



12 Years of Service

REPORT CARD TO THE PEOPLE OF KARNATAKA

April 2006- March 2018

From

Rajeev Chandrasekhar

Member of Parliament





Rajeev Chandrasekhar
Member of Parliament

Preface

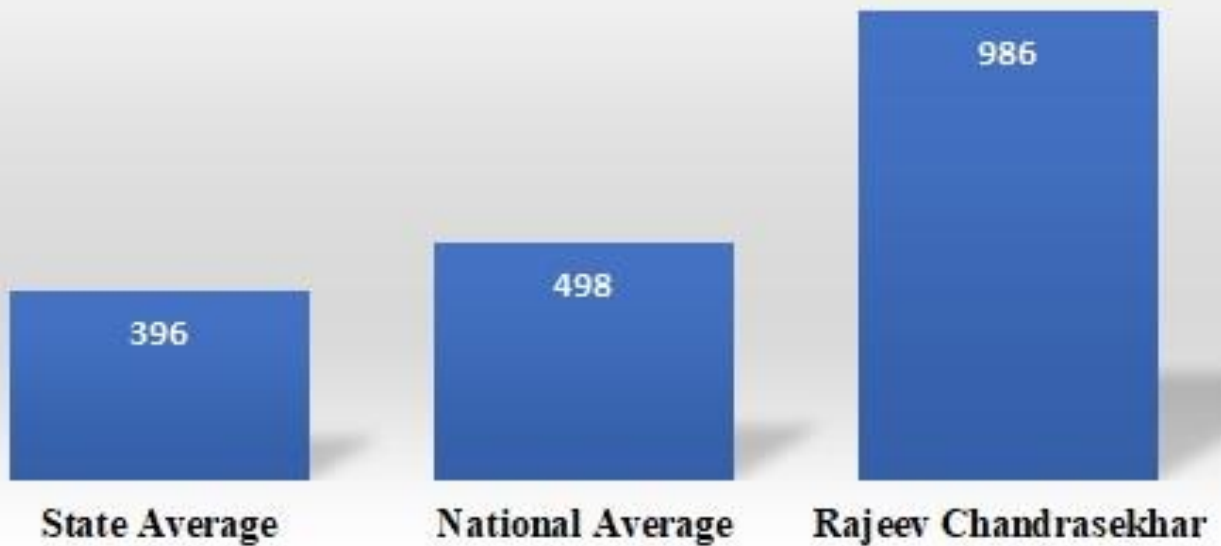
Rajeev Chandrasekhar has been one of the most active MPs from Karnataka, strongly advocating and intervening on numerous issues related to Bengaluru, Karnataka, Governance / Regulatory Reforms, Policy Making, Institution Building, Freedom of Speech, Net Neutrality, Privacy, Protection of Children, National Security and Welfare of the Armed Forces Personnel, among many others.

As a parliamentarian with a vision and a patriotic conscience, his work as a lawmaker has been about interventions - both on the floor of the Parliament and outside - with a deep focus on creating lasting sustainable change, for the better.

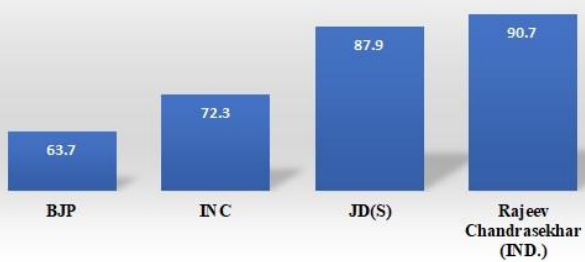
This document recapitulates his efforts towards better governance and summarizes Rajeev's interventions over the last 12 years that compelled the Government to act.



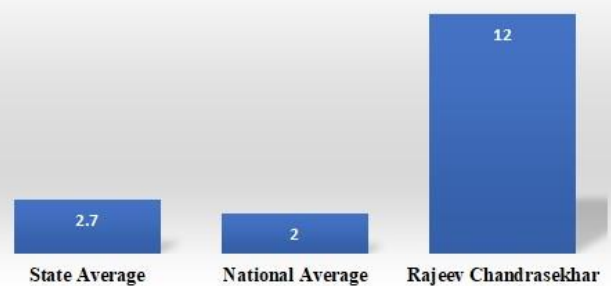
Questions Asked in Parliament



Percentage Utilization of MPLADS Funds by Karnataka Rajya Sabha Members



Private Members Bills introduced



S No	Ministry	No of Questions
1	AGRICULTURE	5
2	AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE	3
3	CIVIL AVIATION	4
4	COAL	9
5	COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY	10
6	COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	37
7	COMMUNICATIONS	9
8	CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION	1
9	CULTURE	7
10	DEFENCE	51
11	DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION	2
12	ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	10
13	ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS	2
14	ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE	13
15	EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	5
16	FINANCE	40
17	HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE	7
18	HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES	1
19	HOME AFFAIRS	30
20	Housing and Urban Affairs	4
21	HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION	3
22	HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT	15
23	INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING	1
24	LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT	2
25	LAW & JUSTICE	6
26	MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES	1
27	MINES	2
28	NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY	1
29	OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS	2
30	PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS	1
31	PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS	4
32	PLANNING	2
33	POWER	3
34	RAILWAYS	13
35	ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGH WAYS	6
36	RURAL DEVELOPMENT	2
37	SHIPPING	1
38	SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP	1
39	STEEL	3
40	TOURISM	2
41	URBAN DEVELOPMENT	10
42	WATER RESOURCES	2
43	WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION	1
44	WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT	39
45	YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS	3

#RECLAIMINGBENGALURU

FIGHTING FOR AND SERVING THE GOOD PEOPLE OF MY
CITY BENGALURU AND STATE KARNATAKA

Successfully fought and protected Constitutional Rights of
Bengaluru citizens:

Rajeev protested Karnataka Government's efforts to postpone elections to local municipal bodies contending that elections must be held within 5 years and it is a fundamental right of the citizens of Bengaluru.

Impact:

The Supreme Court of India upheld Rajeev's contention that elections to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and all Urban Local Bodies must be held within 5-year term as it is a fundamental right of the citizen of Bengaluru (or any other city). This scuttled the Karnataka Government's many efforts to delay elections for Bengaluru & attempt a direct rule by CM using Trifurcation as an excuse. Thanks to Rajeev's PIL and the Supreme Court ruling, democracy prevailed and the citizens had an opportunity to vote and elect their corporators.



Bengaluru Municipal Elections 2015; Campaigned for
electing good Corporators and maximizing voters turnout
with successful 'Vote for Good Corporator' Campaign:

Rajeev successfully changed the narrative and political discourse in Bengaluru from cynicism and skepticism to one where the real issues are being discussed. This, even as his campaign began with a face - off with the political shenanigans of the Karnataka State Government whose sole objective was to postpone the BBMP elections through the blatant "abuse of court process." The 'Vote for Good Corporator' campaign, made reforms & integrity become veritable election issues in the BBMP polls.

Impact:

Political parties recognized that electorates cannot be won over by playing political games or with their usual pre-election rhetoric. Candidates of all political parties took the pledge of integrity & good governance. Many RWAs approached Rajeev and NBF to get associated with the campaign. More importantly, the impact of the campaign was visible with the fact that voting percentage increased by 5% and PM Modi's BJP, which was endorsed by the campaign, became the single largest party in the council.



Alerted police of illegal organ transplant racket and encouraged
the police with cash rewards for their swift action in busting the
racket.

Responding to complaints about a thriving racket of illegal organ
transplant, Rajeev wrote a letter to Health Minister on the issue giving
details of the racket.

Impact:

Soon after, the Karnataka police investigated this & busted the illegal racket operating in hospitals. Later, Rajeev applauded swift police action and rewarded the police team with a sum of Rs. 1 Lakh.



Initiated the process of weeding out corruption from the financial offices of BBMP and to put the city's finance back on track:

In response to Karnataka Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah's claim that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) was facing fund crunch and therefore had no money to take up new projects. Rajeev responded to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah stating that in fact the BBMP was actually suffering from corruption, wasteful expenditure & vested interests which was the main reason behind the city's municipal authority's leap towards bankruptcy. Rajeev highlighted the poor Governance and corruption over the last several years and suggested measures to stem the decline.

Impact:

Despite initial denials from few ministers from the Government on these allegations of bankruptcy, the Mayor responded to Rajeev's letter and sought for his suggestions and advice to improve the financial condition of the city administration.

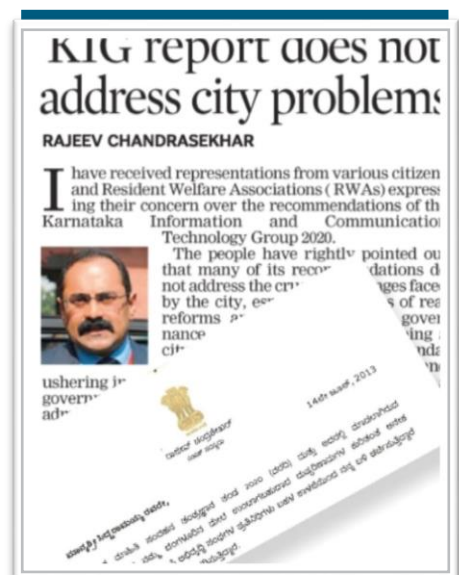


Amplified the voice of citizens on the adverse impact of the KIG Report forcing Government to rethink on handing over Bengaluru development to vested interests:

Supporting citizens' concerns over the recommendations of the Government of Karnataka mandated Karnataka Information and Communication Technology Group (KIG) Report, Rajeev opposed the recommendations which sought to increase and implement premium FAR/FSI (Floor Area Ratio/Floor Space Index) as a resource mobilization concept for funding of development of Bengaluru. Rajeev wrote to the Chief Minister urging him to take citizens considerations seriously and protect the city against unscrupulous lobbies and vested interests.

Impact:

Rajeev's views received wide spread support from citizens and a Retired Additional Chief Secretary of Karnataka Government also endorsed Rajeev's Views on this issue and forced the government to drop the proposal rethink on the recommendations.



Launched a public initiative and an awareness campaign - Vote Right Vote Responsibly (VRVR) - to enhance people participation during elections in Bengaluru

To maximize people participation in voting and to enhance awareness among voters about the importance of voting and to make people's vote count for a better Bengaluru and thus a better India, Rajeev launched an extensive and elaborate 'Vote Right Vote Responsibly' campaign during the assembly elections in Karnataka in May 2013.

Impact:

The effectiveness of the campaign was such that there was a 5% increase in turnout as compared to the 2008 voter turnout for the state assembly elections, when Bengaluru (Urban) registered 52.8 % turnout!



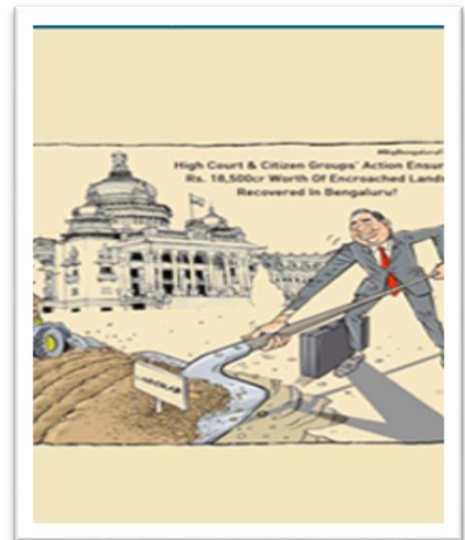
Successfully fought against illegal land encroachments in Bengaluru

Rajeev supported the PIL filed by Namma Bengaluru Foundation against corruption and fought for reclaiming and protecting encroached public lands as indicated by the by the Joint Legislative Committee of the Legislature of Karnataka and the subsequent Report of the Task Force for Recovery of Public Land.

The PIL also seeks prosecution of government officials and private parties responsible for grabbing public lands.

Impact:

It is currently under litigation and moved to the Special land grab court but CM Siddaramaiah in his 2016 budget speech announced that it recovered a total of 2.02 lakh acres of public land from encroachers of which 5325 acres amounting to 1 lakh crore recovered from Bengaluru alone



Pressured Karnataka Govt to end adhoc land notification and de-notification

A long standing demand to give up ad-hoc de-notification, Rajeev has been pressurizing various Chief Ministers of Karnataka since 2009 to let go of this practice.

Impact:

Under public pressure and media scrutiny Chief Minister, Mr. Siddaramaiah decided to stop this notoriously corrupt practice of de-notification which had been previously been misused and enriched politicians for several years.



Efforts to ensuring the Preservation of Classical Kannada:

To ensure preservation of Karnataka's rich literary heritage, Rajeev followed up on Government of Karnataka's proposal to shift Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Karnataka (CESCK) from Mysuru to Bengaluru.

Impact:

The Minister assured that the Government of Karnataka has identified 3.00 acres of land in Bangalore University Campus and its willingness to make the land available free of cost. Assurances were given that the research and documentation of six near-extinct mother languages of Karnataka namely, Asalaru, Siddi, Iruliga, Malaikudiya, Maratta & TokriKoli has been conducted in partnership with Karnataka State Trivial Research Institute (KSTRI) Mysore.

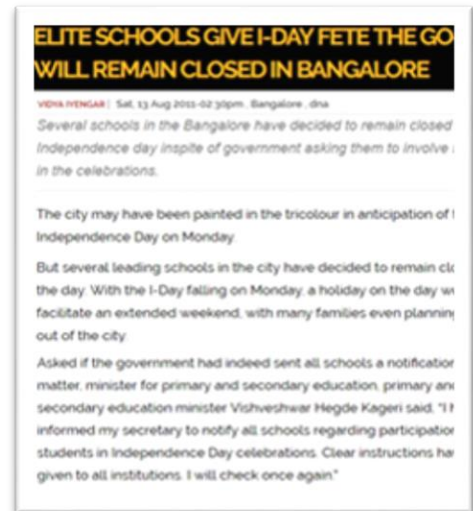


Ensuring schools in Bengaluru celebrate Independence Day and Republic Day and not declare a holiday:

Shocked at some private schools ignoring celebrations of Independence Day and Republic Day, in April 2010, Rajeev wrote to the then Chief Minister BS Yeddyurappa and state Education Minister Vishweshwar Kageri to survey all private schools in Bengaluru and get a report on which schools are currently indulging in this shameful practice. He also urged the ministry to take legal action against those schools avoiding the celebrations.

Impact:

Responding to Rajeev's letter, the Karnataka Government issued a government order directing all schools in the state to mark important national festivals like Independence Day and Republic Day.



Supported and backed citizens fight the encroachers and rejuvenation of Mestripalya Lake in the heart of city:

As is the case with many lakes that have been illegally encroached across Bengaluru, the Mestripalya Lake Story was a different one, thanks to Rajeev's active role in the rejuvenation of the lake body, which was on brink of being lost to illegal encroachments. Rajeev helped citizens get access to senior legal counsel represent and help argue their case.

Impact:

This intervention shattered the walls between bureaucracy and citizens, and ensured that the Citizens were heard but representatives of various public authorities. The citizens won the battle and with Rajeev's support the lake was cleared of its encroachments.



Supported and successfully intervened in residents fight against builders involved in illegal high-rise endangering residents

While supporting a vigilant citizens' demand on the annulment of the NOC given by HAL to the builder owing to the irregularities and serious breach of procedure, Rajeev wrote to the then Defence Minister Mr. A.K Antony drawing his attention to this matter, which if not attended to, would have led to constructions that could have potentially endangered the safety of residents in the area surrounding HAL airport and led to catastrophic consequences. MantriTechzone (a private builder), Chalet (builder) project was located at catchment area of Agara-Bellandur Lake, which falls within the 20-kilometer radius of the HAL airport.

Impact:

HAL had initially erroneously granted an NOC to the builder under the assumption of an incorrect Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL) figure submitted by the private builder. Thanks to Rajeev's intervention, HAL later withdrew the NOC.



Backed Citizens fight against the construction of underpass on Sarjapur Road that would have destroyed the neighbourhoods

Rajeev backed the Koramanagala RWA fight against the construction of an unscientific underpass on Sarjapur Road in Bengaluru which was being constructed sans any citizen consultation to benefit certain vested interests. Rajeev wrote to the Chief Minister and later supported the residents' PIL in the Karnataka High Court which stayed the construction and ordered the government to appoint a committee of experts to look into the matter.

Impact:

The Kaushik Mukherjee Committee report recommended against the project which led to the project being shelved and the road was restored. This was the first such project in Bengaluru which was restored to its original condition.

Ensuring a new lease of life for the iconic Visweswaraya Iron and Steel Company (VISL) and its employees:

With the intention to uphold the interests of stakeholders, Rajeev wrote a letter to the Prime Minister urging him to intervene and look into the matter of the government handling of PSUs. Rajeev's interventions resulted with the response from the steel Minister, who also stated in the upper house that the Central government would exercise caution before announcing any decision on privatizing Visveswaraya Iron and Steel Company (VISL) and that it will rejuvenate VISL through capital infusion and make it part of SAIL's modernization plans.

Impact:

Later, Central government cleared Karnataka Government proposal allotting 243 acres mining site for VISL. Rajeev continued his efforts in rescuing VISL even with the NDA government and now the government has assured Rajeev of approving the mining land for VISL soon.

Fire safety Guidelines in high rise buildings: Backed PIL that resulted in Govt formulating safety guidelines for high rise buildings.

Responding to a fire tragedy that took place in a high-rise building (Carlton Towers) that took several lives, Rajeev wrote to Karnataka Chief Minister on 25 February 2010 recommending an urgent review of civil defense preparedness and equipment for Fire and Emergency Services and asking for Fire Safety Audit guidelines in high rise buildings to avoid such incidents. He followed this up by backing a PIL on the issue.

Impact:

The Karnataka High Court ordered the Government to draft the safety guidelines which the Government notified, much to the relief of citizens of Bengaluru.



Backing citizens fight against injustice of medical negligence by a corporate hospital:

Acting on a plea for help from a citizen who complained about negligence by a corporate hospital resulting in the death of his spouse who was a patient, Rajeev wrote to the Chief Minister of Karnataka and Union Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad demanding an enquiry and appropriate action in the matter.

Impact:

Rajeev's push for action resulted in the Karnataka Government initiating an enquiry and later accepting and acting on the findings of the LokAyukta Report on the issue – by way of suspension of the hospital's license and initiating criminal proceedings against the erring doctors.



Building Infrastructure with MPLAD Funds:

Rajeev has channelized the funds received under MPLAD, for building community welfare projects, new blocks for Government schools and other public projects utilizing more than 95% utilization of the Funds allocated. This is in contrast to cases where such funds have remained unused.

Rajeev Chandrasekhar seen with students of the Government High School, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru after inaugurating the new block of building built under his MPLAD Funds. 3rd November 2009.



Rajeev Chandrasekhar seen with the students of Government High School, Uttarahalli, Bengaluru after inaugurating the new block of building built under his MPLAD Funds. 25th June, 2011.

Leading the Fight for Citizens' Rights from Exploitation by unscrupulous Builders

Rajeev was part of the Select Committee of the Parliament that drafted the Real Estate (Development and Regulation) Bill before it was passed in March 2016. He worked hard to set a series of rights for consumers and established builder obligations in Real estate sector. He also ensured that Citizen Activists met with the former Minister for Housing Shri Venkaiah Naidu and Minister of Planning Shri Rao Inderjit Singh with demands for a robust rule for states and Union Territories.

Impact:

Ensured a strong Real Estate law that protected Consumer Rights and through the #NammaHakku initiative in June 2016, Rajeev organised a series of events with eminent panelists highlighting the rights of Citizens and ways and means of fighting Corrupt builders with the new Law.



Savior of Lakes

Rajeev Chandrasekhar has been at the forefront of the legal fight to help Reclaim and protect Bengaluru's Lakes and Waterbodies. He supported a PIL filed by Resident Welfare Groups against the encroachment of Agara lake and the adjoining storm water drain by builders. Subsequently, the NGT in Chennai was approached and the matter was later referred to the NGT principal bench.

Impact:

In a landmark judgment, the NGT came up with new buffer zone definitions for all water bodies and drains, a directive to the state government to notify the wetlands in and around Bengaluru and a directive to survey and demolish all illegal structures around Bellandur lake. A fine amounting to 129 Crore was levied on the two erring builders.



Exposing Double Standards by the Government of Karnataka

Responding to public outcry after the Government of Karnataka started demolishing houses of mainly poor and middle-class families, on 23, August 2016, he wrote to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah urging him to end double standards of ignoring the illegal constructions by the high and mighty and compensate the innocent poor but ensure prosecution of errant officials that allowed illegal construction across Bengaluru.

Impact:

With no action from the CM, Rajeev mobilized Citizens from across Bengaluru and demanded justice. He supported a petition in the High Court, wherein in September, the High Court in September 2016 ordered the Government to prosecute errant officials who allowed construction of illegal structures.



Joined Citizens' Movement Against the #SteelFlyover

Rajeev has been a strong advocate for enhancing Citizens involvement in governance and development plans. On seeing that the Steel Flyover was being pushed without voluntary disclosure of project report, he filed a petition in the High Court and supported Citizens against its construction.

Impact:

The High Court in response to Rajeev's petition ordered the BDA- which was the executing agency not to go ahead with the Steel Flyover.

The NGT in response to a petition supported by Rajeev deemed the Steel Flyover illegal as it lacked proper environmental clearances. Rajeev's direct interventions on this front forced the Government of Karnataka scrap the project on March 02, 2017.



Upholding the Constitutionality of the Metropolitan Planning Commission

A Constitutionalist at heart, Rajeev has always served to ensure that the Planning Commission functions as per the 74th Amendment of the Indian Constitution which guarantees autonomy to the Urban Local bodies with greater participation of Citizens. However, despite repeated attempts through letters to the CM calling on him to democratize the MPC and governance in Bengaluru, the CM has chosen to ignore this call and has unconstitutionally mandated the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) to design the Revised Master Plan -2031. This forced Rajeev to support the PIL filed in the High Court by Namma Bengaluru Foundation on the grounds that the Government of Karnataka had no regard for constitutional values and ideas envisaged in the Bengaluru Metropolitan Planning Committee(MPC) rules, 2013.

Impact

The High Court of Karnataka in an interim order directed the State Government not to approve Revised Master Plan 2031, without its permission.



Supports United Bengaluru -Citizens' Movement to Reclaim and Protect Bengaluru

An Activist himself, Rajeev has always supported Citizen activism, especially when it involves Reclaiming and Protecting Bengaluru from vested interests. As a mentor for UnitedBengaluru, Rajeev has joined experts and activists on numerous lake inspection drives across Bengaluru. This initiative, having inspected over 29 lakes, has served as a platform for voiceless citizens to raise their concerns and hold officials and elected representatives accountable for allowing dumping of domestic and industrial effluents in the lakes in addition to encroachment of lake beds and wetlands.

Impact:

Based on the facts from lake inspection drive, Rajeev has supported UnitedBengaluru's petition to the Hon'ble Lokayukta summoning the heads of all Civic agencies and has begun inspecting lakes along with United Bengaluru.



Swaccha Bengaluru Cleanathon

To Commemorate #Gandhi Jayanti Rajeev lead a massive Cleanathon that covered different parts of the city and brought together close to 15,000 Citizens. Rajeev joined Citizens and civic officials and fixed black spots and conducted cleaning of lakes across Bengaluru.

Impact:

Raised awareness about segregation of waste and saw a massive mobilisation of close to 15,000 people.



Leading the Fight against Akrama- Sakrama scheme:

The Akrama-Sakrama scheme of the Government of Karnataka was ostentatiously created for helping the urban poor but Akrama-Sakrama, in reality, is a tool to regularize illegalities committed by builders in collusion with politicians and government agents. Instead of considering a reworked proposal that benefits the poor, the government attempted to project illegal constructions primarily as dwellings of the poor.

Impact:

Rajeev filed an Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court, which was later converted into a Civil Appeal. The SC ordered a complete stay on the operation of the scheme. The case is advancing in the SC.



Construction of Skill Development Wing at the Sri Krishna Bala Niketana in Udupi.

Rajeev utilised the MPLADS fund to construct the Eastern Block of Skill Development Wing at the Sri Krishna Bala Niketana in Udupi. At the inauguration ceremony held on 09.01.2018 Vishwesha Tirtha Swami of Paryaya Pejaware Mutt commended Rajeev for his work and stated that "Helping the poor is equal to worshipping God."



#SERVINGOURNATION

GUARDIAN MP FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM,
THE VETERANS AND FAMILIES OF OUR ARMED FORCES &
BRAVEHEARTS

Led the Fight for One Rank One Pension (OROP) for Armed Forces Veterans, Veer Naaris and Families of Brave hearts.

Rajeev has been the lone Parliamentarian leading a 9-year long fight within and outside Parliament and seeing it through. Rajeev raised the issue of OROP persistently since 2006 when war veterans first started surrendering their medals to get the government's attention. Rajeev also highlighted the issue in the public domain with public events and open house debates where Veterans and Citizens discussed the matter at length.

Impact:

Rajeev's long standing endeavour saw victory when the Finance Minister announced in his Union Budget speech in February 2014, that the OROP would be implemented. But, Rajeev's most satisfying efforts as a Member of Parliament, the nine-year struggle for the OROP demand came to fruition on 5 September 2015, when the Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar announced the One Rank One Pension scheme in an official statement. In November 2015, the Government went on to issue orders of implementation of One Rank One Pension with effect from 01 July 2014. Rajeev continues to engage with the Veterans and Government to settle the pending issues and anomalies in One Rank One Pension.

VANDALISM OF AMAR JAWAN JYOTI. CATALYZED INVESTIGATION INTO AMAR JAWAN JYOTI VANDALISM IN 2012 IN MUMBAI:

On desecration of Amar Jawan Memorial in Mumbai, Rajeev announced a Rs. 5 Lakhs Reward for Information on Vandals. The memorial was erected to honour Sepoy Sayyed Hussein and Sepoy Mangal Gadiya, who were martyred during the mutiny of 1857 against British rule. Maintaining that the people who vandalized the memorial do not belong to any faith or religion, Rajeev had pushed for the perpetrators to be apprehended and brought to justice.

Impact:

On 12 September 2012, Rajeev handed over a cheque to then Mumbai Police Commissioner, Dr Satyapal Singh and urged him to hand over the reward money to the police team responsible for the investigations and arrest of the vandals.



Fought and Ensured Voting Rights for Armed Forces Personnel:

Ensured Armed Forces Voting rights with PIL in Supreme Court. Rajeev persistently campaigned on the issue of Voting Rights for the country's 14 lakh Armed Forces personnel and 9 lakh Paramilitary Forces personnel – both within and outside Parliament. He wrote to the Chief Election Commissioner, Election Commissioner, Defence Minister and other senior political leaders urging them to take action to institute better voting facilities for Armed Forces. He held wide spread consultations and Open Houses with Armed Forces veterans and ex-servicemen through the Flags of Honour Foundation and started an online petition in this regard on change.org to get the public to rally around the cause. He followed this up by filing a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court arguing for a stay on a discriminatory EC rule that required a soldier to be residing in the area of his posting for 3 years, along with his family in order to be entitled to enroll as a voter at his place of posting.

Impact:

Rajeev's initiative received wide spread support from citizens across the country and several political leaders as well. His online petition was endorsed by prominent veterans and celebrities. Responding to his plea for a stay on the discriminatory EC rule, the Supreme Court, through an Interim Order on 24 March, 2014, set aside the EC ruling and directed the EC to facilitate registration of Armed Force personnel posted in peace stations, as on 01 January, 2014, and their families, as general voters.

Armed forces personnel and their families stationed in peace areas since 1st January 2014 were considered general voters and allowed to vote at their place of posting.

RELENTLESS PURSUIT FOR A NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL IN NEW DELHI:

After establishing Independent India's first Military Memorial in Bengaluru, Karnataka; pursued for one in New Delhi. Like OROP, Rajeev has been pursuing for a National War Memorial, relentlessly for the ten years, through numerous letters and questions in Parliament to successive Defence Ministers and with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Impact:

Rajeev's efforts and relentless pursuit of the demand for a National War Memorial in New Delhi made an impact and the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 7 October 2015, approved the construction of the National War Memorial and a National War Museum at Princess Park, near India Gate in New Delhi.



SOUGHT INDUCTION OF VETERANS IN CAPF & PARAMILITARY FORCES:

In September 2015, Rajeev suggested that lateral placements of Veterans would meet the twin objectives of placing skilled, dedicated and professional men and women to government organizations, and reducing the pension bill and costs to the government. For years, Rajeev advocated re-skilling and absorption of armed forces personnel into lateral institutions of government in the state or central administration. He has maintained that this is a good alternative to early retirees of our armed forces personnel.

Impact:

The Prime Minister announced that he would examine induction of retired Army jawans into the nation's paramilitary and Central Armed Police Forces. Rajeev's view that Veterans are human capital that represent the value of national service was met receptively by the government. The greatest outcome of this for Rajeev is that our veterans are treated with the honor and dignity that they have always deserved.



ENSURED VETERANS' DISABILITY PENSION BENEFITS ARE NOT CHALLENGED BY GOVERNMENT:

In January 2014, when the Defence Ministry Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare issued a memo directing that cases involving the disability and pension claims of ex-servicemen should be fought all the way to the Supreme court, Rajeev wrote to the Defence Minister urging him to annul this order which would impose huge financial burdens on the ex-servicemen.

Impact:

Responding to Rajeev's letter, the Defence Minister stated that the Department's intention was only to simplify the process of decision making with certain identified category of cases by avoiding delays. Acknowledging the concerns highlighted by Rajeev, the Defence Ministry annulled the order and the matter was reverted to status quo.

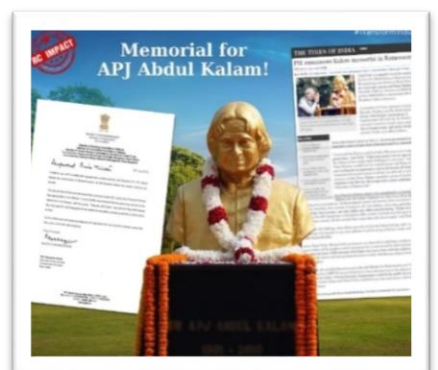


MEMORIAL FOR FORMER PRESIDENT DR A P J ABDUL KALAM

Soon after the passing away of Former President Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, Rajeev wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi suggesting a memorial to honour the memory of Dr. Kalam be built in Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu and that would commemorate the values that President Dr. Kalam had exemplified in his life.

Impact:

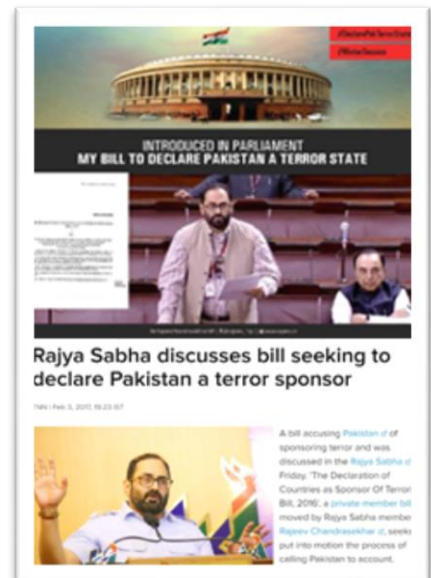
In October 2015, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that a memorial for President APJ Abdul Kalam will be constructed at Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu. The memorial was inaugurated by the PM on 27 July 2017 – the second death anniversary of President Kalam.



INTRODUCED "THE DECLARATION OF COUNTRIES AS SPONSOR OF TERRORISM BILL, 2016" AS PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL IN PARLIAMENT

On 18 November 2016, shortly after the Uri Terror attack, Rajeev introduced the Declaration of Countries as Sponsor of Terrorism Bill, 2016, as a Private Members Bill in Parliament. The Bill proposed economic, diplomatic and travel sanctions against countries like Pakistan that sponsor and abet terrorism against India.

The Bill was debated widely in Parliament, and extensively across bi partisan lines. It was also covered widely by the media and discussed by civil society across the country. Rajeev withdrew the Bill after the Government of India took note of the same and agreed that they will explore non-legislative options against countries that sponsor



Impact:

As much as the Bill was withdrawn, the introduction and debate on the Bill created widespread awareness in support among the citizens for a zero-tolerance approach towards Pakistan's long-standing sponsorship of terrorism.

INTERVENED TO ENSURE VEER NARIS/WIDOWS OF SOLDIERS DO NOT SUFFER PENSION DELAYS

Noting the delay in pension to Veer Naris/Widows of Armed Forces Braveheart's, Rajeev wrote to the then Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar in March 2016 urging that at least 50% of the last drawn salary of the Braveheart continue to be paid to the widow and the family till the completion of pension paperwork and the commencement of pension so that the widows and families do not suffer hardships.



Impact:

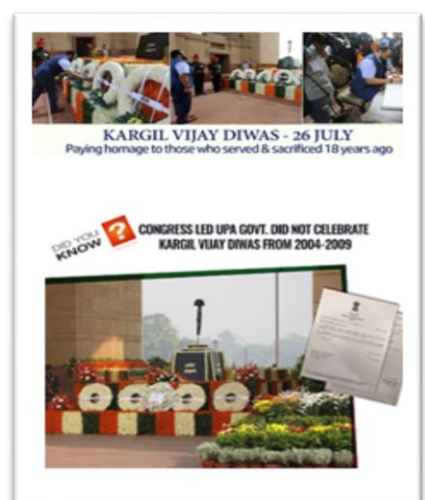
Responding to Rajeev's letter, the then Defence Minister agreed to Rajeev's suggestion. This was a major step to bring relief to widows and families of Braveheart soldiers.

DEMANDED GOVERNMENT TO MEMORIALIZE AND CELEBRATE 26 JULY EACH YEAR AS KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS

Shortly before the 10th anniversary of Kargil conflict in 2009, Rajeev, through a Special Mention in Parliament, appealed to celebrate 26 July as Kargil Diwas.

Impact:

In August 2009, the then Defence Minister A K Antony responded that the Prime Minister had participated in the celebrations organised by the Armed Forces and laid a wreath at India Gate on the occasion of 10th anniversary of Kargil War and later agreeing in 2010 to celebrate the day every year.



#SERVINGOURNATION OTHER INITIATIVES

BUILDING OF BORDER ROADS TO AUGMENT MILITARY CAPABILITIES:

Rajeev wrote to the Defence Minister drawing his attention to media reports about the unpreparedness of the Indian Army and India's poor border road connectivity, especially in view of China aggressively building up connectivity on the border and strengthening capabilities. He also raised the issue through a question and Special Mention in the Parliament and urged the Government to take immediate action in this regard. In response to Rajeev's Parliamentary question, the Defence Minister acknowledged the delay in the construction of strategic roads and assured the House that all strategic border roads would be completed by 2016.



SETTING UP OF THE VETERANS COMMISSION:

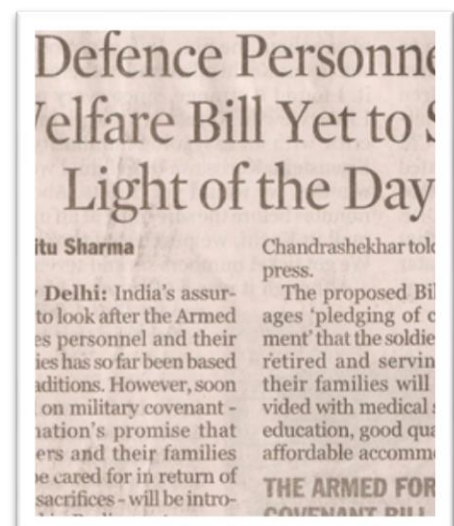
Raised issue of the need for an Armed Forces Veterans Commission to deal with the long pending concerns and demands of India's armed forces veterans with a question to the Defence Minister. In reply, the Defence Minister assured that a Veterans Commission would be set up.



INTRODUCED ARMED FORCES COVENANT BILL IN PARLIAMENT:

Rajeev introduced the Armed Forces Covenant Bill, 2012, as a Private Members Bill, on 09 August 2012, along the lines of United States Congress, which ratified a bill providing tax incentives to companies that hire army veterans. Rajeev urged the government to support it with suitable amendments. He also wrote to the then Union Defence Minister A K Antony stating that the government must seriously consider passing such legislation as this would boost the limited opportunities available for Armed Forces Veterans who are required to take up employment after their release from the forces.

"Supporting these proud men and their families, who have served the country with dignity and distinction, is our duty. Such a legislation will go a long way in assuring them that the nation truly values their sacrifices and services, and they don't have to fight for employment opportunities when they retire and return home" he wrote.



Preserving history and heritage of IAF. Rajeev gifts a Dakota DC 3 Vintage Aircraft to the Indian Air Force:

Rajeev gifted a Dakota DC 3 aircraft to the Indian Air Force on behalf of his father Air Commodore M K Chandrasekhar, VM, VS (Retd). The signing of the gift deed took place at New Delhi with Air Chief Marshal B S Dhanoa, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, VM, ADC took on 13 February 2018 at New Delhi. Rajeev bought the Dakota and over a period of six years restored it to fully fly worth condition. The Dakota bears Tail No VP 905 to commemorate the first Dakota aircraft that landed in Srinagar with troops of 1 Sikh Regt in the 1947 Jammu & Kashmir Operations. It has been named Parashurama after the Eternal warrior saint in Indian Mythology. It will join the vintage fleet of the IAF.

The DC-3 had an extensive and illustrious career from the mid-40s to the mid-80s in the IAF as well as the civil sector across the country, It was at the forefront of operations from 1947 to 1971 and played an indispensable role in the logistics and transportation during its flying years in the IAF.



RARE HONOUR: INDIAN ARMY HONOURS RAJEEV IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SUPPORT TO ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS:

In a rare honour, on 19 February 2016, the Western Command GOC-In-C, Lt Gen K J Singh, PVSM, AVSM (Bar) felicitated Rajeev with a Commendation for his work over the years for the Armed Forces, and in particular, the Veterans. Rajeev has always been a strong supporter of the Armed Forces and Veterans. Rajeev considers an honour and privilege to do what he can for the veterans, the forces and their families and it his way of serving those who serve the Nation.



PURSuing JUSTICE FOR CAPT SAURABH KALIA: TOOK UP FIGHT FOR JUSTICE FOR KARGIL MARTYR CAPT. SAURABH KALIA IN UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCI (UNHRC):

Rajeev first raised the issue of brutal torture, killing and mutilation of the bodies of Capt. Saurabh Kalia and five other soldiers during the Kargil War in 1999 in Parliament in August 2012, and then followed it up with several letters to the Defence Minister and External Affairs Minister, urging the Government to take up the issue with the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to declare this brutal act as a war crime, to seek justice for the Indian martyrs. Rajeev along with Flags of Honour Foundation and Capt. Kalia's father Dr N. K. Kalia, filed a petition with the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) on 07 December 2012, against war crimes and the torture inflicted on Capt. Saurabh Kalia and the five jawans by Pakistani forces during the Kargil War in 1999. The petition was filed on 7 December 2012, The UNHRC petition highlighted the issue and it received wide spread support from citizens across the country.



PUSHING THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE TAX INCENTIVES TO ORGANISATIONS WHO EMPLOY RETIRED / RELEASED VETERANS:

To instill a sense of encouragement in the personnel of the Armed Forces that perform their duties selflessly, Rajeev has been urging the Government to introduce Tax incentives for companies that hire armed forces veterans in line with the US Government's "Returned Heroes Tax Credit" Bill. Through letters to the Finance Minister and interventions in Parliament, Rajeev has requested the government to incentivize companies to hire retired and released veterans, which will help the veterans lead lives on par with civilians through suitable tax incentives. The government has assured this demand will be considered.



NOMINATION OF ARMED FORCES VETERANS IN RAJYA SABHA:

Rajeev has urged, through letters to the Prime Minister, Defence Minister and other senior political leaders and through interventions in Parliament, that the government should seriously consider giving an independent, non-political voice to the Armed Forces veterans by must nominating one representative each from the veterans to the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha by making suitable amendments to the Constitution of India, to ensure that they are able to represent the voice of the over 26 lakh ex-servicemen and their families. He has alternatively suggested reserving at least one Parliament seat - anywhere in India - for a representative of the Armed Forces veterans.



AN HONOUR FROM THE VETERANS – FELICITATED BY THE INDIAN EX-SERVICEMEN LEAGUE

On 12 April 2016, Rajeev had the honour of being felicitated by the Indian Ex-Servicemen League at new Delhi for his long-standing and unwavering support for the welfare of veterans, and families of ex-servicemen.

Members of the Indian Ex-Servicemen League from across the country came together for the occasion and thanked Rajeev for his service to their causes and for representing their issues within and outside Parliament.



#SERVINGOURNATION BENGALURU

ESTABLISHED INDEPENDENT INDIA'S FIRST NATIONAL MEMORIAL IN BENGALURU

Rajeev made the proposal to construct a National Military Memorial in 2008 writing to then Defence Minister A K Antony, Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa and the then Chief Minister of Kerala V S Achuthanandan. On 10 February, in 2009, the foundation stone for the National Military Memorial in Bengaluru was laid. After a strenuous battle, even facing resistance from some who filed a case against the construction of the Memorial because they felt it would disrupt their morning walks! Finally, it was the Hon'ble High Court and then the Hon'ble Supreme Court that paved way for the construction of the Memorial.



A TRULY PROUD MOMENT FOR BENGALURU TO BECOME THE FIRST CITY IN THE
COUNTRY TO HAVE INDEPENDENT INDIA'S FIRST NATIONAL MILITARY MEMORIAL.

MADE BENGALURU PROUD WITH THE HOISTING OF THE LARGEST NATIONAL FLAG AT THE NATIONAL MILITARY MEMORIAL

On 23 January 2014, Bengaluru became the city to hoist the largest Tricolour in India! The date 23 January was particularly significant for two reasons - it coincided with the 117th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and also as the Supreme Court on 23 January 2005 had permitted the hoisting of the National Flag in public places.

The 210 feet flag pole on which the flag is hoisted is amongst the tallest in the country! The glorious Tricolour measures a monumental 48 feet in width & 72 feet in height, weighing 31 kgs! As a 24x7 monumental flag, it is not lowered after sunset and flies high and proud even during the night.



#PROTECTOURCHILDREN

PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN FROM THE SCOURGE OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Petitioned the Government to formulate a roadmap to address Child Sexual Abuse. Garnered the support of 2 lakh

In September 2015, Rajeev submitted his petition on Change.org to the Union Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi. The petition, with 1.82 lakh signatures, asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government to commit to a roadmap to prevent sexual abuse of about 400 million children in India. A delegation led by Rajeev included representatives of HAQ Centre for Child Rights, Change.org, RAHI Foundation, and family members of abuse survivors, amongst others.

Impact:

As a result of the petition, Ms Gandhi committed to working with the NCPOC (a multi-stakeholder body formed by Rajeev along with other child rights activists) to ensure that the Government cohesively addresses the problem of Child Sexual Abuse.



Government responds to Rajeev's demand for Increasing Budgetary Allocations for Child Protection in Budget 2016:

In February 2016, Rajeev, along with the members of the National Coalition to Protect Our Children, wrote a letter to the Finance Minister before the budget was finalized, requesting for higher allocations to be made towards child protection to ensure child safety against abuse in general and sexual abuse in particular.

Impact:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Government delivered on this request. Budget 2016 had made an allocation of Rs. 17300.00 crores, an increase from Rs 10286.73 in FY 2015-16 towards children. The money allocated for Child Protection, Child Health, Child Education and Child Development, have also seen an increase. The allocations for health have increased from Rs. 2277.94 crores last year to Rs. 2359.89 crores this year. Child Development was allocated Rs 15274.53 crores, a sizeable increase from Rs 9113.86 crores last year. Child Education, too, saw higher allocations – Rs. 47438 crores was allocated towards education this year, which is an increase from Rs. 45725 crores which was made last year.



Curbing the menace of under-age drinking and ensuring Government action to make serving liquor to children a criminal/ punishable offence: Chief Minister responds to Rajeev and takes action on serving of liquor to children in Bangalore pubs:

Disturbed by instances of under aged patrons being served liquor at a few high-end restaurants, lounges and bars in Bangalore and responding to concerned parents' pleas on putting an end to this menace, Rajeev wrote a letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in June 2015 and highlighted this anomaly, as serving liquor to the under-aged being not just a blatant violation of law but a crime against children. He also wrote to the Excise Commissioner highlighting the issue and urged him to ensure stricter enforcement of.

Impact:

As a result, Excise Commissioner issued directions to officials to randomly check pubs as well as raise awareness in campuses.

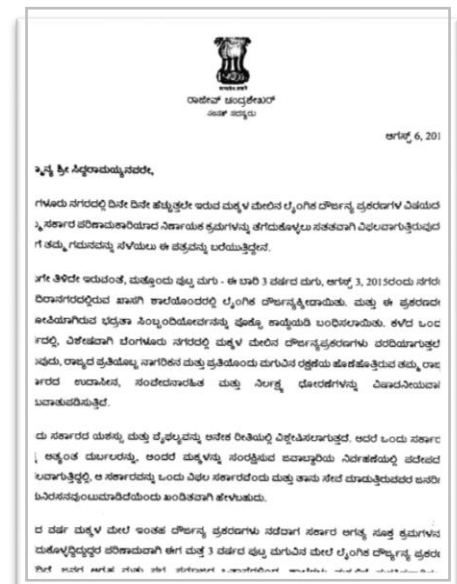


Curbing the menace of under-age drinking and ensuring Government action to make serving liquor to children a criminal/ punishable offence: Chief Minister responds to Rajeev and takes action on serving of liquor to children in Bangalore pubs:

Supporting citizens' growing anger on the time taken to deliver justice in the case of the molestation and brutal rape of a two and a half year old child by her school van driver in Bangalore city, Rajeev wrote to the Home Minister of the State to ensure that speedy justice was delivered. He urged the Home Minister to initiate criminal action against school authorities and to set up a Special Court to fast track such cases as mandated under the Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POSCO) Act. He also suggested that the government institute a policy to ensure schools follow a rigorous verification process while hiring drivers, janitors and other support staff to prevent such incidents in the future.

Impact:

Rajeev's efforts helped in adding pressure on the police which eventually led to the arrest of the School Principal and the attendant accused of abetting the crime.



Organized an Open House on Why We need to Start Talking About Child Sexual Abuse:

In November 2015, Rajeev organized an Open House discussion on 'Why we need to start talking about Child Sexual Abuse and Protect Our Children' at the Constitution Club of India. The discussion formed a National Coalition for protection of children against Child Sexual Abuse

In December 2015, Rajeev formed the National Coalition to Protect Our Children - a civil society led multi-stakeholder body, to come up with an actionable, cohesive set of solutions to address the problem of Child Sexual Abuse. The participants included UNICEF India, HAQ: Centre for Child Rights, RAHI Foundation, Counsel to Secure Justice and PROSAHAN and other experts. The chairperson of NCPOR, prominent child rights activists, concerned parents, members of the Delhi Police, legal professionals, survivors of abuse and their families also attended.



Impact:

Rajeev announced the formation of the National Coalition to Protect Our Children (NCPOC) - a civil society led multi-stakeholder body consisting of NGOs, Child Rights activists, Survivors and Members of Parliament - during the Open House.

Karnataka High Court Holds School Managements Responsible for safety of children:

Rajeev maintained that the school managements are responsible for the safety of our children and that Govt's department of Education is also responsible for regulating schools on all matters including safety.

The Karnataka High court validated the position that Rajeev has maintained from the beginning - Both the Govt and school managements are responsible and will be called to account every time such a crime occurs.

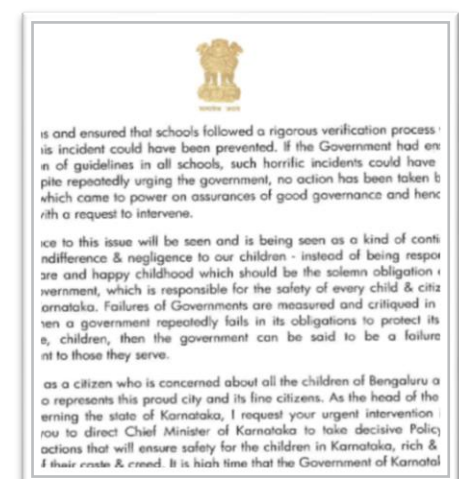


Government listens to Rajeev's demand - sets up a National Child Sex Offenders Registry to track child abusers in 2015:

Rajeev took up the issue and demanded (since early 2014) a centralized registry to be set up, on the lines of existing Registries in the UK & USA that have central databases for sex offenders. Such a registry must contain details of anyone convicted, cautioned or released from prison for sexual offence against children or adults across the country.

Impact:

In April 2015, the Government, taking heed of Rajeev's persistent demand, set up a National Sex Offenders Registry! This was welcomed as a vital first step to creating an institutional framework to Protect our Children from the terror of Abuse.



#PROTECTOURCHILDREN OTHER INITIATIVES

Formed a National Coalition for protection of children against Child Sexual Abuse

In December 2015, Rajeev formed the National Coalition to Protect Our Children - a civil society led multi-stakeholder body, to come up with an actionable, cohesive set of solutions to address the problem of Child Sexual Abuse. The participants included UNICEF India, HAQ: Centre for Child Rights, RAHI Foundation, Counsel to Secure Justice and PROSAHAN amongst other experts.



Rajeev holds a National Level Consultation in collaboration with NLSIU in Bengaluru

Rajeev held a National Level Consultation with Lawyers, Lawmakers, Activists, Judges for better implementation of consolidated law to protect vulnerable children from multiple threats – inside and outside homes, at work, and from the porn industry that target kids.



Impact:

Prominent legal personalities, activists, lawmakers and government officials deliberated on the best practices for a strong institutional response towards sexual abuse in children and its deterrence through amendments in POCSO Act and towards making it more effective and enabling comprehensive legal reforms for institutions supporting the act.

Rajeev urges FM Arun Jaitley to increase budget allocation to the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2016

The budget allocation to the Ministry of Women and Child Development decreased by 29% in the budget of 2017-18. To ensure systematic, swift and effective response to CSA incidents, Rajeev urged the Finance Minister, Sh. Arun Jaitley to increase the budget allocation to MWCD so that the safety of children could be ensured.

Impact:

The Budget Allocation to MWCD got increased. An allocation of Rs 22095 cr was made for the MWCD in the Budget for the Financial Year 2017-18, showing an increase of 27% over the year 2016-17.



Rajeev launches Report titled – Recommendations to Combat Child Sexual Abuse in 2017

Rajeev launched a report titled Recommendations to Combat Child Sexual Abuse which suggested a slew of changes in the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and the way it is implemented. The Recommendations came out of the National Level Consultation held in NLSIU Bengaluru.

Impact:

The Report was presented to Mrs. Maneka Gandhi, Minister for Women and Child Development Ministry. Rajeev expressed his concern over rising crimes and suggested the MWCD to implement the recommendations. The Minister valued his recommendations.



Rajeev along with TISS launched a National Level Action Plan to prevent Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Rajeev launched a National Level Action Plan to prevent Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. Rajeev believes that the menace of Child Sexual Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation has assumed a form that only an “institutional approach” can address.

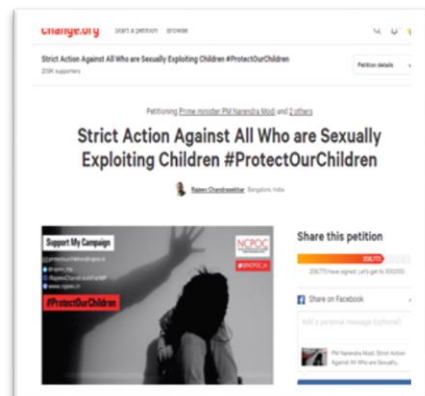


Rajeev launched petition demanding strict action against those who are sexually exploiting children

In October 2017, Rajeev started his petition on Change.org urging Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Rajnath Singh and Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi to take strict action against all those who are sexually exploiting children. The petition has collected more than 2.1 lakh signatures.

Impact:

As a result of the petition, people have become aware of the problems being faced by children in the country.



#TRANSFORMINDIA

THROUGH GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC REFORMS INCLUDING
EXPOSING CORRUPTION & MAL-GOVERNANCE, ADVOCATING FOR
REGULATORY REFORMS AND INSTITUTION BUILDING AND PROTECTING THE
RIGHTS OF CONSUMERS AND CITIZEN

Transforming taxpayer-owned Public Sector Banks and War on NPAs:

Public Sector Banks belong to the tax payers & citizens of the country. For many years, they have been misused & treated as piggy banks for a favored few crony businessmen with close ties to politicians. Rajeev demanded changes in how Public Sector Banks are managed, run and made more accountable. Rajeev has been spotlighting the issue of NPAs, crony capitalists escaping their obligations of paying of loans, and the deteriorating health of PSBs since 2010, both in Parliament, through his speeches and Parliamentary Questions, and outside through letters and articles. He urged successive Finance Ministers to take rigorous and swift remedial measures to reduce the concentration of risk, arrest the decline in the financial performance of banks and to take action against defaulting promoters before it becomes 'Too Big to Fail'. He has repeatedly urged the government that the re-capitalization of PSBs must come with deepre-structuring and reorganizing of these banks and how they are managed.

Impact:

The Finance Minister in his Budget 2016 speech announced structural changes like the announcement of Banks Board Bureau; expediting the implementation of the Indradhanush plan; addressing structural and regulatory issues in stressed sectors like Power, Coal, Highways, Sugar & Steel; amendment in the SARFAESI; and bringing the Insolvency bill all of which Rajeev has been suggesting for long period of time.

Concurrent State and Central Elections:

In July 2014, through his #TransformIndia document, Rajeev had proposed the idea of having concurrent state and central elections, as a part of Electoral and Political reforms that can be undertaken in order to reform Elections in India, and increasing transparency and accountability of our elected representatives.

Impact:

The same idea of simultaneous State and National elections, which is an important political and electoral reform is now being widely debated after the Prime Minister himself floated the idea in April 2016.

Time to reform the PSU banks



by Rajeev Chandrasekhar

ONE OF the key aspects of the 2014 elections was the unambiguous need for a change in the way governments dealt with public assets and money, after several years of brazen misuse of both. The expectation therefore was that the Narendra Modi government would, in its new economic architecture, start dealing with this issue.

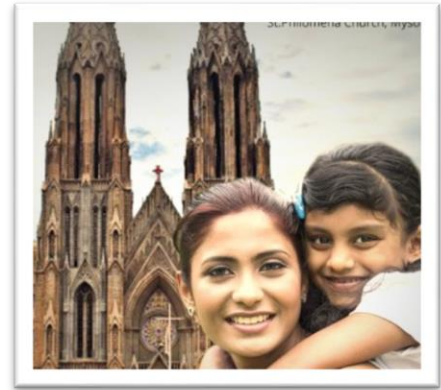


Victory against injustice to Christian daughters of Coorg/ Mysore through Amendment of the Indian Succession Act:

Native Christian women of Coorg/Mysore regions were being unjustly denied equal rights to ancestral property.

Impact:

Rajeev's year-long fight against injustice to native Christian women of Coorg/ Mysore regions met with success when the Karnataka Government, on December 02, 2015, revoked the erroneous notification from the Indian Succession Act, 1925 that prevented Christian women of the region from inheriting ancestral property.



Fight against use of tax payer money for bailing out private companies:

Timely intervention by Rajeev prevented Public money to be used to Bail out Private Sector Companies. He urged the Prime Minister to review the response that steps would be taken to help the private sector entities if they get into difficulties.

Impact:

Rajeev's argument received wide support and the Government dropped its move to bail out provide sector companies using taxpayer's money.



Need for Special Sessions in Parliament to debate and resolve National Priority issues, such as poverty:

Through letters to the former PM in November 2010 and to the current PM in June 2014, and other prominent leaders in the Parliament, Rajeev strongly advocated special sessions of Parliament to debate and resolve national priority issues such as poverty, on a non-partisan basis.

Impact:

Rajeev received overwhelming support from citizens across the country as well as several MPs in this regard.



Electoral Reforms - Enlarging Democratic Participation by all Eligible Citizens:

Rajeev recommended several measures to the Law Commission's Consultative Paper on Electoral Reforms, for enlarging democratic participation by all eligible citizens. One of his suggestions was that MPs/ MLAs convicted for criminal offences must be disqualified upon conviction.

Impact:

Rajeev's suggestions bore fruit when in July 2013, the Supreme Court order struck down as ultra vires a provision of the Representation of the People Act, which protects convicted lawmakers against disqualification on the ground of pendency of appeal against their conviction in the higher courts and ordered immediate disqualification upon conviction.



Unlocking of Incomplete Projects:

Rajeev had persistently, through speeches in Parliament, raised the issue of incomplete projects worth Rs.7, 95,000 crores that were leading to an unproductive waste of capital and urged the Government to bring them into economic activity. In his speech during the debate in Parliament on the Union Budget 2013-14, Rajeev urged the Government to form an inter-ministerial group focused on working the details of these projects to unlock these huge funds that had been invested and bring them into productive activity.

Impact:

Rajeev's persistent efforts were rewarded when on August 27th, 2013, the then Finance Minister P.Chidambaram announced the clearing of projects worth Rs.1.83 Lakh Crores to fast track projects & boost investors' confidence.



Release of Indians held hostage by Somali pirates:

In 2012, when family members of the crew on MT Royal Grace - a Merchant vessel with 17 Indians among its crew hijacked by Somalian pirates in the Nigerian waters approached Rajeev, he wrote and urged the government to intervene and take immediate steps for release of the distraught crew members.

Impact:

Rajeev's relentless pursuit of this issue with the Government, including by raising it in Parliament and by meeting several senior Government officials, including the PM, NSA, Cabinet Secretary, Defence Minister and Shipping Minister, helped expedite the process and eventually led to the release of the hostages and their safe return.

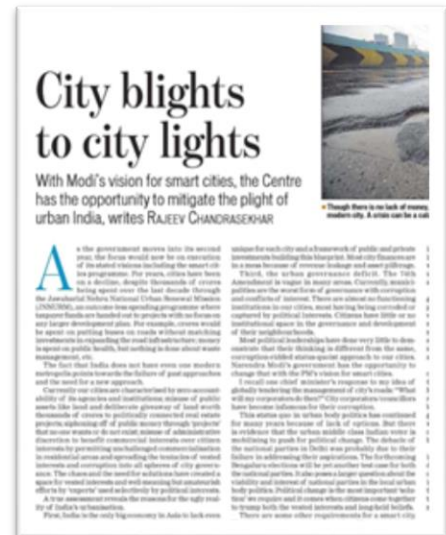


Announcement of Smart Cities and AMRUT Program:

For several years, Rajeev has been fighting the almost complete takeover of cities by builders, contractors & vested interests with support of politicians and bureaucrats - subverting the hopes of our cities to be well-planned, citizen and neighborhood based. The Government has finally heard the voice of the people, and made use of this opportunity to embark on a deep citizen centric, governance reform approach to urban transformation.

Impact:

Impact: The Government has announced the details of its Smart Cities & AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation) programs to build new cities & rejuvenate existing cities. This is a big step for city dwellers & will finally start the process of transforming our cities from their current state of corruptly governed urban chaos to well planned, well governed cities with modern services.



Increase in PG medical seats:

In September 2013, when concerned medical students and doctors approached Rajeev regarding the huge disparity between the seats available for Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) medical education and the shortage of PG medical seats, Rajeev wrote to the Union Health Minister highlighting the problems faced by medical students due to the shortage and its repercussions on our healthcare system. He urged the Health Minister to address the deficiencies and improve the delivery of healthcare in the country by implementing the recommendations of MCI in this regard.

Impact:

Taking note of Rajeev's letter, the Government took action, and in December 2013, the Cabinet approved an increase in PG medical seats.



Urban Governance –Annual Ranking of Cities:

In December 2011, Rajeev wrote to the then Union Minister for Urban Development Kamal Nath drawing his attention to the lack of clarity in the progress made by projects under JNNURM and highlighting the perception that the programme was becoming another tax payer programme with little or no focus on the outcomes or objectives. Rajeev suggested that the Government institute an Annual JNNURM Ranking of cities that have been covered under the Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) Component against the metrics outlined in the stated objectives of the JNNURM.

Impact:

Impact: In a move to ensure transparency and accountability in the allocation of JNNURM funds, the Union Urban Development Minister accepted Rajeev's suggestion to institute annual JNNURM ranking of the cities and instructed his ministry to chalk out a mechanism to implement it.



Giving a voice to citizens in Parliament via the A.S.K Campaign:

To ensure citizen concerns get Government's attention, and to be their voice in the Parliament as a citizen's MP, Rajeev started the A.S.K (Ask. Seek. Know) initiative in July 2013 and transformed it to a successful campaign.

Impact:

Within a short span, the campaign had received overwhelming response and Rajeev was known as the pioneer of this citizen friendly initiative in the country.



Aggressively opposed Use of Taxpayer money for bailing out private companies:

Rajeev's timely interventions have prevented crores of public money from being used to bail out private sector companies. He urged the former Prime Minister to review his response that steps would be taken to help the private sector entities if they got into difficulties.

Impact:

Rajeev's argument received wide support and the UPA Government dropped its move to bail out private sector companies using tax payer money.



Need for a relook at Government's proposal to introduce biometric ATMs to provide Aadhaar authentication using biometrics, leading to additional costs for banks which would eventually be passed on to banking consumers:

In September 2013, reacting to media reports that the RBI had decided to ask banks to introduce additional facilities in all credit card swipe machines and ATMs for providing a mechanism for Aadhaar authentication using biometrics, Rajeev was quick to draw the attention of the PM and the RBI Governor to the huge financial implications therein. He highlighted the fact that these additional costs that banks would have to incur would eventually be passed on to customers and urged the government to reconsider this to ensure that the interests of the millions of banking consumers are safeguarded.

Impact:

Rajeev's intervention prompted the RBI to clarify that banks are free to adopt either Euro pay MasterCard Visa (EMV) chip or Pin technology or Aadhaar acceptance as an additional factor for authentication, preventing additional cost burdens to customers.



Govt intervenes on conditions for Indian workers in Gulf:

Rajeev took up the issue of working & living conditions of Indian workers.

Impact:

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs decided to push for higher wages for Indian workers with the Gulf Cooperation Council. This was a direct result of "the issue of working & living conditions of Indian workers" that Rajeev took up with the Government during the Monsoon Session of Parliament in July last year.



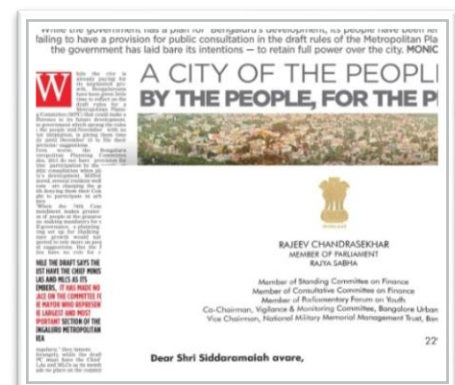
NSEL fraud – Need for immediate steps to strengthen the regulatory and oversight mechanism for commodity exchanges in India:

At the backdrop of the National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL) Fraud where contracts/trades were allowed to exceed the 11-day spot exchange limit and receipts for stocks from non-registered warehouses were relied on, Rajeev wrote to the FM highlighting the poor regulation and mismanagement of the commodity futures market. Through his letter and a motion in Parliament, Rajeev stressed on the need for the Government to take stringent action against warehouse operators responsible for issuing fake receipts. He urged the Government to institute steps for the proper regulation and control of commodity markets, especially given the negative impact that any speculation and price rigging would have on the economy.



Need for Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC) law that adheres to the letter and spirit of the 74th Amendment Act:

In September 2013, when the Karnataka government issued a draft of the Metropolitan Planning Committee Rules, Rajeev wrote to the Union Urban Development Minister and the Chief Minister of Karnataka highlighting that the rules in the existent form were against the spirit of the 74th Amendment Act as they only provided lip service to citizen participation. He urged the government to keep its promise of good governance by rectifying the fundamental flaws in the draft Bill and paying heed to the concerns expressed by citizens and RWAs.



Bottlenecks in Progress of various projects across the country:

Raised serious concerns over the delay in implementation of various projects in the country that have resulted in cost over-run to the tune of one lakh crore.

Through Zero Hour Mention, stressed that over 42% of projects have been delayed, which highlights a problem in our system of governance? Have also pressed for the government to take immediate action and ensure faster implementation of long pending projects, by including the introduction of efficient institutionalized processes, addressing systematic bottlenecks and building capability across industries. This was widely appreciated in the media.



Served as a member of Select Committee for the Insurance Bill:

The Insurance Bill is a significant economic legislation by the NDA Government that will benefit 800 million uninsured Indians, boost the insurance sector & positively impact insurance consumers in particular and economy in general. The Bill will increase competition which makes way for Indian consumers to get easy access to affordable Insurance.



Served as a member of Select Committee Citizen-friendly Budget:

Rajeev has persistently urged, both inside Parliament and through letters to the government that the budget be made more reader friendly and understandable to citizens, saying that the current voluminous form of the budget discouraged the active involvement of citizens. He has argued that as trustees of public money, the government must make information and data more accessible and intelligible to ordinary citizens.



Money laundering in the Indian Banking Financial System:

Rajeev persistently kept the heat on the UPAGovernment on the menace of Money Laundering in the Indian Financial System, drawing attention of the government of its dangers, particularly in context of India's fight against terrorism. Through letters to the then Finance Minister, RBI Governor and Chairman for the Standing Committee on Finance and interventions inside Parliament, Rajeev urged the Government to investigate banks through the Financial Investigation Unit, and hold them accountable under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, if found guilty of indulging in moneylaundering.



Served as a member of Select Committee for the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill 2013:

Rajeev was a member of the Select Committee on the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill 2013 – a landmark legislation enacted by NDA Government to protect home buyers. The Act seeks to bridge a fundamental gap in the real estate sector, which has so far been inadequately regulated. The Act, for the first time ever, protects consumers from various opaque and fraudulent practices that have so far characterized real estate in India.



Served as a member of Select Committee for the Goods and Service Tax bill 2014. (GST Bill):

Rajeev served as a member of the GST bill which is an epoch breaking transformative legislation that has transformed India's indirect taxation system. The implementation of GST made the lives of consumers and businesses easier. It has also led to increase in indirect tax payers and accelerated the formalization of informal sector.



Building Regulatory Capabilities to deal with Cryptocurrencies.

Way back in in December 2016, Rajeev had written to the RBI regarding the risks of surge in domestic Bitcoin trade and black economy moving to dark internet. He had suggested that RBI should develop regulatory capabilities to deal with it.



#DIGITALINDIA

AS A FORMER TELECOM ENTREPRENEUR RAJEEV ADVOCATES EMBEDDING TECHNOLOGY IN GOVERNANCE, GLOBAL STANDARD REGULATIONS AND A MAGNA CARTA OF RIGHTS OF DIGITAL CONSUMERS — PRIVACY, NET NEUTRALITY, ONLINE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

Spectrum Auctions and Leading 2G Scam Debate

Rajeev was the first MP to raise 2G issue in November 2007 by questioning the government's decision to allot 2G spectrum without calling for tenders. He was singlehandedly responsible to ensure the 3G auction despite heavy lobbying by Telcos - The 3G auction was key to exposing 2G scam.

Impact:

In 2012, the Supreme Court cancelled 122 spectrum licenses issued to telcos.



Net Neutrality: Ensuring Internet does not become 'cabelized' and remains neutral, open and free:

Rajeev was the only MP to submit his comments and counter comments to the two detailed consultations on the issue initiated by the TRAI.

Impact:

As a result of his persistent and strong campaign and engagement on the issue, through a slew of letters, submissions and one-on-one meetings with Government officials, the telecom regulator, TRAI recommended adoption of Net Neutrality in December 2017.



Efforts to ensure Legislative sanction for Aadhaar & highlighting citizens' Privacy concerns:

Rajeev has been opposing UPA's flawed design of Aadhaar which it rushed to push without parliamentary scrutiny, debate or legislative sanction. In 2013, Rajeev moved to Supreme Court with a PIL calling for legislative backing and for an urgent redressal of concerns regarding the violation of citizens' Right to Privacy.

Impact:

In August 2017, a nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court ruled in favour of Rajeev and others declaring Privacy to be a Fundamental Right of citizens in the landmark Justice K.S. Puttaswamy case.

Rajeev helped NDA introduce the Aadhaar Bill which got legislative sanction during the Budget session of Parliament in March 2016.

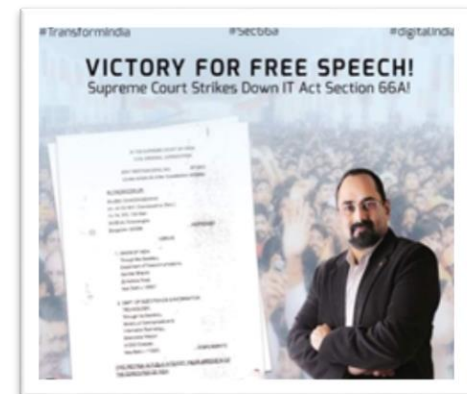


Victory for Freedom of Speech on the Internet:

Rajeev was amongst the handful of MPs to speak up against the draconian section 66A of the IT Act, which violated citizens' right to Freedom of Expression, guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution.

Impact:

After Parliament failed to address this, Rajeev persisted in this battle for Freedom of Expression by impleading himself in a Supreme Court case, which in March 2015, unequivocally struck down section 66A of the Information Technology Act.



Quality of Service Call Drops:

Rajeev has led the fight for Quality of Service and against call drops by ensuring that the Telecom Regulator, TRAI holds the telcos and the ISPs responsible for service quality.

Impact:

Conceding to Rajeev's sustained efforts, TRAI asked Telcos to fix call drops or compensate users.



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OTHER INITIATIVES

Reimagining Telecom: Enable ICT growth, expand internet and lay down a Magna Carta of Consumer Rights

Rajeev wrote a letter to the Prime Minister in July 2017 about the need for a New imaginative vibrant Telecom policy. He submitted his views to TRAI's Consultation Paper to conceive the New Telecom Policy as Telecom and Technology Policy that allows for the new technologies, innovation and entrepreneurship to grow and thrive.



Embed Technology to make Government transparent, efficient and accountable:

Rajeev has been championing the merits of use of technology to transform Government and Governance - to reduce corruption, increase responsiveness/accountability. He has been advocating the appointment of a Chief Technology officer in the Government of India with a view to create a standardized technological architecture for all Government wings and departments.



Central Monitoring System (CMS):

In the backdrop of media reports that suggested possible privacy violations and concerns of the Government's Central Monitoring System, Rajeev wrote to the Prime Minister drawing his attention to the many loopholes in the project. Rajeev highlighted the lack of formal privacy and data retention laws in the country that prohibit a project like the CMS arbitrary monitoring and protecting citizens from potential abuse. He also raised the issue of the lack of Parliamentary oversight and the need for multi stakeholder discussion. He urged the government to institute a strong judicial process as oversight and regulate and control the access and usage of the CMS in order to safeguard civil liberties while balancing national security objectives.



India must be secured against cyber-attacks

Rajeev has emphasized that as Digital India accelerates towards the vision for Universal Access, there is a need for the government to create a robust Internet safety architecture. He raised this issue in the Parliament and wrote letters to senior Government executives for an urgent need to develop capacity and capabilities. He has argued for policy, strategy and a body like National Cyber Security Coordination Centre to counter cybercrimes that poses a threat to national security.



TESTIMONIALS

I. MESSAGES RECEIVED ON WHATSAPP / SMS

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Raj Kadyan
Former Vice Chief of Army Staff

The veterans' issues have always been close to your heart and you have pursued these with enthusiasm and great vigour. The Koshyari Committee, which has become a bible for us, was a result of your petition. We remain ever grateful. Warm Regards.

Dr. Anita Reddy
Founding Trustee, AVAS

More than proud of your walk for the nation Rajeev. It's your guts, courage of conviction, and the dream for better India that does not get missed today as we congratulate a hero. 12 years in selfless service is an inspiration to all of us. And I specially have learnt to watch you the joy of saluting our soldiers at the frontiers. For being you congrats Rajeev. And thanks for the silent support too.

A. Saleem
Kerala Entrepreneur

Congratulations you're doing a great job among a huge lot of redundants.

Nitin Bagamane

We need people like you in Parliament

Prabhu Chawla
Editorial Director,
New Indian Express & Sunday Standard

Congrats. Wish you many more decades of excellence.

Rajashekar
Asst Editor, Deccan Herald

The nation salutes you.

Bineeta Lahiri
Citizen from Bengaluru

Congratulations!!
More power to you ... In the service of the nation!

Mhon Kikon
MLA, Nagaland

Congratulations and keep up the good work!
We are all proud of you and the nation is inspired!!

Maj.Gen M.C. Nanjappa
Veteran, Bengaluru

Dear Rajeev, Congratulations on your 12 years meritorious service in nation building. We, soldiers look forward for your continued whole-hearted support.

Pintos, Rohan & Aleka
Citizens of Bangalore

Our Warm Congratulations to our very own parliamentarian dearest Rajeev....what would we do without YOU? best always!

B K.N. ShanthKumar
Editor, Prajavaniineeta Lahiri
Citizen from Bengaluru

Dear Rajeev, Congratulations on completing 12 years as a Parliamentarian. Wish you many more years in Parliament. Keep up the good work. Best Regards,

Dr. Devi Shetty Chairman &Founder
Narayana Health

Dear Rajeev, congratulations on completing ten glorious years in Politics. Good luck. God bless.With Warm Regards

Sugata Srinivasaraju
Editorial Director,
Kannada Prabha & Suvarna News 24X7

As a journalist with a ringside view of this fabulous journey, am often amazed by a nearly patented combination of benevolence and aggression you bring to each of the causes you pick to fight as a public servant. Warmly,

Malavika Avinash
Actor, Lawyer, Spokesperson of the BJP

Many congratulations on completing 12 years as a Parliamentarian & more importantly as an effective one! God bless! Wishing you many more years in the service of the nation. Warm Regards,

Advaita Kala
Writer

Congratulations! Must also commend you for your unstinting support on OROP

K.G. Suresh
DG, Indian Institute of Mass Communications

Heartiest Congratulations on your completing 12 years in politics & parliament.

Kaveree Bamzai
Roving Editor, India today

Congrats on completing twelve years as MP and many more to come.

Manju Sainath
Special Correspondent, Deccan Herald

My hearty congratulations to you on the completion of your twelve years of service as a parliamentarian

Maj. Gen. Satbir Singh, SM
Chairman, Indian Ex-Servicemen Movement (IESM)

Heartiest Congratulations Rajeevji. May God bless you with many more years to serve our great

Preethi Hermann
India Country Director & Campaigns Director

Congratulations Rajeev. Here's to many more decades of powerful and impactful service.

Aditi Phadnis
Political Editor, Business Standard

Many congratulations on two terms of solid work. Hope there will be many more.

Prithvi Reddy
State Convener, AAP Karnataka

Congratulations on completing 12 years in active politics.

Lt. Gen.K.J. Singh
GoC-in-C, Western Command

Sir, Heartiest congratulations on completion of a Decade of distinguished & enviable parliamentary service.

Nitin Pradhan
Dy. Chief of Bureau, Dainik Jagran

Congratulations on completing 12 commendable years in public life. Wishes you achieved many more achievements in coming years.

M.G. Radhakrishnan
Editor, Asianet News

Congrats for the milestone. No easy feat these days to maintain an active and more importantly, a clean innings for 12 years.

Ashok Malik
Columnist & Senior Fellow, ORF

Congratulations Rajeev. Here's to many more decades of powerful and impactful service.

Arindam Mukherjee
Senior Associate Editor, Outlook Magazine

Congrats on competing 12 yrs in Parliament. It has been a great and eventful association.

P. Halkatti
Bangalore Entrepreneur

Very impressive keep the good work going!!

TESTIMONIALS

II OTHER MESSAGES RECEIVED ON WHATSAPP / SMS (FROM TEAM ETC.)

M.K. Chandrasekhar
Air Cmde

As an active- activist MP, you have a large number of achievements to your credit.

Mom & I congratulate & wish you well on this Historic mile stone. Regards and Best Wishes, Always.

Tamseel Hussain
Head of Digital, Oxfam India

Sir, I can't wait to see an even bigger positive impact that your work will create in the country. I have learnt so much from you and eagerly waiting to learn more. Thank you and congratulations,

TESTIMONIALS

CONGRATULATORY AND APPRECIATION MESSAGES RECEIVED ON COMPLETION OF 10 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE III.MESSAGES RECEIVED ON TWITTER

Kanchan Gupta
Writer and Political Analyst

Congratulations @rajeev_mp on your two terms in Parliament. A talented, hardworking MP who should be in Govt.

Meetu Jain
Editor – Investigations, Outlook

@rajeev_mp congratulations for surviving 12 years in shark infested waters RC.

Raj Kumar
@FrenzirajCitizen

Congratulations @rajeev_mp. U deserve all d accolades. U been a great friend of Veterans and d Def Forces in gen

Sandeep Unnithan
@SandeepUnnithan Deputy Editor, India Today

A decade in politics and parliament for the tireless @rajeev_mp. Our own Tony Stark/ Veterans' Ironman

Nandu Chitnis
@NanduChitnis Retired Navy 1971 War Veteran

Heartiest congrats to @rajeev_mp for completing 12 yrs as a Parliamentarian and serving the cause of the military

Nandu Chitnis
@NanduChitnis Retired Navy 1971 War Veteran

@rajeev_mp My Hearty congratulations!!! BHARAT MATA needs more like you in Parl. More power to you.

Maj. Navdeep Singh
@SinghNavdeep Veteran, Lawyer & Author

Heartiest congrats to @rajeev_mp for completing 12 yrs as a Parliamentarian and serving the cause of the military

Upendra Kumar Singh
@upendra091085 Citizen

@rajeev_mp congrats sir....we need person like you... jai hind

Sudeep Aditya
@SudeepAditya Citizen

@rajeev_mp Congrats! I was a skeptic (of bizmen in parl) but m truly impressed with ur work. Ur transformation post 2005 is simply stunning

Arun Panicker
@panix68 Citizen

More power to you, @rajeev_mp. Really appreciate the way you fight for issues you believe in. We need more like you in parliament

BMW
@warle_balaji Citizen

@rajeev_mp we need people like you sir, we r proud of u. @rajeev_mp congrats sir. Indian parl. need progressive people like you. U r the people's MP

Rehna Ghosh
@rehnanath Citizen

@rajeev_mp sir, you had done a wonderful job so far especially for the defence forces.... keep it up.

BMW
@warle_balaji Citizen

@rajeev_mp we need people like you sir, we r proud of u. @rajeev_mp congrats sir. Indian parl. need progressive people like you. U r the people's MP

Rehna Ghosh
@rehnanath Citizen

@rajeev_mp sir, you had done a wonderful job so far especially for the defence forces.... keep it up.

Achyutha Sharma
@Achyutha Sharma Citizen

@rajeev_mp congratulations! More good work to come

Aya Bhatte
@JayaBhatte Citizen @

rajeev_mp congrats for completions of ,12 yrs in public life

Harikrishnan
@harikrishnan7 Citizen

rajeev_mp congratulations! Hope you continue to serve and be an example for the rest

Balakrishnan K
@balakrishnanpnr Citizen

@rajeev_mp Rajivji, we need people like you in Parliament, who has a vision and mission.

Suresh Babu
@cdrsuresh Citizen

@rajeev_mp Wish you have many more successful tenures in the parliament.

K. R. Dave
@krdave Citizen

@rajeev_mp yes,too good work,all MPs should follow your dedication,specially---@office of RG

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