



PRAYAAS

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IN-HOUSE MAGAZINE



Year-2023

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Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

I am privileged to come yet again before you with this offering of the July-September issue of our in-house magazine, Prayaas. I wish to place on record my gratitude to the Secretary of our Association and the Editorial Team for their pro-active role in this venture. Your response in form of appreciation, criticism or suggestion shall be eagerly awaited.

I feel proud to mention here that every day, week and month our colleagues working in Bihar and the Centre overwhelm us as much by their contributions in governance as in the deserved promotions they get in recognition of their worth. Perhaps as never before, an optimum number of officers of Bihar Cadre are in position as Secretary to Government of India. They include Messrs Rajesh Bhushan, DS Gangwar, RK Khandelwal, Sunil Barthwal, Sujata Chaturvedi, AL Meena, Ansuli Arya, Sanjay Kumar, Rajit Punhani and Chanchal Kumar. I take this opportunity to congratulate all of them for scaling to the top. I feel happy to recall that they had put in only four to nine years in the IAS by the time I retired and entered another, a no less satisfying, phase of my life.



RU Singh

RU Singh, IAS (1961)

Principal Editor

[Mob: 91133-04025]

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All views and opinions expressed in the contributions are of their authors.



IAS BHAWAN

Photo Gallery

Inauguration of Blood Donation Camp Organised at IAS Bhawan on 14 June



(L-R) Dipak K Singh (on mike), Harjot Kaur, Aamir Subahani CS, RU Singh IAS (Retd.) RS Bhatti DGP, Vinay Kumar IPS, MA Ibrahim

Inaugural Address at Blood Donation Camp



Mr Aamir Subahani, Chief Secretary

Lighting of Lamp at Blood Donation Camp



(L-R) Messrs Aamir Subahani, Dipak K Singh RUSingh, RS Bhatti, MA Ibrahim

Lighting of Lamp at Blood Donation Camp



(L-R) Dipak K Singh, RUSingh Vinay Kumar, MA Ibrahim

Inaugural Address at Blood Donation Camp



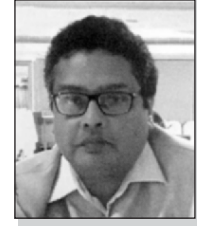
(L-R) Ms Harjot Kaur, Secretary IASOWA, Mr Aamir Subahani, RU Singh, IAS (Retd.)

Presidential Address at Blood Donation Camp



(l-R) CS Mr Aamir Subahani, Mr RU Singh, Senior IAS (Retd.), DGP Mr RS Bhatti

From Secretary's Desk



Dear Colleagues,

The world has become too small and too closely connected due to the lightning speed with which information (and sometimes disinformation) is spread. Getting any news is no longer dependent on the morning newspaper in print or prime time news on electronic media. While this has the positive effect of making one update on almost real time basis, it also has the adverse effect of creating mental stress through spread of negativity and despondency on account of preponderance of fake news – mostly about violence – both, individual and collective. We increasingly come across, on a daily basis, news of violent behaviour, against one's own close family members - wife, husband, parents; neighbours, road rage incidents and also of mob violence, in the form of communal and caste clashes, mob lynching etc.

Sometimes I wonder whether the violence has actually risen in magnitude or it is simply because we now have more and fast access to news that we come to know of such incidents more. Perhaps both are true. A negative or sensational information spreads as news faster and grabs more attention (remember the famous book by P. Sainath – “Everybody loves a good drought.”). At the same time, at least my personal feeling is that the so-called faster pace and modern nature of life today has raised the general level of stress to such an extent that temperaments are always very close to boiling point. A little nudge and it reaches the boiling point where it changes the state of mind.

I personally feel that the violent reactions are due to the general level of frustration and suppression among the common masses. In today's society, economy as well as the polity, except for a limited elite class, a preponderant majority feels helpless and despondent. They do not have any say in the system, nor have any control over the social, economic and political policies that affect their day-to-day life. The inequality among various strata is rising gradually in an expanding spiral mode. This feeling of helplessness gets a vent through the violent reactions especially when the frustrated common man is part of a mob. He feels exalted and heroic as if he has overcome his continuing repression, in the same way when he or she identifies himself or herself and feels strong when the heroes in the films thrash the villain in the climax scenes.

As administrators, it is our solemn duty to make effort, to the extent possible through the limited powers available to us, in our official capacity to bring the common man out of the state of helplessness, to listen to them patiently, get his genuine grievances redressed expeditiously. This will make him feel important and increase his faith in the system. All men are not born equal, neither can they be made equal, but at least they can be made to 'feel' equal. This feeling is what matters most, rather than the absolute state of equality or inequality. Our solemn job is to spread smiles which shall go a long way in making our society less violent and more ambient. See you in next issue.



August 16, 2023

Yours sincerely

(Dipak Kumar Singh)

Secretary, IAS Officers' Association, Bihar.



सम्पादक की कलम से...

प्रिय साथियों, नमस्कार!

'प्रयास' के प्रस्तुत अंक में श्री जी.आर.पटवर्धन (1968) के संस्मरण का अंतिम भाग पढ़कर आप स्मृति के लोक में एक बार फिर से खो जाएँगे। श्री अभय कुमार सिंह (2004) ने बिहार में पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में वाटर स्पोर्ट्स के नये आयाम से रू-ब-रू कराया है, जिसमें विशेष रूप से अमुवामन झील (पश्चिमी चम्पारण) तथा ओढ़नी झील (बांका) को रेखांकित किया है।

श्री संजय कुमार (2017) ने पुस्तक समीक्षा बड़े रोचक तरीके से की है। श्री विजय प्रकाश (1981) की उपलब्धियों का वर्णन 'प्रयास' के प्रधान सम्पादक श्री रामउपदेश सिंह (1961) ने किया है, जो निश्चित रूप से हम सभी सेवा के सदस्यों को प्रेरित करता है। साथ ही, डॉ० जितेन्द्र कुमार सिंह ने कैंसर जैसी खतरनाक बीमारी के ईलाज एवं प्रबंधन पर आलेख लिखा है। श्री अनिल कुमार झा, श्री अभय झा (2017) के आलेख भी सुरुचिपूर्ण हैं।

सुश्री शैलजा पाण्डेय (2021) ने पटना के धनरूआ प्रखण्ड में अपनी पदस्थापना के दौरान हुए अनुभवों को साझा किया है। 'प्रयास' के प्रधान सम्पादक श्री रामउपदेश सिंह (1961) की कविता साहित्यिक प्रतिमानों में श्रेष्ठतम श्रेणी की है, जो आपको रोमांचित करेगी। बैच 2022 बिहार संवर्ग के नये युवा साथियों का परिचय श्री दीपक कुमार सिंह (1992) ने कराया है। हमसब अपने युवा साथियों को अपने बीच पाकर हर्षित है तथा हृदय की गहराइयों से उनका बिहार की पावन भूमि पर स्वागत करते हैं।

आप सभी लेखकों का आभार प्रकट करता हूँ। साथ ही, 'प्रयास' के गतअंक के संबंध में आपमें से कई ने जो प्रशंसा/सुझाव मुझे भेजे हैं, उसके लिए भी आपको धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ।

विभिन्न अवसरों पर पुरस्कृत/सम्मानित साथियों को बधाई देते हुए अमेरिकी अटॉर्नी रॉय ब्लैक के इनपंक्तियों के साथ, शुभकामनाओं सहित,

“By showing me injustice, he taught me to love justice. By teaching me what pain and humiliation were all about, he awakened my heart to mercy. Through these hardships I learned hard lessons. Fight against prejudice, battle the oppressors, support the underdog. Question authority, shake up the system, never be discouraged by hard times and hard people. Embrace those who are placed last, to whom even bottom looks like up. I will never be discouraged. Even thorns and thistles can teach you something, and lead to success.”

आपके आलेख की प्रतीक्षा में,

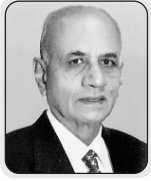
आपका ही,

(दीपक आनन्द)

संपादक

अगस्त 16, 2023

दूरभाष : 7764000000



DOWN THE MEMORY LANE (Part 4)

Continued from the previous Issue...

A fortnight before Durga Puja, I along with the SP and the SDO visited important Blocks and addressed prominent members of the two communities about the need to maintain harmony and accommodate each other's views especially during immersion of the idols. At two places, Sursand and Pupri, representatives of the minority community clearly said that they could be trusted for not doing anything against the wishes of the administration but the other side should also ensure that it follows suit. There was studied silence for a moment. After a few minutes someone started recounting past incidents and the atmosphere heated up. This had to be stopped. So I thanked everyone and exhorted them to maintain peace and behave as responsible citizens and the meeting ended. Bandi Babu was not convinced about the outcome and so was I. It was the first charge for both of us as district heads and we were worried about the impending festival. The force at our disposal appeared inadequate. A new commissioner, Mr V Balasubramanian (IAS-1949) had joined vice Mr N Nagmani (IAS-1952), who had succeeded Mr SC Roy. Mr Nagmani stayed for a month before he was replaced. We both requested for additional manpower. Mr SBSahay, a very senior officer, was the DIG at Muzaffarpur and he helped us by moving additional force.

The festivals came, were celebrated with usual fervor and we remained glued to our posts, keeping constant touch with our respective officers -BDOs, COs and Thana

officers. Nothing untoward happened. We both had passed the qualifying test! Bandi Babu thereafter again proceeded on leave, this time taking only my permission. Perhaps the DIG was not kept informed.

The annual Sonapur Mela approached. It was customary for all Collectors and SPs to attend the divisional conference. While the Mela went on for about a month, traders from far and wide coming with their wares and animals ranging from elephants, bulls, cattle to exotic birds were the main attraction. With winter closely approaching, woollens were a great attraction. Ganga Bridge was at drawing stage. Muzaffarpur was a centre for many a merchandise for north Bihar but Sonapur took the main seat for nearly a month. So it was that a meeting was called. Each Collector was allotted a Swiss cottage with facility for his family to stay. Food was also arranged. One just had to go and stay. Rest was all on courtesy of the collector of Saran.

My wife and child having gone to Kishangarh for a long stay with her parents, I was staying all alone at Sitamarhi. So on the day the meeting was going to be held, I left around ten in morning after taking breakfast, reaching the Commissioner's official tent around one thirty in the afternoon. Mr Balasubramanian was sitting alone, a bit tense. The DIG, Mr Sahay was sitting close by. I wished them and was about to approach the chair placed in front of them when he

asked if everything was OK in the district. I felt it a bit unusual and said that it was so when I left in the morning. 'No it is not so as there has been an incident of firing in the town,'he said adding,'You should not have allowed the SP to go on leave. Now go back and see what went wrong.'

I was taken aback at the turn of events. Durga Puja had passed peacefully. There was no report of any tension anywhere. The DSP had not indicated any likelihood of even a fracas. So in the changed situation, I immediately left Sonapur for Sitamarhi. I and my driver took lunch somewhere on the way near Muzaffarpur, as both of us had left Sitamarhi after breakfast hoping to have a hot delicious fare at Sonapur! I felt uncomfortable also on another count; my first Commissioner, Mr Roy had been very curt on my first visit. His successor, Mr Nagmani, on receiving my first fortnightly report, had commented that I was true to the form but there was no substantial observation on price situation! And this was the third time, a peremptory dispatch back to the pavilion!

I first reached my office and was informed of the details by my staff. It appeared that a Mahaviri Jhanda procession was taken from village Bhairo Kothi, on the outskirts of Sitamarhi on the Sitamarhi-Pupri road. It had permission and a small police party was accompanying it. As it became unruly while approaching a religious place, it was asked to move fast, but it started throwing brickbats, attacking the police party which led to four rounds of police firing, killing one and injuring two. The crowd ran away leaving the Jhanda in the middle of the road.

I thereafter left for the hospital where the injured had been admitted. One of them had a gaping hole on his stomach and was crying

for water. The medical officer on duty, a gynecologist was called and she explained that the intestines had been ruptured by the rifle shot which he perhaps took on his back and though he appeared to be in senses due to pain killers, he did not have much left to live on. On being asked if we should not at least give him a few spoons of water to quench his thirst, she replied that it will most likely hasten his end! There was dreadful silence after that. The patient had no relations around. A lone constable stood as guard. There was no compounder or ward boy, nor any other official except myself and my driver. And the life of the patient was ebbing away right in front of us. Incandescent bulbs in the ward glowing in their yellow shade made the atmosphere all the more depressing. The gynecologist, perhaps Dr (Mrs) Gupta felt his pulse and told me to move away so that she could complete the post-mortem formalities because he had passed away. I was only at thirty then and had seen a gunshot injury for the first time, resulting from police firing on an apparently innocent young boy in his teens. All this made me feel nervous.

Next day, early in the morning, the first task was to move the Jhanda to its destination under police escort. Lot of cajoling took place to persuade villagers to cooperate. In the debriefing some unpleasant things came to fore. A DyCollector had been on duty but the police party of four had a Havildar to lead. The Inspector of Police, Mangal Singh had decided to visit the spot in pyjama-kurta and wearing Hawaii chappals. When the trouble started he stood in a corner and ordered the Havildar to disperse the crowd. As there was no lathi party, the constables tried to wave away the crowd holding rifles in one hand. Someone

threw a stone at the Inspector who started running to the main road leaving his chappals behind. Seeing this, more stones and brick bats were hurled. The Havildar exhorted the party to take position and fire. All the four fired and the crowd melted away taking along the dead but leaving the injured on the spot.

Next day, an addl SP from Muzaffarpur, NCMishra arrived with a platoon of force. A route march was organized in the main town. A report was prepared for the government, the Commissioner and the range DIG, justifying the firing, The DSP, SBSahay signed the report as my counterpart!

A week thereafter, the Commissioner and the DIG visited the place of occurrence, appeared satisfied with our case and after lunch returned to Muzaffarpur. Convinced about the weakness of the police set up, the addl SP, NCMishra was deputed for a fortnight to supervise the set up and make necessary changes. One visible impact of his coming was seen in the response time of correspondence, restoration of Anchal guards to some Blocks which were nearly bereft of force and that improved morale of the force.

There was a change of guard at Patna in the meanwhile. Mr Abdul Ghafoor had taken over as the Chief Minister in July 1973, vice Mr Kedar Pandey. At Muzaffarpur, Mr Balasubramanian was replaced by Mr Fahimuddin Ahmad as Divisional Commissioner and joined in December 1973. He was an aristocrat by nature and exuded a very confident face. His very first meeting with the Collectors was more of an exercise in listening and he seemed to measure us by the number and type of our complaints and assessment of situation. It did not end with any assurance or

promise. He merely said that each one of us seemed to be well in control of our respective districts and that he would undertake a tour shortly to assess the situation himself!

Mr Ahmad thereafter began his visits. He seemed to have his own sources to have a feed back! I was at times taken by surprise when he pointed out during tour the need to keep a watch on an individual or place. My enquiry subsequently only confirmed what he had mentioned. There was no regular SP even then; NC Mishra having returned to Muzaffarpur as addl SP and my district police was again headed by a DSP and an Inspector! This nearly kept me in dark of the inputs that the police had or could have had. The central agency had a representative who on the other hand used to visit regularly to brief me and was found to be trustworthy but his information when shared with the DSP did not elicit any positive reaction! It used to be taken as a kind of kite flying! This was brought to the notice of Mr Ahmad who prevailed on the DIG to send NC Mishra back at the end of December as in-charge of the district. Having put in some sixteen years of service, Mishra had been the SDPO of Giridih in 1962, had commanded an armed battalion in the North East and what was more, he was a close relation of Jai Prakash Babu who was already in news and was going to play an important role in 1974 political upheaval. Mishra looked much younger than his age, was tall and impressed people with his communication skill. The force appeared to accept him as leader.

So we all entered the New Year 1974 which was going to prove a tough period for all. As there was no regular SDO for long, I occupied the quarter earmarked for him and the new SP stayed in the room vacated by me

in the Baghmata Project IBClose by. My wife came sometime at the end of February with my parents and our newly born daughter.

The month of March in 1974 approached. Local intelligence had indicated the likelihood of an agitation by students and other political outfits against the government; raising issues of price rise, corruption and some scandals. Congress was well represented in the assembly and the district contributed to it in large measure. Both the MPs in Lok Sabha from the district were from the ruling party and belonged to influential communities. Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha (married to a famous leader in Cooperative circles from Majorganj Block) was a senior Cabinet Minister. With this as the backdrop, it was surprising to see large scale followers of JP-led movement especially among the landed gentry of the district.

Came March. Around six in the evening, one day after 18th March, someone from the old bazaar near the telephone exchange rang up to tell me that a mob of students had come shouting slogans, damaged some of its equipment and was moving thereafter towards the main market. I rang up the DSP who told me that a police patrol was stationed around the place and he was looking into it. I thereafter left in my station wagon to see the spot myself. On the way, I was informed that the crowd had

moved away towards Goenka College. When I reached the College, I found the gate open and the person I wanted to see, Raghuvansh Prasad Singh (Rajput by caste and a lecturer of mathematics) was sitting in the verandah, surrounded by some students. I had interacted with him earlier also on some academic issues. He seemed to be a socialist in thinking but appeared to have come to a turning point; the powerful in society belonged to major communities not having much love for his way of thinking and the others, mostly the have-nots, liking him with usual reservations. He was popular among a group of students and was a known detractor of another group which owed loyalty to dissident Congressman. I requested him to urge the students not to disturb the working of utilities like telephones, railway and educational institutions as the examinations were close by to which his reaction was typical of the day: everything to be paralysed from block to the capital city of Patna! He even smiled intriguingly and observed that a symbol of the corrupt anti-people regime had to come to him to spare symbols of a corrupt regime! Around the same time, the group of students retreating from main market reached the Gate, locked it from inside and came up shouting slogans to the verandah, where we were sitting.

... to be continued in the next issue



[Talking of March 1973, I feel tempted to collate my own contemporary experiences in regard to some of the politicians and officers mentioned by Patwadham in this episode. On transfer from the post of DC Santhal Pargana in February 1973, I had joined as Labour Commissioner at Patna and in October took over as Labour Secretary, holding dual charge for six months before A Hoda (IAS-1962) succeeded me as Labour Commissioner. The Labour Minister was Mrs Ram Dulari Sinha. Due to my mathematics background, I had close personal ties with Raghuvansh Babu who later became Energy Minister in Bihar and Rural Development Minister in Centre – RU Singh]



Success Story



– Abhay Kumar Singh
IAS (2004)



Water Sports: A new dimension of Bihar Tourism

As the monsoon season graces Bihar with its arrival, the state's picturesque waterfalls and serene lakes come alive, offering a spectacle of nature's splendor. But there's more to this beautiful region than its enchanting landscapes and cultural heritage. Bihar has emerged as a captivating destination for water sports enthusiasts, providing an array of thrilling activities for all ages and interests. Join us as we dive into the water sports scene of Bihar and discover the exciting destinations waiting to be explored.

Amwaman Lake, West Champaran:

Amwaman Lake in Bihar's West Champaran district, famous for the Valmiki Tiger Reserve, holds the distinction of being the first district in the State to have water sports activities. The lake, spread across 400 acres alongside the national highway, has established itself as a hub for water sports enthusiasts. With state-of-the-art infrastructure and a range of exhilarating activities on offer, this scenic paradise invites both novices and experienced thrill-seekers to revel in its calm waters.

Whether you're into boating, kayaking, jet skiing, or sailing, Amwaman Lake has it all. Trained instructors and comprehensive safety measures ensure that visitors can enjoy their chosen activities with confidence and peace of mind.

Amwaman Lake has been a huge success and attracted a large number of visitors from all age groups. Since the beginning of this year, more than 37,000 tickets have been sold, grossing a total revenue of Rs 41.50 lakh.

Odhni Lake, Banka:

Nestled in the heart of Lodham village in Banka District, Odhni Lake serves as a symbol of Bihar's untapped potential for water-based tourism. Encompassing an impressive eight square kilometers, this enchanting lake is embraced by hillocks and adorned with beautiful islands, creating a captivating panorama that is truly a sight to behold.

To add to the allure of Odhni Lake, a theme park is being developed across an area of 5.50 acre. Beautiful sculptures and pedestals will adorn the park further which will also feature landscaped gardens and furniture in sync with the surroundings. The Park will also have attractions like Children Park and Cycle Track offering leisure and recreation to visitors. Other facilities in the park include Tourist Information Centre, Signages, Guard Room, Parking space and outer boundary ensuring visitors' safety and comfort.

The Water sports activities at Odhni Lake are being developed where adventure enthusiasts can indulge in heart-pounding activities such as motorboating, speed boating, jet skiing, pedal boating, zorbing and inflatable towing setting the stage for thrilling adventures amidst the lake's tranquil waters. Adequate safety measures will be in place for safety of visitors and adventure enthusiasts.

The experience will be further enhanced by visit to an exquisite Resort on one of the islands currently undergoing development. The resort will offer plush accommodations for those yearning for a tranquil getaway amidst the beauty of nature. Accessible by motorboat, this promising endeavor seeks to enhance the overall visitor experience, adding yet another dimension of allure to the already enchanting surroundings. The resort will offer facilities such as 6 Cottages with double beds, a VIP suite, Cafeteria, recreational area with changing rooms and a reception counter for visitors. Other facilities in the resort include staff quarters and a toilet block. A watch tower and pathway are also being developed on the island. The infrastructure and water sports activities at Odhni Lake are being developed at a total cost of almost Rs 30 Crore. Imagine yourself on a serene island retreat, surrounded by pristine waters and lush greenery, far from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. This island promises to be a haven for those seeking tranquility and a deeper connection with nature.

Adjacent to the dam, the Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali Park presents a picturesque retreat amidst lush greenery. The park provides the perfect setting for leisurely walks or quality time spent with family and friends. Engage in leisurely strolls, enjoy a boat ride, or simply bask in the tranquility that surrounds you. For a truly magical experience, we recommend visiting Odhni Lake during dawn and dusk when the sun's rays create a scintillating play of light on the water's surface, adding an ethereal touch to your journey.

New Horizons: Expanding Water Sports Destinations:

The excitement doesn't end with Odhni Lake and Amwaman Lake. Department of Tourism has identified six more locations brimming with potential for water sports and water-based activities. These locations include Digha Ghat in Patna, Dighi Lake in Darbhanga, Kharagpur Lake in Munger, Saura River and Kajha Kothi in Purnia, Motijheel in Motihari and Garhi Dam in Jamui.

Department of Tourism is in the process of developing these sites as water sports destinations at a total cost of almost Rs 10 Crore. These sites will have facilities like Floating Jetty and Promenade and offer adventure seekers with activities like Boating, Kayaking, pedal boating, inflatable towable, zorbing and Jet skiing. To ensure safety of visitors the water zone will have life jackets, life rings and rescue boats. Each of these facilities will be operated by private agencies deploying trained instructors and maintaining safety and security standards.

Unleash Your Adventurous Spirit in Bihar

With the monsoon time the waterfalls and lakes coming alive, Bihar is all set to become a thrilling destination for water sports enthusiasts. Whether you seek adrenaline-pumping activities or peaceful moments amidst nature's bounty, Bihar's water sports scene promises an experience that will leave you breathless and yearning for more. Immerse yourself in the vibrant tapestry of Bihar's water sports and let the thrill of adventure and the serenity of nature transport you to a world like no other. Come, embrace the magic of Bihar's water-based attractions, and let the Department of Tourism be your guide as you embark on an unforgettable journey through this captivating region.

*

[Abhay Kumar Singh is presently the Secretary of the Tourism Department – Principal Editor]

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कृषि रोड मैप

बिहार के सकल घरेलू उत्पाद में कृषि क्षेत्र का योगदान लगभग 19 प्रतिशत है, जबकि राज्य की लगभग 76 प्रतिशत आबादी कृषि पर आजीविका एवं आय के लिए आश्रित है। अतएव राज्य के समावेशी विकास एवं देश की खाद्य सुरक्षा के लिए कृषि क्षेत्र का त्वरित विकास आवश्यक है। इसके महत्व को राष्ट्रीय किसान आयोग के द्वारा अपने रिपोर्ट में अंकित किया गया है। भारत के तत्कालीन राष्ट्रपति डॉ० कलाम के द्वारा कृषि को बिहार का **कोर कंपीटेंस** कहा गया है। राज्य, नैसर्गिक रूप में कृषि के विकास के लिए आवश्यक संसाधन यथा उपजाऊ मिट्टी, अनुकूल जलवायु, सिंचाई जल एवं कर्म योद्धा किसानों से परिपूर्ण राज्य है।

हरित क्रांति के फलस्वरूप देश में कृषि के क्षेत्र में क्रांतिकारी बदलाव आया है। आज देश खाद्यान्न उत्पादन में आत्मनिर्भर है। हरित क्रांति का लाभ प्रमुख रूप से देश के कुछेक प्रांतों तक सीमित रहा। बिहार के किसानों को हरित क्रांति का लाभ पूरी तरह से नहीं मिल पाया था। ऐसे में बिहार में कृषि क्षेत्र के समग्र विकास के लिए वर्ष 2008 में कृषि रोड मैप की परिकल्पना की गयी, जिसके माध्यम से राज्य में कृषि विकास की नीति, रणनीति एवं कार्यक्रमों का निर्धारण किया गया।

पहला कृषि रोड मैप वर्ष 2008-2012 के दौरान लागू किया गया। इसमें तीन विभाग, कृषि, पशु एवं मत्स्य संसाधन तथा सहकारिता शामिल थे। इस कृषि रोड मैप में उत्पादकता-वृद्धि के लिए आवश्यक आधुनिक बीज के उपयोग पर अधिक बल दिया गया। यहाँ यह उल्लेखनीय है कि हरित क्रांति, उजली क्रांति, नीली क्रांति का एक प्रमुख अवयव आधुनिक बीज का उपयोग रहा है।

आधुनिक बीज को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कई नीतिगत पहल हुए। बिहार राज्य बीज निगम को पुनर्जीवित किया गया। कृषि प्रक्षेत्रों में बीज उत्पादन का कार्य शुरू हुआ। किसानों के बीच नये बीज को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मुख्यमंत्री तीव्र बीज विस्तार योजना जैसे अभिनव तरीकों से राज्य के सभी राजस्व गाँवों तक अधिक उपजशील प्रभेदों का बीज पहुँचाया गया। फसलों के बीज की तरह ही मत्स्य पालन के क्षेत्र में नये हैचरी को बढ़ावा दिया गया। दूध उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के ब्रीडिंग पॉलिसी के आधार पर कृत्रिम गर्भाधान के कार्यक्रम चलाये गये। आधुनिक बीज को बढ़ावा देने के साथ-साथ कृषि यंत्रीकरण एवं जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कई कार्यक्रम चलाये गये। पहले कृषि रोड मैप की उपलब्धि अत्यंत उत्साहवर्धक रही। वर्ष 2011-12 में राज्य में धान तथा आलू की उत्पादकता में क्रमशः 224 एवं 729 क्विंटल प्रति हेक्टेयर का कीर्तिमान स्थापित हुआ।

पहले कृषि रोड मैप की सफलता से उत्साहित राज्य सरकार द्वारा कृषि रोड मैप का विस्तार किया गया। वर्ष 2011 में कृषि मंत्री परिषदीय समिति का गठन हुआ। **प्रत्येक भारतीय के थाल में बिहार का एक व्यंजन** संकल्प के साथ कृषि रोड मैप में अब 12 विभाग शामिल किये गये जिनका कार्य प्रत्यक्ष अथवा परोक्ष रूप से कृषि से संबंधित है। वर्ष 2012-2017 तक द्वितीय कृषि रोड मैप, 2017 से 2023 तक तृतीय कृषि रोड मैप का कार्यान्वयन किया गया। पहले तीन कृषि रोड मैप की उपलब्धि का संक्षिप्त विवरण निम्नांकित है-

1. राज्य को वर्ष 2012-13 से अबतक भारत सरकार द्वारा धान, गेहूँ के उत्पादन एवं उत्पादकता में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि के लिए 05 कृषि कर्मण पुरस्कार दिए गए हैं।
2. कृषि धरोहरों को संरक्षित करने के उद्देश्य से कतरनी चावल, मगही पान, मिथिला मखाना, शाही लीची एवं जर्दालु आम का भौगोलिक सूचकांक प्राप्त किया गया है।

3. कृषि से संबद्ध विश्वविद्यालयों की संख्या 1 से बढ़कर 3 एवं महाविद्यालयों की संख्या 8 से बढ़कर 20 हो गयी है।
4. पंचायत स्तर पर कृषि कार्यालय, प्रखंड स्तर पर ई-किसान भवन तथा जिला स्तर पर संयुक्त कृषि भवन का निर्माण हुआ है।
5. पंचायत स्तर पर किसान सलाहकार के चयन एवं प्रत्येक दो पंचायत पर एक स्थायी कृषि समन्वयक की नियुक्ति के कारण किसानों तक कार्यक्रमों को पहुँचाने की दिशा में अभूतपूर्व क्षमता का विस्तार हुआ है।
6. सभी जिलों के एक राजकीय उच्च विद्यालय में इंटरमीडिएट के स्तर पर कृषि विषय की शिक्षा की शुरुआत की गयी है।
7. चावल का प्रति हेक्टेयर उत्पादकता वर्ष 2007-08 में 1.2 टन से बढ़कर वर्ष 2021-22 में 2.4 टन प्रति हेक्टेयर हो गया है। इस अवधि में चावल का उत्पादन 44.72 लाख मेट्रिक टन से बढ़कर 77.17 लाख मेट्रिक टन हो गया है।
8. मक्का का प्रति हेक्टेयर उत्पादकता वर्ष 2007-08 में 2.8 टन से बढ़कर वर्ष 2021-22 में 5.2 टन प्रति हेक्टेयर हो गया है। इसी अवधि में मक्का का उत्पादन 18.57 लाख मेट्रिक टन से बढ़कर 34.70 लाख मेट्रिक टन हो गया।
9. दूध का उत्पादन कृषि रोड मैप के पूर्व 57.7 लाख मेट्रिक टन था जो बढ़कर वर्ष 2021-22 में 115 लाख मेट्रिक टन हो गया है।
10. राज्य में मत्स्य उत्पादन कृषि रोड मैप के पूर्व 2.88 लाख मेट्रिक टन था जो बढ़कर वर्ष 2021-22 में 7.62 लाख मेट्रिक टन हो गया है।
11. वृक्ष आच्छादन वर्ष 2012 में 9.79 प्रतिशत से बढ़कर वर्ष 2019 में 14.75 प्रतिशत हुआ। इस अवधि में 34.56 करोड़ वृक्ष लगाए गए।
12. कृषि उपज बाजार अधिनियम के निरसन के बाद से सरकारी एवं निजी क्षेत्र में खाद्यान्न के गोदाम का निर्माण बड़े पैमाने पर हुआ है। राज्य में निजी कृषि बाजार के विकास में गुणात्मक वृद्धि हुई है। कृषि बाजार के विकास में ग्रामीण सड़क की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका रही। राज्य के 100 से अधिक आबादी वाले बसावटों को सड़क से जोड़ा गया।
13. खाद्यान्न, विशेषकर धान की अधिप्राप्ति का विस्तार हुआ है। इसमें सहकारी संस्थानों की भूमिका अहम रही है। पैक्स एवं व्यापार मण्डल में 14 लाख मेट्रिक टन भंडारण क्षमता का विकास हुआ।
14. किसानों को सुनिश्चित बिजली की आपूर्ति के लिए वर्ष 2012 के बाद 1354 डेडिकेटेड फीडर की स्थापना की गई। 2.75 लाख से अधिक इच्छुक किसानों को सिंचाई कार्य हेतु विद्युत संबंध दिया गया।

प्रथम तीन कृषि रोड मैप के सफल कार्यान्वयन के बाद राज्य सरकार द्वारा वर्ष 2023 से वर्ष 2028 के लिए चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप की स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है। चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप, पूर्व के कार्यक्रमों की अच्छाईयों और कमियों को ध्यान में रखकर बनाया गया है। यह कृषि रोड मैप भविष्य की चुनौतियों के दृष्टिगत तैयार किया गया है। कृषि रोड मैप के सभी संस्करणों को तैयार करने में खास बात यह रही है कि राज्य के किसान इस सूत्रण प्रक्रिया में शामिल हुए हैं। चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप के सूत्रण के लिए किसानों से सुझाव प्राप्त करने हेतु 21 फरवरी 2023 को बापू सभागार, पटना में किसान समागम का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें लगभग 5000 किसानों ने भाग लिया। कृषि विशेषज्ञों की भी महती भूमिका रही है। सभी संबंधित से व्यापक विचार के बाद तैयार चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप को बनाया गया है। चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप की प्राथमिकताओं को संक्षिप्त विवरण निम्न प्रकार है—

1. प्रथम तीन कृषि रोड मैप धान, गेहूँ के उपज को बढ़ाने पर केंद्रित था, जबकि चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप दलहन, तेलहन, पोषक अनाज, बागवानी फसल को प्राथमिकता प्रदान करता है।
2. प्रथम तीन कृषि रोड मैप में बीज को काफी महत्व दिया गया है परंतु यह धान एवं गेहूँ पर निर्भर था।

चतुर्थ कृषि रोड दलहन, तेलहन, पोषक अनाज के बीज को प्राथमिकता देता है। राज्य को बीज उत्पादन में आत्मनिर्भरता के लिए 100 सीड हब स्थापित करने का संकल्प है।

3. जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण किसानों को नियमित रूप से बाढ़, सूखा, अनियमित मॉनसून, टर्मिनल हीट की समस्या का सामना करना पड़ता है। इस परिस्थिति के दृष्टिगत चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप जलवायु अनुकूल कृषि तकनीक को बढ़ावा देता है।
4. हाल के वर्षों में जंगली पशुओं विशेषकर घोड़परास, कीट एवं व्याधि से फसल सुरक्षा काफी चुनौतीपूर्ण हो गया है। अतएव चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप आधुनिक तकनीक यथा ड्रोन आदि के उपयोग से पौधा संरक्षण पर बल देता है।
5. रसायनिक उर्वरक एवं रासायनिक कीटनाशी पर आश्रित आधुनिक कृषि की आलोचना स्पष्ट है। यह पर्यावरण एवं मानव स्वास्थ्य को प्रभावित करता है। इन चुनौतियों का सामना करने के लिए जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देने हेतु चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप में विस्तृत कार्यक्रम शामिल किया गया है।
6. कृषि की वर्तमान की चुनौतियों का सामना करने के साथ-साथ राज्य की कृषि को भविष्य के लिए तैयार करने हेतु डिजिटल तकनीक की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। आने वाले समय में आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस, मशीन लर्निंग, आई.ओ.टी की भूमिका बढ़ती जायेगी। अतएव कृषि रोड मैप इस समय उपलब्ध श्रेष्ठ वैज्ञानिकों के परामर्श से तैयार किया गया है, जो आने वाले समय में डिजिटल फॉर्मर्स सर्विस, ई मचान आदि के माध्यम से किसानों की समस्याओं का समाधान करेगा।
7. आधुनिक कृषि में कृषि यंत्रों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। विगत तीन कृषि रोड मैप में इसपर काफी बल भी दिया गया है। अनुभव के आधार पर चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप सीमांत किसानों के लिए उपयुक्त कृषि यंत्र पर विशेष बल देता है। साथ ही राज्य की विशिष्ट आवश्यकता के अनुसार मखाना आदि के लिए उपयुक्त कृषि यंत्र को बढ़ावा देने को प्राथमिकता प्रदान करता है।
8. राज्य में बागवानी को बढ़ावा देने के लिए नयी नर्सरी नीति तथा नये सेंटर ऑफ एक्सीलेंस स्थापित करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।
9. चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप में पशु एवं मत्स्य संसाधन के विकास के लिए व्यापक कार्यक्रम शामिल किया गया है। पशु स्वास्थ्य से लेकर पशु पोषण को वैज्ञानिक दृष्टि से प्रबंधन के लिए पशुपालकों को हर संभव सहायता प्रदान करने का कार्यक्रम शामिल है। देशी गोवंश को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कार्यक्रम लिया गया है। बकरी पालन, सुकर पालन, मुर्गीपालन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किसानों को अनुदान का प्रावधान किया गया है। साथ ही बकरी, सूकर फार्म की स्थापना पर भी बल दिया गया है। दुग्ध उत्पादन एवं प्रसंस्करण के लिए भी कार्यक्रम लिए गये हैं।
10. राज्य में मत्स्य पालन की असीम संभावना को देखते हुए सरकारी जलाशयों, चौर क्षेत्र में मत्स्य पालन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विशेष कार्यक्रम तैयार किया गया है।
11. चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप में कृषि अनुसंधान को धारदार बनाने के लिए एक नया दृष्टिकोण दिया गया है। वन हेल्थ प्लेटफार्म के माध्यम से जुनोटीक बीमारियों पर पशु एवं मानव चिकित्सक एक साथ समन्वय से अनुसंधान करेंगे। जीन एडिटिंग जैसी अत्याधुनिक तकनीक का प्रयोग राज्य के कृषि विश्वविद्यालय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्थानों के समन्वय से करेंगे। कृषि शिक्षा को नया आयाम प्रदान करने के लिए राज्य में सेकेंडरी एग्रीकल्चर के लिए महाविद्यालय स्थापित करने का संकल्प लिया गया है।
12. प्रथम तीन कृषि रोड मैप कृषि उपज को बढ़ाने एवं कुछेक सीमा तक उत्पादन पश्चात उपज के प्रबंधन पर ध्यान देता है जबकि चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप कृषि उपजों के उत्पादन के पश्चात उपज के प्रबंधन, मूल्य संवर्धन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए व्यापक कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत करता है। इसके अंतर्गत सभी 54 सरकारी बाजार प्रांगणों को आधुनिक बनाने के लिए विस्तृत परियोजना प्रस्ताव तैयार किया गया है। ग्रामीण हाट के आधारभूत संरचना को मजबूत बनाने के लिए कार्यक्रम शामिल किया गया है। किसानों को समूहों में संगठित करने के लिए एक पारिस्थितिकी के निर्माण को बल दिया गया है। बिहार में कृषि उपजों के निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिए व्यापक कार्यक्रम शामिल किया गया है।

13. खाद्यान्न फसलों को न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य पर अधिप्राप्ति प्रथम तीन कृषि रोड मैप की महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि रही है। राज्य सरकार द्वारा सात निश्चय के तहत दलहन की अधिप्राप्ति को शामिल किया गया। चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप में अधिप्राप्ति का विस्तार करते हुए इसमें तेलहनी फसलों को भी शामिल किया गया है।
14. राज्य में खाद्यानों के भंडारण के लिए नए गोदाम के निर्माण को बढ़ावा देने हेतु कार्यक्रम तैयार किया गया है। जिसमें सरकारी क्षेत्र में गोदाम के अतिरिक्त पीईजी स्कीम के तहत गोदाम निर्माण को बढ़ावा दिया जायेगा।
15. खाद्य प्रसंस्करण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए नया दृष्टिकोण कृषि रोड मैप का अहम भाग है। गुड़ को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कार्यक्रम रोड मैप में शामिल किया गया है।
16. राज्य सरकार के सतत विकास के संकल्प को आगे बढ़ाते हुए चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप में वृक्ष आच्छादन को बढ़ाने के लिए कई महत्वाकांक्षी कार्यक्रम शामिल किया गया है। जल-जीवन-हरियाली मिशन की संकल्पना के अनुरूप मिट्टी एवं जल संरक्षण का विस्तृत कार्यक्रम इस कृषि रोड मैप का अहम भाग है।
17. हर खेत को सिंचाई का पानी राज्य सरकार के सात निश्चय में शामिल है। इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए कृषि रोड मैप में लघु जल संसाधन तथा जल संसाधनों के विस्तार का कार्यक्रम शामिल किया गया है।
18. राज्य के किसानों को सिंचाई आदि कार्यों के लिए निर्बाध बिजली मिले इसके लिए विस्तृत कार्य योजना तैयार की गई है। इससे खेती का लागत घटेगा तथा किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ेगी।
19. राज्य में भूमि सुधार के लिए कई कदम उठाये गये हैं। इस प्रक्रिया को गति प्रदान करने हेतु विस्तृत कार्यक्रम इस रोड मैप का महत्वपूर्ण भाग है।

चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप कार्यक्रमों के लिए 1.62 लाख करोड़ रुपये की आवश्यकता का आकलन किया गया है। इस रोड मैप की यह विशेषता है कि सभी प्रमुख कार्यक्रमों का विस्तृत परियोजना प्रस्ताव विशेषज्ञों के देखरेख में तैयार किया गया है। राज्य सरकार द्वारा संपूर्ण कार्यक्रम को चालू योजना के रूप में स्वीकृति दी गयी है। इसके फलस्वरूप कृषि रोड मैप में शामिल विभाग यथासमय योजना का कार्यान्वयन सुनिश्चित कर सकेंगे। इस रोड मैप की सफलता के लिए कृषि रोड मैप में शामिल विभागों को पर्याप्त स्कीम आउटले तथा बजट की जरूरत होगी। विभागों के बीच समन्वय भी महत्वपूर्ण है। राज्य सरकार के स्तर पर विभागों के बीच समन्वय के लिये मुख्य सचिव की अध्यक्षता में समिति का गठन किया गया है। यह आशा है कि चतुर्थ कृषि रोड में निर्धारित लक्ष्य शत प्रतिशत पूरा होगा। कृषि रोड मैप की सफलता के लिए बड़े पैमाने पर निजी एवं संस्थागत निवेश की भी आवश्यकता होगी। इसमें सरकारी बैंकों को आवश्यक जिम्मेवारी का निर्वाह करना होगा।

यह आशा है कि चतुर्थ कृषि रोड मैप न सिर्फ राज्य के किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ाने के लिए अहम होगा बल्कि देश की खाद्य सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने में अहम भूमिका अदा करेगा। यह भी संभव है कि बिहार का यह प्रयास देश एवं विश्व भर में बिहार जैसी परिस्थिति के लिए एक मॉडल का काम करे।

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{लेखक भा.प्र.से. के 2012 बैच के अधिकारी सम्प्रति संयुक्त सचिव, कृषि विभाग के पद पर कार्यरत हैं। इनका मोबाइल सं. 9431818719 है – प्रधान संपादक}

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Response

प्रयास के अप्रैल-जून 2023 के अंक में बहुत अच्छे लेख हैं। दीपक को मैं जानती हूँ। बहुत कर्मठ अधिकारी हैं।

□□□

– गौरी सिंह, भा.प्र.से. (1987)



आज़ादी की चन्द यादें

है स्वतंत्रता का दिवस आज, कुछ बात पुरानी याद आई,
गाँधी का ज़माना याद आया, भारत की कहानी याद आई।

चौदह अगस्त सैंतालिस को, थी आधी रात गुज़रने को,
जब सोनस का सारा आलम, मसरूफ़ सभी रंग भरने को;
नन्हें भारत का जन्म हुआ, वह नेक कहानी याद आई।

जश्ने-आज़ादी की घड़ियां, लग गए चरागों के मेले,
दिल में थी याद शहीदों की, जो तपती आगों से खेले;
दीपक-लौसे उनके सायों की लहलुहानी याद आई।

उस पल बापू कलकत्ता में, दंगों की याद से घायल थे,
'हैदरी प्लेस' में पड़े हुए, कौमी एका के मायल थे;
उनके मन में आज़ादी की, बेरंग निशानी याद आई।

जब आज़ादी का ज़श्न मनाता, भारत था जगमगा रहा,
तब दंगों से गाँधीजी का, था संत-हृदय डगमगा रहा;
उस रात अँधेरे में उनकी, वह रात बितानी याद आई।

जब से स्वतंत्र भारत जन्मा, भरते बच्चों-सी किलकारी,
कमज़ोर क़दम भी कमसिन के, पड़ते मज़बूती से भारी;
यूँ उसका बचपन याद आया, यूँ उसकी जवानी याद आई।

जब खुशी सुनहरे पल में थी, गम के साए भी साथ आए,
सर जहां फिरे, धड़ वहीं गिरे, बचने वाले अनाथ आए;
यूँ देख जुनूँ इन्सानों के, खूँ की अर्जानी याद आई।

इस कालचक्र में भारत को कुछ खुशी मिली, कुछ जी मिचला,
दरम्यान इसी तेरा 'विदेह', सारा जीवन ही बीत चला;
कीमतें बढ़ीं, पर नैतिकता की मूल्य-ढहानी याद आई,
गाँधी का ज़माना याद आया, भारत की कहानी याद आई।





The Difficulty of Being Gajendra Haldea

Gajendra Haldea, an IAS officer of 1973 batch joined LBASNA as a young probationer and after the conclusion of the training stint through which he had distinguished himself brilliantly, he thought he deserved Director's medal. That was Gajendra Haldea, a brilliant officer with persuasive skills, tenacity, never-say-die commitment and courage of conviction that won for him both bouquets and brickbats in his long illustrious career.

A significant part of his career coincided with the structural transformation of the Indian economy from control to market economy with liberalization, privatization and globalization becoming buzzwords. As Gramsci says, "The old is dying, and the new world struggles to be born; now is the time of monsters and morbid symptoms." Transitional interregnum between control and market economy warranted new ways of doing things. But as far as bureaucracy was concerned, there was ignorance, reluctance, innocence and incomprehension. Private sector was increasingly becoming central to the economy but terms of engagement and interaction with private sector were neither laid down nor clear to anyone. L'affaire Enron proved to be baptism by fire. When the matter came to extending counter-guarantee to Enron by the central government, it was Gajendra Haldea's careful insertion ' validly due' in the agreement apart from dogged and brilliant defence of the Indian stand that would save the day for us in messy litigation. The book recounts many such encounters and stories that defined the person- Gajendra Haldea.

The difficulty of being Gajendra

Haldea, a Bloomsbury publication is a masterpiece depicting sterling contributions of the 'Infrastructure Czar' of India Gajendra Haldea. This book is actually a collection of essays written by indomitable personalities from politics, business, academia, civil service and journalism. 'Gajsaab' as all youngsters addressed him has been enthusiastically bestowed rich tribute by the contributors -all of whom had been in close proximity with him.

His contributions covered a vast range from various sectors of infrastructure to policy on governance, public private partnership, procurement, law, organisational design and design of 'mechanism' m to implement policy. An assiduous bureaucrat, he worked like a crusader for public causes.

His invaluable contributions include-drafting the Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999, The Electricity Act 2003, Public-Private Partnership, Model Concession Agreement (MCA), Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) format to name a few. His MCA for roads and highways was hailed as revolutionary. Over 200 national highway projects, 150 state highway projects, Hyderabad Metro Rail project, over 20 OMT projects in highways, power transmission projects, green-field port project and locomotive PPPs are some of the projects based on his MCAs.

Prithvi Haldea, younger brother of Gajendra Haldea says in the book "As a metaphor, he drank, ate and slept infrastructure, and did so for almost 3 decades. He never jockeyed or positioned for power; his power came from his intellect and integrity."

Ashok Lavasa calls his boss “a paradox of sorts, very demanding and fastidious.” He goes on to say that “Haldea taught his subordinates diligence, rectitude and perseverance; and all this by example and not through officious sermons or by writing bland appraisal reports.”

NK Singh who had been the boss of Haldea has been magnanimous in praise, characterising him as “an officer with outstanding analytical capability“, who “combined compliance with domain skills and was a team player without the slightest whiff of insubordination.

V Srinivas, who had worked with him in Rajasthan and later became his friend states that “working with Gajendra Haldea was to say at least, extremely demanding, given the combativeness with which he approached governance but it was also technically sound and highly focused.”

Najeeb Jung, his friend calls him “an aficionado of culture, beauty, food and music and also a man of principles and integrity, unafraid and ever ready to take on the world when convinced that corrections were due.”

Bharat Salhotra writes, "He braved many a battle at a personal cost but never compromised on his principles. He was indeed a great guru and I consider myself extremely blessed to have worked with a person like him."

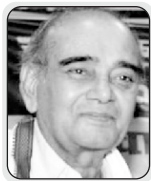
The book reads beautifully as it recounts the infrastructural journey of India in juxtaposition with his personal triumph and tribulations. The book offers remarkable insights. First, Gajendra Haldea was not merely about positional authority but about personal and moral authority that emanated as much from his intellect as integrity. Secondly, it is possible for a bureaucrat to hold his own against overwhelming odds if he is committed to public cause and backs his commitment with relevant domain knowledge and persuasive tenacity. Third, Gajendra Haldea, as the editor Sebastian Morris reminds us, was no Rambo-type

officer intent upon taking on the world. He was all about creating enduring systems, procedures, processes and organizational behaviour. Fourth, his diligent cultivation of domain knowledge in infrastructure is a lesson for predominantly generalist bureaucracy. His solid grounding in Economics and Law would enable him to draft rock-solid documents which would form the bedrock of infrastructure development in India. Fifth, reform in a generally status quoist system is the work of a rebel as he or she finds himself or herself pitted against resistance from vested interests and organizational intimidation. Haldea would find himself isolated and vilified on many occasions. Many times, he would be accused of torpedoing infrastructural surge of India but his concerns and insights were almost invariably vindicated in due course of time. Sixth, dealing with private sector with ever larger footprints need not be either adversarial or capitulative. What is needed is mutually acknowledged, legally sound and financially feasible terms of interaction and this requires sharp understanding of diverse issues involved in a complex world. Seventh, Gajendra Haldea was about big picture and futuristic vision backed by rigours of nuts and bolts. Eighth, the book fleetingly touches personal aspects of his life. Coming from a Jagirdari background, having been in National Defence Academy for a while before opting out, a fan of Mukesh songs and someone who would never allow juniors to foot a bill, he was a remarkable person.

Apart from being a collection of inspirational essays, it is also a copious treasure of information about a critical phase in India's quest for infrastructure development. The basic ideas in the book can be of immense help to bureaucrats and government servants working in infrastructure sector in particular and general administration in general.



Achievers



– RU Singh, IAS (1961)



Vijoy Prakash, IAS-1981

Vijoy Prakash (b. 18 September 1956) has a multi-faceted personality. He served in the IAS during 1981-2016 and held many posts with distinction under Bihar Government, the post last held by him being Agriculture Production Commissioner of Bihar. During this period, he headed the Committees for Consideration of Non-Practicing Allowance to Medical and Veterinary Doctors and for Pay Fixation of University and College Teachers and Non-Teaching Staff in Bihar. He co-chaired the International Conference on Educational and Social Inclusion, organised by APCL, KG Foundation (UK) and SCERT, Bihar. During 1997-2011 he had been the Executive President of the Association for Promotion of Creative Learning (APCL), established to promote creativity and creative learning in society.



Vijoy Prakash

While in Service, Vijoy Prakash participated in under Middle Level Programmes and training courses on various subjects, including Managing under Adverse Environment, Re-structuring of India's Economy, Financial Management, Labour Relations, Health & Family Welfare and Management Concepts & Decision Making.

His educational background is equally praiseworthy in that he did his matriculation from the Netarhat Residential School in 1972, graduation from St Xavier's College of Ranchi University in 1976, and MSc in 1979 and M Phil in Physics in 1980 from Delhi

University. He was awarded Rev Shockard Shield for obtaining highest marks in the St Xavier's College, Ranchi in 1976.

Post-Retirement:

After retirement, Vijoy did not sit at home for whiling away the time, but engaged himself in meaningful activities in social and educational fields. He has been equally, if not more, busy in serving public interest than while in Service.

Most importantly, his contributions in the field of Creative Learning (a new method of learning to promote creativity in society) have been unique and widely appreciated. He has developed a large number of teaching and learning materials, games, and books for the promotion of creativity, concentration, memory and imagination. He has established an innovative CBSE school - *School of Creative Learning* at Patna in 1997, which I have had the privilege to visit more than once and come back with a lasting impression on the imaginative effort of Vijoy and his talented wife Mridula.

Vijoy Prakash is the President since December 2019, of the Association for Promotion of Creative Learning and Director of Sarv Sewa Sangh Samiti since February 2020. He has been the Chairman of the NGO, Deepayatan (State Resource Centre for Adult Learning supported by Government of India, Bihar) since April 2013 and President of the NGO, Preservation and Proliferation of Rural Resources and Nature (PRAN) since

2019. During his Chairmanship, since 2019, the Bihar Chapter of Indian Institute of Public Administration was declared 3rd in 2019-20 and 1st state chapter in 2020-21.

Bihar Vidyapith:

Vijoy Prakash has been the elected Chairman of Bihar Vidyapith at Patna since January 2014. I had the privilege of working against heavy odds in this prestigious institution as its elected Secretary for three years from 1997. Bihar Vidyapith was established as an alternative educational institution by Mahatma Gandhi with the active cooperation of Maulana Mazharul Haque and Dr Rajendra Prasad. On completion of his second term as the President of India, Rajendra Babu came to Patna on 13 May 1962 and chose to stay in the same dilapidated house which he had vacated while leaving for joining the interim government at Delhi. Thanks to the efforts of JP and his companions, a pakka house was constructed in the campus to which Rajendra Babu shifted in November 1962 but the Deshratna passed away on 28 February 1963. Since then the building houses Rajendra Smriti Sangralhalaya. Another institution working in the campus is Kamala Nehru Shishu Vihar. During the tenure of Vijoy Prakash as Chairman two important institutions have been set up, one is Atal Incubation Centre (Supported By AIM, NITI Aayog) of which he is the Chairman-cum-CEO and the other is a B ED College. A singular achievement of Vijoy has been that the unauthorized occupants were thrown out of the campus.

Achievements and Awards:

Vijoy Prakash was awarded President's Silver Medal for Outstanding Performance in Census Operations in 1991; was mentioned in the List of Achievers in 2012 (Bihar) published in The Telegraph; received the Global Icon Award

2020 in Social Impact Category by National Egg Commission, together with Dr BB Rao, a Padma Shri awardee, and others for promotion of Bihar Egg Sufficiency Campaign; was honoured by Bihar Jharkhand Association for North America Distinguished Contribution in Social and Education category in April 2021; was awarded Shri Satya Indira Foundation (SSIF) Global Peace Award on 2nd October '22 in recognition to his contribution in Nation Building; and was honoured by the Buddhist Mission of India and the Indian Council of Arts.

Books:

Vijoy has authored a large number of books on Creative Learning and on associated themes and earned kudos from all who matter. His book 'Creative Learning' published by VIVA Books, New Delhi was presented to Dr APJ Kalam the then President of India at a special function organised in Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi in 2006. Another book co-authored by him, 'Education for Democracy' was released by the then Governor of Bihar Dr R. L. Bhatia at Raj Bhavan, Patna in 2008. His book 'अपनी एकाग्रता कैसे बढ़ायें' was released by the then Governor of Bihar, Dr Keshari Nath Tripathi at Raj Bhavan, Patna in May 2015.

All in All:

Versatility is a byword for Vijoy Prakash. He was a Trustee of the Netarhat Alumni Educational Trust from 1996 to 2001 and President of All Bihar Chess Association during 2010-13. Even today he is as active as ever. I have intimately known him for years, since he had invited me as chief guest at a function in a DAV school the Principal of which was his wife Mridula who too is connected with a large number of social and educational bodies. She is the Secretary of the iconic Mahila Charkha Samiti founded by JP's wife, Prabhawati ji at Patna.





Oh Lovely Dawn

As the great day approached, Indians thanked their varied gods and rejoiced with special prayers, poems and songs. Poetess Sarojini Naidu set the theme in a radio message: "Oh lovely dawn of freedom that breaks in gold and purple over the ancient capital...!"

Blessing with Ashes:

Even such an agnostic as Jawaharlal Nehru, on the eve of becoming India's first Prime Minister, fell into the religious spirit. From Tanjore in south India came two emissaries of Sri Amblavana Desigar, head of a sannyasi order of Hindu ascetics. Sri Amblavana thought that Nehru, as first Indian head of a really Indian Government ought, like ancient Hindu kings, to receive the symbol of power and authority from Hindu holy men.

With the emissaries came south India's most famous player of the nagasaram, a special kind of Indian flute. Like other sannyasis, who abstain from hair-cutting and hair-combing, the two emissaries wore their long hair properly matted and wound round their heads. Their naked chests and foreheads were streaked with sacred ash, blessed by Sri Amblavana. In an ancient Ford, the evening of Aug. 14, they began their slow, solemn progress to Nehru's house. Ahead walked the flutist, stopping every 100 yards or so to sit on the road and play his flute for about 15 minutes. Another escort bore a large silver platter. On it was the pithambaram (cloth of God), a costly silk fabric with patterns of golden thread.

When at last they reached Nehru's house, the flutist played while the sannyasis awaited an invitation from Nehru. Then they

entered the house in dignity, fanned by two boys with special fans of deer hair. One sannyasi carried a scepter of gold, five feet long, two inches thick. He sprinkled Nehru with holy water from Tanjore and drew a streak in sacred ash across Nehru's forehead. Then he wrapped Nehru in the pithambaram and handed him the golden scepter. He also gave Nehru some cooked rice which had been offered that very morning to the dancing god Nataraja in south India, then flown by plane to Delhi.

Later that evening Nehru, and othermen who would be India's new rulers on the morrow, went to the home of Rajendra Prasad, president of the Constituent Assembly. On his back lawn four plantain trees served as pillars for a temporary miniature temple. A roof of fresh green leaves sheltered a holy fire attended by a Brahman priest. There, while several thousand women chanted hymns, the ministers-to-be and constitution-makers passed in front of the priest, who sprinkled holy water on them. The oldest woman placed dots of red powder (for luck) on each man's forehead.

Tryst with Destiny:

Thus dedicated, India's rulers turned to the secular business of the evening. At 11 o'clock they gathered in the Constituent Assembly Hall, ablaze with the colors of India's new tricolor flag—orange, white and green. Nehru made an inspired speech: "Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall re-deem our pledge. ... At the stroke of midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom."

And as the twelfth chime of midnight died out, a conch shell, traditional herald of the dawn, sounded raucously through the chamber. Members of the Constituent Assembly rose. Together they pledged themselves “at this solemn moment to the service of India and her people” Nehru and Prasad struggled through the thousands of rejoicing Indians who had gathered outside to the Viceroy's House (now called the Governor General's House) where Viscount Mountbatten, who that day learned he would become an earl, awaited them. There, 32 minutes after Mountbatten had ceased to be a Viceroy, Nehru and Prasad, told Mountbatten that India's Constituent Assembly had assumed power and would like him to be Governor General.

The People's Day:

Delhi's thousands rejoiced. The town was gay, with orange, white and green. Bullocks' horns and horses' legs were painted in the new national colors, and silk merchants sold tricolored saris. Triumphant light blazed everywhere. Even in the humble Bhangi (Untouchable) quarters, candles and oil-lamps flickered brightly in houses that had never before seen artificial light. The government wanted no one to be unhappy on India's Independence Day. Political

prisoners, including Communists, were freed. All death sentences were commuted to life imprisonment. The Government, closing all slaughterhouses, ordered that no animals be killed.

The people made it their day. After dawn half a million thronged the green expanse of the Grand Vista and parkways near the Government buildings of New Delhi. Wherever Lord and Lady Mountbatten went that day, their open carriage, drawn by six bay horses, was beset by happy, cheering Indians who swept aside police lines. A Briton received a popular ovation rarely given even to an Indian leader. "Mountbattenjiki jai [Victory to Mountbatten]." they roared, adding the affectionate and respectful suffix "ji" usually reserved for popular Indian leaders.

Now & then Nehru (who sometimes shows the instincts of a traffic policeman) harangued the crowd to be more orderly. Once he espied a European girl caught up in the swirl. She was Pamela Mountbatten, the Governor General's 18-year-old daughter. Nehru literally slugged his way through the crowd to rescue her, brought her to the platform.

In the Council House the Constituent Assembly heard Mountbatten take the oath as Governor General.

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Response

“My dear Ram Updesh,

I was delighted to receive the latest issue of Prayas on the Whatsapp. As usual, its get up is excellent and it contains many interesting and useful articles, both in English and in Hindi. Heartiest Congratulations!

Also many thanks for carrying my email to you in it, with regard to the two novels – 'Mughal High Noon' and 'Misfortune's Favourite' which I have written.

Those of our vintage are fast dwindling! In my (1959) batch, of the 6 who were allotted to Bihar only two are left now!

Do keep in touch and when you next happen to visit Delhi do let me know.
Kind regards, Yours, SRAdige.”

□□□



Cancer Management – Present perspective and future directions

Abstract:

Cancer is the life-threatening disease that originates from the uncontrolled differentiation of cells due to genetic changes resulting disturbed functions; and it may occur in a wide variety of tissue/organs such as lungs, breast, liver, cervix, prostate gland, blood, bone, head and neck etc. In the current scenario, it accounts for a major share of the diseases in the patient's populations significantly that are non-communicable in nature. The aspects of cancer detection, prognosis, and treatment with either drugs and/or surgery are the existing practice in Oncology settings. However, the diagnosis of this fatal disease is usually symptomatic in late stage and hence it leads to the later stages of early cancer in majority of cases causing deaths. The timely medical consultation and affordability of the efficacious chemotherapy or relevant therapeutics available with or without surgical interventions are the prime factors, lacking which the poor suffers a lot. The limitations of toxicity, side effects of medications and high cost, public negligence add concerns over this issue. Hence the applied research for better diagnosis and treatment of cancer is emerging fast with potential outcomes. With the development of modern Biosciences, the present prospective of cancer management needs to be redefined and integrated efforts should be incurred to adopt newer approaches like Predictive Biomarkers profiling, Immunotherapy, Precision Oncology etc. to deal this disease

more effectively. In future, cancer management can be more holistic and efficient if both private as well as government endeavors are allied well with ample public awareness and medical care

Introduction

Cancer is a fatal disease of global health burden and it occurs mainly due to the transformation of healthy cells into genetically altered cells with organ malfunctions. Cancer development takes place in a cascade of mechanisms and it can affect any parts of human body. The incidence of cancer is highly increasing, and if it is not controlled, then cancer will be the major challenge in front of the nation, suppressing the other diseases in the health sector. Almost 16 lakh new cancer cases are coming every year in India and anytime nearly 42 lakh cancer patients are present in the country in the different stages of disease.

Prevailing Situation:

There are many existing challenges for cancer management. The main problems include majority of cases come in advance stage of disease to the cancer centre, lack of education and knowledge, low number of trained professionals. Also several doctors at the periphery are not sufficiently trained, lack infrastructure to detect and confirm the disease.

Role of Government

The local as well as the central Government should also create sufficient and prompt measures to develop better cancer diagnostic facilities in the different

regions. More number of Cancer centres should be established to serve the big burden of cancer patients. All the medical colleges must have one cancer unit to include the oncology curriculum in the teaching of undergraduates. The regular training and updating program to the undergraduate doctors and freshers or other medical paramedics should be provided along with the regular screening and check-up program, financial assistance. The etiological causes for cancer including the environmental factors should also be explained to them so that it will help to educate the community to a large extent and provide preventive knowledge.

Steps to be taken in Cancer Centre:

1. Many things lack in the primary cancer centre. So, special attention to effective cancer treatment, diagnosis and staging of the disease should be done with highest focus. Sequencing of treatment steps should be planned and delivered in a coordinated way. Efforts should be given on the palliative care and personalized counseling of the patients. Tobacco consumption must be discouraged and rehabilitation centre ought to be developed.
2. Community oncology programs must be carried out regularly. Doctors and other medical personnel should be trained sufficiently in order to handle the situation at community level.
3. Cancer awareness, education, prevention and early detection camps with outreach workshops and programs should be conducted for the public. Substantial endeavors should be continued to make aware the general public for cancer symptoms and timely medical consultation.
4. Preventive programs are very useful for the public that includes cessation of

tobacco, HPV vaccination program. This also includes primary, secondary and tertiary prevention to control the burden of cancer.

5. Providing treatment for management of cancer Surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and supportive treatment to the needy patients in time.

These treatment approaches are not enough to stop or effectively curb the high incidences and/or prevalence of cancer in many countries. Therefore searches for newer and better treatment modalities have been adopted, among which some are still in practice and others are in experimental/clinical stages. It has been reported that cancer will become an increasing challenge to health service in developing as well as in developed countries in the coming decades. This is due to the facts that the average age of the population is increasing along with the increase of elderly persons in their community. Cancer is primarily a disease of old age and this may be reflected in the rising trend in the cancer recurrence. Many reports revealed a sharp rise in the incidence of most types of cancer after the age of 60 years.

Treatment of Cancer

There are broadly 3 types of treatment in the treatment of cancer-

1. **Radiotherapy:** Presently, teletherapy are delivered to tumor and its surrounding milieu by different machines with several techniques such as cobalt 60, linear accelerator, rapid arch, tomotherapy, cybernite, proton therapy, brachy therapy by different Isotopes. The practice of newer radiation modalities is essential. The treatment of cancer is going largely from the conventional to conformal means. These paraphernalia are very costly and at the same time their maintenance poses a big problem. The question arises how much percentage of cases can get this facility.

2. Surgery: From the baseline surgery, *i.e.* minimal access surgery, upto robotic surgery, it has taken almost many decades to cover the distance. This is a good treatment option for the localized stage of cancer (such as breast cancer) which has not developed in the metastatic or advance stage.

3. Chemotherapy: It is a systemic therapy of chemical drug formulations and consists of big range of medicine which works on a different pattern to destroy the tumor cells. It starts from basic chemotherapy drugs to target specific therapy. Recently, resistance from chemo drug has become a big problem and search for newer drugs is on.

Applications of advanced sciences (Molecular Biology) in Cancer

1. Prediction of cancer risk development: The uses of Molecular Biology and Nanotechnology have become recommendable for the study of identification of serological biomarkers and their validation. This has helped in the early detection of cancer.

2. Prognosis for established cancer markers: After the initial treatment of cancer, prognosis is instrumental to monitor the disease stage in the patients. In this area Molecular Biology has assisted significantly in cancer management to accurately evaluate the expression of known markers/proteins from blood or sera samples.

3. Prediction of recurrence risk: The modern aspect of Bioscience, particularly the clinical genomics has enabled clinical-geneticists to assess the risk factors of cancer recurrence and susceptible genes responsible for it.

4. Analysis of therapeutic response: The post-treatment evaluation of cancer therapy has become a reliable analysis tool which takes use of Bioequivalence studies and PK/PD based applications, which help to ensure optimal response is achieved from the cancer medication.

5. Identify therapeutic targets: The interdisciplinary approach of Genomics, Proteomics, Metabolomics and analysis of complex biochemical pathway proteins can be utilized to identify and design potent therapeutic targets against cancer. The Bioinformatics based drug discovery is an example of such strategy.

Conclusion

The cancer patient's populations need specialized and high attention for the timely diagnosis, accurate screening and efficacious treatment. The existing limitations of cancer management must be seriously looked into and appropriate measures should be taken for providing good treatment modalities. Ample awareness and personalized counseling should be provided to the general public and cancer patients, so that early/mid stage symptoms of this disease can be detected and screened in time for appropriate treatment modalities. In addition, integrated approaches should be encouraged to adopt the new therapies suitable for cancer management in the best possible way. Thus, community oncology highlighting prevention and early detection aspects must be widely adopted in rural and sub-urban populations of the state, by virtue of which up to ~66 % cancer incidences can be controlled.

*

[Padma Shri Dr. JK Singh is Director & Senior Oncologist, S.S. Hospital & Research Institute, Kankarbagh, Patna-20, Bihar & Sri Sai Institute of Medical Sciences (SSIMS), Hajipur, Bihar. He can be accessed on his Email: drjksingh.onco@gmail.com, and sshospital.patna@gmail.com.]



In Lighter Vein

Judge: You must be ashamed of yourself. You are 80 years old, and the charge on you is that you winked at a girl!

Man: Excuse me, Your Honour. I winked at her when I was 20 and the case has come for hearing now.

*

A small boy parked his bicycle nearby the Parliament House and walked on.

A constable stopped him saying, "Why did you park your bicycle here? Don't you know about this road? Many MPs, chief ministers and even President and cabinet ministers and politicians pass from here?"

The boy innocently replied, "Don't worry, I have locked my bicycle."

*

Judge: You must be ashamed of yourself. You are 80 years old, and the charge on you is that you winked at a girl!

Man: Excuse me, Your Honour. I winked at her when I was 20 and the case has come for hearing now.

*

A Teacher and Student

Teacher : Construct a sentence using the word, Sugar.

Student : I drank tea this morning.

Teacher : Where is the word sugar?

Student : It is already in the tea.

Teacher : Our topic for today is Photosynthesis. What is photosynthesis?

Student : Photosynthesis is our topic today.

Teacher : What do you call mosquitoes in your language?

Student : We don't call them, they come on their own.

Teacher : Name the nation, people hate the most.

Student : Exami-nation..

Teacher : How can we keep our school clean?

Student : By staying at home.

Teacher : One day our country will be corruption free. What tense is that?

Student : Future impossible tense.

□□□





भारत के एक महान पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री के अंतिम दिनों की कहानी

एक बार 94 साल के एक बूढ़े व्यक्ति को मकान मालिक ने किराया न दे पाने के कारण उसे मकान से निकाल दिया। बूढ़े व्यक्ति के पास एक पुराना बिस्तर, कुछ एल्युमीनियम के बर्तन, एक प्लास्टिक की बाल्टी और एक मग आदि के अलावा शायद ही कोई और सामान था। बूढ़े ने मालिक से किराया देने के लिए कुछ समय देने का अनुरोध किया। पड़ोसियों को भी बूढ़े आदमी पर दया आयी और उनके कहने पर मकान मालिक को किराए का भुगतान करने के लिए उस बूढ़े आदमी को कुछ दिनों की मोहलत देने के लिए मना लिया। फिर वह बूढ़ा आदमी अपना सामान अंदर ले गया।

रास्ते से गुजर रहे एक पत्रकार ने रुककर यह सारा नजारा देखा। उसने सोचा कि यह मामला उसके समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित करने के लिए उपयोगी होगा। उसने एक शीर्षक भी सोच लिया। फिर उसने बूढ़े किराएदार और किराए के घर की कुछ तस्वीरें भी ले लीं। पत्रकार ने जाकर अपने प्रेस मालिक को इस घटना के बारे में बताया। प्रेस के मालिक ने तस्वीरों को देखा और हैरान रह गए। उन्होंने पत्रकार से पूछा, कि क्या वह उस बूढ़े आदमी को जानता है? पत्रकार ने कहा, नहीं।

अगले दिन अखबार के पहले पन्ने पर बड़ी खबर छपी। शीर्षकथा, “भारत के पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री गुलजारीलाल नंदा एक दयनीय जीवन जी रहे हैं।” खबर में आगे लिखा था कि कैसे पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा किराया नहीं दे पाने के कारण उन्हें घर से बाहर निकाल दिया गया। टिप्पणी की थी कि आजकल फ्रेशर भी खूब पैसा कमा लेते हैं, जबकि एक व्यक्ति जो दो बार प्रधानमंत्री रह चुका है और लंबे समय तक केंद्रीय मंत्री भी रहा है, उसके पास अपना खुद का घर भी नहीं!

दरअसल गुलजारीलाल नंदा को स्वतंत्रता सेनानी होने के कारण रु. 500 प्रतिमाह भत्ता मिलता था। लेकिन उन्होंने यह कहते हुए इस पैसे को भी अस्वीकार कर दिया था कि उन्होंने स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों के भत्ते के लिए स्वतंत्रता की लड़ाई नहीं लड़ी। बाद में दोस्तों ने उन्हें यह स्वीकार करने के लिए विवश कर दिया कि उनके पास जीवन-यापन का अन्य कोई स्रोत नहीं है। अतः इसी पैसों से वह अपना किराया देकर गुजारा करते थे।

अगले दिन तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री ने मंत्रियों और अधिकारियों को वाहनों के बेड़े के साथ उनके घर भेजा। इतने वीआईपी वाहनों के बेड़े को देखकर मकान मालिक दंग रह गया। तब जाकर उसे पता चला कि उसका किराएदार कोई और नहीं बल्कि पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री श्री गुलजारीलाल नंदा जी हैं। मकान मालिक अपने दुर्व्यवहार के लिए तुरंत गुलजारीलाल नंदाजी के चरणों में झुक गया। अधिकारियों और वीआईपी लोगों ने गुलजारीलाल नंदा से सरकारी आवास और अन्य सुविधाएं को स्वीकार करने का अनुरोध किया। श्री



गुलजारीलाल नंदा ने इस बुढ़ापे में ऐसी सुविधाओं का क्या काम, यह कहकर उनके प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार नहीं किया। और अंतिम सांस तक वे एक सामान्य नागरिक की तरह, एक सच्चे स्वतंत्रता सेनानी बनकर ही रहे। 1997 में पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी व एच डी देवगौड़ा के मिले-जुले प्रयासों से उन्हें भारत रत्न से सम्मानित किया गया। पिछले 10 जून को उनकी 26वीं पुण्यतिथि का स्मरण शायद किसी व्यक्ति को रहा हो।

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Principal Editor adds :

The above tale told by RN Dash is based on a post on the WhatsApp and is too improbable to be believed. It is most unlikely that the identity of a former PM would remain unknown to any landlord. I searched Google and found this very piece literally in English along with another piece extracted below-

“A simple man who consigned himself to a spot away from public glare and took up living in a nondescript locality, was thrown out of the one-room abode by the landlord for his failure to pay rent over a few months. He pleaded with the landlord that he would clear the rent dues shortly, but the latter remained unmoved. Neighbors who knew the man as just another denizen of their ilk also requested the landlord who ultimately yielded to the request and let the 94 year old tenant stay but on 'or else' terms. His worldly possessions comprised a cot, a plastic bucket and some necessary aluminum utensils plus Rs 500 per month as pension.

A journalist passing by the scene of the pandemonium gauged the situation and his heart tugged him. The scribe decided to write a feature in the newspaper with the headline he coined on the spot, 'Cruel landlord kicks old man out for unpaid rent.' He had also snapped a few photographs. He went to his office and discussed the issue with his editor. The editor asked the journalist if he knew the old man and the scribe expressed ignorance. The next day, the news appeared on the front page of the newspaper, headlined, 'Former Prime Minister of India Gulzarilal Nanda living pathetic life.'

The news mentioned how the former Prime Minister unable to pay house rent was thrown out of the house and added that Gulzarilal Nanda had initially rejected a monthly allowance of Rs 500 insisting that he would not touch the money that was allocated for freedom fighters. However, after contentions of friends, he accepted the pension and that became his only source of income with which he paid house rent and led his life on the measly left over of the Rs 500.

After the news was flashed in print, the then Prime Minister sent ministers and high officials along with a cavalcade to the colony where Nanda lived and it was then that people knew who the man actually was. The landlord bowed at the former Prime Minister's feet and prayed for pardon.

The ministers and officials' urgings resulted in the former two-time Prime Minister and central cabinet minister through several terms, with, “What is the use of such facilities for an old man?”

Gulzarilal Nanda, till his last breath, led a life of common citizens in true Gandhian manner. He was awarded the nation's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna in 1997, a true tribute to a human being who believed in Simple Living and High Thinking.”

According to another version, Mr Nanda gave up active politics and did live in a rented house in Delhi. When he was not able to pay rent, his daughter took him along to Ahmedabad.

□□□

Beautiful words Written by Sophia Loren

“When I got enough confidence, the stage was gone; When I was sure of Losing, I won; When I needed People the most, they Left me; When I learnt to dry my Tears, I found a shoulder to Cry on; When I mastered the Skill of Hating, someone started Loving me from the core of the Heart and, while waiting for Light for Hours when I fell asleep, the Sun came out.

That's LIFE!! No matter what you Plan, you never know what Life has Planned for you. Success introduces you to the World but Failure introduces the World to you. Always be Happy!! Often when we lose Hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, 'Relax Sweetheart; It's just a Bend, not the End!'"

— Sophia Loren (Italian Actress)

Politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians.

— Charles De Gaulle.

One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end by being governed by your inferiors.

— Plato

Humans are the only creatures in this world who cut the trees, make paper from it and then write 'Save the Trees' on it.

— Anon

In 1922, Albert Einstein was touring Japan. At his hotel, the bellboy delivered him a message. Einstein did not have cash to tip him. So instead, he wrote down his theory of happiness on a piece of paper and gave it to the bellboy. Recently, that note sold for 1.5 million dollars making it one of the highest tips to date. What Einstein wrote was this: 'A calm and modest life will bring more happiness than constant pursuit of success combined with restlessness.' The note may be worth 1.5 million dollars, but the words are priceless.

— AS Writes

There is a story about Dr. Raghu Vira who composed an English-Hindi dictionary with entries like लौहपथगामिनी for train, भकभकअड्डा for station, शीत-ताप-नियंत्रित छविगृह for AC Cinema Hall, and so on. He proudly presented a copy to Pandit Nehru who commented, "A work of such scholarship can't be cast aside lightly, it must be thrown with great force!"



Experience



– Shailja Pandey
IAS (2021)



Fielding in the Field

The most awaited part of District Practical Training for an IAS Officer Trainee is holding the independent charge as a Block Development Officer and Circle Officer. It opens the door for laying a strong foundation on which the strong edifice of one's bureaucratic structure can be built in course of time. The thrill of managing one's own office along with the chance to implement creative ideas finds opportunity in these independent charges. Through this piece of writing, I would like to share my experiences of the same.

I was fortunate in being entrusted with the responsibility of the BDO and CO of Dhanarua Block of Patna district. The warm welcome that I received by the staff, the public representatives and the public gave me the encouragement to give my best. From sanctioning pensions to inspecting houses built under Prime Minister's AwasYojana to working towards the goal of (Open Defecation Free) ODF plus villages, the gamut of activities was large. The public dealing taught me how to engage a team towards fulfilling the stupendous task to deliver on the promises.

I also learnt how convergence of different schemes is easier said than executed. In my interactions with public representatives, I realised how

administration and politics have the same goal of public welfare.

The task of handling files and preparing reports, taught me to read carefully, be thorough with laws, and be prompt with replies. The regular reviews of performance of our Block at district motivated me to improve on the performance indicators. I also learnt the value of punctuality, sincerity and foresight.

Experience at the Circle Office taught me the intricacies of land laws. It also introduced me to the settlement of land disputes. I also learnt how improvement in public service delivery like speedy disposal of mutation cases should be brought about. The maintenance of law and order with coordination with Thana helped me learn how to maintain public order.

The experiences at the field thus were enriching. They will help me to smoothly run the offices on which I am to be put in future. They have also taught me how to implement various schemes effectively.

I hope, I am able to consolidate the learnings in my career and am confident that insights from being a Block Development Officer and a Circle Officer will stay imbibed in me and imprinted in my memory forever.

□□□



History

Incredible Coincidence



US President Abraham Lincoln

He was elected to Congress in 1846.
He was elected President in 1860.
He was chiefly concerned with civil rights.
His wife lost a child in the White House.
He was shot on a Friday.
He was shot in the head.
His secretary was named Kennedy.
He was assassinated by a Southerner.
His successor was named Andrew Johnson.
Andrew Johnson was born in 1808.
John Wilkes Booth assassinated him.
John Wilkes Booth was born in 1839.
John Wilkes Booth's name had three words.
John Wilkes Booth's name had 15 letters.
He was shot at the theatre named 'Ford.'
Booth was assassinated before his trial.
He was in Monroe, Maryland a week before.
He was shot in a theatre.
The assassin ran to a warehouse.



US President John F Kennedy

He was elected to Congress in 1946.
He was elected President in 1960.
He was chiefly concerned with civil rights.
His wife lost a child in the White House.
He was on a Friday.
He was shot in the head.
His Secretary was named Lincoln.
He was assassinated by a Southerner.
His successor was named Lyndon Johnson.
Lyndon Johnson was born in 1908.
Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated him.
Lee Harvey Oswald was born in 1939.
Lee Harvey Oswald's name had three words.
Lee Harvey Oswald's name had 15 letters.
He was shot in a car made by 'Ford.'
Oswald was assassinated before his trial.
He was with Marilyn Monroe a week before.
He was shot from a warehouse.
The assassin ran to a theatre.

*

किताबों की महिमा

सभ्यता, संस्कृति, साहित्य की धारा प्रवाहिनी,
अज्ञान, अशिक्षा, निराशा की मोक्षदायिनी।
सदियों से तेरे इकबाल का जारी है सफर,
हर भाषा, साहित्य की बनी तू हमसफर।
असंख्य मन को देती रही तू सतत चेतना,
दे प्रकाश हर ओर हरती रही वेदना।
तू न होती तो खुल नहीं पाते पाठशाला,
सूने रह जाते पुस्तकालय, मंदिर, शिवाला।
पूरे संसार में बज रहा तेरा ही डंका,

चहुं दिशा से छट रही निराशा की शंका।
सभी भाषाओं में वर्णित है तेरी अमृत छवि,
पलपल महिमा गान कर रहे चंद्र और रवि।
इंटरनेट के चमक से थक गए चिंतन तरंग,
आलमारी में कैद से मुक्त हो भरे उमंग।
बिछड़ गए संगी साथी दूर हुए अपने,
तेरी आहट से कायल हो गदगद हुए सपने।
संसार में तेरी गाथा के विपुल हैं ट्रेंड,
सच ही कहा किसी ने बुक इज द बेस्ट फ्रेंड।

- डॉ. अशोक कुमार



Welcome 2022 Batch in Bihar Cadre



1) Divya Shakti ; Hometown - Nalanda, Bihar; Education - Msc Economics and BE Computer Science, BITS Pilani; Hobbies - Cooking, Long Distance Running; Present posting- Nalanda ; Work Experience- 2 yrs, Software Engineer, JP Morgan and Chase, IPS 2020 Batch, , Mobile 77278-49513;



2) Shreya Shree ; Hometown – Patna; Education – BS MS in Economics, IIT Kanpur; Hobbies – Reading; Present posting - Saran (Chapra); Work Experience – Nil, , Mobile 70541-16757;



3) Parth Gupta ; Hometown - Jammu, J&K; Education – B tech in ECE; Hobbies - listening to music, playing guitar, playing basketball; Present posting – Madhubani; Work Experience - 1 year 9 months as software engineering in Samsung, , Mobile 95380-66944;



4) Ashish Kumar ; Hometown- Forbesganj, Bihar; Education – B Tech in Mechanical Engineering; Hobbies includes - watching movies and travelling; Present Posting – Gaya, , Mobile 83868-42755;



5) KishlayKushwaha; Hometown - Ghazipur, UP; Education - B tech IIT Delhi; Hobbies - Swimming, Badminton; Current posting – Muzaffarpur; Work Experience - PGCIL, Indian Defence Estate Service, Mobile 63943-85349;



6) RiturajPratap Singh ; Hometown - Mainpuri (UP); Education - B.tech Electrical Engineering, NIT Surat; Hobbies - Playing Cricket; Present posting- East Champaran; Work Experience - 1 year in Reliance Industries Limited, Jamnagar, , Mobile 91069-41975;



7) Gaurav Kumar-1 ; Hometown - Patna, Bihar; Education – BSc (computer science) from Hansraj College Delhi 2011, MA (Geography) from JNU Delhi 2014; Hobbies - Travelling, strength training; Place of posting – Aurangabad; Work Experience – NABARD 2 years, BAS 5 months, IDAS 2 Years 4 months; IRS (IT) - 5 months; IAS - joined in August 2022, , Mobile 99584-80533;



8) KajaleVaibhavNitin ; Hometown - Pune; Education-BTech Computer Enggfrom VIT Pune; Hobbies - Basketball, watching movies, reading Defence blogs; Present posting – Patna; Work Experience - AROC,ROC Mumbai for 3 years,ICLS 2017 UPSC Batch; Mobile 95380-66944;



9) ShwetaBharti ; Hometown-Rajgir, Nalanda; Education -B.tech. in ECE from B.C.E Bhagalpur; Hobbies- Music listening, diary writing, singing; Present posting – Bhagalpur; Work Experience - 6 months as DPO Education department, Bihar Government, Mobile 62073-67964;



10) Gaurav Kumar-2 ; Hometown- Bhagalpur, Bihar; Education -BTech, ECE from IIT(ISM) Dhanbad; Hobbies – Cooking; Present posting–Purnia, Mobile 78277-01559;

**

[I am grateful to Dipak K Singh, IAS (1992) for having taken the trouble to make available the inputs for this piece – Principal Editor]





The Story of Ankit

Born in adversity, Ankit paddled through poverty. He has now negotiated his path to Tesla with sights even higher. It's not a fairy tale. It is the real story of a young man, born to a destitute family in Bihar. As if this was not enough, he had to spend his childhood in a village in the interior of a notorious block, Obra in Aurangabad district. In all, almost every factor was arraigned against him. He couldn't manage even a tweak of light of hope in his school days.

The anguish of Ankit and his parents when he passed Matriculation and was looking around for an opening to get trained for appearing at IIT JEE was festering in his family. Their woes ended when it was announced that he had qualified for admission to Abhayanand Super30.

I remember a soft spoken, demure, self-effacing back-bencher in the class. I could see the matrix of an expectant face peering at the board while I was teaching. At the end of the class I could discern very clear signs of disillusionment on his face. One day, I called him to my chamber and without mincing words asked him forthrightly, "Do you understand what I teach?"

"Sir, *kuch nahi samajh me aata hai*," was his honest retort.

I felt, I had failed. "Come up to the front of the class. I will call you to the board. You will answer my questions without feeling embarrassed, irrespective of reactions from your friends," I said. He followed my instructions almost literally. In the days that followed, he started to understand the basics of physics and mathematics and their inter- and intra-relationship. His ability to visualise and create was growing at a phenomenal rate. He was discussing concepts with me at a mature level. I then realised that talent had been latent in him. It was all waiting to go over surface, given the appropriate ambience.

Come September. He had been selected for admission to IIT Delhi and IISc Bangalore. He came seeking my advice. I asked him to join IISc. Very demurely he said that his family needed cash urgently. IISc will need a longer gestation. So, he joined IIT Delhi.

In a conversation before leaving for Delhi, I had asked him for his future plan. He told me with confidence that the way I had taught him the way to understand and solve any problem, he would weave his way out of any problem in life, academic or otherwise. Such was his confidence level! He had developed the mind of a creator, not of a seeker. He was on an upward spiral.

In IIT Delhi he got deeply interested in robotics. This catapulted him into limelight when he led the Indian Universities team to get the Gold in an international robotics competition. He had developed special flair in racing car technology. His developmental trajectory was soaring. He was selected by Tesla, the only one from IIT Delhi. Ankit is now in San Francisco. He was telling me on a call one day that the approach adopted by Elon Musk's Tesla is called "First Principle Approach." This is so akin to what he had seen and practiced in Super30 classes of mine wherein he could solve seemingly difficult problems of Physics and Maths, using the basics without using esoteric formulae and complicated equations.

Lesson learnt was: Complicated problems have usually simple solutions. All we need is a sharp discerning mind which can separate grain from chaff in the problem. Wish our education system could bring this out in our children. Our society could be rid of many of its intractable issues.



Activities



– Dipak Kumar Singh
IAS (1992)



Activities of IAS Officers' Association (Bihar Chapter)

Blood Donation Camp : 14th June 2023

Since 2021, the IAS Association, Bihar Chapter has been organizing blood donation camp at the IAS Bhawan on June 14, the World Blood Donors Day on. This year also, the camp was organized on the 14th June in IAS Bhawan. The IAS Officers' Wives' Association, IPS Officers Association, IPS Officers' Wives' Association joined us in organization of the camp. MAA Blood Centre has been associated with us since 2021. Apart from the doctors and paramedical staff deputed by the Health Department, MAA Blood Centre deputed their volunteers in large numbers for logistics, pre-donation testing and drawing blood, etc.

This year, the inaugural session of the camp was graced by Chief Secretary, Mr Amir Subhani; DGP, Mr R S Bhatti; Ms. Harjot Kaur, Secretary, IAS Officers' Wives' Association. The inaugural was presided over by Mr Ram Upadesh Singh, IAS 1961 (Retd.), senior most active member of our association. Blood donors included not only our officers, but also volunteers of MAA Blood Centre and jawans of STF, Bihar.

The officers who participated included Messrs Mithilesh Mishra, Ramchandrudu, Santosh Kumar Mall; B. Kartikeya Dhanji, Rajesh Meena, Vivek Ranjan Maitreya, Vijay Prakash Meena, Sanjay Pansari and Ms Kim, DIG STF. 25 jawans of STF Commando force donated blood. In all 127 units of blood was collected in this camp. We hope to continue this tradition in the coming years, with more and more active participation of our members.

Upcoming Activities:

Sawan Milan - 19th August 2023:

The IAS Officers' Wives' Association and IAS Officers' Association are jointly organizing a get-together, on the evening of 19th August 2023 as Sawan Milan, a fun-filled evening of dance and song by our members followed by dinner.

AGM - Due in September 2023:

The Annual General Meeting of the Association is held in September every year. The main agenda are the adoption of Annual Report and Annual Accounts of the Association alongwith the election of office bearers. The programme is open to the families of the members. The formal meeting is followed by interaction amongst the members and their families, followed by dinner. The date will be decided in the Management Committee meeting to be held towards the end of August 2023. All the members, especially the younger members are requested to participate in the AGM and get-together, as it is an occasion to interact with a large number of colleagues, both serving and retired.



Transfers and Postings

सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग, बिहार सरकार द्वारा निर्गत अधिसूचनाओं के अनुसार भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा के पदाधिकारियों के स्थानान्तरण, पदस्थापन, प्रोन्नति एवं अतिरिक्त प्रभार

क्र. सं.	अधिसूचना संख्या / तिथि	संबंधित अधिकारी की प्रोन्नति, पदस्थापन तथा अतिरिक्त प्रभार
1	9071 / 13.05.2023	श्री विनय कुमार, भा.प्र.से.(1999), सचिव, खाद्य एवं उपभोक्ता संरक्षण विभाग, बिहार, पटना का सचिव, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग, बिहार, पटना का अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
2	9072 / 13.05.2023	श्री रविभूषण, भा.प्र.से.(2010), संयुक्त सचिव, बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना का सचिव, बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना के पद पर पदस्थापन।
3	11005 / 11.06.2023	श्री के. सेंथिल कुमार, भा.प्र.से.(1996) सचिव, स्वास्थ्य विभाग, बिहार, पटना का सचिव, गृह विभाग, बिहार, पटना के पद पर पदस्थापन।
4	11006 / 11.06.2023	श्री अभय कुमार सिंह, भा.प्र.से.(2004) सचिव, पर्यटन विभाग, बिहार, पटना प्रबंध निदेशक, बिहार राज्य पुल निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड, पटना के अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
5	11007 / 11.06.2023	श्री प्रभाकर, भा.प्र.से.(एस.के.: 2007), प्रबंध निदेशक, नॉर्थ बिहार पॉवर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कंपनी लिमिटेड, पटना का विशेष सचिव, बिहार राज्य योजना पर्षद, पटना के पद पर पदस्थापन।
6	11008 / 11.06.2023	श्री शीर्षत कपिल अशोक, भा.प्र.से.(2011), महानिरीक्षक, कारा एवं सुधार सेवाएं, बिहार, पटना का प्रबंध निदेशक, बिहार, राज्य पथ विकास निगम लिमिटेड, पटना के अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
7	11009 / 11.06.2023	श्री मिथिलेश मिश्र, भा.प्र.से.(2011), अपर सचिव, वित्त विभाग, बिहार, पटना का निदेशक, माध्यह्न भोजन, बिहार, पटना के पद पदस्थापन।
8	11010 / 11.06.2023	श्री आनन्द शर्मा, भा.प्र.से.(2013), निदेशक, पंचायती राज, बिहार, पटना का अपर सचिव, नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, बिहार, पटना का अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
9	11011 / 11.06.2023	श्री आदित्य प्रकाश, भा.प्र.से.(2014), अपर सचिव, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग, बिहार, पटना का प्रबंध निदेशक, नॉर्थ बिहार पॉवर डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कंपनी लिमिटेड, पटना के पद पर पदस्थापन।
10	11012 / 11.06.2023	श्री विवके रंजन मैत्रेय, भा.प्र.से.(2017) निदेशक, हस्तकरघा एवं रेशम, बिहार, पटना का सचिव, नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, बिहार, पटना का अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
11	11013 / 12.06.2023	श्री अभय कुमार सिंह, भा.प्र.से.(2004), सचिव, पर्यटन विभाग, बिहार, पटना का प्रबंध निदेशक, बिहार राज्य पुल निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड, पटना का अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
12	12511 / 03.07.2023	श्री तुषार सिंगला, भा.प्र.से.(2015), संयुक्त सचिव, वित्त विभाग, बिहार, पटना का मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, बिहार विकास मिशन, मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय, विभाग, बिहार, पटना का अतिरिक्त प्रभार।
13	13418 / 15.07.2023	श्री आशुतोष कुमार वर्मा, भा.प्र.से.(2010), प्रबंध निदेशक, बिहार राज्य भण्डार निगम, पटना का समाहर्ता एवं जिला पदाधिकारी, नवादा के पद पर पदस्थापन।
14	14885 / 03.08.2023	श्री दिवेश सेहरा, भा.प्र.से. (2005), सचिव, अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति कल्याण विभाग / मो.सोहेल, भा.प्र.से. (2007), सचिव, सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग / श्री बैद्यनाथ यादव, भा.प्र.से. (2007), सचिव, शिक्षा विभाग, बिहार, पटना को जाँच आयुक्त का अतिरिक्त प्रभार।



Photo Gallery

Inauguration of Blood Donation Chambers



CS MrAamirSubahani cuts the Tape as Messrs DK Sing and M Mishra look on

Football Match of IAS Officers Organised by Mahendra Kumar



Forwarded by Dipak Kumar Singh

Distribution of Certificate



By DGP, RS Bhatti

Distribution of Certificate



By DGP (Hqs), Vinay Kumar

Blood Donation Camp



A Glimpse of Inaugural Session

Blood Donation Camp



Mithilesh Mishra at Work

Photo Gallery

Transfer of Power to India in August 1947



Mahatma & Mountbatten in Delhi

**Launch of Prayaas-2/2023
at IAS Bhawan on 17 June**



(L-R) GS Prasad, Sunil K Singh, AK Choudhary, Ashok K Chauhan, RU Singh (Principal Editor), Girish Shankar (Chief Guest), DK Singh (Secretary), SS Thakur, Mithilesh Mishra and Sanjay Kumar

Yoga Day at Arwal on 21 June 2023



Performing Yoga organised by DM Varsha Singh

Yoga Day at Arwal on 21 June 2023



Performing Yoga organised by DM Varsha Singh

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