

Modi Government turning dreams of Gandhi into reality

Tarun Chugh

Accident victims, Trauma Centres and required facilities

Recurring road accidents, usually on hilly roads in Jammu Province, are taking a heavy toll of precious lives besides causing injuries to many others travelling in the concerned vehicles or being pedestrians and hit on the roads itself. Why such accidents take place, what are the common causes of these heart rending accidents and who could be possibly directly held responsible for not putting in place the required mechanism, who were indulging in dereliction in not enforcing proper traffic discipline and rules on such roads and thus not following the set procedures, why road worthiness and fitness of vehicles like issues were taken so casually are all connected issues very critical to these accidents. Not impossible to have such frequent accidents minimised if not prevented in absolute terms and all the above related matters are being dealt with and mentioned each time through these columns when any such accident unfortunately takes place.

We also have been voicing concern about not keeping the public abreast of what Action Taken Report was there in response to enquiries instituted in respect of such tragic accidents. That apart, the fact of the matter is that in such road accidents, many lives could be saved in respect of those passengers/occupants of the ill fated vehicles which receive grievous injuries and are vulnerable to succumb to injuries and blood loss due to the time factor involved in carrying them to the nearest hospital. Not only that, even if such victims were taken to nearest hospital quite swiftly, still in the absence of the requisite medical facilities available at such hospitals or Trauma Centres, the injured run the risk of losing their lives. Such a scenario, therefore, warrants to have such a system in respect of medical help and "dedicated facilities" and "dedicated Intensive Care Units at these treatment centres which can save the lives of the accident victims.

In other words, whether even the existing hospitals in districts under the jurisdiction of which an accident can take place have the facilities and the expert (Specialist) medical personnel easily available to treat and save the injured victims - if analysed- would project a position which is far from satisfactory. Less said about the Trauma Centres which were set up with much hype and hope of saving the grievously injured accident victims without affording running the risk of otherwise carrying them to District Hospitals. However, it is a matter to be noted that at least, the UT Government appears now to be seized of the matter of not only the frequently occurring road accidents but is mulling about creation of "dedicated facilities" at the district level hospitals also so that timely help could be made available to the victims during the critical moments post mishaps. Accordingly, a full assessment of the functioning of and facilities available at existing 8 Trauma Centres needs to be made so as to initiate remedial measures for their proper functioning. What is required more importantly is the access of the victims of accidents to such Trauma Centre which means that they should remain open throughout since no one knows when, where and of which intensity, an accident can occur.

The decision of the UT Government in arranging setting up of more Trauma Centres than the existing number at those areas which are accident "prone" or with added vulnerability in Jammu and Kashmir, is a welcome decision. However, a word of suggestion would be that not only are such Centres needed to be opened strictly as per the set guidelines but must be provided with the requisite infrastructure especially the qualified medical personnel so that in case of emergency regarding an occurred accident, the injured victims get the needed treatment quickly. In a situation when the Health and Medical Education Department is not in a position to post the required number of specialist Doctors especially in Neurology, Radiology and Orthopaedics Departments in Jammu province Hospitals, how can Trauma Centres be "equipped" with these specialists which these centres very much need, must however be looked into and resolved.

We, however, are conscious about the limitations of all such measures in place and going to be added and improved upon, especially keeping in view the uncertainties about the accidents but within those limitations too, lot of "dedicated facilities" can be arranged so that as far as possible, more and more road accident injured victims could be saved.

Live "streaming" of Apex Court hearings

In a major development which could be termed as innovative and loaded with transparency in the highest traditions of the country's judicial system, the live streaming of the hearings in the Supreme Court by the Constitution Bench have started for the first time in the country. This development regarding exercising by the citizens the part of the right to justice under Article 21 of the Constitution, is really a landmark one available through the TV Channels and the YouTube. From now onwards, millions of people can view such proceedings (all constitutional Bench hearings) in the Supreme Court.

In a first, the three constitution Benches hearing different cases/ issues were, as per reports, viewed by nearly a million viewers across the country even though awareness about it was not thoroughly made. It may be recalled that in September 2018, the apex court had declared live telecast of court proceedings as part of the right to access justice under Article 21. Why not to have, therefore, a separate TV Channel exclusively for the Supreme Court just like in the case of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, is both a curiosity as well as the requirement looking to the extreme levels of importance accorded to the Supreme Court in our judicial system? However, it is also a fact that what the litigants want earnestly is disposal of long pending court cases in the country.

The holy land of India has been incarnating great human beings from time to time. In the 20th century, one such great human being was Mohan Dass Karam Chand Gandhi who was born on October 2nd, 1869 at Porbandar (Gujarat). Mahatma Gandhi not only fought for the freedom of the country, but even after independence, he had dreamt of a strong India. Unfortunately, the Congress party which had been doing politics riding on his pious in his name, vehemently have ignored his policies and dreams.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the pledge to make Babu Gandhi's dreams come true and also acted to make his dreams a reality. While fighting for the freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi converted the freedom struggle into a mass movement for the first time in the history of the country. By doing the same, he made the whole world realize the power of the people of India. Similarly, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also directly linked and dedicated the important decisions of his government to the benefit of the large number of people. He also aimed to make ever every Indian's dream a reality too.

The most favourite line of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi was "VAISHNAV JAN TO TENE KAHIYE, PEER PARAI JAANE RE". By following the same path, Prime Minister Narendra Modi understood the plight of the poor after six decades of independence and opened all the ways and resources of the country to remove their suffering. In every decision, programs and schemes of the Modi government, each and every person of the country has been taken into account and further their welfare remained the priority of the present Modi Government.

Mahatma Gandhi was a custodian of peace and non-violence. To keep these two intact, Prime Minister Modi is leaving no stone unturned to take India on the path of "VISHWAGURU" (World Leader) with his efficiency and contemplation by attacking and eliminating the elements causing any hindrance in the progress of the Country. He gave the message to the whole world that India is the land of Buddha and not of War. And the era in which we are living is not an era of war. The message has been conveyed and sent across the world.

Narendra Modi's endeavour to fight against terrorism, extremism, and hatred has even sent shock waves for the anti-India isolated groups which are always endeavoring to project India as violent and aggressive. These groups keep re-organizing and mobilizing such elements against India as they never want to see a strong India.

Mahatma Gandhi considered cleanliness as very important and was of the view that clean-

street of the village to the metropolitan cities, from old to the young, every citizen joined this campaign. In furtherance of this campaign, the Modi government constructed & dedicated 11 crore toilets for the people. This campaign was started on October 2, 2014 on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

The Father of the Nation freed the country from the clutches of slavery, but his dream of 'Clean India' was not fulfilled. Mahatma Gandhi gave a top-notch message to the nation by inspiring people around him to maintain cleanliness. When the Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the initiative to fulfil this dream of Babu, it was for the first time that such a large movement involving so many people was witnessed in India.

The philosophy of "SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN", started during the first term of Prime Minister Modi, was based on the life principles of Mahatma Gandhi. Prime Minister's appeal to all the citizens of India to join it for the successful implementation of "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" turned it into a mass movement. Under this campaign, the Prime Minister was able to interlink the inspirational ideas of cleanliness with self-respect and dignity and as a result, the dream of an open defecation free country was possible, which is no less than a revolution in itself.

Gandhiji laid emphasis on economic independence and self-reliance. The plan for the use of Khadi for the fulfilment of "GRAM SWARAJ", self-government, self-reliance and economic inde-

pendence was based on Gandhi's philosophy. Though, the country became politically independent in 1947, but economic independence remained a dream for the poor. Economic freedom and self-reliance are the pillars on which the upliftment of the poor can be done. In the 1970s, slogans of "GAREEBI HATAAO" (Remove Poverty) were raised in the country, but no effective scheme or program was initiated by the then Governments to remove it. The policies of the government were confined just to slogans and not the work on ground.

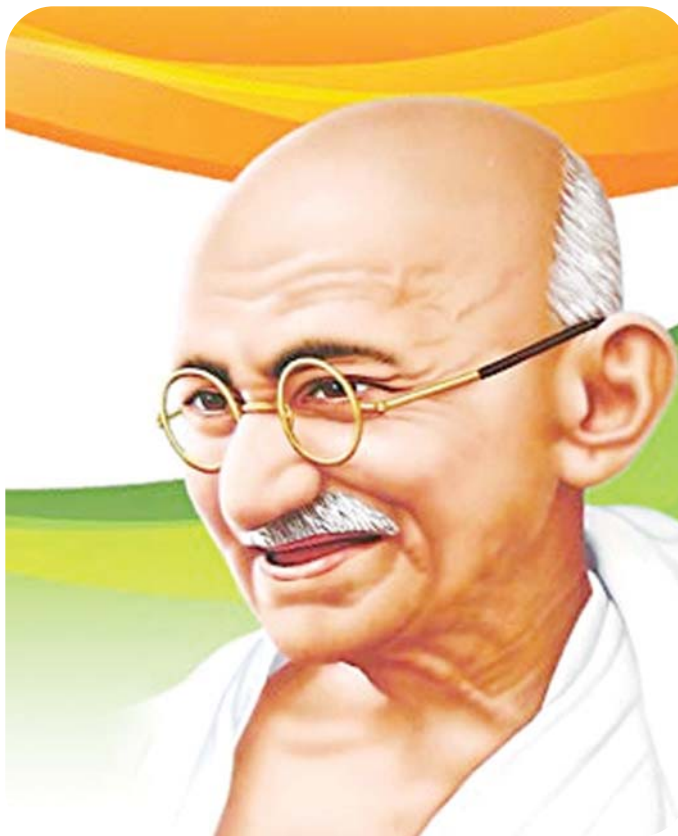
"AATAM NIRBHAR BHARAT" (Self-reliant India) campaign started by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to free the poor from the clutches of poverty and slavery to make them the masters of their own destiny. The policies related to the farmers welfare and essential commodities initiated by the Modi government has taken a concrete step towards providing economic freedom and better economical options to the farmers.

The Prime Minister is trying in a systematic way to turn his dream of a self-reliant India (AATAM NIRBHAR BHARAT) into a reality. He first projected the principles of self-reliance and then gave it a huge financial package to implement the same. Even before the Modi government, many governments have taken inspiration from the principles of Gandhi's life and thoughts, but no Prime Minister has made any effort to turn the dream of the Gandhi into reality.

Gandhi's Khadi also remained neglected. The Khadi was promoted at large scale during the Modi government. Today Khadi has become popular not only in India but also abroad. The business of Khadi has increased under "Local for Vocal" campaign, started by Modi Government. On October 2, the country celebrates the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as well as of the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. Earlier, Atalji added "JAI VIGYAN" to Shastri ji's "JAI JAWAN JAI KISAN" slogan and now, in view of the policies of the last eight years of the Modi government and the recent laws made, Modi added "JAI ANUSANDHAN"(Research) this year.

Hope every citizen of the country will try to imbibe in them the great thoughts and principles of father of the nation.

(The author is General Secretary BJP)



ness could lead to freedom from poverty and disease in the country. When Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister of the country, he started the "SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN". He made this campaign a national mass movement. From the

Sahildeep Singh Raina

A simple man with exemplary lifestyle, Lal Bahadur Shastri proved to be one of the heroes of history of India. A great general in Mahatma Gandhi's army of peaceful soldiers of freedom, he became the symbol of India's valour and self-respect.

Though diminutive in stature, he was a man of great courage and will. He successfully led India during 1965 war with Pakistan. To mobilize the support of country during the war he coined the slogan of "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan". Lal Bahadur Shastri also played a key role in India's freedom struggle. He led his life with great simplicity and honesty and was a source of inspiration for all the countrymen.

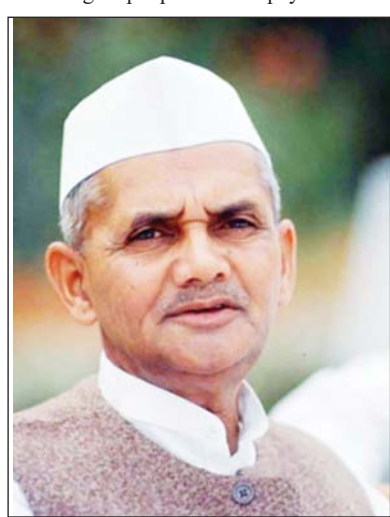
Lal Bahadur Shastri was born on October 2 in the year 1904 at Mughalsarai, Uttar Pradesh. Though his family was poor, they lived the life of honesty and integrity. He lost his father at the age of one. His mother Ramdulari Devi raised him and his two

sisters at his maternal grandfather's house.

There is a very famous incident regarding Lal Bahadur Shastri's childhood which took place when he was six years old. One day, while returning from school, Lal Bahadur Shastri and his friends went to an orchard that was on the way to home. Lal Bahadur Shastri was standing below while his friends climbed the tree to pluck mangoes. When gardener came he caught hold of Lal Bahadur Shastri and after scolding he started beating him. Lal Bahadur Shastri pleaded to gardener to leave him since he was an orphan. Taking pity on him, the gardener said, "Because you are an orphan, it is all more important that you must learn better behavior". These words left a deep imprint on Lal Bahadur Shastri and he swore to behave better in future.

In 1930, Gandhiji gave call for Civil Disobedience Move-

ment; Lal Bahadur Shastri also joined the movement and encouraged people not to pay



land revenue and taxes to the Government. He was arrested and put in jail for two and half years. In jail, Shastriji became

familiar with the works of western philosophers, revolutionaries and social reformers.

Lal Bahadur Shastri was the General Secretary of the Congress Party when the first general elections were held after India became Republic. Congress Party returned to power with huge margin. In 1952, Jawahar Lal Nehru appointed Lal Bahadur Shastri as the Railways and Transport Minister in the central Cabinet. Lal Bahadur Shastri's contribution in providing facilities to travellers in third class compartments cannot be forgotten. He reduced the vast disparity between the first class and third-class in the Railways. Lal Bahadur Shastri resigned from Railways in 1956, owning

moral responsibility for a Railway Accident. Jawahar Lal Nehru tried to persuade Shastriji but Lal Bahadur Shastri refused to budge from his stand. By his action Lal Bahadur Shastri set new standards of morality in public life.

In the next general elections, when Congress returned to power, Lal Bahadur Shastri became the Minister for Transport and Communications and later the Minister for Commerce and Industry. He became the Home Minister in 1961, after the death of Govind Vallabh Pant. In the 1962 Indo-China war Shastriji played a key role in maintaining internal security of the country.

After the death of Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1964, Lal Bahadur Shastri was unanimously elected as the Prime Minister of India. It was a difficult time and the country was facing huge challenges. There was food shortage in the country and on

the security front, Pakistan was creating problems. In 1965, Pakistan tried to take advantage of India's vulnerability and attack India. Mild-mannered Lal Bahadur Shastri rose to the occasion and led the country ably. To enthrone soldiers and farmers he coined the slogan of "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan". Pakistan lost the war and Shastriji's leadership was praised all over the world.

In January 1966, to broker peace between India and Pakistan, Russia mediated a meeting between Lal Bahadur Shastri and Ayub Khan in Tashkent Russia. India and Pakistan signed a joint declaration under Russian mediation. Under the treaty India agreed to return to Pakistan all the territories occupied by it during the war. The Joint declaration was signed on Jan 10 1966 and Lal Bahadur Shastri died of heart attack on the same night.

Few are those people who live for their country and die for their country and for their country is the first priority.

Ravi Rohmetra

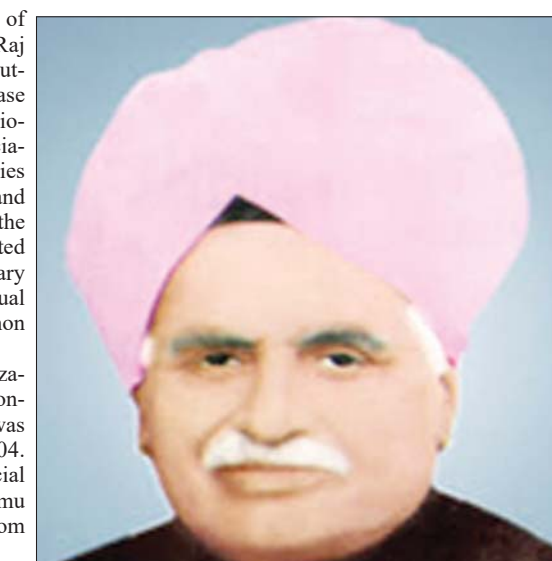
Duggar land has its own brilliant and unique history. It has given birth to veteran political, academicians, social workers, journalists, singers, actors, doctors generals and leaders of caliber. One amongst them has been Hans Raj Mahajan. This is the tale of this towering personality who worked selflessly for the cause of the people. He was a friend, a guide and a social worker. During his life time he was counted amongst the great personalities of Jammu. The main aim and objective of Hans Raj Mahajan remained to help the families below poverty line. He always believed that service to humanity is the service to God. This is the basic reason that the poor masses remember him as their Godfather and his name is being taken with great love, respect and honour.

By the turn of the nineteenth century, Jammu started experiencing reverberations of the political and social

awakening like in the rest of the country. Lala Hans Raj Mahajan was the most outstanding leader of that phase of Jammu's history. He pioneered formation of associations of various communities like the Mahajan Sabha and the Rajput Sabha as also of the Anjuman-i-Islamia and acted as their honorary secretary which ensured their mutual cooperation in the common task of social reform.

The first secular organization of the state, also non-political to start with, was DograSadarSabha in 1904. He dominated the entire social reform movement in Jammu region for half a century from

Tribute to leader of masses



1892, when he entered public life, to 1944 when he died. His field of work included campaign for Swadeshi, rights of women, spread of education, economic betterment of backward areas, reform in ceremonies observed at marriage, death and other social occasions, help to widows and orphans, cow protection, cleanliness and redressal of grievances against omissions and commissions of administration. Needless to remind that these activities were vital adjuncts of the national freedom movement. Lala Hans Raj started first two monthly newspapers in the state named the Dogra Gazette and The mahajan-NitiPatar in 1907.

He served the people of the

state and different biradris for a long time in various capacities and always worked for poor and down trodden section of society. Mahajan was a real friend of people and man of high stature.

The contribution of Sher-e-Duggar in providing water to people of Kandi belt through tube wells was path breaking initiative and this system still holds key in meeting drinking water demands to these and other area in Jammu. The best way of paying tribute to the late Sher-e Duggar is to follow his style of providing service without self to people. Hans Raj Mahajan was one of the tallest leaders of his time and was famous for his qualities of leadership and was dear to all classes of people. His contribution to society would always be remembered by generations to come. No doubt Mahajan ji is not with us but due to his selfless service for mankind his name will always live in our hearts.

Rachna Vinod

Gyan vividly remembered the day when while learning the use of desktop computer, he was introduced to a device called mouse. He had studied when b for bat, c for cat and r for rat was the only way the English alphabets were taught. He couldn't help laughing when Beni, his daughter, had taken upon herself to teach him handling of computer and in the process she taught about the use of mouse and very casually referred that mouse was another name for rat. Beni was irritated at his laughter and told him that In modern world, the mouse was a very important device of the computer which had become integral part of everyone's life. But eager to learn more about computers, he controlled his laughter. Beni told him that the computer mouse was shaped exactly like physical mouse taking into consideration the advantages of small size and ease of maintenance.

Beni had made it a habit to question logics for following traditional way of life. Since her childhood she was fascinated by hymns, religious sermons and singing prayers in the temples which were frequented daily by her mother and grandmother. She often accompanied them and took part in singing prayers. So impressed by the effect collective or solo singing prayers had on the devotees that when time to choose the subject for her studies came, she chose Theology. Her mind had been fed on adhering to traditions unquestionably. But now it was not acceptable to her to follow traditions blindly. She had developed interest in knowing more about relevance of religion in science and relevance of science in religion. Beni was seeking

answers for belief in mythological stories continued since thousands of years. Without responding to her daughter, Bidya quietly kept watering and worshipping Tulsi (Basil) planted in the centre of the house courtyard. This was her daily routine. It might seem paradoxical that in arguing with her mother Bidya, many a time, Beni often found answers to many of her queries.

Bidya wasn't academically much educated but like many of her, she was very well aware of religious rituals and traditional way of life. Somehow she knew the story of Swami Dayanand Saraswati who was an Indian philosopher, social leader and founder of the Arya Samaj, a reform movement of the Vedic dharma. He advocated the equal rights and respects to women and education of all children, regardless of gender. His father a devotee of Shiva and had taught him the ways to worship Shiva. Once on the occasion of Shivratri, Dayananda sat awake the whole night in obsequence to Shiva. During one of these fasts, he saw a mouse eating the offerings and running over the idol's body. After seeing this, he questioned that if Shiva could not defend himself against a mouse, then how could he be the saviour of the world. So he left worshipping idols. This was one of the stories often heard from Bidya to inspire Beni to question the logics of blind faith.

There was another popular story linked with Lord Shiva. Once a sage in meditation for centuries, was disrupted when a mouse fell in his lap. Tak-

ing it as a blessing from God, he evoked Lord Shiva's Blessing to turn that mouse into a girl so that he could bring up her as his own daughter. Shiva blessed him accordingly. The sage was very happy and brought up her as the most beautiful with charming manners. When she attained the age of marriage, it was left to her to marry a person of her choice. She wanted to marry the most powerful person but she couldn't find anyone suitable. Once lost in such thoughts of finding suitable match, she was disturbed by some noise as if somebody was making a dig. She looked around and found a mouse digging a hole in the mountain. A sudden thought flashed her mind that the mighty mountain was unable to push away or prevent the mouse from making any hole on his body. She found that mouse the most powerful and made her choice accordingly. She asked the mouse to marry her. The mouse was helpless as he couldn't marry a human being. She sought permission from her sage father to let her marry the mouse by converting her back in a mouse, her original self. This transformation was possible only with Shiva's blessings. Sage therefore, again evoked His blessings and the girl was again turned back into a mouse who could then marry other mouse. Beni pondered whenever she looked at the image of Lord Ganesha, God of Wisdom, Wealth and Fortune sitting on the mouse, 'No wonder modern computer device has been designed, developed and designated as mouse, a mechanical ride for

attaining wisdom and prosperity'.

Beni was amused to find portrayal of mouse so powerful that it made a complete turn around in the lives of persons whose life stories later became inspiration to many. Her mind started seeking some relevance, some link to the modern mouse on a computer. The scientists were well aware of the capability of living mouse to deliver them what they wanted when it was used as an object of numerous experiments for scientific advancement. Did the inventors of this device already knew the capacity of a little mouse to live for the welfare of other living beings that this small device was designed like a mouse? This mechanical mouse has the power to control the movement of cursor on the computer screen storing files, folders etc. and bringing the global information access with the help of internet by just keeping hand on it and clicking. This mechanical mouse keeps digging into mountain of ideas in human mind to know more about the universe around. Aren't the scientists the saints of modern world focussing single-minded in newer and newer inventions and discoveries as if they are lost in meditation of giving new meaning to life in this mysterious universe?

Constant comparison between traditions and logics and questioning was inevitable in Beni's field of work. That didn't stop her from acknowledging not highly educated parents among the best source persons with their traditional and emancipated outlook enlightened her on many topics untangling tangles of mind which assisted in completion of her research work in theology successfully.

(The views expressed by the authors are their personal)

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