

নক সানজাওবা
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SARUK YABIYU
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Farmer leaders insist on scrapping of agri legislations, fresh talks cancelled

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 9:

New Delhi, Dec 9 : With the Centre-farmer talks ending in a stalemate, thousands of farmers stayed put at Delhi borders on Wednesday to press for repeal of the agri marketing laws. A meeting called by Home Minister Amit Shah ended in failure on Tuesday night as farmer leaders rejected the government's offer to amend new farm laws, saying they would settle for nothing less than the scrapping of the legislations. The sixth round of talks between the government and farmer unions to end the protests on Delhi's various borders, which was scheduled on Wednesday, has been cancelled.

This comes after many farm leaders had threatened to boycott the talks. As the protests continued, traffic was disrupted at border points with farmers agitating on the Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur borders of Delhi.

Taking to Twitter, the Delhi Traffic Police alerted commuters about that the Tikri, Jharoda, Dhansa Borders are closed for any traffic movement. However, Jhatikara border is open only for two wheelers and pedestrian movement.

It also said that those travelling to Haryana can take Daurala, Kapashera, Badusarai, Rajokri NH 8, Bijwasan/Bajhera, Palam Vihar and Dundahera Borders.

"Singhu, Auchandi, Piao Maniyari, Mangesh borders are closed. NH-



44 is closed on both sides. Take alternate routes via Lampur, Safiabadi, Saboli, NH8/Bhopra / Apsara borders /Peripheral expressway, the Delhi Traffic Police tweeted. It also said that the traffic has been

diverted from Mukarba and GTK road and suggested commuters to avoid Outer Ring Road, GTK road, NH-44.

Farmer leaders have been firm on their demand for repeal of three new farm laws enacted in September.

★ Editorial

Wiping out the selfish idea; Can't we?

All living creature including human being need food and sleep and they indulge in sex and have fear also. The human being are also the same. But knowledge separates him from the other creature. So it is simple, a human being without knowledge is obviously a beast.

According to Chanakya, the King, the prostitute, the God of Death, fire, thief, beggar, a child and a wicked of the village do not know the sorrow of the people. All these eight types of people are selfish. They never pay any attention to the troubles and sorrow of others but think about themselves.

So, if one simply follow by what Chanakya, the greatest philosopher of the Nanda dynasty, without trying to understand what he actually wanted to relay to the society, then we obviously become a beast. While trying to understand the 8 types of selfish person, it is necessary that one also understand what he told about Human being which makes them different from the beast. It is the mind, the ability to think, judge and act.

When it comes to the present day political theatre, it is important that those in power and acting as a part of the society have the ability to think and act but not like the 8 types of selfish entity, which he referred to. When the King act to protect his being king without bothering about his subjects then he is even worst than a beast. When one act like a child simply obeying to this or her superior without using his intellect then he or she is also no different from a beast.

In today's Manipur society, the Chief Minister or the Minister all act to protect their seat rather than acting what he or she felt it justified. Similar is the bureaucrat or the law enforcers, they all act like a child by following the order of their superior just get blessing from their superior irrespective of what he had done for the society.

The constitution of India whom we considered as the holy book of the nation is now a mockery and those who are supposed to put it in the highest position now have forgotten that it is the duty of all particularly those lawmakers whom the people elected to make sure their people across the country respect and follow what has been written there.

Bureaucrats of today are just 'yes' man to the ministers and the attitude is no different from Chanakya's 'Child'. Today they have become so selfish that they can't take up any good works whom they had learnt as they have to wait approval from their superiors particularly the Ministers.

Even the judiciary become selfish as per the teaching of Chanakya as people today started losing faith in the system.

It is high time that the society be corrected, but not by any person but by the conscience of all persons to save and protect humanity. Only after we the people become aware of how we are made difference from the beast will make sure that humanity will be restored.

CorCom greets people ahead of Human Rights Day

IT News
Imphal, Dec 9:

Conglomerate of 4 major rebel group – CorCom has greet the people on occasion of the Human Rights Day, which has been observing since 1950 on every December 10 after the passing of the Universal Declaration of Humna Rights by the UN General Assembly on this day of 1948.

War on drugs : AR unearths large haul of narcotics

IT News
Moreh, Dec 9:

In a well-planned and orchestrated operation based on hard intelligence, Assam Rifles raided two locations in the border town of Moreh in Manipur on December 7 morning alongwith Police and NCB.

The raid unearthed a large haul of narcotics and contrabands estimated to be worth over Rs 165 crores. One foreign made pistol and a gunalongwith ammunition were also seized. Two Myanmar and four Indian traffickers were apprehended by the team.

With the mandate to curb cross border smuggling through the porous international border with Myanmar, Assam Rifles has been at the forefront to combat narco terrorism and insurgency in the North East.

This year theme for the observation is "Recover better – Stand up for Human Rights.

The statement of the CorCom released by its publicity committee while greeting the people on the occasion question on the condition of the Human Rights of the people of WESEA region even as the International body has frame various legal system for protection of Humna Rights. It said that people of the WESEA region are still yet to get even the minimum standard of human rights.

The statement said that the political, economic, social and cultural rights of the WESEA region which is an Indian occupied territory is directly related to the making of a new India

by the colonial ruler British. The statement elaborated on how the British left India be restoring Independent to various kingdom but then the princely state were left to chose to the formation of a new country India or Pakistan. As for Manipur (Kangleipak), under the special arrangement of Para 5 of the Memorandum on States, Treaties and Paramountcy (Cabinet Mission's Memorandum, May 12, 1946) Manipur Constitution Act 1947 was constituted. In 1948 Manipur was govern by Manipur national Assembly which have 53 seats. In that Assembly elected by the people of the state there were representatives from Naga, Kuki, Meetei and meetei Pangal.

The statement was narrated on how the Independent Kingdom which have a people's elected government was annexed by Inida in 1949 and later how the erstwhile nation has been treated as a mere district like status. From Part c state to Union territory and latter in 1972, Jan 21 only the Manipur became a full fledged state.

The statement also elaborated on how various humanitarian laws has been suppressed by the Indian authority and how draconian law are being used against the people to subdue the people. The exploitation of the natural resources by constructing big dams and extracting mineral resource are also mentioned.

Doctors protest, cease work on Dec 11

IT News
Imphal, Dec 9:

Indian Medical Association Manipur State Branch observed two hours protest demonstration yesterday from 12 noon to 2 pm at various hospitals and healthcare centers in the state to protest the recent notification by central government allowing ayurvedic post graduates to conduct surgery which are in the domain of modern allopathic medicine. Teachers and Medical Officers Association (TAMOA), RIMS, Teachers

Association (TA), JNIMS and Women Doctors Wing of IMA Manipur State Branch also supported the protest demonstration. Other hospitals and health centers that joined the protest demonstration include SHIJA Hospital, Babina Diagnostic, Imphal Hospital, Padma Diagnostics Centre, Public Hospital, Jivan Hospital Kakching, ACME Fertility and Health Care Centre, CMC Koigenge, ASIAN Hospital, Advanced Hospital, Remedy Hospital, Mother's Care Children Hospital And Research Centre,

Imphal Heart Institute and Maipakpi Hospital. Protest demonstration was also observed at IMA House Lamphelpat.

The Indian Medical Association supported nationwide protest against mixopathy was observed at 10,000 different spots across the country. On 11th December, 2020 there will be cease work strike and all healthcare services across the state will be withdraw from 6am to 6pm. However emergency services, in-patient services and COVID-19 related services will remain unaffected.

SC refuses to entertain Goswami's plea against Mumbai Police

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Dec 9:

The Supreme Court has refused to entertain a petition filed by Republic TV and its Editor-in-Chief Arnab Goswami seeking protection for all the employees of the news channel from alleged coercive action by Maharashtra Police.

The plea alleging continuous hounding of Republic TV and its employees by the Maharashtra Police and seeking a probe by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was withdrawn after a Bench headed by Justice DY Chandrachud remarked that it was "ambitious in nature".

In view of the court's refusal to entertain the petition, Goswami's counsel, Senior Advocate Milind Sathe then chose to withdraw the plea after the Court granted liberty to Goswami and Republic TV to move appropriate forum for relief. Besides the case in Alibaug court,

related to Goswami's alleged involvement in the Anvay Naik Suicide Case, the Mumbai police have also registered cases in TRP fraud "against Republic TV employees. Besides an FIR related to defamatory program against Mumbai Police Chief Parambir Singh, aired on Republic TV in October last, has also been registered against some of its employees. Goswami wanted a blanket protection against all these cases.

Goswami has filed another petition in the Bombay High Court seeking directions to Alibaug court, not to take cognizance of the charge sheet filed against him and two others in the Anvay Naik Suicide Case. The petition is expected to come up for hearing this week.

Goswami has argued that no cognizance of the chargesheet recently filed by the Raigad police should be taken since the Raigad police had filed a closure report in

2018. The entire case reeks with malafide on part of the Maharashtra Government and is an example of the Executive's interference via 'premeditated diktat' to law and order officers, he said.

There is a "well-documented pattern of interference" in the present case on the part of the Home Department of Maharashtra and the reinvestigation was launched based on Home Minister Anil Deshmukh's letter dated 26 May 2020. Besides Deshmukh had also made anti remarks Minister's remarks on the floor of the Maharashtra Assembly on 08 September, 2020 Goswami alleged.

In the meanwhile, the Raigad Police has filed a 1,914 pages long charge sheet against Goswami and two others, before a court in Alibaug in neighbouring Raigad district, where the case for alleged abetment of suicide of interior designer Anvay Naik and his mother Kumud has been registered. The trio has been

charged under IPC sections 306 (abetment to suicide), 109 (punishment for abetment) and 34 (act done by several people in furtherance of common intention). The trial has already began in Alibaug.

Goswami was arrested on 04 November and was remanded to judicial custody by Chief Judicial Magistrate, Alibag. Initially he was kept at a local school, been designated as a COVID-19 centre for the Alibaug prison. Later he was shifted to Talaja jail on the allegations that he was shifted to Talaja prison near Panvel, after the police alleged that he used mobile phone in custody without permission.

He was released on Bail by the Supreme Court on 11 November, observing that prima facie it cannot be said that he was guilty of having abetted the suicide of the architect Anvay Naik(52), within the meaning of Section 306 of the IPC.

Namkhairo Nang-gi Pal-Sing released

IT News
Imphal, Dec 9:

A book called Namkhairo Nagi Palsing, written by 23 years old Birkarnelzelzit Thiyam was released today at the conference hall of JCRE Global College, babupara, Imphal today afternoon.

The author Birkarnelzelzit Thiyam is a popular vlogger and is well known among the youth of the

state as motivational speaker. The Book relaing function was attended by Dr. Makhonmani Mongshaba, Lairenjam Niranjan Singh, N. Babuchand Singh, Wangkhemcha Shyamjai and Sanjenbam Jugeshwar Singh as dignitaries.

Speakers on the occasion while appreciating the effort of the author said that the book will bring good not only to youths but to elders also as it contain various issues of human life.

PCA condemns Mahua Moitra's derogatory comments against media

IT Correspondent
Guwahati, Dec 9:

Press Club of Assam (PCA), while expressing serious concern over West Bengal politician Mahua Moitra's derogatory 'dui poeshar press' in a recent event, extended its supports to Press Club Kolkata which has been demanding the withdrawal of her comment expressing regrets over it.

Mentionable is that the TMC Parliamentarian from Krishnanagar made the comment of 'two paisa reporter' during an internal meeting of the party. She claimed that the media was not invited to the function but a few reporters entered there as they were seemingly invited by a dissident faction of the ruling party.

The issue was taken strongly by the press club in Kolkata and stated in a statement that it was deeply concerned about it as 'in a democratic set up, the importance of journalism and the respect it commands is known to all'. The press club authority also sought an apology from the loud politician.

"West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee often uses harsh words against the journalists who dare to criticize the government in Kolkata," said a statement issued by PCA president Kailas Sarma, working president Nava Thakuria and general secretary Hiren Chandra Kalita adding that the media would continue playing its role which may not be favourable to politicians.

Diamonds - a dream or reality in Manipur

By: Herojit Nongmaithem

In the last couple of days, Diamonds are becoming the talk of the town specially in the north eastern states of India. News of occurrences of diamonds at Waching village in Mon District of Nagaland has been a wildfire through various social media platforms-whatapp and facebook, print and electronic media. As the legendary actor, Sean Connery-James Bond Movie reads "Diamonds are forever" the possibility of occurrence of diamond in our north eastern states still feels uncertain.

After several reports, photographs and viral videos of occurrence of diamonds in Nagaland, the state authority ordered a thorough probe to its reality. Nagaland state officials inspected and denied those crystals as diamonds. The harsh reality of diamonds at Waching village reveals that those crystals happen to be ordinary quartz crystals. For reader's digest, the quartz crystals are very common and do occur abundantly throughout the globe and in many parts of Manipur as well. Let's quickly have a comparison on the similarities and differences between quartz and diamonds. Both are crystal forms and sometimes it's intriguing to differentiate between the two. Some quartz varieties are coined as Herkimer Diamonds due to its uniqueness and similar properties with that of diamonds. Herkimer Diamonds are brilliant, water-clear crystals show the classic 18-sided, doubly terminated hexagonal form. Diamonds form into octahedrons (two pyramids stuck together at the base) while quartz forms into hexagonal columns with a pointed tip. A diamond is much harder than quartz and the chemical formula is C and is composed of carbons whereas for quartz, it's SiO₂ and made of silicone dioxide. Diamonds are isometric whereas quartz is hexagonal and diamonds have a greasy lustre whereas quartz can have vitreous, resinous and dull lustre.

It's not that hard or either costly to test whether a substance is diamond or any other crystal. The stone that scratches the glass without showing any damage to the crystal is diamond while quartz will abrade the glass but it will also get brused down. Diamond conducts heat much better than quartz. A refractor will quantify the refractive index of diamond (2.417-2.419) and that of diamond (1.45-1.46). Conventionally diamonds are reported from the older and cratonic rocks around the world. These diamonds are hosted by certain rocks called kimberlites, lamproites which are characterised by high pressure and temperature. Though such rocks are not found in Manipur-Nagaland, scientific reports and experts' view hold the possibility occurrences of diamonds in the Indo-Myanmar ranges covering the large portions of Manipur and Nagaland. These rocks are so called the ophiolite suite of rocks which are deep seated ocean rocks that got obducted over the continental rocks. A rational rough estimate approximately about 8% of the total exposed surface is covered by ophiolites in our state. During the 90's Bai and party (1993) reported occurrences of diamonds in many areas in ophiolite rocks. Yang and party (2014) in their study have confirmed the common presence of microdiamonds in both ophiolite peridotites and chromites from different localities in China, Russia, and Myanmar. Nayak and Meyer (2017) reproduced the magenilment, a possible indicator of microdiamonds in Pokhpar area, Nagaland.

Owing to the above scientific theories, the states of Manipur and Nagaland have enough ophiolite rocks that can host microdiamonds. These won't be big enough as those of the Waching village. Studies are on by different organisations to unravel these oceanic, deep seated rocks. The dream to quench the thirst of finding microdiamonds won't be that long. Let's hope for a bright reality where our state is endowed with natural resources and we can endeavour to utilize them to the fullest.

***** The writer is a Sr. Geologist GSI, Imphal Office

Human Capital Flight & Skill Development

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh
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Brain drain is a slang term indicating substantial emigration or migration of skilled human resource for trade, education etc. Why do talented people leave their countries and go abroad? What are the consequences of such migrations especially on the educational sector? What policies can be adopted to stem such movements from developing countries to developed countries? **Abraint drain** sometimes called **human capital flight** can result from turmoil within a nation, the existence of favorable professional opportunities in other countries or from a desire to seek a higher standard of living. Brain drain causes countries, industries and organizations to lose a core portion of valuable individuals. The term often describes the departure of groups of doctors, health care professionals, scientists, engineers or financial professionals. When these people leave, their places of origin are harmed in two main ways. First, expertise is lost with each emigrant, diminishing the supply of that profession. Secondly, the country's economy is harmed because each professional represents surplus spending units. Professionals often earn large salaries so their departure reduce consumer spending in that region or the country overall. Brain drain can occur on several levels. Geographical brain drain happens when talented professionals flee one country or region within a country in favor of another. Organizational brain drain involves the mass exodus of talented workers from a company, often because they sense instability, a lack of opportunity within the company or they may feel that they can realize their career goals more easily at another company. Industrial brain drain happens when skilled workers exit not only a company but an entire industry. Several common causes of precipitate brain drain on geographical level including political instability, poor quality of life, limited access to health care and a shortage

of economic opportunity. **Immigration of theoretical physicist "Albert Einstein" to United States to escape Nazi's prosecution is an example of human capital flight as a result of Political change.** These factors prompt skilled and talented workers to leave source countries for places that offer better opportunities. Organizational and industrial brain drain is usually byproduct of a rapidly evolving economic landscape in which companies and industries unable to keep up with technological and societal changes, lose their best workers to those that can.

Nearly four decades back, the idea of individual and professionals migrating to different places worldwide in pursuit of lucrative careers and world-class education was a massive achievement for Indians. This was primarily because; **India simply did not have the professional prospectus that other countries offered.** However many professionals chose to return to their country in the new millennia with an intention to create business opportunities. Become contributors to capital inflows in the country and accelerate the Indian economy to introduce it to the global market. Today, India is just a decade away from changing its status into a developed and Superpower nation but unfortunately history is repeating itself. This time, millennial are leaving the country not for the dearth's of jobs on their domestic shores but in search of better standard of living and quality of life, higher salaries, access to advanced technology and stable political conditions across international borders - to Canada, Australia, European countries and more. This rising exodus of Indian professionals is definitely benefiting the host countries but it is becoming a growing cause for concern for economic health of India.

When Indian expatriates migrate abroad in search of greener pastures, the country ends up losing its major

skilled workforce. In the age of Fourth Industrial Revolution, where technology has proven to be both a disruptor and a creator of employment in India, why is this failing to hold back its talented and skilled individuals from moving abroad for good? Higher education is one of the major reasons for permanent immigration. Considering the recent scenario of **"Sky-rocking cut-off"** for admission reaches close to 100% in top Indian Universities, many students end up compromising on their dream of occupying a seat in any of the prestigious Indian universities as they have an advantage over students from other countries in terms of skills and knowledge. Considering the global exposure and excess to high-quality life and facilities, not only do the students become reluctant to return home, even the country's skilled workforce decides to step out to match pace with their peers who are doing well abroad. At present, a lot of educational institutions in the country are **giving importance to textbook education and theoretical learning** which fails to equip students with skills that will make them job-ready. This ends up creating a wide gap between industry and academic knowledge. As per the latest India skill Report, only 47% of students coming out of educational institutions in India are employable. This clearly points to the need for broadened access to both formal, basic and higher education system as well as investing more on reskilling and up skilling of the students and the present workforce so that they skip the idea of stepping out of the country. Human capital is precious for the growth of any nation. It can be referred to as people equipped with the knowledge and skill sets suitable for contributing towards economic value. But people are not born with the same skill set or knowledge. They usually acquired it through education and skilling which directs us to the need for constant up skilling of India's existing workforce.

This will eventually make them eligible for enticing professional opportunities with higher earnings with the country, thereby dropping their urge for migration.

As the boundaries between different domains are fast blurring, students cannot be restricted to single-stream knowledge. Emphasis should be given on Industry-Academia partnership as they keep educational institutions in tune with changing industry requirements and drive them to introduce programs that respond directly to their demands. On the other hand, companies can also help themselves updated with the right knowledge and skills by approaching specialized training and skilling organizations as consultants. Such specialized consulting organizations help in streamlining the process of training and development. They leverage the latest technology tools and the expertise of their experienced, qualified and certified trainers and subject matter expert to help employee transform their abilities and levels of productivity. They conduct highly focused and industry relevant courses, programs and workshops after garnering a clear understanding of the organizational goals as well as values and ethos. This helps employees adapt to the learning environment that will offer them increasing levels of challenge and overtime. While India is putting its best foot forward to curb brain drain by prioritizing skill development through its **"National Skill Development Mission"**, aiming to train approximately 400 million people across the country by 2020, stopping the movement completely won't be possible. The key is to simply emphasize evolving skills in the workforce through the right training programs that will help in strengthening the country's human capital. With better human capital presence, India will indeed reach new levels of inclusive growth and sustainable development.

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Need of the time: One Nation One Election

By - Arjun Ram Meghwal

India is a vast democratic nation with an energetic and strong constitution that meets the aspirations of its citizens. The spirit of "We the people of India" has regularly strengthened our institutions and has created important values to meet the challenges of the 21st century of technology and knowledge power, and has consistently led in a competitive world. In 2014, a stable government with absolute majority was formed after more than three decades, as the people gave their mandate to the NDA (National Democratic Alliance) government under the leadership of Narendra Modi. Since then, a number of bold reform measures such as "Jan DhanAadhaar Mobile Trinity", DBT, GST, OROP, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, etc., have been undertaken, the defence sector has been strengthened by promoting indigenous manufacturing of defence equipment and inducting Rafale, and carrying out agricultural and labour reforms as well. In this challenging time of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister's call for a self-reliant India will play an important role in India's development path, though, the journey to become a global superpower is yet to go a long way. One of the major steps that will catalyze the development scenario in achieving these goals is the reconstitution of the election period by simultaneously holding elections in the country.

Articles 324 to 329 of Part XV of the Constitution provide that the power of responsibility, direction, control and holding of all elections to the Parliament, the State Legislative Assembly shall be with the Election Commission of India and other provisions relate to election work. In order to facilitate conduct of elections by the Election Commission of India, the Parliament has enacted the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951 and the laws framed thereunder, namely, Registration of Electoral Rules, 1960 and the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961. Election of local bodies (Panchayati Raj Institutions, Corporations/Municipalities etc.) is the responsibility of the concerned State Election Commission. In this constitutional system for governance at every level, the election process remains active throughout the year. Due to elections, the model code of conduct prevents the implementation of development projects and welfare schemes for needy people. Since the administrative machinery is engaged in election related activities and is burdened by excessive workload, the policies of the Government are neglected due to policy paralysis. With different elections, there is a lot of expenditure for both the Election Commission of India and the political parties. The important human resources i.e., police administration, paramilitary and other security forces are engaged in the election process which weakens the control relating to

maintenance of law and order, and makes it difficult for the general public to get their grievances addressed. Till 1967, the Lok Sabha and assembly elections were held simultaneously. After that, their election schedules became separate. This cycle was also disintegrated due to indiscreet and prejudiced use of Article 356 of the Constitution. So far, there has been premature dissolution of Lok Sabha seven times due to coalition governments. During the Constituent Assembly debate on June 15, 1949, Prof. Shibbanlal Saxena said of the need to amend the electoral cycle: "Our Constitution does not provide for a fixed period of four years, as in the United States... There will be some election or something else at all times. This will not happen in the first five or 10 years, but after 10 or 12 years, every moment, elections will be taking place in one province or the other." In 1983, the Election Commission's first annual report suggested the idea of holding simultaneous elections for the first time, and since then, there have been demands for it several times. In 1999, the Law Commission of India in its 170th report on the reform of election laws has suggested simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and state assemblies in order to ensure stability in governance. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice submitted its report on the "Feasibility of holding elections to the House of People (Lok Sabha) and state assemblies simultaneously in December 2015. In his traditional address to the joint session of Parliament ahead of the Budget session in 2017 and on several other occasions,

former President late Pranab Mukherjee also called for a constructive debate on the issue. Ahead of the general elections for the 17th Lok Sabha in August 2018, the Law Commission of India had released its draft report on simultaneous elections while examining legal and constitutional questions related to holding elections simultaneously. On 19th June 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had held a meeting of national presidents of all political parties represented in the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha to discuss 'One Nation, One Election'. Recently, on the occasion of the Constitution Day 2020, while addressing the 80th All India Presiding Officers National Conference in Kevadia Gujarat, he also effectively emphasized on single electoral rolls and simultaneous elections for different levels of governance. A number of recommendations have been made to hold simultaneous elections at the same time to implement the "One Nation One Election". A single unified electoral roll for all elections can be considered as an initial step in this direction. Simultaneous elections will require postponement of the election schedule in several states and early dissolution of the assemblies of some other states. The assembly elections in the States can be held either before or immediately after the Lok Sabha elections through appropriate constitutional measures and desired political consensus. For the elections to the remaining states, the term and schedule of the Assembly can be constitutionally adjusted so that the next Lok Sabha elections can be fully aligned with the elections to all the states. The existing "no-confidence motion" can be amended to adopt the

process of constructive voting for "expression of distrust appropriately" ensuring the removal of the government only if there is confidence in an alternative government. The number of such constructive voting during expression of distrust can be limited during the term of Lok Sabha/State Assembly. In the event of the Hung Parliament/Assembly, the situation regarding government formation can be dealt with by giving the option to the largest political party alone to have either pre-poll or post-poll alliances in an amicable manner. In the event of failure to form a government, the midterm elections can only be for the rest of the term, and not for a full five-year period. Political parties should also be unanimous to reconsider the anti-defection laws to remove the existing loopholes. Indian democracy can follow the example of other democracies, where elections to the federal and provincial assemblies take place simultaneously, and amendments can be made accordingly. Fixed dates of voting in Sweden, UK's 'Fixed-Term Parliament Act', 2011, Common Ballot Paper for multiple positions in the United States, the fixed term of five years and two years respectively for National/Provincial Legislative and municipal elections in South Africa are some of the examples. The One Nation One Election will accelerate India's shared development. This will control expenses and save public money. Timely implementation of government policies and developmental programmes, less burden on administrative arrangements and seamless delivery of essential services will not only benefit the citizens, but will further help the

Government to improve the lives of citizens by implementing plans and fulfilling their aspirations once it comes out of the election mode. This reform measure will have inherent advantages of reducing the cost of elections by the Election Commission and less expenses by political parties. In such an organised and coordinated scheme of things, a pre and subsequent legislation impact assessment framework for comprehensiveness and awareness can be proposed. It may include the impact of legislative assessments on the social, economic, environmental and administrative consequences. Many electoral reforms were carried out in the past, as a result of which the nation has taken pride in its democratic institution. If the proposed electoral reform measures are considered and approved by the citizens, it will give impetus to the growth of the country and development plans and further strengthen our democracy. As the nation is poised to become a global superpower and a leading country of the 21st century, I believe that electoral reforms of One Nation One Election are the need of the day. I appeal to the leaders of political parties and all sides of a glorious, vibrant democracy to collectively think, discuss, debate and pave the way for the most important reform measures. It is time for introspection of our roles and responsibilities for the wider welfare goal of Indian society.

**The Writer is Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.

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