Recession-Elections can help India, 'Indianness' grow: Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev

India shouldn't bother about recession because a majority of its population hasn't even seen the economic prosperity. Espousing these views, Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev of Isha Foundation said that these elections mark the right time for a responsible and responsive leadership and administration to make India more powerful. And for Indians to fight the enemies within to unitedly create the much-desired common national identity, 'Indianism' or 'Indianness'.

'Instead of complaining about the lack of jobs and opportunities, the Indian youth should take up the challenge of a new way of seeing the world! The new Government should come up with a plan to make India a superpower. Indian businesses should go all out and take advantage of the recession in the West! They can find new and innovative ways of looking for growth and global dominance,' says Sadhguru. Isha Foundation, founded by Sadhguru in 1992, is an entirely volunteer-run, international non-profit organization dedicated to cultivating human potential.

The new Government must think afresh and create a platform for our unique model of growth and expansion. 'India has many ethnic differences and identities. It cannot be run by the policies that have become successful in the western world. India has many levels and different treatment has to be meted out to different sections of society. The agricultural sector has to become part of mainstream. The woes of the farmers must touch and move the people in metros. There should be a revolution,' adds Sadhguru.

Talking about politics, Sadhguru says, 'Every issue shouldn't be politicised. India is unique. For centuries, we have been living with differences between us. However, when differences become discriminatory due to politics, then it is bad.'

Talking about religion, Sadhguru points out that India had never seen organised religion. 'Hinduism is a geographical identity rather than an intrinsic one. Unlike Americanism, India never had any common values or beliefs or religious beliefs binding all its people. It's time for India to be left as it is. Organised religion was never relevant in India. Religion here is always one persona while culture is more public. There is a need to bring this understanding. It shouldn't be forced on people nor should it be made a political movement!' says Sadhguru.

Sadhguru wants Indian political leaders to stop or block (bandhs, destroy, discriminate) and work towards creating something positive. 'Education can make democracy a success as people will think and vote with freedom and knowledge.'

When it comes to politicians, Indians should stop thinking about 'us' and 'them'. 'Once you are in a democracy, politicians are one of us. Stop deriding them and egg them to do better work. Or stand up and be a leader yourself. Instead of criticising politicians, think about all the wrong things that have made politicians what they are today and change them now. See who is worthy of being
elected and get information about them before you vote for the best possible one within the circumstances,’ says Sadhguru.

After every disaster, the administration cannot afford to relax and take things easy even though the people can go about their normal lives. It has to stroke the entrepreneurial spirit of the people. Here, we must learn how to facilitate the spirit rather than create hindrances and test the patience of businessmen.

Talking about the caste system, Sadhguru says that it worked well when education opportunities were less and people depended on their own families and communities to give them a vocation in their lives.

The Isha Foundation is a human service organization that recognizes the possibility of each person to empower another - restoring global community through inspiration and individual transformation. Isha Foundation is operated by over 250,000 volunteers from more than 150 city-based centers spread worldwide.

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