

The Amended

**Go-to-Village  
National Campaign**

Some Questions, Some Answers

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**Go-to-Village National Campaign  
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1. Does the amended Go-to-Village National Campaign suggest a one-party system ?

**Answer**—There are some points of similarity between a political party and the Go-to-Village Organization such as (i) evaluation of the political worker (ii) enforcement of political discipline (iii) cadre development (iv) voters' education, and (v) correct interpretation of ideology.

But the fundamental difference between the two lies in the following points:—

(i) Membership drive is a characteristic feature of a political party; the same is not true of this organization. (ii) Under the party system a political worker fights election on the party ticket; no Pancha qualified to be a candidate under election regulation is debarred by this organization from contesting election. (iii) A political party generates and seeks political power; the object of this organization is only to create a suitable atmosphere for the development of personality of every Pancha. (iv) The ultimate objective of a political party is to gain control over government so that it can

translate its political programme into action; this is not the case with the **Go-to-Village** organization

Despite a few points of similarity as mentioned above, the principal aim of this organization is to play the role of a political whip to activate constitutionally elected bodies of Panchayat and Class Organizations and not to put up its own candidates to establish control over government.

**2. What is the impact on the public of this organization financed by the state exchequer?**

**Answer**—After the re-organization of the Go-to-Village National Campaign, some prejudiced politicians and intellectuals continue to criticize it as they have been doing ever since the inception of the Panchayat system. But it has started evoking positive response from those Panchas who have complained of lack of fair evaluation and from the common people as well. It has certainly tried to inspire in them hope and confidence that the Panchayat system is in a right and healthy direction. So far as the financial aspect of this organization is concerned, it is desirable that wholtime members should get some financial support. This organization which retains the primary character of a campaign to mobilize manpower for socio-economic development cannot approach private businessmen or other financial concerns for funds as is the case with a political party under the party system.

The fact that the state exchequer has met its financial costs should be taken as an investment in development.

3. Since the Go-to-Village National Campaign has become the centre of political attraction after its reorganization have elected bodies of Panchayat and Class as well as Professional Organizations lost their importance?

Answer—'All the people of Nepal, irrespective of religion colour, caste and community united on account of their common aspirations and loyalty towards the Crown collectively constitute a nation.' [The Constitution of Nepal, Part I, Article 2 (1).]

In order to give concrete shape to a democracy evoking emotional commitment and to allround national development in a prompt and efficient manner, the Panchayat system of democracy has set up different bodies of Panchayat and Class as well as Professional Organizations. It has been the objective of the system to make the somnolent Nepalese society conscious and active through these agencies. The harmonious and healthy development of these agencies is vitally necessary. The development of one at the cost of the other is detrimental to the system. The Go-to-Village National Campaign of 1967 was amended by His Majesty to bring about a harmonious and healthy development of the different agencies of the system. If Panchayat and Class and Profe-

ssional Organizations are different limbs of a living organism, the Go-to-Village National Campaign is the backbone of the system.

This organization, therefore does not function as a rival or parallel body to various political bodies of the system. Its rights and functions are clearly defined, and it makes no attempt to interfere with the functions and responsibilities of other constitutionally elected bodies of the system. It certainly acts as a prompter or whip for these bodies so that they may carry out their responsibilities and other duties more efficiently and effectively. The next important thing is that this organization has taken cognizance of the fact that administrative rights to be conferred on these elected bodies under the scheme of gradual decentralization could be exercised in a responsible manner only when able and competent panchas would get elected to various bodies of the system.

**4. Of what use is this organization to persons who though not committed to the system, are patriots and loyal to the Crown?**

**Answer**—There is no doubt that this organization has been more useful to persons who are in the system and who are patriots and loyal to the Crown. It cannot put pressure on those, who are not committed to system, to follow it. Royal patronage for such persons as are loyal to the Crown

could be made available in some other form. To be precise it puts no restriction on anyone who intends to join the system; but once he joins it, this organization has to see that he acts in accordance with the accepted principles and norms of the system.

- 5. Instead of creating so many units of the Go-to-Village National Campaign at various levels, would not evaluation be possible through a secret cell ?**

**Answer**—When it is said that evaluation of all Panchas has become essential, the question of evaluation cannot be considered in isolation; that is, no Pancha, at whatever level is separable from the system. Village or town which forms the lowest unit of the system becomes the political base of a Pancha desirous of reaching the highest level. So this organization as an integral part of the system has been extended down to the village level or the grass-roots in the belief that evaluation would be fair if the people with whom every pancha is supposed to be in close touch could be made more politically conscious of their rights and obligations. Besides, the Go-to-Village organization alone could be the proper evaluation mechanism, for it was clearly mentioned in the campaign booklet of 1967 that all panchas should take part in the Go-to-Village programme with active enthusiasm, which alone would be the means of their evaluation. It is

therefore notable that it is only in pursuance of this objective enshrined in the 1967 booklet that the Go-to-Village National Campaign has been reorganized. It is not a new set-up at all.

6. **Will not there be a rift between Panchas should this organization conduct election campaign for or against a particular panch?**

**Answer**—This organization has not and will not put up a candidate or candidates of its own in the election of any level, nor has it taken or will take part in election campaign for against a particular pancha. Its main objective has been to educate the electorate about the necessity of electing good Panchas. It does not stand in the way of the people and their right to elect according to their own conscience but it considers its moral responsibility to caution the people against such elements which would defy the constitution or deliberately wreck and subvert the system.

7. **What is the significance of the provision for chairmanship of the Central and Zonal Committees by rotation according to the alphabetical order?**

**Answer**—There is identity of interest between the king and the people in the kingdom of Nepal. That is why the people of Nepal have never suffered or do not suffer from the crisis of national leadership. This fact has been very well



realized and expressed at the beginning of the National Campaign; 'Efforts should be made to establish the importance of group among Panchayats, Class Organizations and other areas of society and to promote faith in collective Leadership' (Page 6). The amendment of 1973 has made provision for chairmanship by rotation in pursuance of this objective

8. **What does the Go-to-Village National Campaign incorporating the evaluation mechanism of Panchayat workers signify?**

**Answer**—The ten guidelines of the National Campaign programme are essential to allround national development. Political workers have a special role to play in bringing about attitudinal change in the people towards development and in keeping the atmosphere clean for this. Political workers of the Panchayat system are in fact Panchas who have got elected to different levels of panchayat and Class as well as professional Organizations. Therefore, Panchayat workers should make constant efforts to make this ten-fold programme a success, and evaluation of such workers as have made the programme a success becomes a necessity so that the sincere worker may be rewarded and those whose performance is not satisfactory may get a chance to improve, but anybody unwilling to improve may also be punished. This is

exactly what the amended Go-to-Village National Campaign incorporates.

**9. How can injustice, tyranny and corruption be removed through the Go-to-Village National Campaign?**

**Answer**—Unless the Nepalese society plagued by outmoded, primitive thinking becomes conscious and alert, these evils cannot be eliminated. Visits of Their Majesties to regional development centres and their inspection tours for a number of days, different bodies of Panchayat and Class as well as Professional Organizations, Regional Development Planning, the New Education Plan are all steps in the right direction. Notwithstanding all this, these evils rooted in the Nepalese society for ages manifest themselves in different hierarchies of political and administrative organization. Therefore, the Go-to-Village National Campaign tries to generate among Panchas and Panchayat workers, on the basis of reward and punishment and by mobilizing programmes so as to bring about attitudinal change, hatred against these evils.

**10. How far has this organization been a check on the bureaucracy?**

**Answer**—The reorganized Go-to-Village National Campaign functions as an autonomous political wing of the system under the leadership of His Majesty. As such, politics

so far controlled by the bureaucracy is now channelized through this agency. But it does in no way interfere with the jurisdiction of the administration. In fact this organization in its attempt to make politics development oriented has established necessary coordination with the administration to secure administrative and technical back-up for development oriented programmes.

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