

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW INDIA

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This E book is an English translation of a speech in Hindi. Speech was delivered by Mr. Kailash Chand Thakur. He is a great soul, full of energy, ideas and enthusiasm. Presently he teaches at Computer center of Ram Krishna Mission, Delhi. He is a kind of person whom you can never hate. I have been in touch with him for past two years now and have always found him high spirit. His spirit is really infectious, which I feel is growing strength to strength in the company of saints and swamis as he stays at mission. This was his first public address and the topic was "Development of new India. " If you have watched and loved Rang de Basanti, then believe me that this speech will definitely make you think, and even if it doesn't, he is not perturbed for he believes that like electric current which can only be transmitted through metal and not through wood. Great and noble thoughts do not pass through dead and spineless creatures.

Today, on this auspicious occasion I am honored to deliver speech and discuss with you a very burning issue: "**Development of new India**"

Incidentally Government of India has also started a program "**BharatNirman**" (www.bharatnirman.gov.in) and numerous other programs are running at city, state or national level by various NGOs with aim to take our country from developing to developed nation. Our President is also a technology and growth evangelist.

So when I was given this topic, I asked myself a question, why at all do we need to develop New India? Answer to this question led me to another question:

Does India as a country got the kind of veneration, and that too in all walks of life which it rightly deserve?

I am sorry to say that no matter how patriotic you are, you will not get an affirmative answer to this question.

Our great philosophers, thinkers, saints and scholars showed us the right path to success, which could have made us a great nation; unfortunately we never cared to walk on it.

Today, we are not even half way; forget about the super power.

I don't want to be a cynic, but how as a nation can we call us No. one when more than 35% Indians are still illiterate, 40% still live below poverty line? There are numerous other issues which need our imperative attention.

But then, coming up with figures doesn't solve the problem. We need a concrete solution, which asks for an action plan. I strongly believe that only solution to all our problems is awakening and taking up the cause by our industrious and Karma Yogi Brothers and sisters.

We all have taken birth as a human being but ask yourself that do you behave like one?

Swami jee has rightly said that you just try to be a good human being and rest will be taken care of.

So what is the difference between animal and human? In the context of our speech, I feel most important difference is that animal cannot and do not plan for the future. He do not set any goals and don't have any vision

to fulfill while we as a human being can plan, set goal and work hard to achieve them. So my dear brothers and sisters have you set any great goal to achieve, and if you really have set any goal are you working or taking right steps to make your dreams a reality?

Think of all the souls whom you consider great, souls that inspire you. Again think about their lives, what is the common among them?

I feel, they all chose a goal and then worked hard against all odds to achieve it. So my dear friends who so ever chose a goal and then work hard to achieve it will never be a simple man, he would be special.

Today the aim is "Development of new India." How to go about it? Whenever you think of doing something, you first make a draft of that plan in your mind, and when you are sure of its success you take next step that is implement that action plan. Further I will discuss an action plan for the development of new India.

We need bricks, sand, cement and other ingredients to make a house; similarly for the

development of nation we need responsible citizen. Who is this responsible citizen? I think responsible citizen is the one who:

1. Is aware of infinite latent energy in him.
2. Thinks beyond self.
3. Believes in True education.
4. Believes in entrepreneurship.

Swami Vivekananda said:

"Do not figure out big plans at first, but begin slowly, feel your ground, and proceed."

Latent energy

I said that a responsible citizen should be aware of the latent energy inside him. Latent energy is hidden and lay idle inside him unless harnessed for productive work, so we need to convert it into action. When you believe in yourself, have faith and confidence in your capabilities, then impossible becomes possible. It's just a matter of changing your perception towards things. I will quote a simple example or matchstick:

We know that there's fire in a match stick, but it is not evident unless you rub

it. And what happens if the matchstick is wet? It won't fire! Similarly we all have hidden fire in us, but you won't lighten up till you are drenched with water of hopelessness. Needed are catalysts like hope, confidence and self faith, which teaches: how to convert hidden energy to work.

To win a cricket match, to scale up the height of Everest or to convert economically weak nation to a developed one, what we need is a work plan and confidence to achieve it. And once you have made a plan, work hard to realize it. Do not think and fear from roadblocks and failures. Remember failure is experienced by those who walk on the path of success.

In Mahabharata Krishna would not have been needed if there was no Kansa.

What I wish to emphasize is that there would be roadblocks but if we have confidence and will power nothing is impossible. Today our nation especially needs youth who with strong belief in his capabilities can take our country out of all its problems.

So it is clear that: Make a goal and attain it don't settle for anything less.

Ponder over these words of swami Vivekananda:

"Stand up, be bold, be strong. Take the whole responsibility on your own shoulders, and know that you are the creator of your own destiny. All the strength and succor you want are within you. "

Think beyond self

Selfishness is the biggest ailment of human being, we always think of our gain out of everything we do, and tend to ignore the big losses of others.

"It was because of our selfish nature that British could rule us: It was easy for them to find people, who were ready to kill others for petty selfish gains."

We think so much about OUR own good that if X is laughing then Y will think that there is something fishy; may be he has some work from me or he might be up to something great. Family, full of selfish members would divide very easily; same is true for a country.

Country full of selfish citizens is bound to be divided, destroyed and finish. So first and foremost builder of new India ought to be a selfless person.

"As we remove shoes before entering the temple, similarly to take India to highest level we would have to take off our selfish desires."

Stop for a minute and think about the good we have done to India and stop pondering and working for small short term personal gains. We tend to forget that if India gains and prosper its citizens; you and I will also gain.

If we are in position to help others then we should step out of our cocoon and help the one who needs it. That is only our dharma and nothing else. My dear friend you will realize that being selfish and helping others gives true happiness.

I will end this part with these words of Swami Vivekananda:

"He works best who works without any motive, neither for money, nor for fame, nor for anything else; and when a man

can do that, he will be Buddha, and out of him will come the power to work in such a manner as will transform the world."

Education

Education that constructs life, character, and help us being a good human being is true education. True education is full of positive ideas and its essence is concentration of mind. It is power. And finally the end of education, all training should be man-making. Swami jee said:

"Education is not amount of information that is being put into your brain and runs riot there, undigested all your life. We must have a life-building, man-making, character-making, assimilation of ideas."

A large portion of our population is still uneducated. Numerous policies were made by our government but none of them could bring revolution to this dying education system, and this revolution would take lots of time till Junta especially youth population is mobilized. It is high time that every literate should at least make one person literate. If this program is started by our young boys

and girls in their locality, I am sure that in no time every Indian would be educated. If we want our nation to stand up in the queue of developed nations then we would have to stand up for this cause of education.

Non government organizations and self help groups are working on this front but if the number of patients is more than then we need doctors in same proportion. I once asked one elderly person in my village if he wants to study; he replied that I can't become wrestler in this old age but could be a learned person. If that old man is ready to learn, why would not younger generation?

We should also remember one more thing: As swami Vivekananda said that while teaching anybody we should not become hindrance in his daily work. Today people take up courses and education in search of job, I also find people who asks me if education could fetch him a job? I tell them, education could not guarantee job but yes, I could guarantee that education would bring change in a way you live your life and that change would be for good only.

Like pulse polio mission, we should have a mission for education to convert illiterate to literate and this could not be done by single

person or group. We all as a nation would have to work for it and if a person is educated his mind would be more receptive to things around him and take right decisions.

I am sure that these words from Swami Vivekananda would definitely help:

"The education that does not help the common mass of people to equip themselves for the struggle for life, which does not bring out strength of character, a spirit of philanthropy and the courage of a lion –is it worth the name?"

Entrepreneurship

Today population is growing faster than job opportunities and it is not possible that every body gets a government or a private job; forget about everybody getting good jobs. Every nation has become economically strong by creating more job opportunities and today same is happening in India too, so way to top is the way of entrepreneurship. 100 years back swami jee said that to make our nation rich we should accept entrepreneurship.

We all know about one of the biggest and most respected business house TATA group but do you know that it is working on the guidelines of swami Vivekananda. When Swami jee was going to address a religion congress, at the same time one more great personality was also traveling with him on that ship. He was the man who established TATA, jamshed ji tata. On talking to him swamijee came to know that he is going to Japan for buy some machines. Swami jee asked him to manufacture these machines in India and also open research institute for the same, this would also initiate research in science and technology that would be very beneficial for the years to come. Jamshed jee was inspired by his words and accepted his advice and rest is history.

Swami jee once told his favorite disciple sharat Chandra that India needs people full of Raja guna. Raja guna means the one who manufactures or the one who is entrepreneurial. He told sharat Chandra that if not anything you can at least make gown out of Banarasi sari and sell it in foreign countries. He was very clear and knew that if you take up a job you are a servant and can only support yourself but if you are an entrepreneur you will support hundred others.

No work is big or small. But it is faith of the person doing the work, which is big or small. We all eat and relish Burgers at Mac Donald. What is he selling? He is selling just a burger, which is a foreign dish. Is India running short of its dishes? Why can't Indian food be sold like a burger? It is because we neither make nor sell our food with that much of faith.

Today if we literate and educated use our knowledge in brining up new ventures then I am sure that in no time India would be a developed nation. If not individually, we can take the route of co-operatives. We know about Amul a brand known all over the world today. It was started and still run as a society.

I have red some where that there are two kinds of lazy person: one who do not work and the second who could work a lot but work very little. Do you feel you are lazy? Come on wake up, rise and work hard. Start your journey for big goals; you will see that small goals would be attained easily.

We should not search for short cuts. But if the method is short, benefit will also be short. Why are you still sleeping, wake up. As we don't hesitate doing any work in our home. We should come forward and take up tasks of our country: our bigger home.

"That our country now wants are muscles of iron and nerves of steel, gigantic wills which nothing can resist, which can penetrate into the mysteries and secrets of the universe and will accomplish their purpose in any fashion, even if it meant going down to the bottom of the ocean, meeting death face to face. "