

"Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam"

The "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, marks a significant stride towards environmental conservation and maternal empowerment in India. This innovative initiative intertwines the preservation of trees with the acknowledgment of the nurturing role of mothers in our lives. At its core, the campaign emphasizes the intrinsic connection between nature and motherhood. Trees, like mothers, provide sustenance, shelter, and support to all life forms. Recognizing this symbiotic relationship, the campaign aims to plant trees as a tribute to the nurturing spirit of mothers across the nation. Through the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign, Modi envisions not only a greener environment but also a society that values and respects the essence of motherhood. By planting trees in honor of mothers, the campaign seeks to instill a sense of gratitude towards the selfless love and care provided by mothers to their children and the community at large. One of the fundamental objectives of the campaign is to promote environmental sustainability. Trees play a crucial role in mitigating climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen, thereby purifying the air and mitigating the adverse effects of pollution. By planting a multitude of trees under the banner of maternal reverence, the campaign aims to contribute significantly to the nation's efforts towards combating climate change and fostering a healthier ecosystem. Moreover, the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign serves as a poignant reminder of the importance of preserving biodiversity. India boasts a rich tapestry of flora and fauna, which is under constant threat due to deforestation and habitat destruction. Through this campaign, Modi endeavors to mobilize citizens to actively participate in the conservation and restoration of natural habitats, thereby safeguarding the diverse ecosystems that sustain life on earth. Another crucial aspect of the campaign is its focus on community engagement and participation. By involving citizens from all walks of life, including school children, local communities, environmental organizations, and government agencies, the campaign fosters a sense of collective responsibility towards environmental stewardship. Through tree planting drives, awareness campaigns, and collaborative efforts, the campaign seeks to galvanize individuals and communities to take ownership of their surroundings and actively contribute to the preservation of the environment. Furthermore, the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign aligns with the government's broader agenda of promoting sustainable development and inclusive growth. By emphasizing the nexus between environmental conservation and maternal empowerment, the campaign underscores the importance of holistic and equitable development. Through initiatives such as skill development programs for women in rural areas, access to clean energy, and sustainable livelihood opportunities, the campaign seeks to empower mothers and communities to lead dignified and sustainable lives. The campaign represents a visionary approach towards environmental conservation and maternal empowerment. By planting trees, the campaign not only enhances the green cover of the nation but also fosters a deeper appreciation for the invaluable role played by mothers in shaping our lives. Through collective action and community participation, the campaign holds the promise of creating a greener, and inclusive future for generations to come.

MODI 3.0

Much hype created by exit poll results is punctured. Exit poll results are wrong in terms of assessment of seats but not in terms of victory given to NDA. Seats projected will never be exactly the same when exact poll comes out. Nearness to accuracy is weighed. But this time the actual result has baffled the survey agencies. I.N.D.I.A. bloc cannot brim with total satisfaction with the increase in its tally. Because, the total number of seats bagged by I.N.D.I.A. bloc is not equal to the total number of seats bagged by BJP alone. And Congress is not a position to flex its muscles against BJP. No agency gave victory to I.N.D.I.A. bloc. To that extent, the exit poll results have come true. Congress has failed to attain three digits. BJP fell short of 32 seats to touch the magic figure. Rude shock from Uttar Pradesh has been offset by pleasant surprise from Orissa and Jharkhand. Congress has received drubbing from Karnataka and BRS from Telangana. Maharashtra gave a slip to BJP. Outstanding issues at present are one nation and one election and UCC (Uniform Civil Code). Modi's hands are crippled to ensure the avowed objective if Chandra Babu Naidu and Nitish Kumar do not fall in line. Naidu and Kumar are now king makers. It is not unexpected that they demand their pound of flesh. Modi had shown magnanimity to include the NDA partners to the government in first and second terms even though there was no need to include them. Now the inclusion of non-BJP is inevitable. JDU and TDP are turncoat parties seen from the past experience. BJP is obliged to concede the demands of JDU and TDP. Keeping the interest of the nation in mind, JDU and TDP should not back out BJP from forming the parties. They should also be part of the government. Outside support is not the best guarantee for stability of the government. AICC President Mallikarjuna Kharge's assessment that I.N.D.I.A. would be given 295 seats has been found to be hollow. For a simple majority I.N.D.I.A. needs 38 seats. Knowing the weakness of Nitish Kumar and Chandrababu Naidu, the opposition parties may not remain silent spectators at the fractured verdict but will try to wean them away to their side. They start to lure them to prevent NDA from forming the government. If they do not fall prey to the design of the opposition parties, with JDU and TDP remaining as part of NDA, good governance can be given. Now BJP is not in a position to implement only its agenda. Coalition era out of necessity is back. Coalition government would become collision government if adjustability among the parties with different ideologies is lacking. Snap poll cannot be ruled out if the constituents of NDA fail to act as cohesive unit. Many times, elections have proved that good deeds have failed to bring back the ruling party to power and foul-mouthed people with no good performance when they were part of ruling parties have not been kept away. To mention few examples, the Sandeshkhali incidents did not make any dent on TMC. Mamata Banerjee was sure that Modi would not come back to power and she had expressed confidence that I.N.D.I.A. would get the seats between 295 to 315. She has failed to understand that India as a whole has never favoured TMC. She has been repeatedly demonstrating her frog-in-well attitude. She is a loose cannon too. Just before 2019 Lok Sabha elections, she had termed Modi as 'expiry' PM. She had vowed to commit suicide in case Modi became PM in 2019. It means she was very 'sure' of Modi's defeat in 2019 itself. She had also said "Modi is coming to Bengal regularly to seek votes. But the people will give him rasogollas made of clay with fillings of gravel; his teeth will break if he tries to take a bite". Asaduddin Owaisi's brother Akbaruddin Owaisi Owaisi had threatened saying "If police is removed for 15 minutes we (Muslims) will finish 100 crore Hindus". But Asaduddin Owaisi is invincible in Hyderabad constituency. In terms of seats, TMC outnumbered BJP's seats. Construction of Ram Mandir did not facilitate the election of BJP candidate in Ayodhya. Though Modi fared better in the last 10 years, Modi has been unfortunately 'cut to size'. It is always the leaders ability irrespective of the quality of leadership that matters to take the party or parties to the seat of power. People are resigned to their fate that retention of power by the ruling party or ascendancy to power by the opposition parties has nothing to do with good deeds or misdeeds of the governing body. Leaders of I.N.D.I.A. bloc are in jubilant mood with its increased tally of seats and have been strongly criticizing the NDA forgetting that they (I.N.D.I.A. bloc) have got less number of seats than BJP-led NDA. I.N.D.I.A. bloc has been giving a message that the people of India have realized that the opposition parties are quite fit to remain in opposition benches this time also. Undoubtedly they are good at being in the opposition seat.

SURJIT SINGH FLORA

Plastic pollution is a major obstacle in environmental protection. Environmental pollution is the result of human mistakes.

World Environment Day holds great significance as it reminds us of the importance of living in harmony with nature. The consequences of our actions, such as environmental degradation, have the potential to negatively impact our future and put our very existence at risk. This includes the extinction of species, destruction of ecosystems, and widespread deforestation.

50 years ago, as water, forest, land, and air pollution increased, the UN declared June 5, 1974, 'World Environment Day' to raise awareness of environmental contamination's detrimental impacts. Every year on June 5, governments of more than 143 nations, social service organizations, and educational institutions promote environmental conservation via activities and celebrations. Under this, the globe celebrates Environment Day every year. Land restoration, desertification, and drought resistance are 2023's themes. The holiday promotes environmental awareness and protection.

Global plastic pollution awareness campaigns will continue this year. The invention of plastic and polythene bags was a major convenience. But its resistance began in 1970. Plastic has permeated our lives. But it polluted the ecosystem. It is harming human health, the environment, fertility, and natural resources.

Eliminating plastic pollution is urgent. 91% of plastic is non-recyclable. This shows city waste flowing from drains, rivers, canals, and rivers to the sea. Urban sewage blockages are severe. Aquatic life faces danger.

Because life is only conceivable on Earth, we consider it the greatest and luckiest planet in the universe. Human, animal, bird, tree, plant, microorganism, and marine creature life has grown nicely here. Nature's greatest gift is human life. Established moonlight and golden rays to preserve nature's equilibrium. As humanity evolved, he stole nature's treasures like a giant and damaged the ecosystem.

The air on which we stand, the water that sustains life, and the living and non-living objects around us make up the environment. Indeed, today's modern man has contaminated the air so much that people and animals suffer. Sulfur, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen oxide are in the air. Colds, coughs, asthma, and major eye problems are growing due to poisonous gases like carbon. A health study shows that respiratory and asthma illnesses in children are rising worldwide. Air pollution harms human health.

According to Health Canada, the impact



of air pollution on human health in North America is quite significant. It is estimated that above-ground air pollution, including pollution from human sources, leads to approximately 15,300 premature deaths annually in Canada. There have been approximately 6,600 premature deaths in Ontario, 4,000 in Quebec, 1,900 in British Columbia, and 1,400 in Alberta.

Two hits impacted Earth's ocean today. First, water level decline and second, water quality contamination. Though 75% of the world has water, only 0.007% is usable since 97.5% is saltwater in the ocean. Only 2.5% of water is usable, 70% of which is snow and 29.003% is soil moisture. Factory, sewage, and other pollutants degrade usable water.

We consume deadly crops from our huge mother earth. Herbicides, pesticides, chemical fertilizers, industrial waste, radioactive compounds, etc. cause it. A catastrophic food chain collapse resulted.

There are 17 million species on Earth, and one is lost every hour due to pollution. Worldwide warning due to pollution is a present concern. If it continues at the present pace, glaciers will melt and sea levels will rise, endangering millions of coastal residents.

Growth in population causes the most pollution. Because cutting down trees to create buildings is the biggest source of pollution. In places where motor cars have made life quicker and offered numerous conveniences, pollution has created many severe illnesses. Waste, litter, plastic, and, notably, non-decomposing polythene bags, pollute the environment due to urbanization.

Today, we worry about dust and soil in the home but not about unclean and decreasing natural resources. Today, our ecosystem has fractures; if we don't fix them, future generations will burn in the furnace.

Today's environmental alarms have rung, yet we can still safeguard our environment. Respect and preservation of animals, birds, wind, water, and soil are essential to main-

taining nature's equilibrium.

Increasing the number of trees, eliminating plastic bags, installing special silencers on cars, using lead-free fuel, and installing factory chimneys are all important. Environmental protection regulations in our nation are beneficial if enforced strictly and honestly, above politics of votes and nepotism.

This Chinese proverb emphasizes the importance of long-term planning and the impact it can have on the environment. It suggests that by focusing on different timeframes, we can make a positive difference in the world. The curriculum for education should prioritize the environment. If a serious campaign regarding environmental protection is not launched soon, the consequences of environmental pollution will become increasingly severe.

World Environment Day is significant for a number of reasons, including the following:

**Raise Awareness:** The purpose of World Environment Day is to help raise awareness about environmental concerns such as pollution, deforestation, climate change, and the loss of biodiversity. It motivates people, communities, and governments to take action to safeguard the environment by drawing attention to these challenges and bringing them to the forefront.

**To encourage people to take action,** the day acts as a rallying cry for people, organizations, and governments to make good changes in their day-to-day lives and policies in order to safeguard the environment. It promotes individuals to adopt environmentally responsible habits and to lessen the influence that they have on the environment.

**Global Unity:** globe Environment Day is an international event that draws people from all over the globe together to work towards a shared objective of safeguarding the environment. This event is known as "World Environment Day." In order to overcome environmental concerns, it encourages worldwide solidarity and collaboration around the world.

**Policy Influence:** The day affords govern-

ments and politicians the chance to exhibit their environmental projects and pledges, which is a significant opportunity for them. Because of this, it has the potential to influence policy choices and persuade governments to take more aggressive action on environmental concerns.

**Education:** Another important function that World Environment Day serves is to educate people about the significance of preserving the environment and promoting sustainable development. It contributes to the dissemination of information to a larger audience about environmental problems and potential remedies.

**motivate Change:** The celebration of World Environment Day serves to motivate people and communities to take constructive activities in order to safeguard the environment. Changes in behavior and advocacy for environmental protection are both prompted as a result of this motivation.

**Long-term Effects:** The activities and awareness encouraged on World Environment Day have the potential to have long-term beneficial effects on the environment. It is through the promotion of sustainable behaviors and the raising of awareness that this day helps to contribute to the development of a more sustainable future for the world.

In general, World Environment Day is significant because it serves as a reminder of the critical need to safeguard our environment and inspires people and society to take action in order to conserve the world for the benefit of future generations.

The natural world is constantly reminding us that in order to take care of ourselves, we must also take care of the ecosystem that provides us with sustenance. We are living in unusual times.

Covid-19 serves as a cautionary tale to humanity, demonstrating that in this day and age, everything is possible. The same kind of guarantee does not exist for our life. If we begin our efforts now, we will be able to avert the environmental concerns to a certain degree, in contrast to the situation with COVID. Let us begin by cleaning the shelter in which we are now living, reducing our usage of plastic and other potentially hazardous materials, and beginning to sort different types of garbage according to their respective categories. This is because our responsibility does not stop with just putting rubbish away in the trash can. The process of forming habits is not all that tough. We have reached a level of education and intelligence where we no longer need reminders on these measures. As a result of the fact that this earth is a gift from God to each and every one of us, we need to show a bit more gratitude for it before it is too late.

(The writer is a veteran journalist and freelance writer based in Brampton).

Bridging the Gap: Role of Internships!

DR SHAHID AMIN

A significant hurdle for students entering the job market is the need for more experience. However, this can be effectively mitigated through internships. This article provides insights into the importance of internships and how they serve as a critical component in preparing students for successful careers. An internship is not just a program; it's a transformative experience that companies offer aspiring professionals, providing structured work experience aligned with a student's primary or career goals. This experience doesn't just boost academic, career, and personal development; it propels it forward. Internships can be part-time or full-time and span various durations. They may be paid or unpaid, though unpaid internships are more common. These programs are not just essential; they are life-changing for students, allowing them to gain practical work or research experience. Many professional courses now require internships for degree completion. The primary goal for students should be to acquire knowledge and experience rather than earn money.

It is critical for students to understand that employers today favour candidates who distinguish themselves from the competition. Students aiming for desirable jobs should not just supplement their academic achievements, but also their life experiences. This includes community service, projects, research, extracurricular activities, and internships. The more diverse their experiences, the more they stand out in the job market.

Internships provide a hands-on learning environment under the supervision of a workplace mentor, allowing interns to set and achieve personal learning goals.

They acquire job-specific skills without the pressures of permanent employment, enhance their knowledge base, and build confidence in their abilities. Interns practice communication and teamwork, gain industry insights, and apply academic concepts professionally, bridging the gap between education and the workforce.

To maximize learning and experience from internships,



students should set clear goals. Before starting an internship, they should outline specific learning objectives. Knowing what skills and knowledge students want to gain will help them stay focused and make the most of their experience. They should regularly ask for feedback from their supervisors and colleagues. Constructive criticism may help students improve and demonstrate their commitment to learning.

Moreover, students must use the opportunity to build professional relationships. They must engage with mentors, attend networking events, and connect with colleagues to expand their professional network. Students should show enthusiasm by volunteering for additional tasks and projects.

This may broaden their experience and demonstrate their dedication and work ethic.

Students must take time to understand the broader industry context in which the company operates. This

knowledge will make them more informed and valuable as future professionals. Students must focus on enhancing soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Employers highly value these and can set them apart from other candidates. Students must regularly communicate with their academic guides and mentors from their institution. Their insights and advice can help students navigate challenges and maximize their internship experience.

Moreover, online internships have become increasingly prevalent in the digital age, requiring strategic approaches to maximize outcomes. Virtual networking, proactive learning, remote communication skills, utilization of technology tools, virtual mentorship, engagement with online learning platforms, and development of remote collaboration skills are essential for students to excel in online internship settings.

Internships help students build a professional network of contacts, mentors, and references, enriching their resumes and bolstering applications for further studies or research positions.

Internship experience sets candidates apart in the job market, as they typically require less training and adapt more quickly to job demands. A well-executed internship can lead to a full-time job offer and often results in higher initial salaries than peers without such experience. Ultimately, internships foster confidence and prepare students to transition smoothly into the professional world.

In conclusion, internships are pivotal in shaping students' careers by providing essential work experience, practical skills, and professional networks.

They bridge the crucial gap between academic knowledge and the demands of the professional world, making students more marketable and ready for the challenges of their chosen careers.

(The writer is an Associate Professor at the School of Management, Coordinator Ideapad at ITM University Gwalior and Alumnus of 43rd FDP at IIM Ahmedabad).

YOUR COLUMN The Third Innings

Dear Editor, The NDA government at the center is likely to form government for the third time, and Narendra Modi is set to become the Prime Minister for the third consecutive term. He will become the second leader in the country to create a record of becoming the PM for three consecutive terms. So far, this record is held by the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Bowing to the mandate of the people, the Prime Minister said that his third term would witness some new and big decisions. True, big goals can only be achieved through big decisions. However, if these big decisions revolve around religion, temples, or mosques, it is worth remembering that such decisions may momentarily arouse public sentiments but will ultimately create an atmosphere of bitterness and ill-will within the country and abroad. The loss of the Faizabad (Ajodhya) seat is a glaring example of this. Harmony promotes goodwill and creates a pleasant

environment, while aggression breeds tension. Harmony is another name for 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' (Together with all, development for all). Real development comes only through the implementation of public welfare schemes. This is the way to curb unemployment, inflation, corruption, and other issues.

If the Prime Minister's "big decisions" during his third term focus on fostering harmony, implementing welfare schemes, and addressing pressing issues like unemployment and corruption, it will truly lead to the holistic development of the nation.

However, if these decisions revolve around contentious religious matters, it may stoke tensions and create an atmosphere of ill-will, ultimately hampering the progress of the country.

The Prime Minister's statement has raised expectations, and the nation eagerly awaits the nature of these "big decisions."

The path chosen will determine whether his third term will be remembered for ushering in an era of progress and prosperity or for deepening societal divisions. The onus is on the Prime Minister to prioritize the welfare of all citizens and to promote an environment of harmony,

compassion, and inclusive development.

Dr .Shiben Krishen Raina

Rising temperatures

Dear Editor, The temperatures in India have soared to unprecedented levels. In this scorching heat, getting to work is hard. The reason behind this increase in temperature is global warming and the emission of greenhouse gases. Many factors contribute to global warming. Some of these include the consumption of fossil fuels, deforestation, emission of greenhouse gases and urban sprawl.

The need of the hour is for the government to diminish the lethal effects of global warming. This includes facilitating the switch to renewable energy, promoting electric vehicles, preventing deforestation and preserving other green spaces. It is also our moral duty to assist the government in addressing this issue so that the coming generations are protected from the drastic effects of climate change.

Jubel D'Cruz