

Founder Editor S.D. Rohmetra

Case for CBI's autonomy

Curious. When Barack Obama suspended his campaign for reelection to supervise relief for victims of a terrible hurricane on the east coast, there was applause even from his opponents. Republican strategists later suggested that this intervention provided the momentum that ensured an Obama victory. But when Narendra Modi stepped into Uttarakhand, very hurriedly followed by Rahul Gandhi, voices rose in protest and some columnists brandished a long pen to call them ambulance chasers.

Obama wanted votes. So do Modi and Rahul Gandhi. What is so terribly wrong about persuading voters that you can govern by proving you can deal with a crisis? What is so venal about politicians wanting to indulge in politics? There is a very welcome down side to this: if you leap into the fray without knowing how to jump, the negative backlash will be ferocious. Accountability is every democracy's insurance policy against incompetence.

A few elements in media, quite unable to resist pomposity, slipped into stupidity—fortunately they were marginal. The news website for Hotmail, owned by Microsoft, framed a 'Yes or No' poll in cringe-inducing terms that bashed the whole community of Indian politicians. It offered a choice between 'Yes, it is natural for selfish politicians to take credit' and 'No. Politicians must not stoop to such low levels'.

May I suggest a similar poll about Microsoft? 'Yes. Microsoft is a multinational which would never dare to describe an American politician as selfish because he or she tried

to help citizens during a natural calamity'. And: 'No. Pompous amateurs like us must never reduce webspace media into a heckling circus with the IQ level of a garrulous judge on a reality show'.

What did we expect those in charge of governments to do? Go off on holiday while their citizens were in danger? Did some pundits carp because Modi, always a favourite lightning rod, got the idea first? Would they have queued up to applaud if some other Chief Minister had led the way? There is no adequate answer to such questions because the truth is often hidden in the subconscious.

The business of politicians is politics

M.J. Akbar

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campaign process. People are not silly. They do not blame politicians for an act of nature. But neither do they forgive governments that are unable to respond to the administrative challenge which comes in the wake of such a tragedy. If the Congress is in trouble in Uttarakhand it is not because Gujarat or Punjab officials rushed to fill their portion of the vacuum, but because the state government was missing from action.

There has always been space for tension in the wide territory over which the paths of media and politics criss-cross. This is perfectly normal, and should even be encouraged. What is fas-

offered an opportunity to expose. The highest circles of UPA, for instance, must have squirmed at the news item that relief trucks organised by Congress and flagged off by Mrs Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi were stranded because drivers were not given sufficient money for fuel. This is the kind of story that travels well through public chatter.

In an innovative reversal, journalists are now beginning to lay down rules on how politicians should do their job. We are not talking corruption here, but the rather more vague 'moral ambience' of decision-making. Both politicians and journalists once set standards for themselves; we now seem intent on setting standards for each other. Judgement is so much easier than introspection.

We shall see how this plays out, particularly with an election season underway. Tensions will peak as politicians seek to rise in the estimate of voters, and journalists try to puncture them. With so much at stake, it is almost inevitable that 'facts' will sometimes be twisted for partisan ends, and that 'truth' will be manipulated to defame opponents. This is going to be a particularly tough election, because power is neither gained nor surrendered easily.

Fortunately, the Supreme Court of both professions is the citizen. Wherever ego might lead a journalist, or an exaggerated sense of power take a politician, the true measure of worth is determined by the court of public opinion. There is no journalism without an audience. There is no political office without a voter. This is the balance that keeps our system sane.

JUGAAD, The penny-pinching novelty

Junaid Shaida

The need of the point in time and the guarded resources often drive people innovatively. When needs of result spur up, at times where planning and predictability fall apart, the traditional attire of mindset often comes-up with the upshot that outplays all. The contemporary era is feint by paucity, so need of optimal utilization of the scare resources we have with us arises to run the show. Traditions and the line of evolution have always been vital factors to harness novelty.

"The term Jugaad hits the mind of a layman as the idea of monkey business, pranks and has off-putting association pertaining with it". But the populaces of management have high regards towards Jugaad, as the result driven innovation, an attitude to pull off the results with almost nothing or constrained store in a short cross of time. Jugaad, a Hindi term reflects a witty and intellectual elucidation at times of adversity. Making due what one has and solving seemingly insoluble problems is the upshot of it, thus establishing jugaad as a groundbreaking style. A discounted interim solution for most of the problems by maximum utilization of the presented resources with creative inputs is the essence of the jugaad. Jugaad isn't really a new concept; it is an ancient Indian management technique which signifies attaining any objective with the available resources at hand. The practitioner of Jugaad exercise the combination of present knowledge and innovation in utilizing whatever resources may be at hand without waiting for additional resources. It is result based rather than process based one. The quintessence of Jugaad is to improvise, and to cobble a solution quickly and economically together from the wherewithal's available. Jugaadis, the practitioner of Jugaad can perform any kind of job and have the ability to go through cracks and find a mode or to improvise in the fickle times. From efficient utilization of time and resources to role in promoting innovation, jugaad finds its feat in general to the specific big business. When quandary seems perplexing and there seems no way out, it the clout of jugaad that boost up Jugaadis that no matter what adversity or odds prevail it will help them to innovate and find a way out. That is the real beat that keeps the floor to run the show. We can neither plan a system nor can predict for the jugaad attire but it impels itself at time of need and appears with an efficient resolution.

However Jugaad can confer the quick-fix but happens to be flaccid in the enduring if not propped up aptly. As a coin has a flip side, so does Jugaad, it has an immediate solution to a "problem" and not to a "crisis". It can be of help in a situation where the problem could be averted or solved and hence saving the whole from the crisis. The downturn of the practice is that neither can anything be taken as for granted, nor can something be predicted and upon that planning seems to be not in attendance. Which mirrors that outcome seems to be dicey, if the outcome is in line of our favour, we say jugaad is of first-rate if not then it moves the other way. Besides people feel that it blurs the line between legal and illegality, although the thin line in-betweens have been redressed as firms have legal advisors who help them to abide by the law while practicing the Jugaad. The only need is to polish the line, which makes division in-between the legal and illegal phases lucid so that to the practice augments to the standard in applicability.

Although lacking the technical route and strategically naive, Jugaad still finds it acts as the art of doing more with less. Existing state of affairs pictures that emerging markets face scarcity on a grand scale and across the board. Hence green signalling this approach to find hold in Indian simply because nation has scarcity and unpredictability in space. This jugaad stance can push back a major predicament, but when the jugaad, a quick-fix if sponsored by course-corrections can have magical upshot in the long-run. Thus settling its drawback of being of interim applies. Section of people seems to be bigoted towards Jugaad as it thwarts the traditionally held beliefs of management. Despite its certain faults, Jugaad if used vigilantly and with proficiency could be like the genie in the magic lamp. Even though with appearances of something completely basic but if polished the right way jugaad is unquestionably capable of creating wonders. We have to harness it so that it takes us forward not to keep scratching the jugaad the whole lot. It can be a combat tool for short-term supervision, but for long term it needs to be backed-up. Hence focus should be on smoothing the fray ends of the jugaad oriented result. The byproduct of Jugaad shouldn't be left as it is. It should be worked upon to enhance it. Let's spot it as an attribute and turn it into strength by bringing its cons to a standstill through a back-up scientific mode to make it a parcel of long-term strategic map.

(The author is Research Scholar at Lovely Professional University Punjab.)

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Rahul Gandhi, to his credit, understood what some journalists did not, that the people's view would not be swayed by media pulpit oratory, but by the quality of relief work in affected areas. He may have even tested this proposition with a quick opinion poll, which is now almost obligatory in any serious

Cricket Control in India) engaged the London based International Management Group (IMG) on a contract basis to prepare a manual for the popular cricket tournament IPL-6. And lo, the IMG returned the favour of its paid services by printing maps of J&K showing the State's borders as disputed and going one step further to qualify this by adding a caption that Kashmir is a dispute between India, Pakistan and China. Veteran cricketer Bishan Singh Bedi is right that BCCI has much to answer on this but the basic question is, what was the BCCI at the

TALES OF TRAVESTY DR. JITENDRA SINGH

unwares, the Govt in J&K preferred to maintain convenient silence lest the ruling party should be seen antagonising its separatist constituency for which any such seismicist noise is a music to ears. And, the Twitter savvy Chief Minister of J&K preferred to post opinions about Advani, Modi and the fate of BJP rather than dwell on the issues at his doorstep.

The mute question, nevertheless, is, can the boundaries of Jammu and Kashmir ever be altered or the war over Kashmir ever bewon by drawing fancy pencil lines on fancy glossy sheets. If that was so,

Yahya Khan would have not lost but won the 1971 war while directing his Generals through a pointer on the wall-board map.

The truth, in a nutshell, is, Jammu & Kashmir will be as it is. There is going to be no change in the geographical realities even as much there is going to be no relent in the political unrealities. The scalled mainstream political parties of Kashmir acknowledge this in heart of hearts as much as the separatists understand this albeit secretly. Kashmir cannot be won by paper maps and the common man realises better than anybody else the worth of securing a few square meters of land to live and to die. Umopathy conjures up the example of the last Mughal, Bahadar Shah Zafar who was banished from India to regret for a mere two yard land for a grave in his homeland "Kitna Hai Badnaseeb Zafar Dajin Ke Liye, Do Ghaz Zameen Bhi Mil Na Saki Kuye-Yaar Mein!"

Can Kashmir be won by paper maps?

If wishes were horses, donkeys would ride, goes the age-old adage. And to paraphrase, if battles and wars could be won over maps drawn on sheets of paper, then the history of world would have been different....Hitler would not have fallen before the might of Allied Forces and Napoleon would not have lost the Battle of Waterloo. And nearer home, Gen Niazi would not have surrendered along with more than 90,000 Pakistani soldiers before Indian forces in Bangladesh nor would have Gen Parvez Musharraf's secret intruders been left dead and unclaimed following the 1999 conflict in Kargil.

In the context of Jammu & Kashmir, this is an old habit now. For any disgruntled Kashmir based politician, for any anti-India activist, for any human rights intellectual, for any hostile foreign agency or for any maverick writer seeking recognition...the easiest way to attract some quick media attention is to deliver a statement or write an article or draw a map questioning the fact

of J&K being a part of Indian Union or depicting the boundaries of J&K in a manner inimicable to the officially stated position of India.

The most quixotic manifestation of this phenomenon is seen in the latest case in which the BCCI (Board of Govt of India was caught

unwares, the Govt in J&K preferred to maintain convenient silence lest the ruling party should be seen antagonising its separatist constituency for which any such seismicist noise is a music to ears. And, the Twitter savvy Chief Minister of J&K preferred to post opinions about Advani, Modi and the fate of BJP rather than dwell on the issues at his doorstep.

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Message from Chamlyal shrine

We in the East have the great common tradition of showing immense respect to men of spirituality who have overcome human weaknesses and risen above petty-mindedness. They have set a model of humanism which we emulate and want to set as our guiding force. One such instance is that of Baba Chamlyal, originally Dalip Singh Manhas, whose shrine is situated at Ramgarh in Samba very close to the LoC. In pre-partition days, this shrine was venerated and visited by people of both communities Hindus and Muslims. Despite the hurdles created by the partition of 1947, ardent devotees of Baba Chamlyal on both sides of the dividing line would come to pay obeisance on the shrine on a specific day. In doing so, the devotees on both the sides forgot the acrimony that has bedeviled their relations over the decades. This year, annual visitation to the shrine has been of particular significance because on Pakistani side, among the visitors were seven sitting judges of Sialkot and a battery of media persons. Senior officials of Pakistan Chenab Rangers and civil administration were matched by their counterparts from Indian Border Security Force and high ups of civilian administration. It was a sort of bonhomie and the traditional sherbet and shaker from Indian side and a decorated chadder from Pakistani side were exchanged. The fanfare demonstrated cordiality and fraternity among the visiting people from both sides of the border. According to reports, the people mixed with ease and talked in familiar tones. Perhaps it was the result of the blessings of the saint that his shrine became the meeting place of heats.

We ought to give a thought to this event and draw some lessons from it. It is and should be possible for people on either side of the border to develop good and brotherly relations among themselves. For achieving this goal, Pakistan would need to stop abetting violence in the border State and make sincere efforts for maintaining tranquility along the border. Strife and animosity are not the ways of civilized people. Cordiality and an element of spirituality bring immense happiness and peace of mind. The people of two neighboring countries have lived together for centuries. They have braved many storms of history and have gone through many vicissitudes. Contemporary times are the times of science, trade, development, communication, inter-action and collaboration. European countries have made tremendous progress through cooperation and collaboration. We on the sub-continent did have that tradition but under the cloud of misguided politics we have given up those traditions. The time has come that we revive all good traditions that are common among people. Let the visitation to the shrine of Baba Chamlyal and others become a beacon light for us to direct the course of friendly and fraternal relationship among the people of India and Pakistan.

Retired but not tired

OP Modi
The retirement age of 58 or 60 is the norm for most of the Government servants. However, for employees of the private companies persons are retired at the age of even 65; depending upon their ability and necessity of the organization they serve. Most of the retirees mentioned in the following paragraphs are in good health and are fit physically and mentally to continue to serve. Yet in a way it is correct to retire people as is the practice presently. If they are not retired the younger employees'

during their career. One of the invitees told an interesting episode of his career. He, said, "When I was posted as Deputy Commissioner I had a peon who used to give me a Mogul style slam every time I came out of the office. But on the last day of my service when after handing over the charge I came out of the office he did not even get up from his seat!" Every one had a hearty laugh and party went on in a merry atmosphere. Those were happy moment but from the bottom of his heart Nihal Chand felt gloomy. The party ended and he

He said, "Now tell me how do you feel?". She said she felt normal but was worried about his future. Yes that was the main consideration and he too realized that he had to seek advice from his well-wishers. Next morning Nihal Chand got up early as usual got ready and left to see his friend Dr. Gupta who had retired as Director Health Services.

Dr. Gupta said, "Nihal Chand although you are retired you look fit and fine but I would advise you that instead of going for any business or seeking employment in some private company you should serve some humanitarian cause". Dr. Gupta then cited the examples of his colleagues who too were serving the children of the S O S Village. He told him that there are other retired gentlemen and ladies like who have retired from engineering and other departments. There is Mr Sharmma too, who retired as a senior forest officer. All of them are noble human beings who are rendering selfless service to the destitute children of the S O S Home. "Service before self" is the principle that all of them follow. "Nihal Chand you too should seek to serve some social cause. That would be the most honorable employment one should think of after retirement."

It is also well known that the inmates of Viridh Ashram Ambphalla, Jammu are being devotedly looked after by Retired people. That is not all. In Jammu itself more NGOs are working for the welfare of destitute men, women and children. Most of them have never sought publicity.



chance to serve in a senior position would be lost. However, after retirement at the age of 58 or 60 what are they going to do? Sit idle at home and become a 'nuisance' for the spouse! Here is a case in point.

Recently Nihal Chand (name changed) retired as Executive Engineer. His staff and colleagues arranged a farewell party in a restaurant to wish him and his family a happy retired life. His colleagues narrated some funny episodes that took place

As he and his family entered their home an atmosphere of unhappiness over took him. His wife went to the kitchen and his two sons who were working in different companies left for their job. There was no one else except his wife in the home. He called her and asked her to sit near him.

Smile : The inverted rainbow

Seema Bhagotra

Smile is a magician who has the power to make you look younger and enhancing your attractiveness. Like the laughter therapy, smile also helps in overcoming certain diseases such as depression, solitude, boredom etc. Smile act as a stimulus to the brain to produce hormones like dopamine, norepinephrine which have a therapeutic effect on the kidneys, digestive tract and other organs. "Every student wants the company of a smiling teacher, which enhances their

Wear a smile and have friends, wear a scowl and have wrinkles." George Eliot. "A small little curve, twinkling eyes set everything straight. An infant, who can't express itself, speaks volumes by its innocent smile and spreads its golden glow on the onlookers. A smiling face draws you and a total stranger is befriended in an instant. Such is the power of the smile. "Beauty is skin deep. A beautiful personality is not just Hellenic features, but a pleasing, smiling personality. " Let my soul smile through my heart, and my heart smile through my eyes", said Paramhansa Yoganand. Most women remember to apply thick layers of make-up, but deny themselves the natural beauty of the 'smile'. "In fact smiling is also an art. Some smile don't leave your lips, which is sometimes mocking; some smile is reflected in the eyes which shows the genuineness. " It is a good facial exercise because it takes seventeen muscles to smile and forty three to frown. Why not get best results with little efforts and that too free of charge? It is a good natural tonic as it alleviates the stress. Metabolism is enhanced, blood circulation improves, leading to better absorption of oxygen boosts immune system. All this give a natural glow on the face adding to the

grasping power. At the time of placement, employers are impressed by a smiling candidate. Smile mirrors the confidence in the candidate. Smiling creates a sense of trust and rapport. A snug smile enhances the relationship between the host and the guests. A made-up face devoid of smile act as a deterrent to the relationship. Smile has the magic of touching, softening and stealing, even the hardest heart. It is contagious. "One sweep of the magic wand of the Smile - Fairy spreads sunshine all around with no shadows of pain and grief. Smile, and let the world, smile with you. Let's start the epidemic!

