

PR SENSE

Spreading Positive Vibrations

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Cover Story of the Month



Interactive Session on Education Loan

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From the Desk of Editor-in-Chief



The Editorial Team is pleased to release the 120th (February 2017) edition of your ezine PreSense with the regular interesting contents.

In this edition, we carry an important editorial on women empowerment. This is supported with an article on an NGO working in this direction.

PreSense organised in Chennai an interactive session on Education Loan with Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Finance and Corporate

Affairs). Due to the importance of this subject, we are carrying a cover story on this session.

Besides, we carry our usual interesting articles and cartoon.

We are confident that our readers will find the articles in this edition informative.

Please send us your feedback to editor@corpezine.com.

K. Srinivasan

Śaṅṣād Rātṇā Awards 2017

The Sansad Ratna Awards is one of the initiatives of this ezine PreSense. Since 2010, PreSense has been honouring outstanding Parliamentarians selected on the basis of several performance parameters.

The 8th Edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards will be held at IIT Madras on 27th May 2017.

The Award winners will be selected by a Jury Committee, based on the performance of the Lok Sabha Members till the end of the second part of the Budget Session 2017.

Besides, two awards will be presented to two outstanding Rajya Sabha Members who retired in 2016 after completing full six years of their term.

The rules of the Award is given in this edition and also in our website, www.sansadratna.in



2010



2011



2012



2013



2014



2015



2016

Śaṅṣād RātṇāTM
Awardees
2010 - 2016



Meeting with
Smt. Sumitra Mahajan,
Hon'ble Speaker,
Lok Sabha
on 5th May 2016



Editorial

Education That Empowers

In the recent Interactive Session on Education Loans held in Chennai with Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Union Minister of State (Finance and Corporate Affairs), the Editor-in-Chief of our emagazine, PreSense which organised the event, said that Education Loan should not be treated by bankers as yet another corporate loan but as 'an investment in the youth of this country for nation building'. In essence, it means empowering the youth through education, to be part of making India a better country.

March 8th is being observed as International Women's Day. Woman empowerment is best realised, not through special reservations which instead of giving parity, shifts the status of women from underprivileged to 'over-privileged'. Equality is standing side by side with the men in education, opportunity and esteem, complementing each other without prejudice. Education is the tool to achieve this goal, as true education is intended to help realise one's own potential, use it appropriately to build self-esteem and confidence, to respect oneself and others in the society.

Therefore, education should go beyond graduation certificates and a good memory for facts and figures. Education should empower oneself to apply the knowledge usefully in one's job, relationship and life. Education should positively contribute to developing good knowledge, manners, behaviour and character. In other words, education should empower one with the ability to display one's potential in a positive, pay-it-forward behaviour. Even though it might sound like an idealistic concept, it is by all means possible to achieve. Some elderly women from a farming-dominated village called Fangare, Thane District in the Western Indian state of Maharashtra have shown the world how.

(<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/grandmas-go-to-school-in-this-hamlet/article17330290.ece>).

Grandmothers of 60-90 years of age, armed with school backpacks and pink sari uniforms, have been learning to read and write in their native language of Marathi in the school called *Ajibainchi Shala*. One of the students said, "I have understood the importance of education. It gives you self-esteem, Earlier, I had to put my thumb impression on bank documents, but



now I can sign them myself. I don't need anyone else's help". This is empowerment through education. *Ajibainchi Shala* is the initiative of a 45-year-old, to educate the elderly women of the village. This is empowerment with education.

On March 9th, Dr Jean-Louis Lamboray, a philanthropist, arrives at Chennai to release his book, "What Makes Us Human – The Story of a Shared Dream". This book is about his

experiences with local communities around the world, whom he with his team had facilitated to discover their own strengths to address their own challenges, thus transform themselves



in the society and in turn become agents of the Positivity Movement by sharing their experiences and inspiring. This is empowerment through learning.

These stories tell us that true education can and should happen, both inside schools and colleges, and outside too. Such empowerment will make India and shape India into a country of capabilities and character.

By Susan Koshy, Editor, PreSense

Media Partnership

8th Edition of Communication for Future Awards 2017



PreSense is one of the Media Partners for the 'Communication for Future Awards 2017' instituted by Davos-based World Communication Forum (WCF).

The Awards Committee has received 80 plus nominations from 30 countries covering 5 continents, for 23 categories under three divisions: Personal, Corporate and Start-Ups.

An International Jury Board consisting of eminent communication stalwarts and professionals from 20 different countries (<http://www.c4fdavosaward.com/Jury>) has shortlisted 32 nominations (20 companies and 12 individuals) for the 23 categories. Four of the shortlisted nominations are

from India.

The final Awardees will be announced by the Jury Board at a grand function scheduled for 14th March 2017 at Geneva, Switzerland. The prestigious C4F Awards were launched in 2010 and this is their 8th edition.

Those interesting in attending the event may register through this link: <http://www.forumdavos.com/registration>

For additional information, contact c4f@forumdavos.com

Sukruti Narayanan, Editorial Team



Interactive Session on Education Loan - PreSense thanks



Hospitality Partner



Live coverage of the event



Cover Story

Interactive Session on Education Loan with Union Minister of State (Finance & CA) Organised by PreSense

Education Loan Task Force (ELTF) is one of the three initiatives of this eMagazine PreSense. Education Loan Task Force (ELTF) was started in 2010 as a social initiative, to create awareness about the Education Loan Scheme of the Indian Banks Association (IBA). ELTF takes up the common grievances with the managements of banks, IBA, the Government of India and also the Parliament. ELTF receives daily feedback through its website, www.eltf.in. ELTF has so far provided clarifications to more than 18,000 students/parents. Around 3,000 grievances have been forwarded to the managements of banks for investigation and settlement.



Interaction with Audience

ELTF strongly feels that Education Loan should not be treated as yet another commercial loan. ***It is an investment on the youth of this country for nation building.*** This category needs to be treated differently from the other loan segments.

This ezine PreSense and ELTF organised an 'Interactive Session' with Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon'ble Union Minister of State

(Finance & Corporate Affairs) with bankers, students, parents and social workers on Friday, 17th February 2017 at Chennai. Senior level Executives from 40 banks participated, besides several NGOs, parents, students and the media.

Susan Koshy, Editor welcomed the gathering and explained the various social initiatives of the ezine PreSense. K. Srinivasan, Editor in Chief, PreSense presented the various issues and challenges faced by students and parents right from the application stage to the repayment stage of Education Loan. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal interacted with some of the participating parents and bankers to understand the difficulties. In his reply address, he promised to discuss all the problems with the government officials at New Delhi and find a solution. He also promised that he would involve ELTF in those discussions.

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, after listening to all the grievances from various participants, assured that the Government would immediately advise all the Banks to nominate a Nodal Officer at all Regional / Zonal Offices and a Grievances Cell at Head Offices exclusively to resolve Education Loan grievances.

During this event, PreSense and ELTF honoured Divya, the first beneficiary of the ELTF activity, for her outstanding performance during her study period and employment with a software company. Although she was given



Arjun Ram Meghwal (right) presenting memento to Divya (centre). Krishna Kumar (CGM, Canara Bank) looks on.





Ministry of Finance @MinistryFinance 276
 Union Min Finance & Corp Affairs Sh Arjun Ram Meghwal during discussion on Education Loan Distressed by Public Sector Banks in
 Chennai pic.twitter.com/0DhECPV9GQ

**Ministry of Finance tweeted this event in his official twitter.
 (L to R) K Srinivasan, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Subramania Kumar
 (Executive Director of IOB)**

a 10-years repayment schedule, she has almost completely repaid her education loan to Canara Bank within 3 years. The Hon'ble Minister congratulated her.

PreSense also announced an Award Scheme for Bank Officials and Students for excellence in implementation and utilisation of the Education Loan Scheme respectively. The Awards will be presented during the Sansad Ratna Awards function scheduled for 27th May 2017 at IIT Madras in the presence of Parliamentarians and eminent persons.

Win TV, one of the leading Tamil channels telecast the event live. Clarion Hotel President, Chennai was the 'Hospitality Partner'.

On behalf of ELTF, 13 suggestions were submitted to the Hon'ble Minister.

1. The Government should ensure 100% reimbursement of the Interest Subsidy. The amount not paid by the Government should not be loaded onto the Loan Account of the student.
2. Separate norms can be fixed for Education Loans for classification as NPA.
3. Since the Government of India reimburses Interest Subsidy, CAG Auditing of the Interest Subsidy Management should be carried out periodically at individual bank level.
4. A new Institution in the lines of NABARD and SIDBI should be set up to provide refinance for all Education Loans.
5. The rate of interest should be reduced to a minimum level.
6. A high level committee of all stakeholders should be set up to examine the present Education Loan Scheme and Interest Subsidy Management.
7. IBA and Banks should take interest in creating awareness about the Scheme among the students and the bank branch officials. Banks should hold periodical meetings with student borrowers to develop a good relationship.
8. There should be a Nodal Officer to redress the grievances at the Regional Offices and Head Offices of all banks, RBI and the Ministry of Finance.
9. Banks should stop handing over defaulted loans to Private Agencies, who harass the students for repayment. The banks should not traumatise the defaulting students by displaying their photos in public places. Instead they should adopt legal methods for recovery.
10. A possible nexus between Banks and Asset Recovery Companies (ARC) could be investigated from the vigilance angle.
11. From the data submitted by the Finance Ministry to the Lok Sabha in Feb 2017, there is no uniformity among the banks in the disbursements of Education Loans. Some Public

The Government should ensure 100% reimbursement of Interest Subsidy. The amount not paid by the Government should not be loaded onto the Loan Account of the student.



Sector Banks and Private Banks barely participate in this Scheme. Some states do not get an adequate share of the education loan. The imbalance may be examined.

12. A 'National Student Registry' may be set up for all students, linking their Aadhar Cards. Banks may be allowed to access the Registry using the Aadhar Card identity of the student, to get updates about the student.
13. The rulings given by High Courts and Supreme Courts should be scrupulously followed by all banks in the respective states or the country. Presently, students are forced to approach the Hon'ble Courts for the same issue on which rulings have already been given.

Some Important Statistics about Education Loan Accounts

All India – As On Last Friday of December – Source: Reserve Bank of India Website

	Gross Bank Credit Rs. In billion	Education Loan* Rs. In billion	% of Education loan over gross credit
Dec 2014	58935	591	1.00
Dec 2015	64335	609	0.94
Dec 2016	66458	608	0.91

*Under Priority Sector

At the national level, the share of outstanding Education Loan over Gross Bank Credit is reducing every year. Only around 2.6 million students are the beneficiaries as on date. ELTF feels that this is not sufficient for a country of our size, keeping in mind the growth and development of our nation.

Annex-I to reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 351 on Educational Loan for answer on 3rd February, 2017

State-wise education loans disbursed (classified as priority sector advances) by Public Sector Banks and Private Sector Banks (Rs. in 'Thousands')			
States/UTs	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
A & N Islands	13763	15224	19577
Andhra Pradesh	7715269	10614096	8694066
Arunachal Pradesh	13035	27589	20893
Assam	410345	399712	505530
Bihar	2513372	2918127	2531889
Chandigarh	289488	348669	474438
Chattisgarh	440430	582513	689336
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	9851	10617	8602
Daman & Diu	8270	10402	11502
Delhi	1657151	1898132	2497637
Goa	137763	151351	154219
Gujarat	1951221	2079895	2418996
Haryana	1454475	1430145	2004879
Himachal Pradesh	526395	521087	575474
Jammu & Kashmir	740830	334366	405772
Jharkhand	1171580	1221989	1269416
Karnataka	7121144	7998035	9721966

Kerala	9490078	10975798	9688635
Lakshadweep	782	3152	1727
Madhya Pradesh	2156833	2149217	2499918
Maharashtra	7838669	7494660	10950914
Manipur	37801	47847	41214
Meghalaya	27645	63943	41307
Mizoram	19052	18675	26343
Nagaland	13307	21836	14672
Orissa	1320492	1364157	1584516
Puducherry	257420	243354	240866
Punjab	2313635	2060098	3051631
Rajasthan	1996429	1843165	2986249
Sikkim	15178	24975	31415
Tamil Nadu	18963128	19522193	15848561
Telangana			8826259
Tripura	103510	115713	270604
Uttarakhand	1133760	1109350	1367180
Uttar Pradesh	3798252	3528543	4748918
West Bengal	1872889	1877413	2293620
Total	77499110	83126907	96740063

Source: RBI

Some of the States do not seem to have adequate disbursements, while some other states have received more of the share of Education Loan disbursements.

K. Srinivasan, Editor in Chief, PreSense



Nation

Budget Session of Parliament (Part I) – An Analysis



The first Part of the Budget Session 2017 (11th Session of the 16th Lok Sabha) commenced on 31st January 2017 with a Parliamentary address by the President of India. After sitting for 8 days, the first part concluded on 9th February 2017. For the first time in India, the Union Budget was presented on 1st February 2017, instead of the earlier 28th February. For the first time again, the Railway Budget was presented as part of the Union Budget.

During the first part of Budget Session 2017, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha functioned for 33.8 hours and 26.6 hours respectively. Lok Sabha recorded a productivity of 105% and Rajya Sabha 89%.

The second part of the Budget Session 2017 will commence on 9th March 2017 and conclude on 12th April 2017.

The following Members of Lok Sabha are the toppers for the overall tally (Debates + Private Members Bills + Questions) for the period from 1st June 2014 to 9th February 2017.

Name	Debates*	Private Members Bills	Questions	Total	Attendance %
Shrirang Appa Barne (SS, Maharashtra)	78	8	695	781	92
Supriya Sule (NCP, Maharashtra)	52	8	703	763	95
Dhananjay Bhimrao Mahadik (NCP, Maharashtra)	25	0	704	729	69

* Only initiated debates are considered. Associated debates not included.

Interestingly, at this stage, all the three toppers are from Maharashtra. PreSense congratulates the top performers.

By K. Srinivasan, Editor in Chief



Śansād Rātṅā Awards 2017

Rules for Sansad Ratna Awards 2017 (8th Edition) for Selection of Award Winners

The eighth Edition of Sansad Ratna Awards will be presented to outstanding Parliamentarians at Chennai on Saturday, 27th May 2017 at IIT, Madras. The Awards are instituted by this ezine PreSense and Prime Point Foundation. There are five categories of Awards for Lok Sabha and two Awards for Rajya Sabha.:

Award Categories

1. Topper in Debates (only original initiated debates) – Lok Sabha
2. Topper in Private Members Bills – Lok Sabha
3. Topper in Questions – Lok Sabha
4. Topper among women MPs for overall tally – Lok Sabha
5. Topper among the first time MPs for overall tally – Lok Sabha
6. Toppers among the 2016 Rajya Sabha retirees
(one overall topper and one topper among women retiree MPs)

Other Additional Parameters

Lok Sabha Members

In addition to being topper, they should comply with the following conditions:

1. 70% attendance in the House
2. 70% attendance in the Committee Meetings (at least two Committees)
3. 50% spend in the MPLAD (as recorded in the website)
4. Should be within the top 10 for overall tally (except for the Women category)

Rajya Sabha Members

1. Topper among the retirees, who have completed 6 years and retired in 2016, for total tally:
(Debates + Private Members Bills + Questions). No other additional parameters.

Stages in the Selection Process

1. Nominations will be examined by the Selection Committee for Awards, based on the above parameters.
2. Nominees will be informed confidentially by the Committee.
3. Acceptance of the nomination and receiving the Award at Chennai during the function. Announcement of the Awardees will be made only after the nominees acknowledge and accept the Award personally. If the nominees do not acknowledge and accept the Award, the next qualifying nominee will be selected.

Sources:

For performance data: PRS India site www.prsindia.org (A separate data sheet, excluding the associated matters, received from PRS India, will be uploaded by us for reference)



For Committee Meetings:

<http://164.100.47.194/Loksabha/Committee/CommitteeHome.aspx>

For MPLADS

www.mplads.nic.in

Jury Committee for Selection of Award Winners (Sansad Maha Ratna Awardees of 15th Lok Sabha)

Shri Anandrao Adsul MP - Chairman

Shri Hansraj G Ahir , Hon'ble MOS (Home)

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon MOS (Finance & CA)

(The Jury Committee has the right to modify/amend/relax any eligibility condition depending on the other parameters. The decision of Jury Committee is final)

We will be posting updates on the website www.sansadratna.in

SNIPPET ABOUT OSCAR AWARD



The "**Academy Awards**" or popularly known as the "**Oscars**" is a group of artistic and technical honors given annually by the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences** (AMPAS) to recognize excellence in cinematic achievements in the United States film industry as assessed by the Academy's voting membership. The winners under the various categories are awarded a copy of a statuette, officially called the Academy Award of Merit, which has become commonly known by its nickname "**Oscar**." The awards, was first presented in 1929 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel

The awards ceremony was first broadcast on radio in 1930 and televised for the first time in 1953. It is now seen live in more than 200 countries and can be streamed live online. The Academy Awards ceremony is the oldest entertainment awards ceremony. Its equivalents - the Emmy Awards for television, the Tony Awards for theatre, and the Grammy Awards for music and recording – are modeled after the Academy Awards.

A total of 3,048 Oscars have been awarded since the inception of the Award through its 88 editions. The statuette, made of gold-plated britannium (a specific type of pewter alloy, composed of tin, antimony and copper) stands on a black metal base. It is 13.5 in (34.3 cm) tall and weighs 8.5 lb (3.856 kg). It depicts a knight rendered in Art Deco style, holding a crusader's sword, on a reel of film with five spokes. The five spokes represent the original branches of the Academy: Actors, Writers, Directors, Producers, and Technicians.

As of 2016, eleven Indians have been nominated for a total of fourteen Oscars, five Indians of whom have won a total of six Oscars. Three Indian films have been nominated in the Best Foreign Language Film category. As of 2016, at least one film has been submitted by 118 countries.

Sukruti Narayanan, Editorial Team



Ignited Minds – 1

ISRO Soars Over the World

The Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) historic and record launch of 104 satellites, including 90 that belonged to the United States of America (USA), on February 15th, 2017, is a technological



mastery. It has sent a wake-up call to USA, the European Space Agency and China, and has stunned our neighbours. As the ISRO chairman rightly put it, the mission was not planned as a record-breaker, but what ISRO has just done is payload optimisation.

Technologically speaking, ISRO has achieved two goals in this mission. From a science perspective, for a mission of this size, a new technology with the required perfection is acquired. On the application side, this capability

gives India a definite commercial edge over other countries, and this edge will be with India for at least another decade. In simple terms, this means that India has mastered all the nuances of low Earth orbit satellite launching.

Working with such a large number of satellites needed innovative approaches in the design and packing of the satellites into the launch vehicle, deploying the satellite packs (each having either three or four satellites) in the right time sequence so that each satellite can be in the desired planned orbit, unpacking every satellite and releasing them into space in such a manner that they will not collide with each other and the manoeuvring of the launch vehicle to correct altitude and orientation so that every satellite will be in its designated orbit. Since all these were innovations, there was no textbook method to achieve them. ISRO has developed each one of them indigenously, and have implemented them flawlessly.

ISRO's successful achievement in the complex wiring system aboard, the encrypted telemetry command system, the choice of the electronics to withstand the cosmic ray hits and the overall system integration which ensured zero-defects in the entire mission, makes every Indian very proud.

ISRO, by using another innovative feature, has video recorded, using on-board imaging systems, the separation events of the different stages of the PSLV rocket and the 104 satellites, from the beginning to the end, for future technical evaluations. This by itself is a global record.

With the dictum being 'whoever masters the space will control the earth', ISRO is taking India in the right direction in understanding, utilising and monitoring the resources of the world.

By Prof R. Jagannathan, Editorial Advisor



Ignited Minds – 2

Empowering the Girl Child in Rural India



Dr Indu Agarwal and Dr Vijendra Agarwal

On February 11th 2017, some of the members of the teams of the PreSense Editorial and the Sansad Ratna Awards (an initiative of PreSense) had the opportunity to meet up with Dr Vijendra Agarwal and his wife, Dr Indu Agarwal during their periodical visit to India from USA where they worked. Dr Agarwal was the Science and Technology Advisor to former President Clinton, when the latter was in office. Although Dr Agarwal has become an American citizen, he visits his village in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh every year to support the poor children in the vicinity. Dr Agarwal runs an NGO called *Vidya Gyan* in a rural locality in Uttar Pradesh. The NGO works towards promoting the girl child in those villages by supporting their education, encouraging bank savings plans for their future, and motivating their parents to hold their daughters at par with their sons. *Vidya Gyan* thus endeavours to empower the girl child through education and support systems for livelihood. In an exclusive interview with Susan Koshy, Editor, PreSense, Dr Agarwal shared his views and impressions about education in India, the potential of the 'Start Up India' movement, and empowerment of the girl child. Excerpts:

PreSense: *What is the biggest challenge in the education system of India that needs to be addressed?*

Dr Agarwal: The biggest challenge in India's education system, in my view, is its deteriorating quality of teaching and learning at all levels. India's highly prescriptive and inflexible curriculum, and teaching the old way of emphasising rote-memorisation result in ineffective learning without the holistic development of the learners. Additionally, little or no attention on skills development such as communication, team work, problem solving, and



qualitative reasoning is making India's learners unemployable, unwanted, and less competitive globally.

PreSense: *'Start Up India' plans were recently initiated to foster entrepreneurship and promote innovation. As a consultant for start up companies that you are, how do you see the climate and conditions in India for the successful implementation of the 'Start Up India' movement?*

Dr Agarwal: Undoubtedly, the climate and conditions for "Start-up India" have improved substantially in the recent past. I say this because in the 2017 Global Entrepreneur Index (GEI), which measures the strengthening of entrepreneurship, India enjoyed the largest jump of 29 points to the 69th rank among 137 countries. Clearly, India is gaining maturity in areas as opportunity recognition, risk tolerance, and start-up skills. Likewise, India has shown a remarkable one-year jump in the Global Innovation Index (GII) from the 81st position in 2015 to the 66th position in 2016. The latter piece of information is particularly impressive because India had experienced a drop in its GII in the previous five years.

Thus, the momentum on creating the ecosystem for friendly business environment coupled with targeted investments for start-ups by the Indian Government has demonstrated India's strong appetite and commitment for innovation and entrepreneurship. One area still needing focused attention however, is intellectual property protection which should further accelerate innovation in the private sector and foster public-private partnership for higher economic gains.

PreSense: *You have been involved in empowering the girl child in rural India through education. Do you have any happy stories to share about these girls who have benefitted from your support to them in education?*

Dr Agarwal: The NGO, *Vidya Gyan* is just about two years old. Its initiatives, (a) 'Savings to Secure', offering financial security and promoting education for empowerment, and (b) 'Pencil to Power', emphasising writing as a means of empowerment, are in fact just about a year old.

Our happy story at this stage of infancy is rooted in facilitating 'partnership with parents' of the girls in rural India, with over 600 saving accounts initiated. *Vidya Gyan* offers scholarship to girls below 10 years of age in government primary schools, and motivates and persuades parents to educate and celebrate daughters as no less than the sons. Our goals include empowering girls through education and enabling them to study further because 24% girls do not go beyond the 5th standard and 40% beyond the 8th standard. Under the 'Pencil to Power' scheme, we plan to distribute 10,000 notebooks to all children in select schools showing a significant response to 'Savings to Secure' initiative. We believe that writing is a critical and empowering skill for communicating one's thoughts and ideas to the world at large. Educated and empowered girls are the future mothers who will nurture and educate the next generation of children.

By Susan Koshy, Editor, PreSense



Hindi

दलाई लामा और उन का अस्तित्व



दलाईलामा की तलाश की जाती है।

तिब्बती समाज बौद्ध धर्म से जुड़ा हुआ है। दलाई लामा इस समाज के धार्मिक मुखिया के रूप में जाना जाता है। पहले दलाई लामा का काल 1391 से 1471 तक माना जाता है। इनका जन्म केन्द्रिय तिब्बत में हुआ था। तिब्बत की राजधानी लहासा है इसी के अवतार के क्रम सभी दलाई लामाओं का अवतरण होता है।

यह माना जाता है कि जब कोई दलाईलामा अपना भौतिक शरीर का त्याग करता है तो नये दलाईलामा की तलाश आरंभ की जाती है और यह भी माना जाता है कि उस दलाईलामा की आत्मा किसी और जीवात्मा में प्रवेश कर गई है व उस के निर्वाण दिवस पर जन्में नवजातों में से

पुराने दलाईलामा की पहचान वाले धर्मगुरु और अन्य संबंध व्यक्तित्व तथा दलाईलामा के कार्यकर्ता सामान्य परीक्षण कर किसी एक बालक को जो उस दिन जन्मा हो उसे धर्मगुरु चुन लेते हैं। बाद में चुने हुए दलाईलामा और उनके परिवार को मठ में ले जाकर उन की विधिवत शिक्षा दीक्षा की जाती है और यह सारा कार्य तिब्बत के लहासा शहर में होता था। दलाई लामा का हिन्दी में भाव "ज्ञान का समुद्र" होता है।

परमपावन 14वें दलाईलामा का जन्म तिब्बत के टक्कसर में हुआ था। इन्होंने अपनी बौद्ध दर्शन की शिक्षा 6 वर्ष की आयु में आरंभ की और 25 वर्ष की आयु में बौद्ध दर्शन में डाक्टरेट की उपाधि हासिल की। इन्हें 16 वर्ष की आयु में तिब्बती सरकार का पूर्ण शासनाध्यक्ष बना दिया गया।

1956 में बौद्ध धर्म की 2500 वीं जयन्ति मनाने के लिए भारत आये व नेहरू सहित सभी राजनैतिक नेताओं से भेंट की।

वर्ष 1959 में चीनी आक्रमण के समय वर्तमान दलाईलामा को तिब्बत छोड़ कर भारत भागना पड़ा और इन्होंने भारत सरकार से शरण माँगी जिसे भारत सरकार ने स्वीकार कर लिया। चीनी सरकार को यह बात बहुत खटकी और भारत को चीन का आक्रोश युद्ध के रूप में झेलना पड़ा।

वर्तमान दलाईलामा ने विश्व स्तर पर शान्ति स्थापित करने व बौद्ध धर्म के प्रसार में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। इन्होंने तिब्बती लोगों के मुक्ति आंदोलन को विश्व स्तर पर खड़ा करा है।

अपने आंदोलन को अहिंसापूर्ण चलाने के लिए इन्हें वर्ष 1989 में शान्ति के लिए नोबेल पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया। वर्तमान दलाईलामा ने भारत में निर्वासित सरकार का गठन किया जिसे भारत सरकार ने मान्यता दी है। इस सरकार का मुख्यालय हिमाचल में धर्मशाला के पास मैक्लाेडगंज में है और इस सरकार की सारी गतिविधियों का संचालन यहीं से होता है।

देवेन्द्र धर, चंडीगढ़





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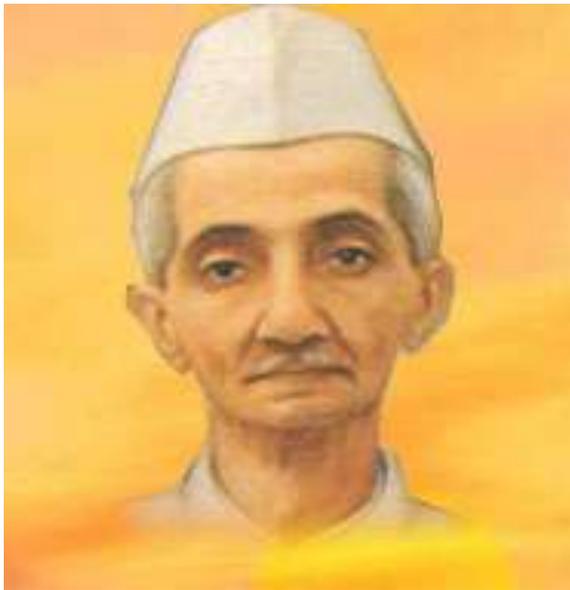
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From The Archives: February 2011 Issue of PreSense
(Diamond Jubilee – 60th Edition)

Vaikunthlal Mehta's Election Campaign 1946



Today, many people would not have heard of the highly respected Congressman of Bombay, Shri Vaikunthlal Mehta. He was a candidate in the elections held in 1946. He was a man of such probity that any individual or corporate house would have considered it a privilege to support him in his campaign. When he was contemplating the contest, he received a letter from Mahatma Gandhij, which read,

"Offer your name as a candidate for the Assembly, on the condition, however, that you will not have to spend a single pie and will not have to go begging for votes. It may not perhaps be possible to apply this rule in all cases, but it should be applied in yours."

Not to spend a single pie? Is that possible? Vaikunthbhai could not quite follow that advice but he remained as close to it as was possible. He decided that his method of seeking votes would be stark: he would only send a postcard to each of his electors and do nothing more. He did not visit them, did not put out advertisements, and did not organise processions, meetings or rallies. Vaikuntha Bhai's postcards won him the seat and he became the first Finance Minister of Bombay State after Independence. No donor could have reminded the Finance Minister of his debt – for there was no donor and there was no debt. Vaikunthlal Mehta was unobligated, uncompromised and unfettered.

- Excerpts from the speech of Mr Gopalakrishna Gandhi (Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and Rajaji)

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