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PROUT

A Journal of Proutistic Views and Neo-Humanistic Analysis



**HUMAN SOCIETY IS
ONE AND INDIVISIBLE**



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Fundamental Principles of PROUT

If any physical, psychic, social, moral or spiritual weakness becomes apparent in a particular activity or in any sphere of individual or social life, it is the duty of the other members of society to eradicate that weakness with all the sweetness of their hearts. However, due to a lack of genuine humanism or spiritual outlook, people do just the opposite.

– Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar

- 1 No individual should be allowed to accumulate any physical wealth without the clear permission or approval of the collective body
- 2 There should be maximum utilization and rational distribution of all mundane, supra mundane and spiritual potentialities of the universe
- 3 There should be maximum utilization of the physical, metaphysical and spiritual potentialities of unit and collective body of the human society.
- 4 There should be a proper adjustment amongst these physical, metaphysical, mundane, supra mundane and spiritual utilizations.
- 5 The method of utilization should vary in accordance with the changes in time, space and person and the utilization should be of progressive nature.

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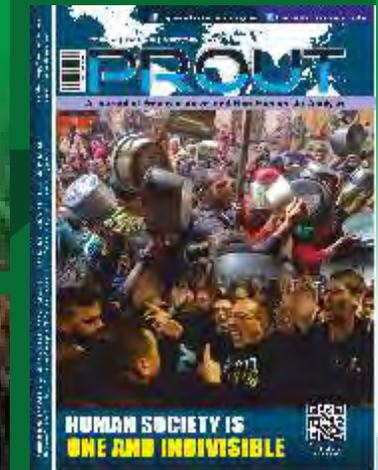


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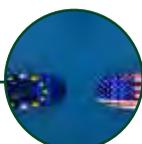
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

BUDGET 2025-26

 n February 1, Union Minister for Finance Nirmala Sitharaman delivered her record 8th consecutive budget speech in Parliament. The latest one is built on expectation that people will spend more and drive growth. It's a typically capitalist oriented approach, seeking to address specific issues plaguing the Indian economy — flagging domestic demand, sluggish private investment and tepid wage growth leading to a slowdown in meaningful GDP growth. With an impressive backdrop of budget estimates statistics viz.: total revenue receipts and expenditure Rs.34.96 and Rs 50.65 lakh crore respectively, net tax receipts Rs 28.37 lakh crore and the fiscal deficit would be 4.4 % of the GDP, with gross market borrowings of 14.82 lakh crore. This got a mixed reaction from the Press.

A closer look at priorities and allocations reveals the approach is cautious, without the assurance that they would indeed address the underlying problems. The government's double edged sword — substantial tax breaks to boost consumption and drive growth, leaves little scope for increased public spending on capital expenditure. At a time of unrelenting inflation it has rightly put more money in the hands of the middle class, while the salaried middle-class sections would indeed benefit and welcome the move, it is not clear if this would stimulate demand to the extent of creating a strong virtuous economic growth cycle. This is because private investment in the economy has been stagnant, with the corporate sector is showing little inclination to step it up. The Budget continues the trend of incentivising the corporate sector to do so even though revenues from corporate tax as a share of gross tax collections are estimated to fall slightly from the previous year. But considering that corporates have shown little inclination to increase investment despite low corporate tax rates and increased profitability, the government should have adopted an alternative approach, perhaps gradually phasing out the tax incentives. Attracting foreign investment through tax exemptions for sovereign wealth funds and 100% FDI in insurance is a smart way to boost India's infrastructure and insurance sectors.

The budget's ten-pronged approach, spanning everything from agriculture to exports, is ambitious. At the same time it shows promise with a focus on resilience, innovation, and equitable growth. The focus on rural prosperity through skilling and technology is also a welcome move, as is the plan to transform India Post into a rural logistics and financial powerhouse. Support to 1.7 crore farmers through 'Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana', boost for rural and manufacturing sectors, and tax reforms signal positive changes for a prosperous future for India. It looks like the budget has been crafted with a real understanding of the global economic hiccups, aiming to not just weather the storm but actually come out stronger.

In the ultimate analysis, it is a capitalist oriented consumption driven budget. It would benefit the middle class the wealth creators no doubt but has not done as much as it should for those 3% of India's population living in extreme poverty, where more than one-third of the world's children live half of whom are under three years of age and under weight. Besides being underfed and under clothed these children are prone to and suffering diseases caused by malnutrition.

Here it is important to recall words of Prout's founder Shrii PR Sarkar: “Each and every person should be guaranteed the minimum necessities of life by providing everyone with sufficient purchasing capacity. It is not enough to provide the minimum necessities of life – simultaneously, the wealth of the country should also be increased. ... Like any other problem, economic problems have only one solution: genuine love for humanity. It is this love that will direct humanity in what should and should not be done. For this, one need not study volumes of books. It will not be necessary to depend upon those who play with the fortunes of the mute populace. It is only necessary to look upon humanity with honest sympathy”.

Finance Minister could consider these sage words for future budgets and provide suitable budgetary provisions and appropriations accordingly. ●



Human society is one and indivisible

What an absolutely true concept, just what is needed in the world today.

- *Neekanth Srinivsan Vellore*

Editorial and Inspirational

Such extravagance in today's age is not the order of the day. Such huge sums of money spent could be better utilised for welfare measures for the mass of poor people of the country. The Inspirational story is amazing, that a young boy working in a quarry could become a lawyer thanks to good Samaritans like Nobel Laureate Satyarthi and his activities to empower such people.

- *Maya Sehgal, Jaipur*

Plight of Migrants

The Plight of Migrants Worldwide is a big tragic issue that needs to be seriously considered by the United Nations. Many poor people migrate in search of a better life

and in search of work. Others migrate to escape from conflict and persecution.

In many cases, corrupt agencies charge huge amounts to enable people to migrate, for which migrants need to take loans which takes lifetime for them to pay back, because they often have to keep sending money to their family. The United Nations could actively address the migrant issue through the "Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)," an intergovernmental agreement that is meant to coordinate international efforts to manage migration, protect migrant rights, and ensure safe migration pathways for all migrants; this includes addressing challenges like migrant smuggling, human trafficking, and the needs of vulnerable migrant populations. However, the GCM and International Organization for Migration (IOM) know nothing of migrants and vice versa.

People migrate from Asian countries, African countries (to European countries), Central and South American countries (to USA). Based on my personal experience with migrants in US and UAE, the migrants lead very sad lives, working all the time and living alone. What is the cure for this very pitiable situation.

The UN could take a big role in this venture by the setting up of a World Government, which can dedicate itself to making the developing countries more livable based on UN Sustainable Development Goals. However, today the UN Security Council is controlled by the five permanent

members having veto power, which makes Ukraine and Palestine to be subjugated. So then, what is the cure for this migrant crisis?

- *Acarya Dhanjoo Ghista*

Prout January 2025 issue has some brilliant stuff. The one on migrants and the one on stakeholder capitalism are really great. Congrats

- *Sohail Inayatullah, Australia*

Abolish Income Tax

A revolutionary idea worth trying. The suggestions made are appropriate.

- *Chandimal Sen, Hooghly*

God Centred Philosophy

Matter centred philosophy as manifested by Capitalism and Communism have no place in human society. To combat this and religious dogma requires logic and rational thinking, without which there's no chance for progress.

- *Vinay Dasprabhu, Cuttack.*

Prout Spiritually Oriented Philosophy

As Prout is a path of socio economic emancipation for humanity, there is no other way for actual economic and social progress of mankind. In this neo humanism plays a key role.

- *Mary D'Souza, Goa*

Asheville Master Unit

A commendable cooperative effort for road maintenance in a mountainous area. It is also inspiring to actually see how cooperative effort helps. ●

- *Ranjit Sarkar, New Delhi*

BABY PIHU THE INDOMITABLE FIGHTER

This is an inspirational story from Bhopal Madhya Pradesh which has recorded the highest number of baby abandonments during the past four years in the country. At least one infant was dumped every second day. Most die, some are eaten by dogs and wild animals, while others die from exposure.

January 11, 2025 was exceptional. A newborn baby girl with throat slit was found in a waste dump in MP's Rajgarh district 100 km from the capital Bhopal. Passersby discovered the baby after hearing her cries, and alerted the police. She only a day or two old had a cut on her throat inflicted by a sharp-edged weapon, when found blood was still pouring from her slit throat. The baby was rushed to the Civil Hospital, Pachor in a blood soaked bundle. After first aid, she was referred to Rajgarh district hospital. The same evening she was moved to Bhopal for advanced medical attention.

The cut in her throat was deep but miraculously missed vital veins and arteries. Pediatric surgeons sutured her cuts and repaired blood vessels in multiple surgeries.

Like the medics the baby didn't give up and will live. It took the doctors and nurses more than a month as her injuries was severe but she braved it and survived

For the doctor and nurses at Bhopal's Kamla Nehru Hospital, now when she cries its music to



Doctors and nurses at the Bhopal Hospital with Pihu: scanned photo courtesy a National Daily

their ears. A month before when the newborn was brought to them in a blood soaked bundle they cried. Due to their tireless efforts and the baby's own fighting spirit she survived such an ordeal against such tremendous odds.

As declared by doctors she is now out of danger. On February 14, they celebrated her new birth and discharged her, handing her over to a shelter home in Rajgarh after taking approval from the Child Welfare Committee.

This was the third such case in the past few months. One of the other girls was named Khushi, this one has been named Pihu. Her recovery is a tribute to the doctors and nurses and also to her fighting spirit as well. ●

HUMAN SOCIETY IS ONE AND INDIVISIBLE

Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar

Continued from previous issue

People have a natural
weakness for their glorious national heritage

Human beings, who are predominantly sentimental by nature, establish some kind of relationship with many objects of this world through day-to-day activities. If the sentiment for a particular favourite object is adjusted with the collective sentiment, then that sentiment can be utilized for establishing unity in the human society. Sometimes the human sentiment for many objects runs counter to the collective sentiment and as such creates greater disunity. Hence, those sentiments which are conducive to human unity should be encouraged, rejecting the sentiments which create a rift in human society. Take the case of the Samskṛta language. Each and every Indian has a common universal love for Samskṛta because it is the origin of most of the Indian languages. There was a time when human feelings and sentiments were exchanged and official activities were conducted in Samskṛta, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin. The influence of Samskṛta on all modern Indian languages is easily discernible: 92% of Bengali, 90% of Oriya, 85% of Maethilii, 75% of Malayalam and 3% of Tamil has come directly from Samskṛta vocabulary. Obviously no one can oppose the Samskṛta language. Had national solidarity been the



main purpose, then the leaders could have tried to establish national unity by advocating Samskṛta as the national language of India.

Besides language, people have a natural weakness for their glorious national heritage. Every

person loves and respects the past national prosperity and the nation's glorious traditions. This love for one's glorious heritage is clearly a psychic sentiment. This psychic sentiment can be utilized to consolidate the national unity. Take for instance the

Mohangedaro and Harappan civilizations. The glorious heritage of a country should not be kept confined to school curricula or research scholars. Rather, it should be presented to the public. This will create a sense of confidence and glory in the people's minds and thus strengthen the bonds of fraternity.

Likewise, the glorious history of a country strengthens the sense of unity among the population. The Samskṛta term "Itihāsa" and the English word "history" are not synonymous. History means Itikatha, a chronological record of past events. Itihāsa means the description of past events to inculcate moral teachings in people's minds. It is not a mere chronological record, but a work of immense educative value. For instance, the Mahābhārata is Itihāsa as it has been a source of inspiration for people since its creation. Even today village people, sitting around a kerosene lamp in the evening, read and discuss the Mahābhārata, each one cherishing a universal attitude of

love for the book. The propagation of the Mahābhārata will have a beneficial influence on people's minds. Many of its passages may be quoted to enlighten people about their glorious past, and offer solutions to their worldly problems. Biographies of great saints, sages and personalities of the past should also be presented to the common people to foster unity in them. There is a subterranean flow of love and devotion in people's minds for those sages and saints, as those saints rose above narrow sentiments to propagate the ideals of unity and fraternity. Their writings create a stir in people's minds. So the popularisation of these personalities is essential to inspire unity among the masses.

The contemporary leaders do not try to give a practical shape to any of the aforementioned human qualities. They merely deliver high-sounding lectures. Those great personalities of the past provide good opportunities for them to organize bicentennial and anniversary celebrations. They consider that by merely uttering a

few well-rehearsed sentences, they are paying a wonderful tribute to those great personalities. These leaders do not realize what an important contribution the great personalities can still give to further the country's welfare. Thus the great ideals are disappearing from social life and disunity is increasing among the people.

To establish lasting unity in human society, besides the above two sentiments, the spiritual sentiment is indispensable. The unity that grows from the collective psychology in the social, psychic and economic spheres, is the first step towards a greater unity. This can lead to the formation of a nation or greater internal unity in a country. But once the problem out of which the sentiment grew is solved, the common link is broken. That is why for permanent unity a spiritual outlook is necessary. Every human being has a spiritual thirst.

Knowingly or unknowingly, human beings are searching for the Supreme Entity. Yet, ignorant of the right path, they remain confused. One of life's great tragedies is that so many people do not find the object of their search. Their entire life is spent searching everywhere, but in vain. If people are shown the right way, the entire humanity will converge on the same path. As fellow travellers on the same journey, they will move towards the same supreme goal with unison, with a single rhythm.

So for the unity of the entire humanity, the indispensable factor is spirituality. This supreme treasure teaches human beings that Parama Puruṣa is the Supreme Father, Parama Prakṛti [[the Supreme Operative Principle]] is their Supreme Mother, and the entire universe is their homeland.

The reason is that this cosmic ideology is based on the absolute truth, which is not confined to time, space and person. When the limited mind accepts that





unlimited entity as its object, the mind goes on expanding to a full 360 degrees. The method that brings about psycho-spiritual progress is called spiritual practice. When human beings bring the entire universe within the range of their minds through spiritual practice, the result will be one universe, one universal society.

As long as the feeling of nationalism remains alive, mutual conflicts are inevitable. Human welfare depends on the degree of psychic expansion. When nationalism cannot embrace every human being, that nation cannot attain perfect well-being. When the welfare of some individuals remains outside the scope of the limited mind of the nationalists, their sorrows will never be felt. That is why a group of nationalists may attack another group of nationalists just to establish their national ego.

Not only nationalism, no "ism", not even internationalism, attains the highest degree of psychic expansion. Who can say that human civilization has not been established on other planets of the universe. The thought of other planetary civilizations

remains outside the minds of those who only think about the various nations of this planet. It is not possible for such internationalists to establish universalism.

When inter-planetary conflict begins, then internationalism will assume the same role as nationalism does today. The only way to establish universalism is to bring about mental expansion through spiritual practice.

The inculcation of the spiritual outlook will not strengthen the boundaries between nations but will lead to the establishment of a universal state, a global nation, with a common thread of unity and aspiration. That nation will be known as the human nation.

Jagat juriyá ek játi áche se jatir náma "manavajáti";

Eki prthiviir stanye pálita, eki ravishashii mather sathii.

[Throughout the world there is only one race:

Its name is the Human Race.

All are nourished with the same milk of Mother Earth;

The sun and the moon are the companions of all.]

With the help of the previously mentioned factors it would be easy to unite the human race. At the same time, however, it should be

remembered that there are certain differences in the society which should be taken into proper consideration. These differences are usually removed through natural fusion. It is not possible to eradicate them by force. When human beings come close to each other with a genuine feeling of unity, when they share the common joys and sorrows of life, those external differences gradually vanish as a matter of course.

In the human society there are four main types of external differences: food, dress, language and religion. Around the world people eat different types of food. There are many differences between the dietary habits of East and West for example, due to different environments and food production. People become accustomed to eating the particular type of food grown in their own countries. In India, for example, there are four food zones each with its own distinctive food production and resultant dietary habits. In one zone mustard oil is used, in another coconut oil, in another rapeseed oil, and in the fourth, ghee. The people of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in Northwest India are accustomed to eating bread,

whereas the people of eastern and southern India mainly eat rice. Thus, people's staple food is determined by variations in climatic conditions. The different dietary habits of the people of the world should never be made uniform by force.

It would be unreasonable to declare a certain food as the national food and then force everyone to eat it. Besides that, everyone has his or her own likes and dislikes. In those countries where the commune system prevails, everyone is forced to eat the same type of food in the name of collectivism. People do not dare to speak out against such imposition out of fear, but internally they are not happy. Food is the most important of the primary necessities of human life.

If people are not satisfied with their food there will be a simmering discontent in their minds which will seek an opportunity for an explosive expression. Like food, there is a great diversity in the dressing habits of the people of the world. This is also a result of environmental differences.

There is an almost unending

number of languages in the world. Not only do people of different countries speak different languages, but people within the same country use different tongues, too. These linguistic differences are due to raciocultural influences. The different cultures of the world have been responsible for the creation of different languages.

Human beings formulate words with various types of sound. This sound is produced by exhaled air which flows over the vocal cord and emerges through the mouth and nose. The sound is modified with changes made in the shape of the mouth, lips and nose. Generally, these linguistic differences are due to the cumulative effect of six main factors: blood, nose, hair, skin, eyes and body height.

Differences in these characteristics are also reflected in the four main races of the world: Aryan, Austric, Mongolian, and Negro. Aryans have a reddish white complexion and hair, warm blood, eyes like a cat, an aquiline nose, and tall bodies. Negroes have black skin, slightly colder blood, curly hair, blackish eyes, thick lips and tall bodies. There are also

remarkable differences in the physical structure of the Mongolians and Austrics. There are three branches of Aryans: Nordic, Alpine and Mediterranean.

In physical appearances the Nordic Aryans have the same characteristics as mentioned above. The Alpine Aryans have a reddish complexion, black hair, blue eyes, and slightly colder blood. The Mediterranean Aryans have yellowy-white complexion, black hair, dark eyes, ordinary noses, slightly colder blood, are of medium stature. People living in southern France, northern Africa and the Balkan states belong to this category.

There has been a lot of admixture of blood amongst the different races scattered throughout the many countries of the world. But the physiological characteristics of those groups who have been living in a particular climate since their beginning are more discernible than in the case of those who have migrated to different countries. These differences have also resulted in differences in linguistic expression. ●

To be concluded



Child abuse and neglect which is worldwide and though existing in India, has not come to light because of underlying social constraints like poverty, malnutrition and infection. Physical abandonment of a child is an extreme form child abuse. It is the practice of relinquishing interests and claims over one's offspring in an illegal way, with the intent of never resuming or reasserting guardianship. An abandoned child is referred to as a foundling. Baby dumping refers to parents leaving a child younger than 12 months in a public or private place with the intent of terminating their care for the child. It is also known as re-homing when adoptive parents use illegal means, such as the internet, to find new homes for their children. In the case where child abandonment is anonymous within the first 12 months, it may be referred to as secret child abandonment.

Poverty and homelessness are often causes of child abandonment. People living in countries with poor social welfare systems who are not financially capable of taking care of a child are more likely to abandon their children because of a lack of resources. In some cases the parents already have a child or children, but are unable to take care of another child at that time. In societies where young women and young men are looked down upon for being teenage or single mothers and single fathers, child abandonment is more common. Children born out of wedlock may be abandoned in a family's attempt to prevent being shamed by their community. Another cause is physical disability, mental illness, and substance abuse problems that parents face. Children who are born with congenital disorders or other health complications may be



CHILD ABANDONMENT WORLDWIDE

No parent would like to abandon their child, unless there are circumstances so hard forcing them do so

■ Srikant Sharma

abandoned if their parents feel they are unable to provide them with the level of care that their condition requires.

Many countries have laws that voluntarily accept such unwanted babies and the state looks after them. In India there is no such law yet but there are many governmental organisations as well as nongovernmental ones that are trying to tackle this problem, which is as old as history, with babies being given to monasteries during the Middle Ages and many other such cases including from

Greek mythology about the story of Oedipus. Rajasthan's state government introduced the Ashray Palna Yojana project in the 2015-2016 budget.

Under the project, 67 cradles were set-up throughout the state – at all district hospitals, medical colleges, and satellite hospitals for the parents to anonymously leave their unwanted babies. The main aim of the scheme is to save the newborn babies who are dumped in dustbins and bushes right after birth, most of whom happen to be girls.

Once a baby is placed in the cradle, a bell rings three minutes later, informing the hospital staff that a child has been dropped off. The child is then taken to a neonatal intensive care unit and given a medical check-up. Once cleared of any illnesses, the child is then relocated to one of 37 adoption agencies around the state. These adoption centres have been selected by the state for the purpose of caring for these abandoned children.

The scheme's credo, "Don't dump, give them to us" works at multiple levels. The newborn baby gets a chance to live, and a childless couple gets a reason to live. It also keeps the baby girls from falling into the wrong hands.

Otherwise many children who are abandoned if they survive and are not brought to the notice of the police authorities, end up in the network of the illicit trade of child trafficking. "We tell society if you don't want a girl, don't kill her – we will take care of her" says Agrawal head of one of one such organisation . "We are not interested in knowing the identity of the parents; this is a unique feature of this scheme. If we try to

track who they are, they wouldn't leave their babies", he adds.

The illegal, yet widespread, practice of dowry, at the time of marriage, is a chief reason parents may consider daughters a financial burden hence prefer sons. This resulted in the practice of sex-selective abortions. The Indian parliament introduced The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act (PSPNDT) in 1994, criminalising prenatal sex-determination tests, with an aim to prevent their misuse to selectively abort female foetuses.

"We believe no parent would like to abandon their child, unless there are some circumstances that are so hard for them, which is making them do so ... out of sheer helplessness," says Soha Moitra, regional director of the northern region at 'Child Rights and You', a nonprofit children's rights organisation. "Sometimes, the parents are in a situation where keeping the child with them will badly affect their personal and social life, as in the case of a child born through sexual assault," believes Kavita Swami, president of an adoption agency in the city of

Bikaner that is associated with the project. In the Indian constitution, it is illegal to abandon or neglect a child, and a parent can be punished for up to seven years in prison and/or fined under Section 317 of the Old Indian Penal Code and up to a prison term of three years and/or fine under Section 75 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.

"Since cradle babies are being put in a protective environment of the hospital staff, to be taken care of by adoption agencies, the parents place the babies in cradles legally – with no questions asked. Which is not the case when they abandon a child at unsafe places, say, on the roadside," says Swami.

The Bikaner adoption agency has put up a cradle in their own ground as well, as an individual step taken to help the kids and the parents. "The babies received are in very bad condition," Kavita says, explaining how they are "wrapped in some old cloth, the umbilical cord is not cut properly – sometimes they are not even cleaned ... It looks like it was pre-decided before birth that they will leave the child, regardless of whether it's a boy or a girl".



Child rights activists, however, believe making it legal to give up one's child only absolves parents of their responsibility towards their daughters, without doing anything to address preference for boys in society. "It is the reaction to symptoms, and not to the cause," says Soha. "Because it is a quick-fix, the state is actually giving a legitimate sanction for abandonment," she says. A similar scheme called Cradle Baby has been operational in the state of Tamil Nadu since 1992, another state where the practice of abandoning girls has been rampant. "We can learn from the Cradle Baby scheme," Soha says. "It is catastrophic for the children, especially girls.

"Now, we have several children to be given for adoption, so many adoption agencies come up. But are these agencies registered and regulated?" she asks, unsure about how the scheme would be implemented. "What happens to the child beyond the cradle? One way of looking at it is that the state is giving survival to the child. But is this survival worth it for the child? Most of the time, the places they end up in are in a bad way with not enough staff, following illegal ways".

There is general agreement that more should be done to address the core social issues that give rise to the sense of helplessness that takes hold of parents even before the children are born, including issues of gender roles and how children are socialised from a young age. While parents who abandon children come mostly from a poor background, potential adoptive parents come from all social strata. "We have got requests from a taxi driver to a government employee," says Kavita. There is no income parameter for adopting a child. "Female infants are being thrown off in dustbins to be eaten by animals. This is a temporary



solution to save those lives," says Agrawal. "The long-term solution to change the mentality would take years. It won't happen in five to ten years. We cannot let those girls die till attitudes change?" he adds. However, Kavita has observed that most pre-adoptive parents ask for girls rather than boys, contrary to popular expectations. "I am surprised and happy when many parents, especially when adopting their first child, prefer a girl," she says. "It gives me hope that somewhere society is changing."

"For the long-term solution, the Rajasthan government and the central government are undertaking several schemes and initiatives for the girl child," Agrawal adds. For instance, the Dhanalakshmi Scheme by the central government is a conditional cash transfer scheme to families of girls, with an aim to retain her, educate her, and prevent child marriage. "Every daughter

should have the right to live and grow," Agrawal says, "A future where no daughter is a burden, and no woman helpless". It is the duty of society to look after children and bear the burden of those who are unable to.

As Prout's founder Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar said: "Help the weak and helpless in all possible ways. Those possessing little strength and ability, and those not provided with the means to survive the struggle for life by Nature, must be led along in companionship. Those who take great pains to assist the helpless are more civilised and endowed with greater awareness. They are the socially-minded beings who readily embrace the underprivileged, the downtrodden and the rejected people of society. Giving help and shelter to the helpless and shelterless is indeed the mark of real greatness, of the really great". ●

It is said that India's budget is not merely an accounting exercise but the only platform for the government to present its economic vision. However, successive governments have used this opportunity to gain short-sighted political mileage, and this budget is no exception. It shows extra favour to the assembly poll due Bihar and Andhra Pradesh to retain support. One reason the BJP won the Delhi election is the increase in the income tax exemption threshold, which influenced a sizeable number of voters. The timing of the election date and the budget announcement cannot be treated as mere coincidence.

Raise in 0% Income Tax Limit:

Budget 2025, which announced the exemption of income tax on annual earnings up to Rs 12 lakh is being lauded as a catalyst for stimulating household spending and increasing consumption demand. It is estimated that hardly 1 crore persons could benefit from this move and it is unclear how much of a consumption boost this can generate. While this hike is

BUDGET 2025

PAINTING THE RUSTED POT

The purchasing power of the Indian rupee has decreased significantly over the years due to inflation.

■ Ganesh Bhat

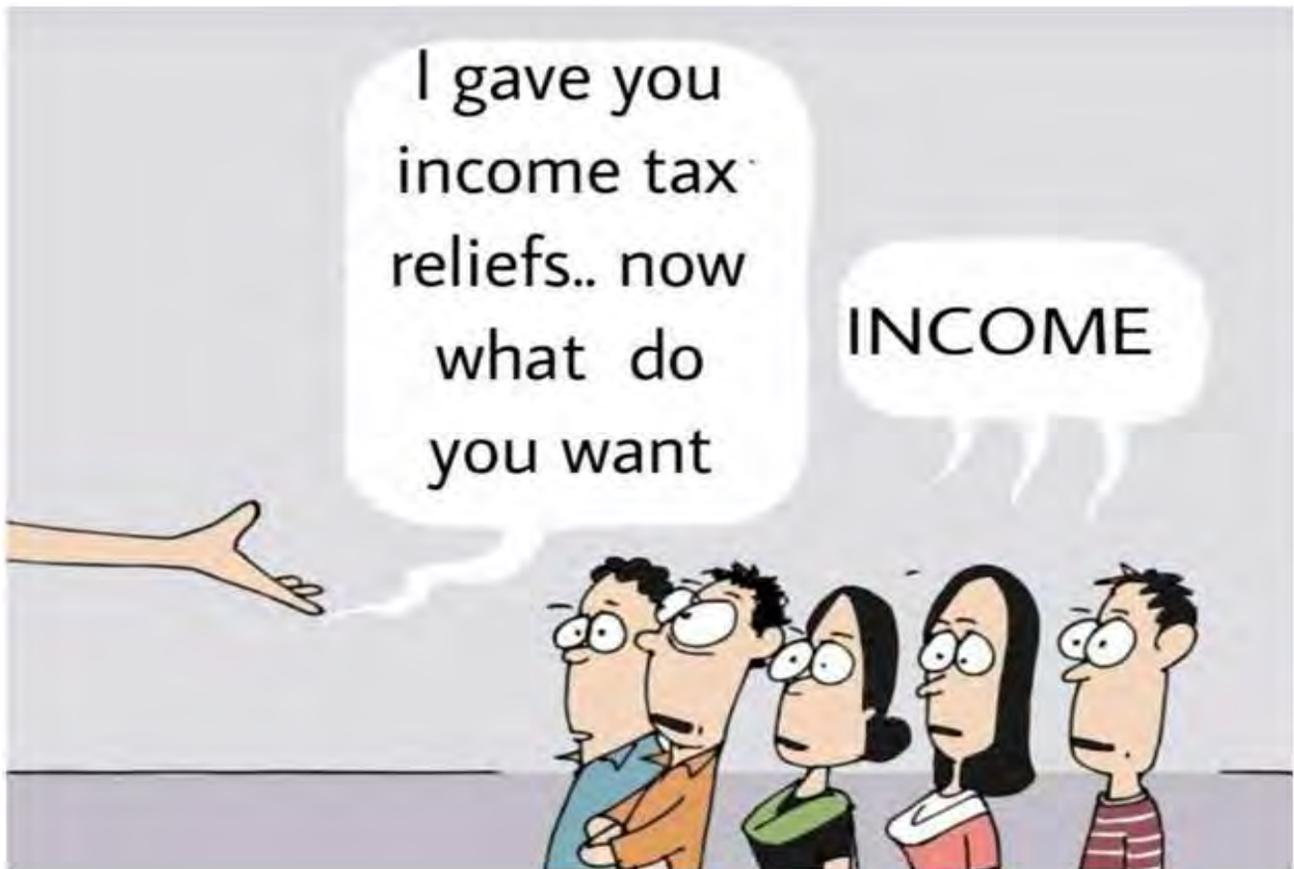
welcome in the background of suffocating price rises, the budget has no concrete proposal to increase the income of common people. People earning Rs 1 lakh more than the threshold limit (Rs 13 lakh) have to pay income tax of Rs 75000/- is irrational.

The purchasing power of the Indian rupee has decreased significantly over the years due to inflation. Today's prices are 100.23 times as high as average prices

since 1958. Re 1 in 1985 equals around Rs 17 of today, Re 1 of 2000 equals around Rs 4.5 of today, and today's prices are 1.70 times as high as average prices since 2014. The budget lacks workable steps to contain inflation. The destruction caused by rampant taxing of the general population can no longer be ignored.

Doubling the tax deduction limit for senior citizens from Rs 50,000 to Rs 1 lakh cannot





encourage them to spend more in light of the declining rate of interest on Bank deposits. To feel good, one needs to earn Rs 50,000 + per month. According to reports, only a small percentage of Indians, estimated to be around 2-3%, earn more than Rs 50,000 per month, highlighting the significant income disparity within the country.

Economics is not simple mathematics. **People's spending behaviour** depends on many factors, including their confidence in the security offered by the **country's socioeconomic system**, which is lacking. Emphasis on boosting domestic spending through tax relief measures, targeted subsidies, and welfare programmes underscores the government's commitment to fostering consumption-led growth.

The Pressure from Behind:

Many corporate bosses have raised concerns about their falling sales and the absence of an increase in

profits. They have started speaking up about the destruction of the purchasing power of the masses. They are resorting to retrenchment; and manage to keep the salaries of their staff on a tight leash. Ironically, these corporations don't realize that their employees too are part of the consumption chain. Thus, by paying less and not giving them raises to keep up with inflation, but hiking the salaries and perks of top brass of the companies; they are axing their own feet. This block is said to have pressured the government to give tax relief.

The Four Key Engines:

India's economic growth strategy, as outlined in Budget 2025, relies on four key engines—agriculture, MSMEs, investments, and exports. It is expected that these engines work together to strengthen the economy, reduce the current account deficit, and promote sustainable growth.

Agriculture as the 1st Engine of Development:

The Finance Minister has announced a few schemes to strengthen the agriculture sector. It appears that the government does not want to acknowledge the real causes for the problems of the agriculture sector which are being taught in schools and colleges. It is not the shortage of finance, but the lack of profitable prices and assured market that makes agriculturists suffer and makes the educated younger generation shun agriculture as a profession.

Unless concrete steps are initiated to restrict and encourage the procurement and marketing of agricultural products **exclusively through cooperatives**, schemes like Enhanced Credit through KCC, Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya KrishiYojana etc., will not be effective. Building Rural Prosperity and Resilience is possible only when Agro and Agrico industries are established

in rural areas through cooperatives. The budget has nothing to say on these important issues.

MSMEs as the 2nd Engine of Development:

MSMEs played a crucial role in reducing import dependence and boosting exports, due to their adaptability and capacity for innovation. The proposed revision in classification criteria for MSMEs and providing Credit Cards for Micro Enterprises cannot boost the development. What is required is a clear classification of industries to avoid an uneven playing field. Certain items should be reserved for MSMEs and the big corporates should not be allowed to enter. The pro-corporate government will not allow this to happen.

Investment as the 3rd Engine of Development:

• Investing in People

FM has proposed to create a skilled youth force by investing in various schemes, but there is no concrete proposal for the creation of employment. The hard reality is the soaring unemployment situation in the country. This is evidenced by the fact that 2 lakh applications were received for 1137 police vacancies in Maharashtra. Doctors, lawyers, MBAs, and engineers are in the race, due to a lack of suitable opportunities in the job market. Similarly, more than one lakh applications were received by Karnataka Power Corporation, for

3000 vacancies of Line Man posts. A similar situation exists in every State. The responsibility of the government starts by providing skills to the youth and ends only when suitable employment opportunities are created. The present government has miserably failed on this front and there are no indications for improvement in the budget.

• Investing in the Economy

FM has hinted at increased Public Private Partnership in Infrastructure, which means the government is shirking its responsibility. This will make the common man pay through their nose for utilizing public infrastructure. The Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative is said to aim to expand local manufacturing, but the super-rich class continues to remain as the real beneficiaries of the scheme at the cost of the mass.

Exports as the 4th Engine of Development:

Export Promotion Mission can become successful only when the cost of production of the exportable commodities is reduced to a competitive level, not by reducing the work force, but by employing technological innovations. FM's proposal to encourage **FDI in the Insurance Sector** is going to give a blow to the indigenous investors. The two vital sectors of the economy – Education and Health services which should be in the public sector are already in the hands of the greedy private sector. The plan

of the government to further privatize the public sector enterprises like Banks, water supply etc. is sure to ruin the economy of the country.

After two UPA's and two NDA's the majority of Indians think the economy has worsened. India has failed to sustain economic growth, it is risking stagnation. The slogan of a 5 trillion economy and the so-called increased GDP growth is not translating into jobs and social mobility.

The theme "**Sab ka Vikas**" stimulating balanced growth of all regions is pleasant to hear. The broad Principles of **Viksit Bharat** (wait for 22 more years!) encompass the following:

- Zero-poverty.
- Hundred per cent good quality school education.
- Access to high-quality, affordable, and comprehensive healthcare.
- Hundred per cent skilled labour with meaningful employment.
- Seventy per cent of women in economic activities; and
- Farmers making our country the 'food basket of the world'.

-shall remain as beautiful slogans unless a paradigm shift in India's economic policy approach is implemented in line with **PROUT's decentralized economy**.

The budget claims to focus on economic growth through targeted fiscal measures while promoting inclusive development and addressing structural bottlenecks that hinder productivity. To achieve these goals, FM appears to think that Privatisation is the only way and has announced schemes in the budget on these lines overlooking the suggestions of the economic survey. The sycophants may hail the budget proposals, but the coming days will prove them wrong. Budget 2025 is an attempt to nicely paint the rusted pot. ●

If we command our wealth, we shall be rich and free.

If our wealth commands us, we are poor indeed.

– Edmund Burke



We are now in the midst of the Second Cold War, between Individual capitalism and State capitalism represented by democratic United States of America (US) on the one side and authoritarian China (PRC – Peoples Republic of Capitalism) on the other. This global contest encompasses all major instrument of state power – economic, political and military and both sides are wooing allies to their side from the world over.

This is entirely different from the First Cold War that started after the Second World War and ended after the breakup of the Soviet Union into Commonwealth of Independent States in December 1991. This practically signalled the death knell of communism. With the rise of China generally and Xi Xing Ping particularly, this new Cold War is different and needs to be managed with international cooperation put quite simply – create a rational equitable path for the future.

Capitalism vs Capitalism

THE SECOND COLD WAR

Last two centuries, capitalism and communism have caused much suffering in human society

Arun Prakash

Here it is important to recall what Prout's founder Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar said in November 1989: “During the last two centuries, capitalism and communism have caused much suffering in human society. Communism has already died a premature death while still in the stage of youthful vigour, but when capitalism dies it will die a mature death. What caused the death of

communism? It died due to the reaction of the accumulated pain, suffering and tortures inflicted on innocent people by the communist system which forced people to live unnatural lives.

“Due to PROUT, a sympathetic vibration started throughout the globe. People have started thinking that they no longer need to be oppressed by the rotten philosophy of communism and are

now eager to fill up the gap this should be immediately filled by PROUT. Communism died a premature death. PROUT came in 1959, but communism collapsed in 1989. If PROUT had not come, communism would have lasted 30 to 35 years more. Now communism has to quit the field”.

But within ten years of the rise of Xi Xing Ping in 2012 in China political relations between US and China went downhill. Leaders in US and Europe and the Asia Pacific have realised that China with its growing economic power means business. What hurt them most is the knowledge that they helped and empowered China to challenge them. What is also well known that since 2013 there have been many near misses between aircraft and ships of China and the US in the seas around Taiwan and South East Asia. Anyone of them could have had dangerous fallout putting both into a vortex towards war from which it would have been difficult to get out of. This must be avoided at all costs by greater transparency, regular consultation, channels for crisis communication and agreements for de-escalation on the military front.

What China takes great pains to explain is that it does not wish to replace US as the dominant superpower in the world and for the US to recognise China's rise as its equal worldwide. This they feel will allow both sides to peacefully coexist. But the US looks at this conflict differently. Like other liberal democracies it feels the conflict is ideological, rooted in the fear that leaders of two very different political systems feel.

Let us now briefly see what the first Cold War which defined second half of the twentieth century before we go further into this one which is likely to define the first half of the twenty first. The Soviet Union like China symbolised a type of government



and international outlook which was contrary to liberal democracies of the West led by the US. The Soviet Union was in an elevated position in international affairs because alongside the US it was one of the two main victors at the end of the Second World War in 1945.

The Soviet Union reached its peak during the first decade of the first Cold War. By December 1945 all of Central and Eastern Europe was under its occupation and by 1948 all of it was communist party rule with most governments indirectly controlled from Moscow.

Being permanent member of UN Security Council and as a leading nuclear power also enhanced its security and global standing. And it was self sufficient in natural resources especially oil, gas, coal and food. Between 1973 and 1990, the year before the Soviet Union broke up its per capita grew from approximately \$ 6000 to a little under \$ 10,000, while in the US it grew from \$ 16000 to \$ 23000. To compete with the US the Soviet leadership decided it needed a different

economic model giving birth to glasnost (openness and transparency). This only ended up in exposing its internal weaknesses and shaky hold over its satellite states. Communist governments in central Europe collapsed and in 1989-90 the mighty Soviet Empire imploded giving birth to 14 independent states around Russia's periphery and Russia though geographically vast was much smaller country of around 140 million people. Communism died a premature death while still in the stage of youthful vigour.

Unlike the Soviet Union which broke up 40 years after attaining superpower status, China on the other hand is still moving ahead slowly to being a leading world power. In 2023 its 1.4 billion people comprised almost 18% of the world's population, yet its per capita GDP was only \$ 12,500, one-fifth of US. China's decline early 19th century and a hundred years of humiliation at the hands of occupying European powers and Japan between 1840 and 1945 left

deep scars among the people and the CCP leadership. China started its GDP growth only after 1980 when Deng Xiaoping opened markets and laid emphasis on mass education and urbanization. Their target is simple; by 2049 the centenary of the founding of the PRC the country should have regained its place at the apex of the world where it stood as the largest country in economic capacity for several centuries during the second millennium until the early nineteenth century Industrial Revolution in Europe. Today it is close to overtaking US in gross terms and unlike the Soviet Union China has proved to be more successful in achieving its goal.

The CCP has invested heavily in military expansion, it now has the world's largest navy and after contending itself with a minimum deterrent force of 200 nuclear warheads for several decades, China is now racing to match the US and Russia which each have some 1500 warheads deployed and could have 1000 operational warheads by 2030. To offset US qualitative superiority China is also building hypersonic anti-ship missiles which can travel at five times the speed of sound. In

August 2021 China shocked the world with the successful test of the first ever 'glide' a hypersonic ballistic missile which circled the globe before reaching its target. While the Soviet Union rose to superpower status because of its vast natural resources, China is dependent on imports to feed its growing economy. It currently imports over 70% of its oil, almost 50% of its gas and over 70% of iron ore.

Overcoming this lack of natural resources lies at the heart of China's foreign policy, which made them develop power and influence in different continents and countries far from its shores. And ensuring the future security of these supplies was the main motivator for its huge investments in the Navy. The extent which China has changed the global economic context not only for itself but also for the rest of the world lies at the heart of the Second Cold War — between Individual Capitalism and State Capitalism.

It is indeed ironic that China State Capitalism becoming a global economic power has been facilitated by its arch rival the US's Individual Capitalism. One form

of capitalism helped the other creating deep interfaces, both sides have now woken up and are now at loggerheads due to differences in political ideological perceptions and considerations. By 1990 when the Soviet Union collapsed the US accounted for 26.5% of the world's GDP, Soviet Union was 9% and China only 1.6%.

The US economy has structural advantages that made it reach global economic supremacy, and still retains much of its dynamism and high technological development. It has the world's largest and most liquid capital markets and benefits a great deal from the dollar's role as the world's dominant reserve currency, which makes the US the only country that can confidently borrow money internationally in its own currency a privilege it has made full use of in the last few decades.

Unlike China US's big landmass is largely hospitable and sparsely populated; it has two contiguous neighbours Mexico and Canada, while China with smaller landmass shares borders with 14 countries including major powers like Russia and India. By contrast in 2001 China's GDP stood at \$ 1.2 trillion as against US



\$10.25 trillion. In 2022 it was \$18 trillion to US \$25.9 trillion. By purchasing power parity what Chinese can buy with their money compared to other countries, their GDP is 16.6% of the world's total higher than that of the US which is 15.8%.

The close economic relationship between US and China that grew at the end of the First Cold War now clashes. For the first time in post war history for the US, China is a true global competitor. China's impact on the world economy has been remarkable and will continue to grow and its rise presents the severest test to US Supremacy and the competition between the two countries as the fight for the top position in economy and technology lies at the root — fight between one form of capitalism with the other. While US is trying to protect a sense of certainty about its commitment to remain a world leader on security and a more attractive economic power as against China's, which has already stepped in and is fast reaching the top.

The collapse of communism as evident from the collapse of the Soviet Union and the supremacy of the US at the end of the First Cold War gave new impetus to liberal democracy as the ideal system of governance across the world.. By



2000 there were 120 democracies, 63% of UN recognised countries. But the rise of China with its alternative political model ran in tandem with failures of democracies to deliver on their promises of prosperity.

The Global Financial Crisis in 2008-12 tarnished the image of free market economics US style. This made the Chinese question why do you believe your system of governance is superior to ours. Western emphasis on protecting political rights of individuals correct or does it reflect the privileged perspective of the wealthy? China's relative success in delivering economic growth and modernisation and improved

living standards to its people makes the authoritarian more attractive.

The Second Cold War between US and China is well and truly underway, but it will be nothing like the First between the US and Soviet Union one lasted from 1945 till 1990. Today both sides believe that the other represents a fundamental danger to their security. The division is ideological and lies at its roots though both are two faces of the capitalist coin, one individual the other state. One believes in liberal individual freedom and the other in autocratic rule.

Today China, its ally Russia and the US and its allies no longer dominate the global landscape. That is shared with countries of the Global South whose demographic and economic power gives them considerable influence, and they are being taken seriously. Yet the optimistic future of the world remains safe as in a cataclysmic war neither side wins, both sides end up as the loser. These are portents of the long awaited mature death of capitalism both Individual and State. We must be ready for that day in advance so as to cause least pain for the mass of people during the transition when Prout principles would govern a multi-polar world. ●



Cyber Crime

WORLDWIDE

Cybercrime is a global problem that affects millions of people and costs billions of dollars each year.

■ ■ Nand Varma

Today, the world is more digitally connected than ever before. Criminals take advantage of this online transformation to target weaknesses in online systems, networks and infrastructure. There is a massive economic and social impact on governments, businesses and individuals worldwide. Phishing, ransomware and data breaches are just a few examples of current cyber-threats, while new types of cybercrime are emerging all the time. Cybercriminals are increasingly agile and organized – exploiting new technologies, tailoring their attacks and cooperating in new

ways.

Cybercrime is a global problem that affects millions of people and costs billions of dollars each year. Cybercrime groups are often spread across borders and use online criminal services. They are: (1) Ransomware: A type of malware that encrypts a user's data and demands a ransom to regain access. (2) Identity theft: Stealing a person's personal information, such as their Social Security number, to commit fraud or theft. (3) Phishing: A common email attack that tricks people into giving sensitive information to scammers. (4) Business email compromise (BEC) scams:

Exploiting people's reliance on email for business to steal money and (5) Spoofing: A scheme that tricks people into giving sensitive information to scammers. Cybercrime's impact is felt in many ways e.g. Financial losses: unexplained withdrawals from bank accounts, mysterious credit card charges, and other financial losses. Psychological distress and legal problems. Economic impact, it can cost billions of dollars each year, which is more than the damage caused by natural disasters in a year. To address this menace a coordinated international response is needed. Organizations can comply with regulatory

requirements that come out of cyber laws. With an average of 97 cyber crime victims per hour, this means there is a victim of cyber crime every 37 seconds. In addition, 2 internet users have had their data leaked every second in 2022. This is somewhat an improvement over 2021, where 6 users had their data leaked every second.

Five major categories of cybercrime caused are: (1) Technical products/services (e.g. malware coding, botnet access, access to compromised systems, tool production); (2) Attacks and extortion (e.g. denial-of-service attacks); (3) Data/identity theft (e.g. hacking, phishing, account compromises, credit card compromises); (4) Scams (e.g. advance fee fraud, business email compromise, online auction fraud) and (5) Cashing out/money laundering (e.g. credit card fraud, money mules, illicit virtual currency platforms). These crimes cross borders and evolve rapidly and know no national borders. Criminals, victims and technical infrastructure span multiple jurisdictions, bringing many challenges to investigations and prosecutions, including INTERPOL, which with its global reach, plays a vital role in building cross-sector partnerships and enabling international law

enforcement cooperation. They coordinate law enforcement operations, and deliver secure data sharing platforms, analysis and training in order to reduce cyber threats. By increasing the capacity of our member countries to prevent, detect, investigate and disrupt cybercrimes, we can help protect communities for a safer world.

But India lost over Rs11,000 crore to cyber scams in the first 9 months of 2024: Cybercrime has been on the rise in India, with digital and investment frauds becoming increasingly sophisticated. Fraudsters often exploit loopholes in the financial system, using fake accounts and digital payment platforms to siphon off large sums. In some cases, they operate with inside assistance, making it more difficult for authorities to trace and recover stolen funds.

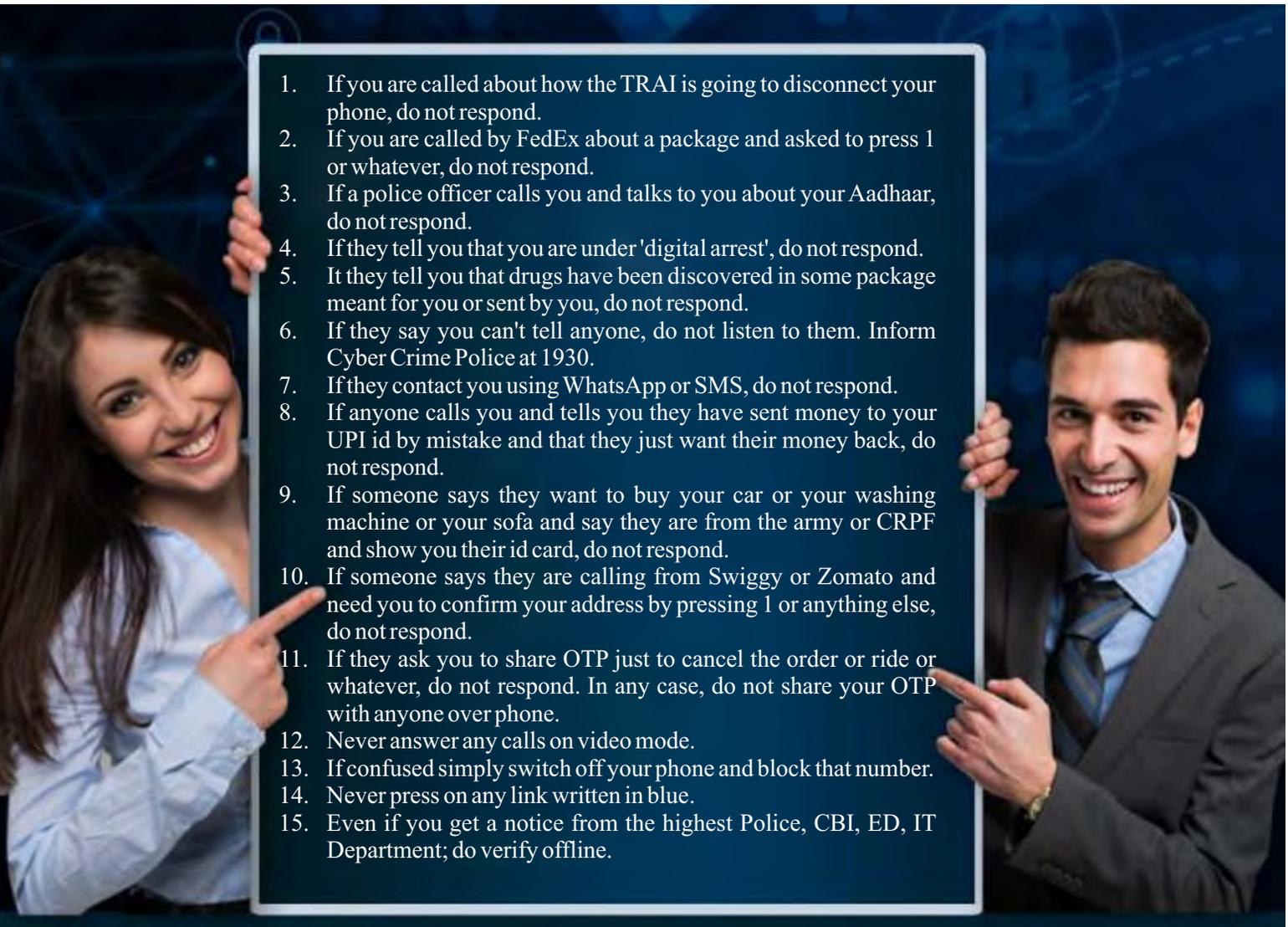
The Citizen Financial Cyber Fraud Reporting and Management System (CFCFRMS) reportedly received 30.05 lakh cyber fraud complaints since 2021 and the country endured the above loss. Stock trading frauds topped the list of scams in terms of the amount of money lost. This was followed by investment frauds, which resulted in a loss of Rs3,216 crore from more than 1 lakh complaints.

Meanwhile, cases of digital arrests, which authorities have seen an upward trend which caused a loss of Rs1,616 crore from around 63,481 complaints, Citing data from CFCFRMS it was reported in the Press that nearly 12 lakh cyber scam complaints were received this year, with a majority of them (45 per cent) coming from Cambodia, Myanmar, and Laos. The CFCFRMS has reportedly received 30.05 lakh complaints since 2021, which amount to losses of ₹27,914 crore. Of these 30 lakh complaints, 11,31,221 were from 2023, 5,14,741 from 2022, and 1,35,242 from 2021. Most of the defrauded money is taken out of the country and most scams originate in China, said a senior official.

In October 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi warned the nation about 'digital arrest' during his 'Mann ki Baat' radio program. He said that no government agencies threaten people over the phone and demand money. PM Modi explained the digital arrest modus operandi and said, "...Under digital arrest fraud, callers portray themselves as police, CBI, RBI or narcotics officials, and they confidently talk. You need to understand this.

The first step is your personal information. They collect all your personal information. 2nd Step is the atmosphere of fear. They will scare you so much that you won't even be able to think. Step 3- The time pressure... Victims of digital arrest are from all sections and ages." He said that there is a three-step digital security in such cases - "stop, think, and take action". There has been a notable rise in digital arrest, investment and cyber-related scams, which often lure people in the name of 'beneficial schemes' and defraud them of huge sums of money. Below are a simple few tips how not to fall into such the trap of such scams:





1. If you are called about how the TRAI is going to disconnect your phone, do not respond.
2. If you are called by FedEx about a package and asked to press 1 or whatever, do not respond.
3. If a police officer calls you and talks to you about your Aadhaar, do not respond.
4. If they tell you that you are under 'digital arrest', do not respond.
5. If they tell you that drugs have been discovered in some package meant for you or sent by you, do not respond.
6. If they say you can't tell anyone, do not listen to them. Inform Cyber Crime Police at 1930.
7. If they contact you using WhatsApp or SMS, do not respond.
8. If anyone calls you and tells you they have sent money to your UPI id by mistake and that they just want their money back, do not respond.
9. If someone says they want to buy your car or your washing machine or your sofa and say they are from the army or CRPF and show you their id card, do not respond.
10. If someone says they are calling from Swiggy or Zomato and need you to confirm your address by pressing 1 or anything else, do not respond.
11. If they ask you to share OTP just to cancel the order or ride or whatever, do not respond. In any case, do not share your OTP with anyone over phone.
12. Never answer any calls on video mode.
13. If confused simply switch off your phone and block that number.
14. Never press on any link written in blue.
15. Even if you get a notice from the highest Police, CBI, ED, IT Department; do verify offline.

Parents should be informed and explained about this as the elderly and retired people with hard earned life's savings are especially vulnerable. These kinds of calls are getting very frequent causing panic among elders. Even youngsters are getting fooled.

Fortunately police are getting wiser — in Hyderabad they nabbed 52 cyber fraudsters including 3 masterminds and bank officials involved in nearly 600 cases. A crackdown led by DCP Cybercrime Mrs Dara Kavitha resulted in the arrest of 52 individuals across eight states. The operation revealed approximately Rs 88.32 crores in fraud losses, with only Rs 3 crores being recovered. Three bank officials

were also arrested for assisting the fraudulent activities. A coordinated crackdown across Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, and Bihar. Hyderabad Commissioner of Police CV Anand confirmed the success of the operation led by Kavitha.

33 cases were detected in Hyderabad city, 74 cases in Telangana state, and 576 cases were detected in the entire country. Mainly they are trading frauds, digital frauds, investment frauds, and digital arrests... In these cases, a total amount of Rs 88.32 crores was lost," said Anand. The latest crackdown highlights the urgent need for stronger banking

oversight and enhanced cyber security measures. Authorities continue to investigate the extent of the operation, aiming to recover more funds and bring all those involved to justice. The crackdown serves as a warning against digital fraud and underscores the importance of vigilance in online financial transactions.

After three years of intensive research, an international research team compiled the first ever 'World Cybercrime Index', which identifies key cybercrime hotspots by ranking the most significant sources of cybercrime at a national level. The data was gathered through a survey of 92 leading cybercrime experts from around the world who were involved in

cybercrime intelligence gathering and investigations. The Index shows, a relatively small number of countries house the greatest cybercriminals. Russia tops the list, followed by Ukraine, China, the USA, Nigeria, and Romania. The UK comes in at number eight. The study would enable the public and private sectors to focus their resources on key cybercrime hubs and spend less time and funds on cybercrime countermeasures in countries where the problem is not as significant. This Index would hopefully help remove the veil of anonymity around cybercriminal offenders, and aid the fight against the growing threat of profit-driven cybercrime. There's now a deeper understanding of the geography of cybercrime, and how different countries specialise in different types of cybercrime. This data collection is continuous and help monitor the emergence of any new hotspots and possibly early interventions could be made in at-risk countries before a serious cybercrime problem even develops. Cybercrime has largely been an invisible phenomenon because offenders often mask their physical locations hiding behind fake profiles and technical protections. 'Due to the illicit and anonymous nature of their



activities, cybercriminals cannot be easily accessed or reliably surveyed. They are actively hiding. If technical data is used to fix their location, cybercriminals bounce their attacks around internet infrastructure across the world, so it ends in failure. The best way is to draw a picture of

where these offenders are actually located local police survey the areas to track these people.

Cyber crime is the scourge of the 21st century and needs to be tackled firmly with international cooperation, so that hard working people's savings are properly safeguarded. ●

Amateurs hack systems;
professionals hack people.

- Bruce Schneier



Bastar Blast and Maoist Insurgency



In January 6, 2025, Chhatisgarh police's counter insurgency force District Reserve Guard (DRG) lost eight constables and a driver when insurgents targeted their vehicle by setting off an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) weighing almost 70 kg in Bastar's Bijapur District. It was probably a Command IED one that is triggered manually. This was the deadliest attack since April 2023 when a similar IED explosion killed 10 security personnel and their driver. The DRG team was ambushed while returning back to base after a two day operation in the dense forests of south Abujmarh in Narayanpur district and were returning to neighbouring Dantewada district in a Scorpio. The blast was so powerful that it catapulted the SUV several metres in the air creating a crater 8-10 feet deep and a chunk of the road hit the vehicle behind. A Brigadier who spent 18 years in Bastar training security

1967 origins as a peasant uprising from an obscure West Bengal village named Naxalbari

Bhupendra Singh

personnel said, "Maoists are targeting weakest point, the return journey after a successful operation, when lethargy takes over and personnel let down their guard. Unfortunately these questions keep coming back to haunt the security forces engaged in operations against the Maoist's armed struggle, like after the April 2023 blast in Dantewada and the April 2011 Tekulguda massacre when 25 security personnel were killed. Even the Dantewada ambush of April 2010 when 76 policemen were killed happened when troops were returning.

In the backdrop of the above incident let briefly go over the history of the movement. Especially in Chhattisgarh reveals that its northern and southern parts had colonial indirect rule through princely states. This was a weak

state structure and despotic extraction of land revenue and natural resources and created tribal grievances that persisted in the postcolonial period in the 1950s - 80s which were mobilized by the People's War Group (PWG) Maoists, leading to high levels of Maoist rebel control by the 1990s. In contrast the central districts of Raipur and Bilaspur had been under British direct rule and had relatively higher levels of development and less exploitation of forest and natural resources of tribals, and so the Maoists did not succeed there. The PWG Maoists contributed to the welfare of the tribals and opposed natural/forest resource exploitation, which highlights the role of rebel agency.

This has its origins to a peasant uprising in May 1967 in an obscure corner of the north eastern

tip of West Bengal, called Naxalbari, which triggered off a movement that continues to haunt the Indian state for the last 50 years. Although the uprising was crushed by the police within a few months, from then on, nothing was quite the same in India. The peasant protestors killed by the police are still revered as martyrs in the historiography of the Naxalbari movement), sparking fires in other parts of the country. The Indian state like the British colonial rulers followed the old policy to try and neutralise militarily the peasant uprising. Obviously this has not worked as a permanent solution so far. The spread of the message from that village to other parts of the country during the last half a century raises certain basic socio economic and political issues:

The Naxalite/Maoist armed struggle had been the longest surviving revolutionary movement in the history of peasant resistance in India. Its sustenance can be attributed to the continuity of grievances of the rural poor, particularly the Dalits and tribals, whom the Communist Party of India (Maoist) [CPI(Maoist)] were able to mobilise against the state; (ii) the Indian state had all along



responded to their grievances by following the old colonial militarist policy to suppress any protest by the peasantry in every part of India—whether the Maoist-led armed resistance in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, or even the non-violent demonstrations staged by oustees from their homes, as a result of projects like the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Gujarat, or the

POSCO steel plant in Odisha ; and (iii) the need for self-introspection among the leaders and followers of CPI (Maoist) regarding their strategy and tactics, and the future direction of the movement.

From 1967 the first phase of the Naxalite movement spread to Srikakulam and other parts of India reached an end with Emergency and ruthless police action in 1975, snuffing out whatever little pockets the Naxalites had occupied in scattered parts of the country. The lifting of the Emergency, and the general elections of 1977 which installed a United Front government at the centre, allowed the release of Naxalite leaders and activists.

The second phase started with discussions to determine future strategy and also raised questions about the role of the Communist Party of China in inspiring and supporting the early stage of the movement (which was hailed by Radio Peking as a “Spring Thunder”), its later distancing from it, and still later





Charu Majumdar and Kondapally Seetharamaiah

(in the 1977–79 period), its propounding of the “Three Worlds” theory, under which it virtually advocated an alliance with the United States to defeat the Soviet Union which it considered to be its “main enemy” in those days. Regarding strategy and tactics, the old survivors and the new followers who joined the movement, the two moved in different directions — one preferring participation in parliamentary elections, trade union activities and mass agitations, the other returning to the old policy of Charu Mazumdar’s village-based armed struggle to seize power. The CPI (Marxist–Leninist) (Liberation) represented the former school of thought and CPI (Marxist–Leninist) (People’s War) [CPI(ML) (PW)] and the Maoist Communist Centre (MCC) the latter. During the decade of the 1990s it was the CPI(ML)(PW), which was able to regain the Naxalite space in the Indian political scenario. Primarily based in Andhra Pradesh, and led by a

charismatic Communist revolutionary, Kondapally Seetharamaiah, the PW could expand its influence and control a large terrain bordering Odisha and parts of Maharashtra. Here the party picked up the threads from Srikakulam of the 1970s, and mobilised the rural poor around the old issues like land to the tiller and minimum wages for agricultural labourers. The CPI(ML)(PW) guerrillas drove out the local feudal oppressors and commercial exploiters, and introduced alternative mechanisms of governance that ensured equitable distribution of resources and social justice through popular participation. Around this time the MCC set up bases in Bihar, carrying out similar revolutionary activities. In 2004, the PW and the MCC, and several other Naxalite armed groups, merged into a newly named political party called the CPI(Maoist).

Thus began the third phase of the Naxalite movement which increased its footprint over a vast territory stretching from Bihar,

Jharkhand and Odisha in the east, through Chhattisgarh and bordering parts of Maharashtra in the centre and the west, and to Andhra Pradesh in the south. Their achievements were acknowledged even by a government appointed committee, which submitted its report to the Planning Commission in April 2008.

This report described how, over several years, the Maoists organised their base in inaccessible and neglected forest and hilly areas, whose inhabitants (mainly tribals) had been denied their basic rights like minimum wages (for tobacco leaf pickers in Andhra Pradesh, for instance), and had been exposed to violence by feudal landlords, private contractors, forest guards and police. In these base areas, the Maoists carried out land reforms, established schools and provided health facilities, thus acting as a sort of surrogate government described by them as *janatana sarkar*, or people’s government. Authors like Arundhati Roy and Jan Myrdal, journalists and social activists like

Gautam Navlakha, and film makers like Soumitra Dastidar who visited these areas recorded their achievements as well as limitations, of the Maoist movement in these areas.

The Indian state whether ruled by the Congress or the present Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has consistently followed a policy of belligerent militarist repression against the Naxalite movement, despite repeated warnings by governmental agencies that what needed to be done was to redress the economic and social inequities. In 1969, when the Naxalite movement was spreading fast, the research and publicity division of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs came out with a report which acknowledged that. The basic cause of unrest, namely, the defective implementation of laws enacted to protect the interests of the tribals, remains ; unless this is attended to, it would not be possible to win the confidence of the tribals whose leadership has been taken over by the extremists. 40 years later, a government-appointed team of experts came out with a report for

the Planning Commission, referred to earlier, reasserting almost in the same descriptive terms as the 1969 report, that the socio economic conditions of the rural poor, especially Dalits and tribals, had not improved during the last three decades as a result of which they had gravitated towards the Maoists who were offering them parallel structures of decentralised administration as an alternative to the police – politician - contractor dominated hierarchical power structure. Instead of heeding such advice and warnings, and solving the socio-economic problems of the tribal people and other sections of the rural poor, the Indian state has resorted to military repression. This shameful history of repression has been well-documented by both human rights organisations in India and abroad, and well-publicised all over the world.

The latest form of police repression and para military operations of laying siege to Maoist bases and eliminating their leaders and cadres in the Dandakaranya area is driven the need to free this area of any

popular resistance against its neo liberal model of development, by which its mineral resources and forest wealth are opened up for multinational and domestic corporate business houses. They need such places from where they can extract mineral and other natural resources to feed their industries. Such a plan causes uprooting of the rural households from homes and depriving them of their meagre sources of earnings from their common forestlands. It is this skewed political economy backed by police and paramilitary forces which has aroused the spirit of resistance, and revitalised the 50-year-old Naxalite movement. The Maoists are articulating the demand of the indigenous tribal population that they must have a voice in policies regarding the use of their natural resources. The stakes of both the Maoists and the Indian state are thus quite high in this mutual contest.

The Indian state is following a two-fold military strategy to destroy the Maoist movement— first, by capturing and killing its cadres, and second, by removing its ideologues from the leadership. The arrest of Kobad Ghandy (a well-known Maoist intellectual) and the killing of Azad in Andhra Pradesh have dealt a severe blow to the Maoist movement. Bereft of their political leaders—who have either been killed, or arrested, or forced to surrender—the well-armed Maoist cadres are now reduced to roving gangs of marauders and extortionists. The emphasis on militarism to the exclusion of ideological teaching has driven some of the cadres to anti-social activities. This alienates their sympathisers in civil society, and among human rights activists. Militarily solutions can never provide a permanent solution to a problem that is essentially socio economic and political. ●

To be concluded



Transitioning from Capitalism to a COOPERATIVE ECONOMY

Capitalism, like communism, has inherent contradictions, and this will result in a severe crisis in the economic realm.

■ Ronald Logan

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In the early 1990s, immediately after the collapse of communism in the Soviet Union, I was part of a delegation from the PROUT Institute that worked in a joint venture with the Russian Far East Public Academy of Sciences to plan a transition to a Prout economy in the Russian state of Khabarovsk Krai. In our plan, we recommended that the state-owned enterprises should be converted to worker-owned cooperatives. This recommendation was well received. However, it couldn't be implemented as we'd failed to provide a practical strategy for

workers to out compete the global corporations and powerful Russians that were grabbing control of the state-owned factories and businesses. Today, in Khabarovsk, as elsewhere in Russia, wealthy oligarchs have firm control of major economic enterprises.

Capitalism, like communism, has inherent contradictions, and this will result in a severe crisis in the economic realm. This day is not far off. When capitalism goes into crisis, there will an opportunity to transition to economic democracy. For this transition to be successful, there

will again be need for Proutists to provide a practical pathway to convert capitalist firms to cooperative enterprises. Russia is a cautionary tale of a squandered opportunity for systems change. History must not repeat. Proutists must not again be without a clear economic enterprise conversion strategy

Capitalizing on Bankruptcy

When a business goes bankrupt it no longer has a positive capital account. Either the liabilities are greater than the assets or the liabilities — such as loans or accounts payable — are greater than the cash on hand, the accounts receivable, or the possibility of meeting those obligations in the future. So, the investors either lose their investment or, through a court-ordered settlement, get back



a small percentage of their investment from the residual value of the business or its assets.

But bankruptcy can also mean that a new ownership entity can purchase the whole enterprise cheaply and make a go of it because there are now no debts to pay other than the loan taken out to purchase the residual real assets at the price it is worth at auction. This creates an opportunity for the workers of the bankrupt enterprise to pool their resources to purchase the company. If their pooled resources are not enough, they can take a reasonable loan from a cooperative bank or credit union to fill the gap.

If the workers acquire the business, they will have a great stake in its success for their own savings are tied up in it, and they may have had to personally guarantee the loan taken to purchase it. But the business is now free of the major debt load that caused its bankruptcy in the first place.

Outcompeting Capitalist Bargain Seekers

The first businesses and industries that will go bankrupt are those with unsustainable debt loads. With the onset of an economic depression, many will be in this situation due to the current reckless practice of purchasing businesses by taking out greater and greater loans that

can only succeed while the economy is growing. The ability to service the debt will not be sustainable in hard times when consumer demand falls. This is what will cause the capitalists to lose their grip on the businesses. Bankruptcy means the common shareholder and the lending entities lose out. Those few capitalists who have large amounts of money saved away will attempt to repurchase these industries and businesses at bargain rates, but now there can be competition from the worker's cooperatives.

The businesses will not be given to them, they will have to invest their own savings and be ready to guarantee the loans, but they may have further leverage by making it known that they will not work for a new capitalistic owner. Because many enterprises will be running into difficulty simultaneously, workers from two competing companies can combine their assets and borrowing abilities to purchase one company and make it a shining success ensuring the downfall of the competing company. These businesses will not be handed to them. They will have to fight for the opportunity to outbid the remaining capitalists and will likely have to resort to aggressive tactics to win ownership. But this will make the victory of ownership all the more precious.

Leveraging the Competitive Advantages of Cooperatives

A marginal capitalistic owned enterprise attempting to come out of bankruptcy with a dispirited workforce cannot compete with the shining success of a worker owned coop. And skilled, motivated workers will naturally be attracted to the benefits of cooperative ownership where they get to share in the financial rewards of success rather than being limited to wages set by the profit-motivated shareholders.

At first the conversion to cooperative ownership may be slow, but as the benefits of investing in and working within a cooperative become apparent the other capitalistic enterprises will see mass defections of their skilled workers to these coops, and other capitalistic owned businesses may begin to fail. This would provide even more opportunities for an aggressive cooperative movement to gobble up the failing or weak businesses.

Banking will follow suit, for banks want to loan to businesses that have a track record of success and maintain responsibility to pay back their loans. So, in this way, coop ownership could snowball—slowly and painfully at first, but then it will gather momentum. Workers want to own their own businesses and will work twice as hard to make cooperative owned businesses successful. They can provide apprenticeship programs for those who have no capital to invest so that new worker owners can be trained and build up their own investment purchasing power.

Once the ball is rolling this model will start to be widely copied. But it will most likely start in the West where the spirit of innovation is ingrained into the culture and adaptation to new models is part and parcel of the business culture. Innovation is at the very heart of the most successful business models.





Facing Opposition to Cooperative Conversion

The transition to a cooperative dominant enterprise system will not necessarily occur in an orderly and sanctioned way. It will be quite rough and tumble at first, for the capitalists will see the existentialist threat to capitalism and will fight it tooth and nail. The cooperative movement may of necessity have to utilize forceful tactics such as strikes and work stoppages to force the conversion from capitalism to cooperatives.

It will take wily and forceful leaders to invent and promote tactics to speed up the process. Laws may be passed to block this type of conversion, so unjust laws will have to be forcefully challenged or disobeyed to go forward in a timely way. Popular support and voter initiatives will be faster than drawn out court battles. We see how Amazon forcefully opposes union organizing among its workers. This is the type of opposition that will have to be confronted to move cooperative conversion forward in a timely manner.

But there are other forces at play that will bring the capitalist power brokers to their knees. Climate caused disruptions and ongoing health crises are disruptors that are not under their control. Just look at what one tiny virus did to globalized corporations. They couldn't even transport their goods in a rational and timely manner.

Additionally, the rush to manufacture electric cars for profit only prolongs the dependency on fossil fuels for electricity. For without investment in solar and wind, where will the electricity come from? Many electric cars will be running on electricity from burning coal and gas. Energy use is not decreasing, and there is inadequate emphasis on conserving energy. Also, the materials to manufacture batteries are mined in only a few places, where harmful mining practices are escalating in the race to gather and process the materials to make the batteries. This destruction of the earth will cause further disruption to the capitalists' consumption focused model.

A Forceful Approach Will Lessen the Suffering

So, the forces are there to weaken and undermine the capitalistic consumption-based system. But the cooperative model, the economic democracy model, must quickly develop to take up the challenge in an aggressive fashion. If this is done, much suffering can be alleviated. But it will take a forceful approach to speed up the transition. We cannot just wait for the capitalists to hold up their hands in despair and say, "We give up." They will not give up, but some that are more wise will see what is coming and willingly join forces with the cooperatives when they understand the benefits and see the strength of the will of their opponents. Many in their hearts want to do good for the society, but they are locked into the capitalistic way.

We must show them a brighter path and convince them to leave the sinking ship and jump onto the rising ship. They are trained to see opportunities, so many of the best and brightest will jump when there is a promising rising boat to jump to. ●

DNA IN THE ORIGIN OF LIFE MAY HAVE COME VIA MICROVITA FROM THE COSMIC MIND OF THE SUPREME CONSCIOUSNESS

Richard Gauthier

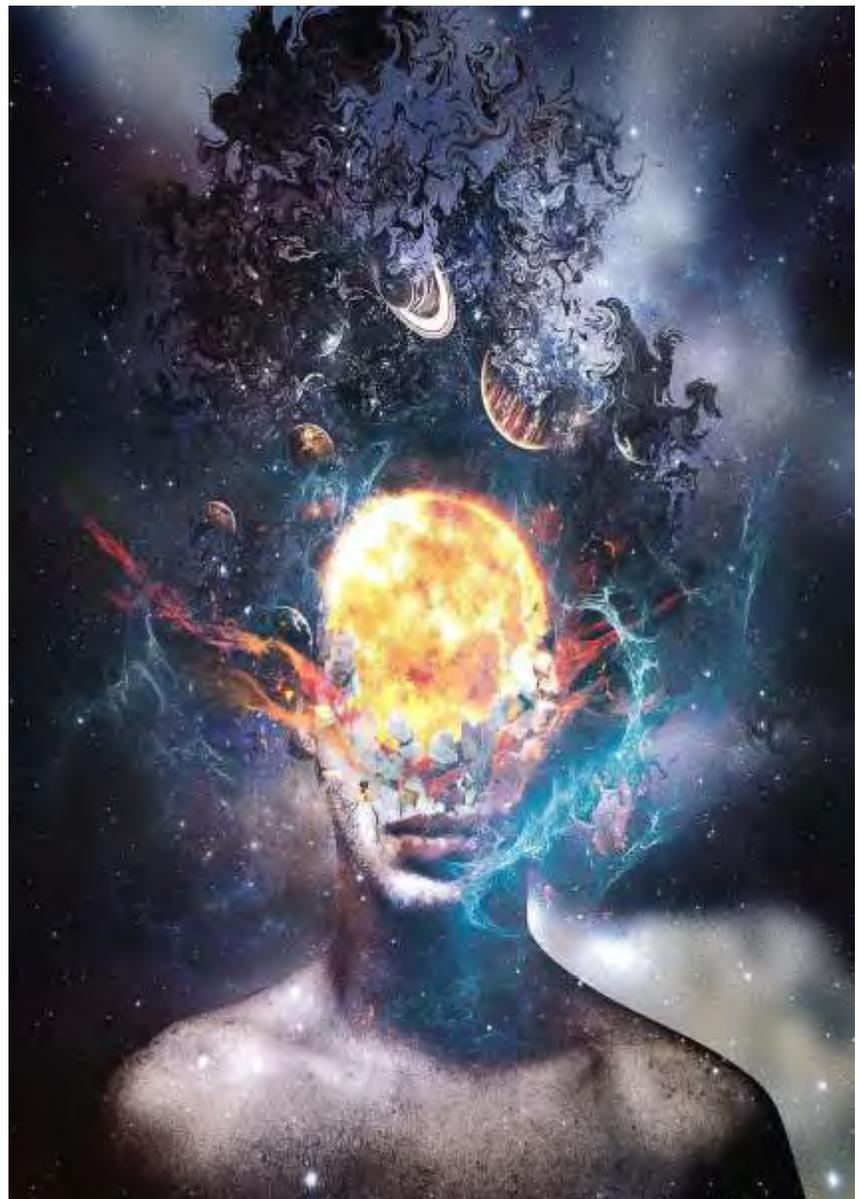
Microvita, are the carriers of life in different stars and planets and satellites

The Cosmic Mind of the Supreme Consciousness emanated subatomic living entities called microvita that compose atoms and formed the first viruses and life in the universe, according to Dharma Guru Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar. The genetically-coded DNA of even the simplest bacteria is extremely unlikely to have formed abiogenetically by chance processes in the time available. The principle that “all life comes from life” has never so far been experimentally disproved. Previous proponents of God as the creator of life in the universe have not explained rationally how He did it. A controlled laboratory experiment to test the microvita hypothesis has been proposed.

Introduction

In 1986, Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar (1) introduced the concept of microvita in a discourse “Microvita -- the mysterious emanation of the Cosmic factor”. He described microvita as subtle, sub-atomic living entities that spread life and minds in the universe. They also cause diseases.

He said “Regarding those who are of cruder order and that may come within the scope of a microscope, people say, “Give it



the name virus.” They say, “This disease is of virus creation, of virus origin.” Like this. But “virus” is a vague term. The better term will be “microvita”, and not “virus”.”

Later in this discourse he said “Now, what is the root cause of this universe? What is the starting point of life or vitality? These microvita, they're the carriers of life in different stars and planets and satellites – and

not carbon atoms or carbon molecules. But these living creatures with their mysterious movement create minds and bodies, living bodies, in different celestial bodies, and they also destroy minds and physical bodies, or developed or undeveloped corpus, in any corner of this universe. So the root cause of life is not the unicellular protozoa or unit protoplasmic cell, but this unit microvitaum.”

In a second discourse (2), “The neo-ethics of multi-lateral salvation”, P. R. Sarkar stated that billions of microvita form carbon atoms, and that all atoms are composed of microvita. All 22 discourses of P. R. Sarkar on microvita are compiled in *Microvitaum in a Nutshell* (3). Based on these and several other statements from P. R. Sarkar, I proposed a controlled laboratory experiment to test the hypothesis that viruses and living cells may be produced in a test tube filled with sterile precursor chemicals, when the test tube is adjacent to a shielded radioactive material outside of the test tube. My three published articles on the origin of life and the evolution of species, based on the concept of microvita may be seen from my website.

Currently, origin-of-life scientists have no good explanation for how the first cells got their genetically-coded DNA. God has been hypothesized by Meyer (4) as the source of the earliest DNA. But the question remains, how did God produce the



first DNA-containing viruses and living cells? So far, the only experimentally testable hypothesis for how this was done is based on Shrii P. R. Sarkar's concept of microvita. The proposed experimental test of the microvita hypothesis needs to be carried out. A confirmed positive result in a

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controlled experiment – DNA-carrying viruses and possibly living cells produced in sterile test tubes containing sterile chemical precursors -- would be a significant step forward in origin-of-life research. Researchers and scholars interested knowing more about microvita and the proposed experiment are encouraged to read the attached articles and then

Footnotes

1. Sarkar, P. R., “Microvitaum—the mysterious emanation of the Cosmic factor” at https://www.academia.edu/attachments/120705121/download_file?s=portfolio. The video of this discourse is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VhAgIIO2zfE>, starting at the 4-minute mark.
2. Sarkar, P. R., “The Neo-Ethics of Multi-Lateral Salvation” at https://www.academia.edu/attachments/112806227/download_file?s=portfolio
3. Sarkar, P. R., *Microvitaum in a Nutshell*, a collection of P. R. Sarkar's 22 discourses on microvita between 1986 and 1989 is at https://www.academia.edu/attachments/119482103/download_file?s=portfolio.
4. Meyer, S. C., *Return of the God Hypothesis: Three Scientific Discoveries That Reveal the Mind Behind the Universe*, HarperCollins, 2021.



ANANDA NAGAR Tree Plantation

Starting with July 2021, and a continued effort for last four years, we have reached a stage, where some visible change is perceptible in those areas where plantation has survived and flourished. Notable among them are Asthi Pahar - the illustrious hill which became famous after Baba discovered the remains of fossil record of dinosaur on 26th December 1986, and the Durlabha Druma (Rare Plants) Sanctuary one among the many nearly 73 sanctuaries proposed by Baba to be established here in Anandanagar. It was on this hill that Baba himself climbed uphill to the top. He took a seat on

the flat top rock and from there directed the investigation of the fossil record which was lying in abundance everywhere around the hill. That memorable day Baba discovered the fossil of dinosaur. A part of the tail of the dinosaur was dug out and has been kept in His museum.

Asthi hill forestation was the first to be started in July 2021. This is the fourth year of reforestation and by Baba's grace Asthi hill has been transformed from a barren hill into a lush green picturesque spot. Similarly Plantation in Durlabha druma sanctuary was started in August 2023. This place has also turned green with quite a

After the third year it was decided to develop our own forest plant nursery growing saplings with own seeds

Acarya Kishan Sood

large percentage of surviving plants. Recent pictures demonstrate the reality. A sayar (pond) has also been dug on the plot.

This year rains have been quite merciful. Following areas were prepared for Plantation this rainy season. For protecting the planted saplings from the grazing cattle, it was thought prudent to

dig trenches around the plantation plots. There an extensive trenching has been done around all of our plots identified for the purpose. Total length of the trenches will be a few thousand feet.

From 2021 we began plantation of 20000 plants on the Asthi hill. The survivability of the plants was >60%. Reason being the terrain of the hill with rocky strata, poor rains and no irrigation facility. Next year in 2022, were added a few thousand seeds during rainy season on the hill and about 5000 plant saplings of native tress were planted. That year the total plant sapling planted were increased to 25000. In August - September 2023, 30000 plants were planted. All these years we had bought the plants from the nurseries. And to protect the plots from cattle bamboo fences were used. They weren't found very cost-effective. Also buying plants was found to be quite expensive. Hence from this year we have adopted digging the trenches as an alternative practice to fencing. This practice is also in vogue and practiced by the state government forest department. This year we have dug total trenches around the plantation sites to the extent of 13,345 feet long.

In view of all these considerations, after the third year it was decided to develop our own forest plant nursery growing saplings with own seeds. A large no of seeds are collected in and around Anandanagar and the remaining seeds are bought from outside nurseries. Establishing own nursery involved one time expenditure in growing plants and setting up our own nursery. This appeared to be cost effective in the long term, since our need being of perennial nature.

Current year following sites have been selected and plantation done there. These sites have been covered with trenches for protection from cattle.

Site-wise details of plantation sites:

1. Land around Asthi hill 25 acres of land	-	20000 saplings
2. Durlabh druma 15 acres of land	-	15000 saplings
3. Angiras	-	2500 saplings
4. North side of Angiras sanctuary	-	2500 saplings
5. South Side of Angiras sanctuary	-	1500 saplings
6. Sayarghatu	-	1500 saplings
7. Behind Krsnadvipii sudarshan kanan	-	1500 saplings
8. Venkateswarananda Dihi	-	6000 saplings
9. Gurukul compound	-	200
Total	:	49700 saplings

Following saplings (with the no of saplings produced) from the forest plant nursery have been planted in the above sites.

1)	Sandalwood (White)	-	50
2)	Sandalwood (Red)	-	100
3)	Mahogany	-	6000
4)	Teak	-	2000
5)	Amla (Indian Gooseberry)	-	600
6)	Haritaki	-	500
7)	Bahera	-	3000
8)	Krishnachura (Flame Tree)	-	2000
9)	Karanja	-	300
10)	Silk Cotton Tree	-	500
11)	Simarouba (Lakshmitaru)	-	1500
12)	Gokul	-	1500
13)	Bakul	-	500
14)	Tamarind	-	3000
15)	Khirish	-	1500
16)	Amaltas (Golden Shower Tree)	-	50
17)	Glass Fruit	-	1500
18)	Nagkesar	-	1000
19)	Arjuna	-	1000
20)	Mahua/Moul	-	100
21)	Babla (Acacia)	-	200
22)	Chhatim	-	500
23)	Kamini	-	300
24)	Sal (Desi)	-	1500
25)	Sal (Malaysian)	-	1000
26)	Minjiri	-	100
27)	Ashoka	-	200
28)	Longan	-	200
29)	Gab	-	50
30)	Sindur	-	500
31)	Mad Tree (Pagal Tree)	-	300
32)	Curry Leaf	-	300
33)	Shishu	-	1000
34)	Banyan	-	2000
35)	Peepal	-	2500
36)	Fig	-	200
37)	Yellow Palash	-	100
38)	Red Palash	-	3000
39)	Red Silk Cotton Tree	-	500
40)	White Silk Cotton Tree	-	300

41)	Madar (Daow)	—	50
42)	Neem	-	5000
43)	Tabebuia (Basontika)	-	200
44)	Kusum	-	100
45)	Boxwood	-	5
46)	Chaal Karai	-	50
47)	Pitali	-	500
48)	Gamar	-	1000
49)	Udala	-	300
50)	Changing	-	50
51)	Kath Badam	-	2000
52)	Bael	-	50
53)	Kanthal	-	500
54)	Kaju Badam	-	20
55)	Kadambari	-	500
	Total	~	60000

There has been a substantial cost advantage by establishing own plant nursery compared to buying plants from outside. It is seen that the cost of growing 50000 saplings in our own nursery works out to Rs.5 per plant against Rs.25 for bought out plants. Thus establishing cost of own nursery and growing plants of our choice has been Rs.3.65lac. This includes the cost incurred in establishing the: a. netshade and the structure to support that; b. Cost of buying seeds; c. Cost of poly bags, d. Maintenance cost of filling soil in the poly bags and growing seeds in the bags; e. Nursery maintenance; Thus this year our total expenses for growing and planting 50000 plants as also digging trenches, and night supervision works out to 10.25lac. From next year the cost of building nursery will not be burdened.

For next year where we plan to grow 100000 (1 lac) saplings.

Plant growing cost may work out to ~ Rs.3.5 per plant (Rs.3.5lac), thus total budgetary expenditure for planting 100000 plants next rainy season may work out to 14-15 lacs. In this effort to plant saplings as apart of reforestation of Anandanagar starting from 2021 till date i. e. September 2024 we have received unconditional and inspiring support of the following empathetic margiis without which it wouldn't have been possible to execute this massive project;

1. Shrii Anup Anand - our unflinching support and a relentless contributor
2. Shrii Vijay Agrawal - a friend in need, one who is always willing for furthering the cause of Ananda Marga without any personal expectations
3. Shrii Mukesh Kumar - a young dynamic margii empathetic to the needs of the mission

4. Shrii Khagendra Chandra Das - a trusted friend for the cause of Neohumanism
5. Shrii Ramesh Saraph - a long time ma'rgii friend and support
6. Shrii Abhimanyu Singh - a young dynamic margii carrying the legacy of his great father
7. Shrii Manoj Kumar Bhutoria - a family friend always enthusiastic to help advance the noble cause
8. Dr. Pashupati - ever ready dependable support
9. Ac. Kamaleshvara - my helping friend in need
10. And of course, my own family

This report will remain incomplete without mentioning the names of Shrii Subir Maity our unconditional dedicated technical help for establishing our forest plants and fruit plant nurseries. He spends his time throughout the year like a dedicated hand without any personal expectations. The other person is our dedicated and sincere dada Devapremananda without him our reforestation project would not be possible. He is one man army to execute the massive plantation of saplings singlehandedly with his local helping hands.

I take this opportunity to approach the larger global margii society to come forward to support this gigantic project of reforestation and rain water conservation at Anandanagar. We need both dedicated personal and agriculture expertise to support our work. ●

"Clint Eastwood, 94-year-old vegan actor legend, formulated one of the most important lessons of his life so far for the young generation:

""Don't look for luxury in watches or bracelets, don't look for luxury in villas or sailboats! Luxury is laughter and friends, luxury is rain on your face, luxury is hugs and kisses. Don't look for luxury in shops, don't look for it in gifts, don't look for it in parties, don't look for it in events! Luxury is being loved by people, luxury is being respected, luxury is having your parents alive, luxury is being able to play with your grandchildren. Luxury is what money can't buy."" (2024)"

POOR ELDERLY AT RISK

India is currently benefiting from a large working age population. However, by 2050, the elderly will make up more than 20% of the total population. The UN Population Fund’s India Ageing Report from 2023 predicts that by 2046, there will be more elderly people than children aged 0 to 15. This presents the country with a situation where a higher proportion of the population would be dependent, compared to the working-age population. Social security in the form of pensions will be key to financial security of India’s elderly, experts say, but an IndiaSpend analysis of pension schemes for informal workers, farmers, traders and the self-employed shows low uptake and lower government spending than envisaged.

Most Indians work in the informal sector with almost no social security or savings and little means of paying for high healthcare expense once they retire.

Karunakshim Vatsalam

And those hired by the Armed Forces under the Agniveer scheme receive no pension. An Agniveer is entitled to leaves, uniform, pay and allowances during the service period of four years, and a “Seva Nidhi” package – money deposited from their pay during service, amounting to Rs 5.02 lakh, matched by the government, along with interest – which will help them find employment in other sectors. But they are not eligible for any kind of pension or gratuity, Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme, Canteen Stores Department facilities, Ex

Serviceman status and other related benefits.

However, a Member of the Legislative Assembly e.g. in Madhya Pradesh regardless of their income, is assured a pension of Rs 20,000, even if they serve for just one day. The pension amounts for legislators vary in states, Delhi pays at least Rs 15,000 a month and Himachal Pradesh Rs 36,000 a month. Judges normally qualify for pensions only after 12 years of service and bureaucrats after 10 years.

The Unified Pension Scheme approved in August 2024 which



will replace the previous National Pension Scheme is a contributory scheme. It says that employees with at least 10 years of service receive a government pension. For those with 25 years of service or more, the pension amounts to 50% of their average basic pay from the last 12 months. At the same time, old-age pensions for the destitute in various states are so meagre that are not sustainable. For example, a 75 year old citizen gets Rs 200 per month as an old age pension from the Centre. This is highly inappropriate and meaningless. This is despite what the UN Rights office says: “The right to social security is of central importance in guaranteeing human dignity for all persons when they are faced with circumstances that deprive them of their capacity to fully realise their human rights”. The table below shows the current level of protection to our senior citizens is an eye opener.

By 2050, 20% of India's population is expected to be over 60, double the current percentage, with many of these individuals coming from the informal sector where social security is inadequate. This demographic shift will likely drive up healthcare expenditure, and we must be prepared to address future challenges. It's crucial to avoid a situation where the elderly bear a significant health burden without adequate support. Introducing a universal pension scheme tied to minimum wage levels would ensure broader coverage and provide greater financial security for this growing elderly population.

In India, the top 10% of pension beneficiaries, primarily from the formal sector, receive 90% of media attention, while the lower 80%, mostly informal sector workers, are largely overlooked. There is a need to focus towards

social security for those working in the informal sector, ensuring that their needs are recognised and addressed.

Pensions have been a major political issue in two of the last three Lok Sabha elections. Yet the debate has focused on government employees and not those from the unorganised sectors. In India, workers in the formal sector benefit from built-in social security mechanisms, such as sick leave, provident fund contributions, minimum wages, health insurance, subsidised loans, and job security. However, informal workers typically lack all of these benefits, making social security nets essential for their well-being. Workers in the informal sector urgently need such protections. For example, hawkers are not covered under any pension scheme. There are approximately 10 million hawkers in India, and they are not eligible to enroll in the government's social security schemes, leaving them highly vulnerable, says Mecanzy Dabre, deputy general secretary of the National Hawkers Federation. “We demand the inclusion of hawkers under the Employees’ State Insurance Corporation to provide them with the necessary social security and protection. This step is essential to safeguard their livelihoods and ensure they have access to healthcare, financial support, and other benefits, which are fundamental rights for all hawkers.”

“Almost 90% of India's workforce is not eligible to participate in any scheme that enables them to save for economic security during their old age,” said a 2020 report for an Old Age Social and Economic Security project commissioned by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. “As a result, there is a serious threat that a majority of these workers, who may not be below the poverty line

Social protection provided to senior citizens

Scheme	Amount of Assistance	Eligibility Criteria
Indira Gandhi Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Rs.200	BPL senior citizens of age group of 60-79 years
	Rs.500	BPL senior citizens of age group of 80 years and above
Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	Rs.300	BPL widows of age group of 40-79 years
	Rs.500	BPL widows of age group of 80 years and above
Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)	Rs.300	BPL persons with 80% disability in age group of 18-79
	Rs.500	BPL persons with 80% disability in age group of 80 years and above
National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)	Rs.20,000/-	To survivor head of BPL families on the death of primary breadwinner aged 18-59 years
Annapurna	10 kg of food grains p.m.	To BPL senior citizens not receiving old age pension
*NFBS and Annapurna are demand-based schemes.		

Source: Report of the Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Department of Rural Development

in their working lives, might sink below the poverty line in their old age simply because they have not accumulated enough savings during their years in the workforce. This problem is further compounded as they will have to incur heavier expenditures on health during old age, neglect of which would only worsen their quality of life.”

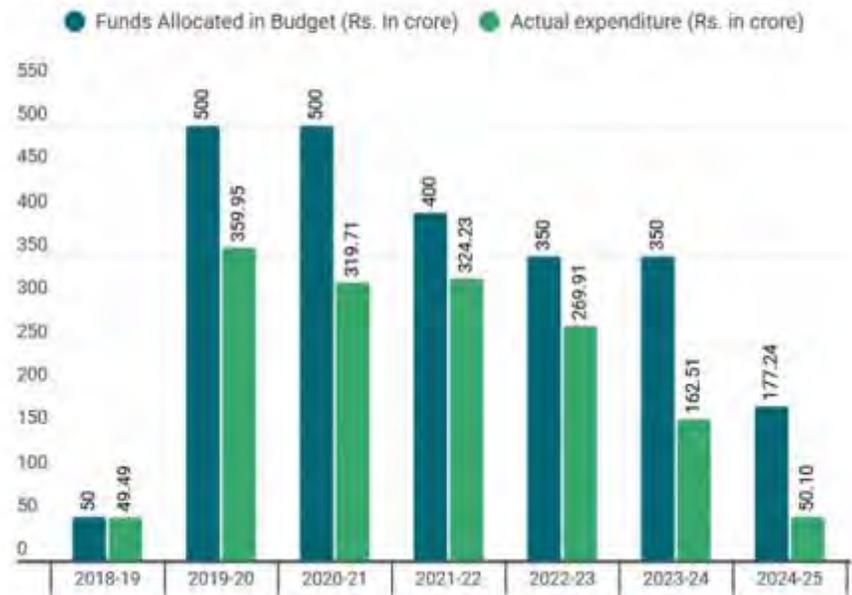
The government has introduced schemes for informal sector workers but these fall short, our analysis shows. India’s unorganised sector comprises an estimated 420 million workers earning Rs 15,000 or less per month, all of whom are eligible for Govt. schemes, as per a Cabinet note. The government initially projected that 100 million workers would enrol within five years. According to the Cabinet note, the plan was for 10 million labourers to join in 2018-19, followed by 20 million each year for the next three years, and 30 million in 2022-23, reaching the 100 million target by 2022-23. However, the scheme’s compilation shows that only around 5 million people enrolled so far, i.e. 1.2% of the eligible workforce.

According to the Cabinet note, the projected expenditure for the scheme was set at Rs 241 crore for 2018-’19, Rs 3,720 crore for 2019-’20, Rs 6,100 crore for 2020-’21, Rs 8,480 crore for 2021-’22, and Rs 12,110 crore for 2022-’23, amounting to Rs 30,651 crore over five years. However, government spending over the last six years has been less than Rs 1,550 crore, that is, just 5% of the projected estimates. The primary reason for the lower spending is due to the scheme’s low subscription rate, as the government matches contributions from workers. Fewer workers enrolling in and contributing to the scheme would result in lower budget utilisation.

A standing committee of Parliament, in its March 2023

Pradhan Mantri Shram-Yogi Maandhan

Year-wise information on the budget allocation and actual expenditure for the scheme from its launch to July 2024



report observed that, “As against the cumulative target of registration of 3 crore beneficiaries during 2020-’21, 2021-’22 and 2022-’23 (as on December, 2022), only 5.22 lakh beneficiaries could be registered. The Committee are dismayed to note the under-utilisation of allocated funds under the Scheme during the current fiscal. It is equally discouraging that there were huge shortfalls in achievement of physical targets during the last three years”.

“The contributory pension scheme for workers in the unorganised sector is impractical,” Tapan Sinha, general secretary of the Centre for Indian Trade Unions and former member of Parliament, says. “First, given the unstable nature of their jobs, they often don’t earn enough to consistently contribute to a pension plan. Second, it’s challenging for them to stay actively enrolled for the long term, typically 20-30 years, as their income is not stable. Third, there is uncertainty among workers about what happens to their corpus if they fail to make regular payments over time. We

demand a basic pension for these workers, fully funded by the government.” Mahesh Gajera, Programme Manager for the Aajeevika Bureau, a nonprofit working on issues of migrant workers in Ahmedabad, adds that most labour-intensive workers do not work until the conventional retirement age of 60 as their physically demanding jobs often force them to stop working by the age of 45-50 years. Similarly, their work is often seasonal meaning that they cannot contribute regularly to a corpus. He says “Pensions should be fully funded by the government. A viable model could involve the creation of a dedicated fund, for example financed through a cess on builders, to establish a corpus for construction workers’ pensions and similar benefits for other informal sector workers”.

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana was launched in September 2019. This scheme offers a safety net for small and marginal farmers through a voluntary pension plan. Farmers aged 18 to 40 can receive a

minimum pension of Rs 3,000 per month starting at age 60. They need to contribute Rs 100 a month (starting at around age 29), which is matched equally by the Union government. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's office, in a tweet, said, "The Scheme shall secure the lives of 5 Crore Small and Marginal Farmers by providing a minimum pension of Rs 3,000 per month, to those who attain 60 years of age". It was hoped that the scheme would enroll 50 million farmers within three years, by 2021. By January 2025, only about 1.9 million farmers – or 4% of the target joined.

In the agrarian state of Punjab only 14,615 farmers have subscribed to the pension scheme over six years. Uttarakhand had just 2,513 farmers enrolled. In Goa, participation was even lower, with only 265 farmers joining the scheme in the same period as per the RTI reply. It is possible that the low subscription rate and spending are due to the scheme being voluntary. However, other factors indicate that the scheme needs to be better designed to truly benefit farmers. According to the National Statistical Office in its 77th survey, over half (50.2%) of Indian farming households are in debt, with an average outstanding loan of Rs 74,121 per household. Given this, it's unrealistic for the government to expect farmers to save and invest for the future.



Pensioner's protest in Delhi 7 Dec 2023

Pension Scheme for the Farmers

Estimated funds requirement for the next three years for the implementation of the scheme

Financial year	estimated no. of beneficiaries joining the PM-SYM (in crores)	Central govt. share towards matching contribution (Rs. in crores)
(1)	(2)	(3)
1st year 2019-20 (Assuming commencement from 1st July 2019)	1 crore	900
2nd Year 2020-21	3 crores	3600
3rd year onwards, 2021 onwards	5 crores	6000

Note: Additional budget @ 0.5% will be required to administer the scheme and popularize through IEC activities

Cabinet Note on the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana, May 2019.

In 2019, a pension scheme for small traders and shopkeepers – the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons was launched. It is open to small shopkeepers, self-employed individuals and retail traders with a goods and services tax turnover below Rs 1.5 crore, and who are between 18 and 40 years old. The scheme is designed to benefit over 30 million small shopkeepers and traders. The government projected that 25 million traders would enrol in the scheme by 2023-'24. However, only 58,653 have signed up as of January 10, 2025, which is just 0.2% of the target. Moreover, RTI data reveal that until July 2024, of 53,674 enrolled only 19,242 were active subscribers.

The scheme would require Rs 10,000 crore for the period from 2018 to 2024. However, the RTI response reveals that the government has spent only Rs 165 crore, which is lesser than the Rs 200 crore allocated for Information, Education, and Communication of this scheme activities as per the Cabinet note. The standing committee report tabled in March 2023 says, "The Committee was apprised that as on Dec 2022, 4979 beneficiaries were enrolled under NPS-Traders during 2022-23 against the original target of 25 lakh beneficiaries. As on 17.01.2023, the total number of beneficiaries since inception of the scheme is around 50,000. Apparently the target could not be achieved owing to the effects of pandemic and resultant lockdown, even though in 2024 the economy showed no impact from Covid-19.

These schemes show the right intent and are a good start but needs to be followed up, publicized going door to door as politicians do for votes. They should be implemented in a more practical manner and managed better so that these poor workers in the unorganised sector do not face financial hardships in their old age. ●

Employers Don't Care If Employees Live or Die

Shobha Warriar



How many hours should a person work in a day, in a week? 70 hours as suggested by N R Narayana Murthy, co-founder, Infosys? 90 hours as desired by L & T Chairman S N Subrahmanyam? Or 45 hours?

They sell such ideas in the name of 'national interest. What national interest are they talking about? There is no national interest in this. Employers don't care whether a person has a life outside work or not. It is not their concern. Their only interest is profit.

Soon after the L&T chairman's controversial comments to his employees went

viral, Karnataka IT Union (KITU) posted on X: 'We are not ready to die for your profits.'. The post further said that the call for 90 hours of work 'reveals nothing but the insatiable thirst of these capitalists for profit through the ruthless and inhuman exploitation of the Indian working class.' Do you think a ruthless and inhuman exploitation of workers is really happening in India?

A study titled *Burying the Burnout: Decoding the Health Challenges of India's Tech Geniuses* by Onsurity, a leading employee healthcare platform, in collaboration with the Knowledge Chamber of Commerce and

Industry, exposed a shocking reality. The study found that employees working in the IT and ITES industry were working around 52.5 hours in a week as against the national average of 47.7 hours while it should not be more than 45 hours. It also found that 43% of Indian tech professionals suffer from work-related mental and physical health issues like acidity, back and neck pain, muscle stiffness, Vitamin D deficiency, eyesight problems, weight gain, and frequent headaches.

While 55% of the employees suffer from physical issues, almost half (45%) suffer from mental health issues like stress, anxiety,

and depression. Another shocking revelation was that 26% experience sleep disturbances, with 51% get an average of 5.5 to 6 hours of sleep every day. Also, 74% of tech professionals felt that they were forced to sacrifice family time and important celebrations because they were asked to attend to work by the managers even after the working hours were over.

This is what Indian employees are facing on the work front. **Many describe the working atmosphere in Indian IT companies as toxic and high-pressure.** Is that not what this study depicts? If 45% -- almost half -- of the workforce suffer from physical and mental health issues, is it not toxic? It is already known that work-life balance is a myth in the IT industry. **Why is the workplace more toxic in the IT industry? Is it because unions are not strong?** It is due to multiple reasons and lack of unions is a major reason. We are trying to build a strong union here in Karnataka. We already have 11,000 members in our union.

Recently, the government of

Karnataka wanted to increase the working hours to 14 hours daily, which is 12 hours shift and 2 hours overtime. We, as the union, were able to stop the government from implementing it in the IT industry while the working hours in conventional industries have been amended to 12 hours. The situation in this industry is such that the employers can make people work even 24 hours if they want. After all, it is in the company's interest that people work long hours.

Is it humanly possible to sustain this kind of long working hours for days, weeks and months? No. As per the WHO-ILO study done in 2016, long working hours increase the risk of work-related disability, and early death as it increases the risk of stroke and ischemic heart disease. The study says that people who work 55 or more hours per week have a higher risk of stroke and ischemic heart disease than people who work 35 to 40 hours per week. According to this study done in 2016, 398,000 people died from stroke and 347,000 from heart disease having worked at least 55 hours a week.

Is this the way the IT and ITES sector treats its employees all over the world? I think it is more in India. It is only here that employers want the employees to work 70 to 90 hours a week! Somebody wants 70 hours of work in a week from his employees, somebody else wants 90 hours of work. They think that they can get away from such demands without any consequences. But there are consequences. We are confident that we can resist such demands. These capitalists think that they have an upper hand over employees but as a union, we will see to it that they do not have.

About work-life balance, some people argue that it is a Western concept and not for India. Only when more and more employees join the union and make unions strong that we can bargain for better working conditions. We can resist them only through collective bargaining. **How can long working hours be more productive?** The purpose is to replace an employee saying his productivity has come down. They don't replace an employee with another, what they do is, they assign this person's work to another person. The intention is to reduce the work force using poor productivity as an excuse.

Do you think most employers feel an employee has no life outside of work? They don't care whether a person has a life outside work or not. It is not their concern. Their only concern is their profit. To achieve work-life balance, countries like France, Spain, Belgium, Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg and Australia have implemented the 'Right to Disconnect' law so that people can disconnect from work, and not to engage in work-related electronic communications like emails or messages during non-work hours. We also should have the option to 'Right to Disconnect'. ●

Courtesy Rediff.com



PROUT NEWS REPORT

Former chief scientist of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and former director general of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Dr Soumya Swaminathan said recently in ICAR Kochi that half of Indians cannot afford a nutritionally sufficient healthy diet, and has flagged dietary risks as the number one health threat in the country. Kerala and Tamil Nadu are experiencing a concerning rise in obesity and non-communicable diseases, alongside persistent issues like malnutrition, anaemia, and micronutrient deficiencies, all stemming from unhealthy dietary habits.

Emphasising the potential of marine resources as a healthy diet component to improve nutrition, Dr Swaminathan said that we are yet to fully utilise these resources to address this critical dietary issue.

Highlighting major challenges to human health amid a series of issues, including climate change and antimicrobial resistance, Dr Swaminathan said that most of the emerging viral threats are zoonotic infections transmitted from animals to humans.

Dr Swaminathan, also emphasised the critical role of integrated research, including data from weather, climate, health, and environmental sources, to predict and prevent future outbreaks. Most of the health threats today originate from environmental factors; and suggested establishing an Environmental Health Regulatory Agency in India.

Climate Change

Dr Swaminathan underscored the devastating impact of climate change, saying that India is one of the most vulnerable countries to this challenge. "Almost the entire population of the country is being exposed to at least one of the climate hazards such as floods, droughts, cyclones, and extreme heat. Heat is most dangerous to both physical and mental health. The weakest section of the society bears the brunt of these hazards," she added, stressing the need for adaptation strategies and resilience-building measures.

Collaboration and citizen science

She stressed the importance of collaboration among government research agencies, academia, and the community. "Citizen science initiatives are crucial for empowering communities and gathering valuable data," she said. "During COVID-19, I believe nobody anticipated the development of vaccines within a year. It was a remarkable achievement facilitated by unprecedented collaboration and data sharing among research institutions and scientists. During my time at the WHO, I witnessed first-hand this extraordinary level of networking and data sharing. Scientists prioritised the rapid dissemination of findings over individual publication, which paid off ultimately". ●



THE OBJECTIVE AND THE SUBJECTIVE

- Shrii Shrii Anandamurti

It is the speciality of human beings – autonomous thinking. And when this is strangled, impeded or restrained by something internal or external, the impeding entity is a dangerous entity for human progress. When human psychic growth is stopped in this way, the restriction that has impeded human ideas or thinking or human projections can be called dogma. The progress of human society must be always free from all types of dogmas; otherwise human progress will move forever backwards. Human progress will be blocked forever.

Among human beings there are two important options of progress: the objective and the subjective.

In this world, you require food, medicine, shelter, education and so many other things; a healthy economic structure, a life free from exploitation; things for the healthy maintenance of your physical body and to maintain the proper order of the objective level. You cannot ignore, you cannot deny, your necessities. You should carry out your duty in this objective sphere, and at the same time you must not forget that you are a glorified human being. You have to elevate yourself to the excellence of human glory, to the greatness of humanity. In this way, your progress in the psycho-spiritual sphere must go forward without barriers.

In this kingdom of psycho-spiritual movement, human beings cannot tolerate any barriers. Also you should remember that your original source is the Supreme Father. He is the Causal Matrix, the Supreme Origin, the culminating point of all your movements.

In this way all your energies, all your tendencies, must be goaded towards that Supreme Entity, Parama Puruṣa, the Supreme Father, who created everything. Therefore I must say that yours should be a happy blending of objective and subjective worlds. Ours is a subjective approach with objective adjustment, towards the subjective goal of the Supreme. This is the blissful blending of the objective and subjective worlds. If this blissful blending is achieved, a human society will be created. There is no alternative.

A subjective approach is the important question, but while you move towards the subjective end, you must maintain an adjustment with the objective world. There is no alternative. And this goal, when human society will be established in this supreme idea in the very near future, will produce a more constructive human society according to a plan. The humanity of the universe will unite; and we await anxiously that happy moment. ●



Free Medical Camp by AMURT in Guwahati



On February 16, following the district seminar organized by the Ananda Marga Pracharak Samgha in Guwahati, Assam, AMURT (Guwahati) conducted a medical camp with the support of the Assam Government's Health Department.

The Director of Health Services, Assam Government, extended full support to AMURT. Along with the Joint Director, a team of 10 doctors, lab technicians, ANMs, and pathologists provided their services at the camp.

More than 400 patients received medical consultations, medicines, blood sugar tests, blood pressure measurements, and other examinations. The medical team included ophthalmologists, general physicians, pulmonologists, and other specialists.

The Director and Joint Director of Health Services, Assam Government, appreciated the services provided by AMURT.



Special Lecture on the Philosophy of Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar

On January 31, 2025, the Department of Philosophy at Vidyasagar University, Medinipur, West Bengal, organized a special lecture on the philosophical contributions of Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar.

On this occasion, Acharya Divyachetananda Avadhuta presented Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar's contributions. He explained that philosophy traditionally consists of four branches—ethics, metaphysics, existentialism, and epistemology. However, Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar added two more elements: spiritual culture and psychology, thereby expanding the horizons of contemporary philosophy.



Acharyaji elaborated on the concepts of movement and counter-movement in Ananda Marga philosophy, as well as the principles of monism, dualism, and related ideas. He also discussed the concept of Neo-Humanism.

The program was chaired by Professor Tapan Kumar De, Head of the Department of Philosophy. Other attendees included Dr. Suman Bera, Head of the Department of Philosophy, Professor Jhadashwar Ghosh, Dr. Srijit KK, and Acharya Krishnathananda Avadhuta, the district secretary of Medinipur.

PBI Participates in Delhi Election

The recently concluded Delhi Assembly elections on February 5, 2025, witnessed the spirited participation of Proutist Bloc, India (PBI) candidate Jalandhar Pandit from the Najafgarh constituency (RC-34). Contesting under the symbol of the flute, Pandit secured 214 votes, marking a humble step forward for the party's mission of holistic development and social justice.

While the election results may not have placed PBI at the top this time, the support garnered reflects a growing resonance of the party's vision among the people.

Pandit's campaign focused on development, employment generation, environmental sustainability, and better civic amenities, promising real change for the historically neglected region of Najafgarh.



A Vision for Progress

PBI outlined an ambitious roadmap for transforming Najafgarh into a thriving hub of organic farming, modern infrastructure, and social security. In its manifesto, the party promised to:

- Declare the region a special agricultural zone for organic produce, benefiting farmers and consumers alike.
- Ensure land rights for residents of unregulated colonies, giving them legal ownership of their homes.
- Install three sewage treatment plants and rejuvenating the Najafgarh drain into a tourist-friendly zone.
- Implement scientific traffic solutions and underground parking in the bustling Najafgarh Market area.
- Conduct night-time street cleaning and enhancing pollution control measures.
- Expand tree plantation drives and green cover along roadsides.
- Strengthen employment opportunities and youth skill development programs.
- Improve local healthcare facilities and ensuring their accessibility to all.
- Enhance safety measures through increased police presence and CCTV surveillance in sensitive areas.

Jalandhar Pandit expressed gratitude to all voters and reaffirmed his commitment to working tirelessly for the betterment of Najafgarh. "This is just the beginning. We will continue our fight for a progressive and inclusive society where every individual receives food, shelter, dignity, and equal opportunities," he stated.

As the PBI slogan says:

"Sabko roti, kapda, makaan, aur pooraa sammaan!"

"Jaat-paat ki karo vidai, aur maanav-maanav bhai!"

With determination and public support, Proutist Bloc, India aims to script a new chapter in Najafgarh's development in the times to come.

Seminar on Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar's Contributions at Utkal University

On February 13, the Department of Sanskrit at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, organized a special session on Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar's concept of "Brahma and Creation."

At the beginning of the session, Dr. Manoranjan Senapati, Head of the Sanskrit Department, introduced Acharya Divyachetanananda Avadhuta, Central Public Relations Secretary of the Ananda Marga Pracharak Sangha, and spoke about the contributions of Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar.

Acharya Divyachetanananda Avadhuta shed light on Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar's concept of Brahma. He explained that the combination of Shiva and Shakti forms Brahma, which is infinite and makes others infinite as well. He further elaborated on the two aspects of Brahma: Nirguna Brahma and Saguna Brahma.

He discussed the two cosmic forces: Avidya Maya (which moves away from the center and represents ignorance) and Vidya Maya (which moves toward the center and represents knowledge). Additionally, he explained that there are three evolutionary processes within living beings:

1. Physical energy, arising from material conflicts
2. Mental energy, emerging from psychic struggles
3. Spiritual energy, generated by the attraction toward the Supreme Consciousness

"In Indian philosophy, four elements are traditionally recognized—ontology, ethics, epistemology, and spiritual philosophy. Shri Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar expanded this by introducing two new elements: spiritual cult (meditation) and psychology", he added.

This program was organized by the Sanskrit Department within a very short time. It was attended by Prof. Brajasundar Mishra, Dr. Niranjana Sabar, Dr. Dharmendra Das, and more than 30 students. ●



Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar

Upon the Path of Light

BANDHU TOMÁY KII BOLIBO
TIMIRERA GHUM BHÁMGÁYE DIYECHO
ÁLOR PATHEI CALIBO
CALIBO, CALIBO, CALIBO

Bandhu, what may I say,
You have destroyed
The sleep of darkness
I shall move
Upon the path of light,
Shall move shall move shall move.*

ÁNANDARE THÁKÁ KUSUM KALITI
MÁLÁY GÁNTHIYÁ REKHECHO
DHULI DHUSARITA MANER ARGHYA
KOLETE TULIÁ NIYECHO

*You have strung in a garland
A neglected bud.
The dust laden bars of the mind,
You have taken on Your lap.*

SAB VINIMAYE TOMÁKE PEYECHI
TOMÁR KATHÁI SHUNIBO
SHUNIBO, SHUNIBO, SHUNIBO

*By surrendering everything mine
Thee I found.
Only Your words I shall listen
Shall listen shall listen shall listen.*

** Parampurusa the eternal friend*



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