

Presidential Address

Prof. Umesh Holani¹

I welcome you all at birth place of the father of the nation 'Mahatama Gandhi' and iron man 'Sardar Patel' and the Gujrat's fourth largest city Rajkot on the occasion of 35th National Convention of All India Accounting Association. Gujrat has shown faith in Narendra Modi's dynamic leadership in the recently held elections. Gujrat has made benchmark in the word forum. It is now being accepted from the other states on the bases of Gujrat Model's Development and to govern the nation on the same pattern. In the year 1974-75 Gujrat has played a very important and vital role in the whole revolution campaign. The present situation /scenario in the country is worse than the past. Therefore, I assume a versatile leadership is required and possibly we'll get it from Gujrat.

Today, we are passing through the most difficult time of the history. This difficulty is pertaining to leadership's fidelity, honesty, transparency, good governance and accountability towards people. Today, if the Gujrat is succeeding on the path of progress it is all due to the sheer hard work of the people and all the prerequisite qualities of the leadership. If we are lucky enough to have this leadership at the center (people in power) obviously this century will be ours.

Our All India Accounting Association is well organised organisation. Its strength lies in its Chapters. I made some recommendations in the last volume of my journal and we need to pay attention to them. In my Presidential tenure six Chapters came into existence. I compliment Dr. Sandeep Rai & Dr. Amita Kumari for Mirzapur Chapter, Prof. B. N. Pandey & Shri Dharen Kr. Pandey for Patna Chapter, Dr. Mirza Sahib & Dr. Krishna Kumar for Avadh, Dr. Ashok Gupta & Dr. Meenu Maheshwari for Kota Chapter, Dr. R. K. Jain & Prof. Promod Kumar for Agra Chapter and Dr. Shailendra Singh Bhadouria for Amarkantak Chapter.

I believe that the major responsibility of the local chapters in the National Context is to accept the international changes and challenges. We with the help of the local chapters & local dialect can combat the national and international challenges. We all need to work out

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consistently on this. Our 'Talent Search Test' is in progress. Some chapters are doing remarkably well and remaining should try to make them better with the help of their members. Our Life membership has crossed the limit of 3500. For this all the Presidents & the Secretaries of the chapter deserve the laurels. Hence, it is proved that candidates are increasing every year in our national symposium.

Nation is passing through the toughest time. Corruption has emerged as the central issue. It is miserable to see devoted and dedicated leaders. Now, the politics is governed not only through the commercial mind set but with money power, muscle power and cast system. As a result of this national development has lagged behind. Transparency is visible on papers but practically it is missing. The base of our decisions has shifted to other things rather than, National development. As a result of this, our policy makers overlooked discussion on the development based issues. To combat this challenge accountant has to play a major role. Isn't it the time has come to maintain the utmost transparency in our accounting system? The time has come to sacrifice our self-interest for the nation. The epicenter of the problem is not every person/element of the nation is talking about his self-interest. It seems to be common phenomenon or a preconceived notion in the people's mind throughout the world that corporations are keeping their benefits in view and for this they can go to any extent. India too is not exceptional of this theory. A huge chunk of corruption is related to corporate. Undoubtedly fraud of millions would not be possible without the support of accountant. Should we not consider the change in the system when we are witnessing the wrath of people? If the wrath of people towards corporate increased the whole system will collapsed. The policy of corporate governance seems to be right but if the intentions are not pious these policies would become ineffective. I firmly believe that the auditing institutions have to change their policies in this direction.

In the present era of economic development traditional role of accountancy has been changed completely. Now, accounting is the center of trust for all. On the basis of accounting reports number of people invests their money. It not only takes care of investors but also plays a role of vigilant guard for the nation. Now, it has become an important contributor for national development. Hence, it has to incorporate these changes. It has to safeguard financial limitation and conventions. It is the need of the hour to promote accountability and transparency. This will also play a vital role in controlling corruption. It is the duty of accountant that he should notice and report discrepancies in the accounting processes. Thus, it would be playing a leading role in matters of public interest. It is a huge responsibility which we have to take care properly.

In the Government sector need of double entry system is well known now. We never thought about conversion of single entry system to double entry system in public sector.

Now, people have to work towards national development through their contribution in the area of accounting. Simultaneously, we have to take active participation in the development of Indian Government Accounting Standard being prepared by Accounting Standard Advisory Board. Till now, seven such standards have been prepared out of which three are already declared and four are under consideration. It would be a great service to the nation if we are able to make Government accounting more transparent and executable.

In accounting numerous new areas have been emerged. We have started working on few of them but still big changes are required in the educational arena. This is the time of IFRS. Many of the universities are teaching it effectively but few universities have not mentioned its name even. In addition to this research is required at the level of the universities in areas of e-accounting, Accounting for BPO & KPO, Arbitration, Environmental Accounting, Corporate Governance, Due Diligence & Valuation, ERP, Crisis Management, Consultancy Services, International Taxation, Merger & Acquisition, Demerger, Business Restructuring, Extensible Reporting Language and Debt Syndication etc. We expect support from branches for such researches. Branches must discuss these issues at their level and the outcomes of such discussions should be sent for publication in the journals, so as to give a direction to our thought.

The economically influenced system to which we are heading in the name of globalisation is proving to be self-destructive. We are making too much money but deteriorating our social system. We have stopped thinking on Shubh in earning money (Labh). We are unable to think how this tendency to earn and earn more money is attracting us towards immorality.

We do not have time to think about it. It is clearly stated in 'Manusmriti'

'Yatra matra prasidyarth swakarm bhirgarhite,

Akleshen sharirasya kurveet dhan sanchyam'

It means that for the purpose of gaining bare subsistence, let him accumulate purpose by irreproachable occupation which are prescribed for his caste, without fatiguing his body. But today we see a mad race for earning money by any shameless manner. Few people are satisfying their lust for money on the cost basic necessity of many. Despite of this, mother India is great, she is really called mother as she is full-filling out needs and as satisfying our hunger although many are just busy in gratifying their self-interest. I am happy that Gujarat has understood this pure feeling and has kept in mind the learning of upnishads.

'Abhavo va prabhavo va yasya nastyarth kamayo,

Samajveshvatwa ruptyam dharmachakra pravartnam'

It means that individual should neither have excess nor less of money and the individual should maintain spirituality in society, then only wheel of dharma will work. The 'development model' of Gujarat can be ideal for other states too, if Gujarat accepts good deeds with open heart.

In the end, I believe that this 35th national convention organised under the flags up of Prof. Pratap Singh Chauhan will be a memorable one. Here, I believe, few decisions will be taken which will give new directory and dimension to accounting association. May Gujarat leave unforgettable imprints on your minds' with this belief; I heartily welcome all the guests and participants in 35th National All India Accounting Association.