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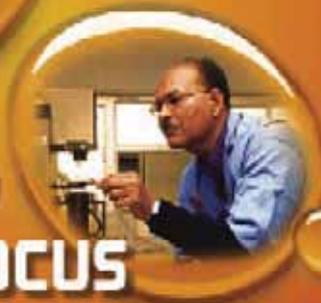
President Her Excellency Smt. Droupadi Murmu and Hon'ble Prime
Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 74th Republic Day of India



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AFTER THE control of Pandemics it was expected that the world will recover to develop and progress with harmony and peace in the year 2022.

But it didn't happen. Unfortunately it was a very hazardous and bumpy road. The continuing Russia-Ukraine war since now almost one year has shattered not only the economy and normalcy of Europe but also world-wide. Besides loss of several innocent precious lives, the economy has gone in turmoil and still struggling to recover. The road ahead 2023 is also unpredictable if the ongoing war continues further.

According to International Monetary Fund , "global growth is projected to fall from an estimated 3.4 percent in 2022 to 2.9 percent in 2023, The forecast for 2023 is 0.2 percentage point higher than predicted in the October 2022 ,World Economic Outlook (WEO) but below the historical (2000-19) average of 3.8 percent." The rise in central bank rates to fight inflation and Russia's war in Ukraine continue to weigh on economic activity. The rapid spread of COVID-19 in China dampened growth in 2022, but the recent reopening has paved the way for a faster-than-expected recovery. Global inflation is expected to fall from 8.8 percent in 2022 to 6.6 percent in 2023 and 4.3 percent in 2024, still above pre-pandemic (2017-19) levels of about 3.5 percent.

"However the outlook for the global economy is growing slightly brighter as China eases its zero-COVID policies and the world shows surprising resilience in the face of high inflation, elevated interest rates. It now expects the world economy to grow 2.9% this year. That forecast is better than the 2.7% expansion for 2023 that the IMF predicted in October. Though down from the estimated 3.4% growth in 2022.Global conditions have improved as inflation pressures started to abate, the road back to a full recovery with sustainable growth, stable prices and progress for all has only started. Our growth projections actually for India are unchanged from our October outlook. We have 6.8 percent growth for this current fiscal year, which runs until March2023."Said Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas, Chief Economist and Director, Research Department of the IMF while talking to media at Singapore.

He further said that "Overall, I want to point out that emerging market economy on the whole and developing economies seem to be already on their way up. We have a slight increase in growth for the region from 3.9 percent in 2022 to 4 percent in 2023," "Another relevant point here is that if we look at both China and India together, they account for about 50 percent of world growth in 2023, and Europe contribute 10%,". It is significant, he said.

On 1st February in her Budget speech for 2023-24, Finance Minister Ms.Sitaraman has also said that the world has recognized the Indian economy as a 'bright star'. "Our current year's economic growth is estimated to be at 7 per cent. "She said.

It is possible only if the pandemic and its related epidemics are kept contained and Russia-Ukraine war does not escalate any further.

Let us hope and pray, a good sense prevails upon the leaders involved in war to call for a truce, and leads the road of 2023 to harmony, peace, progress and prosperity.

— Pran Mohan Parvatiyar
pmparvatiyar@gmail.com



India Finance Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitaraman in her Budget speech 2023-24 on 1st February to Parliament has reduced Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Gurantee Act Fund (MNRGA). It is a matter of concern. This aspect should not have been ignored by the Finance Minister as there is also a huge backlog of payments to people. MINGREGA is about the people who are standing last in line and Prime Minister Modi quite often talks about them.



IFUNA ORGANISED HUMAN RIGHTS DAY WITH UFUNA

ON 10th December 2022 world human rights day was organized jointly by Utkal Federation Of United Nations Association (UFUNA), Odisha in association with Indian Federation Of United Nations Associations (IFUNA), New Delhi at 'Bhanja Kala Mandap'. At the outset Utkal popular song 'Bande Utkal Janani' was sung by UFUNA cultural unit 'lokasevak mandala' Odisha, along with president and all India vice-president and publisher Sri Niranjan Rath. It was observed that now massive violations and infringement is being done by the war between Russia and Ukraine. Justice D P Choudhury Chairman State Consumer Redressal Forum, Odisha told there was violations & infringement Of human rights whenever there is a war and also quoted incidents of Mahabharata. Bhajaman Behera former central minister told he took Buddhism as it speaks about high val-

ue of protection of human rights. Among others former central minister Braja Kishore Tripathi, Dr.A.C. padhiary IAS, Pocso judge. Dr S.K. Tamotia former CMD NALCO who was guest of honour, spoke about various aspect of human rights. UFUNA Secretary Bahadur Patsani welcomed the guests and Secretary General UFUNA Dr Dipayan Pattaniak proposed a vote of thanks to guests and audience. UFUNA Secretary Smt Prof Meera Beura, Er Abinash Das vice president UFUNA Er A.K Satapathy former chief engineer, vice-president Sujata Aasayat, Upendra Rout, Prof Dilip Nanda also spoke. Sr member Saroj Satpathy organised the programme. Cultural Secretary Lalit Rath organised colourful cultural program and Smt Sukanti Sahu organised recitation of poetry relating to human rights. Manoranjan Pattnaik, Advocate, President, UFUNA, presided.



WFUNA AND WHO ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP

A NEW collaboration between the World Health Organization and the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) was announced to jointly organize the first-ever Global Model WHO that aims to offer the most accurate simulation of the World Health Assembly.

The simulations will be managed by staff from the award-winning WFUNA International Model UN (WIMUN) on behalf of WFUNA and will include multiple simulations focusing on topics currently on the WHO agenda. While some simulations will be designed for university students who are currently enrolled in an academic programme leading to a degree in medicine, nursing or global health, other simulations will be open to any interested high school or university student regardless of the disciplines they are studying.

The initiative was launched to foster support for and advance the work of WHO while also promoting a greater international understanding of important global health issues.

The recent pandemic has highlighted the long-term consequences that this global health crisis will have on youth. For example, mental anxiety brought on by COVID-19 has been identified in nearly 90 per cent of young people; more than 1 billion students have had their education interrupted threatening to reverse gains in education over the last two decades; and youth employment has declined by 8.7% during the pandemic.



Mr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General - WHO and Mr Bonian Golmohammadi, Secretary General - WFUNA

In recognition that youth are already making important contributions to finding solutions to global health problems, the Global Model WHO aims to provide youth with the tools they need to participate in the decision making processes at the national and international level that determine policies on these important issues and a platform for presenting their recommendations on actions that need to be taken to address them.

The first Global Model WHO will be organized online from 10-19 February 2023. Future editions will take place each year prior to the World Health Assembly.

"More than half of the world's population is under 35-years-old, and yet young people often have little say in public policy decisions that affect them," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "That's why WHO is proud to partner with WFUNA to fulfill its commitment to engage and

partner with young people by supporting their leadership and advocating for their recognition and visibility."

Secretary-General of WFUNA, Bonian Golmohammadi, also stated that "WFUNA is honoured to join together with the World Health Organization to organize this unique experience for youth around the world. The global pandemic over the last two years has highlighted the important role the WHO plays in addressing global health issues. The Global Model WHO should help increase the participation of youth in the work of the WHO which is critical to achieving its goals."

The Global Model WHO will encourage educational institutions in higher income countries that have the means to sponsor students from lower and middle income countries so that the simulations will be both geographically and socio-economically diverse.



India-China Conflicts And Cooperation



SURESH SRIVASTAVA
Secretary General IFUNA
& Executive Committee
Member WFUNA

RECENTLY, China allowed proposal in the UN Security Council to designate Pakistan based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Abdul Rehman Makki who is also the brother in law of most wanted Hafiz Sayed as Global Terrorist. The China dropped its technical hold over the proposal and allowed it only weeks after India left the UNSC as a non-permanent member. The move culminated after a long standing and persistent efforts made over the past seven-eight months along with partner countries. This may also be seen as change of mandarin as China has appointed Qin Gang as the new foreign minister. He will replace Wang Yi, who served in the post for more than a decade. Qin Gang was serving as the

ambassador to the US before being appointed foreign minister.

Before becoming foreign minister, Qin was China's ambassador to the US. Earlier he also served as the Chief Protocol Officer of Chinese President Xi Jinping from 2014 to 2018.

Since the appointment of Gang, the relationship between India and China is again being seen from a new perspective. Actually, this appointment has taken place at a time when the relations between the two countries have once again soured. recently, due to the tension between the two armies in Tawang, diplomacy between India and China is going nose down.

India and China neighbours for several thousand years have remained un-occupied





China, India agree to work out mutually acceptable resolution of remaining issues in LAC Western Sector

CHINA AND India have agreed to work out a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues in the Western Sector along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) at the earliest by staying in close contact and maintaining dialogue through military and diplomatic channels.

According to the joint press release of the 17th Round of China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting published by China's Ministry of National Defense on Thursday, the two sides exchanged views on the resolution of the relevant issues along the LAC in the Western Sector in an open and constructive manner during the meeting, which was held at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Chinese side on Tuesday.

Experts noted the joint release reflects the two

sides' consensus in maintaining security and stability in the Western Sector along the LAC, saying negotiations on Western Sector issues are separate from problems in the Eastern Sector and will not be affected by the recent clash there.

The latest meeting was built on the progress made after the last meeting on July 17, 2022, the press release said.

"They had a frank and in-depth discussion, keeping in line with the guidance provided by State Leaders to work for the resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest which would help restore peace and tranquility along the LAC in the Western Sector and enable progress in bilateral relations," said the joint press release.

The meeting focused on remaining problems on

THE MODERN SINO-INDIAN RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN MARKED BY FOUR DISTINCT PHASES. PURPORTED FRIENDSHIP AND IDEOLOGICAL CONGRUENCE AROUND ANTI-IMPERIALIST FOREIGN-POLICY OBJECTIVES FROM 1950 DETERIORATED INTO A BITTER YET BRIEF BORDER CONFLICT IN 1962...

with each other till China's peasant revolution in the year 1948. Mao Zedong, speaking in 1951 in honour of the first anniversary of India's constitution, declared that 'excellent friendship' had existed between the two countries 'for thousands of years. India and China started off on a friendly footing soon after their formation as republics. This 1950s entente, epitomised by the popular Hindi slogan Hindi Chini Bhai-Bhai (Indians and Chinese are brothers), yet few of the lofty proclamations made by Indian and Chinese leaders over the years truly reflect the reality of relations between the neighbours. It is surprising that two states with such a rich and sometimes fractious history, including a border conflict in 1962, should have what appears to be a largely reactive relationship. But China foreign policy has not felicitated India to develop a grand strategy with regard to the other.

China is a more fraught subject in Indian

national debates than India is for China. China does not appear to feel threatened in any serious way by India, while India feels tremendous insecurity in the face of Chinese economic success and military expansion. India has already suffered war with China in the year 1962 and the conflict is still continuing.

The modern Sino-Indian relationship has been marked by four distinct phases. Purported friendship and ideological congruence around anti-imperialist foreign-policy objectives from 1950 deteriorated into a bitter yet brief border conflict in 1962, followed by a Sino-Indian 'Cold War' Bilateral normalisation efforts after 1976 led to attempts to address differences through dialogue. This was by no means easy, given Indian sensitivities, frequently expressed in the media and in parliament. In 1998, India pointed to China as the justification for its second round of nuclear tests (the first had occurred in 1974).



the Western Sector, including troop withdrawal and disengagement where divergences still exist between the two sides, Qian Feng, director of the research department at the National Strategy Institute at Tsinghua University, told the Global Times on Thursday.

Qian said the recent incident in the Eastern Sector of the LAC along the China-India border will not affect negotiations on issues on the Western Sector. "The incident was far less severe than the conflict in the Western Sector of the China-India border in 2020, and both China and India reacted quickly and held a meeting to bring the incident under control."

Analyst said the situation in China-India border is generally stable. Despite the fact that specific problems still exist, both sides have willingness to solve them, they said.

Curtsey: Zhang Changyue and Du Qiongfang---: Dec 22, 2022

At the first Afro-Asian Conference at Bandung, Indonesia, in 1955, Nehru took great pride in introducing Zhou to other leaders as if India were, in the words of scholar Manjari Chatterjee Miller, a 'public mentor and introducer of China into the group of developing nations'. Much later, Zhou would comment to a group of journalists that he had 'never met a more arrogant man' than Nehru at Bandung, China is reported to have reached a 'strategic understanding with Pakistan founded on their convergent interests vis-à-vis India'. This laid the foundation for one of the twentieth century's most enduring alliances, which is still intact.

While some have traced the roots of the Indo-Chinese border dispute to a much earlier period, its immediate antecedents lay in the Chinese invasion of Tibet in 1950. This created significant tensions in India, which had

strategic interests in Tibetan 'spiritual bonds' with Tibet, a civilisation stretching back almost two millennia.

India's fears: 'Any strong expansionist power, entrenched in Tibet, holds in its hands a loaded pistol pointed at the heart of India'.

In April 1962, when China was reeling under the disastrous impact of the Great Leap Forward, facing threats of military invasion from Taiwan and involved in a proxy conflict with the United States in Laos. By July, however, the international challenges were resolved and China focused its energy on countering India's sections. China attacked Indian positions in both the eastern and western sectors on 20 October 1962, much to New Delhi's surprise. Nehru appealed to the United States for assistance, which President John F. Kennedy was quick to provide. An American aircraft carrier was dispatched to the

IN APRIL 1962, WHEN CHINA WAS REELING UNDER THE DISASTROUS IMPACT OF THE GREAT LEAP FORWARD, FACING THREATS OF MILITARY INVASION FROM TAIWAN AND INVOLVED IN A PROXY CONFLICT WITH THE UNITED STATES IN LAOS. BY JULY, HOWEVER, THE INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGES WERE RESOLVED AND CHINA FOCUSED ITS ENERGY ON COUNTERING INDIA'S SECTIONS.



As a Chinese verse goes

"GOOD FRIENDS FEEL CLOSE TO EACH OTHER EVEN WHEN THEY ARE SEPARATED BY VAST DISTANCE." — QIN GANG

New China Foreign Minister on India: “Both sides willing to ease situation”

IN REMARKS made just four days before he was named as China's new Foreign Minister, Qin Gang referred to "border issues" with India and said the status quo is that both sides are "willing to ease the situation" and "jointly protect peace along their borders".

Qin, who was China's Ambassador to the US, was named Friday as the country's new Foreign Minister and will replace Wang Yi who held the post for a decade. Qin had earlier served as Chinese President Xi Jinping's chief protocol officer between 2014 and 2018.

On December 26, in an op-ed article titled "How China Sees the World" for the US magazine "National Interest", Qin referred to India-China ties in the context of the perception that China was "poised" to break the status quo. He also blamed the US for challenging the status quo on Taiwan, and Japan for altering the status quo in the South China Sea.

Qin's article is being seen in Delhi as views vetted by Beijing. "China's development means a stronger force for peace, not a

growing power poised to 'break the status quo', as some call it. The tension across the Taiwan Strait was not created by the Chinese mainland breaking the status quo, but by 'Taiwan independence' separatists and external forces continually challenging the status quo of 'one China'," Qin wrote.

"In the case of the East China Sea, it was Japan who attempted to 'nationalize' Diaoyu Dao ten years ago, altering the "status quo" between China and Japan of agreeing to put aside differences. In the South China Sea, the status quo is that regional countries are consulting on a code of conduct that will lead to meaningful and effective rules for the region. As to the border issues between China and India, the status quo is that both sides are willing to ease the situation and jointly protect peace along their borders," he wrote.

Framing his remarks, Qin wrote that the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which was held in October, reaffirmed that "China is committed to its foreign policy goals of upholding world peace and promoting common develop-

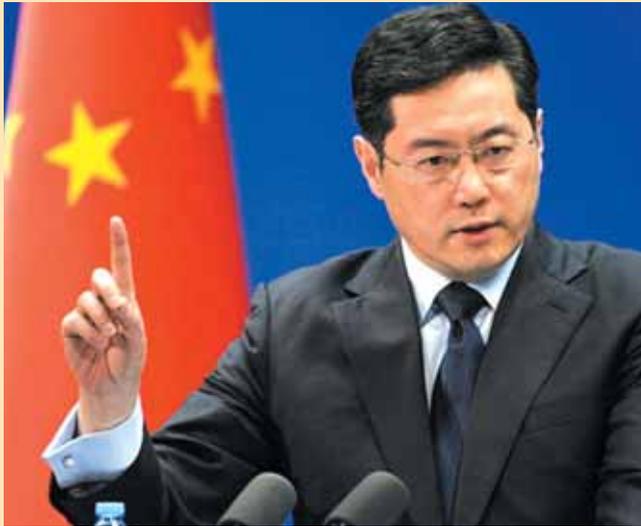
THE SINO-INDIAN WAR IS OFTEN CITED AS A WATERSHED MOMENT IN INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY, AFTER WHICH NEHRUVIAN IDEALISM BEGAN TO GIVE WAY TO THE PRAGMATIC IMPULSES OF SUBSEQUENT ADMINISTRATIONS. AFTER THE WAR, INDIA BEGAN TO ALIGN ITSELF MORE CLOSELY WITH THE SOVIET UNION...

Bay of Bengal, but was recalled almost immediately when, on 21 November, China unilaterally declared a ceasefire. The war had ended in 31 days with a very large area of India in China's possession.

The Sino-Indian war is often cited as a watershed moment in Indian foreign policy, after which Nehruvian idealism began to give way to the pragmatic impulses of subsequent administrations. After the war, India began to align itself more closely with the Soviet Union, which had begun to split from China within the international Communist movement; meanwhile, China and Pakistan developed closer ties. In 1964, China conducted its first nuclear test, at Lop Nor, which provided impetus for India's own successful 'peaceful' nuclear test at Pokhran ten years later. The 1965 India-Pakistan war was a litmus test of the already established US-Pakistan relationship as well as the new Sino-Pakistani

relationship. When the United States declared neutrality and blocked military transfers to both India and Pakistan, Islamabad turned to Beijing for assistance, which it provided in generous quantities. When war broke out, China came down heavily on Pakistan's side and threatened to open a front with India on the Sikkim border. US diplomatic intervention and a United Nations resolution calling for a ceasefire were ultimately necessary to discourage Chinese intervention.

Soon after Deng Xiaoping assumed leadership in 1978, the country declared it would no longer support insurgencies in India's northeastern states. This was in keeping with a wider paradigm shift in China's inward and outward orientation. Deng's foreign policy, based on the principle of Tao Guang Yang Hui ('Hide Brightness, Nourish Obscurity') prescribed an internally oriented programme of building up domestic economic strength and disentangling the country from



ment, and it remains dedicated to building a community with a shared future for mankind. Such an official, open declaration of the CPC's worldview sheds light on the way it engages with the world".

On China-US ties, Qin wrote: "If people choose to see the world from a 'democracy vs. authoritarianism' perspective, they will very likely usher in a world of division, competition, and conflict; but if they view the world as a community with a shared future, then openness, cooperation, and win-win outcomes will be the fruits of their choice."

The views expressed by China's newly named Foreign Minister are significant. They come at a time when Indian and Chinese

troops have been locked in a border standoff for more than 31 months. And, they indicate that Beijing is prioritizing the issue.

He wrote: "As President Xi Jinping stressed in his meeting with President Joe Biden in Bali last month, the world is big enough for the two countries to develop themselves and prosper together. China-U.S. relations should not be a zero-sum game where one side out-competes the other or thrives at the expense of the other. China and the United States now share more common interests, not less. This is how the notion of a community with a shared future for mankind mirrors in China-U.S. Relations."

Qin also expressed concern about the situation in Ukraine and called for peace talks between Russia and Ukraine as well as dialogue between the US, the EU, NATO, and Russia.

"China is highly concerned about the situation in Ukraine. Though deeply saddening, what has been happening there reveals some important lessons: conflicts and wars produce no winner; there is no simple solution to a complex issue; confrontation between major countries must be avoided. The most urgent task for the moment is to promote peace talks between Russia and Ukraine as well as dialogue between the United States, the EU, NATO, and Russia. In the long term, people must realize that grounding one's own security on other countries' insecurity won't work; it is necessary to establish a balanced, effective, and sustainable European security framework. There is no choice other than this," he wrote.

"As residents of the same world, we should and can listen to each other, narrow our gap in perceptions of the world, and explore a way to get along based on mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, and win-win cooperation," he wrote.

international conflicts.

Ten days prior to May 1998 nuclear tests by India, The Indian Defence Minister George Fernandes had declared during an interview that China was 'potential threat number one'. New Delhi's message seemed loud and clear, but after some strident criticisms of the tests and India's justifications, Beijing quickly resumed relations with its neighbor. A critical test of China's new approach was the Kargil conflict between India and Pakistan in 1999, during which Beijing assured Indian Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh of its neutrality. Indeed, China's statements on the Kashmir issue and other conflicts between India and Pakistan since the 1990s have called for their bilateral resolution, a marked change from China's stance during the India-Pakistan wars of 1965 and 1971.

In December 2007, India and China hosted their first-ever joint military exercises. In January

2008, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh reaffirmed with Chinese President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao that their countries enjoyed a 'shared vision on the 21st century'. In 2009, India-China trade overtook India-US trade in value, making China India's top trading partner.

Irritants continue to plague the relationship, however, particularly where the border is concerned. In 2007 China refused to grant a visa to a government official from the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh,

Many people's views of the Sino-Indian relationship is the notion that two rising powers with rapidly growing economies and global ambitions cannot peacefully co-exist at such close quarters. Where spheres of influence overlap there is competition, as in the cases of Nepal and Myanmar. Standard realist accounts argue China is unwilling to permit the emergence of India as a power beyond South Asia. In the past

IRRITANTS CONTINUE TO PLAGUE THE RELATIONSHIP, HOWEVER, PARTICULARLY WHERE THE BORDER IS CONCERNED. IN 2007 CHINA REFUSED TO GRANT A VISA TO A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL FROM THE INDIAN STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH,



"THE TWO SIDES ACKNOWLEDGED THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN WORLD PEACE, STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT. INDIA IS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS IN STRENGTHENING THE UN SYSTEM. INDIA REAFFIRMED ITS READINESS TO WORK TOGETHER TO PROMOTE REFORM OF THE UN. IN REFORM OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ENHANCING REPRESENTATION OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES."

China has built alliances and partnerships with countries in the Indian periphery, most notably Pakistan, but also Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and, more recently, Afghanistan. Combined with the Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean region, this has created some concern among Indian policymakers of strategic encirclement. Still, India has been cautious and, in all but naval strategy, circumspect about countering China's moves. New Delhi continues to follow a one-China policy favoring Beijing, despite growing military exchanges with Taiwan.

China's nuclear and missile-technology assistance to Pakistan is of particular concern to India. Future tensions between India and Pakistan could fuel a nuclear arms race on the subcontinent.

Perhaps the biggest challenge to Sino-Indian rapprochement, and a source of impetus, is the rapidly improving US-Indian relationship.

US approaches to China oscillate between policies of containment and engagement. The former has given birth to a new triangle between the United States, India and China, whereby

Washington cultivates closer ties with India, as an established democracy and as a regional bulwark against a potentially aggressive, communist China.

Significantly, recent exchanges of military delegations at a senior command level between India and China have included visits to Tibet by the former and to Arunachal Pradesh by the latter. Perhaps each side was impressed by the other's firmness control in border areas.

China and India are two of the fastest growing economies in the world. The low level of trade and investment between them is a striking illustration of their divergent development paths and their mutual suspicions.

"The two sides acknowledged the vital importance of the United Nations in world peace, stability and development. India is determined to continue its efforts in strengthening the UN system. India reaffirmed its readiness to work together to promote reform of the UN. In reform of the UN Security Council, priority should be given to enhancing representation of the developing countries."



India, Egypt Decides To Elevate Ties To Strategic Partnership; Resolve To Combat Terrorism

India and Egypt agreed to boost trade between their countries during a visit by the Egyptian president that underscores Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts to fortify ties with other emerging economies.

India and Egypt decided on Wednesday 25th January to elevate their ties to the level of a strategic partnership, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi resolving to broad base the bilateral engagement in the areas of Defence, Security and Trade, and calling for "zero tolerance" towards terrorism.

After his talks with the visiting Arab leader, Modi said both sides were unanimous in their view that terrorism poses the most serious security threat to humanity and agreed that concerted action is necessary to end cross-border terrorism.

Following the talks between Modi and Sisi, the two sides signed five agreements providing for cooperation in the areas of culture, information technology, cyber security, matters relating to youngsters and broadcasting.

The two leaders also decided to take the volume of bilateral trade to USD 12 billion in the



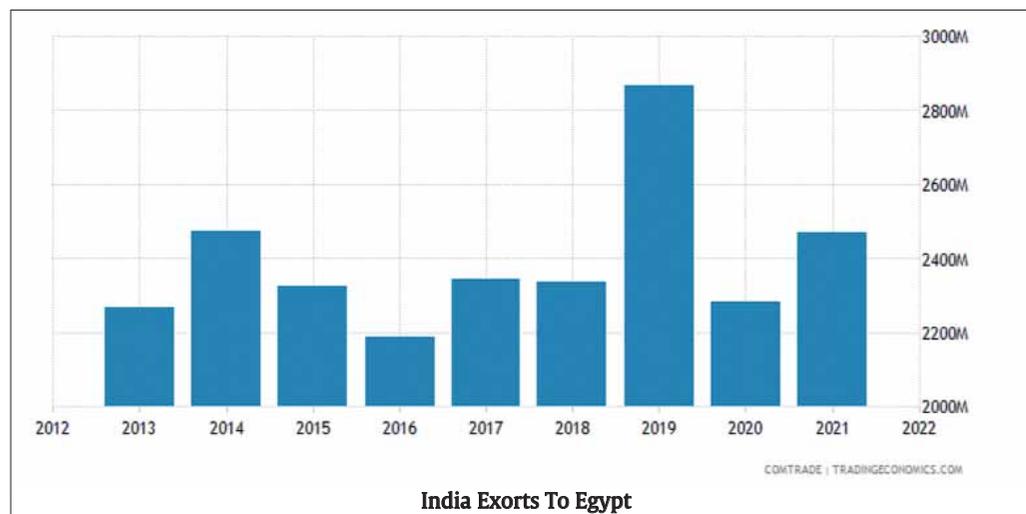
P.M.Modi Welcomes Egypt President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi

next five years from around USD seven billion at present, said Foreign Secretary Kwatra, while describing the Modi-Sisi talks as "extremely productive" and "very warm".

Modi and President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi agreed on measures to increase two-way trade within five years to \$12 billion. Trade totaled \$7.3 billion in 2021-22.

Modi and El-Sisi expressed concern over disruptions to food supplies and other critical resources due to the war in Ukraine. Modi

INDIA AND EGYPT DECIDED ON WEDNESDAY 25TH JANUARY TO ELEVATE THEIR TIES TO THE LEVEL OF A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP, WITH PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI AND EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ABDEL FATTAH EL-SISI RESOLVING TO BROAD BASE THE BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT IN THE AREAS OF DEFENCE, SECURITY AND TRADE, AND CALLING FOR "ZERO TOLERANCE" TOWARDS TERRORISM.





Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar Also Welcomed Egypt President

sought Egypt's cooperation in fighting cross-border terrorism, extremism, and cyber threats.

Egypt's economy has been strained by the pandemic and Russia's war in Ukraine, which pushed prices for oil and other commodities to record highs. One of the world's biggest importers of wheat, it obtained help from the World Bank last year to finance its grain purchases as supplies from Ukraine were disrupted.

Imports from India, which made an exception for countries like Egypt facing

**INDIA MAY GET
A DEDICATED INDUSTRIAL
AREA IN SUEZ
CANAL ECONOMIC
ZONE [SCEZ]**



Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of information and broadcasting and, MR. Sameh Hassan Shoukry, Foreign Minister of Arab Republic of Egypt Sign MOU in the field of content exchange, capacity building and co-production

severe shortfalls even as it banned most wheat exports, helped to bridge the gap.

India is among the top five importers of Egyptian products, including crude oil and liquefied natural gas, salt, cotton, inorganic chemicals and oilseeds. Major Indian exports to Egypt include cotton yarn, coffee, herbs, tobacco, lentils, vehicle parts, ships, boats and electrical machinery.

El-Sissi has invited Indian businesses to invest more in the Suez Canal Economic Zone. More than 50 Indian companies have invested around \$3.15 billion in various parts of the Egyptian economy, including chemicals, energy, textiles, garments, agri-business and retailing, according to India's External Affairs Ministry.

India is the host country for the Group of 20 major economies this year and Modi has invited El-Sissi to attend as one of its special guests.

El-Sisi was the chief guest at India's Republic Day parade on Thursday 26th January marking the anniversary of the adoption of the country's constitution on Jan. 26, 1950. India won independence from British colonial rule in 1947

Egypt Imports from India was US\$2.47 Billion during 2021, according to the United Nations COMTRADE database on international trade. Egypt Imports from India - data, historical chart and statistics - was last updated on January of 2023.



WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

Davos 2023

India takes away the keys

"INDIA BRIGHT SPOT AMID GLOBAL CRISIS; PM MODI'S LEADERSHIP CRITICAL IN FRACTURED WORLD": - 'KLAUS SCHWAB' WEF CHAIRMAN



Klaus Schwab, president and founder of the world economic forum.

THE FIVE DAY MEETING WITNESSED SPECIAL ADDRESSES BY SEVERAL HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT, AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS BY A LARGE NUMBER OF LEADERS FROM POLITICS, BUSINESS, ACADEMIA AND CIVIL SOCIETY. THE THEME OF THE MEETING WAS 'COOPERATION IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD'.

THE WORLD Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2023 at Davos ended on Friday 20th January after five days of intense discussions on climate, Russia-Ukraine war and economic issues with a call by global leaders for a far more collaborative world.

This year's World Economic Forum Annual Meeting saw leaders from around the world come together to discuss various aspects of the cascading and connected crises that threaten a polycrisis.

There's the war in Ukraine, which has sent energy and food prices soaring. The resulting inflationary pressures have ignited a global cost-of-living crisis, leading to social unrest. On top of all that, carbon emissions continue to rise as economies reopened after the pandemic.

However none of this has had an impact significant enough to derail India's growth, as reflected in responses from political and private leaders at Davos. From the economy to the

energy transition, India's action on crucial global issues was a major topic of discussion at Davos 2023. This year, dominating the main street in Davos were emissaries from India, who have taken over at least eight storefronts with appeals to the elite gathering's political and business class.

It also saw India emerging as a key pillar in the world order with World Economic Founder and Executive Chairman Klaus Schwab describing the country as a bright spot in a fragile world.

The Monday to Friday meeting was attended by nearly 100 Indian leaders, including four Union ministers and one chief minister.

In his closing remarks, WEF President Borge Brende said it has been a remarkable week with significant progress made on climate action and equitable growth targets.

The five day meeting witnessed special addresses by several heads of state or government, and panel discussions by a large number of leaders from politics, business, academia and civil society. The theme of the meeting was 'Cooperation in a Fragmented World'.

Brende said the world may be fragmented today but hopes have emerged here that it may not be so tomorrow.

During the closing session, IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said her message to world leaders is to be pragmatic and collaborate. She also warned that fragmentation can cost the global economy up to 7 per cent.

India has shown up in force for good reason. In 2023, as global recession fears persist, the country is expected to log the best performance of any major economy. The World Bank is estimating growth of 6.6%, compared to just 0.5%



India is certainly on the move. On resilient technology:

**'Digital vision being implemented in India'
Almost every segment of our
economy is moving very well.**

**-Sunil Bharti Mittal,
Chairman, Bharti Enterprises**

Technological changes across industries were a huge topic of discussion at this year's Meeting. One panel on 'Technology for a More Resilient World' explored the role of technology in the transition to a cleaner, safer and more inclusive world. There's a palpable excitement brewing amongst Indian leaders in technology, according to Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman at Bharti Enterprises. "India is certainly on the move. Almost every segment of our economy is moving very well, consumption is going up."

"China+1 has become the norm in the world: everybody is talking about being in India in addition to China, not necessarily in replacement to China. Europe+1 has started to be talked about.. because they feel India could become a very important part of the supply chain of the world."

Mittal believes the 'digital vision being implemented in India' has helped overcome and mitigate the absence of hard infrastructure. "We've been able to do our business without massive development of roads, ports, airlines, railways - which are on an accelerated path, but for a country like India, will probably take 10-15 years [to develop]."

He went on to expand on the rollout of 5G services in India but said its use case is still limited. "The most benefit of 5G will come from industrial application, and that's what we're most excited about".

"In the meantime, people will get used to high speeds and low latency for regular devices as well."

On the question of how much India has benefited from the tech tensions between the United States and China, Mittal pointed to a renewed focus on manufacturing capability. "India is now committed to spending very large amounts of money over the next 5-10 years to finally attract the semi-conductor base, which we could never build over the last several decades."



DAVOS

for the United States and 4.3% for China. If it can maintain its momentum, India will overtake Germany as the world's fourth largest economy in 2026, knock Japan from the number three spot in 2032 and become only the third country with GDP worth \$10 trillion by 2035, according to an analysis by the Centre for Economics and Business Research.

India's economy currently stands at nearly \$3.5 trillion, making it the world's fifth largest.

The case for investing has been bolstered by geopolitics. As Western business leaders talk about "near shoring" - shortening supply chains to reduce risks.

"I see a lot of businesses, a lot of companies looking to India as an investment destination as they try to diversify away from other countries," Gita Gopinath, deputy managing director of the International Monetary Fund, told media in Davos. "It is very much on the world stage." India is not entirely insulated from anxiety about the global economy, as high interest rates and inflation, as well as ongoing uncertainty over Russia's war in Ukraine, push the world to the brink of recession. "India's economy has been remarkably

resilient to the deteriorating external environment," World Bank country director Auguste Tano Kouamé had said in December, noting the buffer provided by its large domestic market.. R.K. Singh, India's energy minister, told international media at Davos that he's fielded huge interest from investors this week, bolstering optimism about the outlook."I haven't had to ask for investment," Singh said. "Investment has just flown in." That confidence was on display at Davos. The states of Maharashtra, Telangana and Tamil Nadu had rented prominent real estate in the ski resort, as had Tata Group and IT giant Infosys (INFY). The main India Lounge at the event had been serving up popular lunches to fund managers and bankers, while two separate pavilions promoted the country's green energy efforts and the stories of small artisans.

The chief minister of Maharashtra - India's wealthiest state and home to 120 million residents - has said 1.37 trillion rupees (\$16.8 billion) in preliminary agreements were signed early in the week. One high-profile deal was a memorandum of understanding



Minister Of Power And New & Renewable Energy Of India Raj Kumar Singh Meeting Investors At Davos

with auto system maker Belrise Industries and Taiwan's Gogoro - sometimes called the "Tesla of two-wheelers" - to invest \$2.5 billion in battery swapping infrastructure. Gogoro CEO Horace Luke told media that India is a "primary growth market" for the company.

India's outreach to investors often refers to what economists call its "demographic dividend." The country has a working-age population of more than 900 million people that could hit more than 1 billion over the next decade. Many of these workers are entrepreneurial, English-speaking and digitally literate, said Ila Patnaik, chief economist at Indian conglomerate Aditya Birla Group. They're a substantial asset - if India's economy can create enough jobs.

"The world needs resilience," Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran told a Davos panel. "Resilience has to take precedence over efficiency."

Plans to reach net-zero emissions by 2070, and for renewables to account for 50% of India's energy mix by 2030, have also unleashed a wave of green investment, Singh said, even as the country remains the world's second largest consumer of coal after China. At Davos, Singh was promoting the government's efforts to dramatically ramp up green hydrogen production.

The reorientation is already underway. The Biden administration has signaled it wants to deepen trade ties with India. Apple (AAPL), America's biggest public company, has started shifting more of its production to India.

INDIA'S STRATEGY: 'HIGH GROWTH, MODERATE INFLATION'

The economic outlook for 2023 differs depending on where you are in the world, according to the World Economic Forum's Chief Economists Outlook.

According to the survey, economists are most optimistic about the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and South Asia. The report suggests that some economies in the region, including Bangladesh and India, may benefit from global trends such as a diversification of manufacturing supply chains away from China.

The view aligns with predictions from the London-based consultancy Center for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), which says that India will become the third \$10 trillion economy by 2035.

More than half of India's population, which is estimated to have already overtaken China's, falls in the working age group of 15-64 years-the segment known as the demographic dividend. Can it use this demographic dividend in its stride?

On a panel discussing 'India's Road to a \$10 Trillion Economy', Ashwini Vaishnaw, the minister overseeing Railways, Communications, and Electronics and Information Technology, highlighted four key factors that will make all the difference: "The first dimension is to make sure India's economy is resilient, and there is consistent 6-8% growth rate for a complete decade with moderate inflation."



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI SEATED ON STAGE WITH PRESIDENT OF GUYANA DR. MOHAMMED IRFAN ALI & PRESIDENT OF SURINAME CHANDRIKA PRASAD SANTOKHI IN THE INAUGURATION OF 17TH PARAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS IN INDORE.

India not only knowledge center of world, but it has the potential to become the skill capital of the world

PM Modi at 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Indore

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi formally inaugurated the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention at Brilliant Convention Centre in Indore declaring that India has its own distinct voice, its own identity on the global stage, which will become stronger in the times to come.

Welcoming the chief guest of the event, Dr. Mohammed Irfan Ali, President of Guyana and the guest of honor, Chandra Prasad Santokhi, President of Suriname said the world's curiosity

towards India will increase. It is an important responsibility of the Indian Diaspora to satisfy this growing curiosity of the world towards India. They should promote India's model of "Sustainable Future" all over the world, he added.

Modi said that for centuries the world has been eager to know Indian philosophy, culture, our life values, our global vision, and our glorious traditions and in today's era India's strong economy, science, technology,



PRESIDENT OF GUYANA DR. MOHAMMAD IRFAN ALI ADDRESSING THE INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF 17TH PARAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS IN INDORE.

GUYANA PRESIDENT DR. IRFAN ALI PRAISES PM MODI

The President of Guyana, Dr. Mohammad Irfan Ali, while saluting India, the land of his forefathers and remembering Mahatma Gandhi, said that today is a very important day for India and Guyana. President Irfan Ali said that in the period of Covid-19, when the entire system of globalization had collapsed, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave the message of love and cooperation to the world by helping the countries. India is far ahead of other countries in the development of talent and technology in the world. With the resolve of Prime Minister Modi for "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas", the country is providing leadership to the world today. Referring to the social and cultural similarities between India and Guyana, President Mr. Irfan Ali said that even though the two countries are far apart in terms of geographical distance, there is a lot of emotional closeness and our relations will be more intense in the future.

information technology, defence and space science are all unique and are the centre of attraction of the world.

Prime Minister Modi added that India is not only the knowledge centre of the world, but it has the potential to become the skill capital of the world. India can become the engine of development for the world. Pravasi Bharatiya should make their invaluable contribution in promoting India's: Make in India, Yoga, Ayurveda, cottage industry, handicrafts, and coarse grains in the world.

Speaking about the city of meeting, Indore he said it is a wonderful city. Indore is an era, which moves ahead of time, yet preserves its heritage. He said in Indore accent that "Our Indore is wonderful in the whole world." The namkeen, poha passion, sabudana khichdi, kachori, samosas here bring water to the

mouth. It is not only the cleanest city of India but it is also the capital of taste. You will not be able to forget the experience here, he said to visiting Diaspora.

Modi said that this year India has the honour of chairing the G-20 group. In such times, the responsibility of the overseas Indians increases further. This is your chance to tell the world about India. Make this occasion historic by following the tradition of Atithi Devo Bhav. When the participants go back to their country, Indians living there call them, interact with them.

Modi opined that today overseas Indians have the best contribution in the whole world. They are involved in building a capable and strong India. Wherever they live, they keep India with them, in their heart. They have a commitment towards India. They

MODI SAID THAT THIS YEAR INDIA HAS THE HONOUR OF CHAIRING THE G-20 GROUP. IN SUCH TIMES, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OVERSEAS INDIANS INCREASES FURTHER. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO TELL THE WORLD ABOUT INDIA.



DIASPORA BASKS IN WARM, WELCOMING PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS 2023 AT INDORE

SURINAME PRESIDENT CHANDRIKA PRASAD SANTOKHI

Suriname President Mr. Chandrika Prasad Santokhi said that mother and motherland are more than heaven, the love, respect and hospitality received in India's cleanest city and smart city Indore made this feeling come true. The Pravasi Bharatiya Convention will open new doors of possibilities for both countries. President Santokhi said about the need to establish a system of training on Hindi, Yoga, Ayurveda, Spirituality etc. in Caribbean countries and other countries for overseas Indians. This will help in preserving the religion, culture and our traditions in the overseas Indian communities as well.

President Santokhi suggested Indian enterprises and banks to expand their activities to countries with a concentration of Indian Diaspora, including Caribbean countries. He said that we are indebted to the leadership of Prime Minister Modi and the vision of considering the whole world as one family according to his Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.



always work in the interest of India. Document the best work done by overseas Indians all over the world. Their works should be publicized through audio video medium. Modi said that people of Indian origin who are born abroad are also curious to know about the country of their parents.

Expressing his gratitude to the President of Guyana, Dr. Mohammed Irfan Ali and the President of Suriname, Mr. Chandrika Prasad Santokhi, Prime Minister Modi said that their thoughts are very useful. Modi greeted both of them with a hug.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that there is an atmosphere of joy in Madhya Pradesh today on the occasion of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention. In the nectar of freedom, it is raining nectar in Indore. The people of Indore have opened the doors of their hearts and homes to welcome the NRIs. Many citizens

came forward with open hearts to host the guests in their homes. The guests have been given a memorable hospitality. To make Pravasi Bharatiya Divas memorable, people from 66 nations came to plant saplings at the Global Garden in Indore. This is commendable work.

The Prime Minister, Namenda Modi, the President of Guyana, Dr. Mohammed Irfan Ali, and the President of Suriname, Chandrika Prasad Santokhi released a postage stamp on the theme "Surakshit Yayen-Prashikshit Jayen" on the occasion of the Pravasi Bharatiya Sammelan. Foreign Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar welcomed everyone at the beginning of the program highlighting the objective of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel, Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muraleedharan, Union Minister of State for Culture MS Meenakshi Lekhi and a large number of NRIs were also present in the programme.

EXPRESSING HIS GRATITUDE TO THE PRESIDENT OF GUYANA, DR. MOHAMMED IRFAN ALI AND THE PRESIDENT OF SURINAME, MR. CHANDRIKA PRASAD SANTOKHI, PRIME MINISTER MODI SAID THAT THEIR THOUGHTS ARE VERY USEFUL. MODI GREETED BOTH OF THEM WITH A HUG.



ON THE SIDELINES OF THE 17TH PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME, CHANDRIKAPERSAD SANTOKHI VISITED AHMEDABAD GUJARAT FOR A "BUSINESS SESSION". ALONG WITH THE PRESIDENT, OTHER SURINAME DELEGATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR RAILWAYS AND TEXTILES, DARSHANA JARDOSH



Choppers Over Uttrakhand



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

**WE SUFFERED ALL THAT
WHILE FLYING WAY
BACK FROM GAUCHAR#.
IT FELT LIKE-THE
CHOPPER WAS ABOUT
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OF EVENTS. IN SUCH A
SCENARIO, THE PILOT IS
ON HIS OWN. NOT
KNOWING WHERE WE
ARE IN THE WORLD
WITH NO 'SITUATIONAL
AWARENESS'.**

FLYING HAS been associated with freedom of thought of the imagination; the symbolism of levels and superiority.

There was a long wait of over three hours at Dehradun Helipad^, before we could hear the droning hum of the helicopter with the wapping of the rotors. The flight to Gauchar could not keep time for reasons unknown. In the meanwhile many a chopper* turned and went wind milling away, even though we enjoyed being with Shaila Ran & Narender Bindra, both wishfully harping the tune of good work done by Himachal to be worthy of a role model to follow progress for Uttrakhand.

■ 'Buckle up and stay seated' is the dictate.

There's a certain magic in flying around and through the clouds; the cloud ceiling begins to drop, and the rising terrain forces the pilot higher and into the clouds. Not being able to see outside really hampers a pilot's ability to know where we are; panic sets in. Visibility dwindles, but it is the pilot who needs to be proficient to maintain control of the helicopter.

We suffered all that while flying way back from Gauchar#. It felt like-the chopper was about to enter a very dangerous and possibly fatal chain of events. In such a scenario, the pilot is on his own. Not knowing where we are in the world with no 'Situational Awareness'.

Bad weather is bad for all flying, but perhaps, for a helicopter it is terrible. Dense fog could make it still more dangerous.

With helicopter flights, you feel a sense of being pushed down into your seat as the aircraft lifts up into the air.

Beneath the peals of mysticism, it was a providential escape out of a total haze of of

invisibility. My son seated behind, on the spur of a moment, ran out of wits on having been centrifugally pushed against the pane of the chopper over a tangent turn on landing at Dehradun helipad.

Oh God! give peace to the departed souls. A



Sahastradhara Helipad Dehradun

Shaila Rani Rawat MLA Kedarnath and Ma



day after, seven people died in a helicopter crash near Kedarnath; the chopper went down while negotiating dense fog. Maybe, its tail hit the ground as it was flying too low. My faith in Him is reaffirmed.

■ Now, I learn:-

'This is known as entry into IIMC - Inadvertent Instrument Meteorological Conditions'. In most helicopter flights the pilots are flying under VFR - Visual Flight Rules. This means they need to look out of the helicopter's windows and be able to see the ground and/or horizon to be able to establish which way is up. This can be the difference of survival or not. A good quality moving map displayed in the cockpit is likely to be helpful in the accuracy of its flight control system,

'Many of the 'Bush Rocket' helicopters that I fly have some or all of the 6-pack but they are not required to be tested and working because my company is a VFR-Only

Author in Uttarakhand



road Dehradun 15th Oct, 2022
Kedarnath and Manu Maharaaj with the Author

operation.' says another pilot. 'Pushing the Weather' we can find ourselves in a situation where we accidentally get into low conditions.'

■ Uttarakhand also known as Uttaranchal is the natural environment of the Himalayas. Himachal Pradesh is to the west and northwest. It is also a gateway to several mountaineering expeditions headed to mountains like Nilkantha.

Frequent movement of choppers in the fragile Himalayan landscape can lead to mishaps including landslides and avalanches.

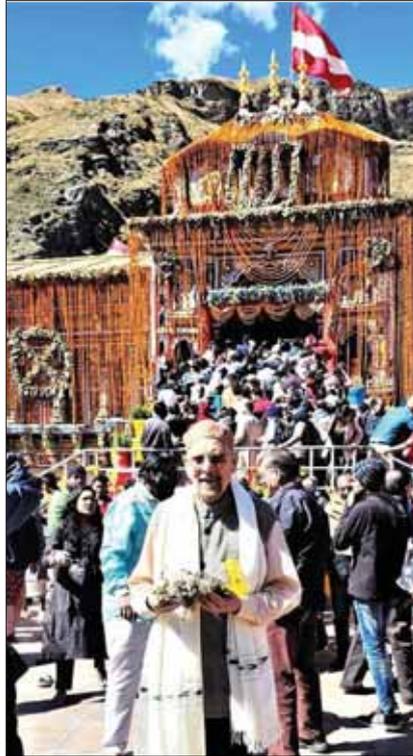
On average, there are 270 sorties a day (one operator can ferry 7, including the pilot).

In earlier days, pilgrims used to walk hundreds of miles to visit the Badrinath temple. Lore states that the area was full of Badri bushes.

Now nearly 10 percent of the passengers take chopper flights over the pilgrimage circuits. Presently, nine operators, including government-run Pawan-Hans, impaneled by the Uttarakhand civil aviation development authority, run chopper services on the Kedarnath route.

Starting with a chopper flying around 10000 ft. high to catch a bird's eye view of Nainital Lake, way back in December 2015;

NOW NEARLY 10 PERCENT OF THE PASSENGERS TAKE CHOPPER FLIGHTS OVER THE PILGRIMAGE CIRCUITS. PRESENTLY, NINE OPERATORS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-RUN PAWAN-HANS, IMPANELED BY THE UTTARAKHAND CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, RUN CHOPPER SERVICES ON THE KEDARNATH ROUTE.



THE CLIENT PRESSURE TO 'CARRY ON WITH THE TAKE-OFF' STILL CAUSES MANY ACCIDENTS BECAUSE PILOTS ARE PUSHED TOO FAR INTO WEATHER CONDITIONS THAT IMPEDE SAFE FLIGHT. LOCALS SAY 'ADEQUATE FIRE-FIGHTING IS NOT IN POSITION'



Gauchar Helipad Uttarakhand

Narender Jeet Singh Bindra Vice President of Hemkunt Sahib Trust and Manu Maharaaj with the Author

there are now 7 Helipads in Uttarakhand. From May 22, preparations are on to construct new helipads at 31 locations to expand the Heli services with the primary objective to boost Regional Connectivity Services in the State. Also for relief and

rescue operations during disasters.

The client pressure to 'carry on with the take-off' still causes many accidents because pilots are pushed too far into weather conditions that impede safe flight. Locals say 'adequate firefighting is



Badrinath town being developed as a smart spiritual township



Through the window of 'Satopanth' amritara of Badrinath (Uttarakhand). The backdrop is Nar and Narayana mountain ranges.

not in position'

The loud whirring of helicopters flying often dangerously at low heights and in bad weather causes concern for the inhabitants. Many a time a chopper circulates a valley, unable to land, due to drizzle and fog.

■ Badrinath Dham (3,100 meters) has religious and economic significance. The town consisted only of the 20-odd huts used by the temple's staff, as late as the First World War; the site now draws thousands each year.

We have to take care that the environment is not harmed.' Says State tourism minister, Satpal Maharaj.

Presently, the Centre and state have joined hands for developing Badrinath Dham as a 'Smart Spiritual Town' keeping in mind the needs for the next 100 years.

The development plan would be executed in a phased manner on a total of 85-hectare land in the next three years. The focus is on promoting homestays for pilgrims.

In addition to embankment works for Alaknanda River, the plan is to beautify and reconstruct the entire area. The elaborate plan includes the construction of plazas, toilets, draining and sewage system, and setting up of lights and CCTV cameras. Bridges too would be constructed for better connectivity.

Also, the Government of Uttarakhand, as an initiative to provide safe and convenient means of travel to the place wishes to develop a passenger ropeway system on a world-class technology from Govindghat to Hemkund Sahib (4,633 m).

■ Around 5 km from Badrinath, at an elevation of 3200 m is Mana village which lies on the banks of the Saraswati River This beautiful hamlet is 24 km from the Indo-China border, making it the last village of India.

Experts and activists have been raising alarm on the threat to flora and fauna of the region due to low-flying choppers, a risk both to humans and wildlife. Choppers are not expected to fly at elevation levels lower than 600 m (2000 ft).

*A nickname for Helicopter. A vehicle capable of atmospheric flight due to interaction with the air, such as buoyancy or lift.

^ Sahastradhara Helipad is situated in a beautiful place situated at the green foothills just 3 Km from Rajpur road.

Gauchar is well known for being the largest piece of flat land in the Uttarakhand mountainous region, thus having the potential of hosting an airport in the future.

~ www.bbc.com 9th Jan 2023



Mana the last Indian village from the border of India and Tibet/China in the Himalayas.

EXPERTS AND ACTIVISTS HAVE BEEN RAISING ALARM ON THE THREAT TO FLORA AND FAUNA OF THE REGION DUE TO LOW-FLYING CHOPPERS, A RISK BOTH TO HUMANS AND WILDLIFE. CHOPPERS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO FLY AT ELEVATION LEVELS LOWER THAN 600 M (2000 FT).

भावुक भाषण: राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू

जमानत के बावजूद गरीबों की रिहाई न होने पर SC ने मांगी रिपोर्ट, राष्ट्रपति के भाषण के बाद फैसला



राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू द्वारा जमानत के बावजूद छोटे-मोटे अपराधों में जेलों में बंद लोगों की दुर्दशा को लेकर दिए गए भावुक भाषण के कुछ दिनों बाद सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने मंगलवार (29 नवंबर) को देश भर के जेल अधिकारियों को ऐसे कैदियों का ब्योरा 15 दिन के भीतर राष्ट्रीय कानूनी सेवा प्राधिकरण (NALSA) को उपलब्ध कराने का निर्देश दिया, ताकि उनकी रिहाई के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय योजना तैयार की जा सके।

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने 26 नवंबर (शनिवार) को सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अपने पहले सविधान दिवस संबोधन में झारखंड के अलावा अपने गृह राज्य ओडिशा के गरीब आदिवासियों की दुर्दशा पर प्रकाश डालते हुए कहा था कि जमानत राशि भरने के लिए पैसे की कमी के कारण वे जमानत मिलने के बावजूद जेल में हैं।

अंग्रेजी में अपने लिखित भाषण से हटकर, मुर्मू ने हिंदी में बोलते हुए न्यायपालिका से गरीब आदिवासियों के लिए कुछ करने का आग्रह किया था। उन्होंने कहा था कि गंभीर अपराधों के आरोपी मुक्त हो जाते हैं, लेकिन इन गरीब कैदियों, जो हो सकता है कि किसी को

थप्पड़ मारने के लिए जेल गए हों, को रिहा होने से पहले वर्षों जेल में बिताने पड़ते हैं जस्टिस एस के कौल सीजेआई डी वाई चंद्रचूड़ के साथ उस समय मंच पर बैठे थे जब राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने अपने ओडिशा में विधायक के रूप में और बाद में झारखंड की राज्यपाल के रूप में कई विचाराधीन कैदियों से मिलने का अपना अनुभव बताया।

जस्टिस कौल और न्यायमूर्ति अभय एस ओका की पीठ ने मंगलवार (29 नवंबर) को जेल अधिकारियों को ऐसे कैदियों का विवरण संबंधित राज्य सरकारों को प्रस्तुत करने का निर्देश दिया, जो 15 दिन के भीतर दस्तावेजों को राष्ट्रीय कानूनी सेवा प्राधिकरण (NALSA) को भेजेगी।

बेंच ने मांगी यह जानकारी

बेंच ने कहा कि जेल अधिकारियों को विचाराधीन कैदियों के नाम, उनके खिलाफ आरोप, जमानत आदेश की तारीख, जमानत की किंमत शर्तों को पूरा नहीं किया गया और जमानत के आदेश के बाद उन्होंने जेल में कितना समय बिताया है, इस तरह के विवरण प्रस्तुत करने होंगे।

अहंकार का नाश!



कैलाश खोसला

कालिदास ने कहा - मैं 'पथिक' हूँ, कृपया 'पानी पिला दीजिए'

स्त्री बोली - तुम 'पथिक' कैसे हो सकते हो? 'पथिक' तो केवल दो ही हैं 'सूर्य व चन्द्रमा' जो कभी रुकते नहीं हमेशा चलते रहते हैं तुम इनमें से कौन हो? सत्य बताओ..

कालिदास ने कहा - मैं 'मेहमान' हूँ, 'कृपया पानी पिला दीजिए'

स्त्री बोली - तुम 'मेहमान' कैसे हो सकते हो? संसार में दो ही मेहमान हैं, पहला 'धन और दूसरा यौवन' इन्हें जाने में समय नहीं लगता, सत्य बताओ कौन हो तुम? अब तक के सारे तर्कों से पराजित हताश तो हो ही चुके थे.

कालिदास बोले - माते 'पानी पिला दीजिए' बड़ा पुण्य होगा..

स्त्री बोली - बेटा मैं तुम्हें जानती नहीं. अपना परिचय दो तो मैं अवश्य पानी पिला दूंगी.

कालिदास ने कहा - मैं 'पथिक' हूँ, कृपया 'पानी पिला दीजिए'

स्त्री बोली - तुम 'पथिक' कैसे हो सकते हो? 'पथिक' तो केवल दो ही हैं 'सूर्य व चन्द्रमा' जो कभी रुकते नहीं हमेशा चलते रहते हैं तुम इनमें से कौन हो? सत्य बताओ..

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कालिदास बोले - मैं 'सहनशील' हूँ, अब आप 'पानी पिला दीजिए'

स्त्री ने कहा - नहीं, 'सहनशील' तो दो ही हैं, पहली 'धरती' जो पापी पुण्यात्मा सबका बोझ सहती है, उसकी छाती चीरकर बीज बो देने से भी अनाज के भंडार देती है और दूसरे 'पेड़' जिनको पत्थर मारो फिर भी मीठे फल देते हैं, तुम 'सहनशील' नहीं, सच बताओ तुम कौन हो..

कालिदास लगभग मूर्च्छा की स्थिति में आ गए और तर्क वितर्क से झल्लाकर बोले, मैं 'हठी' हूँ.

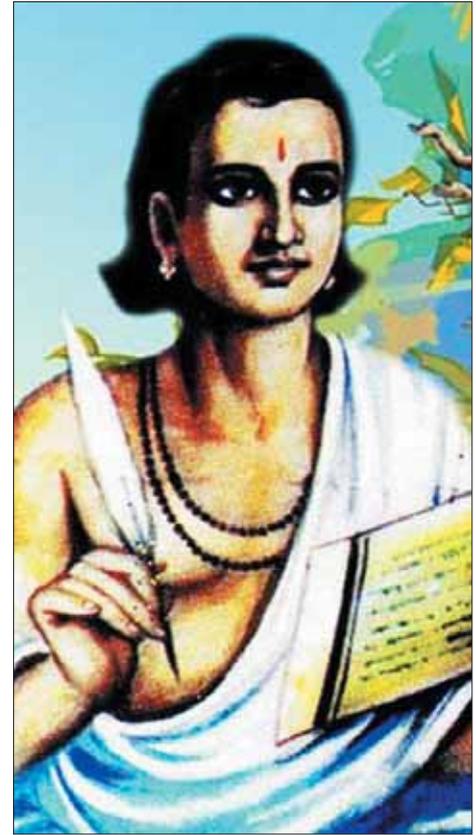
स्त्री बोली - फिर असत्य, 'हठी' तो दो ही हैं, पहला 'नख' और दूसरे 'केश', कितना भी काटो बार बार निकल आते हैं, सत्य कहें ब्राह्मण कौन हैं आप.. कालिदास पूरी तरह अपमानित और पराजित हो चुके थे, बोले - फिर तो मैं 'मूर्ख' ही हूँ ...

स्त्री ने कहा - नहीं तुम 'मूर्ख' कैसे हो सकते हो...?

'मूर्ख' दो ही हैं, पहला 'राजा' जो बिना योग्यता के भी सब पर शासन करता है और दूसरा 'दरबारी पंडित' जो राजा को प्रसन्न करने के लिए गलत बात पर भी तर्क करके उसको सही सिद्ध करने की चेष्टा करता है

कुछ बोल न सकने की स्थिति में कालिदास वृद्धा के पैर पर गिर पड़े और पानी की याचना में गिड़गिड़ाने लगे, 'कृपया पानी पिला दीजिए..' वृद्धा ने कहा - उठो वत्स ! आवाज सुनकर कालिदास ने ऊपर देखा तो साक्षात् 'माता सरस्वती' वहां खड़ी थी कालिदास पुनः नतमस्तक हो गए

माता ने कहा - शिक्षा से ज्ञान आता है ना की 'अहंकार', तूने शिक्षा के बल पर प्राप्त 'मान और प्रतिष्ठा' को ही अपनी उपलब्धि मान लिया और अहंकार कर बैठे, इसलिए मुझे तुम्हारे चक्षु खोलने के लिए ये स्वांग करना पड़ा.. कालिदास को अपनी गलती समझ में आ गई और भर पेट 'पानी पी कर' वे आगे चल पड़े शिक्षा - विद्वत्ता पर कभी घमंड ना करें, यही घमंड विद्वत्ता को नष्ट कर देता है दो चीजों को कभी व्यर्थ नहीं जाने देना चाहिए..... 'अन्न के कण' को और 'आनंद के क्षण' को...





स्वयं को देखें

जीवन का सबसे बड़ा गूढ़ मंत्र

दो आदमी यात्रा पर निकले दोनों की मुलाकात हुई, दोनों का गंतव्य एक था तो दोनों यात्रा में साथ हो चले।

सात दिन बाद दोनों के अलग होने का समय आया तो एक ने कहा भाई साहब! एक सप्ताह तक हम दोनों साथ रहे क्या आपने मुझे पहचाना

दूसरे ने कहा: नहीं, मैंने तो नहीं पहचाना।

पहला यात्री बोला: महोदय मैं एक नामी ठग हूँ परन्तु आप तो महाठग हैं। आप मेरे भी गुरु निकले।

दूसरे यात्री बोला कैसे

पहला यात्री: कुछ पाने की आशा में मैंने निरंतर सात दिन तक आपकी तलाशी ली, मुझे कुछ भी नहीं मिला। इतने दिन साथ रहने के बाद मुझे यह पता है आप बहुत धनी व्यक्ति हैं और इतनी बड़ी यात्रा पर निकले हैं तो ऐसा कैसे हो सकता है कि आपके पास कुछ भी नहीं है बिल्कुल खाली हाथ हैं।

दूसरा यात्री: मेरे पास एक बहुमूल्य हीरा है और थोड़ी-सी रजत मुद्राएं भी हैं। **पहला यात्री बोला:** तो फिर इतने प्रयत्न के बावजूद वह मुझे मिले क्यों नहीं **दूसरा यात्री:** मैं जब भी बाहर जाता, वह हीरा और मुद्राएं तुम्हारी पोटली में रख देता था और तुम सात दिन तक मेरी झोली टटोलते रहे।

अपनी पोटली सँभालने की जरूरत ही नहीं समझी। तो फिर तुम्हें कुछ मिलता कहाँ से ईश्वर नित नई खुशियाँ हमारी झोली में डालते हैं परन्तु हमें अपनी गठरी पर निगाह डालने की फुरसत ही नहीं है, यही सबकी मूलभूत समस्या है। जिस दिन से इंसान दूसरे की ताकझाख बंद कर देगा उस क्षण सारी समस्या का समाधान हो जाएगा। अपनी गठरी टटोलें जीवन में सबसे बड़ा गूढ़ मंत्र है स्वयं को टटोले और जीवन-पथ पर आगे बढ़े.. सफलताये आप की प्रतीक्षा में है।

प्रेरणादायक कथा

माँ का दायित्व

शहर के एक अन्तरराष्ट्रीय प्रसिद्धि के विद्यालय के बगीचे में तेज धूप और गर्मी की परवाह किये बिना, बड़ी लग्न से पेड़ – पौधों की काट छॉट में लगा था कि तभी विद्यालय के चपरासी की आवाज सुनाई दी, गंगादास! तुझे प्रधानाचार्या जी तुरंत बुला रही हैं।

गंगादास को आखिरी के पाँच शब्दों में काफ़ी तेजी महसूस हुई और उसे लगा कि कोई महत्वपूर्ण बात हुई है जिसकी वजह से प्रधानाचार्या जी ने उसे तुरंत ही बुलाया है। शीघ्रता से उठा, अपने हाथों को धोकर साफ़किया और चल दिया, द्रुत गति से प्रधानाचार्या के कार्यालय की ओर। उसे प्रधानाचार्या महोदया के कार्यालय की दूरी मीलों की लग रही थी जो खत्म होने का नाम नहीं ले रही थी। उसकी हृदयगति बढ़ गई थी। सोच रहा था कि उससे क्या गलत हो गया जो आज उसको प्रधानाचार्या महोदया ने तुरंत ही अपने कार्यालय में आने को कहा। वह एक ईमानदार कर्मचारी था और अपने कार्य को पूरी निष्ठा से पूर्ण करता था। पता नहीं क्या गलती हो गयी। वह इसी चिंता के साथ प्रधानाचार्या के कार्यालय पहुँचा.....'

मैडम, क्या मैं अंदर आ जाऊँ? आपने मुझे बुलाया था।

यहाँ। आओ और यह देखो— प्रधानाचार्या महोदया की आवाज में कड़की थी और उनकी उंगली एक पेपर पर इशारा कर रही थी।

पढ़ो इसे—प्रधानाचार्या ने आदेश दिया।

मैं, मैं, मैडम! मैं तो इंग्लिश पढ़ना नहीं जानता मैडम! गंगादास ने घबरा कर उत्तर दिया।

मैं आपसे क्षमा चाहता हूँ मैडम यदि कोई गलती हो गयी हो तो। मैं आपका और विद्यालय का पहले से ही बहुत ऋणी हूँ। क्योंकि आपने मेरी बिटिया को इस विद्यालय में निःशुल्क पढ़ने की इजाजत दी। मुझे कृपया एक और मौका दें मेरी कोई गलती हुई है तो सुधारने का। मैं आप का सदैव ऋणी रहूँगा।

गंगादास बिना रुके घबरा कर बोलता चला जा रहा था।

उसे प्रधानाचार्या ने टोका – बिना वजह अनुमान लगा रहे हो। थोड़ा इंतजार करो, मैं तुम्हारी बिटिया की कक्षा-अध्यापिका को बुलाती हूँ।

वे पल जब तक उसकी बिटिया की कक्षा-अध्यापिका प्रधानाचार्या के कार्यालय में पहुँची बहुत ही लंबे हो गए थे गंगादास के लिए। सोच रहा था कि क्या उसकी बिटिया से कोई गलती हो गयी, कहीं मैडम उसे विद्यालय से निकाल तो नहीं रहीं। उसकी चिंता और बढ़ गयी थी। कक्षा-अध्यापिका के पहुँचते ही प्रधानाचार्या महोदया ने कहा, – हमने तुम्हारी बिटिया की प्रतिभा को देखकर और परख कर ही उसे अपने विद्यालय में पढ़ने की अनुमति दी थी। अब ये मैडम इस पेपर में जो लिखा है उसे पढ़कर और हिंदी में तुम्हें सुनाएँगी, गौर से सुनो।

कक्षा-अध्यापिका ने पेपर को पढ़ना शुरू करने से पहले बताया, –आज मातृ दिवस था और आज मैंने कक्षा में सभी बच्चों को अपनी अपनी माँ के बारे में एक लेख लिखने को कहा। तुम्हारी बिटिया ने जो लिखा उसे सुनो।

उसके बाद कक्षा- अध्यापिका ने पेपर पढ़ना शुरू किया।

मैं एक गाँव में रहती थी, एक ऐसा गाँव जहाँ शिक्षा और चिकित्सा की



सुविधाओं का आज भी अभाव है। चिकित्सक के अभाव में कितनी ही माँयें दम तोड़ देती हैं बच्चों के जन्म के समय। मेरी माँ भी उनमें से एक थीं। उन्होंने मुझे छुआ भी नहीं कि चल बसीं। मेरे पिता ही वे पहले व्यक्ति थे मेरे परिवार के जिन्होंने मुझे गोद में लिया। पर सच कहूँ तो मेरे परिवार के वे अकेले व्यक्ति थे जिन्होंने मुझे गोद में उठाया था। बाकी की नजर में तो मैं अपनी माँ को खा गई थी। मेरे पिताजी ने मुझे माँ का प्यार दिया।

मेरे दादा – दादी चाहते थे कि मेरे पिताजी दुबारा विवाह करके एक पोते को इस दुनिया में लायें ताकि उनका वंश आगे चल सके। परंतु मेरे पिताजी ने उनकी एक न सुनी और दुबारा विवाह करने से मना कर दिया। इस वजह से मेरे दादा – दादीजी ने उनको अपने से अलग कर दिया और पिताजी सब कुछ, जमीन, खेती बाड़ी, घर सुविधा आदि छोड़ कर मुझे साथ लेकर शहर चले आये और इसी विद्यालय में माली का कार्य करने लगे। मुझे बहुत ही लाड़ प्यार से बड़ा करने लगे। मेरी जरूरतों पर माँ की तरह हर पल उनका ध्यान रहता है।

आज मुझे समझ आता है कि वे क्यों हर उस चीज को जो मुझे पसंद थी ये कह कर खाने से मना कर देते थे कि वह उन्हें पसंद नहीं है, क्योंकि वह आखिरी टुकड़ा होती थी। आज मुझे बड़ा होने पर उनके इस त्याग के महत्त्व पता चला।

मेरे पिता ने अपनी क्षमताओं में मेरी हर प्रकार की सुख – सुविधाओं का ध्यान रखा और मेरे विद्यालय ने उनको यह सबसे बड़ा पुरस्कार दिया जो मुझे यहाँ निःशुल्क पढ़ने की अनुमति मिली। उस दिन मेरे पिता की खुशी का कोई ठिकाना न था।

यदि माँ, प्यार और देखभाल करने का नाम है तो मेरी माँ मेरे पिताजी हैं। यदि दयाभाव, माँ को परिभाषित करता है तो मेरे पिताजी

उस परिभाषा के हिसाब से पूरी तरह मेरी माँ हैं। यदि त्याग, माँ को परिभाषित करता है तो मेरे पिताजी इस वर्ग में भी सर्वोच्च स्थान पर हैं। यदि संक्षेप में कहूँ कि प्यार, देखभाल, दयाभाव और त्याग माँ की पहचान है तो मेरे पिताजी उस पहचान पर खरे उतरते हैं और मेरे पिताजी विश्व की सबसे अच्छी माँ हैं।

आज मातृ दिवस पर मैं अपने पिताजी को शुभकामनाएँ दूँगी और कहूँगी कि आप संसार के सबसे अच्छे पालक हैं। बहुत गर्व से कहूँगी कि ये जो हमारे विद्यालय के परिश्रमी माली हैं, मेरे पिता हैं।

मैं जानती हूँ कि मैं आज की लेखन परीक्षा में असफल हो जाऊँगी। क्योंकि मुझे माँ पर लेख लिखना था और मैंने पिता पर लिखा, पर यह बहुत ही छोटी सी कीमत होगी उस सब की जो मेरे पिता ने मेरे लिए किया। धन्यवाद।

आखिरी शब्द पढ़ते – पढ़ते अध्यापिका का गला भर आया था और प्रधानाचार्या के कार्यालय में शांति छा गयी थी। इस शांति में केवल गंगादास के सिसकने की आवाज सुनाई दे रही थी। बगीचे में धूप की गर्मी उसकी कमीज को गीला न कर सकी पर उस पेपर पर बिटिया के लिखे शब्दों ने उस कमीज को पिता के आँसुओं से गीला कर दिया था। वह केवल हाथ जोड़ कर वहाँ खड़ा था। उसने उस पेपर को अध्यापिका से लिया और अपने हृदय से लगाया और रो पड़ा।

प्रधानाचार्या ने खड़े होकर उसे एक कुर्सी पर बैठाया और एक गिलास पानी दिया तथा कहा, तुम्हारी बिटिया को इस लेख के लिए पूरे 10x10 नम्बर दिए गए हैं। यह लेख मेरे अब तक के पूरे विद्यालय जीवन का सबसे अच्छा मातृ दिवस का लेख है। हम कल मातृ दिवस अपने विद्यालय में बड़े जोर – शोर से मना रहे हैं। इस दिवस पर विद्यालय एक बहुत बड़ा कार्यक्रम आयोजित करने जा रहा है। विद्यालय की प्रबंधक कमेटी ने आपको इस कार्यक्रम का मुख्य अतिथि बनाने का निर्णय लिया है।

यह सम्मान होगा उस प्यार, देखभाल, दयाभाव और त्याग का जो एक आदमी अपने बच्चे के पालन के लिए कर सकता है। यह सिद्ध करता है कि आपको एक औरत होना आवश्यक नहीं है एक पालक बनने के लिए। साथ ही यह अनुशंसा करता है उस विश्वास का जो विश्वास आपकी बेटी ने आप पर दिखाया।

हमें गर्व है कि संसार का सबसे अच्छा पिता हमारे विद्यालय में पढ़ने वाली बच्ची का पिता है जैसा कि आपकी बिटिया ने अपने लेख में लिखा। गंगादास हमें गर्व है कि आप एक माली हैं और सच्चे अर्थों में माली की तरह न केवल विद्यालय के बगीचे के फूलों की देखभाल की बल्कि अपने इस घर के फूल को भी सदा खुशबूदार बनाकर रखा जिसकी खुशबू से हमारा विद्यालय महक उठा। तो क्या आप हमारे विद्यालय के इस मातृ दिवस कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि बनेंगे? रो पड़ा गंगादास और दौड़ कर बिटिया की कक्षा के बाहर से आँसू भरी आँखों से निहारता रहा, अपनी प्यारी बिटिया को।

संसार की समस्त प्यारी – प्यारी बेटियों के पालकों को समर्पित।

Prof. Ganeshi Lal

Governor, Odisha

ପ୍ରଦେଶର ଗଣେଶୀ ଲାଲ

ରାଜ୍ୟପାଳ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା



RAJ BHAVAN
BHUBANESWAR - 751 008

ରାଜଭବନ
ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର-୭୫୧ ୦୦୮

January 24, 2023

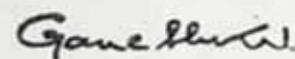
MESSAGE

I am glad to know that one Odia Patriotic Song '**Aame Sabu Bhai Bhai**' is to be released worldwide on January 26, 2023 on the occasion of Republic Day Celebration by IFUNA (Indian Federation of United Nations Associations) with support from Samvedana TRUST in Mood Swing Odisha- a popular YouTube Channel of Odisha.

This Odia patriotic song aims at promoting a spirit of brotherhood and feeling of oneness among all. Music has long been an effective way to communicate to the masses, and lyrics have played a massive role in delivering this communication. I congratulate the whole team comprising of very talented lyricist of Odisha Shri Lalit Narayan Rath who has penned many popular lyrics, Shri Nihar Ranjan Acharya, founder of the Trust and Composer of the song who along with Ms. Anuradha Panigrahi have lent their voice and Shri Chandrasekhar for his great support.

I believe this song would give a heartfelt message to people to look after one another as brothers and sisters, as equals making this Republic Day a wonderful celebration that would help develop the spirit of humanity and brotherhood leading to a friendly and harmonious social life.

I wish the endeavour and song all success.



(Ganeshi Lal)



ଆମେ ସବୁ ଭାଇ-ଭାଇ

(We're all Brothers n Sisters)
A Song to Promote Universal Brotherhood

Singers: Nihar Acharya & Anuradha Panigrahi

Lyrics: Lalit Narayan Rath, **Music Director:** Nihar Acharya

Arrangements: Chandrasekhar, **Videography:** Raja

Video Editing: Ama Studio, BBSR, **Dubbing n Mastering:** Prativa Studio, Ctc

Releasing Worldwide On Republic Day Of India-26th Jan



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