



Foundation for Restoration of National Values

Newsletter

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Dear Friends of FRNV,

In the case of Police Reforms, in 2006 came the Supreme Court Order, and even after 4 years, it has not been implemented. There is a lack of will at all levels of Governance to implement Police Reforms.

In this context, Poojya Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha, the Inspiration & Guide of FRNV, said: "A Government that does not respect Law and Judicial Orders has no right to expect, seek or enforce law in any matter. Having the power and resources to clamp whatever they want gives no license to incur any violation and still feel complacent. The ultimate test for any action or non-action is righteousness, propriety, tenability on the grounds of natural justice.

"What right or impulsion does a Government have in enforcing any law whatsoever, if the Government itself flouts the SC order without any consequences? Can they then rightfully take any meaningful legal step in any civil or criminal matter against any person, party or institution?"

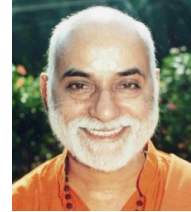
Poojya Swamiji urges the citizens: "Can we not as loyal citizens and electors of the Legislature think of some steps to act ourselves in the matter, so as to bring this inordinate delay into focus and force the Government and Judiciary to give us the necessary relief by bringing in a better and more effective Law Enforcement Machinery?"

Editorial Team

**Our Hearts & Minds should pulsate
a marked National Dimension**

No country, institution, Government, or body of power, will be able to function with integrity, unless it takes up the Value Inculcation Pursuit, which should encompass

the newer generations also, with timely concern and attention.



In our protracted Struggle for Freedom, the force that held the leaders together was the deep, age-old cultural value bond, they cherished. It enabled them to **muster abundant inner might, resolve and inspiration, to lead the masses**, despite all odds and persecutions. This is something to be specially evaluated and emulated.

The strong spirit of Nationalism that emerged from the 'subtle cultural value bond' engulfed the land like a huge river in spate. The goal of the historic Struggle was achieved without bloodshed.

But all movements have their ups and downs. And thus, what was till then a spirited, wholesome struggle, turned, before long, into an epidemic of ambition, to gain and share positions of power, any Independent Nation would fetch.

The great value bond began to decline, the cultural cohesion and elegance started eroding. And, alas, no adequate effort, with insight and dedication, was possibly made to save the adversity. The socio-economic flair brought many a personal ambition, which soon gained dominance. Sufficient thought was not apparently given to the fact that unless we could have individual minds and hearts committed to pursue the Nation's goals, with fidelity and concern, the desired progress would not take place.

The fear has now become widespread, that we will not be in a position to take the country forward, with the required standard, style and commitment, unless the people are emergently re-infused with the inspiration and strength of our National Values.

By raising the subject of Value Decline Disaster, and the Imperative Redress it calls

for, our aim is to focus the attention of National leaders in Administration, Parliament, Judiciary, Education, Industry and allied sectors, thereby to set in motion a collective, sustainable remedy, at the causal level.

We have to persuade the leaders in various branches of National life, and through them the people, to rediscover and re-associate with the Nation's time-tested values, applicable to all walks of life, so that all concerned will become sufficiently strong, committed and persuasive in their personal, official and social conduct.

The heart and the mind should pulsate constantly a marked National dimension, so as to think fervently of the good of the country, its multitude. **The imperative need for a good governance, educational system, opportunity and encouragement, should be felt by all concerned, persuading them to give the best for the country and people.**

Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha
Inspiration & Guide, FRNV

Ethics in Governance – Part 2

Another set of recommendations relate to electoral reforms. Under these are a) partial state funding of election expenses of candidates to prevent illegal and unnecessary expenditures on elections b) disqualification of members on basis of defection to be decided by President on the advice of the Election Commission and c) disqualification of candidates facing charges related to grave and heinous offences and corruption d) disqualification of members who realign midstream in coalition governments and e) appointments of Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners. On all these important recommendations, the Government's view is that these matters are being discussed in other fora and, therefore, no action needs to be taken on them. If the right people are not elected to legislatures and parliament, then we cannot expect them to observe any ethical standards. It is, therefore, essential that all candidates who face serious criminal charges or charges of corruption are disqualified from standing for

elections. When coalition dharma is violated and ministers opt to change horses midstream, they should be disqualified as members of legislatures. The unsavoury spectacle of Aya Rams and Gaya Rams will cease if anti defection laws are strictly enforced and members so defecting are disqualified of their membership of legislatures in a speedy manner. If these recommendations are well intentioned, and are absolutely necessary for maintenance of high ethical standards, why is Government shy of accepting them straightaway, instead of prevaricating?

Every citizen knows that corruption is gnawing away at the very vitals of our country's economy and if not stopped in time, it might lead to anarchy and lawlessness, affecting the delicate social and moral fabric of the country. In this context, any recommendation which aims at preventing corruption or prosecuting corrupt practices should be welcomed with gusto. The 2nd ARC had suggested that the definition of corruption under the Prevention of Corruption Act should be enlarged to include gross perversion of the Constitution or its democratic institutions amounting to wilful violation of the Oath of Office, abuse of authority unduly favouring or harming someone, obstruction of justice and wilful squandering of public money. Government has not accepted this recommendation and has not assigned any reason for their decision. The citizens of this country have a right to know why Government has not accepted this recommendation. Corruption is not only taking or giving of bribes, it usually manifests itself in abuse of authority, obstruction of justice and squandering of public money. Have we not come across huge advertisements in the media extolling the performance of various Ministries of the Government of India or the State Governments, just prior to the announcement of elections? Is this not a corrupt practice? The answer clearly is in the affirmative, since it amounts to abuse of authority, squandering of public money for electoral gains and totally unethical.

Yet another important recommendation made by the 2nd ARC pertains to the appointment of an Ombudsman called the Rashtriya Lok Ayukta to enquire into all complaints against

Ministers (except the Prime Minister), all Chief Ministers, persons holding office equivalent to a Minister and all Members of Parliament. Government's response to this recommendation is that the Lok Pal Bill is pending before Parliament and therefore no action is called for at this moment. Public has a right to know why the Lok Pal Bill has not been enacted by Parliament even though it has been pending for more than a decade. Apparently, Government does not want to create any institution which will make Ministers and Members of Parliament accountable for their actions. However, Government has agreed with another recommendation of ARC to amend the Constitution to make it obligatory for States to establish the Lok Ayukta at the State level having jurisdiction over Ministers in the State Government, persons holding office equivalent to Ministers and Members of Legislatures. Here again, the Government has exhibited double standards. What is good for the States is not good for the Centre!

....to be continued in future issues.

Dr. Gopal Ganesh
Vice President, FRNV

FRNV NEWS

National Value Education:

Two sub-committees have been formed under the Value Education task force : 1) *Preparation & implementation of Value Education Framework, Tools and Module.* 2) *Influencing the influencers.*

Both these teams will work with the Regional Chapters and other Government agencies to work towards the implementation of a comprehensive National Value Education system.

Jamshedpur Value Education Workshop:

A workshop was held at the SNTI Auditorium, in Jamshedpur, on 30.01.2010 in which about 70 teachers, students and school Principals

participated. The participants deliberated on how values can be inculcated through the education system. Many expressed the desire to be actively involved with FRNV Jamshedpur Chapter. The workshop was sponsored by the TATA Steel.

Next workshop on Value Education will be held around 23rd April 2010 at Dimna Guest House, Jamshedpur. Target participants are Principal, Vice Principal and a Senior Teacher from each School.

'Friends of FRNV' meeting in NCR:

A meeting of the Friends of FRNV was organized on 27th February 2010 in New Delhi. About 40 Friends attended the meeting. Sri Bharat Wakhlu, General Secretary, FRNV, welcomed all the participants and briefed them about the activities of the foundation in last one year and future plans.

Sri D. R. Kaarthikeyan (Member – FRNV Consultative Directorate), Sri Prem Arora, Treasurer, FRNV and Sri Ashwani Kumar, Coordinator, National Value Education Task Force were present among others.

(The feedback and suggestion from the participants have been hosted on the FRNV website.)

Poojya Swamiji in Delhi:

Poojya Swami Bhoomananda Thirthaji will be in Delhi between 23rd March and 5th April 2010. For information on the programmes of Poojya Swamiji, please visit www.brahmavidya.org.

We are keen to receive your suggestions & feedback. Please send an email to frnvindia@gmail.com

<http://www.valuefoundation.in>