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I was born on 7th March, 1941. After Graduation in Arts from Jodhpur, I did my Law. I was topper of my batch in the Rajasthan Judicial Service Examination of 1962. Many of my batchmates were later elevated as Judges of the Rajasthan High Court. For a year or so, I served as Munsiff Magistrate in Udaipur, where my disposal of cases was all time high.



Way back in 1972, I was Collector Sikar. The state was facing acute famine. Under famine operations, we had launched a campaign of constructing 4000 private wells, engaging a labour force of fifty thousand workers. In 3½ months, the wells were completed. For the first time, private works were taken up under Famine operations. Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi had heard about the various innovations in the scheme & sent a team of Members Of Parliament to study the scheme for wider replication.

During the emergency, I was Collector in Udaipur. We had launched a full scale drive against encroachments & for widening of roads. The public warmly appreciated this campaign. Kulishji came out with two full page articles in Rajasthan Patrika, one on the demolitions & another on the Multi-purpose Loan Melas. One News paper headlined its article "Itihas ke prashton se kale dhabbon ki safai" We also launched several campaigns, including one for construction of 5000 wells.

Our Multi-purpose Loan Melas had all the functionaries -Patwari, Tehsildar, SDO, Vikas Adhikari, Officials of Banks & Cooperatives etc. I used to be present in every camp from the beginning till the end. A farmer who came in the morning with the application for sanction of loan, would walk away with the first installment of loan by evening or one who had applied for a loan for a Pump set, would go by evening, with the pump set loaded in his bullock cart.

Through this model of providing maximum services under one roof, loans(by Commercial banks/Cooperative Banks), sanctioning of old age pensions, certificates for physically challenged persons, Scholarship forms for students etc, through Social Welfare Department etc were provided. Even truck loads of goats used to be brought in the camps for being distributed to the beneficiaries, under the Loan Schemes. The Loan Melas were so popular that the public representatives like MLAs, Zila Pramukhs, Pradhans etc. invariably attended them. At times we used to have a couple of Ministers as Chief Guests in a single camp. The Melas were also becoming Grievance Redressal camps, as people were simply amazed with on the spot decisions, by officials. Red tape had simply vanished. Prime Minister Morarji Desai was very impressed with one of our camps, which he attended in Kota.

Shri B Sivraman, the then Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission visited one of our camps in Udaipur & was so impressed with the methodology, that he wrote to all the

Chief Secretaries to emulate the Udaipur Model. Some states had also invited me for discussing the methodology of such camps.

In every assignment, we launched a series of campaigns.

As City Magistrate, Udaipur, hundreds of cases under Motor Vehicle Act were pending in my Court. I stopped summoning the challaned persons in the court, & imposed fines, which they could deposit by post without coming to Court. Hundreds of cases were finalised during a record time & one court dealing exclusively with MV cases was wound up.

In Dungarpur, the incidence of guinea worm was very high. We converted all step wells into draw wells, as the disease spreads while the infected persons enter the step wells. In 1973 as Collector Bharatpur, under SFDA scheme, we launched loaning through Cooperative Banks. During the previous, three years, 1800 farmers were sanctioned a loan of 75 lakhs, while through our three week campaign, 3000 farmers were sanctioned loan amounting to Rs 150 lakhs.

In Udaipur, deepening of wells was very difficult because of rocky terrain. We deployed all the blasting units of Rajasthan in Udaipur. The GWD was amazed at the biggest order for blasting in Rajasthan. As Excise Commissioner, I noticed heavy outstandings which were on the verge of being written off, as most of the dues were Benami. For issue of IMFL licences, the practice was to restrict them to non defaulters. However we launched a scheme to grant the IMFL licences to defaulters only. Some of the top Excise Contractors came forward to disclose that they were the real persons behind the Benami outstandings. They cleared all Benami outstandings in lieu of getting IMFL licences.

As Commissioner, Commercial Taxes, our key concern was firstly, simplification of procedures for giving relief to the Assesseees & secondly to stop tax evasion by plugging the loopholes. Our revenue growth during my tenure was all time high. Of the total notifications issued by the department since its inception, 50% notifications were issued during my tenure.

I noticed a huge number of pending appeals in the Sales Tax Tribunal. I held a meeting with the Bar Association & requested them to furnish me with a list of appeals, which our deptt was likely to lose because of the latest Judgements of the Supreme Court or High Court. Accordingly they gave a long list of such weak cases. A Committee of three senior officers of our deptt was entrusted with the task of cross-checking the list. In 85% of the cases, our officers also confirmed the likelihood of losing those cases. By a single order, I withdrew all those cases. After that, our important cases, involving huge amounts, could move much faster in the Tribunal.

As Vice Chancellor of Udaipur University (My tenure 4 Years), I found that hundreds of posts of teachers were lying vacant. In a short period of about one year, we had filled up all the teaching posts. Perhaps, never in the history, so many experts of so many subjects had landed in Udaipur, in a single year, for assisting in the interviews.

In one matter, the local Civil Court stayed the conduct of interviews scheduled for the next day. I requested our Advocate in Jodhpur to seek an appointment with the Chief Justice at his residence & obtain appropriate orders, so that the interviews for the next day were not disrupted. The Advocate was reluctant but on my insistence, he went to CJ's bungalow.

Though no order was passed by His Lordship, but he promised to take up the stay application at 10 am next day. By 10.30 am, we succeeded in getting the stay order vacated.

When I joined as Chairman of the Service Tribunal, there were hundreds of cases which were as old as 10 years. In less than one year, through our campaign, not a single case was left, which was older than one year. In most of the matters, orders were pronounced in the Court, soon after the hearing.

In RSEB I found that electricity theft was rampant. We launched an out of turn agriculture connection scheme, called the Nursery Scheme. We had a very long waiting list of almost 13 years for electric connection of wells. The Engineers were rather startled at my instructions that top priority should be given to those committing theft. Under the Nursery Scheme, the initial cost was ten times higher & the tariff was 100% higher. The scheme was a roaring success. Nearly 85000 connections were released.

The World Bank specially invited me for a presentation in an International Conference in Tokyo. At the end of my presentation, Dr. Montek Singh Ahluvalia, the then Finance Secretary GOI, came rushing to me from the other end of the huge hall, to warmly congratulate me for the scheme.

I could endlessly narrate a plethora of campaigns (which I have attempted in my book "Commitment & Creativity") but due to the paucity of space, I must stop here.

In RSEB, I found that there was a lot of litigation against us in the Consumer Courts, leading to a lot of disruption of normal working. I met the Chairman of the State Commission & pleaded with him that Consumer Courts were already overcrowded. He could transfer those cases for disposal in the Settlement Committees set up by me in RSEB. After a lot of discussions, he agreed that notices will be served to the concerned parties to first approach our Settlement Committees. Unfortunately, he did not have adequate staff to issue notices in hundreds of cases. We deputed our staff for issuing notices. In almost 85% cases, matters were amicably settled in our Committees. Rest of the matters were sent back to the State Commission for disposal.

For the last 20 years, I have been practising in the High Court, dealing exclusively with Power Sector cases. I also frequently appear before the Regulatory Commissions as also the Appellate Tribunal For Electricity, in Delhi. Occasionally, I have appeared in the Supreme Court also. The Court work is quite engrossing & keeps me fairly busy, without any regrets that I had retired more than 20 years back.
