

PR SENSE

Spreading Positive Vibrations

Issue No 101 – July 2015
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Cover Story of the Month



APJ A B K
APJ A B K

Humble Pranam to
Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

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From the Desk of Editor-in-Chief



While we were preparing for this 101st edition, we received the greatest shock from the flash news, informing the death of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, Former President of India. This ezine PreSense was born from his suggestion for 'positive journalism'. Dr Kalam believed in sustenance of the initiatives. This ezine has sustained itself to its 101st edition, promoting positivity in his contents.

Three weeks ago, we launched our 100th edition at Chennai. Dr Kalam himself wrote the Foreword for this 100th edition. It was on his suggestion that cartoons

were introduced in our ezine. The cartoon character 'Prince' was launched by him. Dr Kalam was one of the regular readers of our ezine. The cover story for this edition is Dr Abdul Kalam, as a tribute to this extraordinary personality that Dr Kalam is.

We have also covered the launch event of 100th edition of ezine and the Sansad Ratna Awards function in this edition. We are confident that our readers will enjoy reading this edition too.

K. Srinivasan



PreSense

Offers humble homage to the beloved Mentor

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam



Cover Story

Our Humble Homage to the Beloved Mentor, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
Former President of India



10, Rajaji Marg
New Delhi-110011

FOREWORD

I am very happy to know that the PreSense monthly ezine published by Prime Point Foundation is bringing out a book based on some of the unique articles, interviews and events published in its editions so far since from March 2006. The 100 issues of the publication have gone through an eventful journey, focusing on knowledge capture and important knowledge dissemination. I recollect my direct association with PreSense in July 2008, when I launched the cartoon character, 'Prince', created exclusively for PreSense.

I see PreSense continuing in its journey under the mentorship of Prime Point Srinivasan, maintaining its status as a must-read ezine, in the fast moving and evolving world of communication, knowledge and connectivity.

I congratulate the Editorial Team of PreSense for bringing out the 100th Edition as a Collector's Digest.

28th May 2015

The entire nation has been silently weeping since the death of 'People President' Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, 11th President of India. People from all walks of life, different strata of society, all age-groups flocked into his hometown Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu, to pay homage to him during those final moments when his mortal remains were laid to rest. As far as one can remember, in the past several centuries, no other leader has received such respect and love in the homage, cutting across the national geographical boundary, caste and religion. Dr Abdul Kalam spent his entire life contributing to the development of the nation and motivating children and youth towards nationalism, passion, hard work and dreams.

Our team was privileged to be with Dr Abdul Kalam on several occasions during discussions, and to receive his guidance. Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was the inspiration behind

many of the active Yahoo Groups moderated by us, like India Vision 2020, Action 2020, Education Loan Task Force, etc. When he encouraged positive journalism, we started this emagazine '**PreSense**', whose prestigious 100th edition was released recently. The edition has the great honour of his Foreword for it. PreSense is fully dedicated to positive journalism.

On the suggestion of Dr. Abdul Kalam, PreSense introduced cartoons in its July 2008 edition. Mr Triambak Sharma, a noted cartoonist and editor of Cartoon Watch, a cartoon magazine at Raipur, created a new cartoon character, Prince. Prince was launched by Dr Abdul Kalam himself at Raj Bhavan, Chennai. Featuring Prince Cartoon regularly in its monthly editions, PreSense has published 81 Prince cartoons, highlighting topical themes, till the current month of July 2015.



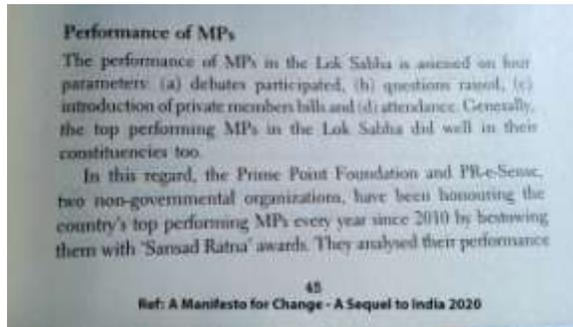
Dr Abdul Kalam lanching the first cartoon with his autograph (24 Jul 08)



His motivation to 'Celebrate Success' was instrumental for the introduction of the 'Sansad Ratna Awards', to honour top performing Lok Sabha Members. Dr Abdul Kalam addressed



the first Awards function over phone from New Delhi. Recently, we completed the 6th Edition of Sansad Ratna Awards. In his recent book titled 'A Manifesto for change', he covered an entire chapter on the Sansad Ratna Awards. (see picture below)



I had opportunity to interact with him several times personally or over the telephone. Every minute of the conversation was a great source of energy and inspiration. Whenever I introduced youngsters, he used to converse with child-like enthusiasm. In every issue of our ezine PreSense, we have always carried his inspiring quotes and speeches.

On several occasions, I had recorded his podcast interview over telephone. When I wanted to record his podcast interview in 2007 after his leaving Rashtrapathi Bhavan, he called me up and interviewed me for nearly 20 minutes on the techniques of podcast, the software used, the upload format, etc. Although he was the "Celebrated Rocket Scientist and Missile Man of India", his enthusiasm to learn was amazing. Most of the time, he held his conversations in an informal manner like a conversation with a classmate.

I have interacted with him before his becoming the President, while holding the Office of President of India and after his retirement from the office of the President. His simplicity remained consistent right through.

In the earlier century, Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902) and Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) galvanised the youth of those times. In the current century, Dr Abdul Kalam (1931-2015) energised the youth and students. Although we will be missing Dr Kalam, we will continue to follow his footsteps and inspiration to make India a 'Developed Nation by 2020'.

Our team will continue to carry on with our activities to realise his vision.

Editorial Team offers humble homage to the departed soul on behalf of our readers. May his soul rest in peace.

By K. Sinivasan, Editor in Chief



Exclusive audios and videos recorded by us for ezine PreSense from Dr Abdul Kalam. We have published all the interviews in our ezine earlier.

<https://goo.gl/CHO7Ie>



Special Story

Programme to Pay Homage and to Seed his Vision of Developed India 2020



A programme was organised at Chennai on Saturday the 1st August 2015 to pay homage to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and to seed his vision for the developed India 2020. The Editorial Team of ezine PreSense and the allied teams like Sansad Ratna Award Committee, Editorial Team of New Gen Thamizhan, Action 2020 team and Education Loan Task Force (ELTF) took the initiative in arranging this event at Dr MGR-Janaki College of Arts and Science at Chennai. The programme was arranged under the banner of 'Admirers of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam'.

Many eminent persons of the city, including few political leaders and bureaucrats participated and offered their tributes to Dr Abdul Kalam. They also shared their personal experience with him. Mr V Ponraj, one of our Editorial Team Members and Scientific Advisor to Dr Abdul Kalam shared his personal experience over phone to the audience from Rameshwaram, where he was attending the 7th day rituals of the departed leader.

Towards the end, his favourite 10 point oath was read out to the audience. It was decided that all the admirers of Dr Abdul Kalam would work together to realise his dreams of 'Developed India 2020'.

Sukruti A Vadula, Editorial Team





PRince

By- Triambak Sharma



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Nation Pays
Homage to
Dr. Kalam



One more planet
in the Universe...



Special Story

100th Edition of Ezine PreSense Launched



Editorial Team after launch of 100th Edition of Ezine (L to R) Sukruti Vadula, Susan Koshy, Prime Point Srinivasan, Lakshmi Narayanan, Padmini Sharathkumar, V Ponraj, Dr R Jagannathan and V Rajendran

A landmark event in the life and journey of your ezine PreSense was the launch of its 100th edition on June 27, 2015 at Chennai. The event took place at the Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya Samithi, a venue of commemorative significance, having been graced with visits by several renowned dignitaries as Mahatma Gandhi, and past presidents, Dr Rajendra Prasad and Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

The 100th Edition of the ezine is a 248-page digest, containing select articles from the past 99 editions, grouped under 8 categories. The 100th Edition is titled "PreSense 100 - A Collector's Digest". The foreword to this book is by Dr APJ Abdul Kalam. (See the Foreword in the Cover Story).

Shri Lakshmi Narayanan, Vice Chairman of Cognizant launched the print version of the 100th edition. Smt. Vidya and Shri Sakthi Prasanna, who were part of the first Editorial Team in February 2006 received the first copy from Shri Lakshmi Narayanan. Dr Santhosh Babu IAS, Chairman, Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd launched the soft copy of the 100th edition remotely from Kerala. Smt Padmini Sharathkumar of Polaris Group and one of the regular readers of the ezine reviewed the book.

By Susan Koshy, Editor



Special Story

Sansad Maha Ratna and Sansad Ratna Awards Presented to Outstanding Parliamentarians



Sansad Maha Ratna and Sansad Ratna Awardees 2015
(L to R) Prime Point Srinivasan, Hansraj G Ahir, P P Chaudhary, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Justice A R Lakshmanan, Anandrao Adsul, Shirang Appa Barne, Dr Bhaskar Ramamurthy (Director of IIT Madras) and Dr Sudarshan Padmanabhan

Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Prime Point Foundation and E-Magazine PreSense organised the National Seminar on Politics, Democracy and Governance (4th Edition) at IIT Madras on 11th July 2015. During this event, Dr Justice A R Lakshmanan (Former Judge of Supreme Court of India and Chairman of Law Commission of India) presented the Sansad Maha Ratna Awards and Sansad Ratna Awards. Dr Bhaskar Ramamurthy, Director of IIT Madras felicitated the awardees.

Sansad Maha Ratna

The following three Parliamentarians received the Sansad Maha Ratna Award for their 'consistent' performance during the 15th Lok Sabha in their respective category.

Shri Anandrao Adsul - Fifth time awardee is a Shiv Sena MP from Amravati, Maharashtra. He was the Minister of State for Banking and Insurance during Prime Minister Vajpayee's regime. He ranked No 1 for 'Raising Questions' and 'Total Tally' in both the 14th Lok Sabha and the 15th Lok Sabha. During 15th Lok Sabha, he raised 1266 Questions with a Total Tally of 1304. He attended 74% of the sittings in the 15th Lok Sabha.

Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir - Fourth time awardee is a BJP MP from Chandrapur, Maharashtra. He is now the Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers. He ranked No 1



for introducing 'Private Members Bills'. He introduced 31 Private Members Bills and secured a Total Tally of 1150 in the 15th Lok Sabha. He attended 72% of the sittings in the 15th Lok Sabha. He was also the whistle blower for the Coal Scam.

Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal – Second time awardee is a BJP MP from Bikanir, Rajasthan. An IAS officer turned Member of Parliament, Shri Meghwal is now the Chief Whip for BJP in the Lok Sabha. He ranked No 1 for 'Participation in Debates' in the 15th Lok Sabha. He participated in 430 Debates with a Total Tally of 1199. He attended 99% of the sittings in the 15th Lok Sabha.

Sansad Ratna Awards 2015

The following two MPs received Sansad Ratna Awards for 16th Lok Sabha.

Shri Shrirang Appa Barne – First time awardee is a Shiv Sena MP from Maval, Maharashtra. He ranked No 1 for 'Raising Questions' during the first year of the 16th Lok Sabha till the end of Budget Session 2015. He raised 314 Questions with Total Tally of 355. He attended 87% of the sittings. He ranked No 2 for Total Tally in the entire Lok Sabha.

Shri P P Chaudhary – First time awardee is a BJP MP from Pali, Rajasthan. He ranked No 1 for 'Participation in Debates', No 1 in Total Tally in the entire Lok Sabha, and No 1 among the 'First time MPs', for the first year of the 16th Lok Sabha till the end of Budget Session 2015. He participated in 176 Debates with Total Tally of 384. He attended 100% of the sittings of the 16th Lok Sabha till the end of Budget Session. He received two awards – the first for 'Participation in Debates' and the second for 'Overall Tally among the first time MPs'.

During the first session of this National Seminar, Shri Srinivasa Prabhu, Director of Lok Sabha Secretariat, made a presentation on the 'Indian Parliamentary System' and explained the functions of the Parliament.

In the afternoon session, 8 eminent domain experts viz. Dr Bhaskar Ramamurthy (Director of IITM), Shri T Theethan (Former Director General Audit of Indian Railway Board), Shri V Ponraj (Scientific Advisor to Dr Abdul Kalam), Dr Mariazeena Jhonson (Mg. Director of Sathyabama University), Dr Anbumani Ramadoss MP (Former Union Health Minister), Shri T K Rangarajan MP, Shri P P Chaudhary MP and Shri Mafoi Pandia Rajan MLA spoke on Technology, Railways, Energy, Education, Health, Agriculture, Judicial Reforms and Human Resources respectively. The theme for the Seminar was 'Towards India 2020'.

By Sukruti A Vadula, Editorial Team

Şansad Rātñā Awards function

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Chennai**

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From the Archives of Ezine PreSense – July 2009

Source: <http://www.primepointfoundation.org/presense/presense0709.pdf>

This cartoon was published in July 2009. At that time, there was a controversy about US-based Continental Airlines frisking Dr. Abdul Kalam at the Delhi Airport before boarding the flight. As per Indian rules, Former Presidents are exempt from frisking in any Indian airport. This cartoon was published, when the entire nation was expressing anger against the airline.



Health

Lead Poisoning is Preventable. So Let Us Prevent It

LEAD



POISONING

Lead poisoning is a serious and sometimes fatal condition. It occurs when lead accumulates in the body. Lead is a highly toxic metal and a very strong poison.

Lead is found at low levels on the earth's crust, mainly as lead sulphide. However, the widespread occurrence of lead in the environment is largely the result of human activity, such as mining, smelting, refining and informal recycling of lead; use of leaded petrol (gasoline); production of lead-acid batteries and paints; jewellery making, soldering, ceramics and leaded glass manufacture in informal and cottage (home-based) industries; electronic waste; and use in water pipes and solder. Other sources of lead in the environment include

natural activities, such as volcanic activity, geochemical weathering and sea spray emissions, and remobilisation of historic sources, such as lead in soil, sediment and water from mining areas.

Lead poisoning usually occurs over a period of months or years. Lead is more harmful to children because their brains and nervous systems are still developing.

When lead gets in to the body, it raises the blood lead level (BLL) which is should normally be 20 mcg/dL (microgram per decilitre) of blood for adults. Marginally higher levels may not be serious. Treatment is recommended if the adult shows symptoms of lead poisoning, ie if the blood lead level is higher than 60 mcg/dL.

For children, a normal level of lead is less than 10 mcg/dL. Any level higher than the normal should be monitored closely. The source of lead should be immediately detected and removed. A level higher than 45 mcg/dL should always be treated. Levels of 10-25 mcg/dL have been associated with impaired neurobehavioral development in children. Levels of 25-50 mcg/dL may be associated with headache, irritability, and early nerve problems. Levels of 50-70 mcg/dL are associated with moderate toxicity, and levels greater than 70-100mcg/dL are associated with severe poisoning.

Besides lead in the blood, there is lead deposited in liver, kidney, bones, teeth and other tissues. This deposited lead known as Total Lead Body Burden (TLBB) will be given back to blood stream when the BLL reduces.



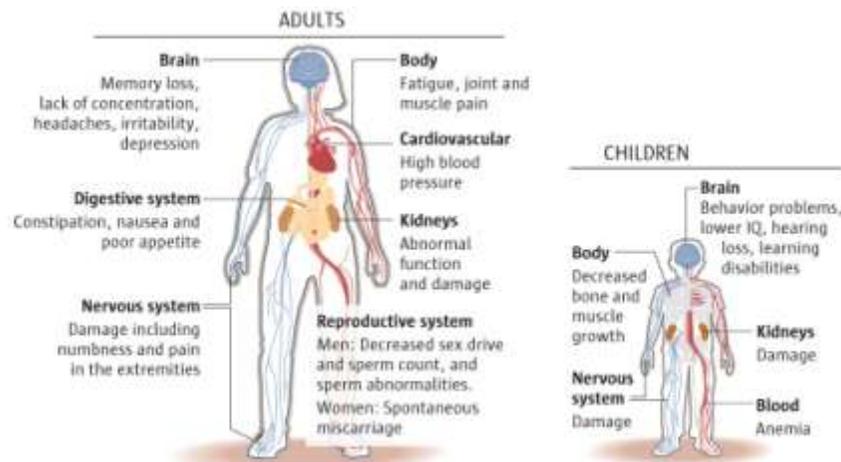
Lead has a peculiar property in human bodies. If 100 microgram (one microgram = one millionth of a gram) of lead gets into our system, after about 30 days, half of it (50 micrograms) will be excreted. After another 30 days, half of it (25 micrograms) will be excreted and so on. Thus, the body will take several million years for complete excretion of that 100 micrograms. The best recourse therefore, is to prevent its ingestion. For adults, the lead gets stored mainly in the bones, teeth and the kidney. The circulatory lead can damage the heart, the blood vessels, the nerves and all the tissues. Thus lead is a major killer of mankind.

Key facts

1. Lead is a cumulative toxicant that affects multiple body systems and is particularly harmful to young children.
2. Childhood lead exposure is estimated to contribute to about 600,000 new cases of children developing intellectual disabilities every year.
3. Lead exposure is estimated to account for 143,000 deaths per year with the highest burden in developing countries.
4. About one half of the burden of disease from lead occurs in the WHO South-East Asia Region, with about one-fifth each in the WHO Western Pacific and Eastern Mediterranean Regions.
5. Lead in the body is distributed to the brain, liver, kidney and bones. It is stored in the teeth and bones, where it accumulates over time. Human exposure is usually assessed through the measurement of lead in blood.
6. There is no known level of lead exposure that is considered safe.



Data is not available for India.



By Dr R Jagannathan, Editorial Team



Controversy

The Glorification of the Terrorists by the Indian Media



On 30th July 2015, two incidents of national significance happened. Yakub Memon, a 1993 Mumbai serial blast convict terrorist was hanged at 7 am in the morning. Excepting a section of the media and some people, the entire country was relieved.

At 12 noon, the mortal remains of Former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was laid to rest at Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu. The entire country, cutting across religion, language and status, grieved over his death.

Traditionally, Indians respect a person based on his qualities and character, irrespective of his religion, caste and language. Persons of criminal deeds and poor character are disowned by the traditional Indian society.

It was therefore disturbing to find some of the major media and English newspapers 'glorify' the terrorist Yakub Memon and advocate reduction of his punishment of the death sentence. Many television channels, in the name of supporting abolition of the death sentence, debated in favour of saving the dreaded terrorist from hanging, though the sentence was given to him after elaborate judicial review. In this upheaval, the news of last rites of the great man, true Indian and real Bharat Ratna, Dr Abdul Kalam, who was laid to rest, with State Honours was relegated to second place.



The media reports of more than 50000 people attending the funeral of Yakub Memon, needs serious reflection. One of the political leaders pleaded for Yakub's case, sympathising with the family members of Yakub Memon and their agony after his death. It was in the same city of Mumbai during the 1993 bomb blasts that more than 260 people died and thousands were injured. Ironically, neither the media nor the so-called right activists seemed to remember the fate of the thousands of families who were victims of that ruthless act, executed by terrorists, which included Yakub Memon.

It is perplexing to see the conflicting stands taken by the media and some of the political leaders. On one hand, they argue that terrorism has no religion, and yet they support issues, based on the religion the issue relates to. In argument, they contend that capital punishment reflects the barbaric attitude of "an eye for an eye" and is an inhuman act in a civilised and democratic society. However, an argument on this issue cannot be more ill-timed than when a terrorist is hanged for the 'rarest of the rare' and barbaric act of killing innocent people en masse. Linking the issue of abolition of the capital punishment with the hanging of the terrorist, has shifted the attention and debate from the larger picture of the constitutional provision, to precipitating misplaced sympathy for the convicted criminal. Yakub Memon was not the first to be hanged in independent India. If the media and the activists had the genuine concern about capital punishment, they had ample opportunities and time to rally for it. Timing it with the latest hanging only arouses the suspicion about vested motives of disharmony or the vote bank, and not concern for conservation and dignity of human life.

Some people quote Dr Abdul Kalam to argue in favour of abolition of the death sentence. Dr Kalam never suggested show of mercy on terrorists, even though he had suggested reduction of death sentence in some genuine cases. Dr Abdul Kalam never condoned the act terrorism. He preached and promoted harmony in the society. In fact, Dhananjay Chatterjee, the rapist of a 14-year-old girl, was hanged to death after Dr Kalam rejected his mercy petition.

Media and activists should understand that there is a difference between terrorism and war against the nation, and other crimes. These media and right activists should be sensitised about the pains and agony of the victims of such terrorism caused by the very convict they defend in the debates, and the family members of the terrorist convict, they sympathise with.

By K. Srinivasan, Editor in Chief

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