



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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"Farming is a profession of hope."—Brett Brian

Here is an opportunity for us to say 'Thank You, Farmers'!

We love you, respect you and proud of you.

We appreciate your hard work. You soil your hands and feet to feed us.

We enjoy an abundant food supply through the year, stay in balance, nourished because of you.

You are committed to provide us with food and all essentials through the year.

You work all day long in season and out of season.

All seasons are a reason to prepare the ground to be fertile.

We admire your patience with invasive insects and unpredictable weather.

We see on your face a smile when the crop is in full swing and a determination to harvest through to build our economy.

Once again a big thanks to our farmers —you are our fathers, brothers, sisters and mothers. May you continue to shine and to light our homes.

Note of Appreciation: to our dear staff Mr. Vincent for encouraging our students to pen down on the happenings of our farming community. Thank you my dear students, for your contrinbution to this newsletter...

God bless all of us!!! Dr.Sr.Lalitha

"No race can prosper until it learns there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem." — Booker T. Washington

"Agriculture engenders good sense, and good sense of an excellent kind"

As the farmers' agitation at the Delhi borders entered the 60th day on Sunday, all eyes are on the farmers' tractor rally (kisan parade) on Republic Day. The protesting farmers received permission from the Delhi Police on Sunday to hold their tractor rally on Republic Day. "Protesting farmers can enter Delhi but can't disturb the Republic Day parade," the Delhi Police said. The Police said that the farmers' proposed tractor rally on Tuesday will begin amid tight security after Republic Day celebrations



conclude. Thousands of Indian farmers protesting controversial agricultural reforms stormed New Delhi's historic Red Fort Tuesday, with others breaching barricades and clashing with police. Protesters scaled the walls of the iconic monument and a flag was hoisted alon gside India's national flag. It was supposed to be a massive but peaceful rally, as hundreds of thousands of farmers drove their tractors in convoy into the Indian capital as part of ongoing, nationwide protests against three farm laws that protesters say put their livelihoods at risk. Many of the farmers, who had adomed their tractors with colourful flags, including the flag of India and various farmer's unions, had been camping out in protest on the outskirts of the capital for more than two months. Others, including young farmers from the northern states of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan, had gathered on the border over the past few days in time for the planned march on India's Republic Day.

NAMRATHA II M.COM(FA)

Kisan Gantantra Diwas Parade 2021



Kisan Parade (Farmers' Parade) is the name of the protesting parade with tractors and trolleys that the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, the United Front of farmers of India, had in Delhi on 26 January 2021, the 72nd Republic Day, to protest against the decision by Narendra Modi led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) to implement three farm acts. The decision to hold the parade with tractors and marching contingents, in Delhi was announced on 2 January 2021, by leadership of the Samyukt Kisan

Morcha. Darshanpal, President of BKU (Sidhupur) said, similar 'Kisan-Parades', "shall also be held in all state and district capitals". 26 January 2021 has been chosen, according to the SKM leaders, because it coincides with the two-month anniversary of the farmer's protest and because "the Republic Day represents the supremacy of the people". Advisory about the event was issued on 25 January. The Indian government has opposed the farmer's protest, as well as the 'Kisan Parade'. The Indian government response to the Farmer's protest, as well as the planned Kisan Gantantra Diwas Parade, which it opposes, has been coordinated by Amit Shah, the Home Minister. The government attempt to demoralise the movement, undermine its unity and self-confidence, erode its growing mass base and support, however seem not to have succeeded. Ministers, and BJP party workers, who have made these baseless allegations which remain a profound source of resentment and anger are: Piyush Goyal Commerce and industry Minister, and member of Government delegation engaged in talks with the farmers, Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.

SHALINI II M.COM (FA)



"The discovery of agriculture was the first step toward a civilized life"

The 2020–2021 Indian farmers protest is an ongoing protest against the three farm acts which were passed by the Parliament of India in September 2020. Farmer unions and their representatives have demanded that the laws be repealed and will not accept anything short of it. Farm leaders have rejected a Supreme Court of India stay order on the farm laws as well as the involvement of a Supreme Court appointed committee. Nine rounds of talks have taken place between the central government and farmers represented by the farm unions between 14 October 2020 and 15 January 2021.

On 26th January, the tractor rally organized by the protestors turned into a violent protest as the protesting

farmers clashed with the police. The protesters deviated from their pre-sanctioned routes of the rally between Delhi administration and kisan unions and breached the barricades. Protesters reached central Delhi and resorted to vandalism and damage to public property. Later protesters reached Red Fort and installed religious flags on the mast on the rampart of the Red Fort.

On January 26, 2021, Samyukt Kisan Morcha, the United Front of farmers of India, held a parade with tractors in Delhi, drawing hundreds of thousands of people. In the morning at 8:30 a.m., rather than the agreed time of 12 noon, the parade started off from Singhu border, with protestors deliberately marching towards Central Delhi. The protestors collided with the police and made their way to the center of Delhi. Many of them entered the Red Fort, where they hoisted Nishan Sahib (Sikh religious flag) and farmer union flags. Before reaching the Red Fort, the protesters ran riot on Delhi roads, broke concrete barricades, damaged buses, flashed swords and even attempted to ram into the resisting police personnel. By the end of the day, many police personnel were left injured during the violent clashes and one protester died after attempting to break the barricades with his tractor.

"A farmer is a profession of hope"

Delhi: The farmers protesting against the three farm laws carried out a tractor rally on the Republic Day. It was permitted after they came to an agreement with the Delhi Police. The farmer leaders have provided the assurance that the rally will be conducted peacefully and will not impact the official Republic Day parade and events scheduled at Rajpath on January 26. The tractor rally commenced from three of Delhi's border points i.e Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur. Out of the three rallies, the first one started from the Singhu border and traversed through Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar, Bawana, Qutabgarh, Auchandi border and Kharkhoda toll plaza, along a 63-km stretch.

The rally when reached Delhi turned violent on Tuesday, after protesting farmers broke through police barricades to storm Delhi's historic Red Fort complex. On foot and in tractors, the protesters were part of a huge rally planned for India's Republic Day.



Bangalore: Thousands of farmers descended on the tech city of Bangalore with their tractors and lorries on Republic Day to express solidarity with their brethren protesting in Delhi against the three new farm laws. Although Bangalore police restricted the number of tractors entering the city, farmers marched in large numbers from the railway station to Freedom Park, a distance of about 3km, for their "Jana Ganarajyotsava Parade" in solidarity with the farmers protesting in Delhi for over two months. Similar protests were held in many districts of Karnataka. The farmers started arriving from distant parts of Karnataka to Bangalore on Monday evening itself. The flow intensified on Tuesday morning as they rode on hundreds of tractors and lorries from across the state to converge in the Karnataka capital.

The farmers sang, danced and raised slogans against "anti-farmer" Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP governments in the state and at the Centre. Farmers from several frontline organizations such as the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (Karnataka state farmers' organization), Left trade unions and Dalit outfits participated in the protest.

AMITHA
II M.COM (FA)

TRACTOR RALLY 2021

The farmers protesting at the various borders of the national capital against the central government's three new farm laws decided to take up tractor rally on 26th January, that's on Republic Day. A rally against agriculture reforms in India turned violent on Tuesday, after protesting farmers broke through police barricades to storm Delhi's historic Red Fort complex. On foot and in tractors, the protesters were part of a huge rally planned for India's Republic Day. Many protesters diverted from agreed routes and clashes broke out with police. One protester died and more than 80 police officers were injured. Mobile internet services were suspended in parts of Delhi and some metro stations closed as security forces scrambled to restore order. The government says the reforms that spurred the protests will liberalise the agriculture sector, but farmers say they will lose income. Tens of thousands of them have been striking on the outskirts of Delhi since November, demanding the laws be repealed.

The new farming laws propose

The laws loosen rules around the sale, pricing and storage of farm produce which have protected India's farmers from the free market for decades. Farmers fear that the new laws will threaten decades-old concessions - such as assured prices - and weaken their bargaining power, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation by private companies. Most economists and experts agree that Indian agriculture desperately needs reform. But critics of the government say it failed to consult farmers before passing the laws. It is clear that farmers' organisations deliberately violated the terms and conditions agreed to in the meeting with the Police. This resulted in violence in large parts of Delhi, in which a large number of public and police personnel were injured and extensive damage/vandalism of public and private property were caused.

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Farmers Protests Tractor Rally

Thousands of Indian farmers protesting controversial agricultural reforms stormed New Delhi's historic Red Fort Tuesday, with others breaching barricades and clashing with police. Protesters scaled the walls of the iconic monument and a flag was hoisted alongside India's national flag. It was supposed to be a massive but peaceful rally, as hundreds of thousands of farmers drove their tractors in convoy into the Indian capital as part of ongoing, nationwide protests against three farm laws that protesters say put their livelihoods at risk. Many of the farmers, who had adorned their tractors with colorful flags, including the flag of India and various farmers unions, had been camping out in protest on the outskirts of the capital for more than two months. Others, including young farmers from the northern states of Haryana. Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan, had gathered on the border over the past few days in time for the planned march on India's Republic Day.

Farmers planned their march to coincide with the government's parade, which has been scaled back because of the coronavirus pandemic. But as tanks paraded before Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, tractors driven by protesters ran across the capital, some could be seen almost crushing police personnel standing in their way.



PROTESTS TURN VIOLENT

Police had given permission for the rally to proceed on certain routes but confrontations broke out when protesters diverged from the agreed plan. Police had had created diversions along several major highways and main roads in city and the metro shut exits at least 15 stations close to protest sites. Tear gas and batons were used against protesters outside Delhi police headquarters and at two bordering areas of the city as farmers broke through barricades, protesters said Tuesday.

"Outside the Delhi police headquarters tear gas and batons were used, protestors also attacked the police buses stationed the re," said Paramjeet Singh Katyal, a spokesperson for Samyukt Kisan Morcha, the umbrella group representing farmers' unions. "Farmer leaders said that the groups who engaged in violence and stormed the historic Red Fort to hoist a Sikh community flag, were not a part of the original movement.

WHY FARMERS ARE PROTESTING

For decades, the Indian government offered guaranteed prices to farmers for certain crops, providing long-term certainty that, in theory, allowed them to make investments for the next crop cycle. The new agricultural laws, first passed in September by Modi's government, instead allow farmers to sell their goods to anyone for any price -- giving them more freedom to do things such as sell directly to buyers and sell to other states.

But farmers argued that the new rules would leave them worse off by making it easier for corporations to exploit agricultural workers, and help big companies drive down prices. While farmers could sell crops at elevated prices if the demand is there, conversely, they could struggle to meet the minimum price in years when there is too much supply in the market.

The laws have been so contentious because agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for about 58% of India's 1.3 billion population, and farmers have been arguing for years to get the minimum guaranteed prices increased. They are the biggest voter block in the country -- making farming a central political issue.

More than 100,000 people have been protesting since late November. There have been sit-ins lasting days along each of New Delhi's three borders. Farmers have blocked roads and set up makeshift camps, some sleeping on the road or in their tractors. They arrived from numerous different states to participate in the mass protests, at times clashing with police.

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Kisan Gantantra Diwas Parade - Indian Farmer Protest

Farmer's Republic Day Parade with tractors and trolleys that the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, the United Front of farmers of India, had in Delhi on 26 January 2021, the 72nd Republic Day, as a part of 2020–2021 Indian farmers' protest against the decision by Narendra Modi led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) to implement three farm acts. The decision to hold the parade with tractors and marching contingents, in Delhi was announced on 2 January 2021, by the leadership of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha.

On 26 January, tens of thousands of the farmers protesting agricultural reforms drove a convoy of tractors earlier than the allotted time to start the tractor rally into New Delhi. The farmers drove on prohibited routes in long lines of tractors, riding horses or marching on foot. However, a section of the tractor rally turned violent as the protesting farmers clashed with the police. Some of the protesters deviated from their pre sanctioned routes permitted by Delhi Police and breached the barricades. Some protesters reached central Delhi and resorted to vandalism and damage to public property. Some protestors reached the Red Fort and hoisted Nishan Sahib (Sikh religious flag) and farmer union flags on the mast on the rampart of the Red Fort. Protesters scaled the walls of the iconic monument and a flag was hoisted alongside India's national flag. One protestor, 30-year-old Navreet Singh, died when a tractor overturned during the protests near Delhi police headquarters, and the same was confirmed by Sanjay Bhatia, deputy commissioner of police. Many of the farmers, who had adorned their tractors with colorful flags, including the flag of India and various farmer's unions, had been camping out in protest on the outskirts of the capital for more than two months.



Protesters gather at the Red Fort in New Delhi during a demonstration against agricultural reforms in India, on January 26, 2021.

Farmers planned their march to coincide with the government's parade, which has been scaled back because of the coronavirus pandemic. But as tanks paraded before Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, tractors driven by protesters ran across the capital -- some could be seen almost crushing police personnel standing in their way.

The new agricultural laws, passed in September by Modi's government, allowed farmers to sell their goods to anyone for any price, giving them more freedom to do things such as sell directly to buyers and sell to other states. But farmers argued that the new rules would leave them worse off by making it easier for corporations to exploit agricultural workers, and help big companies drive down prices. There have been sit-ins lasting days along each of New Delhi's three borders. Farmers have blocked roads and set up makeshift camps, some sleeping on the road or in their tractors. They arrived from numerous different states to participate in the mass protests, at times clashing with police.

The rally was supposed to be a massive but peaceful instead turned out to be violent and destructive. India's Supreme Court issued an order putting the three contentious farm laws on hold and ordered the formation of a four-member mediation committee to help the parties negotiate. But farmers' leaders have rejected any court-appointed mediation committee.

Farmers Protests on 71st Republic Day

On 26th of January, thousands of agitated Indian farmers took to storming the Red Fort in New Delhi. There was a tussle between the police forces and the farmers who crossed the barricades. A flag was hoisted along the Indian flag on the top of the monument by the protesting farmers. Religious flags were also hoisted which becomes a matter of concern. The incident involved the use of tear gas, batons and sticks against the protestors by the police who tried to stop the unrest and violence. A protestor died in the protest as his tractor was overturned. On the police front, 86 police officers were injured. As many as 22 police complaints were filed against the protestors for attacking the police personnel and causing harm to public property. The internet was suspended by the government from January 29 to February 2 across the Singhu, Ghazipur and Tikri borders.



The farmers protest was initially a peaceful protest that started in November in 2020 carried on by more than 1,00,000 farmers, against three farm laws brought by the Modi government in September. The three borders in the national capital have been blocked and the farmers have been living in makeshift camps. These include farmers from different states of the country who feel that bringing in these laws would place them at a threat of multinational organization's and private companies which would be exploitative for agricultural workers. The farmers say that the laws will disrupt their

livelihoods. Earlier, the Indian government ensured a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for certain crops. In contrast, the new laws allow the farmers to sell their produce to anybody for any price.

The farmers form an important segment as India is an agrarian economy with about 58% of the country engaged in farming. For years, the farmers have tried to raise the Minimum Support Price. People from across the world have been protesting for the farmer's cause as the farmers have a global impact on consumers that depend on India. The Supreme Court (SC) had directed for a formation of a committee to arrive at a negotiation while putting the laws on hold. Although, the farmers have refused to have any government committee to intervene. It must be noted that 11 rounds of talks have been held between the government and the farmer's union leaders but this has not shown any progress in the talks. Many articles have also highlighted the unhygienic conditions these farmers are subjected to live in, especially during the time of pandemic.

In addition to this, many international politicians and celebrities have taken to social media to express solidarity with the farmers. In reaction to this, the Ministry of External Affairs has issued a statement that urges individuals having influence on masses to verify the facts before commenting on social media. The government maintains that the laws equip the farmers with "greater flexibility" and "expanded market access". In addition to this, the government feels that vested interest groups are trying to manipulate the protests according to their agendas. All this points out that the issue demands urgent attention and a reassessment of the three laws that the farmers are dissatisfied with. The farmers interest should be at the heart of any decision that is taken in response to the protests against the new agricultural laws.

SANYA MISHRA

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Farmer's Tractor Rally- 26th January 2021

The Delhi Police gave permission to protesting farmer Unions to hold their tractor parades in the national capital on the 72nd Republic Day. The Tractor rally was to be held on the periphery of the city near the Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur borders and was expected to enter the city only after the traditional Republic Day parade ended around 11.30 am. The protest was to highlight the demands of the farmers union to repeal the three new agricultural laws that was proposed.

On contrary, the rally turned violent when some protestors deviated from the pre-agreed routes. There were barricades to prevent the rally going off the agreed routes at certain points and some farmers argued and confronted the Police personnel, some took Law into their hands and breached the barricades with their tractors and brute force. All hell broke loose as tractors were driven helter skelter, one particular tractor toppled and the driver succumbed.

Later near the Red Fort some agitators assaulted the police and replaced the tricolour flag with their own flags and several protestors were arrested. Earlier there was an offer from the Central Government that the three clauses including that of MSP (minimum support price) would be kept in abeyance for 18 months, to which the farmers union had refused. The Prime Minister on his part has reiterated that the offer still stays. As things stand still now, all opposition parties have supported the farmer's agitation, different unions are agitating at different sites and a fortified police as

well as para military forces are keeping a watch. Experts and critics point out that the reforms fail to take into account that agriculture still remains a mainstay in the Indian economy.

Thus, in conclusion, people are waiting for a peaceful settlement to the contentious issues and negotiations between the agitating farmers and the Central Government to resume soon.

NIHARIKA YOGARAJ I MBA

"AGRICULTURE is the most healthful, most useful and most noble employment of man"



The Farmers tractor rally basically is a resut of farmer's rally that started last year during October. The acts, often called the Farm Bills, have been described as "antifarmer laws" by many farmer unions, and the politicians from the opposition also say it would leave farmers at the "mercy of corporates". The farmers have also requested for the creation of an MSP bill, to ensure that corporates cannot control prices. The government, however, maintains that they will make it effortless for farmers to sell their produce directly to big buyers, and stated that the protests are based on misinformation.

Farmer unions and their representatives have demanded that the laws be repealed and will not accept anything short of it. Farm leaders have rejected a Supreme Court of

India stay order on the farm laws as well as the involvement of a Supreme Court appointed committee.

Soon after the acts were introduced, unions began holding local protests, mostly in Punjab. After two months of protests, far mer unions—notably from Punjab and Haryana—began a movement named "Dilhi Chalo", in which tens of thousands of farming union members marched towards the nation's capital. The Indian government ordered the police and law enforcement of various states to attack the farmer unions using water cannons, batons, and tear gas to prevent the farmer unions from entering into Haryana first and then Delhi. On 26th November, a nationwide general strike that trade unions claim involved approximately 250 million people took place in support of the farmer unions. On 30th November, it was estimated that between 200,000 and 300,000 farmers were converging at various border points on the way to Delhi.

However, trouble started late on Monday night as hundreds of farmers on tractors from neighbouring Uttar Pradesh threatened entry into Delhi at the northeastern Loni border point, with police saying they were "directionless and leaderless", but wanted to go to Red Fort. On Tuesday morning, even before the official contingents started to roll down Rajpath, one defiant Punjab union, the 'Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee' broke down the barricades at the northwestern Singhu border point with Haryana and tractors drove out on the road to Delhi.

AZRAH SHERIFF