Date : 30-Sep-2012 Edition : National Page No.: 36 Page Name: n.a. Size: 502.38 sq. cm
Sector: Others Circulation: 525000 AVE: INR 2131709.04 Frequency: Weekly

News monitored for: Mydala

THE SUNDAY INDIAN
THE NATION'S GREATEST NEWS WEEKLY

PHOTO: SHAMIM AHMAD

"Optimists feel that the next decade will belong to the Indian entrepreneur – and there are several success stories to prove this statement. I feel it's an entrepreneur's faith and spirit that help him/her survive in a very competitive environment, whether they get any aid or not. Sure, it helps if the government's policies are designed in a manner to encourage entrepreneurship, but I feel people will think out-of-the-box nevertheless."

ANISHA SINGH
CEO, mydala.com

9 ENTREPRENEURS ARE STILL ENTERPRISING : Even after the floodgates were opened in 1991, India, in many ways, remained a country that was transiting from crony socialism to crony capitalism. And yet, the last two decades have witnessed a dazzling display of the unleashing of animal spirits. Unheard of names that have emerged as successful entrepreneurs and icons for the new generation youth. Unfortunately, crony capitalism became so rampant during UPA-2 that it looked as if genuine entrepreneurs would again be overshadowed by a state doling out natural resources to favoured cronies and billionaires. The 2G scam and coalgate are classic examples of the same. Entrepreneurs thrive when rules are clearly defined and there is a level playing field. This regime has been busy levelling the field. And yet, the animal spirits have refused to be cowed down. From management graduates launching vegetable kiosk chains to chefs launching restaurant chains to unknowns launching nationwide rail taxi services to some intrepid souls making online ventures like makemytrip.com and flipkart.com into global names, new entrepreneurs are still emerging by the day in India, creating jobs and wealth. It is these souls and their dreams and passion that has ensured that the India growth story has not completely collapsed, just as activism has ensured that the idea of India is not destroyed. More power to them!

"Because of the complexity, it is not often easy for the western mind to understand the way Indian secularism functions. The same also holds true for Indians who work for foreign publications. The primary reason is the lack of hard work. I am not saying Indian secularism and its social fabric is not facing challenges, but the way the western press jumps to conclusions is far-fetched. The fabric remains strong in spite of the problems and it is dangerous to jump to quick conclusions. I can definitely say that there is a clear lack of understanding."

OM THANVI, Editor, Jansatta

PHOTO: SHAMIM AHMAD

10 SECULARISM IS SAFE BEYOND SLOGANS : A cursory look could frighten even the optimistic. Kashmir valley is no longer a simple expression of revolt and a desire for *azaadi*. It is being gradually taken over by hardline Islamists who would prefer Wahhabi fundamentalism to rule over a once Sufism-inspired paradise. Assam is in flames. Communal riots have become a ritual ever since Samajwadi Party stormed to power in UP. Hindutva hardliners are hardening their prejudices. Islamic hardliners think nothing of attacking mediapersons for imagined insults to Islam. But only the most cynical would say that secularism is fading in India. It simply cannot; it is ingrained in the civilisational ethos of this nation. As many Muslims admit, they were horrified by the Gujarat riots but also felt reassured when it was mostly Hindus who fought for justice to be delivered to the victims. This is a nation where a Hindu converts to Islam and becomes a global icon. We are talking about AR Rehman. After partition, Yusuf Khan had to become Dilip Kumar in order to become a superstar. No such problems with the current!

© The Sunday Indian