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ICSI - CENTRE FOR
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TRAINING (CCGRT)



Dear Professional Colleagues,

Sub: ICSI-CCGRT – AMRUT DHARA –EDITION-23

We are pleased to inform you ICSI-CCGRT- **AMRUT DHARA**, in which we will provide the regular write up on topics related to Governance and Management from Ancient India and Indian Epic.

In this series ICSI-Centre for Corporate Governance, Research & Training (CCGRT) present a titled on “**Nectar of Governance- 23**” from **Dr. V Sevaka Das, Director, Bhaktivedanta College of Vedic Education, ISKON, Navi Mumbai** for your information.

Previous editions of **Amrut Dhara** “Nectar of Governance” are also available at following link:-<https://www.icsi.edu/ccgrr/Research/AmrutDhara.aspx>

Hope, you will find an enclosed write-up useful & informative. We welcome your feedback/Suggestions on this write-up on ccgrr@icsi.edu.

With Best Wishes,

CS Ashish Garg
Chairman
ICSI-CCGRT Mgmt. Committee

CS (Dr.) Shyam Agrawal
President, ICSI



Part 23: The emergency knowledge



A celebrity team went for a picnic to a riverside with the intention of enjoying a boat-ride. There were poets, scientists, theatre artists, film stars, politicians, professors and many more in that team. Their mood was very joyful and were enjoying with all spirit. All of them reached the spot and boarded a boat that was very old. It was not motorized, but rowed by a man. The boatman became very enthusiastic to see so many celebrities board his boat. And with all enthusiasm, he started rowing the boat. However, as the boat reached the middle of the river, it got stuck in an unprecedented whirlpool. The boatman never experienced it, but quickly acted to come out of the situation. Despite his best efforts, within a few minutes, the boat got capsized and no body from the celebrity team could survive. Everyone drowned in the fierce whirlpool, but the boatman with his swimming skills, could somehow come out of the whirlpool and reach the shore. In that situation of boat capsizing, the knowledge and skill of swimming becomes the emergency knowledge. Any unprecedented situation can be termed as emergency. All the celebrities were experts in their fields, but they did not know the art of swimming. Hence they lost their valuable lives. But, can there be any well-defined emergency knowledge that everyone should acquire and use in an emergency?

All of us spend 25 to 30 years of our life acquiring knowledge or skills that essentially gives us livelihood for sustenance and prosperity. But that knowledge does not help us in handling emergencies. Emergencies vary from person to person, country to country, time to time, gender to gender and age to age. But if there is some knowledge that helps in dealing with all types of emergencies, then it would be an ideal one. Emergency is not only life and death situation, but also the one which impacts one's future. Selection of a suitable groom for one's daughter could be an emergency; similarly, changing the job during peak performance time, taking up a foreign assignment, facing a peculiar health issues all can be termed as emergency situations, because in each case any wrong step taken would prove to be fatal. Hence an authorized emergency knowledge is essential to handle all the above situations.

Even in corporate world, a single wrong investment by the promoters would pull down the entire business. Hence, the emergency knowledge becomes an indispensable requirement for any individual.

Most of the times, we fail to understand the fundamental requirements for accomplishing some task. We think that by simply attempting to achieve with all seriousness tasks can be accomplished. It is just a myth. Let's see what Bhagavad-Gita (BG 18.13-14) talks about it, as follows:

*pañcaitāni mahā-bāho kāraṇāni nibodha me
sāṅkhye kṛtānte proktāni siddhaye sarva-karmaṇām
adhiṣṭhānaṁ tathā kartā karaṇaṁ ca pṛthag-vidham
vividhāś ca pṛthak ceṣṭā daivaṁ caivātra pañcamam*

“O mighty armed Arjuna, according to the Vedanta there are five causes for the accomplishment of all actions. Now hear of them from me.”

“The place, performer, the various equipment, the different kinds of endeavours and ultimately the Super soul-these are the five factors of action.”

Though celebrity team was full of intelligent people, none of them verified the availability of safety equipment in the boat. A boat with all safety equipment is essential to cross a river, as per the above verses. This fulfils one of the requirements of task accomplishment. This is the emergency knowledge. Expertise of the boatman to handle the emergency situation is also one of the key factors. His work place is river, his equipment is boat, he is always present to carry out his duty, and he makes all the endeavours without any hesitation. With these four factors in place, he should have been fully dependent on the final call of the Lord, which was opposite on that fateful day of mishap. General education in any field of knowledge makes one expert in a specific field. But, it doesn't ensure the protection in emergency situation. We see many celebrities undergo depression, fall ill without any remedies and behave like animals without understanding the purpose of life. Education enriches intellectual Quotient (IQ) of an individual, but all the mental disturbances are related to Emotional Quotient (EQ), physical fitness is related to Physical Quotient (PQ) and human behavioural pattern is related to Spiritual Quotient (SQ). These are not taught in the normal education. The real emergency knowledge involves the information of PQ, EQ and SQ. Therefore, command on this knowledge enables one to orient them suitably to move on the progressive path. Any common man's activity involves only sustenance and prosperity of life. Even animal's activities also match to this pattern. It is similar to one-legged running, which is always imbalanced. However, if one becomes knowledgeable about body, mind and consciousness also, apart from one field of expertise, it would offer him a parallel set of activities pertaining to constitutional position of an individual. This is similar to two-legged running, which is more balanced. It means an intelligent person should acquire the emergency knowledge of PQ, EQ and SQ in order to be more balanced in all situations. The one who is physically fit, mentally balanced, intellectually sharp and spiritually strong emerges as leader in all situations. It is just because of his expertise on the emergency knowledge.

“How does this emergency knowledge affect an individual?”- Someone may ask inquisitively. “One becomes like a lotus flower in a mud pond” is the simplest answer to this question. This world around us is like a mud pond, in the sense that everyone is filled with dirty things in their hearts. Getting a sincere and clean soul who wishes all the success in our life is almost nil. We can have only lip-wishes, not heartfelt wishes. Lotus grows from thickest and deepest mud, but emerges as the most beautiful flower untouched by mud. Lotus never endeavours to convert the mud pond to a sandal paste pond, but attempts with success to rise above the mud and becomes eligible to reach the feet of the God. Lotus is never worried about the situation around it and is completely sure of being plucked by some responsible person to reach the right destination. Similarly, any individual with the emergency knowledge would keep himself focused on the goals, without getting distracted by surroundings, and finally achieve his goals.

“Where from one can get this emergency knowledge?”-One may ask with an idea of knowing the source to acquire it. “Bhagavad-Gita As It Is¹” is the actual source of this emergency knowledge, which was given to Arjuna at the beginning of the war. Arjuna decided not to fight and did not see any benefit of winning the war. He saw only misery and misfortune everywhere if war occurs. But the message of Bhagavad-Gita gave him the most emergency knowledge, by which Arjuna repositioned himself and decided to fight. This conclusively proves that the emergency knowledge ensures appropriate adjustment of a situation to make one overcome all the difficult situations. It acts as a perfect self-governance principle for every individual. Hence it is indispensable, not optional for governance of any system.

¹ His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (1972): “Bhagavad-Gita As It Is”, Bhaktivedanta Book Trust (BBT), Mumbai.