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OPINION EXPRESS

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COVER STORY

RIO CARNIVAL

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colourful Olympics

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India punches well below its weight at Rio games

By almost any measure, Rio 2016 will be the richest games in 120 years of Olympic history. While the modern Games began as a celebration of non-professional sport, the movement has long-since thrown off any facade of amateurism and is now more flush with corporate cash than ever before. This year, TV companies have paid more than \$4 billion to screen the 19-day festival of sport, while the eleven global sponsors bankrolling Rio 2016 have a combined market value of over \$1.5 trillion and are using that financial might to lavish more money on the event than ever with the Games being expected to bring in a total of \$9.3 billion in marketing revenues.



While the entire India is going ga ga about the feats of PV Sindhu and Sakshi Malik, India performed well below its strength in the 2016 Rio Games. A look at the performances of athletes in events where minimum qualifications were set reveal that 13 out of the 15 were not able to meet the benchmark on the basis of which they qualified in the first place. In non-athletic category like archery, swimming and weightlifting, too, our sportsmen and women fell way short of their qualifying timings. These revelations raise serious questions as to how Indian Olympic officials selected athletes for Rio and why exactly did the very athletes who surpassed the minimum requirements during the selection stage fell considerably short of them in Rio. One of the most serious discrepancies relates to men's athletics.

Three Indian runners - Jinson Johnson, Dharambir Singh and Muhammad Anas Yahiya - made the cut for Rio in 800 metres, 200 metres and 400 metres, respectively. Of the three, Dharambir failed a dope test and was banned from competing in Rio. For 800 metres, the minimum qualifying time was 1 minute, 46 seconds. At the qualifying Indian Grand Prix in Bengaluru in July, Jinson won the race, clocking 1:45:98. He outran his opponents by almost 100 metres towards the end. At Rio, he finished 25th, failed to qualify for the semis and clocked 1:47:27.

In effect, he would not have been able to even qualify for Olympics with this timing. For 400 metres, Muhammad Yahiya qualified in Bengaluru with exactly the minimum qualification time of 45:40 seconds. At Rio, he was ranked 31st with a timing of 45:95 seconds. In events like 400 metres, where a few milliseconds make all the difference, Yahya, like Jinson, would have never qualified for the Olympics with this timing. Things were even more bizarre in long jump and triple jump, where India was represented by Ankit Sharma and Renjith Maheshwary, respectively. The minimum qualifying distance for Rio was 8.15 metres. Sharma's jump of 8.17 metres at the Kosanov Memorial Championship in 2016 in Kazakhstan was enough to get him qualified.

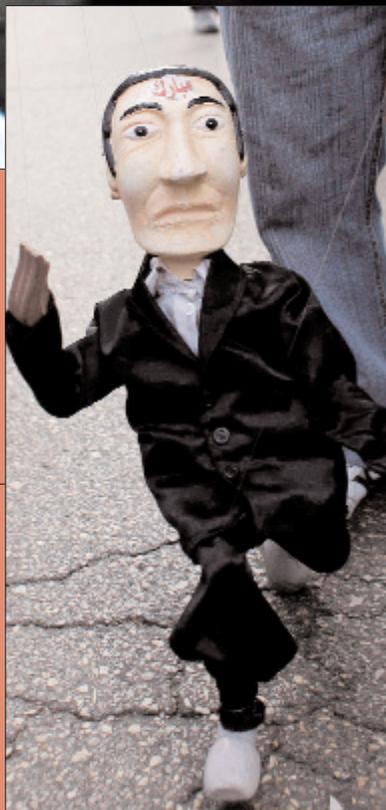
However, in Rio, he jumped 7.67 metres, finishing 24th. In fact, Sharma had fouled in his first two attempts during the event and was on the verge of being disqualified. Indian triple jumper Renjith Maheshwary also just about managed to qualify for Rio by meeting the benchmark 16.95 metres. However, in Rio, in his three jumps, the highest Maheshwary touched was 16.13 metres. In the other two jumps, he did not even touch the 16-metre mark.

—Prashant Tewari, Editor-in-Chief

COVER STORY

TIME TO ACT TOUGH

P6-21



IN NEWS
**BUDGET
2011**
P5

POLITICS
**FREEDOM
FOR EGYPT**
P22



P49
ENTERTAINMENT
**DESI HEART
BEATS IN UK**

P29 Economy: Libya unrest drives oil prices in the world

P32 World Forum: Middle east unrest to hamper India's growth story

P38 Diplomacy: Obama sets sight on India, China for US recovery

P39 Lifestyle: Traditional ways to tackle stress of daily life

P43 Education: Japan emerges as a new hub of global education

P50 Post Script: GOPIO honour list recognises achievers

Herman Silochan

Toronto is gearing up this weekend for one of the biggest international media events in its history. Forget the recent G20 Summit, or the Blue Jays, or the Raptors. Think Bollywood. Think of an international TV audience anywhere between three hundred and five hundred million. A phenomenon that has caught most of the western world unprepared for this deluge of movies, song and dance, You'll understand why the Ontario government was able to find \$15 million in its coffers to help promote the festival. It takes two hands to clap as the saying goes; recall in the past year of Ontario and Indian trade delegations ferrying back and forth, drumming up about \$4 billion dollars of business with a potential of doubling it in the next four years. This is nothing to sneeze at.

This Saturday, in the business district, and around the Rogers Centre will be 35 brand new chauffeured Lexuses mollycoddling actors and their consorts. In Canada, we hardly know the names, maybe a handful, like Amitabh Bachchan or Shah Rukh Khan or Aishwarya Rai, but the rest, no. However in our South Asian and the Asian-Caribbean community, more are recognizable, like Raj Kapoor or Nargis. But bigger still, they are in South Asia, Russia, and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and to an older generation in China.

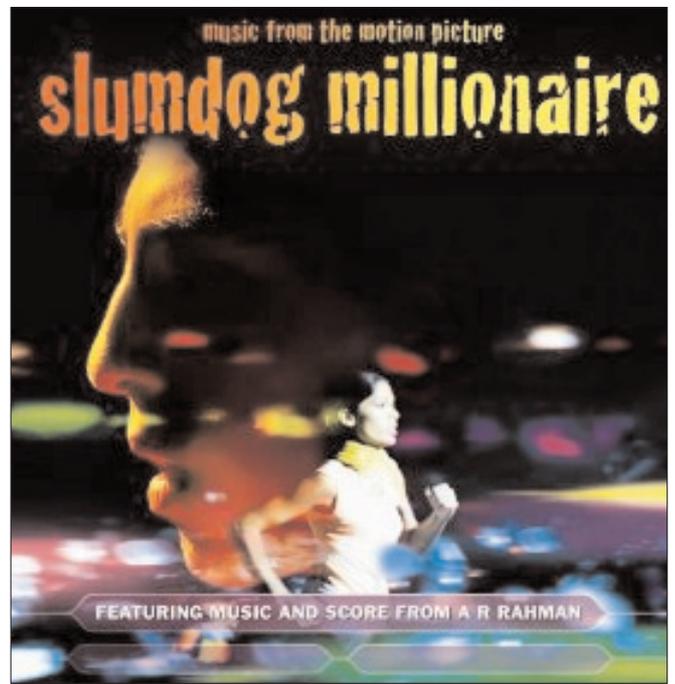
And what all this has to do with the Caribbean you might ask? Lots. There are three streams we might want to look at. At a very personal level, as a child, I had to accompany my grandmother, sometimes my aunt and my mother, to a local cinema, the Astor. It used to play silent movies in the 1920's, with an accompanying pianist on stage, a piece of trivia that my mother kept reminding me about. I never complained being taken along, held securely by the hand, because I had become fascinated with the black and white screen. World War II movies were my staple, but as I got older, Indian films became fascinating; plots gave way sub-plots, and then they too evolved into unexpected directions. Somehow, I understood what was said, without subtitles. This didn't befuddle me, I expected it. Maybe, it was atmosphere in our household that prepared me for the Indian scenarios.

Perhaps the biggest cinema thrill in those 1950 years then was an epic called Chandralekha. It had all the elements of the big dramas a la Hollywood, but I want to think, much more complex, a story revolving around three characters, complete with elephants, horses, soldiers, castle, moat and drawbridge and a cast of thousands. I didn't understand a word, but the ladies with me translated dialogues, simple words for my youthful ears. Many years later I discovered that the language was in Tamil, but how they understood that, will always be a mystery to me. I treasure my DVD copy of this film, with each playing reminding me that even so long ago from its inception in 1948, India had already joined the big leagues infilm production.

Post indentured Guyanese and Trinidadian society coalesced around these movies, from the 1920's to the 50's. Indian talkies, their song, dance and rhythms maintained their identities. What was also rich, these were the Golden Years of the Indian film industry, with stories rooted to the great epics the Mahabharata and the Ramayana.

Thanks to a handful of local entrepreneurs, these Caribbean men went on to dominate the local film industry with all sorts of showings, British and Hollywood. It was this Indian film music as well that nurtured local chutney singers, like the immortal Sundar Popo, and who in turn got the attention of a new generation of calypsonians, i.e. in the 1960's. They liked what they

BOLLYWOOD IN THE CARIBBEAN



heard, a purity of flowing lyrics, cadences that would resonate in music tents for the next decade.

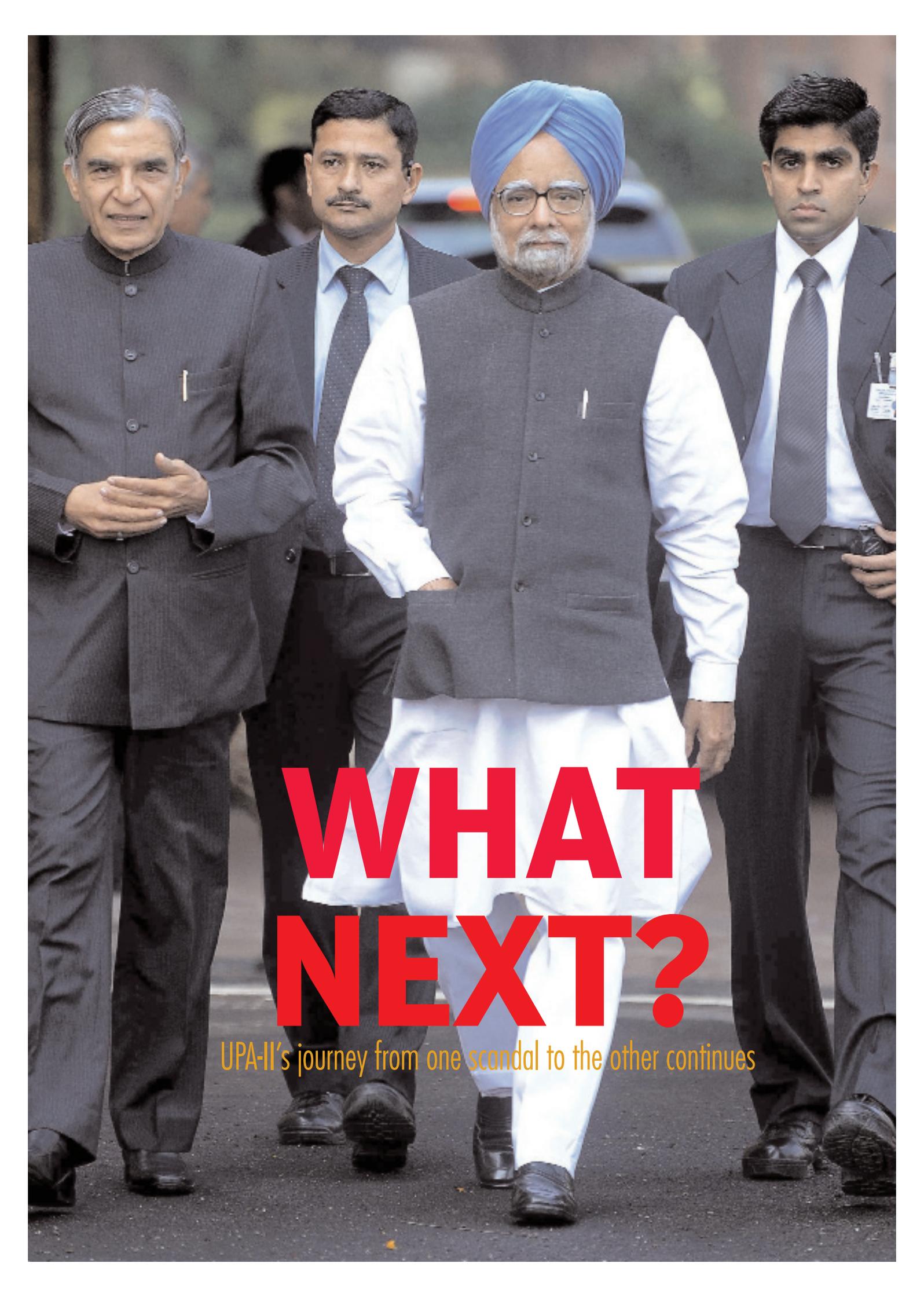
The Indian film industry evolved rapidly from the 1980's and onward, into what we call today Bollywood, with Bombay [now Mumbai] being the epicentre. Indian film producers, their directors, their musical composers never shied away from borrowing Western music, or at least their themes. Even in my favourite Chandralekha, Italian operatic music carries the circus scenes, more fitting than hand clapping regional guttural traditions.

What I have come to adore in our very modern Bollywood music mixes is a flow of Reggae, Dance Hall and Hip Hop into their CD compilations. A favourite CD in my collection is by an Indian singer, Alisha. Just listen to her "Love around the World", plus a piece "Disco", you can play it with pride on the Caribana parade route, and I doubt anyone will protest.

There is another aspect to Indian film that cannot be underestimated in its impact on global society. In just about every film, there is a strong role by a woman. She might be demeaned in a scene, but she rebounds, her words being listened to, her actions being part of a resolution. Violence might be explicit or explicit, yet strength never fails her. You understand why the 1957 movie "Mother India" is such a universal story of strength that the greater moral good must prevail. And again, this is why I love the Chandralekha of my childhood.

Look at Danny Boyle's "Slumdog Millionaire", his homage to Bollywood, but with strong western themed storytelling. It's the love of a woman, Latika, that carries TV contestant Jamal through, but in turn her resilience in the face of domestic incarceration, gives him more determination than ever to free her.

That Toronto is host to the International Film Academy awards this Saturday is a wonderful tribute to our great modern multi-racial and multi-cultural society.



WHAT NEXT?

UPA-II's journey from one scandal to the other continues



DUBIOUS FOUR: (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP) RAJA, KALMADI, CHAVAN AND THOMAS

Prashant Tewari

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh defended himself against accusations that his government had become a lame duck amid corruption scandals that have weakened his ruling coalition.

Here are some scenarios for the government.

CORRUPTION CASES SPIRAL, LEADING TO MORE POLICY PARALYSIS

The prime minister is facing a slew of corruption scandals, including accusations that his Congress party-led government lost up to \$39 billion after telecom licences were sold to companies at rock-bottom prices in return for kickbacks. There could be a repeat of 1989, when Congress lost a general election due to the Bofors scandal over gun contracts involving close associates of then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi who were accused of taking bribes.



CORRUPTION GAMES:
SURESH KALMADI

Given that a general election is not due until 2014, Singh may have hoped the current scandals would ebb. But an aggressive media, an assertive Supreme Court and an opposition tasting political blood means momentum into probes has grown. More graft probes could also increase tensions between the Congress Party and its regional DMK ally, accused by federal police of being linked to the telecoms scam.

The government appears close to agreeing to a parliamentary probe in return for the opposition allowing the parliamentary budget session to operate unhindered from late February. That probe could see months, even years, of ministers being called to give evidence, overshadowing Singh's second term. That could halt any reform bills, including land acquisition reform, which attempts to reconcile the interests of farmers and corporate India in a country where tussles over ownership can scupper billion-dollar project.

That may compound investor problems in India. Foreign direct investment has fallen for three consecutive years, from 2.9 percent of GDP in 2008/09 to around 1.8 percent of GDP in 2010/11. Some of this has to do with the global economic slowdown, but regulatory uncertainty is also a factor.

The Congress Party is unlikely to move faster on long-pending economic reforms such as opening up supermarket or financial sectors to foreign investors. The government may introduce changes to the telecoms sector, such as giving more muscle to the telecoms regulator.

STATE ELECTIONS WEAKEN RULING COALITION

If those scandals were not bad enough, the Congress government faces a host of state elections this year that will take the political temperature of an electorate ahead of the





OUTCRY: PUBLIC VOICE AGAINST CORRUPTION HAS GOT SHRILLER

2014 general election. These include West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, two crucial states that help give Congress a majority in parliament.

If Congress does badly in these elections, it could convince coalition partners it is time to jump ship or at least distance themselves from the government, meaning further policy paralysis. Congress has a rough 18 seat majority in parliament. If the ruling Congress ally, the DMK, loses the Tamil Nadu election, it saps strength from the coalition.

Many commentators expect a more populist budget on Feb 28, to give the government some chance of doing well in the elections. But more spending on Congress's main social welfare programmes would come amid high inflation and signs of fiscal strains.

That could mean the government failing to deal with fuel subsidies, more cash for food programs as well as education and health. The government bases its plans on jumps in tax collections on high economic growth.

THE PRIME MINISTER GOES

Unlikely, but possible. The 78-year-old Singh is widely seen as an honest elder statesman who plays second fiddle to Congress head Sonia Gandhi, the real power behind the throne. But the scandals may have taken a heavy toll on the prime minister, concerned his legacy is transforming from one of being the founders of India's economic boom to someone who did

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nothing to stop corruption or policy paralysis.

Singh, who underwent a second heart operation in 2009, could step down some time before the 2014 election to make way for a successor. Sonia Gandhi could also push him out.

While family scion Rahul Gandhi is seen as prime minister in waiting, he is still young and has rejected ministerial jobs in Singh's government - instead focusing on the youth wing of the Congress Party. Some say he is too inexperienced to run India. That may mean Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee or Defence Minister A.K. Antony could become prime minister, perhaps on an interim basis.



KING OF GRAFT: RAJA

THE GOVERNMENT RECOVERS

It may be too early to count out the

Congress Party, especially with three years to the next general election. It is still the biggest national party and has

the Gandhi family name and an extensive network of political influence.

One thing that could bolster the government this year would be a good performance in state elections and there are signs the party or its regional coalition allies could do well, mainly because it is fighting some unpopular incumbents.

Congress is likely to do well in Assam, Kerala and West Bengal states. The latter state election could see the end of the world's longest ruling democratically elected communist government. The opposition is Trinamool Congress, a Congress ally.

It could do well in Tamil Nadu, where its regional DMK ally is under pressure from the opposition but still may win.

Congress can also spend more money on social welfare schemes, such as the rural employment scheme that is seen as helping the party win re-election in 2004. It could also start new schemes such as one giving cheap food grains to the poor.

The government agreeing to a joint parliamentary probe may also take the wind out of the opposition's sails. "If the elections come off reasonably well and the BJP is robbed of an issue, the Congress can cover some ground. But it has to work quickly. Fast track investigations, convictions – that will send out a positive message," said political analyst Amulya Ganguli.

THE OPPOSITION IMPLODES

One of the biggest advantages for the government may be the poor quality of the opposition, led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). While the party has been vocal in its condemnation of corruption, it straddles uneasily between its modern focus and grassroots Hindu nationalism. A failed march by the BJP to place an Indian flag in disputed Kashmir, for example, was widely seen as a political mistake that alienated middle class voters.

Remarks by former BJP telecoms minister Arun Shourie on Monday, which accused senior party leaders Arun Jaitley and Sushma Swaraj of not doing enough to make publicise the scandal, exposed further cracks in the opposition.

The BJP also has its own corruption scandals to tackle in the southern state of Karnataka, where the party is in power. And some of its leaders, like Narendra Modi, chief minister of Gujarat state, are also highly controversial for their alleged role in fomenting religious violence against Muslims.



MEEK SHOW: THE PRIME MINISTER ON NATIONAL TELEVISION

'I am not a lame duck Prime Minister, won't quit half way'

Admitting that "some compromises" have to be made in managing a coalition, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today said that his government will bring the wrongdoers in scams to book, but ruled out quitting from his post.

In his opening remarks Dr Singh said, "An impression has gone around that we are a scam-driven country." He added "This is weakening the self-confidence of the people of India, and denting the image of the country. We owe it to our country that at least in dealing with facts, we should be as objective as possible."

"I wish to assure the country as a whole that our government is dead serious about bringing to book all wrongdoers regard-

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less of the position they occupy," he said.

He asserted that his government was not lame duck nor was he a lame duck Prime Minister and it was a functioning government that would go after the scamsters.

"I have never felt like quitting, I will stay the course," the Prime Minister told television editors and bureau chiefs at a media interaction at 7 Race Course Road, his official residence. "I never felt like resigning because I had a job to do," Manmohan Singh said in response to a question on whether he felt like quitting over the many allegations of corruption against his government. (Read: Never felt like quitting as I have a job to do, says PM)

"In a coalition government, there is a coalition dharma," he stated.

Manmohan Singh said he was not afraid of appearing before any committee, including a

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Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). There is, he said, an "entirely wrong impression that I was blocking the agreement on a JPC. I have always said my conduct should be, like Caesar's wife, above suspicion".

During the 70-minute interaction, the Prime Minister fielded a wide range of questions covering mainly issues of corruption including the ISRO's deal on S-band spectrum, governance deficit, economy and Parliament stand-off.

"I don't deny that we need to improve quality of governance," said the Prime Minister, admitting, "I don't say I have never made any mistake. But I am not that big a culprit as being made out to be."

To a question what was his biggest regret in UPA-II, Singh said that "these irregularities have happened. They should not have happened. I am not very happy about these developments".



PM blames Raja, but will this dislodge charges of culpability?

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has finally broken his silence to offer his defence in the 2G spectrum scam, which is fast paralysing the government. He has essentially blamed former telecom minister A Raja and coalition pressures for all the wrongdoings and promised that the guilty will be punished irrespective of rank or influence.

While admitting that several complaints were made to him about Raja's policies, the PM said he had no reason to believe anything seriously wrong had been done. He then admitted that he could not make up his mind that something serious was wrong, which later prevented him from intervening when Raja made a comeback as telecom minister in UPA II.

While the PM says he went along with Raja's claims of no auctions based on TRAI recommendations, approval of the Telecom Commission and concurrence by the finance ministry, it is clear that all of these could easily have been checked by the PMO and corrections made on the spot. Clearly, that did not happen.



The problem is not so much about Raja's claims, which multiple investigations have proved false, but about the detailed information given by him to the PM, on which the PM failed to act, which in turn led to the perpetration of the scam in 2008.

The PM has made no attempt to deny that he was in the know. Arun Shourie recently made startling revelations that he had given the PM details of the scam beneficiaries and paper trail in August-September 2009, but did not receive a response from either the PM or his office.

Shourie also alleged that the same whistleblower was introduced to the CBI, who engaged him, but refused to act.

The CBI FIR was filed immediately after this in October 2009, but the CBI's affidavit in the Supreme Court shows that it did very little till the SC started hearing Prashant Bhushan's PIL on the 2G scam in October 2010. This inaction acquires new colour in the context of Shourie's allegations, considering that the CBI is accountable to the PM.

By now, various reports/documents suggest that the PM knew of Raja's intent and modus operandi well before 2G licences were finally awarded on January 10, 2010. So why did he fail to act?

The PM has made no attempt to deny that he was in the know. Arun Shourie recently made startling revelations that he had given the PM details of the scam beneficiaries and paper trail in August-September 2009, but did not receive a response from either the PM or his office.

The PM claims it's on account of coalition pressures. Yet, the same PM refused to bow to coalition pressure from the Left parties during the Indo-US nuclear deal, displaying a will of steel by staking the future of the government for what he considered was good for India.

This is valuable evidence that the PM can resist pressure when he wants to. Another explanation offered is that the PM


CORRUPTION GAMES: SURESH KALMADI

is simply too busy to address all correspondence in minute detail. Yet in Raja's case, the PM found time to exchange five letters directly, including one in which the PM detailed the alternatives that Raja could consider, so the second theory doesn't stick either.

How do the facts stack up? Is the PM indeed culpable in the Rs 1.76 lakh crore 2G spectrum scam?

Let's first test Singh's acknowledged strengths: strong personal financial integrity and a mature handle on economics and public policy.

While the worms just don't stop tumbling out from the 2G scam investigations, so far there is no incriminating financial evidence linking Singh to the scam.

Moreover, the PM, in his two-page let-

"I have never felt like quitting, I will stay the course," the Prime Minister told television editors and bureau chiefs at a media interaction at 7 Race Course Road, his official residence. "I never felt like resigning because I had a job to do," Manmohan Singh said in response to a question on whether he felt like quitting over the many allegations...

ter of November 2, 2007 to Raja, states in Section 4 of its annexure, "In order that spectrum use efficiency gets directly linked with the correct pricing of spectrum, consider (i) introduction of a transparent methodology of auction, wherever legally and technically feasible, and (ii) revision of entry fee which is currently benchmarked on old spectrum auction figures."

In effect, the PM favored auctions in spite of Raja's claims that TRAI had not recommended auctions, and was also careful to protect exchequer revenues by suggesting "revision of entry fee" as a prudent alternative.

Responding within hours on the same day, a defiant minister Raja wrote: "It will be unfair, discriminatory, arbitrary and capricious to auction spectrum to new



CONDUIT: SHAHID BALWA

applicants as it will not give them level playing field." Singh scores on economics and public policy. Clearly, if Singh had enforced his advice, there would have been no 2G scam.

The PM's culpability comes into question only if it can be established that Raja acted after informing the PM and without misleading him in any way. For this we need to examine the events leading to Raja's resignation and arrest.

The five specific allegations against Raja are:

1. He claimed to implement TRAI's recommendations regarding "no cap" on the number of operators, but in fact, violated this by capping the number of licences processed at 122 out of 575 applicants. In 2009, the courts observed that Raja had acted contrary to this claim.

2. He defied the law minister to circumvent scrutiny by an eGoM. This violates governments' transaction of business rules under Article 77 of the Constitution.

The PM's culpability comes into question only if it can be established that Raja acted after informing the PM and without misleading him in any way. For this we need to examine the events leading to Raja's resignation and arrest

3. He followed a bespoke first-come-first-served (FCFS) process over transparent auctions even though the demand far outweighed supply. This violates provisions of the Constitution, Article 14, 19 (i) (g) and 21.

4. He illegally and arbitrarily advanced the cut-off date from October 1, 2007 to September 25, 2007, a move that favoured handpicked companies. The courts have declared this action illegal.

5. Finally, he manipulated the FCFS process by changing the established priority based on "date of application" to a new arbitrary criteria of "compliance with Lol" which meant "first to



DEFIANT TILL THE END: RAJA

pay gets spectrum". The CAG's report shows that insider information coupled with these tailor-made norms, allowed a few companies to fraudulently access spectrum by jumping the queue.

The fact that the PM was well apprised of these impending policy violations is evident from a closer look at the correspondence between them. Five letters were exchanged between Raja and the PM directly - three on one day (November 2, 2007), followed by Raja's last letter on December 26, 2007 and the PM's two-line acknowledgment on January 3, 2008 - exactly one week before the infamous award of 2G licences on January 10, 2010.

Of the five listed wrongdoings which were later found either illegal or in violation of administrative procedure/rules, Raja informed the PM about the first four through his two letters D.O. No. 20-100/2007-AS.I of November 2, 2007 - written two months before the scam broke out.

The last, regarding the change of the FCFS definition was conveyed to the PM on December 26, 2007, through a detailed six-page letter including annexure, DO No. 260/M(C&IT)/VIP/2007 - two weeks before the spectrum scam broke out.

This shows that every single action by Raja, except ones under scrutiny under the Prevention of Corruption Act, were known to the PM in detail and well ahead of Raja's actions. It is equally clear from the turn of events: CBI's FIR of October 21, 2009, CAG Report of November 2010 and the Shivraj Patil one-man

committee report of January 31, 2011, that whatever Raja told the PM, he followed to the letter. The DoT corroborates this in its affidavit of November 11, 2010 in the Supreme Court which, citing Raja's letter of November 2, 2007 and December 26, 2007 admits, "Not only was there no difference of opinion with the Hon'ble PM, his office was duly kept informed of all decisions".

In conclusion, and based on the facts, it is clear that all allegations against Raja of wrongdoing and illegal acts which have led to the loss of Rs 1.76 lakh crore as reported by the CAG and eventually, his resignation and arrest, were known, in detail and in advance, by the PM.

In summary, the PM offered Raja sound advice on public policy that was anchored in strong economic principles, but consistently failed to reign in a minister turned rogue since 2007, which makes allegations of his culpability in the 2G spectrum scam difficult to dislodge. It is these serious lapses that the PM must defend.

And formation of JPC by the government has started on the bitter note with ugly exchange of words on the floor of house hence the proceedings subsequent are expected to raise political temperature to a new high. But the million dollar question for us remains as to whether we can tame corruption and clean up the mess to avoid huge embarrassment that country is facing due to series of scams? Though time is limited for every one..

— Prashant Tewari



WHISTLE-BLOWER: SWAMY

‘Corruption is the biggest threat to our nation, but Dr Manmohan Singh must stay and continue to punish guilty’



TO THE POINT: DR SWAMY AND PRIME MINISTER MANMOHAN SINGH

Dr. Subramanian Swamy is an outstanding intellectual, a well known Economist, a Visiting Professor at Harvard University, an acknowledged China expert and a relentless fighter for freedom and human rights. He was a Member of Indian Parliament for 5 times, was the Cabinet Minister for Commerce, Law & Justice, was a Member of Planning Commission, was the Cabinet-Ministerial ranked Chairman of the Commission on Labour Standards and International Trade.

Our Editor Prashant Tewari caught up with him at P V Narsimha Rao death anniversary function at Andhra Bhavan in New Delhi to talk on the wide ranging issues. Dr SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY says he was motivated to continue his investigation in the 2G spectrum allotment case after he heard influential people say that this might constitute the instance of the "most monumental corruption" in world history. Dr Swamy tells in this interview that those who made the money will stand to gain politically if Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is forced to resign.

Q. You are an Internationally renowned Economist from Harvard and was a Professor of Economics in IIT - What made you to take up politics?

A: I went to address Jana Sangh Parliamentary Party meeting to advocate the economic feasibility of the atom bomb as also to espouse my Swadeshi Plan. Mrs. Gandhi and the pro-Soviet Communists intellectuals like KN Raj and Amartya Sen saw this as a dangerous development for them, so they got me dismissed from my post of Professor of Economics at IIT Delhi. I was later re-instated 22 years later but I was Commerce Minister then and so had to resign from the post. I had to choose when I was dismissed whether to live in India without a job or return to Harvard in USA for a job. I chose the first and thus entered politics to fight pro-Soviet socialism. I succeeded in 1991 as Union Minister to get rid of Soviet socialism and help Narasimha Rao bring in economic reform.



Q. What all are the Internal threats faced by our Nation now?

A: Apart from corruption, Our main internal threat is a lack of identity. We should make everyone accept that being Indian does not mean just holding an Indian Passport. Indians should also accept that we are either Hindus or descendants of Hindus which Indian Muslims and Christians are. Hence India is Hindustan. All other threats come from the lack of identity. We should foster development Sanskrit as our national language since every Indian language has a large number of Sanskrit words.

Q. Can you elaborate on your association with Sangh Pariwar on various National Issues? Your take on the Ram Sethu and Ayodhya issue.

A: Although I am not a formal member of RSS I have worked very closely with RSS, especially with the good wishes of Guruji, Madhav Rao Mulay, Nanaji Deshmukh, Dattopant Thengadi, and recently Sudharshanji. From the very beginning I believed Hindutva is the only cement with which we can build a modern

strong India. Even when I was campaigning against Vajpayee I worked for re-opening of Kailash & Manasarovar, making the Session Judge Pande, who ordered the locks of the former Babri masjid to be opened to allow puja inside, as High Court judge, and also worked to finding a solution as Law Minister to the Ram temple issue. So Ram Setu etc is just continuation of same thinking.

Q. Being a Former Law Minister, Have you ever thought of introducing common civil code and scrapping Article 370?

A: I did and prepared the papers, but our government fell in 1991. When Jayalalitha proposed my name for Minister in Vajpayee's government I was planning to complete the process, but Vajpayee refused to induct me so it remains incomplete.

Q. Your Public Interest Litigation concerning the 2G spectrum allotment has led to the resignation and jail to the telecommunications minister, A. Raja, and is still reverberating in the political sphere. What alerted you to the possibility that the 2G case needed investiga-

tion?

A. I went back to Harvard in 2008. I often go there in the summer to teach. In the course of a gathering of prominent people it was being said that the 2G spectrum allotment in India (2007-'08) might be the case of the most monumental corruption in world history. They were saying this might be the beginning of the end for India.

The scenario was compounded on account of the earlier Satyam scam. After what I heard, I wrote a book Satyam, Spectrum, Sundaram. The "Sundaram" in the title spelt for me hope and what's good with India.

Q. Someone called Niira Radia, who heads Vaishnavi Communication and represents top politicians and top business entities like the Tatas and Mukesh Ambani, is allegedly instrumental in some of the activities you were looking at. Were you in touch?

A. For three years Niira Radia was the de facto wife of an Opposition leader from south India.



I wrote to the Prime Minister. I thought here was a man I've known so well — fellow economist and he was my economic adviser when I was commerce minister. There has been no break in the relationship. I wrote in November 2008 asking for sanction to prosecute Mr Raja. There was no reply. I knew that he won't be able to rock the boat. He is decent, upright, and I have great regard for him. So, I said let me build a case as I had to go to court. Each time I got new material, I'll send a letter.

from south India. She is from Gujarat and there they have the system of "maitri karar" (friendship agreement). So, I knew I had to do the work myself. I have experience of taking up anti-corruption cases against (the late) Ramakrishna Hegde and J. Jayalalithaa. The territory was familiar.

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Q. Presumably your last. What did you say in letters two and three?

A. No, it wasn't the last. He (the PM) sent me a letter on March 19 through the secretary of the department of personnel saying that it was "premature" to give permission (to prosecute the telecommunications minister). So I filed a case in the Delhi high court on March 21. After I went to court, they said you can give more documents.

So I sent the PM another letter on June 10, with complete documents -about 100 pages. It pre-dated the Comptroller and Auditor General material and what the media may have got. This was the last letter. When I came back in August from Harvard, my petition came up. It also asked that the 2G licences allotted be cancelled, and challenged the first-come first-served principle under which the spectrum was given out.

In another matter -in the case of a company called S Tel -the high court held that the advancing of the cut-off date from October 1 to September 25 by Mr Raja was wrong. Then I thought I am ready and went to the Supreme Court.



This (the fact that the PM did not take any action) still cannot be a case for his resignation. He didn't make any money or seek any money. He made feeble attempts to rectify matters, wrote to Mr Raja, tried to see that he didn't get the telecom portfolio again (in United Progressive Alliance 2)...I can tell you, Bharatiya Janata Party won't ask for Dr Singh's resignation. The reason is the resignation will politically strengthen those who got the money and the RSS and VHP understand this.

You asked about my second and third letter. In those I gave the PM more documents, including details of the company called Genex (with which the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam is allegedly associated). He knew all that already, and I was happy to note that he knew that I too knew.

Q. Why do you think the PM didn't act against Mr Raja or any others at that stage? If he had, the issue of the PM's resignation would not be thrown up at all.

A. This (the fact that the PM did not take any action) still cannot be a case for his resignation. He didn't make any money or seek any money. He made feeble attempts to rectify matters, wrote to Mr Raja, tried to see that he didn't get

the telecom portfolio again (in United Progressive Alliance 2).

Q. So, what was driving matters? Push from the DMK in a coalition situation?

A. Certainly the top Congress leadership. They may have got 40 per cent of the money which has been made. In the recent core group meeting of the Congress (when the storm broke), four were on one side and the PM on the other. But he got Mr Raja to resign. This is why I don't want him to resign.

Q. I heard you say on television that it was easy to crack the case. All that was needed was to go to the Americans.

A. Sure. The Americans are monitoring

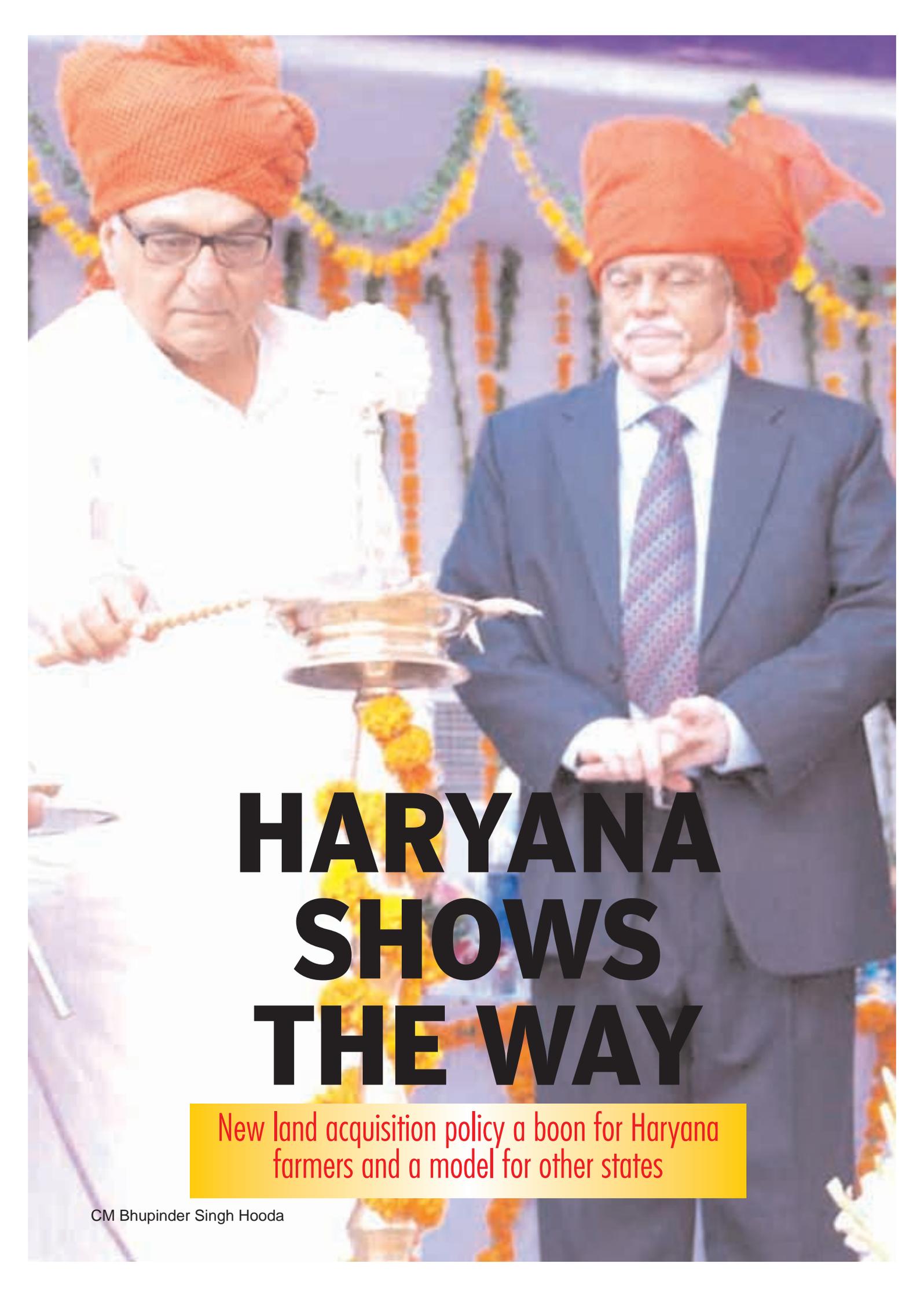
all financial flows in the world -bank transfers and others. This is part of their own anti-terrorism and money-laundering effort. There is also a UN money-laundering resolution to which we are a party. We should get in touch with the US on this.

Q. Do you believe the Congress-DMK alliance can continue if it can be publicly shown that any of the tainted money in the 2G affair has reached the top boys in the DMK? That is what the so-called Genex deal is meant to be about. After all, the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections are hardly months away. And what happens to UPA 2 in the worst case scenario?

A. How do I care? The DMK lot may have got 30 per cent of ₹60,000 crore. The Raja - kanimozhi - DB reality nexus has proved it beyond any doubt.

Q. But there is still a good chance that the Left and the Right Opposition can still ask for the Prime Minister to resign. This suits them politically and will precipitate a political crisis.

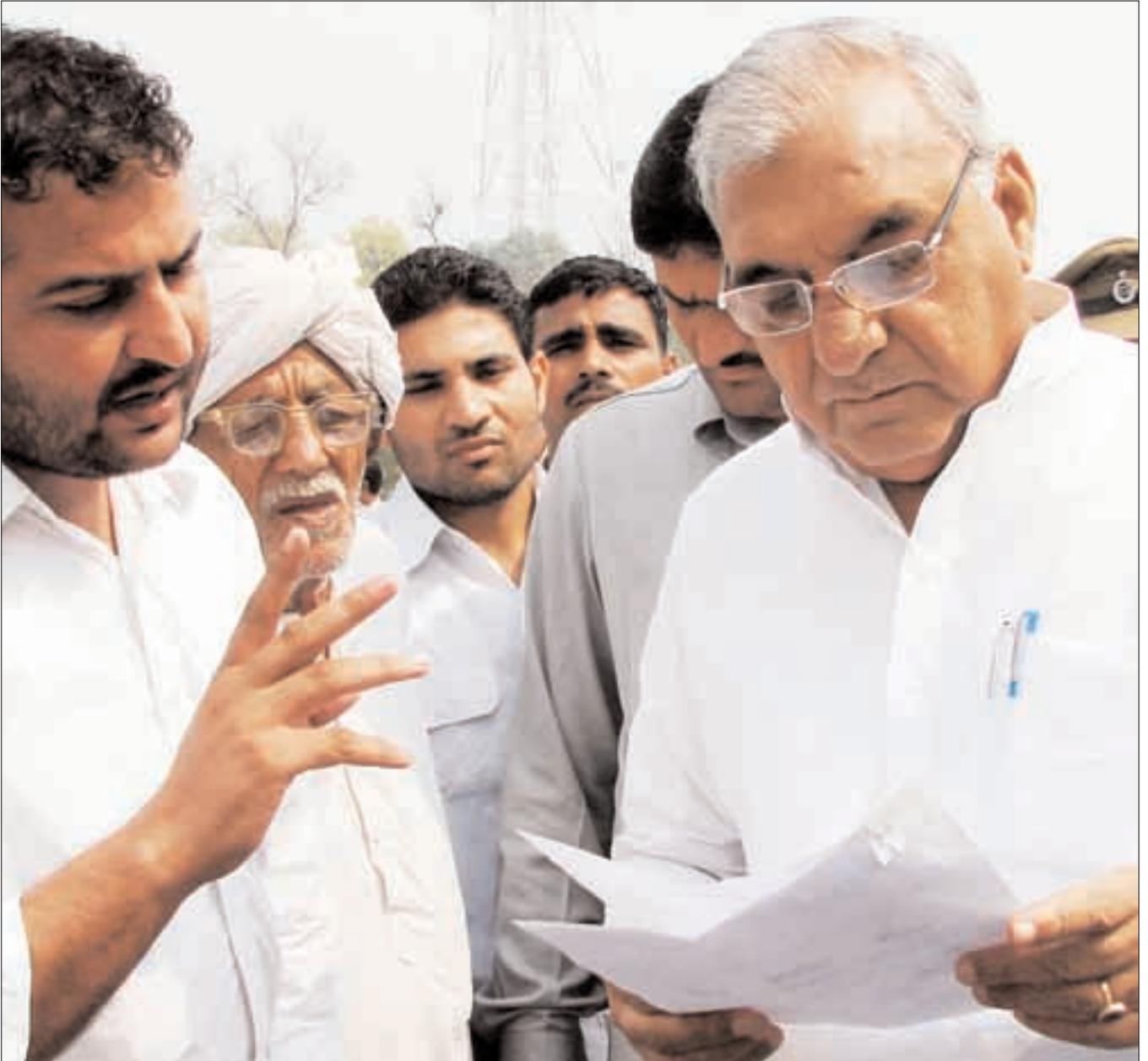
A. I can tell you, Bharatiya Janata Party won't ask for Dr Singh's resignation. The reason is the resignation will politically strengthen those who got the money and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Vishva Hindu Parishad understand this.

A photograph of two men in orange turbans performing a traditional ceremony. The man on the left, wearing glasses and a white shirt, is using a wooden mace to touch a brass pot. The man on the right, wearing a dark suit and tie, has his hands clasped in front of him. The background is decorated with yellow and orange marigold garlands.

HARYANA SHOWS THE WAY

New land acquisition policy a boon for Haryana farmers and a model for other states

CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda



CONCERNED: HOODA LISTENING TO FARMERS' WOES

FREEDOM FOR FARMERS

Prakhar P Mishra

The new land acquisition Bill will eliminate any scope for discrimination by specifying the same rate of compensation for all affected for land acquired by private developers or the state on their behalf. It will also put the onus of compensation on the party directly acquiring more than 100 acres.

This is expected to end the anomaly in the current system where the government pays the compensation to the landholders and then passes on the acquired land to private developers. The existing

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"The point of the Bill is that whoever acquires the land will have to give compensation according to the rehabilitation and resettlement contents of the Bill. The issue is not who acquires the land; the issue is of compensation. The Bill seeks to replace the colonial law of 1894, which gave powers to the government to acquire land at lower-than-market rates. It aims at offering farmers and other landowners market or better rates



ON THE FOREFRONT: HARYANA CHIEF MINISTER BS HOODA

for land taken over for industrial projects. The Bill is also likely to ban acquisition of multi-cropped land for 10 years. This clause will effectively put about 55 million hectares, or 40% of arable land, out of the reach of private developers.

Most of this land falls in the Indo-Gangetic plains, which encompasses areas of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal—the most fertile and densely populated regions of the country. Ground water here is available just 20-40 feet below the surface as against states such as MP and Gujarat where it is found more than 200 feet.

"Multi-cropping land will be treated on a par with reserved forest land and tribal lands in terms of need to protect from indiscriminate acquisition," an official with the rural development ministry said. "Only farm and rural activities will be al-

Government role in land acquisition has become a politically contentious issue with the Trinamool Congress - a key ally of the United Progressive Alliance- calling for no state intervention while the National Advisory Council, led by UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, insisting on a government role in acquisition.

lowed in adjoining zones, strictly preventing industry from coming up."

The government is likely to set up monitoring agencies at the state and national levels to regulate acquisition and ensure resettlement and rehabilitation is-

sues. The official said the Bill will tackle relief and resettlement at the national level for the first time in the country. It will require industries to meet all the relief and resettlement provisions 5-6 months before they begin work on core projects.

Government role in land acquisition has become a politically contentious issue with the Trinamool Congress - a key ally of the United Progressive Alliance- calling for no state intervention while the National Advisory Council, led by UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi, insisting on a government role in acquisition.

And the total transformation in rural farmer is visible. His clothes are no longer soiled. The moneylender has stopped driving him around. His children study in prestigious schools. Banks that were chasing him earlier to realise loan



GUIDING FORCE: HOODA WITH CONGRESS CHIEF SONIA GANDHI

installments now woo him for deposits. His social and economic stock having gone up, he has come to command respect. The life of this Haryana farmer has taken a 360-degree turn. All thanks to the new land acquisition policy of the state. The policy has not only hiked the compensation payable to the farmer for the land acquired but also laced it with a sort of inflation-linked royalty payable to him for 33 years. The annuity gets an annual hike too. The policy also has it that in case a unit is set up on the land acquired, one member of the farmer's family will get a job.

The policy lays down the minimum floor rate below which land cannot be acquired. It varies from place to place. The rate of Rs 15 lakh per acre, fixed for land acquisition in urban areas falling under the Gurgaon Development Plan, has now been enhanced to Rs 20 lakh per acre.

In the suburban areas of Haryana under the National Capital Region (NCR), Panchkula and on the periphery of Chandigarh, the floor rate of 12.5 lakh per acre has been raised to Rs 16 lakh.

In the remaining parts of the state, the rate of Rs 8 lakh per acre has been fixed against the average price of Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 3 lakh per acre.

And to those farmers whose land is acquired by the Haryana State Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSI-IDC), the state government has decided to provide an annual compensation of Rs 15,000 per acre for 33 years in the form of royalty, besides giving them fixed compensation. The royalty would be increased by Rs 500 every year. Should the land be acquired for setting up special economic zones (SEZ), technology city and technology park, the annuity would be paid by the developers at the rate of 30,000 per acre for 33 years. The annuity would be increased by Rs 1,000 every year. As a result,

a farmer offering an acre of land for acquisition, now gets anything between Rs 12 lakh and Rs 32 lakh, depending on the area, against not more than Rs 3 to Rs 6 lakh before 2005.

Factoring in other charges and variables, a farmer selling an acre of land in Gurgaon today gets close to Rs 32 lakh. This offers him enough cash to get the money lender off his back, clear his bank dues, buy cheaper land elsewhere and start dabbling in some other ventures. At a time when several parts of the country are rocked by violent agitation by irate farmers protesting acquisition of their lands for SEZ, Haryana's land acquisition policy has attracted the attention of many prospective entrepreneurs.

Haryana CM Hooda said that the Land Acquisition Policy implemented in Haryana had received wide appreciation from all parts of the country as this policy had opened new vistas of development and benefitted the farmers. Addressing public meetings, he said that though this scheme had been emulated by the Uttar Pradesh government, even so, the intentions of the Mayawati-led government did not seem to be genuine. The farmers in UP had suffered losses due to the incorrect implementation of this scheme in that state, he added.

He said that simply drafting a good scheme was not sufficient but it had to be executed properly too. In fact, he said, the farmers in UP were not even being apprised about the reasons for acquisition of their lands nor were the formalities relating to Section 6 and 7 being formalised. The farmers were simply being handed over their cheques by bringing Section 17 into force.

However, in Haryana, he said that the state government was taking action into consideration only after holding discussions with the farmers. The state government should be complimented for the brilliant work done in bringing transparency in the land acquisition policy.



ONSET OF PROTEST: A TUNISIAN CELEBRATES FREEDOM

WHIFF OF JASMINE

From Libya to Bahrain, Mideast autocracy under fire

DK Matai

Domino effects triggered by Tunisia's Jasmine revolution are now convulsing several Arab nations much like the massive impact of Berlin wall's collapse on Eastern Europe in 1989. How many old leaderships are about to give way? If 1989 is a guide, too many. Fasten your seat belts, it could be a very bumpy ride. On this occasion, most of the world's critical energy needs are somehow connected to the Middle East, so the consequences are going to be truly global and large-scale. As Victor Hugo observed: "Even armies can't stop the invasion of ideas whose time has come!" or "On résiste à l'invasion des armées on ne résiste pas à l'invasion

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Global Consequences

We are grateful to **Hervé de Carmoy**, a distinguished and long-serving member of the Trilateral Commission, based in Paris, France, and its former European vice-chairman, for his submission to ATCA in response to our eight questions:

The Middle East may be on the eve of several generalised insurrections caused by a mixture of poverty, hunger, a high level of unemployment and often inadequate leadership. This situation could reverberate on all economies of the world. If this diagnosis is accurate, we must ask the question, who can help? The US and Europe have the knowledge to promote economic development and create jobs



KICK OF REVOLT: A YOUNG GIRL KICKING LIBYAN DICTATOR GADDAFI'S POSTER

but their image is tarnished and they have little surplus money. China has the surplus money and some of the business knowhow, but they are in a tense power duopoly with the United States and they may be disinclined to intervene. Most oil countries in the Arab world are experienced at disbursing large amount of funds but not at generating sustainable economic growth.

Q1: Financial markets appear not to have fully connected the dots despite spreading revolutions in the Middle East? Why?

A1: It is accurate to say that the financial markets have not yet fully assimilated the increasingly high probability of youth upheaval throughout the Middle East and its impact on the price of oil and on liquidities. They have not done so because they have not given the proper weight to the far reaching implications of tens of millions of Arab citizens arriving on the labour market looking for a job and not finding any.

So, the key issue as always is demographics and the world wide quasi freeze on immigration. Immigration was the

safety valve for overpopulated areas and as that faucet has been turned off, desperation is on the rise.

Q2: Is this the beginning of a New Age in the Middle East? Tunisia.

It is the beginning of a period where the population explosion of the 1990s to this day is causing young adults to question what they inherit from their fathers by way of opportunities. When confronted with the prospect of a blind alley, where are they going to go? If there is almost no hope, they are going to revolt. We are moving inexorably from mass protest to insurrections.

Algeria. Egypt. Yemen. Jordan? What about the petro-regimes?

A1: It is the beginning of a period where the population explosion of the 1990s to this day is causing young adults to question what they inherit from their fathers by way of opportunities. When confronted with the prospect of a blind alley, where are they going to go? If there is almost no hope, they are going to revolt. We are moving inexorably from mass protest to insurrections. Why is this dangerous? Because extreme poverty breeds extreme violence and hence extremists can infiltrate the insurrection movements and use it to their advantage. This may already be taking place in certain countries in North Africa.

Short term, the petro-regimes may not be as much at risk as the others for they can meet immediate demands for food and fuel. Having said that, there is going to be a general climate of unrest.

The young people from the petro-regimes may identify themselves with the young people from North Africa and question whether they ought to be run by their very old and out-of-touch monarchs.



POPULAR SENTIMENTS: A MASS PROTEST IN LIBYA

Price of Oil & Commodities

Expert Roundtable: So far the price of oil has not significantly reflected the turmoil in the Middle East because the oil traders have felt that the petro-regimes will be brutal and crush the protests with superior force.

After the recent reversal in fortune for the protesters in Bahrain, and the news getting out of large scale protests despite the colossal massacre in Libya, how realistic is it to assume that the petro-regimes will be successful in quelling protests? To some extent, Iran has been successful to date. If the commodity markets sense that the protesters are gaining the upper hand, even in petro-regimes, what happens to the price of oil and other commodities?

Saudi Arabia

Expert Roundtable: Will Saudi Arabia be touched by the pro-revolutionary developments in Bahrain, Kuwait, Iran, Yemen, Syria, Jordan, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia?

Libya

"I condemn the violence in Libya, including reports of the use of heavy weapons fire and a unit of snipers against demonstrators... this is clearly unacceptable and horrifying." - William Hague, Foreign Secretary, United Kingdom. Mapping Pro-Democracy Protests in Real Time: Map created by

While the world's focused on Bahrain with 1/10th the population of Libya, the atrocities being committed in Libya are now horrific, hospital official says 2000 dead; special commandos, foreign mercenaries & loyalists mixture responsible, . Libyan journalist: Some \$500/day mercenary shock troops have been killed or captured.

compiling reports from trusted accounts on Twitter... shows multiple flash points across the country.Libya inches down dark path; both sides escalate violence; eastern parts disintegrate into fiercest most savage fighting, Horrific developments in Libya: Snipers shoot protesters, artillery and helicopter gunships are being used against crowds of demonstrators.

While the world's focused on Bahrain with 1/10th the population of Libya, the atrocities being committed in Libya are now horrific, hospital official says 2000 dead; special commandos, foreign mercenaries & loyalists mixture responsible, . Libyan journalist: Some \$500/day mercenary shock troops have been killed or captured. Vicious killers come from Chad etc. Libyan protesters risk 'suicide' by army hands: Gaddafi confronts serious challenge by unleashing army on unarmed protest, after regime opponents used Facebook to mobilise protests, After Egypt set Arab imaginations alight, autocrats face an assault.

(Chairman and Founder: mi2g.net, ATCA)



WHERE IT ALL STARTED: TUNISIANS SECURITY FORCES COULDN'T QUEL THE UNREST

Libya unrest drives oil prices to 2-1/2 year high

Just when oil markets appeared to be calming, crude oil prices surged as the potential for more oil shipment disruptions spread across the Middle East and North Africa. With Libya's oil exports almost entirely halted for the last several days, renewed unrest in Oman, Iran and Iraq rattled oil traders. An interruption of shipments from any of those countries would further tighten oil supplies, even as Saudi Arabia has rushed to fill the vacuum of Libyan supplies by pumping more oil from its fields.

The worries about the oil supply rippled through other markets, with stock markets turning lower on concerns that the higher cost of energy would slow economic recovery.

Gold prices also surged on the latest reports, and indexes on Wall Street declined sharply, with the Dow Jones in-

In the latest sign that the political contagion was spreading, demonstrators in Oman on Tuesday tried to block a major road leading to the industrial port town of Sohar.

Protesters in recent days have set fire to at least one police station and two government office buildings in the normally stable Persian Gulf country, which is ruled by a family dynasty and is the largest non-OPEC oil producer in the Middle East.

dustrial average down more than 1.3 percent. The Saudi Arabian benchmark stock index fell 6.8 percent.

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"To have protests in Oman, which had previously been seen as a sleepy gulf kingdom, heightens concerns that nowhere is immune from the contagion affects," said Helima L. Croft, a director and senior geopolitical analyst at Barclays Capital. "Every day we seem to have a new country with a new problem."



POPULAR SENTIMENTS: A MASS PROTEST IN LIBYA

Oman produces 860,000 barrels of oil daily, almost 1 percent of world supplies, and its production has been rising in recent years with investments from Royal Dutch Shell, BP, Repsol and other international companies. Its importance is magnified by the fact that its crude is of such quality that it can be blended by most refineries around the world, although most of its exports now go to China and Japan.

Oman straddles the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic route through which 40 percent of the world's oil tanker traffic crosses. On the other side of the strait lies Iran, another major producer, where there were reports on Tuesday that security forces had used tear gas to disperse protesters in Tehran. Iran, with approximately 10 percent of the world's oil reserves, exports about 3.7 million barrels a day.

The price of light sweet crude rose to \$99.63 a barrel while Brent crude rose 3.24 percent to \$115.42. Oil jumped above \$100 a barrel in after-hours trading in New York. The national average price for a gallon of regular gasoline rose

by nearly a penny on Tuesday to just over \$3.37, which is 20 cents higher than a week ago.

In testimony on Capitol Hill, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke said that it would take a sustained increase in

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oil prices to push up consumer inflation significantly and threaten the economy. "Currently the cost pressures from higher commodity prices are being offset by the stability in unit labor costs," he added.

The rising tensions across the region sent the Saudi Arabian stock market into a tailspin, with Saudi shares suffering the biggest daily decline in more than two years despite rising oil prices. The Saudi index fell 6.8 percent, to its lowest close since July 2009. Refiners around the world have been hoping that Iraq, as violence ebbed, would again become a major oil producer, with production stabilizing at 2.3 million barrels a day. But over the weekend rebels bombed the country's largest refinery, reducing the refinery's capacity to refine petroleum products by 75,000 barrels a day. The attack came less than three weeks after a terrorist attack on a pipeline leading to a second refinery north of Baghdad.

Greg Priddy, an oil analyst at the Eurasia Group, a political risk consultancy, said it was "highly unlikely" that output in another major producer in the



region would be shut off. But he said that markets were jittery because "if the Saudis are going to make up for the shortfall in Libya, their spare capacity is thinner."

He added, "Another major country going out completely would use most of their spare capacity, and that is really what the market is worried about."

Saudi Arabia has a total production capacity of 12.5 million barrels a day, and currently produces nine million barrels after increasing its output by several hundred thousand since the beginning of the year. Saudi officials say they are ready to pump what it takes to fill any supply gap, but much of its 3.5 million barrel excess capacity contains sour crudes that do not easily replace the Libyan sweet crude European refineries in particular desire to produce diesel. In Libya, major oil operations in the eastern part of the country remained under the control of rebel forces. While foreign operators withdrew most of their foreign workers, local Libyan employees can still produce some crude. Oil experts say at least one million of the country's 1.6 million barrels a day of production has been shut down.

Little if any oil can be shipped out of Libya because most ports were closed. Meanwhile, storage tanks were filling up rapidly. Oil traders said one major oil company cargo ship was supposed to berth this week, but no one was at the

port to deliver an oil shipment, and shipping companies were reluctant to send ships into the Libyan ports.

Most fields in Libya are operated by a combination of the National Oil Company, which owns 50 percent of the fields, and international consortiums, which share the other half.

The Arabian Gulf Oil Company, the largest subsidiary of the Libya National Oil Corporation, claims it had broken off from its mother company. It said it would honor its contracts but would divert the

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funds to the opposition, not to Tripoli.

Arabian Gulf's Hamada field had been shut, and output at Nafoora, Sarir and Misla had dropped to under half of maximum capacity.

The company was still exporting crude at the Tobruk terminal, according to a report by PFC Energy, a consulting firm, but Arabian Gulf has stated that with only sporadic loading operations, it could reach its maximum storage capacity within two weeks, even with the drastically reduced production levels.

Arabian Gulf officials "have claimed that the company's export revenues will no longer be controlled by its parent company," PFC Energy said in the report, "but have not been able to confirm how those revenues would be managed by the subsidiary or potentially channeled to Libya's opposition."

Eni, the Italian oil giant and largest foreign operator in Libya, evacuated most of its employees and their families last week. The company's fields were still producing 120,000 barrels a day of oil and natural gas, about half their capacity before the revolt began. The company declined to say which fields it had shut down and which were still in operation, citing safety concerns. Eni still has 21 Italian employees in Libya, a spokesman said.

(Courtesy: Clifford Krauss & Jad Mouawad, The New York Times..)



INDIAN PRESENCE: PLANNING COMMISSION DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AHLUWALIA AND SBI CHIEF BHATT AT DAVOS

RECOVERY ROADBLOCKS

Inflation & Middle East crisis will harm global economic recovery, says World Bank

Kapil Dudakia from **Davos**

It has been the question of the day at every high-powered international gathering for two years: Are we out of the woods? The answer at this year's World Economic Forum appears to be an optimistic "Yes, but..."

The world may have stepped back from the particular brink of 2008, but it faces huge risks ranging from spiraling food and commodity prices to the danger of trade and currency wars, against a background of growing inequalities that threaten stability.

So at the start of the annual conference at Davos, celebrity economist



So at the start of the annual conference at Davos, celebrity economist **Nouriel Roubini** raised a glass that was half-full - or was it half empty? - and declared it a metaphor for the global economy.



INDIA SESSION: COMMERCE MINISTER KAMAL NATH AT DAVOS

Nouriel Roubini raised a glass that was half-full - or was it half empty? - and declared it a metaphor for the global economy.

Judging by the opening panel that Roubini shared with an international array of business leaders and economic thinkers, it is also a world that is struggling to come to terms with the historic transfer of wealth and influence away from the long-dominant West: Will countries collaborate? Can it work to everyone's benefit or will living standards in the developed world collapse? Will the world run out of resources? The panel struggled with these themes.

"There is a global economic recovery," said Roubini, who gained renown for predicting the crisis of 2008 and a few months ago was still warning against the possibility of a "double dip recession." He noted that "balance sheets are strong, confidence is rising," credit spreads have fallen and liquidity - the availability of credit - has increased.

But he warned that in the U.S. and Europe, growth remained low and unemployment high, and the U.S. faced a continued real estate crisis and inspired little faith in its ability to tackle its deficit

and debt. In Europe, markets have forced an austerity that endangers growth. And in an allusion to China, Roubini said there was "not enough exchange rate adjustment" and warned this could lead to "currency wars and eventually trade wars and protection-

ism."

Advertising magnate Martin Sorrell said he was "surprised, very surprised" by how well business did in 2010, admitting he would not have predicted that the revenues of his firm - global communications empire WPP - would return to pre-crisis levels by the second quarter of last year.

But he warned that corporations were so spooked by the crisis, and perhaps also by the current risks, that "there is an unwillingness in the West to invest in capacity and in increasing fixed costs" - such as new employees. So even though revenues in many cases are back to where they were, people have not been rehired - which explains unemployment but also the high profit margins that are buoying stock prices and balance sheets.

One bright spot for the businessmen: whereas James Turley, chairman and CEO of Ernst & Young, said business felt "demonized over the last couple of years," he said he was now identifying a change of tone from Washington that he attributed to a realization that "business needs to succeed in order for them to create jobs for people."

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INDIA INC: MITTAL AND AMBANI

But the panelists all agreed that the global recovery was uneven: tepid in Western Europe, slow in the U.S. and fast in many of the emerging economies.

Reflecting the global transition, panelists noted that the transfer of wealth was not just from west to east - but also to the south, with impressive gains in Latin America and Africa. Expanding on the previous shorthand acronym "BRIC" - how Goldman Sachs described the emerging global relevance of Brazil, Russia, India and China - the catch-phrase seemed to be the "Next 11" - a clutch of other emerging nations ranging from Indonesia to Vietnam.

It is in these emerging economies that one sees most of the interesting initial public offerings on stock markets, Turley said. And he noted that trade between emerging markets themselves - bypassing once-dominant trading partners in the West - was increasingly common.

But the recovery is fueling demand that is causing fast gains in commodity prices - oil and metals, for example - and runaway food prices that are blamed for increasing social instability in some places and account in part for the recent revolution in Tunisia. For many countries, panelists noted, this raises the question is whether to raise interest rates to dampen consumption and bring down prices: that also drives up the currency - suppressing exports - and it can harm growth.

Turley also noted that the world would soon face great demographic imbalances, creating some unexpected alliances: In 2020, he said, the average age in the U.S. and China will be 37-38; in Western Europe and Japan it will be 47-48; and in India and the Middle East it will be 27-28. "This will cause enormous impact and an array of policy issues," he said.



Azim Premji, chairman of Wipro, a global information technology firm, said inequalities were increasingly visible in his country of India and elsewhere in the developing world, where rapid advances were not spread equally.

The panel identified inequality - in both developed and emerging economies - as a major problem that could feed social unrest, creating uncertainties that might stifle the recovery.

Sorrell noted that wealthy people are more likely to invest their spare cash in financial assets "that causes asset bubbles" whereas when the wealth is more evenly spread the chances of growth-stimulating - and therefore wealth-spreading - consumption increases. "You attack it with increasing marginal income rates" which is rarely a popular policy, Sorrell said.

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Zhu Min, a former deputy governor of the People's Bank of China, said the billions of people in the developing world wanted to have the same things the developed world has: "An American life, a big car, pension... But it won't work because we don't have the resources." Would these aspiring billions really agree to make do with less? In a way, but not exactly, Zhu Min told The Associated Press: "We don't want to adopt the Western model. It won't work. It will be necessary to come up with a new model."



PEARLS OF WISDOM: SOROS AT DAVOS

Inflation may hit India, China growth story

Legendary investor George Soros has said that the Indian economy is under pressure because of rising inflation. Soros, the chairman of Soros Fund Management, "India is in a different position because India has very good domestic based growth. But inflation is a much bigger threat for India than it is for the United States and the developed world," he said.

Soros said that the pressure on commodities continued to be strong but discounted projections that pegged crude oil price touching \$200 per barrel in the short term. Soros said that rising commodity prices is likely to affect emerging

Soros attributed the high food inflation in many emerging markets to global warming. "I think that the pressure on food prices is a consequence of global warming. And that of course is a great danger for the world. And not enough ... not enough is being done about stopping global warming.

economies like China and India. "China is in danger of running into wage price spiral because the authorities seem to have lost control of the situation," he said, adding that there will be pressure on the Indian stock markets too.

Soros attributed the high food inflation in many emerging markets to global warming. "I think that the pressure on food prices is a consequence of global warming. And that of course is a great danger for the world. And not enough ... not enough is being done about stopping global warming. And that is to me ... one of the most disturbing issues," he said.

Soros said that China's growth had



been phenomenal but there might be worries in the short term. "India has started growing significantly faster than it used," he said, but the growth needs to be inclusive. "I actually think that both developments are very real. But particularly for China which is growing so rapidly it is so easy for it to get off the rails. And I think there is a danger...China is not a democracy. And therefore if things get off the rail ...they could get off the rail very far ... because they don't have a mechanism for ... to ... for changing the Government ... or changing the leadership. So it is something to worry about. But so far it has been absolutely phenomenal growth. And I think India also has started growing significantly faster than it used. So those are I think positive developments ... not without some shadows... in terms of income distribution ... differences between rich and poor ... and so on. But on the whole I think positive," he said.

Soros was more confident about the global economy though. He said, "You have had a big boom in commodities and as a result of which the deflationary pressures (in US and Europe) have disappeared. This is very welcome news for the United States because you still have quantitative easing going on. So actually a result you have negative real interest rates. That is very good for the stock market and that is what you have seen in the strength of the stock market."

Soros said that the rising commodity prices will not get out of hand because "as soon as the quantitative easing (in the US) ends, interest rates are going to go up quite sharply in the developed world. And that is going to choke off the recovery. So it is a rather temporary movement now that you have this. So I am not so sure about inflation really becoming that serious a

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Soros said that the Euro had emerged as a source of disruption in Europe and is likely to give rise to anti-European sentiments. "The Euro was supposed to bring about convergence among the European countries. It actually worked the other way. We have divergence. You know Germany doing very well typically. Spain in a financial collapse and there is unemployment. So you now have two speed Europe. And if that is allowed to continue for a number of years it inevitably will create tensions and anti-European sentiment. So I see a political danger but not all immediate ... I am not talking about tomorrow. I am talking in terms of three to five years but that ... it should not be allowed to continue like that for that long because it could eventually cause a lot of damage," he said.

Can India Leapfrog China?

By Katrin Bennhold

India is trying hard not to be forgotten at the World Economic Forum amid the China-focus. The country has brought the single biggest delegation to Davos and ads for its "Inclusive Growth" slogan could be seen not just in the conference center but on public buses in Davos.

Indian executives here prided themselves on the things that set their country apart from its biggest rival among emerging markets, China: democracy, a reliable legal framework for investors, a widespread command of English, a young population due to overtake China's by 2030, and of course its famed information technology sector.

But there was also an acute sense of envy of China's superior infrastructure, Beijing's capacity to map out long-term economic development unbound by election deadlines and the country's comparatively high literacy rates, particularly among women. Despite a 1.1 billion-strong population, India is facing talent shortages - and not just at the very top. "We're running out of electricians and plumbers because our education system is not keeping pace," said Raghuram Rajan of the University of Chicago.

Ingrid Srinath Narasimhan, the secretary general of the nongovernmental organization Civicus, warned that despite the government's pledges to the contrary, growth in India had not been inclu-



As Indian business leaders mused about the importance of becoming more competitive, one American chief executive felt almost at home, especially after President Barack Obama stressed the same theme in his State of the Union address.

ICICI BANK CHIEF CHANDRA KOCHAR AT DAVOS SUMMIT

sive. Child malnutrition had barely improved over the past two decades, she said, and caste politics still excluded millions of people from real opportunity. While most children now enrolled in schools, 65 percent drop out and only 12 percent go to college. "If you are in the bottom third, life is universally worse than 20 years ago," Ms. Srinath Narasimhan said.

With its I.T. sector unable to accommodate hundreds of millions of prospective employees, India is trying to expand its manufacturing sector to absorb more labor.

But at least some here hope that India can skip at least some of China's factory-of-the-world strategy. "Could you leapfrog manufacturing?" Mr. Rajan asked. "Can education be the passport to a service economy?"

As Indian business leaders mused about the importance of becoming more competitive, one American chief executive felt almost at home, especially after President Barack Obama stressed the same theme in his State of the Union address. "I thought for a moment I was in the United States," said Harold McGraw, head of the McGraw-Hill Companies.

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Obama sets sights on India, China to revive US economy

Arun Kumar

US President Barack Obama's budget aimed at rebuilding the country's economy, emerging 'from the worst recession in generations', looks at India as 'one of the most important and promising emerging markets in the world'.

Obama's proposed \$3.7 trillion spending plan for 2011 hopes to 'win the future by out-innovating, out-educating, and out-building our global competitors and creating the jobs and industries of tomorrow', according to the White House.

'India is one of the most important and promising emerging markets in the world, and represents a tremendous opportunity for US firms to expand their output of goods and services,' the budget proposal presented Monday said.

'On the margins of the president's trip to India in November, trade transactions were announced or showcased exceeding \$14.9 billion in total value with \$9.5 billion in US export content and that would support an estimated 53,670 jobs,' the White House noted.

These cross border collaborations, both public and private, underpin the expanding US-India strategic partnership, contributing to economic growth and development in both countries, it said. Notable examples include the sale of commercial and military aircraft, gas and steam turbines and precision

measurements instrumentation. The budget proposals said the emergence of a global market place that includes the growing economies of China, India and other developing countries creates an opportunity for America to export US goods and services to new customers.

'With 95 percent of the world's customers as well as the globe's fastest growing markets beyond our borders, we must compete aggressively to spur economic growth and job creation,' the budget said. Obama's third annual budget says that it can reduce projected deficits by \$1.1 trillion over the next decade, enough to stabilise the nation's fiscal health and buy time to address its longer-term problems, the New York Times said citing a senior administration official.

Two-thirds of the reductions that Obama claims are from cuts in spending, including in many domestic programmes that he supports. Among the reductions for just the next fiscal year, 2012, which starts Oct 1, are more than \$1 billion from airport grants and nearly \$1 billion from grants to states for water treatment plants and similar projects. Public health and forestry programmes would also be cut. With Republicans in charge of the House, Obama's budget is more a statement of his priorities and philosophy than an actual template for federal spending and tax policy, the Times noted.

(Arun Kumar can be contacted at arun.kumar@ians.in)



Traditional Stress Busters

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Pandey

Our planet - The Earth has conducive atmosphere for life in our solar system by virtue of ecological balance between Living & Nonliving and Flora & Fauna, since the evolution began.

Living ones have been provided with 4 natural instinct and 'Indris' for use of resources provided by Nature to live healthy life span, to continue the progeny and peaceful passing away for recycling of energy.

One species of living kingdom brought about tremendous changes and developed one more tool - Intellect. By using intellect, they developed at much faster

pace than other living being - they are referred to as Homo Sapiens- Most Advance Auto-programmed computer of our planet - HUMAN BEING'.
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pace than other living being - they are referred to as Homo Sapiens- Most Advance Auto-programmed computer of our planet - HUMAN BEING'.

Human being established harmony with Nature- by framing Basics rules of Lifestyle -to restore stress free life on wheels of spirituality.

By virtue of wisdom, since ancient time, visionary people visualized STRESS (Physical , Mental & Oxidative) is an instrumental component , which governs the human health.

STRESS

1. To a lay man :Stress is a situation which causes emotional upset & tension
2. To a Psychiatrist : Stress is a situation



which alters the psychological haemostatic process.

3. To a Anthropologist : Stress is an adversity between people & environment.

4. According to Hans Selye (Endocrinologist) : Stress is a non specific response of the body to any demand made on it.

The food plays an important in managing stress , specially, Oxidative STRESS ,the most damaging type of stress - it may cause - Cancer, Auto-immune dis-

The Yogic food are those edible substances ,which are available for meal as good as in natural form accordance to particular geographical conditions, environment & season

ease by gene mutation , Diabetes , Arthritis, Osteoporosis Libido , Hypertension even Psychiatric disorders , if goes beyond the thresh-hold limit .(1)
Yogic Food : The Yogic food are those

edible substances ,which are available for meal as good as in natural form accordance to particular geographical conditions, environment & season .

Brief Scientific deliberation about Oxidative Stress

The Human being existence is not possible without energy, produced by food digestion in intestine with help of enzymatic reaction and combustion at cellular level in both processes can't be takes place without oxygen.

The oxygen content of air has its negative character for living organism .After reacting with other element in body at cellular level produces- the super oxide radical, hydrogen peroxide & extremely reactive hydroxyl radicals are common

The radicals are responsible for oxygen toxicity (2). These radicals are known as free radicals.

More complex food - more enzymatic - more oxygen requirement and in result more free radicals formation creates the Oxidative Stress .

The oxidative stress damages the cell membrane , DNA , precipitate as chronic disease or problem , whenever the amount of radical cross beyond control of inbuilt defense mechanism . All living beings generate water & lipid- soluble antioxidants & synthesized antioxidant enzymes called as Super Oxides Dismutase(SOD) to nullify the reactive oxygen free radicals(3).

To deal with oxidative damage number of repair enzymes produce in the body for proteins , lipids & DNA repair (4). The oxidative stress is non-static, always fluctuate, God, provided the human being the adaptation mechanism to deal with such fluctuating stressors by initiating antioxidants & damage repair/removal enzymes (4).

Religious activity	Meal Pattern	Food Item
1.Worship	2 times /day	1.Fruits (seasonal)
2 . R e a d i n g Religious Books	But last meal before sunset	2.Dry Fruits 3.Vegetable (Seasonal)
3. Sat sang		4. Spices (Clove, Cardamom)
4.Meditation		5. Rock Salt

Traditional Management to Deal with Oxidative Stress

By virtue of wisdom, since ancient time, visionary people visualized an individual is compel to face stress, unknowingly off course willingly too. The body is capable of maintaining the internal environment with in very narrow range called 'Normal Range'.

For example in Hindu Mythology - Frame an unique 9 day systematic religious fasting system bi-yearly during Navratri (In April & October) along with deferent mode of worship.

For fasting period, visionary people have laid down guidelines for the meal pattern & food item restriction and linked them with religious Astha , so, community in mass can fallow that and remain healthy , manpower can contribute at optimum level in development..

In April & October month, the season in under window period of change from winter to summer, summer to winter -The Human body is in process of making adjustment according to change in outer environment, so many chemical reaction are going on , In result heavy amount free radical are being produced and body self mechanism busy to deal with these free radical to keep the oxidative stress with thresh-hold limit .

So, any kind of extra demand made on body may lead produce more free radical taking oxidative stress beyond thresh-hold limit, may leads to any permanent damage or chronic ailments or acute ailments may convert in chronic one.

Prescribed Meal pattern & food item during, fasting period

Meditation: The meditation is not only few minute state of closed eye static posture but it is a state of meditative posture throughout the day to keep the Central Nervous system

in proper order to achieve the positive health i.e. Mental, Physical, Social & spiritual health .

A. Worship / Reading Religious Original Text -

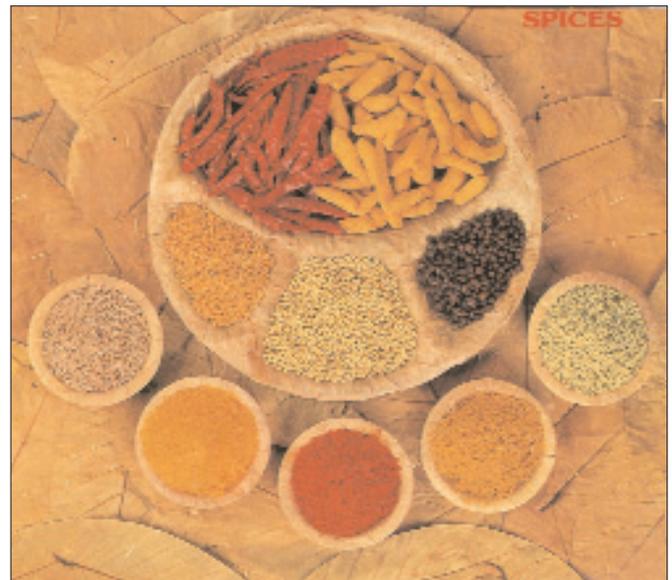
This is a type of Meditation , lowers BMI , conserves energy - Lower the Free radical production .

B. Sat Sang : Bests stress reliever activity - Lower the free radical production.

C. Meditation : Help in taking voluntary control over involuntary physiology activities.

D. Fruits : Provide simplest form of glucose (fructose - ready energy),, Vitamins , Minerals (as anti oxidants , Roughs -good for cleaning GIT & help in clearing bowel. And Potassium for lowering stress at cellular level

E. Dry Fruits : Provides essential oil , minerals , Vitamins



required in traces , for skin & visceral muscles toning

F. Vegetable : Are calories free food item which provides plenty of water , vitamins , minerals

lowers the burden of digestion & combustion - minimizes free radical production.

G. Spices : Clove (Syzygium Aromaticum) - provides oral hygiene , prevention from clod & cough & Cardamom (Elettaria cardamomu) - Checks the acidity problem , help in digestion , & works as mouth Freshener

H. Rock Salt: Rock salt provides high Potassium & low Sodium - it releases the internal fluid

stress on cell membrane & lower the chances on untamed death of cell from rapture.It help to the functioning of sodium - potassium pump at cell membrane.

Problem of today : In today's world , very scientific concept of bi-yearly fasting formula to keep healthy life, taken either as fashion or mistaken or wrongly taken - people taking more heavy or taking no food or not aware about biological base of concept.

Conclusion : Fasting is an activity, to provide space to our body systems to rearrange the physiological activities to you away fro so many ailments at same time provides you healthy life & economy, formulated by visionary people .

Suggestion : Due to hectic life schedules , environmental imbalance, irrational use of medicines the level of Oxidative Stress is much higher in human body .

So, weekly fasting is advisable.

(Writer is a Lucknow-based naturopathy consultant)

Cocktail of military synergies — US leads the way...

Dev Makkar

Indian Jew Noshir Gowadia is a sacrificial lamb like Bernie Maddoff whom the Israeli's sacrificed by saying beat this guy he stole \$75 billion where as the fact is they stole \$4 trillion from US Banking system. With total control on US Congress, Justice system, Media, Banking & big Businesses Israelis have been manipulating every thing including their sales of Military Technology to China for last 5 decades.

Here are few statements from various news papers. Please feel free to send it to Israeli slaves US Congress posing as friend of India supplying free arms to Pakistan so that Israeli's can sell their junk at inflated prices by bribing main political parties of India namely Zionist Christian Sonia's Congress & Zionised BJP. At the same time their Israeli Masters are selling most sophisticated Military Technology after stealing from America to China another hostile neighbor of India.

"Every time we discover a new program in the Third World arms proliferation game, we always find that the Israelis have got some hand in it," says a senior analyst with the U.S. State Department's Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, who spoke to the Washington Report on condition of anonymity. "Israeli scientists helping with a Third World arms program [are] about as inevitable as ants at a picnic."

Larry M. Wortzel, a former U.S. military attache in Beijing and now an analyst at the Heritage Foundation, said the Israel-China arms channel has flowed for more than 50 years. "It grew and grew, and the United States just winked at a number of serious transfers," he said.

CIA Director R. James Woolsey in a written testimony to US Senate: "We believe the Chinese seek from Israel advanced military technologies that the U.S. and Western firms are unwilling to provide," Woolsey also informed the Senate that Israel has been selling military technology to China for over a decade, and that the sales may amount to "several billion dollars."

Israeli Defense Ministry Director David Ivry: Israel has been selling arms to China but refused to describe the



32 YEARS IN PRISON?: NOSHIR GOWADIA

arms sold or their value.

Early in 1992, Robert Gates now Defense Secretary, then director of the CIA, charged that China had illegally obtained ballistic missile secrets from the American-made "Patriot" ground-to-air missile system, which figured prominently in defending both Israel and Saudi Arabia during the Gulf war. While Patriot missiles deployed to Saudi Arabia had U.S. crews, however, some of the Patriots in Israel were manned by Israeli crews. Gates said Israel was suspected of supplying China with these secrets, thereby making public suspicions that had circulated within the Pentagon since allegations of technology theft against Israel were formally raised immediately after the end of the Gulf war.

Not long after the Patriot brouhaha subsided, Israel again was denying charges that it illegally exported U.S. technology to the communist regime in Beijing. This time, the suspicions revolved around the ill-fated Lavi fighter. Israel spent more than \$1 billion in U.S. aid on the aircraft, which was based on the U.S. F-16 Falcon. After Israel ditched

the program at Washington's insistence, intelligence reports said Tel Aviv was selling the F-16 avionics technology to China for incorporation into that country's new F-10 ground-attack fighter.

The Cox report confirmed the suspicion in 1999, stating, "Significant transfers of U.S. military technology have also taken place in the mid-1990s through the re-export by Israel of advanced technology transferred to it by the United States, including avionics and missile guidance useful for the PLA's F-10 fighter."

South Africa acknowledged that, in the late 1970s, it created six nuclear bombs with the technical assistance of Israel. Further it said they developed an intermediate-range ballistic missile called the "Jericho II." Which can deliver a nuclear, biological or chemical warhead more than 900 miles away was developed with Israeli help.

So indictment and sentencing of Indian American JEW Noshir Gowadia for allegedly sending military secrets to China, Germany, Israel and Switzerland is a big joke.



THE DESTINATION: TOHUKU UNIVERSITY

Japan attracting Indian students to the land of rising Sun

In order to attract more international students to Japan, The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan (MEXT) launched the "Global 30" Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization and selected 13 universities to function as core institutions to receive and educate students from abroad. Under the Project, a student can obtain a degree from a prestigious Japanese university by taking programs taught in English, both in undergraduate and graduate levels.

To promote the Project and recruit prospective students, we are advertising our newly established English courses abroad.

Universities under the "Global 30" Project include

Tohoku University, University of Tsukuba, The University of Tokyo, Nagoya University,

Kyoto University, Osaka University, Kyushu University, Keio University, Sophia University,

Meiji University, Waseda University, Doshisha University, and Ritsumeikan University (13 universities total).

Contents of the Seminars included.

(1) Presentations by the "Global 30" Project universities.

Universities involved in the "Global 30" Project present brief overviews concerning their education systems, programs, admission procedures, etc.

(2) Lecture demonstrations

We hope participants will actively join in the lectures given by professors of the "Global 30" Project universities.

(3) Individual consultation

For questions concerning educational systems and programs, admission procedures, characteristics, etc., the "Global 30" Project universities will have booths for advice and to answer questions of participants who intend to study in Japan. Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) booth will broadly inform participants about Study in Japan.

List of Universities participating in Delhi (India) /Bangalore (India) included:- "Tohoku University, University of Tsukuba, The University of Tokyo, Kyoto University, Osaka University, Kyushu University, Keio University, Sophia University (Bangalore only), Meiji University, Doshisha University, and Ritsumeikan University

Japan Student Services Organization(JASSO)



ICONIC FACE: AFTAB SETH

‘Higher Education is Japan core strength that made it a global technology super power’

The iconic face of India in Japan is former Indian Ambassador to Japan Mr Aftab Seth who is playing the role of a catalyst to bridge the gap between unexplored land of opportunity for the Indian Gen-Next. Mr Seth highlights the tremendous depth of Japanese core strength that is yet to be tapped in India - Higher education. Here are some of the most fascinating excerpts of his interview with Opinion Express associate editor Dr Rahul Misra.

Q Japan higher education system has been close knit hence globally people are unaware of its merits, kindly enlighten us about the cost factor, and Work culture of Japanese Universities?

A. From the time of the Meiji restoration in 1868 the Japanese university system was opened to the world. As the first

university was Keio, set up in 1858, 10 years before the restoration, it was deeply influenced by knowledge acquired by the founder Yukichi Fukuzawa from the Dutch in Nagasaki in Kyushu. As other universities were set up in 1870s by the Imperial government they depended greatly on professors from the west, USA Britain and for medicine from Germany. Till the early 60s all medical students had to learn German because of the text books. It is thus not quite accurate to call the Japanese university system closed. It became like this later, but the early years were of openness.

So much so, that Tenshin Okakura an art historian and friend of Tagore, was able to write a book on Japanese tea in English and a play the "Silver Fox" in English directly.

The xenophobia and hostility towards foreign influences was a product of the military dominated politics of the 20s and 30s and during the war till 1945. Under the American occupation from 1945 to 1952 all institutions including educational ones underwent reform to purge ideas which smacked of the Fascist interwar years. Universities were again open to foreign influence and to student exchanges.



This trend continues to grow.

Japanese universities as a general rule offer high class education at a price which is less than private universities in the USA. State universities in Japan tend to be reasonable compared to top private ones like Keio or Waseda founded by Okuma Shigenobu in 1888.

Q. Japan is center of great cutting edge technologies, R&D labs etc. It is associated with several hi-tech products and services yet its Universities are not internationally known brands, why?

A. The reason that Universities in Japan are less well known abroad is because of several factors. Japanese universities may not be known in India or the west but in China and the South East they have been well known since 1895 when Japan defeated China and in 1905 defeated Imperial Russia.

Several leading Chinese intellectuals like Sun Yat Sen studied in Japan and were influenced by Japanese ideas. Nationalist leaders of Vietnam struggling against French colonial rule established in the 1880s were deeply inspired by the Russo Japanese war. Phan Boi Chau one such leader travelled to Japan seeking help. Leaders such as Okuma and Inukai gave help by inviting 100 young Vietnamese boys to study at Japanese universities. Japanese technology has been known even before the war in East Asia. Korea a colony of Japan from 1910 to 1945 also had many generations of students who were educated in Japan. It is correct that top places like the

Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo University, Keio University with excellent R&D faculties are not well known abroad.

Q. English language is a deterrent to study in Japan?

A The English language has been a deterrent so far. But this is changing. The Japanese have a complex about their inability to master alien tongues. Slowly but surely this changing and Japanese are acquiring huge skills in learning English language.

Q. 4. Group 30 Universities from Japan recently established an office in India to attract Indian students to Japan, why this initiative is taken at this time? What road map and benefits shall be made to Indian students intending to go to overseas destinations with this initiative?

A. The G-30 initiative by PM Fukuda in 2008 is aimed at increasing the number of foreign students in Japan from the present 130000 to 300000 by 2012. The Ritsumeikan office established in October 2010 at the Japan Foundation building is part of this initiative. Waseda has an office in Vietnam and other Universities have been given responsibility for other territo-

As part of this work we helped the G30 in January 2011 to invite students from top schools in Delhi and other cities to attend a seminar addressed by the representatives of leading Japanese universities. I inaugurated this seminar. The purpose is to attract young talent to study in Japan. The benefit Indian students would derive from such study are explained at such seminars.

ries.

As part of this work we helped the G30 in January 2011 to invite students from top schools in Delhi and other cities to attend a seminar addressed by the representatives of leading Japanese universities. I inaugurated this seminar. The purpose is to attract young talent to study in Japan. The benefit Indian students would derive from such study are explained at such seminars. To make it easier some universities like Keio have started English medium classes at the Fujisawa campus which teaches all high tech subjects such as IT, Energy, environmental science and others. Keio has a separate initiative GIGA which aims to attract bright youth to study at the undergraduate level. Post graduate schools in many leading universities have been conducting their classes in English for some years now. This is a trend that is growing.

Q. Any synergies that are possible between private universities between India and Japan with this Group 30 University consortium?

A. PM Abe in 2007 organised the first University Vice Chancellors conference in Delhi to bring together leaders of 12 top universities in both countries. The conference which I attended, as the international adviser to Keio which was the Japanese Co Chairman with the UGC Chairman on the Indian side, led to English signing MOUs with 11 top Indian universities including 5 IITs. The synergy between our institutions was well demonstrated by this event.

The McDowell Signature Indian Derby line-up has been finalised and twelve runners will go to the post for India's 'signature' horse race. With only their barrier numbers to be decided, the post position draw is an important and exciting event.

While the draw often does not matter over a mile and a half, it may do so at the Mahalaxmi track. The twelve furlong marker is at the Winning Post and the

DERBY HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Two days of high 'Signature' horse racing culminating in the McDowell Signature Indian derby on Sunday evening.
- 1 The richest individual sporting event in India.
- 1 Prize of over Rs.2.25 Crores.
- 1 International entertainment to include a Freddie Mercury tribute, the Pussycat Dollies and the Shaolin Monks.
- 1 16,000 square foot air conditioned hanger and a 'Signature' carnival bazaar.
- 1 The Saddle Up cocktail



GLAMOUR QUOTIENT: MODELS AT THE SIGNATURE DERBY

horses hit the first turn soon after the jump-out. An inside draw is generally advantageous while an outside one can be challenging as horses may find themselves out of position right from the first turn onward.

The Signature Post Position Draw is an evening where owners get the opportunity to determine their own fates. Against the backdrop of fashion, music and style, this event has now become a part of the McDowell Signature Indian Derby tradition and has evolved to become a unique pre-derby party. Cocktails, dinner, fashion and music come together at one of the most beautiful settings in the city of Mumbai.

The Signature fashion show from Ministry of Fashion will mix the bold with the beautiful as Anchal Kumar, Shamita Singha, Sanea Sheikh and Niketan Madhok will walk the ramp with Geeta Basra and with traditional Kachi goris while live Rajasthani folk music will bring the night alive. This heady cocktail of high street fashion with rustic Indian culture added to the bold and beautiful people is just one highlight of what has become a 'Signature' event - an event that cannot be missed.

With 27 years of continued association with the Indian Derby, United Spirits Limited has created perhaps the longest

corporate association for any sport in India. The fact that this has been achieved with such an elite / lifestyle sport speaks volumes of the vision and leadership of our Chairman, Dr. Vijay Mallya and USL's senior management. Now this association is further being strengthened with signing of the extension of USL's association with RWITC for the Indian Derby till 2017 for a record amount of Rs.28 Crores over 5 years. This will be cemented in a formal ceremonial signing between Dr. Vijay Mallya, Chairman of United Spirits Limited and Vivek Jain, Chairman of the R.W.I.T.C. Ltd. On the occasion, S.D. Lalla, Joint President, USL said that this was a momentous signing. "Our association with the McDowell Signature Indian Derby has made it the most exciting horse race in the country. With this renewal, we are proud to be able to say that McDowell Signature Indian Derby is on the global map amongst not just horse racing but all sports events."

Millionaire brand

McDowell's Signature Rare Whisky is amongst the leading brands in the premium whisky segment, and is a millionaire brand (sales of over a million cases) in the United Spirits portfolio. It is a full-bodied blend with a well-rounded bouquet of peated malts and a generous infusion of Scotch. Signature is young, stylish and has become a sign of discernment.

United Spirits Limited (USL) is the INR 7500 Crores spirits arm of the UB Group. USL was earlier McDowell and Company Limited. USL is headquartered in Bangalore with a global footprint and has 7500 employees across various locations. USL has a portfolio of more than 140 brands, of which 20 are millionaire brands and has manufacturing and bottling units at 84 locations across the country.

Presidium, rated among one of the most trusted formal schools of Delhi and NCR, in support of its NGO Sparsh organized a gala event for the cause of mentally challenged children on at Siri Fort Auditorium. The occasion also marked the school's annual day celebrations. The mega event was graced by renowned actor Arbaaz Khan . Eminent politicians like Speaker Meira Kumar also were a part of the celebration.

A cheque for 51 lakhs was presented for the noble cause to Sparsh NGO which has constructed 'Shri Sumer Chand Bhavan' in Rohini where a school for mentally challenged children by the name of Savera Special School is based. Mentally challenged children gave an incredible performance, leaving the audience in awe and tears.

Titled as 'I believe therefore I am', the



PRESIDIUM CHARIPERSON SUDHA GUPTA WITH SPEAKER MEIRA KUMAR

Presidium sets stage for special children

mega event was full of inspiration and enthusiasm. About 10,000 parents and grandparents witnessed the spectacular performances of the students. This grand event had been organized by the students of Management Academy while the Mass communication is hosting the show. The other academies of the school like Dance, Music, Theatre, Fun and Humour, Sports Academy etc. The audience was spell bound by the inspirational theme drama based on Presidium's philosophy 'Be What you Want to Be'. While the agile students of the Sports Academy celebrated the success of Commonwealth Games, the Dance academy mesmerized the parents with their breathtaking choreography.

Mrs. Sudha Gupta, renowned parenting expert and chairperson of Presidium expressed her excitement, "Presidium is a not just a school but a revolution, a revolution that is transforming education. The theme 'I Believe therefore I Am' is yet another step towards empowering children to believe in their dreams and make them a reality. And by bringing mentally challenged children and the students of Presidium on the same stage, I want to give message to the society that these children are equally capable and deserving."



ARBAAZ KHAN AT THE EVENT



DETROIT DAZZLERS

Beauties and hunks make for a breathtaking affair at Detroit Auto Show

The UK finest asian artist now makes a challenge for the UK pop charts combining the blessed vocal of the eastern world with the dynamic western production of 'Ripper Productions'.

There is always a first and Asha J is taking on all challengers to be the first asian women of pop in the UK after Jay Sean we need a UK Female asian artist so girls watch your back. Asha J's in town. Born and brought up in the UK in a musical family singing and performing was always a must at family gatherings has brought and developed the music talents.

USA have already shown interest into the multi talented pop Diva who sings and performs in three languages hindi, punjabi and English..

Asha J Asian Pop Diva Punjabi parents originating from the Punjab 'Jalandhar' is now crossing over into the mainstream world of music after spending a few years in the music circuit as a singer/song-writer writing for her own album 'Diwana' also Supporting UK and Bollywood group 'Stereo Nation' on worldwide tours biggest tour in Oslo Norway of 90,000 audience.

The time has come now being recognised by mainstream teams in UK and USA 'Ripper Productions' mainstream Producers/remixers for the likes of Lady Gaga, Beyonce, Usher, Justin and many more American and UK artists have taken Asha J on board to deliver her into mainstream music with her first a National UK Chart single over the next few months.

USA have already shown interest into the multi talented pop Diva who sings and performs in three languages hindi, punjabi and English she is looking to sign a big major deal with one of the biggest labels in USA in the coming months.

The model and film industry are also waiting to get a chunk of Asha J with Bollywood and Hollywood show-



Desi heart beats in UK

ing a keen interest and model projects in demand.

Her self formed charity work also continues 'Asha for Peace' will support children with 'Thalassaemia' a rare blood disorder in children solely depending on Blood donations and medications ..she will support Ravinder Ji <http://www.thalassaemia.in>

bringing awareness to the project as well as donating funds raised from album single sales.

Worldwide children charities will also benefit as Asha J quotes 'She is here to make that change and use her sources and monies raised and earned to help kids in poverty'. As an Ambassador for World Peace for 'World Peace Organizations' Asha J will represent at Diversity and Equality events as well as all official world Peace conferences summits this year.

Set to be a busy year for young artist multi talented Asha J and we are looking forward to her launch and proud to be part of the new Phenomena.



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

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GOPIO HONOR ROLL 2011



G OPIO has inducted several political leaders, academics and intellectuals from around the world in its Honor Roll for their exemplary service to India and/or for their support of NRI/PIO causes. They include former President late K.R. Narayanan, former Prime Minister Inder K. Gujral, the late Dr. L.M. Singhvi, former Fiji Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry, former Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Basdeo Panday, Lord Bhikhu Parekh, Lord Navnit Dholakia. This year, GOPIO is pleased to induct India's top bureaucrat **Mr. T.K.A. Nair**.

Serving as Principal Secretary, Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Mr. Nair has the distinction of serving three Prime Ministers, Mr. I.K. Gujral, Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee and currently Dr. Manmohan Singh. Before joining as Principal Secretary at the PMO, Mr. Nair served as Chairman of Public Enterprise Selection Board. An Indian Administrative Service officer who retired in 1997, Nair was Secretary to the then prime minister I K Gujral. Later he served as Secretary to Prime Minister Vajpayee. Mr. Nair has been providing support for many new initiatives from the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs from the PMO. He has been interacting with GOPIO officials as well as other NRI/PIO groups on a regular basis.

GOPIO COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS 2011

RECOGNITION FOR SERVICES
TO THE DIASPORA

Mr. Gambhir Watts (Australia)



G ambhir Watts is Executive Chairman since July 2003 for Australia Chapters of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan; Commissioner, Community Relations Commission for a Multicultural NSW and Chairman of Northern Regional Advisory Council 2006-2009; Founder patron of Priyadarshni

Academy Bombay India honouring high achievers in various social, cultural and art related fields all over the world; a Director of Advocacy for Inclusion Australia (an NGO for Disability). Since its launch on 30 August 2003 Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Australia has undertaken a large number of activities related to Indian culture and promoting multiculturalism in Australia; publish the prestigious monthly magazine Bhavan Australia since 2004 and Bhavan's Weekly eNews since August 2008 and have established alliances with a host of NGOs and Community Organisations.

Prof. M.C. Madhavan (USA)

P rofessor M.C. Madhavan's contribution to civic society organizations is significant. He may perhaps be remembered for a long time for founding the San Diego Indian American Society to establish Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship and Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Lecture program with the support of his friends in 1984. Over 400 outstanding students have received this award and a very distin-

guished people in the world, including Dr. Jonas Salk, Pundit Ravi Shankar, Indian Ambassadors to the United States, United States Congressmen and Women, leading industrialist and Ganhiji's grandsons Raj Mohan Gandhi and Arun Gandhi, have delivered the Mahatma Gandhi memorial lecture. The society has also funded over 20 projects in India benefiting the states of Bihar, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and various organizations in the San Diego.



Special Recognition Prof. Prabhat Jha, MD, D.Phil. (Canada)



P rofessor Prabhat Jha is a world-renowned scientist and author who has worked tirelessly to improve the health and quality of life of resident Indians. He recognized that since almost all deaths in India did not have medical documentation or assigned causes of deaths, governments and individuals did not have the necessary information to plan effective healthcare initiatives in the country or for individuals to know their own risk of premature disease. He understood that millions of Indians would continue to die needlessly unless there was a revolution in the way health information was collected. Thus, in collaboration with the Registrar General of India, Professor Jha started the Million Death Study in 2001. Partly funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, this ongoing study will quantify the causes of deaths in over 1 million homes in India from 1997-2014.