POSHAN BHI PADHAI BHI

he Ministry of Women and Child Development is organizing a national event on key initiatives for strengthening Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) which is an important component of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) and envisaged under the National Education Policy.

The event, to be chaired by the Union Minister for Women and Child Development (WCD) and Minority Affairs, Smriti Zubin Irani, will be organized at Vigyan Bhawan. The programme will also be addressed by Munjpara Mahendrabhai, Minister of State MWCD; Indevar Pandey, Secretary (WCD) and Sanjay Kaul, Former Secretary, Dept of School Education, Govt. of Karnataka and Chairperson of the ECCE Task Force of

Union Minister Smriti Zubin Irani will deliver the Keynote Address. A panel discussion will highlight best ECCE practices from the States of Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Senior officers from Department of Women and Child Development/ Social Justice from all States/UTs and: close to 800 ICDS functionaries, including CDPOs, Supervisors and Anganwadi Workers are expected to attend the programme.

The main objective of the event is to highlight the criticality of focusing on early childhood care and education. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is launching 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi', a path-breaking ECCE programme to ensure that India has the world's largest, universal, high-quality pre-school network, as suggested by the National Education Policy. Speakers will sensitize attendees to this important need and highlight achievements under ECCE and Poshan. Participants will discuss key initiatives to extend capacity building support to Anganwadi workers for transforming the Anganwadi into a centre of preschool learning, Master Trainers and Anganwadi Workers will use the platform to demonstrate various

Chairperson of the ECCE Taskforce constituted by the Ministry is expected to apprise participants on the key action steps recommended by the ECCE Taskforce. Close to 13.9 lakh operational Anganwadi centres across the country are providing supplementary nutrition and early care and education to around 8 crore beneficiary children under the age of 6 years, making it the largest public provisioning of such services in the

Considering global evidence on 85% of brain development being achieved by the age of 6 years, the Anganwadi eco-system becomes a critical access point for building our children's base, in order to secure their future. As per the guidelines of the National Education Policy 2020, with 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi, Government has taken up the goal of strengthening the foundations of the country's future generations.

Government will target children's development in every domain mentioned in the National Curriculum Framework, viz., physical and motor development, cognitive development, socio-emotional-ethical development, cultural/artistic development, and the development of communication and early language, literacy, and numeracy. All States will follow the national ECCE taskforce recommendations for a play-based, activity-based learning pedagogy, targeted specifically at developmental milestones of 0-3-year olds as well as 3-6-year olds, including special support for Divyang

Through the changes introduced by the 'Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi' ECCE policy, every child would be provided with at least two hours of high-quality pre-school instruction on a daily basis. As stated in the NEP, Anganwadi Centres will be strengthened with highquality infrastructure, play equipment, and welltrained Anganwadi workers/teachers. Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi will focus on promoting holis-

tic and quality early stimulation and pre-primary education for children, ensuring the use of developmentally appropriate pedagogies and emphasizing the links imary education as well as early childhood health and nutrition services.

Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi program will provide for mother tongue as primary teacher instruction medium, different types of teaching-learning material (visual: aids, audio aids, audio-visual and bodily-kinesthetic aids) to Anganwadi Sewikas, and help build a Jan Andolan, to involve communities in strengthening the foundations of the country's future generations.

G20 Summit-Embodies idea of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'

'India's G20 Presidency will work to promote universal sense of oneness. Hence our theme - 'One Earth, One Family, One Future': Modi

AARYAN SHARMA

ecember 1, 2022 is a momentous day as India assumed the presidency of the G20 forum, taking over from Indonesia. As the largest democracy in the world, and the fastest growing economy, India's G20 presidency will play a crucial role in building upon the significant achievements of the previous 17 presidencies. As it takes the G20 Presidency, India is on a mission to bring about a shared global future for all through the Amrit Kaal initiative with a focus on the LiFE movement which aims to promote environmentally-conscious practices and a sustainable way of living. With a clear plan and a development-oriented approach, India aims to promote a rules-based order, peace and just growth for all. The 200+ events planned in the run up to the 2023 Summit will strengthen India's agenda and the six thematic priorities of India's G20 presidency.

The G20 group of 19 countries and the EU was established in 1999 as a platform for Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss international economic and financial issues. Together, the G20 countries account for almost two-thirds of the global population, 75 per cent of global trade, and 85 per cent of the world's GDP. In the wake of the global financial and economic crisis of 2007, the G20 was elevated to the level of Heads of State/Government and was named the 'premier forum for international economic cooperation.

The G20 has two main tracks of engagement: the Finance Track for finance ministers and central bank governors and the Sherpa Track. The G20's proceedings are led by the Sherpas, who are appointed as personal envoys of the leaders of member nations. These Sherpas are responsible for overseeing the negotiations that occur throughout the year, deliberating on the agenda for the summit and coordinating the substantive work of the G20. Both tracks have working groups to address specific themes with representatives from relevant parties. Working groups this

G20 meet in Srinagar on May 22-24

The G20 Working Group Meeting under India's presidency will be held in the Kashmir Valley between May 22 and 24. The Srinagar G20 meet will be the first major international event in Jammu and Kashmir since August 2019, the abrogation of Article 370. Since then the J&K has seen major development in many sectors from road connectivity to rail connectivity and construction of world's major rail bridge in Reasi district, formation of two cities Jammu as well as Srinagar as Smart Cities. Apart from G20 members, the event will see participation of lelegates from guest countries and several international organisations. On the sidelines of the event, a major event will also be held to highlight film tourism, which the UT administration as been promoting.

While G20 member countries comprise Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, Mexico, United Kingdom, United States and the European Union, India's special invitee guest counries this time include Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain and UAE. Besides delegates from these countries, those representing international organisations such as UNWTO and International Labour Organisation are also expected to attend the Srinagar meet.

year will focus on global priority areas such as green development, climate finance, inclusive growth, digital economy, public infrastructure, technology transformation, and reforms for women empowerment for socio-economic progress. All these steps are taken to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and secure a better future for the generations to come.

India's G20 Presidency: India will convene the G20 Leaders' Summit for the first time in 2023, as 43 Heads of Delegations- the largest ever in the G20-will participate in the final New Delhi Summit in September later this year. As a nation committed to democracy and multilateralism, India's presidency will be a significant milestone as it seeks to find practical global solutions for the benefit of all and embody the idea of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'World is one family.'

The G20 Summit is held annually with a rotating presidency, and in 2023, India will hold the presidency. The group does not have a permanent secretariat and is supported by the previous, current, and future holders of the presidency, known as the troika. In 2023, the troika consists of Indonesia, Brazil, and

India. This summit will conclude a series of meetings throughout the year, with potential host cities for meetings from December 2022 to February 2023 including Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Indore, Jodhpur, Khajuraho, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Pune, Rann of Kutch, Surat, Thiruvananthapuram, and Udaipur. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, which translates to 'One Earth, One Family, One Future,' is the theme of India's G20 presidency. It is inspired from the Maha Upanishad, an old Sanskrit scripture. The theme fundamentally highlights the importance of all life-human, animal, plant, and microorganism-as well as their interdependence on Earth and across the universe. The theme also exemplifies LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), which highlights the importance of environmentally sustainable and responsible lifestyle choices, both at the individual and national level, in creating a cleaner, greener, and bluer future.

The G20 Presidency also heralds for India the start of "Amritkaal," a 25-year period commencing from the 75th anniversary of its independence on August 15, 2022, leading up to the centenary of its independence

India's G20 Priorities:

- 1. Green Development, Climate Finance &
- ▶ India's focus on climate change, with a particular emphasis on climate finance and technology, as well as ensuring just energy transitions for developing countries.
- Introduction of the LiFE movement, which promotes environmentally-conscious practices and is based on India's sustainable
- traditions 2. Accelerated, Inclusive & Resilient Growth
- ▶ Focus on areas that have the potential to bring structural transformation, including supporting small and medium-sized enterprises in global trade, promoting labour rights and welfare, addressing the global skills gap, and building inclusive agricultural
- value chains and food systems. 3. Accelerating Progress on SDGs
- ▶ Recommitment to achieving the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a particular focus on addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pan-
- 4. Technological Transformation & Digital Public Infrastructure
- ▶ Promotion of a human-centric approach to technology and increased knowledge-sharing in areas such as digital public infrastructure, financial inclusion, and tech-enabled development in sectors such as agriculture and edu-
- 5. Multilateral Institutions for the 21st cen-
- ▶ Efforts to reform multilateralism and create a more accountable, inclusive, and representative international system that is fit for addressing 21st century challenges.
- 6. Women-led Development
- ▶ Emphasis on inclusive growth and development, with a focus on women empowerment and representation in order to boost socio-economic development and the achievement of SDGs.

(The author is student of BA, LLB. Bennett University, Greater Noida).

VIP culture tends to monarchical system

■ ER PRABHAT KISHORE

-IP culture has been prevalent since ancient times in / Indiaas well as in other parts of the world. Such people have always dominated the administration. These include the ruler to the lower level personnel. This culture has continued to flourish even after the end of the monarchy and the establishment of a democratic system, and has expanded extensively in recent decades.

A fixed number of security personnel are deployed by the government for the security of declared as well as unannounced VVIPs and high-risk individuals. From the Prime Minister's SPG security cover to Z-plus, Z, Y-plus, Y, X category security, there is a provision of one or two security personnel in the name of VIP security as prescribed by the Central and State Governments. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) have been entrusted with the duty of protection to

According to the Bureau of Police Research & Development BPR&D), over 60,000 security personnel were deployed in India for the protection of more than 19,000 current and former ministers, MPs, MLAs, judges, bureaucrats and some other VIPs in the year 2019.

This number has considerably increased significantly in recent years. Along with this, the facility of more than 30000 vehicles is being made available in this work, on which more than 12000 crore rupees of public's hard earned money are being spent. Thousands of crores of rupees are being spent separately on these security personnel for their accommodation, food, transport, health, etc.

Interestingly, states like West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, which are witnessing minor incidents of insurgency or disturbance, have the highest number of protected dignitaries; while states like Jammu and Kashmir, Assam, Manipur and Chhattisgarh,

which are most affected by militancy and terrorism, have lower number of important people getting the facility of security personnel.

In fact, on the basis of the report of Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW) at the Central level, there is a provision of providing security to a person by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Similarly, on the basis of the report of agencies like the State Intelligence Department, there is a provision of providing security to a person by the State Governments. But it is a general perception that the related reports are motivated by manipulation and political interfer-

The inputs generated by the vigilance agencies are neither put in the public domain nor open to scrutiny through any other agency. Accordingly, the criteria other than the actual situation are set by the Central and State Administrations. In most of the states, some politicians, actors and bureaucrats are carrying heavy security personnel just to prove themselves different from common people.

According to the government provision, around 55 security personnel are deployed in Z-plus, 22 in Z, 11 in Y-plus, 8 in Y and 2 - 3 in X category security cover. The Z-Plus security cover has a provision of 55 security personnel including 10 commandos and five bulletproof vehicles. Z Cover has a provision of 22 security personnel including National Security Guard (NSG) Commandos, Y-plus has 11 security personne in which one CRPF commander and 4 constables are stationed at the residence and 6 personal security officers are deployed in three shifts with VIPs concerned. There are 8 security personnel in Y cover, in which a commander and 4 constables are deployed at the residence and 3 PSOs are deployed with the concerned VIPs in three shifts. In X Cover, 3 PSOs are posted in three shifts with the respective VIPs.

After independence, Home Minister Sardar Patel had sug-

gested to the Prime Minister that apart from a few policemen, there was no need to deploy more than two security personnel in the houses of ministers from the point of view of security.

But after his death there was no one to pay attention to these sensitive issues. Now the designation of a person as VIP is on the rise just because of his/her political and official posi-

Apart from the financial implications, VIP movement causes physical inconvenience and discomfort to the common motorists and people. Ordinary people faces a lot of problem due to unending VIP movements on the streets, roads and highways and people are virtually stranded without any fault of their own. VIP movement abandons the flow of vehicles on the busy roads, halts the movement of the pedestrians, hinders the movement of serious patients to the hospitals, causes mental depression to those who are already disturbed due to their hectic work and daily routine. The behavior of the escort police is very rude.

These VIPs are not above the law and hence, they have no right to make others life miserable just for their own sake. Last year, a positive initiative has been taken by the Punjab government by withdrawing the security of 429 alleged VIPs and the amount saved from this can be spent in public welfare works. Central and other state governments should also take this initiative. There is no doubt that the present day security cordon given

to the so-called VIPs in the name of their security are nothing but a show of supremacy. This highly expensive system is being implemented at the cost of public welfare of the people living below the poverty line.

This monarchical as well as the unproductive system must be scrapped and if a person demands security cover, he should bear the entire cost.

(The author is a technocrat & academician).

Rabindranath **Tagore- A Great Educational Thinker**

■ DR BANARSI LAL abindranath Tagore was a great poet, writer, painter, composer and philosopher. He was born in Kolkata on 7th of May, 1861 in a family of intellectuals, thinkers, reformers, social and cultural leaders. His birthday is celebrated throughout the world by organizing various cultural shows and poetry recitations in his honour. He was the first Asian to receive the Noble Prize in literature in 1913. Rabindranath Tagore was born in Calcutta in an affluent family. His father was Maharishi Devendranath and mother Sharda Devi Popularly known as Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore is considered as an eminent poet, visual artist and the greatest modern writer of India. He is recognized as one of the greatest poets and writers of all countries and all ages in the world. He was the youngest sibling of the family. His father was a great leader, social and religious reformer, who encouraged a multi-cultural exchange. His grandfather Dwarkanath was involved in supporting medical facilities, educational institutions and the arts and he fought for religious and social reforms and the establishment of a free press. Rabindranath's thirteen brothers and sisters were mathematicians, journalists, novelists, musicians, artists etc. Rabindranath Tagore was a great patriot, humanist, poet, painter, playwright, novelist, story-teller, philosopher, and educationist. He was the cultural ambassador of India and he gave voice to the country and became an instrument in disseminating the knowledge of Indian culture around the world. As a child, Tagore did not like to go to school and so he was taught at home. He began to write from his early age of 8 and started to create the wonders. After he received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1913, his reputation was

based primarily on his mystical poetry. But that is only one small part of Tagore's work. Tagore wrote novels of social realism, treating such issues as nationalism, religious intolerance and violence. He wrote analytic works on social reform, education and science. He also had a brief dialogue with Albert Einstein, the great scientist. His important works are 'Geetanjali', 'Rabindra Sangeet', 'Amar Shonar Bangla', 'Ghare-Baire', the Nation Anthem of India, 'Jana Gana Mana' etc.

Rabindranath composed his first poem at the age of eight and overall he wrote over twenty-five volumes of poetry, eleven novels, fifteen plays, ninety short stories, thirteen volumes of essays, initiated and edited various journals, prepared Bengali textbooks, kept up a correspondence involving thousands of letters and composed over two thousand songs. After the age of seventy he created more than two thousand pictures and sketches. He dedicated forty years of his life to his educational institution at Santiniketan. Rabindranath started a children's school, a university known as Visya-Bharati and also a rural education Centre known as Sriniketan. In the 1890s, he was assigned the inchargeship of the family's rural properties in East Bengal. His initial experiments on adult education were carried out there as he gradually became aware of the acute material and cultural poverty that permeated the villages and also the difference between the uneducated rural areas and the city elites. He determined to make efforts for the rural upliftment and later at Santiniketan, students and teachers were involved for the literacy, training and social work and for the promotion of cooperative schemes. He started a small school at Santiniketan in 1901 that developed into a renowned university and rural reconstrucalternative model of education that stemmed from his own learning experiences. Rabindranath Tagore was a great social reformer who made many contributions in India's freedom movement against the British rule. The motivation and cultural richness of his extended family allowed Rabindranath to absorb and learn subconsciously at his own pace, giving him a dynamic open model of education, which he later tried to recreate at his school at

Santiniketan. He thought his formal schooling to be inferior and boring and after a brief exposure to many schools and he denied to attend the school. The only degrees he ever received were honorary ones awarded late in his life. He revived the mental and moral spirit of the people. His writing proved path-breaking and revolutionary. He was full of anguish, pain and sorrow at the Jalianwala Bagh tragedy in which General Dyer and his soldiers killed hundreds of innocent civilians and wounded thousands of others on 13 April, 1999 in Amritsar. This massacre agitated Tagore so much that he didn't sleep the whole night when he heard about this incident. He decided to renounce and relinquish his knighthood as a protest and immediately penned a letter to Viceroy. Tagore rejected 'Knighthood' in protest against Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Tagore national sentiments and patriotism were of the highest order. He was a great poet, philosopher and visionary

Rabindranath Tagore was against the divisions and discriminations on the basis of territory, geography, caste etc. He believed in the oneness and always tried to bring together the people across the globe. He

and voice of the country. He was a great

nationalist but his patriotism ultimately

merged suitably into internationalism.

radiated universal love and harmony tion centre, where he tried to develop an through his endeavors. He embraced the whole humanity. He founded Vishwabharati University at Santiniketan (abode of peace) in 1902. In 1913, Rabindranath was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature for English version of 'Geetanjali.' Rabindranath became the first Indian and the first Asian to get this great award. 3e3e44rfHe became the first non-European and the first lyricist to win this. He is also sometimes referred as 'the Bard of Bengal'. He had endless love for his country and countrymen. He travelled extensively in different countries of Europe, America and Asia and delivered various lectures in universities and public meeting on education. He worked with Gandhiji and thought for the welfare of the people of India. His nationalism and patriotism made him great and noble. He never sought God in a cave, ashram or temple but in the people and humanity at large. He was deeply religious and spiritual and stood in good stead even during the crisis. He realized the importance of the arts for developing empathy and sensitivity and the necessity for an intimate relationship with one's cultural and natural environment. He always rejected the narrowness of mind that separates human beings from each other. He thought education as the vehicle for appreciating the richest aspects of other cultures, while maintaining one's own cultural specificity. He was brought up in an atmosphere of aspirations for the expansion of the human spirit and mind.

According to him education meaning freedom from ignorance about the laws of the universe. He always attempted to create an atmosphere of naturalness in our relationship with strangers and the spirit of hospitality which is the first virtue in men that made civilization possible. He was grown up

in a family that was the meeting place for the great artists and intellectuals from India and abroad. According to him a curriculum should revolve organically around the nature and classes be held in the open atmosphere under the trees to provide a spontaneous appreciation of the fluidity of the plant and animal kingdoms and seasonal changes. Children should be allowed to climb the trees and run beneath between classes. Nature walks and excursions should be a part of the curriculum and students be encouraged to follow the life cycles of insects, birds and plants. According to him special attention should be given to the natural phenomena and seasonal festivals. The highest education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence. In Tagore's philosophy of education, the aesthetic development of the senses was as important as the intellectual. Rabindranath used to invite artists and scholars from other parts of India and the abroad to live together at Santiniketan on a daily basis to share their cultures with Visya-Bharati. Rabindranath Tagore is part of a global network of pioneering educators, such as Rousseau, Pestalozzi, Froebel, Montessori and Dewey. Rabindranath can be compared with Rabindranath only. He is considered as the greatest figure in modern Indian. We look upon him as the source of knowledge and as the inspiration of all noble thought and great ideas. The great son of India. the voice of humanity, a great lover of nature died in Kolkata on 7th of August, 1941, a few years before the Indian independence. Although he is not with us but his ideas will continue to inspire the mankind.

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