

PROUT

A Journal of Proutistic Views and Neo-Humanistic Analysis



The Insanity of Monsanto and GMO

Global powers have literally robbed India of its self-reliance and self-sustenance in the name of "ending poverty" by thrusting upon them a system of monopolized agriculture controlled and operated by companies like Monsanto.

PROUT

Progressive Utilization Theory

A Vibrant Magazine which Informs & Inspires

Cry of the Suffering Humanity

What is PROUT :

PROUT is an acronym for the Progressive Utilization Theory. Conceptualized in 1959 by Indian Philosopher Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar, PROUT is a viable alternative to the outmoded capitalist and communist Socio-economic paradigms. Neither of these approaches has adequately met the physical, mental and spiritual needs of humanity. PROUT seeks a harmonious balance between economic growth, social development and cultural expression.

Combining the wisdom of spirituality, the struggle for self-reliance, and the spirit of economic democracy, Proutist intellectuals and activists are attempting to create a new civilizational discourse. PROUT news-magazine aims at conveying comprehensive and visionary goals of PROUT theory.

PROUT magazine invites scientists, economists, politicians, artists, intellectuals and others to join us in the creation of a new, spiritually bonded society by propagating and popularising unambiguous elevating thoughts. Through Proutistic views and Neo Humanistic analysis, it strives to serve as beacon for the benighted civilization of our times.

Main principles of PROUT & Neo-Humanism :

Neo-humanism expands the humanistic love for all human beings to include love and respect for all creation - plants, animals and even inanimate objects. Neo-humanism provides a philosophical basis for creating a new era of ecological balance, planetary citizenship and cosmic kinship.

Basic necessities guaranteed to all : People can not strive toward their highest human aspirations if they are lacking the basic requirements of life. PROUT believes that access to food, shelter, clothing, education and medical care are fundamental human rights which must be guaranteed to all.

Balanced economy : Prout advocates regional self-reliance, cooperatively owned and managed businesses, local control of large scale key industries, and limits on the individual accumulation of excessive wealth.

Women's Right : PROUT encourages the struggle against all forms of violence and exploitation used to suppress women. PROUT's goal is coordinated cooperation, with equal rights between men and women.

Cultural Diversity : In the spirit of universal fellowship PROUT encourages the protection and cultivation of local culture, language, history and tradition.

World Government : PROUT supports the creation of world government with a global constitution and a common penal code.

For both civilization and science, intellectual knowledge is indispensable. Spiritual or intuitional development is possible through the happy blending between civilization and science. - Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar

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The Insanity of Monsanto and GMO

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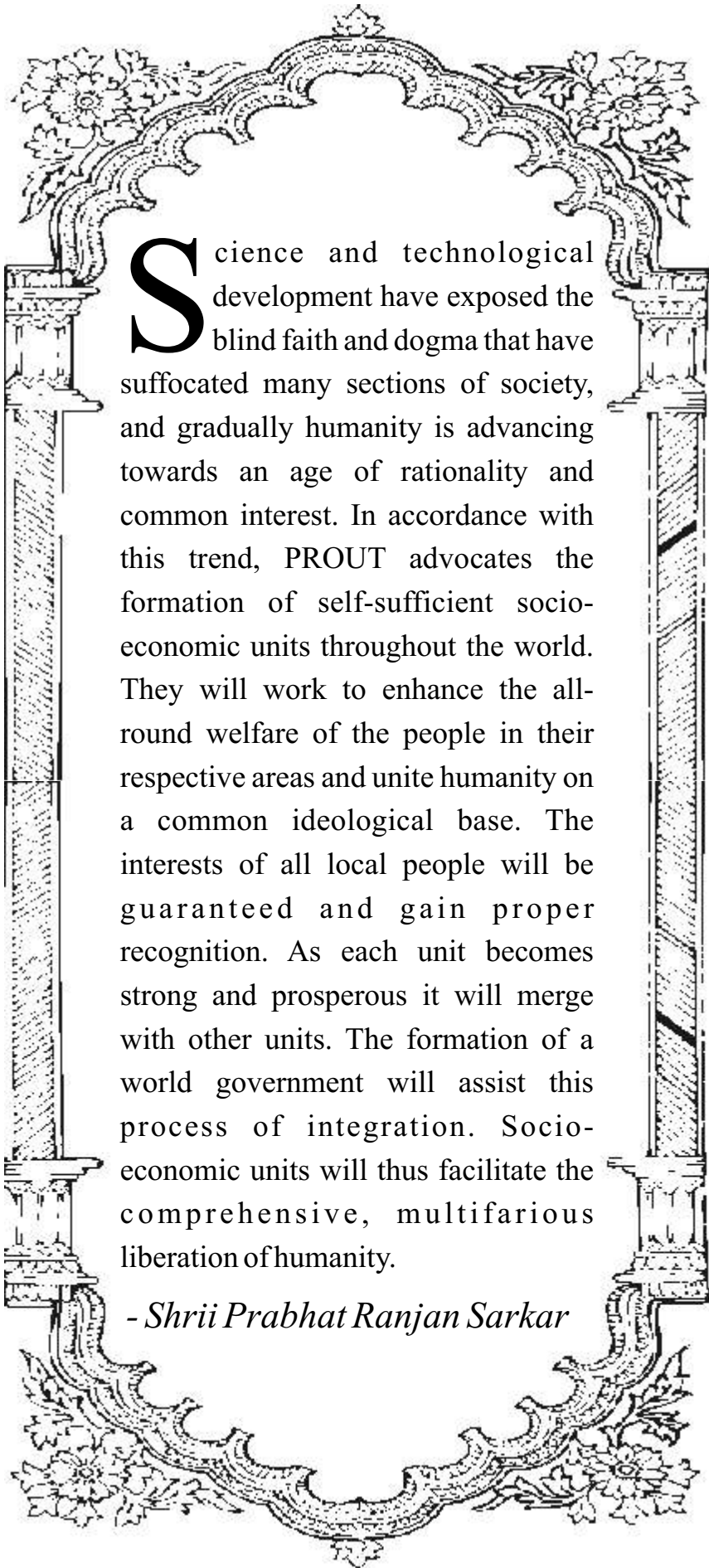
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Fundamental Principles :

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.



Science and technological development have exposed the blind faith and dogma that have suffocated many sections of society, and gradually humanity is advancing towards an age of rationality and common interest. In accordance with this trend, PROUT advocates the formation of self-sufficient socio-economic units throughout the world. They will work to enhance the all-round welfare of the people in their respective areas and unite humanity on a common ideological base. The interests of all local people will be guaranteed and gain proper recognition. As each unit becomes strong and prosperous it will merge with other units. The formation of a world government will assist this process of integration. Socio-economic units will thus facilitate the comprehensive, multifarious liberation of humanity.

- Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar

From the **Editor's**
Desk

SADVIPRAS

The Dream Leaders

Many crises stare at the world's face today. There are major socio-economic disparities, lack of moral leadership, cultural downslides, hunger, thirst, disease and environmental degradation to name but a few knocking on the doorsteps of human civilization.

The average income of the richest 10% of the population is about nine times that of the poorest 10%. The three richest people possess more financial assets than the lowest 48 nations combined and the richest 1% of adults alone owned 40% of global assets in the year 2000. Today disparity figures are inhuman and defy imagination. Now-a-days corruption can be seen everywhere. It is like cancer in public life. People have developed a mental malady that has grown in them an insatiable appetite for money - and they can go to any extent to get money and in the process age old cultures and traditions are being given the go by. In the Asian, African and Latin American countries, well over 500 million people are living in what the World Bank has called "absolute poverty". Every year 15 million children die of hunger. One-third of the world is well-fed, one-third is under-fed one-third is starving. Every 3.6 seconds someone dies of hunger. It is estimated that some 800 million people in the world suffer from hunger and malnutrition. Without food a person can live for weeks, but without water you can expect to live only a few days. 1 billion people lack water that is even moderately clean. 6 billion or 40% of the world does not have access to adequate sanitation today. 575 million people die each year from water-related disease. Globally, around 57 million people die of disease every year. Almost 15% of these deaths occur in children under the age of 5. Most of these preventable deaths in children occur in low- and middle-income countries. 74% of child deaths occur in Africa and East Asia. Each Day 10 tons of nuclear waste is being generated by the 350 existing nuclear plants, 250,000 tons of sulfuric acid fall as acid rain in the Northern Hemisphere and 60 tons of plastic packaging and 372 tons of fishing net are dumped into the sea by commercial fishermen. These are all official statistics and estimates of United Nations' agencies.

Can in this indeed a frightening picture, we ask which is the most critical one of them all. Yes we can. It is the crisis of and a near total absence of strong moral leadership. That is because everything flows from that fountainhead and without which none of these global problems can even begin to be solved. Then comes the question, who are these leaders and where are they to be found? Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar the founder of PROUT provides practical pointers. They are spiritual revolutionaries who work to achieve such progressive changes for human elevation on a well-thought, pre-planned basis in all spheres of life. They would be natural leaders not elected ones by virtue of their exemplary conduct and service mindedness and would be absolute moralists, totally incorruptible and though not exercising power directly, would exert moral influence on those in power and would intervene when there is exploitation and disorder as we observe today. He called them Sadvipras, who would be able to motivate and mobilise the masses to support all actions for the common good.

And from where will these leaders spring from? They would emerge out of the Neo-humanistic education system which is also the creation of Shrii Sarkar, one that would create not only good professionals but also true human beings. He also stressed that one may fail as a professional but should never fail as a human being and these Sadvipras would be the dream leaders of society and since their strength would be derived from the people's support, victory would surely be theirs and they and only they can take society out of the present morass it is in now.



DEMOCRACY AND GROUP GOVERNED STATES

Shrii PR Sarkar’s article was very inspiring indeed. I especially liked the part when he narrates the history of republics and democracy and how so called modern republics are actually group governed states . As Winston Churchill said, “Many forms of Government have been tried, and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time”.

Saradindu Sanyal, Howrah

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

A very lucid and informative article by Arun Prakash, the last part about the common man’s interest in Presidential and Vice Presidential elections is very true.

Rekhamani, Coimbatore

WORLD PROUT ASSEMBLY DECLARATION

A brave statement - nine brave men and women for a brave new world. Such drops do make an ocean.

Syed Shamsuddin, Aligarh

POLICE BRUTALITY

Gladson Dungdung is truly a messiah for the tribal people of India and needs to be congratulated to highlight their plight with such perseverance and vigour and bringing these matters to the notice of the public at large. No one is human unless his heart bleeds for fellow humans.

Felicita, Goomla

OPEN LETTER TO ARMY CHIEF

General Bikram Singh must pay heed to these wise counsels of a seasoned veteran of 1935. This will help him a lot to feel the pulse of the rank and file of the Army.

Havildar Hooda (Retd), Sonapat

SEVEN RULES OF BUREAUCRACY

Bureaucracy is an age old institution designed to create more problems than it solves. Harry Teasley’s ‘Seven Rules’ says it all. The wonderful cartoons illustrate the point very vividly.

Jackie Dell, New Orleans by email

GAS WARS

Imad Fawzi Shueibi’s well written piece about the struggle over gas is a stark reminder of the volatile and uncertain world we live in, especially the flashpoint of the Middle East in Asia. It has been said that water would be the cause of the next Great War on planet Earth. Now gas apparently been added to the list in a world of greedy and powerful men.

Al Sayyed Nasserudaulah,
Damascus by email

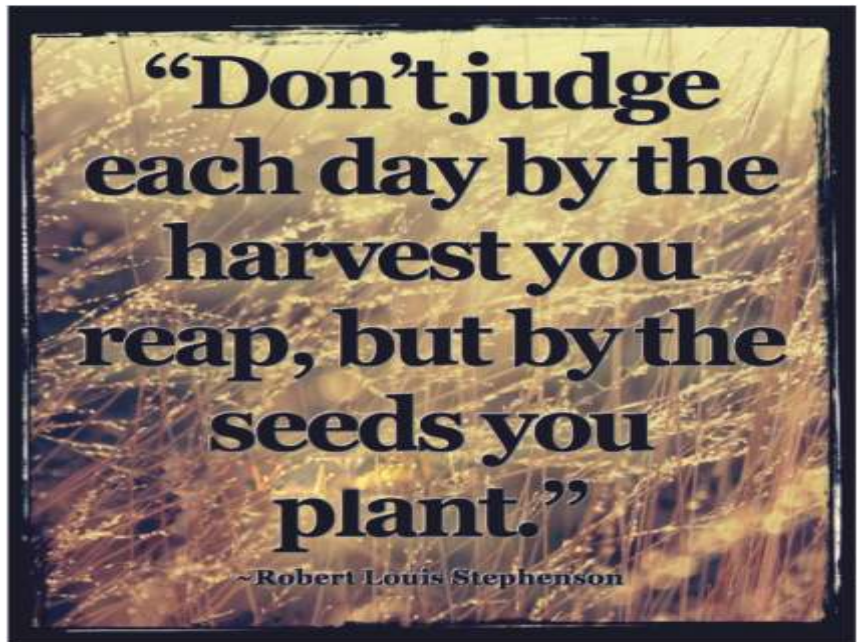
INDIA AGAINST CORRUPTION

Thank you Prout for publishing the charge sheet against Chidambram. With all the evidence shown, nothing still seems to be happening – why? Mainly that is due to the deep rooted corruption that has seeped into the system with no semblance of morality whatever. All mis-

use the golden provision & of the law, ‘innocent until proved guilty’, which is actually meant to protect poor innocents rather than the guilty rich. Unfortunately it is the other way round and the poor people continue to suffer at the hands of the police and judicial system in India.

We would do well to remember Dr. S Radhakrishnan address to the constituent assembly on August 15, 1947. He had said, “Unless we destroy corruption in high places, root out every trace of nepotism, love of power, profiteering and black marketing which have spoiled the good name of this great country in recent times, we will not be able to raise the standards of efficiency in administration as well as in the production and distribution of the necessary goods of life”.

Arun Prakash, New Delhi



Articles / Suggestions Invited

We invite your articles, comments, letters, wit & humour materials etc. on any aspect of human life including Spiritual, Socio-economic, Political, Cultural, Ideological, Educational and local self government. Clips, photographs and cartoons are also welcome.

Please send them at the following address :

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"Take Care of My Eyes"

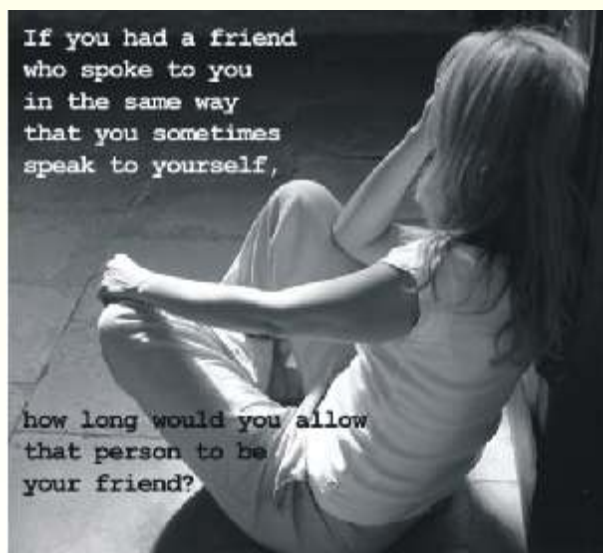


There was a blind girl who hated herself just because she was blind. She hated everyone, except her loving boyfriend. He was always there for her. She said that if she could only see the world, she would marry her boyfriend.

One day, someone donated a pair of eyes to her and then she could see everything, including her boyfriend. Her boyfriend asked her, “now that you can see the world, will you marry me?”

The girl was shocked when she saw that her boyfriend was blind too, and refused to marry him. Her boyfriend walked away in tears, and later wrote a letter to her saying:

“Just take care of my eyes dear”.





Population

Growth and Control

SHRII PRABHAT RANJAN SARKAR

There is no shortage of living space on the planet if the existing space is properly utilized. The earth has been balkanized due to so many arbitrary social, economic and political restrictions and the pervasive influence of evil dogma.

The socio-economic environment of society today is extremely restless and disturbed. In this abnormal environment population growth has been projected as a menacing threat to the existence of human society, but in fact this sort of propaganda is nothing but an evil conspiracy engineered by vested interests. No problem is greater than the human capacity to solve it. Like all problems confronting humanity, the problem of population growth should be tackled and

solved in a proper way.

In the natural course of evolution, birth and death maintain the continuity of the never ending flow of creation. Every day, with the birth of babies, the parents and the other family members naturally enjoy great happiness. But it is a matter of sorrow that there are some people in the government or other spheres of public life who consider the increase in the birth rate a curse on the society. This negative attitude is definitely a blot on the human race, which has achieved a degree of intellectual





development and scientific knowledge.

Population Growth

Is the population problem really a natural problem? The population problem should be considered in the context of two vital factors – the availability of food and the availability of space. Today human beings have sufficient means to manage their food. The earth is abundant enough in food resources to feed many times more than the present population. Due to lack of coordinated cooperation, collective effort, a proper ideology and sound planning, society has been fragmented into many belligerent groups and sub-groups, and rich and poor nations have been created. As a result of this fissiparous tendency, society is presently incapable of producing enough food to meet human requirements. The tragedy is that even though there are enough resources to supply nutritious food to all the human beings on the planet, due to the defective socio-economic systems, an efficient method of distribution has not been developed.

Moreover, there is no shortage of living space on the planet if the existing space is properly utilized. Because the earth has been balkanized due to so many arbitrary social, economic and political restrictions and the pervasive influence of evil dogma, people are unable to tackle problems in a natural way. If there were maximum utilization and rational distribution of all natural resources, pressing socio-economic problems could be easily solved.

It is a law of nature that a mother is

provided with sufficient breast milk to feed her newly born baby. In the same way nature has generously provided sufficient resources to meet the food and other essential requirements of all human beings. People need to utilize these natural resources in a proper way. Shortages of food or space cannot be blamed on nature. These problems are essentially the

results of the mistakes made by human beings.

It is a fact that the population of the world is rapidly increasing, and consequently many people have become frightened. In capitalist countries there are sufficient reasons for such fear. In these countries an increase in the population means a corresponding increase in the poverty of the people. But there is no reason for such fear in a collective economic system. In the event of shortages in food and accommodation people will collectively convert barren land into arable land, increase agricultural production by scientific methods and produce food by chemical processes using the potentiality of earth, water and air. And if this earth loses its productivity, then human beings will migrate to other planets and satellites and settle there.

If people living in capitalist countries voluntarily adopt birth control methods to avoid economic hardship, perhaps we should not criticize them. But it should be mentioned here that using birth control methods which deform the bodies of men and women or destroy their reproductive powers forever cannot be supported, because this may cause a violent mental reaction at any moment.

PROUT's Solution

Under the present socio-economic conditions, PROUT advocates a comprehensive, clear-cut policy to tackle the population problem. According to PROUT, population growth will automatically find a natural level if the following four factors exist in society.

**The best
contraceptive is the
word no - repeated
frequently.**

- Margaret Smith

First, there should be economic liberty in society so that people may get a nutritious diet. In Scandinavia, for example, the purchasing capacity of the people is high and they enjoy a good standard of living. Because of this they do not face the problem of overpopulation. Secondly, everybody should have the right to enjoy sound health. If people have a healthy body and mind their glandular system will remain balanced, and they can easily transform their physical energy into psychic energy and their psychic energy into spiritual energy. Through this effort of channelizing the mind in a spiritual direction, the baser mental propensities are easily controlled.

Thirdly, people should be free from unnecessary mental worries and anxieties. When one suffers from mental agonies continually, the mind naturally indulges in baser physical enjoyment to get rid of that unwanted condition. When mental agonies disappear, human beings will enjoy peace of mind and be able to assimilate subtle ideas.

Fourthly, the intellectual standard of humanity will have to be elevated. With intellectual advancement human beings will develop their all-round psychic potentiality and can easily evolve their psycho-spiritual potentiality. Through continuous effort human beings will be able to attain the supreme stance, merging their individual unit existence into Cosmic existence.

Thus, the population problem is not just an economic problem – it includes economic, biological, psychological and intellectual aspects. Today people give

more importance to the political than to the bio-psychological and economic aspects of population growth.

The theory that population increases at a geometric rate while food production increases at an arithmetic rate is completely defective. Such a situation can only occur in an imbalanced economic system. In a progressive and balanced economic system no such problem will exist.

Collective Economy

It is completely wrong to propagate the idea that a rapidly increasing population will affect the collective economic structure. Today capitalists are trying to check population growth by propagating birth control because an increasing population is detrimental to capitalism. In a collective economic structure there will be no need to support birth control. Rather, an increasing population will help in the production of the essential commodities. Good varieties of seed, fertile land, adequate nourishment, light, air and water are all essential for good reproduction in both the plant and animal kingdoms. In this respect human beings are no different from other creatures. In human society the selection of suitable males and females is desirable for reproduction of a high order. Until human beings are produced in scientific laboratories, it will be detrimental to society if this matter is neglected. If people of sublime intelligence and brilliance reproduce more offspring, it will be very beneficial for society. The responsibility for nurturing and bringing up these children will have to be taken by the society or the government. Similarly, it will be harmful for society if mentally deficient, naturally delinquent or insane persons produce many children. In fact, society will be benefited by the permanent destruction of their reproductive capacity, providing this does not cause any harmful reaction.

Science has reached such a stage that it can usher in a new era. It can produce

synthetic food in the form of tablets to help solve the food problems of the world. A single food tablet can be sufficient to provide sustenance for a whole day, so we need not fear population increases. Future generations will spend more of their time and energy on subtle psychic and spiritual activities, so their demand for physical food will decrease.

Through oceanographic research abundant food resources have been discovered within the ocean and on the sea bed. With the application of science and technology we can harness these resources to meet the challenge of the food problem. The crisis faced by society today indicates that humanity is not encouraging the maximum utilization and rational distribution of the world's potentialities. Science today is being used to develop increasingly destructive weapons of war rather than for benevolent and constructive purposes.

Society will have to adopt a collective economic system for maximum production and economic security in order to control accumulation; ensure the rational distribution of collective wealth through a well-knit cooperative system; implement decentralized socio-economic planning; and secure the maximum utilization of all types of mundane, supramundane and spiritual potentialities. So far society has not adopted such an approach so it has been unable to solve the food problem.

Instead, certain inhuman birth control practices have been forcibly promoted. Not only are such practices detrimental to a healthy human body and mind, they cause physical deformity, disturbances and misunderstandings in family life, and mental derangement and debility. Those inflicted with such psychic ailments lose the courage to face adversity in life and the power to fight for social justice.

Imposing a fear of population growth is nothing but a cunning conspiracy by vested interests to misguide people and



Rural scene in central Kalimantan, Indonesia

exploit society. Optimistic people throughout the world will have to unite and raise their voices against such a heinous conspiracy, and work together to construct a just and benevolent society.

Vested interests do not favour population growth because this will mean sharing mundane property at the cost of their hoarding. Capitalism would like the extinction of the intellectual class as this would give it free scope for exploitation. The intellectual class usually belongs to the middle income group. Capitalists encourage family planning and birth control to check the growth of this middle class, thus these measures are a creation of the capitalist order.

“Artificial sterilization” means making males or females artificially sterile. This has certain adverse effects on the mind and body of human beings. Sterilization brings glandular changes and changes in the hormone secretion of the glands which ultimately affects mental expression. Due to age-old superstitions the common people do not take the help of these measures. It is the middle class intellectuals who adopt these practices and become the victims of them. A Proutistic order would vehemently oppose this move. There is immense potential for maintaining the population of the world. By scientific advancement it may be possible for human beings to live on tablets. The real glory of humanity lies in creating conditions for adjustment with natural processes rather than in curbing normal processes by artificial measures.



* Arun Prakash

Shrii PR Sarkar the founder of PROUT and Neo-Humanistic education in one of his many discourses mentioned about the internal discipline in the psychic sphere of individual life. He coined the Sanskrit phrase *prāna dharma*. These words mean the cardinal characteristic of a person which differentiates one person from another. He qualifies further by saying, “When the national characteristics are expressed in a particular vein, they reflect the *prāna dharma* of that nation. Since ancient times, India has been adhering to her distinct national characteristics regarding life and the world and the Indian people are certainly spiritually inclined. They look upon each and every thought and deed as part of their spiritual practice. In ancient India, children studied from the age of five till the age of twenty-five. They lived virtuous, disciplined and holy lives and received extensive training in spiritual knowledge as well as some degree of worldly knowledge. After their education was over they returned home and became householders, and continued to cultivate both

spiritual and worldly knowledge. When they reached the age of fifty, having met all their family commitments, they would adopt the life of a Vanaprastha and retire to a forest to concentrate on the cultivation of spiritual knowledge. Thus all aspects of Indian life were based on spirituality. The ancient Indian system of education was based on this original *prāna dharma*. Consequently, the Indian students developed a reverential, humble and noble trait in their conduct. The British colonialists applied the same tactics in China. The Chinese people, before the Kuomintang regime, were laborious and dexterous as well as religious. But by introducing opium, the British made the entire Chinese race inactive and indolent. Afterwards the communists, under the leadership of Mao Zedong, killed the religion of the Chinese people and deprived them of their *prāna dharma*. In this way, both the British and the communists brought the entire Chinese race under their grip. Just as a bird divested of its right to fly freely gradually becomes a biped, similarly, human beings when deprived of their *prāna dharma* lose their elevated stance.”

Battle-scene from the First Chinese Opium War (1839-42)



Prāna Dharma And Education

Education is just remoulding the old structure of the mind and goading it into the highest state of realization, the exalted status of Supreme Veracity, the highest status of factualities. - Shrii PR Sarkar

Gradually down the pages of India's history these values were eroded, at times due to foreign influence and many times due to internal strife within the country. During the Muslim rule in India, social distress increased in Indian society. But the Muslims could not deprive the people of India of their prāna dharma. But during the British rule, both in the social and spiritual spheres, the people were deprived of their prāna dharma. Shrii PR Sarkar explains how, "The subtle way to undermine an individual or a nation is to divert them from their original Prāna Dharma, sometimes by forcibly snatching away their right to pursue it. The British colonialists were also cunning enough to discern the prāna dharma of the people of India, and they deprived them of the freedom to express their prāna dharma. The British wanted to bring the entire Indian race under their colonial grip to make the people slaves. They reformed the old educational system of India and bluntly introduced the English system of education. The English education system was contrary to that of India, because it was based on an objective approach and the complete denial of the subjective approach. The British colonial masters educated the subjugated race on the lines of their own education system, and produced a peculiar group of people who were neither Indian nor civilian nor serviceable. These so-called educated people of India were a complete departure from the mass of Indians in their habits, behaviour, thoughts, modesty and personal integrity. That is why a gulf of difference developed between the so-called educated people and the village people of India. By applying these subtle tactics, a group of people in India became European in attitude although they were Indian in colour, and these groups were instrumental in perpetuating the British Raj in India". Its chief architect was Lord Macaulay (1800-1859) the newly appointed Legislative Member of the Council of India who arrived in India on June 10, 1834

Even Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833) the great social reformer fell prey to the advantages of the western education system and felt that its seeds should be wholeheartedly implanted in the soil of India. But he paid no attention to the possible harmful effects it would have on the age old system of education in India. That is no proper subjective assessment of western education was made. Long before arrival of Macaulay in India, on December 11, 1823 he petitioned the British Government, "The present Rulers of India, coming from a distance of many thousand miles to govern a people whose language, literature, manners, customs, and ideas are almost entirely new and strange to them, cannot easily become so intimately acquainted with their real circumstances, as the natives of the country are themselves. The establishment of a new Sangsrit School in Calcutta evinces the laudable desire of Government to improve the Natives of India by Education. When this seminary of learning was proposed, we understood that the Government in England had ordered a considerable sum of money to be annually devoted to the instruction of

its Indian Subjects. We were filled with sanguine hopes that this sum would be laid out in employing European Gentlemen of talents and education to instruct the natives of India in Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Anatomy and other useful Sciences, which the Nations of Europe have carried to a degree of perfection that has raised them above the inhabitants of other parts of the world. We now find that the Government is establishing a Sangsrit school under Hindoo Pundits to impart such knowledge as is already current in India. This Seminary can only be expected to load the minds of youth with grammatical niceties and metaphysical distinctions of little or no practicable use to the possessors or to society. The pupils will there acquire what was known two thousand years ago, with the addition of vain and empty subtleties since produced by speculative men, such as is already commonly taught in all parts of India". But what Ram Mohan Roy was unable to foresee that the western education system would utterly fail to inculcate a sense of morality, reverence and a high standard of behaviour among the students of India during the British Raj.



Ram Mohan Roy

Lord Macaulay coming from England with his high literary reputation induced the Government to appoint him President of the Council of Education. He was the chief instigator of this faulty form of education in India. In his famous minute of February 2, 1835 to the British Parliament who was vain enough to declare, "I have never found one among them who could deny that a single shelf of a good European library was worth the whole native literature of India and Arabia" had this to say. The dialects commonly spoken among the natives of this part of India, contain neither literary nor scientific information. I can by no means admit that when a nation of high intellectual attainments undertakes to superintend the education of a nation comparatively ignorant, the learners are absolutely to prescribe the course which is to be taken by the teachers. It is not necessary, however, to say anything on this subject. For it is proved by unanswerable evidence that we are not at present securing the co-operation of the natives. It would be bad enough to consult their intellectual taste at the expense of their intellectual health. But Government pledging itself to teach certain languages and certain sciences, though those languages may become useless, though those sciences may be exploded, seems to be quite unmeaning. I hold his Lordship to be quite as free to direct that it shall no longer be employed in encouraging Arabic and Sanscrit. They have wasted the best years of life in



Macaulay

learning what procures for them neither bread, nor respect. But I would strike at the root of the bad system which has hitherto been fostered by us. The intellectual improvement of those classes of the people who have the means of pursuing higher studies can at present be effected only by means of some language not vernacular amongst them. In India, English is the language spoken by the ruling class. It is spoken by the higher class of natives at the seats of Government, we shall see the strongest reason to think that, of all foreign tongues, the English tongue is that which would be the most useful to our native subjects". All this showed his actual mindset having capitalistic tendencies. Despite all his tall talks Macaulay who was at that time not doing very well financially in England as a writer, did not come to India for any altruistic motives. It was purely business. This is evident from a letter he wrote to his sister Hannah on August 17, 1833, "It is a post of the highest dignity and consideration. The salary is ten thousand pounds a year. I am assured by persons who know Calcutta intimately, and who have themselves mixed in the highest circles and held the highest offices at that Presidency, That I may live in splendour there for five thousand a year, and may save the rest of the salary with the accruing interest. I may therefore hope to return to England at only thirty-nine, in the full vigour of life, with a fortune".

Despite criticism by H. T. Prinsep who was Secretary for matters pertaining to education who felt that Macaulay was not entirely correct in forcibly installing English and western education on the Indians. Governor General William Bentinck issued an order that supported Macaulay, on March 7, 1835 declaring: "His Lordship in Council is of opinion that the great object of the British Government ought to be the promotion of European literature and science among the natives of India; and that all the funds appropriated for the purpose of education would be best employed on English education alone". Macaulay had already got the concurrence of the Governor General secretly. Though Prinsep's arguments were both administrative and issue-based, it was impossible to change the decision because as Prinsep felt that Macaulay carried the day with him because of his name and fame as a literary figure.

That was how it all began. Let us now examine the three fundamentals of education as envisaged by PROUT's founder who felt that Education was a must not only for human beings, but also for all living beings. "First, education must always be based on factuality. There must not be the injection of any dogma or fanaticism or any type of geographical or racial chauvinism in the education system. Second, education must awaken the thirst for knowledge in the students' minds. The students themselves will create environmental pressure by persistent demands for answers to queries like: What is the answer? Is it correct? The longing, "I wish to know... I wish to understand and assimilate the entire universe" should be created. Such a thirst for knowledge should be created in the minds of

students. A learner, in Arabic, is called 'talib-ul-ilm', meaning 'a genuine seeker of knowledge'. So a tremendous thirst for knowledge must be awakened in the students' minds. They will constantly pry their teachers, their parents and their neighbours with questions like: Why is this so? What is that? Why does that happen? Why does this not happen? etc. They are ready to assimilate the entire universe.

The third fundamental of education is that teachers and students should have a balanced mind, unaffected, unassailed by unimportant entities”.

These attributes which form the hardcore of the Neo-humanistic education can only be imparted in the very early years of education in a child's life. That is mainly why Ananda Marga runs many kindergarten schools and not many high schools, degree colleges and universities? This is because as ShriI PR Sarkar says, “A kindergarten school is something basic and the mission of making human beings is accomplished here. If one has already become a thief or a criminal, in that case university education for such a person is of no avail. If one receives the fundamentals of education in the formative period of one's life, one will keep oneself alright in the teeth of the greatest trials and tribulations in life. Such schools are the first phase of making human beings. Proper education enables one to stand against the influence of the physical environment and awaken the psychic urge to attain a higher life, that is, the ideological goal. This gives a person much inspiration”.

prevalent crisis of the Indian education system. This crisis was largely due to the defective British education system which was fundamentally against the prāna dharma of the Indian people. All the attempts to reform the education system proved futile and led the nation towards further degradation. This was because India's educationists could not reform the education system according to the prāna dharma of the Indian people. Our Ananda Marga school curriculum is based on the prāna dharma of the people of India, and furthermore, it strengthens the people in their prāna dharma. The Ananda Marga system of education has been so formulated that the fundamental prāna dharma of humanity is fully recognized. The educational system of Ananda Marga schools is based on the principle of prāna dharma. It includes the study of various aspects of modern branches of human knowledge, as well as the development of qualities such as reverence, good manners, humility, dignity of labour, social consciousness, etc.

Some so-called western educated people even now look down upon villagers for their simplicity and naiveté. These so-called educated people were misguided away from prāna dharma because they were denied any subjective approach in the western education system. This is why such people have failed to become one with the mass. The reasons are because since March 1835 with introduction of the so called western education, schools in India continued to churn out clerks first in the service of the East India Company and later the British Crown.

The system was designed to only enable the student to get a job. All cardinal values carried down over millennia were thrown overboard. Sadly this continues even today 65 years after India gained independence from British rule, which has miserably failed to inculcate these rare qualities in the student's minds. As ShriI PR Sarkar said more than four decades ago, “Had there been radical reforms in the defective education system introduced in post-independent India, she could have solved many undesirable problems. The reformers of Indian education can make an experiment even today by introducing a new system of education based on national prāna dharma”. Neo-humanistic education does not reject the western educational system. That is why

in this system, the need to start 'Ashramic Schools' in every village of India is stressed. If this is done, the corrosive tendency introduced by the British can be checked at an early stage.

All these years no one paid heed. Even now it is not too late – but the prāna dharma – cardinal human values of the sub continent of India must first be accurately codified in simple language, first to be understood by the masses and then universally accepted.



Few of the many kindergarten schools of Ananda Marga worldwide

He even goes on to suggest something extraordinary, “We should do our best to impart proper education not only to the entire humanity, but also to all created beings. We can impart training to all trees, plants and birds, and put them on the path of welfare”. Neo-humanistic education is not a method, it is philosophy of education and life.

In the post-independence period of India, the leaders and educationists could not deeply understand the



* Gillian Orr

More people in the world are overweight than undernourished. Obesity levels are rising. Who are those responsible for a revolution in our eating habits? How decisions made behind closed doors transformed food into an addiction.

The second episode of the new BBC2 series *The Men Who Made Us Fat*, which looks at how the concept

He goes for the latter, a nine and-a-half pound meal which includes an eight-egg omelette, 12 rashers of bacon, 12 sausages, sautéed potatoes, mushrooms, hash browns, black pudding, four fried bread, four pieces of toast and four slices of bread and butter. It costs £15 and if a single person can eat it in an hour, they get their money back. Dwarfed by the dish, Peretti fails to make a dent.

It is a shocking scene but a valuable visual for asking the question: when did our portion sizes become

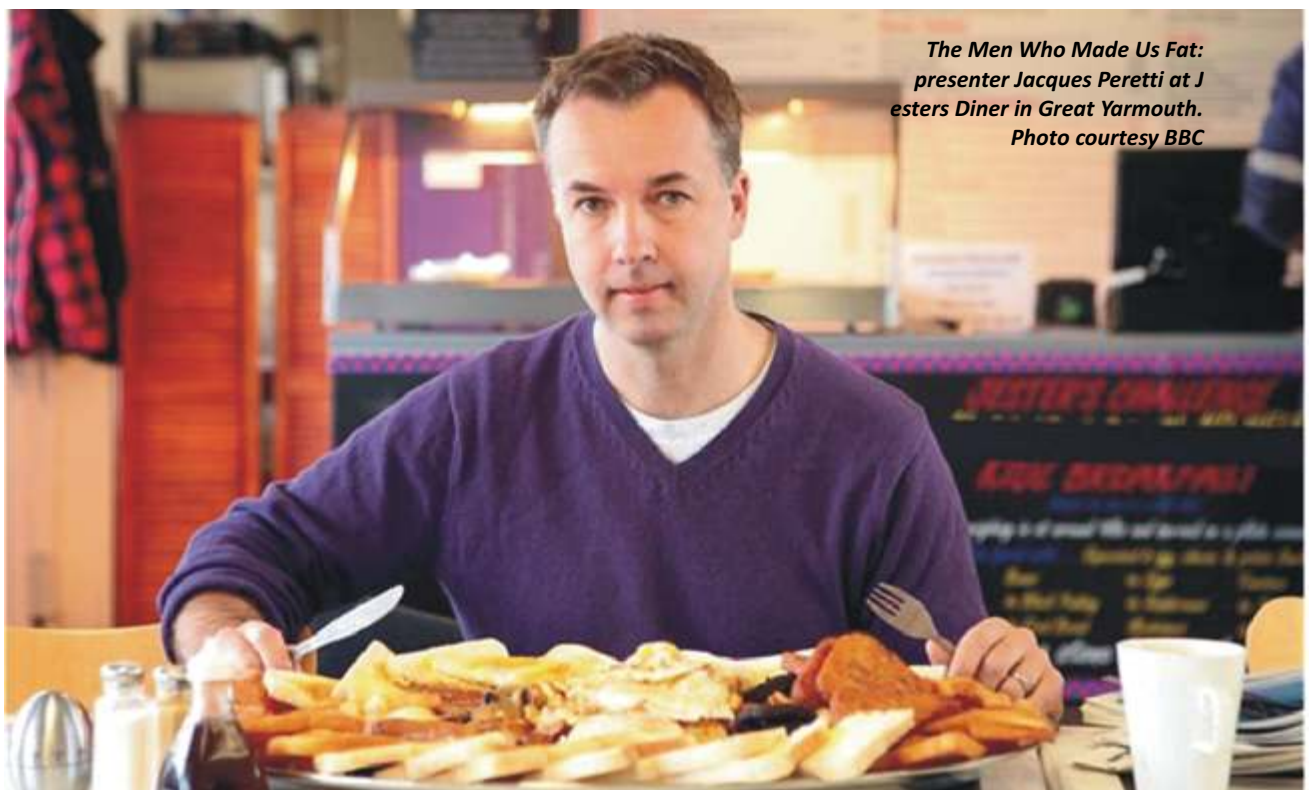
Mega Portions Make Mega People

In 1972 McDonald's introduced large fries. Going large was seen as good value for consumers

of super-sizing changed our eating habits, begins with the investigative journalist Jacques Peretti going into a Great Yarmouth diner for breakfast. The affable owner offers him a choice: 'The Big Boy', 'The Fat Boy', or 'The Kid's Breakfast', so-called because "it weighs the same as a small child".

so out of control?

It was a cinema in Chicago that first came up with the concept of supersizing. In 1967 David Wallerstein, an area manager for the Balaban movie theatre chain, was given the task of boosting sales of popcorn and soda. Realising that consumers wouldn't buy multiple cartons



The Men Who Made Us Fat:
presenter Jacques Peretti at Jesters Diner in Great Yarmouth.
Photo courtesy BBC

of popcorn, Wallerstein decided to introduce a large size, alongside the standard, for which they could then charge more; considerably more than the cost of the extra popcorn. An immediate success, Wallerstein was soon headhunted by McDonald's, where he applied the concept to the burger chain.

Initially, the founder, Ray Kroc, was opposed to the idea, believing that if customers wanted more food, then they would simply buy more. Wallerstein convinced him that people were unlikely to buy a second helping so as not to appear gluttonous. However, if they were given the option of ordering a larger size, they would often take it.

In 1972 McDonald's introduced large fries. Going large was seen as good value for consumers (it did, after all, cost less than buying two portions) yet the cost to the company for the extra food was minimal, considerably less than it would charge the customer.

Peretti notes that in the Eighties the fast-food market had begun to stagnate and so Taco Bell, the American Mexican fast-food chain, introduced the value meal. That way companies could bundle together a number of starters, sides, drinks and desserts that the customer would order on the assumption that they were getting great value for money.

The much maligned "supersize" value meal at McDonald's was rolled out in 1993, after it comarketed the film Jurassic Park, offering a "Dino-size". It was so successful, it became a fixture on the menu. In one arresting scene we see the only size of soda that was available at McDonald's in the Fifties: 207ml. A super-size soda at McDonald's was 1.19l.

Peretti observes it was corporate America and the

constant push for increased profits that was making food sizes bigger but, dangerously, science would dictate that humans had a propensity to overeat foods high in fat and sugar.

In the late 1990s, Dr Barbara Rolls of Penn State University researched how portion size contributed to obesity. Before, it was believed if someone overate at one meal, they compensated by undereating later. What she found was that people would continue to overeat if they were given bigger portion sizes. The programme also looks at the size of chocolate bars in the UK, which have grown considerably over time and been marketed as a family snack.

When health experts persuaded manufacturers to withdraw king-size bars in 2004, they came up with the idea of "duo" or "twin" bars, which are essentially two bars in one but are marketed as being for sharing. Peretti notes that these bars are rarely shared.

Dr Rolls discusses another study that demonstrated that the larger the portion of crisps, the more people eat. What the participants ate for dinner was then looked at, to see if they compensated for the bigger portion of crisps they had eaten by eating less, but they didn't. "The bag is a certain cue that it is appropriate to eat that amount and people just keep going," notes Rolls.

It is this relentless pursuit of profit that has led to upsizing on such a huge scale, which in turn has contributed to an obesity epidemic. A bucket of popcorn sure has a lot to answer for.

Courtesy <http://www.iol.co.za/lifestyle/food-drink/food/mega-portions-make-mega-people-1.1321346#.T98EYBfabIc>



Weight-loss advice to an obese patient: "Let's keep it simple...just eat the things you don't like."



**Cartoon
Against
Corruption**



India Against Corruption

Charge Sheet On P Chidambaram

“Nobody expects politicians to be synonymous with ethics. But the unusual predicament facing India is that an unacceptably large percentage of the 5000 Members of Parliament and the State Legislatures have sunk to such a level that to call their manoeuvres a rat race for winning election and personal fame would be defamatory to rats. At this moment, when the nation is standing on the escalator of anarchy and corruption, right minded citizens cannot afford to stand frozen in disgust and dismay. We cannot look upon the political developments in sorrow and upon our politicians in anger. The problem facing the country has to be solved without delay – we are racing against time”.

- Nani A Palkivala

'Continued from previous issue.'

P Chidambaram was the Finance Minister from May 2004 to November 2008 and has been Home Minister since December 2008. In the previous issue we dealt the chargesheet against him on the pricing of 2G Spectrum. In this issue we examine:

1. Allowing sale of equity by Swan and Unitech
2. FIPB approval of Hutch-Vodafone
3. FIPB approval of Aircel-Maxis
4. Unwarranted attempts to withdraw prosecution

1. Allowing Sale of Equity by Swan and Unitech
Both Swan and Unitech had obtained 2G licenses and

spectrum in 2008 at throwaway prices because of the connivance of Mr. Chidambaram and the then Telecom Minister Mr. Raja. That was the first part of the 2G scam. The second part of the 2G scam took place later in 2008. Mr. Chidambaram allowed the companies like Swan and Unitech to sell off their stakes, without charging any Government's share of its premium on account of spectrum valuation and without enforcing his own agreement with the then Telecom Minister dated 30.01.2008. On 30.01.2008, Mr. Chidambaram and Mr. Raja met and concluded that 14 operators were too many for the Indian market and that several of the new entrants had come in for 'speculative reasons'. Further, they knew full well that these companies would enter into M&As and make windfall profits because of the premium linked to the spectrum that they had received in 2008 at 2001 prices. They made detailed notings and agreements about how such premium resulting from M&As, being linked almost entirely to the value of spectrum, must be appropriately subjected to a government's share and after proper and official valuations. No M&A in the telecom sector can take place without the consent of the DoT, as per the license conditions. On 30th January 2008, in his documented meeting (annexed above) with Mr. Raja 20 days after the 2G scam took place and LoIs had been granted, but no licenses or spectrum allocated yet, a detailed discussion on spectrum and M&As occurred. The notes from the meeting between the FM, the MoCIT, and attended by the Finance Secretary and the DoT Secretary concluded on the issue of M&As, speculative operators, and protecting government revenues that:

"2.4. In case of M&A, getting part of the valuation for government as premium for spectrum, to avoid hoarding as well as spectrum trading:

In view of very large number of new operators, it is expected that some of these companies might have obtained licenses as 'speculative' venture. Hence, some 'mergers and acquisitions (M&As)' are likely to take place after some time, which de facto, would amount to spectrum trading, as large part of such company's valuation may be on account of the spectrum held by them. This spectrum trading is not desirable and needs to be regulated. Besides, the general conditions in service license and other guidelines for M&As, clear detailed 'Guidelines' needed to be evolved and announced regarding the M&As, especially the amount of spectrum which the merged entity would be allowed to retain alongwith other criteria such as other details in this regard; company's valuation by consultants/valuers appointed by govt's approval/consent/concurrence; and then payment of a part of the valuation to govt. as premium for spectrum, etc."

The above clearly shows that both ministers were specifically aware that M&As would lead to windfall gains for these companies. In fact, the Supreme Court, in its judgment dated 2nd February 2011 in WPC 423/2010 cited as ((2012) 3 SCC 1) while cancelling the 2G

licenses has held on the issue of sale of stakes by these companies that:

"This becomes clear from the fact that soon after obtaining licenses, some of the beneficiaries off-loaded their stakes to others in the name of transfer of equity or infusion of fresh capital by foreign companies, and thereby made huge profits. We have no doubt that if the method of auction had been adopted for grant of licenses which could have been the only rational transparent method for distribution of national wealth, the nation would have been enriched by many thousand crores."

In fact, the CBI, in its charge sheet of 2nd April 2011 in the 2G scam matter, has, in Section C (dual technology approvals and spectrum allocation), clearly specified "a gain of Rs. 2,342 crores to the promoters of Unitech Wireless," and in the case of Swan-Etiscalat, it specifies "a premium of Rs. 275.7178 on each share". The CBI itself, as a part of the criminal conspiracy, has shown massive profits made by these companies. Further, the same has been accepted by the Learned Special Judge of the CBI Court in the order framing charges of 22nd October 2011, where he has concluded: "...M/s Swan Private Limited and M/s Unitech Limited, and thereby two companies obtained pecuniary advantage to the tune of Rs. 7,105 crore by offloading their shares..."

On 8th February 2008, the DoT submitted an approach paper (annexed above) in which it also specifically addressed the issue of M&As, in that:

"In view of this we need to have clear guidelines relating to M&A. We also need to consider fees on account of transfer of spectrum to a merged entity. In the event of M&A, the transfer charge to the government has not been considered by TRAI in their recommendation of August 2007. This is a complex issue requiring detailed deliberation and consultation. Therefore, the issue of



quantum of fees that the government would get on account of transfer of spectrum during M&As need to be referred to TRAI. Based on the recommendations of TRAI on the above issue, DoT will take appropriate decisions within a specified period and issue clear and transparent guidelines for M&A including transfer charges for spectrum.”

On 11th February 2008, in the DoT’s internal note (annexed above) prepared based on the meeting between the FM and the MoCIT on 30th January 2008, three rounds of discussions between the FS and the DoT Secretary as well as the approach paper of the DoT dated 8th February 2008, it was concluded that M&As were expected and that the government must find a way to protect its revenues. It specifically stated that: “One question that arises is whether the government should get premium out of an M&A transaction. Since spectrum has not been auctioned but priced heuristically, it is likely that rent if any, involved in the price of spectrum will form part of the M&A transaction.”

On 28th May 2008, one day before a scheduled meeting between Chidambaram and Raja, a briefing note was prepared for the FM in which, again, on the issue of government revenue from M&As, it was stated that:

10. DoT have issued notification on April 22, 2007 on ‘guidelines for intra circle merger of cellular mobile telephone service

(CMTS)/unified access service (UAS) licenses’ (copy attached). The guidelines mandate: a) Spectrum transfer charge to be payable as specified by government.

11. DoT may be advised that the fixation of ‘spectrum transfer charges’ shall be in consultation with DEA.”

It is a matter of record that Chidambaram and Raja met on 29th May 2008, on 12th June 2008 and finally with the PM jointly on 4th July 2008. However, from the notes of this meeting dated 6th July 2008, it is clear that the entire issue of subjecting M&As to the government’s share of the premium from the sale of spectrum, spectrum transfer charge was specifically left out of the discussion.

On 23rd September 2008, Swan Telecom, which had received spectrum in only 9 out of the 13 circles in which it had received licenses, entered into an M&A transaction with Etisalat International. Similarly, on 29th October 2008, Unitech entered into an M&A transaction with Telenor even though it had received spectrum in only 13 out of the 22 circles. In the days following these

transactions, several press clippings appeared exposing the loss to the exchequer, and questioning the government’s move of allocating spectrum at 2001 prices, including the false promise of doing so under the pretext of affordability and increasing teledensity etc. The articles clearly questioned the loss to the exchequer.

On 4th November 2008, under pressure from the media, Swan and Unitech were forced to report about the transactions to the DoT. The intimation of the two companies showed that the only asset that they possessed at the time of the massive valuations during the M&A was the promise of spectrum. They did not even have spectrum in all their circles, and consequently, did not have any telecom infrastructure or equipment either. They had no customers and therefore no revenues either. It was clear from their own letters that the entire valuation and the pecuniary advantage was linked to the price of spectrum in 2008. This, in fact, is exactly what had been expected and documented in the conclusions reached between the FM and Raja in their meeting of 30th January 2008 – which were then repeated in the DoT’s and MoF’s

notes/letters of 8th February, 11th February, and 28th May 2008.

Under continued pressure from the media, Raja held a meeting with the FM and the PM. In this meeting, he obviously received the support of the FM. In a complete U-turn of their earlier agreement of 30th January 2008, documents suggest that

the FM passed off these transactions as mere infusion of equity under the FDI rules. This free passage for Swan and Unitech became a cause of additional and massive loss to the exchequer. On 5th November 2008, Raja penned down a one-page note, describing his meeting with the FM and the PM. In face of the media articles pointing to the ‘unlawful enrichment’ and specified that:

“In a meeting, the Hon’ble Finance Minister clarified that the dilution of share to attract foreign investment for business expansion did not amount to sale of license and as such these companies did their share dilution as per corporate laws. Nevertheless, I suggest that in order to remove suspicious clouds in the minds of media and people, Telecom Commission may deliberate this issue and restrict outright sale of licenses and selling of stake by promoters to second party for money.”

Thereafter on November 7, 2008 the DoT in a Press Release justified the part-equity sale of Swan and Unitech to Etisalat and Uninor. They claimed “This matter has been discussed and clarified with the Finance



Aam Ras - Aam admi ka ras

Minister.” The same thing is mentioned in a note dated November 7, 2008 that was prepared by the DoT for Full Telecom Commission meeting.

Thus Chidambaram, apart from giving spectrum to shady companies at low prices, also allowed them to sell it off at many times the said price, thus allowing them to make windfall gains. The above facts clearly demonstrate that the actions of Chidambaram led to massive loss to the public exchequer and a corresponding gain to a few private companies and individuals, and those decisions were also detrimental to public interest. Therefore, he clearly abused his position to benefit a few private parties, which is a clear offence under Section 13 (1) (d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

2. FIPB Approval to Hutch-Vodafone

The Government had capped the Foreign investment in Indian telecom operating companies through direct and indirect route at 74 per cent. However, Hutchison Essar Limited (HEL), an operator that provided telecom services across India, breached this condition with Foreign Investment in HEL as high as 89 per cent. Hutchison Telecommunications International Limited (“HTIL”), a Hong Kong based company, had 67 per cent in HEL while Essar through its Mauritius based companies had 22 per cent equity in HEL. HTIL though

concerned parties – Hutchison, Vodafone, and all the three Name Lenders. Vodafone vide its letter dated March 14, 2007 confirmed its intention to acquire 67 per cent stake. The DEA also sought the opinion of RBI and Law Ministry on this issue. It circulated the details to all the Members of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) for their comments. However, all the other Members of the FIPB authorized DEA to investigate.

At this stage, Hutch realized the gravity of this situation. On March 15, 2007 Hutch agreed to pay \$415 million to Essar in a conditional Settlement Agreement with Essar. This was primarily to secure Government permissions. Out of this 90 per cent (\$373.5 million) was immediately paid and the balance 10 per cent (\$41.5 mn) was to be paid later. On the other hand, responding to DEA’s queries, the RBI in its letter dated March 20, 2007 called this as a serious violation, and said it requires further investigation. However, Law Ministry gave a different opinion and said it was not in violation of FIPB. With all these inputs, including that of Law Ministry’s opinion, the DEA on April 26, 2007 had concluded that HTIL had 15 per cent benami shares. However, on April 27, 2007, the Finance Minister P Chidambaram called these DEA officers in his office including the Finance Secretary. Later, on the same evening, the FIPB held a

meeting. Most of the Members of FIPB recorded their serious observation but allowed transfer of only 52 per cent of Hutch to Vodafone, while it rejected 15 per cent share transfer to Vodafone. Under pressure, it did not act and remained silent on the benami holding. This is revealed in the notings of DEA received under the RTI Act.

On May 7, 2007 the FIPB gave conditional permission to Vodafone to purchase 52 per cent of Hutch while putting restriction on the sale of benami 15 per cent. However, without caring for this condition, Vodafone executed the purchase as per original plans and purchased the entire 67 per cent. This

violation too was again immediately brought to the government agencies including A Raja, the then Telecom Minister. However, no action was taken.

Later on, Vodafone also entered into another agreement with Essar called Amended and restated Shareholders Term Sheet dated August 24, 2007 by way of which it has fixed how to share cost if at a later stage the Government finds that the shareholding is benami. This agreement has capped Essar’s liability to \$415 million that it has received from Hutch under the above stated conditional Settlement Agreement. In other words, if Essar is unable to secure the complete go through, it must return \$415 million to Vodafone. For extending support, Vodafone also arranged a loan of \$3.5 billion Term Loan on its sureties for Essar. For this, Essar,



had 67 per cent foreign investment but it had declared to Indian authorities that it had only 52 per cent. The remaining 15 per cent it held through three Indian entities (Analjit Singh, Asim Ghosh, and IDFC).

The above breach came to light only when HTIL announced the sale of its entire equity of 67 per cent to Vodafone of UK on February 11, 2007. This is revealed in Vodafone’s Press release dated February 11, 2007, and also Hutchison announcement on Hong Kong Stock Exchange through a presentation paper dated February 22, 2007. Telecom Watchdog, an NGO, immediately brought this to the notice of the concerned agencies in India including the Enforcement Directorate. Thereafter, the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under Ministry of Finance held detailed discussions with all the

Vodafone, and banks entered into agreement in September 2007. This agreement also reveals that Vodafone has purchased 67 per cent from Hutch. It also elaborates how to deal with a situation when the Government finds that they have 15 per cent benami shares.

Later, on February 13, 2009, the government relaxed Foreign Investment cap through Press Release No. 2 of 2009. This allowed further formal taking over of another 6 per cent by Vodafone from the Name Lenders – Asim Ghosh (2.29 pc) and Analjit Singh (3.71 pc) out of the total 15 per cent benami by paying them a substantial money for lending their names.

Vodafone paid Asim Ghosh Rs 329.5 crore and Analjit Singh Rs 533.3 crore. Thus, together they sold 6 per cent for Rs 862.8 crore. This works out to be Rs 143.8 crore per one per cent of HEL/VEL. This means the valuation of 100 per cent of HEL/VEL was just Rs 14,380 crore. This is highly undervalued. This substantiates the allegation that these are just Name Lenders, and the payment was made by Vodafone to them as their booty for lending their Names. Thus, from the above it is clear that the Finance Ministry officials maintained the same position even just a day before the FIPB meeting was scheduled for April 27, 2007. On that morning, P Chidambaram called these officers in his chamber, and after that these officers took u-turn and granted permission Vodafone to buy only 52%. The FIPB communicated this to Vodafone in May 2007. But, Vodafone continued with its acquisition plan of 67%. The Government did not do anything despite the complaints.

It is also clear that, in March 2007, Hutchison, in an agreement with Essar, agreed to pay \$415 million to Essar for arranging government permissions. This agreement was restated by Vodafone after they purchased 67% equity, and Essar agreed to return all the money in case it fails to do so. So, this was apparently the bribe money (\$425 mn) that was prima facie used by Essar to purchase permissions. These above facts therefore undoubtedly need a thorough independent investigation.

3. FIPB Approval to Aircel-Maxis

Under the law, foreign share holding of a telecom company cannot be more than 74%. Any foreign investment of 50% or more have to be cleared by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) which is headed by the Finance Minister. The first job of the FIPB is to ensure that the FDI cap of 74% is not violated.

Maxis, a Malaysian company, purchased an Indian telecom company called 'Aircel' and its investment was almost 100%. But to circumvent FDI cap of 74%, it routed the balance investments through Chennai based Reddy Group (Apollo Hospital). To the Indian authorities, Maxis maintained that it has only 74% in Aircel. This FDI violation can also be established from the fact that Maxis invested several thousand crores of Rupees in Aircel, whereas Reddy's investment is just Rs 34.17 crore for a stake as high as 26% in Aircel.

CBI has now filed an FIR on the above transaction. The said FIR states:

"M/s Aircel was taken over by M/s Maxis Communications through its subsidiary M/s Global Communications along with its India partner M/s Sindiya Securities vide a complex equity structure giving them 74% and 26% stake in M/s Aircel Televentures Ltd. respectively. Whereas the investment made by them were US \$ 792.41 million and US \$ 7.59 million respectively thereby giving M/s Global Communications an economic interest of 99.3% in M/s Aircel Televentures Ltd."

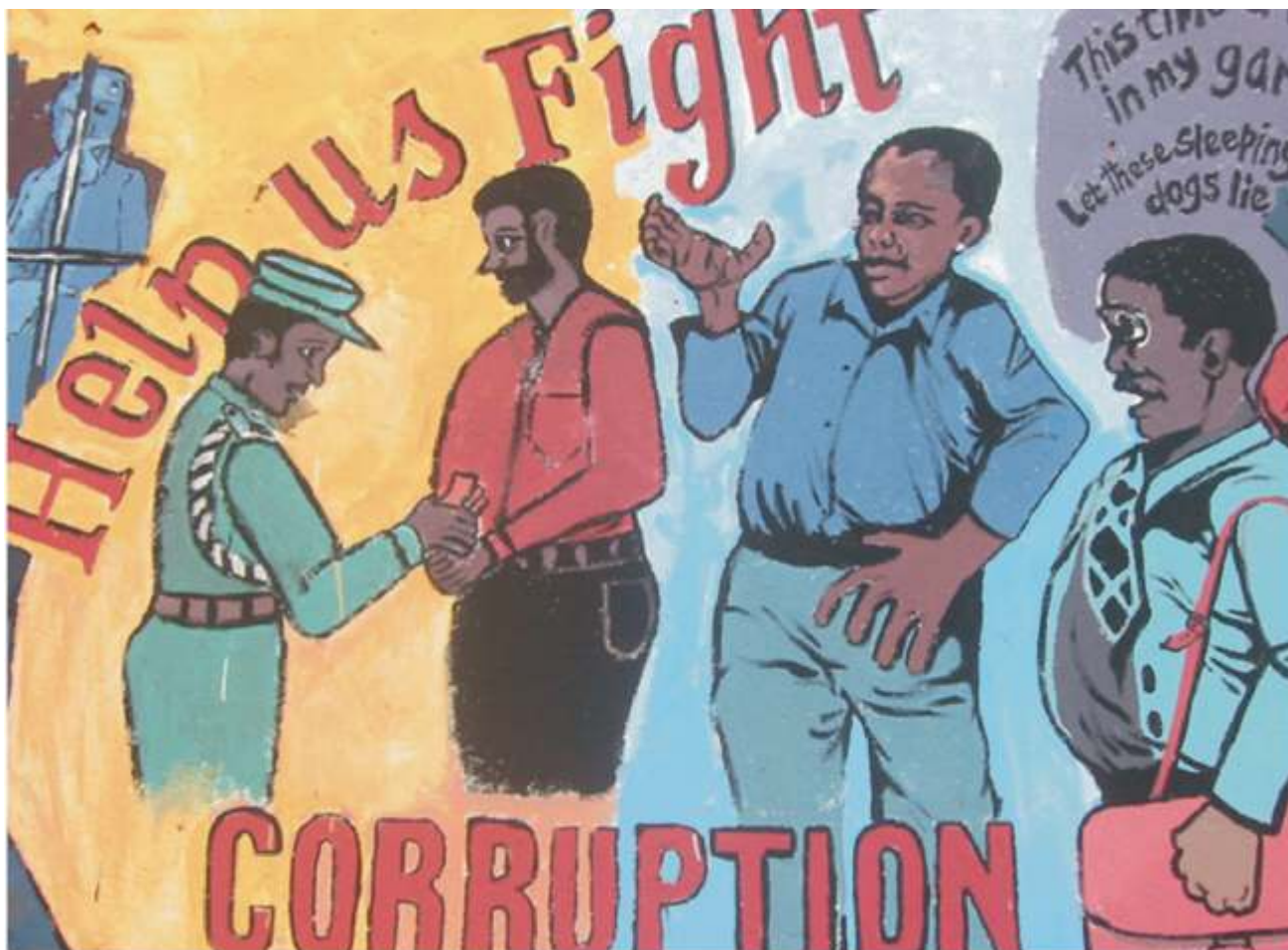
Even to the Bursa Malaysia Stock Exchange, Maxis in its quarterly report ended March 31, 2006 has declared that it has 99.3% investment in Aircel.

But despite the above well-known facts Chidambaram went ahead and accorded FIPB clearance on 03.10.2006. Also after complaints were filed regarding this FDI cap violation, no inquiry was done or ordered by Chidambaram or the DoT.

After the Maxis took control over Aircel, Maran got spectrum pricing out of agenda of the Group of Ministers (GoM). The record shows the Finance Ministry under Chidambaram maintained a temporary silence on the issue of spectrum pricing being dropped from the GoM between February 2006 and February 2007. This was the same period in which Maxis received two sets of FIPB clearances in January-March and September-October 2006, followed by 14 licences between December 5 and 14, 2006, along with the promise of linked 2G spectrum at 2001 rates on a first come, first served basis. Aircel paid Rs. 1,399 crore for these 14 licences which the CAG, in 2010, valued at roughly Rs. 13,000 crore. Once Aircel had secured its licences, the Finance Ministry suddenly went back to arguing that spectrum pricing be included in the ToRs of the GoM on spectrum.

While the above was happening, Karti Chidambaram (son of Chidambaram)'s company M/s Advantage Strategic Consulting gave a mysterious loan of Rs. 26 lakhs to Aircel. Around this time there was a





5% (Rs 18 lakhs) increase in Aircel's share capital. These shares were apparently allotted to companies linked with Karti Chidambaram. After the above facts came to light, Chidambaram argued that Karti's Ausbridge came to Advantage Strategic Consulting only in 2008/2009 by taking 67% shares. The Loans and Advances to Aircel took place somewhere before 31 March 2006 and at that time Karti had no role in M/s Advantage. But the Attached Annual Return 2006-2007 of Karti's Ausbridge Holdings (where Karti holds 94% share) shows that their email id as: *advantconsult@gmail.com*. And Advantage Strategic Consulting's Letter Head available at RoC says their website is *www.advantconsult.com*.

The above facts leave no room for doubt that a thorough and impartial investigation is necessary in this case.

4. Unwarranted Attempts To Withdraw Prosecution

Chidambaram was known to one S P Gupta, a Delhi based hotelier. Chidambaram had also appeared for him several times a lawyer, including in cases where Gupta had sought quashing of FIRs against him. Chidambaram had appeared for him till 2004 when he became a minister. As many as four FIRs were registered against Gupta and others. In all the cases, Delhi Police had filed

detailed chargesheets leveling serious charges against Gupta and the trial court had taken cognizance. Gupta had gone right up to the Supreme Court to get the investigations and/or the chargesheets quashed. His all petitions and appeals had been rejected. But as soon as Chidambaram took over as Home Minister, Gupta wrote to his Ministry seeking withdrawal of the cases against him. Soon thereafter, Chidambaram instructed the Delhi Police (which works under him) to withdraw all the cases against Gupta. This is a clear case of abuse of ministerial power to benefit an industrialist facing 4 chargesheets. After the above facts became a big public scandal, the order to withdraw the prosecution has been revoked. There are four cases registered by Delhi Police against S P Gupta and other private individuals. In all the four cases, chargesheets had been filed, the trial court had taken cognizance, and the High Court and Supreme Court had dismissed challenges to the FIR & chargesheets. Facts of the case are as follows:

FIR No. 90/2000

- a) FIR was registered on 14.02.2000
- b) Chargesheet was filed on 17.01.2003 u/s 420/406/409/468/471/477-A/120-B IPC: It charged S P Gupta and others of M/s Sunair Hotels, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi with cheating, criminal breach of trust,

forgery, falsification of accounts and criminal conspiracy.

c) Trial Court took cognizance of chargesheet and issued summons to accused on 18.01.2003

d) Notice was issued on 04.03.2003 by Delhi High Court on petition challenging chargesheet

e) Supplementary Chargesheet was filed on 18.08.2005

f) HC petition challenging chargesheet withdrawn on 04.03.2010

g) HC petition challenging summons dismissed on 04.06.2010: The HC order states *“Learned counsel for the petitioner states that they should be permitted to question and to challenge the summoning order which was passed on 18.01.2003 on merits. I do not think this should be permitted. As noticed above, the summoning order was challenged in petitions which had remained pending in this court from 2003/2006/2007 till 04.03.2010. The petitioner then withdrew these petitions as pointed out above. It will not be proper to allow the petitioner to once again raise the same questions after they had withdrawn the petitions, which had remained pending in the High Court for 3-6 years. In these circumstances the petition is dismissed.”*

h) SC dismissed appeal and upholds above HC order on 09.08.2010

FIR No. 99/2002

a) FIR was registered on 19.02.2002

b) HC dismissed petition against the FIR on 24.03.2005

c) SC dismissed appeal challenging above HC order on 03.07.2006

d) Chargesheet was filed on 16.01.2007 u/s 420/406/409/424/467/ 468/471/471A/120-B IPC It charged S P Gupta and others of M/s Sunair Hotels, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi with cheating, fraud, criminal breach of trust, forgery, falsification of accounts and criminal conspiracy.

e) Trial Court took cognizance and issued summons to accused on 12.03.2007

f) HC petition challenging chargesheet was withdrawn on 04.03.2010

FIR No. 148/2002

a) FIR was registered on 28.02.2002

b) Chargesheet was filed on 17.01.2006 u/s 384/406/409/417/422/465/468/471/ 500/120-B IPC: It charged S.P. Gupta and others for extortion, criminal breach of trust, cheating, fraud, forgery and criminal

conspiracy

c) Trial Court takes cognizance and issues summons to accused on 13.02.2006

d) Supplementary Chargesheet was filed on 22.10.2007

e) HC dismisses petition challenging summons on 02.07.2009

f) SC dismisses appeal against the above HC order on 29.01.2010

g) HC petition challenging FIR was withdrawn on 04.03.2010

FIR No. 315/2005

a) HC directs registration of FIR on 24.08.2005. The HC order states: *“It is submitted that certain official files regarding the Department of Company Affairs have been recovered from the accused persons but no action has been taken by the police... Having heard counsel for the petitioner, in the event, during investigation and search/seizure, any document or register is seized relating to Department of Company Affairs and cognizable offence is disclosed, the police, shall register an FIR and proceed in accordance with law.”*

b) Petition seeking quashing of FIR dismissed as withdrawn by HC on 04.03.2010

c) Chargesheet filed on 30.08.2011 u/s 380/411/120-B IPC: It charged S. P Gupta and others for committing theft and criminal conspiracy.

d) Trial Court takes cognizance and issues summons on 15.09.2011 S P Gupta and others had been chargesheeted by the Delhi Police of which trial court had taken cognizance for inter-alia: a) Misusing the names of Rajiv Gandhi and Mrs. Sonia Ganhi on the letter-heads. b) Forging letters of many Members of Parliament c) Stealing of 21 files from Ministry of Corporate Affairs d) Many instances of cheating, forgery and fraud.

Chidambaram seems to have put pressure on the Delhi government to drop three FIRs against Gupta. An application was filed on behalf of the Delhi Government to withdraw some of these cases. However, the application for withdrawal was itself withdrawn after this scandal hit the media. He thus abused his position as the Home Minister to get cases against his erstwhile client withdrawn after his client failed to have them quashed through the courts. This also amounts to criminal misconduct and needs a thorough investigation.

*Courtesy India Against Corruption
(Concluded)*

**India has great potential if it can end its embrace of Fabian socialism that it inherited from Britain. It has done so for its export oriented world class high-tech services. But this kernel of modernity is only a small part of the sprawling economy of India
– Alan Greenspan**

Alternative Futures from the Post-West

Sarkar as Epistemic Transformer

Sarkar's work is important to us for many reasons. Not only did he redefine rationality, seeing it in spiritual and social justice terms, but he placed the subtleness of inner love at the centre of his cosmology.

*Plant Taro, if you want to plan for the next six months,
Grow Teak, if you want to plan for a decade,
Teach your children, if you want to plan for the next hundred years.*
- Ancient Hawaiian Saying

*The present is the dreaming of the ancestors.
The dreaming of our present becomes the waking state of our ancestors - dreaming is the reality of ancestors.
The future is the balance between conscious and unconscious, history folding in on itself
to become the sacred moment.*
- Aboriginal View of the Future

*The shudra (unskilled worker) thinks of only the fleeting present.
The ksatriya (warrior) imagines myths and stories of the past.
The vipra (intellectual/priest) thinks of the future as the transcendental.
The vaeshyan (merchant) commodifies time and controls the shudra, warrior and vipra.
But the wise person lives the divine and thinks neither of past, present or future.*
- Sarkar's Typology of Social Time

The Cost of Perfection

In contrast to these views of the futures, the hegemonic - what is considered truth, non-contestable, natural - Western view of the future sees time largely as linear, exponentially so. The future began with the taming of nature, with the move from our animal irrational past to our glorious present of science, technology and liberal democracy. Even with the challenge of the global financial crisis, the future is linear and it is, will be, perfect. Perfection will be attained once the invisible hand of the market allows buyers and sellers to meet on a level playing field. This will allow untold wealth to accumulate. Remembering Comte and Spencer, religion and philosophy will slowly disappear as the technocratic managers solve the world's problems, either through new technologies or better organisational skills.

There are deviations of this but in general the trend is secular, linear, progress-based with the ultimate goal that of heaven on earth. The dark side of this overarching paradigm is that the cost of perfection is the exploitation of nature, the Third World and the Other - the periphery. But the deeper cost is the creation of a civilisation that cannot listen to the Other. The only other the West can

meet are simulcras of itself. In linear Western time, those ahead construct those behind as culturally inferior, their faces as ugly - certainly not worthy to walk the catwalks of fashion shows. In exponential Western time, cybertime, not only are they not worthy, but they no longer exist. They are at best virtual. Indeed, the futures of the non-West are in virtual museums.

The cost of the rise of the West, of the splendour of clean streets, beautiful concert halls, of seamless travel on the internet is the loss of the ability to understand the Other on its terms and thereby the loss of global linguistic and knowledge diversity.

However, the West has prospered precisely because it has been able to be diverse enough to appropriate the symbols of others without changing its essential worldview. Through its alter ego - small scale and community - its own Other, existing on its own periphery, it has managed to rise and rise while other civilisations have declined. For example, Johan Galtung argues that the West is expansion and contraction based (with Islam being in an inverse relationship to the West) (Galtung, Heiestad, Rudeng, 1979). If the West had been rigid, only linear and without a composite cosmology - ego and alter

ego - it would have collapsed. Its success on becoming a world civilisation, indeed, in appropriating civilisation (and thus defining civilisation as solely itself) has been its ability to selectively allow the Other in without fundamental transformation. This coupled with military and technological might - and a willingness to use it when the natives become restless - have destined the West to rise.

However, this rise has not been seen as imperialistic, rather it has been naturalised with the Other theorised as too disorganised (the Pacific), too religious (India), too transcendental (its own middle ages, which the West seeks to disown seeing the Middle Ages as a historical aberration instead of natural to it), too rigid (Confucian systems), and too close to nature (women and Africa).

Central in the rise of the West, in the rise of the world capitalist system, has been the transformation of perfection as a spiritual ideal (as wisdom), to perfection as an economic ideal (as technocratic engineering) - from perfection as a moral process, to perfection as an ideal wealthy society. The time of future thus has been transformed from astronomical/cosmic metaphors (as unknown and vast), agricultural metaphors (the circularity of the seasons), from religious metaphors (the future has heaven as opposed to the future as hell, the long fall from Grace), from transcendental metaphors (the future as eupsychia, the perfect self) to a site that can be colonised, that like death, can be tamed. With space already being colonised in the name of globalism by Northern and East Asian transnationals, all that is left now is time - the past is either romanticised or considered inferior, the present victorious but with collapse (the fear of Fall) always in sight, what is left is future time to.

The West thus has maintained its hegemony by securing: (1) definitional power, defining what is important, what is truth, good and beauty; (2) temporal power, naturalising measurable time; (3) spatial power, transforming sacred spaces into secular spaces, centralising power and exchange in megacities, and; (4) creating a centre-periphery based world economy where wealth trickles upward from the poor to the rich and social control downward from the powerful to those aspiring for power. East Asian nations have been able to challenge the economic power of the West (and centralised themselves, only keeping the spiritual in ceremonial forms) and are now making inroads into challenging the image of the future as well. South Korea and Japan, for example, are developing the Gross National Cool, as a new indicator, instead of just Gross National Development. Other nations such as Bhutan are arguing for a Gross National Happiness. Thus, the way we count the future in beginning to change. However, even post global financial crisis, the world is still Western based.

Sarkar as Epistemic Transformer

The future, however, may be different. But sitting from Calcutta, as macrohistorian P.R. Sarkar did, or in a



taro patch in old Hawaii, one knows that the strong shall fall and the others shall rise - history is cyclical. Hubris and karma cannot be evaded - once excellence is one's fatal flaw. The inability to listen to non-Western futures is the flaw which will bring transform the West.

Sarkar's work is important to us for many reasons. Not only did he redefine rationality, seeing it in spiritual and social justice terms, but he placed the subtleness of inner love at the centre of his cosmology. But while love was the base, he did not neglect the harsh realities of the world system. While certainly his work can be seen as part of the larger global project of creating a strong civil society to counter the waves of corporatist globalism, his movements are unique in that while most social movements are Western, highly participatory, goal oriented, short term, and single issue based, Sarkar's offer a genuine non-Western future (Sarkar, 1988; Inayatullah, 1988). His movements are:

- (1) Third World oriented, hoping to be the carriers of oppressed yet also seeing the oppressors in humanist terms, focusing on practice not the person;
- (2) Tantric, focused on reinvigorating mystical culture and not necessarily on immediate efficiency;
- (3) Multi-issue, working on many issues (and not just on the issue of the day) from women's rights and workers' rights to the prevention of cruelty to animals and plants;
- (4) Very very long term oriented, hundreds of years, that is, structures and processes that cannot fulfill their goals for generations ahead;
- (5) Committed to leadership creation and not just organisational development, thus avoiding the bureaucratic tendency;
- (6) Trans-state oriented, not solely concerned with nation-states and ego-power but acknowledging that there are four conventional types of power - worker, warrior, intellectual, economic - and the challenge is to develop processes that create a fifth that can balance

these forces.

(7) Comprehensive, inclusive of different ways of knowing the world, including the entrepreneurial, the intellectual, the warrior and the worker. Sarkar understood that social movements need to embrace wise economics, idea innovation, social justice and serve the world.

Underneath these projects has been Sarkar's effort of creating and using a new language (samaj, prama, microvita, samadhi, sadhana) and new metaphors (Shiva dancing between life and death) to help be the vehicles of the good society he envisioned (Inayatullah and Fitzgerald, 1997). But it was not perfection Sarkar was after. Influenced by Indian thought, he understood that there are deep evolutionary structures that cannot be changed, but certainly the periods of exploitation can be minimised. Perfection for Sarkar was only possible for individuals in the spiritual inner sphere, timeless time.

Sarkar's, as well as the many other Non-Western perspectives, indeed, Post-Western, hope to create not just a global civil society as with normal Western social movements but a gaia of cultures. Civil society is a response to particular dynamics of European history with its division between religion and church, state and society. For Muslims the dream is a global ummah (a world community or ohana or family). For the Maori, the appropriate word is the creation of a whanau. It means a vast universal family that connects the stars and the moon, the earth, and the sky all life forms that reside therein, the world of animation and inanimation, the worlds of the living and the dead. It is not universum nullium but knowing and intelligent, linked by genealogy for the indigenous or for Sarkar by consciousness.

But alternative non-West perspectives are also problematic. It is far too easy to critique the West for the ills of the planet and then quickly articulate a historical non-Western view as the obvious solution to the world's ills. Non-Western views eliminated by the onslaught of modernity existed in historical contexts - they cannot be simply idealised and raised as the solution to the future. The non-West should be seen in its entire humanity, as good and evil, as sensate and ideational, and not as

romantic reified archetypes that are the sole carriers of wisdom, of humanity's salvation. As Zia Sardar argues, the non-West as the spiritual Other of the West is as much as a projection as the non-West as the historically inferior (Sardar, 1993). As Edward Said has shown, what Europe denied to itself, it projected outwards onto the non-West making it the site of the exotic and the erotic (Said, 1979). Thus, just because a culture is suppressed, it does not follow that everything from that culture that is recovered is good for all. For example, many practices of indigenous cultures are not post-rational practices that are inclusive of many ways of knowing, rather they are simplistic pre-rational practices that confuse cause-effect, that confuse levels of reality. The logical mistake of misplaced concretism is often made, leading some to argue that angels can be tapped so that humans can travel to Mars. Metaphors are appropriate at particular levels but not at every level. Story telling is not the best way to do everything, it is one way.

Finally the larger question often not asked is whose future and future generations are to be honoured and protected? (In the West it is prima facie assumed this means the West). In the plea to save the world for future generations, issues of the rights of the Other are often forgotten. Each civilisation wants to ensure that its members survive and thrive, expanding to all corners of the world, that the graves of their ancestors are forever enshrined. But often it is at the expense of other civilisations that these claims are made.

Neo-humanism as the Bridge

Moving beyond West and Non-West requires a bridge to a new world. For Sarkar, this bridge is the concept and practice of Neo-humanism requiring external institutional change (global governance) and inner change (personal consciousness change). It becomes the path and practice forward. In neo-humanism, other forms of identity – ego, family, tribal, are understood and transcended, creating a new global ecumene. West and Non-west are seen in a concluding dance leading to a gaia of civilizations.

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★ Joe Copeland



The people of Hiroshima live with the devastating legacy of nuclear war, juxtaposed with the city's dedication to working for world peace. A mindful American visitor to Hiroshima can't avoid asking: Are people in the United States too comfortable with the existence of nuclear weapons? How do you motivate the public to care about the nuclear threat and instill the hope to work toward change?

At times it seems that a good jolt of fear might be the answer. Maybe then we would finally wake from denial and do something about the dangers of nuclear arms: the

risk that one of the nuclear powers may choose to use the ultimate weapon of mass destruction, the bomb's distortion of power relationships among nations, the potential for accident or terror to unleash some catastrophe.

There is a simple, human desire to convey Hiroshima's message — no more war, particularly the nuclear kind.

The difficulty of imparting a vision that enables change is brought home by *Countdown to Zero*, a 2010 film on the dangers of nuclear arms. *Countdown* goes down a dramatic Hollywood path, using fear as a catalyst for action. The film's publicity line, "More than a movie. It's a movement," promised it would focus public concern on nuclear arms in the way *An Inconvenient Truth*, by the same filmmakers, did for climate change.

Nuclear Disarmament is People's Work

Presidential declarations and filmmakers' scare tactics get the attention — meanwhile, powerful grassroots movements build on 60 years of effort.



Countdown failed to revitalize popular support for nuclear disarmament, but it did provide an insight into the pitfalls of crafting an urgent warning about pervasive danger.

By the end of Countdown, wrote Jeannette Catsoulis of The New York Times, “all most of us will want to do is duck and cover”— exactly the concern of some of the country’s eminent experts and campaigners for nuclear abolition.

“I think that fear shuts people down,” says Jacqueline Cabasso, executive director of Western States Legal Foundation, which monitors U.S. nuclear weapons programs.

There are other difficulties of balance when it comes to presenting the complexities of contemporary nuclear armaments and policy. Countdown dwells on the terrifying chaos of our post-Cold-War world — weapons-



grade uranium casually smuggled from the insufficiently regulated Russian nuclear industry and the ease with which terrorists could obtain material to assemble a crude but devastating “dirty bomb.”

The film does show one unexpected “benefit” of the threat of terror — getting some traditional supporters of nuclear policy to acknowledge that the United States can no longer hope to maintain a nuclear weapons stockpile while asking others to give up the bomb. As former Republican Secretary of State George Shultz said in an interview with YES! in 2008, “You’re going to be more secure if there are no nuclear weapons in the world, because if you achieve this goal, you won’t be risking

having nuclear weapons blow up in one of our cities.”

But for a film linked to the “Global Zero” movement, ending with the repeated message that the only safe number of nuclear arms is zero, Countdown leaves the viewer with little information about how this is to be achieved. It’s particularly striking how vague Countdown is about the responsibility of the United States and the other Western nuclear powers for the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world — there are about 23,000, according to the film. Nuclear weapons have long held a strong place in U.S. strategic doctrine, not just as a deterrent, and the United States is the only nation ever to have dropped an atomic bomb. The new nuclear states — Pakistan, for example — are portrayed in the film as dangerous, if not unbalanced. But if Western democracies continue nuclear policies that underpin global instability, what hope is there of reining in nuclear escalation elsewhere?

Dramatic Activism

Telling a true story that instills hope is the greatest opportunity missed in Countdown: that of six decades of grassroots activism around the world — activism that is dramatic, impressive, and, to a degree that’s easy to forget, sustained.

Many movements have arisen locally to work globally against nuclear weapons since the dawn of the atomic era and the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan’s modern peace movement began after a shocking 1954 U.S. atomic test in the Pacific exposed Marshall Islanders and the crew of a Japanese fishing boat to serious levels of radioactive fallout. The event shook Japan out of denial about the health effects on survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and brought the idea of nuclear fallout to world attention. The “Ban the Bomb” movement in Great Britain attracted tens of thousands to peace marches, and the concern about fallout spurred peace movements in the United States and the rest of the world. In the decades since, much of the South Pacific has declared itself a nuclear-free zone. There have been periods of higher and lower citizen engagement, but activists have stuck with the issue.

Consider the Greenham Common Women’s Peace Camp, formed in 1981 to protest the placement of nuclear-tipped cruise missiles on a British base. The missiles were removed pursuant to the 1987 U.S.-Soviet arms control treaty signed by Gorbachev and Reagan, but the camp stayed in place until 2000, when plans for a



Graphic by Rob Sussman for YES! Magazine.

historical commemorative site were agreed upon. Nowhere, however, have people campaigned longer for nuclear abolition than in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The cities lead an international, grassroots Mayors for Peace campaign that has grown rapidly in recent years.

Mayors for Peace

A push for nuclear abolition could come from Asia, where the largest nuclear power, China, has shown surprisingly strong interest in eliminating rather than simply reducing nuclear weapons stockpiles.

Hiroshima Mayor Tadatashi Akiba has led the growth of Mayors for Peace, which had 4,467 members (in 150 countries and regions) as of January 1, 2011. Akiba returned to his native Japan after working as a math professor at Tufts University and becoming well-known for educating U.S. journalists about nuclear issues. I remember once asking him about the relevance of mayors' work for nuclear abolition, when such big issues are traditionally seen as the work of world leaders. He replied that mayors are closer to the people, making them a perfect group to advance the cause. Of course, it does take the world leaders to disarm. President Obama took a decisive step with a speech in Prague in 2009, in which he declared a goal of abolishing all nuclear weapons. The Nobel Committee cited the special importance of his "vision of and work for a world without nuclear weapons" when it awarded him the Nobel Peace Prize for 2009.

The Prague speech sparked considerable hope in Hiroshima that Obama will become the first U.S. president to visit the city while in office. High school students have mobilized to support efforts by Akiba and prominent survivors to secure an invitation. A presidential visit would provide momentum for nuclear abolition, but more than anything, there is a simple, human desire to convey Hiroshima's message — no more war, particularly the nuclear kind. Jacqueline Cabasso (who also serves as North American coordinator for Mayors for Peace) sees one promising route to nuclear abolition — making the link to other issues, like social justice and how funding for nuclear weapons could be diverted to meet basic human needs. That framing has certainly been a factor in Akiba's ability to draw strong support from The U.S. Conference of Mayors, which has worked closely with Mayors for Peace, passing progressive resolutions to advance both nuclear disarmament and government that prioritizes improved quality of life over nuclear stockpiles.

Nuclear Abolition

Like many in the peace movement, Cabasso was appalled by the huge investment in nuclear-weapons-



related plants that Obama promised in order to win Senate support of the recent Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty with Russia.

But activists see encouraging signs. Alice Slater, of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, suggests that a push for nuclear abolition could come from Asia, where the largest nuclear power, China, has shown surprisingly strong interest in eliminating rather than simply reducing nuclear weapons stockpiles. The real need is to move beyond the current nonproliferation regime, in which nuclear powers say they will eventually abandon their weapons, and toward a true nuclear abolition treaty.

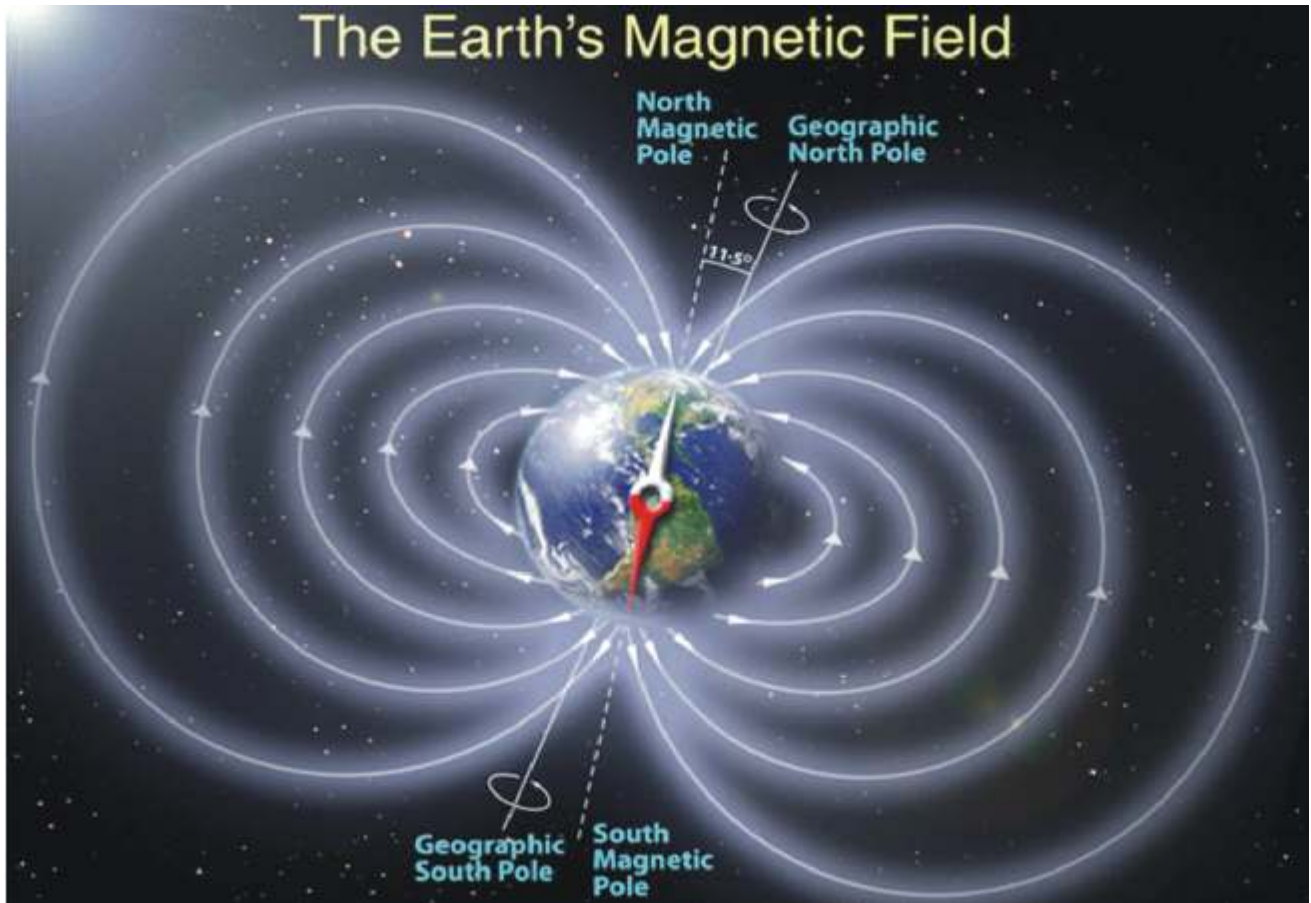
Slater compares stagnation on the issue to the situation a few years ago, where Canada jump-started the process on an international landmine ban treaty that had been stalled by the largest powers. The United States, among a number of other countries, hasn't signed the landmine treaty, but the moral effect of the international consensus has proven powerful in preventing new deployments of mines.

Something similar has already happened with nuclear weapons, in part because the hibakusha - survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki - have been so insistent about reminding the world of the fearful realities of nuclear war. Instead of remaining victims, they are inspiring advocates for saving humanity.

In the face of the difficulties and uncertainties of mobilizing people internationally, the determined hibakusha look ahead toward success. Maybe nothing symbolizes that better than the drive to bring the Summer Olympics to Hiroshima in 2020, the year Mayors for Peace has targeted for achieving nuclear abolition. The thinking is that, if the goal is achieved, there ought to be a huge celebration. If there is still work to do, the Olympics will be an occasion to celebrate progress and spur final steps toward a safer future. For everyone thinking, studying, or working on nuclear abolition, there is something to learn from that optimistic effort.

The writer is a regular contributor to nuclear safety issues in international magazines.

Schematic illustration of Earth's magnetic field courtesy NASA.



Past and Future Pole Shifts

✶ Suresh Emre

Introduction

Pole Shift is a controversial subject and is debated passionately. During these discussions people tend to forget the basic physics, the law of the conservation of angular momentum which dictates that the average axial

rotation around its axis will always be counterclockwise as seen from above the ecliptic plane. These facts can only change if Earth collides with a large asteroid. That object has to be at least as big as Mars. Mechanisms internal to Earth may widen the range (amplitude) of the

In True Polar Wander the whole Earth shifts relative to the rotational axis which is fixed in celestial coordinates. In other words, the relative position of a city on Earth with respect to the axial pole is shifting without any crustal slippage, continental drift or core-mantle slippage.

tilt angle with respect to the solar axis will remain constant. The axial tilt angle oscillates with a 41 kyr periodicity but it will always be between 22.2 and 24.5 degrees. Another consequence of the law of the conservation of angular momentum is that the Earth's

tilt oscillation but they cannot change the average axial tilt.

Based on the law of the conservation of angular momentum, we can say that the Sun will always rise from the East. That would be a logical statement based on the

fact that Earth's spin rotation will always be counterclockwise. According to some mythological stories, "Sun started rising from a different direction 11.5 kyr ago." There is the usual difference between summer and winter of course but the mythologies are talking about a major shift. There is no reason to believe that mythological stories are literally true but for the sake of argument let's assume that these stories have an element of truth in them; let's ask what is possible within the restrictions of the law of the conservation of angular momentum?

TPW (True-Polar-Wander)

In the reference frame of the Solar system the average axial tilt angle does not change (the tilt oscillation stays within a range), the spin rotation speed may change slightly but the rotation is always counterclockwise. The relative orientation of a particular spot on Earth with respect to the axial poles, however, can shift. Geophysicists call this type of polar shift TPW (true-polar-wander) [1].

The polar shift of the TPW kind does not involve a slippage of the crust at the lithosphere-mantle boundary as in Hapgood's theory [2]. In TPW there is no slippage at the core-mantle boundary either. The TPW is also different from continental drifts.

In TPW the whole Earth shifts relative to the rotational axis which is fixed in celestial coordinates. In other words, the relative position of a city on Earth with respect to the axial pole is shifting without any crustal slippage, continental drift or core-mantle slippage. This is hard to visualize but it can be explained as follows.

Earth is not a perfect sphere. Earth's equatorial circumference is 82 miles longer than the polar circumference. Earth is an oblate sphere. The equatorial bulge was formed from the centrifugal forces when the Earth's spin rotation was established billions of years ago. More importantly, Earth's mantle (the huge molten rock layer below the crust) is denser around the equator. This makes Earth a gyroscope. This is why the axial tilt angle is so stable.

Let's assume for a moment that the densities in Earth's mantle

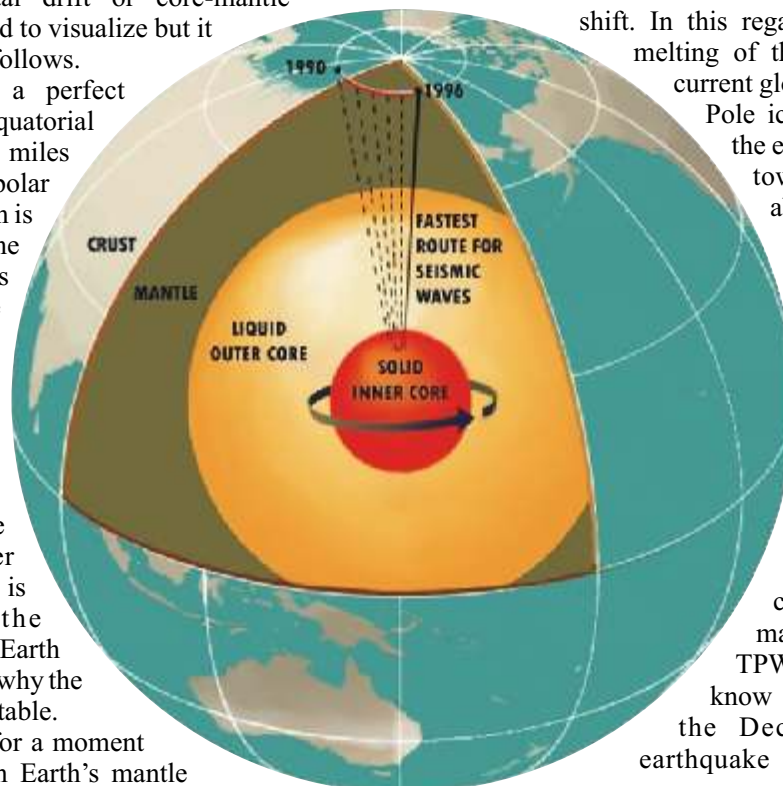
change. This actually happens because there are convection currents within the liquid mantle and there are also super-plumes (liquid core rising into the mantle). The mantle is liquid rock and the outer core is mostly liquid iron. Currently there are 2 super-plume activities beneath the Pacific Ocean basin (near Hawaii) and beneath the African continent [3] [4] [5] [6]. Interestingly both super-plumes are positioned close to the equator. Because of super-plumes the average mantle density near the equator is decreasing. This has dramatic consequences. This means the Earth is becoming less of a gyroscope. The super-plumes also push the crust (lithosphere) up. From the angular momentum point of view, the rising crust (Africa) counters the destabilizing effect of the density change. The overall effect is probably a decrease in the gyroscope property.

The law of the conservation of angular momentum forces the equator to be near the denser regions of the mantle or near the raised continents or raised ice sheets. Often the continent of Antarctica is ignored in these discussions but we know that Antarctica is the most raised continent. The off-axis parts of Antarctica contribute to Earth's angular momentum significantly. When the distribution of mass density changes for whatever reason the equator will gravitate towards the areas that contribute most to Earth's angular momentum. Since the axial orientation in space cannot change, the sphere (Earth) will shift so that the denser regions will move towards the axial equator as defined in the reference frame of the Solar System. This is a real shift. In this regard we may consider the melting of the polar ice caps due to current global warming. If the North Pole ice sheet melts completely the equator will probably move towards Australia. In the absence of super-plumes, this kind of mass redistribution would not cause a large TPW but under the current circumstances it might be.

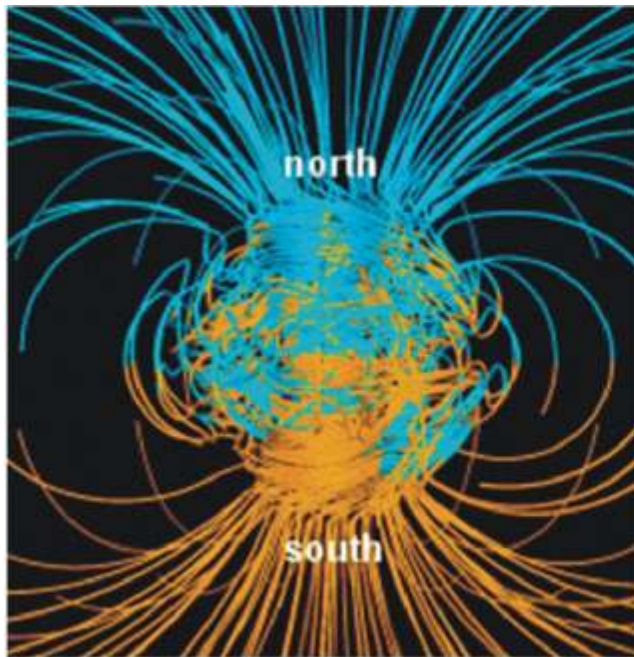
Not just the mantle super-plumes but any change in the distribution of mass on Earth will cause TPW kind of polar shift. We know from measurements that the December 2004 Sumatra earthquake [7] [8] [9] [10] [11]

2.5 cm TPW Pole Shift Due to 2004 Sumatra Earthquake

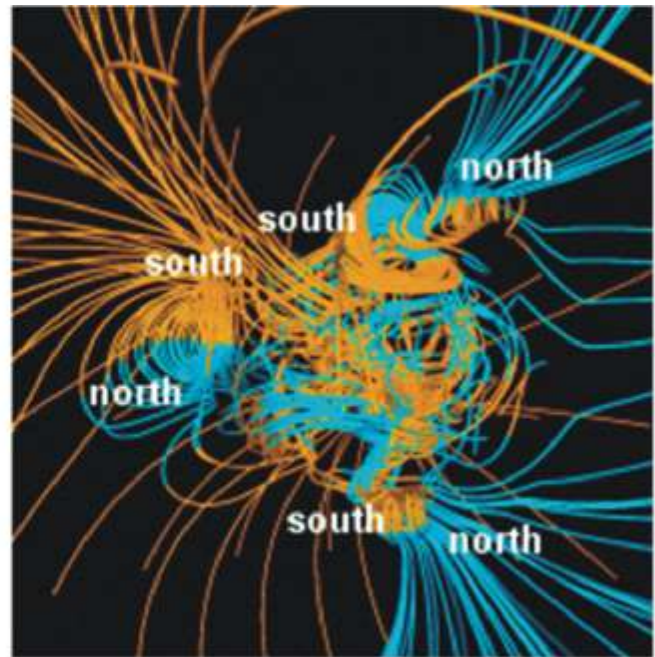
Not just the mantle super-plumes but any change in the distribution of mass on Earth will cause TPW kind of polar shift. We know from measurements that the December 2004 Sumatra earthquake [7] [8] [9] [10] [11]



A schematic diagram of Earth's interior and the movement of magnetic north from 1900 to 1996. The outer core is the source of the geomagnetic field. Graphic Credit: Dixon Rohr courtesy NASA



between reversals



during a reversal

Supercomputer models of Earth's magnetic field.

On the left is a normal dipolar magnetic field, typical of the long years between polarity reversals.

On the right is the sort of complicated magnetic field Earth has during the upheaval of a reversal

shortened the day by 0.000003 seconds (0.003 milliseconds). In regular earthquakes the tectonic plates grind against each other. When one of the plates moves with an angle under the other plate big disasters happen. These regions are known as subducting zones. The 2004 Sumatra earthquake caused a 2.5 cm TPW polar shift because of the subduction activity. The subducting plate motion shortens the day because it is like the skater moving his arms closer to his chest. The post-glacial bounce of the continents has the opposite effect. The rising continents slow down the earth rotation thus lengthening the day. The Earth day has been getting longer because of the rising continents and other reasons. On Dec 31, 2008, 1 second was added to the atomic clocks to reflect this change.

8 cm TPW Pole Shift Due to 2010 Chile Earthquake

Geophysicist Richard Gross of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California estimated that the February 27, 2010 earthquake in Chile (8.8 on Richter scale) caused a 8 cm TPW pole shift and also shortened an Earth day by 1.26 millionths of a second.

500 meter TPW Pole Shift Due to Uneven Rise in Sea Levels

Recent research suggests that the melting of the West Antarctic ice sheet would raise the sea level by 5 meters. There is huge amount of water contained in the Antarctic ice sheet (25 million). The West Antarctic ice sheet is only a small portion of it (2.2 million). The 5

meter rise in the sea level would devastate all coastal areas globally. In addition to this devastation we would have the additional problem of a TPW pole shift because of the huge redistribution of mass. Researchers at the University of Toronto and Oregon State University estimate a 500 meter TPW pole shift from the melting of West Antarctic ice sheet [12]. They also estimate that the sea level rise will be uneven in northern and southern hemispheres.

A Possible Scenario

Under a TPW all cities will shift their positions with respect to the axial poles but their relative distances will remain the same. For the reasons mentioned above Earth would shift in such a way that the cities in Central Asia would be closer to the new axial North Pole. The explanation for this is the fact that the continent of Australia is the only large land mass that is denser than the surrounding ocean and the mantle beneath Australia will be denser compared to the mantle at the super-plume location. The direction is also aided by the high-altitude and large mass of Antarctica. Under the current global warming conditions the Antarctic ice sheet will take longer to melt compared to the Arctic ice sheet. This enhances the redistribution of mass density and amplifies the TPW.

My estimate is that if the current warming continues, the equator will tilt towards the "Tropic of Capricorn" in Australia and towards the "Tropic of Cancer" on the western hemisphere. The city of Miami will be very close to the new equator. The new North Pole

will be in Siberia. All Asian cities will experience colder climates. New York climate will be very similar to the current Miami climate. It is hard to predict the climate of Europe after such pole shift because Europe's climate is very dependent on the Atlantic Ocean currents. It is very difficult to predict the future of the ocean currents in the wake of a polar shift of the TPW kind.

Commentary on Hapgood's Theory

Hapgood and his followers argued that accumulation of ice in the Polar Regions could cause changes in the distribution of mass resulting in slippage of lithosphere over the liquid mantle. The argument is that the crust (lithosphere) is very thin compared to the depth of the mantle. Crustal slippage would require less energy compared to the mantle slippage over the core. Hapgood did not know about the convection currents in the mantle and the super-plumes and he did not consider the true-polar-wander which requires even less energy than the crustal slippage. The accumulation of ice in the Polar Regions during the last ice age decreased the ocean level by 120 meters and therefore represented significant redistribution of mass on Earth's surface. The polar ice accumulation could cause the type of polar shift. I explained above if the center of gravity of the ice sheets were off axis. This is the key concept. What caused the off-axis ice sheet formations? One possibility is often ignored: the special astronomical configuration I explained in the article titled "Rapid Climate Change 11.5 Thousand Years Ago".

TPW 11.5 Thousand Years Ago

Let's re-examine the special phase 11.5 kyr ago. Axial tilt was at maximum. When the tilt is at maximum both the North and South hemispheres receive more solar insolation during summer and less during winter. The interesting thing about this period (11.5 kyr ago) was that the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere was happening at perihelion causing even more heat during summer. The summer solstice in the southern hemisphere, however, was happening at aphelion causing summers in the Southern Hemisphere to be much colder compared to the summers in the Northern Hemisphere. When you consider the amplifying feedback effects caused by the ice sheet reflections and the CO₂ and methane gases an imbalance was created between the ice amounts accumulated in the North and South Polar Regions. This meant that the ice sheets in the Northern Hemisphere melted and the ice sheets in the Southern Hemisphere increased. During these processes the ice accumulation and melting tends to be off axis because of the feedback mechanisms mentioned before. The equator angled towards the new center of gravity of the ice sheets in the southern hemisphere resulting in a

pole shift. The TPW 11.5 kyr ago moved Greenland away from the rotation axis which is fixed in celestial coordinates.

The Post-Glacial Rebound and TPW

The continents have been in "post-glacial rebound" since the global warming 11.5 kyr ago. As the ice sheets decreased the continents rose on the mantle. This is one of the reasons why days are getting longer. The rising continent is like the ice-skater extending her arms. That motion slows down the ice skater. Same thing happens to Earth. Another consequence of ice-melt is of course the rising of ocean levels.

The contribution of the "post-glacial rebound" to mass redistribution is hard to calculate. Let's assume that the "post glacial rebound" is the only contributor so that Greenland and Antarctica are rising on the mantle. The immediate consequence will be that the equator in the western hemisphere will tilt towards Greenland. This is purely dictated by the law of conservation of angular momentum. This contribution to the true-polar-wander is reinforcing the contribution from the super-plumes. The two independent phenomena will be contributing to the true-polar-wander in the same direction; as a result the north rotational pole will be located in Siberia in the future. Also, the axial tilt angle is decreasing. Assuming all else is constant, simply due to smaller tilt angle, the summers would be cooler and winters would be warmer in the future. This effect would actually accelerate polar melting, yet another factor contributing to true-polar-wander in the same direction.

Other Factors

It is worth mentioning that even a volcano eruption can cause a TPW. Any mass distribution due to volcanoes or earthquakes or density changes in the mantle will cause a TPW while the gyroscope effect of the equatorial bulge strongly resisting these forces.

Another possibility is the plastic deformation of Earth's shape and consequent relaxation to normal. An elastic deformation/relaxation is too fast to cause a mass redistribution long enough to cause a polar shift. Only a plastic deformation will do. What are the possible causes of plastic deformation? Gravitational pull from a large astronomical object is needed to cause such a plastic deformation. Pole Shifts of the TPW kind may have happened in the past when large asteroids came close to Earth.

Coupling With the Magnetic Pole

The Pole Shift of the TPW kind is independent of the Magnetic Pole shifts. I hope to write a separate article on the Magnetic Pole shifts. The geodynamo creates the magnetic field of Earth. Contrary to common belief the magnetic field of Earth is not like a bar magnet. There is an overall dipole component but the overall magnetic energy is non-uniformly distributed on the surface. The magnetic poles reversed in the past. The magnetic poles move daily. In the last 50 years the magnetic north pole has been drifting towards Siberia. If this drift continues

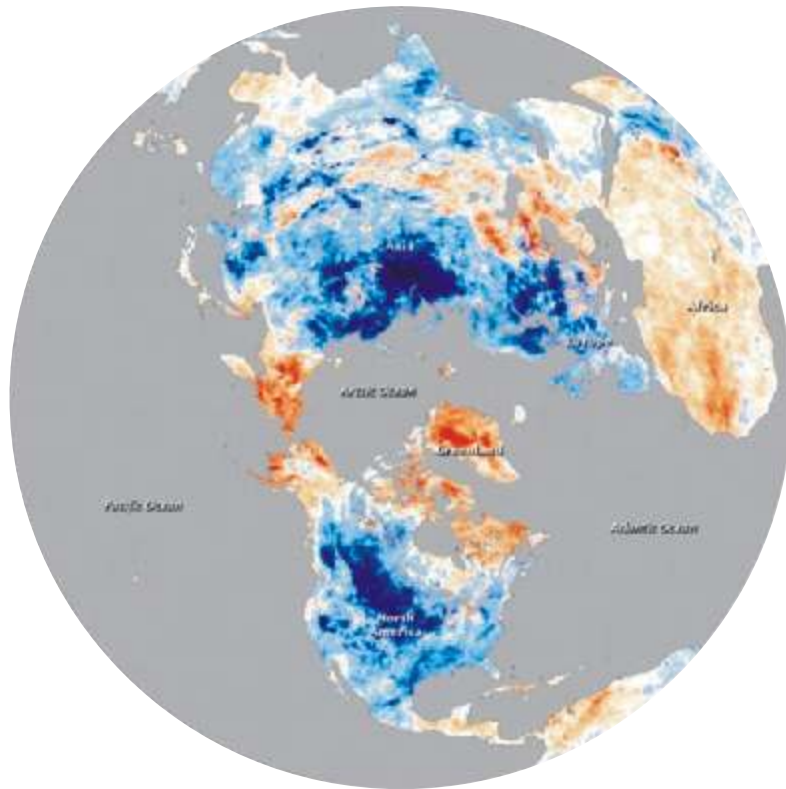
the magnetic north pole will certainly be in Siberia in the next few decades [13][14][15][16].

We do not understand the causes and the details of the geodynamics of this magnetic pole drift. One possibility, however, is that the rotational north pole and the magnetic north pole will be aligned due to coupling created by the geodynamics.

All factors pointing to Siberia as the next location of the North Pole.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Take a look at this picture from NASA and pay



The pole shift of the TPW kind may already be in progress.

attention to North Asia (Siberia). In the future the temperatures may look like this. Blue represents colder, red represents warmer temperatures relative to their norm in the past.

The writer, a doctorate Physics worked as a scientist at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory and the Superconducting Super Collider Laboratory in the USA.

He is actively involved in the Renaissance Universal movement.

Between approximately 790 and 810 million years ago, when the super-continent Rodinia existed, two geologically-rapid phases of true polar wander may have occurred. In each of these, the magnetic poles of the Earth shifted by $\sim 55^\circ$.

- Adam C. Maloof

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Use Neem, Babool, Promise, Vico Vajradanti, Prudent, Dabur Products, Miswak

Instead of Colgate, Close Up, Pepsodent, CIBACA, Forhans, Mentadent.

TOOTH BRUSH:

Use Prudent, Ajanta, Promise

Instead of Colgate, Close Up, Pepsodent, Forhans, Oral-B.

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Use Godrej, Emami

Instead of Palmolive, Old Spice, Gillette.

BLADE:

Use Supermax, Topaz, Lazer, Ashoka
 Instead of Seven-O-Clock, 365, Gillette.

TALCUM POWDER:

Use Santoor, Gokul, Cinthol, Wipro Baby Powder, Boroplus

Instead of Ponds, Old Spice, Johnson's Baby Powder, Shower to Shower.

MILK POWDER:

Use Indiana, Amul, Amulya

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How Senior Army Officers Plotted to Defame, Dislodge VK Singh

The greed of some important people in these establishments and their incestuous relationship with arms dealers and extraterritorial agencies constantly gave an impression that these countries were up for sale by their own officialdom and the governing class.

* RSN Singh

Truth must triumph to keep civilization alive, and law therefore cannot be allowed to be selective in application. What if General VK Singh had filled 10 May, 1952 instead of 10 May, 1950 in his UPSC application form for entry into the National Defence Academy?

This question begs a response by the Indian Army, the Ministry of Defence, the Government of the day and the Supreme Court. The moral gumption to answer this question will distinguish India from a Banana Republic. I also solicit the answer to this question from the readers, who I find more honourable than the present day

institutions in India.

Let me declare with all the integrity at my command that I have so far not met General VK Singh, nor have I communicated directly with him in any manner. Fundamentally, I research and write on strategic and geopolitical issues. I have written extensively on 32 Asian countries and books on Pakistan and Nepal respectively. I never had any inclination or interest on the age controversy of Gen VK Singh because I considered it very trivial. Like many others, I, too, was a victim of the notion that the General had begun to salivate at the prospect of having an additional tenure of 10 months as Chief of Army Staff.

A few months before the Sukhna and Adarsh scandal had surfaced, a close friend of mine, a senior officer posted in the Military Secretary Branch, a favourite of the then Military Secretary, had confided in me that the said Military Secretary and the Army Chief were keen to have him posted to a “Godforsaken place” (as described by him) called Sukhna, as the Sub-Area Commander, and was expected to swing a contentious land issue in a particular direction. This officer maintained that he was livid at the suggestion and remonstrated his unwillingness to the staff officer to the Military Secretary. He also mentioned to me about Military Secretary (MS) Branch fixing the date of birth of then Lt Gen VK Singh by overriding the Adjutant General (AG) Branch at the behest of the Military Secretary and the then COAS (Chief of the Army Staff). For a moment I was a little bewildered as to why and how a COAS could impose the primacy of the MS Branch over the AG Branch on an issue, which is legally the exclusive preserve and responsibility of the latter. This officer was then posted to Mumbai, where only after a few months the Adarsh scam was busted by the media.

I may underscore here that this officer in question is one of the most upright human beings that one could come across and that is why he could and with great difficulty, steer clear of any wrong doing despite incessant prodding by the highest echelons in the Army. I did not heed any analytical attention to these developments, which as mentioned earlier did not evoke even a passing interest. Nevertheless, now with the benefit of hindsight, based on my interaction with the said officer, I can now clearly establish the links between the Sukhna scam, Adarsh scam and the DOB issue of General VK Singh.

Many months later I bumped into certain people who had intricate and profound knowledge about the entire DOB controversy. They discussed with me at great length, and at the end, I could infer that the DOB controversy is the biggest fraud perpetrated by vested quarters and inimical interests to dislodge an honest man from the helm of the Army, who at best could be tolerated for two years. Having the necessary ‘intelligence’ background, I could easily discern and unravel the vested interests, and inimical influences in fabrication of the

perpetrated controversy.

I immediately posted an article on the Firstpost -- “Who’s trying to fix the Army Chief by raking up his age?” (dated 15 July 2011) -- which talks about the links between Tatra and the DOB issue. As part of my job profile in the government, I had dealt with a number of countries and had some insights into the functioning of their governments, especially their respective military and defence establishments. The greed of some important people in these establishments and their incestuous relationship with arms dealers and extraterritorial agencies constantly gave an impression that these countries were up for sale by their own officialdom and the governing class. I could never imagine that my own country could be reduced to their level.

It was then that I decided to unravel the fraud. I thought that it was my national duty to resist vested interests and inimical forces in perpetrating their ‘succession plan’ in the army. Also, before taking up the cause I thoroughly apprised myself about the character and integrity of General VK Singh. I elicited responses from his friends, subordinates and superiors. The inputs that I received could not be more ‘glowing’. It further convinced me of the cause and strengthened my resolve to pick up the cudgels. I gathered all documents pertaining to the DOB issue of the General, and what emerged from the painstaking study and analysis was the brazen criminality of the fraud orchestrated by some senior officers of the Indian Army. It was nauseating to glean the abysmal level to which ‘sense of justice’ and ‘fair play’ in the top hierarchy of the army has degenerated.

Disinformation Campaign

Subsequently this array of vested interests unleashed a disinformation campaign on these lines:

The General wanting to ‘change’ his Date Of Birth in the last leg of his career. The truth, however, was that he never asked for a ‘change’, as there was never a doubt. Very late in his career, when he was found to be one of the contenders for the post of COAS, he was told by an infertile branch (w.r.t. DOB) i.e. the MS Branch to accept a particular DOB. General accepted his DOB as 10th May 1951. As per one former Chief Justice of India, an Army Chief asking his subordinate to accept a DOB is not only illegal but smacks of intrigue and conspiracy. One wonders why this former Army Chief has not been asked to explain as to why and under which authority or compulsion he asked for such an acceptance. He needs to answer as to why he abdicated the responsibility of acting as a non-partisan father figure in arriving at the truth by ordering an enquiry as suggested by the MoD? General was born in 1949. This story was fabricated and telecasted by a media house. A FIR has been registered against some people accused of this conspiracy. Interrogation of these conspirators could well unravel the entire plot and actors. General lost in the Court. The truth is that the court refrained from giving a verdict or a judgement. The Supreme Court ‘order’ is ambivalent and

steers clear of pronouncement of the actual DOB. General wanted an additional ten months. The lawyer representing the General categorically stated in the Supreme Court that his client was fighting for ‘Integrity and Honour’, and if the hon’ble court were to maintain his DOB as contended by him, the General would resign within 48 hours. The Tatra case. Thank God that another Indian of integrity AK Antony stood by General VK Singh to say in the Parliament about the offer of bribe to the latter. Very few politicians would do that. If he had not

convinced, as the overwhelming majority in the country, that General VK Singh was born on 10th May 1951? If he does not it is another matter. If he does, his moral stance in favour of General VK Singh would have created such luminous history, which no amount of autobiographies and ‘theatrical’ book releases can supplant.

Polarization

There are mischievous insinuations by vested quarters that the Army has got polarized due to the DOB issue of General VK Singh.

Yes, indeed the Army has got polarized, but not on caste or communal lines. Those who were corrupt and crooks while serving in the Indian Army are against him. Courtesy: The television channels, some of these faces are now quite familiar. The readers will do well to delve into their reputation. Each one of these during their careers had ‘greased palms’ inside ‘velvet gloves’. One of them as Adjutant ran away with his CO’s wife and got married. His house was recently raided because of the involvement of his son-in-law in multi-national bank fraud. The other one was thrown out from the Army for indiscreet womanizing habits. Yet another one spared no sharpener, no pencil, no rubber – his penchant for cleanliness made him snaffle everything he



stood up, General VK Singh would have been blown to smithereens by the same vested interests, which includes some retired Generals as well.

Coup and snooping. But for the denials by conscientious AK Antony, these two fabricated issues would have been flogged till the exit of General VK Singh. Letter Leak. Some vested interests, which included some politicians, bureaucrats and retired Generals started baying for General VK Singh’s blood. They had nothing to say when the source of the leak was established somewhere else.

The Critical Question

If a similar case w.r.t. DOB as in the case of General VK Singh comes for resolution to the incumbent Army Chief, how should he proceed? Should he go by the precedence of one Col Ramesh Chander Dixit, whose DOB was held as per the records in the AG’s Branch overriding the in-fructuous Army List (on orders of then COAS Shankar Roy Choudhary) or by the precedence of General VK Singh? It is a legal issue. There are many such cases I am aware of and their resolution henceforth must come under wide legal and public scrutiny.

The Moral Question

Does the incumbent Army Chief believe or is

could lay his hands on. The most vocal among the Air Force officers went to the court on matters related to his promotion. All these ‘gentlemen’ are at pains to invoke ‘honour and dignity’ of the army after having mauled it during their career in the armed forces. In league with this ‘honourable’ gang is also a diplomat, who actually has no locus standi on the DOB issue except for considerations that best impel him.

Warning

The crime trail perpetrated by the DOB fraud on General VK Singh is not going to be obliterated. It is going to haunt the Indian Army for all times to come. The fraud can be given a decent burial only if the perpetrators choose to accept their wrong doing and guilt. It is perfectly honourable for soldiers to do so. At the moment they are living in dishonour.

The writer is a former military intelligence officer who later served in the Research and Analysis Wing, or R&AW.

He is the author of two books: Asian Strategic and Military Perspective and Military Factor in Pakistan.



The Insanity of Monsanto and GMO

*** Ganga Grace**

India made history in 2011 as the first country ever to take corporate giant Monsanto to court, suing the company for “bio-piracy”. India is one of the most agriculturally bio-diverse nations in the world and has hence become the primary target of biotechnology companies like Monsanto and Cargill to spread their

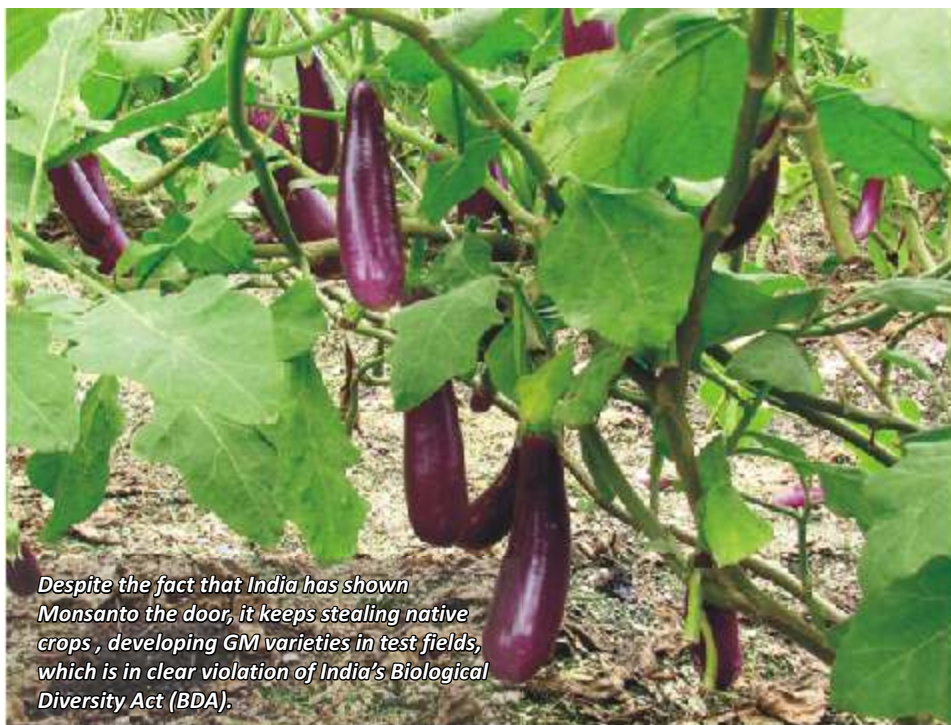
genetically-modified (GM) crops. India has accused Monsanto of stealing India’s indigenous plants in order to re-engineer them into patented varieties. One of the well-known crops misused for that purpose is the popular Basmati rice.

Another native Indian crop with roughly 2,500 varieties is brinjal, also known as eggplant in the Western world. Millions of

Indian farmers grow brinjal and the country grows more than a quarter of the world’s overall supply. In an attempt to capitalize on this popular crop, Monsanto has tried to commercially market its own GM variety, called Bt brinjal. Massive public outcry against commercial approval of this variety in 2010 led to the government banning it for an indefinite period of time.

Global powers have literally robbed India of its self-reliance and self-sustenance in the name of "ending poverty" by thrusting upon them a system of monopolized agriculture controlled and operated by companies like Monsanto.





Despite the fact that India has shown Monsanto the door, it keeps stealing native crops, developing GM varieties in test fields, which is in clear violation of India's Biological Diversity Act (BDA).

At the prompting of farmers and activists in India, the Indian government, representing the first nation that has taken such an action, has decided to sue Monsanto. "It is not acceptable ... that the farmers in our communities are robbed of the advantage they should get from the indigenous varieties." said K.S. Sugara, Member Secretary of the Karnataka Biodiversity Board, in an interview to France 24. India is taking a stand against a company, which is trying to take over the world seed supply, nation by nation.

Whosoever controls the seed, controls the food supply; and whosoever controls the food supply controls the world. Monsanto is clearly on a mission to monopolize the conventional seed market. The scenario is rather gloomy – they are steadfastly working towards the goal of creating a world where 100% of all commercial seeds are genetically modified and patented – a world where natural seeds are extinct. Unfortunately for the global community, Monsanto is accomplishing their purpose. They currently own 90% of the world's patents for GMO seed including cotton, soybeans, corn, sugar beets and canola.

Monsanto is infamous for taking advantage of small farmers, and with the advent of MoU's they are doing so with governmental license. Countries like India,

Pakistan, Australia and New Zealand have all executed MoU's with Monsanto. MoU's or memorandums of understanding permit Monsanto to use publicly owned lands to create so called demonstration farms (GMO breeding camps) which in turn - as in the case of Rajasthan – are subsidized by the government.

facilitate bio-piracy of Rajasthan's rich biodiversity of draught -resilient crops by failing to have any clauses that respect the Biodiversity Act and the Farmers' Rights Act, the MoU's promote bio-piracy and legalize the great seed robbery." It is common knowledge that GMO seeds are much worse than conventional ones. As with all of their agreements, Monsanto shields itself from any liability - so when the Monsanto's promises of higher yields with less work ring hollow, when farmers' crops fail, or when mass suicides are committed because of crop failure and spirit crushing debt - Monsanto presses on with no worries. When India's seed economy was forced by the World Bank to become globalized in the late 1990s, economic conditions within the nation's agricultural sector almost immediately took a



Monsanto literally takes farmer seeds, creates genetically engineered copycat versions, and then retains all intellectual property rights. Dr. Vandana Shiva, Executive Director of the Navdanya Trust, an Indian organization committed to organic biodiversity, states that "the MoU's will in effect,

nosedive for the worst. Much of the common Indian seed stock turned from savable heirloom varieties to patented, genetically-modified (GM) varieties that expire after a single use and require the application of expensive and cumbersome pesticides in order to grow, which plunged many Indian

farmers into abject poverty. And nearly 25 years later, the devastating effects of this corporate takeover of Indian agriculture has resulted in countless suicides, 200,000 of which have occurred just in the past ten years.

According to a recent report in the U.K. Independent, many Indian farmers have lost their farms and land over the past several decades. One of the primary causes is failed investments by farmers that banked heavily on the success of newly-introduced GM crops. Multinational biotechnology giants like Monsanto and Syngenta promised farmers that GM crops would bring incredible yields at lower costs, and save the country from poverty. But in reality, many of the crops ended up failing, leaving millions of Indian farmers with absolutely nothing.

"One farmer every 30 minutes commits suicide in India now, and sometimes three in one family," explained Palagummi Sainath, an Indian journalist, to the U.K. Independent. Left with nowhere to turn and a complete loss of their livelihoods, many farmers are literally drinking their crop pesticides. "Every suicide can be linked to Monsanto," explained scientist Vandana Shiva to the U.K. Independent. After subsidies were lifted, the cost of cotton production rose dramatically, especially when GM cotton was introduced because it required the application of expensive pesticides and herbicides. Natural varieties of cotton, on the other hand, do not necessarily require chemical applications to grow and flourish. And since farmers can save and reuse natural seeds every year, all is not lost during years of poorer yields because farmers can often try again the next year.

But in the GM crop paradigm, the stakes are far higher. Farmers must borrow large sums of money to invest in GM technology. They do so based on promises that yields will increase and profits will soar. But when the promises fail to pan out

and farmers are unable to keep paying for the expensive pesticides, they typically end up losing

powers have literally robbed India of its self-reliance and self-sustenance in the name of "ending



everything, including access to reusable heirloom seeds. So, many end up killing themselves because they literally have nothing left.

The introduction of GM agriculture in India shifted the agricultural economy from one of biodiversity to monoculture, which is hugely significant in India's agricultural failures. Rather than grow a variety of different heirloom crops that each respond differently to periodic changes in climate - which Indian farmers have always done prior to the introduction of GM crops - many farmers began to grow only one single GM variety. And when conditions turned out not to be favorable for that crop, both economically and in terms of climate conditions, disaster ensued.

The globalization of agriculture in general has dramatically increased poverty in India, as crop subsidies in other nations began to affect Indian agriculture, driving down crop profits. Indian farmers have lost billions of dollars over the years from having to compete in the global agricultural marketplace rather than grow their own bio-diverse crops to feed their own people. Global

poverty" by thrusting upon them a system of monopolized agriculture controlled and operated by companies like Monsanto. And unless India somehow secedes from the global system of corruption, conditions will only become increasingly worse for its people. The situation is no better in other parts of the world.

Farmers that sign up for Monsanto's seeds of destruction find themselves hooked. Year after year, no matter what prices are being charged, they are dependent on GMO seeds for new crops because GMO seeds - the bastardized versions they are - don't regenerate. Monsanto has no qualms about robbing farmers that don't play poker with them. As a matter of fact; it makes a business of it. Conventional and organic farmers in both Canada and the U.S., who have the misfortune of having lands that border GMO farms, often end up with trace contamination in their crops, making them (if organic), unsuitable for sale. Monsanto actually uses this situation against farmers and files patent infringement claims that they often win. The result farm owners are left

with are exorbitant legal bills and fines often forcing them to shut down: clearing away Monsanto competition. In a savvy move for survival, a pre-emptive suit on behalf of almost 300,000 plaintiffs seeking legal safe harbour, has been filed in New York.

Monsanto's product has changed from poison to food, but it has held true to its history of violating the rights and health of people around the globe. Monsanto is a 100% committed to the sale of their seeds of destruction no matter what it takes: bullying, infiltration of high government offices with company friendly individuals, or intimidation. The organic movement has taken up the standard against Monsanto's machinations in court as well as through grassroots education and activist efforts. The organic revolution is Monsanto's Achilles heel, and its goal is a world without Monsanto.



How do u Feel in Our Incredible India ???

1. We live in a nation where Rice is Rs.40/- per kg and Sim Card is free.
2. Pizza reaches home faster than Ambulance and Police.
3. Car loan @ 5% but education loan @ 12%.
4. Students with 35% get in elite institutions through quota system and those with 90% get out because of merit.
5. Where a millionaire can buy a cricket team instead of donating the money to any charity. 2 IPL teams are auctioned at 3300 crores and we are still a poor country where people starve for 2 square meals per day.
6. Where the footwear, we wear, are sold in AC showrooms, but vegetables, that we eat, are sold on the footpath.
7. Where everybody wants to be famous but nobody wants to follow the path to be famous.
8. Assembly complex buildings are getting ready within one year while public transport bridges alone take several years to be completed.
9. Where we make lemon juices with artificial flavours and dish wash liquids with real lemon.



Parliamentarian's Reform Act of 2012

Serving in Parliament is an honour, not a career. The Founding Fathers envisioned citizen legislators, so ours should serve their term(s), then go home and back to work.



1. No Tenure / No Pension. Parliamentarians collect a salary while in office but should not receive any pay when they're out of office.

2. Parliamentarians should purchase their own retirement plans, just as all Indians do.

3. Parliamentarians should no longer vote themselves a pay raise. Their pay should be linked to the CPI or 3%, whichever is lower.

4. Parliamentarians should lose their current health care system and participate in the same health care system as the Indian people.

5. Parliamentarians should equally abide by all laws they impose on the Indian people.

6. All contracts with past and present Parliamentarians should be void effective 1/1/12. The Indian people did not make this contract with them. Parliamentarians made all these contracts for themselves.

A Little Girl On The Plane....

A stranger was seated next to a little girl on the airplane when the stranger turned to her and said, 'Let's talk. I've heard that flights go quicker if you strike up a conversation with your fellow passenger.'

The little girl, who had just opened her book, closed it slowly and said to the stranger, 'What would you like to talk about?'

'Oh, I don't know,' said the stranger. 'I am the Defence Secretary. So, how about Defence strategy?' and he smiles.

OK,' she said. 'That could be an interesting topic. But let me ask you a question first. A horse, a cow, and a deer all eat the same stuff - grass. Yet a deer excretes little pellets, while a cow turns out a flat patty, and a horse produces clumps of dried grass. Why do you suppose that is so?'

The stranger, visibly surprised by the little girl's intelligence, thinks about it and says, 'Hmmm, I have no idea.'

To which the little girl replied, 'Do you really feel qualified to discuss Defence strategy when you don't even know this?'



PBI Plea gets a Hearing from GOI

PMO seeks clarification from Odisha on poverty, and negligence of farmers for their alleviation as per measures mentioned in PBI memorandum

New Delhi :Proutist Bloc India - a political party registered with the Election Commission of India , and spearheading moralist movement in politics - has been able to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the plight of the suppressed and suffering people of Odisha.

The Odisha government has swung into action after the Prime Minister Office (PMO) recently sought clarifications from it on the alleged “deplorable” conditions of the farmers, “oppression” of the poor people and non-recruitment of local youths in the mushrooming industries in the state.

The state government, acting on a direction by the PMO, has asked the agriculture, industry and planning and coordination departments to prepare details as to what actions have been taken to address some perennial problems crippling the progress of the people.

The PMO’s direction came after the Proutist Block India, held a massive rally in New Delhi on April 30 , protesting the increasing incidence of farmers' suicide and rising number of unemployed youths, besides exploitation of tribals and plunder of natural resources in Odisha.

The organization also submitted an eight-point memorandum to the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh demanding his immediate intervention.

“It is everybody’s knowledge that Odisha is highly rich in mineral resources. But despite this naked fact, people are suffering a lot, more than their counterparts in other parts of the country. More than 100 farmers committed suicide last year due to distress sale of their produce. The state government is extremely callous to address their problems,” the Proutist Bloc said in the memorandum.

The Proutist Bloc has among others suggested the PMO for decentralization of economic power and planning to allow local people to make their own planning, power to farmers to determine prices of their produce, 100 % employment to local youths in industries, no drainage of mineral resources to outside of the state and formulation of separate plans for different areas.

Subhas Chand Tyagi , the national chairman of the Party, said here that the party will intensify agitation in case state government continues to betray callous attitude and does nothing concrete to ameliorate the sufferings of the people of Odisha.





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921268076
- Vice Chairman**
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- Training Secretary**
Ganesh Ghate
09448179608

Odisha State Office Plot No. 365(D) Shastri Nagar,
 Bhubaneswar - 751001, Mob:- 09437164980, 0943827785



MEMORANDUM

To,
 Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
 New Delhi.

Sub: Memorandum regarding the terrible plight of the suppressed & suffering people of Odisha.

Hon'ble Sir,

We the Proutists want to bring to your kind notice the injustices and the atrocities being perpetrated on the helpless, suppressed, suffering and exploited people of great Odisha.

It is everybody's knowledge that, Odisha is highly rich in Minerals and other natural resources. Despite this naked fact, it is also a truth that, the people of Odisha are suffering a lot, more than anybody else in our dear country India.

Last year more than hundred farmers committed suicide due to distress sale of their hard laboured produce and the first demonstrated an extreme callousness by not taking any effective steps to address their grievances. Farmers, who are responsible for our food and survival have always faced extreme hardship and no administration took care of the problems faced by them. Similarly price of the consumer items have always increased without any respite and the government remains indifferent to these inhuman phenomena. This is telling upon the very existence of the "Jannat Admi" and there are innumerable galves, when the helpless people die due to starvation and malnutrition.

Therefore Hon'ble Sir, we want to suggest certain Proutistic measures to alleviate the suffering of the people and to bring a conducive atmosphere for their meaningful existence.

1. Decentralize the economic power and planning so that the local people have full say in the economy of their lives.

P.T.O.

354/1422

2. The price of the agricultural produce must essentially be determined by the producers, in this case farmers.

3. 100% employment to the local people in the industries set up in their region.

4. No drainage of mineral resources to outside of their area.

5. The planning commission should formulate the planning of a part-cellar area by setting up its unit at the block level and the planning should be made necessarily by the consultation with local experts, specialists and also the responsible people of the respective blocks.

6. The agro and agro industries should be started at the source of the raw materials and they should be manned by the local population.

7. No outsider should be allowed to have say in the economic interest of the population of the concerned block. Here outsider means those, whose sole interest lies in earning exorbitant profit from the local resources and siphoning the profit to outside of the block.

8. The utilization and disposal of the minerals should be decided with a care and effective participation of the local people and no decision should be taken, which adversely affects the socio-economic interest of the local population.

Respected Sir, we are hopeful, you will pay adequate and appropriate attention to the grievances and the solutions mentioned above and take active interest in mitigating the sufferings of the people of Odisha, who are looking to you as the guardian of their all round interest with great hope and expectation.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours sincerely

PROUTISTS OF THE NATION
 Through Shri Jagannath Prasad Lenka
 Chairman, PBI, Odisha State.

1287 P. COIT
 3/7/12
 11 JUN 2012
 110100
 New Delhi - 110001
 Date: 25-05-2012
 110100
 New Delhi - 110001
 Date: 25-05-2012
 CHIEF SECRETARY,
 Govt. of ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR.
 LETTER OF SUBHASH CHAND TYAGI
 CHAIRMAN, PROUTIST BLOCK, INDIA, ODISHA STATE OFFICE, PLOT NO.
 36SD, BHASTRI NAGAR, BILUBANESWAR,
 ODISHA-751001
 Sir,
 I am desired to forward herewith a letter dated 30-04-2012 received in this office from
 SUBHASH CHAND TYAGI for action as appropriate.
 Yours faithfully,
 (PAVAN KALVIYA)
 SECTION OFFICER
 1287 P. COIT
 3/7/12
 110100
 New Delhi - 110001
 Date: 25-05-2012

Government of Odisha
 Planning & Coordination Department

 MEMO No. 6863 P.. Dated the 5/7/2012
 Misc. Co. II-15/2012
 To
 The Agriculture, Industries/
 Steel & Mines Departments.
 Sub: Memorandum of the Chairman of Proutist Block,
 India received from Prime Minister's Office.
 The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy
 of the memorandum of the Chairman Proutist Block, India alongwith
 the letter of Prime Minister's Office regarding various suggestions/
 measures for information and necessary action.
 Action taken on the suggestions/measures may be intimated
 to the Prime Minister's Office as well to this Department.
 Memo No. 6863 P.. Date, 5/7/2012
 Deputy Secretary to Govt.
 Copy alongwith a copy of memorandum forwarded to Deputy
 Director, P & C Department for information and necessary
 action. They are requested to take useful action at their level
 on Point No. 5 and furnished the same to the O/o the Prime Minister's
 Office as well as to this Section.
 Deputy Secretary to Govt.

Assam Flood Relief

AMURT (Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team), Delhi sector has undertaken large-scale rescue and relief operations during devastating floods in Assam (North East India).

Relief operations continue. Operations are visible from few photos received from AMURT office.



All India Proutists Mahasammelan

Motihari (Bihar) : During a programme of seminar here, proutists led by Acarya Punyeshananda Avadhuta, have decided to hold three days All India Proutists Great Conference (Mahasammelan) to commemorate the memory of birth of Prout philosophy. The programme will be held from 14th September to 16th September 2012.

It was stated during the meeting that here in Motihari on 14th September in the year 1959, Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar propounded the Progressive Utilisation Theory (Prout). In order to preserve and strengthen the sentimental legacy of the region, this programme assumes special importance. No body remembers this place which has the honour of being birthplace of Prout, therefore they decided that every year they will commemorate the day as Prout Day.

On the occasion, speakers said that when Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar visited Motihari during those days, Sudhir Kumar (later known as Acarya Abhedananda Avadhuta who was killed on 5th March 1967 at Ananda Nagar by CPM goons) asked Him ---you have propounded spiritual philosophy and have also taught spiritual practices for the evolution and elevation of mind. But you have said or done nothing for the poor , starving and exploited people. Will they evince interest in spirituality when they are unable to meet both ends?

Sudhir Kumar was then a student in a local college and a very active spiritual aspirant.

Shrii Sarkar was visibly pleased by this query of a revolutionary young man who was at the same time a genuine spiritual aspirant as well as a social activist.

Shrii Sarkar then propounded the five fundamental principles of Prout. Sudhir Kumar besides other were greatly delighted by these philosophical postulates which later also became a part of Shrii Sarkar's discourses published in the book Idea and Ideology.

Then Shrii Sarkar also formed the first proutist organisation Universal Proutist Students Federation there, and thus began the journey of Proutist movement from the soil of Motihari in the heartland of Bhojpuri belt of Bihar state of India.

In this three day conference proutists from all over India will assemble and discuss the challenges before the Proutists and, their effective resolution.

UPLF's Call for Moralistic Labour Movement

NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh) : The national convention of Universal Proutist Labour Federation held here gave clarion call to labour community to lead a moralistic labour movement in the country. Karl Marx gave the slogan ---Workers of the world unite. But the experience shows labour even of a country could not unite, let alone the world. The reason being moral and immoral could be found among every section of the society. Since a person is poor and exploited , it can never be said with certainty that he/she will be a righteous person. Hence Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar, the founder of Prout has given the call--- moralists of the world unite. Leadership must be in the hands of moralists. Only those having integrity of character and known for their selfless social service should man the posts of administration and governance. Then alone the problems of suffering and suppressed humanity can be really solved.

The portrait of Shrii Prabhat Ranjan Sarkar was first garlanded by the chief guest Acarya Santosananda Avadhuta, Editor " Prout ". Thereupon the programme formally started.

Y.B.Singh the Secretary General of UPLF declared amongst thundering applause that the Federation will lead the moralistic movement amongst the labour. He also explained what does it mean to be a moralist. He gave detail explanation of the ten principles of Yaogic Yama and Niyam. He exhorted his fellow labour society to follow these tenets strictly. He also said that none of the factories or Mills comply with labour laws due to profiteering psychology of their owners. He said that if even the existing labour laws are sincerely implemented, there will be much improvement in the socio-economic condition of the labour.

Acarya Santosananda Avadhuta said that no government or Constitution of the world guarantees minimum requirements of life to every body as Prout does. Therefore we must raise an ideological people's movement to realise this goal. Then alone every body will lead a life of dignified survival.

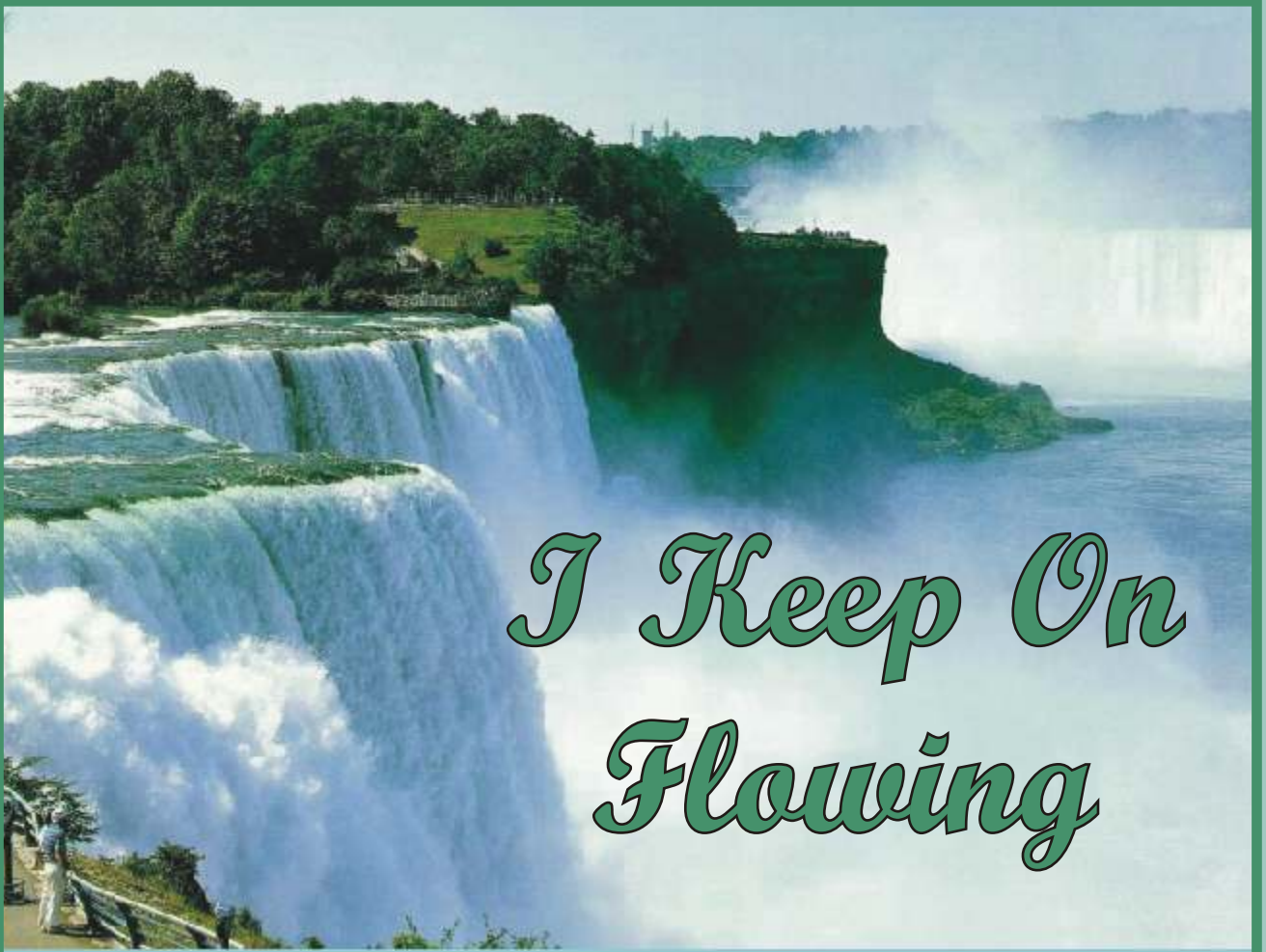
R.N. Prasad, Secretary General of Social and Economic Democracy and a veteran proutist said on the occasion that the dream land of exploitation-free society can be had only by implementing the ideals of economic democracy as proposed by Progressive Utilisation Theory (Prout). He also explained what is meant by economic democracy.

The President of the programme, S.P.Dube, Chairman of Delhi State Committee, said that UPLF will surely head an ideological people's movement since it has a moralistic leadership and a clear cut vision of social transformation in the principles of Prout.

Sant Upadhyay , a veteran proutist who compered the programme , dealt with the labour problems with precision and sagacity. He said without achieving economic well being of people it is not possible to have peace and prosperity in society. The disparities and discrimination will always brew hatred, animosity and violence. Society will exist in a situation of perpetual clash and resulting tension. He admired the efforts of UPLF to give proper direction and motivation to the labour movement.

The programme was successfully organised by the untiring efforts of Vinod Kumar, Secretary, National Committee of UPLF and Ram Naresh Yadav, Chairman, Uttar Pradesh State Committee .





I Keep On Flowing

E- GÁNÁ-MÁ-R, Á-LOR JHARÁNÁ- DHÁ-RÁ-----2
 UPALA PATHE--- DI-NE RÁTE--- 2,
 BAHE JÁ---I, BAHE JÁI BĀNDHANA HÁRÁ---
 Á-LOR JHARNÁ- DHÁ-RÁ-----
 E- GÁNÁ-MÁ-R Á-LOR JHARÁNÁ- DHÁRÁ----2
 E- PATHÁ-MĀR BANDHURA KĀNTĀKĀBHA-RÁ---
 UTA SHOTE---PRĀNERA SHROTE--- 2,
 BHEUNGE JÁ---I BHENGE JÁI PĀSĀŅĀ KĀRÁ---,
 Á-LOR JHARÁNÁ- DHÁ-RÁ-----
 E- GÁNÁ-MÁ-R Á-LOR JHARÁNÁ- DHÁRÁ----2

This song of mine is a fountain of effulgence.

On a rocky path, day and night,

I keep on flowing, heedless of all barriers.

This path of mine is rugged and full of thorns.

Gushing forth in the flow of life, destroying -
 Destroying stone dungeons.

This song of mine is a fountain of light.

Purport: For those who move along the path of greatness and magnanimity, so much meanness and littleness stands as insurmountable obstacles. They know this and their song is like a fountain of divine effulgence – it is not a materialistic song. Their song does not move along a smooth road. In their path there are so many thorns, so many ups and downs – just like a fountain which flows along various rapids and finally merges into the sea, they recognize no barrier, saying – “We will move on and on, with all our innate vitality, ever breaking all the iron prison walls around us.”

(Translated from Bengali original)

ETERNAL SONG OF
The Proutists

- Shrii P.R. Sarkar

*Morality is the demand of the day.
'Prout' - the cry of the suffering humanity.
Wise you be, may not or may,
Of sincere, success a certainty.
Fee fy fo fum.
Expel the demons from physical stratum.
Fee fy fo fum.
Expel the exploiters from economic stratum.
Fee fy fo fum.
Expel the brutes from psychic stratum.
Fee fy fo fum.
Expel the parasites from spiritual stratum.
Human body is to serve one and all,
Human mind to attend Cosmic Call,
Human spirit at the altar Supreme,
Surrender and be Supreme.*



Join PBI for a Poverty-Free and Crime-Free India



Subhas Chand Tyagi
Chairman, Proutist Bloc India

Our dear country India--rich in its cultural and spiritual heritage--is passing through all round crises today. There is horrible poverty everywhere, purchasing power of common man is on continual decline, corruption always raises its ugly head. No political party, nor a political leader, has proved equal to the challenging task before the nation. Consequently crisis is deepening, and the soul of humanity here is profusely bleeding.

In this deep crisis of national disaster on all fronts, Proutist Bloc India has appeared on the political scene to rid country of the dragon of immorality, poverty and exploitation.

I appeal everybody to enrol themselves as a member of this party and strengthen the power of moralist forces. Your inspired cooperation is a must for the success of this moralist political movement.

Come One

Come All

Published on 2nd of every month
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Proutist Bloc, India
New Delhi

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