

The multidimensional approach of the Government to boost agriculture and other allied sectors in the country is emerging as a major success. In place of following the traditional system, the Government is trying to boost production of other produce also, through hybrid farming so that besides enhancing socio-economic status of farmers, the increasing demand of food grains in the country can also be met. In order to promote cultivation of millets (Shree Anna) like Jowar, Bajra, Ragi etc, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW) has been implementing a Sub-Mission on Nutri-Cereals (Millets) under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in 212 Districts of 14 States since 2018-19. Under NFSM-Nutri Cereals, incentives are provided to the farmers, through the states/ UTs, on crop production and protection technologies, cropping system based demonstrations, production & distribution of certified seeds of newly released varieties/ hybrids, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management techniques, improved farm implements/ tools/ resource conservation machineries, water saving devices, capacity building of farmers through trainings during cropping season, organizing events/ workshops, distribution of seed mini kits, publicity through print and electronic media etc. The interventions such as setting up Centers of Excellence (CoEs) and seed hubs for Nutri Cereals have also been supported under NFSM.

Government is providing R&D support to Research Institutions for popularizing nutritious millets. ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad is undertaking various research projects related to shelf-life, food standards, database development etc. funded under NFSM. Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI) is undertaking R&D projects to tackle the bottlenecks in millet processing, value addition and product development. Under the Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme of Government of India, CSIR-CFTRI, Mysore has conducted several training and skill development programmes to enhance competitiveness of existing individual micro-enterprises, including millet based industries in the unorganized segment. Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAR) program a Centre of Excellence for Processing Millets and incubation centre is being set up consisting of around 8 processing lines dedicated to millets. These lines will help in obtaining quality primary and secondary products with enhanced shelf-life. ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition is conducting R&D activities on millets such as on nutritional values of various processed and cooked millets, efficacy of cooked millet diet, effect of finger millet-based dietary supplementation.

■ **PRIYANKA SAURABH**

It is everyone's responsibility to fight the menace of fake news and misinformation. It covers all dimensions from reducing financial incentives for fake news to improving digital literacy among the general public. Today, many agencies in the country are working to bring the truth of fake news to the people, but this is not enough because their reach is not yet widespread, due to which fake news can be curbed or the truth can reach the people immediately. At the same time, due to increasing fake news, social media platforms are also working on it, because many times their credibility has also been questioned, WhatsApp and Facebook have also made many changes in their feature to stop fake news, but on this yet more work needs to be done so that a clean environment can be created. Fake news is false or misleading information presented as news and often intended to damage the reputation of a person or entity or to make money through advertising revenue. Data from the National Crime Records Bureau shows that 2020 saw an almost three-fold increase in incidents of fake news and rumor-mongering as compared to 2019. A total of 1,527 cases of fake news were registered in 2020, as against 486 cases in 2019 and 280 in 2018. Fake news and misinformation are a growing menace in India. False news and propaganda spreading continuously in India are becoming a serious social challenge for the country. In a country like India, this problem is becoming more serious and due to this, incidents of street riots and mob lynching are often seen. In India, which has over 750 million internet users, social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp have become major sources of fake news transmission. Many such examples can be seen in India, where an innocent person has lost his life due to 'fake news' or false news. WhatsApp is considered to be the most vulnerable medium for 'fake news' in India, as its users often forward the news to many people without knowing its veracity, due to which misinformation reaches many people at once. Propaganda, misinformation, and fake news have the potential to polarize public opinion to fuel violent extremism and hate speech. For example, the recent migrant crisis in Tamil Nadu was caused by the spread of fake news. Fake news articles are used intentionally and verifiably to influence politics and promote advertising, to manipulate people's perceptions of reality to manipulate elections. During and after the 2016 election,

## ■ SHIV KUMAR PADHA

The main objective of these countries is to tarnish the image of India at global level. Different surveys of the self-styled advanced countries defame India as a most communal, intolerant and perpetrator of human atrocities in the world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in order to apprise the world community about India, called upon the non Indian citizens to visit the country and get first hand information about the culture civilization, traditions and actual unity in diversity, so that they are not swayed

This truth has been endorsed by the travelogues of many travelers from other lands who visited India from time to time. Their travelogues talk in detail about the rich culture, traditions, educational and administrative set up pervading thousands of years back. According to the travelogues India had been the pivot of knowledge, spiritualism, non-violence, free from atrocities on human beings and animals. All these virtues

Megasthenes the Greek Ambassador had travelled to Kerala in BC 302 during the times of Chandergupt Mourya and was first to tell the world about such a place in his reputed work 'Indica'. Fa-Hsin visited India during Chandergupt-2 which was the Zenith of Gupta Empire in India. He wrote about economical prosperity where he says people were paying less taxes, he never faced any law and order problem which was the result of administration during Gupta age. Heun Tsang visited India during Harshvardhan time.

He wrote his experiences in Si-K-Kyi where he writes about his visit to Buddhist pilgrim sites. He also wrote about the university of ancient India especially Nalanda international university and explained about educational system prevalent in India. According to

Tbn-e- Battuta visited India during Tuglak rule. He mentioned the life in the deep south Pallavas. Abdur Razaq visited Vijay Nagar during Devaraja-II of Sangama dynasty. He describes the richness of the Kingdom and also the relevance system of the Kingdom. According to him the Vijay Nagar was the center of appreciation for architecture and the glory of the city Hampi.

Prime Ministers Narendra Modi reposed his full confidence upon the Indian citizens by calling them the national ambassadors spread over the world by assigning them the duty of sending at least five non Indians to visit India every year so that they can travel from India from east to west and from north to south and see India by their eyes so that they can counter and believe the vicious and false propaganda against India.

(The author is a Social Activist from Basohli).

■ **MAHADEEP SINGH JAMWAL**

Politics is the profession which can generate the strongest and most polarized reactions in our society. Politics is a serious business dealing with serious issues and it should be taken very seriously, and seriously intelligent people should pronounce on political matters. We stand blessed from time to time with some statesmen whose service to their country is selfless and well-intentioned, and we have also been blessed with some who are genuinely political thinkers and courageous leaders. We too had such politicians who have set examples of corruption, religious frenzy, sufferings and what not. The only difference between two different sets of politicians is because of different values of politics for them. Ideal politics talks of some ideals like truthfulness, welfare of the people, faithfulness and oppose individual benefit. In today's India, the works for the national benefit, secularism, welfare etc. are the main themes for the value-based politics. But these days negligence regarding value-based politics is generally avoided. To acquire power, the political parties and political leaders do not mind ignoring value-based politics. Corruption, forceful politics and the presence of force, money and crime in politics are really harming the whole political system. Political values are shared convictions about what is important in a society. Some of the most important political values emphasize individual effort, the importance of the rule of law, Patriotism, and political tolerance. All people do not believe in the same political ideology, which describes the scope and purpose of government. In the recent past political values are vested in what is often called the creed. The core value i.e. political tolerance is missing such as; the willingness to allow groups with different ideologies to exercise their constitutionally guaranteed freedoms. But it is an admitted reality that our political system does not extend political freedoms to groups they dislike. We have seen that political parties less believe in the rule of law which explains the

During 75 years of independence of India we failed to understand Political system which is badly affected by dirty politics based on caste creed, money and all others. We badly failed to make a corruption free people's voting environment. This is because of the power centric political system, so it is not the question of value based politics only, it is the question of value based society also. We always curse politicians for doing all wrong i.e. corruption, immorality, fake commitment, dividing people in the name of religion, region, caste and language, but have we ever thought- why they do it, answer is very simple - they do it for us, they do it for vote and who gave them vote simply we. So the corrective measures are required to be initiated by cor-

Before independence the people were really patriotic and there were good leaders to govern them. When the generation is moving fast the "theory of existence" came into existence. And the morals and values become extinct. The humble and patriotic faces of the politicians turned greedy, cruel and cunning. They are more money eager and they are pseudo patriotic. There is at least choice of seeing the politicians, who are patriotic and selfless in the future, if the system will continue as is on date. Concluding, all of us are neck deep in politics everyday of our lives. Every organization on earth that involves human beings has its politics. If a political party does not have its foundation in the determination to advance a cause that is right and that is moral, then it is not a political party; it is a conspiracy to seize power. Under the big political umbrella, a man is just like a leaf in the ocean, with no control of his destiny and does not have any choice. The politicians are able in a way defined by Winston Churchill, "A politician needs the ability to foretell what is going to happen tomorrow, next week, next month, and next year. And to have the ability afterwards to explain why it didn't happen."

Russian agents created social media accounts to spread fake news that incited protests and supported presidential candidate Donald Trump while discrediting candidate Hillary Clinton and her allies. Media companies promote sensational news and false headlines for high TRPs and viewership. For example Circulation of false videos showing shocking attacks on the Army in Kashmir Valley. Many times, fake news is used to mislead people who are not digitally literate. For example, after demonetization, the fake news of electronic chips in Rs 2000 notes created a lot of confusion among the people. The multilingual population is a problem in combating fake news in India, there are 22 official languages and only 10.67 per cent of the population speaks English. Existing fake news detection measures are most effective for English, which can lead to failure to recognize and process information in other lan-

The European Union has implemented a 2022 Code of Conduct on Disinformation and the United Kingdom has proposed an online safety bill that will seek to proactively monitor controversial content from social media platforms. India too must put in place a robust framework to tackle the root causes of misinformation. All sections of the population should be made aware of the realities of fake news and propaganda by creating awareness and education. Fake news is often propagated

Today, every day many types of content are being made available around us through various mediums on the internet, but no one knows what truth is. It has reached many people before going into its depth. The government should make strict laws regarding spreading such information so that the right news can reach the public. Even today, the cyber law of our country is very weak, from which anyone can easily escape; the government needs to think about it. Regarding this matter, the Supreme Court said that we need such a guideline so that those who commit online crimes and those who post misleading information on social media can be tracked. The government cannot escape by saying that it does not have any technology to stop the misuse of social media. Fake news harms every section of society. Therefore, it is the responsibility of everyone to fight the menace of fake news and misinformation. It covers all dimensions from reducing financial incentives for fake news to improving digital literacy among the general public. Today, many agencies in the country are working to bring the truth of fake news to the people, but this is not enough because their reach is not yet widespread, due to which fake news can be curbed or the truth can reach the people immediately. At the same time, due to increasing fake news, social media platforms are also working on it, because many times their credibility has also been questioned, WhatsApp and Facebook have also made many changes in their feature to stop fake news, but on this yet and there is a need to work so that a clean environment can be created.

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