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PEOPLE AND UN



A SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN OFFICE

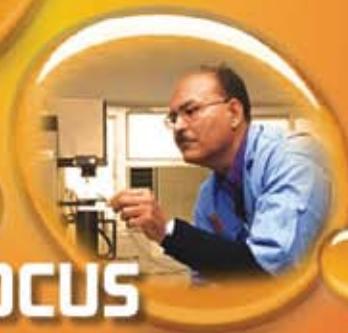
Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Rajnath Singh, Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley with their cabinet colleagues.



COMMITMENT



INNOVATION



FOCUS

• অঙ্গীকাৰ • উদ্ভাৱন • একাগ্ৰতা – সফলতাৰ বাবে প্ৰয়োজনীয় গুণাৱলী

আমাৰ যাত্ৰাৰ পথত আমি লাভ কৰিছোঁ কিছু চমকপ্ৰদ সফলতা। “প্লেট্‌ছ টপ ২৫০ ৰেংকিং ২০১০” অনুসৰি অ’এনজিচি বিশ্বৰ ১নং অন্বেষণ আৰু উৎপাদন কোম্পানী হিচাবে স্বীকৃত। ৰাজহুৱা খণ্ডৰ মহাৰত্ন এই কোম্পানীয়ে প্ৰতিদিনে ১.২৪ মিলিয়ন বেৰেল খাৰুৱা তেল আৰু সমতুল্য উৎপাদন কৰে। সময়ৰ সৈতে খোজ মিলাই কোম্পানীয়ে বিকল্প শক্তিৰ আহৰণতো সফল হৈছে। দেশৰ শক্তি সম্ভাৱ সমৃদ্ধ কৰাৰ লক্ষ্যত অ’এনজিচি অঙ্গীকাৰবদ্ধ।

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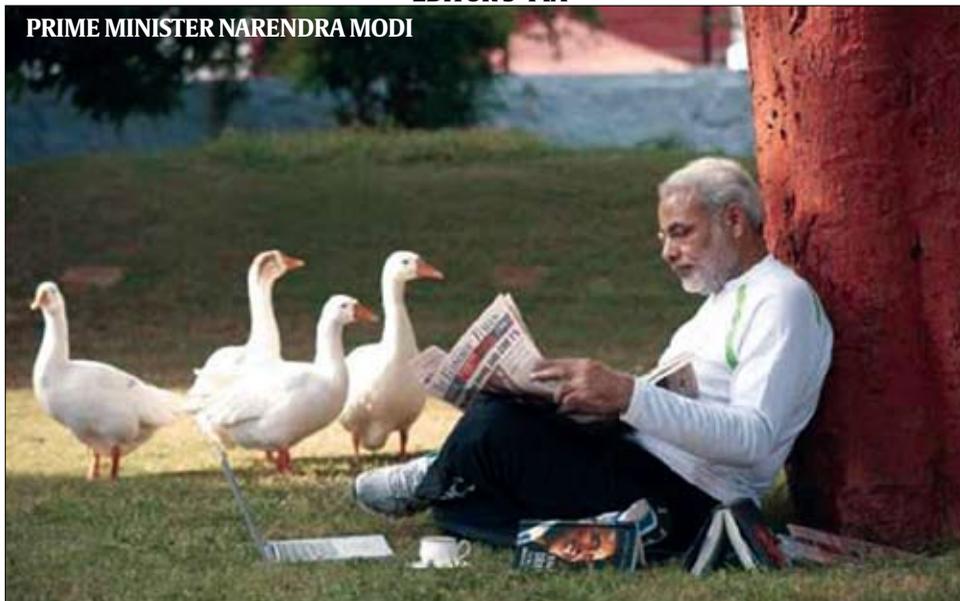
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PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI



Beneath the bough, a cup of tea, with books around, updating with latest news & views speaks the secret of freshness?

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5. Editor's Name : Pran Mohan Parvatiyar

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Editor's Column

Narendra Modi on 26th May completed one year in office as Prime Minister. His hard work with sincerity without any break or holiday is not only unquestionable but also exemplary for the people of the nation.

Modi's political opponents and critics have raised eyebrows on his visits to so many countries since he took over as Prime Minister, questioning India's achievements from it. Modi is no greenhorn in politics and statecraft..He has already achieved more for Gujarat in his tenure as CM there than any Indian state ever has. One cannot deny that he has proven exceptionally deft in handling foreign policy along with his Minister for External Affairs Ms. Sushma Swaraj. Within such a short span of time he has been able to establish an unbelievable rapport with leaders with diverse as Xi Jinping and Barack Obama, Stephen Harper and Shinzo Abe, Tony Abbott and Francois Hollande. That speaks volumes about his political acumen and leadership quality.

External Affairs Minister Ms. Sushma Swaraj along with Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan convinced Saudi Arabia not to charge "one- time delivery premium charges" on crude oil .The deal has saved the country thousands of crores of Rupees. Despite the ban by US, Iran agreed to sell oil in Indian Rupees and it saved the country's Forex, not just for now, but protected India from future currency fluctuations. India also gets to build 'Chavahar' port in Iran, which will enable us to strategically encircle Pakistan and gain exclusive access to our naval ships in this region.

India will get a lion's share in Green Energy that will be produced in future from the projects from Hydroelectric Power Stations + Dams in Bhutan after completion.

With increased relationship; Japan has agreed to invest \$30 Billion in Delhi-Mumbai Corridor. Vietnam has now agreed to award contract of oil exploration to ONGC- Videsh.

Modi was personally able to convince Tony Abbott as well as Stephen Harper, and now Australia and Canada will supply Uranium for our nuclear energy products.



Indians evacuated from Yemen on way to home

Inspire of several odds his government successfully managed to bring back 4500+ Indians from war zone in Yemen and also brought foreign nationals of 41 different countries, which put India's name onto the highest platform globally in conducting that rescue mission- PM Modi especially talked to the new Saudi Arabian King Salman and requested him to allow Indian Air force planes to fly-as Saudi Arabia was attacking on Yemen and Yemen Skies was declared No-Fly Zone that gave us an assured clear window of a few hours . This was ably and very successfully co-ordinated by Ms.Sushma Swaraj, General V.K. Singh and Ajit Doval.

According to Harsh V Pant of King's College, London, "taking the lead in evacuating stranded people in conflict-zones like Yemen and rushing relief to earthquake-ravaged Nepal has earned his (Modi) government rightful praise'.

The warm welcome being accorded to PM Modi even in the countries not very friendly is evidence that the country's goodwill and prestige is rising. The world has started taking India seriously. MoU's have been signed with countries like Australia, France, South Korea, Vietnam, Japan, China and Australia besides US .The Business leaders of these countries have shown their keen interest and are looking forward for their participation in Modi.s 'Make in India' call.

On domestic front Narendra Modi has brought in banking for the poor through Jan Dhan Yojna. Atal Pension Yojna and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojna towards social security, to benefit poor of the poorest. He has also set up campaigns to improve sanitation through Adarsh Gram Yojna and curb the abortion of female fetuses through Beti Bachao , Beti Padhao (Save Daughter, Teach Daughter) campaign.

There are reports of industrialists, bureaucrats and politicians saying that corruption at the top has "declined dramatically" says a reputed foreign base News Agency.

The most important indicator by which to judge P.M.Modi is the economy. And the Indian economy is growing well. Inflation has been kept in check. -- And Modi deserves a lot of credit for this -- the government has taken the opportunity to cut long-running subsidies on diesel while pushing up fuel taxes. It was a brave and important reform to put in place. Beyond oil prices, the rupee remained stable, among the strongest performers in the emerging markets. Stock prices soared some 30% in 2014 before pairing gains this year, but they are still up 16% for Modi's first year in power. The larger economy has continued to chug along at more than 7% a year, making India the fastest-growing big economy in the world.

— Pran Mohan Parvatiyar
(pmparvatiyar@gmail.com)

PM Modi is among the top leaders of the world

-SUSHMA SWARAJ

"GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON THREE PILLARS OF 'SAMPARK, SAMVAD AND PARINAM' (CONTACT, DIALOGUE, AND RESULTS)

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, who according to Hillary is best performing minister in Modi's cabinet has said that India's prestige in the international arena has risen "dramatically" in the last one year, catapulting Prime Minister Narendra Modi among the top leaders of the world.

"It is no mean achievement that in just one year of his tenure. Our Prime Minister has emerged as one of the front ranking leaders of the world," Swaraj was participating in a programme at Dehradun to mark completion of Modi government's one year in office. She attributed the rise in India's prestige abroad to the "candour" with which the Prime Minister is dealing with neighbouring countries like China and the role played by the country in tackling the crises in Ukraine, Iraq, Libya and Yemen.

"We had to confront the crisis in these countries soon after taking over but we acted with confidence and were successful in rescuing thousands of our compatriots as well as people from our neighbouring countries," Swaraj said.

"Our Prime Minister earned the praise of Chinese leaders for the candour with which he put across his point of view before them. He told them clearly how by cementing ties the two neighbours could become a formidable force in South Asia," While highlighting the achievements of the Narendra Modi government which has completed one year. Speaking on various issues ranging from India and Pakistan relationship PM Narendra Modi's Nepal visit to Indians stranded in Iraq. On Indo-Pak ties, she said that both the countries

have supported each other during difficult times, irrespective of the bitterness in relationship. Citing example of Peshawar terror attack, Sushma Swaraj said that PM Modi called up Nawaz Sharif assuring that India is with Pakistan in hour of need.. While talking about the prime minister's foreign visit, Sushma informed that Modi will be visiting Israel this year and that the time and date of it hasn't been finalized yet

Contending that the country had taken big strides in bringing foreign investment, she observed, the first year was



spent in generating confidence among potential investors abroad and the next year will see them coming to India.

Swaraj said people had reason to look back at one year of Modi government with satisfaction as major steps were taken by the Centre to fulfil their expectations with which they gave a clear mandate to BJP in the Lok Sabha polls

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has proved yet again why she is the best performing minister in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's cabinet, The lat-

est corroboration, if at all needed, came on 31 May when she held a freewheeling press conference where she disclosed her success mantra: keep working but keep away from the media. She scored a perfect ten in her annual presser and emerged as a knight in shining armour for PM Modi as she defended him from repeated barbs from journalists about his frequent foreign trips.

Replying to questions (from 45-odd journalists) she wasn't stumped even once. Rather she deftly responded to all questions without a single glitch. In response to a question on India deciding to play a cricket series with Pakistan, Swaraj responded that no cricket diplomacy had been decided as yet, and there was no flip-flop in the Modi government's Pakistan policy.

During her 94-minute interaction with journalists Swaraj denied that the Prime Minister has imposed any restrictions on her. "This is what goes with my profile. I decided that (given) the profile I have got, I should not speak. I follow that".. This indicates the respect she commands in the ministry as well as media.

"Government's foreign policy is based on three pillars of 'sampark, samvad and parinam' (contact, dialogue, and results)... In one year, we have connected with 101 countries," Sushma Swaraj said addressing a press conference on Sunday. Swaraj said the contacts were made either by visiting the countries, or having their leaders visit India, or dialogues on the sidelines of multilateral conferences. "Our foreign policy is very successful ..." she asserted. ■

WFUNA YOUTH SEMINAR AT JAIPUR



Youth Seminar participants with Hon. Kalyan Singh, Governor of Rajasthan at Jaipur, Rajasthan (India).

On 29 March, 2015 Rajendra Rathore, Health Minister of the Government of Rajasthan opened WFUNA Youth Seminar at the campus of Jayshree Periwal International School in presence of Bonian Golmohammadi, Secretary-General, World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), New York, Sundeep Bhutoria, (Treasurer, WFUNA),

Suresh Srivastava Secretary-General, Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA), New Delhi Ms. Kiran Mehra-Kerpelman, Director, United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan (UNIC) and Ms. Jayshree Periwal, Director, Jayshree Periwal International School. The WFUNA Youth Seminar Jaipur was organized in partnership with

Jayshree Periwal International School. It brought together 20 outstanding students from Jayshree Periwal International School, 10 observers from schools in Jaipur, 15 Indian young leaders representing the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA) and 15 international participants from United Nations Associations (UNAs) and United



Youth participants.



Sundeep Bhutoria ,Treasurer WFUNA addressing the participants.



Bonian Golmahmadi ,Secretary General ,WFUNA presenting a Bouquet to Hon. Kalyan Singh, Governor of Rajasthan.

Nations Youth Associations (UNYAs) of Azerbaijan, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Malaysia, Norway, Sweden, Syria, Republic of Korea, Russia, Uganda and United States of America. With the theme "Taking Ownership of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, the conference aims to transform youth into champions of action to enable them to lead the implementation of the UN's new Sustainable Development Goals. The five days of workshops and activities focus on strengthening

project management, fundraising and social media skills.

The WFUNA Youth Seminar Jaipur is organized in partnership with Jayshree Periwal International School. It brought together 20 outstanding students from Jayshree Periwal International School, 10 observers from schools in Jaipur, 15 Indian young leaders representing the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations and 15 international participants from UNAs and UNYAs in Azerbaijan, Botswana,

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WFUNA FOUNDATION LAUNCHED

I am happy to note that the efforts of WFUNA, since its establishment in 1946, have been directed towards building a stronger and effective United Nations through the engagement of people at large, said Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs & Overseas Indian Affairs Minister, Government of India at the formal Launch of WFUNA Foundation in INDIA, New Delhi on March 3, 2015

WFUNA was founded on the noble belief that all people are interconnected through the UN's core values. It is also very timely that we are launching the India Chapter of the WFUNA Foundation in the 70th Anniversary year of the United Nations. This is an important milestone which should trigger serious reflection upon the performance of the world body and its specialized agencies in carrying out their duties. The question we need to ask is whether the UN is still 'fit for purpose'? she said.

She further said "it is our strong belief that the UN as a representative organization of the comity of nations should reflect contemporary geopolitical and economic realities. That is why India is today at the forefront of efforts for UN reform, including expansion of the Security Council in both the permanent and non - permanent categories, to make it more broadly representative, efficient and transparent and thereby further enhance its effectiveness and the legitimacy of its decisions. We believe that there must be a concrete outcome on this long standing issue in the 70th Anniversary year of the UN."

2015 also promises to be historic because a series of complex multilateral negotiating processes are coming for adoption in the course of this year. It would be important and relevant for organizations like WFUNA to reflect the views and aspirations of developing countries in their



The launch ceremony of WFUNA FOUNDATION started with National Anthem. Chief Guest Ms. Sushma Swaraj, Union Minister of External Affairs & Overseas Indian Affairs is seen in the centre.

work as we prepare ourselves to adopt a transformative Post 2015 Development Agenda and an equitable and ambitious climate change agreement for the post 2020 period. It is clear that both are common challenges and require genuine collaboration overcoming competitive urges. Both also offer the serious opportunity for mankind to make a transition to more equitable and sustainable ways of living and working. I believe that it is not only the obligation of the member states to support the UN in meeting the global challenges and creating opportunities for all but a shared responsibility of all stakeholders. Organizations like WFUNA have been contributing meaningfully towards that end. In this context, the thrust of WFUNA's programs on the issues of sustainable development, education, youth and human rights are issues which the Government of India considers extremely important, both in the national and international context.

I am confident that the setting up of the WFUNA Foundation in India will go a long way in accomplishing its mission of a stronger and more effective United Nations so that this unique organisation continues to be relevant to the hopes and aspirations

of mankind in the years ahead, observed Ms. Swaraj.

Suresh Srivastava, Secretary General, Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA), said, today we are here on a historic day when WFUNA Foundation is being inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister Sushma Swaraj ji. It is a historical day in the life of WFUNA as this organization was founded on 2nd August 1946, at Luxembourg by then eminent personality Mrs Ellonar Roosevelt, John Majreck and many important political persons of the world and today in India WFUNA Foundation is inaugurated by a highly respected and eminent personality of India Mrs. Sushma Swaraj and it is a proud moment for all of us. We have friends for WFUNA which was founded by Aurthur Rose, Ambassador William J Venden Heuvel and Mr Louis Perlumutter and many other prominent personalities of USA. And because of their support WFUNA not only sustained itself but also was at the centre of stage in the United Nations movements. In the words of Ban ki-moon WFUNA is a strongest allies and advocate in communities and in the globe, and indispensable partner of the United Nations whose role is more impor-



A view of the launch ceremony

tant than ever in helping the UNO to reach its goals. The commitment of the United Nations in having a partnership with the people of the world can be realised with an organization like WFUNA which is having presence in more than hundreds countries.

The Preamble to the United Nations Charter express the determination of “WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS”, not of the Governments nor of the “High Contracting parties” to maintain peace, protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and promote economic and social progress throughout the world.

The Preamble states clearly therefore that the achievement of these laudable and absolutely necessary objects is not only the concern of the governments of the Members States but also the responsibility of their peoples.

The Preamble further implies that the people of the world have a significant contribution to make and that without such a contribution the United Nations cannot

achieve the purposes it was created.

This was fully recognized by Resolution 137(II) adopted unanimously as early as 1946.

Similar ideas are expressed or implied in the Constitution of the various organs and agencies which constitute the whole United Nations System.

This is also borne out by numerous resolutions adopted by the Assemblies or Conferences of the members of the United Nations for which Family Calling for and very often urging, popular participation and support, Furthermore Article 71 of the United Nations Charter envisages consultation between the United Nations Economic and Social Council on the one hand and the organized peoples governments of the world on the other.

It is axiomatic that if any government is to realize its aims and objects it must have the understanding and support of the peoples it is set up to serve. The United Nations is not an attempt at world govern-

ment. It is an attempt to establish a new world order of peace, justice, security and progress.

It is obvious that this new world order cannot and will not take shape without the widest possible understanding of the aims and objects of the United Nations, the maximum possible appreciation of the Organization’s activities and efforts realistic recognition of its short comings, and a conviction that its success depends on widespread public participation in, and whole-hearted for, its programmes.

It is to promote this understanding and support that the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations with a number of affiliate in different parts of India, was established as a people’s movement in India for the United Nations and to devote its resources exclusively to make the U.N. and its Agencies as effective as humanly possible.

IFUNA firmly believes that United



Sundeep Bhutoria, Treasurer, World Federation of United Nations Associations handing over WFUNA FOUNDATION Constitution to Hon'ble Ms. Sushma Swaraj, Union Minister of External Affairs & Overseas Indians, To his Left is Ms. Kiran Mehra Kerpelman, Director, UNIC, Suresh Srivastava, Secretary General, IFUNA is seen in extreme left. Parvesh Khanna, Secretary IFUNA is seen behind Ms. Swaraj.



S.P. Kalra Advisory Board Member of WFUNA Foundation presenting bouquet to Hon'ble Minister Ms. Sushma Swaraj.



Bharat Babbar Advisory Board Member of WFUNA Foundation presenting bouquet to Hon'ble Minister Ms. Sushma Swaraj;

Nations must adopt a multilateral approach in resolving trans-lateral issues under the auspicious of the United Nations. We also firmly believe That United Nations must undertake reforms that will make a truly representative while enhancing its credibility and effectiveness. In particular at the composition of Security Council need to change there by reflecting contemporary realities. There is a need for a new international initiative to bring structural reforms in the United Nations. We pledge to work with abiding faith and hope towards United Nations success and to assume greater responsibility that the

word community expects from it. The establishment of WFUNA Foundation in India is a step in this direction. With the support of the Hon'ble Smt. Sushma Swaraj ji, support of Mr Bonian Golmohammadi, support of the United Nations and all such persons who are working in this direction we expects to achieve the goal set forth with the formation of WFUNA At the out set Sandeep Bhathuria , Treasurer, WFUNA welcoming Ms.Sushma Swaraj and guests said It is a matter of great pride for all of us today, that WFUNA Foundation in India is being officially launched by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, who herself believes in the goals

and objectives of the United Nations. Although as you are all aware that WFUNA has a very strong presence in India through Indian Federation United Nations Associations and under the present leadership of Shri Suresh Srivastava, IFUNA has strengthened the working relationship with WFUNA over the last few years. By initiating WFUNA Foundation in India, WFUNA believes it will help more in implementing the ideas and vision of WFUNA in India and strengthen the relatiOn.

Sundeep Bhutoria also read out the message of WFUNA Secretary General, Bonian Golmohammadi. ■

'Mission Possible'

global citizenship programme for school children

In an attempt to create global change agents, the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) has launched a global citizenship education programme for school students in India. Titled "Mission Possible", the programme is targeted at high school students and seeks to use the goals, principles and experience of the United Nations to empower and enable young minds to think globally and act locally.

"We must nurture a generation of global citizens made up of individuals who are not only informed of global issues, but have the attitude, values and skills to bring behavioural change within themselves and their communities," Bonian Golmohammadi, Secretary General, WFUNA said at the launch of the programme on 31st March, 2015 addressing to media at Press Club of India, New Delhi. According to Golmohammadi, the mission is slightly different from conventional method of education of delivering lectures. "This will be project based learning," he said. Elaborating on the concept, he said students will embark upon a project on any of the global issues like Climate Change, Women's Rights or Peace and Security and then engage with their respective communities, taking on active roles both locally and globally. "Mission Possible" local consultants will train teachers who will then take the curriculum to the students. He added that at the end of the year, selected students will come together on a social platform to share projects, ideas and experiences.

Mission Possible is a curriculum that brings together a UN perspective, 21st century skills and project management allowing students to recognise their individual and collective responsibility towards the global community, he said. WFUNA plans to host workshops for teachers training on how to incorporate Mission Possible into class rooms. The aim



Addressing the Media at Press Club of India, New Delhi: L to r. Ms. Andrea Y. Choi, Partnerships & Education Officer WFUNA, Bonian Golmohammadi, Secretary General, WFUNA, New York, IFUNA Secretary General, Suresh Srivastava and Deepak Parvatiyar, Media Advisor, IFUNA.

Students will embark upon a project on any of the global issues like Climate Change, Women's Rights or Peace and Security and then engage with their respective communities...

is to empower thousands of students around the world to become global citizens through understanding of global issues and a common will to work towards a resolution. It also provides the youth a platform to connect with students around the globe through online forum. The programme will culminate in an

international meeting where selected few could represent their ideas and further the impact of their local projects. Recognising the importance of global citizenship education, the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations (IFUNA) has promised to work with WFUNA and help it connect with schools across India, he said. Initially, the programme will cover private schools and later extended to government-run institutions, he added.

The programme will begin with 30 schools in India post the summer break in July-August, and a few in Kathmandu. "We have already visited few schools in Jaipur, Delhi and Hyderabad and will also visiting Mumbai and Bangalore", said Golmohammadi. The Indian Federation of United Nations Associations has joined hands with WFUNA to create awareness about "Mission Possible" among schools in India, along with Project Management Institute Educational Foundation, a charitable non profit that leverages project management for social good ■

INDIA SIGNS 7 MoU's WITH SOUTH KOREA

India and South Korea inked seven agreements, including on avoidance of double taxation and formalising consultations between National Security Councils of the two nations, to boost bilateral ties.

The agreement in this regard has been signed under the provisions of India-South Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and

would enable co-production of films, animation and broadcasting programmes

The pact would enable opportunities for collaboration between Indian and Korean film industries, and facilitate collaboration and exchange.

The two nations also signed an MoU for cooperation between the National Security Council Secretariat of India and the Office of National Security of South

Korea.

This would formalise consultations between National Security Councils of the two countries in a number of areas

Another MoU was signed between the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of South Korea on cooperation in the field of electric power development and new energy industries.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with South Korea's President Park Geun-hye.

The agreement envisages cooperation in areas such as renewable energy, smart grids and power information and technology, transmission and distribution of electric power, energy efficiency and storage system.

The two nations also signed an MoU to strengthen and encourage cooperation on youth matters through participation in events and activities through exchanges, international conferences, seminars, youth camps, festivals etc.

The two sides also signed Framework of Cooperation (FOC) in the Field of Road Transport and Highways.

The FoC envisages cooperation in areas including road policies, design and construction, road operation, road management and safety, intelligent transport systems and electronic toll collection systems.

The MoU on cooperation between the two countries in the fields of maritime transport and logistics including through sharing of technologies, information and experiences, the training of seafarers, exchange of experts and port operations etc was also signed.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he and South Korean President Park Geun-hye saw vast opportunities for Korean companies to take part in his pet mission "Make in India".

The Prime Minister also announced the establishment of a channel - **Korea Plus** - to facilitate the Korean companies' investment and operations in India.

"Many Korean brands are household names in India. President Park and I see vast opportunities for Korean companies to participate in our 'Make in India' Mission. Korean companies have the edge to succeed in India," Prime Minister Modi said at a news briefing in the South Korean capital.

"Our decision to establish a joint working group on shipbuilding reflects our seriousness to cooperate in this area. Korean companies will be participating in India's plans to acquire and manufacture LNG tankers." ■

List of Agreements/MoUs signed during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Republic of Korea



S.No. Agreement/MoU Remarks

1 Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Korea for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income

INDIA-REPUBLIC of Korea Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (signed 1985) has been revised with a view to avoiding the burden of double taxation on taxpayers in the two countries.

2 India-Republic of Korea Agreement on Cooperation in Audio-Visual Co-Production

THE AGREEMENT is being signed under the provisions of India-ROK CEPA; it would enable co-production of films, animation and broadcasting programmes. The Agreement would enable opportunities for collaboration between Indian and Korean film industries, and facilitate collaboration and exchange.

3 MOU for Cooperation between the National Security Council Secretariat of the Republic of India and the Office of National Security of the Republic of Korea

THE MOU would formalize consultations between National Security Council structures of the two countries in a number of areas.

4 MOU between the Ministry of Power of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea concerning Cooperation in the field of Electric Power Development and New Energy Industries

THE MOU envisages cooperation in areas of electric power development and new energy industries such as renewable energy, smart grids and power information and technology,

transmission and distribution of electric power, energy efficiency and storage system.

5 MOU between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in Youth Matters

THE MOU will strengthen and encourage cooperation on youth matters through participation in events and activities through exchanges, international conferences, seminars, youth camps, festivals etc.

6 Framework of Cooperation in the Field of Road Transport and Highways between the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea

TO BE SIGNED under the provisions of India-ROK CEPA, the FOC envisages cooperation in areas including road policies, design and construction, road operation, road management and safety, intelligent transport systems and electronic toll collection systems

7 MOU between the Ministry of Shipping of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in the Fields of Maritime Transport and Logistics

THE MOU envisages cooperation between the two countries in the fields of maritime transport and logistics including through sharing of technologies, information and experiences, the training of seafarers, exchange of experts and port operations etc.

BHARAT RATNA

A Greater Level of Responsibility

by Suresh Srivastava



political life and contributed the social cause of the country there are many who have contributed and left their indelible mark on the sand of the history in politics. Social activism such as Shri Vinoba Bhave, Mother Teresa, and Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve are the names among those who have contributed to the upliftment of down trodden, Dr. Pandurang Vaman Kane Indo logiest and Sanskrit Scholar ,similarly in art and music person like Bismillah Khan, Satyajeet Ray, Bhimsen Joshi, M.S. Subbulakshmi, Ravi Shankar and Lata Mangeshkar who have made great contribution in their respective fields. Among Non-Indians Nelson Mandela and Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan were recipient of this highest civilian award. In 1992 Netaji Subash Chandra Bose was conferred posthumously this highest civilian award but a controversy arose about the use of the word posthumously as many believed that he had not died in a plane crash in 18th August 1945. This is the only time when the award was announced but was never conferred on Netaji. Recently a row over snooping on close relations of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose at the behest of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru then Prime Minister of India due to declassification of the files relating to Netaji Subash Chandra Bose has come to light. It has also come to the knowledge that before the commission appointed to go into the death of Neta ji, Satyanarayan Sinha a very prominent politician of India came to know that Subash was alive and in Jail somewhere in an archipelago or in Siberia of Russia. When he informed Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru he dismissed it as a mere propa-

ganda of America. The Kith and Kin of Netaji are demanding recalling of Bharat Ratna to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Such issues does raise eyebrow and desirability on conferring such award only after thorough investigation is needed.

Recently contributions in the field of sports was included and Sachin Tendulkar was awarded this prestigious highest civilian award. He was proposed on 14th November 2013 and in all probability he was granted on 15th November 2013, keeping a aside the recommendation of Shri Jitendra Singh, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports for giving this award posthumously to Late Maj. Dhyanchand. Sachin Tendulkar is the first and

The Bharat Ratna award was instituted on 2nd January 1954 to confer the highest civilian award to the person who excel exceptional service or performance of the highest order. This award was originally limited to the achievement in the arts, literature, science and public service. In December 2011 the scope of this award was expanded to include any field of human endeavour

These awards were bestowed upon to the persons like Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Shri Gopinath Bordoloi, -Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Lal Bhadur shastri, Indira Gandhi, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpai who excelled in



youngest person at 40 to receive the Bharat Ratna award.

If we go strictly by the rules book the recipient of this award are not even suppose to prefix before their names such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushna and Padma Shri for the reason that those who are awarded this award are persons of great eminence and are not suppose to prefix before their name, the name of the award of which they are recipient for the reason that no extra ordinary benefit or advantage is drawn by prefixing the name of the award. The recipient of these awards are considered to be man of high integrity and are in high esteem of public at large. They are considered to be an icon of the country and people follow them with great respect and admiration.

Today the electronic media is a commercial word. Prominent and famous film actors, actresses, sport person, musicians, singers and all those who have charismatic personality are utilized in the Electronic and Print media to promote commercial products. It's no secret that by endorsing such commercial product by the persons of the eminence tends to boost the sale of the product irrespective of the fact weather the endorsed products meet the quality standard or not. There



Sachin Tendulkar Receiving Bharat Ratna Award from President Pranab Mukherjee.

Amitabh Bachan, Madhuri Dixit and Preity Zinta are in trouble for endorsing Maggi Noodles and faces an FIR. Such endorsement may also come within the ambit of law of competition Commission of India.

are 45 recipient of Bharat Ratna and none of the 44 recipients of the Bharat Ratna has ever endorsed any commercial products like water purifier, energy drink, stabilizer etc. A person who is a Bharat Ratna and on whom this award has been conferred in recognition of exceptional service and performance of the highest order and the people are bound to believe that the product endorsed by him must be of the highest order as the same is endorsed by no less a person then a Jewel of India. The whole country revereds respect the recipient of Bharat Ratna but if any of the recipient indulge in any activity which is not worthy of such a person, than this may make mockery of the highest award given by the President of India.

This reminds me that few years back World Federation of United Nations Associations was facing a great financial crunch to the extent that what to talk of doing project all over the world, they were not having any funds to give salary to their staff. I was in the meeting of the Executive Committee of WFUNA at New York and members were discussing ways to raise funds for the Organization. Mr. Melcom Harper who was then Secretary General informed members that, they have offer of sponsorship from a Tobacco Company, A Wine Company and from a Playboy Magazine. All the members representing various countries of the world in the Ex.Co. of WFUNA categorically refused to accept their offer on the moral ground inspite of great financial crunch faced by WFUNA. I shudder to think that tomorrow if the recipient of the highest award like Bharat Ratna starts endorsing on the print and electronic media the advertisement of soda water which in fact is nothing but a camouflage dvertisement of liquor. Similarly any such add which is not good in public interest or which espouses the cause of a political party like Hurriyat or any such political or social then the very purpose of award shall be defeated. It is important that those who are the recipient of the highest award should be restrained from appearing in any commercial advertisement or indulging in any such activity which may bring disgrace to not only to this award but to the country. ■



"From farm to plate, make food safe"

World Health Day -2015

IFUNA observed World Health Day with Assam Oil Division of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd at Digboi, Assam

IFUNA observed World Health Day with Assam Oil Division of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd at Digboi, Assam. Suresh Srivastava, Secretary General IFUNA. Suresh Srivastava in his Keynote address said that as the world mark seven billion and India reaching to a mark of 1.2 billion populations with more than 66% of its population under 35 years and India is the youngest nation of the world. We have a greater responsibility towards our young generation that they must get a safe and hygienic food.

When India became independent, the Constitution declared it to be a socialist, secular, democratic Republic. The first fundamental right under the Constitution sets down that every citizen has a right to life, this includes right to food and not only food but safe food free from contamination, adulteration and free from pesticides. This has been interpreted by the highest court as every citizen's right to a life in dignity, good health and free speech in a fraternity of communal harmony and national integrity. These rights are possible only if you are not made to starve and healthy food is available to all.

India has, according to some sources, some 400 million people living below the poverty line. Unless poverty is eradicated, our dreams will remain just a utopian idea on paper. The recently enacted legislation is meant to ensure food security, bringing crores of Indians within its ambit. Food security is one of the most important measures that should make the Indian Democratic Republic a reality in the true sense of the term.

Still, food security, which seeks to end starvation, does not abolish food adulteration. Virtually all items of food in India have chemicals or adulterants added to them, which make them unsafe to various degrees.



**1. IFUNA Secretary General, Suresh Srivastava addressing the meeting.
2. Rajeev Kalita, H.R. Chief felicitating member of Assam UNA.
3. President of Assam UNA Dr. Aswin Sharma addressing the audience.**

Therefore, every public institution where food is served must ensure that what is served is chemically safe, nutritionally healthy and makes for the health of the nation.

The business of making food appear appealing and attractive often spoils the quality of what we eat. To make the nation healthy, every citizen must be able to buy food that is free from contamination, pesticides and adulteration.

I think for this we will have to involve a comprehensive process and testing facilities or laboratories even in the villages. We must have a food safety project that makes what we eat wholesome. Food

security cannot be guaranteed merely by the provision of a certain quantity of grain to each family but by ensuring that every grain that is distributed is wholesome and nourishing, and not noxious.

The world has become a global village and with revolution in information technology the whole world is in contact with a click of button. Similarly, the movement of food and food products is global. While eating grains, banana, apple or any vegetable we are not sure if it belongs to our region, our country or some other country therefore, cooperation and collaboration is essential in today's transforming world. Globalization has multiplied the scope and scale of our responsibility and created unique regulatory challenges for us. As we know the realities of our 21st Century world have redrawn the path that food navigates to reach our homes from farm to plate, safer and healthy. In words of Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer.... "The destiny of India is as yet uncertain, the ambition of the present generation is to wipe every tear from every eye. That may be beyond us but as long as there is tears and suffering, so long our work will not be over." The programme was attended by eminent speakers from Assam oil Divisions Amitav Misra, General Manager, Rajiv Kalita, HR Chief of Assam Oil, Dr Aswini Sarma, President UNA Assam. ■

Glimpses of IFUNA EXCO MEETING IN SHILLONG



Seminar on Peace, Security and conflict prevention held on 20th April, 2015 at International Youth hostel conference hall, Shillong Sitting 1 to r . P.M. Parvatiyar, Suresh Srivastava, Sitaram Sharma and Dr.Ashwani Sharma.



I to r. Mrs. Veena Parvatiyar, Mr. Ashok Sharma, Mrs. Mukul Sangma, MLA , Mrs. Meena Srivastava and Mrs.Swati Parvatiyar.



IFUNA Executive Committee meeting at shillong (Meghalaya)

DR.Mukul Shangma ,Chief Minister Meghalaya and Chairman IFUNA responding to the greetings of visiting IFUNA members on his Birth Day. Mrs. Sangma is seen besides him. V Nair (Mohan) of Kerla UNA is seen behind him. Dr. Aswin Sharma, President, Assam UNA is seen in left



IFUNA Exco members with profulla Mahanta Former Chief Minister of Assam at Shillong (Assam House)

INDIA, FRANCE TALK BUSINESS

Ink 17 deals

on defence, infrastructure, nuclear reactor among others



PM Modi & France President Hollande watching the exchange of agreements & release of commemorative stamps

DEFENCE cooperation, fight against terrorism, infrastructure, nuclear reactor, renewable sources of energy, railways, smart cities and tourism were the major topics of discussions between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Francois

Hollande during Modi's visit to France in mid April.. Calling France among India's most valued friends, Modi said the "two big democracies share similar values" and 17 agreements were signed in Paris.

The agreements included coming

together of the two countries on key projects related to railways, urban heritage and tourism sectors among others. During their meeting, India and France discussed bringing perpetrators and conspirators of terrorist attacks to justice.



List of agreements/initiatives/announcements signed /agreed during visit of Prime Minister to France

Defence and Nuclear Energy, MoU between L&T and AREVA

It is aimed at cost reduction by increasing localization, to improve the financial viability of Jaitapur project. It will also enable transfer of technology and development of indigenous nuclear energy industry in India.

Pre-engineering agreements between NPCIL and AREVA

The PEA studies intend to bring clarity on all technical aspects of the plant so that all parties (AREVA, Alstom and NPCIL) can firm up their price and optimize all provisions for risks still included at this stage in the costs of the project.

MoU between ISRO and CNES on Megha Tropiques

The Indo-French Megha Tropiques satellite was launched on board the Indian launch vehicle, PSLV on October 12, 2011. The MoU shall extend by 2 more years, the joint project for sharing and use of data from the satellite.

'MOU between ISRO, CNES and ONERA for Ka-band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region'

The MoU envisages cooperation for implementation of the project concerning Ka- band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region. The main objective is to collect Ka-Band attenuation data using available Ka-Band transmission and perform analysis along with corresponding radio meter and meteorological data.

Programme between ISRO and France National Centre for Space Studies (CNES)

The Agreement proposes cooperation in the areas of Satellite Remote sensing, satellite communications and satellite meteorology; space sciences and planetary exploration; data collection and location; operations of satellite

ground stations and spacecraft mission management; space research and applications.

It covers the potential cooperation activities such as joint earth observation mission, hosted payload opportunities and Mars exploration.

Sports

MoU on Cooperation between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of India and French Ministry of Sports, Youth Affairs, Public Education and Community Life

The MoU envisages cooperation and exchange of experiences in the fields of sports medicine, institutional cooperation, development of practice of sports in the context of proximity sports, support of participation of women and the disabled in sports, management and coordination of sports federations, training of executives and establishment of National Institute of Sports in India based on French model of INSEP.

Economic Relations

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of renewable energy between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India and the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, Government of France

The understanding reached in this MoU will help establish the basis for cooperation and relationship to encourage and promote technical bilateral cooperation on new and renewable energy issues on the basis of mutual benefits and reciprocity through exchange and training of technical personnel, exchange of information and data, joint research and transfer of know-how and technology. It would cover solar, wind, bio-energy, tidal and wave energy sectors.

Railways

Railway protocol between Indian Ministry of Railways and French National Railways (SNCF)

The Protocol seeks to establish cooperation between Indian and French Railways for semi-high speed rail and station renovation.

ENERGY

Guarantee Agreement with AFD Financing of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)

The Agreement seeks to finance Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) CULTURE, HERITAGE CONSERVATION, TOURISM, PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTACTS

Administrative Arrangement in the field of Cultural Heritage

The Administrative Arrangement between the Indian Ministry of Culture and French Ministry of Culture and Communication, envisages cooperation in the field of cultural heritage, through training of Indian heritage conservation professionals at the Institute National du Patrimoine (INP), a higher education establishment of training for curators and restorers in the field of heritage in France, as well as Development of cultural and scientific cooperation in the fields of conservation and restoration of the heritage, short duration training sessions in India by INP trainers in Indian institutes and training of French training in India etc.

Letter of Intent on Tourism

LoI for increasing cooperation in tourism sector signed between India and France aims to promote sustainable bilateral tourism between the two countries including through mutual promotion of tourism, ensuring safety of tourists and encouraging sharing of expertise and best practices. The LoI also seeks to facilitate twinning of sites having historical, natural and cultural sig-



nificance in India and France for promoting them as tourist destinations.

Letter of Intent (LoI) between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and National Institute of Preventive Archaeological Research (INRAP)

The LoI envisages collaboration on preventive archaeology projects, initiatives to disseminate culture and promote archaeology, training programmes for specialists of ASI and deployment of expertise, in particular, in the field of underwater archaeology.

MOU between School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi and National Architecture Institute in Paris, France

The MoU envisages cooperation to undertake joint planning and geographical studies in India and France and train-

ing of local counterparts in modern urban and regional research as well as in techniques of scientific methods in Urban and regional planning, geography, environment, Building engineering and management.

MoU between Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCN) and Association Nationale des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire et villes a secteurs sauvegardés et protégés ('ANVPAH')

This MoU envisages cooperation between to cooperate in the fields of sustainable development, urban planning, heritage conservation and up-gradation of basic services.

Proposal for twinning of historical monuments

Twinning of historical monuments is covered under the LoI on Tourism Cooperation.

VIE scheme to allow Indian students in France and French students in India to stay for a period of 24 months.

The Volontariat International en Entreprise (VIE) scheme offers Indian Visa for 12 months renewable once for a period of 12 months for 250 French students and a 'second residence permit' of 12 months for the Indian students in France following the 12 months already granted.

Letter of Intent on Ayurveda between Ministry of Ayush and University of Strasbourg

LoI allows both the parties to

Airbus to set up final assembly lines for military aircraft, helicopters in India

IN RESPONSE to Prime Minister Modi's recent Visit to Airbus SAS at Toulouse in France, plans to develop, manufacture electronic sensors with a partner in India, and has also advanced discussions to support HAL's combat aircraft programmes

Airbus Group CEO Tom Enders says the firm support PM Modi's 'Make in India' call and is ready to manufacture in India, for India and the world.

Aircraft manufacturer Airbus SAS of Toulouse said it is willing to set-up final assembly lines and establish supply chain and related infrastructure for military transport aircraft and helicopters in India. The defence and space unit of Airbus has also plans to develop and manufacture electronic sensors with a partner in India, and has advanced discussions to support state-run Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd's combat aircraft programmes.



strengthen their relationships and cooperation in the area of Ayurveda education and research by undertaking academic and research activities, exploring feasibility of collaborative research, and drawing up strategies for dissemination of results of completed studies,

Conducting joint workshops/conferences on Ayurveda as complimentary medicine in France

Skill Development

MoU between National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), India and the National Commission for Vocational Qualifications (Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle – CNCV)

For exchange of information regard-

ing the maintenance of National Skills Qualification Framework and the French National Register for Vocational Certifications (RNCP). The agreement will facilitate exchange of information and knowledge about maintenance of qualification registers through information exchanges, visits and other suitable meetings.

Science and Technology

MoU on cooperation in the field of Science & Technology between Department of Science & Technology of India and the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)

The MoU is for cooperation between the two countries in the areas of applied mathematics, physics, Information & communication technology, water

resources and environment, life sciences, astronomy, climate and energy by exchange of information, organization of meetings/workshops/seminars, exchange of research sonnel; joint projects; establishment of Virtual Joint Laboratories, and establishment of Joint Research Centres.

MoU between Department of Biotechnology of India and CNRS and UPMC on Collaboration for establishment of a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India

The proposed MoU seeks to establish a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India, with a Hub and Spoke network of laboratories spanning India's marine regions from the Andaman to Lakshadweep

In a statement, Airbus said one of its units, Airbus Helicopters is in discussion with Indian companies to finalise teaming arrangements for various helicopter programmes, including the Naval Utility Helicopter, the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Helicopter as well as the Naval Multi-Role Helicopter competitions.

This was announced during Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the Airbus production facilities in Toulouse. "India already takes a centre-stage role in our international activities and we want to even increase its contribution to our products. We support Prime Minister Modi's 'Make in India' call and are ready to manufacture in India, for India and the world," said Airbus Group chief executive officer Tom Enders.

In India, Airbus Group already operates two engineering centres – one focused on civil aviation and the other on defence – and a research and technology (R&T) centre which together employ over 400 people.

During the meeting with Modi, the Group's senior representatives conveyed their decision to expand these centres so that they can take on comprehensive design responsibilities for future Airbus Group programmes.

At present, Airbus commands over 70% market share in the fleet of Indian scheduled airlines. In 2014, Airbus' procurement from India stood at over \$400 million from



Prime Minister Narendra Modi (C) chats with Airbus CEO Fabrice Bregier (L) as they visit the Jean-Luc Largardere factory, an Airbus assembly line, ...

around 40 companies (public and private) which together support more than 5,000 jobs locally. The top three procurement areas have been in engineering & IT services, aero-structures, and detailed parts & systems. "The prime minister was informed that procurement from the country is set to grow further as the Group plans to award additional manufacturing and engineering work packages to local companies, which will accelerate their integration into the Group's global supply chain," Airbus said in a statement. Airbus said it is willing to set-up final assembly lines and establish supply chains and related infrastructure for military transport aircraft and helicopters in the

country. "These would be in full compliance of the procurement policies specified by the Indian Ministry of Defence and local Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) guidelines," it said.

Airbus' defence and space had submitted a joint proposal with Tata Group to produce the modern C295 aircraft in India as a replacement for the ageing Avro aircraft of the Indian Air Force.

Airbus also works directly with Indian companies in designing and manufacturing aero structures. These companies include Tata Group, Mahindra Group, Aequs Pvt Ltd, L&T, Dynamatic Technologies Ltd, Infosys Ltd, HCL Technologies Ltd, Geometric Ltd and Tech Mahindra Ltd.

India's order for Rafale jets

India order for Rafale jets effectively killing commercial negotiations for a larger deal with Dassault Aviation (AVMD.PA).

Terming as "one of the bold initiatives" of the Modi government Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar on 16th May said ,French team constituted to negotiate the Rafale deal has arrived in India and talks can start anytime now.India has constituted a committee headed by Air Marshal SBP Sinha to hold negotiations with the French team.India is to buy 36 Rafale fighter jets in flyaway condition from France after Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Francois Hollande last month agreed to conclude an Inter-Governmental Agreement bypassing the protracted negotiations for purchase of 126 such jets.The two countries had decided to form committees to take forward the negotiations."The signing of agreement for Rafale purchase was one of the bold decisions taken by the government. We signed the deal for better price, better than earlier," Manohar Parrikar has said.A joint statement issued after Modi-Hollande talks had said the two leaders agreed to conclude an Inter-Governmental Agreement for supply of the aircraft on terms that would be "better" than that conveyed as part of a separate process underway.It was an apparent reference to

the talks that kicked off in 2012 for the sale of 126 Rafale fighter jets for 12 billion USD. The deal had been bogged down over cost and Dassault Aviation's reluctance to stand guarantee for 108 planes to be made by state-run Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).According to Parrikar,"the report about India's low preparedness to fight the war is old one, dating back to March 2013. After that we have improved our preparedness by almost 50 per cent."About the government auditor's contention that India's ammunition stock would not last even a few days in the event of a war, Mr Parrikar said, ordnance production had also improved over the past year.He said the Defence Ministry has delisted 65 per cent of the items, making them free for manufacturing and export.The minister said the impact of raising FDI limit in defence to 49 per cent will also be seen in the years to come.

Earlier India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced a plan to buy 36 planes from Dassault through the government-to-government route, after three years of price negotiations for local assembly of the aircraft produced no results. Modi's decision came after commercial negotiations went into a "vortex".

"This had to be done to break the vortex," he said, adding that the preferred

method was now to talk directly to the French government, rather than return to commercial negotiations.

"Instead of going through the RFP (Request For Proposal bidding process), where there is lot of confusion, chaos, it is now the situation that 36 will be procured ready to fly. What is to be done with the rest will have to be discussed," according to Parrikar.

A decision to abandon commercial talks would end what had been touted as one of the world's biggest defence deals and could give hope to rival manufacturers, experts said.

"The government has bought time now," said Muthumanickam Matheswaran, a former Air Marshal in the Indian Air Force. Future purchases "could be that aircraft, or it could be another aircraft", he said.

"That is an indication that the RFP that has been hanging for more than three years is finished," said Matheswaran, who advises Hindustan Aeronautics.

Under the original plan, India's Air Force was to buy 126 Rafale fighters. Of those, 108 would be produced at a state-run Hindustan Aeronautics plant in BangaloreA as part of India's efforts to build a domestic military industrial base. But the two sides could not agree on the terms.

The value of the deal was estimated to have grown to about \$20 billion from an initial \$12 billion in the meantime.

According to Parrikar the Rafale was an expensive aircraft and buying 126 planes would have cost the country 900 billion rupees (\$14.43 billion). The French jet was a top-end aircraft and that India's indigenously-made Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) is intended to replace the Russian-made Mig-21, which forms the bulk of the air force's fleet. India's air force needs 42 squadrons to face a two-front challenge from Pakistan and China. It currently has 34, several of which have planes that need to be phased out.A MiG upgrade programme, the induction of the LCA and the 36 Rafales would help bridge the gap. The decision to buy the planes quickly after years of negotiations has been welcomed by the military. ■





'You are the Factory of the World, We are the Back Office'

- PM Modi to CEOs of top Chinese Business houses at the India-China business forum in Shanghai



PM Narendra Modi shaking hands with Jack Ma, founder of e-commerce giant Alibaba during a meeting with top Chinese CEOs in Shanghai.

PM Narendra Modi shaking hands with Jack Ma, founder of e-commerce giant Alibaba during a meeting with top Chinese CEOs in Shanghai.

To Chinese business men, PM Modi said, "Now India is ready for business, you would have seen winds of change... I assure you of my personal attention for your success."

"I have come to say to you Make in India," he told them and talked about what he called the "5F Formula - From Farm to Fibre to Fabric to Fashion to Foreign."

"You are the 'factory of the world'. Whereas, we are the 'back office of the world'... Let us work together in mutual interest and for progress and prosperity of our great countries," the PM said in his speech to executives from 200 Chinese and Indian companies, making a strong pitch for his 'Make in India' campaign.

Shortly after Prime Minister Narendra Modi met top Chinese CEOs and addressed a gathering of businessmen, Indian and Chinese companies signed 21 agreements worth about 22 billion dollars in Shanghai.

WHAT SOME OF THE TOP CHINESE BUSINESS LEADERS SAID:

"We are excited about India. We are excited about Make in India and Digital India."

- Jack Ma, Founder, Alibaba

"We are full of hope about India, which offers a dynamic work force and huge market."

-Liang Wengen, Chairman, SANY

"Harbin Electric would like to bring more light to India, take advantage of Make in India."

-Zou Lei, CEO, Harbin Electric

"We have some big plans for India, We fully support Make in India."

-Lin Bin, President, Xiaomi

"We want to focus on power sectors investments. We are planning to invest in Gujarat."

-Langye Sun, Director, Dalian City



PM Narendra Modi meets business leaders at the India-China Business Forum in Shanghai

The highlights of his talk :

India and China have a common history of 5,000 years and a common boundary of over 3,000 kms China and India are two great and old civilizations of the world. Together, today we represent more than one third of the world population

I believe the century belongs to Asia Our ideas had a role to play in your innovation, we have a lot in common and can do a lot together The Indian concept of zero and nine planets have had a role to play in Chinese innovations

In recent times also the stream of knowledge is flowing across our borders India has always been a knowledge society. You have been an innovating society As we helped each other growing spiritually, we have to help each other growing economically the scope and potential, the breadth and length of infrastructure and related developments is very huge in India.

We are going to develop smart cities and mega industrial corridors, we have refined our FDI We are modernizing our Railways and planning metros in 50 cities

We also want to promote manufacturing in a big way particularly to create jobs for our youth who form 65 per cent of our population

Once you decide to be in India, we are committed to making you more and more comfortable It is also the effort of my government to encourage innovation, research & development and entrepreneurship in the country

In our first budget, we said we will not resort to retrospective taxation You already know the direction of our government and the steps we are taking, we have committed ourselves to creating a business environment

Within a very short time we introduced GST bill in our Parliament An all-time high allocation has been made for roads You are the factory of the world. We are the back office of the world. Together we can bring about progress and prosperity for both our people. ■

India China

Signed 24 Agreements during PM Modi's Visit



A view of Joint Meeting

FOUR agreements were signed on sister-state and sister-city relations between Karnataka and Sichuan province; Chennai and Chongqing.

During the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India and China signed a record 24 agreements in key sectors, including in railways and education.

Protocol for setting up Consulates-General at Chengdu and Chennai besides

a MoU on consultative mechanism for cooperation in trade negotiations were among the 24 agreements signed in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Chinese counterpart Li Keqiang in Beijing.

An action plan between the Indian Railways and China National Railways on enhancing cooperation in the railway sector was also signed.

"We have signed over 20 agreements,

covering diverse areas of cooperation. This shows the depth and maturity of our relationship and the positive direction of our partnership," said Mr. Modi.

"Our decision to open consulates in Chengdu and Chennai reflects growing mutual confidence and shared commitment to expand relations," he added.

A MoU on education exchange programme and 'Space Cooperation Outline' were also signed.

India and China have signed 24 agreements worth over 10 billion dollars. After Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with Chinese premier Li Keqiang in Beijing. Business was the main focus of PM Modi's three-day visit to China.

List of agreements signed by India and China:



Narendra Modi with Chinese premier Li Keqiang in Beijing

Other key agreements are on developing China India think-tanks, maritime cooperation and ocean sciences.

Four agreements were signed on sister-state and sister-city relations between Karnataka and Sichuan province; Chennai and Chongqing; Hyderabad and Qingdao; and Aurangabad and Dunhuang.

An agreement on setting up a Mahatma Gandhi skill centre in Ahmedabad was also signed besides a broadcast tie-up for Doordarshan and China's state-run CCTV.

Agreements on education exchange programme, on mining and minerals, skill development, tourism and vocational education also figured on the list.

Two MoUs between Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Yunnan Minzu University and another with Fudan University were signed on the establishment of a yoga college and centre for Gandhian and Indian studies, respectively. ■

- Protocol for establishment of consulates in Chengdu and Chennai
- Cooperation in vocational education and skill development and setting up of Mahatma Gandhi institute on skill development in India
- Consultative mechanism on cooperation in trade negotiations
- Cooperation between Foreign Ministry and Central Committee of Communist Party of China (CCCPC)
- Action plan between national railway administration of China and Indian Railways
- Memorandum of Understanding on education exchange programme
- Cooperation in the fields of mining and minerals
- Space cooperation outline
- Safety regulations on importing Indian rapeseed meal
- Broadcasting agreement between CCTV and Doordarshan
- Agreement for cooperation in the field of tourism
- Memorandum of Understanding on establishing India-China think tanks forum
- Memorandum of Understanding between NITI Aayog and Development Research Centre
- Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in earthquake science and engineering
- Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in ocean sciences, climate change and cryosphere
- Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in geo sciences
- Memorandum of Understanding on establishment states/provincial leaders' forum
- Cooperation between states and municipalities - establishment of India-China state leaders forum
- Agreement on the establishment of sister states Sichuan and Karnataka
- Agreement on the establishment of sister cities between Chennai and Chongqing
- Agreement on the establishment of sister cities between Hyderabad and Qingdao
- Agreement on the establishment of sister cities Aurangabad and Dunhuang
- Memorandum of Understanding between ICCR and Fudan University for establishment of centre for Gandhian studies
- Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of Yoga college in Kunming.



What Should be the Price of Crude?



P.M.Parvatiyar

CRUDE OIL is a naturally occurring liquid fossil fuel resulting from plants and animals buried underground and exposed to extreme heat and pressure. Crude oil is one of the most demanded commodities and prices have significantly fluctuating every day.. Two major benchmarks for pricing crude oil are the United States' WTI (West Texas Intermediate) and United Kingdom's Brent. The differences between WTI and Brent include not only price but oil type as well, with WTI producing crude oil with a different density and sulfur content.

The demand for crude oil is dependent on global economic conditions as well as market speculation. Crude oil prices are commonly measured in USD. Although there have been discussions of replacing the USD with another trade currency for crude oil, no definitive actions have been taken.

With the historic understanding between Iran and world powers on curbing Iran's nuclear program, all sanctions on Iran will be lifted ,after reaching a comprehensive agreement by June 30,2015, resulting flow of more Iranian crude into world markets.

According to Goldman Sachs group, the slump in benchmark U.S. futures, down more than 40 percent this year, is driving producers to move drill rigs to lower-cost fields. While there is evidence of some rebalancing starting to occur in the market, it's far from sufficient. Therefore US producers, pumping crude at the highest rate in more than three decades, may increase output. Costs are falling nearly as fast as the price, which means oil producers can spend less to get the same or potentially even more in terms of production. "While reductions in capex are coming faster than expected, it



The Iran Darab (IMO: 9218492, Port of Registry: Busher, Iran) is a 333 meters long, 58 meters wide crude oil tanker with a draught of 22 meters and a ...

is unlikely to translate into less supply" it further said, adding drill-rig rates have dropped as much as 20 percent.

Conoco Phillips, the third-largest U.S. energy producer, cut its spending by about 20 percent for next year as prices slump amid an energy boom driven by a combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing. .

But according to Goldman "the activity pull is sequentially weakening" and that global crude inventories would therefore rise, pushing West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude CLc1 to US \$40 a barrel, levels last seen at the peak of the global financial crisis in late 2008, early 2009."While we continue to forecast a strong demand recovery in 2015, we believe that sequentially weaker activity, the end of winter and the end of potential restocking demand, will lead to a sequential deceleration in demand-growth as we enter the spring," the investment banking firm has said. "

The global financial services major

said that it expected "OECD Asia demand to decline in 2015 as stronger industrial production is offset by the continued switch to LNG (liquefied natural gas) for power generation and the impending start-up of the two Sendai nuclear reactors in Japan".

In Japan, the regulator has given approval for several reactors to be restarted in 2015. All its 48 reactors were taken offline after the meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi plant following an earthquake and tsunami in 2011. In the United States, Goldman said that "the

Iran sees 'no threat' from \$25 Barrel oil as prices slide

build in US inventories has surprised to the upside, especially in Cushing".As operating costs were falling, US crude prices will likely drop as far as \$40 a barrel in the near-term, reversing recent gains in oil prices . As per Goldman, Brent prices LCOc1 would also come under renewed pressure .A two-thirds drop in Asian LNG prices is making the fuel cost competitive against oil in the industrial power sector.

IRAN OIL PRODUCTION

"Iran has built up significant oil inventories and could immediately increase exports as soon as sanctions are lifted," says analysts. According to Shipping sources Iran is storing at least 30 million barrels of oil on its fleet of super tankers, as Western sanctions keep a lid on sales.Iran could increase oil production by some 500,000 barrel per day (bpd) in three to six months as soon as sanctions are removed, and by an additional 700,000 bpd within another year, as per



estimates. Iran will be very reluctant to accept a lower quota given that it has given up so much production due to sanctions.

Iran is strong enough to withstand a deeper slump in prices even if the country must sell at \$25 a barrel. "If the oil prices drop to \$25 a barrel, there will yet again be no threat posed to Iran's oil industry," Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh reported to have said at a conference in Tehran recently.

OPEC is scheduled to meet next on June 5. Iran together with Venezuela has called for OPEC, which supplies about 40 percent of the world's oil, to work together to support a recovery in crude. The U.S. shale boom has contributed to a global glut, and Qatar and the United Arab Emirates estimate the oversupply at about 2 million barrels a day. Iran is hobbled by international sanctions over its nuclear program and struggling for market share.

The recent surge in oil prices is just a "head-fake," and oil as cheap as \$20 a barrel may soon be on the way, Citigroup has said in a report on as it lowered its forecast for crude.

Despite global declines in spending that have driven up oil prices in recent weeks, oil production in the US is still rising, wrote Edward Morse, Citigroup's

global head of commodity research. Brazil and Russia are pumping oil at record levels, and Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran have been fighting to maintain their market share by cutting prices to Asia. The market is oversupplied, and storage tanks are topping out.

A pullback in production isn't likely until the third quarter, Morse said. In the meantime, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude, which currently trades at

around \$52 a barrel, could fall to the \$20 range "for a while," according to the report. The US shale-oil revolution has broken OPEC's ability to manipulate prices and maximize profits for oil-producing countries. "It looks exceedingly unlikely for OPEC to return to its old way of doing business,"

U.S. oil companies have quickly become the new swing factor on the world energy stage, and their ability to handle price volatility could be key in determining future oil prices

Another major topic of discussion is the opening of Mexico's energy market to new investment. Some investment firms see big opportunities in Mexico's energy sector, closed for more than 75 years with Pemex as a state-owned monopoly. The changes in Mexico is equivalent to "waking a sleeping giant."

"This is a market that's far from settled down, and it's a market that's going to be a lot more volatile. Oil traders are mispricing crude futures for later this decade because they're underestimating how a collapse in spending will affect supplies, according to consultants who advise energy producers and analysts.

It is therefore expected the crude price should not go beyond between \$35 to \$40 range for days to come. ■

A two-thirds drop in Asian LNG prices is making the fuel cost competitive against oil in the industrial power sectors

*“Earth Provides enough to satisfy
every man’s need,
but not for every man’s greed.”*

(Mahatma Gandhi)

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Why Is Peace So Elusive?



**H.H. SANT
RAJINDER SINGH JI**

Throughout the world, we find people have many ways of expressing their desire for peace. We hear phrases such as "peace be with you." At Christmas, people send greeting cards or sing songs about "peace on Earth." We find that people will hold up two fingers in the form of a "V" which symbolizes "peace." When someone dies, we pray that he or she "rests in peace."

Nations meet continually to search for ways to make peace with each other. Organizations dedicated to peace have sprung up in many countries. There is even a Nobel peace prize for individual contributions to this noble cause.

The quest for peace is universal. In every age and in every country, people have been trying to find peace within their environment, within their societies, and within the world. It is strange that this search has been going on for

so long and has been sought by so many people, yet its attainment remains elusive. Few find peace for themselves. Nothing on earth seems to provide us with a true and lasting peace. We start to wonder why peace is so hard to achieve.

A dictionary defines it as freedom from strife, and a state of serenity and calmness. Inherent in this definition is the answer to why peace is so difficult to find. Life and strife seem to go hand in hand. Whether one is rich or poor, a king or a peasant, one's life is always beset with one problem or another.

There is a story from the life of Lord Buddha which aptly illustrates this truth. A woman whose young son had died approached Lord Buddha. She was shedding copious tears over the loss of her child. She asked Buddha to help bring her son back to life and ease the terrible pain in her heart. Buddha, in his wisdom, told her he would help her if she could first bring back the mustard seed from a household in which no one ever died. The lady followed his instructions and moved from one home to the next. Yet, at each door, she received the same reply. She realized that there wasn't any family that could pass through life escaping the loss of one of its members.

Death is the one inevitable fact of life. Sickness and disease are yet others. We need only examine our own life to see how difficult it is to go through one's existence without any mishap, accident, or illness. Medical books are filled with numerous diseases that can afflict human beings. There is no dearth of accidents that could befall us as we move through life's highways and byways. With death or illness hanging over our heads, it is difficult to live in perpetual, uninterrupted peace.

Even if our physical body is fairly healthy, few can pass through life without any strife. There are many occurrences that produce stress. If we have a family, we know that the illness, unhappiness, or misfortune of any member causes the others to be distressed. Whenever any two people live or work together, there are bound to be tensions due to differences of opinions or differing viewpoints. There are a host of other problems that afflict our lives. If we search for peace in our outer life, at best we can find transitory moments. We certainly do have times in which we enjoy the warmth of being with our loved ones, or we have moments of happiness from some gain or achievement. But these moments are fleeting. Inevitably, life again comes with its panorama of problems.

It seems as if lasting peace in this life is virtually impossible. Life is more like a pendulum in which we swing back and forth from moments of joy to moments of sorrow.

But true peace can be attained in this lifetime. We only need to undergo a paradigm shift. Our angle of vision needs to be changed. We normally look for peace in the outer world. We hope to find it in our possessions, positions, and relationships. But the loss of any of these causes us to become agitated and distraught. Our peace of mind is disturbed. There is a way to have true peace. Just as Birbal shortened Akbar's line by drawing a longer line next to it, the solution to finding peace can be found in a similar way. We cannot change the nature of the world and its problems. But we can add a new dimension to life that will give us peace.

Peace can be found within us. Many people believe the outer world is the only reality. But the enlightened luminaries through-

out history have had mystical experiences which verified for them the existence of inner spiritual regions.

Buddha found enlightenment by inverting within himself. Christ has said, "The Kingdom of heaven is within you." The Muslim and the Judeo-Christian scriptures speak of the contact that the prophets had with God. Mystics in every religion have described their inner spiritual experiences. These higher realms co-exist simultaneously with us in the physical world. They are realms of eternal peace and bliss. We cannot change the world, but we can tune into those realms lying within us. By doing so we will change our perspective in our life.

The way to reach this inner world is through meditation. Meditation is the process by which we separate our soul from the body to voyage into the regions within. Spiritual teachers or mystics who have mastered this science can teach it to us. First, they explain the theory so we can understand the process. Then, they give us a practical demonstration of it through meditation on the inner Light and Sound.

We may not be able to change our life or eliminate its problems, but through meditation we can look at it differently. Through meditation we can face life because we understand it better. We have the knowledge to help us face up to what happens to us with strength. We will have gained the inner peace that comes from spiritual consciousness. And we will be a source of peace to all around us.

The more we come in contact with the Light and Sound, the more bliss we experience. The soul experiences pure joy and happiness. This bliss stays with the soul throughout the day and night, and we experience peace and contentment. ■

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