

PR SENSE

Spreading Positive Vibrations

Issue No 111 – May 2016
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Cover Story of the Month



RLV-TD launch by ISRO

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From the Desk of Editor-in-Chief



We are pleased to release the 111th edition (May 2016) of our ezine PreSense with its usual interesting contents. This ezine has been honouring the outstanding Parliamentarians every year with Sansad Ratna Awards. The Awards function will be held at IIT Madras on 11th June 2016, with many eminent experts and policy makers discussing and debating important issues. In this edition, we have written about the background of these Awards for the benefit of our new readers.

The launch of RLV-TD by ISRO on 23rd May 2016 has made every Indian proud. Both the

Cover Story and the Editorial in this edition highlight this great achievement of our ISRO scientists.

This edition also features an article on Generic Medicines.

We are confident that you will find this edition interesting and useful. We request you to share your feedback.

K. Srinivasan

Sansad RatnaTM Awards 2016 7th Edition Saturday the 11th June 2016 @ IIT Madras

Registration Opens for Participation

The Seventh Edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards function will be held on Saturday, 11th June 2016 at IIT Madras. Since 2010, this ezine PreSense has been honouring top performing Parliamentarians with the 'Sansad Ratna Awards', based on the cumulative performance of the members on three parameters viz. Debates, Private Members Bills and Questions. Besides, their attendance in the House and at the Committee Meetings, as well as their utilisation of the MPLAD funds, is also taken into account as additional parameters.

In addition to the Awards function, the 5th Edition of the National Seminar on Politics, Democracy and Governance will be held. Many experts and policy makers will share their views on various topics like Global Parliamentary System, Indian Parliamentary System, Electoral Reforms, Challenges and Expectations from State Assembly, etc.

There is no participation fee. However, registration for the event is a MUST. Interested may kindly register through this link:

<https://goo.gl/VoqUFu>



Editorial

Look Up! To The RLV-TD, Our ISRO Scientists, and India

Last week, ISRO scientists successfully flight-tested India's indigenously-built winged body aerospace vehicle, or the Reusable Launch Vehicle-Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD).

A booster rocket, carrying the aerospace vehicle (RLV-TD), took off from the spaceport at Sriharikota, some 100 km from the South Indian city of Chennai, in the early morning of May 23rd, 2016. The RLV-TD coasted to an altitude of 56 kilometres and then inclined further to 65 kilometres, before separating from the booster. The RLV-TD then made a re-entry into the earth's atmosphere at Mach 5 (five times the speed of sound) and glided down to the defined landing spot in the Bay of Bengal, 450 km from Sriharikota. Thus, India joined the elite and exclusive club with only three other countries with the RLV technology (USA, Russia and Japan).

One might ask why this 'achievement' should excite the *Aam Aadmi* (common man) who would be worrying over his budgeting for tax or sustenance. RLV is the space vehicle that launches the satellite into space. RLV will, when fully developed, be re-usable instead of the present one-time-use and combustible launch vehicle. It will save 60-70% of the cost of launching a satellite into space. The satellite, during its orbit in space, relays critical information and knowledge that help development in spheres that affect our lives – global positioning, advanced weather forecasting, energy development, remote health monitoring and administration, global and local communication. And the list goes on. Now that is something we should be interested in knowing, and keeping updated about.

When we follow the social media today, whether they are the broadcasting media or the more personal social groups like Facebook, Whatsapp, Twitter or even when we meet up to chit-chat, we are weighed down by the criticism and adverse reports about the state of the current affairs in our country. Even though we must be well-informed of the adversaries and dangers that can affect our lives, where have all the good news gone? There are enough good things happening in our country, as there are enough great achievers who make it to the top in their ambitions and visions in spite of the challenges that our country is notorious for. So it depends on whether one is looking at the glass (India) as half-empty (nothing really good about it) or half-full (enough good things to feel happy about).

A positive outlook has a win-win prospect. It motivates potential achievers to make it to the top. It gives the onlooker citizens a boost with the feel-good factor. This positive outlook promotes good health, good camaraderie with fellow citizens, good temper and good behaviour. It also means less frustration and fewer loyalist-viewers of prime-time cacophonous debates on television.

It is said that US Marines are made to wear the peaks of their caps close over their eyes so that they needed to raise their heads and tilt upwards to look forward. This posture sub-consciously boosts their morale and self-confidence, as they stand straight and look ahead "with chins up". A similar re-tuning in our attitude and virtual posture would induce us to seek out positive news, and contribute positively ourselves. For now, let us look up at the RLV and ISRO's initiative to fully develop the RLV for deployment in two decades' time.

By Susan Koshy, Editor



Cover Story

A Milestone in India's Space Research - ISRO's Reusable Launch Vehicle - Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD) Successfully Flight Tested

India joins the most elite space group with the three other only countries in the world – USA, Russia and Japan.



Space Exploration and Technology

From time immemorial, the sky has fascinated mankind. Our ancestors used the stars to know time and direction during the night. Man's space explorations over the centuries have contributed societal benefits that improved the quality of life on earth. Space explorations provide the following consequential benefits:

- critical knowledge and capabilities for developing satellite telecommunications.
- global positioning, and advances in weather forecasting.
- development of solar panels, to discovery of light-weight materials.
- invention of implantable heart monitors, to progressive research in cancer therapy.
- water-purification systems, to improved computing systems, and
- global search-and-rescue systems.



Space technology has helped in higher performance at lower cost in areas such as power generation, control engineering and miniaturisation.

Space exploration and technology help in better understanding of our Universe and the solar system in which we live. Knowledge, coupled with ingenuity, provides solutions as well as useful products and services to the people around the globe. Knowledge acquired from space exploration has also provided new perspectives about our individual and collective place and role in the Universe.

PSLV and GSLV Satellites

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), formed on 15th August 1969 superseded the erstwhile Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR) of 1962. ISRO directly reports to Prime Minister of India.

ISRO like any other rocket-producing country has two varieties of rocket launch vehicles, the PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) and the GSLV (Geo Stationery Launch Vehicle). These rockets are vehicles used to launch satellites.

The PSLVs launch satellites in polar orbits. These satellites go round the poles at an altitude of 400-900 kilometres and take about 90 minutes to go round the earth once. These satellites are useful for monitoring the precise movement of cyclones, forest fires, floods and army patrols. They are capable of taking photographs from a 2-metre resolution onwards.

The GSLVs launch satellites at an altitude of about 36,000 kilometres. They appear stationary in position. These satellites help us establish mobile communication, TV telecasts, medical conferencing, tele-consultations, and robotic surgeries, to name a few. Only India and five other countries in the world, viz. USA, Russia, France, Japan and China, have the capability so far, to launch the types of satellites, as described in the these paragraphs.



RLTV-TD lifts off

The Concept of the Re-usable Launch Vehicle

About 70% of the cost for launching a low earth orbit satellite and about 60% of the cost for launching a geo-stationery satellite, go into making the launching vehicle, viz. the rocket, which finally falls back into the sea or get burnt in the atmosphere after every launch. Re-usable Launch Vehicles – RLVs are launch rockets that can be re-used for launch, thus bringing down the cost to as much as 10% of the present cost.

On 2nd July 1999 USA tested its first RLV successfully. The American Space Shuttles are a consequence from this first test. The only countries in the world to have this RLV technology



were USA, Russia and Japan. When ISRO successfully flight-tested the RLV-Technology Demonstrator on May 23rd, 2016, it was a proud day for India as it joined the exclusive club with these other three countries. It is noteworthy that India achieved this test within 17 years of USA's maiden test in 1999. The entire mission was executed successfully as planned and programmed by the ISRO scientists. All the requisite technical standards were precisely adhered to. It was indeed a good text-book launch.

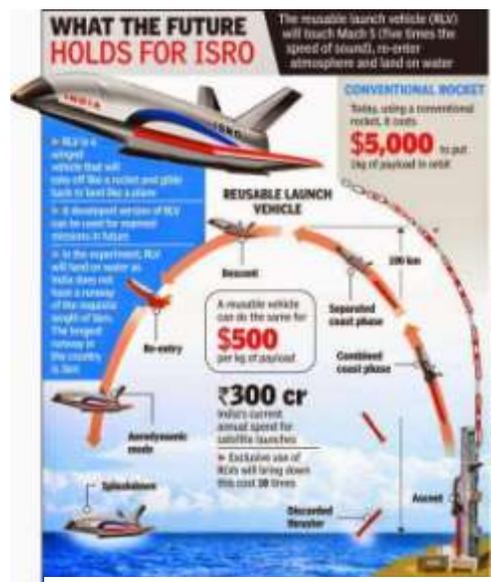
Dr Abdul Kalam's Vision

This mission which is futuristic and crucial for India's future space mission by significantly cutting down the launch cost, was envisioned by APJ Abdul Kalam nearly 3 decades ago.

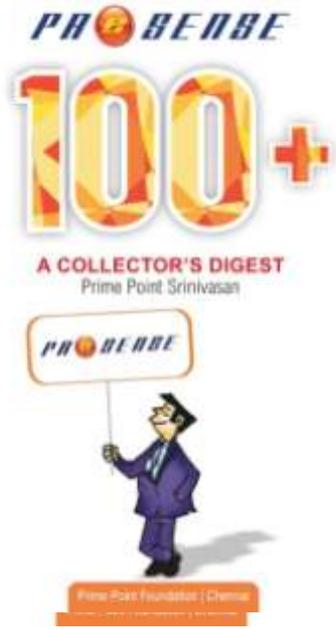
Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, then Director of Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL) at Hyderabad, had said that Indian scientists were capable of developing a futuristic "Hyperplane" which could lower the satellite launch cost for India. The Hyperplane or Hypersonic platform which Kalam visualised, could take off from any airport for an air-breathing ascent to near earth orbit, then enter space for a satellite launch or contact with an orbiting space station and finally return to earth for a horizontal landing.

Thumbs up to the Indian Space Mission and its Vision and Mission!

By Prof R. Jagannathan, Editorial Advisor



Graphics courtesy: idrw.org



Important Announcement

Readers may be aware that in June 2015, we brought out a Digest of select articles from the first 100 editions of our ezine in the digital and print formats titled 'PreSense100', distributed free. We had the great honour of carrying the 'Foreword' from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

In view of the overwhelming response and demand, we are happy to bring out the second and revised edition titled 'PreSense100+'.

PreSense100+ will be a digest of select articles from the first edition to the 110th edition. It will be released both in the digital and print formats during the Sansad Ratna Awards function scheduled for 11th June 2016 at IIT Madras. We will be sharing the download link in the next edition of our ezine.

Editorial Team



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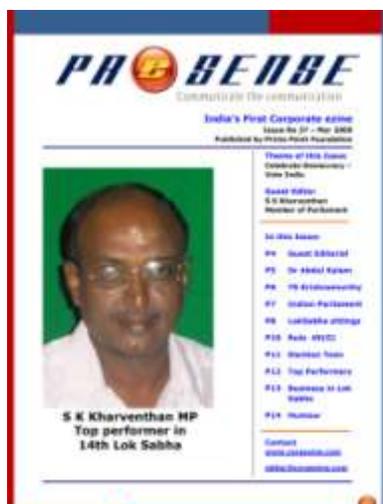
Special Story I

Sansad Ratna Awards - Looking Back

14th Lok Sabha

By the end of the 14th Lok Sabha, there was severe criticism about the functioning of the Lok Sabha. Even the then Speaker Shri Somnath Chatterjee during the closing speech for the 14th Lok Sabha, was expressly emotional and registered his unhappiness over the frequent disruption of the Parliament. The entire nation was criticising the behaviour of the Parliamentarians. Whenever a mock Parliament session was held in colleges and schools, the students started the sessions by throwing chairs and making noise. Meanwhile, elections for the 15th Lok Sabha were announced.

Prime Point Foundation and the Editorial Team of the eMagazine PreSense decided to come



Cover of March 2009 edition of e-zine
PreSense

out with a positive aspect of democracy and recognise the top parliamentarians, who discharged their constitutional duties quietly. Around the same time, our Ezine PreSense (published by the Foundation) covered the theme, 'Celebrate Democracy' in its March 2009 edition. While the media and the nation at large were criticising the Parliamentarians, we thought differently. We identified the top performers of the 14th Lok Sabha from the data released by the recognised PRS Legislative Research (PRS India) and featured them with our interviews with them. Shri Kharvendhan, one of the top performers guest edited the Ezine then. Shri Anand Rao Adsul-ji secured the first position in the Questions category and in the Overall Performance tally for the 14th Lok Sabha. Interestingly, we interviewed him at the midnight hour as he was busy preparing for his campaign then. We carried his interview in audio and text formats in the ezine.

This idea was conceptualised based on the suggestion given by Dr Abdul Kalam to 'celebrate success'. We modified this to 'Celebrate Democracy' to honour achievers in the Parliamentary system. Dr Kalam appreciated our initiative and readily gave a telephonic interview for our ezine. We published his interview both in audio and text format.

This marked the beginning of the honouring of outstanding Parliamentarians by a civil society.

15th Lok Sabha

After completion of the first year of the 15th Lok Sabha, we decided to honour its top performers on total tally in the parameters (a) Questions (b) Debates (c) Private Members Bills. Coinciding with the 50th edition of ezine PreSense, we addressed the top performers as 'UnSung Heroes'. Three MPs viz. Shri Ananda Rao Adsul, Shri Hansraj and Shri Ramasubbu were personally honoured at the Thakkar Bapa Vidyalyaya, Chennai on 1st May 2010 in the presence of eminent citizens of Chennai. Shri Adsul could not participate due to previously committed official engagements. Former Chief Election Commissioners of India, Shri T S Krishnamurthy and Shri N Gopalaswamy honoured them. Dr. Abdul Kalam gave a speech live through phone from Delhi. The news was carried nationwide by the media.



We decided to honour the top performers every year, based on their performance till the end of the first part of Budget Session. We selected the performers based on the data supplied by PRS India. In April 2011, we held the Awards function at the Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, Chennai.

In 2012 (the third year), the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras supported us. We had been honouring the top performers under the three categories viz. Questions, Debates, Private Members Bills. Shri Gopalakrishna Gandhi (Grandson of Mahatma Gandhi) presented the Awards. Dr Abdul Kalam greeted the Award winners through a video message. It was a day long programme with a panel discussion on 'Democracy' with senior leaders of political parties sharing their views. That year, we renamed the Awards 'Sansad Ratna Awards'.

In 2013, the similar procedure continued. Dr Rosaiah, Governor of Tamil Nadu presented the Awards. In 2013, we introduced the 'Sansad Mahila Ratna' to include top performers among the women MPs, and the 'Sansad Yuva Ratna' to include the topper in the youth category. The function was held in IIT Madras. This was also a day long programme. The youth achiever did not participate.

In 2014, after the end of the 15th Lok Sabha, we decided to honour all the top performing MPs with a total score of more than 1000 under the above three categories and top 3 women MPs. Five MPs received Awards in person. The Award function was held in February 2014 at the Chennai Press Club in the presence of media professionals. The event attracted good media coverage.

Sansad Maha Ratna Awards for 15th Lok Sabha

To motivate many more MPs to actively participate in the proceedings of the Parliament, we decided to honour the MPs who consistently scored the top position in (a) Questions (b) Debates and (c) Private Members in the entire 15th Lok Sabha. They were awarded the 'Sansad Maha Ratna' Awards'. These three top performing Parliamentarians were requested to guide in framing the rules for 16th Lok Sabha Awards and in the selection process.

Accordingly Shri Anandrao Adsul, Shri Hansraj G Ahir and Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, who secured the No 1 position in the Questions, Private Bills and Debates categories respectively in the 5th Lok Sabha, were made 'Committee of Judges'. We requested Shri Anand Rao Adsul-ji, 5th time MP, to chair the Committee and guide us. These three Parliamentarians were honoured with the 'Sansad Maha Ratna' Award at IIT Madras in June 2015 in the presence of many eminent persons of the Chennai City.

16th Lok Sabha - Sansad Ratna Awardw Function 2015

The Committee of Judges met on 11th March 2015 at Delhi and framed the rules for the Sansad Ratna Awards for the 16th Lok Sabha. The 6th Edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards function was held at IIT Madras on 11th July 2015. Dr Justice A R Lakshmanan, Former Judge of the Supreme Court and Former Chairman of the Law Commission of India presented the Awards. 5 MPs received 6 awards, including the Sansad Maha Ratna Awards.

The 7th Edition of the Sansad Ratna Awards 2016 will be held at IIT Madras on Saturday, 11th June 2016. During this function, the top performing Lok Sabha Members and one Rajya Sabha Member will be honoured, based on their individual cumulative performance upto the Budget Session 2016.



Every year, the selection of the award winners is being done based on the data provided by Lok Sabha Secretariat and PRS India.



2010



2011



2012

2013



2014



2015



Meeting with Hon'ble Speaker

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Appreciation by Dr Abdul Kalam

Dr Abdul Kalam had guided the Sansad Ratna Team in conceptualising the theme. He had also addressed the first Awards function in May 2010 over phone, live from Delhi. He had also devoted a full chapter on the Sansad Ratna Awards in his last book, 'A Manifesto for Change', authored by him jointly with Shri V Ponraj.

Website: www.sansadratna.in

E Mail : sansadratna@gmail.com



Sansad Ratna Awards - Rules for Selection Process 2016

There are five Awards for Lok Sabha and one Award for Rajya Sabha:

Lok Sabha:

1. Topper in Debates (only original work) (Sansad Ratna 2016 Award)
2. Topper in Private Members Bills (Sansad Ratna 2016 Award)
3. Topper in Questions (Sansad Ratna 2016 Award)
4. Topper among women MPs for overall tally (Sansad Mahila Ratna 2016 Award)
5. Topper among first time MPs for overall tally (Sansad Navodit Satna)
6. Topper among the 2015 Rajya Sabha retirees (Sansad Ratna 2016 Award)

Rajya Sabha

1. Topper for Total Tally among the retirees who completed 6 years in Rajya Sabha and retired in 2015. (No other additional parameters).

Additional Parameters

For Lok Sabha only:

In addition to being the topper, they should comply with the following conditions. (Women category exempted for 2016 from this additional parameters)

1. 70% attendance in the House
2. 70% attendance at the Committee Meetings (at least one)
3. 50% recommendation in the MPLAD as available in the site
4. Should be within the top 10 for overall tally.

Selection Committee will nominate the eligible Members for Awards. Awards will be confirmed only when they accept and receive the Awards in person at the function.

Sources:

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

For Committee Meetings:

<http://164.100.47.192/Loksabha/Committee/CommitteeHome.aspx>

For MPLADS

www.mplads.nic.in

Awards instituted by Prime Point Foundation and eMagazine PreSense

Selection Committee Judges

Sansad Maha Ratna Awardees of 15th Lok Sabha:

Shri Anandrao Adsul, MP - Chairman (5th time MP)

Shri Hansraj G Ahir, Hon'ble Minister of State (4th time MP)

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, MP (2nd time MP)



Politics

Five State Assembly Elections Shows Upcoming Trends for UP/Punjab/ and 2019 General Elections

In what seemed like a mini general election – five state assemblies of Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Puducherry – went to polls in April-May 2016 to elect new members to the house. The results were quite stunning as the apple cart of many leading political parties were upset.

The dark horse, BJP, turned in an overwhelming mandate winning 86 of the 126 seats of the Assam state assembly, unseating a popular rule of over 15 years of the Congress headed by Chief Minister, Tarun Gogoi. Congress won only 26 seats. BJP's sports minister, Sarbababba Sonowal became the new Chief Minister of Assam.

Kerala turned red with an unambiguous verdict from the people for the Left Front. The Left Democratic Front (LDF) won 91 seats with the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) at 47, as the state followed its tradition of not voting the same government into power second time in a row.

Tamil Nadu not only bucked this trend but proved all exit pools wrong, giving Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa a second successive term. Jayalalitha becomes the chief minister of the state for a sixth time in a state that has the penchant for voting charismatic screen idols and actor turned politicians as their leaders. The AIADMK won 134 seats, well past the half-way mark at 118, while the DMK-Congress combine got 98 seats. "I have no words to thank Tamil people," said Ms Jayalalithaa, vowing to make Tamil Nadu the "No 1 state".

In West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee engineered a complete sweep with her Trinamool Congress winning 211 of the state's 294 seats. The Left-Congress alliance was left far behind at 77. "I was always confident. They (Opposition) weren't on the field, I was on the field," Ms Banerjee said.

BJP has cause to celebrate as it has not only won a north eastern state for the first time but has bagged four West Bengal seats, the party's best performance ever in the state. In Kerala, BJP has won one seat. Thanking voters in the five states for "believing in BJP", PM Modi said: "The polls have made it clear that BJP's ideology is being accepted, appreciated, supported by people of the country."

BJP's Chief, Amit Shah said the party's performance in the five states showed "its base is ready for the 2019 elections."

Congress, which lost Assam and Kerala, had the only good news from Puducherry, where it won 17 of 30 seats. V Narayanaswamy, a veteran Member of Parliament, a Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, is the new Chief Minister. Congress President Sonia Gandhi said, "We will introspect on the reasons of our losses". Vice President Rahul Gandhi tweeted, "We accept the verdict of people with humility."

2017 is crucial for both BJP and Congress which has to fight the regional forces to hold their sway. In the state of Uttar Pradesh, the BSP political party, led by Mayawati, is surging ahead and AAP is ahead in Punjab as per early trends of the people's preferences.

By T N Ashok, Editorial Advisor



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Special Story II

Generic Medicines



Generic medicines are the unbranded bio-equivalent form of drug which is commensurate with branded drugs in terms of their therapeutic value. They are those medicines that are available after the expiry of the patent protection granted to the original researcher of the drug.

Although they are an equivalent substitute to their branded counterparts in all aspects, generic drugs are typically found

substantially cheaper than the latter. It is estimated that one could save two-thirds of the cost of the branded drug if one opted for generic drug.

Despite its undeniable potential to reduce the cost of healthcare exponentially, most of the people in India are ignorant about its availability as an option. Some people even suspect the genuineness in the quality of generic medicine because it is inexpensive. Thus, people end up buying branded drugs without realising that they could obtain the same type of medicine for a lower price.

The Influence of *Satyamev Jayate*

Generic medicine first caught the attention of the general public of India when this subject was covered in Aamir Khan's TV programme, '*Satyamev Jayate*' (Truth Triumphs), aired on 27th May 2012. The episode created large scale awareness about generic medicines among the common people. The manipulative methods of the medical mafia were also revealed to the people. This created a questionable impression about the reputation of Indian doctors in general. A cluster of 21 medical institutions, including the Indian Medical Association (IMA) demanded an unconditional apology from Aamir Khan for 'defamation' of the Indian doctors.

Availability of Generic Medicine

Unfortunately, generic medicines are rarely found in general medical outlets. Most of the medical outlets are inclined to sell branded medicines instead of generic medicines. The main reason for this is that people tend to have a pre-conceived notion that branded medicines are better than generic medicines. Besides, branded drugs tend to offer higher margins in prices for the pharmacists, while generic medicines are capped in their prices. Till date, the information about the availability of generic medicines is suppressed so that many people are unaware of its availability in the market.

Jan Aushadhi

Jan Aushadhi programme was launched by the Government of India in the year 2008, to provide safe and effective generic drugs at affordable prices. However, *Jan Aushadhi* has so far met with little success.



As of May 2016, there are 261 stores operational in India, predominantly in the northern parts of the country. A total of 615 different generic medicines have been identified. More details can be obtained from the official website: <http://janaushadhi.gov.in/>

An announcement was made by the Government of India a day after the Union Budget 2016 that it planned to open 3,000 *Jan Aushadhi* stores throughout the country during 2016-2017. Many experts including doctors are sceptical about this model, claiming that the government needed to build trust among the people about generic medicines. Besides, there is still no tested mechanism in place to ensure these medicines are time- and laboratory tested.

Root Cause Analysis

In countries like USA and UK, 70% of the doctor's prescriptions are for generic medicine. This is due to an active governing body, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in place in the country to regulate the safety of the medicines.

In India, despite a directive from the Medical Council of India (MCI) to prescribe generic drugs, doctors are reluctant to prescribe generic medicines, claiming they were not as effective as their branded equivalents. 98% of doctors' prescriptions are for branded medicines and the people are forced to buy the brand suggested by the doctor. This escalates the overall healthcare cost of the country.

Alternative to Generic Medicine

Generic medicines have a long way to go before catching up in India but there is an alternative available for buying medicines at competitive prices. Since branding is a subjective term and every company has a different way of branding their medicines, there is a big difference in the pricing among the brands.

Thanks to the power of the internet, there are many websites which provide the generic medicinal equivalent to the prescribed branded medicine. They also list out all the branded medicines available in the market. One such project which is currently the most reputable one is an initiative by the late Dr M.M. Mittal (<http://www.medguideindia.com>). People can search for the brand of medicine that is priced to suit their budget and their availability, and buy these drugs from wholesalers or large pharmacy shops where the chances of obtaining these specific medicines are better. There are now many pharmacies available online, offering wider choices in the brands and generic to help the people to choose from.

By Sukruti Vadula Narayanan, Editorial Team
With input from Vivek Hari Narayanan

Name of Salt	Dosage	Pack	Jan Aushadhi Price (Rs.)	Average Market Price (Rs.)
Tab. Ciprodofloxacin	250 mg	10	11.10	52.00
Tab. Ciprodofloxacin	500 mg	10	21.90	97.00
Tab. Diclofenac	100 mg	10	3.35	36.70
Tab. Celebrex	10 mg	10	3.75	20.00
Tab. Paracetamol	500 mg	10	2.43	10.00
Tab. Nimesulide	100 mg	10	3.75	25.00
Cough Syrup	150 ml	Bottle	13.30	33.00





PRince

By- Triambak Sharma



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The party decided to give preference to the candidates with Sansad Ratna Awards in the forthcoming elections.



From The Archives - May 2010

Ancient and Medieval Censuses

India

The Harappa and Mohanjo-Daro excavations reveal that "as far back as the 3rd or 4th millennium BC and probably much earlier still, India was in possession of a highly developed civilisation with large and populous cities, well built houses, temples and public buildings of brick and many other amenities enjoyed during that period by the people of Mesopotamia and Egypt". The celebrated '*Arthashastra*', the Principles of Government, evolved by one of the greatest geniuses of political administration, Kautilya during the days of the Mauryas in the third century BC, prescribed the collection of population statistics as a measure of state policy for the purpose of taxation.

Egypt

Censuses in Egypt are said to have been taken during the early Pharaonic period in 3340 BC and in 3050 BC.

China

The world's oldest extant census data comes from China sometime before the Xia Dynasty, over 4,000 years ago, counting some 13 million people. The second oldest extant data in the world comes from the Han Dynasty, in what is perhaps China's most well-known ancient census taken in the fall of 2 CE. This is considered by scholars to be quite accurate. By that time, there were 57.67 million people registered in 12.36 million households living in China. The third oldest data in the world is also from the Han Dynasty, dating back to 144 CE, when only 49.73 million people living in 9.94 million households were counted. Mass migrations into what is today Southern China are believed to be behind this massive demographic decline. Numerous other census data survive from Imperial China.

World Population (Estimated)

10000 BCE – 1 Million
 5000 BCE – 15 Million
 1 CE – 200 Million
 1000 CE – 310 Million
 1950 CE – 2519 Million
 2009 CE – 6756 Million

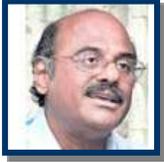
Milestone in World Population

1804 – 1 Billion
 1927 – 2 Billion (123 years later)
 1960 – 3 Billion (33 years later)
 1974 – 4 Billion (14 years later)
 1987 – 5 Billion (13 years later)
 1999 – 6 Billion (12 years later)



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