Happy New Year नव वर्ष की शुभकामनाएं

ANTAR RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD BULLETIN

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(16 Pages including Cover)

DEPUTATION TO ENGLAND

(Continued from the Previous issue)



After a stay in England of about six weeks we returned to South Africa. When we reached Madeira, we received a cablegram from Mr. Ritch to the effect that Lord Elgin had declared that he was unable without further consideration to advise His Majesty the King that the Transvaal Asiatic Ordinance should be brought into operation. Our joy knew no bounds. The steamer took about a fortnight to reach Cape Town from Madeira and we had quite a good time of it during these days and built many castles in the air about the coming redress of many more grievances. But the ways of Providence are inscrutable. We shall see in the next chapter how the castles we had labouriously built toppled down and passed into nothingness.

But I must place one or two sacred reminiscences on record before closing this chapter. We had utilized every single minute of our time in England. The sending of a large number of circulars etc., could not be done singlehanded, and we were sorely in need of outside help. Money indeed does bring us this kind of help, but my experience ranging over forty years has taught me that assistance thus purchased can never compare with purely voluntary service. Fortunately for us we had many volunteer helpers. Many an Indian youth who was in England for study surrounded us and some of them helped us day and night without any

remember that any of them ever toiled for us day refused to do anything as being beneath his dignity, be it the writing of addresses or fixing of stamps or the posting of letters. But there was an English friend named Symonds who cast all these into the shade. Whom the God love die young and so did this benevolent Englishman. I first met him in South Africa. He had been in India. When he was in Bombay in 1897, he moved fearlessly among the Indians affected by the plague and nursed them. It had become a second nature with him not to be daunted by death when ministering to sufferers from infectious diseases. He was perfectly free from any race or colour prejudice. He was independent in temperament. He believed that truth is always with the minority. It was this belief of his which first drew him to me in Johannesburg, and he often humorously assured me that he would withdraw his support of me if he ever found me in a majority, as he was of opinion that truth itself is corrupted in the hands of majority. He had read very widely. He was private secretary to Sir George Farrar, one of millionaires of Johannesburg. He was an expert stenographer. He happened to be in England when we were there. I did not know where he was, but the noble Englishman found us out as our public work had secured for us newspaper advertisement. He expressed his willingness to do for us anything he could. 'I will work as a servant if you like,' he said, 'and if you need a stenographer, you know you can scarcely come across the like of me.' we were in need of both these kinds of help, and I am not exaggerating when I say that this

hope of reward or fame. I do not Englishman and night without any payment. He was always on

MKGandhi

the typewriter till twelve or one o'clock at night. Symonds would carry messages and post letters, always with smile curling round his lips. His monthly income was about forty-five pounds, but he spent it all in helping his friends and others. He was about thirty years of age. He was unmarried and wanted to remain so all his life. I pressed him hard to accept some payment but he flatly refused and said,

' I would be failing in my duty if I accepted any remuneration for this service.' I remember that on the last night he was awake till three o'clock while we were winding up our business and packing our things. He parted with us the next day after seeing us off on the steamer, and a sad parting it was. I have often experienced that benevolence is by no means peculiar to the brown skin.

For the benefit of young aspirants after public work, I note down the fact that we were so punctilious in keeping the accounts of the deputation that we preserved even such trifling vouchers as the receipts for the money spent in the steamers upon, say, soda water. Similarly we preserved the receipts for telegrams. I do not remember to have entered a single item under sundries when writing the detailed accounts. As a rule, sundries did not figure in our accounts at all, and if they did they were intended to cover a few pennies or shillings the manner of whose spending we could not recall at the time of writing the accounts at the end of the day.

I have clearly observed in this life the are entrusted because like Caesar's fact that we become trustees or responsible agents from the time that we reach years of discretion. So long as we are with our parents, we must account to them for moneys or business they entrust to us. They may be sure of our rectitude and may not ask us for accounts, but that does not affect our responsibility. When we become independent householders. there arises the responsibility to our family. We are not the sole proprietors of our acquisitions; our family is a cosharer of them along with ourselves. We must account for every single pie for their sake. If such is our responsibility in private life, in public life it is all the greater. I have observed that voluntary workers are apt to behave as if they were not bound to render a detailed account of the business or moneys with which they

wife they are above suspicion. This is sheer nonsense, as the keeping of accounts has nothing whatever to do with trustworthiness or the reverse. Keeping accounts is an independent duty, the performance of which is essential to clean work, and if the leading workers of the institution which we voluntarily serve do not ask us for accounts out of a sense of false courtesy or fear, they too are equally to

blame. If a paid servant is bound to account for work done and money spent by him, the volunteer is doubly bound to do so, for his very work is a reward to him. This is a very important matter, and as I know that this is generally not sufficiently attended to in many institutions, I have ventured to take up so much space here in adverting to the subject.

(To be Continued)

Gandhi: India's Gift to the World

Gandhi, the apostle of peace. Gandhi, the philosopher. Gandhi, the liberator. Gandhi, the disciplinarian. Gandhi, the teacher. Gandhi, the publisher. Gandhi, the journalist. Gandhi, the Gandhi, the writer. And Gandhi, the human being. Who is Gandhi? a question that grappled the minds of the panellists at the Theme Pavilion of World Book Fair New Delhi on 5th January, 2020.

Initiating the discussion. "The way I understand Gandhi", Dr Varsha Das, eminent Gandhian, said "When I was in Gandhi Sangrahalaya, a question always troubled my mind. Do we really know Gandhiji? Soon I realized much needs to be done even after 150 years of his birth." Some people blame Gandhi for the country's partition, others blame him for his refusal to take a firm stand against Bhagat Singh's death sentence and for his regressive stand in opposing machines and automation. But according to Dr. Das, such critics know Gandhi only superficially. To understand the man in right perspectives, she suggested five must-read books by Gandhi viz, The story of My experiments with Truth, Hind Swaraj, India of My Dreams, Village Swaraj, Constructive programme-its Meaning and Place.

In his presentation on Indian Philosophy and Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Narendra Shukla, Head, Research and Publication Department, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library said, "Every religious movement in India helped ushering in a new chapter of Indian philosophy as well. But Gandhi's political movement was the first and only one of its kind to have contributed to the development of India philosophy." Gandhi's ideals may have been there in Indian ethos and traditions. But unlike Gandhi, no one could identify their relevance in India's societal, spiritual and political journeys. And that is why a man at the centre of Indian politics could so easily say no to the central political position post independence, said



Dr.Shukla.

Dr. Rakesh Pandey, Editor, Pravasi Sansar, in his presentation on Indian Diaspora and Gandhi explained how Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas on 9 January came to be observed to commemorate the day when Gandhi returned to India from South Africa. Recalling Gandhi's immense contribution for liberating scores of indentured Indian labours in countries like Fiji and Mauritius, he informed the audience that Mauritius, as a mark of respect to Gandhi chose to observe their Independence Day on 12 March 1968, the same day Gandhi started his famous Dandi March in 1930. Referring to interesting anecdotes from the life and works of great Indian diasporic writers like Totaram Sanadhya, Bhawani Dyal Sanyasi and Ramdev Dhrurandhar, Dr. Pandey said that Indian diaspora would always hold Gandhi in high esteem.

Analyzing how meticulous and indefatigable Gandhi, the writer was, Prof. Ramesh Ranna, eminent journalist and Gandhian thinker, in his presentation on Writer-Journalist-Publisher Gandhi, said that till date 100 volumes of Gandhi's collected works in English have been published and the numbers in Hindi and Gujarati stand at more than 90 and more than 80 respectively. A student and later Professor of Gajarat Vidyapith, founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920, Prof. Tanna said that Gandhi believed that journalism is not about understanding people's feeling alone, rather it demands ability to help people get rid of their wrong feelings as well.

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Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2020 in New Delhi EAM DR. S. JAISHANKAR INTERACTS WITH DIASPORA

Divas. Let me take this opportunity to wish you a Happy and Prosperous 2020. The Pravasi Bhartiya Divas was a particularly special occasion for my predecessor, the late Smt. Sushma Swaraj. I would like to begin by recognizing her unique contribution and tireless work for the Indian diaspora and those working and traveling abroad. We all miss her very much.

January 9 is a historical day for Indians everywhere. This day in 1915, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India after two decades of struggling for civil rights and basic human freedoms in South Africa. He did so not just for the Indian community, but for all oppressed people everywhere. His return to our motherland was such a momentous event that it was with good reason that former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee began the practice of observing January 9 as Pravasi Bhartiya Divas. Today, we not just affirm our bonding with Indians and people of Indian origin across the world. But by doing so, we also underline the historical global outlook of India and our commitment to Vasudaiva Kutumbakam - the world is a family.

numbers more than 30 million today can be found in every continent and virtually every nation. It is truly representative of what our society has to offer - whether in science and creative arts, in technology and medicine, in enterprise or engineering or in spreading Indian values, traditions, habits and soft power. Members of the diaspora have achieved great success in different walks of life and by doing so, define both India's capabilities and branding. American technology and British healthcare as in Canadian services, European politics or African entrepreneurship. Their hard work and diligence keeps the global economy

I am delighted to address you all on major companies or building the occasion of the Pravasi Bhartiya infrastructure. Whether it is the professionals of the Gulf or the innovators of Silicon Valley, the financiers of Singapore or the Yoga teachers of Suriname, their cumulative contribution to the image of India cannot be overstated. They may be the teachers of Africa or the hoteliers of America. But each in their own way, like drops of water coming together, have created a vast reservoir of goodwill for India.

> In recent times what has been particularly notable is that the deepseated Indian democratic belief is today being expressed by the diaspora in the societies where they live. Three Prime Ministers - Leo Varadkar of Ireland, Antonio Costa of Portugal and Pravind Jugnauth of Mauritius - are the source of great (i) We must make it easier to travel to pride for all of us. This enrichment of pluralistic politics is also visible in a large number of legislators at the national and local levels, ranging from Canada, US and UK to Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania.

If the Indian society is a synthesis of the old and the new, so too is our diaspora. They have kept alive our roots, identities, heritage and the very way of life. Indeed, what makes the Indian diaspora somewhat unique is The Pravasi Bhartiya community that that much more than their counterparts from other societies, they have maintained the physical linkage and emotional attachment to the land of their origin. We need to nurture this relationship and I would like to underline today our Government's deep commitment in that regard. A large number of programmes and events reflect this approach including of course the Know India Programme. The one that gets the most attention is, of course, Prime Minister Modi's interactions with They are as prominent in the world of the Indian and diaspora community whenever he travels abroad.

While I emphasized the role of the diaspora in enhancing India's standing in the world, there are many more running, whether it is through leading tangible contributions that it has

made. As our nation travels on its journey of modernity, the diaspora has in Prime Minister Modi's words acted as a living bridge with the world. They have facilitated the flow of resources, technology and best practices in a variety of ways. Their networking energies and activities have helped improve global understanding of India and its aspirations. Most of all, they have helped in shaping the mindset of the upcoming generation of aspirational Indians who are so confident of engaging the world today.

So what can the Government do to nurture the relationship with the Indians and persons of Indian origin living abroad. These, to my mind, the answers fall into four broad categories:

- India and that is exactly what motivates us today to reform our passport, visa and OCI scheme. By using technology, we have made consular, passport and visa services more people-friendly e.g. mobile Passport App, e-Passport, e-Visa, etc. The days of going to Embassies and Consulates for such purposes and services are now over.
- (ii) We strive to make it more secure to work, travel and live abroad. To that end, a number of initiatives have been taken for our migrant workers, including pre-departure training programmes. Grievance redressal mechanisms such as e-Migrate, and the Madad portal are also examples of relevance. Our Embassies have also been equipped to assist those more vulnerable and in need. In extreme cases, we have mounted operations to respond to humanitarian situations and natural disasters that affect our people. And I recall recent examples in Yemen and in Nepal.
- (iii) Our goal is to be the first and immediate responder to those in

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distress situations, whether they are travellers who have lost documents, students in difficulty, (iv) Keeping the bonds between India women in stress situations or workers who need support. What started out some years ago as exceptions - 24x7 helplines, openhouse meetings, Consular camps, week-end assistance, etc. - today these are the norm. My predecessor used to say that help is just a tweet away. That is still so,

tweet itself.

and the new generation of the diaspora is a major focus of our activities. Today's event is but a small example of a larger endeavour that will continue to grow in the coming days. The living bridge must be renewed and refreshed.

but now the response to the As India rises in the world, its unique problem by our Missions is often relationship with the diaspora would as fast as the response to the be one of its characteristics. The world

may be increasingly be a common marketplace. But we also see it as a shared workplace and living space. We have historically impacted the world in its thought and activities and that aspiration continues to guide our approach. Today, we meet to recall the difference that one Pravasi Bhartiya made more than a century ago. May it inspire us all to each do what we can to contribute to the New India in the making.

> Thank you very much. Jai Hind.

70 YEARS OF INDIA—CHINA DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Commemorating 70 years of diplomatic relations between India and China, a special photo exhibition, China-India Cultural Contacts was organised in Hall No. 11 at the New Delhi World Book Fair 2020. The exhibit takes the visitor through a journey of over several thousand years to the present of contacts and exchanges.

Diplomatic relations between India and China began on a similar threshold for both countries in 1950, after India

gained independence in 1947 and the founding of the Republic of China in 1949. These two juggernauts of Asia were however in cultural and trade exchanges for several thousands of years before modern diplomatic relations were established. The spread of Buddhism, around the 1st





Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Chinese President Xi Jinping

century and its growth in China was one of the main points of strength in the building of these relations. Religious and philosophical exchanges between the two countries led to development across many areas like literature, history, art and martial arts as well. Boddhidharma, a monk from South India in the 5th century B.C and his contributions established him to be the first master Chinese Zen Buddhism. From 10th century onwards, these two countries were actively involved in trade of Chinese silk, porcelain, tea, fishing net, sugar, paper, Sichuan peppers, cinnamon and other spices from coastal India. From the 17th century onward, they began to work in a mutually beneficial independent exchange but intrusion of colonial powers in the continent led these relations to dwindle significantly.

Interactions between China and India was rekindled on 1st April 1950, ushering in a new ear of contacts and exchanges which went on to cover not only spiritual and material aspects, but it also led to the establishment of tourism and business, and successfully maintained exchange of overseas students and visiting scholars. While China had influenced India materially, India had influenced China spiritually leading to the coexistence

Confucianism. Buddhism and Taoism. The two countries continue to develop and maintain the relation with the efforts by people of both countries, thus leading to further exchanges in the China-India cultural ties.



Workshop on India-Africa Relations

Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad organised a workshop on 'India-Africa Relations' on 17th December, 2019 at Pravasi Bhawan. The panelists included H.E Chris Sunday Eze, Ambassador of Nigeria, Mr. Eddison M.Agbenyegah, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ghana. Several important members of ARSP- Amb. Virendra Gupta, Amb. Shashank, Shri Shyam Parande, Amb. Anup K Mudgal, Dr. Markandey Rai, Shri Mukesh Aggarwal, Shri Narayan Kumar, Shri T.N Malhotra, Shri Amit Gupta, Prof. Ajay Dubey from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Amb. HHS Vishwanathan from Observer Research Foundation, Dr. Neha Sinha from Vivekananda International Foundation also participated in the discussion.

Welcoming the participants, President ARSP Amb. Virendra Gupta noted that India had very unique and cordial relationship with Africa. There was, however, an attempt in some quarters to relegate the relationship to mere platitudes. This relationship was extremely valuable for India, because



requisite steps needed to be taken by the Government and civil society organizations in India, to create awareness about our traditional close and friendly ties with Africa.

The important points made by the participants during the discussions are briefly summarized below:

 African participants focused on the distinction between India - Africa relations, and the relations between Indians and Africans. It was noted that while India-Africa relations at the government level were excellent, the same cordiality was not seen at the people's level due to lack of awareness. There was a need to work on this. Government agencies in India also needed to show greater

sensitivity towards Africans.

There was a need to work on the relationship at the multiple levels. While t h e relationship at the Government level was working quite

well through several institutional mechanisms put in place by Government of India, lot of work was required to further the ties at the people's level. There was an inherent goodwill but the relationship needed to be structured in a proper framework.

- Visiting African students should be facilitated contact with Indian families, going beyond their educational institutions, so that they could carry back happy memories with them of association with people in India.
- It was pointed out that African students did not interminale very

to lack of integration. This needed to be rectified through active efforts by the college authorities.

- African students should be encouraged to learn Hindi for better communication between them and Indian students.
- While large numbers of Indians either worked in Africa or were carrying on business activities, similar dispensation was not available for Africans in India. It was pointed out that Africans should also be facilitated in obtaining business licenses and work permits for legitimate activities.
- African students should be given a chance to do internship in India. It will be beneficial for both India and Africa. It will be an asset for Indian companies having operation in Africa since they would be able to employ such people.
- There should be more focus on investment in Africa than on Lines of Credit.
- Role of media and social media was of prime importance and should be optimally used.
- There was a need towards better partnership between India and Africa in Health and Education sector.
- Connectivity between Indian and African countries has improved considerably. But a lot more had to be done.
- Agriculture should be taken as prime area of focus and efforts should be made in this area by both India and
- Diaspora connect is strong between India and Africa and this resource should be harnessed for strengthening India's relations with Africa.
- Some cities in India could be identified on the basis of historical linkages for developing better connection with Africa.



of vibrant economic and commercial connections both in terms of trade and investment. Africa was also important from the stand point of diversification of our energy supplies, which was crucial given the volatility in the Middle East region. However, what distinguished India - Africa connection was the fraternal ties characterized by deep emotional connect and shared history of colonial subjugation and exploitation. There was a need to show requisite sensitivity to the concerns and aspiration of African people. Some of the recent incidents of attacks on African students in India showed a certain lack of sensitivity amongst the people here and all much with the Indian students leading

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- 5. Shri Mayank Agarwal D-175, Saket, Meerut(UP)
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Shri Arun Kumar Jain



Shri Pradeep Kumar



Shri Sushil Kumar Jain



Shri Mukesh Kumr Jain



Shri Anjul Gupta

With \$78 Billion, India Still Highest OVERSEAS REMITTANCE RECEIVER

India continues to retain its position as was next in line, with remittances of between 2015 and 2018 is 14%. As remittances, with its diaspora sending global remittance figure). back \$78.6 billion in 2018. the largest in the world, at 17.5 million (as of mid-2019), this ranking in terms of remittances is not surprising. India's remittance figure of \$689 billion. China 29%. The increase in remittance Nations' migration unit.

the world's top recipient of \$67.41 billion (which is 5.4% of the compared with the remittances in

Considering that India's diaspora is Even in 2010 and 2015, for which data is available, India was the top recipient of remittances. Remittances during 2010 were \$53.48 billion, rising to remittances were 14% of the global \$68.91 in 2015 - an increase of nearly

2010, the latest figure of \$78.61 billion shows a rise of nearly 47%. These statistics were disclosed in the World Migration Report 2020, which was released on Wednesday by International Organisation for Migration (IOM), which is United

UK Doubles Fast-Track Visas for International Scientists

The UK government announced to double fast-track visas for scientists from around the world, including India. UK home secretary Priti Patel said the number of eligible fellowships which can offer accelerated endorsement for visas for scientists wanting to conduct research in the UK will double from 62 to over 120.

minister said the plan builds on PM Boris Johnson outline for a wider pool of world leading scientists and



Britain's senior-most Indian-origin a fast-track process to obtain entry into the UK.

researchers to be able to benefit from science... We want to make sure the

UK continues to be at the forefront of innovation, so we need an immigration system that attracts the sharpest minds from around the globe," said Patel. In line with the current process, qualified scientists who receive such fellowships will only need to provide a letter from the relevant funding organisation, which will see them fasttracked to the UK home office visa application stage where immigration checks will be carried out. The UK government says this will ensure that "The UK is already a world leader in scientists can begin their innovative work as soon as possible.

HARSH VARdHAN SHRINGLA WILL be THE NEXT FOREIGN SECRETARY

Indian envoy to United States Harsh Vardhan Shringla will take over as India's next Foreign Secretary after incumbent Vijay Gokhale's term ends next month. Harsh Vardhan Shringla is career diplomat and a member of the Indian Foreign Service since 1984. He has held a variety of positions in New Delhi and abroad. He has served as High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh and Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Thailand. He has also served in France (UNESCO); USA (UN, New York); Vietnam (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City); Israel and South Africa (Durban).

Ambassador Shringla has graduated from St.Stephen's College, Delhi University and has worked in the Corporate and Public Sectors in India prior to joining the Indian Foreign Service. He has pursued courses and



Ambassador Shringla has graduated from St.Stephen's College, Delhi University and has worked in the Corporate and Public Sectors in India prior to joining the Indian Foreign Service. He has pursued courses and published papers on conflict prevention, economic diplomacy, the Indian diaspora and India-Bangladesh relations.

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Bill in US House Seeks Promotion of Gandhi Legacy

America's legendary civil rights leader Congressman John Lewis has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to promote the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr and sought a budgetary allocation of \$150 million for next five years.

Introduced to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Gandhi, the bill affirms the friendship between the two countries and honours the legacy of Gandhi and King.

The Bill proposes establishing a Gandhi-King Development Foundation, which will have a governing council convened by US and India and would oversee grants to NGOs on health, pollution and climate change, education and women empowerment.

Activities Report from January to December, 2019 AT A GLANCE

12 January, 2019



"Cultural Economic and Political Indian Diaspora in Fiji Evolution of and their Future." by Prof. Biman Chand Prasad, Hon'ble Member of the Fijian Parliament and leader of the Opposition National Federation Party at Pravasi Bhawan, New Delhi.

28 January, 2019



The Diaspora Resource and Research Centre (DRRC), ARSP in collaboration with the American Chapter of the Centre of International Studies of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), organized a Round Table on the "Role of Diaspora in India-United States Relations" at Malviya Smriti Bhawan, New Delhi.

16 March, 2019



ARSP & Nehru Memorial Museum & Library jointly organized a Book Release and book discussion on Refugee Dilemma: Srilankan Refugees in Tamil Nadu by Prof. V. Suryanarayan at Seminar hall of Nehru Memorial Museum & Library.

6 April, 2019



ARSP organized a special lecture on ARSP organized a visit of a high profile delegation of Lao Buddhist Sangh at Pravasi Bhawan. The delegation was headed by the most venerable Sathou Onekeo Sitthivong, President of the Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organisation (LBFO).

11 April, 2019



Centre for Roma Studies & Cultural Relations (CRSCR) ARSP organized a programme to celebrate International Roma Day at Pravasi Bhawan. President-Eurasia Roma Academic Network, Mr. Orhan Galjus was the Chief Guest.

16 April, 2019



A cultural programme of Geet Gawai by 25 folk singers from Mauritius was held at Pravasi Bhawan. Dr. Sarita Boodhoo was the head of the delegation.

23 May, 2019

A Bhajan Sandhya was organised on the occasion of 6th Punyatithi of Shri



Baleshwar Agrawal in the Pravasi Bhawan. Renowned Bhajan singer Shri Ajay Yagnik presented the programme. Dr. Subramanian Swami was the Guest of Honour.

31 May, 2019



ARSP delegation led by Amb. Virendra Gupta met the Prime Minister of Bhutan Dr. Lotay Tshring.

8-9 June, 2019





ARSP organized an International Conference in Kolkata on 'Synergizing India Bangladesh Relations for a Mutually Beneficial Future' in association with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) and Indian Council of Social Sciences & Research (ICSSR). Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal Shri Kesari Nath Tripathi inaugurated the



seminar.

5 July, 2019



Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations-ARSP in collaboration with Kathak Kendra organized a cultural programme in honour of Italian delegation at Kathak Kendra-Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

27 July, 2019



A felicitation and interaction programme of delegation of Hindi teachers & scholars of Lal Bahadur Shastri Vidyalaya, Tashkent led by renowned Hindi Scholars from Uzbekistan Prof. Ulfat Mukhidova was held at Pravasi Bhawan. Dr. Kamal Kishore Goenka, Vice President of Kendriya Hindi Sansthan was the Chief Guest, Prof.Avaneesh Sharma, and Chairman of Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology was the Guest of Honour.

31 July to 3 August, 2019



A six member ARSP goodwill delegation visited Bhutan on the invitation of Bhutanese government. The delegation was led by Amb. Virendra Gupta. Other members include-Dr. Shashi Bala, Shri Amit Gupta, Shri C. S. Randev, Shri Rajiv Berry and Shri T. N. Malhotra.

22 August, 2019



40 Diaspora Youth delegates from nine countries visited Pravasi Bhawan under 54th Know India Program (KIP). Heads of Mission and Diplomats from Fiji, Guyana, Mauritius, Myanmar, South Africa, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago were present during the program.

17-18 September, 2019





International conference on "Mahatma Gandhi and Diaspora" was held at Gandhi Darshan, Rajghat Complex, and New Delhi. Around 10 International scholars and 15 Indian scholars participated and presented their papers on the various themes related to diaspora and Mahatma Gandhi. Minister of Culture and Tourism inaugurated the conference.

23 September, 2019



40 Diaspora youth delegates from 9 an instrur countries - Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Mauritius, Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, South Africa, and Fiji visited Pravasi Bhawan under 55th Know India Programme (KIP). Then the KIP batch was taken to Hansraj College, University of Delhi where they were

felicitated along with other foreign students who are studying in DU. Several cultural performances by Indian and foreign students were also presented during the event.

1 October, 2019



A reception cum interaction programme with Prof. Victoria Demenova, Director-History of Arts, Cultural Studies and Design Department, Ural Federal University, Russia was held at Pravasi Bhawan. She delivered speech on 'Buddha Dharma in Russia'.

3 to 5 October, 2019



The ARSP delegation headed by Amb. Virendra Gupta, Shri Narayan Kumar, Shri Amit Gupta, Shri Mukesh Aggarwal, Shri Sanjay Bhalla, Dr. Rajni Sarin, Prof. Ajay Dubey and Dr. Rakesh Pandey visited Durban, South Africa for an International Conference 'Celebrating Mohandas and Kasturba Gandhi: 150 years of living legacy'.

5 October, 2019



Dehradun Chapter of ARSP organised an instrumental and musical programme by the internationally renowned Sitar Vadak, Shri Agni Verma. Hon'ble Governor Smt.Baby Rani Maurya was the chief guest of the programme.

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11 October, 2019



ARSP Hapur chapter organised a vichar goshti on 'Pravasi Bharatiyo Ka Sansar' at The Chamber of Commerce, Hapur. Shri Shyam Parande of the chief guest and Shri C.S. Randev, Shri Sanjay Ganjoo, Dr. Surendra Nath Gupta and Shri Arun Kumar Jain were the Guest of Honour.

16 October, 2019



40 candidates from 9 countries namely-Fiji, Guyana, Israel, Suriname, Mauritius, Trinidad & Tobago, Myanmar, South Africa, and Malaysia Pravasi Bhawan under 56th Know India Programme (KIP).

16 November, 2019



अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद और अक्षरम के संयुक्त तत्वाधन में फीजी के सुप्रसिद्ध हिन्दी लेखक प्रो. सुब्रमनी के हिन्दी उपन्यास 'फीजी माँ' का लोकार्पण किया गया। जिसमें भारत में फीजी के उच्चायुक्त महामहिम श्री योगेश पुंजा, प्रवासी भवन में आयोजित किया था। इस कार्यक्रम में मॉरीशस के सुप्रसिद्ध लेखक एवं कवि श्री रामदेव जी ध्रंधर एवं यू. के. की प्रसिद्ध हिन्दी साहित्यिक श्रीमती दिव्या जी माथुर भी उपस्थित हए। प्रोफेसर सुब्रमनी जी फीजी में विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति रहे हैं।

19 November, 2019



Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, Diaspora Research and Resource Centre (DRRC) organised a round table discussion on "Gulf Diaspora: Issues, Opportunities, Challenges and way forward" to develop this important resource and asset, at Pravasi Bhawan. New Delhi. The round table was addressed by Amb. Navdeep Suri, who recently retired as India's Ambassador to the UAE.

29 November to 1 December, 2019

Heritage Seminar for Foreign Students at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh. About 100 students from



around 35 countries of the world traveled with us to Experience the essence of India's Cultural and Spiritual Heritage in one of the most Beautiful places in India - Rishikesh & Haridwar!

They visited Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, Har-ki-Paudi and welcomed by the Hon. Governor of Uttarakhand at her official Raj Bhavan and overwhelmed by the warm reception by Adarneeya Acharya Balkrishna ji -Vice Chancellor of Patanjali Yogpeeth University.

17 December, 2019



Round Table workshop on India-Africa relations at Pravasi Bhawan, New Delhi. The panelists included H.E. Chris Sunday Eze, Ambassador of Nigeria, Mr. Eddison M.Agbenyegah, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ghana, scholars, experts and former diplomats. Several important members from ARSP attended and participated in the discussion.

All 3 PIO Ministers Retain Post in Boris' 'People's Cabinet'

Three Indian-origin ministers, including UK home secretary Priti Patel have retained their posts in PM Boris Johnson's cabinet, which met on Tuesday ahead of the first parliament session since the Conservative Party won a strong 80seat majority in the general election last week. The newly elected MPs and ministers returned to the House of Commons on Tuesday.

cabinet reshuffle for now to fill some vacant posts, while maintaining the The three Indian-origin ministers, who



Priti Patel, Rishi Sunak & Alok Sharma Johnson has carried out a very limited status quo across his top team - which he has dubbed the "People's Cabinet".

had won back their seats convincingly in the Tory landslide, have been retained in their posts.

Patel was back by Johnson's side in the Commons as UK home secretary, with fellow MP Alok Sharma remaining in charge of the department for international development. Rishi Sunak the son-in law of Infosys cofounder Narayana Murthy, retains his place in the cabinet table as chief secretary to the treasury.

Bhutan Celebrated its 112th National Day

His Majesty The King graced the 112th National Day celebration in Thimphu on 17th December 2019. His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen, His Royal Highness the Gyalsey and members of the Royal Family also attended the celebrations.

Thousands of spectators gathered at the Changlimithang National Stadium roared with the spirit of unity, peace and prosperity as the celebrations began.

Braving the cold winter night, people started gathering at the stadium from 11PM on 16 December 2019 to be part of the celebrations. The gates which were supposed to be opened only at 6AM had to be closed by 4AM as the spectators filled the stadium almost schools.



beyond its carrying capacity. Each person got a goody bag containing a miniature Bhutan flag, a lottery, edible items and a batch.

The cultural performances this time were quite unique. Of many, the highlight was a parade on Bhutan's development journey thus far performed by the students of Thimphu



The National Day celebrations were to pay tribute to the past, present and future Kings of Bhutan. It was on 17 December 2019, 112 years ago that Bhutan first crowned Gongsar Ugyen Wangchuck as the first hereditary monarch. The day marks the unprecedented unity, peace and prosperity that the country embraced since then.

Bhutan Red Cross Society formally Admitted AS A MEMBER OF THE IFRC

The Bhutan Red Cross Society (BRCS) was formally admitted as a member of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 6 December 2019. This was decided unanimously at the 22ndsession of the IFRC General Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.



A two-member delegation led by the Conventions, which was ratified by BRCS Secretary-General, Dragyel Tenzin Dorjee supported by officials from the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, attended the admission ceremony.

According to the press release, the formal admission of BRCS to the IFRC marks a milestone in fulfilling the obligations as a party to the Geneva

Bhutan in 1991.

The IFRC advocates peace and dignity throughout the world, and provides support before, during and after a disaster or crisis.

The BRCS was established in Bhutan on 8thMay 2017, coinciding with the International Red Cross & Red Bhutan. Crescent Day. The BCRS is an autonomous and not-for-profit organization established under the Bhutan Red Cross Society Act 2016. It is a voluntary aid society, auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, having the mandates to save lives, protect livelihoods. Also, it

strengthens recovery from disasters, to enable healthy and safe living, and to promote social inclusion and culture of care and protection.

The BRCS is part of a network of the movement which has 190 member countries as a Red Cross or a Red Crescent National Society.Her Majesty the Gyaltsuen is the President of the Bhutan Red Cross Society in

"Ap Kapur" Awarded Druk Thuksey"



His Majesty The King awarded the Arun Kapur sees the award as a huge students with special needs, and Druk Thuksay(Heart Son of Bhutan) to responsibility. "I am honoured to students who have fallen outside of Mr. Arun Kapur, fondly referred to as Ap Kapur at the Royal Academy in Pangbisa, Paro, where he is the Director. The Druk Thuksey is one of the highest civilian honours awarded by His Majesty in recognition of exemplary contribution to the socioeconomic, religious and political development and growth of Bhutan.

The 65-years-old educator is Indian, but spends his time between India and Bhutan. He has worked with children of all ages and all sections of society for more than four decades.

receive the Druk Thuksey especially on behalf of my team at the Royal Academy, but it is also a huge Arun Kapur's first experience as a responsibility," he said. "Receiving the Druk Thuksey from His Majesty the King was an over whelming experience for me and family."

Arun Kapur is an educator with more than four decades of experience in the private as well as public education spheres. He has been actively engaged in building learning environments catering to a diverse group of learners - rural and urban,

the formal schooling system.

teacher was at the Doon School, Dehradun. Thereafter he taught in the United Kingdom and on his return to India he was the Principal of the British School, Delhi. Since Vasant Valley School was conceived, in the late 1980's, he has been at its helm, as the first Head of School and as the Director of the school.

Days to Remember

in February, 2020

February 04: Sri Lanka - National Day February 23: Brunei Darussalam-National Day

February 06: New Zealand-Waitangi Day February 23: Guyana-Republic Day February 08: Purnima February 25: Kuwait-National Day February 11: Iran-Victory day February 28: Natural Science Day

February 12: Deen Bandhu Andrews-Birth

Anniversary

February 16: Lithuania - National Day

February 21: Day of Language

(The day is celebrated to promote linguistic diversity and to bring about awareness of the importance of one's

mother tongue.)

February 22: Amavasya

(This date was chosen because it was on this date(28th February, 1928) that Sir C.V. Raman, the great Indian scientist, discovered the 'Raman Effect'.

The Raman Effect relates to the way that light is scattered when it passes through different materials. Sit Raman earned a Nobel Prize because of this discovery in 1930.)

हिन्दी शूचना क्रांति और विकास की भाषा बनने की ओर अञ्रसर-वी मुरलीधरन, विदेश राज्यमंत्री

विदेश राज्यमंत्री वी मुरलीधरन ने 10 जनवरी, 2020 विश्व हिन्दी दिवस के अवसर पर विदेश मंत्रालय द्वारा आयोजित समारोह को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि सरकार हिन्दी को संयुक्त राष्ट्र की भाषा के रूप में स्वीकृति दिलाने तथा हिन्दी को विदेश नीति एवं कूटनीति का माध्यम बनाने के लिए प्रयासरत है। उन्होंने कहा कि विदेशों में भारतीय भाषाओं के प्रचार-प्रसार के उद्देश्य से भारतीय सांस्कृतिक संबंध परिषद ने विदेशों में 66 अध्ययन पीठ स्थापित किये हैं जिसमें से 25 हिन्दी पीठ हैं तथा भारत सरकार का लगातार प्रयास है कि

हिन्दी को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर मान्यता मिले और इसके अलावा महात्मा गांधी संस्थान मॉरीशस में संयुक्त राष्ट्र की आधिकारिक भाषा का दर्जा मिले।

विदेश राज्यमंत्री ने कहा कि अभी तक हिन्दी को संयुक्त राष्ट्र की आधिकारिक भाषा का दर्जा नहीं मिला है लेकिन यूएन की वेबसाइट एवं सोशल मीडिया पर हिन्दी भाषा को बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है। उन्होंने बताया कि इसके लिए यूएन डिपार्टमेंट ऑन ग्लोबल कम्यूनिकेशन के साथ 28 मार्च, 2018 में एक है और विश्व पटल पर हिन्दी के प्रति सम्मान को एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किया गया था बढ़ रहा है कि हिन्दी सूचना क्रांति और विकास की <mark>और जून 2018 से संयुक्त राष्ट्र</mark> में हिन्दी भाषा में भाषा बनने की ओर अग्रसर है। कार्यक्रम का प्रसारण शुरू हुआ है। मुरलीधरन ने कहा कि मॉरीशस स्थित विश्व हिन्दी सचिवालय को बहरहाल, विदेश राज्यमंत्री ने कहा कि हम हिन्दी के और अधिक सुदृढ़ बनाने का काम किया जा रहा है। साथ दूसरी भारतीय भाषाओं को आगे बढ़ाने के



पाणिनी भाषा प्रयोगशाला की स्थापना की गई है। हिन्दी विदेश नीति और कूटनीति का माध्यम बने और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर उसे उचित स्थान मिले। इस अवसर पर प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी का संदेश भी पढ़ा गया जिसमें उन्होंने कहा कि उन्हें ख़ुशी है कि हिन्दी दुनिया में सर्वाधिक बोली जानी वाली भाषाओं

लिये कदम उठा रहे हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि विदेश मंत्रालय ने भारत एक परिचय, भारत को जानिए, जैसे विभिन्न कार्यक्रम शुरू किए हैं। इस अवसर पर विदेश सचिव (पूर्व) विजय ठाकुर सिंह ने विदेशों में हिन्दी प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए पूर्व विदेशमंत्री सूषमा स्वराज के अथक प्रयासों की सराहना करते हुए कहा कि विगम 5 वर्षों में विदेश मंत्रालय में हिन्दी के प्रयोग में काफी वृद्धि हुई है। दुनियाभर के सभी भारतीय दूतावास में 10 जनवरी को विश्व हिन्दी दिवस मनाया जा रहा है तथा विदेश मंत्रालय एवं भारतीय दूतावासों में हिन्दी का प्रयोग

बढाने के लिए निरन्तर प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि हम इस दिशा में भी प्रयासरत हैं। हिन्दी भाषा को विश्व पटल पर पहचान दिलाने के उद्देश्य से साल 2006 के बाद से इस दिवस की शुरूआत की गई थी। उन्होंने कहा कि हिन्दी को बढ़ावा देने के लिये विश्व हिन्दी सम्मेलन का आयोजन सबसे पहले 1975 को नागपुर में हुआ था। समारोह के दौरान केन्द्रीय हिन्दी संस्थान के छात्रों ने कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किये जिसमें श्रीलंका, मॉरीशस, उज्बेकिस्तान, अफगानिस्तान के छात्र भी शामिल है। हिन्दी से संबंधित विषयों पर निबंध प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेने वाले छात्रों को पुरस्कृत भी किया गया।

कान्हा के दर्शन को हर शाल बढ़ रहे देश-विदेश के श्रद्धालु

विदेशियों को ब्रज भूमि अपनी ओर खूब आकर्षित कर रही है। इसमें भी देशभर से आने वाले भक्तों को सबसे ज्यादा जहां बांके बिहारी की नगरी वन्दावन और गोवर्ध्न अपनी ओर खींच रही है, वहीं विदेशी भक्तों को कान्हा की जन्मस्थली मथुरा और लीलास्थली वृन्दावन खूब पसंद आ रही है। हर साल बड़ी संख्या में देश-विदेश के पर्यटक विभिन्न मौकों पर ब्रज में आते हैं और कान्हा की जन्मस्थली सहित उनकी लीलास्थलियों का भी भ्रमण और दर्शन करते हैं। पर्यटन विभाग के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, साल 2018 में यहां आने वाले पर्यटकों की संख्या का आंकड़ा 5 करोड़ को पार कर गया है।

कृष्णभक्त और पर्यटक कान्हा की नगरी में आते हैं। 10,660 विदेशी भक्त पहुंचे। श्रीकृष्ण जन्मस्थान के अलावा कृष्णलीला से जुड़े मथुरा में जहां 26,605 विदेशी भक्त पहुंचे तो वहीं महत्व है लेकिन प्राचीन केशीघाट पर शाम को होने



वृन्दावन में इनकी संख्या 50,880 और गोवर्धन में 9,115 रहीं जबिक साल 2018 में मथूरा में दुनियाभर से हर साल बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी 27,910 वृन्दावन में 53,980 और गोवर्धन में

सभी स्थलों का भ्रमण और दर्शन करने विदेशी ब्रज में कृष्णकालीन जिन स्थलों का जिक्र होता है यहां 1720 पर्यटकसरोवर के आकर्षक सौंदर्य का पहुंचते हैं, लेकिन वृन्दावन और गोवर्धन में सबसे उनमें से यमुना का किनारा भी प्रमुख है। वैसे तो दीदार करने पहुंचे। ज्यादा विदेशी श्रद्धालु पहुंचे। साल २०१७ में यमुना पर बने विभिन्न घाटों का अपना धार्मिक

वाली यमुना महारानी की आरती में बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी भक्त भी शामिल होते हैं। हालांकि सामान्य दिनों में इनकी संख्या कम होती है लेकिन कार्तिक के महीने में बड़ी संख्या में विदेशी भक्त यमुना आरती में शामिल होते हैं।

भारत भ्रमण के दौरान ब्रज भ्रमण के लिए आने वाले विदेशी टूरिस्टों को गोवर्धन-राधाकुंड मार्ग पर स्थित कुसूम सरोवर का नजारा भी अपनी ओर आकर्षित कर रहा है। यहां फोटो शूट कराने के साथ ही ट्रिस्टों को यहां बनी लाल पत्थर की छतरियों पर हुई पच्चीकारी और पंटिंग लुभाती है। पर्यटन विभाग के आंकड़ों की बात करे तो वर्ष 2014 में जहां 1,460 विदेशी सैलानी पहुंचे तो 2015 में इनकी संख्या डेढ़ हजार रही। 2016 में 1550, 2017 में 1645 और पिछले साल 2018 में

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पूर्तगाल में महातमा गांधी के नाम पर पुरस्कार

राष्ट्रपति भवन में राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी की 1 5 0 वीं . जयंती के आयोजन के लिए बनी राष्ट्रीय समिति की दूसरी बैठक में पूर्तगाल के प्रधानमंत्री अटोनियो कोस्टा ने कहा कि वह गांधी जी के विचारों और शिक्षा पर चलने वाले लोगों व संस्थाओं को पूर्तगाल सरकार हर साल पुरस्कार देगी। कोस्टा इस राष्ट्रीय कमेटी के एकमात्र विदेशी सदस्य है। कोस्टा एक ऐसे गांधीवादी के तौर पर जाने जाते हैं, जिन्होंने अपने जीवन में गांधी के बताए रास्ते का अनुसरण किया। अपनी गांधीवादी सोच, सरल जीवनशैली, लोगों के साथ सहज, व्यवहार के कारण कोस्टा को 'लिस्बन का गांधी' के नाम से भी जाना जाता है।

कोस्टा ने बताया कि पुर्तगाल सरकार हर साल 'गांधी सिटीजन एजुकेशन प्राइज' नाम से पुरस्कार देगी। हर साल इसकी एक थीम होगी, उसी आधार पर विजेता का चयन किया जाएगा। पहले पुरस्कार की थीम 'एनिमल वेलफेयर' रखी गई है।



थाईलैंड में दीवाशें पर अंकित सबसे बड़ी रामायण श्रृंखाला



अयोध्या शोध संस्थान ने श्रीराम की विश्व यात्रा पर वड़ी रामायण श्रृंखला बताया गया है। राजमहल के किए जा रहे अनुसंधान में रामायण पर आधारित जो तथ्य सामने आए हैं, उसमें सबसे आश्चर्यजनक थाईलैंड की रामायण शृंखला है, जो विश्व में सबसे में है। दूसरी चित्र श्रृंखला कंबोडिया की राजधानी बड़ी है। रामायण श्रृंखला के चित्र वहां के राजमहल की दीवारों पर अंकित हैं। इन चित्रों को बड़े ही रोचक तरीके से थाई रामायण 'रामकियान' के प्रसंगों के आधार पर बनाया गया है।

को चित्रों के माध्यम से अंकित किया गया है। यह इसे सचित्र प्रस्तृत किया गया है। राजमहल बैंकॉक शहर में है, जिसे दुनिया की सबसे

अंदर भगवान बुद्ध की प्रतिमा भी है। इस तरह का अंकन भारत में सिर्फ केरल के कोची के मट्टनचेरी स्थित राजमहल में मिलती है। खास बात यह है कि तीन जगह चित्र राजमहल में ही संरक्षित है। अयोध्या शोध संस्थान के निदेशक डॉ. योगेन्द्र प्रताप सिंह ने बताया कि अलग-अलग देशों में रामायणकालीन साक्ष्यों को अयोध्या शोध संस्थान में एकत्र किया बहां के रायल पैलेस की भीतरी दीवारों पर रामायण गया है जिसे राम की विश्व यात्रा संबंध पुस्तक में

नाशा के श्पेशक्राफट में चांद-मंगल की शैर करेगा हिंदुस्तानी

नासा ने भारतवंशी अमेरिकी एस्ट्रोनॉट राजा जॉन बुरपुत्तूर चारी का चयन अपने तीन आगामी स्पेस मिशन के लिए किया है। नासा ने शुक्रवार को चारी



समेत 1 1 नए एस्ट्रोनॉट के नाम की घोषणा की। चारी अमेरिकी एयर फोर्स के कर्नल हैं और एफ-3 5 बेड़े इंटिग्रेटेड टेस्ट फोर्स के डायरेक्टर के तौर पर सेवाएं दे चुके हैं। वे नासा के स्पेस मिशन के लिए चुने जाने वाले तीसरे भारतवंशी अमेरिकी हैं। उनकी जड़े भारत में हैदराबाद से जुड़ी हैं। उनके पिता श्रीनिवास चारी काफी कम उम्र में अमेरिका चले गए थे। चारी अगस्त 2017 में नासा के आर्टेमिस प्रोग्राम के लिए 18,000 आवेदकों में से चुने गए 1 1 लोगों में से एक थे। उन्होंने दो साल की बेसिक एस्ट्रोनॉट ट्रेनिंग पूरी कर ली।

मुझे शिक्षा के मूल्य अपने पिता से मिले : चारी

चारी ने एक न्यूज एजेंसी को बताया कि शिक्षा के मूल्य उन्हें अपने पिता श्रीनिवास वी चारी से मिले। उन्होंने कहा, 'मेरे पिता का मानना था कि भारत में स्कूल जाना और शिक्षा प्राप्त करना अधिकार नहीं विशेषता है। इसलिए हमने कभी स्कूल जाने में आनाकानी नहीं की।मैं जानता हूं कि हमारे पिता को <mark>हमें स्कूली</mark> शिक्षा देने के लिए कितना त्याग कर<u>ना</u> पडा।'

अमरीका में भारतवंशी महिला को अहम पद



डॉक्टर मोनिषा घोष को अमेरिकी सरकार ने अपने शक्तिशाली फेडरल कॉम्युनिकेशंस कमीशन में टेक्नॉलजी ऑफिसर का पद दिया है। वह इस पद पर पहुंचने वाली पहली महिला है। वह डॉक्टर एरिक बर्गर की जगह लेंगी। उनका काम इंडियन-अमेरिकन चेयरमैन अजित पाई को सलाह देना होगा।

श्रद्धांजिल



श्याम सुंदर जी (01 सितम्बर, 1927-28 दिसम्बर, 2019)

सदैव याद किए जाएंगे। उन्होंने अपनी स्नातक, स्नातकोत्तर और लॉ की बेटियां है। सभी डिग्रियां इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय से प्राप्त कीं।

वे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद के पूर्व महासचिव श्री बालेश्वर अग्रवाल के घनिष्ठतम मित्रों में थे। 1995 में उन्होंने श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी मार्गदर्शन, पं. विद्यानिवास मिश्र जी के नेतृत्व एवं तत्कालीन राष्ट्रपति श्री शंकर दयाल शर्मा की प्रेरणा से साहित्यिक मासिक पत्रिका 'साहित्य अमृत' का प्रकाशन प्रारंभ किया। आज हिन्दी की साहित्यिक पत्रिकाओं में इसका विशिष्ट स्थान है। अपनी मृत्यू के अंतिम दिन

उनका ध्येय था कि विश्व की सभी भाषाओं का श्रेष्ठ तक वे आसफ अली रोड स्थित अपने कार्यालय में साहित्य हिन्दी पाठकों को भी उपलब्ध हो। उनका काम कर रहे थे, जो उनके सच्चे कर्मयोगी होने को जन्म व आरंभिक शिक्षा मथुरा में ही हुई। उसके बाद सिद्ध करता है। उनके परिवार में तीन बेटे एवं दो

भारतीय संस्कृति मेल मिलाप की संस्कृति है-महामहिम बेबी रानी मौर्या

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद के सौजन्य से देवभूमि उत्तराखण्ड के देहराद्न में 01 दिसम्बर, 2019 को दिल्ली में अध्ययरत विदेशी छात्र/छात्राओं का देहरादून में पहुंचने पर, राजभवन में उत्तराखण्ड की महामहिम राज्यपाल बेबीरानी मौर्या ने स्वागत किया। इस अवसर पर गुयाना के उच्चायुक्त महामहिम डेविड पौलार्ड, श्री नन्द किशोर पाण्डेय, केन्द्रीय हिन्दी संस्थान के निदेशक, डॉ. रजनी सरीन, श्री उमापति दीक्षित, अजय पटेल आदि उपस्थित थे।



विदेशी छात्र/छात्राओं को देहरादन के राजभवन में हार्दिक स्वागत करते हुए महामहिम श्रीमती बेबीरानी मौर्या-राज्यपाल ने कहा कि भारतीय संस्कृति मेल मिलाप की संस्कृति है जो हम सबको आपसी प्रेम और सौहार्द के साथ जीना सिखाती है। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारे देश में त्योहारों की कमी नहीं है। इन त्योहारों के माध्यम से हमारी परम्पराएं मजबूत होती है। राज्यपाल ने अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद के पदाधिकारियों से कहा इन विदेशी छात्र/छात्राओं को



खानपान तथा आहार व्यवहार से पहचान करवायी जानी चाहिए।

समारोह में पधारे गुयाना के राजदूत महामहिम डेविड पौलार्ड ने कहा कि गुयाना में भारतीय संस्कृति की जड़े काफी मजबूत हैं। उन्होंने गुयाना की कलाओं और रीति रिवाजों से भी सभी को अवगत करवाया।

समारोह की अध्यक्षता समाजसेविका श्रीमती मध् बैरी ने की। अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद-देहरादून चैप्टर के उपाध्यक्ष श्री दयानन्द्र चन्दोला ने अपने स्वागत भाषण में संस्था की प्रगति से अवगत करवाया। समारोह का शुभारम्भ तथा समापन श्रीमती डॉली डबराल द्वारा प्रस्तुत राष्ट्रगान से किया

संक्षिप्त समारोह में संस्था के पदाधिकारी इंजीनियर गोपालकृष्ण मित्तल, कैप्टन सुधांशु कुकरेती, डॉ. जे. पी. सेमवाल, श्री अशोक शर्मा, निवेदित बौथ्याल आदि अनेक पदाधिकारी एवं सदस्य उपस्थित थे। कुछ दिनों के लिए अपने घरों में रखकर भारतीय समारोह से एक दिन पूर्व 30 नवम्बर, 2019

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष पूर्व राजदत श्री वीरेन्द्र गुप्ता जी की अध्यक्षता में भारत तथा भारत के पड़ोसी देशों के बीच के सम्बन्धों पर सेमिनार आयोजित की गई जिसमें राष्ट्रीय पदाधिकारियों में श्री सुरेन्द्र नाथ गुप्ता, श्री नारायण कुमार तथा श्री राकेश पाण्डेय भी उपस्थित थे। अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद देहरादुन के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष श्री दयानन्द चन्दोला ने सभी अतिथियों एवं सदस्यों का परिचय करवाया। बैठक की अध्यक्षता संस्था के अध्यक्ष श्री राजीव बैरी ने की। बैठक का संचालन श्री चन्द्रगुप्त विक्रम तथा कैप्टन सुधांशु कुकरेती ने किया। बैठक में डॉ. एस. फारूक, इं. गोपाल कृष्ण मित्तल, श्री राकेश ओबराय, श्री योगेश अग्रवाल, श्री अशोक शर्मा, डॉ. जे. पी. सेमवाल, श्रीमती डॉली डबराल आदि उपस्थित रही। अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग परिषद देहरादून के संयुक्त सचिव श्री योगेश अग्रवाल ने धन्यवाद ज्ञापन



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बदलते विश्व में हिन्दी की भूमिका

आर्थिक और राजनैतिक जानकारों का अनुमान है कि इक्कीसवीं सदी में विश्व-पटल पर एशिया और खासतीर पर भारत और चीन देशों की मुख्य भूमिका हो सकती है। वे कई परिवर्तनों की ओर हमारा ध्यान आकृष्ट करते हैं। संचार माध्यमों के तीव्र विस्तार के साथ देश काल के पैमाने बदल रहे हैं और कई अर्थी में (विश्व-व्यवस्था) और (विश्व-गाँव) जैसे जुमले वास्तविकता का आकार ले रहे हैं। विदेशी निवेशकों को व्यापार-वाणिज्य के लिए आकर्षित करना बदल रहे माहौल में नए किस्म की जरूरतें पैदा कर रहा है। अपने हितों को देखते हुए बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियां भारत के साथ व्यापार बढ़ा रही हैं। इनके दबावों के बीच युवतर मानव संसाधन उपलब्ध कराना और उन्हें कार्य-निपुण बनाना महत्वपूर्ण हो गया है। चूंकि उपभोक्ता या ग्राहक हिन्दी क्षेत्र में अधिक हैं अतः अर्थ तंत्र की संघटना में हिन्दी की स्थिति अपेक्षाकृत मजबूत हुई है। इस बीच सूचना-प्रौद्योगिकी का भी अप्रत्याशित रूप से अकृत विस्तार हुआ है जिसने भाषा-व्यवहार को सभी क्षेत्रों में प्रभावित किया है। सरकारों और निजी दुनिया में कंप्यूटर की बढ़ती पैठ से कार्य के परिवेश और कार्य पद्धति में एक अनिवार्य बदलाव आ रहा है।

हिन्दी भाषा की क्षमता को कई तरह से आंका जाता है। उसके बोलने वालों का बढ़ता संख्या बल, साहित्य-सुजन की मात्रा और उसके प्रकाशन का विस्तार, हिन्दी की बढ़ती शब्द-संपदा, हिन्दी का लचीला भाषिक स्वरूप, जन-संचार माध्यमों में हिन्दी की बढ़ती उपस्थिति, भाषांतर या अनुवाद की व्यवस्था (यांत्रिक भी), पारिभाषिक शब्दावली का विकास आदि को ध्यान में रखकर हिन्दी की व्यापक भूमिका को अक्सर रेखांकित किया जाता है। भारत के एक बड़े भू भाग में रहने वाली आम जनता अपने सामान्य जीवन में हिन्दी को व्यवहार में लाती है परंतू घर के बाहर निकलते ही उसे एक भिन्न प्रकार के और एक हद तक अस्वाभाविक भाषिक संसार का सामना करना पड़ता है। हिन्दी क्षेत्रों में बाजार, स्कूल, मनोरंजन, कोर्ट-कचहरी, अस्पताल, सरकारी कार्यालय और बैंक आदि स्थानों पर हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी भाषाएं प्रतिष्ठा, प्रामाणिकता और उपलब्धता के पैमानों पर अलग पायदानों पर खडी दिखती है। अंग्रेजी की स्वीकार्यता निश्चित रूप से अध्कि है और वह कुछ अतिरिक्त मोह के साथ भारतीय मानव पर चढ़ी हुई है। यह तब है जब पूरे भारत में हिन्दी जानने वालों की संख्या 50 प्रतिशत और अंग्रेजीदां की संख्या महज 10 प्रतिशत है।

वैसे कोई भी भाषा पूर्णतया स्थिर नहीं होती है। वह प्रयोग और संदर्भ के अनुसार विकसित होती है। जिस भाषा का प्रयोग-क्षेत्र जितना ही विस्तृत होता है वह उतनी ही सबल होती है। जब भाषा के प्रयोग को समाज में सम्मान मिलता है तो उसकी स्वीकृति बढ़ती है। भाषा प्रयोग की औपचारिक और अनौपचारिक शैलियों में भी अंतर पाया जाता है और उनकी शब्दावली भी भिन्न हो जाती है। परंतु यह

वैश्वीकरण के दौर का आकलन करते हुए कई सर्वमान्य है की कोई भाषा उतनी ही सीखी जाती है सामना किया जा रहा है। जितनी उसकी उपयोगिता होती है। भाषा के प्रयोग से ही उसका अस्तित्व होता है और प्रयोक्ताओं कि आवश्यकता से उसकी दक्षता निर्धारित होती है। जब समाज को भाषा की जरूरत होती है तो वह उसका संरक्षण करता है।यह भी गौरतलब है कि भाषाओं के विस्तार के लिए राजनीति बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है। यदि आज अंग्रेजी का बोलबाला है तो इसका कारण यही है कि दुनिया में अनेक देश उसके उपनिवेश रहे हैं। वहीं हाल फ्रेंच या स्पेनिश साम्राज्य का था। जहां भी उनके उपनिवेश बने वहां उनकी भाषा चली।

> विलक्षण बात यह है कि स्वतंत्रता मिलने के सात दशक बाद भी अंग्रेजी के प्रति ज्यादातर भारतीयों का एक दुर्निवार आकर्षण आज भी बना हुआ है और उसे आसानी से देखा जा सकता है। इसके कारणों पर गौर करें तो कुछ बातें स्पष्ट रूप से सामने आती हैं। जीवन के अनेक क्षेत्रों में प्रयोग के कारण अंग्रेजी का प्रभृत्व बना हुआ है। अंग्रेजी ज्ञान के आधार पर अच्छी नौकरी की संभावना से इंकार नहीं किया जा सकता। साथ ही सरकारी दस्तावेज मूलतः अंग्रेजी में होते हैं और सरकारी कामकाज में अंग्रेजी का बोलबाला है। इसी तरह प्रौद्योगिकी तथा ज्ञान-विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में भी अंग्रेजी की उपस्थिति प्रमुखता से देखी जा सकती है। ऐसे में अंग्रेजी के जानकार व्यक्ति को समाज में अधिक आदर और सम्मान मिलता है। अनुमान है कि जीवन में करणीय लगभग 85 प्रतिशत कार्यों में अंग्रेजी का वर्चस्व और साख है और 1 5 प्रतिशत कार्यों में ही हिन्दी का प्रयोग होता है। स्वतंत्रता मिलने के बाद विदेशी भाषा की उपयोगिता और उससे जुड़ा सम्मान भाव कम नहीं हुआ है। यही कारण है कि आज गरीब लोग भी लाख मुसीबते झेल कर महंगे अंग्रेजी माध्यम के स्कुल में ही अपने बच्चे को भर्ती कराकर उसे पढाने का बंदोबस्त करते हैं। सरकार इन सबसे उदासीन है हालांकि मातुभाषा में ही बच्चों की शिक्षा का महत्व वैज्ञानिक अध्ययनों से प्रतिपादित है। ऊपर से हिन्दी और अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं में अंग्रेजी की घूसपैठ बढ़ती जा रही है। लोग अपनी बात को प्रभावी ढंग से कहने के लिए अनावश्यक रूप से अंग्रेजी शब्दों का उपयोग करते हैं। इस तरह कि लापववाही वाले अवांछित भाषा-मिश्रण के नकारात्मक परिणाम भी होते हैं। विशेष रूप से हिन्दी की वर्तनी या हिज्जा विकृत हो जाता है। दूसरी ओर अंग्रेजी भाषा का ज्ञान और उपलब्धि भी सामान्यतः साधारण स्तर की ही पाई जाती है। भाषाओं के अध्येता भाषाओं के विस्तार और संकोच का जो मानचित्र बना रहे हैं उसमें निकट भविष्य में सहकाधिक भाषाओं के लुप्त होने का खतरा मंडरा रहा है परंतु हिन्दी की स्थिति की सुदृढ्ता का संकेत मिलता है। आज भाषा के संरक्षण और सम्बर्धन के लिए बहुभाषिक कंप्यूटर और इंटरनेट की सुविधा उपलब्ध है। शब्दकोश और विश्वकोश की संख्या बढ़ रही है। हिन्दी के व्याकरण पर कार्य हो रहा है, ई-पुस्तकालय और ई-बुक का भी निर्माण हो रहा है। इससे हिन्दी की गति को चुनौती मिल रही है और ऊर्जा के साथ इसका

हिन्दी के प्रयोग का क्षेत्र भी बढ़ा है और चार



करोड़ प्रवासी भारतीय गिरीश्वर मिश्र, पूर्व कुलपति सभी महाद्वीपों में महात्मा गांधी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय विद्यमान है। भारत के हिन्दी विश्वविद्यालय, वर्धा बाहर हिन्दी का प्रयोग विशेष रूप से दक्षेस, खाडी देश, यूरोप, अमेरिका, मॉरीशस, सूरीनाम, फीजी, गयाना, त्रिनिदाद,दक्षिण अफ्रीका में हो रहा है।विश्व हिन्दी सचिवालय मॉरीशस में स्थापित हुआ है। 1 1 वां विश्व हिन्दी सम्मेलन भी अगस्त 2018 में वहीं आयोजित हुआ। इसके पूर्व लंदन, न्यूयार्क, जोहन्सबर्ग तथा सूरीनाम आदि में इसका आयोजन हो चुका है। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी और विदेशमंत्री श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज की हिन्दी में विशेष रूचि है। भारत और विदेश में वे अपने भाषणों के लिए हिन्दी माध्यम चुनते हैं। संयुक्त राष्ट्र में पहल हुई है और साप्ताहिक बलेटिन हिन्दी में जारी किया जा रहा है। साथ ही वहां पर विविध प्रकार की सामग्री भी हिन्दी में उपलब्ध करने की व्यवस्था में विविध्ता तो होगी पर औपचारिक क्षेत्र में एकरूपता होनी चाहिए। लिखित रूप में लिपि चिन्हों का संयोजन, शब्द स्तर कि वर्तनी और विराम चिन्ह आदि मानकीकृत होने ही चाहिए। धवन्यात्मक भाषा के रूप में हिन्दी के परिनिष्ठित रूप को पाने के लिए यह जरूरी होगा। हिन्दी में शुद्ध लिखना और शुद्ध उच्चारण साथ-साथ चलते हैं। अतः अन्य भाषा भाषियों को ध्यान में रखकर यह बेहद जरूरी है। उदाहरण के लिए अर्धचंद्र, बिन्दु, अनुस्वार, चंद्र बिन्दु अनुनासिकता आदि को लेकर कई तरह के भ्रम बने हुए हैं। मानकीकरण से स्पष्टता और संप्रेषणीयता आती है। राजभाषा के रूप में हिन्दी प्रयोग के लिए विधि विधान तो संविधान में किए गए हैं परंतू कार्यान्वयन कि दृष्टि से अभी भी हम बहुत पिछड़े हैं। वस्तुस्थिति यह है कि हमारे राजनेता और अधिकारी वर्ग नीतियों के निर्माण के समय अंग्रेजी को ही भरोसेमंद मानकर स्मरण करते हैं। नेतागण भी राष्ट्र कि बात हिन्दी में करते हैं और अपनी जनप्रिय छवि के लिए हिन्दी का उपयोग करते हैं परंतू प्रशासन में अंग्रेजी का आश्रय लेते हैं। सत्ता पाने के लिए हिन्दी और सत्ता चलाने के लिए अंग्रेजी का उपयोग भारतीय राजनीति कि युक्ति हो चली है। राजभाषा विभाग द्वारा प्रयास किया जाता है पर उसे भी पर्याप्त सहयोग और समर्थन नहीं प्राप्त है और उसका कार्य मुख्यतः मूल अंग्रेजी के अनुवाद उपलब्ध कराने तक ही सीमित रहा है। सरकारी उपेक्षा और नौकरशाहों कि लापरवाही के चलते अंग्रेजी थोपी जा रही है। हिन्दी की प्रगति के लिए यह जरूरी होगा कि औपचारिक क्षेत्रों में हिन्दी का अधिकाधिक प्रयोग किया जाये। इसके लिए सतर्कता के साथ करना होगा। अपनी भाषा में सोचने, पढने और लिखने से सर्जनात्मकता को भी बल मिलेगा। वैसे भी बहुभाषा भाषी देश में एक सर्वस्वीकृत भाषा का होना जरूरी है। एक विदेशी भाषा के रूप में अंग्रेजी का स्थान भारतीय भाषाओं के बाद ही आना चाहिए।