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को

नई दिल्ली में

आयोजित बैठक

की कार्रवाई का अक्षरशः प्रलेख

NATIONAL INTEGRATION COUNCIL
VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE MEETING HELD AT
NEW DELHI
ON
23rd SEPTEMBER, 2013

गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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PART I

SPEAKERS AT THE MEETING

VERBATIM PROCEEDINGS

Union Home Minister Shri Sushilkumar Shinde

“Hon’ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Chairperson, UPA Madam Sonia Gandhi Ji, Shri Deve Gowda Ji, my colleagues, Shri Anthony Ji, Shri Sharad Pawar Ji, Shri Chidambaram Ji, Dr. Farooq Abdullah Ji, Shri Rahman Khan Ji and other Union Cabinet Ministers, Smt. Sushma Swaraj Ji, Shri Arun Jaitley Ji, Chief Ministers of States, Ministers of State of Union Government, Members of NIC and distinguished invitees.

I welcome you all to the 16th Meeting of the National Integration Council (NIC). The 15th Meeting of the NIC was held on 10th September 2011. It is now more than two years since we last met.

The NIC provides us with a unique platform to share ideas that would uphold the values of a pluralistic and inclusive society. This forum is an outcome of the National Integration Conference held in 1961. In that conference it was decided to set up a National Integration Council to review and make recommendations on all matters pertaining to national integration. The first meeting of the National Integration Council was held in June 1962 by the first Prime Minister of India, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The country has progressed remarkably since then but issues relating to national integration continue to remain important.

In the agenda before us today we propose to discuss three important areas of concern where divisive forces threaten the integrity of our democratic polity.

The first relates to the safety and security of women. As you all know, women not only constitute fifty percent of our population and have an equal role to play in the development of this country, but they also remain the main foundation of an egalitarian and dignified society. No country can progress unless they treat their women with respect. Unfortunately, we continue to read about heinous crimes committed on our women. The statistics on crimes against women reveal an increasing trend in the last three years. The brutal rape and attack on a young girl in Delhi last year shocked the conscience of the nation. The Government of India took a major initiative to amend the criminal law to make the punishment for such offences more stringent. The judiciary also took steps to fast track the prosecution of the criminals and the judgment in the matter was pronounced recently. We hope that this example will serve as a deterrent.

Nevertheless, we need to discuss what further action needs to be taken by the society so that we can deal with the root cause of discrimination and denigration of women. We will also need to change the attitude of the society. As more and more opportunities are seized by the young women of this country for their economic and social development in our growing economy, we will have to ensure that this does not lead to friction in the society.

The second issue relates to the treatment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the atrocities inflicted on them. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in India have been

subjected to indignity, marginalization and neglect through ages. In spite of affirmative action provided for in the Constitution, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have still not been integrated fully into the society. On the other hand, they continue to be subjected to atrocities. In the last three years, the statistics on the subject reveal an increasing trend in cases of atrocities committed against these classes. There is an attitude of indifference in even prosecuting the cases that have been registered under the stringent Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The disturbing fact is that the rate of conviction in these cases is very poor. Various pretexts are taken recourse to and justice denied. Unless those committing the atrocities are punished, there will be no deterrence for the people who perpetrate such crimes. This forum may like to discuss the hurdles that still act as barriers for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to catch up with the rest of the society, live in a dignified manner and become equal partners in national development.

I now come to the third item of the agenda which relates to the need to sustain communal harmony and national integration. Here again, the statistics on communal violence show an increasing trend in the last two years. The frequency of incidents, especially in the last few months, seems to suggest that there is a sinister motive behind them. It is noticed that the communal forces seem to have got emboldened and are trying to polarize the society. Minor incidents tend to get escalated into major incidents of violence leading to displacement of affected communities.

We as a country are proud of our legacy of tolerance and respect for each others. We are a nation of diverse cultures, languages, and religions. Ours is the land where diverse religions have flourished together and the people have lived harmoniously. In spite of this diversity, the invisible but all-pervasive thread of being 'Indian' keeps us united. It is, therefore, our foremost duty to keep this 'torch of unity' shining bright under all circumstances. The tradition of communal harmony, tolerance and mutual respect have always been the distinguishing features of our civilization and polity. This tradition continues even today. Indeed, democracy can prosper and flourish only with strict adherence to secularism.

I firmly believe that only a small group of people amongst us is responsible for creating divisions amongst us. It is our duty to resist these forces. In addition, I feel, the institutions of our democracy must also be strengthened to meet the challenges that are becoming a threat to our pluralistic ethos. I would urge this forum to suggest the measures that should be adopted to strengthen the forces of national integration and to resolutely fight the divisive forces that threaten our social fabric.

I welcome you once again and look forward to your valuable suggestions to deal with the malaise of communal disharmony, gender inequality and attack on weaker sections of the society in order to build a strong and prosperous India.”

Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister

"National Integration Council की 16वीं बैठक में मैं आप सब का स्वागत करता हूँ। वैसे तो इस Council की हर बैठक महत्वपूर्ण होती है लेकिन चूंकि आज की बैठक उत्तर प्रदेश के मुजफ्फरनगर और उसके पड़ोसी जिलों में हुए सांप्रदायिक दंगों के फौरन बाद हो रही है इसलिए इसकी अहमियत और भी बढ़ जाती है।

यह घटनाएं ऐसी सांप्रदायिक नफरत को जाहिर करती हैं जो हमारे देश के कौमी किरदार के खिलाफ हैं और जिसकी हम सब को गहरी चिंता होनी चाहिए। एक छोटे से मामले पर एक मामूली से हादसे का नतीजा यह हुआ कि 50 से ज्यादा लोगों की जान चली गई, सौ से ज्यादा लोग घायल हुए और कई लाख करोड़ रुपये की संपत्ति का नुकसान हुआ।

हाल के दिनों में सांप्रदायिक हिंसा की कुछ और घटनाएं भी हुई हैं। इस साल अगस्त में जम्मू-कश्मीर के किश्तवाड़ जिले में सांप्रदायिक दंगे हुए। बिहार के नवादा जिले में पिछले साल के अक्टूबर महीने से छोटे मुद्दों को लेकर तीन सांप्रदायिक घटनाएं हो चुकी हैं। इसी तरह हैदराबाद में पिछले दो सालों के दौरान रुक-रुक कर सांप्रदायिक तनाव होता रहा है। खासतौर से उत्तर प्रदेश में हाल के महीनों में इस तरह की घटनाएं बड़ी तादाद में देखी गई हैं।

पिछले साल के दौरान पूर्वोत्तर में भी विभिन्न नस्ली गुटों एवं संप्रदायों के बीच फिर से तनाव पैदा हुआ है। इस तरह के तनावों को कम करने के लिए बहुत सारी कोशिशें की गई हैं। असम में पिछले साल भड़की हिंसा के शिकार हुए लोगों को राहत पहुंचाने और उनके पुनर्वास के लिए भी बहुत प्रयास किए गए हैं। लेकिन अभी भी दूसरी जगहों पर विभिन्न नस्ली गुटों के बीच हिंसा की वारदातें हो रही हैं। इस तरह के नए हालात में हम सबको विभिन्न सामाजिक गुटों के मिले-जुले और सहनशील सामाजिक ढांचे को बनाए रखने के लिए हर मुमकिन कदम उठाने की जरूरत है।

ऐसा लगता है कि राष्ट्र विरोधी ताकतें विभिन्न संप्रदायों के बीच छोटे-छोटे मतभेदों को बढ़ाकर उनका फायदा उठाने में कभी-कभी कामयाब हो जाती हैं। यह ताकतें हमारी लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था के लिए एक बड़ी चुनौती हैं। उनका सख्ती से मुकाबला करने का हमारी सरकार का पक्का इरादा है।

सांप्रदायिक घटनाओं का बिना वक्त खोए और निष्पक्ष और सख्त तरीके से मुकाबला करना राज्यों की जिम्मेदारी है। यह सुनिश्चित करने की जरूरत है कि स्थानीय प्रशासन न सिर्फ तेजी से छोटी घटनाओं को बड़ा रूप लेने से रोके, बल्कि सांप्रदायिक हिंसा के लिए जिम्मेदार लोगों को जल्द से जल्द सजा दिलवाए। दंगा करने और भड़काने वालों के खिलाफ कारवाई करने में सरकार की पूरी ताकत का इस्तेमाल होना चाहिए, चाहे वह कितने भी शक्तिशाली हों या किसी भी राजनैतिक दल से संबंध रखते हों। सरकार की कार्रवाई कानून के मुताबिक होती नजर आनी चाहिए ताकि सभी धर्मों के नागरिकों में यह भरोसा पैदा हो सके कि वे अन्य नागरिकों के बराबर हैं और इज्जत के साथ अपनी जिंदगी जी सकते हैं। जहां तक सरकारी अधिकारियों का सवाल है, उन्हें यह सख्त हिदायत होनी चाहिए कि सांप्रदायिक तनाव के मामलों में कोई भी लापरवाही बर्दाश्त नहीं की जाएगी और दंगे होने की सूरत में उनकी जवाबदेही भी तय की जाएगी।

यह बहस कि सांप्रदायिक हिंसा से चुनावों में किस राजनैतिक दल का फायदा होगा और किसको नुकसान, सच में दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है। दरअसल सांप्रदायिक दुश्मनी से किसी को भी फायदा नहीं पहुंचता। इससे तो एक civilized देश के रूप में हमारे वजूद तक को खतरा पैदा हो सकता है। मैं सभी राजनैतिक दलों और Media से आज यह अपील करना चाहूंगा कि वह न तो सांप्रदायिक वाक्यात को राजनैतिक रंग दें और न ही उनसे राजनैतिक फायदा उठाने की कोशिश करें। मुझे उम्मीद है कि आज की बैठक में सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बढ़ाने के अच्छे सुझाव सामने आएंगे।

अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य कमजोर तबकों के हमारे भाई-बहनों के विरुद्ध हो रहे अत्याचार भी कोई कम चिंता की बात नहीं है। यह बहुत अफसोस की बात है कि आजादी के 60 साल के बाद भी इन तबकों के खिलाफ हो रहे अपराध हमें परेशान कर रहे हैं और देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में हो रही इस तरह की घटनाओं की संख्या में बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। पिछले 3 सालों के दौरान हर साल अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों के विरुद्ध अत्याचार के लिए 10,000 से ज्यादा मामले दर्ज किए गए हैं। इस तरह की हिंसा करने वालों के विरुद्ध सख्त कार्रवाई के साथ-साथ यह भी जरूरी है कि इन तबकों की सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार लाकर उन्हें समाज की मुख्य धारा में जोड़ने की लगातार कोशिश की जाए।

हमारा आर्थिक विकास तभी पूरा और संतोषजनक कहा जा सकता है जब इससे आम आदमी और कमजोर वर्गों को फायदा पहुंचे। कमजोर और गरीब वर्गों को बराबर के मौके न मिल पाना देश की तरक्की में एक बहुत बड़ी बाधा है। हम किसी भी तबके को यह महसूस नहीं होने दे सकते कि वह मुख्य समाज से अलग थलग है। हमने कमजोर तबकों के लिए बहुत सारे ऐसे कदम उठाए हैं जिनसे उनको देश के विकास का ज्यादा फायदा पहुंचेगा। अभी हाल ही में संसद में Manual Scavenging Rehabilitation Bill पास हुआ है, जिससे इस अमानवीय प्रथा को खत्म करने में मदद मिलेगी।

लेकिन सामाजिक और आर्थिक असमानताएं अभी भी हमारे लिए बड़ी चुनौती हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि हमें अपने समाज में असमानता कम करने और अभाव दूर करने के लिए ज्यादा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। मैं इस दिशा में आप सब के सुझावों का स्वागत करूंगा।

हमारे लिए यह शर्म की बात है कि हमारी महिलाओं के साथ बदसलूकी, बलात्कार और अन्य तरह की हिंसा के मामले बढ़ रहे हैं। कोई भी देश सही मायनों में तभी प्रगति कर सकता है जब उसकी महिलाएं बेझिझक सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर जा सकें और अपनी मर्जी के मुताबिक अपने सामाजिक और आर्थिक विकास के रास्ते को चुन सकें। हमने महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराधों के लिए सजा को और सख्त बनाने के लिए कानून में बदलाव किए हैं। अब कानून लागू करने वाली एजेंसियां ऐसे मामलों में ज्यादा प्रभावी कार्रवाई कर सकती हैं। लेकिन यह समस्या सिर्फ पुलिस कार्रवाई से दूर नहीं की जा सकती है। इसके लिए यह भी जरूरी है कि हमारी सोच में बदलाव आए। मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि इस बैठक में हमारी महिलाओं के प्रति समाज के रवैये में बदलाव लाने के लिए अच्छे सुझाव सामने आएंगे।

आज हम ऐसी जुड़ी हुए दुनिया में रह रहे हैं जिसमें बहुत से मामलों में राष्ट्रीय सीमाओं का बहुत महत्व नहीं रह गया है। मैं यहां सोशल मीडिया का जिक्र करना चाहूंगा। हाल की सांप्रदायिक हिंसा के कुछ मामलों के पीछे कुछ ऐसे नकली Videos का circulation सामने आया है जिनसे लोगों में दूसरे संप्रदाय के लिए नफरत पैदा हुई। इससे पहले साल 2012 में सोशल मीडिया का दुरुपयोग करके हमारे उत्तर-पूर्व के उन भाई-बहनों के मन में दहशत पैदा की गई जो देश के दूसरे हिस्सों में रह रहे थे। इसकी वजह से बहुत से लोगों को अपने रोजगार छोड़कर कुछ समय के लिए उत्तर-पूर्व क्षेत्र में वापस जाना पड़ा।

Social Media के जरिए नौजवानों को नई जानकारी मिलती है और उन्हें नई सोच का पता चलता है। इसका इस्तेमाल समाज में आपसी रवादारी और भाईचारा बढ़ाने के लिए किया जा सकता है। Social Media अपनी राय और नज़रिया आजादी से जाहिर करने का जो मौका देता है उसे कायम रखने की जरूरत है। लेकिन साथ-साथ हमारे लिए यह भी जरूरी है कि हम शरारती और समस्या पैदा करने वाले लोगों को सोशल मीडिया का दुरुपयोग न करने दें। मुझे उम्मीद है कि सोशल मीडिया के दुरुपयोग के मामले पर आज इस बैठक में ध्यान दिया जाएगा।

राष्ट्रीय विकास की प्रक्रिया में Industry, गैर सरकारी संगठन और Civil Society सभी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। National Integration Council एक ऐसा Forum है जो समाज में विभिन्न महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर आम राय बनाने में मदद कर सकता है। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि इस बैठक में कई ऐसे अहम मुद्दों पर राष्ट्रीय सहमति बनाने में मदद मिलेगी जिनका संबंध हमारी राष्ट्रीय एकता को मजबूत बनाने से है।”

Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde:

कार्रवाई पूरी करनी है और बीच में Lunch Break भी है। मुख्यमंत्री जी alphabetical नाम लेंगे उनके भी लिखित भाषण यहाँ पहुंचे हैं। यदि वो भाषण संक्षिप्त में पांच मिनट में कर दें तो सबको बोलने का मौका मिल जायेगा यही मैं प्रार्थना करूंगा। पहले alphabetical में हम आंध्रप्रदेश के Chief Minister किरण कुमार जी को floor देंगे।

Shri Kiran Kumar Reddy:

Respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, respected Madam Smt. Sonia Gandhi Ji, respected Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde Ji, other ministers, leaders of opposition, my colleague chief ministers, others, members of the Integration Council. I am happy to be a part of the 16th National Integration Council. We are discussing important issues at this juncture as this provides us a platform to deliberate upon the issues which are challenging the very foundation of democratic process and the unity of this great nation and to come out with lasting solutions on pressing issues. In 1940, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Ji stated that 1,100 years of common history of Islam and Hinduism have enriched India with our common achievements, our languages, our poetry, our literature, our culture, our art, our manners and customs. The innumerable happenings of our daily life everything bear a stamp of joint endeavor. These thousands of years of joint life have moulded us to a common nationality and we have become an Indian nation, united and indivisible. This is the bedrock of Indian thought process and if few

want to destabilize the nation they will fail miserably. Some separatist groups are resorting to acts that destroy the communal fabric of our great nation. We must all stand united to fight the evil designs of such separate forces. In Andhra Pradesh with their strong political will and commitment and cooperation of all stakeholders and community empowerment, communal peace and harmony has been ensured. There has not been any major incident during 2012-13. This shows that the measures adopted by the State Government had yielded good dividends. If it is to maintain communal harmony or on continuous basis Andhra Pradesh has evolved standard organizing procedures for maintaining of communal harmony and for preventive actions. As a preventive measure, the state government has established peace committees comprising of prominent citizens, community leaders, representatives of political parties and respectable citizens to liaison between administration and community. The role played by these peace committees in the wake of recent attacks on people of north-east states needs special mention. We have taken a massive recruitment of police so that the gap between the citizens and the police is reduced. We have nearly recruited about 2,400 sub inspectors and 28,000 constables. The further recruitment is in the process. The state government has embarked on save city project in Hyderabad. The project uses technology as a force multiplier by establishing of city wide integrated surveillance cameras. The Government of Andhra Pradesh enacted the AP Public Safety Enforcement Act 2013 which requires all commercial and educational and recreational and religious establishments with certain public gatherings to setup and install CCTV cameras for public safety and security. Every citizen expects a state to standby him or her by the time of life threatening situation. We have started the Dial 100 Project any citizen from any part of the state can dial this number. This service enables the police, which goes directly to these vulnerable sections specially the SC/ST and women and minorities. Instead of coming to the police station the police goes to them, registers the case and this case is monitored by the senior officers and at that time everything is recorded when the telephone call has come, when the police has reached them, what is action taken by the police and other aspects that taken care by the police. This is also connected to the 108 and 101. That is the fire services also. So that police directly interact with the persons who is having a problem. Of course social networking is become a big problem because the source of this is from abroad. I think the Government of India should try to have some mechanism where it can restrict this social networking which is spreading communal hatred in the society. It is very important that the source from where it comes has to be tracked down by the Government of India. We have to have mechanism for doing that. And as far as minorities are concerned, we have started a lot of programs for the minorities which directly help them and we have increased the budget quite sizably so that education is one of the major safe guards where we educate the minorities. As far as woman is concerned Andhra Pradesh is known for his SAG movement where economic stability is the only source for them to get social acceptability both in the house and in the society. So we are trying to economically strengthen them and this moment has literally helped in all fields, not only in economic field. We have got gender discrimination, the issue which community takes it up on itself and nearly about 49,000 cases have been taken up by this social action committee where about 39,000 cases have been sorted out amicably within the family structure and about 48 crores has been collected as fines and

given to them. I think we have to be more firm on attack by acid and other things on women and we have to take firm action and try to take further initiatives. We have taken up lot of programs for the placement of the girl child and for education and other aspects. I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. Of course my written this thing is submitted to you Sir and I thank you for giving this opportunity to address here. Thank you very much!

Shri Tarun Gogoi

Respected Sonia Ji, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Ji, Chidambaram Ji, Shinde ji, Farooq Abdullah Ji, Sushma Swaraj Ji, Arun Jaitley ji, my colleagues and distinguished members of National Integration Council.

We are very happy that this meeting has been convened at a time when there is rise of communal violence in different parts of the country. This is really a matter of very, very serious concern and though the country is a multi lingual, multi religious pluralistic society which is Indian culture also, still there are certain forces who are creating problems in every part of the country and my state is no exception to it.

Last year we witnessed serious violence that took place in our tribal areas where more than hundred people were killed and about 5 lakhs people had to leave homes. They had to be sheltered in relief camps but with timely intervention, we could control the situation in a very short period. We handed over investigation to CBI for neutral inquiry. We suspended our officers and arrested miscreants including some senior leaders. We did not discriminate against any one. So we could restore the confidence amongst the people and as a result all the 5 lakhs people who had to their homes leave could be brought back to their village and we could rehabilitate them.

I must thank the Prime Minister, Sonia Ji, the Home Minister and everybody. I got support from Army and Paramilitary forces. I don't deny it that in Assam, not only communal riots sometimes ethnic clashes also take place among the tribal communities. Moreover, as it is known to everyone that there was plenty of land but with the creation of East Bengal i.e. Pakistan, the whole of North East has become a landlocked thereby derailing all the connectivities i.e. roadways, airways and the seaways which leads to sense of arise nation region amongst the different religions communities.

Besides, the State has lost over 7500 sq.km. of residential and agricultural land due to erosion of Brahmaputra River since independence causing migration and resultant tension in other settled areas due to scarcity of land.

Population and unemployment has been rising. At the same time more and more people are getting educated. No doubt, Government of India has taken some steps, some incentives have been given. In spite of all these, we could not draw much investment in the region. There has been draught problem which had to be resolved. Unemployment problem no doubt is one

of the basic problem and our job is to give justice to every section of the society. Without giving justice in social, economical & political sphere it will not be possible to have a National Integration.

Because of the grievances, the ULFA fought for the independence of Assam. One of the causes of arise nation is the lack of connectivity. More connectivities of the rail, roads, river will bring people together and that will ease exchange of views and ideas amongst people.

Of course, I must thank the Government of India, Prime Minister for taking lot of steps for the spread of the connectivity in respect of rail, road and also education. Due to the initiatives of Central and State Government, ULFA and separatist forces today have come forward for negotiations. But still we have to go a long way.

To address the problems of governance and development with autonomy we have a unique provision under the sixth schedule of the constitution which has conferred political and financial autonomy to the three autonomous councils of Karbi Anglong, Dima, Hasao & Bodoland Autonomous districts. As you know those who took arms against Government in Bodoland areas are part of our Government for over 7 years. They are running the Government in BTAD. They take part in the elections and democratic process. Our whole approach was to bring them to a democratic process to run the Government themselves. This is our strategy which was done firmly keeping the door open for dialogue.

Out of all the tribal communities, six major educated tribal groups were given autonomous development councils and 18 development councils were given to other castes and also even upper castes in order to involve more and more people in the process of development. But miles to go to reach its zenith.

Today I must thank Rajeev Gandhi for giving lot of emphasis on the Panchayati Raj system. We have been talking about empowerment of women by 33% reservation of seats in Panchayats. We have recently extended reservation of 50% seats in Panchayat Elections besides reserving 30% seats especially for women in Government jobs. Yet the atrocities in some parts of Assam could be seen, but one thing that needs special attention is promotion of culture of games & sports amongst the youth and exposing them to the tenets of all religions and faith through curricular instructions can prove to be very effective in footoring respect for human kind and brotherhood.

Thank you very much for giving this opportunity. My written speech is placed on record.

Thank you

Shri Nitish Kumar:

आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, National Integration Council के सभी मंच पर और सामने बैठे हुए माननीय सदस्यगण। हमने अपना लिखित भाषण समर्पित कर दिया है और उसे वितरित भी किया जा चुका है इसलिए मैं बहुत ही संक्षेप में दो तीन बात पर जोर डालना चाहता हूँ। एक तो इन दिनों देखा ये जा रहा है कि धार्मिक जुलूसों की संख्या बढ़ रही है। किसी भी नाम से हो, यात्रा हो, परिक्रमा हो, जो निर्धारित समय है उससे अलग हटकर इन दिनों ये चीजें आयोजित हो रही हैं। और जब फेस्टिवल के दौरान मूर्तियों की संख्या भी बढ़ रही है तो ऐसी परिस्थिति में इन सब चीजों को ठीक ढंग से नियंत्रित करने में कठिनाई होती है। तो एक तो consensus होना चाहिए कि जो कुछ भी यात्रा निकले, परिक्रमा निकले, मूर्तियाँ बैठें या किसी भी तरह का जुलूस निकले, किसी भी धर्म का हो उसके बारे में पहले से सब कुछ तय रहना चाहिए, उसकी संख्या के बारे में, उसके रुट के बारे में, ये सारी चीजें तय होनी चाहिए और देर सवेर उसमें देखा ये जा रहा है कि लोग हथियार लेकर उन जुलूसों में भाग लेते हैं। और अगर पुलिस या प्रशासन उसमें किसी भी प्रकार का हस्तक्षेप करती है तो ये माना जाता है कि उनके धार्मिक मामलों में हस्तक्षेप किया जा रहा है। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इस बैठक से consensus बनाया जाना चाहिए कि लोग यात्रा निकालें, जुलूस निकालें, सबकी अपनी आजादी है, पूजा करें सब कुछ करें लेकिन उसको इस ढंग से करें कि वो पर्व हर्षोल्लास के साथ मनाया जा सके, किसी को तकलीफ न हो और सारी समस्या की जड़ यही है और सब जगह, हर जगहों पर, अब हम लोगों के यहाँ जब भी अब ये season शुरू होता है तो हर समय सतर्क रहना पड़ता है और सतर्क तो रहना ही पड़ेगा, सजग भी रहना पड़ेगा। दूसरी चीज इसमें देखा ये जा रहा है कि इन दिनों चाहे पंडाल हो या फिर कोई धार्मिक जुलूस हो उसमें कई प्रकार की झांकियां प्रदर्शित की जाती हैं और उसके राजनैतिक निहितार्थ होते हैं। इस पर सब लोगों को रोक लगानी चाहिए। हमारे यहां बेतिया में, आपने नवादा का जिक्र किया, उस पर मैं एक शब्द जरूर कहना चाहूँगा, बेतिया में वहाँ कोई बड़ा दंगा नहीं हो पाया लेकिन झड़प हुई और पुलिस को काफी कठिनाई के साथ उसको नियंत्रित करना पड़ा और फिर समाज के दोनों पक्ष के अच्छे लोग भी लगे और उससे समस्या हल हुई। लेकिन उसका जो video footage देखा गया तो ये पाया गया कि वो बिल्कुल धर्म के खिलाफ भड़काने वाली बात और राजनैतिक तौर पर, अब जैसे मैं यहाँ कहना चाहूँगा कि अल्पसंख्यक के रूप में किसी को रख दिया और सामने एक और दूसरा दिया कि साहब अल्पसंख्यक जो हैं ये नीतीश सरकार के दमाद हैं। और यही नहीं और चीज दूसरे ढंग से यहाँ स्पष्टता के साथ कहने में कोई गुरेज नहीं होना चाहिए ऐसी चीजें जो दूसरे पर छींटाकशी और बिल्कुल राजनैतिक जिसका अर्थ था तो ऐसे झांकियों को निकालना तो उससे एक माहौल बिगड़ता है और फिर कठिनाई होती है। इसलिए एक consensus बनना चाहिए कि धार्मिक जुलूसों में राजनैतिक अर्थ या किसी दूसरे धर्म की भावना को टेस पहुचाने वाली झांकियां न निकालें। और कभी-कभी होर्डिंग्स होते हैं, प्ले कार्ड्स होते हैं और कभी-कभी जीवंत रूप में उनको वही पोशाक, बेतिया में यही हुआ, व्यक्तियों को उसी प्रकार का लिबास पहना कर उसको दर्शाया गया। अब वो तो सब लोगों की समझदारी है, दोनों पक्ष की समझदारी है और पुलिस और प्रशासन की सजगता थी, हम सब लोगों ने उसके लिए काफी जद्दोजहद की तो स्थिति संभल गयी वर्ना वहाँ स्थिति और भयंकर हो सकती थी। दूसरी बात, हम देखते हैं कि जब दंगे होते हैं तो आपस में छोटी समस्या से

शुरू होती है बात बढ़ते बढ़ते बिगड़ती है और कभी-कभी यह भी देखा गया है कि दंगों के पीछे नीयत रहती है किसी की सम्पत्ति पर भी कब्जा करना। हमने देखा है भागलपुर दंगे 1989 में हुए थे हम लोगों ने 2006 में उसके लिए फिर से न्यायिक आयोग गठित किया। पटना उच्च-न्यायालय के एक सेवानिवृत्त न्यायाधीश महोदय की अध्यक्षता में और उनके terms of reference से बहुत सारी बातें थी जिसमें यह भी था कि भई evidence रहते हुए मामले को close कर दिया गया था, final report दायर की गई थी। तो ऐसे बहुत सारे मामले जिसमें एविडेंस रहते हुए मामले को close किया गया था उसको कोर्ट की इजाजत से re-open किया गया और सजा मिली और दूसरी बात ये देखा गया कि वैसी स्थिति में लोगों ने दूसरे की प्रॉपर्टी पर कब्जा किया या उनको ओने-पौने भाव में बेचने पर मजबूर किया, ऐसे मामलों की जाँच का भी दायित्व उस आयोग को दिया गया था, उन्होंने जाँच की और आपको ये जानना चाहिए कि 18 ऐसे मामले थे जिसमें जिनकी सम्पत्ति कब्जा की गई या जिनको मजबूर किया गया उनको 18 ऐसे मामले में उनको restore किया गया और 93 मामलों की जाँच उस आयोग ने की है final report में जो वही बात आयेगी, होगा। नवादा में हम लोग इसको analyze कर रहे हैं, देख रहे हैं। 1986 में एक दंगा हुआ था जिसमें मुस्लिम लोग गाँव छोड़ करके शहर के बगल में जहाँ एक Muslim Locality है वहाँ बसे थे बाद में वहाँ से एक bypass गुजरा और अब उसका four lane होने वाला है यानी प्रॉपर्टी का value बहुत appreciate कर गया है तो हमने देखा कि लगातार उसी के इर्दगिर्द दंगे हो रहे हैं तो हम इसको पूरी गंभीरता के साथ examine करवा रहे हैं और हमारे अधिकारीगण और दूसरे तमाम लोग लगे हुए देखना कि कहीं उनको प्रॉपर्टी से बेदखल करके उस पर कब्जा करने की नीयत से भी तो कहीं कुछ नहीं कराया जाता। तो मेरी समझ इस angle से भी हरेक दंगे के बाद analysis होना चाहिए और post riot हम जितना भी relief or rehabilitation करते हैं उसमें जो दंगों के चलते बेदखल होते हैं अपनी सम्पत्ति से, उनको restore कराया जाना चाहिए और ये संभव है भागलपुर में हम लोगों ने करके दिखा दिया 18 मामले में और ये किया जा सकता है। तो मेरे ये चंद दो तीन सुझाव हैं बाकी सारी बातें अन्य मसलों पर भी जो महिलाओं के प्रति जो अत्याचार हो रहे हैं, अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति के समन्वय, सारे मसलों पर हम लोगों ने अपना मंतव्य दे दिया है लेकिन इन बातों पर मैंने जरूरी समझा कि इसके बारे में जब National Integration Council बैठ रही है तो एक consensus बने धार्मिक जुलूसों के बारे में पर्व-त्यौहारों के बारे में, आर्म्स वगैरह का जुलूस में नहीं इस्तेमाल हो, किसी भी धर्म का जुलूस हो। अगर हम कुछ बुनियादी चीजों पर सहमति बनाते हैं और किसी भी सूरत में राजनैतिक जिनके अर्थ निकलते हों पंडाल हो या procession हो उसमें ऐसी झांकियां न निकलें इन सब चीजों पर रोक लगा दिया जाए तो मैं समझता हूँ बहुत हद तक ये जो communal disturbance पैदा होता है उससे हम निजात पा सकते हैं।

Shri Akhilesh Yadav:

आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, आदरणीय श्रीमती सोनिया गाँधी जी, आदरणीय सुशील कुमार शिंदे जी, और मंच पर बैठे सभी NIC के सदस्यगण, उपस्थित सभी महानुभाव। राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की आज की बैठक मुख्यतया सांप्रदायिक सदभाव के संबंध में बुलाई गई है। यह विषय देश के लिए और उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण है जैसा कि आप सभी जानते हैं उत्तर प्रदेश जनसंख्या की दृष्टि से देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रदेश है। वर्ष 2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार प्रदेश की आबादी लगभग 20 करोड़ है जिसमें मुस्लिम समुदाय की जनसंख्या कुल जनसंख्या का 18.5% है। इस प्रकार उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रत्येक पांच में से एक व्यक्ति मुस्लिम समुदाय का है, यह प्रदेश

अपनी गंगा—जमुनी तहजीब के लिए जाना जाता है और हिंदू व मुस्लिम समुदाय के लोग शताब्दियों से सौहार्दपूर्ण वातावरण में साथ रहते चले आये हैं। किन्तु विगत कुछ दशकों से प्रदेश में सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द को बिगाड़ने एवं सामाजिक सामंजस्य पैदा करने के प्रयास किये गए हैं जिसकी वजह से कई सांप्रदायिक दंगे हो चुके हैं। कुछ वर्षों पूर्व प्रदेश में बाबरी मस्जिद प्रकरण को एक सोची समझी साजिश के तहत निहित स्वार्थों द्वारा राजनैतिक उद्देश्य से बहुत बड़ा रूप प्रदान करने का प्रयास किया गया जिससे साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव पर बहुत खराब प्रभाव पड़ा। वर्ष 1990 में माननीय श्री मुलायम सिंह जी के नेतृत्व वाली सरकार ने ऐसी सांप्रदायिक ताकतों को अपने मंसूबों में कामयाब नहीं होने दिया किन्तु वर्ष 1992 में बाबरी मस्जिद को गिरा दिया गया। वस्तुतः मस्जिद ही नहीं ढहाई गई बल्कि कानून के राज को भी तोड़ा गया। इस विध्वंसकारी घटना से सांप्रदायिक सदभाव टूटा जिसके फलस्वरूप प्रदेश ही नहीं देशभर में अनेकों स्थानों पर दंगे हुए और हजारों जानें गयीं। बाबरी मस्जिद गिराये जाने की घटना प्रदेश व देश के सांप्रदायिक इतिहास में एक काला अध्याय है। इसी प्रकार वाराणसी एवं मथुरा में भी समय—समय पर निहित स्वार्थों द्वारा सांप्रदायिक सदभाव को बिगाड़ने का प्रयास किया गया है। प्रदेश में अन्य कई संवेदनशील स्थान एवं जनपद भी हैं, अतः प्रदेश में साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव कायम रखना एवं शान्ति व्यवस्था बनाए रखना राज्य सरकार की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता है एवं राज्य सरकार अपने इस दायित्व के प्रति पूर्णतः कटिबद्ध है। वर्तमान में ऐसा लगता है कि वर्ष 2014 में होने वाले लोक सभा के चुनाव को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए कुछ प्रमुख राजनैतिक दलों द्वारा राजनैतिक लाभ के लिए सीधी—साधी जनता को गुमराह कर सांप्रदायिक सदभाव को बिगाड़ने का खतरनाक प्रयास किया जा रहा है। प्रदेश की आबादी के ध्रुवीकरण की कोशिश चल रही है। पिछले कई महीनों में आमतौर पर जिन छोटी—मोटी घटनाओं जैसे कि वाहन दुर्घटना, छेड़छाड़ आदि जिनका सामान्यतः स्थानीय एवं पंचायत स्तर पर समाधान हो सकता है, उन्हें भी निहित स्वार्थों द्वारा तूल देकर बड़ी घटनाओं में परिवर्तित करने का खतरनाक प्रयास किया जा रहा है। इसका मैं उल्लेख करना चाहूँगा कि 15 जून 2013 को जनपद शामली में एक लड़की के साथ हुई दुराचार की घटना के सम्बन्ध में तुरंत गिरफ्तारी कर कानूनी कार्रवाई की गई। परन्तु फिर भी 16 एवं 17 जून को स्थानीय राजनैतिक नेताओं द्वारा घटना को सांप्रदायिक रूप देने का प्रयास किया गया। विश्व हिंदू परिषद् द्वारा अयोध्या में श्री राम मंदिर के निर्माण की मांग को लेकर समाज में ध्रुवीकरण करने तथा सरकार पर दबाव बनाने के उद्देश्य से 25 अगस्त से 13 सितम्बर 2013 के मध्य तथाकथित 84 कोसी परिक्रमा का आयोजन किया गया। परम्परागत रूप में 84 कोसी परिक्रमा 25 अप्रैल से 20 मई 2013 के मध्य संपन्न हो चुकी थी और विश्व हिंदू परिषद् के इस आयोजन का कोई औचित्य नहीं था। यह कार्य सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द बिगाड़कर उसका राजनैतिक लाभ उठाने के उद्देश्य से किया जा रहा था। अतः स्थानीय प्रशासन द्वारा विश्व हिंदू परिषद् के इस आयोजन को प्रतिबंधित किया गया। इसी प्रकार 22 सितम्बर से 13 अक्टूबर 2013 तक प्रतिदिन की प्रस्तावित पंचकोसी परिक्रमा की घोषणा भी सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द को बिगाड़ने की दिशा में एक प्रयास लगता है। देवबंद में भी एक मंदिर में कुछ असामाजिक तत्वों द्वारा दिनांक 7 दिसम्बर 2013 को एक धर्म संसद आयोजित करने का आह्वान किया गया था जिसे पुलिस द्वारा सतर्कता बरतते हुए रोका गया। मैं ये स्पष्ट करना चाहूँगा कि आज ये अत्यधिक आवश्यक है कि समाज के सभी समुदाय एवं राजनैतिक दल अपनी जिम्मेदारी समझें और सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बनाये रखने में अपना योगदान दें। उत्तर प्रदेश में हाल ही में मुजफ्फरनगर एवं आस—पास के जनपदों में कुछ निहित स्वार्थ एवं राजनैतिक दलों द्वारा गैर—जिम्मेदाराना

आचरण एवं भड़काऊ भाषणों के माध्यम से कुछ घटनाओं को सांप्रदायिक रंग दिया गया। हिंदू और मुस्लिम समुदाय के मध्य तनाव पैदा हुआ तथा हिंसात्मक घटनायें हुईं। सबसे खतरनाक बात ये है कि सांप्रदायिक तनाव को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में फैलाया गया एवं इन जनपदों के कई ग्रामों में हिंसा हुई। इस दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण घटना में कई लोगों की मृत्यु हुई तथा अनेक लोग घायल हुए। प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा सांप्रदायिक स्थिति को नियंत्रित करने के लिए तत्काल प्रभावी कदम उठाये गए। इसमें हमें माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी एवं गृह मंत्री जी का पूर्ण सहयोग प्राप्त हुआ बिना कोई विलम्ब किये सेना को मुजफ्फरनगर एवं शामली जनपद में तैनात कराया गया। भारी संख्या में प्रदेश सरकार के पुलिस बल के अतिरिक्त केंद्रीय अर्धसैनिक बलों को भी लगाया गया एवं कम से कम समय में स्थिति पर नियंत्रण पा लिया गया। इस संबंध में 2,255 लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है जिसमें निर्वाचीय जनप्रतिनिधि भी शामिल हैं। इनमें 235 व्यक्ति गंभीर अपराधों के आरोपी हैं एवं 2,020 व्यक्तियों को धाराओं में गिरफ्तार किया गया है। उपरोक्त घटनाओं में जिनका भी हाथ पाया जायेगा, उनके विरुद्ध बिना किसी पक्षपात या द्वेष भावना के कठोर कानूनी कार्रवाई की जायेगी। मैंने स्वयं 15 सितम्बर 2013 को मुजफ्फरनगर एवं शामली जनपदों के प्रभावित इलाकों में जाकर स्थिति का जायजा लिया है और पीड़ित लोगों का दुख-दर्द बांटते हुए उन्हें आश्वस्त किया है कि सांप्रदायिक स्थिति को बिगाड़ने वाले दोषी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कानूनों के अंतर्गत सख्त से सख्त कार्रवाई की जाएगी। उक्त सांप्रदायिक घटना की जाँच हेतु राज्य सरकार ने श्री विष्णु साहब, भूतपूर्व कार्यवाहक, मुख्य न्यायाधीश, इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट की अध्यक्षता में एक सदस्यीय न्यायिक जाँच आयोग दिनांक 9 सितम्बर 2013 को ही गठित कर दिया है जो अपनी रिपोर्ट दो माह में प्रस्तुत करेगा। आयोग से घटनाओं के कारणों का पता लगाने, इसके संबंध में उत्तरदायित्व निर्धारित करने तथा इस प्रकार की घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति रोकने हेतु सुझाव देने की अपेक्षा की गई है। राज्य सरकार ने निर्णय लिया है कि प्रत्येक मृतक के परिवार को 10,00,000 रुपये की आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी। ये सहायता प्रधानमंत्री सहायता कोष से मिलने वाली 2,00,000 रुपये एवं आतंकवादी नक्सली हिंसा के पीड़ित की सहायता हेतु केंद्रीय योजना के अंतर्गत मिलने वाली 3,00,000 रुपये की धनराशि के अतिरिक्त है। गंभीर रूप से घायल प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को 50,000 रुपये की आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी और उसका निःशुल्क इलाज कराया जाएगा। प्रधानमंत्री सहायता कोष से भी प्रत्येक घायल को 50,000 रुपये की आर्थिक सहायता प्राप्त होगी। उपरोक्त घटनाओं में प्रत्येक मृतक के आश्रित को योग्यता के आधार पर यथा-नियमों की स्थिति पर नौकरी दी जाएगी। इसके साथ-साथ सरकार की कोशिश होगी, क्योंकि लिखित भाषण है, मैं दे दूँगा, कि जो लोग शिविरों में हैं उनको जल्द से जल्द घर पहुँचाया जाए, सुरक्षित माहौल बना करके उनको गाँवों में पहुँचाया जाए। जहाँ तक आज के जमाने में जो **social media** के तहत भड़काऊ सामग्री या जिस तरह की **MMS** या जिस तरह कि **YouTube** पे फिल्म डाली जाती है उसके लिए मैं समझता हूँ कहीं न कहीं केंद्र सरकार भी आगे बढ़कर के उनके रोकथाम के लिए प्रयास करेगी। मैं अंत में, अपनी बात को खत्म करता हुआ, मैं ऐसे निहित स्वार्थों को जो शुद्ध राजनैतिक लाभ के लिए सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बिगाड़ने का खतरनाक प्रयास करते हैं, की कड़े शब्दों में निंदा करता हूँ और माननीय प्रधानमंत्री से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् द्वारा भी इसी प्रकार का एक प्रस्ताव पारित किया जाए। इसी के साथ-साथ मैं समाज के सभी वर्ग एवं राजनैतिक दलों से सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बनाये रखने में अपना योगदान देने की अपील करता हूँ।

धन्यवाद!

Shri Virbhadra Singh:

Respected Prime Minister Sir, Respected Smt. Sonia Gandhi Ji, Chairperson UPA, Honourable Union Home Minister, Union Ministers, Leaders of the opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, Chief Ministers from the States, Chairperson of the National Commissions, representatives from the various sections of the society, officers, ladies and gentleman. We are all gathered here today to discuss on important issues pertaining to the social harmony and unity and integrity of our nation. Let me at the outset profess before the August gathering that I subscribe to just one identity, that of being an Indian and I am proud of this fact. Pandit Nehru once said and quote, “political integration has already taken place but what I am after is something much deeper than that an emotional Integration of Indian people so that the two may be welded into one strong national unity, maintaining at the same time all our wonderful diversity”. It is this vision of his that had led Pandit Nehru to constitute this council 61 years ago. I have often introspected on the reasons for the divisive and disruptive episodes that we have been witnessing in different parts of our country from time to time. India being a country of myriad cultures, dialects, languages, religions faiths and sects, the aspirations of the people are also varied. We probably need to pay greater attention to understanding these aspirations of our people and frame policies that will help achieve them. However at the same time, I must emphasize that our nation despite its diversities has served as an outstanding example of unity and diversity among the fast maturing democracies across the World. The state of Himachal Pradesh continues to remain a peaceful state with absolute communal harmony. The Government of HP is committed for the uniform socio-economic development, empowerment and social inclusion of the vulnerable sections as well as their safety and security. Communal harmony is the sine qua non of a pluralistic society such as ours. It is essential to commit ourselves to preserve, promote and defend the secular, pluralistic socialist and democratic values of our Constitution. Given the constraint of time I am restricting my speech, now I have certain suggestions on the measures that could be taken to promote harmony and bring about National Integration in our country. They can be read in the full text of my speech which has been submitted to all of you. In the end I would like to thank the Honourable Prime Minister for having provided me with this opportunity to put across my views before this august gathering. I look forward to some positive outcomes from the deliberations held here today which will go long way in promoting harmony and bring about prosperity in our country.

Jai Hind.

Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan:

धन्यवाद। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, श्रद्धेय मंच, सभी मित्रों। इस बैठक के लिए प्रधानमंत्री जी, बैठक बुलाने के लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ और सबसे पहले विनम्रता लेकिन दृढ़ता के साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि agenda नोट में जो आंकड़े दिए मध्यप्रदेश में सांप्रदायिक घटनाओं में मृत्यु के, मैं पूरे आकड़ों और तथ्यों के साथ यह कह रहा हूँ कि मध्यप्रदेश आज शांति का टापू है और इन वर्षों में मध्यप्रदेश में कोई भी मृत्यु सांप्रदायिक दंगों में नहीं हुई है। हमने अधिकारी स्तर पर भी यह बात कही थी कि मध्यप्रदेश में कोई सांप्रदायिक दंगों में मृत्यु नहीं हुई। वो आंकड़े ठीक करेंगे तो ठीक रहेगा। मेरा अपना मानना है कि सरकार में अगर दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति है तो सांप्रदायिक दंगा नहीं हो सकता। सांप्रदायिक सदभाव, सर्वधर्म सदभाव भारत की माटी में है, भारत की जड़ों में है, जरूरत है इसको पुष्ट करने की और मध्यप्रदेश में हमने उसको पुष्ट करने का प्रयास किया है। मध्यप्रदेश में मुख्यमंत्री निवास में सभी धर्मों के, सभी पंथों के जितने त्यौहार है, प्रमुख लोगों के साथ हम प्रेम से मनाने का काम करते हैं। आप की अनुमति से सीता जी ने जहाँ अग्नि परीक्षा दी थी, श्रीलंका में, हमने वहाँ पैसा भेज के सीता जी के मंदिर के निर्माण का मार्ग प्रशस्त किया है। बौद्ध धर्म का प्रचार साँची से श्रीलंका में हुआ था, सम्राट अशोक के बेटे संघमित्रा और महेन्द्र श्रीलंका गए थे वहाँ बुद्धिस्ट यूनिवर्सिटी बनाई है। भोपाल में हज हाउस बनाने का काम कर रहे हैं। कुल मिला के सब जो हमारे वर्ग हैं उनके मन में अगर विश्वास हो कि सरकार सबकी है, सबके बारे में सोचती है तो मैं यह मानता हूँ कि इस तरह की घटनाओं को प्रभावी ढंग से विश्वास के आधार पर रोका जा सकता है और मध्यप्रदेश में हमने यह काम किया है। एक चीज मुझे लगती है हम सबको तय करना पड़ेगा केवल कहने से, भाषण से, माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने बिल्कुल सही कहा उससे सांप्रदायिक दंगे या सांप्रदायिक घटनायें नहीं रुक सकती। हमको ये भाव पूरे देश में पुष्ट करना पड़ेगा, न्याय सबको, लेकिन तुष्टिकरण किसी का नहीं। अगर हरेक संप्रदाय को, हरेक वर्ग को, ये लगेगा कि सरकार हमारे साथ न्याय करेगी, राजनैतिक दल सबकी सुनेंगे, किसी एक की बात नहीं करेंगे तो निश्चित तौर पर हम इस तरह की घटनाओं को रोक सकते हैं, लेकिन अगर कभी हम ही कह देंगे कि देश के संसाधनों पर पहला अधिकार किसका, तो फिर अविश्वास पैदा होगा, फिर तनाव पैदा होगा। हमको सावधानी रखनी पड़ेगी कि तुष्टिकरण किसी भी कीमत पर नहीं होगा और उसी से जुड़ा हुआ मैं देखता हूँ वोट बैंक की राजनीति। कई बार हम कहते कुछ हैं और करते कुछ हैं। हम अलग-अलग लोगों को संतुष्ट करने का प्रयास करते हैं, वोट के लिए। लेकिन हम सबको ये समझ लेना चाहिए वोट अब मिलेगा विकास के एजेंडे पर, वोट अब मिलेगा जनकल्याण के एजेंडे पर। अब नारों के दिन लद गए, अब अविश्वास पैदा करके वोट लेने के दिन लद गए और इसलिए consensus बने कि हम वोट बैंक की राजनीति किसी भी कीमत पर नहीं करेंगे, विकास, विकास और विकास ये राजनैतिक दलों का मंत्र होना चाहिए, लक्ष्य होना चाहिए। समय की कमी के कारण मैं बहुत विस्तार में नहीं जा रहा हूँ। लेकिन एक निवेदन मैं करना चाहता हूँ। पता नहीं, हम क्यों राजनैतिक चश्में से देखते हैं। मध्यप्रदेश ने आतंकवाद और organized crime के खिलाफ एक कड़ा कानून विधानसभा में पारित करके, हमने विधेयक पारित करके आपके यहाँ भेजा। केंद्र में लंबित पड़ा है, पांच साल हो गए। आखिर कोई ये क्यों सोचता है कि मध्यप्रदेश जैसी सरकार इस कानून का दुरुपयोग करेगी। हम भी जिम्मेदार नागरिक हैं, मुख्यमंत्री के रूप में इतने वर्षों से काम कर रहे हैं, सांप्रदायिक सदभाव

बनाके रखा है। अब महाराष्ट्र में वैसा कानून लागू रह सकता है, लेकिन मध्यप्रदेश में वैसा लागू नहीं हो सकता। मैं समझता हूँ कि नीतीश जी ने एक बात कही थी **organized crime** वाली। कई जगह इस तरह की घटनायें इसलिए भी होती हैं और कुल मिला के इस तरह के तत्व हैं कि कहीं कीमती जमीन है उसको हथियाना है इस तरह की घटनायें पैदा कर दो। उनके खिलाफ कड़े कानून की जरूरत है तो मुझे लगता है उसकी अनुमति बिना किसी भेदभाव के देने का काम होना चाहिए। मैं एक बार फिर जोर दे के कहता हूँ हिंदू, मुसलमान, सिक्ख, इसाई नहीं इंसान के तौर पर अगर हम सब को देखेंगे तो हमारे देश में सांप्रदायिक सदभाव कायम रह पायेगा और ये हम सबकी केवल कथनी में नहीं, करनी में आना चाहिए, ये मेरी प्रार्थना है। महिलाओं के प्रति दृष्टिकोण के बारे में, निश्चित तौर पर एक कड़ा कानून बनाके हम महिलाओं के प्रति जो अपराध हैं, उनको रोक सकते हैं और मैं मध्यप्रदेश का उदाहरण देना चाहूँगा हम लोगों ने तय किया अगर कोई ऐसी घटना होती है तो 15 दिन में हम **investigation** करते हैं, 16वें दिन हम **challan put up** कर देते हैं। ये तकलीफ की बात है, एक भी घटना अगर कहीं होती है तो वो शर्म की बात है। माता-बहनों के प्रति जो अपराध होते हैं, उसका और एक तरीका ये अपराध कम करने का कि हम **FIR** ही न लिखें। लेकिन मध्यप्रदेश में हमने सच्चे निर्देश दे रखे हैं, कोई भी आए **FIR** लिखना है, **Investigation** करना है और उसके बाद मैं ये बता रहा हूँ कि इसी साल मध्यप्रदेश में हमने लगभग 10 लोगों को मृत्युदंड दिलाने में सफलता पाई है और 38 को आजीवन कारावास मिला है। यहाँ तक कि एक स्विस बहन के साथ रेप हुआ था, उसमें हमने उनको यहाँ बुलाके आग्रहपूर्वक **Swiss Embassy** से **video conferencing** कराके हमने जज साहब को बुलाया कलैक्ट्रेट में और **video conferencing** के जरिये बयान दर्ज करके पांच अपराधियों को आजीवन कारावास की सजा दिलाने में सफलता पाई है। एक तो तरीका है हम उनको सजा दिलवा पाये अपराधियों को। कानून में जहाँ बदलाव की जरूरत है उस बदलाव को भी करने का काम करें, लेकिन दूसरा मैं 2 मिनट और लूँगा शिंदे जी। मैं बहुत अनुशासित हूँ कभी सीमा से बाहर जाके नहीं बोलता। दूसरा मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ सबसे कि महिलाओं के प्रति समाज के दृष्टिकोण को बदलना पड़ेगा। आखिर हम नारियों के प्रति दृष्टिकोण क्या रखते हैं। मीडिया के मित्र जो कई बार चिंता बहुत व्यक्त करते हैं लेकिन माताओं-बहनों को जिस रूप में दिखाया जाता है क्या उसको हम शालीन कह सकते हैं, जो पुरुष प्रधान मानसिकता है उसे सोच को बदलना पड़ेगा, महिला सशक्तिकरण के लिए और प्रभावी उपाय करने पड़ेंगे। मध्यप्रदेश में हमने पैदा होने से लेके अंतिम साँस लेने तक सामाजिक सुरक्षा माँ, बहन और बेटी के साथ खड़ा करने का प्रयास किया है। बेटी बचाओ अभियान हम पूरे मध्यप्रदेश में चला रहे हैं। मुझे लगता है बेटी बचाओ जैसे अभियान पूरे देश में सबको मिल के चलाना चाहिए। एक **consensus** इस पर बनना चाहिए और सबसे अंत में **SC** और **ST** के प्रति जो अपराध होते हैं उसके प्रति हम संवेदनशील तो रहें ही लेकिन उनको और आर्थिक दृष्टि से सशक्तिकरण के लिए विशेष उपाय करने की जरूरत है। मध्यप्रदेश में हमने वनोपज को **minimum support price** पे खरीदना शुरू किया ताकि उनको ठीक दाम मिल सके। मैंने देखा कि मेडिकल कॉलेज, इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज में विशेषकर **ST** के जो **tribe** बच्चे हैं वो पढ़ ही नहीं पाते, पढाई छोड़ देते हैं, इसलिए नहीं पढ़ पाते के होस्टल में उतनी जगह होती नहीं है और किराये पे कमरा लेके पढ़ने की सामर्थ्य उनकी नहीं है, तो हमने अभी तय किया कि अगर वो बच्चे किराये पे कमरा लेके पढ़ेंगे तो उसका किराया भी प्रदेश की सरकार भरने का काम करेगी। एक नहीं ऐसे अनेकों उपाय किये हैं। चूँकि समय कम है मैंने अपने लिखित भाषण में विस्तार से उनको

लिख के आपके समक्ष रखा है। मैं आपको धन्यवाद दूंगा लेकिन मैं फिर ये कहूंगा कि सांप्रदायिक सदभाव को पुष्ट करने के लिए एक consensus बननी चाहिए और अगर दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति सरकार में है तो दंगे नहीं होंगे, सदभाव नहीं बिगड़ेगा।

बहुत—बहुत धन्यवाद।

Shri Bhupinder Singh Hooda:

Thank you Sir. Honourable Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Honourable Chairperson UPA Smt. Sonia Gandhi Ji, Honourable Home Minister Sushil Shinde Ji and fellow Chief Ministers, Ministers, Leader of Opposition Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley Ji, national and regional political parties leaders, eminent representatives and friends. With the view to save time I have already circulated my detailed speech. Now I shall be sharing some of my thoughts and concerns with this august gathering today. It is our ability to work together as a composite national identity that has allowed us to achieve the present heights of economic and social developments. We must in this forum reaffirm our collective resolve to protect the vision and legacy of inclusive peace, justice and prosperity which the founding fathers of our nation gave to us. As far as Haryana is concerned, Sir, we have never let communalism in any form take roots in the State. This is amply clear from the figures in the statement on communal incident circulated with this Conference's Background Papers. Guidelines of Government of India issued on communal harmony have been circulated to all the field formations in the State for meticulous compliance. Personnel in Haryana Police are recruited from all communities including scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and minorities and their training includes sensitization on communal harmony. All reports relating to communal incidents covered by media are scrutinized. Special cells within CID have been created to keep a watch on the issues which may cause social tension. We support all initiatives to use social media networks to promote communal harmony but it has often been seen, as pointed out by Honourable Prime Minister today, that the social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, MMS are being misused to spread rumours to instigate hatred among various communities leading to flaring up of the communal situation. However, in the present legal framework, control of each social networking site is required to be done by the Central Government. As far as safety of woman, we are fully geared up to ensure and secure complete safety and protection of women in the State. Women police officials of the rank of DSP, inspectors have been appointed as nodal officers in each District, Women and Child Helpdesks have been set up in police stations, specialized training programs including self defence camps are organized for women police officers. Other initiatives include vulnerability mapping of sensitive areas. An exclusive four-digit woman helpline 1091 has been made available. 12 new women police stations and number of exclusive crime against women cells are under creation. 30 PCR vans staffed by women police officials are functioning in the State. Investigating officers have been directed to complete the investigation in sexual assault in less than a month and sexual harassment cases within 15 days. 21 exclusive courts to fast track the trial of cases of heinous crimes against women have been created and notified. Once Stop

Crisis Centres for women that is OSCC have been established in Gurgaon and Faridabad. The scheme provides medical facility and other support services such as legal aid, police services, counselling etc. under one roof to women victims of domestic violence, sexual assaults etc. We are also implementing a scheme namely “Relief and Rehabilitation of Women, Acid Victims”.

And as far as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are concerned, several measures have been taken by the State Government. State Government attaches the highest importance to the welfare and protection of weaker sections. The aim is to increase the responsiveness of law and order machinery so that the members of the SC and ST feel secure and live with dignity and respect. Crimes against members of SC and ST are being registered promptly. Investigation of all offences related to atrocities against SC/ST are being conducted by DSP level officers and charge sheets are being filed within prescribed time limit. An SC/ST protection cell has been established in the police headquarter under the Additional Director General of Police for monitoring all complaint cases of atrocities against members of SC/ST. Senior officers including the Home Secretary, the Director of Prosecution and Director General of Police review the position of all the investigations and by investigation officers. Implementation of welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes is being monitored at the highest level.

Before I conclude I would like to state that the National Capital Territory of Delhi is a symbol of national unity and harmony. If safety and security is intimately linked to the safety and security of NCR region for Haryana which surrounds it from the three sides. For effective and prompt action in the event of any disturbance, the policing in the NCR region in Haryana requires the same level of policing, in terms of technology, per capita manpower, weaponry etc.

At the end, I would like to make a very important point while the population of NCT Delhi during the period 2001-2011 has increased by 21% the population of Gurgaon has risen by 300% and of Faridabad by 33%. Overall, the area contiguous to Delhi has had to undertake massive urbanization to support needs of Delhi. For the sake of the National Capitals security, the security of this region must match standards of Delhi. The Mega City Policing scheme must also cover Gurgaon and Faridabad. I would request the Hon’ble Prime Minister to sanction a special package of about Rs. 500 crore for Haryana Police so that its capability is brought as per with Delhi Police and the entire region benefits from the same quality of confidence derived from better security.

In conclusion, I express Haryana’s firm resolve to meet the challenges of communalism and social Divisiveness and to ensure a peaceful and harmonious environment for all. Thank you.

Jai Hind

Shri Omar Abdullah:

Honourable Prime Minister Sir, Honourable Chairperson of the UPA, Honourable Union Home Minister, union ministers, leaders of the opposition in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, honourable members of National Integration Council. Sir I must confess that it is a matter of considerable personal embarrassment for me that my State found mention in your remarks as a result of what happened earlier this year in Kishtwar. I think I must begin by saying that happened in Kishtwar was unfortunate and should not have happened but I will come in the course of my address in some detail on that. My written remarks have been circulated. I won't repeat that. I am grateful that this National Integration Council Meeting has been called. It is I hope an effort to ensure that the sort of violence we have seen in states like mine, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and others is something that we can avoid in the run up to the elections. I dare say that as we come closer and closer to elections there will be more of an effort made to weaken the communal structure of this country rather than strengthen it and if as a result of the deliberations here we can recommit ourselves to ensuring that such events are not sought to be taken advantage of, possibly this meeting will not be a situation of closing the stable door after the horse has bolted; but that is only something we will come to know as we come closer and closer to the elections. It might have been useful for us, Sir, if what had transpired in previous National Integration Council Meetings had been shared with us. One of the important agenda items that has been discussed here is communal violence and as I said, various states have been cited in the run up to this meeting but possibly an indication of what is happening with the Communal Violence Prevention Bill which is under consideration still with the Government of India could have given some idea of the thinking at the central level on this important subject. Now Sir coming to my state and to the issue of Kishtwar which found mention as I said in the Prime Minister's opening remarks unfortunately. Sir, Kishtwar is an area that has, from time to time, seen communal trouble. The fact that for the last four and half years Jammu & Kashmir has been largely free from the trouble, is something that we took some satisfaction from. Now why did, what happened in Kishtwar. I believe the proximity to the elections is an important indicator as to why that happened. It is no secret that an effort was made to recreate what happened in 2008 in Jammu & Kashmir again this year. What happened in 2008 is not something we can easily forget. My predecessor, Janab Gulam Nabi Azad Sahib's good work both in terms of creation of new districts as well as a lot of development work was sought to be negated by the use of communal cards both in Kashmir as well as in Jammu in the run up to the 2008 assembly election and that is exactly what was sought to be done in this situation. Otherwise the event that was used as a trigger for this violence was not unique to this year. What was suggested was that because some people came out and made anti-national sort of sloganeering in the run up to Eid prayers. This was an excuse to foment trouble but Sir this is not unique to this year. Unfortunately there are parts of Jammu region particularly in the higher reaches where there is a section of population that does identify itself more with separatist mindset than with the nationalist mindset and from time to time whether on Fridays or on Eid or on other occasions a handful of these people will come out and shout slogans but it is not as if they represent the large majority of the population or that is something

that we need to unduly concern ourselves with. But in this instance these protesters were used as an excuse to begin a situation where it soon flared out of control. Now it is some consolation for us perhaps not adequate that we were able to contain the situation within the day that it erupted. Within 24 hours of the situation developing in Kishtwar the army was out, they were patrolling the streets and no further trouble from that area was reported. Now the concern that I have is the effort that was made to spread this trouble to the rest of Jammu. Unfortunately, very responsible and reasonable people spared no effort to try and fan the flames of trouble in Jammu otherwise there was absolutely no reason to see the sort of protest that we saw in Jammu that was sought to be developed. It was not an easy decision for us, Prime Minister Sir, to call out the army in Jammu city or to call the army in other neighbouring towns. We did this with a very heavy heart but we did it knowing fully well that if we did not take pre-emptive action an effort would have been made to recreate exactly the sort of situation that we had in 2008 and that would have spread to the valley and it would have been an extremely difficult situation to contain. Now Sir what I think needs to be done is that (a) we need to measure our words very carefully, (b) we need to measure our action, and (c) I think we need to be a little less hypocritical in our approach to how we deal with situations and I will give you a small example which betrays the mindset that we have wherein it is more often a case of do as we say, don't do as we do. When you Honourable Prime Minister Sir, Chairperson UPA and other visited Muzaffarnagar in the aftermath of the riots you were accused of being secular tourist. Now my question to those people who make that accusation against you is what do we call those people who try to get to Kishtwar in the immediate aftermath of the riots there. Those people who summon the helicopter from a neighbouring state had it parked in Jammu to fly them to Kishtwar. If you were secular tourists, should we call them communal tourists because of the same effort. I mean you went there with a view to assessing the situation and trying to control it. Now, if those who are trying to get to Kishtwar are to be judged by the same standard, then this sort of language does not help the situation. In fact, if anything, it makes the situation worse and therefore my honest appeal to everybody here is that if we really believe in the cause of National Integration then we will set politics aside from religious considerations, from caste considerations and we will not seek to misuse events like this. I guess there will be trouble. It is not going to be possible that as a result of one meeting all communal violence in this country will end. It won't. But what we can do is ensure that all political parties desist from the urge to take political advantage of such communal violence and if we do that then I believe the cause of National Integration will have been served and that is the only appeal that I can make to the participants here and, finally Sir, just an observation in light of the agenda items. Sir, this is the National Integration Council which means we bring everyone together. We try and bridge differences. Yet unfortunately Sir in the agenda papers it appears there is one sort of set or statistic for the rest of the country and one set or statistic for the North East and Jammu & Kashmir. I fail to understand if communal violence is communal violence it was same across the country why is it that my state and the Northeast are treated separately from the rest of the country. The entire table that is given all the other states paragraphs add for the trouble and yet the Northeast and Jammu & Kashmir is treated separately. If this is National Integration Sir, then my appeal to you would be that when you share such

statistics, please share them the same for the entire country. Don't treat Jammu & Kashmir and the Northeast separately. That is it Sir. Thank you.

Shri Hemant Soren:

आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, मंच में मंचासीन सभी आदरणीय सदस्यगण और इस हॉल में सभी उपस्थित आदरणीय सम्मानित अतिथिगण सबको मेरा हार्दिक जोहार है। राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की इस बैठक में मेरी पहली उपस्थिति है और निश्चित रूप से मैं ये चाहूँगा कि यह बैठक नियमित अंतराल में हो तो बेहतर होगा। ये मंच न सिर्फ हमें बोलने का मौका देता है बल्कि इसमें हमें कुछ सीखने का भी मौका मिलता है। 28 राज्यों से यहाँ उपस्थित सभी प्रतिनिधिगण विभिन्न समुदाय के लोग यहाँ उपस्थित हैं और निश्चित रूप से ये एक राष्ट्रीय ताकत को भी दर्शा रहा है। मैं बहुत संक्षिप्त में अपनी बातों को रखना चाहूँगा। चूँकि हमारा झारखण्ड प्रदेश आदिवासी बहुल क्षेत्र है। SC/ST वहाँ सबसे अधिक संख्या में हैं और हमारे इस राज्य में निश्चित रूप से अनुसूचित जाति और जनजातियों पर जो बातें उठ रही हैं ये भी एक गंभीर विषय है। इसके बावजूद सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बनाने में हमारी राज्य सरकार ने निश्चित समय में उन सभी चीजों को **handle** किया और उसको **control** करने की भी कोशिश की और सफल भी रही। प्रधानमंत्री जी लंबे समय से विघटनकारी शक्तियां देश को धर्म, जाति, भाषा आदि के आधार पर विभाजित करने में लगी हुई हैं। इन ताकतों की पहचान कर इनके मंसूबों पर पानी फेरने के लिए हमें अपने मतभेद भुलाने होंगे। विशेषकर हमें ये सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि हमारी अखंडता और सामुदायिक सदभाव देशभर में बने रहे इसके लिए सर्वप्रथम हमें राजनैतिक दीवारों को गिरा कर समग्र सोच के साथ आगे बढ़ना होगा। झारखण्ड ऐसे तत्वों की पहचान कर सख्त कार्रवाई करता रहा है। लेकिन ऐसे तत्वों की हरकतों को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए अन्तर्राज्य सहयोग और आपसी विश्वास को भी बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बनाये रखना झारखण्ड राज्य की प्राथमिकता रही है। ऐसे मामलों में हम **zero tolerance** की नीति पर कार्य कर रहे हैं। पुलिस प्रशासन में राजनैतिक हस्तक्षेप की कोई गुंजाइश हम लोगों ने नहीं रखी है। राज्य जिला प्रशासन के निचले स्तर तक संस्थागत व्यवस्था कार्यरत है। भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द कायम रखने संबंधी मार्गदर्शन का पालन करने के साथ हम अपनी ओर से भी विशेष प्रयास कर रहे हैं। प्रशासन को संवेदनशील बनाया गया है, जिलास्तर पर उपायुक्त एवं पुलिस अधीक्षकों की जिम्मेवारी तय की गयी है। राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की अनुशंसा के आलोक में त्यौहार और सौहार्दपूर्ण एवं शांतिपूर्वक संपन्न करने के लिए नागरिक समिति का गठन कर विभिन्न समुदायों के बीच सामंजस्य स्थापित किया जा रहा है। हमारी सरकार विशेष अवसरों पर ही नहीं बल्कि सालों तक सामाजिक सौहार्द बनाये रखने के लिए सजग और सक्रिय है। खुफियातंत्र को मजबूत करने की दिशा में हमने कई ठोस कदम उठाये हैं जिसका लाभ हमें मिला है और आगे भी मिलता रहेगा। राज्य में सांप्रदायिक घटनाएं नहीं के बराबर होती हैं। इसकी मुख्य वजह है सामाजिक तत्वों पर पैनी नजर रखते हुए उन्हें नियंत्रित रखना। मीडिया एवं अन्य संचार माध्यमों के जरिये हम एक दूसरे के प्रति प्रेम और विश्वास को बनाये रखने के सतत् प्रयास कर रहे हैं। स्थानीय प्रशासन, आम जनता एवं मीडिया के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करने हेतु समय-समय पर आयोजित बैठकें एवं आपसी सौहार्द बनाये रखने का ही परिणाम है कि राज्य में सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द और सामाजिक समरसता का माहौल बना हुआ है। थोड़ा समय और लेना चाहूँगा।

प्रधानमंत्री जी मेरा विनम्र निवेदन और सुझाव है कि हम देश और साम्प्रदायिक सौहार्द को बिगाड़ने की कोशिश करने वाली ताकत की पहचान कर उनके खिलाफ कठोर कार्रवाई करें। हमें युवा पीढ़ी में राष्ट्रीयता की भावना पैदा करनी होगी, एक दूसरे के प्रति आदर एवं परस्पर सहयोग का महत्व समझाने के लिए स्कूल, कॉलेज में विशेष कक्षा के सेमिनार आयोजित करने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाना होगा। पश्चिमी सभ्यता के प्रभाव के कारण पारंपरिक सामाजिक स्कूल में आ रही गिरावट चिंता का विषय है। हमने अगर देश की संस्कृति विस्तार को अक्षुण्ण बनाए रखा तो सामाजिक सौहार्द और समरसता स्वतः बनी रहेगी। युवाओं की उर्जा को सकारात्मक दिशा में ले जाने एवं उन्हें रोजगार का बेहतर अवसर उपलब्ध करा युवाशक्ति को नकारात्मक सोच और उससे उत्पन्न होने वाली समस्याओं से निजात पाया जा सकता है। मैं चाहूँगा कि केन्द्र सरकार को युवा नीति में संशोधन कर गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए। इन्टरनेट एवं संचारतंत्र की विकसित प्रणाली के कारण दुनिया सिमट कर लेपटॉप में बस गयी है। दुनियाभर के देशों में उर्जा घटी है। जहां विकसित संचारतंत्र में हमने एक और दुनिया को बेहतर तरीके से समझने का अवसर दिया है, वहीं ये वरदान कई बार अभिशाप बनकर हमें विचलित भी करता रहा है। निश्चित रूप से इन **social media** पर भी एक निगरानी रखते हुए हम आगे बढ़ें तो मुझे लगता है कि ये एक बेहतर परिणाम होगा। सर, मैं विशेषतौर पर हमारे राज्य में जो खनिज संपदा से उत्पन्न। इसके अलावा सर मैं ये कहना चाहूँगा कि हमारे स्टेट के खनिज संपदा है जिसको ले कर। नहीं सर, इसके अलावा थोड़ी देर जो इसमें नहीं लिखा हुआ मैं वो बता रहा हूँ क्योंकि हमारा स्टेट, क्योंकि सर सबसे, हर चीज से अलग है। बस सर, मैं चाहूँगा थोड़ा सा समय दिया जाए। सर क्योंकि हमारा ये मिनरल स्टेट है और सबसे अधिक भारत सरकार की उपग्रह हमारे राज्य में कार्यरत है और आज जिस तरीके से हम विस्थापित अपने राज्य में हो रहे हैं एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है फिर भी आज के दिन में सामाजिक सौहार्दपूर्ण वातावरण बनाए रखना आज के दिन में निश्चित रूप से **grass root** में हमारे राज्य में काफी कठिनाई की स्थिति से हमें निपटना पड़ता है। निश्चित रूप से मैं समझता हूँ इस विषय में भी केन्द्र सरकार कोई विशेष निर्णय ले हमारे यहाँ देश की बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनियां हैं वहाँ पर नौकरियों को लेके जिस तरीके से **policies** बनाये गए हैं सर इसके लिए भी हम चाहेंगे कि इस पर विचार किया जाए।

Shri Oommen Chandy:

Respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, respected UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Ji, and distinguished members of this Council. Let me at the outset place on record my appreciation for the Union Government for convening this meeting of the National Integration Council. The Centre and the State Government have been working together to combat the menace of communalism, castism and regionalism and we have been successful in building up a strong and vibrant India. Each and every component of a peace loving society has to play its role in accomplishing the mission of national integration. In this regard, I wish to point out the greater role of political parties. All those within the framework of democratic setup have a very important duty in the scenario. They should devote themselves to national interest rather than compartmentalising themselves with regional interests. Secularism and communal harmony are an integral part of our tradition. The political parties should pledge that no scar is made on that.

Any dispute among States should not be debated in such a way as to generate hatred and rivalry between the peoples of those States. There should be a platform for active discussion and conflict resolution rather than sensationalism. All political parties, State Governments and democratic institutions must be committed to this course. Social networking sites are sometimes misused for ill-motivated debate, propaganda and for organizing agitations or riots. The Government and police should try to address the problem by using social network sites for promoting National Integration and communal harmony. There is a need to monitor social media, to prevent its misuse to destroy communal values and organizing violent agitations, without infringing on fundamental rights of citizens. We have a great culture and tradition of accommodating everyone's views. A singular feature of our great country is tolerance. This has come to us not through any compulsion, enactment or pronouncement. Much before the enactment of our Constitution, we are practicing this. What we should pass to our future generation is this practice of tolerance. The Government should consider bringing this as a core value in curricula. Kerala has been a relatively peaceful State in all respects and there have been no major incidents of communal or law and order problems for several years. But extraneous elements, utilizing issues which have little to do with the State or its people, do at times pose a threat to this tranquility. I urge Government of India to extend infrastructure as well as technological assistance to the State Government to check and combat left extremists and communal fundamentalists. Kerala has been at the fore-front in the empowerment of women and in ensuring their social and economic security. The Government of Kerala has a very successful and participative form of Panchayati Raj Institutions, an inclusive development planning and decision making process involving women and the SC/STs, which ensures that everybody gains from the development efforts of the Government. I would like to assure the Government of India of all support and whole-hearted co-operation in all steps initiated for the furtherance of this course.

Thank you.

Shri Prithviraj Chavan:

Honourable Prime Minister, Chairperson UPA, member of NIC, friends. I am indeed grateful to Prime Minister for convening this meeting at an appropriate time when communal forces in the country are becoming active with an eye on the electoral benefits in the ensure election. It is high time for progressive forces to come together and frustrate such designs. I am sure this deliberation will help in that process. As the genesis of communalism is rooted in the mutual distrust, handling a communal situation requires a different and a proactive approach with separate standard operating procedures. In Maharashtra we have set up such SOPs which include deep civil engagement with community policing schemes, picking up early signals, quick response to these warning signals and continued sensitization of police forces. An analysis of recent violence reveals trust deficit across communities leading to a sense of insecurity. Provocative messages extended through social media further vitiate surcharged communal situation. In fact these have become a surrogate of fundamentalism and have a phenomenal reach and speed. We must work together to prevent the misuse of cyber space. We request the Government of India to set up a

media lab to take timely intervention in cases of provocative material being posted. Such a step has been put up in place in Mumbai to alert the jurisdictional police. We are expanding it to rest of the state. We must network these centres across the country. It is also important to evolve a response mechanism. The local peace committees should include a few cyber experts. Prompt use of television to curb the propaganda and to propagation of messages and also to warn these forces against spreading up such messages would help. Our experience of meeting the religious leadership prior to major religious festivals has been very positive, particularly as fundamentalist forces use these festivals to polarise the society.

Focusing on the inclusive developmental agenda is a most important element to promote communal harmony. The Government of Maharashtra has launched several initiatives such as special infrastructure improvement programs in the minority areas and special second shifts in ITIs and polytechniques for students of minority communities. We have given incentives for modernization of Madarsas to mainstream the students to acquire marketable skills.

Recent incidence of crime against women calls for continuous efforts for bringing change to the social values and attitudes. Special efforts are required to help victims to cope up with the tragedy. With the recent national outrage, more and more cases of sexual assault are getting reported. It is important to punish the repeat offenders. It is also high time to revisit the definition of juvenile under a Juvenile Justice Act and consider lowering the age in case of crime of rape. Use of a Smartphone to send distress signals with location information would help police track the location of person in distress to enable to take immediate action. Government of India should consider making compulsory incorporation of GPS features in all phones as is done in some western countries.

We need to have fast track courts for victims of sexual offenders. This cannot be over emphasized. In Maharashtra 13 special courts dealing with cases involving atrocities against women, have started functioning and 14 more are being established.

From 2nd October we will be launching a new scheme called Manodhairya Yojna for providing financial assistance and rehabilitation for women and children and victims of sexual assault and acid attacks. In addition to financial assistance the victim will also receive free medical and legal help and counselling for overcoming trauma and in rehabilitation process. Another scheme called Sukanya Yojna has been launched with a view to change the attitude of society towards the female child, reduce female feticide and improve health and educational standards of the girl child and to prevent child marriages. This scheme in coordination with LIC the initial contribution of the state, will make available Rs. 1 Lakh when the child turns 18.

Maharashtra is a land of Jyotiba Phule, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. It has always been in the forefront of eradicating discrimination to provide the rightful place to the members of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. In Maharashtra, with mandatory plan outlay in proportion to the population of STs and SCs, we made provision over 8,000 crores

during the current year for development of SCs and STs. Government of Maharashtra has sanctioned six special courts to deal with cases of atrocity of the SCs and STs and we are trying our best to improve the conviction rate in the state in the cases of atrocities act.

Sir mainstreaming the vulnerable group such as minorities, women, SCs and STs is a main challenge before the Indian state. Sir, our combined action must show our firm resolve and commitment. In order to develop a sense of security, the criminal justice system needs to deliver speedy justice to victims of communal violence, castes conflicts and crime against women. I am sure these deliberations will help that.

Thank you.

Dr. Mukul Sangma

Respected Prime Minister, respected chairperson UPA, distinguished members of the National Integration Council. At the very outset, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Honourable Prime Minister for having convened this very important meeting. The meeting is timely and at the most appropriate time. I have reflected my views in the written speech that has been circulated, so I will be confining to a few points which I would like to submit before this August gathering. So, on the issue of communal harmony, it is very painful to see that one after another such incidents have been happening all across the country. It has been happening in almost every state of the North East, then in the mainland, in Jammu & Kashmir and the worst of its kind had happened in Gujarat in the past, which clearly reflects that ignition of such unpleasant incidents has its own serious ramifications on the integration of the country.

In spite of having numerous laws enacted, the actual enforcement of the law is not visible, which actually becomes one of the causes for recurrence of such incidents. Therefore, my submission here today will be that while these laws are quite effective or effective enough, what is required is to make it binding on the part of the Government to act in accordance with these laws to tackle any incidents of communal violence.

As politicians, we often say that inaction is also a decision. So many times the people who have actually supported perpetrators of this crime decide not to act and this is what is emboldening the forces, whether it is in regard to the political parties or other forces inimical to the country's integration. Therefore, it will be imperative to see that the law in relation to handling of all kinds of communal riots and ethnic strifes must be strengthened with a stringent component which will make it binding for all the political parties in Government to act in the event of such communal or ethnic violence. I think this will go a long way in actually deterring the vested interests from indulging in this kind of crime, which is definitely going to endanger the very integration of this great nation.

On the issue of safety and security of women, I personally feel that the issue of uncontrolled migration of people from rural areas to urban areas and their unorganized settlement in search

of opportunities and jobs is one crucial issue. It will be very difficult for the enforcing agencies, inspite of the law, if this particular trend cannot be reversed and this can happened only when all our developmental initiatives are structured in a manner to ensure equitable growth and development so that living in rural areas could be perceived as attractive. The notion that only urban areas can provide opportunities needs to be dispelled. Therefore, the root cause of peoples' migration making them stay away from home for a long periods and uncontrolled tenancy and renting accommodation facilities need to be regulated in a much more effective manner.

And in respect to the social media, I would like to only submit that a strict regulation for content regulation and content filtering needs to be put in place, besides many other measures which I have also indicated in my speech.

In respect to the North East, I would like to share a few important issues which are based on ground realities. You are aware that neighbourhood actually determines how we have to regulate the behaviour of our children. Similarly, North East has become an area where the militants, anti-nationals and secessionists are getting easy access to arms and ammunitions of highly sophisticated nature. This is one issue which must be addressed. The porous border in the North East must be attended to so that the anti-nationals and forces working against the national integration do not have easy access to this kind of sophisticated arms, which even our police do not have. This is a serious problem that is being faced by my Government because as we try to neutralize the militant forces, they keep on getting access to such sophisticated arms. I think this was highlighted in the last internal security meeting as well. So with these few words I thank you, sir, for giving me this opportunity to participate in the deliberations today.

Dr. Manik Sarkar:

Honourable Prime Minister, distinguished members of the National Integration Council. Ours is a diverse, multilingual, multicultural, and multi religious society. From times immemorial, the people belonging to different religions, castes, and creed have been living together in peace and harmony. Tolerance, peaceful coexistence, and universal brotherhood are key features of our rich cultural heritage. However, there have been disturbing developments from time to time when the fundamentalist forces raising their ugly heads in some parts of the country. In a multi religious country like ours, the minorities need to be protected and they should feel fully secure to profess and practice their faith without intimidation. While all the religious communities enjoy equal rights under the Constitution community which forms the majority has a large responsibility to create a sense of security in the minorities to preserve the secular fabric of the nation. Religion is purely a personal affair without patronage of the state but the mixing of political interest with religion is one of the main and major causes of communal violence. I would urge up on the Government of India and the various States to firmly deal with any communal disturbances in the country with strong hand within the existing legal framework which is adequate enough to deal with any law and order situation provided the state takes timely, stern, and nonpartisan measure to contain the communal violence. The perpetrators of communal

violence shall not be allowed to escape from their culpability. The prevalence of communal disharmony, ethnic violence, and left wing extremism should not be seen merely as law and order problem alone. The widening gap between the rich and the poor and denial of the basic amenities like food, shelter, education, and employment opportunities are likely to cause social tensions and increases the sense of deprivation and alienation among this section of the people. It is in this context that the need for removal of uneven development and push for even development of all regions and all sections of the people is required. The disadvantage sections like scheduled caste and scheduled tribes, weaker sections, and minorities should be shown positive and affirmative action in development. The Government had constituted Rajinder Sachar Committee in 2005 for recommending measures for social economic and educational development of Indian Muslims. Similarly, Ranganath Mishra Commission was constituted in 2004 for giving recommendation on various issues concerning linguistic and religious minorities in India. The Government, particularly the Government of India, should take urgent and effective measure for implementation of all the recommendation of the Sachar Committee and the Ranganath Mishra Commission without further delay. Crime against women is a blot on the society while the new legal framework which has been put in place may deal with the crime against women to an extent by acting as deterrent but it is ultimately the awareness and gender sensitisation that could reduce the crime against women and make them feel safe and secure. Gender sensitivity especially in places of work, educational institutions, and in all places should be given increased priority. In this direction effort must start from our own family first with sensitisation of our boy child about girl child. Tripura had a history of insurgency which went for about three decades but the state has been broadly successful in containing the insurgency because of the two-pronged strategy of dealing firmly with insurgent elements and unleashing developmental efforts in the tribal areas in a big way to win a way the disgruntled youth from falling prey to the evil machination of the extremist, however, there is no room for any complacency as they are still active with their camps in Bangladesh, being fostered and nurtured by ISI. The people of all communities are peace loving but sometimes some sections of the society fall prey to the evil designs of the fundamentalists and divisive forces. For this all the national and regional political parties should have zero tolerance towards fundamentalist forces and launch all out ideological and political campaign in a serious and systematic manner for promoting national unity and integrity among the masses so that the divisive forces can be exposed and isolated. With these few words I like to conclude. Thank you.

Shri Vijay Bahuguna:

बहुत ही सम्मानित प्रधानमंत्री जी, UPA की Chairperson श्रीमती सोनिया गाँधी जी, सम्मानित मंच और साथियों। यह अशोक, अकबर और गाँधी का देश है जहाँ शांति, सर्वधर्म, सदभाव, अहिंसा का सन्देश विश्व को दिया और हमारे संविधान में मूलभूत आधार बनाया गया समानता का, स्वतंत्रता का और नागरिक सुरक्षा का। सरकारों की, राजनैतिक दलों की, स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं की सबकी ये जिम्मेदारी है कि धार्मिक सदभाव बना रहे और एक सन्देश जाये कि ये देश एक है। मैं दो तीन सुझाव दूंगा एक तो जो Shri Krishan Commission की

report हुई थी बॉम्बे के दंगों के बाद उससे बड़ी सख्ती से अमल करना चाहिए। केंद्र को और राज्य सरकारों की और जो Sachar Committee की report थी उसको भी अमल में जल्दी लाना चाहिए उससे विश्वास और पैदा होता है। जो cases होते हैं दंगे के इनको जो हैं fast track में इनसे जल्दी निर्णय किये जाये क्योंकि जो लोग इस तरह का नरसंहार करते हैं और जो खुला समाज में घूमते हैं तो उससे एक भय का वातावरण बनता है कि इन्होंने दंगे किये और ये घूम रहे हैं। मैं बड़ी विनम्रता से कहूँगा कि उत्तराखंड में बहुत ही धार्मिक सौहार्द है कोई अप्रिय घटना नहीं हुई और जो पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में जो घटना हुई उसका कोई असर उत्तराखंड पे नहीं पड़ा। मैं स्वयं उसकी monitoring कर रहा था। हमारे यहाँ तो कुछ जनपदों में 30% तक minorities की आबादी है, एक Minority विभाग है जो स्वयं मुख्यमंत्री के नीचे है, एक Directorate है और जो भी जनकल्याणी योजनाएं आती हैं अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए, हमारे SC/ST के लिए, उनका नियंत्रण ठीक से हो तो समाज में एक विश्वास का वातावरण पैदा होता है। मैं ये भी कहूँगा बड़े सम्मान के साथ कि हमारे यहाँ जो महिलाओं पे जो cases हैं बहुत कम हैं अन्य प्रान्तों के मुकाबले में, जो SC/ST के cases हैं बहुत कम हैं और मैंने स्वयं Chief Justice से एक बैठक करी थी और उन cases को fast track में डाला जा रहा है। जब हम महिलाओं की बात करते हैं तो सारा सदन है, यहाँ सारे राजनैतिक दल हैं जो महिला आरक्षण बिल है उसको पास होना चाहिए। संविधान का संशोधन होना चाहिए ताकि संसद में और विधानसभाओं में महिलाओं का प्रतिनिधित्व बढ़े। जब SC/ST की बात करते हैं तो उनका जो promotion का एक संवैधानिक संशोधन बिल लोक सभा में आया हुआ है उसको पारित किया जाये। इससे एक विश्वास का वातावरण पैदा होता है। कई योजनायें हमने राज्य में जो कर रखी हैं विकास के लिए, महिलाओं के लिए, SC/ST के लिए उसका विवरण मैंने अपने वक्तव्य में दिया हुआ है लेकिन मैं खाली एक बात अपने साथियों से कहना चाहूँगा कि अगर आज आपके पास शक्ति है, सत्ता है, आज आपके पास कलम है तो उसका सदुपयोग करें और इस देश की एकता में अखंडता बनाये रखने में अपना योगदान दे। जहाँ शासन सख्त है और जहाँ शासन के मन में कोई दुविधा या सन्देश नहीं है तो वे निश्चित तौर पे वहाँ पे इस तरह के दंगे हो नहीं सकते और होने भी नहीं चाहिए। मैं एक बहुत छोटी सी बात प्रधानमंत्री जी आपको बताना चाहूँगा कि मैं सातवीं-आठवीं क्लास में पढ़ता था और मेरे Grandfather Historian थे Dr. R.P. Tripathi जब मुगल इंडिया पर उन्होंने बड़ी research की। उन्होंने मुझसे ये कहा कि जब partition हुआ तो हमारे कुछ अल्पसंख्यक साथियों को एक अवसर था कि वो पाकिस्तान में जायेंगे कि हिंदुस्तान में रहेंगे। उन्होंने इस मुल्क से मौहब्बत दिखाई, यहाँ के लोगों पे भरोसा किया इसलिए जो अल्पसंख्यक भाई हमारे देश में रह रहे हैं उनकी सुरक्षा और विकास की जिम्मेदारी सारे समाज की है और हमको इसको करना चाहिए। यही सन्देश अगर हम परिवार में फैलाये, शिक्षा में फैलाये तो निश्चित तौर पे धार्मिक सदभावना भी बढ़ेगी और एकता भी बढ़ेगी। मैंने सारे लिखित सुझाव इसमें दे दिए हैं हमारा राज्य बहुत प्राकृतिक त्रासदी और आपदा से गुजर रहा है और हम आभार व्यक्त करेंगे प्रधानमंत्री जी का और UPA की Chairperson का और सारे केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल का जिन्होंने इस संकट की घड़ी में राज्य की सहायता की।

धन्यवाद।

Smt. Sushma Swaraj:

आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, मंच पर आसीन वरिष्ठ साथीगण, राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् के सभी सम्मानित सदस्यगण। गृह मंत्री जी राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की पिछली बैठक 10 सितम्बर, 2011 को हुई थी और उस बैठक में जो फैसले हमने लिए थे उनमें से एक फैसला ये भी था कि इस परिषद् की बैठक प्रतिवर्ष होनी चाहिए, लेकिन हम अपने उस फैसले पर अमल नहीं कर पाए। दो वर्ष के बाद ये बैठक हो रही है और अगर मुजफ्फरनगर की घटना नहीं होती तो शायद ये बैठक भी न होती। एक रवायात बन गई है कि जब कोई बड़ी घटना घटती है उसके बाद हम राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की बैठक बुलाते हैं। मुझे लगता है कि यदि हम हर वर्ष इस issue को hammer करते जाए, बिना किसी घटना के, ये बैठक बुलाते जाए तो घटना होगी ही नहीं। इसलिए बैठक हो और घटना न हो ये ज्यादा अच्छा है बजाय इसके कि घटना हो और उसके बाद बैठक हो। आज की बैठक के चार agenda items रखे हैं आपने, लेकिन विषय तीन हैं, एक सांप्रदायिक हिंसा, महिला सुरक्षा और अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति के खिलाफ बढ़ते हुए अपराध। समय-सीमा के कारण मैं केवल सूत्ररूप में इन सभी पर अपनी बात रखना चाहूंगी। जहाँ तक सांप्रदायिक हिंसा का ताल्लुक है हमारे देश के संविधान में secularism शब्द को adopt किया है और secularism का जब हम हिंदी अनुवाद करते हैं तो आमतौर पर धर्म निरपेक्षता शब्द का प्रयोग करते हैं, लेकिन वास्तव में ये शब्द धर्म निरपेक्षता नहीं ये पंथ निरपेक्षता है। जिसका अर्थ है कि समाज में तो धर्म होगा लेकिन राज्य का अपना कोई पंथ नहीं होगा और न ही वो किसी पंथ विशेष को प्रोत्साहित करेगा। और इस धर्म निरपेक्षता की जो परिभाषा मैं समझती हूँ वो ये है कि इस देश में हिंदू अच्छा हिंदू हो, मुसलमान अच्छा मुसलमान, सिक्ख अच्छा सिक्ख हो, ईसाई अच्छा ईसाई और सब अपने-अपने पंथों का अनुसरण करते हुए एक दूसरे के धर्म का सम्मान करें। ये हमारी धर्म निरपेक्षता की परिभाषा है और मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि अगर इस परिभाषा को आज ये राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् स्वीकार करती है तो इसे हमें हमारे पाठ्यक्रम में डालना चाहिए और पाठ्यक्रम में भी primary स्तर पर। अगर हम पहले दिन से चौथी पांचवी के बच्चों को ये समझाना प्रारंभ कर देंगे कि हमारे देश में जो secularism हमारे संविधान में आया है, जो पंथ निरपेक्षता हमारे यहाँ आई है, उसका मतलब धर्म विहीनता नहीं है, उसका मतलब है तुम अपने-अपने धर्मों के अनुसार आचरण करो। हिंदू हिंदू पूजा पद्धति से करें, मुस्लिम इस्लाम पूजा पद्धति से करें, सिक्ख अपने धर्म के अनुसार करें, ईसाई अपने चर्च के अनुसार करें लेकिन सब एक दूसरे के धर्म का सम्मान करें यही धर्म निरपेक्षता है। धर्म विहीनता हमने नहीं अपनाई, धर्म निरपेक्षता हमने अपनाई है। तो ये बात मैं कहना चाहूंगी और अगर ये हमने अपने बच्चों के मन में पांचवी क्लास से डालना शुरू कर दिया तो उनकी सोच विकृत नहीं हो पाएगी और साम्प्रदायिकता उन्हें छू भी नहीं पाएगी और जिस चीज का हम पुराने 60 वर्षों से बार-बार, एक विकृत चेहरा उभरता हुआ देखते हैं उससे हम कुछ वर्षों के बाद निदान पा जायेंगे, क्योंकि आने वाली पीढ़ी कम से कम इसकी सही परिभाषा समझ जाएगी। दूसरा शब्द, जो आपने महिला सुरक्षा का विषय रखा है, मुझे लगता है कि ये वर्ष महिला सुरक्षा के लिए सबसे ज्यादा खराब वर्ष रहा है। आपने जो पुस्तिका दी है उसमें कुछ विवरण दिए हैं घटनाओं की संख्या लिखी है। संख्या में कमी संतोष नहीं देती क्योंकि जो घटनायें हुई हैं वो क्रूरता की सारी हदें पार कर गई हैं। 16 दिसम्बर 2012 को जो दामिनी की घटना थी उसने देश में तूफान लाकर खड़ा किया। लेकिन मैं धन्यवाद देती हूँ कि

सरकार ने भी तुरंत उसका संज्ञान लेते हुए कानून को कड़ा करने के लिए अध्यादेश का रास्ता अपनाया और अध्यादेश पारित कर दिया। बाद में संसद ने उस अध्यादेश का रास्ता अपनाया और अध्यादेश पारित कर दिया। बाद में संसद ने उस अध्यादेश को कानून का रूप भी दे दिया। हमें लगता था कि इसके बाद घटनाओं में कमी आयेगी, लेकिन हुआ उल्टा। चंद महीनों के बाद ही पांच वर्ष की गुड़िया के साथ उतना ही क्रूर दुष्कर्म किया गया। अभी महाराष्ट्र में एक **Photo Journalist** के साथ **gang rape** किया गया। झारखण्ड में एक शहीद की विधवा महिला पुलिसकर्मी शव लेकर जा रही थी, **dead body** लेकर जा रही थी, वहाँ उसके साथ 22 से 25 गुंडों ने **rape** किया। इसका मतलब है कि पूरी सोच विकृत हो गयी है जिसको केवल कानून से पूरा नहीं किया जा सकता, इसके लिए उस सोच को, उस मन का बदलने की आवश्यकता होगी। हमें बताना होगा कि क्या महिला और पुरुष के बीच में स्वच्छ और स्वस्थ सम्बन्ध नहीं हो सकते। अगर दो महिलाओं की आपस में मैत्री हो सकती है, दो पुरुषों की आपस में मैत्री हो सकती है तो एक महिला और पुरुष आपस में मित्र क्यों नहीं हो सकते, क्यों उसको देह के उपभोग की ही वस्तु मान करके रखा गया है और इसके लिए जहाँ हमें कानून कड़ा करना होगा उसके साथ-साथ हमें विशेष **seminars** आयोजित करके विशेष प्रशिक्षण करके छोटे-छोटे मोहल्लों में छोटी-छोटी गोष्ठियां करके इस सोच को बदलने की आवश्यकता है। क्योंकि ये चीज इतनी बढ़ रही है, इतनी ज्यादा बढ़ रही है कि हर रोज का समाचार पत्र अगर आप देखें तो पांच से सात घटनायें आपको देश के भिन्न-भिन्न भागों में ऐसी होती हुई मिल जाएंगी, जहाँ नाबालिंग बच्चियां उसका शिकार हो रही हैं। जहाँ तक दलित अपराधों का सवाल है, हाँ, महिला अपराध में मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूंगी, थोड़ा सा छुआ है पृथ्वीराज चव्हाण जी ने उसको कि जब दामिनी का निर्णय आया तो चारों आरोपियों को फांसी की सजा हुई। देश ने एक राहत महसूस की, आगे भी अगर वो फांसी रह जाती है तो हो सकता है ये अपने आप में एक **deterrent** साबित हो लेकिन जो मुख्य आरोपी था वो **Juvenile Court** से **juvenile** होने के नाते छोड़ दिया गया। आज मैं ये **issue flag** करना चाहती हूँ राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् के सामने कि एक व्यक्ति जो **murder** और **rape** कर सकता है उसका अंजाम समझ सकता है क्या उसको केवल किशोर अवस्था का लाभ मिलना चाहिए कि वो 18 वर्ष से चंद दिन छोटा है इसलिए उसे तीन साल की सजा मिलेगी और वो भी बालसुधार गृह में काटेगा। इन चार आरोपियों को फांसी की सजा हुई है लेकिन सबसे ज्यादा मुख्य आरोपी जिसने जघन्यता की थी उसमें, उसको **juvenile** करार दे करके तीन साल की सजा दी गई है, बालसुधार गृह में रहने के लिए। आज मैं **Child Right Activist** से इस मंच से **appeal** करना चाहूंगी कि वो इस पर विचार करें, इस पर सोचें। मैंने अपनी ओर से एक **Private Member Bill** इस बारे में लोक सभा में दिया है इस बार के संसद सत्र में कोई भी **Private Members Day** नहीं हुआ सबको सरकारी डे में बदल दिया गया इसलिए मैं उसको **introduce** नहीं कर पाई। लेकिन मेरा मानना है कि ये समय आ गया है जब अपराध और सजा का आपस में एक तालमेल होना चाहिए और चंद महीनों की कमी के कारण से सजा इतनी कम नहीं हो जानी चाहिए। इसका एक दूसरा रुख भी है कि बड़े-बड़े गिरोह अपने गिरोहों में 16-17 साल के किशोरों को इसलिए शामिल करेंगे कि मुख्य अपराध उनसे करवाएं क्योंकि वो तो बाद में **Juvenile Act** के तहत छूट ही जायेंगे तीन साल की सजा के बाद बरी हो ही जायेंगे इसलिए ये भी **issue** मैं आपके सामने **flag** करती हूँ। तीसरा जो विषय है दलितों के अपराध का, दलितों के प्रति अपराध लगातार होते आए हैं। पीछे कुछ कमी भी आई है लेकिन एक नया आयाम जुड़ा है उसमें जिसका जिक्र करना चाहूंगी। यहाँ भाई भूपेंद्र सिंह हुड्डा

बैठे हैं अभी पबनावा में एक घटना घटी जिला कैथल के और वो नया आयाम ये जुड़ा है कि अंतरजातीय विवाह अपने आप में दलित अपराध का कारण बन गया। अगर दलित समाज के लड़का या लड़की किसी अन्य समाज के लड़का या लड़की से शादी करता है तो वो समाज पूरे दलित समाज को प्रताड़ित करता है, वो उनकी पूरी बस्ती जला देता है, वो उनको समाज से बहिष्कृत करता है ये एक नया आयाम है। केवल **individual** को सजा नहीं दी जाती बल्कि पूरे के पूरे समाज को सजा दी जाती है। जबकि वो अकेला **individual** भी सजा का अधिकारी नहीं है लेकिन पूरा का पूरा समाज उसके कारण से पीड़ित होता है ये अभी-अभी पबनावा की घटना है और ये बहुत जगह इस तरह की चीज़ हो रही है। इसलिए ये भी एक नया **issue** है, एक नया मुद्दा है जिसके उपर हमें बात करनी होगी दलित अपराधों के बारे में और मुझे लगता है कि सारी चीज़ें अगर हम पाठ्यक्रम में डालें एक अच्छी परिभाषा धर्म निरपेक्षता या पंथ निरपेक्षता की, महिला और पुरुष के बीच स्वस्थ संबंधों की, जातिप्रथा को समाप्त करके और इस तरह के अंतरजातीय विवाहों के कारण समाज में पनपने वाली इस विकृत मानसिकता की, अगर इनको हम पाठ्यक्रम में डालें और प्रारंभ से अपने बच्चों को समझाना शुरू करें तो मुझे लगता है कि उसका बहुत लाभ होगा। क्योंकि प्रधानमंत्री जी ने आज अपनी बैठक में **operative part** सुझाव रखा था कि हम इसके लिए सुझाव रखें इसलिए मैंने अपनी बात सुझावों के रूप में रखी है।

बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

Shri Prakash Karat:

Respected Chairman and distinguished members of the National Integration Council. This meeting of the National Integration Council is being held in the background of a rising number of communal incidents and violence in the recent months which is a matter of serious concern. In the past few weeks there has been communal violence occurring in Kishtwar in Jammu and Kashmir, in Nawada and Bettiah in Bihar, and a major outbreak of violence in Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh where more than 40 people have been killed. These have occurred after a series of communal incidents in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh in the past one year what accounts for the worsening of the communal situation in the recent period. These are not spontaneous outbreaks but part of a planned effort and designed by certain communal political forces. The causes for the communal violence are the same as in the past. Religious processions moving through mixed areas and provocation is taking place, allegations of harassment of young women belonging to a particular community by persons of another community, inflammatory propaganda which leads to a climate of mistrust and any incident can spark off a wider conflict but what is most disturbing is that the riots have sought to be spread in the rural areas as it happened in Muzaffarnagar. In all such riots it is the minority community which ultimately bears the brunt of the violence in terms of death and destruction of property. Certain organizations and political parties espousing communal ideology are indulging in communal propanganda to build up tensions and to utilize any incident to incite communal violence. As per the figures supplied by the Home Ministry to this meeting this year from January to September there have been 497 communal incidents in the country which have killed 107 people and injured another 1,697. The forthcoming 2014 Lok

Sabha elections seems to be a catalyst for communal activities. It can be easily identified who seeks to gain out of such communal polarisation. Therefore in order to curb communal violence it is necessary to first identify such political communal elements and organizations and take preventive measures to curb their activities and propaganda. The Laws concerning the prohibition of communal propaganda, incitement to hatred etc. should be applied. The role of the administration in taking such precautionary measures cannot be over emphasized. It is also essential to see that the administration and the police act promptly and impartially to curb violence and to book the offenders. The Prevention of Communal Violence Bill should be enacted into law without further delay. The law should focus only on communal violence and not broaden itself to other forms of conflicts and violence. Further the legislation should be in keeping with the federal principle wherein the State Governments have the primary responsibility for maintenance of law and order and policing. The espousal of communal ideology through the educational system and textbooks which promote communal and anti-secular ideas exists in some states. These need to be dealt with. We have seen the use of social media and networking sites to promote inflammatory communal propaganda just as in the case of other forms of communal propaganda. Measures should be taken to prohibit such content and take action against those who upload such content. In this connection, the clause in the Information Technology Act, Section 66A should be suitably modified so that this clause is not misused to suppress views and dissenting opinion. Above all it is important that the problem of communal violence is not seen merely as an administrative law and order problem. Given the history of communal politics in India it is primarily a political issue and it must be dealt with politically. This requires a firm adherence to the secular principle and the need to combat communal ideology and politics whatever the source and origin. There is another matter which concerns communal harmony and involves having an equitable approach to the minorities. Communalism promotes extremist actions such as terrorist violence while it is necessary to act and curb terrorism whichever its source. There has to be care to see that no single community is targeted. Unfortunately experience shows that in the name of fighting terrorism often innocent Muslim youth are targeted. There have been a number of cases where young Muslims have been arrested and implicated in false cases and kept for prolonged periods in jail. There are many cases where the youth have been eventually acquitted and the judiciary has passed strictures on the way they have been booked on false and flimsy evidence. Such a biased approach on the part of the police and security agencies is causing alienation and anger among the community. It is imperative that such a discriminatory approach is given up. The State has the responsibility to compensate and help to rehabilitation of such youth. There should be accountability and action taken against the police and security authorities who are responsible for such a travesty of justice. I have also given my note on the other two items on the agenda and I am not speaking about that now.

Thank you.

Shri Sharad Yadav:

प्रधानमंत्री जी, सोनिया जी, शिंदे साहब, चिदम्बरम जी, फारूक साहब, सुषमा जी, अरुण जेटली जी और सभी इस सदन में हिस्सेदारी करने वाले प्रबुद्ध साथियों। नंबर एक सुझाव मेरा ये है कि यह देश आज भी दो तिहाई समरसता चाहता है और इस सदन में जो सेकुलर या सबको साथ लेके चलने वालों की संख्या से तोल के देख सकते हैं आप कि जो देश में सबको साथ लेके चलने के लिए उसका नाम कुछ रख दो, नाम से कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ते जो नाम धरती तक चला जाये, वो असली नाम है। पहला काम जो करना चाहिए प्रधानमंत्री जी कि जितने लोगों का विश्वास महात्मा जी के उस रास्ते पर कि सबको साथ चलना है आजादी के बाद जवाहर लाल जी ने कहा कि ये सबका देश है। इन मान्यताओं को मानने वाले लोगों की पार्टियों को अपने **workers** को मुस्तैद करना चाहिए कि आपकी जिम्मेदारी है कि ये दंगा न हो। दंगा होता है तो खबर करो। मुझे **experience** है जिस समय बावरी मस्जिद और मंडल जिसको बहुत सीमित शब्दों में **media** वालों ने किया था कि कमंडल और मंडल। 22 साल हो गए यूपी और बिहार के दंगे घट गए थे और ये पहला बड़ा दंगा है मुजफ्फरनगर में और आजकल के दंगों की एक विशेषता है कि आपके जम्मू में किश्तवार में जो दंगा हुआ तो पहले दंगे एक **locality** पे हो जाते थे अब ये दंगे **spread** किये जाते हैं। लोगों ने कोशिश की कि किश्तवार के दंगे को **valley** में नहीं ये जम्मू में फैलाए जाएं और ये मुजफ्फरनगर का जो **culture** है उसके बारे में मेरी उम्र भर वहाँ बीती है। मेरठ में तो दंगे होते थे लेकिन मुजफ्फरनगर में 47 के बाद कोई चीज नहीं हुई थी। ये पंचायतों का सिलसिला जो शुरू हुआ ये 11वीं और 12वीं शताब्दी की बात कर रहे हैं उन पंचायतों को जो मुख्यमंत्री ओट लेके बैठे संविधान की कैसे इनको **allow** कर रहे हैं इसका बड़ा रूप वहाँ हो गया। मैं एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सब पार्टियां यहाँ प्रस्ताव पास करें। ये हमारी जिम्मेदारी है राजनैतिक कार्यकर्ता से उस्ताद कोई नहीं होता वो जितना शहर और गाँव और कसबे और इलाके को जनता है वो देश का कोई अफसर कोई लोग नहीं जानते उनके जिम्मे छोड़ दिया जाये और उनके जिम्मे किया जाए कि यदि आपके इलाके में कोई घटना होगी तो आपके टिकट देने में इसका नंबर जुड़ेगा। एक रास्ता ये है कि पार्टियों को आप मुस्तैद करिये जितने लोगों को ये विश्वास है कि ये देश गाँधी के जरिये चलेगा, कबीर के जरिये चलेगा। ये दूसरी बात है कि जो **communal violence** के लिए आप बिल ला रहे हैं, वो बिल में यानि दंगा हो जाये उसके बाद की सब सजाएं हैं, उसके पहले से **violence** नहीं होना चाहिए। ये पहले प्रावधान होना चाहिए उसमें। ये प्रावधान नहीं होगा और मैं जो पहली बात कह रहा हूँ मैं मंच के सभी लोगों से और सामने बैठे हुए लोगों से कह रहा हूँ कि **experiment** करके देखो मैंने किया है। जब मंडल और कमंडल शुरू किया तो मैंने पूरे यूपी और बिहार में कम से कम एक हजार मीटिंग की और मैंने कहा कि जो स्थिति है उसमें मुसलमान को बचाओगे तो राज मिलेगा तुमको जो शुद्र अति शुद्र है ये जो **Communal Violence Bill** आप जो चला रहे हैं, ये पहले ना हो, इसके लिए उपाय करवाइए। उसके पहले इसमें क्या-क्या होना चाहिए। नंबर एक तो पहले सवाल पर मेरा यह कहना है। महिलाओं के मामले में मेरा यह कहना है कि सारी चीज कानून और उसके बारे में आपने पूरी शिद्दत से काम किया है, देश की **Parliament** ने किया है लेकिन कानून से समाज नहीं बनता। समाज में समझ से कानून बनना चाहिए। क्यों है इस देश की ये पूरी घटनायें, बंद क्यों नहीं होती। इस देश की माँ गुलाम है। एक लाख जाति हमने बनाके रखी हैं और उसी

के चलते ये सारी वो हैं और इसके लिए यदि मान लो आपको इसको छोटा सा कदम उठाना है तो आप अंतरजातीय शादी वाले लोगों के लिए संविधान में ऐसा प्रावधान करिये कि सरकारी नौकरी मिलेगी या उसको प्राइवेट सेक्टर में मिलेगी और **protection house** बनाइये। जैसे ये घटना होती है अंतरजातीय शादी वाली उस गाँव से पुलिस की जिम्मेदारी कि उनको उठाके आपके सुरक्षित **protection house** में उनको रखो। कितने लोग होंगे, नौकरी जाति को छुड़वा सकती है। नौकरी ज्यादा कीमती हो गयी जाति की सुरक्षा से। उसको आप करिये और जो सामाजिक तौर पर जो कमजोर तबके हैं वो है **secular** इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि सामाजिक जो **empowerment** है उसपे सावधानी बरतिए। उसपे सावधानी बरतेंगे, वो गोलबंद होंगे तो इनका ऐसा जवाब होगा जो **communal** में ऊँचे तबके के लोग हैं यहीं बैठ करके **Facebook** या **Twitter** अरे भई आप ये कानून बनाइये सख्त से सख्त कि ये देश को तबाह और बर्बाद करने के लिए ये चीजें हैं क्या? तो हम सब लोग यानि यहाँ बैठे हुए बहुत सब लोग जिनके हाथ में देश चलाना है इसमें क्या दिक्कत हो रही है आपको। इसे सख्त कानून बनाइये और इन्हीं बातों के साथ ज्यादा बोलूँगा नहीं मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें पार्टी संकल्प लेके यहाँ से उठें और हमको मालूम है कि कौन पार्टी इस संकल्प में ठीक लगेगी और कौन नहीं लगेगी। ये सरकार को मालूम होना चाहिए नहीं राजनीति काहे के लिए कर रहा है वो। इसलिए जो पार्टियाँ हैं उनको मुस्तैद करो और पुलिस और प्रशासन की बाद में बात आती है और अंत में एक बात कह के समाप्त करूँगा कि मुलायम सिंह जी बैठे हैं और मुख्यमंत्री बैठे हैं अखिलेश यादव ये सारी सेकुलर पार्टियों को वहाँ लेके जाये, सभी पार्टियों को लेके जाएं, जब तक वो लोग बाहर बैठाले हुए उनको जब तक अंदर नहीं आये तो हमारी पार्टी का एक-एक मजबूत आदमी वहाँ बैठ करके 15 दिन लगे, एक महीना लगे लेकिन उनको वापिस करना चाहिए।

बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद, बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया।

Ms. Mehabooba Mufti:

Thank you Mr. Chariman and the dignitaries of NIC. सर पहले तो मैं ये बात कहना चाहूँगी कि **this meeting has come over as reactive** वो तो **proactive** होना चाहिए था हमें और जो हमने 2005 में **Communal Violence Bill** जिसका यहाँ और लोगों ने भी जिक्र किया है **which was drafted by the National Advisory Council**, अभी तक, 10 सितम्बर 2011 में हमने उसको में यहाँ भी **discuss** किया था, तब से कुछ नहीं हुआ, ऐसा ही पड़ा हुआ है। और जैसा कि मैं समझती हूँ कि कोई बिल परफेक्ट नहीं होता है। मगर जब **nuclear deal** की बिल थी, **food security** की बिल थी या कोई और बिल है, जिस तरह हमने उसको पास करने का कोई तरीका निकाला, मैं समझती हूँ इसको भी हमने पास किया होना चाहिए था। **Not that** कि इसीसे सारे मसले हल हो जायेंगे। मैं समझती हूँ कि जो हमारे **regional leadership** यहाँ बैठी हुई हैं इस वक्त, जिसमें मुलायम सिंह जी हैं, लालू प्रसाद यादव जी हैं, शरद यादव जी हैं, नीतीश कुमार जी हैं, मुझे नहीं मालूम यहाँ पर मायावती जी हैं। **They have played a commendable role** जो हमारे मुल्क में जो **riots** होते थे मैं उसके लिए इनको सलाम करना चाहती हूँ कि इन्होंने यहाँ के जो **minorities** हैं यहाँ के जो पिछड़े तबके हैं, जो **weaker sections** हैं उनको अगर आज वो थाने में जाकर कोई **report** लिखता है अगर उनकी कोई सुनवाई

होती है तो मुझे लगता है ये उसमें pioneers रहे हैं but unfortunately that is not enough. इस वक्त के time में that is not enough कि हमें हर वक्त political dispensation की तरफ देखना पड़े एक मुसलमान को एक backward class को that is not enough. Unless and until कि जब तक हम लोगों को equal opportunity नहीं देंगे education में health में employment में और वो खाली policy करने से नहीं होता आपने देखा जो आपकी latest report आई है, जितना भी पैसा या कोई policy जो minorities के लिए बनाई गयीं थी वो implement नहीं हुआ है। वो पैसा आपका वापस आ गया है। So I think we need a broader framework जहाँ पर एक legislation हो इसके पीछे ताकि जब आप कोई policy बनाते हैं इनको benefit करने के लिए तो कहीं न कहीं उसका legislative framework भी होना चाहिए because जितनी भी हमारी Governments हैं, जितनी भी हमारी institutions हैं, they are not working judiciously, they are not able to perform their work judiciously toward the minorities. Then coming to because बहुत कम time है coming to Jammu & Kashmir. ये सब हम जानते हैं कि Jammu & Kashmir is the only Muslim majority state जो हमारी country के साथ मिली और इसका जो एक secular credibility उससे बढ़ गयी, पर unfortunately we have become more of a security concern पूरे मुल्क के लिए अभी हमारे CM साहिब ये कह रहे थे कि बहुत अंतर होता है, there is discrimination. Discrimination कहां से शुरू होता है? मुझे कुछ सवाल आज पूछने हैं and I hope आप जवाब देंगे कि हमने इस मुल्क के साथ नाता जोड़ा to share the democracy, to share the secular culture of the state. पर हमारी जमूरियत कहाँ हैं सर? अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी को Red Fort से announce करना पड़ा कि जम्मू कश्मीर में fair elections होंगे और हुए। 2008 में क्या हुआ वो मैं नहीं बताना चाहती। उसके बाद communal riots हुए which is very unfortunate. मुजफ्फरनगर में कई लोग मारे गए, हमारे किश्तवार में भी कई लोग मारे गए, पूरा मुल्क हिल गया। यहाँ इस वक्त आपने ये NIC बुलाई गई है और जब हमारे किश्तवार में हो तो एक मिनिस्टर को drop किया गया। पिछले पांच साल के tenure में सर जो हमारे civilians मारे गए हैं उसके मुकाबले में militant जितने मारे गए हैं police और security forces की तादाद कम हैं। I mean to say the civilians, innocent civilians, I mean, I don't know whether I should wish that they were killed in communal violence may be would have paid more attention paid to them पर कश्मीर में ऐसा होता है कि अगर कोई civilian मारा जाये तो you know उसको आप बोलो ये anti-national था तो फिर कुछ करना नहीं पड़ता है और आप भी जानते हैं सर जो 200 ज्यादा 250 भी है 120 तो 2010 में मारे गए थे जो civilans जिसमें बच्चे थे maximum उनमें youth था जो मारे गए हैं उनमें से कोई militant नहीं था, उनमें से कोई anti-national नहीं था। उसमें school going बच्चे थे, कोई ice-cream खा रहा था, कोई cricket खेल रहा था पर आज तक सर हम तो AFSPA, AFSPA की रट लगाते हैं। We are for revocation of AFSPA. आज तक जहाँ पुलिस की firing से लोग मारे गए एक भी पुलिस अपने एक minister को drop दिया किश्तवार के लिए पर आपने आज तक police constable के खिलाफ action नहीं लिया, why this discrimination? Fake encounters, आप गुजरात की बात कर रहे हैं बहुत अच्छी बात है fake encounter कहीं नहीं होना चाहिए which is very unfortunate but what about the fake encounters that have taken place in Kashmir? जो established है, जिसका आपको कोई सबूत नहीं चाहिए उसके बारे

में आप कुछ नहीं कह सकते हैं। आपने बिल्कुल फांसी देनी थी **anti-national** कोई होगा। पर पहला नंबर तमिलनाडु में क्यों नहीं लगा, पंजाब में क्यों नहीं लगा वहाँ भी आपने कश्मीरी को क्यों **choose** किया फांसी देने के लिए। **Establishment of law, enforcement of law is very good but it should not look like cruelty.** सर कश्मीर के लोग हम जैसे ही हैं। आप लोग हमारी बहुत कद्र करते हैं जो लोग हमको चुनते हैं वो हमसे भी ज्यादा अच्छे हैं। **They are the most grateful** लोग। कश्मीर के लोग सबसे ज्यादा प्यार करने वाले लोग हैं मगर सर जिस तरह से हम कब तक उनको **drag** करेंगे ऐसे पुलिस के बलबूते पे, **AFSPA** बलबूते पे, आर्मी के बलबूते पे, उनको बन्दूक दिखा के, सर, वो, कब तक सर **you need to win their hearts and minds Sir which is not happening Sir**, बस 1 मिनट सर, 1 मिनट सर, सर मेरा ये है कि आपने **last** में **women security** की बात करते हैं चूँकि **I am woman**, मेरी दो बेटियाँ हैं **and unfortunately I feel more secure today** कि वो यहाँ नहीं है वो बाहर की किसी **country** में हैं। मुझे मालूम है अगर वो रात को बस में बैठेंगी, टयुब में बैठेंगी उनके साथ खुदा न खास्ता कुछ गलत नहीं होगा। सर, हमारे यहाँ हमने देखा है कि बाहर के जो मुल्क हैं, **advance** मुल्क हैं वहाँ अगर कोई बहुत बड़ा लीडर अगर उसकी पिछली जिंदगी के बारे में भी कोई छोटी सी बात होती है तो वो **resign** कर देता है पर हमारे यहाँ सर राज्य सभा हो लोक सभा हो असेम्बली हो कोई भी जगह हो वहाँ का कोई बड़ी कुर्सी पे बैठने वाला लीडर हो या एक बस का कंडक्टर हो जहाँ मौका मिले **gang rape** करेगा, जहाँ मौका मिलेगा छोटी बच्ची का **rape** करेगा जहाँ मौका मिलेगा 65 साल की औरत को भी नहीं छोड़ेगा पर **Sir I feel when we talk about taking action against the rapist we have to start cleaning system from here.** जो यहाँ नहीं होता है और यहाँ मैंने **media** का भी देखा है कि **personal life** में अमेरिका की तरह दखल नहीं देते हैं। एक लीडर की कोई **personal life**, एक **politician** की कोई **personal life** नहीं होती है। **He cannot exploit the women after resuming power. So I think Women Reservation Bill** पड़ा हुआ है पिछले कई सालों से **and I am so happy we have the most powerful women at this point of time.** हमारी सोनिया जी हैं सबसे **powerful** हैं, मायावती जी हैं, ममता बेनर्जी हैं, **AIADMK** की **chief** हैं सबसे ज्यादा, अगर आज **Women Reservation Bill** पास नहीं होगा, अगर आज ये लोग अपनी पार्टी के अंदर जिनके खिलाफ **allegations** हैं **rape** के **molestation** के अगर आज ये उनको **drop** नहीं करेंगे तो फिर कैसे चलेगा।

Thank you Sir

Shri Chandrababu Naidu:

Honourable Prime Minister, distinguished guests on the dais and respected members of the National Integration Council. The communal violence in Muzaffarnagar and other parts of the country are a matter of great concern and needs serious attention to prevent recurrence of such events. Sir, even in Andhra Pradesh, history shows that whenever Congress was in government there were incidents of communal violence and so many times, there were curfews. On the other hand during Telugu Desam Party regime we were very stubborn and very effective

in implementation of law and order. There was not even a single day when curfew was imposed. Even in the recent past, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has mentioned that there were some incidents in Hyderabad. Therefore, always a strong political will to enforce law and order is the fundamental need of the hour Sir, if we maintain that, then automatically, we can control law and order. Apart from that Sir, for minorities, especially Muslims and others, we need to develop them socially, economically and politically. So many committee reports are there but they are all pending with Central Government. So far no action has been taken on these reports Sir. Sir, secondly, the security of women and their safety is important. We are all seeing today that there are so many incidents taking place. Nirbhaya case is one in the recent past. Sir, if you go through the records, Delhi has the highest number of sexual assaults in the recent past. These are very bad for the Nation, and such incidents are happening even in the National Capital. You have to take very firm action. Sir, further to prevent such incidents an action programme for women empowerment is very key here. Even Women Reservation Bill is pending for the last 10 years. If we give that confidence, women will come up and then it will help a lot for women empowerment. Another thing Sir, in Andhra Pradesh we have implemented self help group programmes during Telugu Desam Party regime. It is working well. Reservations for employment and education will also help in building womens confidence in a big way. Regarding SC/STs also for so many years, we are talking about their welfare. Even after 60 years of Independence, there are atrocities on SC/STs. Even the punishment rate is only 25%. It is a matter of great concern. You have to think about this also Sir.

Shri Fali S. Nariman:

Mr. Prime Minister, distinguished persons on the desk, my distinguished colleagues here. Sir, I sit here with a very heavy heart because on the topic of today's agenda I asked myself and I think we should all ask ourselves are we better off since this gathering last met two years ago and I cannot truthfully say that we are better off. As many other members said I think we are slightly worse off and therefore some sort of idea as to what should be done, all these biased attitudes would not get us anywhere. Do this, do that, we have all spoken about it. We have spoken about it more than once. In fact infinite times and I entirely agree with the Honourable Sharad Yadav, who said कानून से समाज नहीं बनता. He is right. समाज is in the hearts of the people and the persons who disturb the hearts of the people they are the persons who have to cogitate and consider and it is the leaders of political parties who make statements. Some of them very responsible but some of them irresponsible and a responsible media also disseminates it because it is good news. So therefore, we have to be extraordinarily careful of what we say, we as leaders say in public. I beg of all of you if you want communal harmony, if you want peace, and if you don't want atrocities on women kindly moderate yourselves and speak responsibly. It is far more important that we should speak responsibly because today with the enormous prospect of the media everybody learns what someone important says. If I say something it may not get credit but if someone important, some political figure says something which appears to be slightly irresponsible of course it is disseminated and that creates tension, that creates another problem, and people thereafter get disturbed and my request to all leaders and I say with this great humility

is to please cogitate what you are going to say and then say it, don't say it yes to get into the news as many of us do. Sir, I belong to a member of the smallest Goa, I think it is an enlightened community in the country and I lists my apprehensions in just four questions. There something has to be done about it. First question after more than 65 years of Independence are we shifting from a vibrant secular State into a religious State and I fear we are. Second question after more than 65 years of independence, are we moving backwards to a male dominated, male oriented society which breach a lack of respect for the dignity and safety of women, I fear we are. Third question after more than 65 years of independence, are we lapsing at an almost quickening pace of climate change into a society of people with one dominant religion intolerant towards other religions and I fear we are. And fourth and last question I asked myself is pluralism in India on its death bed and I hesitate to say this but I feel compelled to say it I gravely fear it is. Sir, I have lived happily in a secular India and I hope to die in a secular India but now I have some doubts.

Thank you Sir.

Ms. Farah Naqvi:

Respected Prime Minister, आदरणीय सोनिया जी, शिंदे साहब, चिदंबरम साहब, रहमान खान साहब, सुषमा स्वराज जी, अरुण जेटली जी, सभी वरिष्ठ साथीगण। जब इस meeting का announcement हुआ और न्यौता मिला तो कहीं एक उम्मीद की किरण थी। क्योंकि हममें से जो लोग मुजफ्फरनगर से अभी हाल में यहां आए हैं, दिल टूट गया है जो फाली नरीमन जी ने अभी बयान दिया उस बयान में कुछ सच्चाई नजर आई। लगा कि एक NIC की meeting होगी, एक संकेत मिलेगा राष्ट्र को कि हमारे वरिष्ठ नेता, हमारी political establishment चिंतित हैं। लेकिन सुबह जितनी speeches हमारे वरिष्ठ Chief Ministers ने दी हैं कहीं न कहीं मुझे एक बेचैनी सी महसूस हो रही है। हम बार-बार जब महिला मुद्दे पर बात करते हैं, महिला हिंसा पर बात करते हैं, हाँ हम जरूर यह कहते हैं कि हमें समाज परिवर्तन करना होगा, हृदय परिवर्तन करना होगा, लेकिन हम कानून की बात भी करते हैं। हम कहते हैं और हमने करके दिखाया। हमने एक कड़ा कानून बनाया। एक संशोधन हम लाए हैं जिससे महिलाएं, उम्मीद है ज्यादा सुरक्षित होंगी। हम अपने दलित भाई-बहनों पर हिंसा की बात करते हैं तो हम यही कहते हैं कि हृदय परिवर्तन करना होगा। जातपात की भावना अपने दिल से निकालनी होगी लेकिन हम कानून भी लाते हैं। पर जब हम साम्प्रदायिकता की बात करते हैं तो हम भाईचारे और communal harmony तक बात छोड़ देते हैं। कानून की बात क्यों नहीं हम जोर से लाते। सुबह के सत्र में दो तीन वरिष्ठ नेताओं ने Communal Violence Bill का जिक्र किया। हमें मालूम है कि दो साल से इस बिल का जिक्र हो रहा है। ये बिल सरकार के पास है और इस पर कई आपत्तियाँ हैं। लेकिन हमारी जमूरियत में, हमारी democracy में, इन आपत्तियों को दूर नहीं किया जा सकता सर? आप Food Security Bill लाए हैं, Land Acquisition Bill लाए हैं। कहीं किसी बिल में बिल्कुल एकमत नहीं होगा न होना चाहिए। यही तो हमारी democracy का आधार है। मतभेद हो, राह निकालें। अगर हमारे दिल में सच्चाई है तो आज इस NIC की meeting से सिर्फ platitudes नहीं आनी चाहिए। फाली नरीमन जी की बात ने दिल को वाकई में छू दिया है। ये एक इंसानी गुहार है। आज मुजफ्फरनगर के कैम्पों में, मैं क्या बयान करूं – जो एक माँ कह रही है मेरे चार

बच्चे थे, चार में से मुझे दो चुनने पड़े दीदी, चारों को गोद में लेकर नहीं भाग सकती थी। वो एक सच्चा बयान है एक माँ का। एक इंसानी गुहार। **Relief** और **rehabilitation** की बात अखिलेश यादव जी ने अभी की। वह यूपी के माननीय **Chief Minister Sahib** हैं। उन्होंने अपना बयान दिया कि बिना किसी विलम्ब के प्रशासन ने कार्यवाही की। मैं आखों देखी आपको बयान करती हूँ, प्रशासन ने विलम्ब किया, बहुत विलम्ब किया और इस प्रशासन की जवाबदेही कहाँ है? कोई नहीं बात कर रहा। हम **social media** की बात कर रहे हैं, गुमराह हो जायेंगे। जब दिल में जहर है वो कहीं न कहीं निकलेगा। **Social Media** से पहले **communal** दंगे हुए हैं, **social media** के बाद **communal** दंगे होंगे। सिर्फ **social media** के पीछे भागने से ये नहीं सुलझेगा। मैं सिर्फ एक सेकंड और लेना चाहती हूँ। मैं सिर्फ ये कहना चाहती हूँ कि इस **Communal Violence Bill** में राहत, **rehabilitation, reparation** का साफ उल्लेख है। क्या ये सब **charity** का मामला है या एक राष्ट्र के **citizens** के अधिकार का मामला है? आज हमारे पास ना कोई कानून, ना कोई **policy**, ना लोगों को वापिस भेजने का कोई तरीका। बस ये कि आप 1 लाख या 2 लाख और 50,000 उजड़े हुए परिवारों के मुँह पर मार करके कह दें सरकार ने अपनी जिम्मेदारी पूरी की। मैं आपसे यह कह रही हूँ कि **Communal Violence Bill** से सब कुछ नहीं सुलझेगा, लेकिन **Communal Violence Bill** के बिना भी कुछ नहीं सुलझेगा। हमें बहुत से हथियार चाहिए साम्प्रदायिकता के खिलाफ। **Communal Violence Bill** उनमें से एक है।

शुक्रिया शिंदे साहब।

Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav:

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, माननीय सोनिया जी और चिदम्बरम जी, गृहमंत्री जी और सभी नेतागण। आज हम लोग के सामने सबसे बड़ा मुद्दा है, बाकी मुद्दे तो हैं लेकिन ये मुद्दा कि 14 के दंगल में भारत टूटेगा या भारत रहेगा। ये दंगल जो होने वाला है हस्तिनापुर की गद्दी पर बैठने के लिए जो लार टपक रहा है व्याकुल हैं लोग और इसमें चुनाव किया गया है बिहार को और उत्तर प्रदेश को बड़े तरीके से दंगा-फसाद करने का ये भारत हमारा 14 के चुनाव में टूटेगा या भारत रहेगा। हम सेकुलर पार्टी के लोग जितने यहाँ इक्कट्ठे हैं सेकुलर लोग हैं जो शरद जी ने भी कहा है। आज जरूरत है कि सबको इक्कट्ठा होने का जो अभी प्रयोग हुआ है उत्तर प्रदेश के मुजफ्फरनगर में, ये मामूली प्रयोग नहीं है बड़ा खतरनाक डिजाइन है ज्यों-ज्यों चुनाव अभी हमारा राष्ट्रीय त्यौहार है, राष्ट्रीय त्यौहार में दशहरा है आगे पीछे पवित्र बकरीद थी होने वाला है तो बड़ी भारी तैयारी हो रही है भीतर **communalize** करने के लिए **society** में वोट के लिए इसमें खड़ा होना पड़ेगा और जो राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् में जो भाषण करते हैं मुझे कई एक अवसरों पर इसमें भाग लेने का मौका मिला है। याद होगा एक माननीय नेता यहाँ हैं जब स्वर्गीय नरसिम्हा राव जी थे और राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की बैठक हुई थी बवाल उठने वाला था बावरी मस्जिद का। उस एकता परिषद् की बैठक में ये कमिटमेंट किया गया था एक पार्टी के द्वारा आज एक पार्टी के मजबूत नेता के द्वारा कि हम कोई नुकसान वहाँ नहीं होने देंगे फटकने नहीं देंगे, चिड़िया को भी फटकने नहीं देंगे, अब बात उल्टा हो गई। तो भाषण करना अलग है और व्यवहार में कुछ बात है। देश हमारा 14 में अगर भारत का जो स्थिति, राजनैतिक परिदृश्य मैं देख रहा हूँ, बहुत खतरनाक देख रहा हूँ। इसलिये साम्प्रदायिकता

इस देश के लिए बड़ा भारी घातक है, इसका हम सबको मुकाबला करना है। मैंने अपनी पार्टी की मीटिंग में अपने कार्यकर्ताओं को कहा कि गाँव-गाँव में जाके इन चीजों से अवगत कराओ लोगों को और देखो और **minority** की हर हालत में रक्षा करने का उपाय करो। भारत सरकार को राज्य सरकारों को और कठोर बनाना पड़ेगा, चेहरा मुँह देख करके लोगों को कोई भी **relax** करने की जरूरत नहीं है, कड़ाई के साथ **deal** करना है सांप्रदायिक ताकतों के साथ, ताकि हमारा भारत टूटे नहीं, भारत **intact** रहे, भारत में रहने वाली जितनी भी जाति बिरादरी है, सब हैं, हम एकसाथ रहें कोई **relaxation** नहीं होना चाहिए। मैं आपको आगाह करना चाहता हूँ और हिंदूस्तान की गद्दी पर बैठने के लिए जो लार टपक रहा है जिस तरह से गालियां बकी जा रही हैं, जिस तरह से आगबबूला हो रहा है, आग निकल रहा है, साम्प्रदायिकता का, किसी से छिपा हुआ नहीं है। इसलिए आज हम आपको कहना चाहते हैं कि हम लोगों की जितनी भी शक्ति है, हमारी जनता, उत्तर प्रदेश, मुलायम सिंह यादव की वहाँ सरकार है वहाँ हिम्मत हुई दंगा करने का आज जो आदमी है उसका नाम लेना मैं नहीं चाहता हूँ वो बिहार भी पहुँच गया है। सारा तैयारी करके बिहार भी पहुँचा हुआ है इसलिए इन चीजों पर कड़ाई से विगत दिनों में भी हम लोगों ने सांप्रदायिक ताकतों के साथ सरकार को दाव पर रख करके हम लोगों ने कार्रवाई की है। आगे आपके साथ हम लोग सरकार के साथ हैं और सरकार को पूरी तैयारी करनी चाहिए। मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ शरद यादव जी को। महिलाओं के साथ जुल्म के सवाल पर और भारत सरकार को विशेष रूप से सब पार्टी के लोगों को कि महिलाओं के साथ जो **rape** और बलात्कार की घटना पर **hanging punishment** फांसी की सजा का आपने बिल पास करवाया। इसके लिए धन्यवाद शरद यादव जी को हम देना चाहते हैं कि आसाराम बापू आज जेल में है, ये साधारण काम नहीं किया है देश की, राज्य की पुलिस ने। आसाराम ने जो कुकृत्य किया इसलिए आज जेल के सलाखों में बंद है। तो महोदय आपने बहुत माकूल समय पर मीटिंग बुलाई है **minority** की रक्षा, हिफाजत और जो ये खतरनाक डिजाइन है भारत टूट जायेगा अगर 14 के चुनाव के पहले अगर ऐसी शक्तियां को फूलने फलने का मौका दिया जाएगा तो भारत रहने वाला नहीं है, टुकड़ा-टुकड़ा होने वाला है, यूँही हमारी सीमा पर खतरा है, चीन का खतरा है, पाकिस्तान का खतरा है, बंकर बन रहा है और अंदर में हमारा खोखला बनाने की जो कोशिश हो रही है, गद्दी के लिए इसके खिलाफ हम लोग हैं और पूरी तरह से साथ हैं चाहे जहाँ भी मुलायम सिंह की सरकार में जो भी हुआ है मजबूती से वहाँ काम किया है। अखिलेश ने काम किया और आप लोगों ने भी प्रधानमंत्री जी, राहुल जी, सोनिया जी सब आप लोग हैं, उसका बहुत बड़ा असर हुआ है। मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। सभी लोग इक्कठे हो जाये जितने भी सेकुलर पार्टियां हैं, लड़ाई आपस में है, लेकिन साम्प्रदायिकता के खिलाफ सभी को गुलबंद होने की जरूरत है, भारत को रोकने के लिए।

धन्यवाद।

Ms. Barkha Dutt:

Thank you Mr. Shinde. In 2011, the meeting that Sushma Ji referred to I had also attended that meeting and come with a great deal of idealism and expectation that perhaps we were going to have an honest conversation about secularism and the kind of politics that seem to surround the issue of secularism. I find that in 2013 when I am at the same meeting today as a citizen,

speaking as a citizen and not as a journalist I feel a great deal of cynicism about everything I have heard so far. Perhaps the National Integration Council needs to step back and reconsider the format and the template within which we have these conversations. It seems that other than a few speakers this morning almost everybody kept to be a prepared text and these prepared texts had already been placed on record. It will have been far more meaningful to have an open and wide ranging conversation of point of debate. The fact that we can't even meet once a year and I think once a year in itself is too ritualistic and is too much of an empty gesture but the fact that we have not been able to meet once a year makes me feel extremely concerned about the relevance of this forum in either being able to prevent or contain the aftermath of communal riots. I was brought up like many people of my generation to believe that secularism was an imperative of the Indian nation. I find today that it has become a word on which there is no consensus. There is no political consensus. There is no consensus in society. It has become a word that for some has become an abuse. When Fali Nariman spoke about whether pluralism is on its death bed it may have sounded like an exaggerated statement but I think it spoke to so many of us who today find ourselves beleaguered when we want to stand up as champions of secularism and we find ourselves beleaguered because we feel let down the politicians of all parties. We feel let down by those who refer to secularism as if it is an abuse, they talk about it with contempt and we feel let down by those parties who positions themselves as representatives of secularism but think nothing of wooing particular electoral constituencies as they frame their response to riots. I think what we have seen happening in Uttar Pradesh is cynical politics of the worst kind. I was disheartened in particular to hear Akhilesh Yadav, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh whom I interviewed just over the weekend. When he became the youngest Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh I think we all thought that there would be a generational shift in policies and political response this was after all the most significant state of India. And yet when you think of the families who are living in refugee camps 3 hours from Delhi this is not in a remote anterior this 3 hours from the national capital. Where is our moment of shame? Where is moment of spontaneous remorse? I have heard very little that goes beyond political tokenism this morning and I can't say that any political party has seemed genuine in what they have said on what has happened in Uttar Pradesh, the fact that three assemblies took place the meeting on August 30th and then the two mahapanchayats, one meeting of Muslim leaders on which the district magistrate was on the stage at a banned illegal meeting and then the subsequent mahapanchayats. The fact that these meetings were able to take place rendering the administration in Uttar Pradesh absolutely redundant. What is that say about our ability to contain riots? The fact that our police inspire such little confidence among ordinary people, the fact that the army has to be called in every time. You are hearing eyewitness accounts. I think we can repeat some of them that when people go to the police for help in situations they find the police is either politicized or communalized itself. The fact that in 2006 verdict on police reforms is still awaiting implementation in 2013 that no state wants to give up its powers to transfer people or to even have fixed tenures for the DGP or for the Superintendent of Police. I think this is an extremely cynical moment for the country and I think these annual or biannual meetings of the National Integration Council where Chief Ministers and politicians want their stated positions recorded is not going to change the fault

lines that really are threatening to wrench us open as a people and I heard a lot said by so many people about social media. I am active on social media. I have more than a million people who follow me on twitter. I also get abused every day. I also get vilified everyday but I think it is really confusing issues here when we hear every politician refer to the misuse of social media. Social media is not what is causing the riots. It is politics of a cynical nature that is causing these communal tensions. Social media is just one more platform. If there is misinformation online, it has to be countered with correct information and I would say now wearing my hat as a journalist that unfortunately our political establishment is yet to wake up to the capacity of the media to be an instrument of positive change. What we find is that and I will end quickly Mr. Shinde I can see you indicating that. I would just like to say that what we find is that we will live in an age of hyper information, information moves very fast so does misinformation. The answer to this is not to issue generalizations about how evil social media is. The answer to this is to have a more effective information and communication strategy. We cannot have silence as the answer to conflict situations that need urgent intervention, I see in other countries the top leaders come on to national television and speak to people. They speak to people when the riots takes place here we keep waiting for someone to speak to us and that vacuum created by the absence of ineffective communication strategy whoever the political party may be actually leads to space for more misinformation so as a member of this National Integration Council I would urge us to reconsider our format for these meetings. I would urge us to reconsider their frequency and I would urge politicians to look at the kind of political campaigns that are being run up to the 2014 election. Blaming Social Media is just an excuse for insidious politics.

Thank you.

Dr. John Dayal:

I am a micro-minority and I will be correspondingly very brief. Secularism, Sir, to us is not an empty word. It is the one hope we have for survival and I say that with certain gravity witnessing not only the violence against Muslims. I too was in Muzaffarnagar and I thank Farah for bringing it up. I too was there but I was also there in the villages of Karnataka and Kandhamal where there is violence against Christians which seems to be invisible to the nation at large. There is no sense of justice for victims of violence. In Kandhamal five years after the massacre of the 100 odd murders, only some were taken up by the Government, 32 were tried. There has been only one conviction for life, just one in 30 cases have been disposed. The people are dead, who are the killers nobody seems to know. There is no sense of witness protection. In Karnataka pastors are being beaten up one a day in the villages. Their wives are often lashed to a tree while the husband is tortured. It is not even reported properly in the media much less does it come to the attention of the Government. There has been a Government change in Karnataka, but the persecution or torture fields have not changed. It is quite obvious that it goes beyond way of political party in power and that it goes to who is there at the grassroots fermenting trouble and fermenting hate. I think something should be done about it and therefore Sir towards micro-minorities. The Communal Violence Prevention Bill and a focus on prevention is a good thing to

have. I am assured by civil society that they are willing to negotiate any issues that Chief Ministers and/or political parties may have on the federalism but certain issues are not negotiable. Officers of the police and the administration must be held responsible for acts of commission and acts of omission. I have known in Kandhamal particularly SPs and IGP and collectors stand together with the mob while the mob burnt a church. SHOs and police patrols are coming with the gangs in raids on churches even in Madhya Pradesh in Jhabwa. This complexity must end and finally Sir two small issues. Please put an ear to the feelings of the minorities. There is a growing unrest in the Christian community. The issue of the dalit Christians hanging fire for 60 years is a very important thing. Please ensure that it is handled tactfully that Government response to the Supreme Court so it does not become another excuse for some sort of future unrest that is a very great danger that you run. Do something about the dalit Christians, do something about Kandhamal as well as do something about Muzaffarnagar.

I thank you, sir, for this opportunity.

Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav:

धन्यवाद माननीय गृहमंत्री जी, आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, आदरणीय सोनिया जी, सभी सम्मानित यहाँ पर आये हुए सभी दलों के नेतागण। सबसे पहले मैं विचार करने के लिए ये बातें कहना चाहता हूँ सबकी सरकार आती है जब समाजवादी पार्टी की सरकार आती तभी अयोध्या की बातें याद क्यों आती है। जिनको अयोध्या की याद ज्यादा आती है, जिन्होंने मस्जिद को गिराया है, उनकी जब सरकार आई तो उस समय मंदिर मस्जिद का सवाल क्यों नहीं किया। उन्होंने मंदिर क्यों नहीं बनाया। सरकार उनके पास थी, पूरा सुरक्षा बल उनके पास था, जब उनकी सरकार रही, तब मंदिर का जिक्र नहीं किया। इससे पहले और भी सरकार आई, मंदिर का कहीं भी अयोध्या का जिक्र नहीं किया। अकारण जब समाजवादी पार्टी की सरकार आती हैं तभी मंदिर और मस्जिद और हिंदू और मुसलमान की बात क्यों आती हैं। इसलिए हम पूरे सदन के अन्दर इस बात को बताना चाहते हैं या समाजवादी की सरकार आती तभी ऐसा होता है। हम जहाँ तक ये सवाल है एकता परिषद् की बैठक बुलाके बहुत अच्छा काम किया। ये कितनी चिंता की बात है। लोगों के बीच सहनशीलता तेजी से समाप्त हो रही है। अगर ये सड़क हादसे में शामिल लोग दो समुदाय के हैं तो लड़ते हैं, अगर साईकिल भी दो समुदाय के बीच कहीं उत्तर प्रदेश में टकरा जाती है तब भी दंगा का रूप लेने की कोशिश की जाती है। साईकिल टकराने से कई जगह बचा लिया पुलिस ने, हम लोगों ने कोशिश की। साईकिल की टक्कर दो समुदाय के बीच हो गयीं उसी को ले करके लड़ने लगे, बचा लिया किसी तरह। इसी तरह अगर दो अलग-अलग समुदाय के लोग, हिंसा का रूप ले लेती अगर किसी महिला की छेड़छाड़ में, महिला एवं पुरुष अलग-अलग समुदाय के हैं तो गंभीर हिंसा भड़क जाती है। यही परिणाम हुआ। जहाँ तक मुजफ्फरनगर का सवाल है, वहाँ भी एक मुसलमान लड़के और दो दूसरे समुदाय के लड़के इन दोनों के बीच झगडा हो जाता है। बस आम लड़के की हत्या हो जाती है। फिर बदले में दो हत्याएं उनकी हो जाती है। दूसरे समुदाय की। इसके लिए रातों रात सरकार ने पूरी कोशिश की कि किसी तरह से कोई दंगा-फसाद न होने पाए। तो एक समुदाय तो सहमत हो गया, दूसरा समुदाय सहमत नहीं हुआ और एक-एक करके बीच से निकलकर सीधा मुसलमानों के मोहल्लों में अत्याचार, अन्याय, लूटपाट, मारपीट शुरू

कर दी। मुसलमान भाग के चला गया, उन्होंने उनका मुकाबला नहीं किया, कर सकते थे, मुकाबला, लेकिन उनकी तरफ से भी कहीं थोड़ा मुकाबला हुआ तो 6 लोगों की हत्या हुई है। और दूसरे समाज की हत्या आपको पता ही है कि 40 के आसपास हत्याएं हो गई हैं। और फिर वो मुसलमान तो चले गए सारा का सारा छोड़ करके बाहर। उनके लिए हमें टेंट लगाने पड़े, सरकार को पूरा इंतजाम करना पड़ा, सब चीज का। अब कुछ लोग आने लगे हैं, कुछ लोग रह गए हैं, चार पांच दिन में सब वापस आ जायेंगे, ऐसी हम लोगों ने बातचीत कर उनसे फैसला किया है। अब सवाल ये है कि आज पूरा का पूरा बैठा है देश। अब सारे देश में जनता की इस तरह की हत्या कौन कराना चाहता है, कौन करता है। इस पर गंभीरता से सरकार ही जाँच करायेगी और हमें पूछेंगे, लालू जी को शायद पूछें, शरद यादव को भी पूछिए सब बता देंगे कि ये कहाँ से शुरूआत होती है और क्या वजह है। फिर दोहराता हूँ इसपे गंभीरता से विचार कीजिये कि समाजवादी पार्टी की सरकार आती है तभी उत्तर प्रदेश में ये समस्या पैदा क्यों होती है। अब वो क्यों होती है मुझे पता है उन लोगों को साथ-साथ 10 साल तक रखने की कोशिश हमने की है अलग सत्ता से। वो सत्ता में नहीं आ रहे हैं और कोशिश करें आगे भी सत्ता में ना आए तो केवल सत्ता पाने के लिए ही ये सब कुछ हो रहा है। किसी तरह से दो में बटवारा हो जाये, ये पूरी कोशिश है, अध्यक्ष महोदय कि हिंदू अलग, मुसलमान अलग, दो ही समुदाय के बीच रह जाए मामला। ये साजिश उन शक्तियों की है पूरी की पूरी। इनकी मीटिंग होती है 12 बजे के बाद। अब एक ऐसा आ गया है जिसने गुजरात में आग लगाई थी उसी को प्रभारी बना दिया। वो सब नाम आप जानते हैं और रात के 12 बजे के बाद मीटिंग होती है और मीटिंग होती है हिंदू और मुसलमान की। ये सरकार के नोटिस में लाना चाहते हैं आप जाँच करा लीजिए 12 के बाद होती है जिन्होंने आग लगाई थी सबसे ज्यादा उन्हीं की भूमिका थी गुजरात में। तो गुजरात बनाएंगे, ये बार-बार मुख्यमंत्री गुजरात के कहते हैं कि उत्तर प्रदेश को गुजरात बनाएंगे। कितना बयान आ चुका। केन्द्र सरकार ने कोई नोटिस ही नहीं लिया। फिर कहते हैं बिहार को भी बनाएंगे गुजरात, उत्तर प्रदेश को भी बनाएंगे गुजरात। गुजरात क्या बना है, गुजरात कैसे बना है और क्या ये गुजरात बना है, ठीक है बना है, वो सिर्फ कांग्रेस पार्टी की कमजोरी से बना है। कांग्रेस पार्टी ने कस के विरोध किया होता, जम के मुकाबला किया होता तो वहाँ का पूरा का पूरा सूबा कांग्रेसी था, वहाँ पर वहाँ के मुख्यमंत्री कितने बयान दे चुके कोई नोटिस ही नहीं ले रहा है कि मैं गुजरात को बनाऊँगा जो उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार, क्या बना है गुजरात में, क्या कर दिया गुजरात में। जो उत्तर प्रदेश में हुआ है जनता और खेतों का काम आज हिंदुस्तान की किसी सूबे में नहीं है। वहाँ पढाई मुफ्त कर दी गई, सिंचाई मुफ्त कर दी गई, दवाई मुफ्त कर दी गई, लड़कियों की पढाई मुफ्त कर दी गई, मुसलमान लड़कियों को 30,000 हाई स्कूल पास लड़कियों को 30,000-30,000 रुपया दिया, जनरल को 30-30 हजार बेरोजगारों को रोजगार दिया, 50,000 का और बाकी रह गए उनको 30,000 रुपये का व्यावहारिक भत्ता दिया। सारी सुविधायें जो दे रहे हैं उससे परेशान हैं कि जनता इनके पक्ष में हो रही है और ये कब्जा करना चाहते हैं यूपी पे सामुदायिक शक्तियां और समाजवादी पार्टी ने ही इन्हें अलग निकाला है वहीं मुकाबला कर रहे हैं और ये सभी को पता है कि ये ध्रुवीकरण जो चाहते हैं गुजरात का मॉडल पूरे देश में लागू होगा ये वहाँ के मुख्यमंत्री बार-बार मेरे से राय कर रहे हैं, वो बोल रहे हैं तो कौन सा मॉडल है। मुजफ्फरनगर की हिंसा गहरी साजिश है उसका दुष्प्रभाव है। इतनी गहरी साजिश से कश्मीर, उत्तर प्रदेश का भाईचारे के तानाबाना टूट गया। हिंसा के द्वारा भी सांप्रदायिक एकता की अनेक मिसालें देखने को मिली। लेकिन कई जगह जाटों ने मुसलमानों को

शरण दी है और उनकी रक्षा के लिए कई स्थानों पर मुसलमानों ने जाट परिवारों को रक्षा दी है। जाट और मुसलमान आपस में एका कर रहे हैं। शामली के पियखेडा गाँव में आज भी मुसलमान और जाट एक ही हुक्का पीके बातचीत कर रहे थे। एकता के लिए तानेबाने को तोड़ने की साजिश जो मुजफ्फरनगर में की गई है लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने सेना, **paramilitary force**, **rapid action force** और पुलिस की मदद से जिसमें केंद्र सरकार की, प्रधानमंत्री जी की, गृहमंत्री जी की पूरी मदद रही है। इसी की वजह से इतना बड़ दंगा दो दिन में खत्म हुआ है। तीसरे दिन में नहीं हुआ इसके लिए हम आपको धन्यवाद देते हैं। अब मैंने शांति समितियां बना दी हैं गाँव-गाँव में, घरों को छोड़ कर जो लोग जा चुके हैं वो धीरे-धीरे आ रहे हैं। पीड़ित लोगों को हमने 15-15 लाख रुपया दे दिया है औरों को भी दे रहे हैं। मकान बनाने के लिए भी दे रहे हैं। पूरी मदद हम वहाँ कर रहे हैं। मैं खुद जाऊंगा और उनकी जितनी क्षति हुई है वो क्षति पूरी करेंगे चाहे मकान का हो और चाहे सुरक्षा का हो पूरा का पूरा करेंगे और मुझे इस बात की खुशी है अभी तक हम पर पूरा विश्वास है हम पर अन्य पार्टी के नेताओं पर हो चाहे ना हो। अखिलेश पर ना करें विश्वास ना करें लेकिन हम पर पूरा विश्वास है तो हम उनके लिए पूरा जितनी कमी आई है हम पूर्ति करेंगे। अब जो निधन हो गया, हत्याएं हो गयी उनकी तो आप जानते हैं हम नहीं कर सकते उन लोगों को नहीं ला सकते, लेकिन उनके परिवारों को इतना समर्थ बनायेंगे कि जिससे उनका अभाव न खटके। ये पूरी कोशिश हो रही है और हमको पैसे 10-10 लाख मिल भी गया है हमें, पूर्ति की 5-5 लाख और देंगे। और जो गिरफ्तार हुए है दंगा भड़काने में, कानूनी जो गिरफ्तार हुए हैं वो शेष भी जल्द ही गिरफ्तार हो जायेंगे। ये तीन लोग ऐसे हैं उनमें एक तो आ गया है दो भागे हुए हैं। तीन ऐसे हैं जो इनके नेता हैं। इन तीनों ने सबसे ज्यादा भूमिका निभाई है और खड़ा किया है वहाँ मुसलमानों के खिलाफ। उनमें एक तो **surrender** कर गया अपने आप, दो अभी भागे हुए हैं। हम देश के सामने लाना चाहते हैं ये तीन नेताओं ने मिल करके समस्या पैदा की है, गंभीर समस्या पैदा की है। उनको भी आ जाएंगे गिरफ्तारी की जाएंगी सबकी और कठोर कार्रवाई की जाएंगी जिससे भविष्य में कभी भी इस तरह के दंगा करने की हिम्मत न पड़े। लेकिन आपका सहयोग चाहिए क्योंकि सहयोग आपका आवश्यक है। आपने सहयोग दिया है। प्रधानमंत्री जी ने, सोनिया जी ने आपने सबने सहयोग किया है उसे दो दिन में ही खत्म किया है इसके लिये आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद आगे भी आपका सहयोग रहे इसी उम्मीद के साथ मैं अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ।

Shri Sudhakar Reddy:

Respected Prime Minister, honourable members of the National Integration Council. Thank you very much. I speak on behalf of the Communist Party of India. This meeting of the NIC has been called after a gap of two years. I think this reflects the casualness of the Government on the subject. This should be called every year so that the issues of National Integration can be tackled more properly. This meeting is summoned in the wake of the ghastly communal violence in Muzaffarnagar and some other parts of the Western UP. The Government did not invite such meetings as a forum to hear views and anger after ghastly communal incidents. It should take place earlier to prevent communal incidents. Communal violence is not only one that threatens the national integration. There are over scores of other problems also. These things are also to be tackled on the basis of national consensus, that is why the meetings of National Integration

Council are necessary more frequently. The size of the National Integration Council is also becoming a problem to call the meetings more frequently and think about that issue also. Presently the communal situation in the country is continuously worsening. Communal violence in UP, Bihar, Assam and other states is increasing. The most unfortunate thing is that same parties are promoted communalism as a tool for communal polarisation to have some electoral advantage. Political parties have to ponder where they are leading the country by dividing the people on religious basis. It is a curse that needs to be totally removed. The very propagation of communal ideas needs to be curbed and fought relentlessly. State administration has to play a crucial role. Secularism means separation of state politics and education from Religion. In practice, this basic understanding of secularism has been totally distorted during the past decade. State funds are used to organize the religious functions. Political parties open to use religious symbolism to garner votes, educational system in number of states is being distorted with imaginary religious text. All these distortions need to be tackled urgently and the basics of a secular polity should be restored. The NIC earlier in 80s passed very important resolutions. These resolutions should be once again reminded. We should read it. These good recommendations are useful for curbing the fundamentalism and religious communalism. These recommendations are being buried in the files in practice. This should be once again send to States. The draft for prevention of communal violence bill is pending for quite long time. That should be brought into the parliament at the earliest though we have some reservations on some of the provisions of it. The communal violence, making hate speeches, spreading of communal violence through media should be not just a crime under 153 CRPC. It should be a crime for more serious punishment through the speedy trial. On the name of terrorism are fighting against terrorism innocent youth of minority community are harassed. This should be taken care of. Special component plan of tribals and SCs sub plan amounts are being diverted. Key issues should be taken up more seriously. Attacks on dalits, inter-caste marriage attacks, honour killings, and caste panchayats are becoming a very serious problem. These issues are also to be taken serious by the National Integration Council. Atrocities on women are on increase. It is alarming of late god men are also joining the ranks of the rapists. Fast track courts on rape cases, special courses for speedy trial, and steps to see more conviction percentage should take place.

Thank you very much.

Shri Siddharth Varadarajan:

Thank you very much Prime Minister Sir, Shinde Sahib and all other distinguished guest members of the National Integration Council. Thank you for letting me present my views. I just want to make few brief points, I think a lot of very important things was said in the first session which I endorse. My sense is that we need to keep focus on the context in which our discussion is taking place and Muzaffarnagar is not the only context. When I look at the last three or four years, I feel a sense of disquiet at the growing intolerance and bitterness that we see all around us where people, you know, the people take the law into their own hands because they don't like a certain book, they don't like a certain play, they don't like a movie, bans are imposed, mob

violence dictates the culture preferences of people and what we see in State after State the police and the Governments are facing this kind of rule by mobs. These mobs may not necessarily represent any particular community or may represent some small group but increasingly I find that they are vitiating the atmosphere and this is the initial comment that I wanted to make that this context is very important that we need to act against the rising trend of intolerance in our society. Obviously what happened in Muzaffarnagar is the most brutal example and here echoing what Farhan Naqvi said in the first session on the importance of the Communal Violence Bill. I feel that we are paying the price for lessons not being learned in time. You know, when I look at the Gujarat riots of 2002 and you analyze what is it that emboldened the police officer to disregard the cries of innocent people. Well the answer is very simple. He looks back and he says well in 1984, during the 1984 riots the police officers of Delhi who did not lift a finger to protect innocent citizens of Delhi. They were never prosecuted. No action was taken against them. Commission after commission sat nothing was done. So because of what happened in 1984, 2002 becomes possible; because of what happened in 2002 other similar crimes are pervaded so we need to put a stop to this and I think the way to put a stop is to have a clear cut law which fixes responsibility on those who through the acts of Commission or omissions are responsible for the deaths of innocent people, are responsible for destruction of property, are responsible for attacks on women which is increasing and are becoming a trend in many of this communal incidents. So I think having the Bill, discussed, deliberated and passed quickly so that responsibility for failing to do the duty can be fixed. I think that's a very, very important point. The importance of relief and rehabilitation because despite the best law, despite the best policy there may still be incidents of violence which take a place when people are displaced in large numbers. I find it shocking and unacceptable that relief camps whether they will be in Uttar Pradesh or anywhere else should be run by non-governmental organizations or Madarsas or something else. If citizens are displaced by mass violence that the State fail to prevent surely it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure that these camps are setup that they run, that they are properly provisioned. These can't be left to the leaders of some religions organization or community organization. I think again this that the Communal Violence Bill must put in place, fix the obligation and responsibility of the Government to ensure that when people are displaced their relief and rehabilitation is a priority and that the Government has to ensure that this happens quickly. Similarly on the issue compensation, there is no single policy. Wide variations can be seen for people who are essentially the victims of communal riot. I think it is important that there will be a standard policy so that this is not the product of the whim or fancy of an individual leader or simply because somebody agitates or that there is a political demand or extra relief is granted as some sort of a reward so I think it is essential. My last point is that really an appeal to our political class that, you know, politicians also have to lead from the front. They have to speak for an enlighten politics. They have to speak for enlightenment, they have to take enlightened position and here, you know मालूम नहीं शिवराज जी हैं कि नहीं, मैं उनसे माफी चाहता हूँ लेकिन तुष्टिकरण जो लफ्ज उन्होंने इस्तेमाल किया थोड़ा मुझे लगा कि इस लफ्ज का इस्तेमाल नहीं होना चाहिए जब 50,000 मुसलमान उत्तर प्रदेश में camps में बसे हुए हैं अभी। किसकी पुष्टिकरण हो रही है? आप सच्चर कमेटी के statistics को देखिए उससे साफ जाहिर है कि living conditions, literacy, access to health, employment, जो मुस्लिम समुदाय है, they are worse than other

communities. Why should we not say that the community that has suffered or that is underprivileged should be given protection? अगर हम महिलाओं के हकों के बारे में बात करें और कहें कि भई उनके लिए कानून चाहिए तो क्या ये महिलाओं की पुष्टिकरण हो रही है क्या? अगर हम दलितों के बारे में बात करें कि भई उनपे अत्याचार जो हो रहा है ये खत्म होना चाहिए, कानून बनना चाहिए, उनकी तरक्की के लिए special provisions होने चाहिए, क्या ये तुष्टिकरण है क्या? I think we need to be careful about some of these words that we use and it would be, you know, I think it is essential that leadership across the board particularly when incidents of this kind happen that they talk to the media, speak to people because, politicians have, Sharad Yadav आपने बड़ा सही कहा कि, you know, politicians have a lot of, they know this country well, they have a lot of impact and I think well chosen words, important statement that are made can do a lot to improve the atmosphere and ensure that such incidence either they don't have happen or when they happen that things come back to normal as fast as possible.

Thank you.

Shri Nanki Ram Kanwar:

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, माननीय सभी केंद्रीय मंत्रिगण, माननीय नेता परिप्रेक्ष्य में विभिन्न राज्यों से आये हुए माननीय मुख्यमंत्रीगण, सभी राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् के सदस्यगण। मैंने इसे बहुत विस्तार में अपने भाषण में आपके समक्ष submit किया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि एक तो इस एकता परिषद् की बैठक प्रतिवर्ष होनी चाहिए जो आपने दो साल का देरी किया है निश्चित रूप से, यह हर वर्ष होना चाहिए, ऐसा मेरा एक सुझाव है। मैं समझता हूँ कि साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव के लिए छत्तीसगढ़ एक शांति का टापू माना जा सकता है। अभी-अभी कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने भाषण में किसी व्यक्ति विशेष के सम्बन्ध में, भले नाम ना लिया हों, या पार्टी विशेष के सम्बन्ध में चाहे वो नाम ना लिए हो, लेकिन इंगित किया जाता है, मैं समझता हूँ, वो उचित नहीं है। अगर गुजरात के 2002 के दंगों के बाद के परिप्रेक्ष्य में भी देखें तो निश्चित रूप से कहीं ना कहीं किसकी गलती है यह intelligence केंद्र का, किया जा सकता है। उसमें किसी व्यक्ति को दोषी बनाना भी उचित नहीं है। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, मैं समझता हूँ इसलिए केंद्र में नियम बनाए, संविधान में परिवर्तन भी किया जा सकता है कि जो दंगा करने वाली पार्टी है या व्यक्ति है उसको आप केन्द्र से चिन्हित कीजिए क्यों State के ऊपर रखते हैं। अगर State इस सम्बन्ध में किसी पार्टी विशेष के द्वारा होता है तो निश्चित रूप से एक तरफा अपने State का पक्ष लेने की कोशिश करेगा। इसलिए आप इनमें कानून बना सकते हैं और कई महानुभावों ने व्यक्तिगत विशेष से, पार्टी विशेष के सम्बन्ध में जो इस मंच पर आलोचना करने की कोशिश की है निश्चित रूप से मैं समझता हूँ कि वो दुर्भावनापूर्ण है, इससे हमको बचना चाहिए। हमको तो सिर्फ सांप्रदायिक सदभाव किसी तरह से बना रहे, इस सम्बन्ध में चर्चा करना चाहिए। यह मेरा सुझाव है और मैं समझता हूँ कि गुजरात के बारे में ही, आज 2002 के बारे में सांप्रदायिक दंगा क्यों नहीं हुआ? मध्यप्रदेश में सांप्रदायिक दंगा क्यों नहीं हुआ? छत्तीसगढ़ में सांप्रदायिक दंगा क्यों नहीं हुआ? यह भी एक निश्चित रूप से अपने को सोचने के विषय में आपके लिए छोड़ता हूँ और इस तरह से निश्चित रूप से हम सब को, सब पार्टियों को, सब States को यह तय करना चाहिए कि सांप्रदायिक सदभाव किस तरह से बना रहे।

धन्यवाद।

Shri Rajnikant Patel:

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, परिषद् में पधारे सभी सम्मानीय प्रतिनिधिगण। राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की इस बैठक का उद्देश्य धर्म, जाति, प्रदेशों और वर्गों के बीच भेदभाव ना हो और देश में एकता बनी रहे। जो कई सारी समस्याएं हैं, वो सांप्रदायिक दंगे के बारे में हो, महिलाओं या पीड़ितों के अत्याचार के लिए हो, इस सभी के प्रति विचार विमर्श करके इसके प्रति कैसे सहानुभूतिपूर्ण व्यवहार हो, इसके बारे में जब चर्चा हो रही है तो इसके परिप्रेक्ष्य में, मैं गुजरात के बारे में यह कहूंगा कि पिछले दशक में गुजरात में जैसे विकास हो रहा है इसके कारण गुजरात के सभी समुदाय और वर्ग और समृद्ध बने हैं। सब समाज को आगे ले जाने के लिए एकता, वो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात है और गुजरात में हमारे माननीय मुख्यमंत्री जी की प्रबल इच्छाशक्ति और जनता के सहयोग से पिछले दशक में एक भी ऐसा सांप्रदायिक दंगा नहीं हुआ है जिसके कारण ऐसे लोगों को कोई परेशानी हो। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी इसमें, यह agenda book में कई आँकड़े दंगों के बारे में, गुजरात के दंगों के बारे में दिए गए हैं। यह जो figures हैं, ज्यादातर कोई व्यक्तिगत झगड़े होंगे, ऐसे हैं तो मैंने बताया इस तरह पिछले दशक में ऐसे कोई बात या घटना गुजरात में नहीं है और राज्य में सभी लोग सामाजिक समरसता के आधार पर सदभावनापूर्ण माहौल में भाईचारे के साथ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। 2002 में अक्षरधाम पर हुए आतंकवादी हमले और वर्ष 2008 में हुए श्रेणीबद्ध bombblast के समय में सभी लोग बहुत परेशान थे, बहुत गुस्से में थे, फिर भी कोई अघटित घटना गुजरात में नहीं हुई है। पिछले दस साल में गुजरात में curfew लगाया नहीं गया है। दस साल के बच्चे को यह पता ही नहीं है कि curfew क्या चीज है। प्रत्येक जिले में ऐसे एकता समिति और शांति समिति के आधार पर और सभी जिलों में आयोजित लोक दरबार में विभिन्न समुदाय के लोग और चुने हुए सभी जनप्रतिनिधि नियमित रूप से मिलते हैं और वही पर प्रश्नों के समाधान ढूँढते हैं और समाधान करते हैं। मुझे कहने में गर्व महसूस होता है कि गुजरात में विकास के लाभ सभी समाज को मिले हैं। समाज के पिछड़े वर्ग, अनुसूचित जाति हो, अनुसूचित जनजाति हो, ऐसे सभी लोगों को विकास के फल वहां तक पहुँचे हैं। आज राज्य में महिलाओं की सुरक्षा और सशक्तिकरण के लिए अनेक कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। राज्य में 28 महिला पुलिस स्टेशन, 4 महिला पुलिस सेल और 20 महिला हार्कोर्ट अभी कार्यरत हैं। तो इस तरह से सुरक्षा की योजना के माध्यम से युवाओं को, महिलाओं को, स्कूल के बच्चों को और senior citizens आदि को पुलिस के साथ जोड़ के, एक अभ्यास करके, इन सभी लोगों को राज्य की एकता के लिए और अच्छी तरह आगे कैसे बढ़े इसके लिए प्रयत्नशील रहते हैं। परिषद् की अहमियत और इस बैठक की महत्ता सर्वविदित है। Agenda में सभी समाविष्ट मुद्दे बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं इसको गंभीरता से लिए जाएं। इसी बात के साथ बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

Shri K. J. George

Respected Prime Minister, Respected Sonia Ji, Chairperson UPA, Honourable Home Minister, Sri. Sushil Kumar Shinde Ji, distinguished members of the National Integration Council. As our Chief Minister Siddaramaiah Ji, could not to come as, Rashtrapati Ji is visiting our state, as Home Minister, I am representing. At the outset I complement the Honourable Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji for convening the National Integration Council meeting. At the state

level, several measures have been taken towards maintenance of Communal Harmony and National Integration. The Government of Karnataka has issued notification in January 2011 constituting the State Integration Council under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister. Karnataka state police, in coordination with the district administration also has taken up various steps for prevention of communal incidents and for promoting Communal Harmony. A serious anti dowry campaign has been taken up by the state police. It will be ensured that the preventive sections 107, 108, 109, 110 of CRPC will be put in optimum and effective use to contain, the anti-social and communal elements. Prohibition of law which facilitate exterminate of anti-social elements are being used to arrest and detain anti-social elements including communal gundas to prevent them from creating disorder in the society. The State Government is fully committed to prevent crimes against women during the year 2013 when compared to the previous years. in the state. There is a drastic deduction in the crimes against women during the year 2013 when compared to the previous years. Crimes against women will be taken seriously. All women police stations, especially to deal with the crimes and atrocities across cities against women are functioning in the state. Each police station in the state has a woman help desk operated by the woman personnel. Fast track courts are being setup to try cases pertaining to women and children. Necessary instructions to the police personnel to visit SC/ST colonies and conduct meetings at police station, comprising leaders of Dalit's and other castes have been issued. The Government of Karnataka has appointed nodal officers for effective implementation of the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes (Prevention Atrocities Act) and Rules 1995. I take this opportunity to assure maximum cooperation and support of our Government in the country's endeavour to promote National Integration and communal harmony. I thank Honourable Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister for giving me this opportunity to share my views.

Thank you.

Shri Phungzathang Tonsing:

Thank you Sir. As my Chief Minister has gone out of the country, I attend this National Integration Council Meeting as a representative of the Government of Manipur. Sir, in Manipur, we have no communal and women problem at present. However, we have to define the Victim Compensation Scheme in 2011. I thank you once again for giving me a chance to say few words in this very important council meeting.

Jai Hind.

Shri Bikram Singh Majithia:

Honourable Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Honourable Home Minister, Sh. Sushil Kumar Shinde Ji, esteem members of the NIC, ladies and gentlemen. Today, we are gathered here to discuss issues of great importance to our Country. There are a number of questions that have come to my mind and I guess to everyone's mind who is not present in this hall. The country's social structure and economic health is facing serious challenges. India seeks

peace with its neighbours but it seems to be at war with itself. In 1947, when we were growing up or when I went to school, I remember we used to sing these lines "कि सारे जहाँ से अच्छा हिन्दूस्तान हमारा" but it is sad today that the situation has come to a pass where we talk of not the National Pride, not of National Integration but of glorifying a community or caste. I guess we have got so stuck in vote bank politics that questions are being asked, "Have we lost more people fighting wars? Or have we lost more people because of caste and communal tension?" Sir, I am very happy that with the grace of God and the Will of the Punjabis and under the able leadership of the Chief Minister with a vast experience, Sardar Parkash Singh Ji Badal, there is complete peace in Punjab. According to a report that had been distributed by the NIC, there were 19 States in 2012 and 20 states in 2013 that had some kind of problem but Punjab did not figure in that. Sir, this was not achieved by chance. We have our own problems. We have got a very long border with Pakistan and problems are always being created by our neighbour. We have a mixed variety of all communities present in Punjab but as mentioned in your Report, Punjab is an oasis of peace. We talk about confidence building measures. Sir, it has to start from the top. The leadership has to show a lot of sensitivity, a lot of sincerity, a lot of impartiality. Only then we will come through this dark period of communal tension or caste violence. I am very happy to state that in Punjab, we have had no such problems because our police force has been very vigilant and our Chief Minister Sahib and Home Minister Sahib have been very decisive in taking action if somebody has done anything wrong. Also, there are no caste and communal tensions in Punjab because of the teachings of our Gurus. When a Punjabi goes to sleep, he does not pray for himself. He prays for the entire humanity. "नानक नाक चढ़दी कला तेरे भाणे सरबत दा भला" but I feel I would be failing in my duties if while talking about confidence building measures, I do not talk about the role that even NIC needs to play. It is sad Sir that 15 meetings have taken place since independence. Since 1984, when anti-Sikh massacre took place, and thousands of innocent people were massacred on the streets of National Capital the people involved in this heinous crime have not been punished. They have actually been rewarded. Till you lead from the front, there will be a possibility of an alienation in the victimized community. Sikhs have been denied justice. Sir, this is inspite of the fact that 11 such meetings have passed. Barkha Datt also said this. Then what is the point of meeting if strong remedial measures or steps are not going to be taken. Sir, I do not know where else to look when I look at you. I see the Prime Minister of the country. People sitting on the Dais are the people who are going to take serious policy decisions. Hard decisions will have to be taken which will eventually lead us to become a Nation, a Country that we all have been dreaming about where everybody will live in peace and where we will all grow together and nobody will go to sleep hungry. Sir, in Punjab, we have taken many steps to ensure peace and good Law & Order. One of these steps is the introduction of the quick response mechanism through a 24X7 helpline for women known as 181. This is our Home Minister's dream scheme and it has become a reality now.

Sir, to sum it up, I guess we have to rise about petty politics. National pride has to come first. Sir I would just want to say that sadly in India you do not find an Indian. You either find a Hindu or a Muslim, a Sikh or a Christian, a Brahmin or a Dalit, a upper Caste or a lower Caste. I

guess the devil is hiding somewhere within us. Sir, there is no time to waste. Today more than 1.2 Billion people have a dream. It is Rabindranath Tagore's dream "Where the mind is free and without fear and the head is held high. Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."

Thank you very much.

Shri Virendra Beniwal:

Thank you Sir, परम आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री महोदय डॉ., मनमोहन सिंह जी, UPA Chairperson श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी, माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी, विराजमान राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की बैठक में उपस्थित सभी सम्माननीय सदस्यगण। सर्वप्रथम, मैं माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी और गृह मंत्री जी का धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की ये महत्वपूर्ण बैठक उनके गरिमामय मार्गदर्शन और नेतृत्व में आयोजित की जा रही है। यह बैठक एक विकट अवसर पर आयोजित की जा रही है जबकि फूट डालने वाली द्वेषपूर्ण शक्तियां देश और प्रदेश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में सांप्रदायिक वातावरण दूषित करने के लिए सर उठा रही हैं। इन प्रवृत्तियों के गंभीर रूप लेने से राष्ट्रीय एकता स्थायित्व और सामाजिक तानेबाने को छिन्न-भिन्न होने का गंभीर खतरा उत्पन्न हो गया है, लेकिन मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि UPA Chairperson श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी के सक्षम मार्गदर्शन एवं प्रधानमंत्री डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी के अनुभवी नेतृत्व में हम इन चुनौतियों का सफलतापूर्वक मुकाबला कर सकेंगे। विगत कुछ वर्षों में सांप्रदायिक तनाव प्रदेश में आंतरिक सुरक्षा और कानून व्यवस्था के लिए बड़ा खतरा बनकर उभरे हैं। प्रदेश के लोगों को धर्म और सम्प्रदाय के आधार पर बांटने के मंसूबों ने हमारे समक्ष बड़ी चुनौती पेश की है जिसका माननीय मुख्यमंत्री महोदय श्री अशोक जी गहलोत द्वारा कुशलता से नियंत्रण पाने का प्रयास किया गया है। सांप्रदायिक रूप से संवेदनशील एवं अतिसंवेदनशील क्षेत्रों के लिए आपात् योजनाएं, सांप्रदायिक प्रकृति के स्थानीय विवादों का छिन्नीकरण व प्राथमिकता के आधार पर उनका समाधान तथा संवेदनशील त्यौहारों व जुलूसों के अवसर पर शांति समितियों में आमजन का सहयोग सुनिश्चित किया जाकर सांप्रदायिक सदभाव को बढ़ावा दिया गया है। गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रेषित सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द में अभिवृद्धि हेतु 58 बिंदु की परामर्शिका को लागू करने पर विशेष बल दिया गया है। साथ ही साथ **social networking** का इस्तेमाल करते हुए असामाजिक तत्वों को **facebook** जैसी **social networking website** पर भड़काऊ टिप्पणियां अंकित कर सांप्रदायिक माहौल बिगाड़ने व घृणास्पद दुष्प्रचार का नया हथियार मिल गया है। हाल ही में ऐसे मामले प्रदेश में कुछ स्थानों पर सामने आए हैं जिनमें कानून व्यवस्था की स्थिति गंभीर बन गई है। फिर भी **social sites** पर बेहतर स्वनियामिक व्यवस्थाओं, आपत्तिजनक सामग्री के अभिलेखन और ऐसी सामग्री के स्रोतों की पहचान के लिए, जाँच एजेंसियों को बेहतर और त्वरित सूचना प्राप्ति के विधिक व तकनीकी समाधानों की दिशा में भारत सरकार के स्तर पर और तेजी लाई जाए ऐसा मैं आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ। साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि युवा वर्ग में **social networking sites** की जो बढ़ती लोकप्रियता है इसका सकारात्मक उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए और इस प्रकार की **sites** पर चाहे वो **YouTube** हो या **Twitter** हो हमें कुछ इस प्रकार के अपनी ओर से **pages** बना कर के **school** और **college** जाने वाले छात्रों के मध्य लोकप्रिय करना चाहिए जिससे सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक सौहार्द की अभिवृद्धि को प्रोत्साहन मिल सके। मैं इस मौके पर

ये भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सांप्रदायिक तनावों के वक्त CLG एवं शांति समितियों के माध्यम से शांति व्यवस्था बनाए जाने के कुछ जो तजुर्बे किए थे उसमें काफी सफलता मिली है। साथ ही साथ मैं अंत में माननीय गृह मंत्री जी को यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे हम अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति के ऊपर किए जा रहे अत्याचारों के विषय में बात करें। राज्य सरकार द्वारा पहल करके अनेक इस प्रकार की व्यवस्थाएं कायम की गई हैं जिससे त्वरित न्याय मिल सके। मैं पुनः धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि इस महत्वपूर्ण बैठक में राज्य का पक्ष रखने के लिए आपने अवसर दिया।

बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद!

Shri D.B. Thapa

Honourable Prime Minister, respected Smt. Sonia Gandhi Ji, Honourable Union Home Minister, other Union Ministers, Honourable Chief Minister and all the dignitaries, ladies and gentlemen. At the outset I would like to convey the apology on behalf of the honourable Chief Minister of Sikkim as due to some pressing engagements in the State, he is unable to attend the meeting today. I, Minister of Development and Housing Department, representing on behalf of him. Sir, the State of Sikkim has showed as an excellent example of communal harmony for rest of the country though the State has a significant number of different communities. These communities intermingle freely to constitute a homogeneous community. The maintenance of communal harmony is the prime responsibility of the State Government. The State Government is alive to this responsibility and National Integration Committees at the State and District level have been constituted under the Chief Secretary and the respective District Collectors for the maintenance of communal harmony and promoting National Integration. Standing operating procedures have been issued to deal with escalated situation, riots etc. in case situation so demands. There is reservation for all sections of population in recruitment to the Government including the police. Nodal officers have been designated in each department for monitoring the content of social networking sites for taking necessary action against any false propaganda. An exclusive cell has been established in the State police headquarter to engage with the public on the social media on a regular basis and also to counter any hate propaganda and rumour. Sikkim is a small State and a close nitt society. Unlike other states and big cities there is no anonymous culture and almost everyone known each other. There is, therefore, a general respect for the dignity of the women. Any crime relating to women is attended to promptly and police officers are sensitive in dealing with the victims of rape, molestation, domestic violence etc. There is 30% reservation for woman in civil police and woman police officers are posted in all police stations. In respect of crime against SCs and STs only two cases have been registered in the State in the last five years, one in 2008 and in 2010. I will conclude with this. I would, however, like to state that ultimately it is the rapport between the state agencies in particular police and community that matter in ensuring communal harmony and safety and security of various sections of society.

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity, Sir.

Shri K.P. Munusamy

Honourable Prime Minister, Honourable Union Ministers, Honourable Chief Ministers of States and Union Territories and other dignitaries.

At the outset, I thank my beloved and respected Leader Idhaya Deivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma Avargal for giving me, this unique opportunity to participate in this conference, and place her esteemed views before this august gathering.

We have all gathered here today for the 16th meeting of the National Integration Council, after a gap of nearly two years. For a country that is just 67 years young, attaining independence against the background of violence of Partition, we have struggled to make our democracy to work. Despite the challenges of pluralism, ethnic and caste divides, compounded by post Independence dangers of extremism, separatism and terrorism, we have largely been successful in holding on to our political freedom and the democratic values.

Despite this impressive record, a multitude of divisive forces continue to threaten our national fabric. External forces and misguided elements within the country continue to whip up internal troubles. Unequal distribution of the benefits of economic growth have sharpened social divisions. The sharp slowing down of economic growth and the high inflation created by the mismanagement of the UPA Government at the Centre have also contributed to social tensions.

The need of the hour is to develop an Indian identity that is founded on a scientific temper, social and economic equality, and a melding of our diverse faiths and cultural practices. We must reinforce such Pan Indian values by using a forum like the National Integration Council to effectively counter the divisive forces.

The first and most vital function of the State is the maintenance of public order and peace in Society and ensuring the protection of its citizens. It is precisely for this reason that Tamil Nadu has chosen a path of development through inclusive growth so that social tensions can be minimized.

The Vision for Tamil Nadu – 2023 is to become India’s most prosperous and progressive State with no poverty, where its people enjoy all the basic services of a modern Society.

The Government in Tamil Nadu has taken several proactive steps to promote communal harmony. Special attention is given to the welfare of Minorities through respective departments and special institutions. A number of initiatives on communal harmony have been taken through organizing competitions, and youth festivals and by participation in each other’s festivals and assistance for pilgrimages to Mecca, Jerusalem, Manasarovar and Mukthinath.

Tamil Nadu has largely been free of communal, left wing extremist and a religious fundamentalist violence. It has been made clear that anyone who tries to whip up communal passions and create caste tensions will not be spared. The Police have been given a clear mandate

to curb such activities with an iron hand. Activities to communal organizations are kept under close watch. Preventive measures such as permanent peace committees, elaborate bandobast schemes and effective use of the provisions of the Cr.P.C. and Preventive Detention laws have helped the State avoid any serious incidents of violence.

Even though use of Preventive Detention laws by the State Government is done judiciously, of late, there has been an unwelcome development, wherein the Government of India, for political reasons, is nullifying orders issued by the State Government. We consider that this is an unnecessary encroachment upon the state's powers and will seriously compromise the maintenance of Public Order.

Though, the maintenance of Law and Order is the fundamental responsibility of the State Governments, it requires functional cooperation between the Centre and the States. However, of late, the Government of India has been increasingly taking unilateral steps and creating structures and authorities that encroach upon the constitutional domain of the states. Examples, of such are the proposed National Counter Terrorism Centre and the draft Communal Violence Bill. Our State has already expressed its opposition to the Government of India.

In the aftermath of the recent incidents of communal violence in some parts of India there has been a call in some quarters to enact the Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence Bill, 2011. Many provisions of the Bill are vaguely worded and are liable to be misused. Moreover, the Bill is against the constitutional scheme of distribution of powers between the Centre and States. Clause 20 of the Bill, and the proposed National Authority for Communal Harmony, Justice and Reparation, is a direct assault on State autonomy. Hence, this bill cannot be taken as a solution to the complex problem of the communal violence.

A strong, efficient, well equipped and disciplined Police Force is the only answer to meet the challenges posed by anti social, communal and extremist elements. This calls for substantial enhancement in funds allocation to modernize and upgrade the Police Force and intelligence and training infrastructure. On the contrary, the release of funds by the Government of India under the Police Modernisation Scheme to Tamil Nadu has come down drastically in 2012-13. We, therefore, urge that the Government of India should come out with a revamped scheme for the modernization of the State Police Forces with substantially higher allocations.

The agenda of this meeting rightly focuses on the issue of safety and security of women. Idhayadeivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has always been passionate about securing the goal of true gender equity in Tamil Nadu and accordingly, has introduced several path-breaking welfare measures to help them overcome drudgery and to participate effectively in economic activities.

Further, I wish to record here that my beloved leader's Government pioneered the setting up of All Women Police Stations in India more than 20 years ago in 1992. Today, there are All

Women Police Stations in every Police sub-division in Tamil Nadu. The proportion of women in the Tamil Nadu Police Force at 17.2 percent is the highest in the country.

My respected leader has recently announced, a bold and innovative 'Thirteen Point Plan' for protection of women. This includes formation of Fast Track Mahila Courts, appointment of women Government Lawyers, 24 hour toll free Helpline, trail on daily basis, medical treatment & rehabilitation at Government cost and surveillance of public places through a strong CCTV network.

Tamil Nadu is probably the only state in the country having 42 Mahila Courts located in all the 32 districts of the State. These measures will ensure a safe and secure environment for all women in the State, including women in the workplace.

Tamil Nadu is in the forefront of inclusive growth and affirmative action. The Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 is a historic legislation providing 69% reservation in education and employment for the disadvantaged sections i.e., Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Similarly, to prevent atrocities against SC/STs, implementation of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 is being given top priority with creation of dedicated cells and mobile teams, setting up of Special Courts, appointment of exclusive prosecutors and training of all those involved in implementation.

To conclude, a telescoping tension and intolerance based on various religious and caste identities, have thrown up major challenges to the State and even to Society at large. We must act resolutely to put down the anti-social forces. The Government of India must recognize that the States should be treated as equal partners and co-operation between the States and the Centre should prevail over narrow political considerations. We must effectively share intelligence, information, and resources to put down the forces of terrorism, fundamentalism, extremism and communalism.

We are a young Nation. By pursuing active, inclusive policies in the areas of health, education, employment and women's empowerment, we can ensure that we instill the spirit of communal amity and harmony and pride in our Nation amongst all stakeholders, particularly our youth and create a modern, Pan Indian identity.

I once again express my heart-felt gratitude and sincere thanks to my respected and beloved leader Idhayadeivam Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for giving me this opportunity to express my respected leader's views in this forum.

Thank you.

Shri Amit Mitra:

Honourable Prime Minister, Esteemed Members on the dais, Esteemed Distinguished Members of the National Integration Council.

Of late, rather disturbing incidences of communal strife have taken place in the country. I am proud to say speaking on behalf of Mamta Benerjee, the Chief Minister, our State has become a showpiece of harmony. Even with the riots that took place in the neighbouring State of Assam and with a huge influx of refugees, our communal harmony was maintained effectively. Keeping in view of what we were able to achieve due to the resilience in the intercommunity harmonious environment and determination of our Government, I must reiterate here Sir, something that was said in September, 2011 – ‘we have serious objections to the introduction of the Communal Violence Bill in the Parliament’. I reiterate that this will undermine the very principles of federalism and therefore needs much greater discussion among States.

May I turn to the very important issue of empowerment of minorities and weaker sections. Fifty three communities among Muslims have been accorded Other Backward Classes (OBC) status, 49 of whom fall under More Backward category. Free bicycles to girl students of Madrasahs and a new Minority University, Alia University, Minority Bhawans in all districts and Urdu Academy Branches in all districts are being created. The third Hajj Tower and housing for minorities is being done. And most importantly Sir, Urdu, Hindi, Oriya, Nepali, Gurmukhi and Santhali speaking people have been identified as linguistic minorities by our Government.

May I turn for a moment to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. All tribal families in Jungle Mahal, consisting of three districts of our State, receive rice at Rs.2/- per kg. To prevent atrocities among scheduled castes, Special Courts, Special Public Prosecutors have been created. Most importantly Sir, 13,09,000 cast certificates have been issued in the last two years which were all held up earlier. Inter caste marriage incentive has gone up from Rs.5,000 to Rs.30,000 rupees under our Government.

On women, I must state, that the greatest and most unique programme has been announced by the Government entitled ‘Kanyasree Prakalpa’, a scheme designed by Mamta Banerjee and her Government. One aspect which is very attractive in this scheme is that girls studying in schools and vocational institutions will receive Rs.25,000/- on completing the age of 18. This will keep the ‘Girl Child’ within the education matrix and will also lead to the postponement of early marriage, lowering of infant mortality and better health of the mother and child.

Sir, 10 exclusive women-police stations have started functioning and 10 more women-police stations are under construction. We target to have 65 such police stations and 2700 lady constables. Behavioural changes in the police force will happen through these concerted actions in the area of women.

Sir, I conclude my submission on behalf of the Government of West Bengal and the Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, by saying that we deeply value 'Unity in Diversity'. The Honourable Minister of Punjab quoted Rabindranath Tagore from whom came our National Anthem. I am delighted to say that with the determination of our Government we have seen a new dawn in West Bengal in social harmony and unity within diversity.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Karan Singh:

Thank you Mr. Chairman, Chairman UPA, Home Minister, distinguished friends and colleagues on the dais and in the audience. I recall quite clearly when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in 1962 set up the National Integration Council. In fact from then onwards I have attended almost all and its meetings, and I have seen the whole panorama of Indian history unfold in the last half century.

I would like to start by saying that there is a general consensus that we should meet once a year. I think that is fairly clear because these spasmodic meetings with long gaps in between do not really give a sense of continuity. I also suggested we might perhaps consider setting up State Integration Councils under the Chairmanship of the Chief Ministers, because that would give more opportunity to study their own states in depth and then the members of the NIC from that state could be co-opted.

The Prime Minister has said the terrorism and naxalism is the greatest danger that we face. That is true, but we are not discussing that today. The other three items, the three problems that are eating into our polity, our society and our economy are communalism, casteism and corruption. These three Cs are destroying the very soul of India, and unless they are brought under control soon we will be facing a very difficult situation. There is lot that can we said about all of them, but I will only take up one point that the Prime Minister said. In his speech he said सोच में बदलाव लाए. Now how do we बदलाव the सोच? The only way we can do that is through education. What has happened in education is, because we are not allowed to give religious instruction under the constitution, we have thrown the baby out along with the bathwater. There is no value orientation. There is no moral instruction. There is no instruction in the broader concepts which India has developed over the last millennia. So we must introduce at least those great concepts from all the great religions.

For example Iqbal says खुदी को कर बुलंद इतना के हर तकदीर से पहले खुदा बंदे से खुद पूछे बता तेरी रजा क्या है। It is an idea that we should develop our personality. Or Bulleh Shah मंदिर ढा दे, मस्जिद ढा दे ढा दे जे कुछ, हेन्दा, पर किसी दा दिल ना ढाई, रब दिलां विच रहंदा. These are the great sayings. The Buddha said "never by hatred does hatred cease, only by love does hatred cease". Jesus said "he who lives by the sword shall perish by the sword". Gandhi Ji said an eye for an eye will make the whole world blind". We have these great ideas. We have Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, the idea of the world is a family, but our students are never introduced to any of

these ideas. So the major point I would like to make is that we must introduce value based education. UNESCO has also come out with a kit on value based education that we have to introduce.

And the second point I would like to make is there is a great deal of talk of fundamental rights and very rightly, it is a great achievement that we have added to them the Right to Information, the Right to Rural Employment, the Right to Food. But what about duties? I would like to ask, without embarrassing anybody, Mr. Home Minister, how many people in this hall itself know that there is a chapter on Fundamental Duties in the constitution? How many people in this hall have read the chapter of Fundamental Duties? How many schools and colleges teach the chapter on Fundamental Duties? How is it that you can go through a whole educational system from kindergarten to Ph.D. without once having been introduced either to Fundamental Duties or to the great sayings of the great religions in the world. I was on the drafting committee of Fundamental Duties under the Chairmanship of Sardar Swarn Singh. These should hang in every classroom. Everybody demands rights and rightly so, but what about our duty? So these are the two ideas that have, one is value based education and second an emphasis on fundamental duties.

Thank you.

Shri Sitaram Yechury:

Thank you Honourable Home Minister. I am feeling little intimidated to speak after Dr. Karan Singh because I belong to a generation that was born not only after independence but after India become a republic and since he is saying that he has been attending all the meetings since 1962 I think with all that wisdom and experience he has given us some ideas. But thank you so much Sir, the honourable Prime Minister, the UPA chairperson, all the council of Ministers, the Chief Ministers and my eminent colleagues in National Integration Council. The position of my party has already been articulated in this Meeting's record but I was actually provoked to say few words and share some ideas after listening to my good friend who's eloquence is heard both in law forums as well as in the Rajya Sabha, Fali Nariman. Ms. Farha Naqvi and John Dayal and that really disturbed me to seek some time for an intervention because since we met two years ago the situation obviously has worsened and that is why you find these sort of responses that have come from those who belong not only to the minorities but those who have been activists and working for the unity and integrity of our country and therefore it is indeed disturbing. And as we have said in our official contribution, as the elections come closer in our country we have this very unfortunate tendency to use communalism as a vehicle for electoral prospects. Now that is something I think that should not be permitted and not allowed. We talk and pass the declarations, we can pass the resolutions. Mr. Lalu Yadav has reminded us of the past assurances that we have given to the National Integration Council, assurances were given to the highest courts of the land but still you had these disturbances and which also unfortunately paid dividends because of which they continue to be used and they are increasing in frequency.

So as the preparations for 2014 are continuing well some actions have to be taken. We can once again pass a resolution from this meeting, appealing to everybody concerned but mere appeal is not going to, I think do the necessary job or infuse the confidence of a United Secular India and I think there are certain fundamental issues will have to be resolved, if not today but I think they must be on agenda of a resolution. The very concept of secularism, secularism we have always treated as equality of all religions but unless you separate religion which is an entirely private affair of individuals which we respect, we protect and the state must guarantee that, but unless that is separated from politics and governance and education, proper secularism cannot be ensured and I think this is necessary otherwise we go on talking of imbibing a value in concepts, amend value education to the youngsters but unless the separation comes about its not possible and that is precisely raised by the honourable leader of the opposition in the Lok Sabha who is now not here. In the morning, she has raised this concept about धर्म निरपेक्षता and पंथ निरपेक्षता and that is precisely one of the foundations of this problem that you cannot say that it is not धर्म निरपेक्षता but it is पंथ निरपेक्षता in the sense all are sects. In which case my religion only is the religion, all other religions are sects therefore religious status is only for the majority religious stream. All the others are merely sects of the majority and that is way they see and suspicion grows and it is on the basis of that, that it is a fact, I mean, it becomes worse. So therefore I don't think either a peace meal theory or this पंथ versus धर्म theories these are the issues. I think these need to engage our discussion and they will, only when we make it clear that secularism means strict separation of religion from politics and governance. The other issue what the Honourable Chief Minister of Bihar had raised that vehicle for electoral politics is not communal polarization sharpening above, which is not only a vehicle for electoral benefits but it is now a days, in the wake of last two decades of reforms in our country, it is also unfortunately becoming a vehicle for property acquisition and this is something on which we will have to seriously consider, the Government will have to seriously consider laws if necessary to ensure that this sort of recourse to communal violence is not undertaken for the sake of property or economic considerations. I will be short Honourable Home Minister therefore I think, but I would only request you that's why I am saying, just three more points, but only one sentence point, but I request you to reconsider your own decision to reduce the assistance that you are providing to the states in terms of modernizing the police. Now the Home Minister has reduced the assistance but we have been informed and I think if that is the case I think it merits a serious review in the background of this concern and that is something that I think you must take into account. Second point on social media, Barkha addressed the question of more information to counter dis-information. Correct but the law should be universal. If I can be arrested and acted upon under Indian Law for making inflammatory speeches and can be disenfranchised then why can't similar regulation of law be there for those propagating inflammatory propaganda on the social media. Now you will have to have in non-discriminating law that will include social media as well. Third short point is on this Khap Panchayats. You see on the second agenda that you are discussing on women because it is not only the question of sexual crimes which are very important, very correct, everything

else I agree with but something that must be taken up on these panchayats which only recently, you had a couple being brutally killed because they decided to marry inter caste. Now this sort of thing, something needs to be done, and, fourthly as far as the SC/ST issue is concerned I think we should have a legislation which the Government must seriously consider, having a legislation to ensure mandatory implementation of the sub plan and the special component plan for the STs and SCs respectively. There has to be a resolution to mandatory implement them. So these were the short points that I wish to make but I hope you are considering a resolution to be adopted by this meeting.

Thank you!

Shri P.L. Punia:

मैं आभारी हूँ कि मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण बैठक में मौका दिया। अभी तक सांप्रदायिक सदभाव और मुजफ्फरनगर के सांप्रदायिक दंगे के परिप्रेक्ष्य में काफी चर्चा हुई है। लेकिन अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के विरुद्ध भी अत्याचार हो रहे हैं जगह-जगह पर और 25% आबादी है अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति को मिलाकर, तो उनका भी अपना हक बनता है और **national resources** पर उनकी कोई भागीदारी नहीं है, सेवाओं में, **business** में उनकी कोई भागीदारी नहीं है तो इसके बारे में, मैं समझता हूँ कि इसमें विचार आना चाहिए। कानून बहुत बना है उनकी रक्षा के लिए, सुरक्षा के लिए, लेकिन कानून अकेला काफी नहीं है। जरूरत इस बात की है किस तरह से उसको **implement** किया जाता है। कानून में प्रावधान है कि जो भी सूचना आयेगी अत्याचार की, कोई अपराध की, तो वो दर्ज की जाएगी **FIR** के रूप में, पुलिस की जिम्मेदारी भी है। लेकिन ये हकीकत है लगभग 50% लोग ऐसे हैं कि जो **report** लिखाने जाते नहीं हैं और जो 50% लोग **report** लिखाने जाते हैं उनमें से 50% की रिपोर्ट लिखी नहीं जाती, 25% जो **report** वास्तव में जिन घटनाओं की **report** लिखी जाती है उनमें **investigation** में और आगे चल के कार्यवाही होती नहीं है। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि कानून इस तरह का बनना चाहिए कि **online registration** और **FIR** हो, ताकि ये जो शिकायतें आती हैं उनका समाधान हो सके और कानून यह भी है **Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989** की **investigation** 30 दिन में पूरी होगी लेकिन 30 दिन में कभी पूरी नहीं होती है। अगर 30 दिन में **investigation** पूरी हो जाए तो आगे का **process** शुरू हो जाए, सजा हो जाए, तो वो एक **deterrent** की तरह से सिद्ध होगा और कानून में ये भी प्रावधान है कि हमारी **special courts** बनेंगी। **Special** क्योंकि कानून में प्रावधान है इसलिए **court** को **designate** किया गया है। लेकिन उन **courts** में बाकी मुकद्दमे भी हैं और अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के ऊपर अत्याचार की घटनाओं की उस पर सुनवाई नहीं होती तो इसलिए सुझाव दिया गया था कि जो **special courts** का **provision** है, **exclusive courts** बनें और उन **exclusive courts** में केवल और केवल उन्हीं मुकद्दमों की सुनवाई हो ताकि तीन महीने के अन्दर सजा अगर हो जाए, एक महीने के अन्दर **investigation**, तीन महीने के बाद **trial** के बाद सजा हो जाए तो एक बहुत बड़ा **deterrent** होगा, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके ऊपर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए। अभी 5-10 साल लग जाते हैं। इन 5-10 साल में वो उनके ऊपर दबाव डाला जाता है और जो

witnesses थे वो आते नहीं हैं, Complainant है वो भी घर बैठ जाता है और ज्यादातर आपने प्रधानमंत्री जी ने कहा कि जो उनका conviction rate है वो बहुत low है तो हमारे लिए चिंता की बात है अगर कानून को वास्तव में नया कानून बने इससे ज्यादा जरूरी है कि जो कानून बना है उसका सही ढंग से implementation हो। अभी Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 उसमें Section 4 में provision है कि जो अधिकारी, जो प्राधिकारी जिसकी जिम्मेवारी है और अपनी जिम्मेवारी का निर्वहन नहीं करता है, अनुसूचित जाति के ऊपर, अपराध के ऊपर कार्यवाही नहीं करता है तो उसके खिलाफ मुकद्दमा दर्ज करना चाहिए। लेकिन पूरे हिंदुस्तान भर में एक भी मामला ऐसा नहीं है कि जो अधिकारियों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही हुई। रोज शिकायतें मिलती हैं कि FIR नहीं दर्ज की, हमारे पास आती हैं कि FIR नहीं दर्ज होती। लेकिन इसके ऊपर मैं समझता हूँ विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। मैं दो मिनट और लूँगा। अभी ये सामाजिक और आर्थिक गैर-बराबरी इसके बारे में आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने अपने उद्बोधन में यह उल्लेख किया कि हमारे लिए चुनौती है। यह सही चुनौती है। 25 नवम्बर 1949 जब संविधान सभा में discussion हो रहे थे तो उस समय बाबा साहब, डॉ, भीमराव अम्बेडकर ने भी यही कहा था कि आज हमको खुशी इस बात की है कि राजनैतिक अधिकारों की बराबरी हम दे रहे हैं। एक वोट का अधिकार जो सब को दिया है वो गरीब से गरीब आदमी और अमीर से अमीर आदमी उनके वोट के अधिकार की कीमत एक बराबर है। लेकिन सामाजिक और आर्थिक जो गैर-बराबरी है वो हमारे लिए चुनौती होगी और वही बात आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने आज कही है लेकिन वो चुनौती आज भी बनी हुई है। उसके लिए सुधार करने के लिए, मैं एक मिनट और लूँगा, सुधार करने के लिए 1979 में जब इंदिरा जी प्रधानमंत्री थीं उस समय Special Component Plan का provision किया गया था और स्पष्ट रूप से कहा गया था कि जितनी आबादी है उसके percentage के हिसाब से उनका budget अलग किया जाएगा और वो budget उन schemes पर खर्च किया जाएगा जो इस समाज के exclusive benefit के लिए हैं, लेकिन वो नहीं हो रहा। Highway पे, सड़को पे, bypass पे, medical college बनाने पे यह पैसा खर्च हो जाता है तो मैं येचुरी जी का आभारी हूँ कि उन्होंने suggestion दिया इसके ऊपर कानून बने। आंध्रप्रदेश में कानून बना है। केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से भी कानून बनना चाहिए और कहा जाए सभी राज्यों को कि इस तरह का अपना कानून बने। इसके लिए guidelines आपने बनाई, आपके निर्देशन पे, प्रधानमंत्री जी के निर्देशन पे जो केन्द्रीय मंत्रालयों तक सीमित हैं। लेकिन वो उस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति नहीं होती जो कि वास्तव में 1989 में जब आपके द्वारा ही यह आदेश निर्गित किए गए थे 1989 में, उस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति नहीं हो रही है। उसको मैं समझता हूँ कि विशेष रूप से ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। राज्य सरकारों के लिए भी Planning Commission के द्वारा guidelines जारी की जानी बाकी हैं। उसके ऊपर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए। मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ। आपके माध्यम से कि इस तरह के discussion से जो सन्देश जाएगा, अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के अपराध खत्म होंगे, और उनके लिए आर्थिक और सामाजिक गैर-बराबरी खत्म होगी।

धन्यवाद

Zahid Ali Khan:

महोतरम, वजीरेआज़म मनमोहन सिंह साहब, श्रीमती सोनिया गाँधी साहिबा, सुशीलकुमार शिंदे साहब, और मोअज्जजीन। सबसे पहले तो मैं इस बात से मुखातिब हूँ कि नीतीश कुमार जी ने जिस बात की तरफ इशारा किया है कि मजहबी तकरीब घरों की हद तक महदूद थीं आज वो सड़कों पर आ गई हैं। यह बात बहुत अहम् है क्योंकि यह देखा जा रहा है कि बड़े-बड़े जुलूस निकाले जा रहे हैं, लॉ एण्ड आर्डर पे लाखों करोड़ों का खर्च हो रहा है लेकिन कोई यह नहीं देखता कि यह कम्यूनल हार्मोनी के लिए कितना नुकसानदेह हो रहा है। दूसरी अहम् बात यह है कि फसादात दो तरीके के होते हैं एक तरीका तो यह कि स्पॉन्टेनियस होता है। सड़क पर चलने वाले दो लोग लड़ लेते हैं और उसको लोकल पुलिस उसी जगह पर खत्म करने की कोशिश करती है। लेकिन उसको क्या करें जिसके जरिए प्लान्ड तरीके पर, जिस तरह गुजरात में हुआ था और अब मुजफ्फरनगर में हो रहा है, कि कई दिनों तक इस बात की तैयारी की जाती है कि किस तरह फसाद किया जाए। इसकी रोकथाम के लिए मेरी यह राय है कि रियासती हुकूमत को जो इख्तियारात दिए गए हैं, लॉ एण्ड आर्डर के, उसमें मर्कजी इन्टेलिजेन्स का भी बहुत अहम् रोल रहना चाहिए ताकि वो यह देखते रहें कि किस तरह, किस मुकाम पर क्या हो रहा है। उसकी इत्तेल्ला सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को भी दें और वक्त पड़ने पर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट उसके लिए तैयार रहे कि वो किस तरह ऐसे दंगों को रोक सके। तीसरी अहम् बात जो मैं आज बोलना चाहूँगा ये बात मैंने होम मिनिस्टर साहब से भी कही थी कि आजकल हेट स्पीचेज का जो जमाना चल रहा है इसके खिलाफ सख्त से सख्त कदम उठाना चाहिए। महाराष्ट्र में हो रहे हैं, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में हो रहे हैं, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में तो इसके लिए कोई ऐसी कार्यवाही नहीं हुई। जहाँ पर हेट स्पीचेज हो रहे हैं इन हेट स्पीचेज को रोकें। और एक जो बात है अहम वो सोशल मीडिया की बात है, लेकिन आज हम देख रहे हैं कि जिस तरह इसका गलत इस्तेमाल हो रहा है, सही इस्तेमाल अगर होता है जिस तरह बरखा ने बताया है, सही इस्तेमाल होता तो हम बखुशी इसको इख्तियार कर सकते हैं। लेकिन सोशल मीडिया की जानिब से जिस तरह से मवाद फैलाया जा रहा है, जिस तरह लोगों को भटकाया जा रहा है, उसकी रोकथाम होना ये कानूनी तौर पर नेशनल इन्टिग्रेशन के लिए जरूरी है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि होम मिनिस्ट्री भी और खुद वजीरेआज़म और जो यूपीए चेरपरसन रहने की वजह से यह हमको बड़ी तवक्कों थी जो भी मसाएल मुसलमानों के होंगे या सिक्खों के होंगे या क्रिस्चियन के होंगे उनको हल करने की कोशिश की जाएगी। लेकिन मुमकिन नहीं हो सकी। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि आंध्र प्रदेश में वक्फ प्रोपर्टीज की जो तबाही हुई है। मैंने मैडम को भी इस बात की रिपोर्ट दी थी कि करोड़ों वक्फ प्रोपर्टीज आंध्र प्रदेश में हैं लेकिन इसके बावजूद भी जो एयरपोर्ट तामीर किया गया है वो एयरपोर्ट आज भी एक वक्फ प्रोपर्टीज पर तामीर किया गया है, जिसकी रिपोर्ट मैंने मैडम को दी थी। बहुत ही मेहरबानी होगी अगर मुसलमानों के लिए यह रकम दी जाए तो हमारे मसाएल हल हो सकते हैं। हम यह नहीं चाहते कि वो जमीन वापिस मिले हमको, लेकिन हम जरूर चाहते हैं कि जीएमआर के साथ वक्फ बोर्ड को पार्टनरशिप में लिया जाय और वक्फ बोर्ड से जो आमदनी होती है वो मुसलमानों की फलाह के लिए, उनकी तालीम के लिए वह रकम इस्तेमाल हो तो मैं अदबन गुजारिश करता हूँ आज के इस इज्लास से कि उस प्रोपर्टी के लिए मैडम कदम उठाएंगी। वजीरेआज़म साहब इसके लिए जुस्तजू करें और हमको दिलाने की कोशिश करें। मैं बेहद ममनून हूँ आपका कि जो टाइम आपने दिया है उसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

Dr. S. N. Subba Rao:

Thank you Sir मैं राष्ट्रीय एकता समिति की तीसरी बैठक में भाग ले रहा हूँ। रात भर ट्रेन में था। दिमाग में एक विचार था। 23 सितम्बर को हमारी बैठक होगी और क्या 24 सितम्बर को यह भारत बदलेगा Will India become a better India tomorrow after all day long discussion with so many important people from all over India. Right from the Prime Minister you are all sitting the whole day here. Are we going to change the fate of India tomorrow? सोचता हूँ कि एक बहुत बड़ा Potential को हमें उपयोग करना चाहिए। I work with young people. I started working with young people in 1943 when I was young myself. So these 70 years of my experience tell me : the young people can change the situation for better if they are only given a little guidance. That is what I have been doing all my life. Can we use our youth power to bring in sense among our people, especially among the youth first and then among the people in general? So there is a great potential. For instance पांडिचेरी में हमारा camp था, आखिरी दिना मैंने कहा कि सब अपनी-अपनी बाता बोलो। एक लड़का बोलता है: I entered the camp 8 days ago as a Madrasi Brahmin and today I am going out as an Indian. So this kind of feeling must come into our young people, and second as far as religious relations are concerned we have to drain the mind of all people. A wonderful concept that Swami Vivekanand introduced 1893. He said we not only tolerate other religions but we accept all religions as true. So this approach to religion is secularism where we accept all religions as true and Mahatma Gandhi used to say I am a Hindu, I am a Christian, I am a Buddhist, I am a Jain, I am a Sikh, how? Because the basis of all religions is to speak the truth, be honest, love the neighbour, don't amass unnecessary wealth. All the religions have been saying this. We associate religion with our dress or with our hair do or things like that and then we get into trouble. So this fundamental values of religions must be taught to the young people. तो ये एक मैं मिसाल दे रहा था। Muzaffarnagar became a problem in Uttar Pradesh Another district is Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh. The Collector of Bareilly called a meeting of all religious people one week prior to Ramzan and Bareilly was peaceful this Ramzan whereas last year there were lots of disturbances and we have about 600-700 Collectors in the country. If Bareilly Collector could do this, why not all our Collectors do this? If we want National Integration Council to meet every year, let there be meetings before every festival in India because most of the problems begin in festivals. So before Diwali we have a meeting, before Eid we have a meeting, before Christmas we have a meeting, people from all religions will come, people from all religions will together celebrate festivals rather than fighting in each festival. In fact I don't remember the name of Collector, even then I appreciated him, I wrote a congratulatory letter to him that he took preventive action. Otherwise invariably violence takes place, people are killed, then our military goes or police goes, rapid action force goes, kill some more people and bring peace. So how can we prevent violence happening rather than waiting for violence to happen and then going into action? In this context, I say we have huge organizations, Government supported organization.

At national level the "Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangthan" is there, the National Service Scheme, NSS is there, the NCC is there. Can I suggest before we break you will support all the resolutions that you could do but then can we resolve to do some action. Let National Integration Council not be only a debating society, let it be action oriented. In fact further two things are necessary,

one is till the next council meet can you think in terms of preparing a core group, say 5 people or 10 people who are really interested, who can meet may be once a month, twice a month or whatever, and then formulate programs. Let there be some action on behalf of the National Integration Council. One action I can straightway suggest. I was in Muzaffarnagar after the problem. I met a Vice Chancellor. He said I am prepared to host a camp here, young people's camp, because the villagers also come to his college, his university, so he can call some from the area and I will call the young people from all parts of India. So can we think in terms of having a camp in Muzaffarnagar because unfortunately the violence has spread into villages there. All is the question of money, money, money. I say we spent so much money after violence breaks. Can we spend some money to consolidate peace but then that's the difficulty. In fact when I was working in the Chambal Valley where it is greatest achievement that 654 dacoits, cruel dacoits all became peaceful people. They dropped their weapons. So that was the big experiment. Then I said to do something to maintain peace, the Government said no money for this. To kill one dacoit they spend lakhs and lakhs of rupees but I say let us prevent young man becoming dacoit. They said no money because actually the words they had used in their suggestion is 'unproductive', so we have no money for it. If a man becomes a dacoit to kill him becomes productive. So let us be a little practical. One and secondly can we give our young people a feeling: I am building India. Where is that feeling and where is the opportunity for young people to feel this? I was 13 years when I was taken into the prison by the British Police. I said I am bringing freedom to this country where is that feeling? So I say in Uttarakhand, such a great disaster has happened. We are spending Crores and Crores of rupees for reconstruction. I say 1% of all your money, 1 paisa in a rupee, spend for young people to participate. Let them come from Tamil Nadu, let them come from Nagaland, let them come from Kashmir, and let them work for reconstruction of Uttarakhand and let the young people say, I am reconstructing Uttarakhand, I am connecting myself to India. So let us think in these terms. There is a great potential for National Integration Council to do some action in alternative then all the debate that we have.

Thank you.

Shri Wajahat Habibullah:

Hon'ble Mr. Prime Minister, distinguished guests on stage, members of the NIC. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to present a few points. I will be confining myself to items one and two on the agenda which is on communal harmony and confidence building measures. I have of course had occasion, and the entire National Commission for Minorities has visited Muzaffarnagar last week and we intend to visit Shamli district which was the other badly affected district where there are still some camps but may I start with reiterating a point. I think my visit to Muzaffarnagar, our visit to Muzaffarnagar, has reinforced my view as a former administrator that what is very necessary is the enactment of what has been discussed, the Communal and

Targeted Violence bill. This, as you know Sir, was an item of discussion in the 2011 NIC meeting. It has been referred to, but the two main highlights of this bill which could have been effective and can still be affective, in a situation as it exists in Muzaffarnagar are not so much as how to define 'group' or setting up a 'central authority', which are the areas which came in for controversy last time, but the two sections, one on Accountability and one on Rehabilitation. And I think on those two measures there was a general consensus of opinion in the last meeting that there is need to go forward with them.

Why do I say that Sir? The point is, as statistics circulated by the Ministry of Home Affairs show, that communal conflict is increasingly now becoming a national problem. We have received reports of this kind of turbulence and violence from all parts of the country and therefore, they need to be addressed. We have, in fact even without the Bill, the basic laws to deal with this. Our police force across the country, no matter where, have the material whether the provision of law, the transport, the communication, the weaponry, everything that is needed, to actually counter this. But unfortunately it is not always working.

What is required under the existing rules? Every district in the country is required to have a scheme for riot control. Although this exists, this has never been updated. It has been left as it is for years and older people may know about it, but many people do not know that it actually exists, not even people working in the district offices. These schemes need to be updated. They need to be able to address the technological challenges that information technology now poses. For this purpose, the police response has not always been of the best and I would in this case say that on my visit to Muzaffarnagar, I found that there were complaints against the police and it has been mentioned that police have often connived in the riot. Mr. John Dayal had mentioned that the police often connived, have encouraged the rioters. But there have also been policemen who have done signally constructive work. I mentioned to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of UP, the work of one CEO in a village called Kutuba in Muzaffarnagar district, where 8 persons, all Muslims, which was a minority community in that village, lost their lives, but this young police officer risked himself and his small number of the policemen with him, to save 250 families and when we visited another camp of Shahpur, which camp I think, sir you have yourself visited, there were several people who had survived, among the 250 people from village Kutuba who were there, who were all praise for that particular police officer. So the idea should be in fact, in respect of this Bill, that whereas those who fail in actually doing their duty under the law are brought to book, are made accountable, those actually who go beyond what they are required to do and are of aid and help to people are also duly recognized. Impartial and determined police leadership is what is needed, so what is needed is therefore, acting upon the studies of Ministry of Home Affairs. In fact the single report in 1998 points the way in this direction. What is needed therefore is implementation of recommendations of those studies which have already been made. In 1990 the committee of Mr. Potty and Mr. P.A. Roshia went into the details of what happened, the detail of how prosecution was pursued in 1984 and there has been reference to what happened

in 1984 and what was found at that time and what was later also found in the report in the Best Bakery case of Gujarat in 2002, that investigation had been totally perfunctory.

Why has this happened? This has happened really because of the fact that there has been no mechanism provided under the existing law to ensure the enforcement of these laws. So I will conclude, if you may give me a minute, to say two or three things: one is the question of the exercise of control under the Information Technology Act. It is not being enforced in the manner than it should have been enforced with the result that as found in Muzaffarnagar, informational technology was misused at the mahapanchayat to incite violence. Earlier, it was misused in Kishtwar, where fortunately the police had come to know about it before the misinformation could spread across the districts of Jammu Division and were able to control it. It was misused before that in Karnataka consequent on the Kokrajhar riot. So the policemen have to be trained in order to be able to control such misuse and they can be trained on the manner of counter this.

The other issue which I wished to highlight is that we have no real policy for internally displaced persons. We have had internally displaced persons as far as in Mizoram, the Bru Tribals. We had this among the Christians in Kandhamal. We had this problem repeatedly in Assam. We have this amongst Sikhs in Haryana and Pandits in J&K. There is no uniform scheme for this purpose and therefore, I would urge that we do develop a scheme for internally displaced persons, the rehabilitation or resettlement in this manner. This will be within with the ambit of the Targeted and Communal Violence Bill, as drafted.

One last point Sir, and that is that it is important to counter rumors and here is where the civil administration can play a major role, again in Muzaffarnagar, much of the problem arose because of the rumors having spread. Many people fled their villages out of fear. We visited various camps, one being the Kamalpur camp which housed a number of dalits who had left a Muslim majority village, where a large number of refugees had come, in the fear that they would be attacked in revenge. They were not so attacked. Similarly this happened of course, in other villages where no incidents occurred, but members of minority communities heard of such tragic incidents elsewhere and fled. But there also those villages in which the Pradhan/UP Pradhan successfully pleaded with fleeing members of the minority community to stay. This could also have happened elsewhere were the public informed and so realized that flight was not necessary, and this could thus have been controlled had the civil administration been active in this regard.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri Arun Jaitley:

Honourable Prime Minister, Members of the NIC. The NIC itself is a reasonably diverse forum where Central Ministers, Chief Ministers, Leaders of political parties, members of the civil society are all members of this August body. So obviously we are people who represent different views. A lot of us subscribe to different ideologies but on one basic premise - the integrity of this country and maintenance of social harmony - this is a broad perspective on which I think

all of us are in agreement. I speak almost towards the fag end and I am not going to repeat a lot of what has been said but I would just like to take a slightly different view from what one of the honourable members had said, which virtually indicated that pluralism in this country is on the verge of being extinguished or that there would be a dominant religion and others would be at the will of the dominant religion. I don't think that's a view, at least I cannot accept and I am sure most people in India cannot accept this. In fact experience has shown that over the last several years incidents of communal violence actually had come down. It is only towards the end of the 2012 that they started re-occurring again and the effort has to be how to contain them. And in a bid to contain them we will have to learn lessons from whatever recent incidents are. Now without intending to run down any particular State Government I think the lessons of some of the recent incidents are very clear. We meet in the backdrop of Muzaffarnagar. Muzaffarnagar in fact is a very sad incident which has brought this whole business of uncontrolled riots for a reasonable period of time back into focus. A small incident engulfs the region into a major crisis till the army was called and the position stabilized. I think the lesson of Muzaffarnagar is that the administration had to be firm, it had to be fair, it had to have anticipation of the problem and it had to have a quick response. And on basis of this the lesson is that immediately after the initial incidents when provocations took place, two-three people lost their lives, congregation of both groups should never have been permitted and therefore the lesson for the future for any state is that even though there may be protest, even though there may be demands, at least for a reasonable period of time, these congregation should not be permitted because once you allow them, then the crowd takes over and some casualties and damages are bound to occur till the military or the army comes in and takes control of the situation. Even in Kishtwar, by the time the army came and took control towards the evening, a lot of damage had been done, business establishment, shops had been burned, some human lives, two or three, had been lost in areas around that place, some people had been injured and therefore anticipating this if there is any prior information, I am not aware whether there was some intelligence information or not, that shouting anti-national slogans when people are coming, the procession had to be intercepted at some places. Therefore I think the lesson of these riots is not that terrorism in India is going to come to an end. These are incidents which have taken place which had in fact slowed down over the last decade or so. They have just revived in the last two months and I think we must learn the correct lessons of how a fair and a firm administration should handle some of these and the ideas which have been thrown up including a fair system of compensating the victim etc. are all issues I think everybody in this council would be open to a discussion on them. Thank you.

Shri Shahid Siddiqui:

Distinguish Leaders on the dais and Honourable Members of the NIC. मुज़फ़्फ़रनगर से अगर शायद यहाँ कोई दूसरा हो, लेकिन मेरी constituency मुज़फ़्फ़रनगर है और पार्टी मुज़फ़्फ़रनगर का हिस्सा मेरी constituency में आता है, इसलिए वहाँ के हालात से मैं दिनरात जुड़ा रहा हूँ। मगर उसमें मैं नहीं जाऊँगा, क्योंकि उसके लिए वक्त नहीं है मगर मैं इतना कहना चाहूँगा कि मुज़फ़्फ़रनगर के हालात वैसे नहीं हैं जैसा कि समझा जा रहा है। मुज़फ़्फ़रनगर में हर एक मारने वाले पे हजार बचाने वाले थे। वहाँ पे न जाटों ने मुसलमानों

को मारा है, ना मुसलमानों ने जाटों से लड़ाई लड़ी है। वहाँ पर बचाने वाले ज्यादा थे और इस उम्मीद के साथ आप आगे बढ़िए कि मुजफ्फरनगर में जहाँ कभी देहात में दंगा नहीं हुआ, 1947 में भी नहीं हुआ, 1992 में जब बाबरी मस्जिद गिरी, उस वक्त भी नहीं हुआ, वहाँ आज भी पूरी मौहब्बत और पूरा भाईचारा है। लेकिन इसके साथ मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि **failure** वहाँ के लोगों का नहीं था **failure administration** का था, **paralysis administration** का था जिससे सबने यहाँ रोशनी डाली है। **Brief** मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि दंगा जो हुआ उसके लिए जो **administration** था उसके पास **information** थी, लेकिन उन्होंने दंगे से निपटने का इंतजाम नहीं किया। दंगा हो गया दंगे के बाद आज तीन हफ्ते गुजर गए हैं। तीन हफ्ते बाद भी कोई **systematic relief** का काम मुजफ्फरनगर में नहीं हो रहा है यह मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। अभी तक जो **relief** है वो **social relief** है, लोगों की अपनी **relief** है, सरकारी **relief** जो है वो आकड़ों की है वो कागज के ऊपर है। लेकिन इससे आगे बढ़कर मैं 1990 से NIC का **member** था और उस वक्त भी मैंने **meetings** देखी हैं। जब बाबरी मस्जिद की शाहदत हुई और जो रोल NIC **play** करना चाहती थी लेकिन नहीं कर पाई, तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि NIC का रोल सिर्फ एक **ritual** का नहीं रहना चाहिए। एक ऐसी **fire brigade** का नहीं, जो आग लगने के बाद, आग बुझने के बाद राख को बिखेरने के लिए जाए, या एक ऐसी **ambulance** का कि जो मरने के बाद लोगों की लाशें उठाने के लिए जाए। NIC का **proactive** रोल होना चाहिए तभी NIC **meaningful** होगी। यह जो आपकी 1992 से अभी तक चौथी **meeting** हो रही है 21 साल में उसकी वजह यह है कि कोई **seriously** नहीं लेता है NIC को, न तो कराने वाले, न करने वाले, न देश, न **media**. तो NIC को अगर आप **serious** चाहते हैं, **seriously** लोग ले तो NIC को **proactive** कीजिए, **proactive** करने के लिए आपका एक **permanent Secretariat** होना चाहिए। जहाँ से जो **issues** जो **danger society** में उठ रहे हैं, **economy** में उठ रहे हैं, **politics** में उठ रहे हैं, उनको **meet** करने के लिए **proactive** रोल NIC **Play** करें और डॉ. करन सिंह ने जो सुझाव दिया था कि **state level** पर भी हर जगह पर एक **National Integration Council** होनी चाहिए। इसकी **meetings** जो है वो साल में कम से कम एक बार हो, लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ जो आपका **Secretariat** हो वो **constantly media** के जरिए, **social media** के जरिए, फिल्मस के जरिए, **cultural activities** के जरिए, **educational activities** के जरिए, देश में भाईचारे का माहौल बनाए क्योंकि दंगे के बाद **meeting** कर लेना कोई बड़ी बात नहीं है, दंगा न होने देने के लिए हम क्या कर रहे हैं उसकी हमने कोई बड़ी तैयारी नहीं की है। एक बात मैं और कहना चाहूँगा, **district level** पे जरूरत है एक **permanent** इस तरह के **apparatus** की। एक सामाजिक एकता ऑफिसर हर **district** में होना चाहिए जो **district level** पर **social** जो **unity** है उसके लिए काम करें, **through educational institutions, through various other groups**, हर जगह पर एक ऐसे ऑफिसर की जरूरत है जो **Home Ministry** को या **Culture Ministry** को, जो भी उसको करें, **state level** पर उसको बनाने की बहुत आवश्यकता है। **Anti-Communal Riot Bill** पे मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलूँगा इतना ही कहना चाहूँगा कि अगर आप लोग चाहें तो उसको पास करा सकते हैं कुछ **compromises** की जरूरत होगी, जेटली जी भी यहाँ मौजूद हैं, सुषमा जी भी यहाँ मौजूद हैं, इस बिल को पास कराया जा सकता है। कुछ **minor changes** के साथ, **compromises** के साथ क्योंकि बिल ना होने से अच्छा है कि थोड़ा सा **diluted** बिल आ जाए तो वो ना होने से बेहतर है। उसमें **improvement** आगे हो सकते हैं। एक मेरा **suggestion** और है कि राजीव जी के जमाने

में **Rapid Action Police Force** बनाई गई थी। उस **Rapid Action Police Force** का मकसद राजीव जी का ये था कि जो **communal riots** होते हैं उससे वो **intelligently deal** कर सकें। क्योंकि हमारी पुलिस फोर्स को **riots** से **deal** करने की **training** नहीं होती जो उसके **mind** में एक **consensus** होना चाहिए, जो उसकी **education** होनी चाहिए, **secular education** वो **properly** नहीं होती है। उसके लिए एक **Rapid Action Police Force** बनाई गई थी, लेकिन वो **Rapid Action Police Force** अपना काम करने में नाकाम रही है। तो मेरी आपसे दरखास्त यही है, मैं...brief में **point raise** कर रहा हूँ, मैं **detail** में किसी चीज की ओर नहीं जा रहा हूँ कि आप एक **Modern Police Force** जब तक **create** नहीं करेंगे, जिसकी **modern training** हो, जिसको कि **different religions** की **training** भी होनी चाहिए जो **moral value training** की बात की थी, वो बच्चों को भी चाहिए और **police forces** को भी चाहिए, **administration** को भी चाहिए। हमारे **administration** और **police force** में वो **sensitivity** नहीं है, दूसरे **religions** के बारे में, **riot** के वक्त बहुत जरूरी होती है। इसलिए **police force** की **education** की भी बहुत ज्यादा जरूरत है। **Cyber monitoring** के लिए हर जिले में एक **cell** होना चाहिए। मुजफ्फरनगर का **riot** इसी **cyber propaganda** के नतीजे में हुआ है और मैं **warn** करना चाहता हूँ देश को कि जो हाल चल रहा है **cyber media** में, उसके नतीजे में, हर जिले में, हर जगह पर, मेजर **chain of riots** हो सकते हैं। अगर आपने **cyber monitoring** और **cyber action** नहीं लिया, जो येचुरी जी ने बात कही थी कि आप ये तो कर सकते हैं कि **freedom** दीजिए **social media** को लेकिन अगर **social media** पर वही **crime commit** किया जा रहा है जो अखबार वाला करता है, जो कोई **political** लीडर करता है तो उसके लिए बराबर की सजा उसके लिए होनी चाहिए। आखिर में, मैं ये कहना चाहूँगा कि जो **crime against women** की जो बात है तो **communal riots** में भी सबसे ज्यादा जो नुकसान पहुँचता है वो औरतों का पहुँचता है। महिलाएं जो हैं वो सबसे बड़ा **target** बनती हैं, **killing** हो, **rape** हो, **abductions** हो, उनको जो **suffer** करना पड़ता है, औरतों को करना पड़ता है इसके लिए भी जो **Anti-Communal Riot** जो **forces** है, जो **administration** है उसको खासतौर पे आप सतर्क कीजिए कि औरतों के **issues** से आप कैसे **deal** करें। खासतौर पर मुजफ्फरनगर में मैंने हर जगह देखा है कि जब **riot** होता है तो लड़कियों की शिक्षा बंद हो जाती है। मेरी दरखास्त यही है कि ऐसी जगहों पर लड़कियों की शिक्षा के लिए खासतौर पर इन्तजाम किया जाए। मुजफ्फरनगर में ऐसे **schools** की जरूरत है जहाँ पर **riots** हुए हैं, जो 50,000 लोग घरों से निकल आए हैं कि वहाँ पर एक लड़कियों का, महिलाओं का **school** बनाया जाए और आखिर में मैं ये कहूँगा कि अभी भी लोग घरों से भाग कर आ रहे हैं। **Security** का इंतजाम अभी भी **villages** के अंदर नहीं हैं, जहाँ **villages** से लोग घरों से निकले हैं उनमें जो खेत हैं खेतों में फसल काटी जा रही है, जो उनकी मोटरें लगी हुई हैं वो उठाई जा रही हैं वहाँ से, जो घरों को छोड़कर आये थे **security reasons** से, उनके घर आज भी लुट रहे हैं, वहाँ पर **security** का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है। यहाँ से, मैं मुख्यमंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि उसपर फौरन **action** करें, अगर आप **action** नहीं करेंगे तो घर वापस नहीं जा पाएंगे वो लोग, जिन्होंने **suffer** किया है, वो घर वापस नहीं जा सकते। **Security** का मौहाल आपको बनाना पड़ेगा।

धन्यवाद।

Professor Bhim Singh:

Honourable Chairman of the NIC, Honourable Sonia Ji and my honourable colleagues. I am very grateful that I have been given a chance to speak after the resolution. I fully stand by the resolutions moved by the Honourable Home Minister and an appeal to all that we should carry them with one voice yes. Secondly I would like to, I have some little difference from those senior colleagues who believe that India is going to disintegrate or what is happening is dangerous to the unity of India. हिन्दुस्तान कभी कमजोर नहीं हुआ, कुछ बात है कि हस्ती मिटती नहीं हमारी, सदियों रहा है दुश्मन दौरे जमा हमारा। India had never gone down. India shall always live. Honourable Prime Minister and Mrs. Sonia Ji, I had a chance, I am the only person in this country who travelled for five years around the world on motorcycle in the streets. I have seen India in Africa, I have seen India in Latin America, I have seen India in the North and the East and entire World. India shall never disintegrate, India shall never collapse, yes, there is some problem, there are issues and communal harmony is the most important factor because communal harmony is sole of a democracy. Therefore communal harmony has to be away from political wrangling. In Kishtwar I have been there, I went in Communal Harmony Yatra. Mr. Prime Minister believe me there was no communal tension, there were no communal hatred. It was only because of our political interest and electoral reason that there was a curb. I only would like to say that what had happened may be Gujarat I was in Kokrajhar I have seen when the conflict was there or in Kishtwar or in Muzaffarnagar. These are minor factors and if we, all of us intellectual think, India can be built on the basis of secularism. My only suggestion is one can we have independent investigation committees wherever there communal riots because every political party or the political party feel that independent inquiries can't be made. I am dealing in Supreme Court with Kishtwar, with the Muzaffarnagar or so. So kindly consider my request if a law or convention can be worked out wherever there communal riots conflict, there should be an independent inquiry. It will help a lot. Number two, can we have forest court in Supreme Court, we have TADA court. Can we have independent separate courts to try such offences? It will give a great confidence in the confidence building measures in this country but I must assure and the last suggestion is one, in Jammu & Kashmir there is nothing wrong, we have political problems everywhere but the Jammu & Kashmir the only state, Honourable Members, that Indian Constitution is not applicable to me. Parliament of India cannot make any laws in Jammu & Kashmir. Can you find some solution? Let Parliament empower itself to legislate at least in respect of the matters which Maharaja had included in the instrumental session defend. Finally, we have communication I am grateful to you.

Thank you very much.

Smt. Amarjeet Kaur:

Thank you Chair for giving this opportunity to me, Chair and all the dignitaries on dais and all the colleagues of NIC officials, media persons. Resolution को पास करने में या adopt करने में किसी को कोई problem नहीं होगी, harmless पेपर है। हम सभी हाँ कर देंगे, क्योंकि हमारा Indian Constitution तो इससे बेहतर commitment है। जेटली जी ने कहा है कि diverse opinion है, हमारी ideologies अलग हैं, सब कुछ है तो उससे कौन deny कर रहा है। Issue ये है कि हमारी Ideologies अलग होने के बावजूद भी हम सभी Indian Constitution के लिए committed हैं कि नहीं। Indian Constitution तो इससे भी ज्यादा बोलता है लेकिन उसी Constitution की धज्जियां उड़ाई जा रही हैं, that is the real issue और इसीलिए मैं ये समझती हूँ even जो लोग vote bank politics कर रहे हैं national integration को खतरे में डालने के लिए, वो भी नहीं बोलेंगे कि हम vote bank politics कर रहे हैं, लेकिन truth यही है कि vote bank politics हो रही है, double speak हो रही है। Hypocrisy is to the tilt वो हम देख रहे हैं, Constitution को redefine करने की कोशिश की जा रही है, secularism को redefine करने की कोशिश की जा रही है और बहुत सी और terms, जब तुष्टिकरण शब्द का इस्तेमाल हुआ मुझे भी वैसे ही hit किया जैसे वर्दाराजन जी ने react किया है। लेकिन वर्दाराजन के बोलने के बाद छत्तीसगढ़ के हमारे दोस्त ने क्या कह दिया है कि आप indicate करते हो, अपना नाम नहीं लेते हो, आप स्टेटस की बात करते हो, लेकिन ये शब्द क्यों इस्तेमाल करते हो? शब्द तो इस्तेमाल होंगे भई, क्योंकि शब्दों के इस्तेमाल से ही, उसी शब्दजाल से, उसी hate speeches से तो पूरे देश के वातावरण को खराब किया जा रहा है, तो इसलिए goody, goody talk तो करने नहीं आये हम लोग। हम इसलिए आये हैं कि हमारे देश के सामने खतरा है और Prime Minister ने अपनी introductory speech में ये कहा है कि national existence is threatend. ये बोला है उन्होंने। और अगर नरीमन जी ने दुःख व्यक्त किया है वो चाहे exaggeration हो या नहीं हो, जैसे बरखा ने कहा। लेकिन उन्होंने जो anguish व्यक्त किया है वो उनकी पीड़ा है। After all he is so many years elder to me. मैं anguish feel करती हूँ तो मैं उनकी anguish का तो अंदाजा लगा ही सकती हूँ। तो उन्होंने अगर anguish feel किया है there is something wrong which is happening, तो हम ये कहें कि कोई भी खतरा नहीं है, ये नहीं हम कह सकते और इसीलिए मैं ये समझती हूँ कि जम्मू कश्मीर के CM उमर ने जो कहा यहाँ पर, तो उसका notice लेना चाहिए कि किस्तवार में हुए दंगों को कैसे expand करने की कोशिश की जम्मू में। जिन्होंने ये कहा कि मुजफ्फरनगर को कैसे expand करने की कोशिश की, उसका notice लेना चाहिए इस NIC को। Something new is happening in the country, जो नतीश जी ने कहा उसका notice क्यों नहीं लें हम और अगर लालू जी का fear लगा है, कुछ उन्होंने कहा है तो, उसका notice हम क्यों नहीं लें और इसीलिए मुझे लगता है कि मैं, सुधाकर रेड्डी जी, प्रकाश करात, सीताराम येचुरी, इन्होंने जो बात रखी है, फरहान नकवी ने रखी है, जॉन दयाल ने अपने fears सारे जाहिर किये हैं, यहाँ पर त्रिपुरा के CM ने कुछ रखा है, मैं उन सबके साथ हूँ। वर्दाराजन ने भी बहुत कुछ point raise किये तो मैं उन points को तो अब नहीं दोहरा रही हूँ। मैं मोटा-मोटी दो तीन बात कहना चाहती हूँ। क्योंकि समय-सीमा सबके लिए थी मेरे लिए भी है। मैं ये समझती हूँ कि breeding ground जो है

communalism को spread करने के लिए, terrorism को spread करने के लिए, casteism को spread करने के लिए, अगर उसे breeding ground पे चेक नहीं लगायेंगे, तो हमारे resolution, हमारी अच्छी-अच्छी बातें कोई हमें मदद नहीं करने वाले हैं। इसलिए looking at the seriousness of situation, root causes में जाने की जरूरत है। इसमें हमारी बढ़ती हुई disparities हैं, Continuity of backwardness है, Gaps बढ़ रहे हैं income के, और तेजी से बढ़ रहे हैं। Land question हम आज तक हल नहीं कर पाए हैं। हमारे working masses जो है, वो अब serious problems face कर रहे हैं, even unionization भी under threat हैं। ये सारी चीजें जो breeding ground हैं और जो unemployment बढ़ रही है, young के साथ काम करने से ही बात नहीं होती unemployment को address करना बहुत जरूरी है क्योंकि unemployed youth तो बिलकुल catchy है for communal forces, for terrorist forces, for casteist forces, उनको तो चाहिए ना वो hoards of people, उनको पकड़ के ले कर आयेंगे और इसीलिए उसके ऊपर हमें काम करने की जरूरत है। मैं उन सबके साथ हूँ जिन्होंने ये कहा है कि prevention is the best way. हम इंतजार नहीं करें। कुछ होगा तो फिर हम action में आयेंगे, proactive role अदा करने की जरूरत है ही। मैं उन सबके साथ हूँ जिन्होंने कहा है कि NIC को regularly हर साल meet करना चाहिए। इसलिए disease के फैलने के बाद हम उसके इलाज में लगेंगे तो कई बार इलाज होना बहुत मुश्किल हो जाएगा। disease होने ही नहीं दी जाए, उसके root causes को पकड़ा जाए, उसको खत्म किया जाए और उसी के लिए मेरी concrete suggestions जो बाकियों ने suggestions दी हैं उसी में ही मैं जोड़ना चाहती हूँ। क्योंकि एक साथी ने ये भी कहा कि पूरी दुनिया के अन्दर हिन्दुस्तानी हैं तो हिन्दुस्तान का कभी कुछ नहीं होने वाला है और एक साथी ने ये बोल दिया है कि अभी भी ऐसे ही fear आप कर रहे हो। तो फिर 2012 के end में ही शुरू क्यों हुए दुबारा से criminal riots. हुए हैं ना शुरू? क्यों हुए हैं? क्यों हुए हैं? 2014 दिमाग में है क्या? क्यों हुए हैं फिर? इसलिए ये तो फिर मानना ही चाहिए कि situation drift हो रही है हिन्दुस्तान में, उस drifting के बारे में हम चिंता करते हैं कि नहीं? and that is why I seriously feel area of education एक grey area है अभी भी हमारी teaching faculties के बारे में भी, curriculum के बारे में भी, syllabus के बारे में जो significant role play करता है young mind की making में। लेकिन मैं उस ढंग के नहीं changes चाह रही जैसे डॉ. कर्ण सिंह कह रहे थे। मैं scientific temperament building की बात कर रही हूँ। मैं secular ethos की बात कर रही हूँ। मैं younger generation को composite culture की समझ आये मैं उसकी बात कर रही हूँ। कोई भी social media, कोई भी hate speech उनपे impact ही नहीं करें और वो stubborn हों और कहें कि nothing doing, हम यें allow नहीं करेंगे हिन्दुस्तान में। मैं उसकी बात कर रही हूँ, उस किस्म के changes की और इसीलिए lastly अगर कोई कहता है कि आप पार्टी विशेष या व्यक्ति का प्रश्न क्यों उठाते हो, तो भई ideologies, ideologues, institutions, organizations ये रोल अदा करते हैं ना communal harmony को disturb करने में तो ये तो होगा ही कि नाम लिए जाएं। जब pin point करेंगे तो ये तो होगा ही और इसीलिए ना ही हम नाम लें किसी का, लेकिन तो भी समझने वालों को समझ में आती है। तो फिर लोग बदलें हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर। अपने आज के modern situation को समझ करके उसको बदलने की कोशिश करें। कोई भी पैदाइशी communalist नहीं होता, न terrorist होता है न कोई पैदाइशी casteist होता है। उसको motivate किया जाता है, orient किया जाता है,

training दी जाती है, poison फैलाया जाता है, environment create किया जाता है, फिर एक छोटी सी चिंगारी से trigger off होती है situation. इन छोटी-छोटी चीजों को आप और हम सभी जानते हैं, मैं कोई नई बात नहीं कर रही और इसीलिए वो environment खराब नहीं हो और वो जो superstitions हैं, prejudices हैं, centuries old हैं। I am concluding इन सबके ऊपर proactively, positively, constructively हमको क्या करना है उसके ऊपर ज्यादा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। NIC को भी और overall governance or non-governance जो जहाँ पर बैठा हुआ है। मेरी humble submission है कि mind set change चाहिए, जो हो नहीं रहा है और उसके लिए जिम्मेदार जो लोग हैं वो जानते भी हैं। All communities, all religious groups, there are people everywhere. We should take it openly, accept it and then deal with the problem. अगर इस ढंग से हम करेंगे तो diverse opinion के बावजूद भी हम NIC में अच्छे से काम आगे बढ़ा सकते हैं। I hope कि आगे से हम और regularly मिलेंगे।

Thank you.

Shri Vishwas Tripathi:

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी, आदरणीय श्रीमती सोनिया गाँधी जी, माननीय गृहमंत्री जी, मंच पर विराजमान अन्य गणमान्य मिनिस्टर और हमारे राज्य सभा के ओपोज़िशन के लीडर अरुण जेटली जी, और हाल में उपस्थित सभी गणमान्य राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् के सदस्य। क्योंकि सभी गणमान्य लोगों ने, प्रबुद्ध लोगों ने मुझसे पहले अपनी-अपनी बात सब रख दी है, मैं बहुत छोटी सी बात कहके अपनी वाणी को विराम दूंगा। इस देश में आर्थिक विकास बहुत हुआ। आर्थिक विकास ने हमें बहुत संबल प्रदान किया और हम उस आर्थिक विकास के साथ-साथ, उन्नत देशों के साथ, विकासशील देशों के साथ, हम वहाँ जा के उनकी कतार में खड़े हुए। लेकिन इसके साथ-साथ इसका एक दूसरा पहलू भी है कि इसमें थोड़ी सामाजिक उथल-पुथल भी हुई, संयुक्त परिवार बंट रहे हैं, गंगा-जमुनी तहजीब जो हमारी थी, जो सामाजिक समरसता, सामाजिक सदभाव की, जो तहजीब थी, उसके मूल्यों में, संस्कृति में थोड़ी कमी आई। इसके लिए मेरा सुझाव ये है कि हमारे देश के जो senior citizens हैं, जो हमारे बुजुर्ग लोग हैं, जो हमारी थाती हैं, धरोहर हैं, हमारे देश की सम्पत्ति हैं वो अपना अधिकार युवाओं को guide करने का, अभी इतनी जल्दी न छोड़ें, उनको guidance देने का, उनको सामाजिक समरसता, मिल के सबको साथ रहने की शिक्षा, इसको पूरी शिद्दत के साथ और पढाएं। Civil society, शिक्षक लोग ये सब मिलके समाज के सभी युवा वर्ग, जो कि असीमित ऊर्जा का स्रोत है, लेकिन उसको संचालित करने के लिए जो हमारे सामाजिक civil society के लोग हैं, जो हमारे बड़े लोग हैं, जो हमारे पूजनीय लोग हैं, अगर वो सब लोग साथ आके और सब के साथ मिल के (जब कि सरकारें, सुरक्षा एजेंसियां और प्रशासन अपना काम तो कर ही रही हैं), थोड़ा और शिद्दत के साथ, थोड़ी और मेहनत के साथ थोड़ा और प्रयास करें तो मेरा विचार है कि जो आज राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् का जो हमारा agenda है, जो हम लोगों ने पास किया है अभी, वो सब achieve करने में हम लोगों को बड़ी आसानी होगी।

धन्यवाद।

Shri E. Ahamed:

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman. I just would like to say that it is an important social obligation of all of us to provide urgent necessary relief to the refugees in the camps of Muzaffarnagar. The comprehensive plan prepared for that area could not be implemented. But, at the same time, effective measures to be taken for the resolution of this burning issue by providing relief to the suffering families and this is the bounded duty of the Government. It is also very important to put an end to the spreading of communal virus which leads to further exploitation and hate campaign being carried out by some communal outfit to make the people divide among themselves. Enormous efforts by elements of vested interest to propagating hate campaign against a particular section of the people are still there. It is most important that such venomous campaign to be curbed and controlled and create a congenial atmosphere providing peace and security to the people.

I have seen in the refugee camps that even the people who are in neighbourhood of Muzaffarnagar are living outside their houses. I have seen for myself what was really going on there, but I do not want to say all these things here. Only one thing that I would stress upon here is that we all have to join to make a call to the people in the camps to return to their houses and for that we must try our best to create a congenial atmosphere free from any fear or threat to their lives and property.

Another important thing that I would like to say here is that there are lots of Muslim youths who are still languishing in various jails. They have been found not guilty but, as Mr. Karat has mentioned here, even those people who are wrongfully arrested and those who have now been judicially acquitted have also not been given any compensation for the sufferings that they had and spent substantial part of their youthful life in jails. Such steps will also help us to have a conducive atmosphere and maintain communal harmony.

Thank you very much.

Home Minister's concluding observations

I am thankful to all the members for their participation in the day long deliberations of the sixteenth meeting of the NIC. Each of them has provided valuable insights on the challenges before us in maintaining communal harmony, ensuring safety of women and protection of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and I notice that there is complete unanimity on these. I would like to briefly touch upon the key points that have emerged in the discussions.

Almost all members have pointed out that there are narrow and partisan vested interests behind communal violence and that collective effort is needed contain the menace

Hon'ble members have rightly stressed the need for communal harmony. In a culturally diverse, multilingual and multiplural country like ours, it is very important that citizens of various

communities, castes and religions feel secure and live in amity, peace and cooperation. This is the sine qua non of economic progress and development.

We are facing new and emerging challenges in the wake of use of technology like social media. They have the potential for creating enormous trouble, but used properly can be powerful tool for spreading the message of peace and brotherhood.

It has been amply demonstrated in the past that if due vigil is maintained, careful planning done and preemptive measures put in place, many possible incidents of communal violence can be prevented; wherever they do occur, they can be contained effectively, and much human suffering avoided if it is tackled with promptness, grit and determination. I emphasize that there should be zero tolerance for elements who incite communal passions and the State machinery should strictly enforce the laws to promptly apprehend the culprits and nip the troubles in the bud. Prompt action by the administration can go a long way to instill confidence in the people so that they do not take the law in their hands. Further, it needs hardly be emphasized that utmost care and attention is required to be given to planning and expeditious implementation of a range of relief and rehabilitation measures to alleviate the sufferings of those affected by communal violence.

Members have also emphasized the need for wide spread dissemination of values of communal harmony and secularism and inculcation of these values in children and youth and coordination among various religious groups.

The Govt. is aware of the need of social inclusiveness by involving minorities, women and weaker sections in the overall development process. One member has mentioned the need for implementation of the Ranganath Mishra Committee and the Justice Sachar Committee recommendations. I would like to inform that action is underway on the recommendations of both the committees. A massive programme for infrastructure development of education in minority areas i.e. the multi-sectoral development programme is being implemented and the Waqf Act has been amended by the Parliament. Under the Fifteen-Point Programme, budget has been earmarked for programs for minorities.

Concern has been expressed by the Hon'ble members regarding alleged persecution of minorities. I wish to reassure you that the Govt. is committed to protect and uphold the democratic rights of all the citizens including minorities.

Rightful concern has also been expressed on the misuse of cyber space and social networking sites. Internet has become a powerful tool but it is also a double edged weapon. In the past, as we are all aware, social networking sites and the internet has been misused for negative propaganda, for inciting communal hatred, and for spread panic among certain communities. The Govt. has been prompt in blocking such malicious content; however, certain procedures are required to be

followed as the control of ISPs is not in India. As regards the use of Section 66(a) of the IT Act, certain procedural amendments has been brought about to ensure that approval for action under the Act is obtained at a sufficiently higher level.

State Governments should be more pro-active in ensuring that the complaints of victims of atrocities whether women or SCs/STs are heard sympathetically by the police, complaints recorded quickly, investigation is conducted soundly by the police and trials fast-tracked in special courts. In case of acquittals, an analysis should be done so that the lessons learnt would avoid similar mistakes in future.

Some States have opened women and child desks in police stations, created more women police stations, deployed more PCR vans in cities, created Special Courts for fast-track trials related to crimes against women, increased the representation of women in police and created one-stop-crisis centres for women victims. These steps mentioned previously are worthy of emulation.

In the end, I would like to emphasize that there is a need for all to rise above vested interests and keep the objective of overall growth and development in mind. ShriFali S. Nariman warned that our society is moving towards a religious society and a male dominated society. Some members have suggested different format and template of the meetings. I have taken note of all the suggestions and would certainly give serious consideration to each of them. I thank all of you for having spared your valuable time to participate in the discussions which have been very fruitful and would serve to give a positive message to the society.

Prime Minister's concluding observations

I am very grateful to all those who have spoken and made very constructive suggestions on strengthening national integration.

India is a country of great diversity. It is, therefore, inevitable that when we are discussing complicated issues, like the one we have been discussing, there should be reflection of this diversity of opinion. But I am very happy to notice that we are all agreed about the need to do our very best to promote communal harmony, to prevent atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and in the process, we must do all that we can, to stand by the values inscribed in our Constitution. It is clear from what has been said today that threats from communal, separatist and obscurantist forces to our nation's integrity, gender relations, harmony and equality for all our citizens must be dealt with firmly and promptly. This is also reflected in the Resolution that we have adopted today. Preventing incidents of communal violence is primarily the responsibility of the local administration and the police force. But it is not only the task of administration and police. It requires a national effort led by all of us in public life, particularly those involved in the political processes, and by all our citizens in every walk of life. It is also incumbent on all of us to promote actively an atmosphere conducive to the maintenance of communal harmony.

It is now for us to rededicate ourselves to this task, and to ensure that our deliberations in this Council result in concrete steps and improvements in the communal situation, in preventing atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in eradicating manual scavenging and preventing violence against our women.

Vote of Thanks by Shri Anil Goswami, Home Secretary

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Chairperson, UPA, Hon'ble Home Minister and other Union Ministers, Hon'ble Leaders of Opposition in the Parliament, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of States, Hon'ble Leaders of Political Parties and other distinguished guests.

At the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Chairman of the National Integration Council, for sparing his valuable time to preside over this meet. I also express my thanks to the Hon'ble Home Minister under whose guidance and leadership this meet has been organized.

I am also thankful to all the Hon'ble Union Ministers, the Hon'ble Leaders of the Opposition in the Parliament and the Hon'ble Chief Ministers for having participated in this meet of national and vital importance. In spite of the fact that this meeting was called at a very short notice, important functionaries of the Government both at the Centre and the States, leaders of political parties, captains of industry, leaders of print and electronic media and other eminent persons have taken time off their busy schedule to make it to this meet. My sincere thanks go to them.

My special thanks go to the Members who have shared their views and given valuable suggestions during the course of the deliberations. These will help us in shaping our policies and action plans to deal with the problems that were discussed today.

I am grateful to the members of the media who have covered this event and I thank them.

I would also like to thank the officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs, including the CRPF, the other Central Para Military Forces, Delhi Police and other security agencies who have risen to the occasion and rendered excellent support in organizing this meet at very short notice.

I wish to thank the staff of Vigyan Bhawan for their co-operation and support in organizing this meet successfully.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN THE NIC MEETING ON 23.09.2013

The National Integration Council, in its 16th Meeting held on 23.09.2013, unanimously resolves:-

To condemn violence in any form committed to disturb communal harmony and to deal with all those indulging in such violence in a prompt and resolute manner under the law.

To take all measures to preserve, sustain and strengthen the harmonious relationship between all communities and enable all citizens to lead their lives in freedom as equal citizens with dignity and honour.

It also resolves that the Government and all stakeholders shall take all measures for resolving differences and disputes among the people within the framework of law and institutions set up thereunder in order to strengthen our secular and pluralistic society.

This Council also unanimously resolves:-

To condemn the repeated atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and take stringent action on the perpetrators of such crimes under the various laws and special acts enacted.

It further resolves to work indefatigably for their complete integration with the rest of the society on equal terms.

This Council also resolves to eradicate the dehumanizing practice of manual scavenging and other forms of undignified labour and ensure for the people engaged in this practice alternate forms of employment that assures a life of dignity and honour for them.

This Council further unanimously resolves:-

To condemn the sexual abuse, molestation and violent attacks on women and to ensure prompt and firm action against the culprits by the law enforcement agencies as well as speedy prosecution of such cases under the criminal justice system.

It further resolves to ensure that all women enjoy the fruits of freedom, to pursue their social and economic development with equal opportunities, and to safeguard their right of movement in the public space at any time of the day or night.

PART II

SPEECHES TAKEN ON RECORD

**SHRI N. KIRAN KUMAR REDDY
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

Respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh ji, Respected Union Home Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Shindeji, other Ministers and fellow members of the National Integration Council.....

I feel honoured to participate in the 16th meeting of National Integration Council, which will provide us a platform to deliberate upon the issues that are likely to challenge the very foundation of democratic process and the unity of this great nation and to come out with lasting solutions on pressing issues.

In 1940, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Ji stated that eleven hundred years of common history of Islam and Hinduism have enriched India with our common achievements. Our languages, our poetry, our literature, our culture, our art, our manners and customs, the innumerable happenings of our daily life, everything bears a stamp of joint endeavour. These thousand years of our joint life have moulded us to a common nationality and we have become an Indian nation, united and indivisible. This is the bedrock of Indian thought process and if a few want to destabilise the nation they will fail miserably.

The first law of decency is to preserve the liberty of others. One of our great Prime Ministers Smt. Indira ji once said that “not every individual or party is always disposed to use our democratic framework to further constructive purposes. It seems that the exercise of the democratic right sometimes takes the form of freedom even to destroy”. Some separatist groups in the guise of democratic rights are resorting to acts that have the potential to destroy the communal fabric of our great nation. We must all stand united to fight the evil design of such separatist forces.

The infliction of a wound on the collective feelings of a society gives birth to national sentiment. When the perpetrators of crime assaulted NIRBHAYA, the nation rose as one to express its anguish against the crime against women and for stringent laws to deal with them. This is the essence of India. Communal harmony and oneness are the essential ingredients in the Indian way of life and the Indian people are emotionally integrated. Social capital building is a key resource to promote communal harmony.

Measures to promote communal harmony

In this context I am delighted to state that the Andhra Pradesh experience has shown that with political will, courage, commitment of administration at all levels, cooperation of all stakeholders and community empowerment, communal peace and harmony can be ensured. There was no major communal incident during 2012 and 2013. This shows that the measures adopted by the State Government are yielding dividends.

The causative factors triggering communal disturbance may lie in the immediate past but underlying factors emerge from an emotional pile up which were not taken cognizance of by the administration and the political set up. Therefore the efforts to maintain communal harmony must be on continuous basis encompassing socio-political factors. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has evolved Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for maintenance of communal harmony, preventive actions to be taken, tackling of communal disturbances, and rehabilitation of victims of communal violence. The State Government has ensured tackling of emergent situations with objectivity, impartiality and quick response.

Measures to prevent communal disturbances

As preventive measure, the State Government has established Peace Committees/Quami Ekta Committees comprising of prominent citizens, community leaders, representatives of political parties and respectable citizens to liaison between administration and community. The role played by these peace committees in the wake of recent attacks on people of North Eastern States needs special mention.

The District administration has categorised sensitive and hypersensitive areas on the basis of demographic profile, existence of disputed religious structures/utilisation of land, history of enticing conversions and the State Government has evolved proactive police measures to maintain communal harmony in such areas.

The harmony among communities is well reflected in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, where Ganesh Chaturthi, Ramzan, Bonalu and other festivals are celebrated with active participation of all communities. One should see the festive atmosphere during these festivals to appreciate what is said to be communal harmony. The recent twin bomb blasts that occurred in Hyderabad did not dent their harmonious relationship and deter them from celebrating the festivals with much fanfare.

However as a precautionary measure the State Government has embarked on a Safe City project in Hyderabad. Though the police are taking all precautionary measures, due to the high density of population and low police-population ratio, the law enforcement agencies are finding it difficult to scale up police service delivery with the existing infrastructure. The State Government proposes to use technology as a force multiplier by way of establishing a city wide integrated surveillance camera system with 5000 cameras to detect and track terror suspects.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh enacted the A.P. Public Safety (Measures) Enforcement Act 2013, which requires all commercial, educational, recreational and religious establishments, with certain public gathering, to set up and install CCTV cameras to ensure public safety and security.

Every citizen expects the State to stand by him/her without fail as and when any life threatening situation arises. The State Government has launched State wide centralised Dial 100

project wherein any citizen from any part of the State can access the police help in emergency through a single 3- digit number '100'. This will facilitate better service delivery for citizens especially to all disadvantaged sections including SC, ST, Women, and Minorities by bringing in accountability in the police.

The recent phenomenon of Social networking has provided a new platform for communication. No doubt it has wide penetration, is user friendly and one of the best tools of communication. But if these sites are used to upload hate propaganda against any community/ individual/group, it has serious implications for destabilising the harmonious relationship among communities.

Of late it is noticed that the Social Networking sites like Facebook and Twitter are used to unleash propaganda by communal elements with the sole purpose of dividing the society. Hate propaganda spreads very fast and has potential to create trouble at rapid pace across large geographical areas. This poses a big problem for the administration as law enforcement will be a challenge. Therefore, proactive steps are needed to arrest spread of such information. But government agencies are handicapped as the material can be uploaded from anywhere in the world. Therefore, GOI must ensure that these social networking sites locate their servers in India for the traffic generated in India and are governed by Indian laws so that law enforcement agencies can act swiftly to gather evidence.

The State Government firmly believes that inclusive growth is fundamental factor for peace. That is why we have created a separate department for the welfare of Minorities in the State to focus on the issues related to minority development in a holistic manner. The outlay on minority welfare is increased from Rs. 437 core in 2012-13 to Rs. 950 crores in 2013-14 (117.3% increase). The total outlay of Backward Classes welfare is increased from Rs. 2615 crore in 2012-13 to Rs. 3500 crore in 2013-14 (33.8% increase).

Safety and Security of Women

I take opportunity to thank the Central Government for bringing out amendments to the Criminal Law close on the heels of the sensational NIRBHAYA case. However, I bring it the notice of this august gathering that to improve the convictions in crime against women and ensure certainty of punishments in Courts of Law in such cases, speedier investigation and trial, strict adopting of provisions of Section 309 of Cr. P.C for day to day examination without adjournments are the needs of the hour. The guidelines of GOI regarding regulation of sale of acids and amendments to the Poison Act to prevent open availability of acids is a welcome step to obviate acid attacks on women; early adoption of these is need of the hour.

The State Government is planning for more number of Police Stations exclusively manned by women officers and to increase the percentage of women in police force.

Women helpline is being maintained by the Police Department. The helpline provides counselling and other required help to the women in distress.

The A.P. State Women Commission provides a platform to address the problems of women. It safeguards the constitutional rights of women, takes up review and recommends suitable amendments to the existing laws.

The State Government is implementing Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 which offers various relief measures to victims of domestic violence. So far about 23,040 petitions have been received and 49% cases were settled through counselling and in respect of other cases have been registered.

The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 was passed by the Parliament and came into force on 23rd April 2013. It was enacted to ensure a safe working environment for women. It provides for protection to women at their workplace from any form of sexual harassment and for redressal of complaints.

The State Government is providing financial relief to the victims of atrocities. An amount of Rs. 4.47 crores has been provided to 2154 victims so far. A comprehensive policy for combating trafficking of women has been implemented and 21 Swadhar Homes are functioning in the state. 1229 rescued victims of trafficking have been provided with immediate relief amounting to Rs. 1.16 crores. Land pattas were given to 716 women belonging to STs. 1386 houses were sanctioned to the women destitute and rescued victims of trafficking.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh believes that the women's life is secured if she is financially empowered. The State Government is implementing 33% reservation for women in educational institutions and in public employment. Andhra Pradesh is pioneer in starting Self Help Groups for empowerment of women. The SHGs are edifice of self governance at grassroots level. There are 13.75 Lakhs self help groups covering 1.44 core women members in the state. In 2012-13, the SHG-Bank linkage achieved by the State was Rs. 12,600 crores. Social Action Committees of women have dealt with 42,000 cases of individual and family disputes and disposed 38,000 cases so far.

Woman, Child and Youth Welfare

For the welfare of women, the State has taken up many novel initiatives. 'Indiramma Amrutha Hastham', a new initiative is being implemented envisaging to ensure daily meal to 3.5 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers at a cost of Rs. 178 crores and more than 50,000 women at Nutrition Day Care Centres.

'MAARPU' is a Change Management initiative of the Government in the social sector, envisaging convergence among staff of the Health & Women & Child Welfare Departments, members of Self Help Groups & local bodies at Village, Cluster, District and State level for focusing on 20 key interventions affecting the mother and child survival, nutrition & health.

'Bangaru Talli' is an innovative and path-breaking scheme supported by a statute enacted by the State "AP Bangaru Tali Girl Child Promotion and Empowerment Act, 2013" to ensure health care, nutrition and education upto the graduation level of the Girl Child by implementing a conditional cash transfer scheme which provides support at critical milestones. The Act facilitates financial incentives on achieving certain milestones in the life of girl children born in the State on or after 1st May 2013 till they attain their 21st Year.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing the innovative programme of Rajiv Yuva Kiranalu to provide placement-linked skill training to unemployed youth. Under this, 5.12 lakhs youth have been trained and 3.65 lakh out of them are placed. Under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, 1.9 core wage seekers in the State have got work as against 13.8 crores nationally. The State has spent Rs. 27,596 crores in NREGS works which is 20% of the total national expenditure. Rajiv Yuva Kiranalu aims at training and employment to 15 lakh youth by 2016-17. Swayam Upadhi programme of the State Government aims at covering 6 lakh youth annually for promoting self-employment in youth annually. The State has taken up a drive to provide government jobs to 1,50,000 deserving candidates.

Measures to tackle crimes against SCs/STs, Positive Intervention And Proper Implementation of Development Schemes, Laws relating to SCs/STs, Associating All Sections of Society in removing Inter-Caste tension.

The State Government is effectively implementing the Prevention of Atrocities (POA) Act 1989 and Protection of Civil Rights (PCR) Act, 1955. The atrocity prone areas have been identified based on certain parameters. Accordingly 406 villages have been identified in 10 districts. The Special Branch of District Police collects information on issues in atrocity prone areas. Awareness campaigns are undertaken by police and revenue officials to sensitise SCs/STs and the entire community of Law and to encourage them to settle the issues amicably. This is aimed at reducing the inter caste tensions.

I am happy to state that Andhra Pradesh has witnessed substantial reduction in cases of atrocities against SCs/STs from 4321 in 2010 to 3057 in 2012. Prevention of Atrocities (POA) cases have reduced from 1509 in 2010 to 801 in 2012. Extensive training and sensitisation has been imparted to police and prosecuting officers. A state level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister reviews the implementation of relief and rehabilitation measures for victims apart from prosecution status of the cases from time to time.

Andhra Pradesh has been one of the few states in the country where planning has traditionally focused on the need to provide special support to historically disadvantaged sections. While Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have a special status under Constitution, the other under-privileged sections such as Backward Classes, Minorities and other marginalized vulnerable groups are adequately supported by the State. The state believes that the touchstone of the efficacy of Government policies and programmes is its outreach to the poorest and marginalized sections of Society.

I am extremely happy to inform that Andhra Pradesh stands tall among all the States and Union Territories with the largest projected outlay of over Rs. 3,42,842 crores for the 12th Plan. Out of which, over Rs. 78,000 crores is projected for the development and welfare of both Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The outlay for the welfare of Backward Classes has been increased to Rs. 7,465 crores in 12th plan from Rs. 4,100 crores in 11th Plan. The outlay for the welfare of Minorities has been increased to Rs. 5,000 crores in 12th plan from Rs. 600 crores during 11th plan.

Education and economic development alone can empower the disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the society and make them more self reliant than before. In this context we have introduced various initiatives for the development and welfare of SCs/STs and minority communities. In addition, the State Government has brought out two important statutes protecting the rights and entitlements of the SCs/STs Women and Children.

Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan (Planning Allocation and utilization of Financial Resources) Act, 2013

With pride I inform the august gathering that Andhra Pradesh is the first state in the country to enact landmark legislation, the Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan (Planning, Allocation and Utilization of Financial Resources) Act, 2013 to ensure accelerated development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to bridge the Socio-economic gap with emphasis on promoting equity.

The State Council constituted for development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister with Ministers and Officers concerned to the development departments as members approves the plans for Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan finalized by the nodal Agencies. During the current year, Rs. 8585 crore under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan and Rs. 3667 crore under Tribal Sub Plan is being invested.

Creating Awareness

'Indiramma Kalalu', a new mass contact programme has been launched by Andhra Pradesh in April, 2013 to create awareness among the public on the statutory status accorded to the SCSP, TSP Act, covering 9000 SC habitations and 18000 ST habitations. Rs. 2916 crore worth of works/schemes were identified during this programme and sanctioned as part of SC /ST sub plan.

'Integrated Action Plan' is being implemented to tackle the extremism with a development face in eight tribal and backward district in the state as an Additional Central Assistance (ACA) scheme.

The most significant and unique among these programmes is that of scholarships and tuition fees reimbursements, which in the State of Andhra Pradesh, is being implemented on a saturation basis so as to ensure that poverty does not become a barrier for accessing education for any

eligible student. During the current year 28 Lakhs students belonging to SC, ST, BC, EBC, Minority and Disabled are benefiting from Scholarship and Fee Reimbursement with an annual expenditure of Rs. 5,533 crores. Mess charges were enhanced by 72% per month for 9Lakh students at a cost of Rs. 242 crores.

The State Government believes that the Information Technology is a great leveller and ensures transparency, good governance and Andhra Pradesh Government is implementing an online, web based, transparent and secured citizen-centric service facility-Mee Seva through which easier and faster delivery of Government services like obtaining various certificates, documents, licenses, etc. has been facilitated for students, common man and farmers. By now 2.80 crore beneficiaries have availed hassle-free services through about computerised 7,000 kiosks. Under Mee-Seva we are providing about 170 services without the need of people visiting offices. The number will be increased to 300 by the end of the year. We believe that e-governance can act as an effective tool of good governance.

I thank the Respected Prime Minister and Union Home Minister for having convened this meeting for giving us an opportunity to deliberate on a subject of paramount importance to the Nation.

Jai Hind

**SHRI NABAM TUKI
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Hon'ble Home Minister Govt. of India Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde Ji, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the States, Lt. Governors of Union Territories, Home Ministers of Different States, Educationists, Senior Officers of Centre and State Government and distinguished participants.

Arunachal Pradesh has a unique character as it is a home to 26 major tribes and 110 Sub-tribes and minor tribes. People of Arunachal also practice different religions like Christianity, Hinduism, Muslim religion, Donyi polo religion etc. despite the presence of wide variety in religions and tribal faiths all live in perfect harmony and peace. There have been no incidents which can disturb the communal harmony and tranquility in this State. All communities and religion are free to practice their individual faith or tribal belief/rituals. Arunachal is an example of unity in diversity, freedom of religion, secularism, equality and fraternity among all. The present Government has been actively and energetically propagating the principles of tolerance and harmony for which the nation stands. We have been able to mobilize constructive forces of the society in the cause of National Unity and solidarity. Arunachal Pradesh has been celebrating all the festivals and fairs of different communities/faiths and tribes throughout the year in equal gaiety, enthusiasm and collective participation. In fact organization of these the community activities/tribal fairs and programmes has a special significance in fostering fellow feeling, comradeship and harmony in the society.

My Government in Arunachal Pradesh has been able to achieve high level of economic development which has been equitable and distributive. Arunachal Pradesh has one of the highest per capita incomes in the country. People from different tribes, region, religion and caste have contributed equally towards this economic growth of Arunachal. In Arunachal, special emphasis has been given towards empowerment of various disadvantage groups, weaker sections and minorities. All Arunachalees, cutting across religious, social and cultural lines are peace loving, believes in the idea of tolerance and communal harmony. We are making special efforts for educating our population especially in the rural areas and areas which have low population density. Safety and security of Women is of paramount importance. Women have special role in the economic, social and cultural life in Arunachal. There have been few stray incidents of violence and crime against the women which are mostly abrasions. Government has taken strict steps to contain these deviant behaviours and abnormal incidents, so that, such incidents which create anguish and pain among the population of the State are not repeated. An All Women Police Station has been started at Itanagar and a special recruitment drive has been underway to recruit 200 women police officials so that issues of safety of women can be handled separately and promptly.

Arunachal Pradesh recognizes that unity in diversity and communal harmony is the backbone of nationhood and democratic values. We are also with the nation in expressing our concern at the incidents of communal and terrorist violence happened in any part of the country. We need to preserve and promote equality and socio-economic justice among all communities. We also condemn all forms of violence and any act of extremism and terrorism which strikes at the root of our national integrity, communal harmony and solidarity. It is the duty of each one of us to rise to the occasion and defeat any attempts made by divisive forces to disturb the peace and communal harmony in our society.

Jai Hind

SHRI TARUN GOGOI
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER,
OF ASSAM

Respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Union Home Minister Shri Shinde Ji, Union Ministers present, Chief Ministers of various States and Union Territories, Lieutenant Governors, Distinguished members of National Integration Council, Ministers from various States and Union Territories, Senior Officials of Government of India and various State Governments, Ladies and Gentlemen.

We are meeting in the aftermath of several incidents of ethnic and communal violence occurring in many parts of the country since the time we met last. I, on behalf of the people of Assam join our countrymen in grieving the tragic loss of lives and reaffirm our resolve to stand firm against communal violence while achieving national, social and economic goals for harmonious relations among all communities and better quality of life for our people.

I thank Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Union Home Minister for convening this 16th meeting of National Integration Council. This meeting reflects the earnest desire on the part of the Union Home Ministry to evolve a consensus on important issues of national interest, which we all heartily welcome.

Before expressing my views on the agenda set out for today's meeting, I would like to give a brief background of my State.

Assam is a pluralistic, multi lingual, multi religious and multi ethnic State. We have traditionally been free from the bane of different forms of social discrimination, caste conflict, untouchability and religious fanaticism.

Here I take the opportunity to quote the names of two great saints of Assam who still inspire the people of Assam in our day to day life. One of them is Shri Shri Sankardeva, the greatest Vaisnavite saint of Assam who will ever be remembered in the history of this country, as one of the greatest integrators of Indian people. He did not only preach the doctrine of 'Bhakti' cult through his Nam Dharma but also united the people of diverse religion, language and social groups in Assam as a composite entity. Likewise, the role played by a Muslim saint for the integration of Muslims and other social groups is also remembered by the people of Assam. This Muslim saint, Syed Shah Milan Ajmiri Baghdadi, known as Ajan Fakir, came to Assam from Baghdad to preach Sufism amongst the Assamese Muslims by composing devotional songs called 'Jikir' expressed in verses similar to 'Bargeet'. We are proud of the great saints who regarded the entire society as a single whole and stressed on tolerance and mutual understanding. This spirit of peaceful coexistence continue to act as beacon light to the Assamese society till today and helps it overcome the conflicts and frictions of modern times.

The Assam State Level National Integration Committee has been trying its level best to create a sense of harmony and brotherhood among all sections of the society. However, of late the State has witnessed sporadic disturbances arising out of ethnic assertions. We are of the view that this is largely due to the perception of alienation resulting from economic backwardness and the lack of economic opportunities mostly in remote and difficult areas of the State like riverine areas, border areas, hill areas and forest areas.

The State of Assam, which has a complex population pattern of a large number of ethnic groups, tribes and communities, has suffered in the past on account of insurgency, separatist movements, ethnic and communal conflict. However, the overall environment of peace and harmony in the State over the last decade has not only resulted in the economy, which had become stagnant earlier, growing at a spectacular pace, but has also given rise to hope, optimism and self confidence for among its people for a even better tomorrow.

To address the problems of governance and development with autonomy, we have a unique provision under the 6th Schedule of the Constitution which has conferred political and financial autonomy to the three Autonomous councils of Karbi-Anglong, Dima Hasao and Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District. We have worked hard to enable peaceful, accountable and representative governance in these areas.

Over the past few years there are other ethnic communities which have been agitating for getting scheduled tribe status. Their demand is essentially for development, better economic opportunities and protection of cultural identity. In order to address such demands and that of the other smaller communities, the State Government has created 18 Development Councils besides six Autonomous Councils which are being financed through the State Annual Plan with a view to developing and empowering the communities they represent.

Assam is basically an agrarian state with 54.59% of its population being farm families. The average size of operational holding is 1.11 hectare. About 53% of the total work force is landless agricultural labour. The agriculture sector has to bear the brunt due to lack of employment opportunities in other sectors and increase in population. Besides the state has lost over 7500 sq km of residential and agricultural land due to erosion of Brahmaputra River since independence causing migration and resultant tension in other settled areas. The resultant increasing pressure on land makes it clear that land is the only means of livelihood for a large chunk of the population.

Many distinguished members present here are aware that some youths coming from certain ethnic communities have taken up arms to assert their identity and demand better economic development. However, due to perseverance and focussed development initiatives of the State Government coupled with relentless counter insurgency operations by the security forces, and the commitment of the State Government towards a dialogue, most of these insurgent groups have expressed their willingness to come to the negotiating table. Many of the groups like BLT, UPDS and DHD have already laid down arms and joined the democratic process and many of them have been elected by the people. This is a welcome development. I am happy to note that

our efforts have borne fruit and there has been a perceptible improvement in the law and order situation in Assam. However, after media reports on the proposal for a separate Telengana state in July 2013, there have been violent protests demanding 3 separate states – Autonomous State (Karbi Anglong), Bodoland and Kamatapur. These protests have since been contained by proactive steps by the State Government with the support of the Central Government and all the protesting groups have been engaged in talks.

It is also to be mentioned that due to long international boundary with several countries Bangladesh and Bhutan and proximity to Myanmar and China there is always a threat from the forces inimical to India taking shelter in neighbouring countries and engaging in terrorist activities. Besides, there are certain elements in the society who always try to create rift amongst communities on ethnic and religious lines. The State Government is vigilant towards such activities and will deal with them firmly. However, continued support would be required from the Central Government and indeed all central agencies in our efforts to counter such elements and their nefarious activities in Assam.

Unity and integrity is the main foundation of existence and progress of our country. Growing population, expansion of education system, impact of science and technology lead our social system into new dynamic system. Free press, parliament and the constitution etc. strengthen our democracy and agro-based society. However, sometimes differences of opinion arise and conflicts start. It is of course, seen that these conflicts sometimes turn into communal flare ups. As a result, the social and economic progress does get disrupted. We strongly believe that this great country has an enviable history of amity and unity among the different sections of its people deriving from a value system and ethical base which accommodates ethnic differences and varied religious belief systems. Since time immemorial, people came to our country bringing along their own religion, language and customs from different parts of the globe, creating a gloriously composite society. As Kavi Guru Tagore also expressed in 'Bharat Tirtha' – "I don't know that deadly water current lead us to where, that's why we are to give, we are to take, we are to make them united to unite ourselves".

Recent Events

Assam, home to numerous ethnic groups has experienced ethnic clashes periodically over the past three decades. However in all such cases the State Government was able to deal firmly and effectively with the situation and contain it.

Clashes in BTAD districts last year left over one hundred persons dead and over four lakh displaced due to panic. The root cause of confrontation in BTAD various economic factors including excessive pressure on the land due to population growth, erosion and related issues.

Due to firm action of the government – deployment of Central Armed Police Forces, calling out army, and firm action against all trouble mongers irrespective of the group or community

they may belong to, handing over cases to CBI for investigation-the situation could be contained promptly. The ripples of these clashes extended to areas as far a field as Bangalore and Mumbai from where, due to panic caused by misrepresentation of the situation through social networking sites and electronic media, thousands of NE youths were forced to flee. This had resulted in an unprecedented involuntary migration of NE youth from different parts of the country to the North East region. The powerful role that social media could play was witnessed when rumours gave rise to negative mass sentiments; a factor that we will have to take into account while responding to civil disturbances. I have no hesitation in saying that media overdrive in repeated showing or telecasting violent scenes can aggravate communal tensions.

With prompt and liberal support from Central Government support, we have contained the situation. I gratefully acknowledge the unstinted support from Hon'ble Prime Minister and Home Minister who personally visited the troubled areas extensively besides giving liberal financial and logistic support.

State has also witnessed ethnic confrontation during the Panchayat elections in February 2013 in Goalpara district. Last month, in order to destroy the social fabric, some elements had incited the communities in Silchar town but due to prompt action taken by security forces and local administration the situation could be controlled within a short time.

Today, all relief camps have been closed and affected persons rehabilitated. Investigation against perpetrators of violence, both by CBI and CID is progressing well. Presence of Central Armed Forces and the State Police was effective in quickly containing the situation when violence re-erupted in November, 2012 and also provided the sense of security needed for the displaced persons to return to their homes. The potential for sporadic outbreaks of ethnic tension remain and we request that deployment of Central Forces should continue for some more time.

We are convinced that as a long term solution a more extensive civil police presence is necessitated in these parts. Presence of armed pickets is not an enduring solution. We therefore need to ensure sufficient police stations are adequately staffed and equipped in areas prone to ethnic violence. This will enable closer police-community contact that can address minor issues before these flare up. Moreover, capability for prompt armed intervention will still be needed.

Our experience shows that during communal or ethnic violence if all sections of society, media, NGOs are co-opted by the local administration, it does help in the early restoration of peace and harmony besides providing the healing touch.

We have been taking various steps to formulate a proper and comprehensive response to civil disturbances. This includes training and capacity building of the personnel for handling such problems, strengthening intelligence, equipping them with adequate skills with special emphasis on use of non-lethal weapons and training in negotiation and communication skills of police personnel who face such situations on the ground. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) have been developed for tackling civil disturbances effectively. Equally important is proper liaison

with the enlightened citizens and well meaning social mediators with established civil credentials. The Community Liaison Groups and Nagarik Committees play a significant role in assessing and controlling the civil disturbances. **I have always emphasised to my officers that while dealing with such situations they should proactively try to understand the genuineness of the grievances and redress them immediately.**

I am hopeful that with better developmental interventions and growth in agriculture, rural areas, remote areas, better connectivity, access to quality education and health care the feeling of alienation will lessen.

Communal Harmony

To promote communal harmony and brother hood we will have to strive to achieve the cherished goal of “Social, Economic and Political Justice for all”. Above all we all should stand together irrespective of community, caste, creed and languages for the greater cause of secular democratic values of our country.

The development of electronic media and information and networking technology has turned out to be a double edged sword. Mischievous elements and vested interests can spread rumours and hate speeches within a very short span of time through social media networking sites and mobiles to spread misinformation, hatred and anxieties among the people. We have seen an example of this when the occurrence of ethnic conflict in some districts of Assam in 2012 was misrepresented on electronic media and social networking sites to create panic amongst a large number of students and professionals working in other parts of the country, sparking off an unprecedented involuntary migration. There is a need to curb the vested interest of the trouble mongers by more effectively regulating the use of social networking technology, radio, TV and other such means of communication. There is also a strong need of developing cyber patrolling capacities of intelligence agencies to check the provocative use of cyberspace by miscreants. At the same time, there is also a need for self restraint by the media, particularly the electronic media.

Confidence Building and Integrating Measures

In addition to tackling conflict as a law and order problem, we strongly support various other confidence building and integrating measures by the Government in association with the NGOs and the Civil Society at large. Promotion of the culture of games and sports amongst the youth and exposing them to the tenets of all religions and faith through curricular instructions can prove to be very effective in fostering respect for humankind and brotherhood.

We also urge developing the means of communications particularly roads and railways to connect remote and neglected areas of Assam and other parts of the North East as a major means of countering the insularity of the societies living in these parts and promoting social and economic integration within the region and with the rest of the country.

Assam has a strong cultural base and important festivals are celebrated by communities irrespective of creed or religion. Incidents of violence are less during the period where the youth are happily engaged. I, therefore, feel that sports and cultural events must be promoted on a big scale to foster goodwill and communal harmony.

I am happy to inform this august gathering that the State Government has been financing a scheme in Assam named “Dharamjyoti” which gives opportunity to people to visit sacred places of different religions within and out side the State. There has been a resounding response to the scheme and has helped to foster inter faith understanding.

Safety and Security of Women:

Safety and security for women have become a major problem for the society and for the law enforcing machinery thought the country.

With improvement in sex ratio and female literacy over last decade, it is observed that large numbers of women are joining the work force along with men. This enhanced mobilization of women makes them vulnerable because the development of women friendly infrastructure and environment has not kept pace.

The Assam Government is committed to ensuring equal access of women to health care, quality education at all levels, carrier and vocational guidance, employments, equal remuneration, occupational health, safety and social security. **“The Chief Minister’s Vision for Women and Children – 2016”** with 16 monitorable goals is a strong reiteration of my Government’s commitment to usher growth through inclusive development and good governance.

The women in Assam are quite emancipated but due to social changes brought by the rapid urbanization and economic development, there has been a rising trend in crimes against women which is a matter of concern to the government. In July 2012, we had a case in Guwahati where a young woman was molested by a gang of onlookers in a busy street. It is a matter of satisfaction that the investigation, prosecution and judicial order convicting 11 out of 16 accused persons was completed in 5 months. We are also happy to report that the performance of the 14 Anti-Human Trafficking Units in the state was formally commended by the Central Government last year. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 has placed special responsibility on the police in dealing with crimes against women and this will require significant increase of women in the police force. For this, appropriate facilities for policewomen will need to be built up. We have taken up a plan for establishing a Women’s Cell in each Police Station by 2016. We have also set up a specially trained all women commando trained force called “Veerangana” that will target those harassing women.

I have always been pursuing that suitable compensation be given to all the victims of crime or their dependents who have suffered loss or injury as a result of the crime and require rehabilitation; it gives me satisfaction to say that my Government has already notified the **“Assam**

Victim Compensation Scheme, 2012” and sanctioned necessary funds to operationalize the scheme.

Measures to tackle crimes against SC/ST

Ours is an egalitarian society and I have already said that social discrimination, untouchability and religious fanaticism are not quite pronounced in the State. This is reflected by the fact that during last 3 years only 11 cases have come to the notice under the Prevention of Atrocities (against SC/ST) Act, 1989. However, due to rapid economic growth, the disparities between poor and rich are becoming more pronounced and constant vigil and efforts to prevent any discrimination or even the possibility of discrimination against minorities, SCs, STs and other weaker sections of the society are essential. We are taking all steps to remove the Educational and Economic backwardness of the vulnerable sections of the society by ensuring more opportunities for participation in the development process. Allocations meant for SC/ST and minorities are monitored so that they reach to the target population.

I am happy to inform that the State Government is implementing a scheme to provide financial incentives to inter-caste marriage to create casteless society through inter-caste marriage between the SC and other cast Hindus. During 2012-2013 a total of Rs. 50 lakhs was sanctioned and released for providing financial assistance to such couples.

There is need for further improvement in the functioning of the administrative and police machinery at all levels, by sensitizing about the problems and issues relating to the vulnerable groups, imparting better skills to handle the issues related to the vulnerable sections of the society and above all a better and positive attitude towards them. This will require ushering in a proactive mindset.

To conclude my speech I would like to quote few lines from the Veda, The Quran and the Bible. I am always inspired by these sayings of the Veda – “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (The whole world is one family)”, Quran says ‘O’ Mankind! I have created you from a single male and a single female and multiplied you into different communities, so that you can recognize each other. The best of you in the eyes of God, one who is the most pious” and the Bible describes the whole mankind as the “Children of Adam”.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have shared some of my thoughts with you. I extend my heartfelt gratitude once again to all of you.

Jai Hind

SHRI NITISH KUMAR
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF BIHAR

Respected Prime Minister and Hon'ble Members of National Integration Council.

This meeting, being held at an interval of two years, fulfils a much felt need of the time. Communal tension and violent conflict has recently re-surfaced in certain parts of the country. If not stopped, trend may spread and develop into a pattern. At this juncture, it is imperative to reaffirm our commitment to the basic constitutional tenets of secularism, with security and protection to all sections of society. This has to be coupled with adequate provisions for development of the under privileged and marginalized.

In my view the foundation of a progressive India is communal amity, social harmony and inclusive growth. Until we do not strengthen the tapestry of communal amity and social harmony, we cannot have economic development on an enduring basis. We will need to adopt an inclusive approach to all sections of our people. Along with development, good governance and progress, we will also have to strengthen a culture wherein India's plurality and diversity are vibrantly represented. We will have to accept that people of all creeds and faiths are an indivisible part of India, in accordance with the vision of the founding fathers of our Constitution.

All political parties have a crucial role in this scenario. A multi-party democracy invariably leads to competitive politics aimed at cornering a larger share of votes. But we must ask whether it should necessarily lead to passionate persuasion of a divisive agenda? Doing so may deliver short term gains for some, but it eventually leads to weakening of basic premise of our nation itself. Recently in a small town in Bihar, offensive tableaux based on political satire over Minority vs. Majority issues were displayed in a religious procession. The event has been recorded and photographed to irrefutably prove that a religious occasion was misused to stoke communal passions among the people. Serious communal clash erupted in the town shortly afterwards. The administration after great effort was able to nip the problem and a major riot was prevented. Such a scenario is unacceptable and the State Government has since put a ban on depiction of political themes through cartoons or tableaux in procession or 'pandals' on religious occasions. This needs to be codified in a Central law and implemented all over the nation.

Tackling situations of communal conflict requires a different approach and orientation of the police force. Government of Bihar has decided to raise anti-riot battalions in each district. But this will take some time. Meanwhile several religious festivals are scheduled during the next few months. Therefore the State would require deployment of Central Armed Police like RAF and CRPF. I hope that Centre will agree to such requests from the State as and when made in view of the circumstances.

The number, frequency and magnitude of religious processions are also generally increasing. These are sometimes given innovative names like 'yatra' or 'parikarama', taken out anytime of the year, and over a larger area. This is unwarranted. Religion, which is largely a private affair practised inside closed premises of homes or places of worship, is more and more becoming occasions for public show of strength-displaying lethal weapons, beating of loud music and unruly mob behaviour on the streets. Any attempt to regulate or control such behaviour is taken as interference into religious freedom and communal passions are stirred. Statistics show that a large number of incidents of communal conflict start with acts of indiscipline and law breaking during religious festivals. Strict legal measures through licensing laws need to be put in place and enforced to control the carrying of arms, violation of authorized routes, offensive utterances, lewd and loud music, delivery of harangues, use of gestures or threats and exhibition of pictures, placards etc. which may lead to incitement of communal passion and breach of peace. Religious leaders and political parties must educate their followers and cadres to shun such undesirable practices and make the festivals an occasion of celebrations.

Unfortunately, communal riots take place in various parts of the country. That is the time for the Police and law enforcing machinery to pass the acid test of neutrality, objectivity and enforcement of law. Police force has to be trained to develop a mindset which enables them to rise above caste, creed or religion in situations of conflict and violence. Those found to be guilty of perpetrating communal violence should be investigated and booked under most stringent provisions of law and put to speedy trial. No less important is the role of relief and rehabilitation for the riot affected people. Very often, communal violence is inflicted with a view to grab the immovable property of the weaker sections that are forced to abandon their homes and agriculture land or even coerced into selling their land for nominal or no monetary consideration. Restoration of such alienated property should be one of the most important elements of post-riot relief. I would like to draw your attention towards one such initiative taken in Bihar. Our government had constituted a Judicial Enquiry Commission under the chairmanship of a retired judge of the High Court in February, 2006 for enquiring into matters related to Bhagalpur riot of the year 1989. This Commission inquired into 93 such cases in which riots victims had either sold their immovable properties out of fear or their land was forcibly captured during or after riots. Because of the State Government's initiatives, possession of land was restored to 18 persons. Necessary action will also be taken in the remaining 74 cases as per the recommendation to be given in the final report of the Commission, which is expected shortly. It is probably the first instance in the history of India that through the initiative of a State Government, the original owners were given back their lost properties. Furthermore we have also ensured payment of pension for life to the riot affected families from state Government's exchequer. Because of such initiatives, a sense of satisfaction and security has arisen among the victims which are a matter of pride for the government. Among measure which has gone a long way in maintaining communal harmony is the programme of fencing of graveyards. Until now, some 4300 graveyards have been provided appropriate fencing.

Minorities have traditionally suffered from low representation in police and armed forces. There is lot of room for positive action on part of the State in this regard. Union Government may think of organising awareness camps for careers in army and Central Armed Police Force in minority concentration districts and also hold special recruitment rallies in those areas. Government of Bihar has already successfully organised two rounds of special coaching programmes for minority youths to enable them to compete for recruitment of constables. The result has been quite encouraging.

Overall social, educational and economic upliftment of minorities will pave the way for their empowerment in the society. Government of Bihar has started a series of such measures like construction and running of hostels for minority students, education loans at soft rates, employment loans at concessional rates, vocational training and onetime grant to divorced or deserted Muslim women for self employment. Besides, the scheme for onetime incentive of Rs. 10,000 to minority students passing the class-X examination in first division has seen the number of eligible beneficiaries shoot up from a mere 2627 in the year 2007 to more than 29,000 this year.

I am happy to note that the Central Government has removed some of the serious flaws in the design of the Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP). The unit of selection of area and implementation of programme is now Minority Concentration Block rather than Minority Concentration District. Thus, the programme is better focussed on minorities. There is better provision for grassroot level participation in the project preparation process. There is larger emphasis on vocational and employment oriented training, as well as innovative projects.

The Central Scheme for minority scholarships, by contrast, still suffers from serious defects. The application form and the process to submit the same is expensive, lengthy and cumbersome. Guidelines prescribe that several affidavits and certificates have to be submitted along with the application form. This causes much financial burden and also loss of the day's wage for the guardian. Compared with the paltry amount of Rs. 100 per month or less paid as pre-matric scholarship, the hassles and the expenditure involved in the process discourage the guardians from applying for the scholarship. Compulsion under the guidelines to pay the scholarship through bank account has deprived many students of the amount since the banks are generally averse to opening zero balance accounts despite of instructions from the Government to this effect. As compared to this, the scholarship given by Government of Bihar is hassle free, as the payment is done in cash at the School itself in presence of teachers and members of Vidyalaya Shiksha Samiti. I feel that Central Government need not lay down the minute procedural details of schemes for welfare of minorities, including the scholarship scheme. Implementation procedures should be best left to the States implementing similar schemes from their funds.

Safety and security of women has come into sharp focus as a challenge before the whole Nation. No doubt, extra ordinary measures need to be taken. I have come to know that Government of India is to introduce it as special scheme to be implemented in conjunction with the States. This should be expedited. Meanwhile, I must inform you that we have already taken

several measures to empower the women and enhance their sense of security. A 'Mahila Police Station' has been established in each district with jurisdiction extending over the entire district to handle matters related to offences against women. The 'Mahila Cell' at the State Police Headquarters is conducting awareness workshop for women including students all over the State. Women are also being oriented towards self-defence techniques and awareness about sexual offences involving electronic gadgets, internet, multi media, cell phone etc. On the punitive side, serious offences against women are being investigated quickly and put to speedy trial to ensure conviction. The State Government has already created a 'Mahila Battaliaon' under the Military Police which has become operational. Another 'Tribal Mahila Battalion' consisting exclusively of tribal women is going to be raised soon. All the police stations in the State are going to have separate mahila desk also. To ensure adequate representation of women in police force the State Government has decided to provide 35% reservation to women in police force at both the entry levels, sub-inspectors and constabulary.

Educational upliftment of women will empower them to fight injustice, oppression, and sexual harassment and sexual offences. The State Government's scheme to provide uniforms and bicycles to school going girls apart from rapidly increasing the number of school going girls, has also raised their self-esteem and boosted their confidence, bringing about a silent social transformation in the country side. The State is soon going to have universal coverage of all school going girls with scholarship from its own resources. What is significant about this decision is that schoolgirls from all sections of society regardless of casts, creed, community and economic background will benefit from it. The only criterion is that the beneficiary should be a student of a government school.

Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes have similarly been provided with protection, redressal of grievances and opportunities for rapid development. All 40 police districts in the State now have special Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe Police Stations. One Dy. Superintendent of Police in each district has been named as Nodal Police Officer to monitor Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes atrocity cases from the stage of lodging of FIR to trial in courts. Serious cases of atrocities are monitored at the police headquarters level by an officer holding the rank of Inspector General of Police. State-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee, presided over by Chief Minister, is meeting regularly to enforce provisions of The Scheduled Castes and Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, both in letter and spirit.

We noticed that measures for educational and economic upliftment of Schedule Castes have not fully percolated to all the strata of that section of the society. There have been sub-castes among the Scheduled Castes which remain largely untouched by the benefits of reservation in jobs and other such welfare measures. We noticed this gap in development and launched scheme known as "Mahadalit Vikas Mission" to speed up the development of the so far neglected sub sections among the Scheduled Castes. The mission takes care of various needs related to health, education, awareness and empowerment of the Scheduled Castes. Results have been impressive so far under this programme implemented largely through designated persons

selected from that section of the society. This strategy of development does not in any way contravene the constitutional provisions regarding protection to Scheduled Caste and positive discrimination for them.

In the end, I would like to again come back to the important issue at hand. We see that whenever there is a communal violence, more often than not, the involvement of anti-social elements draws their strength in collusion with the political class. We have seen what happened at Muzaffarnagar. This is a matter of deep concern. We cannot allow this violence to spread all over the country. Some forces fan the fire of communal tensions in order to polarize the situation in their favour. This kind of political thinking completely stuns me. We must fight such forces with all the strength at our command and not allow their nefarious plans to succeed.

We all have to recognize the basic truth that the people of India want to live in peace and harmony. They want to see greater economic development in our country. They want to avail of new economic opportunities. They do not want to be entangled in old slogans of division and hatred. They want good governance, but not at the cost of societal instability and violence. In India, co-existence and harmony are a part of our culture. They can never be compromised and must be allowed flourish. But we will have to be vigilant against those seeking to unravel this national consensus. Our centuries old legacy of assimilation, diversity and tolerance, which gives us our identity, will prevail.

Jai Hind

डॉ. रमन सिंह
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री
छत्तीसगढ़

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, माननीय केन्द्रीय मंत्रीगण, माननीय नेता प्रतिपक्ष, विभिन्न राज्यों से पधारे माननीय मुख्यमंत्री, परिषद के माननीय सदस्य, विभिन्न राजनीतिक दलों के नेतागण, राष्ट्रीय आयोगों के अध्यक्षगण, मीडिया तथा समाज के विभिन्न वर्गों से पधारे प्रतिनिधिगण, मैं राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद की इस सोलहवीं बैठक में आप सबका हार्दिक अभिनंदन करता हूँ।

परिषद की अहमियत और इस बैठक की महत्ता सर्वविदित हैं लेकिन दो बैठकों के बीच काफी अंतराल रखने के कारण संभवतः इस फोरम का निरंतर प्रभाव नहीं रह पाता और इसे किसी घटना विशेष की पृष्ठभूमि में देखा जाने लगता है। पांच वर्ष पहले परिषद की बैठक 13 अक्टूबर, 2008 को हुई थी। फिर तीन साल बाद 10 सितंबर, 2011 को और अब फिर दो साल बाद इस महत्वपूर्ण परिषद की बैठक आज 23 सितंबर, 2013 को आहूत की गई है। मुझे लगता है कि हमारा देश जिन परिस्थितियों से गुजर रहा है और जितनी सावधानियों की जरूरत है, उसे देखते हुए हर वर्ष यह बैठक आयोजित होनी चाहिए।

मेरी स्पष्ट मान्यता है कि कानून और व्यवस्था के तात्कालिक उपायों से समय विशेष में तो मदद मिलती है, लेकिन साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव, आपसी भाई-चारा समरसता तथा राष्ट्रीय एकता की मजबूती लगातार प्रयासों से ही संभव होती है। इसके लिए सामाजिक ताने-बाने, सांस्कृतिक मूल्यों और परम्पराओं की धरोहर बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका अदा करती है। जिस जतन से हमारे ऋषियों-मुनियों ने इस देश को सम्हाला और लोकतंत्र के जुझारू रखवालों ने इस देश को एकजुट कर रखा है, उसे हमेशा याद रखने की जरूरत है। हमें याद रखना होगा कि अपने खून से सींचकर भी हमारे ऋषियों ने राष्ट्र की एकता और अखण्डता की रक्षा की है। इसे कोई अपने तुच्छ स्वार्थ के लिए दांव पर नहीं लगा पाए यह व्यापक समझदारी और सतर्कता से ही संभव है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि देश में साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव को लेकर ऐसी उच्चस्तरीय बैठक नियमित तौर पर हों, ताकि देश की समग्र परिस्थितियों पर चर्चा हो सके और बिना देर किए सही कदम उठाए जा सकें।

माननीय महोदय, मुझे यह कहते हुए खुशी है और इसका श्रेय मैं अपने राज्य की जनता को देता हूँ कि छत्तीसगढ़ में साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा का कोई इतिहास नहीं है। आपसी भाईचारा और सौहार्द छत्तीसगढ़ की खासियत रही है। इसी की बदौलत हमारा राज्य विकास के अनेक नए कीर्तिमान रचने में सफल हुआ है। इस मंच से मैं छत्तीसगढ़ की लोक-संस्कृति को प्रणाम करना चाहता हूँ, जिसकी वजह से हमारा प्रदेश साम्प्रदायिक सौहार्द की मिसाल है। इसलिए मुझे लगता है कि विविधतापूर्ण लोक-संस्कृति के संरक्षण और संवर्धन के लिए हर राज्य को भरपूर योगदान करना चाहिए। विभिन्न समाजों के सम्प्रदायों के पुरखों के नाम पर उनके जन्म और कर्म स्थल को गौरव के प्रतीक तथा सर्व-समाज के आस्था केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित किया है। सर्व-धर्म-सम-भाव के सिद्धांत के अंतर्गत मुख्यमंत्री तीर्थ यात्रा योजना लागू की है, जिसके तहत राज्य सरकार की ओर से सभी धर्म के वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को उनकी पसंद के तीर्थ स्थलों का भ्रमण कराया जा रहा है, जिसके तहत यात्रा, ठहरने खाने-पीने आदि की सुविधा निःशुल्क की गई है।

स्वामी विवेकानंद की 150वीं जयंती के अवसर पर मैं उनका एक महत्वपूर्ण वचन याद करना चाहता हूँ—'सभी धर्मों को सत्य समझना चाहिए और उसे उसकी सम्पूर्णता में ही ग्रहण करना चाहिए। दूसरे के अत्यंत छोटे अधिकार में भी हस्तक्षेप न करना, कट्टरता के बिना भक्ति करना, ऐसा मार्ग है जिसमें प्रभु की कृपा से सब ठीक हो जाता है।' धर्मों की यह समझ साम्प्रदायिक एकता का सच्चा रास्ता दिखाती है।

छत्तीसगढ़ में हमने विभिन्न धर्मों, समाजों और सम्प्रदायों की विशेष जरूरतों का ध्यान रखा और उसको समझते हुए विशेष योजनाएं लागू की हैं। उदाहरण के लिए आदिवासी समाज के पूजा स्थल देवगुडी के जीर्णोद्धार और विस्तार के लिए हमने विशेष अभियान चलाया। विभिन्न धर्मों और सम्प्रदायों के पूजा स्थलों के जीर्णोद्धार और स्थानीय विकास का काम प्राथमिकता से किया गया। विभिन्न सम्प्रदायों से जुड़े लोक महोत्सवों को शासकीय अनुदान दिया गया। ऐसे प्रयासों से धर्म निरपेक्षता तथा शासन और प्रशासन के प्रति आम जनता का विश्वास मजबूत हुआ।

छत्तीसगढ़ में हमने संवैधानिक संस्थाओं को सम्मान और सुविधाएं देने के लिए बराबरी की नीति अपनाई। हमने अल्पसंख्यकों, अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों को हर तरह का संवैधानिक संरक्षण उपलब्ध कराया है। शासकीय सेवाओं में नियुक्ति एवं पदोन्नति के माध्यम से निर्धारित स्थानों पर आरक्षण की व्यवस्था के माध्यम से प्रशासन में सहभागिता दी जा रही है। पंचायत अनुबंध (अनुसूचित क्षेत्रों पर विस्तार) अधिनियम 1996 के तहत अनुसूचित क्षेत्र के प्रशासन हेतु विशेष प्रावधान किए गए हैं। क्षेत्रीय असमानता दूर करने के लिए स्थानीय विकास को मूलमंत्र बनाया गया और इसके लिए तेज गति से काम करने वाले प्राधिकरणों का गठन किया गया। अनुसूचित जाति विकास प्राधिकरण, सरगुजा एवं उत्तर क्षेत्र आदिवासी विकास प्राधिकरण, बस्तर एवं दक्षिण क्षेत्र आदिवासी विकास प्राधिकरण तथा ग्रामीण विकास प्राधिकरण का गठन किया गया, जिनके माध्यम से अरबों रूपए के ऐसे कार्य कराए गए, जो अन्य प्रचलित योजनाओं से नहीं हो पा रहे थे।

छत्तीसगढ़ में अल्पसंख्यकों को विकास की मुख्यधारा में जोड़े रखने के लिए, उनकी विशेष आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए राज्य अल्पसंख्यक आयोग, राज्य वक्फ बोर्ड, राज्य हज कमेटी, राज्य उर्दू अकादमी, राज्य मदरसा बोर्ड, राज्य वक्फ अधिकार, राज्य वक्फ सर्वेक्षण आयुक्त जैसी तमाम संस्थाएं कार्यरत हैं। अल्पसंख्यकों के आर्थिक विकास तथा स्वरोजगार हेतु ऋण उपलब्ध कराने हेतु अंत्यावसायी सहकारी वित्त एवं विकास निगम संचालित हैं। उर्दू भाषा के प्रोत्साहन हेतु शिक्षण संस्थाओं का आधुनिकीकरण किया गया, वहीं राज्यस्तरीय स्वर्गीय हाजी हसन अली पुरस्कार भी स्थापित है। राज्य के सर्व समाज की भावनाओं के अनुरूप स्थानीय बोलियों और भाषाओं के विकास हेतु भी ठोस कदम उठाए गए हैं। छत्तीसगढ़ी को राजभाषा का दर्जा दिया गया है, वहीं छत्तीसगढ़ी सहित आदिवासी अंचलों की बोलियों को भी स्कूली पाठ्यक्रम में शामिल किया गया है।

प्रदेश में संविधान के प्रावधानों के अनुरूप आदिवासी मंत्रणा परिषद, राज्य अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग का गठन किया गया है। राज्य में आदिवासी उपयोजना क्षेत्रों के विकास को पहली प्राथमिकता पर रखा गया है। राज्य के कुल आयोजना बजट में जनजातीय जनसंख्या के अनुपात से भी अधिक बजट का प्रावधान टीएसपी मद में

किया जा रहा है। राज्य में जनजातियों के आर्थिक विकास हेतु ऋण एवं वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराने हेतु अंत्यावसायी वित्त एवं विकास निगम संचालित है, पांच विशेष पिछड़ी जनजातियों के सर्वांगीण विकास हेतु पृथक-पृथक विकास अभिकरणों का गठन किया गया है।

प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जातियों एवं जनजातियों के साथ होने वाले अत्याचार/उत्पीड़न की घटनाओं की रोकथाम हेतु अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम 1989 का क्रियान्वयन प्रभावी ढंग से किया जा रहा है। इसकी समीक्षा के लिये राज्य स्तरीय सतर्कता एवं मॉनीटरिंग समिति गठित है।

छत्तीसगढ़ में महिलाओं के सम्मान को सिर्फ भावनात्मक विषय न बनाकर हमने इसे व्यापक अधिकार देने और आर्थिक स्वावलम्बन का माध्यम बनाया है। हमने पंचायत राज संस्थाओं में महिलाओं को 50 प्रतिशत आरक्षण दिया है, जिसके कारण प्रदेश में पंचायत पदाधिकारियों के 56 प्रतिशत पदों पर महिलाएं निर्वाचित हुई हैं। महिला स्व-सहायता समूहों को आसान ऋण उपलब्ध कराया है, ब्याज दर साढ़े छह प्रतिशत से घटाकर 3 प्रतिशत कर दी गई है।

देश में पहली बार छत्तीसगढ़ में महात्मा गांधी नरेगा के अंतर्गत गर्भवती महिला श्रमिकों को प्रसूति अवकाश के एक माह के पारिश्रमिक के बराबर 'मातृत्व भत्ता' दिया जा रहा है। गर्भवती व शिशुवती माताओं को 'डबल फोर्टिफाइड नमक' प्रदाय, 'फुलवारी' जैसी हमारी अभिनव योजनाओं की सराहना हाल ही योजना आयोग ने भी की है। महिलाओं के अधिकार बढ़ाने के क्रम में हमने नए राशन कार्डों पर मुखिया की जगह परिवार की वरिष्ठतम महिला का नाम लिखने का प्रावधान किया है। शासकीय आवास योजनाओं में संयुक्त नाम से पंजीयन कराया जा रहा है। महिलाओं के नाम से स्थाई संपत्ति खरीदने पर स्टॉम्प शुल्क में 2 प्रतिशत की छूट दी गई है। राशन दुकानों व मध्याह्न भोजन कार्यक्रमों के संचालन में भी महिला समूहों की भागीदारी है।

हमने राज्य में एक हजार महिला होमगार्डों की भर्ती की प्रक्रिया शुरू कर दी है ताकि महिलाओं की सुरक्षा, महिलाओं के द्वारा ज्यादा अच्छे ढंग से करने की व्यवस्था शुरू की जा सके। महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराधों की रोकथाम के लिए केन्द्र सरकार ने जो पहल की है और उपलब्ध कानूनों में जो संशोधन किया है वह उचित और आवश्यक कदम है। इन संशोधनों के उपरांत भी छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार ने पहल पर 'आपराधिक विधि संशोधन विधेयक-2013' पारित कराया है, जिससे महिलाओं के विरुद्ध घटित होने वाले अपराधों की रोकथाम में और भी मदद मिलेगी।

हमारी यह स्पष्ट मान्यता है कि आपसी सदभाव के लिए समानता का व्यवहार और विकास में बराबरी के अवसर सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका अदा करते हैं और इसके लिए प्रशासनिक संवेदनशीलता जरूरी है। इसलिए हमने सुशासन के लिए प्रशासन को लगातार गतिविधियों से तैयार किया। राज्य में कानून और व्यवस्था का अच्छा वातावरण साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव का एक महत्वपूर्ण आधार है।

हमने सहयोगी पुलिस की जो छवि बनाई है, उसके कारण एक ओर जहां शांति पसंद जनता का मनोबल बढ़ा है, वहीं दूसरी ओर गड़बड़ी पसंद तत्व नेस्तनाबूत हुए हैं, ऐसे तत्वों के लिए पुलिस प्रशासन का कड़ा रुख जनता के बीच मिसाल बना है।

मेरा विचार है कि पुलिस के सूचना तंत्र, गुप्त सूचनाओं के विनिमय तथा विश्लेषण, इससे संबंधित विभिन्न एजेन्सियों के समन्वय से हम देश में एक बेहतर व्यवस्था खड़ी कर सकते हैं। 'सर्व-धर्म-समभाव' की अभिव्यक्ति सभी के साथ समान रूप में हो इसके लिए उचित प्रौद्योगिकी और प्रशिक्षण की मदद ली जा सकती है। कानून का पालन कराने वाली संस्थाओं को इसके लिए समुचित पहल करनी चाहिए। हमने ऐसे उपायों के बेहतर परिणाम अपने राज्य में देखे हैं। केन्द्र ने समय-समय पर हमें पुलिस के आधुनिकीकरण के लिए मदद की है, जिसके लिए साधुवाद देते हुए मैं चाहूंगा कि नई प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग बढ़ाने हेतु समुचित आर्थिक सहायता प्रदान की जाए।

यह बात हम आदिकाल से जानते हैं कि किसी भी विवाद की शुरुआत आपसी कलह से होती है। कलह मुख्य रूप से सामाजिक असमानता और विसंगति से जन्म लेती है। कलह की वजह सामाजिक, आर्थिक गैर बराबरी हैं। तात्कालिक समस्याओं के मूल में कहीं न कहीं पिछड़ेपन की पृष्ठभूमि होती है। इसलिए मेरा मानना है कि क्षेत्रीय असमानता के साथ ही समाज के विभिन्न तबकों के बीच सामाजिक, आर्थिक स्तर के अंतर को खत्म करने का काम सबसे जरूरी है। इसलिए छत्तीसगढ़ में हमने जनकल्याणकारी विकास के लिए मजबूत कदम उठाए हैं। मुझे खुशी है कि हमारे प्रयासों और उसके असर की चर्चा अब पूरे देश में ही रही है।

भूख बहुत सी समस्याओं और अशांति की जड़ होती है। इसलिए हमने छत्तीसगढ़ को भूख से मुक्ति दिलाई और अब कुपोषण से मुक्ति दिलाने के रास्ते पर सबसे बड़ा कदम उठा लिया है। हम देश के ऐसे पहले राज्य हैं, जिसने भोजन और पोषण सुरक्षा का कानून बनाया। इसके माध्यम से अंत्योदय परिवारों को एक रूपए तथा अन्य गरीब परिवारों को दो रूपए प्रति किलो की दर से 35 किलो चावल हर माह दे रहे हैं। 42 लाख परिवारों को भोजन और पोषण का सुरक्षा कवच देने से राज्य की 90 फीसदी आबादी को लाभ मिलेगा। इसके साथ ही हम निःशुल्क नमक, आदिवासी उपयोजना क्षेत्रों में 5 रूपए किलो की दर से प्रोटीनयुक्त चना तथा अन्य विकासखंडों में 10 रूपए किलो की दर से प्रोटीनयुक्त दाल का प्रदाय कर रहे हैं। हमने राज्य में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को पारदर्शी तथा कारगर बना दिया है, जिसकी सराहना माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय तथा देश के योजना आयोग तक ने की है। हमारी पीडीएस के मॉडल को देश का रोल मॉडल निरूपित किया गया है।

प्रदेश में व्यापक रोजगार के अवसरों के माध्यम से युवाओं में समानता का विस्तार किया जा रहा है। हम देश के ऐसे पहले राज्य हैं, जहां कौशल विकास हेतु प्रशिक्षण की गारंटी देने हेतु कानून लागू किया गया है। छत्तीसगढ़ को देश के पावर हब के रूप में विकसित किया गया है। और इसका सर्वाधिक लाभ गरीबों और किसानों को दिया जा रहा है। जाति-वर्ग के भेदभाव के बिना किसानों को उनके 5 हार्स पावर तक के सिंचाई पम्पों के लिए वर्ष में 7500 यूनिट बिजली निःशुल्क दी जा रही है। 100 रूपए प्रति हार्स पावर प्रति माह के हिसाब से फ्लैट रेट की सुविधा दी गई है। 14 लाख से अधिक गरीब परिवारों को एकलबत्ती के माध्यम से निःशुल्क बिजली दी जा रही है। जीरो पावर कट राज्य के रूप में हम गांवों और शहरों को समान रूप से निरंतर बिजली दे रहे हैं। जाति, वर्ग, आय का अंतर देखे बिना सभी 56 लाख परिवारों को प्रतिवर्ष 30 हजार रूपए तक निःशुल्क उपचार की सुविधा दी गई है।

ऐसे अनेक उपाय किए गए हैं, जो गैर बराबरी, क्षेत्रीय असमानता, जाति-वर्ग का अंतर समाप्त करने में बड़ी भूमिका निबाह रही है। इसके कारण राज्य में जो उत्साह का वातावरण बना है, वह अनेक क्षेत्रों में राज्य को विकास के नए शिखरों पर पहुंचा रहा है। सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि राज्य के विकास में समाज के हर तबके को बराबरी से जोड़ा जा रहा है।

मुझे लगता है कि आज देश में सबसे ज्यादा जरूरत इस बात की है कि समाज के हर जाति, आय, वर्ग के लोगों को इस बात का विश्वास हो कि सरकार उनके वर्तमान और भावी हितों का ध्यान रखने में गंभीरता से काम कर रही है। यह भावना जनता और सरकार के बीच में ऐसा रिश्ता बना देती है, जिसके कारण किसी गलतफहमी की स्थिति में सरकार के विभिन्न अंग, किसी समस्या के शुरू होने पर ही परस्पर विश्वास के वातावरण में, आपसी संवाद और समन्वय से विवाद को हल करने का रास्ता निकाल सकते हैं। छत्तीसगढ़ में हमने संवेदनशील प्रशासन के माध्यम से जो पहल की है, वह राष्ट्र के सामने उदाहरण के तौर पर प्रस्तुत करते हुए हमें हर्ष का अनुभव हो रहा है।

जय हिन्द !

जय छत्तीसगढ़

**SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF HARYANA**

Respected Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Fellow Chief Ministers and Ministers, Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajaya Sabha, eminent leaders of the National and Regional Political Parties, eminent representatives from the Business, Media and Public, especially women representatives, Senior Officers of the Government of India and the States!

It is matter of great honour for me to be present in this important meeting of the National Integration Council and to have the privilege of sharing some of my thoughts and concerns with this august gathering today. This is an apt occasion to gratefully remember our selfless patriotic leaders who laid the foundations of our beloved country on the firm principles of Unity in Diversity, common citizenship, freedom of religions and secularism. It is our ability to work together with a composite national identity that has allowed us to achieve the present heights of economic and social development. Unfortunately, there are some forces that want to destabilize our present achievements and our future dreams through communalism and extremists' violence. Today, we need to send a clear message to everyone that the States and the Centre are unitedly committed to decisively defeat communalism in all its manifestations. We must, in this forum, reaffirm our collective resolve to protect the vision and legacy of inclusive peace, justice and prosperity which the founding fathers of our nation gave to us.

As far as, Haryana is concerned, we never let communalism take roots in the State. This is amply clear also from the statement on communal incidents circulated with this conference's background papers. The State enjoys an atmosphere of complete harmony and peace. My Government is fully alive to its responsibility of maintaining peace and public order. Here, I would like to mention some of the steps taken by my Government to maintain communal harmony and prevent communal disturbances.

Guidelines of Government of India issued on communal harmony have been circulated to all the field formations in the State and reiterated from time to time to ensure meticulous compliance. Commissioners of Police and district Superintendent of Police have been directed to ensure action at personal level as and when any information is received about any possible flash point which may lead to communal tension. Peace committees have been formed in every district and the meetings are held as per requirement in which prominent persons from different communities participate for consolidating community confidence. Timely alert messages are issued to the field formations from CID Headquarters whenever there are festivals, melas or religious occasions for helping maintenance of peace, law and order and implementing proper security arrangements.

Personnel in Haryana Police are recruited from all communities including SCs, STs and Minorities etc who are representatives of the social structure of the region. They are trained to perform their duties impartially and to create a feeling of confidence among all sections of the people. The training curriculum of police trainees at all levels includes chapters on communal harmony.

Proper liaison and coordination with sister intelligence agencies of Government of India and neighbouring States is maintained. Actionable intelligence inputs are shared with each other. All news relating to communal incidents published in various newspapers and given coverage through electronic media which can cause social tensions are scrutinized. Notice is taken of all pamphlets and posters aimed at disturbing communal harmony. Special Cells within CID have been created to keep a watch on issues which may cause social tension.

It has often been seen that social networking sites such as Facebook, MMS, Twitter etc become a media in spreading propaganda through video clippings and messages of incidents with communal overtones-instigating hatred among various communities leading to flaring up of the communal situation. The police remains vigilant to investigate and apprehend those responsible for spreading such messages using the social media. However, in the present legal framework, control of such social networking sites is required to be done by Central Government.

Recently some mischievous persons had tried to create communal tension in Gurgaon and Rewari districts by instigating issues connected with transport of cow. With immediate and decisive response, the situation was brought under control quickly by the District Administration and Police. The matter is being enquired into by the Divisional Commissioner. My Government is alert, sensitive and resolute and will never let communal forces disturb the State's march towards inclusive and equitable economic growth for all.

Safety and Security of Women:

We are fully geared up to ensure and secure complete safety and protection of women in the State. To monitor cases pertaining to crime against women in general and SC/ST women in particular and to initiate action where required, the State Government has appointed an officer of the rank of Additional Director General of Police. Women police officials of the rank of DSP/Inspector as nodal officers in each district, women and child help desks in police stations, specialized training programmes including self defence camps comprising courses on Un-Armed Combat organized for women police officers are part of special campaign in this regard. Vulnerability mapping of sensitive areas, an exclusive four digit women helping (1091), PCRs at the disposal of women police are some of the leads taken by the Police Department to curb crime against women. Further, special cells for handling crime against women have also been established in each district. Gender sensitization of the police personnel is being done on a large scale in Haryana Police Academy and all the Recruit Training Centres of the State.

Action for creation of 12 'Women Police Stations' and a number of 'Crime against Women Cells' at Headquarters and in Districts, has been taken up by the State Government.

To curb such crime against women, especially in urban areas, Police Control Room vehicles exclusively staffed by women police officials have been deployed in each district for prevention of crime against women and to extend help to women in distress. Thirty such PCR vans have already started functioning in the State. They respond promptly to calls from women regarding complaints of crime and provide protection and immediate medical aid, when required. They also carry out preventive patrolling at places prone to crime against women.

Investigating Officers have been directed to complete investigation in sexual assault cases in less than a month, and in molestation and sexual harassment cases within 15 days.

21 additional posts of Superior Judicial Services alongwith staff for setting up of 21 Exclusive Courts to fast track the trials of cases of heinous crimes against women have been created/ notified. The Haryana State Legal Services Authority has prepared a Scheme for Legal Aid Prosecution Counsel for victims of sexual assault and other crimes against women and children. Under the scheme, Lady Advocates, empanelled by the District Legal Service Authorities are called to provide legal assistance to the victims of sexual assault and other crimes against women and children.

As per the guidelines of Government of India, the State Government has established "One Stop Crisis Centres for Women" (OSCC) in Gurgaon and Faridabad districts. This scheme provides medical facility and other support services such as legal aid, police services, counselling etc. under one roof to women victims of domestic violence, sexual assault etc Each centre will be headed by a senior doctor and there shall be a support team of around 8-10 persons consisting of one Counsellor, one Police Officer, one Lawyer etc. the centre will be open 24 hours with doctors and police personnel on duty, available round the clock.

The State Government is also implementing a scheme namely, 'Relief & Rehabilitation of Women Acid Victims' to provide ad hoc relief, medical reimbursement and rehabilitation services to women acid victims.

Haryana, like the rest of India, honours all women, and shall continue to secure their honour, freedom and safety through all means.

MEASURES TO TACKLE CRIMES AGAINST SCs/STs:

The Government attaches the highest importance to such matters concerning welfare and protection of the weaker sections including effective implementation of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The aim of the Government is to increase the responsiveness of the law and order machinery so that the members of SCs/STs feel secure and live with dignity and respect that is the right, every citizen of India deserves. I would like to mention some of the steps taken by my Government in this regard.

1. **Prompt Registration of FIR** – Directions have been issued to the field formations to ensure prompt registration of first information report in cases of crimes against members of SCs/STs. The police officials have been directed to apply the appropriate sections of law as per the statements of the victims. No dilution, which may help the perpetrators of crime against SCs/STs is being tolerated.
2. **Time and correct investigation** – Investigation of all offences related atrocities against SCs/STs are being conducted by DSP level officers and charge –sheets are being filed in the competent courts of law within prescribed time limits.
3. **Supervision of investigation** – Some officers including the district SPs and Range IGPs have been directed to personally supervise cases of crimes against SCs/STs from the recording of FIR to the disposal of the case by the competent court.
4. **Sensitizing of Police Officials** – The entire police force is being regularly sensitized towards crimes against SCs/STs by way of well structured training programmes being run in Haryana Police Academy and recruit training centres. The issue is also being discussed during meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars etc.
5. **Complaints of atrocities** – The police headquarters and range headquarters ensure proper follow up of reports of complaints of atrocities against SCs/STs received from various sources including the National Commission for SCs/STs.
6. **SCs/STs Protection Cell** – An SC/ST Protection Cell has been established in the Police Headquarters under the charge of Addl. Director General of Police, Law & Order, Haryana for monitoring all complaints/cases of atrocities against members of SCs/STs. Meetings are being conducted at regular intervals and effective implementation of the SC/ST Act is being ensured.
7. **Review at the level of Government** – The Home Secretary and the Social Welfare Secretary to the State Government, Director of Prosecution, the officer-in charge of Prosecution and the Director General of Police review the position of all investigations done by the Investigating Officers.

Before I conclude, I would like to state that the National Capital Territory of Delhi is the symbol of national unity and harmony of the country. Its safety and security is intimately linked to the safety and security of the NCR sub-region of Haryana which surrounds it from three sides. For effective and prompt action in the event of any disturbance the policing in the NCR region in Haryana requires the same level of policing in terms of technology, per capita manpower, weaponry, mobility, training etc. as policing in Delhi. There is an urgent need to remove differences in quality and scale of policing between Delhi and the surrounding NCR region so that there is uniformity and perfect coordination in response. Our two districts of Faridabad and Gurgaon would particularly require complete equivalence in policing with Delhi.

While the population of NCT Delhi during the period of 2001 to 2011 has increased by 21%, the population of Gurgaon has risen by nearly 300% and that of Faridabad by 33%. Both these cities bear infrastructural, logistical and environmental load of population working in Delhi. Overall, the Haryana's sub-region of NCR during this period has grown by over 27%. These figures indicate that the area of Haryana contiguous to Delhi has had to undertake massive and rapid urbanization to support the needs of Delhi. For the sake of the security of the National Capital, security to this region must also match the standards of Delhi. Logically, the Mega City Policing scheme of Government of India must cover Gurgaon and Faridabad also as both these cities are in unbroken urban continuation of the Capital.

In this context, I would request the Hon'ble Prime Minister to sanction a special, composite package of about Rs. 500 core for Haryana Police so that its capability and the technical competence in the NCR region is brought at par with Delhi Police and the entire region benefits from the same quality of confidence derived from better security.

In conclusion, I would like to express the firm resolve of Haryana Government to meet the challenges of Communalism and social divisiveness and to ensure a peaceful and socially harmonious environment for all. We stand committed to combat communalism and all anti-national activities and fully support all initiatives of the Central Government in this regard. Thank you!

Jai Hind

**SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF HIMACHAL PRADESH**

Respected Prime Minister Sir, Hon'ble Union Minister, Leaders of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, Chief Minister from the States, Chairpersons of the National Commissions, Representatives from the various sections of the society, Officers, ladies and gentlemen.

We are all gathered here today to discuss on important issues pertaining to the social harmony and unity and integrity of our nation. Let me at the outset profess before this august gathering that I subscribe to just one identity, that of being an Indian, and I am proud of this fact.

All of us here speak different languages, practice different religions and follow different customs and traditions. But our fundamental identity remains as that of an Indian. During the great struggle for freedom from the British rule, people from all parts of the sub-continent irrespective of language, caste, creed, region and religion came together to successfully oust the foreigners and created the nation that we are today. I must say "United we stand and divided we shall fall".

Pandit Nehru, once said and I quote, "Political Integration has already taken place but what I am after is something much deeper than that – an emotional integration of Indian people so that the two may be welded into one strong national unity, maintaining at the same time all our wonderful diversity". It is this vision of his that had led Pandit Nehru to constitute this Council 61 years ago.

I have often introspected on the reasons for the divisive and disruptive episodes that we have been witnessing in different parts of our country from time to time. India being a country of myriad cultures, dialects, languages, religions, faiths and sects, the aspirations of its people are also varied. We probably need to pay greater attention to understanding these aspirations of our people and frame policies that will help achieve them. However at the same time I must emphasize that our nation, despite its diversities has served as an outstanding example of unity in diversity among the fast maturing democracies across the world.

The State of Himachal Pradesh continues to remain a peaceful state with absolute communal harmony. The State Government has already issued necessary instructions to the law enforcing agencies and special cells under the supervision of Deputy Superintendent of Police (Hqrs.) have been constituted in the Districts to deal with First Information Reports (FIRs) relating to matters arising out of communal problems. FIRs lodged by any community on the basis of religion are treated as Special Reported Case and information in this regard is invariably communicated to the State Government immediately and necessary action is initiated at once. Besides this, instructions/directions received from the Government of India on Communal Harmony are regularly being circulated to the District Magistrates for preventing any incident in this regard.

The State has constituted various welfare boards for Scheduled Castes, Labana, Kabeerpanthi, OBC, Minorities and the Gorkhas which ensure that the benefits of various programmes of the Central and State Government reach these communities.

The Government of HP is committed for the uniform socio-economic development, empowerment and social inclusion of the vulnerable sections such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes and Minorities. The Central legislation like the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and Rules, 1995 are being implemented in true letter and spirit.

The safety and security of women is of prime importance for my government. This is being ensured through a multipronged strategy. Apart from strict vigil by the Law Enforcement Agencies, recently emphasis has been laid on recruitment of women in Police Force. About 20% posts up to the level of sub-Inspector of police have been reserved for women. Institutional mechanisms such as State Women Commission, Help Line for women, Complaints Committees for preventing sexual harassment of women at work places, Mahila Kalyan Board have been set up. 50% reservation has been given to women in all PRIs/Urban Local Bodies, Legislations such as Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1961, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, Child Marriage Prohibition Act, 2006 PC & PNDT Act, 1994, H.P. Registration of Marriages Act, 1996, are all being implemented strictly.

Empowerment of women is being achieved through advocacy and awareness generation. Special schemes in the field of health, nutrition, education and socio-economic empowerment are being implemented. These include Mukhya Mantri Bal Udhar Yojana, Mukhya Mantri Kanya Daan Yojana, Mother Teresa Matri Asahaya Sambal Yojana, Widow Re-marriage Assistance, Assistance for self-employment, Vishesh Mahila Uthan Yojana, Financial Assistance & Support Services for victims of rape, Working Women's Hostels, free education for girls, separate toilets for girls in schools, formation and promotion of self Help Groups of women, etc. In addition Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojna, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent girls (SABLA), Krishi Shakti Yojana, MNREGA, SSA/RMSA etc. are also being implemented effectively in the State.

It is because of the above measures that status of women in the State has shown positive trends in key parameters. Over all sex ratio has improved from 968 in 2001 to 974 in 2011. Similarly Female literacy has increased from 65% in 2001 to 76% in 2011.

For the development of Scheduled Tribes, 9% of the State Annual Plan has been earmarked for the Tribal Sub Plan. The H.P. Transfer of Land (Regulations) Act, 1968 for prevention of land Alienation in Scheduled Area is being implemented strictly. The Scheduled Tribes and other Forests Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006 is in implementation in the State. The 1st meeting of the State Level Monitoring Committee was held recently on 22nd of May, 2013.

Similarly for the development of Scheduled Castes the State Govt. has earmarked 24.7% of the State Annual Plan for the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan. The State Govt. has initiated many schemes for the overall development of weaker sections of the society including award for inter-Caste Marriage, Social Security Pension, Housing Subsidy, Follow-up Programme, Hostels for SCs, OBCs Girls/Boys, Schemes of Scholarships for SCs/OBCs and Minorities, Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana, Mukhyamantri Adarsh Gram Yojna, Training & Proficiency in Computer Application and allied activities, Compensation to the victims of Atrocities, Grant-in-aid to NGOs working in the field of SCs, OBCs & Minorities.

Today a greater responsibility is shouldered by all of us. Selfish forces have been fuelling disharmony and conflicts by spreading fear, suspicion and hatred. We need to tackle these anti-national forces jointly and earnestly. The societies, individuals and specially youth must rise above self and contribute to nation building. We need to come together to thwart the narrow-minded forces with an iron hand to create peace and unity in our country.

Communal harmony is the *sine qua non* of a pluralistic society such as ours. Guarding and strengthening this core ideal, upon which our polity is based, requires ceaseless vigilance. It is essential to commit ourselves to preserve, promote and defend the secular, pluralistic, socialist and democratic values of our Constitution. Some of the measures that could be taken to promote harmony and national integration are:

- Counter actively the dangerous attempts to communalize the society and polity.
- Expose and contain the politics of hate quickly and timely.
- Protect and preserve the pluralist tradition and the multi-cultural fabric of the country.
- Prevent the spread of misinformation which result in spreading fear which lead to a backlash.
- Stop communalization of national institutions like education, history and the polity of the nation.
- Bring to justice and take stringent action against all those who incite and indulge in fissiparous acts.
- Take special measures to protect women and children who are the worst hit victims of communal violence.
- Sensitize and motivate enforcers of law to take effective and prompt action to prevent and contain communal violence.
- Wean away the youth of this country from falling victims to communalization and violence and take steps to strengthen the spirit of the Indian identity.
- Make use of modern technology to not only safeguard against anti-nationals but also use it effectively to reach out to the youth to educate and motivate them.
- Make use of all our resources to help our people achieve their aspirations.

In the end I would like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for having provided me with this opportunity to put across my views before this august gathering. I look forward to some positive outcomes from the deliberations held here today which will go a long way in promoting harmony in our country.

Jai Hind

**SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

- 1) Hon'ble Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, Hon'ble Union Ministers, Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Hon'ble Governors, Leaders of National and Regional Political Parties, Chairmen of various National Commissions, esteemed dignitaries, officers of the Central and the State Governments, representatives of Media, ladies and gentlemen.
- 2) At the very outset, I would like to compliment the Union Home Ministry for organising this meeting of the National Integration Council at the most opportune time. The meeting assumes greater significance, at this juncture, when the divisive elements/forces are desperate to undermine the centuries old bonds of communal harmony and harm thereby the secular fabric of the country.
- 3) Since independence, our country has made rapid strides in every sphere of life. But the need to combat the disruptive forces remains as important or may be even more than it was in the 1960s when the concept of the National Integration Council was evolved. The items chosen for deliberation during this meeting are highly significant and a meaningful discussion on these will help us to forge a consensus, evolve strategies for further promotion of communal harmony and national integration.
- 4) The multiplicity of religions has been the bed-rock of our civilization and the very nature of our culture is composite. Mutual tolerance and regard for other faiths is an age-old tradition. Religion should never be a source of conflict between different communities but the vested interests have been always on the look out to use it as a tool for creating hatred and disharmony.
- 5) Communal harmony in any country and more-so for a country like India, inhabited by people professing various faiths/religions, is a *sine-qua-non* to internal peace, which is essential for the progress and development of the country. Therefore, a country like ours cannot make any headway on the path of development and prosperity without following the principles of mutual tolerance, peaceful co-existence and communal harmony.
- 6) The preamble of the Constitution, which we have given to ourselves, leaves no scope for one class of people to claim superiority over the other. The founding fathers of our Constitution have underlined the need and importance of peaceful co-existence by providing equal rights for all Indians irrespective of caste, colour, creed and sex.
- 7) The need of the hour is that the enlightened people of all communities should come forward to preserve and promote peace and amity. It is the bounden duty of all of us who are a part of this august gathering to uphold the fundamentals of the Constitution of India. We should

take a lead in promoting the feeling of oneness and respect for each other, which alone can lay the foundations of a strong and prosperous India.

- 8) The trust deficit amongst different communities needs to be bridged to promote national integration. We should encourage regular interactions between different communities by organizing State/National level interactions, cultural exchange programmes, symposia, etc., so as to provide them an opportunity to interact, understand each other and learn about their peaceful co-existence. NGOs can also be roped in for launching sustained campaign in this regard.
- 9) A number of other measures, though simple but effective, can also be thought of to promote communal harmony. These include constitution of Peace Committee at village, panchyat, municipal and town level; formulation of civil society groups in communally sensitive areas; incorporating topics on basic teachings of different religions in the curricula at primary level; inclusion of teachings on communal harmony in morning prayers in educational institutions etc. During the incidents of communal violence, the propaganda unleashed by unscrupulous elements by spreading false and frivolous rumours should be countered by providing correct information to the masses through available means. Social activists should be encouraged to conduct interactions with various communities and groups. Local administration should be strengthened and activated in the areas of responsibility for organizing these meetings to ensure intermixing of various communities. The practice of setting up of schools and hostels catering exclusively to any one particular community needs to be relooked. In the matters of postings and transfers, emphasis should be laid on posting of employees of one region to another region to foster mutual understanding.
- 10) It is equally important that students pursuing studies in other states and those in other professions are offered a conducive and safe environment to enable them to realise their dreams. This will be a positive step in boosting their confidence and encourage them to move to different parts of the country for seeking educational, employment opportunities and contribute to nation building.
- 11) Reforms in the criminal justice system is the need of the hour to strengthen the faith and trust of the common masses in the democratic institutions. Even though we have enacted laws on every subject, their implementation leaves much to be desired. The investigation of the cases, particularly, against women and weaker sections should be completed on the scientific lines within a fixed time frame, minimizing the human indulgence. Similarly, trial of the cases needs to be fast-tracked to avoid delays because the delay either in the investigation or in the trials leads to acquittal of the accused, many of whom may be involved in heinous crimes.
- 12) The power of print as well as electronic media needs no introduction. The media in all its manifestations has been playing a constructive and crucial role in fostering a stable social

order within the society. However, it has been seen that a few sections of the media and some unscrupulous users of social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter etc. often use them to spread rumours, circulate fake videos/messages/images in a bid to hurt the sentiments of the religious communities, which have the tendency to arouse the passions, vitiate the peaceful atmosphere and lead to communal unrest. Such unscrupulous elements need to be tackled with a firm hand so that people do not fall a prey to their hate propaganda. Customised software for keeping a tab on the social networking sites spreading hatred on the internet can also be envisaged. These social networking sites should be encouraged to devise greater self regulation lest they contribute to large scale law and order disturbances. However, suitable amendments shall have to be made in the existing laws so that we are in a position to effectively deal with any conspiracy to breach the spirit of brotherhood.

- 13) Jammu and Kashmir is a pluralistic, multilingual, multi-religious and multiethnic State. The State does not have a history of communal riots. People professing different faiths/ religions have been living together in amity for centuries. When the entire country was in the throes of partition in 1947, the communal harmony in the State provided the only ray of hope to Mahatma Gandhi Ji. The State went through a tumultuous period in the early 90s, which saw the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from Kashmir Valley. People of the State are conscious of the fact that the composite culture of the State, often referred to as “Kashmiriyat” is incomplete without the return of the Kashmiri Pandits. The State Government is keen to rehabilitate and re-settle Kashmiri Migrants in the Valley and accordingly in consultation with various Migrant Organizations, a revised proposal has been submitted to the Government of India for enhancing the ceiling for various incentives available under the PM’s Package for the Return and Rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants in Kashmir Valley, announced in 2008. It has been proposed to enhance the cash incentive from Rs. 7.5 lakh to Rs. 20 lakh for re-construction of houses and also provision of additional 3000 jobs for Kashmiri migrant youth who would return to Valley. Taking advantage of this meeting, I would request the Government of India for favourable consideration of the proposal.
- 14) Our State has been, by and large, free of the virus of the communal violence even at times when other parts of the Country witnessed such incidents. However, recently, an unfortunate incident took place in District Kishtwar of Jammu Division resulting in avoidable loss of human life besides damage to the property. The State Administration took all measures to contain the situation and to ensure that no further loss of life and damage to property is caused. Immediate steps were taken to restore confidence among the different communities of Kishtwar District besides making adequate security arrangements for the maintenance of law and order. In order to restore confidence among the different communities, the State administration engaged the prominent citizens of District Kishtwar in particular and Jammu Division in general in dialogue for seeking their cooperation in restoring the normalcy. A group of ministers camped at Kistwar to monitor the situation and address the concerns of different communities. With such timely efforts of the Government and active cooperation

of the people, normalcy was restored in the District Kishtwar. A Commission of Enquiry headed by a retired Judge of the Hon'ble High Court has been set up to enquire into the incident. Besides, we had an unfortunate incident of sectarian nature in District Budgam in July, 2013. However, with the timely efforts of the local administration, active cooperation and participation of local representatives, situation was brought under control and normalcy was restored in the district.

- 15) The State of J&K is having three distinct geographical regions with each one having its own unique features. The perceived development of one region at the cost of another region has the potential to breed inter-regional conflicts and provide, thereby an opportunity to the radical and subversive elements to destabilize the law and order situation. Therefore, equitable development of all the regions is the prime objective of the State Government. Processes and institutions have been put in place to achieve the balanced development of all the regions of the State so that people of the State are benefited by the policies and programmes launched by the Central and State Government.
- 16) Various social groups within the State are living in a state of harmony. Due to the concerted efforts of the Government and with the active cooperation of the people, a sense of synergy in thought and action underlines all our efforts for the upliftment of socially and educationally backward classes in general and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in particular. The number of cases of harassment or violence reported against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State is negligible. The Police Department has been directed to set up special cells headed by Sub-Divisional Police Officers/Dy. SP Headquarters in each district to deal with the cases of harassment/atrocities on SC/ST and identify atrocity prone areas, if any, in their districts/sub-divisions. Special training courses are being conducted for the police personnel to deal with such cases effectively. The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 has been enacted to prescribe punishment for preaching and practising untouchability. To further provide constitutional safeguards, honour and dignity to the socially and economically backward classes, The Jammu and Kashmir Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 2010 has been enacted and is being implemented in letter and spirit.
- 17) Jammu and Kashmir has the distinction of having one of the lowest reporting of cases of crime against women. This is largely due to the moral values and cultural ethos of the society of J&K and efforts of the State Administration and the Police. For ensuring, safety and security of women, the State Government has issued detailed instructions to check the menace of eve-teasing at public places, educational institutions and public service vehicles. The District Magistrates and District Superintendents of Police have been directed to take adequate and effective measures to curb incidents of eve-teasing. The State Government has constituted a Committee of officers to register and enquire into and dispose of the complaints, if any, of sexual harassment against women employees. Recently, the State

Government has introduced requisite legislation in the State Legislature on the analogy of the amendments brought about by the Central Government in the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act incorporating stringent provisions to deter crimes against women.

- 18) We need to be fully alive to the situation and take all precautionary measures to maintain law and order and promote the communal harmony at the State and the National level in view of the ensuing Lok Sabha elections and elections which are due in many other States. The State Government on its part is fully determined and equipped to meet any situation and would exercise due diligence to ensure that the anti-national elements and secessionist organizations do not get any opportunity to create any untoward situation to disturb peace and tranquillity in the State. All out efforts will be made to ensure that incidents like that of Kishtwar do not recur.
- 19) The State Government has prepared a response to each of the agenda points for the today's meeting which has been sent to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs separately.
- 20) I am sanguine that the deliberations in today's meeting would be useful in devising meaningful strategies to further promote communal harmony and national integration. All of us should take a solemn pledge to work together for making a strong, united and prosperous India.

Thank you

MS. MEHBOOBA MUFTI
PRESIDENT
J&K PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY

A new approach to integration in a new India

1. This meeting of the National Integration Council today, triggered by the Muzaffarnagar riots, symbolizes everything that is wrong with our approach to issue of national integration and inter faith, caste, ethnic or community as well as inter-regional issues.
2. First, it is reactive. After the event, we are meeting here to try and convince each other that it is an aberration. Or even try to find a solution. But perhaps, mostly, blame everyone else other than ourselves.
3. Second, it is powerless and plagued by inaction. Almost eight years ago, in 2005, a Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill was introduced in Parliament. It was later redrafted by a working group of the National Advisory Council as "Prevention of Communal & Targeted Violence (Access to Justice & Reparations) Bill 2011". Indeed, this Council at its meeting on 10 Sept, 2011, discussed it. Two years have passed and the Home Ministry is still examining the draft bill.
4. I am aware that some political parties and civil society stakeholders have opposed this bill. The fact is that this bill has some undeniable strengths, even as there are some issues with it. But this is true of all legislation.
5. The point is that we ought to have either tried to build a consensus during this period or gone ahead and legislated on it. No bill is perfect. Didn't food security bill have issues? Doesn't GST have problems? Yet, we are finding ways of getting around those problems. It doesn't seem to be the case in this matter. Why? Is it lack of conviction? Or is it not seen as one of the biggest threats to the concept of India? I, for one, believe it to be so. We should make a start and changes can always be made as we go along.
6. Third, is the flawed approach. The NIC, and the larger government, is still looking at the whole issue in a limited and static manner. The approach is old and doesn't fit in with the new political, social, economic and indeed the new ideological context. Nor is it in tune with either the past experiences and practices or with the needs of the new times.
7. From this it follows, and I suggest, that we do three things within a well laid out and defined timeframe which we must agree upon before we conclude this meeting.
8. First, is that the entire notion of national integration and inclusion has undergone a change. In 1950, national integration meant the administrative integration of the states. It was done in a command structure manner which was required at that time.

9. Over time, the needs of the nation have changed. The nation itself has changed be it in terms of the political structures, ideology, the demographics, the value system, or the economy. All these have undergone a phenomenal change, and with that the needs of the nation have also changed.
10. What does National Integration mean in the new context? In 2013 onwards, what is it that will drive it? This is important as there are many changes – ranging from marketization of the economy to rise of regionalism to globalization of the economy – which can structurally weaken the edifice of integration. This needs to be articulated, and acted upon.
11. The rise of the States is one factor which is contributing to the need for a changing definition of national integration. The rise of regionalism is not something which should unnecessarily worry us because it is an inevitable result of economic, social & political factors. To make a point, sub-nationalism is not anti-nationalism.
12. National integration demands national unity through concerted effort both in thought and action. But, such a democratic national unity cannot mean monolithic unity suppressing legitimate regional aspirations and denial of decentralization of power for appropriate purposes.
13. Jammu & Kashmir happens to be the only Muslim majority state of the country that adds to our credibility as a secular nation is a case in point. How are the people of Kashmir treated within and outside the state? There is no value to life of a Kashmiri. We have become a security concern rather than a people who voluntarily acceded to a country on the basis of a shared aspiration for democracy and secularism.
14. While rest of the region enjoys the fruits of true democracy and accountability, in J&K it is reduced to a six year ritual of electing people under multiple shadows that devalue even that sacrosanct process. While partition and Hindu Muslim acrimony were never part of Kashmir's independence discourse as in rest of South Asia but for us its fallout continues to be a punishment taking a heavy toll on life, property, prosperity, civil liberties and human rights.
15. The ever increasing trend of equating majorities with nationhood and nationalism is dangerous. A democracy must protect its minorities from violence without disregarding the violent misconduct of minorities as well.
16. So, the first principle is to **redefine integration** in the new context. It should be about increasing every communities, every regions stake in the system.
17. The market economy that we have now is very individualistic. It is all about: “ to each his own”. But even as we integrate individuals into the economic system, we have to integrate them as communities and regions.

18. The next steps should be to change the approach. It has to be affirmative action through policy. The new approach has to be about equal opportunity and not about distributing the spoils of state power strictly according to caste, thus perpetuating it.
19. During the last 65 years the issues facing the Muslim community in the country have remained unresolved and in some senses compounded. Access to education, health and other social benefits remains elusive to them creating a socio economic gulf between communities and strengthening the feeling of 'otherness'.
20. While the society at large provides enough space to Muslims to exist and flourish but their troubles start when they come in contact with the state and its apparatus, institutions. Whether it is discrimination in providing them representation in government or extending benefits to them the governments have failed to perform judiciously. A recent report reveals how the special schemes launched for the minorities have remained unimplemented and most of the funds have remained unspent.
21. All this can change only if there is a legislative backing to the intent of the government. This is the third aspect. It is not to just let this be an executive policy decision but to back it up with a proper enabling legislative framework.
22. It is obvious that the cause and concept of National integration is a much broader issue than the prevention of communal violence, which is only a subset. Hence, instead of piecemeal approaches such as the communal violence bill, the need of the hour is to bring in a broader legislative framework aimed at proactively securing national integration in India. Both the Centre and the state must be mandated to do so jointly as partners with sharing of rights and bearing of responsibilities.
23. Such a framework should have two key elements. First is that of Affirmative Action. For effective national integration, India's affirmative action structure needs to focus on creating equal opportunities (access) instead of equal distribution of limited state resources (entitlements). The access to opportunities needs to be improved instead of giving entitlements.
24. More to the point of legislating intervention, here the idea is not to make a reactive anti-riot bill, but a proactive legislation for integration. The government needs to address the issue of and focus on prejudice and discrimination against the Muslims, Dalits, Adivasis and other vulnerable groups. That is a bigger question than riots per se.
25. The legislative framework that we bring in must respect the federal structure of the country. Maybe, we can consider making a basic template legislation with a few non-negotiable clauses. Then let the state governments make addition or deletion to it as per their own requirements and needs. It should be a one size fits all.

- 26.** Finally, there has to be a proper institutional structure which will provide oversight guidance and effectiveness to state led affirmative action be it in the form of a much required anti-discrimination law or the setting up of an equal opportunity commission.
- 27.** I am also of the view that while the civil society has to contribute its might, it is the primary responsibility of the government at the centre and the state to drive this initiative.
- 28.** Even in the case of social media, which as become a major source of hate transmission, it is the government that will have to initiate action. Not by banning it or stopping access of common people to it, but by making sure that the correct and peace messages and information subsume the hate campaigns. This new media cannot be stopped but it can be used for catalyzing goodwill. It is a costless and most effective way of involving the civil society into participating for the larger good. The social media is like a knife; in the hands of a murderer it will kill but in the hands of a surgeon can save lives. We have to ensure that it is used like the latter.

श्री हेमन्त सोरेन
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री
झारखण्ड

माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, मेरा हार्दिक जोहार!

राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की बैठक में यह मेरी पहली उपस्थिति है। मैं चाहूंगा कि ऐसी बैठकें नियमित अंतराल पर हों। यह मंच न सिर्फ हमें अपनी बातों को रखने का अवसर देता है बल्कि बहुत कुछ सीखने और समझने का मौका भी देता है। हमें अपने देश के सांस्कृतिक तथा सामाजिक ताने-बाने और सामुदायिक सौहार्द पर गर्व है। अमन-चैन और अहिंसा का पैगाम हमारी धरती ने दुनिया को दिया है। हमें अपनी इस पहचान को बनाये रखना होगा। आपसी एकजुटता और सामाजिक समरसता को नई ऊंचाइयों तक ले जाना होगा। देश के कुछ भागों में घटी हाल की घटनाओं ने हमें खुले मन से चिंतन करने को मजबूर किया है। हमें सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि हमारी अखंडता और सामुदायिक सदभाव देश भर में बरी रहे। इसके लिए राजनीतिक दीवारों को गिरा कर हमें समग्र सोच के साथ आगे बढ़ना होगा।

भारत वर्ष की अनेकता में एकता को अन्य देश अचरज भरी निगाहों से देखते हैं। देश में कई जाति, भाषा एवं धर्मों के लोग निवास कर रहे हैं। अनेकता में एकता ही देश की ताकत रही हैं। यही ताकत हमें दुनिया की शक्तिशाली देश के रूप में विकसित करेगी, ये मेरा दृढ़ विश्वास है। हमें अपनी गौरवशाली परम्पराओं को संभाल कर रखने की आवश्यकता है।

लम्बे समय से विघटनकारी शक्तियां देश को धर्म, जाति, भाषा आदि के आधार पर विभाजित करने के प्रयास में लगी हुई हैं। इन ताकतों की पहचान कर इनके मनसूबों पर पानी फेरने के लिए हमें अपने मतभेद भुलाने होंगे। हमारे मतभेदों का लाभ असामाजिक तत्व उठाते हैं। हमें अपनी बाधा खुद दूर करनी होगी। एक-दूसरे पर भरोसा करने की नई मिसाल पेश करनी होगी। देश की सामाजिक समरसता को खत्म करने की कोशिश में लगी ताकतों की पहचान कर उनके विरुद्ध कड़ी कार्रवाई करने की आवश्यकता है। झारखंड ऐसे तत्वों की पहचान कर सख्त कार्रवाई कर रहा है, लेकिन ऐसे तत्वों की हरकतों को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए अंतर्राज्यीय सहयोग और आपसी विश्वास को बढ़ाना होगा।

साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव बनाये रखना झारखण्ड सरकार की प्राथमिकता रही है। ऐसे मामलों में हम **zero tolerance** की नीति पर कार्य कर रहे हैं। पुलिस प्रशासन में राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप की कोई गुंजाइश हमारे यहां नहीं है। राज्य में जिला एवं प्रशासन के निचले स्तर तक संस्थागत व्यवस्था कार्यरत है। भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी साम्प्रदायिक सौहार्द कायम रखने संबंधी मार्ग-निर्देश का पालन करने के साथ-साथ हम अपनी ओर से भी विशेष प्रयास करते हैं। प्रशासन को संवेदनशील बनाया गया है। जिला स्तर पर उपायुक्त एवं पुलिस अधीक्षकों की जिम्मेवारी तय की गई है। राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद की अनुशंसा के आलोक में त्योहारों को सौहार्दपूर्ण एवं शांतिपूर्वक संपन्न कराने के लिए नागरिक समिति का गठन कर विभिन्न समुदायों के बीच सामंजस्य स्थापित किया जा रहा

है। हमारी सरकार सिर्फ विशेष अवसरों पर ही नहीं, बल्कि सालों भर सामाजिक सौहार्द बनाए रखने के लिए सजग एवं सक्रिय है। खुफिया तंत्र को मजबूत करने की दिशा में हमने कई ठोस कदम उठाये हैं, जिसका लाभ हमें मिला है और आगे भी मिलता रहेगा। राज्य में साम्प्रदायिक घटनाएं नहीं के बराबर होती हैं। इसकी मुख्य वजह है असामाजिक तत्वों पर पैनी नजर रखते हुए उन्हें नियंत्रित रखना। मीडिया एवं अन्य संचार माध्यमों के जरिये हम एक-दूसरे के प्रति प्रेम और विश्वास को बनाए रखने के सतत प्रयास कर रहे हैं। स्थानीय प्रशासन, आम जनता एवं मीडिया के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करने हेतु समय-समय पर आयोजित बैठकें एवं आपसी संवाद बनाए रखने का ही परिणाम है कि राज्य में साम्प्रदायिक सौहार्द और सामाजिक समरसता का माहौल बना हुआ है।

प्रधानमंत्री जी को मेरा विनम्र सुझाव है कि हमें देश में साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव को बिगाड़ने की कोशिश करने वाली ताकतों की पहचान कर उनके खिलाफ कठोरतम कार्रवाई की जानी चाहिए। केन्द्र सरकार को विभिन्न वर्गों, समुदायों और धर्मों के लोगों के बीच आपसी विश्वास और एक-दूसरे को बेहतर तरीके से जानने और पहचानने के लिए विभिन्न माध्यमों का निरन्तर एवं बेहतर उपयोग करना चाहिए। हमें युवा पीढ़ी में राष्ट्रीयता की भावना पैदा करनी होगी, एक-दूसरे के प्रति आदर एवं परस्पर सहयोग का महत्व समझाने के लिए स्कूल-कॉलेजों में विशेष कक्षा एवं सेमिनार आयोजित करने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाना होगा। पाश्चात्य संस्कृति के प्रभाव के कारण पारम्परिक सामाजिक मूल्यों में आ रही गिरावट चिन्ता का विषय है। हमने अगर देश की सांस्कृतिक विरासत को अक्षुण्ण बनाए रखा तो सामाजिक सौहार्द और समरसता स्वतः बनी रहेगी। युवाओं की ऊर्जा को सकारात्मक दिशा में ले जाने एवं उन्हें रोजगार के बेहतर अवसर उपलब्ध करा हम युवा शक्ति के नकारात्मक सोच और इससे उत्पन्न होने वाली समस्याओं से निजात पा सकते हैं। केन्द्र सरकार को राष्ट्रीय युवा नीति में संशोधन पर गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए।

इंटरनेट एवं संचार तंत्र की विकसित प्रणालियों के कारण दुनिया सिमट कर एक लैपटॉप में बस गई है। दुनियाभर के देशों में दूरियां घटी हैं। विकसित संचार तंत्र ने हमें एक ओर जहां दुनिया को बेहतर तरीके से जानने और समझने का अवसर दिया है, वहीं ये वरदान कई बार अभिशाप बन कर हमें विचलित भी करता रहा है। मैं किसी भी ऐसी प्रणाली पर प्रतिबंध लगाने का पक्षधर नहीं हूँ, लेकिन निगरानी रखते हुए नियंत्रण रखना जरूरी मानता हूँ। **Social Media** दुनिया भर के लोगों के बीच की दूरियां खत्म तो करता है, परन्तु कई मौकों पर इसे समाज को बांटने और दूरियां बढ़ाने का भी माध्यम बना लिया जाता है। हमें युवा पीढ़ी को जागरूक कर **Social Media** के माध्यम से उन्हें भटकाने, भड़काने एवं दिगभ्रमित करने के प्रयासों के प्रति भी सचेत करना होगा। केन्द्र सरकार को **Social Media** पर नजर रखने के लिए एक ऐसी नीति का गठन करना चाहिए जो लोकतांत्रिक अधिकारों को सुरक्षित रखते हुए इस माध्यम के दुरुपयोग को रोक सके।

हाल के दिनों में देश भर में महिलाओं और नाबालिगों के साथ घटी घटनाओं ने हमें शर्मिन्दा किया है। ऐसी घटनाओं के बाद हम सचेत एवं सक्रिय होते हैं। भटके लोगों में कानून का भय पैदा करने के साथ-साथ उनकी सोच में आ रही नकारात्मकता को खत्म करने के लिए हमें विशेष प्रयास करने होंगे। हमारी सरकार महिला शिक्षण संस्थाओं एवं अन्य महिला संस्थाओं को सुरक्षित बनाने के प्रति गंभीरता से कार्य कर रही है। मेरे मुख्यमंत्री बनने

के बाद महिला उत्पीड़न एवं शोषण जैसी घटनाओं में कमी आई है। महिलाओं एवं समाज के सभी वर्गों को सुरक्षित माहौल उपलब्ध कराने के प्रति हमारी सरकार संकल्पित है। हमने महिला पुलिस थानों के गठन के साथ-साथ महिलाओं के विरुद्ध घटित घटनाओं का त्वरित पंजीकरण तथा अनुसंधान करने के निर्देश सभी पुलिस अधीक्षकों और उपायुक्तों को दिए हैं। इन निर्देशों का सख्ती से पालन भी कराया जा रहा है। राज्य भर में आठ **Anti Human Trafficking Units** कार्यरत हैं। इसके अलावा 455 **Child Welfare Officer** पुलिस थानों में नियुक्त किए गए हैं। हमने अपने राज्य में **Special Juvenile Police Unit** का गठन भी कर लिया है।

झारखण्ड में अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति की बड़ी आबादी निवास करती है। राज्य सरकार, अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजातियों के कल्याण के लिए सम्पूर्ण समर्पण के साथ काम कर रही है। **Tribal Sub-Plan** योजना के तहत जनजातियों के विकास को गति प्रदान की जा रही है। कुछ बाधाएं हैं, केन्द्र को सहानुभूतिपूर्ण रवैया अपनाते हुए झारखण्ड को विशेष सहयोग करने की आवश्यकता है। राज्य सरकार गरीबी रेखा के नीचे के लोगों को 1 रुपये प्रति किलो की दर से 35 किलोग्राम प्रति परिवार खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध करा रही है। शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में सुदूर ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में प्राथमिक विद्यालय खोले गए हैं, जिसके उत्साहजनक परिणाम देखे जा रहे हैं। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में स्वास्थ्य कार्यक्रमों को प्रभावकारी बनाया जा रहा है।

अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के सदस्यों के विरुद्ध अत्याचार की घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए राज्य सरकार संवेदनशील है। राज्य का अपराध अनुसंधान विभाग घटनाओं की नियमित समीक्षा कर रहा है। सभी पुलिस अधीक्षकों एवं जिला दण्डाधिकारियों को विस्तृत दिशा-निर्देश दिए गए हैं। जिला स्तर पर पदाधिकारियों, विशेष कर थाना प्रभारियों को कमजोर वर्गों के प्रति संवेदनशील बनाए रखने के लिए नियमित प्रशिक्षण के कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए जाते हैं। राज्य से अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजातीय लोगों के रोजगार की तलाश में पलायन को रोकने के लिए हमारी सरकार विशेष प्रयास कर रही है, इसमें भी केन्द्र से सहयोग की जरूरत है।

महानगरों में आर्थिक एवं शारीरिक शोषण की घटनाएं चिन्ता का विषय हैं। मैं, प्रधानमंत्री जी का ध्यान इस और आकृष्ट करते हुए यह अनुरोध कना चाहूंगा कि **Inter State Migration Act** को और कारगर बनाया जाए ताकि इस तरह की घटनाओं को रोका जा सके। इस संबंध में राज्य सरकार **Domestic Workers (Training, Registration and Welfare) Act** अधिनियमित करने का प्रस्ताव रखती है। राज्य में रोजगार सृजन के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

युवाओं को तकनीकी शिक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए आई.टी.आई. स्थापित करने की महत्वाकांक्षी योजना लागू है। राज्य में स्थापित उद्योगों के साथ सहयोग से रोजगार की नई संभावनाओं की तलाश की जा रही है। खनन एवं अन्य उद्योगों के कारण विस्थापन की समस्याओं के निदान के लिए पुनर्वास नीति गठित है। झारखण्ड राज्य में कई केन्द्रीय लोक उपक्रमों द्वारा खनन कार्य किया जा रहा है। मैं माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी से आग्रह करता हूं कि झारखंड को अपना हक मिलना चाहिए। कोल-इंडिया द्वारा खनन के लिए अधिकृत की गई लगभग 24 हजार एकड़ सरकारी भूमि का मुआवजा राज्य सरकार को मिले। खनन की रॉयल्टी में भी बढ़ोतरी की जाए। मैं

प्रधानमंत्री जी से यह भी अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि इन सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को स्थानीय लोगों के नियोजन हेतु **Proactive Recruitment Policy** तैयार करने का निर्देश दिया जाए।

अंत में, मैं माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी का आभार प्रकट करता हूं कि मुझे अपने विचार रखने का अवसर प्रदान किया गया। साथ ही मैं यह विश्वास भी दिलाता हूं कि राष्ट्र को मजबूत करने में झारखंड राज्य हमेशा आगे रहेगा।

जय हिन्द

**SHRI SIDDARAMAIAH
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF KARNATAKA**

Respected Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Hon'ble Governors and Hon'ble Chief Ministers from various States, Leaders of National and Regional Political parties, Distinguished members of the National Integration Council, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. At the outset, I compliment the Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh for convening the National Integration Council meetings.
2. The State of Karnataka is multi-religious, multi-lingual and has multi-ethnic communities. Much less to say, the world's I.T. hub is Karnataka, in particular Bangalore. Karnataka has maintained communal harmony and public order for the last several years.

Protection of people of the State is our primary duty. It is the responsibility of our Government to fulfil their needs and requirements.

The people of the State are patient, tolerant, capable of correctly understanding the situation and are compassionate.

3. At the state level, several measures have been taken towards maintenance of communal harmony and national integration. The Government of Karnataka has issued Notification in January 2011, constituting the State Integration Council under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister. Action has also been taken to constitute District and Taluk Level Integration Councils to facilitate maintenance of communal harmony at the District and Taluk level. The District Integration Council is chaired by the District in-charge Minister and the Taluk Integration Council is chaired by the local MLA.
4. Karnataka State Police in co-ordination with District Administration has also taken various steps for prevention of communal incidents and for promoting communal harmony. The District Level Peace Committees have been re-activated in all the Districts. District Superintendents of Police have been instructed to organize District Level Peace Committee meetings at least once in two months. Mohalla Level Peace Committees also have been constituted Police Station-wise in communally sensitive cities of Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli-Dharwad and Mangalore. Mohala Level Peace Committee Meetings are held at least once a month.
5. The State Government is taking adequate steps to tackle the issue of growth of religious fundamentalism and terrorism in our State. The Internal Security Division of the State Police Department has been strengthened to develop operational capability through trained and dedicated counter-terror teams to deal with terror related incidents. Similarly, a specialized

unit called **The Karnataka State Industrial Security Force** has been established for securing the vital installations of the State. This unit is also being merged with the Internal Security Division.

6. One of the important reasons for creating the **Internal Security Division** was to supplement the District Police Units in tackling complex issues like terrorism. Cases related to terrorism invariably have inter-state and international ramifications and require a sustained and focused effort and co-ordination with several national and international agencies. The office of the Inspector General of Police, Investigation, Internal Security Division, has been declared as a Police Station under Section 2 (s) of the Cr. P.C. The territorial jurisdiction extend to the entire State of Karnataka. The State of Karnataka has also set up the **STATE SECURITY COMMISSION** as part of the Police reforms. **A Police Complaints' Authority** under retired Judge of High Court has been constituted to ensure fair redressal of public grievances. **The Police Establishment Board** has been reconstituted for posting suitable Police officers to the sensitive areas.
7. There has been steady decline in the number of communal incidents and tension reported in the current year ever since the new Government took office. A clear direction has been issued to all the Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of Police of districts to ensure law and order in their jurisdiction by taking prompt and effective action against those violating law. The cases of moral policing are being closely monitored at the highest level to ensure that communal clashes do not occur as a consequence. However, the number of communal tensions in the current year continues to be an area of concern. The major issues have been the use of social media to foment trouble in the sensitive areas with a view to disturb the communal harmony. Some groups have been engaging in transmitting bulk SMS to mobilize people and opinion on such issues.
8. The State Government is fully committed to prevent crimes against women in the State. There is a drastic reduction in the crimes against women during the year 2013 when compared to the previous years. Crimes against women will be taken seriously. All Women Police Stations (10) especially to deal with crimes and atrocities against women are functioning in the State. Each Police Station in the State has a women's Help Desk operated by Women Police personnel. A special Hotline No. 1091 is set up in Bangalore City for receiving calls and complaints from women in distress. The Bangalore City Police also operates "Vanitha Sahaya Vani" which attends to the problems like domestic harassment, dowry harassment and other problems faced by the women. Specially trained NGOs are working in this Help Line. Women patrolling vehicle "Abhaya" is introduced in Bangalore City which targets criminals indulging in offences against women. Anti-Trafficking drives are intensified to put an end to the exploitation of women by organized criminal syndicates in all major cities of the State. Complaint boxes have been installed in many Educational Institutions to collect and act on the complaints of eve-teasing and harassment. Extensive awareness programmes have been held to educate women about crimes and legal provisions

to fight against such crimes. Sensitization programmes for Police officers and Police personnel to effectively deal with the crimes against women are held regularly.

9. The crimes against SC/STs in the State have drastically come down in the year 2013 as compared to the previous 3 years. While it was 1,466 (2010), 1,568 (2011) and 1,527 (2012) it has come down to 691 in this year (June, 2013). Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement in Karnataka deals with cases of atrocities on SC/STs. In exercise of powers conferred under Rule 7(1), SC & ST (POA) Act, 1989, investigation in such cases is taken up by officers not below the rank of Deputy Superintendents of Police. Special Prosecutors have been appointed for conducting these cases. Sensitization of Police personnel in dealing with the cases of atrocities on SC/STs is being done regularly. Necessary instructions to Police personnel to visit SC/ST colonies and conduct meetings at Police Station level, comprising the leaders of Dalits and other castes have been issued. The Government of Karnataka has appointed Nodal Officers for effective implementation of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) and Rules 1995. The State Government is also reviewing twice a year the various reports received, investigations conducted and preventive steps taken by the District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police, relief and rehabilitation provided to the victims and reports in respect of lapses on the part of the concerned officers. The State and District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted. Our Government has established 7 Special Courts exclusively to try the offences under the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989. Apart from this, all the District Sessions Courts have been declared as Special Courts to deal with the cases of SC/ST. Proper patrolling is arranged and beat system has been strengthened in Dalit colonies for extending protection to the SC/STs.
10. Our Government is fully committed to the welfare of minority communities. Several initiatives have been taken to bring the minorities to the main stream of development. A well planned budget allocation for the minority welfare programmes has been made. Incentives to the meritorious minority students of SSLC and higher courses including merit-cum-means scholarships to pre-metric candidates have been given.
11. Our Government will ensure that law and order is maintained in Karnataka, so that all can lead a peaceful life. India Reserve Battalions will be established at Davanagere and Tumkur cities. Rs. 4 crores grant will be provided for purchasing Highway patrol vehicles in all Districts. Civil and Armed Police strength of the State will be augmented. 8,500 Police Constables will be recruited during the current year. To convert the five major cities of Bangalore, Mysore, Mangalore, Belgaum and Hubli-Dharwad into 'Safe Cities', infrastructure will be provided over a five year period at an estimated total cost of Rs. 150 crores. Efforts are underway to strengthen the State Intelligence wing of the Police Department. There is a need to improve the ground level presence of intelligence operatives. A dedicated cadre at the level of Assistant Sub-Inspector is proposed and recruitment would commence soon. A training centre for improving intelligence collection is already in

operation. Modern equipment and additional manpower is provided to ensure greater competence and professionalism among the Intelligence officers.

12. I earnestly suggest that the Government of India should be more pro-active in extending assistance to the State Governments to tackle the increased terrorist threats, especially those funded and supported by external forces.
13. In my opinion, there is also a strong need for greater degree of co-ordination between Central and State Intelligence Agencies.

I take this opportunity to assure maximum co-operation and support of my Government in the country's endeavor to promote National Integration and Communal Harmony.

14. I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister for giving me this opportunity to share my views.

Thank you,

Jai Hind

श्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री
मध्यप्रदेश

राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद की इस बैठक को आहूत करने के लिए मैं प्रधानमंत्री जी का आभारी हूँ। हाल ही में देश के कुछ हिस्सों में हुई साम्प्रदायिक घटनाओं ने हम लोगों को एक बार फिर समवेत तरीके से सोचने के लिए बाध्य कर दिया है। मैं किसी प्रदेश—विशेष या घटना—विशेष का नाम लेकर पॉलिटिकल वनअपमैनिशिप में नहीं उलझना चाहता। मुझे यकीन है कि अपनी परिस्थितियों में, अपनी तरह से, संबंधित मुख्यमंत्री उसका हल निकाल ही लेंगे। परंतु तात्कालिक और सामयिक के साथ ही मूलतः सोच में बदलाव लाने के लिए दीर्घकालीन उपायों पर ध्यान देते रहना प्रासंगिक है।

हमें इन घटनाओं से सीखना है और वैकल्पिक मॉडल तैयार करना है। यह मॉडल हमारी परंपरा और इतिहास से निकल कर आता है। सर्वधर्मसमभाव भारत का स्वभाव रहा है। हम तो पूरी वसुधा को ही कुटुंब मानने वाली संस्कृति से आए हैं। हमारा मानना रहा है कि अयं निजः परो वेत्ति गणनां लघु चेतसां/उदार चरितानां तु वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्। हमारी दृष्टि समन्वय और समरसता की दृष्टि है। यहां कोई भारतीय पराया नहीं है। हम सब भारत मां के लाल/भेदभाव का कहां सवाल। इसी दृष्टि से चलने के कारण ध्यान दें कि भाजपा शासित राज्यों में पिछले दस सालों से कोई बड़े दंगे क्यों नहीं हो रहे? इस बात पर गौर फरमाने का आग्रह करते समय मुझे बराबर ध्यान है कि इसका एक वाचाल उत्तर भी है जिसे मध्य प्रदेश के मेरे एक राजनीतिक वरिष्ठ जी, जो अक्सर ऐसे बयानों के लिए जाने जाते हैं, देते भी रहते हैं। लेकिन यदि इस तरह की वाकचतुराई की जगह सच्चे हृदय से देखा जाए तो आप पाएंगे कि ये ऐसे राज्य हैं जहां मजहबों को वोट बैंक की तरह पाला पोसा नहीं जाता। ये राज्य इंसान की कीमत इंसान के रूप में करते हैं, किसी धर्म की सदस्यता के कारण नहीं करते। पिछले एक दशक में ये राज्य बड़े सांप्रदायिक दंगों से इसलिए मुक्त रहे क्योंकि ये राज्य न तुष्टीकरण की राजनीति में उलझे हैं और न इन्होंने प्रशासन को किसी धर्म विशेष के सदस्यों का किसी तरह से पक्ष लेने के लिए बाध्य किया है। हम यह मानकर चलते हैं कि न्याय सभी के लिए, अवसरों की समानता सभी के लिए और तुष्टीकरण किसी का नहीं। हमारी दृष्टि साफ है। हमारा मानना है कि सांप्रदायिकता की तात्कालिक उत्तेजना का एक मूल कारण वोट—बैंक पॉलिटिक्स है। किसी दल विशेष या संगठन विशेष को अपनी असफलताओं के लिए स्केपगोट बनाकर इस समस्या का हल नहीं निकाला जा सकता। हमें देखना होगा कि हमारे कौन से निर्णय ऐसे हैं जो प्रशासनिक मशीनरी को एक तरह से पंगु ही बनाकर रख देते हैं। कानून व्यवस्था में तात्कालिक रूप से मौके पर मौजूद अधिकारियों को ही निर्णय लेने होते हैं। ये निर्णय राजधानी में बैठकर नहीं लिए जा सकते। मैंने अपने अधिकारियों को बार—बार इस बात के लिए ताकीद किया कि वे कानून व्यवस्था से अपने स्तर पर निपटें और बार—बार राजधानी का मुंह न देखा करें। मेरा विश्वास है कि जब भी सांप्रदायिक दंगे होते हैं, उस स्थिति में, स्थिति सामान्य होने तक प्रशासनिक अधिकारियों को किसी भी तरह के राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप से दूर रखने हुए मुक्तहस्त से काम करने का मौका देना चाहिए। इसी का परिणाम है कि पिछले दस वर्षों में मध्य प्रदेश सर्वधर्म सदभाव कायम रखने में अग्रणी राज्य रहा है। दृढ़ राजनैतिक इच्छाशक्ति एवं निष्पक्ष प्रशासनिक कार्यवाही की नीति के फलस्वरूप मेरे प्रदेश में कोई भी बड़ा साम्प्रदायिक दंगा नहीं हुआ।

हम मध्य प्रदेश के नागरिकों को धार्मिक रूप से वर्गीकृत करके उनकी पृथक पहचान को उभारने की नीति पर नहीं चलते। हमने इसीलिए सांप्रदायिक एवं लक्षित हिंसा विधेयक के प्रारूप का इसीलिए विरोध किया था क्योंकि यह सांप्रदायिक हिंसा को भी वर्गों के आधार पर बांटता था। हमने सेना और न्यायपालिका जैसे संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों में धार्मिक आधार पर लोगों का वर्गीकरण करने वाली नीति का विरोध भी किया था। हम ऐसी कमेटियों के विरोधी रहे हैं जो भारतीयों का मजहब के आधार पर विभाजन करती हैं। मेरा मानना है कि गरीबी स्वयं में एक वर्ग है और भूख की कोई जाति नहीं होती। हम धर्मों को उनके अलग-अलग दायरों में कैद और कुंठित रखने वाली धर्मनिरपेक्षता के समर्थक नहीं हैं बल्कि उस समन्वयकारी भारतीयता के समर्थक हैं जहां सभी मजहब एक-दूसरे में ठीक उसी तरह घुलमिल जाते हैं जैसे समुद्र में नदियां। धर्म एक समग्र और अखंडित दृष्टि है। मेरे यहां मध्य प्रदेश में एक ही मंडप के नीचे मुख्यमंत्री कन्यादान योजना के अंतर्गत पंडित विवाह के वैदिक मंत्र पढ़ाते हैं और मौलवी साहब मुख्यमंत्री निकाह योजना के अंतर्गत निकाह का कलमा पढ़ाते हैं। मुख्यमंत्री निवास में सभी धर्मों के प्रमुख त्यौहार मनाए जाते हैं। मुख्यमंत्री तीर्थदर्शन योजना में मेरे वरिष्ठ नागरिक यदि रामेश्वरम् गए हैं तो अजमेर ख्वाजा साहब के दर पर सर झुकाने भी पहुंचे हैं और वेलंगिनी चर्च भी जा सके हैं। हमारे लिए धर्म एक ऐसी चीज है जो विकास को समाज की आंतरिक और स्वाभाविक लय से जोड़ता है। हम सोशल इंजीनियरिंग के नाम पर जातियों और मजहबों को एक-दूसरे से भिड़ाते नहीं हैं। हमने हज हाऊस की पिछले पांच दशकों से चली आ रही मांग को पूरा किया, उर्दू यूनिवर्सिटी के लिए निःशुल्क भूमि उपलब्ध कराने का फैसला किया, हमने लंका में सीता माता के मंदिर के निर्माण के लिए आपसे अनुमति मांगी और बौद्ध यूनिवर्सिटी की सांची में स्थापना की।

मुझे लगता है कि समावेशी विकास ही सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द कायम करने की एक मात्र गारंटी है। इसी विश्वास के चलते आज अल्पसंख्यक कल्याण संबंधी गतिविधियों पर हम वर्ष 2003 की तुलना में दस गुना ज्यादा खर्च कर रहे हैं। अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए हमारे कल्याण कार्यक्रमों की प्रधानमंत्री जी ने भी सराहना की है। हमने अल्पसंख्यकों को प्री-मैट्रिक एवं पोस्ट-मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति देने की शुरुआत की है और हमने मोरिट-कम-मीन्स छात्रवृत्ति भी उन्हें देना प्रारंभ किया है। अल्पसंख्यक छात्रवृत्तियों के वितरण में मध्य प्रदेश आज देश में पहले स्थान पर है, जिसकी तारीफ राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग ने भी की है। वक्फ बोर्ड की संपत्तियों को कम्प्यूटाइज्ड करने वाले हम देश के पहले राज्य हैं। हम देश के ऐसे अग्रणी राज्य हैं जो वक्फ बोर्ड को प्रतिवर्ष सबसे ज्यादा अनुदान उपलब्ध कराते हैं। हमने अल्पसंख्यकों को समाज सेवा के लिए शहीद अशफाकउल्ला खां पुरस्कार, सर्वधर्म सम्भाव के लिए शहीद कैप्टन हमीद पुरस्कार और उर्दू साहित्य के लिए डॉ. अबूल कलाम आजाद पुरस्कार देना प्रारंभ किया। मुख्यमंत्री अल्पसंख्यक स्वरोजगार योजना और अल्पसंख्यक बेरोजगार युवक-युवतियों को रोजगार प्रशिक्षण देने की योजनाएं शुरू की हैं। हमारे हिसाब से सांप्रदायिक गड़बड़ियों के खिलाफ पृथक से कोई कॉन्फिडेंस बिल्डिंग उपाय करने की जगह जरूरी यह है कि शासन प्रशासन की पूरी संरचना और कार्य प्रणाली ही ऐसी होनी चाहिए कि वह आम नागरिक के मन में कॉन्फिडेंस पैदा कर सके।

आतंकवादी गतिविधियां तथा संगठित अपराधों के विरुद्ध प्रभावी कार्यवाही हेतु प्रदेश में एटीएस एसटीएफ का गठन किया गया, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप प्रदेश में आतंकवादियों पर अंकुश लगाया गया। सिमी के नेटवर्क को

ध्वस्त करने में प्रमुख भूमिका मध्य प्रदेश पुलिस की रही है जिसकी प्रशंसा केन्द्रीय गृहमंत्री ने संसद में की थी। केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा सिमी पर लगाए बैन को मध्य प्रदेश ने ही आधार प्रदान किया। साथ ही संगठित अपराध जैसे जाली मुद्रा, वन्य जीव अपराध एवं मादक पदार्थों की तस्कारी रोकने के अभियान चलाए गए। लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार ने अभी तक संगठित अपराध उच्छेदन के हमारे विधेयक को स्वीकृति नहीं दी है। मेरी माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी से अपेक्षा है कि वे इस मामले में व्यक्तिगत पहल कर इसकी स्वीकृति दिलवाएं।

हमने प्रदेश में वामपंथी उग्रवादी गतिविधियों पर प्रभावी अंकुश लगाया है। वामपंथी उग्रवाद का एक ही जवाब है विकास। हमने इन नक्सल प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में विकास कार्यों की सघन पहल की है। इसी के साथ-साथ राज्य पुलिस, हॉकफोर्स एवं एसएएफ की 14 कंपनियों द्वारा सफल ऑपरेशन तथा मनोवैज्ञानिक प्रचार युद्ध एवं सामुदायिक पुलिसिंग के माध्यम से व नक्सल प्रभावित जिलों में स्वास्थ्य जागरूकता, निःशुल्क इलाज, मेडिकल कैम्प, सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम, खेलकूद, सामूहिक भोज आदि के आयोजनों के माध्यम से नक्सल समस्या को संबोधित किया है। वर्ष 2007 में भोपाल में नक्सलियों द्वारा अवैध रूप से संचालित हथियारों का कारखाना पकड़ा गया, जिसमें 5 नक्सली गिरफ्तार हुए तथा सभी को आजीवन कारावास की सजा हुई।

पुलिस के सुदृढीकरण तथा अपराधों के नियंत्रण हेतु प्रदेश में 97 नवीन थाने, 111 पुलिस चौकी एवं 32,280 पदों की बलवृद्धि की गई है एवं भर्ती प्रक्रिया को पारदर्शी बनाने हेतु पृथक से प्रकोष्ठ गठित किया गया है। राज्य योजनाओं में पुलिस को शामिल कर उन्हें विगत वर्ष में 73 करोड़ रूपए दिए गए हैं तथा सभी पुलिस थानों का कम्प्यूटरीकरण किया गया है। संवेदनशील स्थानों की सुरक्षा हेतु प्रदेश के 7 स्थानों में सीसीटीवी सिस्टम स्थापित किया गया है। प्रशिक्षण स्तर में गुणात्मक परिवर्तन लाने हेतु पुलिस प्रशिक्षण संस्थानों की क्षमतावृद्धि की गई है। फिर भी मैं कहूंगा कि केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा पुलिस आधुनिकीकरण योजनाओं के लिए प्रदाय की जाने वाली राशि अभी अपर्याप्त है। कानून और व्यवस्था की बढ़ती हुई चुनौतियों के मद्देनजर केन्द्र सरकार को इस क्षेत्र में ज्यादा राशि उपलब्ध करानी चाहिए। प्रदेश में आंतरिक सुरक्षा व कानून-व्यवस्था को बेहतर करने में सामुदायिक पुलिसिंग के अंतर्गत मध्य प्रदेश में ग्राम व नगर रक्षा समिति, चलित थानों, बाल मित्र योजना, नशामुक्ति अभियान, स्पेशली एबलड व्यक्तियों के लिए सहायता केन्द्र एवं अन्य ऐसी योजनाओं के माध्यम से जनता को पुलिस से जोड़ने की पहल की गई है।

वर्तमान परिवेश में इंटरनेट की सोशल वेबसाइट्स के माध्यम से सायबर आतंकवाद एवं अपराध एक गंभीर चुनौती है। इस पर रोक लगाने हेतु भारत सरकार की ओर से एक प्रभावी कानून पारित किए जाने की नितांत आवश्यकता है। इंटरनेट, फेसबुक, ई-चेट, लाईन, वाट्सअप तथा अन्य माध्यमों से सूचनाओं का आदान-प्रदान बहुत तत्परता से हुआ है, जिस पर किसी का नियंत्रण नहीं रहता है। इसका दुरुपयोग अपराधी तत्वों द्वारा किया जाता है। भड़काने वाले वीडियो और बल्क मैसेज बिजली की द्रुत गति से फैलते हैं, जिसमें देश विदेश की सीमाओं की कोई रुकावट नहीं रहती है। सायबर स्पेस के युग में इन पर कैसे नियंत्रण किया जावे यह एक बहुत बड़ी चुनौती है। जहां तक सोशल साइट्स की भूमिका की बात है, मुझे लगता है कि टेक्नोलॉजी को लेकर हमारे मन में कोई इनफीरियरिटी काम्प्लेक्स है, यदि कोई पुस्तक अश्लील हो तो उसके विरुद्ध तो हमारी कार्रवाई तत्काल

हो जाएगी, लेकिन अश्लील साइट्स बदस्तूर पड़ी रहेंगी और हम अपने एजेन्डा में स्त्री के सम्मान की सुरक्षा की बातें करते रहेंगे। यदि सोशल साइट्स पर घृणात्मक प्रचार होता है तो उसका जवाब आपत्तिजनक कथ्य को हटाने में नहीं, बल्कि एक ऐसी फिल्टर व्यवस्था स्थापित करने में है जो समय रहते प्रभावी हो। आग लगने पर कुआं खोदने वाली विधिक प्रणाली हमारी सामाजिक समरस्ता के ताने बाने को भारी नुकसान पहुंचा रही है।

राज्य की आंतरिक एवं वीआईपी सुरक्षा को सुदृढ़ करने तथा वैज्ञानिक अन्वेषण हेतु फोरेन्सिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला, अत्याधुनिक वॉइस लेब, वेब बेस्ड मोबाइल आटोमेटेड फिंगर प्रिन्ट आईडेन्टिफिकेशन सिस्टम एवं नवीन डीएनए प्रयोगशालाओं के उन्नयन हेतु केन्द्र सरकार से पर्याप्त राशि के आबंटन की आवश्यकता है।

एजेण्डा क्रमांक-3 महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के संबंध में है। महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के सवाल को महिलाओं के विकास से अलग करके देखने की किसी नीति का मैं समर्थक नहीं हूँ। मैंने महिला पंचायत और महिला महापंचायत बुलाई। मेरी बहुत सी योजनाएं महिलाओं के लिए बनी हैं। मेरा विश्वास है कि वे फैसले जो हमारे गांवों और शहरों के भाग्य को प्रभावित करते हैं, उन्हें लेने में महिलाओं की आवाज पुरुषों की आवाज से कम नहीं होनी चाहिए। मैंने महिलाओं को पंचायतों और नगरीय निकायों में 50 प्रतिशत प्रतिनिधित्व दिलाया है। यानी आधी आबादी को पूरा हक मिलेगा। चाहे लाडली लक्ष्मी योजना हो या कन्यादान योजना हो या गोद भराई योजना हो या गांव की बेटा योजना हो मैंने समाज में नारियों की स्थिति को बेहतर बनाने में एक के बाद एक कदम उठाए हैं। मेरा मानना है कि कन्याभ्रूण हत्या जीवन की पवित्रता और दिव्यता का अपमान है। वह गंगा, गीता और गायत्री का अपमान है। वह सीता और सावित्री का अपमान है। यह सोचकर मैंने बेटा बचाओ अभियान चलाया।

राष्ट्रीय अपराध अभिलेख ब्यूरो के आंकड़ों में मध्य प्रदेश में दर्ज हुए अपराध के आधार पर कई बार लोग हमारी आलोचना करते हैं लेकिन यह देखना महत्वपूर्ण है कि वर्ष 2000 देश में महिलाओं के खिलाफ हुए अपराधों में 12.70 प्रतिशत अकेले मध्य प्रदेश में घटित होते थे जो वर्ष 2011 में घटकर 7.30 प्रतिशत रह गए हैं। इसी प्रकार तब देश के 22.70 प्रतिशत बलात्कार मध्य प्रदेश में होते थे जो अब घटकर 14 प्रतिशत रह गए हैं। तब उनके अपहरण की 5.80 प्रतिशत घटनाएं मध्य प्रदेश में होती थीं जो अब घटकर 3.10 प्रतिशत रह गई हैं। तब पति एवं रिश्तेदारों की निर्दयता की घटनाओं का 6.80 प्रतिशत मध्य प्रदेश में होता था जो अब केवल 3.80 प्रतिशत रह गया है। तब देश में महिलाओं के उत्पीड़न की कुल घटनाओं में से 25.90 प्रतिशत घटनाएं मध्य प्रदेश में होती थीं जो अब घटकर केवल 15.50 प्रतिशत रह गई हैं। हमने मध्य प्रदेश पुलिस में एक महिला प्रकोष्ठ का गठन किया है, जिसमें वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के साथ ही साथ विधिक अधिकारियों की पदस्थापना की गई है। राज्य शासन द्वारा सभी जिलों में महिलाओं के विरुद्ध होने वाले अपराधों के पर्यवेक्षण के लिए 1500 से अधिक विभिन्न श्रेणी के पदों को स्वीकृत किया है। इतना ही नहीं महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के लिए महिला हेल्पलाइन-1090 का गठन किया गया है। साथ ही महिलाओं व बालिकाओं में जागरूकता लाने के लिए विभिन्न पहलें शुरू की गई हैं।

दतिया जिले में एक विदेशी महिला के साथ 15.03.2013 को सामूहिक बलात्कार की घटना घटित हुई थी। इस प्रकरण में विभिन्न एजेंसियों से समन्वय स्थापित कर वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों के पर्यवेक्षण में प्रकरण की विवेचना

10 दिवस में पूरी की गई। पीड़ित विदेशी नागरिक महिला भारत छोड़कर जा चुकी थी, उनके साक्ष्य के लिए विडियों कान्फ्रेंस से व्यवस्था की गई तथा इस प्रकरण में सभी आरोपियों को न्यायालय द्वारा आजीवन कारावास की सजा से दंडित किया गया। भोपाल जिले में एक बालिका के साथ बलात्कार व उसकी हत्या की घटना घटित हुई थी, इस प्रकरण में 15 दिन में ट्रायल पूरा करवाया गया है, जिसमें माननीय न्यायालय द्वारा आरोपी को मृत्युदंड से दंडित किया गया। मण्डला जिले के एक अन्य प्रकरण में बालिका के साथ बलात्कार कर उसकी भी हत्या हुई थी, जिसका ट्रायल 24 दिन में पूर्ण कर प्रकरण का निराकरण करवाया गया। इस प्रकरण में भी न्यायालय द्वारा आरोपी को मृत्युदंड से दंडित किया गया। ऐसे अनेक चिन्हित प्रकरणों का निराकरण अल्प समय में ट्रायल पूरा करवाकर निराकरण करवाया गया है।

महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराधों में त्वरित एवं गुणात्मक विवेचना तथा न्यायालय द्वारा आरोपियों को दंडित कराने के परिणामस्वरूप वर्ष 2012 में 02 प्रकरणों में मृत्युदंड तथा कुल 806 सत्र प्रकरणों में सजा एवं इस वर्ष के माह अगस्त तक 10 प्रकरणों में मृत्युदंड तथा 2316 प्रकरणों में आरोपियों को दंडित किया गया है। प्रकरणों की विवेचना एवं अभियोजन स्तर पर वरिष्ठ स्तर पर से मॉनीटरिंग की जा रही है। इसी के फलस्वरूप इस प्रकार के प्रकरणों में 79 प्रतिशत की सजायबी दर वर्ष 2012 में प्राप्त हुई, जो तुलनात्मक दृष्टि से उत्साहजनक है। राष्ट्रीय सजायबी औसत 41.1 प्रतिशत है। अब हम बलात्कार के प्रकरणों में 15 दिन में चालान पेश कर रहे हैं तथा उसके कुछ दिनों के अंदर ही न्यायालय से सजा भी दिलवा रहे हैं। वर्ष 2012 में क्राईम रेट (प्रति लाख जनसंख्या पर होने वाले अपराध) के हिसाब से महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराध में मध्य प्रदेश 11वें स्थान पर है। क्राईम रेट के अनुसार बलात्कार के प्रकरणों में मध्य प्रदेश छठवें स्थान पर है। महिलाओं के विरुद्ध घटित कुल अपराधों में वर्ष 2003 से वर्ष 2012 तक जहां मध्य प्रदेश में मात्र 15.71 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है वहीं मैं कुछ ऐसे राज्यों को भी जानता हूं जहां यह वृद्धि 70 प्रतिशत से भी ज्यादा हुई है। इसी प्रकार बलात्कार के प्रकरणों में वर्ष 2003 से 2012 तक मध्य प्रदेश में 25 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है जबकि मैं कुछ ऐसे राज्यों को भी जानता हूं जहां यह वृद्धि 95 प्रतिशत तक हुई।

महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के प्रति मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार पूर्ण रूप से सजग व कटिबद्ध है तथा हमने एक पूरा तंत्र इस हेतु गठित किया है। प्रदेश में पुलिस मुख्यालय स्तर पर जून 2012 में महिला अपराध शाखा, प्रदेश के प्रत्येक जिले में राजपत्रित अधिकारी के प्रभार में महिला सेल, 141 महिला डेस्क, 24 मानव दुर्व्यापार विरोधी सेल, 212 परिवार परामर्श केन्द्र, 9 महिला थाना एवं महिला अपराध हेल्पलाइन (1090) का गठन किया गया है। इसके अलावा शिक्षण संस्थाओं में छात्राओं को आत्मरक्षा हेतु जूडो-कराटे का प्रशिक्षण व महिलाओं में जागरूकता लाने हेतु विभिन्न स्थानों पर जनजागृति शिविरों का आयोजन किया जा रहा है।

एजेण्डा क्रमांक-4 अनुसूचित जाति जनजाति के विरुद्ध होने वाले अपराधों, उनके विकास कार्यक्रमों को प्रभावी बनाने और अंतर्जातीय तनावों को खत्म करने के बारे में है। वर्ष 2000 में आदिवासियों के खिलाफ देश में हुए कुल अपराधों का 44 प्रतिशत अकेले मध्य प्रदेश में घटित होता था, अब 2011 में यह घटकर आधा यानी 22.3 प्रतिशत रहा गया है। तब देश में आदिवासी स्त्रियों से होने वाले बलात्कार का 60 प्रतिशत अकेले मध्य प्रदेश

में होता था, जो अब घटकर 39.6 प्रतिशत रहा गया है। तब आदिवासी स्त्रियों की अपहरण की घटनाओं में मध्य प्रदेश का योगदान 54 प्रतिशत था जो अब लगभग आधा घटकर मात्र 28.5 प्रतिशत रह गया है। तब आदिवासियों के विरुद्ध आगजनी की 37.5 प्रतिशत घटनाओं में प्रदेश का नाम आता था जो अब लगभग आधा यानी 20.8 प्रतिशत रह गया है। अन्य अपराधों की ब्यूरो वाली श्रेणी में पहले मध्य प्रदेश का हिस्सा 43.9 प्रतिशत था जो अब लगभग आधा घटकर 22.9 प्रतिशत रह गया है।

वर्ष 2002 में अनुसूचित जाति के खिलाफ देशभर में हुए कुल अपराधों का 21.5 प्रतिशत अकेले मध्य प्रदेश में होता था, जो अब घटकर वर्ष 2011 में 9.60 प्रतिशत रह गया है। वर्ष 2002 में अनुसूचित जाति की महिलाओं के विरुद्ध देशभर में हुए कुल बलात्कारों का 31 प्रतिशत अकेले मध्य प्रदेश में होता था, जो अब घटकर केवल 21 प्रतिशत है। तब देश में अनुसूचित जाति की स्त्रियों के अपहरण की घटनाओं में प्रदेश का हिस्सा 15.40 प्रतिशत था जो अब घटकर 10.10 प्रतिशत हैं। अनुसूचित जाति के खिलाफ ब्यूरो द्वारा बताई गई 'अन्य अपराधों' की श्रेणी में मध्य प्रदेश का योगदान तब 33.20 प्रतिशत था जो अब केवल 12.20 प्रतिशत रह गया है।

मध्य प्रदेश देश का एकमात्र प्रदेश है जहां प्रत्येक जिले में इन वर्गों के लिए विशेष पुलिस थानों की व्यवस्था की गई है। 43 विशेष न्यायालयों की स्थापना की गई है तथा 7 जिला एवं सत्र न्यायालयों को विशेष न्यायालय के रूप में अधिसूचित किया गया है। प्रत्येक विशेष न्यायालय हेतु विशेष लोक अभियोजक की नियुक्ति की गई है। इसी कारण प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जनजातियों के विरुद्ध अपराधियों को सजा दिलाने का प्रतिशत वर्ष 2011 में 31.5 प्रतिशत रहा, जबकि मैं कुछ ऐसे प्रदेशों को भी जानता हूं जहां यह मात्र 5.5 प्रतिशत है।

अनुसूचित जातियों की खुशहाली और समृद्धि के लिए प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा मान्यता प्राप्त अशासकीय महाविद्यालयों में एमबीबीएस, बीडीएस, इंजीनियरिंग, नर्सिंग, बीएड, पोलीटेक्निक एवं फार्मसी पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए अनिवार्य शुल्क दिया जाएगा, शहरों में अध्ययन हेतु प्रतिभावान विद्यार्थियों द्वारा रहने के लिए किराये पर लिए गए आवास के किराये की राशि का भुगतान सरकार द्वारा किया जाएगा, गरीब विद्यार्थियों के लिए पोस्ट मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति के लिए आय-सीमा को बढ़ाकर 2 लाख से 3 लाख रूपए किया जाएगा, अनुसूचित जाति संवर्ग के विद्यार्थियों को उच्च शिक्षा के लिए विदेशों में अध्ययन करने वाले चयनित विद्यार्थियों को छात्रवृत्ति प्रदान की जाएगी, अनुसूचित जाति बस्ती विकास योजना के अंतर्गत मजरे-टोलों के विद्युतीकरण के लिए अतिरिक्त बजट आबंटित किया गया है। अनुसूचित जाति के कृषकों के कुओं तक विद्युत लाइन का विस्तार कर पम्पों के ऊर्जाकरण की अभियोजना प्रदेश में लागू है जिसे राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग ने भी सराहा है।

आदिवासी विकासखंडों में वर्ष 2003 में सिर्फ 2 कन्या शिक्षा परिसर थे जो अब 22 हैं। आजादी के बाद से वर्ष 2002-03 तक 12643 प्राथमिक शालाएं थीं जो अब वर्ष 2013-14 में 35771 हो गई हैं। आजादी के बाद से 2002-03 तक 4369 माध्यमिक शालाएं थीं जो अब बढ़कर 10815 हो गई हैं। आजादी के बाद से 2002-03 तक 510 हाईस्कूल थे जो अब बढ़कर 1107 हो गए हैं। आदर्श उच्चतर माध्यमिक विद्यालय आजादी के 55 साल बाद 2002-03 तक भी मात्र 8 थे जो अब बढ़कर 78 हो गए हैं। आदर्श एकलव्य विद्यालय तो थे ही नहीं, हमारे समय में 20 स्थापित हुए। आजादी के बाद से वर्ष 2002-03 तक प्री-मैट्रिक छात्रावासों की सीटें 34274 थीं जो

2013-14 तक बढ़कर 68507 हो गई हैं। आश्रम शालाओं में 2002-03 तक 28630 सीटें थीं जो अब बढ़कर 61270 हो गई हैं।

वर्ष 2002-03 में कक्षा-3 से कक्षा-5वीं की कुल 3.30 लाख जनजाति छात्राओं को छात्रवृत्ति बांटी जा रही थी। आज हम 13.27 लाख छात्राओं को यह लाभ पहुंचा रहे हैं। कक्षा-6वीं से 10वीं तक के 4.66 लाख विद्यार्थियों को 2002-03 में छात्रवृत्ति दी जा रही थी, हमने 13.13 लाख विद्यार्थियों को यह लाभ पहुंचाया। बात सिर्फ संख्या की नहीं है छात्रवृत्ति की राशि की भी है। योजना शुरू होने के बाद कक्षा-9वीं से 10वीं तक के विद्यार्थियों को छात्रवृत्ति के दरें पहले-पहल हमने ही बढ़ाई और दो-गुनी कर दी। हम उन पहले राज्यों में थे जिसने शिष्यवृत्ति की दरों को थोक उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक से जोड़ा। इसीलिए जहां छात्रावासी छात्रों को 250/- रुपए की शिष्यवृत्ति देते थे, हम 788/- रुपए प्रतिमाह की दे रहे हैं। छात्राओं को 260/- रुपए प्रतिमाह शिष्यवृत्ति देते थे, हम 815/- रुपए प्रतिमाह दे रहे हैं।

आदिवासियों के मजरे टोलों के विद्युतीकरण पर वर्ष 2002-03 में मात्र 10 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान किया गया था जबकि हमने इस वर्ष 140 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान किया है। हमने टंटया भील स्वरोजगार योजना प्रारंभ की है, उसमें 30 प्रतिशत अनुदान अधिकतम रुपए 3 लाख तथा 5 प्रतिशत ब्याज अनुदान अधिकतम रुपए 2000 देने का प्रावधान किया है। आज हमारे आदिवासी बच्चे अखिल भारतीय सेवाओं के लिए दिल्ली की प्रतिष्ठित संस्थाओं में कोचिंग की सुविधा प्राप्त करते हैं। वनाधिकार अधिनियम में हमने 1 लाख 66 हजार 496 वनवासी परिवारों को अधिकार पत्र दिए हैं और उनमें से 100696 पत्र धारकों को क्रेडिट सुविधा प्रदान कर 71.56 करोड़ की ऋण सुविधा दी है। 17601 वनाधिकार पत्र धारकों को 17601 कपिलधारा कूल दिए गए हैं। 23924 धारकों को भूमि समतलीकरण का कार्य करवाने की सुविधा दी गई है। और 52041 वनाधिकार पत्र धारकों को आवास स्वीकृत करने की कार्यवाही की गई है। हमने बैगा, भारिया तथा सहरिया विकास प्राधिकरणों की स्थापना की है। हमने कोल विकास अभिकरण की स्थापना की है। हाल ही में राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने देश के अनूठे जनजातीय संग्रहालय का उदघाटन किया है। हम अकेले राज्य हैं जो जनजातीय संस्कृति के प्रचार-प्रसार हेतु अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फिल्म फेस्टिवल आयोजित करते हैं। सेसईपुरा, चिचोली, चाड़ा, भावरा तथा खालवा में हमने जनजातीय सामुदायिक रेडियो केन्द्र खोले। जनजातीय बोलियों के शब्दकोश तैयार कराए हैं तथा वनाधिकार अधिनियम और पेसा एक्ट का भीली, गोड़ी तथा कोरकू भाषा में अनुवाद कर उन्हें वितरित कराया है।

मेरा विश्वास है कि विकास ही कानून और व्यवस्था, अंतर्सांप्रदायिक रिश्तेदारी और अंतर्जातीय सौहार्द का अंतिम निर्धारक है। इन ज्वलंत मुद्दों को मात्र पुलिसिंग के जरिए हल नहीं किया जा सकता है। उसके लिए हमें संसाधनों और अवसरों के असमान वितरण की हमारी व्यवस्थागत कमजोरियों को दूर करना ही होगा। धन्यवाद।

जय हिन्द

**SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF MAHARASHTRA**

Honourable Prime Minister, Union Home Minister, Chief Ministers, Lt. Governors, Administrators of Union Territories, Esteemed members of NIC and Senior Officers from the Central Government and State Governments,

1. I am thankful to the Government of India for convening the Meeting of the National Integration Council to discuss issues relating to communal harmony, safety and security of women, crime against socially disadvantaged groups and their mainstreaming in the development process.
2. The communal situation in our country has remained volatile and we live under constant apprehension as minor incidents often take ugly turn and deteriorate into a serious communal riot.
3. It is important to realise that most of the communal tensions are deliberately aggravated by some rabid elements who have their own personal and political agenda. It is, therefore, imperative that all such situations which have slightest of potential of turning themselves into a communal riot should be dealt with proactively.
4. As the genesis of communalism is rooted under mutual distrust, we need to encourage the study of religions, traditions and sensitivities of different sects and communities especially among the youth. Handling a communal law and order situation requires a different and proactive approach with separate standard operating procedure. Such SOP should inter alia include (i) Civic engagement and Proactive Community Policing Schemes, (ii) Picking up of Early Warning Signals, (iii) Action to be initiated on picking up a warning of likely trouble, and (iv) Correct and professional behaviour by police officers and men. In Maharashtra we have developed such SOP.
5. Earlier this year communal riots broke out in the city of Dhule in Maharashtra, claiming five lives and injuring several others. In a separate law and order incident last year, violence erupted in Mumbai during a protest rally in which two lives were lost.
6. A careful examination of these two incidents revealed trust deficit leading to feeling of insecurity. Messages exchanged through social media network, in an irresponsible manner further vitiates the already surcharged communal situation. A large number of SMS and MMS are circulated to aggravate misplaced passions. In fact these MMS have become a substitute for the provocative speeches of fundamentalists.
7. The challenge posed by the misuse of cyber space and mobile telephony has to be carefully addressed without impinging on one's freedom of expression. There should be a system in

place to report instantaneously as and when the hate propaganda over the electronic or telephonic media begins. While there is a procedure in place to block social networking sites, it would require some innovations and coordination with Service Providers to identify and block circulation of provocative messages over mobile phones, to check hate propaganda. As part of this strategy, it is suggested that we should (a) Set up a Social Media Lab under the State Intelligence Department to monitor all “posts” likely to endanger Communal Harmony, (b) Issue immediate Cyber alerts to jurisdictional Police to take preventive steps and (c) Set up a mechanism to mobilise NGOs, Religious Leaders, Eminent Citizens, etc., who could immediately respond to counter the provocative posts.

8. So far our confident building measures have been restricted to communication with the communities prior to religious festivals or to restore peace after the incident of communal violence. However, with the fundamental forces trying to polarise the society, it is important to engage with them on regular basis through an institutional arrangement. In most of the police stations in Maharashtra, there is a regular contact programme with the minority community through meetings of Peace Committee, Mohalla Committee, etc but these institutions need to be strengthened.
9. The most disturbing aspect of the recent communal riots in Muzaffarnagar has been its spread to the rural areas. It is a matter of common knowledge that while it is easier to control communal situation in the cities and towns, it is altogether a different situation when riots start taking place in villages; it becomes very difficult to control riots and rebuilding the fabric of communal harmony at village level takes a much longer time. To foster communal harmony it is most essential to focus on inclusive growth and to obtain justice and equality for all.
10. To give impetus to the development of the Minorities a separate administrative department has been created by the Government of Maharashtra. This department has implemented several schemes to draw the Minorities into the main stream. Recently, the department has launched many new initiatives such as infrastructure improvement in minority dominated village and areas in cities, special shifts in ITIs for skill development of students of Minority community and Madarsa modernisation. Since the inception of the department, a steadily increasing budgetary provision to implement developmental and welfare schemes for Minorities has been made. This year the budgetary provision is to the tune of Rs. 362 cr.
11. A few months ago a gruesome incident of rape in a running bus jolted the conscience of the country. The nation was appalled at this dastardly act. Last month an incident of rape took place in Mumbai where the criminals took advantage of a deserted mill compound to commit the crime. These incidents necessitate efforts for bringing change in the social values and attitudes to protect and enable the victim to cope with the tragedy. I am sure, once all cases of sexual assault including eve-teasing start getting reported without exception, the crime

against women will come down as more and more offenders will be brought to justice. It is also high time to revisit the provision of Juvenile Justice Act, regarding the age of the Juvenile.

- 12.** The need to have Fast Track Courts for victims of sexual offences cannot be over emphasized. In Maharashtra 13 Special Courts dealing with cases involving atrocities on women have been made functional. Bombay High Court has already given concurrence for establishment of 14 additional Special Courts for speedy disposal of such cases. It has been decided that cases of sexual offences against women, as far as practical, should be handled by the Courts presided over by the Lady Judicial Officer, having all women staff. In fact, Women's Courts are already established in Mumbai and other places in Maharashtra. Apart from this, the State Government has established 25 fast-track Courts across the State for speedy trial of cases related to crime against women.
- 13.** In all Districts and Police Commissionerates of Maharashtra, Mahila Suraksha Samitees have been established for providing legal assistance to women in crisis and also for timely police intervention. These Committees include Lady Doctors, Lady Advocates, Lady Professors and Social workers, etc. In my State, 90 Special Counselling Centres are presently functioning at the Police Stations, to coordinate with the Women and Child Welfare Department to assist women involved in family disputes. To prevent immoral trafficking of women and children, 330 Help Centres have been established. The District Vigilance Cells, presided over by District Collectors, have been formed across Maharashtra for taking steps to prevent dowry related crimes.
- 14.** The State Government of Maharashtra has decided to launch from 1st January, 2014 a new scheme called Sukanya Yojana for holistic development of girl child in the state. The purpose of this scheme is to improve the educational standard and health of girl child; making financial provision for the future of the girl child and to prohibit child marriage and female foeticide. Under this scheme, within the 1st year of birth of every girl child falling below poverty line, an amount of Rs. 21,200/- will be invested in the Life Insurance Corporation of India. At the end of 18 years, this Girl Child would be entitled to get a sum of Rs. 100,000/- if she is unmarried and matriculate. The orphan girls in Child Care Institutions, adopted girls within the age of 0 to 6 years and twins girls will also be covered under this scheme. Aam Admi Vima Yojana and Shiksha Sahyog Yojana will also add on to the benefits of the above scheme. This scheme is applicable upto 2 children in a family. The father of the girl child should be original a resident of Maharashtra and at the entry of the second girl child in the scheme, one of the parents should have undergone the family planning surgery.
- 15.** From 2nd October this year, the Government of Maharashtra has decided to launch a new scheme called Manodhairya Yojana for providing financial assistance and rehabilitation of women and child victims of sexual assault and acid attack.

16. At the State Level, Maharashtra Police has established a Cell for prevention of atrocities on women. At District Level, 33 Social Security Cells are functioning for investigation of cases relating to crime against women. At Police Station Level women Helpdesks are established to handle cases relating to crime against women. There are 975 such Desks established till date. The aim of the Government of Maharashtra is to make the Maharashtra Police more accessible, assuring and professional.
17. In the medical field also, the manuals have been modified to alter the procedure of examination of victims of sexual offences so as to be more sensitive towards the dignity of the victim without compromising on the collection of evidence. All hospitals whether private or public have been directed to provide immediate medical treatment free of cost to the victims of acid attacks and rape.
18. The State of Maharashtra is the land of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. It has always been in the forefront of eradicating discrimination to provide the rightful place to the Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
19. Maharashtra is one of the few States to make special provision in the State budget for Special Component Plan for scheduled castes. More than 10.2% of the total State and district plans is earmarked for the educational, social and economic development of schedule castes. An amount of Rs. 739 Crores for rural area and Rs. 493 Crores for urban area is earmarked for the development of residential colonies of backward class communities. This amount is spent on providing water supply, approach road, electrification, drainage system, etc.
20. We are also giving 50 scholarships per year to scheduled caste students for foreign studies and spending more than 21 cores on this project annually. Government of Maharashtra is also giving incentive subsidy to the tune of Rs. 50,000/- for inter-caste marriage. I am also happy to inform that, Government of Maharashtra has sanctioned 6 Exclusive Special Courts to deal with cases of atrocities on Schedule Castes and Neo-Buddhists and has made provision of more than 2.5 crores for the functioning of these Courts.
21. In the end, I would like to submit that National Integration is a process of mainstreaming vulnerable groups such as minorities, women and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. These groups will have to be assured and re-assured about the resolve of the Government through positive interventions in the social, educational and economic fields.
22. The menace of communal riots, crime against women and caste conflict will have to be tackled using a multipronged strategy and cannot be tackled merely as problems of law and order or Crime. The Criminal Justice System needs to be strengthened to deliver speedy justice to victims of communal or caste conflict and crime against women.

Jai Hind

**DR. MUKUL SANGMA
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF MEGHALAYA**

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Leaders of Opposition from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, my esteemed colleagues from other States, leaders of national political parties, leaders of regional political parties, representatives of business, eminent public figures, distinguished women's representatives, official from the Central and State Governments and friends;

At the very outset, I would like to congratulate the Hon'ble Prime Minister for having convened this important meeting of the National Integration Council at the most appropriate time. We are meeting at a time when the country is going through a critical phase of development, transformation and resurgence, and at the same time, anti-national and divisive tendencies also appear to be working overtime in many parts of the country to sabotage our march towards social and economic transformation.

I must join the rest of the country in condemning the recent incidents of communal clashes perpetrated by some anti-national elements in some parts of the country. No words are strong enough to condemn such acts of violence where innocent civilians are targeted. These pose a serious threat to our national integrity, and need to be countered with complete solidarity and determination. Let us all resolve today that in this battle we are completely united and we will neither try to make political capital out of it nor allow complacency to set in. Fear, suspicion and hatred are the fuel which feed the flames of communal disharmony and conflict. We must not allow these attempts of misguided groups to provide that fuel.

There can be no question mark over the need to maintain communal harmony at all costs. True, some divisive factors may be inherent in the history, geography and culture of our country, but there are also forces which accentuate these factors. Casteism, regionalism, linguistic diversities, gender inequality, economic disparities (both inter-regional and inter-personal), terrorism etc. are the forces and factors that pose a serious challenge to our nation today. Linguistic, ethnic and religious diversities have a tendency to generate tension and conflict amongst different communities. The need of the hour is to bury these differences and to remember that we are first and foremost Indians. We must remember the words of Mahatma Gandhi that **"I am an Indian not because I am a Hindu or a Muslim or a Sikh or a Christian or a Parsi or a Jew or because I believe in a particular religion. I am an Indian because if I am not, who am I?"**

Role of media in fostering communal harmony cannot be over emphasized. Publication of sensational news, which could heighten tension, should be avoided. It is the duty of the media to neutralize the impact of any disinformation campaign initiated by mischievous elements. It is important that media acts in a responsible manner and with restraint in the interest of peace and harmony so as to prevent backlashes in a communal conflict.

Another important player has emerged today in the form of social networking media. This has provided a useful platform for social interaction and exchange of ideas and information across borders. This has also enabled access to information on 'real time' basis, irrespective of geographical locations or distances involved. The utility and popularity of his platform is fully acknowledged. However, there are serious risks and threats involved if misuse of this domain by unscrupulous elements is left completely unregulated. There have been instances when this medium was used by mischievous groups and elements to spread rumours, hatred, defamatory content, fear, emotional abuse, and cause social and communal tensions.

In all cases of communal riots, justice needs to be delivered fast and punishment imposed firmly, for it to have a deterrent effect. Unfortunately, this has not been the case so far. In the name of mob violence, often no action gets taken against the perpetrators of violence and mayhem in such riots. This further emboldens such elements and encourages them to repeat it more often. It needs to be recognized that such conflicts have a lasting impact on the social fabric of communities. It takes a long time to heal the wounds once inflicted. Therefore, the existing laws need to be reviewed and special provisions need to be incorporated to deal with communal and ethnic conflicts. It should be made absolutely clear that there shall be zero tolerance for ethnic and communal strife and that the response from the law enforcement arms of the government shall be fast and furious.

Of critical essence is the time taken to respond to the outbreak of a communal conflict. Often there is delay in this, especially when forces have to be mobilized from outside the State. The process of obtaining permissions from the Central Government for deployment of CAPF or army is cumbersome and time consuming, when a requisition is made by the State authorities. At times, this leads to situation on the ground going out of hand. This also needs to be reviewed and the response systems at all levels need to be made more efficient and expeditious. The regional or zonal heads of Central forces should be authorised to decide and respond to the requisitions received from local or State authorities for additional forces to deal with communal or ethnic conflict situations.

We must work tirelessly and promote understanding and fellowship amongst all religious groups, communities, ethnic groups, cultures, languages and traditions of our great country. The true strength of our country lies in its diversity and this special feature finds replication in almost all States of the country, including my State. In spite of the State's religious, cultural and ethnic plurality, there is an atmosphere of peaceful co-existence in Meghalaya. We have realized that the key to the State's strength and development lies in maintaining communal peace and harmony.

Lately, there has been a spate of demands for creation of separate States in the country, which have also led to agitations and violent demonstrations. Often, these demands are driven by ethnic considerations. This also creates a sense of uncertainty and vitiates the atmosphere of harmony and goodwill. In build upto general elections, there would be a temptation to make

political mileage out of it. It should be the responsibility of all mainstream political parties in the country to set an example and not only resist this tendency but also discourage other local level parties from resorting to such practices.

In our State also, there is a demand for a separate State for the Garos in the Garo Hills region of Meghalaya. This is not a recent phenomenon and has, in fact, often been incorporated into the ostensible agenda of various insurgent groups, past and present. The Government has been adopting all democratic means to deal with the issue of the demand for a separate State as well as various other issues linked with the ongoing insurgency in the Garo Hills. We have not allowed the law and order situation to deteriorate and it is our endeavour and firm commitment that people of all communities should be able to live in an atmosphere of security, communal amity and brotherhood in the State.

The State today also faces the issue relating to the demand for implementation of Inner Line Permit (ILP). The pro ILP groups have indulged in a series of agitational programmes but we have remained firm in our approach to deal with the situation. We are maintaining law and order with firm hands and the stand of the State Government was made amply known to the people through the media. This has inspired an atmosphere of security for all people to live and be part of the great national tradition of one single nation. The State Government is committed to maintain its social and political integrity at all costs and we are very clear in our minds that this can be achieved by securing peace and tranquillity in all the 11 districts of the State. For this, we consider that law enforcement should be proactive, firm and just. Communities must come and work together in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence to usher in growth and development. This was recently seen in the Garo Hills region when we had a series of incidents in June, 2013, especially in the borderland with Assam, when communal harmony came under tremendous strain due to certain unfortunate developments leading to mass exodus of labourers and working community from Garo Hills to Assam. Despite efforts by vested interests to sow seeds of discontent between two major communities, relentless initiatives at the community and political levels and also between the administrations of the two States ensured that the situation never went out of control and was contained in an effective manner leading to restoration of peace and harmony within a very short time-span.

The Government under the aegis of the State Security Commission (SSC) has given impetus and support to setting up of Citizens' Committees in all the police stations. The officers in-charge of the police stations hold outreach programmes to bring members of all communities together and discuss ways and means to foster inter-community harmony. This measure has been rewarded with significant success.

The State law enforcement agencies do not resort to profiling of crime and criminals based on community, caste and religion. The intelligence collection is professionally done and means and measures are deployed to deal with any kind of situation effectively. We have been successful in averting major strikes by the insurgent groups of the State on the basis of advance intelligence

collection, analysis and dissemination. A major technological intervention that the State is about to embark upon will add one more meaningful dimension to securing safety in public places. We will soon be taking up a pilot project in Tura and Shillong to bind the city in a network of CCTV cameras located at key strategic places to step up vigilance on antisocial elements and activities.

An edifying landmark of integration of communities and people in the State is the fact that all religious festivals are observed peacefully, amid gaiety and merriment amongst all sections of the populace. The amity and goodwill has been displayed excellently by the people of Meghalaya in the fields of art and culture, social work and through outstanding public work. Today, the Shillong Chamber Choir has sung songs in Hindi all over the world, though all members of the choir are indigenous people with little background of speaking the national language.

We firmly believe that there should be more cultural exchanges and regular intercourse between the people of our State and those from the rest of our country. Such cultural exchanges will foster and nurture emotional integration of India across the States. Emotional integration is a key step towards promoting long lasting national integration. Meghalaya is geographically located at the far end of Eastern India. Such geographical distance should not stand in our way to have meaningful dialogue with one another in understanding and appreciating national goal of solidarity and brotherhood.

Safety and security of women and children

We have been able to provide a safe and secure environment for the women and children and their growth and development in all spheres of life. We are increasing the presence of women police personnel in the force. We are aware of the fact that women and children need special protection and care not only from the point of view of social security but also from crime. Their security is paramount in the agenda of the State Government and its functionaries.

There are women police stations in all the 7 (seven) old District headquarters and we are examining the requirement for setting up of more women police stations in the rest of the Districts. 4(four) Anti-Human Trafficking units have been commissioned, out of which 2 (two) are fully functional, while the other 2(two) are currently functioning from police stations. We are also setting up Anti-Human Trafficking units in the remaining 7(seven) Districts. We look forward to support from Government of India in setting up more Anti-Human Trafficking and Child-Lines units in the State. Training to police officers on the software called 'Track the Child Online' is also being provided. Our law enforcing agency is also working with NGOs of good repute in the field of human trafficking and crime against women and children. We are also examining the possibility of creating Special Cells under the Social Welfare Department for a comprehensive package relating to rights of women and children. The Cell will have multi-sectoral synergetic approach in ensuring that the rights of women and children are adequately protected.

A policy of compensation has been put in place for women victims of such crimes. Under the provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, we have created mechanisms such as Protection Officers who are found to be very helpful to women in distressful situation of domestic violence.

We have, in true spirit, enforced the progressive legislation called the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2013 and the Criminal Amendment Act, 2013. The Government has notified special courts for trial of cases under this Act. A special in-service training programme to sensitize the police officers and men on the various provisions of POCSO, 2012 as well on various social legislations, which aim at providing security and safety to women and children, has been drawn up. Further, Special Juvenile Police Officers have been appointed by the District Superintendents of Police to take special care of crime against children.

Our law enforcement agencies could work more effectively if the various service providers of wireless telephony and internet connectivity improve their quality of service. There are areas where connectivity imposes severe strains and has stood in the way of execution of important projects such as the CCTNS.

Measures to tackle crimes against SCs/STs.

Meghalaya has a pre-dominantly Scheduled Tribe population and a miniscule Schedule Caste population. There have not been any major incidents of inter-caste tension. Nevertheless, the Government has created a Cell in the Police Headquarters under a DIG level officer to monitor measures to tackle crimes against the members of STs/SCs. Needless to say, it is the priority of the State Government to ensure that peace and security is assured to all sections of the society irrespective of caste, creed or gender.

Above all, as a responsible Government, we are committed to put in place plans and programmes which are informed by our earnest intent to foster a feeling of co-operation and a sense of mutual oneness amongst different sections of people to generate a conscious awareness of national unity, identity and integrity. We will continue to strive towards achieving complete national integration through meaningful interventions with the full involvement of the communities by eliminating parochial loyalties and inculcating a strong sense of understanding that we are INDIANS FIRST and INDIANS LAST.

Jai Hind

**SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF ODISHA**

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Home Minister and other Union Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Hon'ble members of the National Integration Council and friends.

1. It is indeed appropriate that the meeting of the National Integration Council has been convened at a time when some parts of the country have been affected by serious communal incidents. It is a matter of concern that communalism continues to raise its ugly head periodically straining the social fabric of the country. Let us all pledge ourselves to unite for the sake of peace and communal harmony, in this forum and seriously debate on how to contain this problem.
2. We are proud of our common cultural heritage and the unity in diversity of our multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and multi-religious society. Communalism, casteism, regionalism, linguism and all forms of fundamentalism are some of the divisive forces in our country which pose a threat to the idea of common citizenship and the constitutional ideals of secularism, justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. Mutual respect and trust amongst different communities with various faiths, beliefs, language, culture etc. Constitute the foundation of communal harmony. Historically, Odisha and its people have believed in secularism, tolerance and peaceful coexistence as a way of life.
3. Our Government attaches the highest priority to maintenance of communal peace and amity. The State has been relatively free from any form of communal discord. The Government has prescribed a manual containing elaborate instructions to prevent and control communal disturbances, to promote communal harmony and to take measures for proper rehabilitation of victims. The revised guidelines on communal harmony issued by Government of India in 2008 are being strictly implemented for ensuring peace and harmony in the State. Incidents having communal overtones are being dealt with firmly at the initial stage itself so that they do not escalate into communal and sectarian violence. A State Level Co-ordination Committee on communal harmony has been set up. Co-ordination Committees and Peace Committees are also in place at the District level and Block level. These provide the platform for building trust and promoting harmony among all communities in order to prevent any communal tension, for finding amicable solutions and for applying the healing touch in the event of any communal tension or incident.
4. Measures for promoting communal harmony should be undertaken with the active role of different communities. All public institutions, especially educational institutions, NGOs and civil society groups should serve as agencies to extend the massage of communal harmony, for example, by encouraging joint celebration of festivals among different

communities. Further, the text books that are prescribed for schools should include lesson which emphasize the contributions made by all religious communities in the evolution of Indian Culture. Confidence building measures through Peace Committees and other State and community initiatives should be undertaken on a sustained basis to bridge the trust deficit among different communities.

5. In the current scenario, mobile messaging, internet and social networking has become an integral part of day to day life especially for the younger generation. Sensitive messages uploaded on mobile phones, the internet and social networking sites spread like wildfire provoking conflagration. At present there is no mechanism to have surveillance over these networking domains. An oversight mechanism to prevent and control such mediums in critical situations is the need of the hour. Government of India should take appropriate initiatives in this regard without affecting the general principles of freedom of speech and expression.
6. The media can play a constructive role in preventing and controlling communal and sectarian violence by suitably modulating the circulation of news and views which may tend to promote communal prejudice and hatred. The media may also evolve their own code of ethics as an internal mechanism to exercise self enforced restraint while covering and reporting incidents relating to communal violence.
7. As regards the role of the Central Government in maintaining communal peace, the Centre should promptly provide armed forces on receipt of request from the concerned states along with other logistics and developmental support to effectively control major communal tension. This assistance should be based on an objective appreciation of ground realities and should not be influenced by political considerations.
8. There are few fissiparous tendencies in the country which have been fuelling the divisive forces. Among these, most prominent are the religious divide, regional divide, ethnic divide, and the socio-economic divide. The regional and ethnic divide is manifested by the growing regionalism and parochialism in some parts of the country. This kind of intolerance is a great challenge to national integration. Moreover, it has a cascading effect in other parts of the country. All out efforts should be directed to curb the growth of regionalism and parochialism in the country.
9. The economic divide emanating from the asymmetric growth of certain regions and populations in the recent era of liberalization, has brought to manifest some of the latent grievances. Focus should be on inclusive growth of all regions and all individuals of the country. Regional imbalance in the development of the country should be consciously rectified.
10. Infrastructure development is the key to growth. The backward areas of the country should be progressively developed. This will motivate the deprived population of the backward

areas to join the main stream and participate in the growth of the country. For instance improvement of railway and road connectivity in Odisha has been our long standing demand. This has missed the attention of the Central Government. Faster infrastructure development in these areas is important to check the growth of left wing extremism and to prevent the induction of the innocent tribals into their fold.

- 11.** The best of the forest resources and the mineral resources of the country are concentrated in the eastern part of the country. Successful utilization of these resources will drive the country forward. Odisha is following a principle of peaceful industrialization. The relative backwardness of our tribal areas is causing a sense of deprivation and alienation in the minds of local inhabitants. This is because not even a small portion of the profit generated by the industrial and mining activities is being ploughed back for the development of the area. The mining companies are making super normal profits from these areas. I had suggested to introduce a mineral resource rent tax to be charged at 50 percent of the surplus rent. The additional money will enable the state to invest in infrastructure and job creation which would directly benefit the tribal community in the mining affected areas. This will be a win-win situation for the country and ensure the inclusive growth of the tribal community. I had spoken about the same thing in the last NIC and NDC meetings and once again urge upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister to take expeditious steps for the implementation of my suggestions.
- 12.** Our Government has been repeatedly impressing the Government of India for grant of special category status to Odisha. It is essential for balanced development and to contain Left Wing Extremism. I once again urge upon Government of India to accede to this demand for fulfilment of the aspirations of the people of Odisha.
- 13.** The State Government is giving utmost priority on the issue of safety and security of women by taking several preventive measures. Women Cells have been constituted in all the District Police Offices headed by an Inspector of Police. District Protection officer has been attached to the district women cell. 529 Mahila and Sishu Desks are functioning in Police Stations of the State. To strengthen the Mahila & Sishu desk 537 posts of Sub-Inspectors have been created. In addition to it, 12 Integrated Anti-Human trafficking Units are functioning in different parts of the State. Instructions have been issued for prompt investigation of the cases against women and submission of charge sheet within 60 days. Compendium on Crime Against Women has been prepared and circulated to all police officers. For speedy and effective trial, cadre of Public Prosecutors is being strengthened.
- 14.** In order to empower the women and build self-confidence and for their self-protection, self-defence martial arts training is being imparted to girl students in educational institutions. For speedy trial of cases of crime against women fast track courts have been established in all the districts of Odisha. In order to have a deterrent effect, in sensitive cases, accused are

being arrested promptly and charge sheets being submitted within a short span of time to facilitate speedy trial. Taking into account the gravity of the criminal case, special public prosecutors are also being engaged.

- 15.** Our Government is committed to provide a strong sense of security amongst the minority and other deprived groups. It has not only implemented several preventive measures on the communal front but also taken prompt steps for investigation of cases relating to the Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes. All the District and Sessions Judge Courts have been declared as special courts for trial of the offences under ST & SC Prevention of Atrocities Act. Besides, three exclusive special courts have been notified for trial of the offences under the ST & SC Prevention of Atrocities (PoA) Act.
- 16.** Our Government has undertaken several new initiatives in the areas of imparting quality education, skill development, livelihood enhancement, infrastructure development, improving rural connectivity and capacity building for inclusive growth of ST & SC community. Our focus is on area specific livelihood programmes to help the inhabitants to discover new efficiency in capacity building and income augmentation. With a view to streamlining and ensuring timely delivery of scholarships my Government has introduced on-line post matric scholarship “PRERANA” which enables direct crediting of amount to the accounts of the students. These initiatives will positively impact the progress, prosperity and inclusive growth of ST & SC community.
- 17.** The State is aggressively implementing the Forest Rights Act, through which 3,15,480 individual rights involving 5,02,792 acres of forest land have already been settled in favour of tribals and other traditional forest dwellers. In order to ensure livelihood support, land based interventions like cultivation of rubber, coffee, lac, turmeric, maize, etc. And non-land based programmes like collection, processing and marketing of minor forest produce and integrated livestock development programme in 770 centres have been taken up. The Ministry of Rural Development has already sanctioned about 1 lakh IAY (FRA) houses during the year 2011-2012 for the FRA individual title holders. Recently, I have written a letter to the Government of India requesting for sanction of another 1 lakh IAY (FRA) houses for distribution amongst Forest Right Title holders, which may be quickly agreed to.
- 18.** On the implementation of MGNREGS, I may point out that in my State, payment of wages under MGNREGS is made either through the banks or through the post offices. Large extents of our tribal areas are not served by the banking sector and they are excluded from the banking system. As a result, the benefits of Government schemes, such as, MGNREGS, pensions, etc. Do not flow to these areas on time. In spite of repeated requests by the State Government, the public sector banks have not taken steps to serve these areas. I would request the Ministry of Finance to evolve a policy whereby every Gram Panchayat in the

Scheduled Areas is covered by at least one brick and mortar bank branch of a scheduled commercial bank. In order to incentivize and encourage banks to open branches in unserved Gram Panchayats, Government had decided to provide space in Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Seva Kendras constructed at Gram Panchayat and Block level free of rent for five years.

19. In order to provide free legal services to the members of ST & SC communities, steps have been taken for opening of legal aid cells at District level, Sub-divisional level and at the Block level. To facilitate the trial of cases, the daily maintenance expenses for the witnesses has been enhanced to Rs. 200 per day and the diet expenses for them have been enhanced to Rs. 100 per day. This will go a long way to bring justice to the victims.
20. The overall law and order situation in Odisha is by and large peaceful. Communal amity has been maintained in the State. Major fairs and festivals of different communities are being observed peacefully.
21. Our State Government is committed to promote these values through appropriate policy measures and developmental interventions. My Government also looks forward to the wider civil society to be equal stake holder and partner in the common endeavour of maintaining communal harmony, social cohesion and unity and integrity of the nation.
22. It is my firm belief that the values of secularism and social justice should guide all public policies. My Government is committed to promote and support all policies aimed at building social cohesion and maintaining communal harmony and amity. Empowerment of women and emancipation of weaker sections of society is a precursor to the growth of the country. A combined effort should be taken to promote such policies to achieve the goal.

Jai Hind

SARDAR BIKRAM SINGH MAJITHIA
Revenue & Rehabilitation, Information &
Public Relations, NRIs Affairs and
Non-Conventional Energy Minister, Punjab

Respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, Union Home Minister Shri Shushil Kumar Shinde Ji, esteemed Members of the National Integration Council, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first of all thank you for giving this opportunity to express the views of the Government of the Punjab State on the current communal situation in the country.

But before I go any further, let me beg your indulgence right at the start to deviate from the formal agenda for a while.

I find it hard to speak with a clear voice-so choked is my throat at the enormity of pain implicit in the subject I am about to touch.

As a member of young India, I find it so painful and embarrassing that the absence not only of adequate safety and security of our women-folk but also the extremely urgent need for a place of dignity and high respect for them still has to be brought before a forum of the nature and stature of National Integration Council. Respect and security for women has to be the very foundation on which any of claims to being considered a civilized society. Reports on atrocities, excesses and oppression and injustice must make our hearts bleed and our heads hang in shame. I will deal with this issue in full detail a little later also.

I come from a state which takes pride in being one of the few states – if not the only one-to have consistently remained an oasis of peace with not a single case of communal or caste mob violence. In this regard, the papers circulated as agenda for the National Integration Committee meeting given that about 20 states have been hit by communal violence in which hundreds of people have died and thousands were injured. Fortunately Punjab does not figure in the list of states hit by communal violence.

I stand here as a young and humble son of our great motherland and wish to speak my anguished heart out, and to share with you some of, most disturbing and humbling thoughts and sentiments that are hurting me and possibly millions of others in the country. I speak from the deepest recesses of my heart.

We are meeting today in the backdrop of the gruesome communal carnage in Muzzafarnagar. The tragedy has shocked the conscience of the nation and once again brought into sharp focus the frightening specter of divisive and explosive caste and communal strife which threatens to tear our country apart without the need of an external enemy.

As a result of such volcanic eruptions in our national body politic, our social and psychological fabric lies badly bruised and fractured.

Our wounds are self-inflicted, our methods to redress them self-defeating and our approach is looking dangerously like an insane death wish. Increasingly, we have come to resemble a country that seeks peace with its neighbours but is at war with itself.

And we who have assembled here have been assigned the task of saving India from Indians. But are we perceived to have the right credentials? It is sad that we are left to ponder this question at this critical hour.

I do not wish to mince words because the issue affects the future of our mother-land. There is a credible perception outside this hall - and may be, even within it - that the agenda for today's meeting goes beyond the need for restoration of peace and communal harmony and is targeted towards getting unethical political mileage out of the deeply human tragedy at Muzafarnagar. I am merely praying that I may be proved wrong.

In the given scenario, our first imperative is to prove our sincerity to ourselves. Our path lies through brutal honesty; our journey begins with a truly honest introspection, a searching of our souls. The devil hides somewhere rolled up within our souls; therefore, the first task almost certainly is to search our souls, with an eye which is totally unforgiving, thorough and honest.

And the time to do so is now - here, today, this moment. We have already reached a point where we do not have the luxury of time on our sides. There is not a day we can afford to waste; it is already past the dead-line. Even a minute late would be too late.

I come from a state which takes fierce pride in its heritage of patriotic struggles and sacrifices. I come from the land of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh, and every minute I spend alone, I find myself at the receiving end of his probing and questioning eye. "What have you done to the country we happily and proudly shed our blood for? What have you done to the freedom we handed down to you? Why do our dreams lie trampled beneath your feet-dreams of an India which will be an oasis of peace and communal harmony, free not only from the British but also from what they stood for: injustice, inequality, exploitation and discrimination? We fought for India as Indians-for the India of our dreams and the dreams of our parents. We wanted India to match the dreams of our yet unborn children, the dreams that would be at least century ahead. We fought for India as Indians, for Indians and sometimes even through Indians. Why do Indians now fight India in India, outside Indians, against India in the name of India? Why do we find no Indians in India-only Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Jews, Brahmins, Dalits, upper castes, lower castes etc.?"

I am perturbed by these questions because the state I come from is immensely proud also of its glorious patriotic and spiritual heritage. The Shaheed-e-Azam's questions disturb me because Punjabis never forgive themselves for any dereliction of their sacred duty towards their motherland.

Spreading the message of peace, communal harmony and human brotherhood as preached to us by the Great Gurus, prophets, saints and seers.

The Gurus taught us the priceless spiritual values of compassion and selfless love for mankind. We take pride in being the only people in the world who never pray for their own welfare or salvation. Our daily Ardas ends with the epic words that echo hymns for the welfare of very living human beings anywhere or of any religion or caste or creed or nationality in this world:’

“Nank Naam Chardi Kala,
Tere bhaane sarbat ka bhala.....
Manas ki jaat sabhe eke pehchanbo....”

Punjab had to bear the brunt of the holocaust in the aftermath of history’s biggest communal migration, which left over a million innocents dead and many times more displaced. But spiritual resilience, indomitable courage and untiring commitment to their state saw Punjabis not only fighting their way through this greatest tragedy in human history but to do so preserving their traditional brotherhood.

Not long thereafter, Punjabis had done what Punjabis do best: emerge as the saviours of the country they immensely love and take pride in. 1948,1962,1965 and 1971 saw Punjabis roll out like a pack of lions to defend the country against invading Pakistani and Chinese forces. The destiny of Bangla Desh was inked by Lt Gen JS Arora.

At the other end, Punjab’s famed farmers shrugged off daunting odds to single handedly steer the country out of the dark caverns of hunger and economic dependence on other countries. In the process, the patriotic people of Punjab deservedly came to be called the Sword-arm and the Granary of the nation.

Above all, we take pride in being the only people in the world who never pray for their own welfare, happiness, success or salvation.

Messiah of Peace and Communal Harmony: We are fortunate in Punjab to have as head of our government a statesman who is seen by millions and millions of people from every section, class and community in and outside the country as a “messiah of peace and communal harmony” - Sardar Parkash Singh Badal, also generally referred to as “saint statesman.” When communal flames and social strife were beginning to engulf Punjab in the wake of conspiracies by our hostile neighboring country in 1980’s and 90’s, Sardar Badal held aloft the torch of human brotherhood, turning peace and communal harmony from an item on our political manifesto into a creed, a religion, an article of inviolate faith.

I bring this up with a specific objective. We all know that peace is the first prerequisite for progress and prosperity. The country therefore can ill afford leaders who are not willing to stake all on the preservation of peace and communal harmony. The agenda for today’s meeting talks

about the need for Confidence Building Measures to instill a sense of security and re-assurance on to safeguard peace and protect their lives and property. For the people of Punjab, Sardar Badal is the single most powerful, credible and living and walking Confidence Building Measure, a role model and an ambassador of peace and communal harmony. His tenure as head of the government is a virtual living history of peace and communal harmony in Punjab after long years of bloodshed and hatred.

Traditionally and historically, Punjab has been home to astounding variety of cross-cultural pollination. Today, our population comprises 63% Sikhs, 34% Hindus, 2% Muslims, 1.2% Christians & 0.16% Jains. It has the highest per capita density of Scheduled Caste population (32%) in the country.

With Mr. Badal as CM, all these sections of society have lived together in an atmosphere of exemplary peace and brotherhood.

This is because every section feels that he has stake not only in the prosperous future of the state but even in Mr. Badal's government. For the first time in Punjab and the country, the government has accorded state recognition and honours to heroes and spiritual figures, prophets and saints belonging to every community or sub-communities. Their anniversaries are celebrated by the government as state level functions. And there are authentic welfare schemes for every section, class and community.

The divine heritage has also bestowed on us the honour and blessing of being one of the very few state - if not the only one-where no communal or caste riots have ever taken place after the post - Partition trauma of 1947.

A look at the latest report on communal violence in the country issued by the NIC for the year 2012-13 again filled me with legitimate pride. Though sadly the report paints a grim picture of communal relations and violence throughout the country with as many as 3956 communal clashes in 2012 - on an average nearly a dozen communal clashes everyday - and 912 up to August end in 2013 in other parts of the country, Punjab remained entirely peaceful throughout this period with not a single unpleasant incident anywhere - thanks to the blessings of the Almighty and also to the constant vigil and unswerving commitment of its people and government to peace and communal harmony.

As I said, this was despite challenges posed by a hostile neighbor sitting across 553 kilometers of Western border, conspiring and working actively to disturb peace in India's sensitive border state.

Only the other day, the state's ever vigilant police agencies busted a terrorist module who had been trained and sent to India with the deadly intent of killing prominent Hindu leaders and other public figures in Punjab. The diabolical conspiracy was targeted at turning Punjab into a communal cauldron and destabilizing the hard earned atmosphere of peace communal harmony not only in Punjab but also in the rest of the country.

I am extremely sorry to say that policy makers in New Delhi, who have the mandate to take steps to protect the country from internal and external threats to its security do not seem to appreciate the gravity of the challenges we in Punjab face. This amounts to really taking national security non-seriously. That is sad really because a disturbed border state is causality. Playing politics even with issues of grave national concern can be truly dangerous. But that precisely is the impression Punjabis get from the treatment they get from the Government of India at this time.

That is a tribute to Punjab's spiritual depth and traditional values, rooted deep in the mystical vision our great Gurus, saints and seers like Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Baba Farid Ji, Saain Bulle Shah, among others, that we read the lessons right, put our sufferings behind us and not only emerged stronger but made stellar contributions to the defense and prosperity of the country.

Looking at today's agenda items closely, it clearly focuses on measures to protect and promote communal harmony, harnessing, where necessary and possible, the latest scientific trends such as social media for creating an atmosphere which makes hatred, violence and strife irrelevant. That, as we all know, is easier said than done.

Poverty and Socio-Economic Injustice: One of the main factors behind disharmony and violence is injustice and discrimination based on social, caste or class distinctions. Centuries of exploitation, oppression and humiliation have inflicted deep material, emotional and psychological wounds, the scars of which run deep into their social and class psyche.

Vote Bank Politics: But exploiting these vulnerabilities for cheap political gains is even fraught with dangers more serious than we seem to realize. At the root practically of every social and communal conflict and violence lies ugly political opportunism which reveals its worst face through politics of vote banks. Simply put, this amounts to reducing human beings, especially the poor, the exploited and other vulnerable sections to mere pawns on the political chess-boards. Ad-hoc decisions, completely lacking vision and sagacity, turn intended beneficiaries into targeted guinea pigs..

If, for example, the policy of reservations for the SCs and STs had been implemented with honest intent, rather than as a tool of political exploitation and under-cover black-mail, then at least 66 years after independence, vast sections of Dalit population would not still be deprived of a status of dignified economic self-dependence. These policies are aimed in fact at keeping the poor sections poor and dependent on the goodwill of political masters for ever. Otherwise, the definition of Below Poverty Line would never be made so constricting and narrow that only the dead or the dying would meet the criterion.

This must be accompanied by a psychological offensive to spread greater awareness about the disgrace implicit in casteism. Exploitation of SCs/STs at the hands of the rich and so-called socially superior classes continues and the reports everyday of upper-classes perpetrating brutal violence against the SC/ST families.

Left unattended for any more time, this problem can assume the proportions of fatal class conflict, seriously endangering peace, law and order and communal harmony. No unjust system can ensure abiding peace.

Ideological Extremism: Rising socio-economic inequalities, poverty, illiteracy and the resultant unemployment have often been at the root of what is known as ideological extremism in the form of Naxal violence. More than one third of the total area of the country lies beyond the reach of law because of Naxal strong-holds. It feeds on poverty. Hordes of the unemployed being added to the ranks of disillusioned youth everyday have assumed an alarming magnitude. These youth are vulnerable to being fed with dangerous ideological doctrines. Of late, class violence has become so widespread in central, eastern and some southern states that it has begun to resemble a class war.

Inclusive Response Required: Unfortunately, our response to this has come in the form of thoughtless administrative oppression. That at best suppresses the symptoms of the disease without engaging the disease that these symptoms reveal. My Chief Minister has pleaded at several national forums for a such as this for a comprehensive socio-economic and psychological approach not only to fight but also to pre-empt the disease. Sadly, we continue to persist with our failed theories.

Religious Intolerance and Dis-crimination: But since religious belief also tend to contradict one another, the communal fuse is too short to allow complacency on social and communal stability. According to a rough estimate, religious divisions account for more than 2/3rd of total social violence in the country. As in class conflicts, communal tensions and strife too are often engineered by cynical political forces and elements, seriously endangering peace and stability.

Minority-Majority Syndrome: Communal question often converts into a dangerous majority-minority conflict. In a country which rightly takes pride in its cultural diversity but also a country where the contours of majority-minority divisions are sharply etched, there is an urgent need to be extra-careful about religious sensitivities on one hand and a perceived or real dangers of domination and absorption of minorities on the other. The need here is for governments to go the extra mile to prevent any perceived governmental or political interference in the religious affairs of any community, especially the minorities whose smaller numbers themselves induce fears and insecurities.

The Sikhs are a case in point. Governments, especially those belonging to a particular party, have shown crass insensitivity to Sikh religious sentiments. Attempts to undermine, sabotage or weaken the Sikhs supreme elected religious parliament, the SGPC are fraught with danger. Open incitements to some mischievous elements to set up a parallel Sikh religious body in our neighboring state were a classic case of political opportunism and mischief.

It is unbelievable that all this should have been allowed to happen even after the calamitous blunders of 1984, including the horrendous Operation Bluster and its tragic fall out six months

later. It is shocking our governments have still not learnt the right lessons from its disastrous policies and experiments on Punjab.

On the contrary, Government continues to rub salt in the wounds of the innocent and tragic victims. The outcry for justice still rings hollow in the corridors of power. Not a single guilty person has so far been punished. On the contrary, they are allowed to walk the citadels of powers wearing badges of authority.

Such brazen injustice breeds frustration and even violence. No civilized society can tolerate what the leaders of a certain party have been doing to the innocent victims of 1984 massacre.

Lopsided Growth, Imbalances and Dis- crimination: There is a growing feeling that states that do not count for much in political arithmetic get a raw deal. Punjab is an example here too. It has been subjected to political, geographical, religious and economic discrimination. The stubborn refusal to grant to us the industrial tax concessions given to our neighboring states is a case in point.

People living in the border areas, especially those close to the border continue to be victims of government's royal neglect. They are feeling left out of the national mainstream. This leads to feeling of sharp alienation which can be dangerous to the interests of national integration.

Suppression of the Federal Impulse: When India got freedom, it became a proud multi-cultural, multi-regional and multi-language nation, with units that had strong regional identities. It was a confluence of cultures and sub-cultures. To strengthen emotional integration among different groups, classes and regions in the country, it was thought necessary to help states, religions, linguistic groups, communities etc. to preserve and promote their unique identities. This could only be done through preserving a federal impulse in the Constitution.

Decentralize Planning Process: That spirit has been stifled by successive totalitarian governments at the centre which relied on their brute majority to crush diversity and deny even a minimum dose of economic autonomy to the states.

The planning process has been completely centralized through the creation of an extra-constitutional body like the Planning Commission.

Fiscal Autonomy To States: Punjab has always advocated the setting up of a genuinely federal structure in the country, with fiscal and administrative autonomy. We believe that strong states mean a strong India. Weakening our limbs is not the best way to strengthen our body.

Greater Share in Central Taxes: Plus, States are in the best position to understand and address the problems of their people. They must be allowed to feel that they have a strong stake in the progress of the country in the whole. This ensures even and balanced development in the country.

For this, formula for devolution of funds and sharing of central taxes must be drastically altered. States must get 50% share in these taxes.

Administrative Response: Along with politico-economic approach, there is an urgent need for a prompt and effective response to problems arising out of communal or caste disturbances. Having taken all possible measures at pre-empting or preventing fire, we still have to keep our fire-brigades in a state of full preparedness.

Police Modernisation: But there too, unfortunately, the approach of the Government of India remains lackadaisical. Take for example the issue of police modernization. In a country of 127 crore people, facing hostile borders, internal class strife (Naxal violence) almost of the intensity of a civil war in several states, threats of internal and external terrorist groups holding the most sophisticated weaponry, our total budget on modernizing our police is paltry. Out of this, the share of the border state of Punjab, sitting in close proximity to a hostile neighbor on the one hand and a disturbed J and K on the other, is only Rs. 30 crore. In an age when of high-tech armed extremism, narco-terrorism, cyber-crime, laser interceptions, to name just a few, we are still expecting our police and para-military to counter the threat with conventional weapons of nearly the World War II vintage. If you were planning to disrupt peace in India, what would your reaction be to this casual approach of the enemy? War against crime and especially against terrorism, both domestic and cross border, will have to be waged with technology. This is how America is waging it. This is how we will have to wage it too.

Punjab: Squaring Up to the Challenge: The law enforcing agencies have been strengthened in terms of numbers, training and deployment to handle such situations. We have recruited 17000 police personnel to tackle any situation which includes 3100 lady constables. The Intelligence Wing of Punjab Police has been strengthened with adequate men/material resources for effective and timely dealing with any emerging challenge.

We have launched a Night Policing Scheme with dedicated police force to instill a sense of security amongst people besides promoting night business activities. Similarly, to address the issues relating to women, senior citizens, children and NRIs, all vulnerable sections of the society, the Punjab Government has launched a unique helpline "181". An IG rank officer has been appointed to look in to the issues of these vulnerable sections.

"181" Police Helpline which has dedicated desks for women and which is operated 24x7 hrs. by skilled and sympathetic women call-counselors. This Police Helpline also has Clinical Psychologists to provide professional counseling to the women callers. A number of cases of domestic violence, abuse and harassment have been dealt with and effectively resolved in a time bound manner by the helpline. The Helpline has also helped to provide timely assistance to women facing sexual harassment or women who are in distress. All the calls received are recorded and properly monitored on a daily basis by officers of the rank of ADGP/DGP and also by Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Sukhbir Singh Badal.

Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) led by a SP rank officer have been formed by our Government in every district to deal with cases of sexual assault against women and children. The members of these teams handle these sensitive cases in a professional and humane manner by providing security and assistance to the victims and taking prompt and stern action as per law against the culprits. All police personnel at the field level have been sensitized to give respect and dignity to all law-abiding citizens, especially the women and the elderly. In such cases where the victim is a woman, the initial investigation is done by a lady police officer. Later on, if the investigation team is headed by a male police officer, it is ensured that women police officers are made part of the investigation team.

Focusing on community policing, the Punjab police has started the SAANJH project initiated to bridge disconnect between community and police. SAANJH Kendra are successfully working in 114 Sub-Divisions and 363 police stations and many other states are making quarries to replicate this unique initiatives.

SC/ST Facts: Punjab has highest percent of SC population that is 32 per cent. We have enhanced the outlay for welfare of SC population to Rs. 344.82 crore in year 2013-14 in comparison of Rs. 287.87 crore in the year 2012-13. Similarly Rs. 152 crore has been earmarked for various Shagun schemes.

Regarding the implementation of SC/ST (POA) Act-1989 and the Rules framed there under, instructions have already been issued to all Zonal IGPs/CP/SSP for strict and prompt action to be taken as regards registration, investigation and prosecution of cases under the above said Act. At the headquarters of State Police, one sanctioned post of SP rank officer exists to supervise the State level SC and Weaker Sections Cell, under the supervision of ADGP/Crime, Punjab.

Citizen Charter need: Time has come to prepare and implement a comprehensive citizen charter with time bound delivery of various services as has been started by our government. Our government has taken a lead and has brought the government to doorsteps of the people. With the enactment of the Right to Service Act, we have ensured the 4Es – efficiency, effectiveness, economy and equity in the process of governance and service delivery system. 67 services are being provided in a time bound manner. A number of states are in touch with us to replicate this model.

I would like to point out that the role played by the central government in the 1984 riots is condemnable. It did not make any effort to ensure justice for the victims rather it helped those accused of this genocide. The Union Government has also been unnecessarily interfering in the matter of Sikh religion. Such interferences usually lead to radicalization and the subsequent sentiment is used to fan trouble by disgruntled elements. The best antidote of such activity is fairness and responsiveness of the system to the people's needs and aspirations.

Confidence Building Measures: The greatest Confidence Building Measures to instill a sense of security among the people in troubled times is the creation of an atmosphere in which people have faith in the sincerity, sensitivity, impartiality and easy accessibility of the political elite at

the helm of administration. The high visibility of the leader and people's faith in him go a long way in building public morale and confidence.

In this, Punjab is perhaps a blessed state in having in Chief Minister Sardar Parkash Singh Badal, a leader with steely nerve and a heart that beats with com-compassion for every suffering and poor man firm in approach and sensitive in his dealings with the masses. His Sangat Darshans by themselves are his way of staying connected with the hearts and minds of every man, woman and child. With him at the helm, everyone in Punjab, young and old, man, woman and child, retaliate or urbanite, in Punjab retire at the end of the day with peace and complete assurance.

He walks the Punjab landscape as a most reassuring symbol of peace and communal harmony-two ideals, which he considers is greatest achievement in like.

Equally important however is the presence of highly efficient and live-wire police force at his command, fine tuned to the imperatives of peace and communal harmony. For this, we have a police force that carries high reputation for clinical professionalism.

At the political level, all political parties must sit together and evolve a broad consensus on issues critical to the interests of the nation. Of all the issues requiring a consensus, peace and communal harmony must be at the top of our priorities list and must be treated with sensitivity, sobriety and restraint.

With this, I request the House to send a strong message to the people of this country that when it comes to peace and communal harmony and other issues of vital interest to the country, they can rely on us to rise above our narrow political ends and address ourselves selfless to the tasks assigned to us by our true masters-the people.

Jai Hind

We are meeting at a timeat war with itself.

श्री अशोक गहलोत
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री
राजस्थान

परम आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री जी, सम्माननीय गृह मंत्री जी, राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद् की बैठक में उपस्थित सभी सम्मानित सदस्यगण।

सर्वप्रथम मैं माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी व गृह मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय एकता पर यह महत्वपूर्ण बैठक उनके गरिमामय मार्गदर्शन व नेतृत्व में आयोजित की जा रही है। यह बैठक एक विकट अवसर पर आयोजित की जा रही है जबकि फूट डालने वाली द्वेषपूर्ण शक्तियां देश-प्रदेश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में साम्प्रदायिक वातावरण दूषित करने के लिए सर उठा रही हैं। इन प्रवृत्तियों के गंभीर रूप लेने से राष्ट्रीय एकता, स्थायित्व और सामाजिक ताने-बाने को छिन्न-भिन्न होने का गंभीर खतरा उत्पन्न हो गया है। लेकिन मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि यूपीए चेयरपर्सन श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी के सक्षम मार्गदर्शन एवं प्रधानमंत्री डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह जी के अनुभवी नेतृत्व में हम इन चुनौतियों का सफलतापूर्वक मुकाबला कर सकेंगे। निश्चित रूप से यह मंच महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों के समग्र विवेचन और देश के सामने मौजूद चुनौतियों से निपटने में केंद्र व राज्यों के मध्य आपसी तालमेल व समन्वय का बेहतर अवसर प्रदान करने में सफल हुआ है।

राजस्थान एक शांत प्रदेश है जिसमें साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव व भाईचारे की सदियों पुरानी परम्परा रही है। प्रदेश के सभी समुदाय मूलरूप से अमन पसन्द और मतभेदों का समाधान आपसी बातचीत के माध्यम से करने में सदैव आगे रहे हैं। राज्य सरकार पूरे प्रदेश में सभी धर्म एवं समुदाय के लोगों एवं सभी कौमों को साथ लेकर चलने का प्रयास कर रही है। इससे प्रदेश में साम्प्रदायिक व जातीय तनाव की स्थिति नियंत्रण में रही है।

साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव में अभिवृद्धि के उपाय

विगत कुछ वर्षों में साम्प्रदायिक तनाव, प्रदेश में आंतरिक सुरक्षा एवं कानून व्यवस्था के लिए बड़ा खतरा बनकर उभरे हैं। प्रदेश के लोगों को धर्म और सम्प्रदाय के आधार पर बांटने के मंसूबों ने हमारे समक्ष बड़ी चुनौती पेश की है। साम्प्रदायिक घटनाक्रमों के विश्लेषण पर धार्मिक जुलूसों से संबंधित विवाद, धार्मिक स्थलों पर अतिक्रमण व अवैध निर्माण, वक्फ सम्पत्तियों के विवाद, धार्मिक प्रतिमाओं, पुस्तकों व स्थानों का अपवित्रिकरण, पूजास्थलों पर व उनके निकट ध्वनि प्रसारक यंत्रों का दुरुपयोग, गौवध, गौवंश तस्करी, अंतर धार्मिक प्रेम प्रसंग व विवाह एवं कई मामलों में आम रास्तों पर भिन्न समुदाय-धर्मों से जुड़े व्यक्तियों के बीच मामूली विवाद या दुर्घटना गंभीर साम्प्रदायिक घटनाओं में फलीभूत होते देखे गए हैं। राज्य सरकार विभिन्न समुदायों, धार्मिक वर्गों व जातियों के मध्य सौहार्द व भाईचारा बनाए रखने का हर संभव प्रयास कर रही है जिससे प्रदेश में बहुत हद तक साम्प्रदायिक तनावों पर अंकुश रहा है।

साम्प्रदायिक रूप से संवेदनशील एवं अति संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों के लिए आपात योजनाएं, साम्प्रदायिक प्रकृति के स्थायी विवादों का चिन्हिकरण व प्राथमिकता के आधार पर उनका समाधान तथा संवेदनशील त्यौहारों व

जुलुसों के अवसर पर शांति समितियों में आम जन का सहयोग सुनिश्चित किया जाकर साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव को बढ़ावा दिया गया है। गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रेषित साम्प्रदायिक सौहार्द में अभिवृद्धि हेतु 58 बिंदु की परामर्शिका को लागू करने पर विशेष बल दिया गया है।

साम्प्रदायिक घटनाओं की रोकथाम के उपाय

राज्य सरकार ने समय-समय पर साम्प्रदायिक स्थिति की रोकथाम और नियंत्रण हेतु क्षेत्र पदाधिकारियों को विस्तृत निर्देश जारी किए हैं। इनमें साम्प्रदायिक दृष्टिकोण से संवेदनशील व अति संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों की पहचान करने, त्यौहारों पर विशेष सुरक्षा प्रबंध एवं निगरानी, उन्मत्त साम्प्रदायिक तत्वों के डोसियर संधारित करने, साम्प्रदायिक तत्वों के विरुद्ध निवारक कार्यवाही के साथ-साथ सांप्रदायिक अधिस्वर के आपराधिक प्रकरणों में त्वरित अन्वेषण का पर्यवेक्षण वरिष्ठ स्तर पर किया जाने संबंधी व्यापक दिशा-निर्देश शामिल किए गए हैं।

राज्य इंटेलेजेंस शाखा से लेकर पुलिस थाना स्तर तक साम्प्रदायिक व जातीय समस्याओं से संबंधित अग्रिम आसूचना संकलन को विशेष प्राथमिकता दी गई है। राज्य का आसूचना तंत्र सुदृढ़ किया गया है व साम्प्रदायिक रूप से संवेदनशील क्षेत्रों में विशेष ईकाइयां स्थापित की गई हैं। राज्य के सभी पुलिस थानों में स्थानीय आसूचना संकलन के कार्य हेतु एक-एक आसूचना अधिकारी नियुक्त किया गया है। इंटेलेजेंस ब्रांच के कार्मिकों को विशेष भत्ता व पेशेवर दक्षता के उच्च स्तर सुनिश्चित किए जाने हेतु पृथक कैडर की स्थापना इस दिशा में उठाए गए अन्य महत्वपूर्ण कदम हैं। राज्य सरकार ने इसी वर्ष प्रदेश की सभी 9177 ग्राम पंचायतों में एक-एक ग्राम रक्षक नियुक्त करने का फैसला लिया है। इससे ग्राम स्तर तक आसूचना नेटवर्क तैयार होगा जिससे साम्प्रदायिक व कानून व्यवस्था को प्रभावित करने वाली अग्रिम सूचनाओं का संकलन संभव हो सकेगा।

सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट्स का राष्ट्रीय एकता संवर्धन में योगदान व घृणास्पद प्रचार से निपटना

साईबर स्पेस का ईश निन्दा व भड़काऊ सामग्री डालकर साम्प्रदायिक भावनाएं उकसाने के बढ़ते हुए प्रयोग ने साम्प्रदायिक उद्वेग को प्रच्छन्न कर दिया है। असामाजिक तत्वों को फेसबुक जैसी सोशल नेटवर्किंग वेबसाइटों पर भड़काऊ टिप्पणियां अंकित कर साम्प्रदायिक माहौल बिगाड़ने व घृणास्पद दुष्प्रचार का नया हथियार मिल गया है। हाल ही में ऐसे मामले प्रदेश में कुछ स्थानों पर सामने आए हैं जिनमें गंभीर कानून व्यवस्था की स्थिति बन गई। यद्यपि अधिकांश सोशल साइट्स के सर्वर विदेशों में स्थित होने और इंटरनेट सुविधाओं की सार्वभौमिकता व सर्वसुलभता के कारण इस समस्या की रोकथाम एक दुष्कर कार्य प्रतीत होता है, फिर भी सोशल साइट्स पर बेहतर स्वनियामक व्यवस्थाओं, आपत्तिजनक सामग्री के अपलेखन और ऐसी सामग्री के स्रोतों की पहचान के लिए जांच एजेंसियों को बेहतर व त्वरित सूचना प्राप्ति के विधिक व तकनीकी समाधानों की दिशा में भारत सरकार के स्तर पर और तेजी से कार्यवाही के लिए मैं आग्रह करता हूं।

युवा वर्ग में सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट्स की बढ़ती लोकप्रियता का सुनियोजित प्रयास कर सकारात्मक उपयोग लिया जा सकता है। राष्ट्रीय भावनाओं से ओत-प्रोत दृश्य-श्रव्य सामग्री की अधिकाधिक रचना को

प्रोत्साहित करने की नीति निर्धारण की आवश्यकता है। ऐसी सामग्री का सरकार द्वारा यू-ट्यूब, ट्वीटर आदि पर प्रचार-प्रसार में उपयोग किया जा सकता है। एक अन्य प्रयास राष्ट्रीय एकता के विषयों पर फेसबुक पेजेज बनाकर स्कूल व कॉलेज जाने वाले छात्रों के मध्य लोकप्रिय करने का हो सकता है। सामाजिक व सांस्कृतिक सौहार्द की अभिवृद्धि को प्रोत्साहित करने वाले वेब पेजेज की रचना पर प्रतियोगिताएं आयोजित कर राष्ट्रीय एकता का संदेश दिया जा सकता है।

साम्प्रदायिक तनावों से निपटने में विश्वास वृद्धि के उपाय

सीएलजी (कम्यूनिटी लाईजन ग्रुप) एवं शांति समितियों के माध्यम से शांति व्यवस्था बनाए रखने में जन सहभागिता को बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है ताकि नागरिक अंशाति की स्थितियों से निपटने में जन साधारण का सक्रिय सहयोग मिल सके। सीएलजी व शांति समिति जैसे निकायों ने ग्राम मौहल्ला स्तर पर छिटपुट घटनाक्रमों से लेकर गंभीर साम्प्रदायिक समस्याओं तक के सफलतापूर्वक समाधान में अपनी उपयोगिता सिद्ध की है। पुलिस अधिकारी थाना व बीट स्तर की सीएलजी के सदस्यों के नियमित संपर्क में रहते हैं जिनमें विभिन्न कार्य क्षेत्रों के लोग शामिल हैं। थाना स्तर पर बीट पद्धति पर जोर दिया गया है ताकि बीट प्रभारियों को इलाके के असामाजिक तत्वों द्वारा माहौल बिगाड़ने की योजनाओं का पता लगाकर प्रतिकार किया जा सके।

लगभग साढ़े चार वर्ष में प्रदेश में कोई गंभीर साम्प्रदायिक घटना के हालात पैदा नहीं हुए हैं। प्रदेश में इस दौरान घटित हुई छोटी से छोटी घटना में पीड़ित को राहत, पुनर्वास व त्वरित न्याय दिलाने में सरकार ने अग्रणी भूमिका निभाई है। हमारा विचार है कि साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा की प्रभावी रोकथाम के लिए परम्परागत कानून के अलावा नए और मजबूत कानूनी प्रावधान कारगर साबित हो सकते हैं, जिससे राजनैतिक उद्देश्यों के लिए साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा फैलाने या साम्प्रदायिकता को बढ़ावा देने की आपराधिक गतिविधियों पर प्रभावी नियंत्रण लग सके।

महिलाओं की सुरक्षा व संरक्षा

महिलाओं की सुरक्षा एवं संरक्षा राज्य सरकार और कानून लागू करने वाली संस्थाओं के लिए सर्वप्रथम व सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता का विषय है। महिलाओं पर आक्रमण और अत्याचार के मामलों में उच्चतम संवेदनशीलता के साथ विधि के कठोरतम प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत कार्यवाही किए जाने की आवश्यकता है, जैसाकि 16 दिसंबर, 2012 को दिल्ली के सामूहिक दुष्कर्म के भीषण व जघन्यतम अपराध के मामले में किया गया है। त्वरित अन्वेषण के पश्चात तीव्र गति से अन्वीक्षा और दोषियों को न्यायालय द्वारा कठोरतम दण्डादेश से महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराध में लिप्त लोगों को सख्त संदेश गया है।

राज्य सरकार ने महिलाओं की सुरक्षा हेतु विभिन्न कदम उठाए हैं। राज्य पुलिस मुख्यालय में महिला अत्याचार प्रकरणों की देखरेख हेतु अतिरिक्त महानिदेशक स्तर के अधिकारी के पर्यवेक्षण में एक "महिला अत्याचार निवारण प्रकोष्ठ" गठित किया गया है। इसमें महानिदेशक व पुलिस अधीक्षक सहयोगार्थ लगाए गए हैं।

इसी प्रकार सभी जिला मुख्यालयों पर "महिला यौन अपराध निवारण प्रकोष्ठ" गठित किए गए हैं। सभी जिला मुख्यालयों पर एक महिला पुलिस थाना और सभी थानों में महिला हैल्प डेस्क बनाई गई है।

बलात्संग के मामले का अन्वेषण थाना प्रभारी और नाबालिग बालिकाओं से बलात्संग या सामूहिक दुष्कर्म के मामलों का अन्वेषण पुलिस उपाधीक्षक के स्तर पर किए जाने हेतु स्थायी आदेश जारी किए गए हैं। इसके अनुसार ऐसे प्रकरणों के अनुसंधान को प्राथमिकता देने, अभियुक्तों की शीघ्र गिरफ्तारी व 15 दिवस में आरोप पत्र प्रस्तुत करने के निर्देश हैं। ऐसे प्रकरणों के न्यायालय में शीघ्र सुनवाई हेतु उपनिरीक्षक स्तर का अधिकारी लोक अभियोजक के सहायतार्थ केस ऑफिसर के रूप में लगाया जाता है। दुष्कर्म पीड़िताओं को आर्थिक सहायता हेतु धारा 357 ए दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता के प्रावधान अनुसार एक योजना "राजस्थान पीड़ित प्रतिकर स्कीम 2011" लागू की गई है। उक्त प्रतिकर नियम के अंतर्गत नाबालिग बलात्कार पीड़िता को 3 लाख रुपए तथा अन्य को 2 लाख रुपए की आर्थिक सहायता का प्रावधान है।

कार्य स्थल पर कामकाजी महिलाओं के यौन उत्पीड़न की रोकथाम के लिए सभी जिलों व कार्यालयों में शिकायत समितियां गठित की जा चुकी हैं जिसमें आधी सदस्य महिलाएं हैं। राज्य के सभी जिलों में महिलाओं के प्रति घरेलू हिंसा और शोषण की रोकथाम के लिए "महिला सलाह और सुरक्षा केन्द्र" कार्यरत है। बालकों के विरुद्ध लैंगिंग अपराधों की रोकथाम के विशेष कानून (लैंगिंग अपराधों से बच्चों का संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2012) के प्रावधान कठोरता से लागू किए जा रहे हैं। राज्य सरकार कन्या भ्रूण हत्या की समस्या के प्रति विशेष रूप से संवेदनशील है व इस पर नियंत्रण हेतु जयपुर में एक केन्द्रीकृत पुलिस थाना "पीसीपीएनडीटी अन्वेषण ब्यूरो" स्थापित किया गया है।

राज्य पुलिस द्वारा विश्वास बढ़ाने और पुलिस व छात्राओं के मध्य समन्वय सहयोग हेतु एक अभिनव योजना KYS-KYP (अपने छात्र को जानो-अपनी पुलिस को जानो) जयपुर पुलिस आयुक्त क्षेत्र के 19 थानों में लागू की गई है। इसी प्रकार एक पायलट योजना एनजीओ व महिला कल्याण समितियों के सहयोग से यौन-शोषण पीड़िताओं को मेडिकल सुविधा, पुलिस सहायता, कानूनी सहायता, परामर्श आदि एक ही छत के नीचे उपलब्ध कराने हेतु प्रारंभ की गई है।

अनूसूचित जाति व जनजाति के सदस्यों के विरुद्ध अपराधों की रोकथाम के उपाय

राज्य में अ.जा.-अ.ज.जा. अत्याचार निवारण अधिनियम 1989 व नागरिक अधिकार सुरक्षा अधिनियम 1955 के प्रावधान कठोरता से लागू किए जा रहे हैं और अ.जा.-अ.ज.जा. (अत्याचार निवारण) नियम 1995 के अंतर्गत पीड़ित पक्ष को सहायता व पुर्नवास उपलब्ध करवाया जा रहा है। ऐसे सभी मामलों को विशेष प्रतिवेदन प्रकरणों में सम्मिलित किया जाकर उपाधीक्षक से अनिम्न स्तर के अधिकारी द्वारा अन्वेषण किया जाता है। राज्य के सभी 36 पुलिस जिलों में ऐसे मामलों की देखदेख व त्वरित अन्वेषण हेतु "अ.जा.-अ.ज.जा. अत्याचार निवारण प्रकोष्ठ" और शीघ्र सुनवाई व निपटारे हेतु 25 विशेष न्यायालय स्थापित किए गए हैं। जिला कलेक्टरों की अध्यक्षता व पुलिस अधीक्षकों को सदस्य के रूप में शामिल कर जिला स्तरीय सतर्कता समिति एवं राज्य स्तर पर मुख्य सचिव

की अध्यक्षता व महानिदेशक पुलिस की सदस्यता में समिति गठित की गई है जो अनुसूचित जाति-जनजाति के सदस्यों के विरुद्ध अत्याचार के मामलों की सतत देखदेख व उपचारात्मक कार्यवाही की समीक्षा करती है।

अन्तर्जातीय तनावों के निराकरण के उपाय

अ.जा.-अ.ज.जा. के सदस्यों के प्रति अपमान, आक्रमण, अत्याचार अथवा अस्पृश्यता की सूचना पर तत्काल कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित की जाती है। आपराधिक प्रकरण पंजीकबद्ध कर 30 दिवस की अवधि में अन्वेषण पूर्ण कर लिया जाता है। इससे अधिक लंबित रहने पर अन्वेषण लंबित रखने की स्वीकृति महानिरीक्षक स्तर के अधिकारी से ली जाती है।

कुछ स्वयं सेवी संस्थाएं व स्व-सहायता समूह अनुसूचित जाति व अनुसूचित जनजाति समुदायों के लोगों को उनके अधिकारों व केन्द्र व राज्य के विधान के अंतर्गत प्राप्त सुरक्षा एवं ऐसे कानूनों के अंतर्गत लागू सहायता और पुनर्वास योजनाओं के संबंध में शिक्षित करने के लिए आगे आ रहे हैं। अत्याचार व अवांछनीय गतिविधियों में लिप्त अन्य समुदायों के लोगों को अनुसूचित जाति-जनजाति से संबद्ध साथी नागरिकों के कानूनी अधिकारों के बारे में संवेदनशील बनाए जाने के लिए विशेष कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए जा रहे हैं। अनुसूचित जाति व जनजाति के नागरिकों को पुलिस थानों के सीएलजी समूहों में सदस्यों के रूप में शामिल किया जाता है, ताकि स्थानीय समुदाय के सभी सदस्य साथ बैठकर सामूहिक निर्णय लें जिससे जातीय सौहार्द व सामाजिक भाईचारे में वृद्धि हो। जिला पुलिस अधीक्षक व रेन्ज महानिरीक्षक सहित पुलिस अधिकारियों द्वारा अनुसूचित जाति व जनजाति के लोगों के निवास क्षेत्रों में लगातार दौरा व रात्रि विश्राम किया जाता है।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं आप को इन राष्ट्रीय महत्व के मुद्दों पर अपने विचार रखने का सुअवसर प्रदान करने के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

जय हिन्द

SELVI J. JAYALALITHAA
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF TAMIL NADU

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers of other States and Union Territories and other dignitaries

We have all gathered here today for the 16th Meeting of the National Integration Council, after a gap of nearly two years. For a country that is just 67 years young, which attained independence from the British Raj against the background of the gut wrenching violence of Partition that the departing British bequeathed to us, we have struggled to make our democracy work. Despite the challenges of pluralism, multi-ethnic divides and the schisms of caste, compounded by post Independence danger namely, extremism, separatism and terrorism, we have largely been successful in holding on to our political freedom and the democratic values enshrined in our Constitution, standing out and being globally recognized as the most successful secular democracy in the non Western world.

Despite this impressive record, a multitude of divisive forces are creating fault lines in the very fabric that binds our Nation and are threatening to abort her bid to reach the status of a superpower. Inimical external forces and misguided anti-social elements within the Country have always tried to add to our internal troubles. Some of the unrest is also fuelled by socio-economic factors. Unequal distribution of the benefits of economic growth with the perception that many sections of Society have been left behind, marginalized and even unfairly exploited by those who have prospered have sharpened social divisions. The sharp deceleration of economic growth in the recent past and the persistent high inflation caused in substantial measure by the gross macro-economic mismanagement of the UPA Government at the Centre have also no doubt contributed to social tensions.

The need of the hour is to develop an Indian identity that is founded on a scientific temper, social and economic equality, and melding of our diverse faiths and cultural practices, which wil truly integrate our diversity into unity. It seems to me that we must reinforce such Pan Indian values by using a forum like the National Integration Council to effectively scotch the fissiparous forces that seek to create fissures in our democratic edifice.

The first and most vital function of the State is the maintenance of public order and peace in Society and ensuring the protection of its citizens. It is precisely for this reason that I have adopted a growth model for Tamil Nadu that seeks to achieve development through inclusive growth and thereby rid Society of inner tensions that may surface in the form of communal tensions or extremism or some other form of disaffection. The Vision for Tamil Nadu for 2023 is to become India's most prosperous and progressive State with no poverty, where its people enjoy all the basic services of a modern Society and live in harmonious engagement with the environment and with the rest of the world. Not only are we targeting high growth, but we also seek to exhibit a highly inclusive growth pattern.

The ability of my Government to understand and effectively articulate the just and fair sentiments of the people of the State on critical issues has been one of the important reasons for the proper maintenance of public order in Tamil Nadu. This requires the State Government at the highest level to be in tune with the concerns and aspirations of its people. It also requires the administration at the local to be sensitive and with an ear to the ground. District Administration in Tamil Nadu is run in this manner, thanks to close supervision and monitoring from above and the positive response to public expectation from below.

My Government in Tamil Nadu has taken several proactive steps to promote communal harmony. Special attention is given to the welfare of Minorities through the Directorate of Minorities Welfare, the Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Minorities Commission. A number of initiatives on communal harmony are taken amongst the youth by organizing competitions and youth festivals. Community leaders and NGOs are encouraged to participate in the celebration of festivals of other religions and communities. The Government of Tamil Nadu gives assistance for pilgrimages to Mecca, Jerusalem, Manasarovar and Mukthinath. I may state with pride that our record in maintaining communal harmony has been impeccable.

So far as the maintenance of Law and Order is concerned, I am proud to inform this august gathering that Tamil Nadu has largely been free of communal, left wing extremist, and religious fundamentalist violence. This is largely because I have provided a free hand and uncompromising support to the Police Force in maintaining Law and Order. Tamil Nadu now has a near perfect record of maintenance of Law and Order and is spoken of nationally as a heaven of peace and tranquillity.

My Government has made it clear that it will not spare anyone who tries to whip up communal passions and create caste tensions and the Police have been given a clear mandate to curb such activities with an iron hand. Activities of communal organizations of both communities are kept under close watch by a Special Wing in the State Intelligence. Inflammatory and provocative speeches, pamphlets, audio and video CDs and other reproductions are acted against promptly. Fundamentalist organizations like Al Umma and All India Jihad Committee have been banned in the State. Activities of erstwhile SIMI elements are being carefully monitored. Preventive measures including the setting up of permanent peace committees in sensitive places, adequate precautionary measures during important festivals and for important places of worship and effective use of the security proceedings provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and Preventive Detention laws have helped the State avoid any serious incidents of violence. In this context, I wish to state that the use of Preventive Detention laws by the State Government is done, keeping foremost in mind the interest of preserving Public Order. The State has been very judicious in the use of these laws since they deal with the personal liberty of citizens. Of late, there is a noticeable and unwelcome development wherein the Government of India, for ostensibly political considerations, is setting aside orders issued by the State Government. We consider that this is an unnecessary encroachment upon the State's powers and will seriously compromise the maintenance of Public Order.

The maintenance of Law and Order in the Country is the fundamental responsibility of the State Governments, but it is an exercise that requires functional co-operation and understanding between the Central Government and the State Governments and presupposes a relationship based on equality, namely, that the States are equal partners with the Centre in protecting the Nation from internal strife. However, I note that of late, the Government of India has been increasingly taking unilateral steps and creating top down structures and parallel authorities that encroach upon the constitutional domain of the State Government. This is an ill-advised and counter-productive approach, best illustrated by the ham-handed manner in which the National Counter Terrorism Centre was sought to be established or by the shoddy manner in which the Communal Violence Bill has been drafted, details regarding which I have already communicated to the Government of India at the relevant time.

In the aftermath of the recent unfortunate incidents of communal violence in some parts of India, there has been a call in some quarters to enact the Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence (Access to Justice and Reparations) Bill, 2011. I have already spelt out my strong opposition to the proposed Bill, both on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Party. In my view, the proposed Bill will not meet the desired objective of curbing vociferous religiosity or preventing communal and targeted violence. Many provisions of the Bill are vaguely worded and leave themselves open to wide subjective interpretations and hence are liable to be misused. Above all, the Bill is against the constitutional scheme of distribution of powers between the Centre and the States. Clause 20 of the Bill, which gives extensive powers to the Central Government and the proposed National Authority for Communal Harmony, Justice and Reparation, is a direct assault on State autonomy. Hence, it would be extremely unwise to pose the Bill and the National Authority proposed by it as a solution to a complex problem that requires sensitive co-operation between the Centre and the States. In fact, the remedy proposed would end up being worse than the disease itself.

A strong, efficient, well equipped and disciplined Police Force is the only answer to meeting the challenges posed by anti social elements who try to disrupt Law and Order. Realizing the imperative need to improve the staffing, infrastructure, mobility and weaponry of the Police Force, my Government has sanctioned substantially enhanced allocations.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of the States are keenly aware of the need for modernization of the Police Force, strengthening the Intelligence machinery and developing Police training infrastructure. All the Hon'ble Chief Ministers would also agree, mainly, it is financial constraints that stand in the way of the efforts of State Governments to modernize and upgrade the Police Force. I request the Union Government to substantially increase the levels of financial assistance for the modernization of the Police Force. **I wish to point out that the release of funds by the Government of India under the Police Modernisation Scheme to Tamil Nadu has come down drastically in 2012-13. I am also disappointed to note that the Central share in the scheme of**

modernization, which was 75%, has been brought down to 60%. I, therefore, urge that the Government of India should come out with a refurbished National plan for the modernization of the State Police Forces and substantially step up the allocation of funds to the States.

Growing crimes and criminality, communalism, the growth of hate propaganda through the use of modern communication and information technology and other threats to the integrity of the Nation, are most effectively met by utilizing modern technology. Facilities which track, in real time, the misuse of information and communication means for intensive hate propaganda and cyber crimes require substantial investments in equipment and training of personnel. While States like Tamil Nadu are investing in this area, the Government of India can no longer shy away from its responsibility and must significantly enhance funding for such purposes.

The proactive use of the social media as an effective means of mass communication and source of correct information also needs to be focused upon. But the risks of using social media including hacking, cyber bullying and capture by anti social elements have to be mitigated through appropriate safeguards and effective monitoring and administration of such sites by trained and empowered personnel.

Gathering timely and relevant intelligence and acting on it is crucial to prevent communal disturbances and to tackle communal situations. Tamil Nadu has a well oiled Intelligence gathering apparatus with a number of specialised wings to look after various types of threats to public order. The Tamil Nadu State Intelligence Wing is an effective and highly professional body which participates in the Subsidiary Multi Agency Centre by promptly acting on the information received by it and by sharing relevant information with the Central agencies and with other State agencies through this mechanism. The professional capabilities and strengths of the State Intelligence Wing have been recognized nationally.

I think the agenda of this meeting rightly focuses on the issue of safety and security of women. I have always been passionate about securing the goal of true gender equity in Tamil Nadu. To help women overcome domestic drudgery and to become more effective participants in the labour force, my Government has taken the pioneering step of providing mixies, fans, grinders and induction stoves free of cost to women. Tamil Nadu also implements a number of schemes such as marriage assistance schemes which promote important social objectives like women's education, widow re-marriage and inter-caste marriage; hostels for working women, service homes for destitute women, the Girl Child Protection Scheme, the scheme for distribution of free milch animals and goats; and issue of land rights in the name of women that will improve their economic security and empower women.

As a result of my efforts, Tamil Nadu is undoubtedly today, the leading State in attaining the goal of equality before law for women and has emerged as a State where women feel safe and secure. I wish to record here that my Government pioneered the setting up of All Women Police Stations in India more than 20 years ago in 1992. Today, there are All Women Police

Stations in every Police sub-division in Tamil Nadu. The proportion of women in the Tamil Nadu Police Force at 17.2 percent is the highest in the country. The punishment in cases of sexual harassment was made more severe and the burden of proof to prove innocence was transferred to the accused in cases of death or suicide resulting from sexual harassment under the amendments to the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act passed in the Tamil Nadu Legislature by my Government in 2002.

Impelled by the need to have an even stronger legal basis to protect women from sexual violence, I have recently announced a fresh set of strong measures for the protection of women, a bold and innovative ‘**Thirteen Point Plan**’. This includes formation of Fast Track Mahila Courts, appointment of women Government Lawyers, amendments to the Goondas Act, 24 hour toll free helpline for Women-1091, fixing responsibility on senior Police Officers to monitor such crimes and their investigations, daily hearings in the trial courts, specialized training to aid investigations, medical treatment, rehabilitation at Government cost and surveillance of public places through a strong CCTV network. I believe that these will go a long way in curbing such heinous offences that are a blot on our collective conscience.

Tamil Nadu is probably the only State in the Country which has ordered the constitution of 42 Mahila Courts to be located in all the 32 districts of the State. These measures, I am confident, will guarantee a safe and secure environment for all women in the State, including women in the workplace.

Tamil Nadu is in the forefront of nurturing inclusive growth and affirmative action. The Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 is a historic legislation providing 69% reservation in education and employment for the disadvantaged sections i.e., Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. On my initiative, it has been placed under the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India so as to secure immunity from judicial scrutiny under Article 31B of the Constitution. This has gone a long way in fostering development among the disadvantaged sections.

The Government of Tamil Nadu under my leadership is determined to take all necessary steps to prevent atrocities against Adi Dravidars and Scheduled Tribes and to eliminate the abominable practice of untouchability. A Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cell headed by an Additional Director General of Police has been formed. Mobile Police squads headed by Inspectors of Police are functioning in each Police District and Commissionerate. The cases registered under Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, are monitored by 11 Deputy Superintendents of Police. Careful monitoring of cases filed and a monthly review by the District Superintendents of Police and Police Commissioners and by the Additional DGP ensure effective implementation of the provisions of the Act. Periodic reviews of the implementation of the Act at the State and District level are conducted and **I personally reviewed the implementation of the SCs/STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, in a meeting held on 25.6.2013.**

There are four Special Courts functioning exclusively for the trial of the cases under this Act and two more Special Courts will be started during the current year. 32 exclusive Special Prosecutors have also been appointed for prosecution of cases. Extensive training and sensitization programmes on the provisions of the Act have been organized for Police Officers with the involvement of NGOs, Public Prosecutors and Senior Officers. Immediate monetary relief and rehabilitation is also being provided to all the victims under the relevant provisions of the Act and the Rules. To conclude, there is perceptible in modern Indian Society, a telescoping tension and intolerance, which threatens to make it more confrontationist, belligerent and prone to overt acts of violence based on various sectarian and caste identities. These have thrown up major challenges to the State and even to Society at large. We must act resolutely and robustly to put down these malevolent antisocial forces. The Government of India must recognize that the maintenance of Law and Order and Police are State subjects in the Constitutional scheme and that the States should be treated as equal partners in a system where co-operation between the States and the Centre should prevail over narrow political considerations. We must effectively share intelligence, information, and resources between the States and by the Centre with the States, so that the forces of terrorism, fundamentalism, extremism and communalism are put down effectively.

We are a young Nation. By pursuing active, inclusive policies in the areas of health, education, employment and women's empowerment, we can ensure that we inculcate the spirit of communal amity and harmony and pride in our Nation amongst all stakeholders, particularly our youth. Our people, diverse though they may be in colour, language, caste, creed and culture, have been melded into Nationhood, united in terms of a modern, Pan Indian identity that reinforces our national pride and shows to the world the essential idea of One India.

SHRI MANIK SARKAR
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF TRIPURA

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Union Home Minister and Other Union Ministers, my colleague Chief Ministers, Distinguished Members of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. I am happy to be present here today in the meeting of the National Integration Council which is being convened at a time when communal strife has been reported in some parts of the country. I hope that the meeting of the National Integration Council would provide an opportunity to assess the situation and take effective measures for restoring communal harmony in all parts of the country.
2. Our Constitution has enshrined the fundamental principles of equality, justice and secularism as its basic tenets. Ours is a diverse, multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multi-religious society. From times immemorial, the people belonging to different religions, castes and creed have been living together in peace and harmony. Tolerance, peaceful coexistence and universal brotherhood are key features of our rich cultural heritage. However, there have been disturbing developments from time to time with fundamentalist forces raising their ugly heads in some parts of the country. In a multi-religious country like ours, the minorities need to be protected and they should feel fully secure to profess and practice their faith without intimidation. It is necessary to provide proper legal and administrative framework for ensuring this.
3. While all the religious communities enjoy equal rights under the Constitution, community which forms the majority has a larger responsibility to create a sense of security in the minorities to preserve the secular fabric of the nation. Religion is purely a personal affair without patronage of the State. But the mixing of political interests with religions is one of the main causes of communal violence which disturbs the foundations of our democracy and secular fabric.
4. I would urge upon the Government of India and the various States to firmly deal with any communal disturbances in the country with iron hand within the existing legal framework which is adequate enough to deal with any law and order situation provided the State takes timely, stern and non-partisan measures to contain the communal violence. It is more often than not, the complacency and delayed response to the situation by the Police and Administration that leads to loss of precious lives and hence the Police at various levels and the administration should be made accountable. The perpetrators of communal violence shall not be allowed to escape from their culpability.
5. In times of communal strife, the advent of new mode of communication like Internet have complicated the problems as the divisive forces have been able to use the network for

spreading ill-will and hatred through Social Networking Sites. However, taking a holistic view, a huge awareness campaign for enlightening the people would, to a large extent, check this problem.

6. The prevalence of communal disharmony, ethnic violence and left wing extremism should not be seen merely as law and order problem alone. The widening gap between the rich and the poor and denial of basic amenities like food, shelter, education and employment opportunities are likely to cause social tensions and increases the sense of deprivation and alienation among these sections of people. It is in this context that the need for removal of uneven development and push for even development of all regions and all sections of the people is required. Schemes aiming at directly targeting the benefits to the deprived sections have to be implemented with greater vigour and increased allocation of funds. The disadvantaged sections like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Weaker Sections and Minorities should be shown positive and affirmative action in development. I also urge upon the Government of India that the Acts framed for the benefit of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minorities needs to be implemented in letter and spirit.
7. I would like to emphasize the under development of the North Eastern States. Even now, North Eastern States lag far behind in basic infrastructure which is critical for economic development. For removal of this uneven and under development of North East, development of Road, Rail, Air connectivity, Telecommunications, Irrigation and Power including its evacuation should be accorded highest priority so as to put the North Eastern States on a high growth trajectory to enable them to catch up with the rest of the country in development.
8. Further, it is extremely important that religious, linguistic and other minorities are effectively integrated with the national mainstream. The Government had constituted Rajinder Sachar Committee in 2005 for recommending measures for social, economic and education development of Indian Muslims. The Committee submitted Report in 2006. Similarly, Ranganath Mishra Commission was constituted in 2004 for giving recommendation on various issues concerning linguistic and religious minorities in India. The Commission submitted its report in 2007. The Government should take urgent and effective measures for implementation of the recommendations of the Sachar Committee and the Rangnath Misra Commission so that necessary steps are taken for all round development of religious and other minorities in the Country and their grievances are redressed in an effective manner.
9. Crime against women is a blot on the society. While the new legal framework which has been put in place may deal with the crime against women to an extent by acting as deterrent, it is ultimately the awareness and gender sensitization that could reduce the crime against women and make them feel safe and secure. Gender sensitivity in places of work , educational institutions and in all places should be given increased priority. In our State, we have been taking several steps for dealing with crime against women like setting up of

Fast Track Courts, increased representation of women in Police force over a period of time besides launching an awareness campaign right from village level to State level. I am happy to inform this august House that the State had elections to Tripura Legislative Assembly recently in which 94% of the electorate had exercised their franchise and women outnumbered the men voters. This reflects the sense of security women enjoy in the State.

10. Tripura had a history of insurgency which went for about three decades, but the State has been broadly successful in containing the insurgency because of the two-pronged strategy of dealing firmly with insurgent elements and unleashing developmental efforts in the tribal areas in a big way to wean away the disgruntled youth from falling prey to the evil machinations of the extremists. However, there is no room for any complacency as they are still active with their camps in Bangladesh being fostered and nurtured by ISI.
11. The people of all communities are peace-loving, but sometimes some sections of the society fall prey to the evil designs of the fundamentalists and divisive forces. While an appropriate development strategy can play a crucial role in promoting national integration, it is also necessary that proactive efforts are made by all the secular democratic forces in the country for effectively countering such divisive, secessionist and sectarian forces. For this, all the national and regional political parties should have zero tolerance towards fundamentalist forces and launch all-out ideological and political campaign in a serious and systematic manner for promoting national unity and integration among the masses so that the divisive forces can be exposed and isolated.

**SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER
OF UTTARAKHAND**

Honourable Prime Minister and Union Cabinet Ministers, Distinguished Chief Ministers of States, Esteemed participants from various States, Union Territories, Ladies and Gentleman.

I am very grateful to the Honourable Prime Minister for providing me this opportunity to participate and deliberate on the crucial issues of National Integration before this august forum.

1(i). Communal Harmony-Measures to promote communal harmony, measures to prevent communal disturbances

In the wake of the recent communal riots in Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh, the necessity to maintain communal harmony has assumed prime importance, especially in such a multi-religious nation like India.

Uttarakhand is a peace loving State which is often referred to as the “**Abode of Gods**”. Hindu shrines such as Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri, Yamunotri, Har-Ki Pauri as well as Sikh gurudwaras at Hemkund Sahib, Nanakmatta and Rita Sahib are situated in the State. Piran Kaliyar near Roorkee is also another important Islamic religious place situated in the State which is visited by large number of pilgrims.

Uttarakhand annually sees a large number of pilgrims of various faiths visiting these shrines. Recently a devastating natural calamity struck the hills of Uttarakhand in general and Kedarnath in particular. Many people lost their lives apart from others who are still missing as a result of this calamity. I am grateful to the Government of India for extending all possible help to Uttarakhand during these difficult times.

The population of Uttarakhand as per 2011 census is around 1 crore and 2 lakhs. About one-fifth of the population comprises of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minorities. Amongst the minorities, Muslims are about 11.8% of the total population of the State and are mostly concentrated in the plains of Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar and Nanital Districts. About 2.5% of the population is of Sikhs, who are concentrated in District Udham Singh Nagar, which is also sometimes called “Mini Punjab”. About 1.5% population is of Christians, apart from others including Buddhist, Jains and Parsis amounting to about 0.8% of the population.

It is pertinent to mention here that by and large Uttarakhand has maintained a very good record of Communal Harmony and National Integration. A very large number of youth of the State are serving in the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces of the country.

The solitary and exceptional communal disturbance that the State has witnessed after its inception, occurred in October 2011 in district Udham Singh Nagar. As a result of this incident

four people lost their lives. The local administration took immediate necessary measures and quickly brought the situation under control. Under cases registered in different sections of IPC and Arms Act, 32 accused were arrested and 5 surrendered before the court of law whereas about 100 were arrested under preventive detention. In order to maintain impartiality in investigation, these cases have been transferred to CB-CID.

After the riot, we have strengthened our intelligence network by posting more intelligence personnel at the police station level and also strengthened our picketing and patrolling at the sensitive areas by keeping the communal angle in mind. Adequate forces are being kept on stand-by at the police-lines to provide immediate response in any such communal disturbance. Peace committees have been rejuvenated and regular meetings of the committees are being held. Immediate and impartial action on any complaint of communal nature is being taken. We are also maintaining strict vigil on licensed arms and ammunition, carrying out surveillance to apprehend illegal arms and maintaining close coordination with district administration of adjoining districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Udham Singh Nagar and Haridwar districts of the State share borders with communally sensitive districts of Uttar Pradesh such as Pilibhit, Bareilly, Moradabad, Rampur, Bijnor, Muzaffarnagar and Saharanpur. Any communal disturbance in these districts is likely to have fall-out in the bordering districts of Uttarakhand.

In the wake of recent communal tension in Muzaffarnagar, the bordering districts of Uttarakhand were put on high alert. Various measures were taken by the State to maintain communal harmony and to diffuse tension. Organizing Peace Committee meetings, intense patrolling of sensitive areas by magistrates and police officers, extra deployment of force, gearing up of Intelligence machinery and close coordination with district administration of adjoining districts of Uttar Pradesh are some of these measures.

Uttarakhand has requested the Central Government for providing two companies of RAF and Eight companies of Central Armed Police Force, in order to supplement the State's effort to maintain communal harmony after the Muzaffarnagar riots. It is hoped that the Central Government will take a favourable decision on this.

(ii) Role of social networking sites to promote national integration, tackling hate propaganda:

One of the major concerns with the social networking site is that, at the time of crisis this tool of communication is being used by vested interests for projecting what they wish instead of projecting the reality. In such a scenario, district administration and police have to be extra vigilant and take all precautionary measures such as gearing up intelligence machinery, blocking the objectionable sites, taking stringent action against the miscreants to curtail the spread of hatred material through social networking sites.

Even though Police is a State subject, Communication is in the Union list. The authority to take policy decisions with regard to social sites in the light of their adverse impact on law and

order situation lies with the Central Government. Creation of infrastructure and human resource development related to surveillance of social sites in the interest of law and order especially curbing communal or caste violence should be encouraged by the Government of India. The central Government should support the states by way of funds and training to empower them to face this challenge.

2. Confidence building measures to tackle communal disturbances, tackling communal situations, taking help from all sections of society in removing communal tension.

- District administration should mobilize the support of “Peace Committees”, voluntary organizations (NGOs), working in the field of promoting peace & communal harmony. District administration should hold ‘Peace Committee Meetings’ regularly and interact with public and community leaders to foster communal harmony.
- Intelligence machinery should be adequately strengthened with sufficient trained manpower and modern surveillance equipments to keep the decision makers promptly informed.
- Inter-state coordination meetings should be held frequently.
- CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems) should be put in place as soon as possible in order to put adequate checks on criminal activities which may have adverse bearings on communal harmony.
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Contingency Plans have been made available to all concerned district officials for effective and timely response to the situation of communal nature, if it arises.

3. Women Safety and Security:

In order to provide safe and secure environment to women in the state, we have started a toll free number at Police Head Quarters (PHQ), and at every district for receiving complaints pertaining to women’s harassment and speedy redressal of their grievances. We have women police stations in districts Pauri and Almora, Women Help-Desk at every police station. At PHQ “State women cell” headed by a lady IPS Officer of SP rank has been constituted to monitor the women related complaints and investigation of cases.

A sustained awareness campaign has been launched to create awareness among girls about their rights. We have encouraged plying of “Auto Rickshaws” exclusively for women in the city of Dehradun. We have ensured visible presence of police personnel at busy bus stops and in the vicinity of girls’ schools and colleges supplemented by plain clothesmen to provide safe and secure public environment for women. In order to sensitize the police personnel about gender related issues, the topic of gender sensitization has been included in the basic course curriculum designed for all the ranks.

4. Measures to tackle crimes against SCs/STs:

Uttarakhand does not have any sensitive areas prone to caste violence and SC/ST atrocities as such. We have established Special Cell under the supervision of senior officers at Police

Headquarters and at the district level to deal with all complaints relating to SC/ST's. Adequate security and assistance are being provided to the weaker sections of the society.

Investigation of cases involving SC/STs is carried out by Dy. SP rank officers under the supervision of the respective SSP's/SP's. All such Investigations are strictly time bound. For quick disposal of these cases, special courts have been set up at Haridwar & Nainital.

5. Epilogue:

Uttarakhand from its inception as a State, has made rapid strides in terms of economic growth. Persistent efforts are being made to improve the quality of life of its people. The per capita income in Uttarakhand is Rs. 82,193 (FY 2012-13), which is higher than the national average of Rs. 60,603 (FY 2012-13). The vision of making the State modern and prosperous cannot be realized without maintaining communal harmony and an efficient security apparatus.

In order to make the State police more efficient and in line with the directions of the Honourable Supreme Court of India, the State has already enacted the Uttarakhand Police Act, 2007. The Act provides for a fixed tenure for the DGP, Range DIGs, District Superintendents of Police and Station Officer's of Police Stations. The Act also provides for the creation of Police Complaints Authority that looks into the complaints of misconduct by Police officers. These measures have on the one hand made Police functioning more professional and efficient and on the other have improved accountability.

The State has made all efforts to strengthen its Police and Intelligence machinery so that a sense of security and communal harmony prevails among the people. However, due to financial constraints the Central Government is requested to consider increasing the amount of money disbursed to the State under the State Police Forces Modernization Scheme.

India is a developing country, which has citizens of various castes and communities holding different religious and social beliefs. Consistently integrating various facets of this multi cultural identity of the nation is a very important task for this august forum. Maintenance of communal harmony is the foremost of these tasks. We can only improve the lot of our citizens, if all round peace is a guarantee. The Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence (Access to Justice and Reparations) Bill, 2011 can be a good measure to prevent communal violence. The provisions of this proposed bill can become useful tools to institutionalize a transparent and accountable system that brings communal harmony.

Our nation's aspirations to become a developed country cannot be realized, unless a sense of security and communal harmony is infused in every nook and corner of the country. An ambience of trust among various communities and religions will lead our nation onto the path of development and economic achievements.

Jai Hind

श्री अखिलेश यादव
माननीय मुख्यमंत्री
उत्तर प्रदेश

मा. प्रधानमंत्री जी, मा. केन्द्रीय मंत्रीगण, राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रीगण एवं अन्य उपस्थित महानुभाव ।

राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद की आज की बैठक मुख्यतः साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव के संबंध में बुलाई गई है। यह विषय देश के लिए और उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण है जैसा कि आप सभी जानते हैं उत्तर प्रदेश जनसंख्या की दृष्टि से देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रदेश है। वर्ष 2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार प्रदेश की आबादी लगभग 20 करोड़ है जिसमें मुस्लिम समुदाय की जनसंख्या कुल जनसंख्या की 18.5% है। इस प्रकार उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रत्येक पांच में से एक व्यक्ति मुस्लिम समुदाय का है, यह प्रदेश अपनी गंगा-जमुनी तहजीब के लिए जाना जाता है और हिंदू एवं मुस्लिम समुदाय के लोग शताब्दियों से सौहार्दपूर्ण वातावरण में साथ रहते चले आये हैं। किन्तु विगत कुछ दशकों से प्रदेश में सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द को बिगाड़ने एवं सामाजिक वैमनस्य पैदा करने के प्रयास किये गए हैं जिसकी वजह से कई सांप्रदायिक दंगे हो चुके हैं। कुछ वर्ष पूर्व प्रदेश में बाबरी मस्जिद प्रकरण को एक सोची समझी साजिश के तहत निहित स्वार्थों द्वारा राजनैतिक उद्देश्य से बहुत बड़ा रूप प्रदान करने का प्रयास किया गया, जिससे साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव पर बहुत खराब प्रभाव पड़ा। वर्ष 1990 में माननीय श्री मुलायम सिंह यादव जी के नेतृत्व वाली सरकार ने ऐसी सांप्रदायिक ताकतों को अपने मंसूबों में कामयाब नहीं होने दिया। किन्तु वर्ष 1992 में बाबरी मस्जिद को गिरा दिया गया। वस्तुतः मस्जिद ही नहीं ढहाई गई बल्कि कानून के राज को तोड़ा गया। इस विध्वंसकारी घटना से सांप्रदायिक सदभाव टूटा जिसके फलस्वरूप प्रदेश ही नहीं देशभर में अनेकों स्थानों पर दंगे हुए और हजारों जानें गयीं। बाबरी मस्जिद गिराये जाने की घटना प्रदेश एवं देश के सांप्रदायिक इतिहास में एक काला अध्याय है। इसी प्रकार वाराणसी एवं मथुरा में भी समय-समय पर निहित स्वार्थों द्वारा सांप्रदायिक सदभाव को बिगाड़ने का प्रयास किया गया है। उपरोक्त के अतिरिक्त प्रदेश में अन्य कई संवेदनशील स्थान एवं जनपद भी हैं, अतः प्रदेश में साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव कायम रखना एवं शान्ति व्यवस्था बनाए रखना राज्य सरकार की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता है एवं राज्य सरकार अपने इस दायित्व के प्रति पूर्णतः कटिबद्ध है।

वर्तमान में ऐसा लगता है कि वर्ष 2014 में होने वाले लोक सभा के चुनाव को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए कुछ प्रमुख राजनैतिक दलों द्वारा राजनैतिक लाभ के लिए सीधी-सादी जनता को गुमराह कर सांप्रदायिक सदभाव को बिगाड़ने का खतरनाक प्रयास किया जा रहा है। प्रदेश की आबादी के ध्रुवीकरण की कोशिश चल रही है। पिछले कई महीनों में आमतौर पर जिन छोटी-मोटी घटनाओं, जैसे कि वाहन दुर्घटना, छेड़छाड़ आदि जिनका सामान्यतया स्थानीय एवं पंचायत स्तर पर समाधान हो सकता है, उन्हें भी निहित स्वार्थों द्वारा तूल देकर बड़ी घटनाओं में परिवर्तित करने का खतरनाक प्रयास किया जा रहा है। इसका मैं उल्लेख करना चाहूँगा कि 15 जून 2013 को जनपद शामली में एक लड़की के साथ हुई दुराचार की घटना के सम्बन्ध में तुरंत गिरफ्तारी कर कानूनी कार्रवाई की गई परन्तु फिर भी 16 एवं 17 जून, 2013 को स्थानीय राजनैतिक नेताओं द्वारा घटना को सांप्रदायिक रूप देने का प्रयास किया गया। विश्व हिंदू परिषद् द्वारा अयोध्या में श्री राम मंदिर के निर्माण की मांग को लेकर

समाज में ध्रुवीकरण करने तथा सरकार पर दबाव बनाने के उद्देश्य से 25 अगस्त से 13 सितम्बर 2013 के मध्य तथाकथित 84 कोसी परिक्रमा का आयोजन किया गया। परम्परागत रूप में 84 कोसी परिक्रमा 25 अप्रैल से 20 मई 2013 के मध्य संपन्न हो चुकी थी और विश्व हिंदू परिषद् के इस आयोजन का कोई औचित्य नहीं था। यह कार्य सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द बिगाड़कर उसका राजनैतिक लाभ उठाने के उद्देश्य से किया जा रहा था। अतः स्थानीय प्रशासन द्वारा विश्व हिंदू परिषद् के इस आयोजन को प्रतिबंधित किया गया। इसी प्रकार धर्मगुरु महन्त सेवकस्वामी महाराज की 22 सितम्बर से 13 अक्टूबर 2013 तक प्रतिदिन की प्रस्तावित पंचकोसी परिक्रमा की घोषणा भी सांप्रदायिक सौहार्द को बिगाड़ने की दिशा में एक प्रयास लगता है। देवबंद में भी एक मंदिर में कुछ असामाजिक तत्वों द्वारा दिनांक 7 सितम्बर 2013 को एक धर्म संसद आयोजित करने का आह्वान किया गया था जिसे पुलिस द्वारा सतर्कता बरतते हुए रोका गया। मैं यह स्पष्ट करना चाहूँगा कि आज यह अत्यधिक आवश्यक है कि समाज के सभी समुदाय एवं राजनैतिक दल अपनी जिम्मेदारी समझें और सांप्रदायिक सदभाव बनाये रखने में अपना योगदान दें।

उत्तर प्रदेश में हाल ही में मुजफ्फरनगर एवं आस-पास के जनपदों में कुछ निहित स्वार्थ एवं राजनैतिक दलों द्वारा गैर-जिम्मेदाराना आचरण एवं भड़काऊ भाषणों के माध्यम से कुछ घटनाओं को सांप्रदायिक रंग दिया गया। हिंदू व मुस्लिम समुदायों के मध्य तनाव पैदा हुआ तथा हिंसात्मक घटनायें हुईं। सबसे खतरनाक बात यह है कि सांप्रदायिक तनाव को ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में फैलाया गया एवं इन जनपदों के कई ग्रामों में हिंसा हुई। इस दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण घटना में कई लोगों की मृत्यु हुई तथा अनेक लोग घायल हुए। प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा सांप्रदायिक स्थिति को नियंत्रित करने के लिए तत्काल प्रभावी कदम उठाये गए। बिना कोई विलम्ब किये सेना को मुजफ्फरनगर एवं शामली जनपद में तैनात कराया गया। भारी संख्या में प्रदेश सरकार के पुलिस बल के अतिरिक्त केंद्रीय अर्द्ध सैनिक बलों को भी लगाया गया एवं कम से कम समय में स्थिति पर नियंत्रण पा लिया गया। इस संबंध में 2,255 लोगों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है जिसमें निर्वाचित जनप्रतिनिधि भी शामिल हैं। इनमें 235 व्यक्ति गंभीर अपराधों के आरोपी हैं एवं 2,020 व्यक्तियों को निरोधात्मक धाराओं में गिरफ्तार किया गया है। उपरोक्त घटनाओं में जिसका भी हाथ पाया जायेगा, उसके विरुद्ध बिना किसी पक्षपात या द्वेषभावना के कठोर कानूनी कार्यवाही की जाएगी। मैंने स्वयं 15 सितम्बर 2013 को मुजफ्फरनगर एवं शामली जनपदों के प्रभावित इलाकों में जाकर स्थिति का जायजा लिया है और पीड़ित लोगों का दुख-दर्द बांटते हुए एवं आश्वस्त किया है कि सांप्रदायिक स्थिति को बिगाड़ने वाले दोषी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कानून के अंतर्गत सख्त से सख्त कार्रवाई की जाएगी। उक्त सांप्रदायिक घटना की जाँच हेतु राज्य सरकार ने श्री विष्णु सहाय, भूतपूर्व कार्यवाहक मुख्य न्यायाधीश, इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट की अध्यक्षता में एक सदस्यीय न्यायिक जाँच आयोग दिनांक 9 सितम्बर 2013 को ही गठित कर दिया है, जो अपनी रिपोर्ट दो माह में प्रस्तुत करेगा। आयोग से घटनाओं के कारणों का पता लगाने, इसके संबंध में उत्तरदायित्व निर्धारित करने तथा इस प्रकार की घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति रोकने हेतु सुझाव देने की अपेक्षा की गई है। राज्य सरकार ने निर्णय लिया है कि प्रत्येक मृतक के परिवार को दस लाख रुपए की आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी। यह सहायता 'प्रधानमंत्री सहायता कोष' से मिलने वाली दो लाख रुपए एवं 'आतंकवादी/साम्प्रदायिक/नक्सली हिंसा के पीड़ितों की सहायता हेतु केन्द्रीय योजनो के अंतर्गत मिलने वाली तीन लाख रुपये की धनराशि

के अतिरिक्त है। गंभीर रूप से घायल प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को पचास हजार रूपए की आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी और उसका निःशुल्क इलाज कराया जाएगा। 'प्रधानमंत्री सहायता कोष' से भी प्रत्येक घायल को पचास हजार रूपए की आर्थिक सहायता प्राप्त होगी। उपरोक्त घटनाओं में प्रत्येक मृतक के आश्रित को योग्यता के आधार पर यथावश्यकता नियमों को शिथिल कर सरकारी नौकरी दी जाएगी। यदि किसी के मकान को नुकसान पहुंचा है तो उसकी मरम्मत करने के लिए आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी और यदि कोई मकान पूरी तरह से नष्ट हो गया है तो उस व्यक्ति को 'लोहिया आवास योजना' के तहत एक मकान सरकार द्वारा दिया जाएगा। इसके अतिरिक्त प्रभावित ग्रामों के हजारों लोग शिविरों में रह रहे हैं जिनको अपने-अपने घरों में फिर से बसाया जाएगा एवं उनके पुनर्वास के लिए सरकार द्वारा हर संभव सहायता दी जाएगी। इन लोगों के मन में सुरक्षा की भावना और आत्मविश्वास पैदा करने के लिए उनके ग्रामों में पुलिस पिकेट स्थापित की जा रही है। स्थानीय स्तर पर शांति समितियों की मदद से भी आपसी विश्वास एवं भाईचारे का माहौल स्थापित करने की पूरा प्रयास किया जा रहा है।

कानून व्यवस्था बनाए रखने में यह कठिनाई अनुभव की गई है कि सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से जो आपत्तिजनक सामग्री भावनाओं को भड़काने के लिए प्रसारित की जाती है, उसकी रोकथाम के लिए कोई कारगर व्यवस्था अभी नहीं है। भड़काऊ सामग्री जो ई-मेल या मोबाइल फोनों से एसएमएस और एमएमएस द्वारा क्षेत्रों में प्रसारित की जाती है उसकी रोकथाम के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाताओं तथा मोबाइल फोन कंपनियों के पास यह क्षमता हो कि वे निर्देश मिलने पर सीमित क्षेत्र विशेष में आपत्तिजनक सामग्री का वितरण प्रतिबंधित कर सकें। इसके साथ ही इंटरनेट सेवा प्रदाताओं एवं मोबाइल फोन कंपनियों के पास यह तकनीक भी उपलब्ध होनी चाहिए जिससे कि त्वरित गति से यह पता लगाया जा सके कि चिन्हित आपत्तिजनक सामग्री सर्वप्रथम किसके द्वारा भेजी गई। यदि यह क्षमता उनके पास नहीं हो तो इसे उन्हें विकसित करना चाहिए। इस संबंध में भारत सरकार से अविलम्ब कार्रवाई करने का अनुरोध है।

मैं इस बात को बहुत जोर देकर कहना चाहूंगा कि देश में और प्रदेश में अल्पसंख्यकों को और विशेषकर मुस्लिम समुदाय को यह पूरा मौका मिलना चाहिए कि वे आत्मसम्मान के साथ एवं सुरक्षित तथा भयमुक्त वातावरण में रह सकें। साथ ही मुस्लिम समुदाय को विकास की मुख्य धारा से जोड़ना बहुत जरूरी है। नवंबर, 2006 में संसद में सच्चर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत की गई थी जो समाज में मुस्लिम समुदाय की सामाजिक, आर्थिक एवं शैक्षणिक स्थिति के बारे में एकमात्र प्रामाणिक रिपोर्ट है। सच्चर कमेटी की इस रिपोर्ट से यह स्पष्ट हो जाता है कि कदाचित अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों के बाद आर्थिक एवं शैक्षणिक रूप से यदि कोई सबसे पिछड़ा समुदाय है तो वह मुस्लिम समुदाय है। कहीं-कहीं तो मुस्लिम समुदाय की स्थिति अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति से भी बदतर है। इसलिए देश के 17 करोड़ मुसलमानों को विकास की मुख्य धारा में शामिल करना निहायत जरूरी है। उन्हें छोड़कर प्रदेश एवं देश के समग्र विकास की परिकल्पना नहीं की जा सकती। इसके अतिरिक्त रंगनाथ मिश्र आयोग द्वारा भी सामाजिक, आर्थिक पिछड़ेपन के आधार पर भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 16(4) के अंतर्गत मुस्लिम अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय को आरक्षण का लाभ दिए जाने की महत्वपूर्ण संस्तुति की गई है। केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि सच्चर कमेटी की संस्तुतियों को पूरी तरह लागू किया जाए

तथा मुस्लिम अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के लिए भी आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की जाए। यदि इसके लिए संविधान में संशोधन आवश्यक हो तो उसके लिए भी कदम उठाए जाएं।

मेरी सरकार ने अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के लोगों को प्रदेश में संचालित विभिन्न विकास कार्यक्रमों एवं योजनाओं में उनका न्यायोचित हिस्सा दिलाने के उद्देश्य से प्रत्येक ऐसी योजना के भौतिक लक्ष्यों में 20 प्रतिशत मात्राकरण अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए करने का महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय लिया है। राज्य सरकार द्वारा अल्पसंख्यकों के कल्याण के लिए कई विशेष योजनाएं प्रारंभ की गई हैं, जिसमें 'हमारी बेटी उसका कल' योजना शामिल है। इसमें हाईस्कूल पास बालिका के लिए आगे पढ़ाई के लिए एकमुश्त तीस हजार रूपए की धनराशि देने की व्यवस्था है। यह सर्वविदित है कि यदि एक परिवार की लड़की पढ़ती है तो पूरा परिवार शिक्षित हो जाता है। इसके अलावा अल्पसंख्यक बाहुल्य क्षेत्रों में नए आई.टी.आई., पॉलिटेक्निक, इंटर कॉलेज एवं डिग्री कॉलेज खुलवाए जा रहे हैं। अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए तकनीकी शिक्षा, निःशुल्क कोचिंग एवं कुशल कारीगरों की दक्षता वृद्धि के लिए भी कई योजनाएं संचालित की जा रही हैं।

आप सब सहमत होंगे कि यदि इस देश को आगे बढ़ाना है, और भारतवासियों को अपने जीवन स्तर में सुधार करने का मौका दिया जाना है, यदि हमको अपने देश और प्रदेश के विकास के सपने को साकार करना है, तो उसकी पहली शर्त यह है कि देश और प्रदेश में शांति व्यवस्था और साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव बना रहे। मैं ऐसे निहित स्वार्थी, जो क्षुद्र राजनैतिक लाभ के लिए साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव बिगाड़ने का खतरनाक प्रयास करते हैं, की कड़े शब्दों में निन्दा करता हूं और मा. प्रधानमंत्री जी से अनुरोध करता हूं कि राष्ट्रीय एकता परिषद द्वारा भी इसी प्रकार का एक प्रस्ताव पारित किया जाए। इसी के साथ-साथ मैं समाज के सभी वर्गों एवं सभी राजनैतिक दलों से साम्प्रदायिक सदभाव बनाए रखने में अपना योगदान देने की अपील करता हूं।

धन्यवाद

DR. AMIT MITRA
HON'BLE FINANCE MINISTER
OF WEST BENGAL

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Union Ministers, Hon'ble Chief Ministers, Hon'ble Fellow Cabinet Ministers of States, Hon'ble Members of the National Integration Council, Distinguished Political and Social Leaders, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am honoured to represent the Chief Minister of West Bengla, Mamata Banerjee at this august gathering.

You would all agree that in a pluralistic society like India, national integration is the foremost pre-requisite for the survival of the very notion of India. Unity in diversity is the fundamental tenet which forms the bedrock of our Constitution and our national ethos. Maintaining communal harmony is therefore a critical requirement for our country. Therefore, there is a need to harmonize all the diversities in terms of religion, region, caste, language and ethnicity.

To achieve this goal of 'unity in diversity', in the world's largest democracy, we would require to remove all forms of discriminations. It would also require adequate steps for ensuring inclusive growth of all communities, reducing regional imbalances in terms of development indices and removing the feelings of deprivation. Stress on education and health for all any employment generation can be a major contributor in our efforts. We need to strengthen the economic condition of the disadvantaged in general and minority population and weaker section in particular.

Of late, a few very disturbing incidents of communal strife have occurred in the country. These incidents and their perpetrators deserve our strongest condemnation. Recurrence of incidents of communal violence after more than half a century after we became a democratic republic is unbecoming of a great nation like ours. We, therefore, need to give a serious thought to the issue which lead to communal discord.

I am proud to say that the inter-community relation in West Bengal is a showpiece of harmony and peaceful coexistence. This has been achieved due to the endeavours of our Government to protect the rights of the minorities which constitute a sizeable population of the State. Strong and effective steps have been taken to promote the welfare of the minorities and weaker sections of the society. Fortunately, the society in our State has always responded positively to these endeavours. It would not be out of place to mention the contribution of the great social leaders and thinkers of West Bengal in shaping this pluralistic ethos. I take pride in mentioning before this august gathering that although there was an influx of affected people in the bordering districts our State in the wake of the communal riots which took place in Assam recently, the communal situation in the State remained largely unaffected. This shows the resilience of inter-community harmony prevailing in our State.

Having said so, may I raise the issue of the need for effective implementation of laws and quick delivery by the criminal justice system in today's meeting. In addition to taking effective steps to quell any communal violence before it escalates to a bigger crisis, exposing and bringing the perpetrators to face the delivery of justice should also be our major objective.

The fight against communal discrimination has to be two pronged. The first prong relates to the legal dimensions of combating discriminations. Most ingredients of this prong are already in place. However, there are some lacunae and short comings in the process of implementation of these laws. The second prong of fighting against discrimination underlines the need for taking economic and financial measures to strengthen the conditions of minorities and weaker sections. Our Government is actively empowering the minorities and weaker sections by introducing measures and schemes for uplifting their economic status, creating employment opportunities through various schemes, and mainstreaming them systematically ensuring that they proudly stand on own feet without facing any discrimination. Towards achieving this end our Government has taken many steps in the last two years.

A total of 53 communities/sections from amongst the Muslims have been declared OBC for the purpose of availing reservation for admission in educational institutions and Government jobs. Out of the 53 such communities/sections, 49 have been placed under of the 'more backward' category.

- Our Government has decided to open English Medium Government Madrasahs and have also recognized unaided Madrasahs.
- Our Government is providing free bicycles to every girl student of the Madrasahs who are studying in Class IX to XII.
- Our Government has allotted land for a minority university named Aliah University and has approved funds for construction of its new campus.
- Our Government has decided to construct Minority Bhavan in each 18 District of West Bengal.
- Apart from running vocational training to minority youth, the Aliah University has already set up coaching centres for civil service aspirants belonging to the minority community.
- In order to expand the activity of Urdu Academy branch-offices have been opened in two Districts.
- Boundary wall around grave-yards is a very sensitive issue to the minority community. Our Government has allocated Rs. 40 cores for construction of 575 boundary walls around grave-yards during 2012-13.
- The third Haj-Tower is being constructed at New-Town, Rajarhat.
- Housing for the minority community is another area where the State Government has taken major strides.

- Funds have also been allocated for housing meant for destitute women of the minority community.
- Urdu, Hindi, Oriya, Nepali, Gurmukhi and Santhali speaking people have been identified as linguistic minority by our Government.

The Scheduled Castes in our country have been subjected to various forms of discriminations due to age old social beliefs and medieval values. They are largely landless labourers or marginal farmers and have consequently suffered immensely. They have also suffered for lack of education in the community. Similarly, the Scheduled Tribes have also been unable become part of the social mainstream for various reasons. Their economic and social backwardness requires positive intervention from the Government and proper implementation of development schemes targeting these sections of society. Our Government is fully committed to the welfare of these communities.

- We are determined to eliminate the backlog in employment in the reservation domain of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.
- As a corollary to this, we declared all tribal families in Jangalmahal areas of three districts as BPL families and therefore are able to provide them with rice at Rs. 2 per kg. So that the nutritional level is maintained at the survival mark.
- Our Government has framed several schemes for providing financial assistance to the students belonging to SC and ST communities. Education loans are provided by the West Bengal SC and ST Development and Finance Corporation for undertaking professional courses.
- To facilitate education of girl students of Class IX to XII belonging to SC and ST communities, our Government is providing bicycles to them.
- We have laid down a social security scheme for old age pensions to tribal beneficiaries belonging to BPL families.
- Special programmes have also been undertaken for skill development for the members of SC and ST communities and promotion of their art and culture.
- There has been a significant improvement in the issuance of caste certificates during the last two years. A total of 13,09,226 caste certificates were issued during the years 2011 and 2012.
- In order to harmonize inter-community relations, the State Government protects the couples who partake in inter-caste marriages involving members of SC community and also provides them financial support for their settlement. In order to facilitate inter-caste marriage amount of inter-caste marriage incentive has been enhanced from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 30,000 in the financial year 2012-13. Gender discrimination is a major form of discrimination prevailing in the Indian society. It has resulted in female infanticide, poor sex ration, lower level of female education, child marriage, fertility deaths, lower life expectancy in women and above all crimes against women.

Empowerment of this half of our population is a prime objective of our Government. Our Government has therefore given due importance to female education and skill development which would instill a sense of confidence in the girls and women.

I am happy to present before this august gathering that this year, our Government has formulated the Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme.

Under this scheme all girls whose family income is upto or below Rs. 1,20,000 and who remain in schools or in vocational educational institutions, will receive an annual scholarship. Furthermore, if these girls remain in school till the age of 18, they will receive a cash award of Rs. 25,000. This unique Kanyashree scheme will give a fillip to education among the girl child of our State. It will also help in postponing early marriage which often leads to higher infant mortality and ill health of the mother.

Our Government views crimes against women as a very serious social evil. We are earnestly trying to eradicate this menace effectively through following measures:

- To tackle this menace we have already set up 10 exclusively women's police stations in the State and 10 more women police stations will be set up in the current year.
- The State has planned to set up a total of 65 women police stations by the year 2016.
- In order to augment the percentage of women in the police force a total of over 2700 Lady Constables have been recruited in the last two years.
- A good number of Lady Sub Inspectors are being inducted into the police force of the State.

These steps will not only give more confidence to the women to approach the police for redressing their grievances but will also help in bringing about behavioural changes in the police, making it more humane and gender friendly.

In order to regenerate social values and multiculturalism in line with the great renaissance of Bengal albeit India, our Government has given a special thrust to folk theatre, folk art and of course the great tradition of films, modern theatre and music of Bengal. Through these social instruments the Government is actively pushing the agenda of 'unity in diversity' and spreading the message of communal harmony and appreciation of each other's traditions and cultures. We have made major progress towards local and national integration through direct measures listed earlier and through a wider array of cultural and symbolic messaging. We are determined to pursue this goal of national integration in our State in right earnest.

ANNEXURE

**LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE RECONSTITUTED
NATIONAL INTEGRATION COUNCIL (NIC) 2013**

Category 1

PRIME MINISTER

CHAIRMAN

UNION MINISTERS

S. No.	Names of Union Ministers for the NIC 2013
1.	Shri P. Chidambaram
2.	Shri Sharad Pawar
3.	Shri A.K. Antony
4.	Shri Sushil Kumar Sambhaji Rao Shinde
5.	Shri Kamal Nath
6.	Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad
7.	Shri Anand Sharma
8.	Shri Kapil Sibal
9.	Shri Mallikarjun Kharge
10.	Dr. Farooq Abdullah
11.	Shri V. Kishore Chandra Deo
12.	Shri K. Rahman Khan
13.	Shri Jairam Ramesh
14.	Dr. M.Mangapati Pallam Raju
15.	Kumari Selja
16.	Smt. Krishna Tirath, MOS (Independent Charge)
17.	Shri Manish Tewari, MOS (Independent Charge)
18.	Shri Srikant Jena, MOS (Independent Charge)
19.	Shri Sachin Pilot, MOS (Independent Charge)
20.	Shri V. Narayanasamy, Minister of State

LEADERS OF OPPOSITION
IN LOK SABHA AND RAJYA SABHA

S.No.	Names of Leaders of Opposition for the NIC 2013
1.	Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha New Delhi
2.	Shri Arun Jaitley, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha New Delhi

**CHIEF MINISTERS OF ALL THE STATES AND
UNION TERRITORIES WHICH HAVE LEGISLATURES**

S.No.	State	Names of Chief Ministers for the NIC 2013S/Shri
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kiran Kumar Reddy
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nabam Tuki
3.	Assam	Tarun Gogoi
4.	Bihar	Nitish Kumar
5.	Chhattisgarh	Raman Singh
6.	Goa	Manohar Parrikar
7.	Gujarat	Narendra Modi
8.	Haryana	Bhupinder Singh Hooda
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Virbhadra Singh
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Omar Abdullah
11.	Jharkhand	Hemant Soren
12.	Karnataka	Siddaramaiah
13.	Kerala	Oommen Chandy
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Shivraj Singh Chouhan
15.	Maharashtra	Prithviraj Chavan
16.	Manipur	Okram Ibobi Singh
17.	Meghalaya	Dr. Mukul Sangma
18.	Mizoram	Lal Thanhawla
19.	Nagaland	Neiphiu Rio
20.	Orissa	Naveen Patnaik
21.	Punjab	Prakash Singh Badal
22.	Rajasthan	Ashok Gehlot
23.	Sikkim	Pawan Kumar Chamling
24.	Tamil Nadu	Selvi J. Jayalalithaa
25.	Tripura	Manik Sarkar
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Akhilesh Yadav
27.	Uttarakhand	Vijay Bahuguna
28.	West Bengal	Kumari Mamata Banerjee
29.	Delhi	Smt. Sheila Dikshit
30.	Puducherry	N. Rangasamy

LEADERS OF NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES

Sl. No.	Updated for the NIC 2013
1	Smt. Sonia Gandhi, President, Indian National Congress, New Delhi.
2	Shri Rajnath Singh, President, Bharatiya Janata Party, New Delhi
3	Shri Prakash Karat, General Secretary, Communist Party of India (Marxist), New Delhi.
4	Shri S. Sudhakar Reddy, General Secretary, Communist Party of India, New Delhi.
5	Kumari Mayawati, President, Bahujan Samaj Party, New Delhi
6	*Shri Sharad Pawar, President, Nationalist Congress Party, New Delhi

***Also appears in the list of Union Ministers.**

LEADERS OF REGIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES

S.No.	Names and Political Parties
1.	Shri M. Karunanidhi, President, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Chennai – 600 018
2.	*Jb. Omar Abdullah, President, Jammu & Kashmir National Conference, New Delhi – 110 011
3.	Shri Ajit Singh, President, Rashtriya Lok Dal, New Delhi – 110 011
4.	Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal, President, Shiromani Akali Dal, Chandigarh
5.	Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, President, Telugu Desam Party, Hyderabad – 500 033
6.	Shri E. Ahamed, President, Indian Union Muslim League, Kerala- 670 012
7.	Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, President, Samajwadi Party, New Delhi
8.	Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, President, Rashtriya Janata Dal, New Delhi
9.	Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, President, Janata Dal (S), New Delhi – 110 001

S.No.	Names and Political Parties	S.No.	Names and Political Parties
10.	Shri Sharad Yadav, President, Janata Dal (U), New Delhi – 110 001.		
11.	*Shri Naveen Patnaik, President, Biju Janata Dal, Orissa.		
12.	Shri Brindaban Goswami, President, Asom Gana Parishad, Guwahati – 781 001		
13.	Ms. Mehbooba Mufti, President, People’s Democratic Party, Srinagar (J&K)		
14.	*Ms. J. Jayalithaa, General Secretary, All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, Chennai.		
15.	*Ms. Mamata Banerjee, Chairperson, All India Trinamool Congress, Kolkata		
16.	Shri Bhim Singh, Chief Patron, J&K National Panthers Party		

***Also appears in the list of Chief Ministers.**

NATIONAL COMMISSIONS

S.No.	Name of the Chairperson of National Commissions for the NIC
1.	Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities, 5 th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi-110003
2.	Dr. P.L. Punia, Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, 5 th Floor Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi-110003
3.	Dr. Rameshwar Oraon, Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, 6 th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi -110003
4.	Ms. Mamta Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission for Women, 4-Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, New Delhi.
5.	Justice (Retd.) K.G. Balakrishnan, Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission, Manav Adhikar Bhavan, Block-C, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi - 110 023
6.	Justice (Retd.) Vengala Eswaraiah, Chairperson, National Commission for Backward Classes, Trikoort-1, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi -110066
7.	Smt. Kamlaben Gurjar, Chairperson, National Commission for Safai Karamcharis, 4 th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi -110003

8.	Dr. Nandlal Jyotwani Chairman, National Commission for Linguistic Minorities, 40- Amar Nath Jha Marg, Allahabad, UP-211002
9.	Shri Sam Pitroda Chairman, National Knowledge Commission, Centre for Policing Research, Dharam Marg, Chankaya Puri, New Delhi -110021
10.	Justice (Retd.) M.S.A. Siddiqui, Chairman, National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions, Gate No. 4, 1 st Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, 5- Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001
11.	Shri S. Ramadorai Chairman, National Skill Development Agency, 9 th Floor, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001

MEDIA PERSONS

S.No.	Names of Media
1.	Shri Siddharth Varadarajan Editor, The Hindu, Chennai - 600 002
2.	Ms. Shobhana Bhartia, Chairperson, Hindustan Times Group, HT Media Ltd, New Delhi - 110 001
3.	Shri Mammen Mathew, Editor, Malayala Manorama, Kottayam - 686 001 Kerala
4.	Shri Shekhar Gupta, Editor-in-Chief, The Indian Express Ltd, New Delhi - 110 002
5.	Shri M.K. Razdan, Editor-in-Chief and Chief Executive Officer, Press Trust of India Ltd, New Delhi - 110 001
6.	Shri Bharat Agarwal, Executive Director, Dainik Bhaskar, 304, INS Building, Rafi Marg, New Delhi - 110 001
7.	Shri Aroon Purie Editor-in-Chief, India Today Group Mediaplex, FC-8, Sector -16A, Film City, Noida (UP)
8.	Shri T.N. Ninan, Managing Director & Chairman, Business Standard Ltd, New Delhi - 110 002
9.	Ms. Barkha Dutt, Group Editor, NDTV, Archana Shopping Complex, Greater Kailash-I, New Delhi - 110 048

S.No.	Names of Media
10.	Shri Kumar Ketkar, Chief Editor, Divya Marathi, Dainik Bhaskar Group, GF, New Udyog Mandir No.2, Mugul Lane, Behind Johnson and Johnson, Mahim Station, Mumbai- 400016.
11.	Shri Rajdeep Sardesai, Editor-in-Chief, CNN-IBN, Global Broadcast News, Noida, Uttar Pradesh – 201 301
12.	Shri Rajat Sharma, Chairman, India TV, B-30, Sector -85 Noida -201305 (UP)
13.	Shri Raj Chengappa, Editor-in-Chief, The Tribune House, Chandigarh.
14.	Shri Arindam Sengupta, Editor, Times of India, New Delhi.
15.	Shri PG Baruah Editor-in-Chief, Assam Tribune, Tribune Building GNB Road, Guwahati-781003
16.	Shri Zahid Ali Khan, Editor, The Siasat Daily, Hyderabad – 500 001
17.	Shri Shahid Latif, Editor, Inquilab, Mumbai – 400 012
18.	Shri Shahid Siddiqui, Editor-in-Chief, Nai Duniya Urdu Weekly, D-21, Nizamuddin West, New Delhi – 13

S.No.	Names of Media
19.	Shri Deepak Chaurasia, Managing Editor, India News, Okhla Phase-1 New Delhi
20.	Shri Sanjeev Prakash, Chief Executive Officer, ANI,ANI Building, Sector-9, R. K. Puram, New Delhi.
21.	Shri Vishwas Tripathi, Chairman, United News of India (UNI), 9, Rafi Marg, New Delhi - 110 001
22.	Shri Aveek Sarkar, CMD, ABP Group of Publications, 6 Praful Sarkar Street, Kolkata-700001.

REPRESENTATIVES OF BUSINESS

S.No.	List of Business Representatives
1.	Ms. Naina Lal Kidwai President Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi-110001.
2.	Shri Rana Kapoor President, ASSOCHAM, 5 Sardar Patel Marg, New Delhi-110021.
3.	Shri Cyrus P. Mistry Chairman, Tata GroupTata Sons Ltd., 3 rd Floor, Bombay House, 24, Homi Mody Street, Mumbai – 400001.
4.	Mrs. Rajashree Birla Chairperson, Committee on CSR & Community Development Director: Aditya Birla Group City: Mumbai.
5.	Shri Azim Premji Chairman, Wipro Ltd, Doddakannelli, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru – 560035.
6.	Shri Y.C. Deveshwar Chairman, ITC Ltd., Virginia House, 37, JL Nehru Road, Kolkata – 700071.
7.	Shri Pratip Chaudhuri Chairman, State Bank of India, State Bank Bhavan, Central Office, 8 th Floor, Madame Cama Marg, Mumbai – 400 021.

8.	Shri N.R. Narayana Murthy Founder and Executive Chairman, Corporate Headquarters Electronic City, Hosur Road, Bangalore-560100.
9.	Shri N. Chandrasekaran CEO, TCS, TCS House, Mumbai – 400 001 (Maharashtra)
10.	Shri Anand G Mahindra Chairman & Managing Director, Mahindra Group, Gateway Building Apollo Bunder, Mumbai – 400001. (Maharashtra)
11.	Shri Venu Srinivasan, Chairman, TVS Motor Company Limited, 8, Haddows Road, Chennai – 600006
12.	Ms. Chanda Kochhar MD & CEO, ICICI Bank, 3i Infotech Ltd. Tower, No.5, 3 rd to 6 th Floor, International Infotech Park, Vashi, New Mumbai – 400 703
13.	Shri Suman Jyoti Khaitan, PHD Chambers of Commerce, PHD House, 4/2 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi – 110 016
14.	Shri Som Mittal, President, NASSCOM, International Youth Centre, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110 021
15.	Shri S. Gopalakrishnan, President, Confederation of Indian Industry, CII Central Office, Mantosh Sondhi Centre, 23, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 023

EMINENT PUBLIC FIGURES

S. No.	Name of the Eminent Public Figures
1.	Shri L.K. Advani, M.P. (LS) 30, Prithviraj Road, New Delhi-110003.
2.	Dr. Karan Singh, M.P. (RS), "Mansarovar", 3, Nyay Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110 003
3.	Shri Rishang Keishing, M.P. (RS) 12, Talkatora Road, New Delhi
4.	Ms. Mrinal Pande, E-148, East of Kailash, New Delhi – 110 065
5..	Shri Fali S. Nariman, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, F-21/22, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi – 110 016
6.	Archbishop Vincent M.C. Concessao, Archbishop's House, 1, Ashok Place, New Delhi – 110 001
7.	Shri Sitaram Yechury, M.P. (RS) A.K. Gopalan Bhavan, 27-29 Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi – 110 001
8.	Mrs. Jaya Bachchan, M.P. (RS), "SOPAN" B-8, Gulmohar Park, New Delhi – 110 049
9.	Dr. S. N. Subbarao, National Youth Project, 221, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi – 110 002
10.	Shri Syed Shahabuddin, All India Muslim Majlis-E-Mushawarat, D-250, Abdul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025.

11.	Ms. Amarjeet Kaur, Secretary, AITUC, AITUC Bhavan, 35-36, DDU Marg, Raus Avenue, New Delhi – 110 002
12.	Smt. Shantha Sinha, 10-2-3, Entrenchment Road, Opposite Polytechnic College, West Marred Polly, Secundrabad – 500026 (A. P.)
13.	Justice (Retd.) Leila Seth, 309-B, Sector -15A, Noida – 201301 (UP)
14.	Dr. John Dayal, All India Christian Council, 505, Link Apartments18, IP Extension, Delhi - 110092
15.	Ms. Ingrid Mcleod, MP (LS) D-53, L-5, Vinoba Nagar, Bilaspur – 495 001 (Chhattisgarh).
16.	Sister Nirmala, Superior General of the Missionaries of Chairty, Nirmal Sadan, Kolkata
17.	Shri Javed Akhtar, M.P. (RS), 60, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi – 110 003.
18.	Prof. Zoya Hasan, Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi.
19.	Ms. Anu Aga, MP (RS), 701, Brahmputra Apartments, Dr. B. D. Marg, New Delhi – 110 001
20	Shri Navin Chawla, Former Chief Election Commissioner, 4, Jaipur Estate, Nizamuddin (East) New Delhi-110013.
21.	His Eminence Baselios Cardinal Cleemis Catholicos, Head of the Syro Malankara Catholic Church, Major Archbishop's House, Pattom, Trivendrum-695 004 (Kerala).

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVES

S. No.	List of Women's Representatives
1.	Smt. Ela R. Bhatt, Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA), SEWA Reception Centre, Opposite Victoria Garden, Bhadra, Ahmedabad - 380001
2.	Begum Noor Bano, Rampur House, 19-B, Friends Colony West, New Delhi - 110 065
3.	Dr. Mary E. John, Director, Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi
4.	Ms. Shobhana Jain, India Women's Press Corps, 5, Windsor Place, New Delhi - 110 001
5.	Ms. Farah Naqvi, NAC Member, New Delhi
6.	Ms. Akila Shivdas, C-100/B, 1 st Floor, Kalkaji, New Delhi - 110 019
7.	Ms. Naina Kapur, Advocate & Equality Consultant at Law, Founder & Director at Sakshi (NGO India) (brought the PIL in Vishakha case), Co Founder & Co-Chairperson at Asia Pacific Advisory Forum of Judicial Education on Equality issues.
