

Great minds are ready not only to take opportunities, but to make them.
—Charles Calton

Founder : Late Shri Ramgopal Maheshwari

EDITORIAL

Pay Rise to Professors

The Central Government has given 7th Pay Commission pay scales to Professors in Universities and Colleges funded by the Centre and States. It will benefit 7 lakh 58 thousand college teachers with increase from 22 to 28 per cent pushing up the salaries by Rs.10,400 to 49,800 rupees. The salaries of Vice Chancellors have gone up from Rs 1 lakh 75 thousand to Rs.2 lakh 25 thousand. The Centre will incur extra expenditure Rs.9800 crores at its implementation. The new scales are applied for payment from 1st January 2016.

In giving such benefits teachers come in for payment at the last. Otherwise with the announcement of the Pay Commission reports and Government decision on it payment to all the categories should be at a time and job be finished soon.

It is a very prolonged affair first there are demands to new Pay Commission and agitation, when constituted the commission takes many years to give and Government also takes its own time to take decision. By the time report come the new scales are announced the price rise has gone up so much that negated the benefit. After some time there are again demand for another Pay Commission and the same things are repeated.

In Madhya Pradesh when the 7th Pay Commission pay scales announced even after that teachers were demanding implementation of 6th Pay Commission scales. Even now the Madhya Pradesh

Teachers Association announced that from 15th October they would launch agitation for getting the 7th Pay Commission scales.

There are many permanent Commission like the University Grant Commission etc. on the same line the Government set up permanent pay commission and states permanent pay committees to act on the line of Labour Department on VDA (Variable Dearness Allowance).

Whenever there increase or decrease in the price index number the dearness payment in private sector are go up or down. The Permanent Pay Commission also act likewise in revising the scales according to increase on price index.

In addition the revised pay scales will cover the teachers of 119 centrally funded technical institutions – IIT, IIS, IIM, IISER, IIIT and NITIE.

The Union Human Resources Minister Mr.Prakash Javdekar said these measures will improve the quality of higher education and will attract talent in the teaching staff.

Mr. Javdekar should also take note of falling standard in the universities. The Governor of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat Mr.Kohli recently said the universities have become of factories of producing PHD. Sometime back the Prime Minister Mr.Narendra Modi also said that he would get examined the thesis submitted by the PHD scholars to see what are new innovation or suggestions are there to apply for social benefits.

Govt Cheque Cloned

A cheque of Rs.51 lakh issued by the State Technical Education Department was cloned and cashed at Ahmedabad, Gujarat and when the genuine cheque was presented at the bank it refused to accept and honour it on the ground that it had already paid the cheque. The things bank insecurity has reached to such a state that fake and cloned cheques are paid and real cheques are refused.

Sometime back in Bhopal the ATM cards of customers were photographed at the ATM machine and cards were cloned and money was drawn at a far off place Ahmedabad.

The ATM and card money are aimed to provide quick money

service to bank customers. But the fraud in banking system has made it very unsecure and risky to handle bank transaction on the basis of card and ATM.

Even the employees of companies of putting money into ATMs are putting up fake notes and short supply. They are associated with criminal who breaks open ATM for loot.

Criminals holding up people and forcing them to take out money from the ATM and gives them.

The Central Government and the Bank should decide to suspend banking transactions through ATM and cards and look at the schemes afresh whether it can be made crime proof or not.

Round The World

By Dr. D.K. Giri, (Prof. International Politics, JMI)

The India-European Union 14th Summit meeting in New Delhi on 6th October focused on closer cooperation on counter terrorism actions. Importantly, the joint declaration named Hafeez, Saeed, Dawood Ibrahim, Zakir-Ur Rehman, LeT and JeM et al as those perpetrating terror.

In fact, terrorism has become a common focus and gained currency as Europe has been subjected to repeated terrorist attacks recently even though India has been in the throes of cross-border terrorism for long.

Besides this, trade was another key issue as there has been a clear mismatch both in India's and EU's external relations. Notwithstanding, the EU has been functioning internally and in foreign relations as a trading bloc.

Undoubtedly, while New Delhi's external ties were politics and security driven at the cost of its vital economic relations, EU emphasized more on trade and economy ignoring its political objectives like promotion of democracy, protection of human rights, rule of law etc. The EU's heavy trade relations with China at the cost of its international political objectives, is a case in point.

Alas, the Summit meetings and a plethora of bilateral meetings including the important strategic partnership have failed to correct this imbalance. Significantly, India is one among 10 select countries with whom EU has strategic partnership, launched in 2004.

Tracing the relationship between the two, India was the first developing country to make diplomatic contact in 1962 with the EU, then known as the European Economic

In fact, there is not much awareness of the role and functions of EU in India. In most Summit or bilateral meetings, there is repeated reference to the shared core values of democracy, pluralism, human rights etc. Whereby the European Commission's President Jean-Claude Juncker wrote in the India press, "India and EU are natural partners, the bond is built on shared beliefs and the strength of law outweighs the law of the strong."

What's the link? Diabetes, latent TB, active TB disease and drug resistant TB

Bobby Ramakant, CNS

Incidentally, the opening day of the largest global lung health conference, also marked the World Obesity Day. One of the important highlights at the 48th Union World Conference on Lung Health was the study that probed if diabetes affects latent (or dormant) TB infection.

Earlier a few studies have shown that people with diabetes who have poor glycaemic control (or diabetes control) are at especially high-risk to develop active TB disease. But only a few studies done before, have investigated the relationship between diabetes and latent TB infection, and none of these studies have been population-based and were all in high-risk individuals.

Latent TB infection vs active TB disease

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), persons with latent TB infection do not feel sick and do not have any symptoms. They are infected with Mycobacterium tuberculosis, but do not have TB disease. Persons with latent TB infection are not infectious and cannot spread TB infection to others. Overall, without treatment, about 5 to 10% of infected persons will develop TB disease at some time in their lives.

Poorly controlled diabetes increases risk of latent TB

Dr Leonardo Martinez, Post-doctoral research fellow, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, USA, who is among the study researchers, shared the outcomes of the study "Promising results for an investigation of Glycaemic control and prevalence of latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI): population-based study". He said that

Community (EEC). Today they are celebrating 55 years of diplomatic contact. Even as not much of this festivity is seen or felt in the public domain.

In fact, there is not much awareness of the role and functions of EU in India. In most Summit or bilateral meetings, there is repeated reference to the shared core values of democracy, pluralism, human rights etc. Whereby the European Commission's President Jean-Claude Juncker wrote in the India press, "India and EU are natural partners, the bond is built

attach high importance to our strategic partnership as the world largest democracies we are natural partners and our close relations are based on shared common values."

Undeniably, these statements are political rhetoric and diplomatic niceties. Actually, the strategic partnership is under-performing. An instance: The Free Trade Agreement, a one of its kind supposedly to promote India's growth and development and for which negotiations started in 2007 is stuck.

Indian negotiators feel that

Undoubtedly, while New Delhi's external ties were politics and security driven at the cost of its vital economic relations, EU emphasized more on trade and economy ignoring its political objectives like promotion of democracy, protection of human rights, rule of law etc. The EU's heavy trade relations with China at the cost of its international political objectives, is a case in point.

on shared beliefs and the strength of law outweighs the law of the strong."

This is an oblique reference to China's belligerent territorial aggression in the South China Sea. Echoing this perspective, the European Council President Donald Tusk added, "EU wants to build with India a strong strategic partnership on the foundations of common values of freedom, democracy and credible rule based global order."

Prime Minister Modi was equally effusive about relations. Said he at the Summit, "India values her multifaceted partnership with EU and we

the Europeans are less flexible and patronizing whereas Europeans think that India is not open to lifting trade barriers, giving market access, making geographical indications and straightening public procurement. In addition, there is concern about intellectual property rights (IPR). Whatever be the bottlenecks, the unending and stalled negotiations do not behove a strategic partnership.

Certainly, India and EU relations have a strong potential to prosper into a strong partnership as the EU is New Delhi's largest trading partner accounting for 13.7 per cent

ahead of China's 11 per cent and US's 9 per cent. And EU is India's 9th largest trading partner with exports amounting to 37.8 billion euros in 2016 and the total value of trade was 77 billion euros in 2016.

Also, about 24 per cent of total FDI flows from EU to India and around six thousand European companies are operating in India. Bilateral trade in commercial services has nearly tripled over the past decade increasing from 10.5 billion euros in 2005 to 28.4 billion euros in 2016.

The European Investment Bank has opened an office in New Delhi and has committed 1.5 billion euros for the current year. The Lucknow and Bengaluru metro projects and many solar ventures are supported by the Bank. Further, India, is the leading the International Solar mission.

True, investment would come. But is the Indian market ready to absorb such investment flow? The Alcatel chief profoundly remarked, "Indians are wonderful people, but India is a terrible market". How much has it changed?

On political front, EU has recognized India's regional role in international politics. It has taken serious note of SAARC as a regional body and jotted New Delhi's role and interest in Africa. Pertinently, it has invited her to participate as an observer at the next EU-African Union Summit.

Both held discussions on regional and international issues which included the Muslims Rohingya crisis, their radicalization in particular, Iran's nuclear programme, North Korea's missile adventurism, civil war in Syria as also rebuilding of Afghanistan. Both "committed to a sustainable, democratic, prosperous and peaceful Afghanistan".

poorly controlled diabetes presents a higher risk for latent TB infection and that this may be a group to target for latent TB testing and consideration of latent TB therapy.

This population-based study of 4215 individuals in the United States tested for latent TB infection and several biomarker tests for diabetes. This included 776 people with diabetes, 1441 people with pre-diabetes condition, and 1998 people without diabetes. The study shows that people with diabetes had higher rates of latent TB infection than those who did not have diabetes. Prevalence of latent TB infection was 4.1% in people without diabetes, 5.5% in people with pre-diabetes condition, and 7.6% in people with diabetes. Alarmingly, it also showed that people with diabetes, with poor glycaemic control (or diabetes control) were even more likely to have latent TB infection.

tion.

Diabetes TB collaborative activities are vital

Governments of over 190 nations globally have committed to end TB by 2030 and reduce untimely deaths due to diabetes and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by one-third by 2030. If we are to end TB, we cannot ignore the mountainous reservoir of latent TB infection in our population. Experts estimate that in high burden nations like India, up to one-third of the population might have latent TB infection. In this reservoir of millions of people some

and programme people to understand how can the two interventions work together effectively so as to help increase public health outcomes of both programmes. We need to share information and data, and also seek collaboration with other ministries and partners who can help mitigate social determinants of TB and diabetes.

Diabetes links DEEPER with drug-resistant TB

Dr Martin Castellanos Joya, National TB Programme expert from Mexico, presented at a special Symposium organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) before the opening of the 48th Union World Conference on Lung Health in Guadalajara.

Dr Joya said that "one out of four TB patients also have diabetes in Mexico. But when we speak about multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB), link to diabetes is alarmingly even higher: one out of every two MDR-TB patients have diabetes too."

The evidence-based guidelines on TB and Diabetes have already been adapted to Mexican setting and implemented to respond to "dual challenge" posed by TB and diabetes, said Dr Joya.

"We need to plan together with other partners and stakeholders to address TB and diabetes. People who are working to control diabetes and TB both must actively participate in joint programming, training and monitoring, for example. Bi-directional screening is already being rolled out in Mexico with TB patients being tested for diabetes and people with diabetes being tested for TB. Treatment should be simultaneous for TB and diabetes" said Dr Joya.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), persons with latent TB infection do not feel sick and do not have any symptoms. They are infected with Mycobacterium tuberculosis, but do not have TB disease. Persons with latent TB infection are not infectious and cannot spread TB infection to others.

Prevalence of latent TB infection was 4.1% in people without diabetes, 5.5% in people with pre-diabetes condition, and 7.6% in people with diabetes. Alarmingly, it also showed that people with diabetes, with poor glycaemic control (or diabetes control) were even more likely to have latent TB infection.

For example, people with undiagnosed diabetes (who often have uncontrolled diabetes) had 12 percent prevalence of latent TB infection; a rate 3-4 times higher than the general population. People with diabetes with high levels of fasting plasma glucose, a biomarker of poor glycaemic control also had significantly higher rates of latent TB infection.

develop active TB disease. But there is hope because isoniazid preventive therapy (IPT) can cure latent TB infection. Despite promise since years, to provide IPT to those with latent TB infection, a lot more action needs to happen to effectively target this dormant TB pool.

Partnerships vital to combat TB, diabetes

Dr Pablo Antonio Kuri Morales, Under-Secretary for Prevention and Health Promotion, Mexico, said to CNS (Citizen News Service) that diabetes is associated with unhealthy lifestyles too, whereas TB is mostly affecting under-privileged people in our population. It is important for both TB and diabetes experts

Demand of northeast for separate time-zone can be compromised by change in time-zone

Subhash Chandra Agrawal

People and Politicians from northeast India have from time to time raised demand for a separate time-zone for north-east, with a big time-difference of 127 minutes between extreme east and west zones of the country.

But any system of dual time-zones may cause unwanted confusion in a country like India which is not tuned in for a system of dual time-zone. Demand of north-eastern states is highly justified for better utilisation of day-time energy when sun-rise and

sun-set are comparatively much earlier than rest of the country.

Union government should immediately take remedial measures by advancing time-zone by half an hour for the complete country, also as a compromise-formula for a uniform time-zone for whole of the country.

Rather Indian government should approach international authorities deciding time-zones so that time-zone for a country may compulsorily be deviated by full one hour from GMT.

Presently India has a time zone of GMT+5.30 hours which should be GMT+6 hours as also recommended by National Institute of Advanced Studies.

India should also take lead in taking up matter of metric-measure of time with concerned international

authorities. When all other measures are converted in metric-system from earlier haphazard systems, metric-measure of time has not yet been introduced.

Metric unit of time should be introduced with a complete day divided in 10 metric hours instead of present 24 hours.

Each metric hour may have 100 metric minutes with a metric minute having 100 metric seconds thereby making a complete day of 10000 metric seconds instead of present 86400 seconds.

Opinion

Please send your letters and articles to
chroniclebpl@gmail.com