



**Smt. Pratibha Patil**  
President, India

Chief Guest-2010

Jamnalalji Bajaj was an industrialist and a philanthropist. He was in the forefront of our struggle for freedom and a close associate and follower of Gandhiji. In 1920, Gandhiji adopted him as his 'fifth son, and it was he who persuaded Gandhiji to come and settle in Wardha. Jmnalalji inspired his whole family to take to the Gandhian ways of life. His wife, Jankidevi took to 'Goseva' and, later, to Vinobaji's Bhoodan Movement. Likewise, their two sons Kamalnayanji and Ramkrishnaji were deeply involved in the freedom struggle, and contributed to the industrial development of the country.

Gandhiji's life and philosophy have touched the lives of millions in the world. Gandhiji was a true democrat and at every stage of the freedom struggle, he sought participation of the masses. Moreover, for him tolerance was the basis for democracy. He said that if we want to cultivate a true spirit of democracy, it is essential that the concerns of all, particularly of the poor, the downtrodden, the disadvantaged and women are heard and addressed. The spirit of 'Sarvodaya' which means 'the welfare of all', which was Gandhiji's primary purpose of development, is behind the national concept of inclusive growth.

Seventy percent of our population lives in villages, and India's development will not be comprehensive or complete unless there is development in the rural areas, and there is increased agricultural productivity. Our farmers are ready and willing to work, earn and learn. We have to respond positively.

We have to involve the agricultural economy more pro-actively into the growth process, both as a centre of production and as a generator of demand for various products and services. There are many complementarities that exist between farming communities and the corporate world, because both are private enterprises. The possibilities of a win-win partnership between agriculture and industry should be fully explored. We must not forget that the food security of India is dependent on the growth of the agriculture. We should aim at enhancing productivity by using better technology and innovative farming practices, with the active participation of the Panchayats to usher in a second Green Revolution.

The Government is pursuing a public-private partnership model in many sectors. NGOs, civil society, entrepreneurs and industrialists should come forward to support government programmes of social welfare, capacity building and infrastructure development. They should work with commitment and with a spirit of national service.

