

EDITORIAL

Country is rich but people are poor

Recently the planning Commission had submitted an affidavit in the Supreme Court defining 'Poverty line' which had created a controversy in our country. As per the bench mark fixed by the Planning Commission a man residing in urban areas if earn Rs. 32/- per day he will be considered to be alone the poverty line and did not entitle for food grains under subsidised rate at ration shops. For the rural areas this was fixed as Rs. 26/-. Accordingly if an Indian earns Rs. 32/Rs. 26 as the case may be he may not be considered as a "Poor". This is astonishing and shocking. When successive governments in India introduced economic reforms as per the guidelines of World Bank, IMF and WTO they promised abolition of poverty with in 5 years. But even after 20 years of Globalisation and Liberalisation of economy now the poverty is not abolished but increased many fold.

During the period of economic reforms in our country more than 1,50,000 farmers and poor people in Maharashtra, Andra and Karnataka have committed suicide due to debt and financial difficulties.

Very recently the Prime Minister office officially announced the assets of the central ministers through website. Among the Cabinet Minister the richest is Sri. Praful Patel with Rs. 122 crores and

in the lowest place Sri A.K. Antony is placed with only few lakhs. Interestingly Sri. Praful Patel nearly doubled his assets from Rs. 70 crores with in a short period of 28 months. During the same period the 'Air India' under his civil aviation ministry fallen in debt trap and incurred huge loss due to mismanagement. Only through 2G Spectrum allocation few people loot this country Rs. 1,76,000 crores as per the CAG's report. Now India replaced Japanese and Chinese to top place among the millionaires in Asia. Sri Mukesh Ambani is the 4th richestman in the world. Sometimes back he presented his wife as a birthday gift an aeroplane worth Rs. 362 crores. It was well known that he has built a very big bungalow in Mumbai city worth several thousands crores of rupees. His house was considered to be the constliest bungalow owned by a person in the whole world. The richest person is also in India. The poorest person is also in India. Two decades of Economic reforms actually pauperised the poor and lower middle class people but helped the rich people to amase wealth.

The economic liberalisation process began by P.V. Narashima Rao and persued by A.B. Vajpayee and Dr. Manmohan Singh during the last 20 years has failed to eradicate poverty from our country. ■

Scam.... Scam..... Scam... After 2G Now 3G?

The Delhi High Court sent notice on 28.9.2011 to the government of India, TRAI etc. to explain the allegations that due to their carelessness Rs. 20,000 crores was lost to the government on account of violation of license conditions for 3G Spectrum by certain Private telecom operators.

A petition was field in the Delhi High Court alleging that few private telecom companies although do not have licence for 3G Spectrum in some telecom circles they provide 3G service to their customers utilising the others', 3G Spectrum illegally. This is a 'back door' method to use 3G Spectrum in Circles where the companies do not have proper licence for 3G spectrum. It is strange that these violations were continued with the full knowledge of DoT and TRAI.

Already BSNL was 'looted' Rs. 18000 crores on account of 3G licence for "Pan India" eventhough the Public Sector Company was not permitted to participate in the auction for 3G alongwith other private operators which would have given opportunity to BSNL to select needed circles only. But the then telecom minister A. Raja forced BSNL to get Pan India 3G licence ofcourse without participating in open auction. This way BSNL lost few thousand crores.

2G (or) 3G the loss is only for the Government of India (or) Public Sector company. In 2G the loss was Rs. 1,76,000 crores. In 3G the estimated loss is Rs. 20,000 crores. ■