

A western conspiracy aimed at balkanization of India through gaon ganrajya (village republic) movement.

By N.T.Ravindranath, dated 31-10-2017.

There is a general perception in India that the biggest threat to India's national security comes from our two hostile neighbours i.e. Pakistan and China. But the truth is that the most serious threat to India's security comes from the vast network of activist NGOs, human rights organizations and India's pseudo-secular lobby which are all now collectively known as civil society groups. These civil society groups, supported, funded and controlled by some western intelligence and church agencies, pose a very grave threat to the very survival of India as a sovereign nation. Many of these organizations which were first established in India as charity organizations, later changed their colour and started showing their fangs by supporting various militant and secessionist movements in the country. The NGO and human rights activism got a big boost in the early 1970s with the patronage it received from Sonia Gandhi who came to India in 1968 as the Italian 'bahu' of India's former prime minister Indira Gandhi. The origin of many militant people's movements like Narmada Bachao Andolan and Kastakari Sanghatana which were started in the mid-1970s and the take over of the Maoist movement by the pro-US NGO lobby can be traced to this NGO-Sonia nexus. With Rajiv Gandhi becoming the Prime Minister of India in 1984, there was a substantial increase in the NGO lobby's political influence in the country with the successful induction of many of its nominees into key positions of power in the administration under different ministries.

Four crucial legislations

In 1992, two very important legislations i.e. 73d and 74th amendments to the Constitution were passed by the Parliament, with the avowed objective of strengthening the institutions of Panchayat Raj and urban bodies through decentralization of power, allegedly meant to allow the people at the lowest level to take part in the decision making process. Some NGO activists had played a very key, but behind-the-scene role, in getting these two amendment bills passed in the Parliament. It was under the pressure of these activists and also with the support of the top leadership of the Congress party, the Constitution (73d and 74th) Amendment Bills, were finally passed by the Parliament in December, 1992.

The two Acts came into force on April 24, 1993, giving necessary constitutional sanction to the Panchayat Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies in India.

Creation of Area Sabha or Mohalla Sabha under the Ward Committee

In December, 2005, a city modernization scheme called the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) was launched by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, and under this mission a Community Participation Law (CPL) was made mandatory to be enacted in the states, which involves constitution of Area Sabhas (or Mohalla Sabhas) enabling further decentralization of urban bodies below the Ward Committees. The law has been made mandatory by making it a condition to avail funding under JNNURM. The Community Participation Law (CPL), also termed as 'Nagar Raj Bill' is an elaborate law that prescribes the structure, powers and functions of the Area Sabha and it also prescribes the constitution and governance of the ward committees. As per this law, the hierarchy of representation after the municipal body would be the ward committees followed by Area Sabhas. Thus the Area Sabha or the Mohalla Sabha would be the lowest unit in the hierarchy as far as the urban bodies are concerned.

Welcoming the passage of these two amendment bills, the NGO activists had boasted that the two Acts would help India to realize Gandhiji's dream concept of Gram Swaraj. The NGO activists had been strongly advocating the need for strengthening the Panchayat Raj system and empowering the village Panchayats in the country, since last three decades. Their demand had the whole-hearted backing of some senior Congress politicians like Mani Shankar Iyer, Jairam Ramesh and Rahul Gandhi. When the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance was voted to power in 2004, one of the first major decisions of the new government was the creation of a separate ministry for Panchayat Raj, and entrusting the charge of the new ministry to Mani Shankar Iyer. It shows the importance that the UPA government attached to the strengthening of Panchayat institutions in India. The creation of an independent ministry for Panchayati Raj by the UPA government in May, 2004 was actually the fruition of an idea cherished by the NGO action group lobby in India led by Sonia Gandhi.

Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996.

Another important legislation called Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, (PESA), which granted extension of the idea of local self-governance to tribal regions in the country, was also passed by the Parliament in 1996. The PESA was enacted on the basis of the recommendations of the Bhuria Committee.

Bhuria Committee

The Narasimha Rao government had appointed a committee headed by M.Dileep Singh Bhuria, MP in 1994, to work out the details as to how structures similar to Panchayat institutions can take shape in Tribal Areas and Scheduled Areas and to define their powers. The committee consisted of the following members.

- 1) Dilip Singh Bhuria (MP), Chairman.
- 2) Khagapati Pradhani (MP)
- 3) Prof.M.Kamson (MP)
- 4) Dr.B.D.Sharma (Expert)
- 5) Dr.Bhupinder Singh (Expert)
- 6) Bandi Oraon (vice Chairman,SC/ST Commission)
- 7) Smt.Sushama Singh, Jt Secretary (Monitoring), Convener.

The Committee submitted its report in January, 1995. It was on the basis of recommendations of this Committee, a bill called Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Bill was introduced in the Parliament and passed on December 19, 1996. It was subsequently assented to by the President on December 24, 1996. Thus the central act was extended to all tribal and scheduled areas as specified by the Constitution.

Salient Provisions of the PESA Act

- 1) In scheduled areas, every village will have a Gram Sabha.
- 2) Minimum 50% seats should be reserved for STs at all tiers of Panchayats.
- 3) Chairpersons at all levels of Panchayats shall be reserved for STs
- 4) Every legislation on the Panchayats in scheduled areas shall be in conformity with the customary law, social and religious practices and traditional management practice of the community resources.

Powers and authority of Gram Sabhas and Panchayats in Scheduled Areas

Gram Sabha has the power to safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of people, their cultural identity, community resources and customary mode of dispute resolutions. It also has power to approve plans, programmes and projects for social and economic development, to identify persons as beneficiaries under poverty alleviation programmes and to give certificate of utilization of funds for various plans and programmes.

The recommendations of Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayats will be mandatory for grant of prospecting license on mining lease for minor minerals in the area.

Gram Sabha has the right to ownership of minor forest produce, to prevent alienation of land, to manage village markets, to exercise control over money lending, to exercise control over institutions and functionaries in all social sectors and to control over local plans and resources for such plans including tribal sub-plans.

State legislations may endow Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as Institutions of Self-governance.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panchayats_\(Extension_to_Scheduled_Areas\)_Act_1996\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panchayats_(Extension_to_Scheduled_Areas)_Act_1996)

<http://www.gktoday.in/blog/panchayats-extension-to-the-scheduled-areas-act-1996/>

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act

In 2006, another NGO-sponsored Bill, called ‘The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006 was passed by the Parliament, which granted the right of ownership of land and control over minor forest produce and natural resources to the inhabitants of the tribal areas. This Act, also called the Forest Rights Act, was originally drafted by some NGO activists led by Pradip Prabhu, an NGO leader working among the tribals of Thane district in Maharashtra. Pradeep Prabhu had also conducted a nation-wide campaign by holding morchas and demonstrations throughout the country in association with other like-minded activist groups in other states to mobilize support for this Bill.

As per this new Act, Panchayats in tribal areas have now become the controlling authority for forest management at the ground level, replacing the control of the

Forest Department. At a meeting held during the third week of May, 2010 between Union Minister of state for Environment and Forests Jairam Ramesh and Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, C.P.Joshi, it was decided to remove Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) from the control of the District Forest Officer and instead bring them under the control of the Gram Sabhas and forest Panchayats. This is now being implemented in the tribal areas that come under the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996. The JFMCs are the basic units of participatory forest management at local level which will take into consideration the views of all stakeholders. However the civil rights activists have sabotaged this system with their political influence, and managed to bring them under the Gram Sabhas.

Thus the Gram Sabhas would now control all the funding that is routed through the one lakh JFMCs across the country for various forestry-related schemes. The money will now be routed through the forest panchayats in tribal areas. Forest Department staff will be made accountable to the Panchayats on all relevant issues. Panchayat institutions will have to be consulted before making any decision or declaration involving the forest land. Thus the staff of the Forest Department, whose primary duty is to protect the forest from forest dwellers and outsiders, would now work under the Gram Sabha or Forest Panchayat formed by the forest dwellers, and take orders from them. All the forestry-related funds also would be controlled by the Gram Sabha. (<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/forest-management-panels-to-come-under-gram-sabha/article862402.ece>).

In a federal republic like India, it is the Union government and various state governments that wield all the powers and perform all the functions of the government. With the passage of the 73^d and 74th Amendment to the Constitution Acts, the division of powers and functions of the government have now been trickled down to local self governments i.e. Panchayats and Gram Sabhas in rural areas and Ward Committees and Area (Mohalla) Committees in urban areas. With the passage of Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas Act and the Forest Rights Act, the Schedule-V areas and tribal areas have also been brought under the purview of this three-tier system of governance. But, why should the civil society activists, who have been supporting all anti-national movements in India like the Maoist movement, Kashmiri separatists, Tamil nationalist organizations and agitations against various mega development projects in India, have suddenly become the champions of a Gandhian concept like Gram Swaraj and empowerment of Gram Sabhas, Mohalla Sabhas and Forest Panchayats?

Conspiracy behind hijacking of Gandhiji's Gram Swaraj concept.

The Panchayat Raj is a system of governance in which the gram panchayats are the basic units of administration. It functions at three levels at gram (village), tehsil (block) and zilla (district). Mahatma Gandhi was a strong advocate of the Panchayat Raj system, a decentralized form of government where each village will be responsible for its own affairs and had described it as Gram Swaraj (village self-governance). In January 1957, the Government of India had appointed a special committee headed by Balwant Rai Mehta to examine the working of the Community Development Programme (CDP) and National Extension Service (NES) and to suggest measures to improve the functioning of the CDP and NES. The report submitted by the Mehta Committee and approved by the government in 1958 had set the stage for the establishment of Panchayat Raj institutions in India. The committee had recommended for the launch of a scheme for the democratic decentralization of power which subsequently came to be known as Panchayat Raj. As per the 3-tier Panchayat Raj system recommended by the Mehta committee, there will be a gram panchayat at the village level, a panchayat samiti at the block level and a zilla parishad at the district level.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Balwant_Rai_Mehta_Committee

About thirty years after the implementation of the Mehta Committee report on Panchayat Raj, the civil society activists suddenly raked up the issue again in the 1980s, demanding decentralization of power right up to the lowest level of Panchayat institutions so as to allow the people at the grassroots level to participate in the decision making process, which alone according to them, will help to realize Gandhiji's dream concept of Swaraj.

Article 243(A) of the Constitution says that the Gram Sabha may exercise such powers and perform such functions at village level as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide. It is under this provision, that the State Legislatures have endowed certain powers to the Gram Sabha relating to village development. However, the powers given to the Gram Sabha under this provision were confined only to discuss, debate and scrutinize the reports on socio-economic development programmes implemented by the gram panchayat and the annual statement of accounts and audit reports for the previous year. Thus the Gram Sabha did not have any real powers to implement any scheme. However, the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA), has not only extended development, planning and audit functions to the Gram Sabhas, but also endowed it with powers for management and control of natural resources and

adjudication of justice in accordance with local traditions and customs. While the 73d Amendment to the Constitution passed by the Parliament in 1992 was aimed to strengthen the Panchayat Raj institutions at the lower levels and empower them to take part in the decision making process under the decentralized governance, the 74th Amendment to the Constitution in 1992 was intended to facilitate decentralization of urban governance. The 74th Amendment required the state governments to amend their municipal laws in order to empower the urban local bodies with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self governance. This Amendment in its section 243- S provides for setting up of Ward Committees to ensure citizen participation in decision making. Thus the 73d and 74th Constitution Amendment Acts of 1992 provided constitutional mandate for decentralization of governance and creating units of local self government at both the rural and urban settlement levels.

Sinister designs.

The NGO lobby's sudden love and interest in empowering the Gram Sabhas and its proclaimed aim to strengthen the Panchayat Raj system has some sinister designs. Their aim is not simply to strengthen the Panchayat Raj, but to take control of the empowered Panchayat institutions throughout the country. When the provisions of the Panchayat Raj are fully implemented, there would not be much powers left with the state and district administration and those who control the Panchayat institutions in rural areas and Mohalla Sabhas in urban areas would become the real rulers of the country. Without the consent of the Gram Sabha, no mining project, whether it is coal, bauxite, iron ore or uranium, can be undertaken by the government, or any development project can come up under the jurisdiction of the Gram Sabha and the Mohalla Sabha. In rural areas, where the major industrial and development projects are concentrated and new ones are scheduled to come up, the Gram Sabhas are almost fully under the control of the NGO activist groups. It is with such sinister designs that the militant NGOs are concentrating on organizing the masses in the remote rural and tribal areas and pressing for full implementation of the 73d and 74th amendment of the Constitution. It is easy for the foreign-funded NGOs, who work in the remote tribal and rural areas to influence the poor and illiterate village elders by bribing them with liquor and money and control the Gram Sabhas. Militant NGOs have already established their control over thousands of Gram Sabhas in states like Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Gram Sabhas are now used by the NGO-sponsored anti-development lobby to stall hundreds of mega development projects, including coal, bauxite and other mining projects, in these states in a bid to stall our economic progress at the behest of their funding

agencies in the west. For instance, all the 12 Gram Sabhas controlled by the NGO lobby in Rayagada and Kalahandi districts of Odisha have voted against the Rs.50000 crore aluminium refinery project of Vedanta Resources in the Niyamagiri hills in August, 2013.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/12th-gram-sabha-too-votes-against-vedanta-mining/article5039304.ece>

The grand strategy of the NGO lobby to build up militant people's movements all over the country and cultivating/inducting a large network of agents in various ministries and government departments, including the judiciary and armed forces, finally resulted in the creation of a gigantic octopus-like NGO war machine with its tentacles tightening its grip over the entire country with every passing day. This was made possible because of the help and close cooperation extended to the NGO lobby by Sonia Gandhi from the seventies onwards. Subsequently, with the support and patronage of Sonia Gandhi, the NGO lobby was able to get some very important but dangerous legislations, like the 73rd and 74th Amendment to the Constitution (1992), Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1996 (PESA), and the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, passed by the Parliament. These bills were passed in the Parliament with the proclaimed objective of promoting decentralization of power up to the grassroots level for the realization of Gandhiji's dream concept of 'Swaraj'. However, this so-called dream concept is actually a cunning strategy devised by the western intelligence agencies to grant total autonomy and self-rule to all the states in India by using the sweet terms like empowering the Gram Sabhas and Mohalla Sabhas all across India. With various militant and separatist movements dominating many border states and interior parts of India, what could happen to the idea of India if total autonomy and self-rule is granted to such regions? Clearly the only aim of crooks like Arvind Kejriwal, Rahul Gandhi, Jairam Ramesh and Mani Shankar Aiyar, who are the staunchest supporters of this 'Swaraj' movement, is to facilitate the process of India's balkanization as desired by their masters in the west. Arvind Kejriwal, a Ford Foundation-trained social activist, who earned fame through his active participation in the Anna Hazare-led anti-corruption movement of 2011 had even written a book titled 'Swaraj' in 2012, supporting and propagating the concept of Swaraj and decentralization of power.

Separatists demand extension of PESA to Jammu & Kashmir

The NGO activists and the separatists in Kashmir valley who are opposed to the extension of any new Indian laws to Jammu and Kashmir quoting the provisions of the Article 370, however have been pressing for the extension of 73d and 74th constitutional amendments relating to empowerment of Panchayat and Municipal institutions to Jammu and Kashmir. Congress Vice President Rahul Gandhi during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir in the first week of November, 2013 had also asserted that the situation in the state would change for the better once the 73d and 74th constitutional amendments were incorporated into the J&K Panchayat Raj Act. The 73d amendment deals with empowering Panchayat Raj institutions while the 74th amendment would make the ward committees and Mohalla Sabhas as self-governing bodies in the urban areas. Underlying treachery behind this move is that, when fully implemented, these amendments would help the Jammu and Kashmir to get complete autonomy and self rule which will help the state to legally secede from India

Gaon Ganrajya or village republic movement in India

After the passage of 73d and 74th Constitutional Amendment bills in 1992 and PESA in 1996, the NGO activists had started a campaign among the villagers all across the country, especially in Schedule-V areas in states like Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh, educating the villagers about the vast powers that have been granted to the Gram Sabhas through these new legislations. They point out to the villagers that they no more will have to go to the forest officials or any other government agency for resolving their various problems and grievances as their own gram sabha (village assembly) has been empowered to attend and address all such problems as per the new legislations meant to promote self-governance. However, these activists have also been advocating the villagers to declare their self-governed village as a Gaon Ganrajya (village republic) so as to avail the full powers and benefits of the gram sabha empowerment legislations.

In Rajasthan, NGOs like Jan Chetana Sansthan and Astha (affiliated to Action Aid India) have been in the forefront in guiding the villagers in setting up village republics in scheduled-V areas in the state like Dungarpur, Banswara, Chittaurgarh, Sirohi and Udaipur. Manathgaon village in Dungarpur district of Rajasthan is one of the first to declare itself as a village republic. Since then, many more such village republics have been established in scheduled-V areas of other states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra under the guidance of different NGOs. Once a village is declared as a Gan Rajya or Village Republic, the villagers erect a stone slab at the entrance of the village declaring itself as a self-ruled

village republic with its constitution inscribed on it. In these villages, the residents control their natural resources like forests, land, minerals and water sources. They have formed necessary institutions to manage the resources. Government officials and programmes can be accepted only if approved by the Gram Sabha. The forest department, police and other officials are restricted to execute only those programmes and decisions chalked out by the Gram Sabha.

Many Gram Sabhas in the country, empowered by the 73d amendment to the Constitution and the PESA Act of 1996, have already become very powerful and have started asserting its powers under instigation from certain foreign-funded NGOs. A private mining company had started work on a bauxite mining project at Nimalapedu in Visakhapatnam in 1992. However, the Supreme Court ruled in 1996 that without the consent of the Gram Sabha, no mining can be permitted. Hence the said Rs.256 crore project had to be abandoned. In February 2002, the Andhra Pradesh High Court had scrapped an irrigation project in East Godavary district, as it was not permitted by the Gram Sabha. In December 2000, when Maharashtra governor P.C.Alexander had to go on an official visit to Mendha village near Gadchiroli, the district collector had to take necessary permission from the Gram Sabha, in virtual acknowledgement of the village's sovereignty.(Down to Earth, August 31,2002). If this is the power enjoyed by a Gram Sabha under the PESA, then what will happen to the country if all the four legislations, granting self-governance to all Gram Sabhas (under 73d amendment), urban bodies (under 74th Amendment to the Constitution), Scheduled-V areas (under PESA) and Forest Panchayats (under Forest Rights Act) are fully implemented in the entire country? India will become a union of tens of thousands of mini sovereign republics. The state and central administration will be paralyzed. The security forces would not be able to even enter the troubled areas. The judiciary will have to look on helplessly, and that will be the end of India. Our Parliamentarians have obviously helped to enact the four controversial legislations without applying their mind. What the government can do now is to take necessary urgent steps to get the four controversial legislations annulled.

Comments

Ever since India's independence in 1947, both the US and UK and the Christian missionaries in India were found involved in promoting separatist movements, mainly in the northeastern region and Jammu & Kashmir. Though India was a poor country, the western agencies knew that India with its vast size and population had the potential to grow and emerge as a powerful country in the world some time in the future, a possibility that they were not very comfortable with. They all wanted

a further division of India so as to put a cap on the growth potential of a giant country like India. This is the reason for the support of the US and its NATO allies for all the militant and secessionist movements in India for all these years. All insurgency movements in northeast were promoted and funded by the church and other western agencies, with the church concentrating more on conversion activities. The NSCN leaders Isac Chisi Swu and Th. Muivah who were camping mostly abroad in cities like Bangkok, Paris and Zurich were controlling their organizational activities in India with the support of the church and some international NGOs. Th Muivah and Isac Chisi Swu returned to India only after signing a peace treaty with Indian authorities in 1997.

It is under pressure from the US and UK, exerted through Mrs and Mr Mountbatten, that Prime Minister Nehru, despite being in a winning position in the first conflict with Pakistan over Kashmir, took the Kashmir issue to the UN in 1948 where it remained frozen for all these years, allowing the aggressor to enjoy the fruits of its aggression. During the 1971 war with Pakistan over the flow of refugees from East Pakistan, both the US and UK were ready to intervene in the war in support of Pakistan and it was the timely help rendered by the Soviet Union that helped India to liberate East Pakistan and pave the birth of Bangladesh. Bangladesh president Mujibur Rehman and most of his family members were eliminated in a military coup in 1975, which was a joint operation by the ISI and the CIA. Pakistan president Gen. Zia ul Haq adopted terror as a state policy to avenge India, with the full support and approval of the US. The Khalistan movement, LTTE and the Maoist problem in India were also promoted by the US and its allies to create chaos and destabilization in India. The US was very upset by the killing of LTTE leader Prabhakaran in the civil war in Sri Lanka only because it frustrated the US plan to use Prabhakaran to start a violent Tamil separatist movement in Tamil Nadu. The Khalistani movement is almost dead in Punjab, but it is still kept alive in countries like the US, Canada, the UK, Germany and France with the support of the US and its allies. All these events clearly show how deeply the US and its allies are addicted to their evil intention of breaking up India. It also shows that Pakistan, despite its close friendship with China, still remains as a close ally of the US.

Modi's emergence as the Prime Minister of India was a big blow to all anti-national forces in India. As long as he remains as the prime minister of India, India's enemies, both within and outside India, may not try to misuse these subversive laws to threaten the unity and integrity of India. But, in case of his removal from power by any chance, all enemies of Modi and the idea of India

would come together to ensure the balkanization of India. Hence, all these subversive laws must go.