligations," he said.

Speaking of France's relationship with India, Sarkozy said that his country has been a good friend of India. "We don't speak in two languages. We mean what we say." Condemning the 26/11 attacks, he said any such strike on India was an attack on democracy and all



democracies stand by India. "When India is attacked, it is democracy attacked," he said.

He observed that terrorism emanating from Pakistan and Afghanistan is a "major source of instability" in the world. Talking about Afghanistan, he praised India's role and said the world cannot afford to lose the war against Taliban.

"We cannot afford to allow Taliban to comeback. No one stand benefited if civil war raises its ugly head...we must succeed," he said. Noting that one cannot stand still if India wants to move ahead in 21st century, he said, "India, Brazil, Germany, Japan, some representatives of Africa and Arab world must be in UN Security Council."

Sarkozy showered praise on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh saying the Indian leader was obsessed with peace through development and eradication of poverty. "I have great admiration for Prime Minister Singh. I value his friendship. He is right in believing in peace and

stability. India's challenge is that if you succeed through peace, it will have a huge knock-out effect on the world," he said.

India and France are united by common values and believe that international relations should not be governed by brutality or force and it should be based on dialogue and rule of law, Sarkozy said adding the relationship between the two countries should go much further.

Appreciating India's growth, he said its voice has to be heard in the global level. "We need India to regulate the world monetary order. I believe Indian currency will be counted as one of major currencies," he said.

On education sector, Sarkozy said he expected a three-fold growth in the number of Indian students going to France. "We want to train young Indians in our universities and open our research facilities for them. I very much hope that the reverse will also be true," he said.



HONOURED GUEST: SARKOZY AND BRUNI AT TAJ

France and India strengthen bilateral, diplomatic relations

The Indian diplomatic establishment has ample reasons to feel happy and satisfied with French President Nicolas Sarkozy's just concluded visit to India this week.

Sarkozy deftly used diplomatic symbolism by choosing India as his first foreign destination after France recently assumed the rotational Presidency of the G20 for one year. After a long hiatus, India is starting on January 1, 2011 a two-year tenure as one of the 12 non-permanent members of the United

Sarkozy said what the Indians wanted to hear by reiterating his support to India's candidacy for permanent seat of the to-be-reformed UNSC—something that Obama also did during his India visit last month. Sarkozy posed a rhetorical question: "It is not just an important matter for India but for the equilibrium of the world that after its two-year term, are we going to ask India to simply stand down?"

Nations Security Council. This means that India can now expect to wield better clout at the G20 as well as the UNSC. France has been one of the staunchest India supporters in the world for quite some time as the two countries have entered into the 12th year of their strategic partnership.

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India's candidacy for permanent seat of the to-be-reformed UNSC—something that Obama also did during his India visit last month. Sarkozy posed a rhetorical question: "It is not just an important matter for India but for the equilibrium of the world that after its two-year term, are we going to ask India to simply stand down?"

Sarkozy also enthralled the Indians by taking Pakistan to task on the terror front. He slammed Pakistan for allowing safe havens to terrorists in its tribal border areas. He reserved his fierce attack on Pakistan for the last leg of his trip in Mumbai on December 7, some three hours before the terror attack in Varanasi. He was unsparing, unambiguous and unrelenting when he remarked: "It is unacceptable for the world that terrorist acts should be masterminded and carried out by terrorist groups in Pakistan." His advice to Pakistani authorities was to "step up their efforts and show that they are resolute in combating these criminals." As for India, he pledged unlimited counterterrorist cooperation. Significantly, like Obama, Sarkozy did not visit Pakistan.

Though Sarkozy's India visit was not historic, just as Obama's trip wasn't, such visits are essential for taking bilateral ties from strength to strength. Seven agreements were signed during Sarkozy's visit, the most important of these a "general framework agreement" for constructing two nuclear reactors in Jaitapur (Maharashtra). Jaitapur is an ambitious project that will have six reactors which together will generate 10,000 MW power after completion in 2018. Generation of 10,000 MW from one single plant is indeed impressive considering that India currently produces just about 4000 MW, or less than three percent of total power generation.

India will have to tread carefully on the Jaitapur plant and will have to ensure that the cost of power per unit is not too high or else India will be breeding another Enron, this time again in Maharashtra. For the state of Maharashtra, Jaitapur means happy tidings as it will generate substantial employment for the locals. But it is the long-term risk that has to be guarded against because the Government of India will be spending a hefty \$9.3 billion on the Jaitapur plant. Another important area of concern in context of the Jaitapur plant is that it is going to have European Pressurized Reactors (EPRs), the first of which is yet to be built, and therefore, the technology remains untested. The twin risks—pricing of power produced which is yet to be



Sarkozy pledged a more robust, intense and wide-ranging cooperation with India, especially in such key areas as defense, space, nuclear energy, education and trade. It is a happy development for India, especially as it comes from a P5 power and the world's fifth largest economy that is a powerhouse of advanced technology

worked out and the very high capital investment—makes Jaitapur a high-stakes gamble for the government.

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Another rosy picture for Indo-French bilateral relations is the French announcement that its companies will invest \$12

billion in India by 2012. Paris has dangled a carrot before New Delhi saying that the French FDI investments in India could be even dramatically higher if India opened up sectors like insurance and retail, particularly multi-brand retail. This is a contentious and sensitive political issue in India, considering the Left parties' strident opposition.

India for its part has been treading cautiously on this issue. India maintains that the liberalization of insurance and retail sectors is "very much" on the government's agenda but the policy has to be calibrated. "... (Relaxation of) FDI cap on insurance and multi-brand retail is very much on the agenda," Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia said in the presence of French Minister of Economy and Finance Christine Lagarde who was part of the delegation accompanying Sarkozy.

Sarkozy's visit is a demonstration of India's growing influence, which is projected to be the world's third largest economy by 2030 after the U.S. and China. Sarkozy is the third P5 leader to have visited India this year after British Prime Minister David Cameron in July and U.S. President Barack Obama in November. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev are scheduled to visit later this month, the former from December 15 to 17, and the latter a week later. This means that before 2010 rings out India would have received all five heads of the permanent members of the UNSC.

Courtesy Diplomatic Courier Inputs and written by Rajeev Sharma

Starry dreams

Urvashi Sharma

ABOUT MYSELF: I always had a dream to be a part of this huge industry ie. film industry since my childhood. I grew up with this dream silently as I belonged to a family where education was of prime importance. I wanted to be a part of Miss India contest when I turned 18 but didn't happen cause of my family. Soon after completing my Graduation, I applied for my MBA degree again from same University. And now after completing my studies got into this profession which is now well known as an entertainment industry. As I loved studies equally I am still pursuing one. I am since 3 to 4 months in this industry.

EDUCATION: Graduate from Mumbai university
MBA in finance from Mumbai university; Pursuing CFA (Indian); A student of law in 1st year from Mumbai university

INSPIRATION: An inbuilt thought that this is what I am and this is what I would love to do all my life.

INDIAN AND GLOBAL MARKETS:
I believe fashion is perpetual. So lots to learn from Indian fashion and lots to grow with global industry.
Modeling for me Passion or business:- It's passion + business = reality, attainment of goal

HOBBIES: Dancing, swimming, basket ball, lawn tennis....

MOTTO: To be a better "Me" each day

WORK: Prints, Catalog's and ad

WORK PROFILE: Bharat matrimony elite, Coke Pakistan, Garden Varelli
TVS vego, kathak saree, Digjam suitings, Mobilink

ACTING: Nadira Babbar theatre workshop

DANCE: Bollywood, shiamak davar, ashley lobo and kathak

HEIGHT: 5'6"

VITAL STATS: 32-26-35



First Drive



2011 BMW 5 SERIES IS A SMOOTH OPERATOR

The outgoing BMW 5 Series may have ushered in a dramatic leap forward in terms of dynamics, technology, safety and creature comforts, but it's the previous generation – the E39 – that Bimmerphiles still speak of in hushed tones. The departing E60 may have been a more capable package, but it was also the source of much controversy and hand wringing. Blame Chris Bangle. Blame byzantine iDrive menu structures. Blame spirit-muffling layers of electronics. Hell, blame improved competition or hide-bound brand loyalists who refuse to accept the new. No matter whose camp you point the finger at, the 2004-2010 5 Series was a polarizing creature, both aesthetically and from behind the wheel. Despite (or perhaps because of) all this, BMW enjoyed record-setting global sales of the Fiver, suggesting that that the traditionalists had it all wrong.

As he points out, BMW design has a tendency to periodically muscle in with big, bold, design statements – to knock down walls – and in the follow-up model, its stylists can move about a bit more in the clean air made possible by its predecessor. Fair enough – we prepared to check our Weltschmerz at the door and give this new Fiver a shot.

Still, one look at the new-for-2011 F10 model might reasonably lead you to believe that a bit of mulligan has occurred at the hand of Adrian van Hooydonk and his design team – a toning down of the E60's most divisive elements. To be sure, the

E60's Dame Edna spectacles have been consigned to a dusty drawer and the raised "Bangle Butt" has kept its date with Celebrity Fit Club. In the not-so-dearly departed's place is a handsome new sedan that appears simultaneously more in line with the 5 Series' lineage yet firmly set on the future. But to label the sixth-generation Fiver as an aesthetic or strategic regression would be incorrect, van Hooydonk tells us. As he points out, BMW design has a tendency to periodically muscle in with big, bold, design statements – to knock down walls – and in the follow-up model, its stylists can move about a bit more in the clean air made possible by its predecessor. Fair enough – we prepared to check our Weltschmerz at the door and give this new Fiver a shot. Has it all been worked out for the better? BMW invited us to hop a couple of planes to Portugal in order to find out.

REV IT UP

In person, a lower roofline and a stretched wheelbase (at 116.9-inches, it's 3.2 inches longer than the E60, making it the broadest in the segment) have combined to give the 2011 5 Series a markedly sleeker appearance. The swage line that originates from just behind the front fenders and gets progressively more defined as it moves rearward lends directional thrust, as does its more aggressively shaped greenhouse.

Wide, nearly vertical kidney grilles are attached to a snub nose, and even if the headlamps are now more conservative, the more upright grilles suggest that BMW is pondering a return to the forward-leaning, shark-like front end that defined its history. Indeed, AvH tells us that the sportier the model, the more pronounced we can expect this design hallmark to be (see the E89 Z4 for guidance). Overall, this is a confident, well-balanced shape, a clear design unencumbered by the shouty details of its antecedent. All-in, BMW says that the automatic-equipped 535i weighs in at 4,090 pounds, about 100 pounds portlier than a comparably equipped outgoing model – remarkably little in view of its added size, rigidity (+55 percent over the E60) and technology.



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Underneath its controversial skin, the outgoing E60 ushered in a new era of high-tech solutions for the 5 Series in virtually every arena, from driving dynamics to creature comforts to safety and overall efficiency.

In this regard, with the F10, BMW has buried the throttle more firmly into the carpet than ever before. New engines, gearboxes, suspension architecture, rear-wheel steering, user-selectable adaptive drive settings, brake energy regeneration, and yes, another generation of iDrive have been whipped up in a bid to keep the 5 out in front of the new Mercedes-Benz E-Class, Audi A6 and Jaguar XF.

The new single-turbo N55 engine just plain works, with eager revs and a wonderfully flat power curve.

Interestingly, it wasn't more than a few months ago that we found ourselves on many of these very same Portuguese roads behind the wheel of another new 5 Series – the 2010 Gran Turismo. Visually,

the 5GT may be something of an automotive platypus, but dynamically it proved beyond reproach, setting lofty expectations for this new sedan in the process. Appropriately, a quick ride from the airport in the back of the 5GT before we tucked into the 535i sedan reminded us why the bifold hatchback model exists – space. The longer wheelbase of the 5GT creates epic, limo-like accommodations for rear-seat passengers, with palatial legroom and commanding visibility. Its straight-laced new brother?

Comparatively tight back there (albeit class competitive), a situation that figures to be the same with the Touring – a model we're no longer likely to get with this new generation.

Of course, a sport sedan like the 5 Series isn't purchased for the measure of its back seat, so with the keys (okay, fob) to the new 535i firmly in hand, we headed out onto the liling coastal roads and motorways northwest of Lisbon to see

if we could rekindle a lost Love Connection.

As we slipped aboard for the first time, all was at once familiar yet utterly new. From its three-spoke steering wheel to its Brobdingnagian 10.2-inch navigation screen, sturdy switchgear, iDrive porkpie, finicky drive selector and general shapes and materials, the 535i reminds of the 5GT and the new 7 Series, yet it carries its own dashboard design. While evolutionary, it's a beautifully executed space, with long, clean lines and ergonomically sound primary and secondary controls. As with its newer stablemates, the 5 Series receives a much more intuitive fourth-generation iDrive all-in-one controller, and with its rationalized menu structures and direct-function buttons surrounding the central controller knob, it's a system that's finally beginning to make some sense.

While we liked (okay, adored) the outgoing 5 Series' N54 3.0-liter twin-turbo inline six, the 535i receives a new single turbo engine dubbed N55, and it offers exactly the same 300 horsepower and 300 pound-feet of torque. So why bother? Because BMW's smarty-pants engineers have imbued the new motor with superior packaging, cleaner emissions and better throttle response. About that last bit – if you're wondering how a single, larger turbo can be quicker to respond than a pair of smaller units, BMW has cracked the code with the combination of a dual-scroll element and the company's Valvetronic throttle-less intake technology. Suffice it to say that the N55 just plain works, with eager revs and a wonderfully flat power curve (the engine's torque cup runneth over from just 1,200 on through 5,000 rpm). BMW says 60 miles-per-hour can be cracked in 5.7 seconds and top speed is limited to 130 mph – 150 mph if you spring for the Sport Package.





On the track in Sport + mode, the big Fiver's mid-corner stance is flatter than your first girlfriend.

For the gluttonous, a turbocharged 4.4-liter V8-powered 550i with 400 hp and 450 lb-ft. will be offered, along with a late-availability 528i with 240 horses. While we're sure that the 550i's extra power is nice, the lighter weight, viceless performance and presumably superior fuel economy of the N55 (no EPA numbers are available yet) has us convinced that it's once again good to be the middle child. As ever, European customers will get a range of diesel offerings, but there are no plans to offer any such models in North America. All-wheel drive variants, however, are in the pipeline for later this year.

A six-speed manual will be available in the 535i and 550i, but at the launch event, we were limited to torque converter-equipped 535i models. For 2011, there's a new ZF automatic with five clutches(!) and eight forward gears(!!) that offers a wider ratio spread. In the past, we've found that transmissions with this many speeds are prone to hunting, as if their software logic is somehow trying to justify the inclusion of so many cogs. The 5 Series largely avoids this trap, although

we did notice a tendency to cycle annoyingly between gears at very low speeds under shallow throttle openings (think: nudging forward in bumper-to-bumper traffic). Notably, BMW is ditching the chrome push-pull paddle-shifters used on other models in favor of traditional pull tabs (right to upshift, left to downshift) – apparently some people found the old Anish Kapoor chrome thumbsculptures hard to use. The new ones work just fine, but we miss the older version's dual +/- action and subtle artistic quality.

For 2011, the 5 Series has discarded its long-serving Macpherson strut front suspension in favor of a new multi-link arrangement.

The rear end is now also under the sway of a new five-link system, and coupled with BMW's Dynamic Damping Control (read: adaptive suspension) and Active Roll Stabilization (dynamic anti-roll bars), the whole works is at once at ease and eager to please. By that we mean that the ride quality is free from harshness without being floaty, yet it's ready to boogie at a moment's notice.

Word that the F10 would be the first 5 with electric power steering didn't exactly warm our enthusiast cockles, nor did

news that all 535i evaluators at the launch would be equipped with optional Integral Active Steering, a variable-ratio system that first made its appearance on the outgoing model. Thankfully, this is a new IAS system, as the first-generation setup never won any prizes for its communicability. Still, we were concerned that EPS and IAS' new active rear steering feature might contribute to feel-free handling, or worse, spooky dynamics. Nope. The Bavarian boys and gals have worked diligently to assuage all fears, and whether we were zipping along the littoral mountain roads, drumming along the motorway, or hammering around all 13 turns of Portugal's 2.6-mile Autódromo do Estoril, the 535i was rock solid, predictable and forgiving. Unlike many other EPS systems we've used, this one doesn't feel like there's an Internet's worth of silicony busily rearranging ones and zeros to turn the driver's inputs into action. The variable ratio shouldn't be off-putting during daily commuting, and on serpentine roads, it's a genuine ally – there's actual linearity, weighting and more than a modicum of feedback for one's fingertips to process as you spin the wheel just 2.1 turns from lock-to-lock. Hallelujah.

Out on the track, with the optional Driving Dynamics Control rocker switch toggled to its raciest Sport + mode (the other three settings: Comfort, Normal and Sport), this big Fiver's mid-corner stance is flatter than your first girlfriend. The steering gains weight and speed without feeling artificial, the gearbox's marching orders are rejiggered to keep engine revs up and reduce shift times, and the electronic limited-slip tech and relaxed traction and stability control algorithms yield a surprisingly frisky big sedan. While you're never going to convince yourself you're dive-bombing in a Z4, this is a car that shrinks handily at speed, in part because the brakes are pleasingly firm and 18-inch Dunlop Sport Maxx GT runflats offer credible grip with surprising compliance.

One fly in the enthusiast's ointment: To borrow from an old Western, the 535i is quiet... too quiet. Unless you really stomp on the gas and/or cascade down a handful of gears to get the engine on boil, you're not likely to hear much. That paucity of drivetrain noise is great for when

That paucity of drivetrain noise is great for when you're cuing up Wagner on the surround sound audio, not so great when you're trying to set your enthusiast driving neurons alight. That said, we're happy to report that wind and tire-noise are similarly muted.

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Safety-minded options include a brace of cameras to provide a bird's eye parking view (think: Infiniti's brilliantAroundView Monitor), night vision with pedestrian detection, active cruise

control and a nifty heads-up display. There's even a self-parking option, a feature that one German BMW official assured us will be sure to please your wife. Oh, yes he did.

The new 5 Series is better looking, more luxurious and more capable – yet it is also safer and cleaner. So is it ready to pick up the E39's torch anew? Well, not really. Without going so far as to suggest that that car was a primitive instrument of joy, BMW has moved too far down the field technologically to simply allow its engineers to pour old wine into new wineskins and call it a day. Besides, BMW's customers, competitors and various world governments have all gone and moved the segment's goalposts in the meantime. Having said all that, the 2011 5 Series is easier to use, easier on the eyes and far easier to find the magic in than its immediate predecessor. That might not be sufficient to proclaim it a neo-E39, but it might just be enough to move the Roundel to the head of the pack all over again.

Inputs from **Gopal Chopra**, Delhi Bureau



Tata's Nano, The Car That Few Want To Buy



DREAM
in flames

An overview of foreign press

MUMBAI, India: When it was introduced in early 2009, the egg-shaped Tata Nano was billed as a modern-day people's car, an ultracheap vehicle that would bring greater mobility to the masses of India and, eventually, the world. But those ambitions have stalled — for now, at least.

A Tata Nano LX in a suburb of Mumbai. Only 509 were shipped to dealers in November, down from 9,000 in July. Deeksha Dhawan, a student, in her Nano LX. Satisfied owners like Ms. Dhawan cite its fuel economy and roomy interior. Though car sales have shot up across India, because of an economy that is growing at nearly 9 percent annually, sales of the Nano

have been falling for the last four months. Its maker, Tata Motors, sold only 509 Nanos to its dealers in November — a stark contrast to the 9,000 it delivered in July. Last year, when media coverage and auto writers' praise were stoking demand, Tata had orders for more than 200,000 Nanos, which has a list price starting at about \$2,900.

But as Tata has struggled with problems like production delays and fires in some of the cars, rival cars like the Maruti Suzuki Alto have overtaken the Nano. The Alto, which starts at \$6,200 here, had sales of more than 30,000 in November, making it India's best-selling car last month.

On Thursday the Tata company announced that it would extend the warranty on the Nano, including those that have already been sold, to four years, from 18 months.

The Nano's celebrated rollout had helped prompt other big automakers, like General Motors and Renault-Nissan, to announce plans for ultracheap people's cars of their own for sale in India and other developing countries. Those would-be competitors are still expected to appear in the next two years.

But the Nano's poor showing could give pause to corporate executives and policy makers, eager to see goods and services sold to people of modest means.

NANO WONDER

Analysts say the Nano situation demonstrates it may not be sufficient to make cheaper, smaller versions of existing products to win over that broad base of customers. Companies, they say, must also make sure the products are widely available and are seen as safe, useful and alluring.

"The bottom of the pyramid continues to be where the action is," said Hormazd Sorabjee, editor of *Autocar India*, a magazine. "But the aspirations of people are moving up. People want to jump into something more substantial."

That seems evident from the booming car market in India, where total sales climbed more than 22 percent, to nearly 203,000 in November. The most popular cars here are small, fuel-efficient hatchbacks that sell for \$10,000 or less. Maruti Suzuki, a division of the Japanese auto maker Suzuki, now sells nearly half of all cars here.

Tata Motors, which is part of India's biggest business conglomerate, the Tata Group, ranks third behind Hyundai of South Korea, whose top seller is the i10, a small car that starts at \$7,800.

Tata, which started as a locomotive and truck maker, has gradually built market share in the car business over the last 20 years on the strength of modestly priced cars and sport utility vehicles. The Nano was Tata's big bid to shake up the car market in India and then go global — first in other developing countries and then, if all went as planned, Europe and possibly even the United States.

The idea had been to sell the same Indian version of the Nano in other developing markets, but offer a more powerful and costlier version in developed countries. The Indian model is a four-door car that can seat up to five people; its air-cooled engine is in the back, like the original Volkswagen Beetle.

The Nano was the brainchild of Ratan Tata, the chairman of the Tata Group, who told his engineers to build a car that would sell for 100,000 rupees (\$2,200) to people who would otherwise be making do with motorcycles and scooters. It is common to see Indian families of four riding on motorcycles with the father upfront, the mother sitting sidesaddle with a baby in her arms and a child sandwiched between them.

But the Nano has been troubled almost from its inception. The company's production plans were thrown off kilter in 2008 when farmers, led by regional politicians, protested that the state of West Bengal had forcibly acquired land at low prices for a factory where the Nano and its parts would be made. Tata had to relocate the factory to another state, Gujarat — causing it to take more than a year and a half to fill orders for the first 100,000 cars.

More recently, the Nano has been hurt by reports of fires in a handful of cars. In one widely publicized instance, a family was taking its new Nano home from a dealership in Mumbai when smoke started billowing from the back of the car. Soon, the entire car was engulfed in flames. There were no injuries — other than to the Nano's image.

Tata Motors has steadfastly denied that there was anything wrong with the car's design or its parts. It has said that fires were caused by "foreign electrical equipment" found on top of the exhaust system. It has offered to retrofit Nanos with extra safety features and has taken pains to say that its offer does not amount to a recall.

But analysts, customers and others have found those explanations and the company's offer wanting. What were these foreign objects? What is the function of the new safety features, and why weren't they part of the car in the first place? "The company has just mishandled the whole thing," said Darius Lam, an analyst at J.D. Power & Associates. "First, the company said it was no big deal. Then, it was just some foreign objects." Mr. Lam added that it was still not clear what had caused the fires and whether the problem had been fully addressed. In a written response to questions, the company said that it had thoroughly investigated the fires and found that the car was safe, but that it had decided to improve the exhaust and electrical systems to reassure customers.

A spokesman says sales of the Nano are now back on the rise, as the company makes cars available for immediate purchase in more sites around the country, rather than taking only orders. The company has also started displaying the car and offering test drives through new small showrooms in smaller cities to reach people who may not be comfortable walking into conventional car dealerships.

"As we began open sales, our learning was that, even though the Tata Nano is affordable for thousands of customers who do not own a car, it is still a significant decision to enter the four-wheeler category," Debasis Ray, a company spokesman said in a written statement

for this article. Recently, the company began running advertisements for the car that stress its power and durability. One newspaper ad, for instance, features an owner who says he took his car to the Himalayas, climbing steep slopes with ease.

Some Nano owners — there are now more than 71,000 — praise the car's performance, its fuel efficiency (41 miles or more to the gallon) and its surprisingly spacious interior.

"I have really enjoyed driving the car," said Deeksha Dhawan, a 21-year-old architecture student whose father bought the top-end Nano, which she has decorated with stickers of Mickey Mouse, for about \$5,500. The family's primary car is a WagonR, a bigger hatchback made by Maruti Suzuki, which starts at \$7,400. But many small-car buyers said that they preferred the Alto, which has a bigger engine, more storage space and a longer track record than the Nano. Jatin Layazawala, a Mumbai businessman, recently bought an Alto after considering a fully equipped Nano, which he said would have cost only \$800 less.

Mr. Layazawala said he had driven a friend's Nano. "I was happy, but then I said I was looking for a car that would be sturdy for long drives," he said. "I think it's a dinky car."

Despite the Nano's rough road so far, analysts say that Tata Motors, which also owns Jaguar and Land Rover, has the financial and technical resources to turn the situation around. But first, they say, Tata has to more clearly answer questions about the car's safety. And then it has to come up with a better marketing and sales strategy.

"The sales numbers don't really reflect what will be the long term potential for it," said Mr. Sorabjee of *Autocar*. "It's early days."

Kainaz Amaria for *The New York Times*



Ratan Tata handing over the keys to the first buyer of Tata Nano

Fourth conglomeration of Asian American cultures & hall of fame awards for 2010

And the award goes to...

President and founder of Asian American Coalition USA (since 1988) Dr. Parveen Chopra who is a well known celebrated leader in American public life with many prestigious and national awards like Liberty Bell Award on LAW DAY USA 2010 for his civil rights work in America, Haywood Burns Memorial Award for 2009 for civil rights, Dr. Martin Luther King Award for 2005 for civil and human rights movement in America for twenty years as a commissioner of Human Rights and as it's chairperson, Ellis Island Medal of Honors for 2005 for significant contributions to American public life, One Hundred Blackmen Award for 2003 for improving Indian and African-American community relations etc. among many other awards said we had to create a national Asian American Coalition USA Hall of Fame Awards to honor outstanding Americans and Asians to the AACUSA Hall of Fame. Americans have recognized and honored the work of so many outstanding Asians that we felt obliged to honor and induct outstanding Americans for their national and international contributions on a national Asian platform. We appreciate what other great Americans have done for us and new we want to do the same in a mutually appreciative way.

It is astonishing that Indians as part of Asians community have lived in USA for over four decades while other Asians have spent over one hundred years that they still do not have any national platform to honor Americans and other Asians. African Americans who account for over thirty million have powerful national platforms like National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Urban League, Dr. Martin Luther King Foundation, One Hundred Black Men Inc. etc. where even the President of USA will attend and honor outstanding Americans on their behalf annually. Similarly the thirty four million Hispanic Americans have a strong coalition in the form of Coalition of American Spanish Associations which provides strong advocacy for their causes and recognizes contributions of others. When it comes to the Asians who account for 14.9 million in the recent census of America there is no known national platform either for their own Asian advocacy or to relate to other communities or to recognize their leadership or contributions to

America and international community. We are trying to build a dirt road that will lead to an airport to take off from AACUSA INC. The Fourth Conglomeration of fourteen Asian countries in America inducted seven outstanding Americans to the AAC USA Hall of Fame Awards for the second time in 2010 in New York.

Asian groups have fascinating cultures that they have brought with them and perfected it to suit their tastes and have achieved so much in America professionally and entrepreneurially, but they are still absorbed in themselves at their own country level. The fascinating and thrilling stories of their achievements and their



fascinating cultures need to be spread out beyond their own community and shared with the larger world in America. The information technology now has given us the tools to add a certain degree of immortality to the work and contributions of such communities that could last for decades and centuries and give a sense of glorious history to immigrant communities in future.

The AAC USA 2010 Hall of Fame inductees included a galaxy of stars who have done very distinguished work not only in America but also internationally by improving the lives of so many people in so many ways: by bringing change through a successful strategy to use government resources to change the lives of millions of people and create a climate to foster entrepreneurship and by cutting taxes for the common man, creating more than 15,000 jobs during his seven terms as a legislator, creating a senior citizen and community center, and receiving Congressional Award for community service (Life Time Achievement Award for Nassau County Executive Honorable Edward P. Mangano, AACUSA Hall of Fame Honoree-USA); or by giving judicial decisions at supreme court level on leading case laws to guide the judicial system in both civil and criminal cases that remove the inequities in the social, economic and political systems (New York State Supreme Court Justice Honorable Daniel Palmieri, Hall of Fame Honoree-USA); or

by setting up a great Institute of Indian Culture in the form of Bhavan USA, organizing eighth World Hindi Conference at the United Nations, authoring over sixteen books in several languages, organizing most elegant functions at Lincoln Center, Avery Fisher Hall to showcase Indian culture and being honored with national awards like Padma Shri in 2009 and Bharatiya Samman Award in 2006 (Dr. Panchapakesa Jayaraman, Hall of Fame Honoree-India); or by superbly leading the activities of the largest mosque in Manhattan as Imam, presiding over the affairs of Indonesian Muslim Community in New York, founding Universal Clergy Coalition International, becoming "Ambassador of Peace" for International Religious Federation in 2002, being awarded 2009 Ellis Island Medal of Honor for building bridges of understanding and representing in The White House on interfaith discussions (Imam Shamsi Ali, Hall of Fame Honoree-Indonesia); or by illuminating minds by outstanding research and teaching at world famous institutions like Columbia, NYU, New York Public Library, Nanking, Chanchun, Tamakang, East China Normal Univ., advisor to Beijing, China and other countries, presiding over Books for China Fund, also presiding over U.S.-China Cultural and Economic Council, New York (John T. Ma, Hall of Fame Honoree-China); or by leading as a professor in Rehabilitation Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, creating many patents including safety cannula, pneumatic limb exsanguinations device etc., mitigating the effects of natural calamities by helping flood victims in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1987 and in Nepal in 1993, running charity clinics and medical camps in Nepal, Bronx and upstate New York, presiding over the America-Nepal Friendship Society as well as Association of Nepali Terrain in America (Dr. Binod P. Shah, Hall of Fame Honoree-Nepal); or by earning a rare Ph.D. in music education in Japan and training many teachers at the Taichung Teachers College and assisting many colleges to conduct their choruses in Taiwan. Giving highly successful performances with Taiwan Center Chorus and Tenafly Singers at the Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center and at Alice Tully Hall several times (Dr. Ping-Heng Chen, Hall of Fame Honoree-Taiwan)

Asian American coalition USA 2010 hall of fame inductee awards

America Life Time Achievement

Honorable Edward P. Mangano: Nassau County Executive representing 1.3 million people since 2010. Served as Nassau County Legislator for 17th Legislative District for seven terms. Created more than 15,000 jobs. Created Senior Citizen and Community Center. Congressional Award for community service among many others. On the Board of many charitable organizations like Children's House Inc. etc. Cut down \$22 million in taxes in the very first 100 days in office. Has plans to reduce \$100 million more and decrease property taxes.

America Honorable Justice Daniel Palmieri: Judge in Nassau County Court and Acting Justice of the New York Supreme Court presiding over civil and criminal cases. Serving judiciary since 1994. Previously served in District Courts and Judicial Hearing Officer in Nassau and Suffolk counties. A brilliant scholar and speaker on jurisprudence. Excelled in academics, and editor of monthly law journal. Published many trend setting legal decisions in New York State Official Reporter and New York Law Journal. Previously served in well known law firms.

China Mr. John T. Ma: Extensive teaching and research at several world known public libraries and universities: Columbia, NYU, New York Public Library, Nanjing Univ., Chanchun Univ. Tamakang Univ., East China Normal Univ., etc. Advisor to Foreign Language and Teaching Research Press, Beijing, China and other countries. President, Books-for-China Fund, Flushing, New York. President, U.S.-China Cultural and Economic Council, New York.

India Dr. Panchapakesa Jayaraman: Founder of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan USA in New York City a premium Institute of Indian culture and Languages. Organized eighth World Hindi conference at the United Nations in partnership with Government of India. Organized several programs at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center etc. Authored 16 books in several languages and still writing more volumes. President of India honored him with highest prestigious national awards: Padma Shri (2009) and Parvasi Bharatiya Samman Award (2006) and many others.

Indonesia Imam Shamsi Ali: Chairman of Indonesian Muslim Community in New York and Imam of the Islamic Cultural Center of New York. Board Member of many inter faith organizations. Founded Universal Clergy Coalition International. Attended White House interfaith discussion in 2007. Appointed "Ambassador for Peace" by International Religious Federation in 2002. Awarded 2009 Ellis Island Medal of Honor for building bridges among religious communities.

Nepal Dr. Binod P. Shah: Asst. Prof. of Rehabilitation Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Helped flood victims in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1987. Ran a charity clinic and medical camps for those who could not afford in Nepal. Helped flood victims in Nepal in 1993. Helped under served Americans in Bronx, Queens and upstate New York. President of America-Nepal Friendship Society. President of Association of Nepali Terrain in America. Holds many patents including Safety Cannula as well as Pneumatic Limb Exsanguination Device. **Taiwan Dr. Ping-Heng Chen:** Earned Ph.D. in music education in Japan and worked as a professor of music at the Taichung Teachers College. Assisted many colleges to conduct their choruses around the country. His major accomplishments include performances with the Taiwan Center Chorus and Tenaffly Singers at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center and at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center several times.

Honorable Tom Dinapoli, Comptroller for the State of New York while addressing the Hall of fame 2010 inductees, leaders of fourteen Asian countries and cultural groups present representing Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Taiwan congratulated the honorees and commended the Asian American Coalition for acting as such a strong foundation of cultural and ethnic identity. Honorable Dinapoli said, "the rich heritage of the Asian American community in New York has had a deep and lasting influence on our entire state. He said your commitment to nurturing relationships and promoting understanding among diverse cultural groups is admirable and serves as an example to us all". New York City Councilman Honorable Peter Koo said, "I commend the great work done by the leadership of AAC USA who are bringing great honor to the Asian American community in New York as well as America." Assemblywoman Honorable Grace Meng also supported the pioneering work of AAC USA and congratulated the honorees for their great accomplishments in building the bridges of understanding in America.

New York State Governor Hon. David A. Paterson indicated, "Since its founding, the Coalition also has been committed to increasing the visibility of Asian American communities across this State and Nation by fostering the positive development of Asian culture and identity, and strengthening relations with other communities and countries. In providing a voice for the entire Asian population, you cultivate greater understanding and appreciation of your shared heritage." New York City Mayor Hon. Michael R. Bloomberg said, "...and I commend AACUSA for ensuring that hard-working people of many different backgrounds have the opportunity to pursue their dreams here in the United States." United States Senator Charles E. Schumer said, "Since its founding the AAC has dedicated itself to promoting the social, cultural, and entrepreneurial endeavors of the Asian-American community in New York and around the country. Through working with government officials, local agencies, and community groups the AAC has improved the quality of life for many New Yorkers. I applaud and commitment and dedication the Asian American Coalition has provided to the Asian-American commu-

nity and New York." New York City Comptroller Hon. John C. Liu indicated, "The AAC continuously strives to improve understanding and relations among Asian countries and your commitment to excellence, service and leadership has made an impact on all communities." Senator Frank Padavan pointed out, "Thanks to the vision of President and Founder Dr. Parveen Chopra and countless members, the Asian American Coalition USA, Inc. has embodied the distinct characteristics that make our community great." Honorable John Venditto the Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor said, "For over two decades, your wonderful organization has made many meaningful contributions toward the advancement of this nation and its

The fourth cultural extravaganza program was a great hit and had many stars from various countries performing on the same stage in New York City. Traditional dance of Sri Lanka was performed by Vigneshwari & Group.

ideals and for this, I thank you. On behalf of the Town of Oyster Bay, I commend President Chopra and the officers, staff and supporters of the Asian American Coalition Inc. for their tireless work in bringing greater diversity and promoting understanding among cultural groups in all of our communities at large."

The fourth cultural extravaganza program was a great hit and had many stars from various countries performing on the same stage in New York City. Traditional dance of Sri Lanka was performed by Vigneshwari & Group. "A Little Umbrella" was presented very gracefully by Taiwan Center Chorus Dance Group and "Taiwense Folk Song Medley" by Jack Hsu, Erhu Virtuoso of Hsu-nami Hard Rock. Ridgewood Nepali Society presented national song – Pashchim Koi Purva Ghar (Your calling has brought you to the west but your home and heart are in the east) brought many nostalgic moments across cultures. Another Nepalese dance was presented to the heart warming sounds of audience where the dancer obliged their most appreciative sections by throwing small rubber balls to them that were received with great reverence with heart warming sounds from the audience.

India acknowledge PIO role NATION BUILDING

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is an annual affair, which is organized by the Government of India to recognize the contributions of NRI's and PIO's who have excelled in their chosen fields. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is an International event held every year in the first week of January. The event offers a platform where all discusses issues concerning the Indian Diaspora. As India marches ahead to become a global player, the role of PIO community becomes extremely important because they remains the face of India to the global community.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and FICCI sponsored the first Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. The event was celebrated in the year 2003 from January 9 to January 11. The main highlight of the first event was to create 'consciousness of Global Indian Family'.

The second Pravasi Bharatiya Divas aimed at having close interaction of the Indian Diaspora with the Central and State government to define new policy initiatives for the Diaspora and exploring business opportunities in India within the Diaspora.

The third Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was held in Mumbai and attended by large number of Indian political and business leaders, professionals, scientists and innovators from Indian Diaspora. The third Pravasi Bharatiya Divas provided a unique networking opportunity and also strengthened India's relation with the Indian Diaspora.

The fourth one was held in Hyderabad in the year 2006 with the focus on Indian Diaspora knowledge network, opportunities in education, Indian Diaspora youth and a lot many topics.

The History of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas held annually clearly shows that main highlights and objectives of the events so far has been to promote understanding and relation of the Indian Diaspora with India and benefiting both in the

GOING REGIONAL

Mini PBDs are essentially Regional PBDs organized to reach out to a vast majority of our Diaspora, who for various reasons, are unable to attend the main event in India and benefit from its deliberations. This is in response to a strong and persistent demand for holding such events regionally.

PBD-New York

The first mini-Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) was jointly organized by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Confederation of Indian Industry and Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre on 23rd September, 2007 at New York, as part of the India@60 event. The central theme for PBD-New York was 'Engaging the Diaspora: The way Forward'. This was subsequently carried-over as the theme for PBD-2008 and it has since been decided that this will be the central theme to anchor-on for all future PBDs.

process. The event has also attracted large number of celebrities like political leaders, business leaders etc. making it more interesting and enriching for the participants. It offer an opportunity to create networking within Diaspora and interaction with the policy makers in India provides an opportunity to come closer to policy makers for facilitation eradication of grievances, bottle necks and red tapism.

The Diaspora Services Division of the Ministry deals with all matters related to Overseas Indians, comprising Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) which are not specifically allocated to other Ministries/Departments of the Government of India or other Divisions of the

PBD-Singapore

A mini PBD titled 'PBD Singapore' was organized on 9-11 October 2008 in Singapore in partnership with the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SICCI) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and support of the Government of Singapore. The tagline for the event was "PBD Singapore : Towards a Dynamic Indian Diaspora". The tagline for the event was "PBD Singapore: Towards a Dynamic Diaspora". Plenary sessions were planned on: "India : Scenarios for the Next Generation", "Sustainable Development", and "Asia Pacific Diaspora – Towards a Dynamic Diaspora" while concurrent sessions were held on "Science & Technology : from Lab to Market", "Tourism & Hospitality", "Finance & Banking", "Youth & Education", "Arbitration & Business Dispute Resolution – The Way Forward" and "Infrastructure – Access, Connectivity & Growth".

Ministry. These include organization of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas conventions and Mini-PBDs, conferment of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, dissemination of information concerning admission of NRI/PIO students to various educational, technical and cultural institutions in India wherever discretionary quota for NRI/PIO students exists and issues related to NRI women. The following schemes are run by the Diaspora Services Division: Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI), Know India Programme (KIP), Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC), Tracing the Roots, Establishment of PIO/NRI Universities in India, Legal And Financial Assistance to Indian Women Deserted by their Overseas Indian Spouses.



GOPIO International Chairman Inder Singh with GOPIO Regional Vice President (North America) Dr Piyush Agrawal with members of newly formed chapters GOPIO Los Angeles East and GOPIO Los Angeles South West

NEW GOPIO CHAPTERS IN USA AND CANADA

Four new GOPIO chapters have been established within the last month in the USA and Canada: GOPIO Edison , New Jersey (Contact: Arvin Sood, President at ak-sood@hotmail.com); GOPIO Los Angeles East, California (Contact: Mahesh Parekh, President at insmahesh@aol.com); GOPIO Los Angeles South West, California (Contact: Ashok Madan, President at ashok4u@aol.com); GOPIO Toronto East, Canada (Contact: Jay Banerjee, President at jay@jaybanerjee.com) GOPIO International Regional Vice President (North America) is enthusiastic about the new chapters formed and "look forward to more GOPIO chapters being established" to service the NRI/PIO community in USA and Canada .

Indian Rulers Must Take Lessons From USA To **AVOID FUTURE RADIA GATES**



Media persons waited outside the farm-house cum residence of high-profile corporate lobbyist Niira Radia recently as a CBI team questioned her in connection with the 2G spectrum allocation scam, in New Delhi

By Dave Makkar

Like America, India is also run by Unionized Gangsters posing as Politicians, Bureaucrats, Judiciary, Big Businesses, Religious leaders and Media in the name of Democracy. The only difference is the Unionized Gangsters in America has legalized Corruption & racism with the help of Zionist and Indian Gang Members have yet to learn how to legalize Corruption & Racism where Zionist have only Zionised the Indian Defense Department and Parliament only.

Just for example take state of New Jersey in America. It is the only state in the entire world where in 8,000 sq miles for 8.5 mil people there are 587 local governments and 1 state government in 566 Racially carved out 566 Kingdoms with over 9,000 Elected Scoundrels and over 466,000 Employees with little or no work appointed for political reasons. The state budget is \$38 bil and local government budget is 37 billion and state has a deficit of \$150 billion in unfunded liabilities like employee pension, medicare and transport fund. This state has the highest property tax which is double the US National Average and highest cost to educate a

student 3-5 times the US national average as well as highest in the world. \$18,000/ student in rich Kingdoms and \$28,000.00 in poor Kingdoms and still 250,000 can not read and write and Unionized Politicians say Oh! These kids can not comprehend in basic education.

In last 9 years my Property tax has gone up by 160% and my medical insurance for a family of 4 has gone up by 225% and my real wages has gone down by 35%. This drop could have been more if I had not fired my 3 full time Employees and have not refinanced my house twice in last 2 years first for 15 years then for 30 year mortgage when I was left with less than 9 more years to pay. Now my wife & myself put in 140 hours and now we have 1 part timer only. In the mean time CEO salary has gone up by 300%-1500%, cost to operate our Bank account (interest not included on borrowings) has gone up by 400% and cost to run for US Congress has gone up from \$1-5 mil to \$15-70 mil which is an increase of 500-1300%.

In US Democracy Gangsters are getting rich day by day and common people are getting poor day by day. Banks can get money from Federal at practically 0% and

lend it to common people at 32-35% annualized interest. This year Bankers have got only 35-65% pay raise; my heart goes out for these poor Bankers! Today America has more than 50 mil poor which is 17% of US Population that includes 20 mil unemployed and 44 mil on food stamps.

Indian Gangsters can come to New Jersey to take training in how to avoid incidents like Radia Tapes and how to start the Neta Ji Rojgar Yojna where more than 470,000 Political Leaders and their cronies can be gainfully employed legally in the name of "New Jersey Style Home Rule" for every 8.5 mil residents. The question of demanding bribes can be solved legally and how to make sure people of different income group and races do not interact can also be solved by creating Kingdoms based on financial and racial status. The Indian Gangsters can learn the art of how not to show the world largest population of 800 mil poor of India including 85 mil world's largest Child labor Army. It is the only country in the world where filthy rich and filthy poor live side by side and 667 mil Indians defecate in the open on the face of those who are calling India is shining.

PHILANTHROPY RULES

In Indian American Community

By Inder Singh

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." **Winston Churchill**

Philanthropy is an act of contributing personal wealth, goods, time, and/or effort to charitable or similar causes to promote the common good. People donate for a variety of reasons – to promote a worthy or favorite cause, reduce income and estate taxes, or simply share with the society which has given them the opportunity to achieve and earn. There are several examples of Americans who have given back to community for worthy causes. Andrew Carnegie, the Ford family, the Rockefeller family, Warren Buffett, Bill and Melinda Gates, and many more who gave substantial amount and also took advantage of deductions that reduce the high tax rates on their income.

Among Indian Americans, there are some socially conscious individuals who have donated liberally for various causes over the years. In 1912, there was Jawala Singh who had become a successful potato farmer in the San Joaquin valley of California. Singh had started as an unskilled farm laborer in America and within a short span of a few years, he worked his way up to become a wealthy potato farmer. He was motivated to fund the Guru Gobind Singh Sahib Educational Scholarships, which were given to students through a competition held in India for higher studies at an American university. He also contributed towards the purchase of a hostel in Berkley, California by the Pacific Coast Khalsa Diwan Society, where Indian students could stay rent-free. Singh's scholarships helped some Indian students, including Gobind Behari Lal who came for graduate studies at the University of California, Berkeley in 1912. Gobind Behari Lal later became the science editor of San Francisco Examiner from 1925 to 1982 and in 1937 was the first Indian to win the coveted Pulitzer Prize.

After the liberalization of United States immigration laws in 1965, Indians who migrated to the USA were previously educated and qualified as doctors, engineers, accountants and high-tech professionals. A majority of the students from India also adopted America as their new home after acquiring higher education from American universities. Thus, higher education and professional qualifications helped them to secure high level jobs providing a gateway to middle-class life. Over a period of time, several became successful professionals and entrepreneurs resulting in some donating generously towards community causes. These affluent Indian Americans have been transforming the Indian philanthropic landscape by funding educational projects, establishing hospi-



Over a period of time, several became successful professionals and entrepreneurs resulting in some donating generously towards community causes. These affluent Indian Americans have been transforming the Indian philanthropic landscape by funding educational projects, establishing hospitals, and supporting medical research that benefit the public at large.

tals, and supporting medical research that benefit the public at large. Some have gifted part of their wealth for local causes in the US where they have earned their wealth while others reached back to their roots and gave for India-centric projects. There are some who have directed their contributions to both India and America. These donors first used their energy, abilities and time to acquire wealth and then they walked away from part of it if not all, to give back to the society that had given them. Almost all the wealthy philanthropists who have given large donations have gifted to established institutions benefitting the society at large. But, whether the beneficiary is Indian society or American, Indian American philanthropists are making a noticeable difference with their increasing level of generosity.

Rajendra Vattikuti made his fortune resolving computer software problems connected with Y2K and donated \$40 million in 2001 to support cancer research. That gift established the Vattikuti Urology Institute at the Henry Ford Health System and the Vattikuti Cancer Institute at William Beaumont Hospitals in Detroit. Monte Ahuja, like most of the students who came in the 1950s and 1960, brought barely enough money to buy food for a day. Monte founded Transtar Industries and built it into the most successful after-market transmission parts distributor in the world. He donated \$30 million to University Hospital in Cleveland for the Ahuja Medical Center in the Cleveland suburb of Beachwood. The dedication ceremony of the first phase of the 53-acre health care campus on November 13, 2010 included ribbon cutting featuring Monte Ahuja, his wife Usha, daughters Ritu and Manisha, and son-in-law Neil Sethii. Monte and Usha Ahuja's donation was the largest single donation in the 140-year history of that university.

Gururaj Deshpande, co-founder and chairman of Sycamore Networks in Boston, Massachusetts, and his wife Jaishree Deshpande, established the Deshpande Center for Technology Innovation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) School of Engineering with a \$20 million gift in

2002. The Deshpande Foundation funds over 50 NGOs in India in the areas of agriculture, microfinance, livelihood, education and health. Dr Kiran Patel and his wife Dr Pallavi Patel gave \$18.5 million in 2005 to the University of South Florida to build the Kiran C Patel Center for Global Solutions on that university campus. The large donation entitled the university to get state matching funds of \$16 million totaling the donation worth \$34.5-million. Both the Patels have contributed generously to several other philanthropic projects in Tampa, Florida, such as a performing arts conservatory and a research center at Pepin Heart Hospital. In India they have set up a rural village restoration project in Gujarat while in Zambia they have set up Patel Hospice Center in Lusaka, Zambia and a heart hospital in Dar-e-Salaam, Tanzania.

Vinod Gupta, founder and CEO of InfoUSA, has set up Vinod Gupta Charitable Foundation and established the Vinod Gupta School of Management and the Rajiv Gandhi School of Intellectual Property Law at the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur and Shrimati Ram Rati Gupta Women's College at his birth place Rampur, William Jefferson Clinton Science and Technology Center, and Hillary Rodham Clinton Mass Communication Center for Journalism and Media Management. Raj Soin, chairman of MTC Technologies in Dayton, Ohio, through his Raj and Indu Soin Family Foundation donated \$20 million to establish Raj Soin College of Business at Wright State University, supports the Soin Scholar Program, which funds the MBA education at Wright State University for three graduates every year from Delhi College of Engineering, his alma mater and has established a non-profit 55-bed Sukh Dev Raj Soin Hospital in rural Haryana. In September 2009, the Soin Foundation donated \$3 million to Dayton, Ohio's trauma and emergency center for children which was also renamed, Soin Pediatric Trauma and Emergency Centerii.

Krishan Joshi, founder and chairman of UES, Inc, a high-technology research company in Dayton, Ohio established the Krishan and Vicky Joshi Research Center in 2006 at the

Wright State University College of Engineering and Computer Science with his donation of \$10 million. John P. Kapoor, a native of Amritsar, who came to the USA for graduate studies with a fellowship from the University of Buffalo, in Buffalo, New York, gave \$11 million towards the construction of new building for the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2008. Dr. Romesh Wadhvani, a Silicon Valley entrepreneur with over two decades of leadership and management experience in the technology industry, donated \$5 million in 2008 for bioscience center to his alma mater Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay where he had received a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering.

Anand Julka and his wife, Dr. Neeraj Julka donated \$6 million in May 2010 for scholarships to graduates of Cleveland's high schools to pursue degrees in teaching, nursing, engineering and computer science. Julka's gift is the largest in Cleveland State University (CSU) history. The university will name the education and human services building as Julka Hall. Julka obtained a master's degree in industrial engineering from CSU in 1974. He serves on the board of the CSU Foundation. He is a mechanical engineering graduate of Indian Institute of Technology in India. He is the president and founder of Cleveland, Ohio based information technology company Smart Solutions Inc. Dr. Prem Sagar Reddy, a cardiologist in Victorville donated \$1 million to Victor Valley Community College District Foundation to support School of Allied Health and Nursing in 2003. He has also donated about \$8 million to various health care causes. Bhupesh Parikh and his wife Kumud contributed \$1 million for the Bhupesh Parikh Health Sciences and Technology building at Glendale Community College, California. Dr. Ushakant Thakkar and his Indonesian wife Dr. Irma Thakkar donated \$1 million to Simi Valley (California) Hospital in August 2010, for the expansion of emergency room services. They own and operate Kidney Center of Simi Valley – a renal dialysis center – near the hospital.iii

In the past few years, the number of India related chairs or programs in the notable universities have increased several folds. Presently, such programs are in existence at Columbia, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas at Austin, and University of California at Berkeley, University of California at Los Angeles, University of Chicago, Indiana University, State University of New York at Stony Brook and at many more universities.

The primary goal of funding a chair or program at a university is to establish an endowment to create awareness and understanding of some aspect of India's culture such as arts, music, literature, drama, philosophy, religion, languages, social and political system. The income from the grant is used in a variety of ways such as hosting of lectures, seminars, research conferences, publication of books, offering courses to students, encouraging study abroad and similar activities to achieve the objectives outlined by the endowment. In 1992, the Indian community made contributions for an India chair at University of

California, Berkeley. At the same time, Prof. Thomas Kailath established Sara Kailath Chair in India Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Narpat Bhandari, a co-founder of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TIE) in Santa Clara, California, endowed the Chandra Bhandari Chair in India Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz, in 1997. Silicon Valley entrepreneurs Talat and Kamil Hasan established the Kamil and Talat Hasan Endowed

In the past few years, the number of India related chairs or programs in the notable universities have increased several folds. Presently, such programs are in existence at Columbia, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas at Austin, and University of California at Berkeley, University of California at Los Angeles, University of Chicago, Indiana University, State University of New York at Stony Brook and at many more universities.

Chair in Classical Indian Music with their donation at University of California, Santa Clara.

Navin Doshi donated funds to create Doshi chair of Indian History in University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), and an annual Bridge Builder Award of \$10,000 at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles. Uka Solanki funded the Yadunandan India Center at California State University, Long Beach. Dr. Mohinder Sambhi, Professor Emeritus at David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California donated \$2 million in 2007 to John Hopkins University in Washington for setting up the Centre of India Studies in memory of his wife Minno. Dr. Sambhi who was born in Ludhiana, had donated \$1 million for a chair in Indian classical music in UCLA in memory of his late wife.

Drs. Amrik Singh Chattha and Jaswinder Kaur Chattha of West Virginia endowed a chair for Sikh Studies at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in the memory of their parents. Dr. Narinder Singh Kapany established the Kundan Kaur Kapany Chair of Sikh Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1998 and endowed a Chair of

Opto-Electronics at the University of California in 1999. He also has established Satinder Kaur Kapany Gallery of Sikh Art at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Dr. Jasbir Singh Saini Endowed Chair in Sikh and Punjabi Studies has been set up at University of California, Riverside, with donation from Dr. Jasbir Singh Saini Trust. Dr. Harish Rawal Neurosurgeon Jackson, Michigan gave \$1 million in February, 2008 to Jackson Community College for Rawal Center for Health Professions. Dr. Rawal and his wife Sudha, also donated \$50,000 to Jackson High School for a scholarship in memory of his mother who became widow when he was only nine years old.

Dr. Awtar Singh established a fully funded annual fellowship at the University of California at Berkeley for a top student from Punjab Engineering College in Chandigarh for graduate studies. He also established a fully endowed fellowship with the University of Colorado at Boulder that pays \$5,000 annually to a graduate or an undergraduate student with a parent or grandparent of Indian Origin. Lajpat Rai Munger of California donated land worth Rs 20 crores to the Punjab University in 2006 for setting up law and nursing institutes. Jagdish Khangura, an electrical engineer turned businessman, started "Baba Kartar Singh Dukki Higher Secondary School in village Larata, district Ludhiana, Punjab in memory of his grandfather. He created "Baba Kartar Singh Dukki Educational Trust with endowment of Rs. 30 lakhs to meet the needs of students for books, bicycles, clothes, scholarships, etc. Kartar Singh Dukki was an active member of the Gadar Party and worked in the Gadar Printing office in San Francisco during the beginning of the Gadar Movement.

Darshan Singh Dhaliwal who operates over 1000 gas stations has donated \$2.5 million to Cardinal Stritch University (Milwaukee, Wisconsin), \$1 million for a chair at the University of Wisconsin, (Milwaukee, Wisconsin), \$200,000 for Modern Language Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, (Parkside, Wisconsin), \$100,000 for a soccer park and the list of his beneficiaries runs long. California native Hardit Singh Aurora has gifted an endowed chair in Sikh and Punjabi studies at the History Department of the University of California in Santa Cruz in memory of his son Sarabjit Singh Aurora.



'Health summit' raises awareness of diseases

The Health Council of Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) concluded a first-of-a-kind summit and conference addressing pertinent health issues of interest and concern to the global Asian Indian community, and honored five healthcare professionals and organizations during its inaugural Health Summit on November 12-14 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel LaGuardia, East Elmhurst, New York. GOPIO is a non-profit, non-partisan and secular community service global organization working for the well-being of people of Indian origin. The mission of the Health Council is to engage the People of Indian Origin (PIOs) to raise awareness of the factors contributing to chronic diseases affecting them, and influence them to take proactive action to improve their health, wellbeing and quality of life. Collaborating organizations for the Summit were American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPIO) and Coronary Artery Disease among Asian Indians (CAD) Research Foundation.



The three-day summit began on Friday evening with opening remarks by Dr. Thomas Abraham, who chaired the program committee for the health summit and he spoke on this new initiative by GOPIO International. Sangeeta Ahuja and Dr. Vivian Rambihar, Chair and Co-Chair respectively, of GOPIO Health Council welcomed all and shared the mission and goals of the health council, emphasizing the importance of this initiative in response to a serious health crisis across the Indian Diaspora. This was followed by summit inauguration, awards, speaker and



Dr. Rajeev Mehta receiving winner's take from Sabin's Lakshmi Prakah

sponsor recognitions, dinner and music. Honored guest Dr. Poonam Alaigh, Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, New Jersey commended the Health Summit initiative, "I look forward to the proceedings of this conference as blueprint for the issues we face, and need to take appropriate action to bring about the necessary changes".

Dr. Binoy Singh, cardiologist and assistant professor of medicine at Columbia University School of Medicine, spoke with passion about the urgent need for diet and lifestyle changes to reduce our increasing risk factors, especially high cholesterol, diabetes and pre-diabetes. Five individuals and organizations namely, Ms Rita Batheja, Dr. Suresh Khanna, Dr. Jatin Shah, SATHI and SEVAK Project were recognized for their remarkable contributions in the health sector with focus on community service. The evening surprise was John Liu, New York City Comptroller, who inspired the audience with his personal "Made in Taiwan" background story, and was the guest of honor giving the awards. During Saturday's full day conference, a panel of distinguished speakers and health practitioners shared their expertise on Disease Prevention & Health Management with focus on Cardiovascular Health/Metabolic Syndrome, Diabetes/Pre-Diabetes, and Stress Management. The day conference highlighted ways to identify the risk factors specific to the PIOs., practical ways to manage these chronic diseases, and included interactive sessions with audience participation and breaks for exercise and meditation.

GOPIO launches blog on Indian passport surrender and issuance of entry visas for naturalised citizens

GOPIO has been in the forefront to take up issues of common interest of the Indian community living outside India for the last 21 years since its inception. It recommended and campaigned with Govt. of India on PIO Card, Overseas Indian Citizenship (OCI), Ministry for Overseas Indians and in 2010 issues in the surrender of old Indian passport by naturalized citizens.



Although Govt. of India relented on the high passport surrender fee of \$175 to \$20, we have been getting feedback from the community on the

difficulties and nightmares they go through to get the Surrender Certificate from Indian missions abroad and in the issuance of entry visas. These new rules were decided by the Home Ministry officials on the security concerns so that no one will misuse the old passport. However, GOPIO feels that these decisions were taken arbitrarily without proper thinking and has caused enormous problems for NRIs and PIOs who are especially the naturalized citizens of other countries.

SNIPPETS

GOPIO int'l to host convention 2011

GOPIO International is holding its Annual convention starting on January 5, 2011 and concluding on January 6, 2011 in New Delhi, India, immediately preceding and in conjunction with Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2011 events of January 7-9, 2011. The executive meetings with country, chapter and council reports will be held on January 5, followed by the conference on January 6, 2011, 2011. The events conclude with GOPIO's annual Community Service Awards Banquet on the evening of January 6, 2011.

Kolkata Memorial inaugural for PIO's scheduled for Jan 11, 2011

The installation of the Kolkata Memorial commemorative plaque "in recognition and remembrance of Indian Indentured Labourers of 19th - 20th centuries" will take place at an inaugural ceremony starting at 3:30pm on January 11, 2011 at Kidderpore Depot located at 14 Garden Reach along the Hoogley River in Kolkata. Hon Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA), will preside over the inaugural ceremony. GOPIO International Executive Vice President Ashook Ramsaran and Global Indian Diaspora Heritage Society (GIDHS) Secretary Leela Sarup will be active participants as well, having been and continuing to be actively involved in the planning and coordination leading up to this historic moment with the inaugural ceremony.

PBD 2011 scheduled in January

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) in partnership with the Government of NCT of Delhi and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is organizing the 9th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention (PBD 2010) from 7th - 9th January 2011 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is the annual flagship event of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) which aims to connect more 25 Million Indians with India's Economic and Social development.

The theme of PBD 2011 is: "Engaging the Global Indian" with a special focus on the north eastern states of India.



Strategic Location

- Located in the Rajpuri 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
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- Chemicals
- Fertilizers
- Cement
- Iron Ore
- Edible Oil, etc...

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