APPENDIX -III

Bhartiya Kisan Sangh

*Kisan Ghoshna Patra or Farmers' Proclamation of 24.9.2002*

Preface:

While preparing for the ensuing election for the Legislative Assembly, all the political parties draft their party's Manifesto. As per democratic tradition the Manifesto so drafted are published to please the voters of all the categories. It contains bunch of promises for the people. But it is our experience that the matters related to farmers and the field of agriculture are rarely given importance.

With a view to provide the Direct Guidance for all such political parties, a Model of a Manifesto is keenly prepared by the BKS with a motive of "Disha Darshan" Now it is up to them, to what extent they accept it? or apply it? Their intension for it, will reflect their real feelings for the farmers. An evaluation also can be made, by applying the norms, on the implementation of Manifesto by them, after they got elected.

(1) **General Administration Department :**

(a) The eligible maximum age limit should be extended up to 30 years from 25 or 28 years (at present) for all types of employment in the government. The Recruitment Rules should be modified accordingly.

(b) While recruiting for all cadres, the candidates from rural areas should be awarded 10 additional marks. The merit list must be prepared accordingly.

(c) To clarify regarding Kalpsar project

(2) **Department of Food and Civil Supply :**

(a) The benefits of mobile van like 'Kalptaru' should be extended up to the Rural Areas.

(3) **Health and Family welfare :**

(a) All free, subsidized or assistance types of facilities provided by the government should be connected with the policy of family planning. The families having children beyond limit should be denied these facilities.
(4) **Industries and Mines Department**:

(a) A liberal policy for Agro-Industry should be formulated to help the farmers for establishing small scale Industries based on agriculture at their own farms.

(b) Special attention to be paid to Industries for packaging processing and storages of the Agri-produce.

(c) A liberal policy to be adopted specifically on establishing pollution free Industries in general and for rural areas in particular.

(d) The policy for new industrial investment should be formulated, in relation to the norms of employment generation. It may be helpful to reduce the unemployment.

(5) **Department of Energy and Petrochemicals**:

(a) To ensure clearly, for removal of Meter system, on installation of Agriculture electricity connection.

(b) Motivate the efforts for developing the Non-Traditional ways for energy systems.

(c) To remove the charges like Tariff rate, Fix charges electricity cess, Meter capacitor rent etc. from the Farmers. "A High power Reform Committee" should be constituted for Reforms in power sector.

(6) **Legal Department**:

(a) Enactment of Act for total ban on slaughter of cow.

(b) A separate new Act to prohibit the spoiling of standing crops and the field theft.

(c) A Commission to be constituted to decide the discarding of obsolete and anti farmers laws.

(7) **Agriculture Department**:

(a) Stability should be ensured for an Agricultural Equalization Fund. Every year by budgetary provisions the maximum allocations, to this fund should be made.

(b) A provisions should be made to provide Accidental insurance cover, to both husband and wife of the Farmers families, automatically, irrespective of their names in Land holdings.
(c) provisions to be made for formation of Agriculture produce Markets at all the 25 District of the state by recognizing each District for a "specialized crop".

(d) To set up a separate 'Development Corporation for Farmers'.

(e) To set up Kisan - Farmers commission.

(f) To set up Gujarat Agro export corporation.

(g) To endeavor for setting up more and more export zones in the state.

(h) To establish 'Agro Market Research and Development Center'.

(i) To establish centre for post Harvesting Technology and Methodology.

(j) To enhance the network for state seed corporation. A facility for Mobile vans to be extended by the corporation for distributing the quantity of seeds quickly in the rural areas during the sowing seasons,

(8) Department of Co-operation:

(a) Extensive lists of voters, for the elections of District/Taluka Co-operatives, District Central Co-op. Bank, District Milk Producers Federation, District Sale Purchase Sangh, Market Yards and District Co-operative Federation etc., Should be prepared.

(b) Removal-Cancellation of Stamp duty on the loans granted as Agricultural credits by the credit cooperatives.

(c) Formation of Agricultural Markets.

(9) Home department:

(a) To dispose off all pending cases on the farmers, filled during various farmers agitations sympathetically.

(b) To setup more police stations at remote rural areas, for controlling the anti-social activities at such places.

(c) To provide protection through the horse mounted or camel-police force if warranted.

(d) To instruct specifically, the police officials for protecting the brave farmers against the conspiracy of legal-traps. The farmers who dare against the anti-social elements and goondalism, bravely should be given due protection under the law.

(10) Narmada:

(a) Tremendous efforts to be made for Narmada Dam. The allocation of ample funds to be made in the budget, to attain 110 Meter height for the Dam.
(b) The Syphon on the river should be made fit for flow of irrigation water, on urgent basis.

(11) Department of Irrigation:
(a) River Grid Project to be envisaged, for connecting all the rivers having full year water, with the other seasonal water Rivers in the entire state.
(b) For water conservation and water-recharging, specific budgetary provisions should be made.
(c) A Subsection 'Water Management' need to be setup. The syllabus at school and college level should induct this subject as a regular study.

(12) Department of Water supply:
(a) With a view to resolve permanently, the water scarcity problem faced by many villages, a stable and able administration should be set up.
(b) Under the scheme of sector reforms, efforts are to be made to cover as many districts as possible.

(13) Finance Department:
(a) Budgetary allocations and financial provisions made for Rural Sector should be shown separately and specifically.
(b) 70% of the Budgetary allocation (minimum) should be made for Rural Sector.

(14) Panchayat Department:
(a) At all villages proper arrangement of Panchayat Bhavan must be made.
(b) The norm for 'minimum distance' between two independent panchayat, should be reduced to 1 Kilometer
(c) Minimum educational qualification for Members of panchayat of all levels, should be stipulated as per the norms.

(15) Department of Rural Development:
(a) At least one flour mill at each village should be ensured and the power connection to run the flour mill should be made available on priority specific Budgetary provisions, to complete the Gokul Gam Yojana, at the earliest.

(16) Department of Harbours (Ports):
(a) To establish a college of Marine Engineering
(b) To formulate a new Development policy for medium size ports in the state and to notify the same.

(17) Revenue Department:
(a) All villages of Independent Gram Panchayat are to be declared as Revenue Villages.
(b) New and simple acts, laws, rules are to be made effective by discarding the obsolete and old revenue acts.
(c) Clause 32 K. for stamp duty on Sale Document should be put off for the Agriculture Land.
(d) The stamp duty on sale documents to the Agriculture Land should be reduced to 1% only.
(e) Abolition of Block System.
(f) The Provisions should be made for and notified regarding automatic transformation of New 'Tenure' Land into Old 'Tenure' after 15 years.

(18) Dept. of Road and Building:
(a) Time bound and yearwise planning to provide for an approach road, connecting each village with the main road. The facility should be accorded urgently to the left out villages.
(b) An intensive campaign against corruption.

(19) Information and Broadcasting Department:
(a) To publish, a series of books, specifically dealing with the various issues, problems, for rural areas and for the problem solutions suggested, by the specialized authors.
(b) To prepare documentary films on the subjects covering successful efforts on conservation water, water recharging etc. Such films should be exhibited among the rural population.
(c) To construct 'Shahid Bhavan' (a house of Martyr) at the state capital Gandhinagar, to protect and preserve the glories and remembrance on the life of known and unknown martyrs of the state.

(20) Department of Youth and Cultural Activities:
(a) Provisions to be made for reserving at least one public plot of land at each village for the sports activities.
To develop the activities of library in the rural areas, specific assistance should be provided to Non-Govt. organizations for purchasing the books. Encouragement and motivation for cultural reading to the 'village-youths' should be provided for.

21) **Department of Forest and Environment**:
   (a) Total abolition of the provisions, regarding the sanction to be obtained from Forest officer by the farmers before cutting any types of tree / standing on their own farms.
   (b) For protecting the crops against wild pigs, deers, stags and other wild animals, a separate area should be identified and wire fencing should be provided for them.

22) **Education Department**:
   (a) Removal of norms for 'Distance limitation' while sanctioning the secondary schools for the villages.
   (b) Providing for required classrooms at primary schools.

23) **Department of Labour and Employment**:
   (a) Farmers should be free from all types of administrative provisions except the payment of wages under minimum wage Act.

24) **Department of Animal Husbandry**:
   (a) At every Taluka one minimum, additional veterinary centre should be sanctioned.
   (b) Establishment of a university for Animal Husbandry.

25) **Transportation Department**:
   (a) At least one S.T. route should be provided at each village.
   (b) Abolition of passenger tax levied at 17.5% on the rural bus routes by the S.T. Corporation.
   (c) Policy for Transportation should be declared
   (d) Tractor-Trailers should be permitted as 'Modern Bullok Cart'

26) **Department of consumer's Affairs**:
(a) Forums for consumers complaints Redressal should be established at all the 25 District of the state.

(b) An intensive inspection system should be established at various market yards, in the state, to prevent frauds against the farmers, in terms of weigh and scales.

(27) Disaster Management:

(a) This Department should be established as an independent one, It should function separately from Revenue and General Administrative Departments.

The Overview

This Proclamation is neither a charter of demands nor an application letter. It is only a sincere effort to point out the directions towards which the administrative approach in the state should move, for the welfare of farmers.

This is an essence of experiences gained by the workforce of Bharatiya Kisan Sangh in the Rural area. Through their constant and concerted contact with the people of soil, these extracts are obtained. If the efforts are sincere for implementation, it can prove a ‘Nectar for Restoration’. It can calm down the injured emotions aroused among the farmers, and can provide numerous opportunities for solving the related issues.

Instead of personal issues the matters taken up here are of social and general importance. The problems are plenty and issues are endless but something will be better than nothing .......

Balram Bhagwan ki Jay

Yours

Maganbhai Patel
Pradesh General Secretary