

WELCOME ADDRESS

SHRI PRAVEEN ARYA

President Foresight

He started his address by stating that he will discuss about the need of this forum. He talked about a grass root implementation model called NAV-PRABHANAM which is designed and developed by the Foresight. It is a rural action for promoting integrated development. The model center is situated at Kharkhoda, District Sonapat, Haryana. The center apart from providing professional and vocational training programmes is also working as an information centre through Foresight e-chowpal and by organizing various awareness programs in villages of said block.

The center is having 3 different divisions :

- 1) **Computer Literate India center**
- 2) **Skill development training center**
- 3) **Integrated awareness programme center**

He pointed out that Nav Prabhanam is a step forward under PURA (Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas) under which 4 connectivities are essential :

- 1) **Physical connectivity**
- 2) **Electronic connectivity**
- 3) **Economic connectivity**
- 4) **Knowledge connectivity**

Among these, the Nav-Prabhanam center will provide Electronic and Knowledge connectivity. Foresight e-chowpal is an internet portal specially designed for rural India. It will deliver relevant information and act as an interface between Government and citizens. Sh. Praveen Arya said that Foresight through the medium of Nav Prabhanam endeavours to bridge the digital divide between rural India and rest of the India/world. The IAP center of Nav-Prabhanam is specially designed to educate people about their rights and duties as per the constitution of republic of India. **He assured that different awareness programs and strategies will be implemented to make sure the community involvement at large.**

In his address, he discussed about the parameters which determine national development and Nav – Prabhanam can prove to be an effective mechanism. He also said that project Nav-Prabhanam is our inspiration derived from the vision 2020 of Government of India and the whole society with its 52 training centers has resolved to work in the direction of making India a developed nation by 2020.

At last, he pointed out that to create a bank of intellectual property for IAP center, this forum is established by the society. He assured constructive dialogue, opinions and ideas pertaining to rural development at Foresight forum will be implemented at NAV-PRABHANAM.

KEY-NOTE ADDRESS

DR. SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Hon'ble Labour Minister

He pointed out the unawareness in rural community about the schemes and programmes launched by the Govt. of India for their betterment. **He said that the funds are available with the respective Ministry but we have to create an awareness. Govt. has launched plenty of schemes for the upliftment of the rural community like Kisan Credit Card, Kisan Bima Yojna** but all schemes can only be useful if people come forward and avail it. Information about Govt. policies enables individuals and communities to fully exercise their rights and take advantage of public programmes. The development of the country is impossible without the development of villages and the solution to the problems of cities, is also rests in the development of villages. Due to the migration in cities there is an increase in population, and lack of transport, education, shopping center, public facilities. The ultimate solution is to create all those facilities in rural and backward areas. **He also pointed out the need of growth centers in rural areas and all basic facilities in terms of infrastructure & education should be extended to rural areas. He has suggested a rural model which is common in country like Israel.**

ADDRESS

SHRI RAJENDRA GUPTA

Ex Law, Excise & Transport Minister

He started his dialogue with the problem of migration which is due to the lack of facilities available in the villages and in rural areas of our country. **Because of the digital divide people are migrating to cities for employment, health facilities, vocational training programmes etc.** and more and more money is being spent in providing these facilities in the Metro cities but the solution is to make the villages available with all the facilities and more investment should be made in the villages rather than cities. The other point which was raised about the problems related to water. **He said that we have worked upon irrigation facilities, improved irrigation techniques but new techniques are not been properly implemented.** Water should be utilized in a proper way and we should emphasize on plantation and use water in a right manner which will also improve our economy. The lack of understanding and education of a farmer can prove to be a major setback for the country. **Efforts should be made to educate him in terms of new technologies related to agriculture and promote people towards agro-based industries.** Local crop should be cultivated and the most important point is to educate crop planning and their procurement price.

ADDRESS

SHRI PAWAN SHARMA

I.A.S.

He talked about the schemes launched by the Govt. for the upliftment of the under privileged segment of the society.

The objective of SGRY(Sampurna Gramin Rojgar Yojna) is to provide additional employment in rural areas and also food security alongside the creation of durable community, social and economic infrastructure in rural areas. **Indira Awas Yojna** – which provides household for below poverty line rural community. Then he explained about **SGSY (Swarnjayanti Gramin Swarojgar Yojna)** the objective of which is to bring the assisted poor families above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through a blend of bank credit and government subsidy.

The idea was to inform people about the endeavour and the steps taken by the Govt. in terms of development. **In SGSY capacity is developed in an individual and a loan of Rs. 10,000 is provided as a subsidy and the rest of the amount incurred to establish the entrepreneurship division is given as a loan for making the youth self reliant.** The other strategy is to develop the self help groups in villages, so that people don't have to depend on banks for loan. **He also said that the media should also highlight the positive stories as the reverse of this is creating the cynicism in the individuals and community.**

He also spoke about the priorities of central government. Health and awareness is the prime agenda of the Govt. of India and monitoring is done after every 3 months. Vocational training specially computer awareness is of utmost importance in villages and computer in villages will not be useful unless we create a demand by educating and making people aware of its utility.

ADDRESS

SHRI S. C. SHARMA

I.R.S.

He stated that growth and development took place after independence in each sector whether it is agriculture, space, science and technology but the disparity between rural and urban classes is still widening. **There are two important things for the development of the country –**

1) Education 2) Population control through education. Education includes – paryawaran education, employment education and control in the population and the disparity between the rural and urban areas is only due to the conventional model of growth, centralized growth models of development due to which benefits could not reach the rural population. For any facility we should try to empathize with a common man and how a local person can benefit out of it which is a direct participation of masses. **Cooperatives should be encouraged to involve people. The local government, legislation, executive and judiciary everyone has to contribute in making India a developed nation by 2020.**

ADDRESS

PROF. BALBEER SINGH

Social Worker

He gave an insight into his vast experience directed towards rural development. He gave two guiding principles for development in rural India:

- 1) **Their need (we should provide such facilities which could bring employment and awareness.**
- 2) **It should be result oriented.**

He said that the lack of technical education institutions in rural India is a major setback in countries development. **We should work towards providing the technical education through which not only unemployment will decrease but there will also be an increase in the awareness.** We should spend some time with the people from rural areas and try to explain the issues. Awareness should be created among the masses so that they are open to new ideas.

ADDRESS

PROF. M. ASLAM

Project Director, IGNOU

He quoted three things, which are very important for rural development:

- 1) **Rural development professionalism**
- 2) **Massive awareness programme**
- 3) **Understanding level of development functionaries**

He stated that rural development professionalism is a must for the development of our country. We have our own resources but we should know how to utilize and channelize them in a right prospective. We are not consistent with our development policy. **The guidelines of rural development takes 5 to 6 years to reach the grass root level.** India has the concept and intelligence but there is lack of implementation. We fail when it comes to implementation. The other point is the massive awareness programme which we should conduct for the rural population and take information in rural areas. We all should work together for the similar agenda of development. **He expressed his concern for the absence of preparedness on the part of newly elected members of Panchayat. They should know the state act, historical prospective, responsibilities as an elected member, area development programmes, legal and constitutional act, planning guidelines.** The elected members of Panchayat should know their role and responsibilities and the government should take measures to raise the understating level of development functionaries. **After this he also delivered a power-point presentation on Panchayati Raj.**

ADDRESS

PROF. J. K. GEHLAWAT

IIT, Kanpur

He then expressed his views by stating that free movement of information releases society from fear of uncertainties. Information about Govt. policies enables individuals and communities to fully exercise their rights and take advantage of public programmes. **He emphasized upon productive skill which is an ability to direct human energy efficiently to achieve desirable goals. He said that a large reserve of unskilled people may be perceived as a problem but a large population of skilled workers is a huge asset.** It take both knowledge and skill to train people therefore we should emphasize upon providing vocational training programmes to the rural population. **The other point that he raised was agriculture which should be given due importance in India.** He also said that engineers or people having a technical know-how should be in services and the policy making authorities who has a better understanding of any development issue related to technology.

The views of all the panelists were then concluded by Shri Pawan Sharma. The participants were extremely happy to attend such an informative discussion and appreciated this endeavour of society towards development. The forum was concluded with a positive note.

Detailed minutes will be floated on the web-site of society very soon.