

Nandini

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Voice For The Deprived

Dedicated to the cause of marginalised and downtrodden

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**FOR OUR POLITICIANS,
THESE UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE
ARE MERE “ VOTE BANK ”**

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA SPEAKS

INDIA WILL BE RAISED BY THE POWER OF SPIRIT

India will be raised – not with the power of the flesh, but with the power of the Spirit; not with the flag of destruction, but with the flag of peace and love, the garb of the Sannyasi; not by the power of wealth, but by the power of the begging bowl.

Say not that you are weak. The Spirit is omnipotent. Look at that handful of young men called into existence by the divine touch of Ramakrishna's feet. They have preached the message from Assam to Sind, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin. They have crossed the Himalayas at a height of twenty thousand feet over snow and ice on foot and penetrated into the mysteries of Tibet. They have begged their bread, covered themselves with rags; they have been persecuted, followed by the police, kept in prison and at last set free when the Government was convinced of their innocence.

They are now twenty of them. Make them two thousand tomorrow. Young men, your country requires it. The world requires it.



Call up the divinity within you, which will enable you to bear hunger and thirst, heat and cold.

Sitting in luxurious homes, surrounded with all the comforts of life and doling out a little amateur religion may be good for other lands, but India has a truer instinct. It intuitively detects the mask.

You must give up. Be great. No great work can be done without sacrifice. Lay down your comforts, your pleasures, your names, fame or position, nay even your lives and make a bridge of human chains over which millions will cross this ocean of life.

Bring all the forces of good together. Do not care under what banner you march. Do not care what be your colour, green, blue or red, but mix all the colours up and produce that intense glow of white, the colour of love. Ours is to work. The results will take care of themselves.

If any social institution stands in your way of becoming God, it will give way before the power of Spirit.

I do not see into the future; nor do I care to see. But one vision I see clear is life before me.

HAVE INTENSE DESIRE TO GET FREE

There is a vast difference between saying "food, food" and eating it; between saying "water, water" and drinking it. So by merely repeating the words "God, God," we cannot hope to attain realization. We must strive and practice.

Only by the wave falling back into sea can it become unlimited, never as a wave can it be so. Then after it has become the sea, it can become the wave again and as big one as it pleases. Break the identification of yourself with the current and know that you are free.

True philosophy is the systematizing of certain perceptions. Intellect ends where religion begins. Reason is the rough tool to do the hard work; inspiration is the bright light which shows us all truth.

Progression in Maya is a circle that brings you back to the starting point. Worship of God, worship of the holy ones, concentration and meditation and unselfish

work, these are the ways of breaking away from Maya's net; but we must first have the strong desire to get free. The flash of light that will illumine the darkness for us, is in us; it is the knowledge that is our nature. All that we have to do is to drive away the clouds that cover it.

Give up all desire for enjoyment in earth or heaven. Control the organs of the senses and control the mind. Bear every misery without even knowing that you are miserable. Think of nothing but liberation. Have faith in Guru, in his teachings and in the surety that you can get free.

Say "Soham, Soham" whatever comes. Tell yourself this even while eating, walking, suffering; tell the mind this incessantly – that what we see never existed.

Think day and night that this universe is zero, only God is. Have intense desire to get free.

Desperate Calls

*You can enjoy your prosperity only if you share your income
with the deprived
and thus discover the satisfaction that it provides.*



Hearing impaired lady needs sewing machine



Mrs.G.Amudha is a poor hearing impaired lady. She has undergone one year training in tailoring.

Mrs.G.Amudha requests kind hearted persons for donation of sewing machine.

Contact address:
Mrs.G.Amudha

W/o.Sri.R.Govindhan, East Street,
Pudhupattu (PO), Sankarapuram Tk,Villupuram Dist,
Tamil Nadu, Pin:606 402

Poor children need support for education

Mrs.K.Geetha and her husband are unskilled labourer.

Their daughters Ms.Iswarya, age 14 years and Ms.Meenakshi, age, 12 years are studying 7th & 6th std. respectively.

Mrs.K.Geetha requests kind hearted persons for financial help for her daughter's education.

Contact address:

Mrs.K.Geetha, W/o.Sri.Kuppusami
1/472, Mullai Street, Pulliankannu Village & Post,
Karai Village (Via) Ranipet Division
Walaja Tk,Vellore District, Tamil Nadu.

Poor student needs support for education

Mr.J.Sharon Kumar, age 13 years is studying 8th std in Tripuraneni Vidyalaya Matriculation School, Vadalur.

His father is unskilled labour. At present, he has no job.

Mr.J.Sharon Kumar requests kind hearted persons for financial support to continue his education.

Mr.J.Sharon Kumar, S/o.Mrs. N.Akila Johnson
8/69, Bharathidasan Street,
Abatharanapuram,Vadalur-607 303, Tamil Nadu.

Association of visually impaired persons needs support

College Students And Graduates Association of The Blind is functioning for the welfare of the visually challenged people in the fields of education and employment.

The association would release a book on Compilation of State and Central Government orders, Office memoranda and important letters if any, for the benefit of visually impaired persons.

Estimate for printing 500 copies is Rs.80,000/-

College Students And Graduates Association of The Blind needs encouragement and support.

Contact address:

Mr.N.Selvaraj, General Secretary,
College Students And Graduates Association of The Blind
Thakkar Baba Vidhyalaya, 58, Venkatanarayana Road
T.Nagar, Chennai-600 017. Phone: 044-69900439,24348628

Poor man needs support for surgery

Mr.K.Muthukaruppan @ Sampath age 69, years is suffering from multiple spinal cord dislocation problems. He is walking with the help of tripod walking stick.

Sri Ramachandra Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, Porur, Chennai advised him to undergo specialised surgical treatment, which will cost Rs.3,00,000/- approximately.

Mr.K.Muthukaruppan requests kind hearted persons for financial help for his treatment.

Cheque may be drawn in favour of Sri Ramachandra Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, Porur, Chennai and sent to the following address:

Mr.K.Muthukaruppan
C/o P.R.M.P. Illam, No.112, Northiar
Street,Pon.Pudupatti,
Pudukottai Dist., Tamil Nadu

Desperate Calls

School for mentally retarded children needs support

During this academic year, Hena John Special School started Helga John Special School at Tirukoilur for mentally retarded children.

Helga John Special School needs financial support and encouragement.

For further details, please contact:

Founder

Helga John Special School

Teachers Nagar, Opposite Taluk Office

Asanur Road, Sandapet,

Tirukoilur-605 757, VPM Dist. Tamil Nadu

Phone:04153-253015, Cell: 94436 18260, 93449 80171

Student needs support for education

Mr.R.Arun Kumar, age 19 years is studying 2nd year B.Sc (Mathematics) in The Madura College (Evening) , Madurai.

His father is working as driver in a private school.

Mr.Arun Kumar requests kind hearted persons for financial help for his studies.

Cheque may be drawn in favour of Madura College, Madurai and sent to the following address:

Mr.R.Arun Kumar,

20, Thomas Veethi, Pethaniyapuram, Madurai-16

Tamil Nadu

Needs support for medical treatment

* Ms.Banani, age 2 years is suffering from congenital heart disease. Cost of the open heart surgery at Wochhardt Hospitals, Bangalore is Rs.1,25,000/-



* Ms.Payal Paramanik, age 2 years is suffering from congenital heart disease. Cost of the open heart surgery at Wochhardt Hospitals, Bangalore is Rs.1,25,000/-



* Mast.S.K.Md.Sohel, age 11 years have to undergo combined anterior and posterior kyphoscoliosis at the earliest. Cost of the surgery at Sita Bhateja Speciality Hospital, Bangalore is Rs.1,60,000/-.

* Mr.Nagaraja Rao, age 60 years is suffering from rheumatic heart disease. Cost of the surgery at Wochhardt Hospitals, Bangalore is Rs.2,89,000/-.



The cheque may be drawn in favour of concerned hospital and sent to the following address:

The Secretary, Save Poor Lives,

No.22, Perumal Koil Street, Aminjikarai, Chennai-600 029

Support requested for setting up health clinic

Swami Vivekananda Social Service Centre based in Chennai, proposes to set up charitable health clinic at Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu for providing free health services to the poor and deprived people.

Quite recently, the Swami Vivekananda Social Service Centre procured land for construction of health clinic in Thiruvendhipuram to Panruti Bus route.

Support is requested for setting up charitable health clinic.

For further details, please contact:

Mr.R.Lakshmi Narasimhan, Secretary,

Old No.153, New No.32, 1st Floor, Dr. Besant Road, Vivekanandar Illam, (Ice House), Chennai-600 005.

Phone: 044-28476789, Mobile: 94453 24499

E-mail:viveka.service@gmail.com

Differently abled Engineering student needs Laptop

Sri M. Ramesh presently studying post graduate Engineering course in Anna University is a differently abled person and belongs to poor family. He urgently needs used laptop for his studies. Kindly help him.

For further details, please contact:

Editor, Nandini Voice for the Deprived,

Tele. No: 044-24916037

Readers' forum

Readers' forum provides space for the enlightened readers to give expression to their views on a variety of socio economic issues that is of relevance to the society.

Further enrichment of the journal with your thoughtful inputs would certainly go a long way in promoting the cause that the journal seeks to espouse.



TV programmes should be better

Dear Sir,

Now a days, almost all the television channels are telecasting the same type of music and dance competitions for the youngsters and children.

Actors and playback singers are the judges for these competitions. These type of programmes are increasing day by day.

The television channels should stop or reduce these kind of programmes and introduce more informative programmes like quiz programmes and quality entertainment for the youngsters and children in the subject of science, mathematics, history, computer, English, Tamil literature in front of suitable judges.

Think about the future generation's life.

Is it possible for the television programme producers to improve the standards?

Chennai

T.T Varadharajan

Corruption seems to be winning in India

Dear Sir,

I am surprised that Justice P.D.Dinakaran who has been accused of indulging in serious corruption practice and is now facing threat of impeachment in Rajya Sabha for alleged corruption, was sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court.

People in India are steadily losing the faith that corruption can be eradicated in the country at all.

Mumbai

B.Shivkumar

Engineering colleges in Tamil Nadu

Dear Sir,

It defies logic that many more engineering colleges have now been permitted to be set up in Tamil Nadu

Even lay men would know that setting up so many colleges is a counter productive exercise, as it would not be possible to find jobs for around 1.5 lakhs engineers who will be passing out in Tamil Nadu every year.

There should be a relationship between the number of engineering seats created and job opportunities available for engineers.

The politicians, liquor merchants and other sort of businessmen have been setting up engineering colleges.

They fleece so much of money from the students that they would be happy even 30 % of the sanctioned seats would be filled up.

Obviously, the victims are the students who get into engineering colleges with great hope and attracted by the advertisement campaign and media publicity.

Hyderabad

K.G.Dhinesh

Morality in life

Dear Sir,

There is urgent need to inculcate moral values amongst youth.

The future of India would be bleak, if we would not do this effectively.

Coimbatore

R.Shyamala

Increasing disparities in income

Dear Sir,

A recent study by the National Council for Applied Economic Research threw up some interesting but rather unfortunate results.

The top 20% of India's population enjoyed more than 50% of the national income in FY10. This may by itself not seem very surprising. But add to that the fact that in 1993-94, about 37% of India's people earned over 50% of national income and the picture that arises does not look very encouraging. Further, 60% of India had a mere 28% share in total income. This figure stood at 39% around the period of 1991.

The years from 1991 onwards are considered to be reform years for the country. Evidently, the freeing up of the economy has benefited some sections of society much more than others.

An Economic Times report points out that this disparity is more to do with the fact that a vast section of Indian society do not have the means to increase their earning power. Due to this, some people are finding themselves in a better position to grab the opportunities a growing economy is throwing up.

Clearly, subsidies, support prices and employment guarantee schemes are not proving to be enough. It is education and skill development where more focus should be. As the saying goes, give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man how to fish and you feed him for a life time.

Singapore

V.Madan

CORRUPTION IN COMMONWEALTH GAMES

WHAT CITIZENS THINK ?

Nandini Voice for the Deprived is highly concerned about the corruption in commonwealth games. Nandini Voice for the Deprived sought the opinion and suggestions on its views. Several citizens responded expressing their concern and their views.

Highlights of the views expressed by a few of them are given in this article.

VIEWS OF NANDINI VOICE FOR THE DEPRIVED

The allegations of corruption in the commonwealth games must have made millions of Indians who work honestly and look for a resurgent India to feel extremely frustrated and sad .

The allegations of corruption in the commonwealth games have received so much of international publicity that it would take several years for India to regain the reputation as a country with reasonable ethical and moral standards. The glory that the country gained due to Gandhian philosophy of truth have now been wiped out.

The cause of industrial and economic development of the country will suffer heavily in the coming years , as the quality investors from abroad will think that nothing can be done in India without adopting corrupt methods and would be apprehensive about dealing with Indians. Thousands of Indians working abroad in various countries will feel small and humiliated , as they may be looked down upon as a citizen of corrupt country.

It is true that incidents of corruption exist even in developed countries like Japan and United Kingdom. But, it has not gone to such depth and happened in such activities like organizing international events, which any country would do with great sense of pride and patriotic urge.

One wonders as to why these politicians and bureaucrats go to such deplorable level of compromising

with standards even in organizing such international events. Are they so heartless and dishonest that nothing matters to them but only wealth and money accumulation for themselves irrespective of the means adopted ?

Obviously, India today is suffering from crisis of leadership and it has become possible for anyone without any sense of commitment to the national cause to seize power and hold on to the power, thus making the top administration a den of corruption.

In such circumstances, does this country have any future at all in spite of the fact that the country has been blessed in the past with towering personalities of great eminence like Mahatma Gandhi , Swami Vivekananda, Subramania Bharathy and others ?

The honourable Prime Minister of India who is the Chief Executive of this country is ultimately responsible for everything happening. He has the duty to do something with great sense of urgency , to arrest this trend of decay, atleast for the sake of the future generations of India.

Do we remember Lal Bahadur Shastri , the man of Gandhian standards, who quit when there was a railway accident at Ariyalur in Tamil Nadu, when he was sitting as Railway Minister at Delhi, owning moral responsibility for that unfortunate accident?

VIEWS OF THE CONCERNED CITIZENS

* Corruption is the order of the day

As if every thing was fine in this country until this exposure of Commonwealth games scam!!!!!!!

S.M. Arasu

Chennai

* The present calm is just a bad omen

It is just not the Commonwealth games which is facing this situation, but it even invaded the game of cricket, using the BCCI to get the IPL matches based on corruption.

When it comes to International matches or the Olympics, we Indians are not to be seen anywhere.

When inflation sweeps the country , ever since we secured independence, like in no other country, it is again due to corruption.

Now our super rich along with the politicians have stacked some 70 000 crores of rupees or more in illegal accounts in Swiss Banks and other tax havens. Is there any one among the M Ps and MLAs concerned?. Then we have the illegal mining going on and on right below our politicians' eyes. Is anything ever going to happen right?

The present calm is just a bad omen and the storm that is being generated in the minds and heart of the citizens will blow away the corrupt and the anti-national elements.

Such a thing can possibly happen if a Citizens' Forum takes charge in every town, villages and mega cities. Rajaji tried the Swathanthra Party. His age was against him. We citizens have to debate and select the right people for a citizen's forum. Will it ever take shape? Time alone will tell.!!!

K V S Krishna

Chennai

It is a system failure

It is sad affair. It is also system failure. Only common man should raise his voice against these corruption.

The Prime Minister should immediately sack the Union Minister of Sports and CWG organizing Secretary

The Prime minister should immediately remove all politicians from heading the Sports Federations. Only deserving sports people should manage the sports affairs.

K. Shanmugavelayutham

Chennai

Turning from national pride to shame

Yes, the commonwealth games is turning from a national pride to shame.

With more and more scandals being continuously revealed, its becoming so disgusting. Only in India, politicians do not resign when the scandal is exposed with proof.

The scandal hit a new high with British govt. pointing out indiscrepancies in funding.

The Commonwealth games construction process is causing a lot of sufferings like eviction of poor, poor accommodation facility for migrant workers etc., it has ultimately resulted in failure which is totally unacceptable. The Prime Minister should do something regarding this problem which is never going to happen. It will be OK if commonwealth games are cancelled, as the venues would not be finished in due time adhering to the prescribed standards.

Raghul

Germany

I totally agree

As an anti-corruption activist, I totally agree with you. Can we call for a public meeting to draw attention of media and the public?

Kris Dev

Chennai

Has corruption become a part of our life ?

As far as corruption is concerned, it is part of human life. We cannot live without it. We practice it even in homes, even though we do not call it so. EVERY COUNTRY practices it. Every one uses it as an inducement. It is only a question how much we can and are willing to tolerate. That tolerance is low in some; but unfortunately it is very high in India.

As a nation, each of us is extremely selfish. We show unselfishness in some instances, especially when it does not affect our purse or vanity.

Shame as a part of balancer of morals is disappearing fast. It is a necessary character for better society. Shame in way is the cement in society, like morality being the fence in society.

Coming to big corruption, till we change our electoral system it will dominate. To knock off corruption, the following are important and the Government should have the courage to implement them

1. Let the entire expenses of election be paid out of the Govt funds.

2. Remove all the power and pomp of our MPs. Do not give or provide big salaries to them. Pay to arrive at the legislature but nothing more. Their job should only be to legislate and ensure that legislated laws are fully implemented.

3. Follow the conditions laid down by Chola system of democracy to elect legislators.

4. Make people go and vote or take away such power from them by changing the whole system for practicing Chola system of elections.

5. Excepting the PM and the President, there should be no security to any administrator or ruler. Not even the State heads.

6. Make Panchayat as the sheet anchor of non party (totally) democracy.

Most of what I say will be argued about and most likely nothing will come out of it. Please sit down for sometime and think of what I have suggested. I confess that my thoughts are not original but culled from the statements of wise people.

Desikan

Chennai

It is all embarrassing

I wish to state that the heading needs to be changed to 'Congress Wealth Games' for all practical purposes, which has to be publicised and made clear to the world at large immediately.

In fact, I am deeply hurt by the way the so-called self styled doyen of Indian Sports, especially of the Indian Olympic Association, is defending all these charges of corruption even by fabricating documents including e-Mails by doing some cut and paste operations.

I am also appalled by the way in which the Union Minister of Sports has been so soft on such matters, instead of lashing out at such perpetrators of corruption. And it is all the embarrassing when we are on the verge of hosting a very important International Sports Event of this magnitude. The corruption offence has to be treated severely and not at all dowsed somehow and pushed under the carpet under some technical grounds.

What else can be done by we the people of India, when even the CAG Report is not taken into consideration and other charges of corruption are taken lightly and handled in a lethargic manner apart from starting a Peoples' Movement.

With a very heavy heart, I am writing these feelings
N Ramesh Chennai

Real honest people in society can be counted

The problem is that we live either in past or in future. We never live in the present.

We talk of past personalities and events and become happy and hope for improvements in future. But do nothing for the present. That is why there are so many problems, especially related to corruption and black money.

At present, corruption has become so common that it is wrong to call it corruption. It is the way of life in India right from top to bottom. Even people sitting at the top indulge in corruption day in and day out. So, how can it be expected that others will refrain from corrupt practices?

If we see the lifestyle and living standards of the politicians and others who talk at the top of their voice against corruption, we find them to be equally corrupt. Real honest people can be counted on fingers in our society.

As far as Commonwealth games are concerned, India should not have bid for it, as it is not possible in this country to do anything without corruption.

It is known to all and sundry that in everything that is done in the country, there is always the element of commission. When big money is involved, the commission too becomes big.

We need to remember that when people make money in purchase of coffins for war martyrs, how can they not make money in the game for 'Games', be it Commonwealth or any other. ?

Now the matter is public. So, various 'Enquiry Committees' will be formed and then the committees will take years to give their 'Reports'. By then, everything will be forgotten.

A poet has aptly said: "Ghhoos lete pakre gaye ghhoos de kar chhoot gaye". (Was caught accepting bribe, got cleared of the charges by giving bribe)

M.A. Haque Mumbai

Cheer those who speak courageously

We had at least one MP to speak about it courageously in Mani Sankar Iyer.

Let us cheer him while we demand our Prime Minister to take immediate action against the corrupt officials.

C.R.Jayaprakash Nilgiris

Need for moral education of people

The allegations of corruption in the commonwealth games have made even good Indians to wonder as to whether the principles of honesty and hard-work as virtues or foolishness.

Then what is the way out?

Only answer is moral education of people through chain of dedicated patriots.

Art of Living is trying to do something in this direction under leadership of Shri Shri Ravishankar.

JB Goradia Jakarta, Indonesia

I agree

I echo every word written by you in the long mail.
Rajamohan Chennai

Corruption is in the blood stream of administration

Corruption has come into the blood stream of the administrative machinery as well as PAWAR Machinery.

Kamaraj and Kakkan are remembered by people on their birthday as a matter of courtesy only.

LAL BAHADUR is not even thought of by the people today.

M.Sundararaman Chennai

Let us wait for Lal Bahadur Shastri

We have to wait for ministers like Lal Bahadur Shastri to make India as a great country.

Ananthi Chennai

Why not capital punishment for politicians?

We have constitution which does not prescribe any qualification for a MLA or MP and judicial system which never completes a case for economic and political offense.

Unless we have capital punishment for politicians nothing will change.

Mani Janarthanan Chennai

Elite corrupt state

We are fast becoming most elite corrupt state. I am really worried.

Hopefully, we will get an all India leader who can trigger the changes. No one is in the horizon but can appear anytime, if one believes in the promise made by Lord Almighty in Bhagwat Geetha!

T.S. Krishnamurthy Chennai

Given the conditions that exist today, it cannot be otherwise

There is simply no point in crying hoarse about the extent of corruption in our country. Given the conditions that exist today, it cannot be otherwise.

One should have the intellectual abilities to be able to identify the root causes that are plaguing the contemporary Indian society that has led to the emergence of corrupt public men. Such an analysis would not be confined only to the political sphere, but would also include the socio psychological realms for a better understanding.

The greate men cited such as Subramania Bharathy, Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi were all products of different times. Let us be mature enough to understand the reality that the country has been hijacked by crooks and corrupt politicians, which is why people like Narayan murthy and Ratan Tata choose not to dirty their hands in politics.

India as a whole today does not have one leader who could be considered tall in terms of character and adherence to social values. I am not happy to say that this has not left even the ordinary masses untouched and uninfluenced.

To understand the level to which we as a countrymen have deteriorated, just compare with the general character and attitudes of the westerner. It may taste bitter to see the truth and much less acknowledge it, what with the false pride and misplaced notions that we have about our superior intellect and values.

We would immediately go into the denial mode. To stay in a western country and dealing with a

westerner and the western system is a sure delight and comes as a great psychological relief to those who choose to migrate. It is only this that stops or prevents an NRI from returning to our land and not necessarily the material prosperity in developed countries. Numerous are stories of those trying to return and 'run' back in a hurry to their chosen land.

So, the reality is that in spite of whatever growth rate projected,which statistics itself lacks credibility due to the powerful parallel economy that has been in operation ever since we could remember, it is going to be a long road to total emancipation of the country.

Factors impeding such emancipation is a long list including factors such as unchecked population growth, public men without conviction or character, unenlightened social reformers though well intentioned, tax evasion which seems to have become a congenital habit, unconscientious fourth estate, Godless Godmen who indulge in all kinds of thuggery including murder, sexual promiscuity etc. with a few among the elite taking cudgels on their behalf for their own personal aggrandisement perhaps, among so many other factors. Truth is the resultant casualty.

There have indeed been precedence of countries extricating themselves from such state, but that has been more through mass inspired social and political revolutionary movements.

Let us indeed hope that India would not be pushed to such a state and let us draw upon the 'reservoirs of limitless faith' that we have in the benevolence of the almighty. Atleast such a line of thought would be a cause for some comfort.

N.S.Sankararaman Toronto, Canada

ENCOUNTER KILLINGS - SELECTIVE FOCUS OF MEDIA

Section of the media, particularly the visual media, appears to be doing its level best to brand the Gujarat Home Minister for the encounter killing, which is yet to be proved in the court of law.

It appears that section of the media is trying to give an impression that CBI which has made the allegation is correct and reliable, whereas the Gujarat Minister who denied such allegations cannot be believed. During the interviews, the questions are loaded in such a way that people would believe that motivated encounter have taken place in Gujarat. Obviously, there is an element of unfairness on the part of the media. One can even say that there is an element of irresponsibility in the behaviour of the media in the way that it is projecting the issue.

It is said that the content of the CBI chargesheets have been obtained by media by its sources but nobody in the media explain how it got the details. If CBI has leaked it deliberately, it is highly unethical and incorrect on the part of CBI. If CBI had not leaked the details but media has obtained by some corrupt and dishonest methods, it reflects poorly on the standards of the media. This also reflects poorly about the efficiency of CBI, which could not even keep such vital information as secret. What sort of investigating agency it is that it cannot hold its information to itself?

While the encounter killing is bad wherever it has taken place, it is necessary to keep in mind that it has not taken place in Gujarat alone. It has taken place in all states in the country not once but several times and the explanation for such killings provided by the government and the police is simply swallowed by the media without asking questions.

Now, almost everyday, we hear about maoists being killed by the security forces and media gleefully report this. Who knows as to whether those killed are the maoists or the innocent people? Has the government released the names and the background details of those maoists or who ever it could be that were killed by the security forces? The media has not asked the government for such details.

Killing Maoists is not like killing somebody belonging to another country in a war. Maoists are as much citizens of India as anyone of us. While one would not defend the maoists or their deplorable methods, the government still has to explain who were killed, since they are Indian citizens. It should also enquire as to whether those killed were really the maoists or innocent people caught between the fire.

While the media is talking loud about the encounter in Gujarat even when the accused persons have denied the charge, the media does not talk loud about the several innocents who could have been killed in several encounters in the country in the past.

What is disturbing is that the people now have started doubting the methods and fairness of the media and paid news has become the talk of the day. This is not a good situation.

Indian democracy can flourish only in a situation where the media is not only vibrant but also fair and responsible and not motivated by business interests or money multiplying objective. If the Indian media would not mend its methods, all the reputation that it has gained over several decades could be wiped out soon.

View on the above article

Dear Sir,

I was indeed impressed by your well articulated and commendable write up on dubious media role on the subject. I, however, would like to mention in this context a few points, you appear to have missed out.

a) To underline it being a kind of implied media trial, you should have also highlighted the Issharat Jahan case, which was also initially dubbed as another fake encounter case by the media and self styled crusader Ms Teesta Sitalbad, but suddenly became silent on this issue following most damaging disclosures regarding her antecedents by none other than American terror suspect Hedley.

b) If Mr Sohrabuddin was really innocent, how could so many AK-47s reportedly, were found in his possession? Why the media is silent about it without any proof to contrary?

c) Media, of late has suddenly become vociferous on post Godhra killings but chose to maintain silence on Sikh killings, which was much bigger in magnitude? Is there a hidden hand behind of any interested political party?

d) Media is highlighting post Godhra riots. But they are not asking, 'WHY GODHRA AT ALL IN THE FIRST PLACE?' WHY??

e) Last but not the least, why don't you file a PIL in the SC regarding CB I's and media's dubious role relating to Gujarat?

Kamal Banerjee

MEDIA - SINNED OR SINNED AGAINST

In the South East Asian countries such as India , Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal, one frequently hears about the journalists being subjected to arrest , violent attacks and even murder.

It is not uncommon that the governments file trumped up charges against the journalists on frivolous grounds to put fear in their minds.

Obviously, the media and journalists are under stress.

At the same time, we often hear about "paid news", where politicians and business men often plant motivated news in the media by bribing the reporters and the media owners.

Many of such allegations about paid news are found to be factually correct, clearly indicating that atleast a section of the media and the journalists are not honest and do not stand up to the ethical and moral standards expected of the journalists.

One disturbing fact is that most of the media are now owned by politicians or business houses in some form or the other. Such owners do not hesitate to use the media for their self centred purposes and view profit making as the central theme of the media profession.

They do not distinguish the media profession from other forms of profit earning business activities and therefore, highlight news and stories with the objective of enticing the readers / viewers for expanding the circulations/viewer ship base and get advertisement revenue to boost profit.

Under the circumstances, it can be clearly seen that the media profession has undergone a sea change for worse in recent times, with more profit minded business houses and the so called professional journalists getting into the field, for whom the priority in running the media is no more the nation building goal but boosting the media business prospects, competing with one another for circulation as well as advertisement revenue.

There are many reporters and journalists in the media profession today who get enormous training in writings, presentations and technology practices to catch the attention of the public, rather than in commitment to the national and social cause.

This is true and it is often seen that the media project even poverty issues and grave problems such as wastage of food grains due to poor storage conditions etc. with an idea of sensationalizing them rather than solving them.

It is high time that the governments should realize that quality media is in its own interest and the media also should protect its standing and public esteem by adopting professionally honest methods and means.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY ESSAY / QUIZ COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS ON LIFE SKETCH OF BHARATHY, V.O.CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI & SUBRAMANIYA SIVA

Nandini Voice For The Deprived conducted essay / quiz competition for school and college students in the context of Independence Day on 15th August,2010.

ESSAY COMPETITION FOR COLLEGE AND SCHOOL STUDENTS

SUB: “ WHAT I ADMIRE MOST ABOUT SUBRAMANIA BHARATHY”

QUIZ COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS

SUB: LIFE SKETCH OF BHARATHY, V.O.CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI & SUBRAMANIYA SIVA

Objective :

Subramania Bharathy, V.O.Chidambaram Pillai & Subramaniya Siva were great patriots, freedom fighters and towering personalities. Known for their courage of conviction and willingness to sacrifice their personal comforts for the sake of national good and their principles,SubramaniaBharathy, V.O.Chidambaram Pillai & Subramaniya Siva were role models for everyone. They would continue to be role models for the future generation.

It is necessary that the students in the formative age group should be encouraged to read about the life sketch of these great patriots and understand their philosophy, vision and outlook. This is particularly important in today’s context, when rampant corruption and nepotism in public life in the country have become the order of the day.

This essay / quiz competition on the eve of the Independence Day was organised as a tribute to the memory of illustrious Subramania Bharathy, V.O.Chidambaram Pillai & Subramaniya Siva.

Awards :

More than five hundred college and school students from all over Tamil Nadu participated in the essay competition with great enthusiasm. More than 80% of the participants were women students.

The very fact that the students have put forth considerable efforts to understand and write the essay with sincerity give considerable hope about the future of the country.

A number of students said that even if they would not get prize in the competition, they would not be disappointed since the opportunity given to them to think and write about Subramania Bharathy itself is a great prize awarded to them.

Large percentage of students have said that the most admirable aspect of Bharathy’s philosophy was his relentless advocacy of the cause of women’s liberty and independence and his craving for casteless society. He used his poetic talent with great effect to spread the cause dearest to his heart.

Around three hundred school students participated in the quiz competition on the life sketch of Sbramania Bharathy, V.O.Chidambaram Pillai and Subramania Siva, the trinity of pre independent India from Tamil Nadu and role models for the youth.

10 college students and 14 school students were awarded prize in the essay competition and 23 school students were awarded prize in the quiz competition.

The prizes were awarded in the function on 14th August,2010 at Chennai by Sri. B. S. Raghavan, former Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura. The meeting was adderssed by Sri. Gnani , social activist and renowned Tamil writer. Prof. A. Vijayakumar of Presidency College, Chennai (visually impaired professor) applauded the efforts of the students.

PRIZE WINNING COLLEGE STUDENTS IN THE ESSAY COMPETITION

S.No.	Name of the Student	Class	Name of the College
1	Ms.M.Abirami,	IIInd Year B.B.A,	Cauvery College for Women, Annamalai Nagar, Tiruchirappalli.
2	Ms.K.Lalitha	IIIrd Year B.A Tamil Lit.	Cauvery College for Women, Annamalai Nagar, Tiruchirappalli.
3	Ms.K.Martina,	IIInd Year B.Sc (I.T)	PSGR Krishnammal College for Women, Coimbatore
4	Ms.P.K.Kalaivani,	Ist Year BCA-'A',	PSGR Krishnammal College for Women, Coimbatore.
5	Mr.J. Sundaramoorthy,	IVth Year B.E (ECE)	Maharaja Prithvi Engineering College, Avinasi.
6	Mr.B.Sai Shankar,	Ist Year B.Sc. (Zoology)	Madras Christian College, Chennai.
7	Mr.H.Chandrakanth,	Ist Year B.E. (C.S.)	Meenatchi Sundara Rajan Engineering College, Chennai.
8	Mr.Subhojit Panda,	B.Tech. Electrical & Electronics Engineering.	Trident Academy of Technology, Bhubaneswar.
9	Ms.R.Anna Lakshmi,	IIInd Year M.A. Tamil Lit.,	Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College, Sivakasi.
10	Ms.G.P.Kokila,	IIInd Year B.Sc. (Physics)	G.Venkataswamy Naidu College, Kovilpatti.

PRIZE WINNING SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE ESSAY COMPETITION

S.No.	Name of the Student	Class	Name of the School
11	Ms.R.Ramalakshmi,	XI	Raja Higher Secondary School, Ettayapuram.
12	Mr.M.Shankar,	XII	P.L.W.A. Higher Secondary School, Ambasamudram Taluk, Vikkiramasingapuram. Tirunelveli Dist.
13	Mr.V.Yuvaraj,	XI	Central Higher Secondary School, A.Nahoor, Pollatchi (Circle), Kovai Dist.
14	Ms.M.Mohana Valli,	IX	Sindhi Vdyalaya Metric. Higher Secondary School, Dr.Ambedkar Salai, Velandipalayam, Kovai.
15	Mr.Vidya Sagar,	X	Vidya Peetam Senior Secondary School, Krishnavaram, Sholinghur.
16	Ms.P.Geethanjali,	X	Century Foundation Mat. Higher Secondary School, Tirupur.
17	Ms.M.Girija,	X	Padma Sarangabani Mat. Higher Secondary School, Chennai.
18	Mr.P.Dilip Kumar,	X	Sevalaya Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School, Kasuva, (Near Chennai).
19	Ms.Uthira Mohan,	XII	Sir Sivaswamy Kalalaya Higher Secondary School, Chennai.
20	Ms.E.Aameena Begum,	XII	Bharath Senior Secondary School, Chennai.
21	Ms.A.Aazhi Arasi,	XI	Rosary Mat. Higher Secondary School, Chennai.
22	Ms.S.Nivashini,	IX	Maharishi Vidya Mandir School, Chennai.
23	Ms.A.Aboorva,	X	Sri Padma Sarangapani Mat. Higher Secondary School, Chennai.
24	Ms.M.Yamini,	XI	Sevalaya Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School, Kasuva, (Near Chennai).

**QUIZ COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS
ON
LIFE SKETCH OF BHARATHY, V.O.CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI
& SUBRAMANIYA SIVA**

LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS

Name of the student	Class	Name of the School
Mr.T.Murugan	X std	Hindu Muslim High School Chennai
Mr.K.Karthic	X std	Hindu Muslim High School Chennai
Mr.M.Kuttimani	IX std	Hindu Muslim High School Chennai
Ms.A.Kavitha	XI Std	Sevalaya,Kasuva Village, Near Chennai
Ms.S.Baby	IX Std	Sevalaya,Kasuva Village, Near Chennai
Mr.A.Ragu	IX Std	Sevalaya,Kasuva Village, Near Chennai
Ms.J.Mahira Fatima	IX Std	Dr.R.S.M. Girls Higher Secondary School. Chennai
Ms.A.Manjuma	IX Std	Dr.R.S.M. Girls Higher Secondary School. Chennai
Ms.M.Divya Lakshmi	XI Std	Dr.R.S.M. Girls Higher Secondary School. Chennai
Ms.K.Aniz Ayeesha	XII Std	Dr.R.S.M. Girls Higher Secondary School. Chennai
Ms.K.J.Jeny	IX Std	Sri Padma Sarangapani Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.J.Kavitha	X Std	Sri Padma Sarangapani Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.N.Saranya	XI Std	Sri Padma Sarangapani Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.J.Hari Priya	XII Std	Sri Padma Sarangapani Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.A.Sreehari Priya	X Std	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Mr.S.Senthil Kumar	X Std	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Mr.A.Vignesh	IX Std	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Mr.V.Deenadayalan	XI Std	AJS Nidhi Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.K.Mohana	XII Std	AJS Nidhi Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.C.Sathish	XI Std	AJS Nidhi Higher Secondary School, Chennai
Ms.G.Anitha	X Std	Kalyanam Girls High School, Chennai
Ms.R.Ramya	XI Std	Kalyanam Girls High School, Chennai
Ms.P.B.Sowmiya	X Std	Kalyanam Girls High School, Chennai

The mind is every thing. It is in the mind alone that one feels pure and impure. A man, first of all, makes his own mind guilty and then alone he sees another man's guilt.

Sri Sarada Devi



THANKS FOR THE SUPPORT

Nandini Voice For The Deprived received support and encouragement from the following concerned persons for its efforts and initiative in organizing the essay competition and quiz competition amongst the students on the life sketch of Subramania Bharathy, V.O.Chidambaram Pillai and Subramanya Siva, in the context of the Independence day on 15th August, 2010.

Nandini Voice acknowledges and appreciates the support extended

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- * Ms. Kalyani Chandramouli, Chennai
- * Dr. Chakravarthy Rajagopal, Chennai
- * Dr.V. Rajagopal, Tirupathi
- * Mr.K.V.S.Krishna, Chennai
- * Prof.L.S.Ganesh, Chennai
- * Mr.S.Illanahai, Chennai
- * Ms. Jayamala, Chennai

Ms. Jayamala, social activist with extraordinary initiative conducted the quiz competition for school students for several days



ARE DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS MERE SHOW PIECES?

It appears to have become a fashion for the politicians and business houses to call a few differently abled persons during any function and provide them some gifts and donations such as tricycles, wheel chairs etc. with photographs being taken during the distribution ceremony by some so called VIPs.

In effect, by such acts, the differently abled persons are being depicted as if they are mere show pieces and a channel to reveal the charitable instincts of the donors. Obviously, such politicians and business houses use such occasions to build their public image and get space in the media.

Any number of instances can be pointed out by differently abled persons, when they have been honoured in some functions by an organization or group with publicity glare and when such differently abled person would go to meet the donor in person later on, they would not be entertained by the same organization or group.

There are number of instances when the differently abled persons have been provided conveyance facilities to arrive at such functions to receive the gifts and they would be left all to themselves after the function would be over.

In Tamil Nadu alone, there are reported to be around 17 lakhs of differently abled persons including orthopaedically disabled, hearing / speech and visually impaired persons and mentally ill persons. More than 90% of them belong to lower income group and face severe conditions due to their mobility problems and physical discomforts. They are not able to get adequate opportunities to acquire skill and education and they face serious difficulties in getting suitable jobs as per their merits and needs.

While the government, no doubt, is extending some concession and reservations to differently abled persons, it is not even touching the fringe of the problem and the support provided by the government is far from adequate. Unfortunately, the role of the private sector in giving jobs to the differently abled persons is minimal and there are often discrimination in the private sector in providing appropriate jobs to them.

Those who invite differently abled persons to the functions to provide them donations under media glare, should realize that more meaningful efforts are required. Mere lip sympathy and cosmetic efforts make the differently abled persons look like show pieces and would only make these persons more frustrated and unhappy.

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