***Criminals at Political Helm: Let It Be or NOT***

Let it be, is a passive state of mind. Is inaction root of all evils, when the active –crooked criminals- get away with everything, setting agenda for goverment and rule citizens against their Will? A state of affairs of our times? Is failure of our Will or legal system that is the root cause? Can’t right-thinking ones do something?

Is moral turpitude to be tolerated in polity even under rule of law? Is it morality Vs legality when convicted and punished seek re-election? Founding fathers to be recalled from graves?!

Are the Justices failing in duty to protect interests of people, becoming their masters’ servants –surrendering Legislature *v* Judiciary tussle- by expecting Prime/Chief ministers to select free of corruption, criminality and venality? What then are peoples’ choices?

Justice need be done and seen to be done too. Isn’t it natural justice and common sense that criminals are excluded from governance of the people, for the people and by the people themselves? Is it that we of and by the people fail to elect those with clean hands at the hustings? Can’t `Reject’ and NOTA be given the right weightage for *vox populi?*

Systemic failure that calls for major overhauls? Starting with gross failure of judiciary? Of Constitution itself? For, it has failed us, or rather we have failed it –by electing criminals to legislatures- that PM/CM has to choose from -of their elite culprits of malfeasance!

Can PM/CM expected to be morally upright selecting cabinet free of criminals, when his/her existence and power are at stake at mercy of goondas and felons? Is there a way out of this embroiled mess? Has SC abdicating responsibility, bestowing autocratic discretionary powers on PM/CMs that Constitution had not intended, morphed themselves as devil’s advocates?

Isn’t it more questions than answers? Aren’t answers more difficult than questions? To enforce! Is it about ten years for a PIL to be heard and judged? What happens in interim when criminals have ruled, exploited and looted leaving coffers empty and nation in debt at mercy of marauders at borders? Can’t what they did and left behind in shambles, be set right? Learn from perfected democracies?

Is constitutional bench of five at dead end? Has *panch* system of yore failed? What then is recourse? A full bench, one hopes to whom we can pray, where wisdom and not law will prevail? Or is it the President who can have a go at cleansing? Would he or she stand a chance, when the mob shepherds wayward leaders of criminal folks elected by the laity?

What then are the choices is the query from the common man a la *aam aadmi* and restless youth looking up to the system for peaceful correction and change. How to do is their concern and where to start, their worry; why not join criminals their dilemma, if one can’t beat them!

Isn’t violence by those left behind a sign of protest against deprivation when the uncouth seem to prosper? Can they be mollified or let them explode? It is waiting to happen; can better sense prevail?

Doing nothing is not an option. Time has come to take matters in hand facing it squarely. Clean up or perish. Can judiciary be trusted to help commoners in times of distress, when they all are part of the system, hand in glove, preserving their chairs seeking plump posts post retirement!

Now that coalition *adharma* is passe, while biding time, one can only hope that the new PM with absolute majority will have the temerity to clean the stables and put up only clean candidates for next elections. Let us watch: that indeed is the problem underlying malaise. Citizens must preserve their freedom and democracy –like the burning wick- to ensure that it is not taken away or extinguished. Beware, democracy and all that goes with it is in peril!

Calls for participative democracy pursuing corrective measures through revolution. People are aware of intricacies of laws and system, and convoluted judgments that legaldom throws up. The call is to correct, cure and refine, and not explain and tolerate. Don’t be inactive; protest, every which way: usher in change.