

# State of the Nation- A Lokavidya Samaj Perspective

B Krishnarajulu (01 Feb 2020)

## The World situation

The major developed countries of the World , such as China and Russia and some smaller ones such as Singapore, are one-Party dictatorships and many of the other so-called democracies of the First World, such as the USA and UK, there are serious attempts to transform them into One-party dictatorships. The developing economies such as Brazil and India are also in the process of becoming One-party dictatorships.

The countries of Latin America and South-east Asia are also verging catastrophically into dictatorships while the oligarchies of the Arab world are wallowing in wealthy despotism.

All these political dispensations , have actively and militarily perpetuated a 'development' paradigm based on brutal industrialisation, Globalisation and market-based economic imperialism. The political structure that has allowed and encouraged this to happen is One-Party dictatorship. The dramatic rise of China and the sustenance of Russia ;both under the dictatorship of the Communist party, as global economic super powers; underlines the 'success' of this strategy. It is therefore not surprising that the other established economic giants such as USA and UK and the aspiring developing countries, such as India and Brazil, are also heading in the same political direction.

Dictatorships allow the ruling dispensation to wrest and exercise control over all resources, production and marketing and use military might to subjugate any dissidence. Such a situation inevitably results in the loss of a number of fundamental human rights for the population , who are then surely driven into a new form of dehumanised slavery.

Every dictatorship needs an 'ideological' base for it's sustenance. While the Communist ideology (and Party) , bolstered by some ethnic nationalism, led the way in Russia and China; the nascent dictatorships of Western Europe and North America have long tried to established a social base in White Supremacy (recall White Aryan supremacy in Nazi Germany) and the would-be dictatorships of Latin America seem to have embarked on a process of political

ethnic cleansing. The oligarchies of the Arab world have increasingly used Sunni Islam as the ideological base of their dictatorships.

### The Indian situation

The predominant thinking, in intellectual and Government circles in India, has been influenced by these development models and is now wholly committed to market-based economic imperialism. All political parties have essentially supported this development paradigm and, during the past 50 years or so, the attempt to establish their dictatorships has been underway. The Congress, through the Indira Gandhi regime attempted to usher in dictatorial control over the economy and polity in the 70s , but failed to complete the task. The RSS -BJP , who have been open advocates of rampant capitalism (their anti-socialism/ communism emanates from adherence to the capitalist development paradigm) and have long sought to establish a popular base(as support to their dictatorship) through Hindutva(Vedic Brahmin supremacy) ideology. They have now unabashedly begun to consolidate the dictatorship given the political mandate that has gone in their favour.

There has been growing opposition to alternate development paradigms, based on decentralised production, local market economy and backed by a democratic polity; long suggested by Mahatma Gandhi, Kumarappa, Rammanohar Lohia etc. In fact the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi was the first 'violent' blow heralding this opposition. The RSS - BJP have continuously been attempting to consolidate Hindu opinion to back their efforts to establish a one-party dictatorship and set the country on the path to becoming an important player in global market capitalism.

On the other hand, the very existence of Lokavidya Samaj is dependent on the success of a decentralised, local market economy based in Lokavidya livelihoods and backed by local self-government(democratic Gram Panchayats).

### The current debate on CAA, NRC , NPR etc

It should be abundantly clear that the current support for and opposition to the CAA/NRC/NPR are based in support for or opposition to the attempt to set up a one-party dictatorship. In fact the composition of both camps suggest that they would in fact root for the dominance of the global market economy ;

with however the support camp arrogating to itself the 'selection' of those sections of society who should be included among the beneficiaries of the system while the opposition camp roots for an all-inclusive beneficiary dispensation. Neither camp appears interested in establishing a truly egalitarian society that will help liberate Lokavidya Samaj from the growing clutches of the global market economy.

The Dalits and Tribals have long been struggling for equal inclusion while women have been struggling for gender equality and against gender discrimination in all spheres of human activity. Muslim women, especially the upward mobile younger generation, seem to be aware that, nowhere else in the world but ONLY in an Indian democratic setup, can they hope to achieve some urgent social and 'religious' reforms. For them, the freedom to voice such opinion exists only in India and, like the rest of the women in the country, they do not want to lose this hope to religion-based discrimination.

#### The Lokavidya Samaj perspective

It should be quite clear that the global attempts to establish dictatorships to further the capitalist market system seek to suppress and eliminate all 'subaltern' societies that comprise a vast majority of the global population. The nascent dictatorships of Latin America are rapidly moving to capture centre stage in the movement to marginalize and eliminate all 'traditional' societies and their cultural and social identities. In India too, the attempt at establishing a dictatorship is aimed at obliterating Lokavidya and the very identity of Lokavidya Samaj and convert the vast population of Lokavidyadhars into 'controllable' components/robots of the market economy. (The attempt to enact a law that ties up farm incomes with big-agribusiness industries is a case in point.)

It is therefore imperative that Lokavdiya Samaj intervene in the current agitation against the dictatorship and project it's views on socio-economic reorganization clearly and strongly.