



Foundation for Restoration of National Values

Newsletter

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Dear Friends of FRNV,

As you know FRNV is being inspired and guided by Poojya Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha of Narayanashrama Tapovanam, Trichur, Kerala.

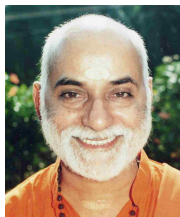
One significant aspect of Swamiji's mission is the religio-cultural revolution brought about in Kerala by organizing mass-movements to stop some of the age-old derogatory, superstitious and illegal practices prevailing in the name of religious rituals and festivals. The different campaigns have freed some famous temples from barbarous or vulgar indulgences, and removed from some others the unfair caste-discriminations. These movements have effected a revolutionary change in the attitude of people by cultivating in them a rational view towards the socio-religious practices.

Poojya Swamiji was here in Delhi in the month of November. An Executive Committee meeting and also a meeting of the different project teams were held in the presence of Poojya Swamiji.

Editorial Team

**Love your Nation, and have an
Abiding Interest in its Welfare**

[Excerpts from Poojya Swamiji's talk during the Taskforce meeting in Delhi on 20th November 2009.]



Can FRNV, a small group at present, influence the leaders and decision makers of this Nation?

Yes, we can. Eschew doubt and diffidence. Focus on those recognized for values and achievements in their sectors of National life. That will induce the Government. We want

Nation's good. Country's productivity depends upon these performers. Their role and importance cannot be disregarded by the Government.

Public thinkers far outnumber the Government's team. One intelligent person is equal to a lakh of ignorant ones. Let us empower democracy. Electors are more powerful than elected. The 'elected' respect and fear only the people. People's voice does and will move Governments.

If thinkers, socialists, professionals, industrialists and others uphold Value Restoration, government will act.

We are triggering a thought process. Thinkers and Nation lovers are first to pick it up. If a small group could do this much, why not a bigger group!

Imagine what a small group assembled in Allahabad and resolved to liberate India from the clutches of the British rule. Many mocked at them initially!

What qualities should we imbibe to be effective in FRNV?

- A **love** for the Nation and abiding interest and concern for its welfare.
- A **strong compulsion** to be active in the matter.
- Preferably **the insight and confidence** that individual minds alone, put together, become the collective force of society.
- The **faith** that action follows thoughts, the outcome follows dedicated action.
- The **readiness and perseverance** to go forward confidently.

When so many negative forces are at play, is change possible in our country?

World consists of opposites, like friction and motion. Positive alone cannot be. Negative forces alone make one think of positive

action. Can you think of a Parliament without opposition? Hinranyakashipu's atrocities, reinforced by religious boons, shattered the world. Only then Prahlada was born, and for him Narahari too!

Any time, upsurge of adversities alone arouse the sleeping society. So now is the cause and time to be awake and active. Diffidence and doubt are traitors in any field. Confidence and clarity are the real strength. The choice is clear and strong.

How can I inspire others in furthering the cause of this movement?

First, be inspired yourself. When inspiration floods, enraptures, you, it will overflow. An inspired one, inspires others. But if inspiration is underscored by enlightenment, its permeation becomes easy, forceful.

We now have the firm ground, a strong structure. Goal also is clear and persuasive. We know how to achieve it. What we need is broader sharing and participation. Let us strive for it, with all wish, will and choice.

FRNV PROJECTS

[In addition to the on-going campaigns that FRNV is already engaged in, the following areas have been identified for action.]

Code of Ethics for Legislators

Government has rejected virtually all the recommendations made by the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) on Ethics in Governance. FRNV's attempt is to urge the Government to accept these recommendations and legislate necessary amendments to relevant Acts.

More specifically, the ARC's recommendations for a Code of Ethics for Legislators has not been accepted by Govt.

FRNV proposes to highlight the issue of corruption in public life. FRNV seeks to obtain support for these recommendations of ARC from elected representatives and other members of the civil society by organizing seminars/workshops on these issues.

Transparency in Governance

The tax payer is entitled to know how the tax is being utilized in the developmental projects of the Nation. Transparency will bring about public participation and hence efficiency. The elected representatives have an obligation to the citizens to share information about the different programmes. This is what true democratic governance is.

The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh addressing the Conference of States and Union Territories on Management of Statistics, on September 09, 2008, said:

"The Government of India has dramatically increased the scale of funding for flagship programmes in the areas of education, health and rural development. But we need independent evaluations of many of these programmes based on data that is generated both by government and by others.....A proactive policy of disclosure will be in keeping with the spirit of the Right to Information Act. Information collected at huge cost, with the tax payers' money, should be made available to the general public without their having to ask for it."

FRNV proposes that Government should have a Proactive Project Performance Data sharing system that will enable the tax payer and all others concerned, to have a real time participation in Governance.

COLLECTING QUOTES

We are in the process of collecting quotations by eminent leaders, thinkers, scholars, scientists and others from across the years, from across the world, who have spoken about India and its greatness. We would like to host these in our website so that people can be inspired by what is truly our own.

Please collect and send such quotations along with their source and author, by email to frnvindia@gmail.com

If you have any suggestions or feedback, we would be happy to address them. (Email: frnvindia@gmail.com.)

(Website: www.valuefoundation.in)

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