PM Modi’s Vision
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Abdullahs of Kashmir

Congress Manifesto-
A Confused Document of Empty Rhetoric

कांग्रेस का ‘न्याय और होजगार’ सबसे बड़ा चुनावी जुमला न बन जाए
“When nature is channeled according to the principles of Dharama, we have culture & civilisation. “

-Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya
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The just-released BJP manifesto is a vision document which pledges to lay a sturdy foundation for India by the 75th year of its Independence in 2022. Solid on national security, committed to generating opportunities, and firm on its ideological commitment to strengthen and safeguard India’s unity and her cultural roots, the BJP’s manifesto comes across as a far-seeing document that articulates a roadmap for also laying the foundation for the hundredth year of India as a free nation.

Contrary to assertions by the Congress president, the exercise for drawing up the BJP manifesto was a democratic and expanded one. BJP general secretary Bhupender Yadav, one of the moving spearheads in the exercise, observed how Prime Minister Modi was very clear that BJP’s manifesto must articulate and express a vision, it could not appear to be a budget document. It had to articulate a vision which would be achieved in the next five years.

The BJP manifesto exercise was really crowd-sourced, while the Congress manifesto was drafted by anonymous self-styled experts whose allegiance to the very existence and freedom of India seems to be doubtful. Since it was made within the confines of an office, the Congress manifesto appears to be delinked with the reality of India, comes across as a document for the Balkanisation of India. Talks of reducing the presence of the army in Jammu & Kashmir, talks of repealing AFSPA and of repealing sedition laws, all run counter to India’s national security imperatives and, if implemented, will only retard her march towards strategic self-reliance.

The BJP’s vision document, on the other hand, has something about the expansion of livelihood opportunities in every single page. It has brought to the fore the Indian narrative of livelihood, which centres on opportunities, it has pledged to further re-ignite and give scope to the entrepreneurial spirit of Indian people. PM Modi’s vision of livelihood and opportunities has forced a new debate, a new narrative has clearly emerged. Unlike Congress which is a dynasty conglomerate, BJP, like its predecessor the Jana Sangh, is the creation of an ideology and has grown through ideological movement. The Vision Document’s position on national security – Nation First, its reiteration of combating infiltration, its zero-tolerance of terrorism, self-reliance in defence sector, its position on the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A, are all part of that ideological churning. These are issues that had defined the Jana Sangh and continued to define the BJP, and can therefore never be marginal to any vision for the country that we articulate.

The reiteration to explore all possibilities within the framework of the Constitution and make “all necessary efforts to facilitate expeditious construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya” is one of the ideological anchors of the BJP as is the commitment to work towards a “uniform civil code.” The BJP’s Vision Document thus clearly reiterates that the narrative of nationalism, a secure and well-protected nation, is not incompatible with the narrative of development.

In a recent interview to a news channel, PM Modi best described this convergence of nationalism and development – he eloquently argued how saying “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” in every sector of our national development means that one wants to work to make that sector best. The crux of his position is that the galvanising cry of “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” springs forth from every heart which wants to do good to the nation, which yearns for our collective good and progress, which aspires to work for an all-encompassing and comprehensive growth of the country. The BJP’s manifesto has clearly articulated that convergence, while the Congress’s is a confused statement of vague ideas that aims to weaken India.
Salient Points of PM’s speech at the 50th Raising Day celebrations of the CISF on 10 March, 2019

» Porters run here, elevators run here, metro is expanding here.

» Work is going on, airports are being constructed, the responsibility of ensuring safety falls to everyone.

» Two lakh workers have worked with the CISF in various capacities, ensuring the safety of citizens nationwide and in cities across the country.

» We are also responsible for ensuring safety in any situation, whether it is natural or man-made.

» Many officers from Kerala have contributed in various ways in assisting in rescue and relief operations.

» CISF is also respected worldwide, particularly in Nepal and Bhutan.

» The contribution of PM Modi in the security forces is commendable.

» Apologies can never be enough for the sacrifices made in service to the nation.

» It is crucial that the CISF and the police work with the civilians to ensure safety and peace.

» The participation of volunteers in natural disasters is always appreciated.

» India is also a proud member of the United Nations, contributing to international peace and security.

» The presence of CISF in foreign countries is also noteworthy.

PM MODI’S VISION

March 2019
India of the 21st century has to work with speed and scale, which is what the NDA Government is doing.

Just last Sunday, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi that was announced in this year’s Budget was launched.

Under this scheme, farmers having up to five acres of land would be given a monetary support of six thousand rupees per year from the Central Government in three instalments.

Over 1.1 crore farmers have already got their first instalment directly in their bank accounts.

Can you imagine, a scheme announced on first February has become a reality in the same month itself.

We worked twenty-four hours non-stop to ensure the scheme is rolled out in twenty-four days.

Friends, like leap years and Football world cups come once in four years, incomplete loan waivers of the Congress come just before an election.

After doing nothing for farmers, they will come at the end and say- we will waive off your loans.

In reality, Congress loan waivers benefit few farmers.

NDA government’s Kisan Samman Nidhi is not a once in a few years scheme.

Benefits will be given every year and in ten years, about 7.5 lakh crore rupees would have gone to hard-working farmers.

When a government works with speed and scale, it clearly shows.

Friends, The great sage Tiruvalluvar said “When the rare chance comes, seize it to do the rare deed.”

In 2014, it was after thirty years that a Party got a full majority in the Parliament.

The people’s message was clear- they wanted a Government that takes the lead in taking and bold and tough decisions.

People wanted honesty, not dynasty.

People wanted development, not decay.

People wanted progress, not policy paralysis.

People wanted opportunities, not obstacles.

People wanted security, not stagnation

People wanted inclusive growth, not votebank politics.
महात्मा गांधी के जीवन की सफलता में सबसे बड़ी बात जो थी, आजादी के लिए मर-मिटने वाली परंपरा कभी इस देश में बंद नहीं हुई। जितने साल गुलामी रही, उतने साल क्रांतिवीर भी मिलते रहे।

यह इस देश की विशेषता है, लेकिन गांधी जी ने आजादी को जन-आन्दोलन बना दिया था। समाज के लिए कोई भी काम करना तो उससे आजादी आएगी, यह भाव पैदा किया था।

जन-भागीदारी, जन-आन्दोलन आजादी के काल में, आजादी की लड़ाई के काल में जितना महामय था उतना ही समृद्ध-सुखी भारत के लिए उतना ही आवश्यक है।

जो भी गांधी का ही दिखाया हुआ रास्ता है कि जन-भागीदारी और जन-आन्दोलन के साथ हम पूर्व बापू के सपनो को पूरा करते हुए गांधी की 150वीं जयंती और 2022 में आजादी के 75 साल उसके लिए हम संकल्प करके आगे बढ़े। पूर्व बापू एक विश्व मानव थे।

आजादी के आंदोलन में इतनी व्यस्तता के बावजूद भी वे समाज में एक दिन रक्षितियों के लिए सेवा में लगाते थे। leprosy के लिए अपने आप को समय देते थे, खुद करते थे।

क्योंकि समाज में जो मानसिकता बनी थी, उसको बदलने के लिए समकालीन जी करीब चार दशक में इस काम में जुड़े हुए हैं। leprosy के खिलाफ एक जन-जागरण पैदा हुआ है।

समाज में अब उसकी स्वीकृति भी बनने लगी है। ऐसे अनेक लोग हैं, जिन्होंने रक्षिति के कारण समाज में जिनको बंधित रख दिया गया, उनकी वेदना को समझा और उनको मुख्य धारा में लाने का प्रयास किया तो इन सभी प्रयासों को सम्मानित करता, पूर्व बापू को एक सच्ची अहमियत का प्रयास है।
One of the spoilt dynasts of Indian politics, Omar Abdullah, has made the demand of taking the state of Jammu & Kashmir to the pre-1953 status and has called for having a separate prime minister and president for the state. This separatist call must be unreservedly condemned.

The Abdullah family of Kashmir have treated the state as their personal fief; they have exploited the people and have based their politics on threat,
coercion, violence and have made repeated calls for dismembering India. They have pandered to terrorism and separatism; they have peddled the narrative of Pakistan on Kashmir and have presided over one of the most gruesome episodes of ethnic cleansing that has taken place post-Independence. They come across as parasitic political elements who have no allegiance to the Indian Union, have no commitment to India’s freedom and her future. It was the same family which had tricked Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee into entering Kashmir and had then incarcerated him, subjected him to great pressure, physical pain and mental trauma ultimately leading to his sudden death while Nehru looked the other way. This subversive and mischievous demand is, as Arun Jaitley has argued, “intended to create a separatists psyche.”

Prime Minister Modi has rightly asked Congress and the “Federal Front” parties to clarify their stand on this demand made by Omar Abdullah, since National Conference is an inseparable ally of the Rahul Gandhi-led Congress and is, at the same time, defying logic, a fundamental constituent of the Federal Front. The theatrical Farooq Abdullah was a star attraction at the January 19 Brigade Rally organised by Trinamool Congress.

Let Congress and the other parties make their position clear on Omar’s demand – do they support a separate existence for Kashmir, do they support his call for separating Kashmir from the Constitutional framework of India, do they adhere to this divisive call, is it the agenda they wish to fulfil, if, by chance of fate, they ever come to power at the Centre? Will the separation of Kashmir be their objective, will their foreign policy be directed towards that end? These are questions that these parties, especially Congress and the lead party of the Federal Front, Trinamool Congress, have to answer to the people who are in no mood to tolerate separatism.

But the Abdullah family’s tryst with separatism goes back a long time, as exposed first by Dr Mookerjee while participating in a debate on Kashmir in the first Lok Sabha on 7 August 1952. Dr Mookerjee pointed at how Sheikh Abdullah, Omar Abdullah’s grandfather had increasingly resorted to the language of separatism, “Since when did the trouble start? Let us look at it dispassionately. Since Sheikh Abdullah’s return from Paris some time ago statements started to be made by him which disturbed us. Even then we did not speak out. His first statement he made in an interview which he gave when he was abroad, about his vision of an independent Kashmir. And then when he came back he amplified it, then again retracted from it and gave an explanation, and then speeches which he has made during the last few months were of a disturbing character. If he feels that his safety lies in remaining out of India, well, let him say so; we will be sorry for it, but it may become inevitable…” Sheikh Abdullah’s call for an “independent Kashmir” was first made on foreign soil. We remind Omar of these words and throw these back at him. If he and his family feel that their safety lies in remaining out of India, let them articulate it so, but they cannot pass off their urge to be separate from India as the wishes of the people of Kashmir!

He would, Dr Mookerjee said, “give whole-hearted support to the scheme (separate provision) as an interim measure” only if Sheikh Abdullah accepted the sovereignty of the Indian Parliament. “Let Sheikh Abdullah declare that he accepts the Sovereignty of this Parliament. There cannot be two Sovereign Parliaments in India. You talk of Kashmir being part of India, and Sheikh Abdullah talks of a Sovereign Parliament for Kashmir. It is inconsistent, it is contradictory. This Parliament does not mean a few of us who are opposing this. This Parliament includes a majority of people who will not be swayed by any small considerations.
And why should he be afraid of accepting the Sovereignty of this Parliament of Free India?”

The New India of today has no interest in pampering separatism; it has no patience with sentiments and attitudes that challenge the Sovereignty of India. But the Abdullahs of Kashmir have a history of flashing the card of separatism while living off the Constitution of India and all the largesse that comes with it. Their politics has always promoted internal and communal conflict while fanning the flames of separatism. Their approach is best described in the words of the legendary and sagacious former Governor of Jammu & Kashmir and one of the most respected administrators of our times, Jagmohan. His words are worth recalling, one should keep these in circulation in our collective mind.

In his opus, “My Frozen Turbulence in Kashmir”, Jagmohan writes how as he was battling “against heavy odds and dealing with the manifold problems of internal subversion and external conspiracy, Dr Farooq Abdullah and his partymen were playing a highly destructive, even unpatriotic, role...”

The National Conference and its leaders, records Jagmohan, “did not enjoy any respect at all. They were not in a position to do anything positive. But they could inflict damage. They could float rumours; they could incite public through unscrupulous means. They could even pose as collaborators of the subversionists. They could whisper into their ears: “Please don’t misunderstand. What you have been doing from outside, we have been doing from inside.” They could even champion the cause of terrorists.”

Jagmohan pointed out how Farooq Abdullah’s MLAs and former ministers openly celebrated “Maqbool Bhatt” Day, with one of his trusted MLAs Abdul Rashid Dar, “calling upon his party, the National Conference, to join the freedom struggle. He declared that he was placing his services at the disposal of the J&K Liberation Front (JKLF). What do these statements reveal, asks Jagmohan, “do they not show that the commitment of the National Conference to India is only a ruse, a stance, to secure power and rule? As soon as the power goes, loyalty to the Indian ideal goes.” They never utter a single word “against terrorists and their crimes”, and keep abusing our security forces instead.

On February 15, 1990, Farooq Abdullah himself called for international intervention in J&K, keeping alive the legacy of his late father. In a statement released to the press, he said that the “entire Kashmir is writhing in pain due to continuous acts of barbarism and brutality by the army and para-military forces.” He said the Valley and Srinagar had been “converted into Nazi camps”, he said that the “Kashmiris are witnessing their beloved country being converted into a vast graveyard” and appealed “to the national and international upholders of humanity to intervene in Kashmir and have an international inquiry made into the general slaughter of Kashmiris at the hands of the army and para-military forces.”

Sheikh Abdullah was the original proponent of “Tukde Tukde” politics; Farooq Abdullah ably succeeded and exceeded him in pushing the contours of that “Tukde Tukde” politics. Today, Omar Abdullah, the third generation of the dynasty, has emerged as one of the most vocal and articulate proponents of the legacy of that “Tukde Tukde” politics. The Abdullah's cannot think and act otherwise, for them to accept India’s unity and sovereignty is anathema. They are essentially history-shearers of separatism.

The only answer to their cancerous politics is to decisively and democratically reject them while asserting and endorsing Narendra Modi’s vision of a “New India.”

(The author is Director, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation, New Delhi)
पश्चिम भारत के दावा कर रहा है कि मोदी सरकार जुमले वाली सरकार है, जो केवल बाद्ध रह जाती है, लेकिन उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के विश्लेषण से विश्लेषण के दावों की पोल खुल जाती है। वैसे तो मोदी सरकार ने अनेक क्षेत्रों में बहुत ही बड़ी काम किया है, लेकिन ही से मुख्य स्थल बुनियादी क्षेत्रों विशालीकरण, स्वच्छ भारत मिशन-ग्रामीण व सड़क के क्षेत्र में मोदी सरकार द्वारा किये गये कार्य विशेष रूप से उल्लेखनीय हैं।

सतीश सिंह
विद्युतीकरण

प्रधानमंत्री सहज विद्युती हर पर योजना, जिसे सीमाधान के नाम से भी जाना जाता है का आगाज सितंबर, 2017 में किया गया था, जिसका लक्ष्य 31 मार्च, 2019 तक देश के सभी भागों पर विद्युती पहुंचा है। इसके तत्काल अभी तक अन्तर्मिश्रित करने का निर्देश दिया गया है। तालिका में 11 अक्टूबर, 2017 तक विद्युतीकरण की जानकारी दी गई है।

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परिवहन के क्षेत्र में एक नयी बिजली 
क्रांति लाने में जुटी मोदी सरकार

रमेश कुमार दुबे

निया भर में बिजली खपत में भारी अभूतपूर्वता पाई जाती है। इलेवकट्किा होने के साथ-साथ सरकार देश के समूचे पररिहन्ंत्कोपेट्ोल-डीजल के बजाए बिजली के उपयोग पर जोर देती है। इलेवकट्किा होनों को बढ़ाने के लिए मोदी सरकार ने 2015 में फास्टर एरो एंड बैड मैग्नेक्चरिंग ऑफ इलेवकट्किा हिक्ल (ई-फैम)-1 शुरू किया था। इसे दिल्ली कामयाबी को देखते हुए 28 फरवरी को सरकार ने फैम के इस्तेमाल देने का आवेदन किया गया है।
यह राशि इलेवकट्किाहनों और इलेवकट्किाहनों रंगरंगम विभिन्न रंगों में आयें जिससे 2030 तक 100 फीसदी वाहनों को इलेवकट्किाहनों का काम किया जा सके। फेम-2 के अंतर्गत इलेवकट्किाहनों की खरीद को सस्ता बनाने और चालू रहने की परिक्षा व्यवस्था का काम किया जाएगा।

1 अप्रैल से शुरू हो रही फेम-2 योजना के तहत इलेवकट्किाहन वाहन 20,000 से 2.5 लाख रुपये तक सस्ते हो जाएंगे। वाहनों को सस्ता बनाने के लिए वाणिज्यिक वाहनों को प्राथमिकता दी जा रही है। सरकार का लक्ष्य है कि तय समय के बीते देश में 10 लाख इलेवकट्किाहन दाखिल, पांच लाख इलेवकट्किाहन तिथिया, 55000 इलेवकट्किाहन अर्थव्यवस्था पर जाएगी।

योजना के तहत महानगरों, रूमरयरशहरों और पहाड़ी इलाकों में 2700 चालू रहने लगाए जाएंगे। इन गांवों में हर लोग किमी पर एक चालू रहने पर राजमानों पर हर 25 किमी पर चालू रहने के लिए लगाए जाएंगे। इस प्रदेश के साथ-साथ रिहाइस्सी इलाकों में वाहनों के लिए चालू रहने लगाए जाएंगे।

इस दिशा में अधिक प्रदेश सरकार ने एक बड़ी फहल करते हुए 2024 तक पेट्रोल-डीजल कारों के पंजीकरण रोकने और अगले पांच वर्षों में सड़कों पर 10 लाख इलेवकट्किाहन ताने की प्रोपोजी की है। इसके साथ-साथ 2024 तक सभी सरकारी वाहनों को इलेवकट्किाहनों में बदल दिया जाएगा। कमोबेश इसकी तरह की पहल करने वापसी ने भी की है।

अधिक अंश के लिए ट्रॉम्प डीजल के बजाए बिजली से चलने वाले वाहन अपनाए इसके लिए सरकार का निर्देश खुद पहल कर रही है। हाल ही में सरकार ने टाटा मोटर्स से 10,000 इलेवकट्किाहन खरीदने का समझौता किया है। बिजली मंडल के मुताबिक इस विषय में सबसे बड़ी वार्ता कीमत है लेकिन इलेवकट्किाहनों का उपयोग सरकार के लिए रुपये का प्रकाश कर रहा है। इसलिए इलेवकट्किाहनों के साथ-साथ नए वाहनों को अनुपालन में भी मददगार बनेंगे।

फिर लीलिफ्नम ऑफन आर्टिफिश्ट बीटरी की क्रीमी में गिरावट से इलेवकट्किाहनों की लागत कम हो जाएगी। दूसरी ओर कार्बन उत्पादन समस्या के लिए इलेवकट्किाहनों की जगह इलेवकट्किाहनों एवं विज्ञान से चलने वाले वाहनों की लागत नियंत्रण एक समान हो जाएगी।

स्थायी है, यदि भारत भारतीय बनाओ नहीं करता तो उसे बड़े पैमाने पर इलेवकट्किाहन वाहन व संचालन कल-पूर्व आयात करना पड़ेगा। जर्मनी, चीन, अमरीका जैसे देश पेट्रोल-डीजल की जगह इलेवकट्किाहन वाहन पर फोकस कर चुके हैं। इन देशों में वाहन निर्माताओं को 30-40 फीसदी सबसे महंगे मिले रहे हैं। भारत में इन्हें सबसे महंगे सम्भव नहीं है। इसलिए, उसे समय पर कदम उठाना पड़ा।

भारत आगामी जगह उपयोग का 80 फीसदी पेट्रोलियम व्यवस्था आवश्यकता है। ऐसे में परिवहन क्षेत्र में हो रही बिजली क्रांति से न केवल आयात पर निर्भर घटेगी बिजली पर्यावरण प्रदूषण में भी कमी आएगी। नीति आयोग की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक इलेवकट्किाहनों के इतिमाल से 2030 तक कड़ी परिवहन में छप्पन झोपी वाली अवस्था में 54 फीसदी और कार्बन उत्पादन में 37 फीसदी की कमी आएगी।

स्थायी है, बिजली से चलने वाले वाहन अर्थव्यवस्था के साथ-साथ पूर्ववर्तमान के लिए भी मुक्त आहुति दी जाएगी। इसी प्रकार इलेवकट्किाहन वाहन पॉर्सव जलवायु समाधान की घटी के अनुरूप में भी मददगार बनेंगे। इतना ही नहीं इलेवकट्किाहनों के साथ आने वाली स्वच्छता तकनीक से सड़क दुनिया में भी कमी आएगी। स्थायी है, मोदी सरकार ने जो कदम उठाया है वह देश में एक नई बिजली क्रांति का आगाम करेगा।

(लेखक केन्द्रीय सचिवालय में अधिकारी हैं। वे उनके निजी विचार हैं।)
राहुल गांधी की भारत में चौंकाने का, धमाके का लाल लागता है कि पी चिंतामणि के यह हिंसक अच्छे से पता था कि देश-काल-परिस्थिति के लिए जो नरेंद्र मोदी की सरकार में आर्थिक तस्कर के सबसे बेहतर फैसले हुए हैं और अधिकतम वायदा इसी को आगे बढ़ाने का किया जा सकता है।

एक अगर मोदी सरकार के कामों को ही बढ़ाते हुए सीधे तीर पर कांग्रेस नजर आती, तो ज्यादा खराब स्थिति हो जाती, इसीलिए पी चिंतामणि और कांग्रेस के सलाहकार अर्थशास्त्रियों ने 2 ऐसे बावपे कर दिए हैं, जिसे कांग्रेस गेमचेंजर कह रही है। हर साल 72000 नए देकर और नौजोलों को 31 मार्च 2020 के पहले 22 लाख सरकारी पदों पर बैठाने का वायदा करके कांग्रेस 2019 की कार्य में जीता हुआ समझने लगी है, लेकिन सच्चाई यही है कि काम और दामोदर से कांग्रेस के घोषणापत्र में इन दोनों योजनाओं को ठीक से सिफर पह लिया जाए तो कांग्रेसी झूठ की कलई खुल जाती है।

राहुल गांधी की भाषा में चीकाने वाली, धमाका करने वाली हर
महीने 6000 रुपये सीधे खाते में देने वाली न्याय योजना को जिस तरह से लागू करने की योजना कंग्रेस ने बनाई है, उसी से समझ में आ जाता है कि कंग्रेस ने सिर्फ चुनावी जुमले के तौर पर न्याय योजना लाने का वादा करके फिर से एक बार गरीबों का मजबूर बनाया है।

इसे इस तरह से समझाया कि इस योजना के लिए कंग्रेस को साधा 3 लाख करोड रुपये से ज्यादा चाहिए। अब सोचिए कि अभी सरकार का कुल बजट 24 लाख 57 हज़ार करोड रुपये से ज्यादा है। यानी सरकार के कुल बजट का 10 प्रतिशत 2 लाख 40 हज़ार करोड रुपये से कुछ ज्यादा हुआ। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि कंग्रेस को राजनीतिक “न्याय” के लिए करीब 15 प्रतिशत रकम चाहिए।

इसी से समझा जा सकता है कि कंग्रेस के लिए इस योजना को जमीन पर उतारने कितना मुश्किल है।

अब जरा कंग्रेस के योजना पर इसे लागू करने का तरीका देख लीजिए। कंग्रेस योजना पर इस पर खर्च पहले साल जीडीपी के 1%, दूसरे साल 2% से कम और वह भी कहा गया है कि जैसे जीडीपी होगी, लागत कम होगी। लेकिन, अगर इसी की आधार माना जाये तो सारी मान्यता स्थिति में यह योजना 5 साल में तो पूरी नहीं होगी। इस बात के लिए कंग्रेस योजना पर यह साफ़ लिखा है कि योजना शुरू होने से पहले 3 महीने डिजाइन और उसके बाद के 6-9 महीने पायलट और टेस्टिंग में लगेंगे।

इसे ऐसे समझ सकते हैं कि जिस न्याय योजना को कंग्रेस पूरी तैयारी के साथ लागू करने वाली बात है, उसकी शुरुआत हो सकती है। कंग्रेस ने यह आशा की कि अगर योजना के मामले में सारी कामयाबी हो, तो सरकार का कुल बजट का लगभग लाख होगा। जब वह लगभग लाख हो जाता है, तो लिखा गया है कि कंग्रेस ने यह कितना मुश्किल लगा दिया है।

इसके अलावा, कंग्रेस ने यह भी माना कि जब भी कंग्रेस के योजना पर चर्चा पड़ती है, तब सरकार का बयान त्याग देती है। कंग्रेस ने यह भी दिया है कि 22 लाख सरकारी अधिकारियों के लिए हर महीने 6000 रुपये देने की योजना के लिए कंग्रेस के योजना पर चर्चा नहीं करेगी।

भारत जैसी बड़ी आवाज़ वाले देश के लिए यह सबसे बेहद तरीका है और इसे नई अवसर बनाया जाना चाहिए। कंग्रेस को कहा जा सकता है कि इस योजना के मामले में सरकार अपना जोर दिखाने के लिए स्वयं बना चुका है।
The Congress has finally come out with its manifesto for the 2019 general elections. After a year of unrelenting attacks on the NDA government one expected the Congress to propose concrete solutions to the issues facing India. But the manifesto has been an absolute disappointment. On the jobs front, which has been a major plank of attack by the Congress, Congress has betrayed the lack of any vision. All it has promised is filling of the government vacancies and a reimagined MNREGA. While promise to fill the vacancies across the government sector is welcome, it is not enough for the scale of the problem at hand. And MNREGA type schemes do not address the problem of unemployment among the educated youth. Congress repeats the same old promises of promoting entrepreneurship and manufacturing without laying out in detail what it intends to do which is different from the schemes of the present government? In fact, the Congress manifestos are infamous for their tall promises and lack of delivery even on issues on which there is a political consensus like building roads, expanding healthcare etc.

In 2004 and again in 2009, Congress promised to provide direct income support to the farmers but failed to do anything. It was Modi government which implemented the PM KISAN to provide direct income support to the 12 crore small and medium farmers. Congress manifesto of 2004 promised to provide electricity to all villages and homes but failed to do it till 2014. It was achieved under PM Modi within four years. Congress manifesto promised OROP in 2004 and GST in 2009 but failed on both counts. It was the Modi government which finally implemented both OROP and GST after a delay running
Political commentaries

into decades. Congress promised to provide broadband internet connection in all villages in 2009 but till 2014 only 59 villages were connected. It was the Modi government which connected 1.19 lakh gram sabhas. Similarly, Congress manifesto promised health insurance to the poor in 2009 but failed to do it. The Modi government provided health insurance to 50 crore poor people under Ayushman Bharat. Congress promised reservations to the economically weaker sections of the unreserved category in 2004 but failed to anything on it in ten years. Modi government implemented the EWS reservations.

It is clear that the Congress manifesto means little even to the Congress party and is just a document of tall promises and virtue-signalling. It has repeatedly promised availability of easy credit to poor, extension of irrigation coverage, home for the homeless but failed to deliver on them. It all fell to the Modi government to actually deliver these facilities and make up for the lost decade under the Manmohan Singh. In fact, there is no comparison of scale and speed between the Modi government and the Congress government. The Congress manifesto of 2019 has several problematic provisions too. It promises to revive the socialist era relic of the Planning Commission with the powers to allocate resources among states and monitor their utilisation. This is basically promising to sabotage the constitutional institutions of Finance Commission and CAG and vest these powers in a team of loyal ‘experts’ before whom the elected state governments must beg for funds and resources. This should be simply unacceptable to all the political parties in the country. Congress has openly opposed the reservations for the Dalits & Tribals and the economically weaker sections in the central universities like AMU, Jamia under the pretext of them being ‘minority institutions’.

Other promises of the manifesto are plain bizarre. Like Congress wants to exempt the start-ups from all the rules and regulation except tax laws and labour laws for three years. Does it include environmental laws as well? Manifesto promises freedom from ‘Inspector Raj’ till they stabilise. Does it means inspector raj is good after they stabilise? And will it not lead to tax fraud and avoidance as established companies will try to transfer profits to the newly formed shell companies? Instead of building upon the improvement in the ease of doing business under Modi government, Congress seems to think that entrepreneurship can be encouraged by confusing and vague exemptions.

In short, there is hardly anything new in the Congress manifesto nor is there anything which can be taken seriously. The much taunted income transfer scheme or the NYAY us also vague and unviable as has been pointe out by the many economists. What is new is the promise to repeal sedition laws and remove armed forces from the Kashmir and to punish Indian army and para-military jawans by removing protection granted to them from the conflict casualty under AFSPA . This is a dangerous turn that Congress is taking. It shows that it is now openly aligning itself with the Islamists and ultra-left groups. It also shows that Congress has learned nothing from the defeat in 2014 and continues to play with the national security issues in a cavalier manner. It also casts doubt on the seriousness of the manifesto which otherwise lists left-wing terrorism as a major national security threat. It seems that Congress continues to think that in this information age when social media has penetrated far and wide, it can continue with the same old attitude of promising anything and everything to everyone an still hope to win elections. It is a sad commentary on the state of the main opposition party of India.

(Abhinav Prakash Singh is an Assistant Professor at the University of Delhi)
Book Launch of “Naye Bharat Ki Ore” by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister of Law & Justice and Electronics and IT, Govt. of India on 25 March 2019
Discussion on “West Bengal’s Resurgence: Challenges & Opportunities” at Santiniketan, West Bengal on 23 March 2019
Special Address on “Ensuring India’s National Security & Perspectives on West Bengal & Northeast” by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman (Union Minister of Defence) at Kolkata, West Bengal on 17 March 2019
EVENTS @ SPMRF

March 2019
#SaveBengal- Special Address on “Assault on Democracy in West Bengal” at Sector-26, Noida on 9 March 2019
EVENTS @ SPMRF

Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Union Minister of State for Culture, IC and MoS - Environment, Forest and Climate Change, addressing the audience at an event organized by Save The Bengal Foundation on "Assault on Democracy in West Bengal".

Shri Dilip Ghosh, former West Bengal chief minister, also addressed the gathering.

The event was held on Saturday, 09 March 2019, at Noida Kaalbaar Mandir. Attendees were requested to RSVP by 8447584448 or 9873625258. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/SaveTheBengal.

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“The dream, of an Indian nationhood which would comprise within itself men and women professing different religion, who regard India as their common motherland, had fired the imagination of generations of political thinkers and workers in this country. I believe that its consummation, if ever be achieved, will be all to the good of our country.”

-Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee
Mahakosala Provincial Hindu Sabha Conference,
Raipur, 7th December, 1940