



Published by The Indian Federation of  
United Nations Associations

APRIL 2022 ■ Rs 25/-

# PEOPLE AND UN



India-Japan  
Summit 2022

**Modi And Kishida**  
**Reaffirms the Special Strategic**  
**and Global Partnership**



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## FORM IV

Statement about ownership and other particulars about **People and UN** to be published in the first issue every year after the last day of February

1. Place of publication : Delhi
2. Periodicity of its publication - Quarterly
3. Printer's Name - Suresh Kumar Srivastava
4. Nationality - Indian  
Address - C-31, 1st Floor, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi - 110017
4. Publisher's Name - Suresh Kumar Srivastava  
Nationality - Indian  
Address - C-31, 1st Floor, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi - 110017
5. Editor's Name - Pran Mohan Parvatiyar  
Nationality - Indian  
Address - C-6, Raj Residency, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, UP - 201010

6. Names and addresses of individuals who own the newspaper and partners or shareholders holding More than one per cent of the total capital.

Indian Federation of United Nations Associations C-6, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi - 110016  
I, SURESH KUMAR SRIVASTAVA hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date : 08/03/2022

  
Signature of Publisher



**S**ri Lanka is in turmoil. The country is facing a serious Political and Economic Crisis. The unravelling of its economy is painful. Imports of everything from milk to fuel have plunged, spawning dire food shortages and rolling power cuts. People have been forced to queue for hours every day to buy essentials. Doctors have warned of a crippling shortage of life-saving drugs in hospitals, and the government has suspended payments on \$7 billion in foreign debts due this year alone.

Peoples are out on streets protesting over soaring inflation. It has shaken President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's hold on power, with government ministers resigning while the opposition asking for fresh elections.

Ahead of the November 2019 election, Sri Lankan presidential challenger Gotabaya Rajapaksa proposed sweeping tax cuts so reckless that the incumbent government thought it must be a campaign gimmick.

The then finance minister Mangala Samaraweera, assailed the "dangerous" pledge to reduce the value-added tax to 8% from 15% and scrap other levies.. "If these proposals are implemented like this not only will the entire country go bankrupt ,but the entire country will become another Venezuela or another Greece", he warned.

Ignoring Samaraweera's warning the people of Sri Lanka got tempted with the proposed sweeping tax cuts offer as immediate economic gain in their personal budget. They voted Rajapaksa family to power. Rajapaksa brothers and relatives won with convincing majority and passed the tax cut in the first cabinet meeting as promised, without considering its complications.

Now with the foreign-exchange earnings plunging, Sri Lanka is struggling to manage its external debt, which had grown in part due to loans from China to fund ambitious infrastructure projects. Even though Sri Lanka has received credit lines from neighbors like India, it has been unable to regularly pay for imports of fuel and essential foods. Making matters worse was Rajapaksa's pivot last year to organic farming with a ban on chemical fertilizers that triggered farmer protests and saw production of critical tea and rice crops decline. Mahinda Rajapaksa's insistence on laying the foundation of the Hambantota port has also cost Sri Lanka heavily.

Rajapaksa Government is now racing to ensure basic goods for the citizenry by trying to seek emergency funds from the IMF, World Bank, China and other lenders. It has stopped paying back foreign debt, defaulting for the first time since achieving independence from the British in 1948.

One hardly expected that so soon (within 30 months). Mangala Samarveera prediction is proving to be true.

It also speaks in volumes about a cautionary tale for populist and reckless promises made by leaders navigating to get power by showing fairyland at the cost of the country.

– **Pran Mohan Parvatiyar**  
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# ‘We too have views about Human Rights issues in the United States’

Dr S Jaishankar hits back on USA’s criticism of India

“Looking at figures, our purchases (Oil) for the month would be less than what Europe does in an afternoon.”--Jaishankar



## INDIA-U.S. VIRTUAL SUMMIT & INDIA-U.S. 2+2 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE

**HE SAID NUMEROUS YOUNG PEACE BUILDERS, ESPECIALLY YOUNG WOMEN, REPORT THAT THEIR PARTICIPATION IS NOT WELCOMED BY THE PUBLIC OR THOSE IN POSITIONS OF POWER. "WE NEED TO ENSURE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE - FORGING INCLUSIVE SOLUTIONS THAT COMBINE PEACE AND SECURITY, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS," HE SAID.**

**I**N a sharp response to US Secretary of State Antony Blinker's recent comments on a "rise in human rights abuses" in India, Foreign Minister S Jayashankar has said "people" are entitled to have views about India's policies but at the same time, New Delhi is "equally entitled" to have views about them. Indian Foreign Minister, said in his first official reaction to the US statements that also appeared to refer to the hate attack on two Sikh men in New York.

The External Affairs Minister was referring to an incident of hate crime against two Sikh men in the US two days back, who were attacked and robbed in a New York neighborhood

In January also, a Sikh taxi driver was

assaulted at JFK International Airport, with the attacker allegedly calling him "turbaned people" and asking him to "go back to your country".

According to New York State Assembly woman Jenifer Rajkumar, the first Punjabi American ever elected to the New York State Office, these incidents have increased by "200% in recent years"

India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's rebuttal has been seen in the context of incidents of hate crimes against the Indian community in the US.

At a joint news conference after the 2+2 dialogue of top US and Indian ministers on Monday 11th April, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken had said the US is monitoring



**Foreign Minister Dr S Jaishankar hits back at United States on Human Rights Issue**

**"LOOK, PEOPLE ARE ENTITLED TO HAVE VIEWS ABOUT US. BUT WE ARE ALSO EQUALLY ENTITLED TO HAVE VIEWS ABOUT THEIR VIEWS AND ABOUT THE INTERESTS, AND THE LOBBIES AND THE VOTE BANKS WHICH DRIVE THAT. SO, WHENEVER THERE IS A DISCUSSION, I CAN TELL YOU THAT WE WILL NOT BE RETICENT ABOUT SPEAKING OUT," MR. JAISHANKAR SAID AT A PRESS BRIEFING, ADDING THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WAS NOT A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION DURING THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.**

some recent "concerning developments" in India, including what he called a rise in "human rights abuses" by some government, police, and prison officials. Mr Blinken was speaking with Mr. Jaishankar, Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin by his side. Mr. Jaishankar did not respond to the remarks at the conference but did so on Wednesday 13th April.

"Look, people are entitled to have views about us. But we are also equally entitled to have views about their views and about the interests, and the lobbies and the vote banks which drive that. So, whenever there is a discussion, I can tell you that we will not be reticent about speaking out," Mr. Jaishankar said at a press briefing, adding that the human rights issue was not a topic of discussion during the ministerial meeting.

"I would tell you that we also take our views on other people's human rights situation, including that of the United States. So, we take up human rights issues when they arise in this country, especially when they pertain to our community. And in fact, we had a case yesterday...that's really where we stand on that," said the

Foreign Minister.

It was an apparent reference to two Sikh men assaulted on Tuesday 12th April in an alleged hate crime incident in Richmond Hills area of New York, US. The two - who were on an early morning walk - were attacked reportedly at the same location where a member of the community was attacked nearly 10 days ago.

The US Secretary of State's comments on human rights in India were seen as a rare direct rebuke by Washington of New Delhi in the middle of discussions over India's stand on Russia's Ukraine invasion.

Mr. Blinken had said: "We regularly engage with our Indian partners on these shared values (of human rights) and to that end, we are monitoring some recent concerning developments in India including a rise in human rights abuses by some government, police and prison officials".

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar gave a strong rebuttal to the United States of America (USA) on its criticism against India regarding alleged "human rights abuses", saying even New Delhi has concerns about human rights in America.

Speaking at a joint news conference after the 2+2 dialogue, Dr S Jaishankar said



**2+2 Dialogue: India, US (April 2022)**

that even India also has views on other people's human rights situation, including that of the United States.

"So, we take up human rights issues when they arise in this country, especially when they pertain to our community. And in fact, we had a case yesterday that's really where we stand on that," he added

Jaishankar also said that the issue of human rights was not discussed during the current meeting, but it has come up in the past.

"It is a subject which has come up in the past. It came up when Secretary Blinken came to India. I think if you recall the press briefings after that, I was very open about the fact that we had discussed it and said what I had to say," he said.

Earlier, Dr S Jaishankar had asserted that the young Americans should have a better understanding of India and the world for the ties between the two countries to grow and added that the Americans should appreciate the efforts of a civilizational state and democracy like India.

"Your appreciation of a civilizational state and a fellow democratic polity that is daily overcoming enormous odds is essential. After all, we are natural partners only when our people have a strong sense of connection," Dr Jaishankar said to the students.

Highlighting the significance of people-to-

people contact, Dr Jaishankar said that the key driver of this change has been its human element. The 4.4 million Indian Diasporas have literally defined India's image in this society and helped forge relationships that are an enormous source of strength for us in our work, he said, making a joint appearance with US Secretary of State Tony Blinken.

Jaishankar's response on the human rights issue came after US Secretary of State Antony Blinken had claimed that the US is monitoring some recent "concerning developments in India, including a rise in human rights abuses by some government, police, and prison officials".

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had also schooled the western media, which was critical of India's decision to buy a limited amount of oil from Russia.

Responding to a question on India's decision to buy oil from Russia, which has been facing several sanctions for launching 'special military 'operation in Ukraine, the Indian Foreign Minister said, "I noticed you referred to oil purchases. If you are looking at energy purchases from Russia, I would suggest that your attention should be on Europe. We buy some energy necessary for our energy security. But I suspect, looking at figures, our purchases for the month would be less than what Europe does in an afternoon." Jaishankar said.

**JAISHANKAR'S  
RESPONSE ON THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE  
CAME AFTER US SECRETARY OF STATE ANTONY BLINKEN HAD CLAIMED THAT THE US IS MONITORING SOME RECENT "CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIA, INCLUDING A RISE IN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY SOME GOVERNMENT, POLICE, AND PRISON OFFICIALS".**

## Japan-India Summit

# Partnership For A Peaceful, Stable And Prosperous Post Covid World

***They also resolved to continue to work closely together for an early reform of the UNSC to reflect the contemporary realities of the 21st century.***



14<sup>th</sup> India-Japan Annual Summit

Japanese PM Fumio Kishida Visited India

from 19-20 March 2022

**Prime Minister Kishida announces a plan to invest 5 trillion yen (\$42 billion) in India over the next five years ...**  
Reported Nikkei

**B**OTH PRIME Minister Kishida and Prime Minister Modi recognized that the Summit was taking place at a significant time as the two countries were celebrating the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations and India was celebrating the 75th anniversary of its independence. They reviewed the developments since the last Annual Summit and discussed wide ranging areas of cooperation. Both India and Japan are party to the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad), a security framework that also includes the United States and Australia.

Japanese Prime Minister Kishida landed in India at a crucial time when Russia and Ukraine are fighting fiercely.

Both Mr.Modi and Mr. Kishida expressed their serious concern about the ongoing conflict and humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and assessed its broader implications, particularly to the Indo-Pacific region. They emphasized that the contemporary global order has been built on the UN Charter, international law and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of states. They underscored the importance of safety and security of nuclear facilities in Ukraine and acknowledged active efforts of the IAEA towards it. They reiterated their call for an immediate cessation of violence and noted that there was no other choice but the path of dialogue and diplomacy for





Delhi Summit meeting 2022

resolution of the conflict.

Reaffirming the Special Strategic and Global Partnership between Japan and India, the Prime Ministers concurred that the shared values and principles enunciated in the Japan-India Vision Statement issued in 2018 are particularly relevant in the present context, where global cooperation is required more than ever to address challenges that have become more acute.

Prime Minister Kishida congratulated India on its successful Presidency of the UN Security Council in August 2021 including Prime Minister Modi's chairmanship of the UNSC at the High-Level Open Debate on "Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Maritime Security"

They highlighted their commitment to working in tandem towards a peaceful, stable and prosperous world, based on a rules-based order that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations, and emphasized the need for all countries to seek peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law without resorting to threat or use of force or any attempt to unilaterally change status quo. In this regard, they reaffirmed their common vision for a free

and open Indo-Pacific, free from coercion. They shared the view that the economies of both countries in such a world would be powered by robust bilateral investment and trade flows through diversified, resilient, transparent, open, secure and predictable global supply chains that provide for economic security and prosperity of their peoples. Reaffirming that the two countries would continue to work together to realize these shared objectives, they resolved to further advance the Japan-India Special Strategic and Global Partnership. Partnership for A Free and Open Indo-Pacific underpinned by Inclusiveness and Rules based order . With their commitment to promoting peace, security, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region, both affirmed the importance of bilateral and plurilateral partnerships among like-minded countries of the region, including the quadrilateral cooperation among Australia, India, Japan, and the United States (the Quad) and welcomed the Quad Leaders' Summits in March and September 2021. They renewed their commitment to delivering tangible outcomes on the Quad's.

Prime Minister Kishida welcomed the Indo-

**PRIME MINISTER KISHIDA CONGRATULATED INDIA ON ITS SUCCESSFUL PRESIDENCY OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IN AUGUST 2021 INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER MODI'S CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE UNSC AT THE HIGH-LEVEL OPEN DEBATE ON "MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY: MARITIME SECURITY"**



**Both Prime Ministers Signing Agreement (2022) in Delhi**

**PRIME MINISTER KISHIDA WELCOMED THE INDO-PACIFIC OCEANS' INITIATIVE (IPOI) ANNOUNCED BY PRIME MINISTER MODI IN 2019, AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE GROWING SPACE FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE IPOI AND FREE AND OPEN INDO-PACIFIC (FOIP).**

Pacific Oceans' Initiative (IPOI) announced by Prime Minister Modi in 2019, and acknowledged the growing space for cooperation between the IPOI and Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP).

They reaffirmed their determination to continue prioritizing the role of international law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and facilitate collaboration, including in maritime security, to meet challenges against the rules-based maritime order in the East and South China Seas. They also condemned North Korea's destabilizing ballistic missile launches in violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs).

They reaffirmed their intention to collaborate closely to realise peace and stability in Afghanistan. Both expressed deep concern at the growing threat of terrorism and underlined the need for strengthening international cooperation to combat terrorism in a comprehensive and sustained manner. They called upon all countries to work together for rooting out terrorist safe havens and infrastructure, disrupting terrorist networks and their financing channels, and halting cross-border movement of terrorists. In this context, they also called upon all

countries to ensure that territory under their control is not used to launch terror attacks, to expeditiously bring to justice the perpetrators of such attacks. They reiterated their condemnation of terrorist attacks in India, including 26/11 Mumbai and Pathankot attacks and called upon Pakistan to take resolute and irreversible action against terrorist networks operating out of its territory and comply fully with international commitments including to FATF.

Prime Minister Kishida expressed his appreciation for India's support for Japan's candidature for a non permanent seat at the UNSC for the term 2023-2024 and concurred to continue to work closely on matters in the UNSC during the respective tenures of India and Japan. They also resolved to continue to work closely together for an early reform of the UNSC to reflect the contemporary realities of the 21st century. They expressed their determination to accelerate its process, including through the commencement of text-based negotiations in the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN) with an overall objective to achieve concrete outcomes in a fixed timeframe. They reaffirmed their shared recognition that Japan and India are legitimate/deserving candidates for

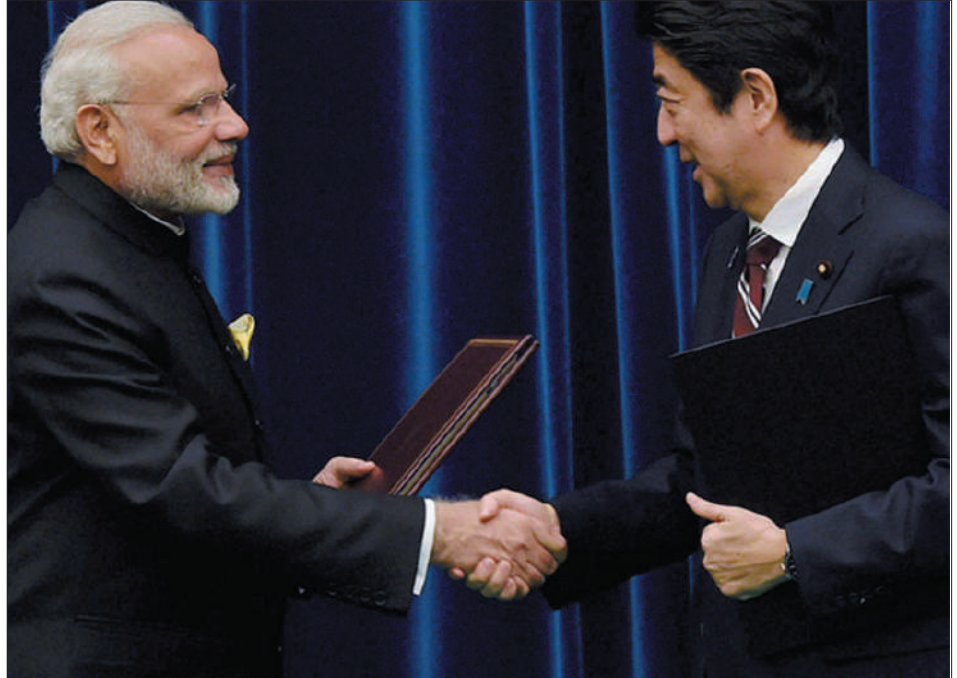


permanent membership in an expanded UNSC.

Prime Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to upholding and strengthening the rules-based multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, and to work closely with each other to achieve meaningful outcomes in the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference

The Prime Ministers, building on the outcome of COP26, recognized the importance and imminence of tackling climate change, and shared the importance of various pathways for pragmatic energy transitions reflecting different national circumstances and constant innovation to achieving global net-zero emission. They welcomed the launch of the Japan-India Clean Energy Partnership (CEP) for cooperation towards achieving sustainable economic growth, addressing climate change and ensuring energy security, in areas such as electric vehicles (EV), storage systems including batteries, electric vehicle charging infrastructure (EVCI), solar energy, clean including green hydrogen/ammonia, wind energy, exchange of views on respective energy transition plans, energy efficiency, CCUS (Carbon dioxide Capturing, Utilization and Storage) and Carbon Recycling. They committed to continue further discussion for establishing the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) between Japan and India for the implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. They also reaffirmed their determination to promote environmental cooperation in other areas. They also welcomed the signing of the MoC for cooperation in decentralized domestic waste water management. Prime Minister Modi conveyed appreciation for the past and ongoing Japanese cooperation for smart cities missions in Varanasi, Ahmadabad and Chennai, and looked forward to further cooperation in this field. Prime Minister Kishida commended India's initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and conveyed that Japan would be joining the Indian-Swedish climate initiative LeadIT to promote heavy industry transition. They welcomed the signing of the MoC on Sustainable Urban Development.

The Prime Ministers noted with appreciation that since elevation of ties to a Special Strategic and Global Partnership, there had been significant growth in economic cooperation. They expressed satisfaction that the investment target of JPY 3.5 trillion announced in 2014 has been achieved. Noting steps taken by India to improve the business environment for Japanese investors in India, as well as other measures to boost economic growth and improve ease of doing business, they expressed their shared intention to realize JPY 5 trillion of public and private investment and financing



from Japan to India in the next five years, to finance appropriate public and private projects of mutual interest.

The Prime Ministers recognized that digital technologies would play an increasingly important role in the post-COVID world and welcomed the growing cooperation under the Japan-India Digital Partnership with a view to enhancing digital economy through promotion of joint projects for digital transformation, support to provide opportunities for Indian IT professionals to work in Japan and Japanese companies, and collaboration made in the area of IoT, AI and other emerging technologies. In this regard, Prime Minister Kishida looked forward to attracting more highly skilled Indian IT professionals to contribute to the Japanese ICT sector. They also welcomed the progress on the "Japan-India fund-of-funds" to mobilize funds for emerging Indian start-ups. Welcoming the signing of MoCs in the fields of Cybersecurity and ICT, they appreciated progress in the bilateral relationship in cyber domain and affirmed to further deepen cyber engagement with each other in multilateral fora, including in the United Nations. They shared the view to further cooperate in various fields like 5G, Open RAN, Telecom Network Security, submarine cable systems, and Quantum Communications. They welcomed the progress of bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technology, including through the holding of the 10th Meeting of the Japan-India Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation in November 2020, and looked forward to the joint lunar research project.

**-OUR BUREAU REPORT**

**THE PRIME MINISTERS  
RECOGNIZED THAT DIGI-  
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WOULD PLAY AN  
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TANT ROLE IN THE POST-  
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THE JAPAN-INDIA DIGITAL  
PARTNERSHIP WITH A  
VIEW TO ENHANCING  
DIGITAL ECONOMY  
THROUGH PROMOTION  
OF JOINT PROJECTS FOR  
DIGITAL TRANSFORMA-  
TION, SUPPORT TO PRO-  
VIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
INDIAN IT PROFESSION-  
ALS TO WORK IN JAPAN  
AND JAPANESE COMPA-  
NIES, AND COLLABORA-  
TION MADE IN THE AREA  
OF IOT,**

## FOOD PRICES HAVE SPIKED IN EUROPE IN WAKE OF RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE

# The \$120 Billion Global Grain Trade Is Being Redrawn

■ **P.M.PARVATIYAR**

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy addressing the Dutch lawmakers said that the Russians are "doing everything to ruin our agriculture potential and to provoke a food crisis not only in Ukraine but in the world." He charged troops have placed land-mines in fields and that farm equipment has been destroyed.

Deliveries from Ukraine and Russia, which account for about a quarter (24%) of the world's grains trade, are becoming complicated, spurring food-security worries.

The United Nations has warned food prices -

already at an all-time high - could rise as much as 22% more. A severe drop in Black Sea exports could leave as many as 13.1 million additional people undernourished, it said, deepening the rise in global hunger in a world still recovering from the effects of the pandemic.

Almost one-quarter of the world's grain comes from Russia and Ukraine. Across Ukraine's farm belt, silos are stuck with 15 million tons of corn from the autumn harvest-most of which should have been hitting world markets by now. Already obstructed by supply-chain bottlenecks, skyrocketing freight rates and weather, the \$120 billion global grains trade is bracing for upheavals, raising the specter of worldwide food



Zelenskyy addresses the Dutch House of Representatives at The Hague on March 31.

shortages

Across Ukraine's farm belt, silos are bursting with 15 million tons of corn from the autumn harvest, most of which should have been hitting world markets.

The stockpiles - about half the corn Ukraine had been expected to export for the season - have become increasingly difficult to get to buyers, providing a glimpse into the turmoil Russia's war has wrought in the approximately \$120 billion global grains trade. Already gummed up by supply-chain bottlenecks, skyrocketing freight rates and weather events, markets are bracing for more upheavals as deliveries from Ukraine and Russia - which together account for about a quarter of the world's grains trade - turn increasingly complicated and raise the specter of food shortages.

Before Russia's attack, Ukraine's corn would have made its way to Black Sea ports like Odessa and Mykolaiv by rail and loaded on to ships bound for Asia and Europe. But with the ports shuttered, small amounts of corn are creakily winding their way westward by rail through Romania and Poland before being shipped out. An added aggravation: wheels on the wagons have to be changed at the border because unlike European rails, Ukrainian train-cars run on wider, Soviet-era tracks.

Ukraine is one of the world's biggest exporters of corn, wheat and sunflower oil, flows of which are largely stalled. Grains exports are currently limited to 500,000 tons a month, down from as much as 5 million tons before the war, a loss of \$1.5 billion, the country's agriculture ministry says. Crops from Russia - the world's biggest exporter of wheat - are still flowing, but questions persist over delivery and payment for future cargoes.

Disruptions in the flows of grains and oilseeds - staples for billions of people and animals across the world - are sending prices soaring. Countries fearing potential food shortages are scrambling to find alternative suppliers and new trades are emerging.

India, which historically kept its huge wheat harvests at home - thanks to a government-set price - is jumping into the export market, hawking record amounts across Asia. Brazil's exports of wheat in the first three months have far surpassed those in all of last year. U.S. corn cargoes are heading to Spain for the first time in about four years. And Egypt is considering



**Kyiv opened a giant corn maze in the form of a map of Ukraine**

swapping fertilizer for Romanian grain and holding wheat talks with Argentina.

Alternative suppliers come with pricier freight, longer transits or differing quality, further accelerating food inflation. World supplies were already reeling from droughts in Canada and Brazil and transportation blockages in parts of the world, from rail logjams in the U.S. to trucker strikes across Spain. The added shock from the war sent a gauge of prices to a record, with corn and wheat futures in Chicago up more than 20% since the beginning of this year.

For now, other suppliers are stepping in. Drawn by the higher prices, India, the second-largest wheat grower after China, has boosted exports, which may have reached a record 8.5 million tons in the season ended last month. "I don't remember the last time when open-market prices were higher than the government's minimum support price," said Nilesh Shivaji Shedge, who grows wheat on a fifth of his family's 15 acres.

India's Kandla and Mundra ports in the western state of Gujarat, the main gateways for wheat exports, have been abuzz with activity as sales have surged. The Indian government is making more railway capacity available to transport the wheat, while port authorities have been asked to increase the number of terminals and containers dedicated to the grain. Some ports on the Indian east coast and the Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai are also preparing to handle wheat cargoes.

"We will continue to export wheat in a big way to meet needs in countries who are not getting supplies from conflict areas," Piyush

**AT THE END OF LAST YEAR, TAI TRIED TO SECURE ANOTHER CALL WITH LIU BUT THE CHINESE SIDE DECLINED THE REQUEST, SAID THE PEOPLE. A U.S. OFFICIAL DISPUTED THAT CHARACTERIZATION AND SAID U S TRADE REPRESENTATIVE (USTR) APPROACHED BEIJING ABOUT SETTING UP A CALL TO TALK THROUGH OUTSTANDING ISSUES BUT THEY ULTIMATELY AGREED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON THE DEPUTIES' LEVEL UNTIL MORE PROGRESS IS MADE.**

## EGYPT APPROVES INDIA AS WHEAT SUPPLIER; TO IMPORT ABOUT ONE MILLION TONNES

### 240,000 tonnes to be shipped in April itself; Can Indian trade fill the void left by Russia-Ukraine?

**W**ITH TWO major wheat exporters Russia and Ukraine locked in a war, the world is now looking for countries that can fill the void. Will India be able to rise to the occasion? Can it overcome the logistical bottlenecks?

Egypt, the world's largest importer of Russian and Ukrainian wheat, in a big breakthrough has approved India as one of its suppliers; Egypt is likely to lift about one million tonnes of wheat from India, of which 240,000 tonnes will be shipped in April 2022 itself. Export was approved after a rigorous process of field visits and checks in quarantine facilities in India by Egyptian authorities following complaints of Indian wheat containing 'karnal bunt' disease by its opponent. The teams

visited wheat fields in Madhya Pradesh, UP and Punjab to check for themselves the quality of wheat produced in India. India aims to export 10-11 million tonnes of wheat in FY23 due to the surge in global demand following the Russia-Ukraine crisis. African country, buys 11-12 million tonnes of wheat from Russia, Ukraine and other countries in a year. Disruption in global wheat supply is already being felt, as Ukrainian ports remain closed and Western sanctions turn buyers away from Russian wheat. Egypt, Indonesia, Algeria, Brazil, Bangladesh and Turkey are among the world's biggest wheat importers (buyers). Just three countries, Egypt, Turkey and Bangladesh, bought more than half of Russia's wheat in 2019. Russia and Ukraine cover more than 70% of Egypt's imported



**As the harvesting season nears, the key grain-growing states of Punjab and Haryana are all set to reap a bumper Harvest of wheat this season. According to an estimate this year's harvest can even reach at nearly 300 lakh tonnes.**

Goyal, India's food and commerce minister, said. "Our farmers are focused on increasing production."

India is negotiating access to markets in Egypt, Turkey and China, three of the four

largest importers, and other potential buyers, including Bosnia, Nigeria and Iran, according to the commerce ministry. Exports from the country could "easily" touch 12 million tons in the 2022-23 seasons that started this month.

Brazil - a net wheat importer - is also expecting its highest exports of the grain in a decade. Low river levels in neighboring Argentina pushed sales toward Brazil's Rio Grande do Sul state. A bumper harvest, a weak currency and a delayed soybean crop that allowed extra time for wheat flows have buoyed sales. Total wheat exports from the country are set to reach 2.1 million tons for the first three months of the year, almost double those in all of 2021. Destinations include Turkey, South Africa and Sudan, all for the first time in at least four years, according to data from the Secretaria de Comercio Exterior. Sales for Australia, a large wheat exporter, are running at full tilt, with shipping slots booked for months and buyers purchasing the grain further out than usual.

Some governments are limiting trade to counter higher food prices. Serbia, the ninth-

wheat demand. The ongoing geopolitical crisis, however, has thrown up an opportunity for Indian exporters and farmers.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has thrown the global commodity markets into disarray. Crude oil, natural gas, coal, wheat, corn, aluminium, steel, copper and palladium are some of the commodities that have seen a sharp rise in prices.

The war has also pushed global wheat prices to a 14-year-high, since Russia and Ukraine together account for 30% of global wheat exports. India is the second biggest wheat producer in the world after China, with a share of 13.5% of the world's total production. However, India's share in global wheat exports is just 0.54%. Wheat stocks in India's central pool are pegged at around 26 million tonnes, that's 248% more than the quantity required to be stored, as on April 1 each year.

Goods wagons carrying freshly-cultivated wheat sacks from parts of northern India are rolling in near Kandla port in a tad hurry now. They have to unload and come back again. War in Ukraine is clearly turning the fortunes back home. Wheat at Kandla port is being procured at over 2,400 per quintal now, about Rs 300 more than what it was a fortnight ago. While the government MSP is Rs

2,015 per quintal. So, it's a win-win situation for everyone. Farmers are happy because they have started getting better rates for wheat than the government was offering them a few weeks ago. The government is happy as it will have to procure less wheat and its subsidy bill will plummet. Despite being the second-largest producer of wheat in the world, India accounts for less than one per cent of exports. Russia and Ukraine are major suppliers of wheat, accounting for about 30 per cent of the global supply. Now, with a war being waged between the two nations, wheat exports from Russia have come to a standstill and ports in Ukraine have halted commercial activity. This has left a gap that India is filling. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently said that India should seize the opportunity to export wheat of the best quality, as demand surges amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine. So, in prime minister Modi's words, Indian exporters have the golden opportunity to provide the best-quality product with the best service to the world. It should not be a stop-gap arrangement but Indian exporters should make it a permanent arrangement and take the Indian wheat export to above 15 million tons per year.

*Export demand for Indian corn has also spiked as buyers look for alternatives to Ukraine, which is a leading producer and exporter of corn.*

largest corn shipper, temporarily barred exports. Argentina and Indonesia increased taxes on vegetable oil exports, and Kazakhstan will limit wheat shipments. The global grains trade, not including rice, could shrink by 12 million tons this season, the most in at least a decade, the International Grains Council estimates.

Importers are meanwhile rolling back restrictions to get grain from more origins. Spain - Ukraine's No. 2 corn buyer - relaxed rules on pesticides to allow for feed from Argentina and Brazil. It also got 145,000 tons from the U.S. in March, its first cargoes since 2018, and China, another major Ukraine corn customer, ramped up American purchases.

North African and Middle Eastern importers are particularly dependent on Russian and Ukrainian supplies and are grappling with finding alternatives. Algeria - which opened to Black Sea wheat just last year - is already reverts to French cargoes. Egypt, the world's biggest wheat importer - with more than 80% of its imports coming from Russia and Ukraine over the past five

years - is having to cut back purchases as prices soar. It scrapped two straight import tenders as offers dried up and prices shot up by about \$100 per ton, including freight. It is holding off on further tenders until at least mid-May, according to its supply minister. The country is struggling to maintain a bread subsidy program used by about 70 million of its citizens.

With no signs the supply crunch will ease anytime soon, Rabobank forecast in March that wheat futures would average \$11 or more per bushel through the end of the year, and corn about \$7.75 a bushel or higher.

On the ground, farmers are struggling to get fertilizers to wheat crops sown in the autumn as they emerge from winter dormancy. Plantings of key spring crops like corn and sunflowers are set to drop as producers deal with diesel shortages.

Alternative suppliers like Brazil come with pricier freight and longer transits, further accelerating food inflation.

*With in put from Agencies*



**Sunflower Field Ukraine High Resolution Stock**



**Ports, grain facilities shut down in Ukraine | World Grain**

# 'IFUNA' CELEBRATES International Women's Day with 'Sampurna'

***On International Women's Day: 16 Women Felicitated for Selfless Service During Covid Pandemic.***



**THESE WOMEN FROM DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE SHARED THEIR EXPERIENCES OF ASSUMING THE LEADERSHIP TO SERVE SOCIETY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE EVE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY. THEY WERE FELICITATED FOR THEIR SELFLESS SERVICE DURING THE PANDEMIC PERIOD.**

**S**IXTEEN women from different walks of life were felicitated by IFUNA at India International, New Delhi on 8th March on International Women's Day for their selfless service during the Covid pandemic. They were honored at a function organised by the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations in collaboration with a Delhi-based organisation, SAMPURNA,

These women from different walks of life shared their experiences of assuming the leadership to serve society during the COVID-19 pandemic on the eve of International Women's Day. They were felicitated for their selfless service

during the pandemic period.

They included Suman Doonga, who led a SPICMACAY team to provide financial assistance to the artists and craftsmen who suffered during the COVID period; Ms. Neelam Jha - a "jal saheli" from Jhansi, who worked in the rural areas to help women during this torrid time. Prime Minister Narendra Modi too had mentioned about the work of Jal Sahelis in his Mann Ki Baat programme recently; Ms. Rashmi Sinha, who worked with COVID patients to provide plasma during the first and second phase of the deadly disease; Dr. Ruchi Varshney, a physiotherapist





**Ms. Rashmi Sinha receiving the award from Chief Guest and IFUNA Chairman Justice (retd.) Shambhu Nath Srivastava**

whose organisation of physiotherapists remained in close contact with the COVID patients in hospitals across India and became a crucial link between the patients and their family members; Dr. Rupal Manish Dalal, a doctor from Mumbai who rendered a yeoman service to the patients during this period. The following 16 were honoured :-

1. Dr Megha Bhargava 2. Sunita Doonga 3. Dr Rupal Manish Dalal 4. Preeti Puja 5. Rashmi Sinha 6. Umang Goel Jain 7. Arti Bhatnagar 8. Kirti Bala 9. Hiyavi Saigal 10. Simmi Bhatia 11. Meena Gupta 12. Neelam Jha 13. Devika Anand 14. Dr Ruchi Varshney 15. Dr. Beena Lawania 16. Sampurna

At the outset Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Secretary General, Indian Federation of United Nations Associations welcomed the members of 'Sampurna' the awardees and the guests. He said one of the then leading women of the country Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit was the founder of IFUNA. The other distinguished speaker Justice (retd) Shambhu Nath Srivastava, chairman Indian



**Feeling proud to receive her Award**



**An Awardee Displaying her Award**

**"WE CELEBRATE WOMEN AND GIRLS EVERYWHERE. WE CELEBRATE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENDING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. THEIR IDEAS, INNOVATIONS AND ACTIVISM THAT ARE CHANGING OUR WORLD FOR THE BETTER. AND THEIR LEADERSHIP ACROSS ALL WALKS OF LIFE.**

Federation of United Nations Associations, apprised the audience regarding various legal provisions for women in the country'. Former chairperson of Niti Aayog Committee of Financial Literacy Ms. Bindu Dalmiya, was the chief guest of the function. Dr. Shobha Vijendra, Founder President of Sampurna, Dr. SN Basu, Senior Director, Max Healthcare also spoke on the occasion.

Mr. Deepak Parvatiyar, Media Advisor and Program Director IFUNA while proposing a vote of thanks to SAMPURNA, the Awardees as well as the guests, he quoted the following message of United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterre on the eve of International Women's Day for the women:-

"We celebrate women and girls everywhere. We celebrate their contributions to ending the covid-19 pandemic. Their ideas, innovations and activism that are changing our world for the better. And their leadership across all walks of life. But we also recognize that in too many areas, the clock on women's rights is moving backwards. The pandemic has kept girls and women out of schools and workplaces. They face rising poverty and rising violence. They do the vast majority of the world's unpaid but essential care work. They're targets of violence and abuse, just because of their gender. In all countries, women are scandalously under-represented in the halls of power and the boardrooms of business. And as this year's theme reminds us,



### The Distinguished Guests

they bear the brunt of climate change and environmental degradation. Starting now, on international women's day, it's time to turn the clock forward for every woman and girl. Through guaranteeing quality education for every girl, so they can build the lives they want and help make the world a better place for us all. Through massive investments in women's training and decent work. Through effective action to end gender-based violence. Through bold action to protect our planet. Through universal care that is fully integrated into social protection systems. And through targeted measures like gender quotas so we can all benefit from women's ideas, experience and leadership everywhere decisions are made.

Gender inequality is essentially a question of power, in a male-dominated world and a male-dominated culture. Power relations must be reversed. At the United Nations, we've achieved gender parity in senior management at headquarters and around the world - improving our work and better representing the communities we serve. We need more women environment ministers, business leaders and presidents and prime ministers. They can push countries to address the climate crisis, develop green jobs and build a more just and sustainable world. We cannot emerge from the pandemic with the clock spinning backwards on gender equality. We need to turn the clock forward on women's rights. The time is now."

**POWER RELATIONS  
MUST BE  
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GENDER PARITY IN  
SENIOR MANAGE-  
MENT AT HEAD-  
QUARTERS AND  
AROUND THE  
WORLD - IMPROV-  
ING OUR WORK AND  
BETTER REPRESENT-  
ING THE COMMUNI-  
TIES WE SERVE.**



## Assam UNA and The Indian Federation of UN Associations (IFUNA) observed the World Water day on 22nd March, 2022



Lighting of Lamp to mark the Function

**T**HE INDIAN Federation of UN Associations (IFUNA) observed the World Water day on 22nd March, 2022 in association with the University of Science & Technology (USTM) at Guwahati. Mrs. Nibedita Paul, a Senior Faculty and H.O.D. of social works Department welcomed the guests and the gatherings. After lightning the



The Chief Guest, Mr. Debashish Sarma- the commissioner of Guwahati Municipal Corporation delivering his Address

earthen lump, the resource persons were felicitated.

The Chief Guest of the meeting Mr. Debashish Sarma- the Commissioner of Guwahati Municipal Corporation laid stress on groundwater and its safety for the uses of the human beings as well as animal and plant life. Dr. R. K. Sarma, the Adviser of USTM, speaking on the occasion, laid emphasis on health and hygiene of the living beings from underground water. Dr. Balendra Kr. Das, the Director of the University spoke highly on safe drinking water for the living beings.

Dr. Aswini Sarma - Secretary General of UNA-Assam spoke on the significance of the world water day for promoting awareness and knowledge of the day amongst the people. Mrs. Marami Goswami- academic Secretary of UNA- Assam read out the message of UN secretary General Mr. Antannio Gueterrus on the occasion. Mrs. Nriyjanjali Sarma a faculty of USTM and a member of UNA-Assam proposed a vote of thanks.



Dr. Aswin Sharma Secretary General of Una-Assam addressing at the Function



The Audience

## WORLD HEALTH DAY



The world health day was celebrated by IFUNA and UFUNA in Odisha on 7th April 22. Former judge B.C.Rout told that this day is dedicated to removing ill health from this planet.

Dr Srinibas Hota pleaded that their should be more budget allocation for

health. Saroj Satapathy complained that people are not getting good treatment due to lack of Doctors and good hospitals. Dr Pramod Naik gave advice that liquor should be banned. Bahadur Patsani secretary UFUNA welcomed the guests. Pitabas Sahu, nature treatment specialist gave vote of thanks.

Professor Dilip Nanda, Prof Biswanath Mohapatra, Smt Sukanti Sahu, Annan Sahu, environmentalist Upendra Rout and Many other people also spoke in the meeting presided over by Mr. Manoranjan Patnaik, President, Utkal Federation Of UN Association presided...

## WOMEN'S DAY IN ODISHA



IFUNA and UTKAL Federation of United Nations Association (UFUNA) celebrated women's day. Socialist Leader Saroj Satapathy was the Chief Guest. Leading Industrialist Anjan Sahu, Adv Pinki Mohanty, Prof Samir Sahu, Er. D D Panda Participated in The Programme, Youth Leader Shakti Prasad Patanaik Gave Vote Of thanks Where as Bahadur Patsani welcomed The Guests.



Nishu's Place- Thandi Sadak Dalhousie Studio courtsey DUOOND

Collections - Chander P Mahajan



**CHANDER P MAHAJAN**  
 Was a former student of  
 Electrical Engineering at  
 Regional Engineering College,  
 Naseem Bagh, Srinagar,  
 Kashmir (J&K).

## Dollywood-Dalhousie

**T**HE EXOTIC and beautiful locations in India can compete with any of the foreign locations. Many movies have been shot at historic Indian cities and colorful small hamlets revealing the unique Indian panorama.

Himachal Pradesh is considered as one of the most popular shooting destinations for the movie makers.

Dalhousie retains colonial look and the feel. The beat has everything to get ranked as one of the topmost romantic places; well maintained

squares, snow clad mountain ranges, buildings for their vintage looks, antique furniture and decor. The picturesque landscapes like Kalatop, Khajjar and the Chamba valley's nooks & corners remain unparalleled.

■ The other day, Nishu Mahajan shared some magnificent pictures of his Place on the upper left limb of the 8 of the Thandi Sadak Mall. Done up in to a make shift studio by the web film called DUOOND casting Raveena Tandon, Ashutosh Rana, it looks grand.



Split level elevations Kirti Cottage Dalhousie

Collections- Chander P Mahajan



Courtesy - Dr (Capt) G.S. Dhillon -

DALHOUSIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

I find myself to be totally enthralled of the beautiful sets of 1942 A Love Story, one of the best works of Vidhu Vinod Chopra; starring Pran, Anupam Kher, Anil Kapoor, Jackie Shroff and Manisha Koirala, among others. The film of 1994

was set against India's freedom struggle.

Bol Radha Bol (1992) starring Rishi Kapoor and Juhi Chawla had many scenes shot in Chamba Valley. Hit Bollywood Movies Gadar - Ek Prem Katha (2001), Vinashak (1998) were also shot in Dalhousie in Chamba. The other movies- Lootera, Wajood, Himalaya Putra had the scenes shot in Khajjiar.

■ Back in 2005, I visited Hydrabad to witness the 'passing out parade' of my son Manu Maharaaj as IPS probationer at Sardar Vallabhbai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA).

A trip to Ramoji Film City was inspiring. Synonymous with Tollywood. The layout is an integrated film studio complex. It has all types of locations available for shooting including a temple, prison, court, lake, mountains, fountains, villages, picnic spots, garden and even a man-made waterfall. Its twin city of Secundrabad merges to become one sprawling metropolis- like Dalhousie - Banikhet duo.

Looking around, I imagined putting Dalhousie on the world map as a Film City; a wishful thinking in a country made up of 28 States and 8 Union Territories; 22 different languages.

■ The Dollywood\* City; with the twin formations of Dalhousie and Banikhet; areas spread out up till tribal belts of Bharmour on one side ,with Dharamsala Just across Dhauladhar range & Kashmir valley behind Bhandal -Kihar; must present a unique set up over the world map of filmmaking. The movie Rockstar (2011) starring Ranbir Kapoor and Nargis Fakhri and directed by Imtiaz Ali has its hit song Sadda Haq..... shot at Norbulingka Institute of Dharamsala.

located amidst stately pine and oak forests, Dalhousie provides the 'Natural Attractions', Built-in 'Heritage Attractions' & 'Institutional Attractions'; all in one. The belt has a vast potential for development as an attractive Dollywood land. The area requirements for enhancing shooting build-up as also the tourism shall be met in 87.09 hectare# developable land on predominant land use basis.

It is envisaged that entire Planning Area of Dalhousie shall be urbanized except forest land and land under water bodies. The forest and orchards are plenty in and around Dalhousie town, which are serving as green lungs and areas for passive recreation. The town enjoys unique





Actors - Pran, Anupam Kher, Raj Babbar, Manisha Koirala; seen in collage with Dr. Vishav Kirti, Manu Maharaaj and the Author with other dignitaries- The Palace Jandhri Ghat, Dalhousie Collections - Chander P Mahajan



Aamod Resorts- Dalhousie

**ALTHOUGH, DALHOUSIE IS NOT A POPULOUS, CONGESTED AND ENVIRONMENTALLY DETERIORATED AREA, YET IT IS APPREHENDED THAT IF LEFT TO ITSELF, THERE WILL BE A CHAOS, DESPITE THE CONSTRAINTS OF SCARCITY OF WATER, FOREST LAND IN AND AROUND THE TOWN AND ITS TERRAIN ITSELF. IT HAS BEEN PROPOSED TO INVITE AND ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT ONLY FOR HIGH QUALITY HOTELS AND RESORTS WITH PROPER FACILITIES SO THAT THE REPUTATION OF THE TOWN IS NOT SPOILED FURTHER. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE IS NEED TO PROVIDE SOME ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES LIKE URINALS, TOILETS, WATER TAPS.**

environment setting.

■ A preservationist planning approach towards built-up heritage including monuments, stylish bungalows of British period, churches and street pattern including Mall road etc, will do. In fact, these landmarks are the arteries of the town where extensive views of low hills and planes of south and snowy ranges of the north are conspicuous.

■ Dalhousie is well connected with different parts of Himachal as also plains of Punjab. Existing transport and road infrastructure shall need improvements with development and construction of Bus stand and various parking sites; a Truck Terminal at Banikhet.

Although, Dalhousie is not a populous, congested and environmentally deteriorated area, yet it is apprehended that if left to itself, there will be a chaos, despite the constraints of scarcity of water, forest land in and around the town and its terrain itself.

It has been proposed to invite and encourage investment only for high quality hotels and resorts with proper facilities so that the reputation of the town is not spoiled further. At the same time, there is need to provide some essential infrastructure

facilities like urinals, toilets, water taps.

The town is vibrating with ever increasing trade and commercial activity mainly based on tourism and educational institutions. As the commercial activities are of mixed nature, there is no clear-cut hierarchy in respect of specialized nature of business.

■ To preserve its status as a wooded tourist town, construction may be ensured in harmony with hill architecture.

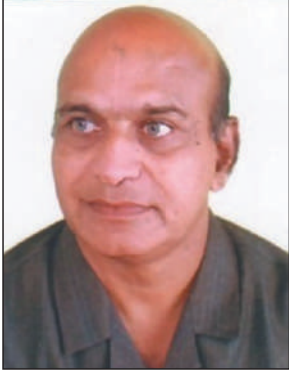
As per the approved development plan#, The exposure visits of technical persons to planned cities of different parts of India made them aware regarding dimensions of the planning and development mechanism persisting.

The word "Lollywood" is a portmanteau of "Lahore" to which Dalhousie was a tagged hill station during British era. Today; in its calm, quiet, pleasant and clean environs, the area has a vast potential for developing in to the Dollywood; besides being a popular tourist resort.

*\* Author's Vocabulary*

*# The land use was frozen on 29th July, 97 vide Govt. notification no. HTM/TP/PJT/DP-Dalhousie/93-7338-7410. Draft Development Plan issued vide notification no. HTM/TP/PJT/DP-Dalhousie/2003/volume-II/ 6251-6480 and appeared in official Gazette on 22nd September, 2003.*

# मानवाधिकारों के प्रति पुलिस में सजगता जरूरी



डा. सुभाष पुरोहित

डा. सुभाष पुरोहित

**भा**रत के संदर्भ में यह तथ्य स्पष्ट है कि मानवाधिकारों की स्थिति पर हर दौर में विश्व स्तर पर चिंता जताई जाती रही है, विशेषतः संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के स्तर पर और पुलिस के संदर्भ में कुछ अधिक ही है। हालांकि मानवाधिकार के प्रति समय-समय पर किए गए प्रयासों के कारण पुलिस में जागरूकता बढ़ी है। लेकिन देश में पुलिस का नजरिया आज भी मोटे तौर पर अमानवीय की है। चिंतनीय विषय शासन और प्रशासन के साथ-साथ विशय विशेषज्ञों के लिए भी यही है कि पुलिस की कार्यशैली और जन साधारण के प्रति उसके व्यवहार को कैसे सुधारा जाए। इसके समग्र आंकलन से पूर्व मानवाधिकार और पुलिस की वस्तुस्थिति पर दृष्टिपात करना आवययक होगा।

सम्पूर्ण मानव जाति शोषण, अत्याचार, उत्पीड़न एवं आतंकवाद से पीड़ित है। प्रगतिशील कहे जाने वाले युग में जनसाधारण के लिए मानवाधिकार आज भी मृगतृष्णा है। विडंबना तो यह है कि जनसाधारण को मानवाधिकारों की तो क्या, सामान्य अधिकारों एवं कर्तव्यों की जानकारी भी नहीं है। वास्तविक रूप में मानवाधिकारों का तात्पर्य जाति, लिंग, धर्म या भाषा के आधार पर कोई भेदभाव किए बिना मानवीय मूल स्वतंत्रताओं का सम्मान करने को बढ़ावा देना है। इसके अलावा बुनियादी नागरिक, सांस्कृतिक, आर्थिक, राजनीतिक और सामाजिक अधिकार है जो प्रत्येक देश के प्रत्येक नागरिक को प्राप्त होने चाहिए। संयुक्त राष्ट्र की स्थापना के तीन वर्ष बाद वृहत्सभा ने तात्कालीन मानवाधिकार कानूनों की नींव रखी। इसे 10 दिसम्बर 1948 को पारित किया गया। अब इसे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार दिवस के रूप में मनाया जाता है। इसके 30 अनुच्छेदों में उन बुनियादी

नागरिक, सांस्कृतिक, आर्थिक, राजनीतिक और सामाजिक अधिकारों का उल्लेख किया गया है जो प्रत्येक नागरिक को प्राप्त होने चाहिए। भारत के संदर्भ में मानवाधिकारों को लेकर जो स्थिति है वह सुखद व संतोषप्रद नहीं है। इसके पीछे अनेकानेक कारण निहित है।

कुल मिलाकर पुलिस की छवि बेहतर नहीं कहीं

सम्पूर्ण मानव जाति शोषण, अत्याचार, उत्पीड़न एवं आतंकवाद से पीड़ित है। प्रगतिशील कहे जाने वाले युग में जनसाधारण के लिए मानवाधिकार आज भी मृगतृष्णा है। विडंबना तो यह है कि जनसाधारण को मानवाधिकारों की तो क्या, सामान्य अधिकारों एवं कर्तव्यों की जानकारी भी नहीं है। वास्तविक रूप में मानवाधिकारों का तात्पर्य जाति, लिंग, धर्म या भाषा के आधार पर कोई भेदभाव किए बिना मानवीय मूल स्वतंत्रताओं का सम्मान करने को बढ़ावा देना है।



जा सकती। इसका मुख्य कारण पुलिसकर्मियों का कार्य में खराब प्रदर्शन तथा शक्ति का दुरुपयोग माना जा सकता है। अनेक पुलिस वालों ने स्वीकार किया है कि वे अपराध तथा अपराधियों से प्रभावी तरीके से निपटने में विफल रहें क्योंकि उनके पास संसाधनों की कमी रही है, पर्याप्त पुलिस जाब्ता नहीं रहा तथा राजनीतिक दखल बार बार रहा। सामान्य जन भी मानते हैं कि पुलिस के खराब प्रदर्शन का अहम् कारण उनके कार्य में राजनीतिक दखल का होना है।

मानवाधिकार हनन में पुलिस के दोष को लेकर अब तक जितने भी सर्वे हुए हैं, उनमें जहां साधारण पुलिस कर्मियों ने बदले की भावना प्रबल होना माना है वहीं अधिकारी स्तर के पुलिस वाले इसके लिए भी पुलिस को दोषी न मानकर राजनीतिक दखल को जिम्मेदार मानते हैं जिससे पुलिस जन सामान्य के प्रति इस तरह पेश आती है जिसे मानवाधिकार का उल्लंघन

कहा जा सकता है। एक स्थिति यह भी है कि पुलिस की छवि जन साधारण के मन में निष्पक्ष नहीं है। जैसे पुलिस दर्शन का मूल तत्व तो यही है कि पुलिस को जातीय या साम्प्रदायिक कारणों अथवा सम्बन्धित पक्षों के सामाजिक स्तर और सम्पन्नता से प्रभावित हुए बिना कानून के प्रतिनिधि की तरह निष्पक्षता से कार्य करना चाहिए।

पुलिस वाले भी मानते हैं कि वे कई बार उग्र हो जाते हैं जिसे लोग पाशिवकता बताते हैं। पुलिस वाले अपने कार्य के प्रति सख्ती यानी उग्रता बरतने के पीछे निहित कारण जांच-पड़ताल के कार्य में कौशल का अभाव काम का अधिक दबाव तथा मामले का शीघ्र निस्तारण करने की प्रवृत्ति को मानते हैं।

*डॉ. सुभाश पुरोहित,  
पूर्व सदस्य,  
राजस्थान अधीनस्थ सेवा चयन बोर्ड  
एवं राज्य आयोग उपभोक्ता संरक्षण*

मानवाधिकार हनन में पुलिस के दोष को लेकर अब तक जितने भी सर्वे हुए हैं, उनमें जहां साधारण पुलिस कर्मियों ने बदले की भावना प्रबल होना माना है वहीं अधिकारी स्तर के पुलिस वाले इसके लिए भी पुलिस को दोषी न मानकर राजनीतिक दखल को जिम्मेदार मानते हैं जिससे पुलिस जन सामान्य के प्रति इस तरह पेश आती है जिसे मानवाधिकार का उल्लंघन कहा जा सकता है। एक स्थिति यह भी है कि पुलिस की छवि जन साधारण के मन में निष्पक्ष नहीं है। जैसे पुलिस दर्शन का मूल तत्व तो यही है कि पुलिस को जातीय या साम्प्रदायिक कारणों अथवा सम्बन्धित पक्षों के सामाजिक स्तर और सम्पन्नता से प्रभावित हुए बिना कानून के प्रतिनिधि की तरह निष्पक्षता से कार्य करना चाहिए।



# ‘स्त्री’ क्यों पूजनीय है ?



कैलाश खोसला

तब तक सत्यभामाजी का पारा सातवें आसमान पर पहुँच चुका था। जोर से चीखीं.. किसने बनाई है यह रसोई? सत्यभामाजी की आवाज सुन कर श्रीकृष्ण दौड़ते हुए सत्यभामाजी के पास आये और पूछा क्या हुआ देवी? कुछ गड़बड़ हो गयी क्या? इतनी क्रोधित क्यों हो? तुम्हारा चेहरा इतना तमतमा क्यों रहा है? क्या हो गया?

एक बार सत्यभामाजी ने श्रीकृष्ण से पूछा, “मैं आप को कैसी लगती हूँ?”

“श्रीकृष्ण ने कहा, “तुम मुझे नमक जैसी लगती हो।”

सत्यभामाजी इस तुलना को सुन कर क्रुद्ध हो गयी, तुलना भी की तो किस से। आपको इस संपूर्ण विश्व में मेरी तुलना करने के लिए और कोई पदार्थ नहीं मिला।

श्रीकृष्ण ने उस वक़्त तो किसी तरह सत्यभामाजी को मना लिया और उनका गुस्सा शांत कर दिया। कुछ दिन पश्चात श्रीकृष्ण ने अपने महल में एक भोज का आयोजन किया छप्पन भोग की व्यवस्था हुई। सर्वप्रथम सत्यभामाजी से भोजन प्रारम्भ करने का आग्रह किया।

सत्यभामाजी ने पहला ग्रास मुँह में डाला मगर यह क्या-सब्जी में नमक ही नहीं था। उस ग्रास को मुँह से निकाल दिया।

फिर दूसरा ग्रास मावा-मिश्री का मुँह में डाला और फिर उसे चबाते-चबाते बुरा सा मुँह बनाया और फिर पानी की सहायता से किसी तरह मुँह से उतारा। अब तीसरा ग्रास फिर कचौरी का मुँह में डाला और फिर.. आक..थू !

तब तक सत्यभामाजी का पारा सातवें आसमान पर पहुँच चुका था। जोर से चीखीं.. किसने बनाई है यह रसोई? सत्यभामाजी की आवाज सुन कर श्रीकृष्ण दौड़ते हुए सत्यभामाजी के पास आये और पूछा क्या हुआ देवी? कुछ गड़बड़ हो गयी क्या? इतनी क्रोधित क्यों हो? तुम्हारा चेहरा इतना तमतमा क्यों रहा है? क्या हो गया?

सत्यभामाजी ने कहा किसने कहा था आपको भोज का आयोजन करने को? इस तरह बिना नमक की कोई रसोई बनती है?

किसी वस्तु में नमक नहीं है। मीठे में शक्कर नहीं है। एक ग्रास नहीं खाया गया।

श्रीकृष्ण ने बड़े भोलेपन से पूछा, तो क्या हुआ बिना नमक के ही खा लेती।

सत्यभामाजी फिर क्रोधित होकर बोली कि बिना शक्कर के मिठाई तो फिर भी खायी जा सकती है मगर बिना नमक के कोई भी नमकीन वस्तु नहीं खायी जा सकती है।

तब श्रीकृष्ण ने कहा तब फिर उस दिन क्यों गुस्सा हो गयी थी जब मैंने तुम्हे यह कहा कि तुम मुझे नमक जितनी प्रिय हो।



अब सत्यभामाजी को सारी बात समझ में आ गयी की यह सारा वाक्या उसे सबक सिखाने के लिए था और उनकी गर्दन झुक गयी।

कथा का मर्म—स्त्री जल की तरह होती है, जिसके साथ मिलती है उसका ही गुण अपना लेती है। स्त्री नमक की तरह होती है जो अपना अस्तित्व मिटाकर भी अपने प्रेम—प्यार तथा आदर—सत्कार से परिवार को ऐसा बना देती है।

माला तो आप सबने देखी होगी। तरह—तरह के फूल पिरोये हुए पर शायद ही कभी किसी ने अच्छी से अच्छी माला में अदृश्य उस “सूत” को देखा होगा जिसने उन सुन्दर सुन्दर फूलों को एक साथ बाँध कर रखा है।

लोग तारीफ़ तो उस माला की करते हैं जो दिखाई देती है मगर तब उन्हें उस सूत की याद नहीं आती जो अगर टूट जाये तो सारे फूल इधर—उधर बिखर जाते हैं।



स्त्री उस सूत की तरह होती है जो बिना किसी चाह के, बिना किसी कामना के, बिना किसी पहचान के, अपना सर्वस्व खोकर भी किसी के जान—पहचान की मोहताज नहीं होती है और शायद इसीलिए दुनिया श्रीराम के पहले सीताजी को और कान्हाजी के पहले श्रीराधेजी को याद करती है।

अपने को विलीन करके पुरुषों को सम्पूर्ण करने की शक्ति भगवान् ने केवल स्त्रियों को ही दी है ॥

॥ सम्पूर्ण नारी—शक्ति को नमन ॥

बोलो राधे—राधे जय श्रीकृष्णा  
जब हमारा मन अत्यधिक  
विक्षिप्त एवं उद्विग्न हो तब  
हमें उस समय वाह्य जगत  
की चिंता छोड़ कर केवल  
अपने ऊपर ही केंद्रित रहते  
हुए विचार करना चाहिए।  
हमको यह ध्यान रखना है कि  
संसार की कोई भी परिस्थिति  
स्थायी नहीं है।

“यह भी नहीं रहेगा”

इस विचार का अभ्यास करना  
ही सर्वथा उचित होगा।

जब प्रत्येक परिस्थिति पूर्णतया  
परिवर्तनशील है, तब उद्विग्न या  
आवेशित होना समझदारी नहीं  
है, क्योंकि उद्विग्न होने से कभी  
भी परिस्थितियां नहीं बदलेगी।  
कठिन परिस्थितियों से भागना  
भी उचित नहीं है। उनका अपने  
पूर्ण चिबेक के साथ सामना कर  
समाधान निकालना ही उत्तम है।  
प्रयास तो करें। अत्यंत कठिन से  
कठिन परिस्थितियाँ भी बहुत ही  
सरल लगने लगेंगी।

‘सलाह’ के सौ शब्दों से ज्यादा ‘अनुभव’ की  
एक ‘ठोकर’,

‘सान को ‘मजबूत’ बनाती है

कुछ बातें ‘समझाने’ पर नहीं, बल्की ‘खुद’ पर ‘बीत’  
जाने पर ही ‘समझ’ में आती हैं।

बुद्धिमान इंसान आपका दिमाग खोलता है सुंदर इंसान  
आपकी आँखें खोलता है लेकिन परवाह करने वाला  
इंसान आपका हृदय खोल देता है।

**इस विचार का अभ्यास  
करना ही सर्वथा उचित  
होगा। जब प्रत्येक  
परिस्थिति पूर्णतया  
परिवर्तनशील है, तब  
उद्विग्न या आवेशित  
होना समझदारी नहीं  
है, क्योंकि उद्विग्न होने  
से कभी भी  
परिस्थितियां नहीं  
बदलेगी। कठिन  
परिस्थितियों से भागना  
भी उचित नहीं है।**

## At Antananarivo: **INDIA-MADAGASCAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LAUNCHED**



Ambassador of India to Madagascar Abhay Kumar addressing the audience

said.

Madagascar is a beneficiary of India's Duty-Free Preferential Tariff Scheme that provides tariff preferences by India on products originating in Madagascar. The Ambassador suggested considering setting a goal of achieving a \$1 billion trade figures target between India and Madagascar in the next five years.

"India-Madagascar Chamber of Commerce will go a long way in strengthening the bilateral trade relationship between our two countries. It will serve as a focal point for numerous Indian and Malagasy traders who would like to business with our two countries and also those who wish to extend their markets to India or Madagascar," he said.

The Event also witnessed remarks made by Secretary-General of Presidency of Madagascar Valery Fitzgerald Ramonjavelo recalling the strong relationship between India and Madagascar while welcoming the announcement of the India-Madagascar Chamber of Commerce. "Madagascar is six hours away from the huge market of 1.4 billion people of India and we must work towards maximum utilization of this opportunity", he said.

Special videos on Ayurveda and trade opportunities between India and Madagascar were showcased during the event. The event saw cultural performance by ITEC and ICCR alumni in Madagascar to mark the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

*Curtsey -global bihari bureau*

**A**n India-Madagascar Chamber of Commerce was launched at a trade promotion event organised by the Embassy of India at Antananarivo:

The event was attended by Valery Fitzgerald Ramonjavelo, Secretary-General of the Presidency of Madagascar, Secretary-General of Ministry of Trade, President of Chamber of Commerce of Antananarivo, Malagasy traders and members of the Indian Diaspora

Ambassador of India to Madagascar Abhay Kumar in his opening remarks at the event informed that the bilateral trade in 2021-22 between India and Madagascar stood at US\$ 363.99 million. India was the second-largest origin of imports for Madagascar in 2020 (EIU-2022) constituting 9.4% of total imports by Madagascar. "There is huge potential in trade sector that the two nations can explore ranging from agricultural commodities to pharmaceuticals, from machinery to textiles," he

**THE EVENT ALSO WITNESSED REMARKS MADE BY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF PRESIDENCY OF MADAGASCAR VALERY FITZGERALD RAMONJAVELO RECALLING THE STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDIA AND MADAGASCAR WHILE WELCOMING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE INDIA-MADAGASCAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. "MADAGASCAR IS SIX HOURS AWAY FROM THE HUGE MARKET OF 1.4 BILLION PEOPLE OF INDIA AND WE MUST WORK TOWARDS MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF THIS OPPORTUNITY", HE SAID.**

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