

YOUTH ROLE

Any nation is attributed to progress and development in terms of technologies, research, science, medicine, i.e. economic, social, political and cultural. When the youth does the same thing sincerely with their efforts, it is marked. India has the largest number of youth, who if nurtured well and if they put their efforts in the right direction, this country will become one of the best in the whole world.

From our historical time it can be seen that youth have been actively involved in bringing many changes, development, prosperity and respect for our nation. The main purpose of all this is to train them in a positive direction. Many organizations are working for the upliftment of the young generation as they will grow up to be helpful in nation building. Poor and developing countries are still lagging behind in the proper development and education of the youth.

So it can be said that youth are the future of our nation. They are playing a major role in the progress and development of the nation.

Mahila Samman Savings Certificate

■ VINOD CHANDRASHEKHAR DIXIT

The Mahila Samman Savings Certificate is a small-savings scheme specifically meant for women investors. Bank of India (BOI), one of the largest and the most trust brand Public Sector Banks in India has officially launched the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, 2023. The primary goal of the scheme is to increase women's participation in investments and to promote their financial inclusion. Women who are looking for a short-term investment plan to take charge of their finances and achieve financial independence then Mahila Samman Saving Certificate is a ticket to their brighter future.

Bank of India is the first bank to operationalize this scheme at all its branches, making them authorized to open accounts under the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, 2023. BOI is playing a major role in scripting India's growth story, bringing the much-needed change across the country, in fact BOI is playing a vital role in women empowerment. Be it the schemes pertaining to educational financing at early age or financial assistance for setting up a source of livelihood; BOI also plays an important role in enhancing financial inclusion of women in the Indian economy.

The Mahila Samman Savings Certificate is a one-time savings scheme for women announced by the government in Budget 2023. The scheme aims to empower women by increasing their participation in investments. It is a government-guaranteed scheme where women can earn a fixed interest of 7.5%. This scheme is available for investment for two years only, starting from April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2025. After this period, you cannot invest in this scheme. To commemorate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a one-time small savings scheme, Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced this flagship scheme during the Budget speech FY 2023-2024 on February 1, 2023.

Under the scheme, individual girls or women can open a Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, or a guardian can open an account on behalf of a minor girl. It is a government-supported scheme that offers you a guaranteed rate of return. So, you do not have to worry about market fluctuations; your returns are safe. The scheme is exclusively available to women. Hence, any woman above 18 years of age can invest in this scheme by herself. Also, in the case of minors, the guardian can open the account on behalf of the girl.

Until now, only post offices were authorized to open accounts under the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, but the government has allowed scheduled banks to offer this facility through a gazette notification and Bank of India is the first bank to roll out this scheme. This specially designed scheme is for those women who're looking for a safe and secure investment plan. Women can invest in the scheme and can get risk-free returns. BOI is widely recognised for its role in serving all socio-economic sections, with a particular focus on its accomplishments in enabling women empowerment and promoting female entrepreneurship.

Unlock Your Potential: A Journey of Personal Development

■ JASWINDER PAL SHARMA

Personal development is a lifelong journey of self-improvement, growth, and discovery. It encompasses various aspects of our lives, including our mindset, emotions, skills, relationships, and overall well-being. By actively engaging in personal development, we can unlock our full potential and lead a more fulfilling and purposeful life. In this article, we will explore the importance of personal development, discuss key areas to focus on, and provide practical tips to kickstart your own personal growth journey. Personal development is not just a buzzword; it is a vital process that empowers individuals to become the best version of themselves. Here are a few reasons why personal development matters: Self-Awareness: Personal development encourages self-reflection and introspection, enabling us to understand our strengths, weaknesses, values, and beliefs. This self-awareness helps us make informed decisions, set meaningful goals, and align our actions with our authentic selves. Continuous Growth: Life is a constant learning experience. Personal development nurtures a growth mindset and encourages us to acquire new knowledge, develop skills, and adapt to changing circumstances. It keeps us intellectually stimulated, professionally relevant, and open to new opportunities. Empowerment: Through personal development, we take control of our lives and become active participants rather than passive bystanders. It empowers us to overcome obstacles, face challenges, and embrace personal responsibility for our choices and actions.

Goal Setting and Planning: Setting clear and realistic goals provides direction and purpose in our lives. Personal development helps us develop effective goal-setting strategies, create action plans, and stay focused on achieving our aspirations.

Communication Skills: Effective communication is essential for building strong relationships, resolving conflicts, and expressing our thoughts and ideas. Personal development can improve our listening skills, assertiveness, public speaking abilities, and non-verbal communication. Time Management and Productivity: Efficiently managing our time and increasing productivity are crucial for accomplishing tasks and maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Personal development equips us with tools and techniques to prioritize, delegate, and optimize our time effectively.

Embrace Learning Opportunities: Engage in continuous learning by reading books, attending workshops, taking courses, or seeking mentorship. Actively seek out new knowledge and be open to different perspectives. Cultivate a Growth Mindset: Embrace challenges, view failures as learning opportunities, and believe in your capacity to grow and improve. Adopt a positive attitude towards setbacks and see them as stepping stones toward success. Practice Self-Care: Prioritize self-care activities such as exercise, mindfulness, adequate sleep, and healthy nutrition. Taking care of your physical and mental well-being is essential for personal growth.

Personal development is an ongoing journey that empowers us to discover our true potential, enhance our skills, and live a more meaningful life. By investing time and effort into personal growth, we can improve various aspects.

(The writer is Master GSSS Hakuwala, Sri Muktsar Sahib).

ISRO to launch Chandrayaan-3 Moon mission

■ MOHAMMAD HANIEF

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) revealed on Thursday that the upcoming moon mission, Chandrayaan-3, is scheduled to be launched on July 14, 2023. The launch will take place at 2:35 pm from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, using ISRO's new heavy-lift launch vehicle LVM-3, which will carry an integrated module.

ISRO took to Twitter to unveil the official launch date for the Chandrayaan-3 mission. The agency tweeted, "Announcing the launch of Chandrayaan-3: LVM3-M4/Chandrayaan-3 Mission: The launch is now scheduled for July 14, 2023, at 2:35 pm IST from SDSC, Sriharikota."

Earlier this week, ISRO achieved a significant milestone by integrating the encapsulated assembly of Chandrayaan-3 with the launch vehicle LVM3 at SDSC. This successful integration marks a crucial step forward in preparing for the upcoming mission.

Chandrayaan-3 serves as a successor to the Chandrayaan-2 mission, with the primary objective of demonstrating end-to-end capabilities in safe lunar landing and exploration. The mission is equipped with scientific instruments designed to study various aspects of the lunar environment, including the thermophysical properties of the lunar regolith, lunar seismicity, lunar surface plasma environment, and elemental composition near the landing site.

Earlier this year, in March, the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft successfully completed essential tests, validating its ability to withstand the challenging vibration and acoustic conditions experienced during launch. This achievement showcased the spacecraft's resilience and readiness to tackle the demanding lunar mission.

India's previous lunar mission, Chandrayaan-2, launched on July 22, 2019, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. Unfortunately, the mission encountered a setback when the Vikram lunar lander failed to make a successful landing on the Moon's surface, resulting in a crash on September 6.

First announced in January 2020, the Chandrayaan-3 mission was initially expected for 2022. The space agency has incorporated findings from its previous, \$140-million Moon lander mission, which failed minutes before a planned touchdown on the lunar surface in September 2019. It launched in July of that year, then travelled to the Moon during the intervening months.

The lander in the mission will include technologies such as laser and RF-based altimeters, velocimeters, throttleable liquid engines, hazard detection and avoidance systems and a landing leg mechanism, the space agency said in a detailed note about the mission.

ISRO will also use a laser-induced breakdown spectroscope and an alpha particle X-ray spectrometer on the rover to do qualitative and quantitative elemental analysis, and examine the elemental composition of lunar soil and rocks around the landing site.

Over the past few years, India has made significant strides in advancing its space exploration efforts. The country also



ISRO recently passed its space policy to ease collaboration between government bodies including ISRO and space tech startups.

Alongside Chandrayaan, ISRO is working on the highly-awaited human space flight mission Gaganyaan, which intends to take three people to a low-Earth orbit of about 250 miles for three days. The \$1.8 billion project is expected in 2024. Last month, India also signed NASA's Artemis Accords to collaborate with the program's participating countries on space exploration.

The Indian Space Agency has made improvements in the lander after learning from Chandrayaan 2 mission of 2019 when the lander crash-landed on the Moon's surface due to a software glitch. The payloads on the Lander of Chandrayaan 3 will soft land on Moon and measure the thermal conductivity and temperature, seismicity around the landing site and estimate the plasma density. The Rover payload will derive the elemental composition in the vicinity of the landing site.

Chandrayaan-3 consists of an indigenous lander module (LM), propulsion module (PM), and a rover with an objective of developing and demonstrating new technologies required for inter-planetary missions. According to ISRO, the lander has the capability to soft land at a specified lunar site, and deploys the rover, which will carry out in-situ chemical analysis of the lunar surface during the course of its mobility. The Lander and the Rover have scientific payloads to carry out experiments on the lunar surface. Earlier on Wednesday, The Indian Space Research Organisation integrated the encapsulated assembly containing Chandrayaan-3 with the launch vehicle - LVM3 at Satish Dhawan Space Centre.

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is the space

agency of India. The organisation is involved in science, engineering and technology to harvest the benefits of outer space for India and the mankind. ISRO is a major constituent of the Department of Space (DOS), Government of India. The department executes the Indian Space Programme primarily through various Centres or units within ISRO.

ISRO was previously the Indian National Committee for Space Research (INCOSPAR), set up by the Government of India in 1962, as envisioned by Dr Vikram A Sarabhai. ISRO was formed on August 15, 1969 and superseded INCOSPAR with an expanded role to harness space technology. DOS was set up and ISRO was brought under DOS in 1972. The prime objective of ISRO/DOS is the development and application of space technology for various national needs. To fulfill this objective, ISRO has established major space systems for communication, television broadcasting and meteorological services; resources monitoring and management; space-based navigation services. ISRO has developed satellite launch vehicles, PSLV and GSLV, to place the satellites in the required orbits.

Alongside its technological advancement, ISRO contributes to science and science education in the country. Various dedicated research centres and autonomous institutions for remote sensing, astronomy and astrophysics, atmospheric sciences and space sciences in general function under the aegis of Department of Space. ISRO's own Lunar and inter-planetary missions along with other scientific projects encourage and promote science education, apart from providing valuable data to the scientific community which in turn enriches science.

ISRO has its headquarters in Bengaluru. Its activities are spread across various centres and units. Launch Vehicles are built at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram; Satellites are designed and developed at U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), Bengaluru; Integration and launching of satellites and launch vehicles are carried out from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota; Development of liquid stages including cryogenic stage is carried out at Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), Valiamala & Bengaluru; Sensors for Communication and Remote Sensing satellites and application aspects of the space technology are taken up at Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad and Remote Sensing satellite data reception processing and dissemination is entrusted to National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad.

ISRO has its origins in space sciences. ISRO's space science programme started with studies of upper atmosphere using sounding rockets. The saga is continuing with scientific missions like AstroSat, Mars Missions, Chandrayaan missions followed by Solar and other planetary missions. Indian space programme encompasses research in multiple areas like astronomy, astrophysics, planetary and earth sciences, atmospheric sciences and theoretical physics supported by scientific balloons, sounding rockets, space platforms and ground-based facilities.

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UCC has nothing to do with Hindu Rashtra

■ OMKAR DATTATRAY

Hindu Rashtra may be the motto of VHP, RSS, Bagrang Dal, Durga Vahani and other Hindutva organizations but BJP does not work for a Hindu Rashtra as it believes in Indian diversity, secularism and pluralism.

BJP's UCC agenda is not even remotely connected with the concept of Hindu Rashtra. Although Uniform Common Code has remained as the agenda and has also been in the election manifesto of BJP from the days of its earlier incarnation as Bharatiya Jana Sangh and in its current incarnation from 1985 and has been an agenda item in 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

The UCC will lead to justice in civil matters and it will in no way lead to uniformity in religious practices but will only result in civil justice. It is very unfortunate and disturbing that such unwarranted and unbecoming politicking is being done in the country by so called secular brigade and deliberately misinformation, disinformation and false information is being created among the Muslim community about the UCC. Suspicion, doubt and mistrust is intentionally created by the selfish political parties and some Muslim organizations which is without any sound basis. Muslims are being demonized on the issue of UCC and impression is being created among the minorities that the proposed legislation and subsequent implementation of UCC is against the Muslim community and thus Muslims should oppose this important and well needed move tooth and nail. Several political parties and leaders are creating the impression among the Muslims that UCC is against their interests and is undue interference in their religion which is a wrong analogy. The political parties should desist from politicizing the important and needful issue of UCC for their petty political interests and they should also not create false and wrong suspicion, doubt, mistrust in the minds of

the Muslim community about the implications and bearings of the implementation of the common civil code and thus false fear is created among the minorities about the consequences of the implementation of the common civil code.

The hard fact and reality is this that UCC is not against any religion and it only will ensure equal treatment in civil matters to all citizens irrespective of their religion and so why is there so much noise and din about the UCC? It is so unfortunate and sad that a feeling is created, raised as well as nursed that UCC implementation is the first step towards the creation of Hindu state of India, which has no base and it factually wrong and false. The fact is that the UCC has nothing to do with the creation of a Hindu state and this false impression and misinformation is spread across the country that UCC is a first step towards the establishment of a Hindu Rashtra, while the fact is that it is not connected with Hindu state in any way.

UCC will only ensure equal treatment and fair justice to all the citizens in the civil matters.

Progressive, modern and dynamic Muslims are in favor of the UCC and especially the Muslim women support the enforcing and implementation of the common civil code as they want freedom from male domination and male chauvinism and thus they favor the implementation of a common civil code for all citizens irrespective of their religious affiliation.

The hard fact is that UCC is not connected in any way with the establishment of a Hindu Rashtra and those espousing the false notion that UCC will ultimately lead to a Hindu state of India should instead appreciate that India cannot be declared as a Hindu Rashtra as it is a multi-religious, multicultural, multi cultural and multidimensional country and secularism and Sarva Dharma Sambhava is the foundation stone and root of this great nation and thus Hindu Rashtra is a utopian hypothesis and it can be possible only at the cost of the disintegration of the country.

Therefore it is a false and wrong theory

that UCC is the first step towards the creation of a Hindu state by the Saffron party.

Indian Muslims are as good and as equal citizens as the Hindus and the UCC will ensure uniformity in civil matters just like it is there for all including Muslims in criminal matters and so there should be no reservation and opposition for legislating and implementing the UCC for all Indians.

The so called secular satraps are creating a mountain out of a mole hill as they are creating mistrust and distrust about the needful and much important issue of a common civil code. Constitution mandates and directs that government should legislate and implement common civil code for all its citizens. Article 44 of the constitution provides that the state shall strive to provide a uniform civil code for all Indians. It is the great irony that our state has disregarded the constitutional provisions regarding the UCC. Even the supreme court has umpteen times directed the government to implement the uniform civil code for its citizens but our governments did not implement it in the 75 years of its independence because of the vote bank politics and minority appeasement. Now a piquant turn is given to this important issue of public importance as a wrong notion and impression is being created among the Muslims that the implementation of common civil code is the first step of the BJP to create a Hindu state, but it has no base at all.

India being a diverse nation, is home to many religions, each with its distinct personal laws governing marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance and succession.

It would be accurate to say that the absence of a uniform civil code has only served to perpetuate inequalities and inconsistencies in our land of rich diversity.

In fact this has been a hindrance in the nation's progress towards social harmony economic and gender justice. There is great need and necessity of UCC in our country for ensuring equality, uniformity and gender justice.

PM Narendra Modi has called for enactment of a UCC, pointing out the anomaly of

having varying laws for different categories of citizens.

To great dismay Noble Laureate Amartya Sen questioned the urgency to implement the uniform civil code. We have to ensure that UCC is not misused in the name of religion said Amartya Sen. Amartya Sen expressed skepticism about the central government's push for UCC saying the urgency to implement the UCC had connections with paying the way for a Hindu Rashtra. We have had the UCC for thousands of years. It is nothing new. But one has to see who benefits from bringing the UCC in force. There is definitely some connection between the urgency to implement the UCC and paving the way for the far-fetched idea of Hindu Rashtra, said 90 year old noble prize winner. But he should not have said such a false and wrong thing at such an advanced age. Amartya Sen said the concept of uniform civil code though not a new one is a difficult issue.

The 90 year old economist also said the UCC surely has a link with advancing the idea of Hindu Rashtra. The Uniform Civil Code is a difficult and old issue. There are differences among us. There are differences of religions, there are differences in rule and customs. We need to remove those differences and be united. He further said, "But Hindu Rashtra is not the only way for progress. Hinduism is being misused," said the Bharat Ratna awardee.

The whole debate is because of the Law Commissions June 14 fresh consultation process on UCC by seeking views from stakeholders including public and recognized religious organizations on a politically sensitive issue.

It is so sad that a man of such a great stature has said that urgency to enact the UCC is surely linked to paying way for a Hindu Rashtra.

To conclude it can be opined that the important and needful issue of UCC has nothing to do with the Hindu Rashtra and it is basically false to comment in the way which has the potential of creating communal tensions in our diverse country.

Role of Road Infrastructure in Growth of Automotive Industry

■ ARINDAM LAHIRI

The one thing that by far urges a country's economy and development is the road infrastructure. Road infrastructure not only affects development but also in the development of the automotive industry. In fact, road infrastructure even decides the industry trends and the developments associated with vehicle development.

Before the dawn of the Indian automobile industry, roads were limited and majorly constructed with military vehicle movement in mind. Additionally, back then the available methods of road transportation were limited, costly, and inefficient. But with the vehicles turning luxury into a necessity in India, changed the mindset and created a strong demand for better road infrastructure, including highways, city roads, and others.

Automobiles have drastically changed the way people looked at cars and motorcycles back when they were new. Now, modern vehicles on roads have changed the way we live and interact with one another. Due to the change and modernization manufacturers have also gone through a

drastic change.

Owing to the development, the Indian government is heavily investing in road infrastructure across the nation. In the first quarter of 2022, India's finance minister announced an increased budget for building roads and other infrastructure. For instance, there are several high-way projects and tenders connecting major cities like Delhi-Dehradun, Delhi-Mumbai, and others. The increase in the roads and highways will drastically increase the demand for commercial vehicles in the short term. Additionally increasing road connectivity will increase recreational activities such as long drives and will boost the economy of tourist spots. Additionally, as per Nitin Gadkari, the Minister for Road Transport & Highways exclaimed that by 2030, about 18000kms of new highways will be paved.

To cash the development opportunities, the Indian government has launched a smart city program. Launched in 2015, the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) aims to improve the quality of life in 100 Indian cities and villages. Overall,

it has made mixed progress, with many cities still lagging behind in terms of transformation. Owing to smart cities, the demand for smarter road infrastructure is bound to increase.

Another aspect of the advancing road infrastructure is the ease of use of electric vehicles. The increase in the awareness about electric mobility and the setting up of an electric grid suitable for battery electric vehicles will also encourage more people to step into the framework of electric mobility. This is what needs a little attention as the number of charging stations are limited in the metro cities and also the roads in rural areas and some urban areas also lack properly paved roads, that may decrease the life of the suspension significantly.

The expansion of road infrastructure across the nation will encourage people and induce confidence in them for driving and considering roads as the mode of commercial as well as recreational needs.

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