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ICSI - CENTRE FOR  
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Dear Professional Colleagues,

**Sub: ICSI-CCGRT – AMRUT DHARA –EDITION-27**

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- 27**” 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](mailto:ccgrr@icsi.edu).

**With Best Wishes,**

**CS Ashish Garg**  
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## Nectar of Governance

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### Part 27: Goal setting – the real Lifeline



Hockey, football or similar games provide an illustrative example for the passion in achieving goals. We find that the players are completely focused for one or two hours in making goals in those games. They do not bother to see the surroundings or thousands of people who are watching the game. Their focus is only on the ball and the goal post. Each player's mood at body level, mind level, intelligence level and consciousness level is completely focused only on making goals. Players don't worry about

possibility of slipping down, sweating, thirst or for that matter anything in the world except making goals. So it's worthwhile to watch such games to really understand the obsession for making goals. What actually drives one towards goal? This question needs to be answered very carefully. It's all about dreaming passionately. Anyone with definite dreams with time bound action plan can be considered as the man with goal. The most difficult question in the world for anyone is, "what is your goal of life?" 99% people stumble to answer it, and even if one attempts to say something, it reflects his desire, not goal. People often get confused about the difference between a goal and a desire. Goal is the activity of intelligence, whereas desire is the activity of mind. As the various knowledge acquiring senses, namely, the eyes, the ears, the nose, the tongue and the sense of touch gather information from surroundings, the mind starts developing desires. Mind never gets tired in developing desires that flow incessantly. Generally such a flow of desires is compared to the currents of river flow. But, the goal of life remains same till end because it is the firm conviction of intelligence. Any person obsessed with goal setting and acting for achieving the same utilizes his senses to move towards the goal post, not engage unnecessarily with the desires that digress. Here, we have an interesting story from Mahabharata about the focused approach of goal obsessed person.

Acharya Drona was entrusted with a great task of training the young princes, the Pandavas and the Kauravas in the techniques of war. The Princes were very humble and accommodative to learn various secrets of war, including actual practice. Somehow Drona had a special attraction towards Arjuna, the crest jewel of Pandavas. One day Drona was teaching the nitty-gritty of archery to all the princes. Before commencing the training session, he arranged one wooden parrot in the branches of a big tree and made it as the target to test their expertise in archery. He first taught all the lessons of archery, and then started giving practical lessons. He invited one young prince and asked him to

hit the bird in the tree. When the boy aimed his arrow at the bird, Drona made some interesting conversation with him.

“My dear boy, did you see your goal post, the bird?” Drona asked.

“Yes master. I am perfectly seeing it” the prince replied.

“What else you are able to see. Please tell me all the details”, Drona continued his dialogue.

“I am able to see the tree, branches, fruits on the tree”, the boy replied very patiently.

Drona immediately forbade him to shoot the arrow. He was sure that the boy was not sufficiently focused on his goal post. Then, he invited another prince, who could see all those things seen by the earlier incumbent. Additionally, he could see Drona also, who was standing next to him. Drona got very much disturbed by the unfocused behaviour of his students. Then, he finally invited Arjuna. The intelligent student Arjuna first paid obeisance to his master and then aimed his arrow at the bird.

“Did you see the goal post, the bird?” Drona asked Arjuna.

“No master, I see only one black spot, nothing else”, Arjuna replied. That answer completely satisfied the teacher.

“Are you seeing anything else except black spot?” Drona tried to coax him more to get some reply.

“Nothing else, only black spot” Arjuna answered firmly. Actually Arjuna did not see even the aimed bird, but its eye. That’s why he was seeing only the eyeball of the bird.

“Shoot it” Drona ordered. In the next two seconds the wooden parrot fell down from the tree. The arrow that was shot by Arjuna precisely pierced the eye of the bird. The whole atmosphere was filled with great applause by all the boys. Drona, with great satisfaction, blessed his disciple and awarded him heartfelt blessings.

This epic story brings great clarity on the focused attempts for goal achievements. Goal setting and deriving steps to achieve it comes under intelligence. But, those people’s intelligence that is many branched can never be able to focus on final goal. Such people with highly branched intelligence on account of unlimited desires never achieve the final destination in their life. Bhagavad-Gita (2.41) gives a vivid explanation for this situation as under:

***vyavasāyātmikā buddhir ekeha kuru-nandana  
bahu-śākhā hy anantās ca buddhayo ’vyavasāyinām***

“Those who are on this path are resolute in purpose, and their aim is one. O beloved child of the Kurus, the intelligence of those who are irresolute is many branched.”

The Mind, by nature, is many branched because it gets information constantly from five sources, namely the eyes, the ears, the nose, the tongue and the sense of touch. But resolute intelligence should be single pointedly focused. Arjuna just demonstrated this behaviour. While the other boys could see so many things along with the goal post, Arjuna could see only one spot of the goal post, not even the whole bird. Arjuna’s focus was at its peak in this context. The Mind diverts the attention, there by spoils focus on

the goal post. When the mind draws the attention to something else other than the goal, only failure meets the endeavouring person. When one completely focuses his intelligence on the goal post, leaving the mental activities aside, he becomes a perfect yogi. It means focused attention on goal post with steady intelligence absolves one from mental miseries. Such is the power of goal setting and working towards achieving it.

The journey from goal setting to finish touch involves three major steps. The first step is dreaming a wonderful goal without any apprehension or fear, but penned with complete sincerity. Then, that goal should be broken down into various steps with time lines, which become the next step. It is indeed the planning stage. The final step is to vigorously work towards implementing the entire plan and review the actions from time to time to realize the dream. One who doesn't dream cannot have any goal, and the one who doesn't have any goal cannot have anything substantial in life. A leader shall encourage all the subordinates to dream big, convert it into a goal and experience the pleasure of achieving it. Undeviated attention of a football player gives an excellent and practical example of focused attention on the goal post. A man with goal in life remains enthusiastic forever and becomes recipient of all pleasures all the time as he moves towards his goal.

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