***Cleaning up the Capital!!***

*Cleansing Gusher*

Yes indeed! The nation’s capital; also in protest for destroying value of savings –through inflation and devaluation to fund coming elections, for bringing back illegal funds stashed away at higher rate.

Like the Augean stables, all of Jamuna’s flood waters of monsoon will have to be used to cleanse our capital and its political class. If that would not suffice, we will have to divert the mighty Ganga too. Also, cleanse all the State capitals by diverting all the rivers/dams nearby.

For certain after enjoying the fruits of hydra-headed corruption: bribery, extortion, frauds, graft, jobbery, malfeasance, nepotism, payoffs, perfidy, skimming, unscrupulousness, venality, most would have to descend to the depths of the notorious dungeons of hades to settle down in catacombs of the underworld where they truly belong; with no hope of parole or pardon for generations to come.

Ablutions, confessions, pilgrimages, Ganga-*snan* won’t suffice. No amount of repentance, penance, *prayaschitta*, perambulation, circumambulation, *angapradakshinam –acte de foi, astha ke karya,* fire walking, tithes et al would do. Whether the corrupt do or we the people who have let them do and get away with it so far due to our apathy, undertake! For the crimes are abominable, against citizens who elected the representatives, against humanity, against conscience of the people in true democracy.

For such uncivil deplorable criminal behaviour and conduct, the social punishment is ostracism. Can’t our advocates, lawyers, judges and justices understand such niceties of civility, law, practices, enforcement, punishment, rule of law, jurisprudence etc? So let us debar such political criminals from the representative system itself. Well, if all of them are in cahoots? Damn the whole lot!!

Aren’t such disgraced and unwanted isolated, suspended, dismissed, disqualified, ex-communicated, extradited from services, professions, sports, religions, diplomatic corps? Then why should we except/exempt or give privileges to politicians for sins of their own will and making? For their own misdeeds and nefarious activities? Just because they are elected? Let us have Recall and Reject! And don’t let those convicted, corrupt and losers in elections come back through back doors to Rajya Sabha, Raj Bhavans, Public bodies, Corporations, Trusts and the such like to ensconce themselves.

Also bar those retiring from favoured postings in judiciary and executive branches from plum posts to head Commissions and various powerful positions in return as favours for misdeeds done.

Do we need mass non-cooperation, disobedience, strikes, *hartals, dharnas, bandh, gherao* eventually it all culminating in violence to protest against the protection given to the corrupt politicos?

Yes, stealing Peter to Paul by playing Robinhood –haves against have nots- is well practised by most systems, especially politicians of all ideologies and philosophies, starting with taxation itself. But it precipitates nepotic corruption of Indian dimensions when one and all –from dynasties right down to the municipal councillor marks up to recover their election costs, future such expenses and nest egg too, including all and sundry of cronies in the head count, not forgiving unwilling corporate honchos.

A fair and reasonable system cannot bestow unequal and unfair advantages to some against the loss of many. Taken, they are elected, to make laws and rules, and punish the disobedient too. So what be done when they themselves disobey norms of behaviour expected of leaders by granting exemptions to the wayward amongst themselves? This ain’t democracy as known, understood and practised!

Time for an *andolan* lest we be washed away: either by the corrupt or by the tidal wave building up against them; either way! No simpler gentlemanly words would do when they have to be strong against degraded systems and characters forming part of it and enacting vicious roles, acts and deeds.

Many of us past our prime have done well in career, profession and life, and are working to improve the society in our own quiet ways sparing time, efforts and funds. But that won’t do. We all have to do our wee bit and contribute our mite for Greater Common Good even at the risk of exposures. That is what societies and community living is all about. If one truly believes, one must have courage to stand up and be counted, do and seen to do right things for right cause under the dictum lead, follow or move. This is a clarion call to committed citizenry.

Where are the good, right-thinking, committed, activists amongst us the rest? Are we so callous, unconcerned, unperturbed and unaffected to ignore what’s been going on? In our society, political system and all else affecting every sphere of our life from cradle to grave, birth to death, from education, employment, energy, communications, travel, health care and nest-egg savings!

Are We the People so foolhardy to trust the politicians to stem the rot and usher in corrective measures? Are we so unbothered as to what we would leave behind for generations to come? Time to coordinate, synchronise, synthesise and act is now; before it becomes an avalanche of mobocracy, revolution and what else! Aren’t we seeing such outbursts in other parts of the world?

Can’t we sense the debacle that is going to befall us after the next elections due soon? Are we going to let the criminals monopolise the system and live under their diktats for another five years again?

Yes, there are conflicts and separation of powers issue between legislature, executive, judiciary, as also the media and public at large keeping a vigil eye through civil society. Survival of democracy is assured through such checks and balances so that power is not usurped even by the elected who are the true representatives to protect rights of the citizens during their tenure. Such problems, hurdles and issues are not insurmountable or defying solutions when well-properly addressed. Can’t we?

We the citizens have right to vote, right to be heard, right to be protected and right to correct the erring. We do not want to be left behind in the democratic process after empowering few.

No point talking, analysing, discussing, concluding and advising as to what others should do, need be done etc. It is time to act unless we want to face violence coming knocking at our doors. Each one of us individually and collectively and in groups must start the process and support others in common goals for greater common good even if there is lack of complete understanding to what all be done.

The entire world is laughing, sniggering and sniding at us for our non-chalance\*\*. Where are the legal eagles and luminaries? Is the legal community so insensitive to the crying issues begging for their vaunted professional attention in this great need of hour, shame and trying times?

Be prepared for the worst to come –unless we clean up- after the next elections with hung parliament

\*\* NCPRI and similar ones are doing something constructive; but we need support and follow ups.