



Foundation for Restoration of National Values

Press Release

Jamshedpur, 25 Feb 2009

With Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha, a well known Enlightened Ascetic of India, as the Inspiration and Guide, Foundation for Restoration of National Values was registered in Delhi. Dr. E. Sreedharan, MD of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, is the President, and Sri Bharat Wakhlu, Resident Director, Public Affairs, Tata Group, is the General Secretary.

FRNV's Advisory Board consists of Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, Former Chief Justice of India, Sri Ratan N. Tata, Chairman, Tata Group, Dr. E. Sreedharan, Managing Director, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, Sri N. Vittal, Former Central Vigilance Commissioner, Sri TS Krishnamurthy, Former Chief Election Commissioner, Smt. Vibha Parthasarathi, Former Chairperson National Commission for Women and Education Consultant.

A 2-day National Summit was held in the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 18th and 19th November 2008. Leaders from various branches of National life deliberated upon Value Decline Crisis and its Redressal. Lok Sabha Speaker Sri Somnath Chatterjee, Chief Justice of India KS Balakrishnan, Former President of India Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, Opposition Leader Sri LK Advani, and many other thinkers addressed the congregation.

The Summit Findings were presented to the President, Prime Minister, Central Ministries, CAG, CEC, CVC, etc. Subsequently FRNV had meetings with the Prime Minister and the Central Vigilance Commissioner.

Epidemic of Greed and possessiveness has infected the Nation. Unless our National values are emergently restored, disassociating them from all religious tinge, Nation's soul cannot be saved.

Lord Macaulay had told the British Parliament in 1835, that in his travels throughout India he had not seen a beggar or thief. That glory and strength can be revived if only we strive hard. Our Moon Impact Probe success is sufficient testimony to the dedication and resolve our people are capable of for achieving National objectives.

With this in view, FRNV has the following immediate objectives:

- National Value Restoration Council, Ethical Surveillance Corps
- National Value Education Curriculum
- Police Reforms
- Electoral Reforms

(For details on these proposals see Annexure)

In the FRNV meeting on 25th, the Jamshedpur Chapter will be launched. Sri Sarvesh Khanna is the Convenor of FRNV for Jamshedpur chapter.

Widespread corruption is the rampant problem to be tackled. Here are some figures:

- i. India at top has US\$1,456 billion is Swiss banks. This is about 13 times our foreign debt (Swiss Banking Association report).
- ii. Total bribe in a year BPL card holders have to pay to get eleven services covered is estimated at Rs. 8,830 million. (India Corruption Study 2007).

- iii. Departments working directly under three All India Services officers – IAS, IPS and IFS (land records, police, and forest) are most corrupt.
- iv. Total yearly estimated corruption in education (up to 12th) is Rs.4,137 crore.

From 1965 we have anticorruption laws and enforcement machinery. Despite these, India has slipped drastically in world corruption free index to a pitiable 85th position among 180 world countries. But our economic growth is esteemed the world over. Why this grave anomaly?

Laws and enforcement can only book the crime and criminals, after the event. Greater objective is to forestall anti-national predilections from the mind. A National Cultural Call alone will help.

FRNV is striving to provide this inner persuasion and compulsion. Our question to every one is: Are you not a National of India? Being so, how can your conscience allow to think, speak and act in a manner that will impede the Nation's growth and development?

How do the budgetary allocations on reaching the target become half or less? Corruption takes away Crores of rupees meant for National development. No National can tolerate this incongruity. FRNV strives to generate a National resolve against this.

Mass Media has to help us in reaching the message to the people, far and wide.

Jamshedpur being a compact city, with a ring of Industries, Tata Steel at its hub, can do much in Education, with a number of well managed Educational Institutions being here. Principals, Teachers and Students have come forward to take up the National Education Syllabus programme and implement it. They can set a model for the rest of the country.

Besides specific focus on Education, Jamshedpur chapter will also address these issues:

- Stamp Paper of lower denomination not available, public having to pay 5 times to get their needed paper.
- Safeguarding the residents against floods, which have become a nightmare for them, by timely regulatory steps at dam sites in Jharkhand and adjacent State. Government should move right now, not wait for rains.
- To stop letting factory effluence into Suvarnarekha. Govt. to act forthwith.
- To persuade an enlightened approach from the authorities to the Naxalite unrest. Naxalism and such other ideologies should be met at the root mento-intellectual level. Government should be more realistic in adjudging the social unrest of this kind, taking help and guidance from FRNV and likeminded Institutions, and bring about a dialogue between Naxalite and similar leadership groups and members, so as to bring the rebellious minds to the National mainstream and make them strive collectively for all-fold societal progress. We should not let matters precipitate another LTTE like plight. External force alone cannot work on the turbulent minds.

FOUNDATION FOR RESTORATION OF NATIONAL VALUES

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PROPOSALS

25 February 2009

National Value Restoration Council (NVRC)

NVRC to be set up as a Sovereign autonomous body, with equal number of Govt. and Civic Society members (6 to 8). NVRC will take up the task of imparting and instilling National, non-religious, ethical and cultural Values in individual minds and hearts, by dialogues, group discussions, institutionalized training, periodic conferences and meetings, followed by regular assessment of effectiveness and mid-course corrections.

Ethical Surveillance Corps

Ethical Surveillance Corps (ESC) will function as the Eyes and Ears of NVRC. It should consist of Nationally selected non-Governmental individuals, imbued with National fidelity and commitment, whose minds and hearts will not swing or swerve for money, position, power or influence, and who will be free from fear or suspicion in doing the Nation's work, with the expected standards.

National Value Education Curriculum

Apart from these, which fall under 'enforcement measures', we have the basic task of educating the generations, right from the start. **Individual's character and quality determine National behaviour**, like a cell's in the aggregate body. Educational system is the crucible to mould and shape the citizenry at any time. But alas, even after 60 years of independence, we have not evolved a National value-enriching Educational process.

We should have a National Education Syllabus/Curriculum, to impart the eternal values in education throughout the country. It is these values, cultural exhortations, that have made India what it was and it still is.

Electoral Reforms

To indicate the electorate's disapproval, disgust and the need for better candidates, a column "none of the above" has to be provided in the ballot paper (or Electronic Voting Machine), after the last candidate's name. This is in line with the provision under Conduct of Election Rules, clause 49.O allowing cancellation of the franchise but in front of the Polling Officer, openly. This will bring to light how the electoral system is functioning and what people think about.

In democracy, any opinion emerging in any section of people has to be timely sensed with alacrity, and necessary action to be taken. Otherwise, it will be a grave democratic neglect, leading to colossal disruption and dismemberment to our National cohesion and safety. Let us not be negligent in this behalf.

60 years have passed since the electoral system came into vogue. There is a lot to be desired from elections, in the way of getting the best and most effective Nation-loving candidates. All

this will be persuaded, provided those who do not vote now, and also wish to register their displeasure about the quality and merits of the candidates standing before them, have a means of expressing their response ‘privately’, as is the case with casting of vote. The principle is already accepted by the existing law. Only the procedure alone has to be amended.

Police Reforms

The crux of the police reform is to secure professional independence for the police to function truly and efficiently as an impartial agent of the law of the land and, at the same time, to enable the Government to oversee the police performance to ensure its conformity to the law.

By way of Police Reforms, the following are the Directions to the Central Government, State Governments and Union Territories:

- **State Security Commission:** The State Governments are directed to constitute a State Security Commission in every State to ensure that the State Government does not exercise unwarranted influence or pressure on the State police
- **Selection and Minimum Tenure of DGP.**
- **Minimum Tenure of I.G. of Police & other officers.**
- **Separation of Investigation:** The investigating police shall be separated from the law and order police to ensure speedier investigation, better expertise and improved rapport with the people.
- **Police Establishment Board:** There shall be a Police Establishment Board in each State which shall decide all transfers, postings, promotions and other service related matters of officers of and below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police.
- **Police Complaints Authority:** There shall be a Police Complaints Authority at the district level to look into complaints against police officers of and up to the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police.
- **National Security Commission:** The Central Government shall also set up a National Security Commission at the Union level to prepare a panel for being placed before the appropriate Appointing Authority, for selection and placement of Chiefs of the Central Police Organizations (CPO), who should also be given a minimum tenure of two years.

Focus Areas for FRNV Jamshedpur Chapter

1. Jamshedpur Chapter has **National Education Curriculum** as a full objective.
In addition, the following immediate targets also:
2. **Stamp Paper of lower denomination** not available, forcing people to pay 5 times for higher value paper for their deals. It also induces corruption at the vendor levels, to somehow extract more from the public.
3. **Floods** have become a nightmare for Jamshedpur residents. These can, the people feel, be safeguarded by attentive and timely regulatory measures at the dam site in Jharkhand and adjacent State. Government should ensure proper planning right now, without waiting for the next rainy season and then thinking in panic.
4. **Factory effluence**, being let off to the Suvarnarekha River, should be stopped. Government to take stern action forthwith.

5. **Redressing the Naxalite unrest:** Reflecting deeper understanding about the **Naxalite** minds, which are prone to display
- a. individual susceptibility to emotional exhortations, without heeding the prudent notes of intelligence
 - b. **which** feel too sensitive to socio-economic plights of sections of people, which will verily melt any human with sympathy and concern

Government should be more realistic and inclusive, in adjudging social unrests of this kind. They should take help and guidance from FRNV and likeminded Institutions, to initiate dialogue with the Naxalite and similar leadership groups and members.

Any ‘socially motivated’ group should not suddenly be stamped as ‘anti-socials’. They should be made to feel that like the ‘spirit of Nationalism’, their methods also should be commendable.

The objective should be to bring all rebellious groups to the National mainstream, making them strive collectively for societal progress. We should be more hearty than offensive. Let us help them to think better.

People behind FRNV

Inspiration and Guide

Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha, Founder Narayanashrama Tapovanam and CIRD

Advisory Board:

- **Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah**, *Former Chief Justice of India*
- **Sri Ratan N. Tata**, *Chairman, Tata Group*
- **Dr. E. Sreedharan**, *Managing Director, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, also the President of FRNV*
- **Sri N. Vittal**, *Former Central Vigilance Commissioner*
- **Sri TS Krishnamurthy**, *Former Chief Election Commissioner*
- **Smt. Vibha Parthasarathi**, *Former Chairperson National Commission for Women and Education Consultant*

Consultative Directorate:

- **Justice Santosh Hegde**, *Lok Ayukta, Govt. of Karnataka*
- **Sri TS Krishnamurthy**, *Former CEC*
- **Sri DR Kaarthikeyan**, *Former Director, CBI and Former DG, National Human Rights Commission*
- **Sri Sankar Sen**, *IPS (Retd.) Senior Fellow in the Institute of Social Sciences*

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