





Message

From the Director's Desk



It is with a profound sense of purpose that I present to you Soch Sutra for April 2026. At Bharat Ki Soch (BKS), we remain steadfast in our mission to bridge the wisdom of our ancestors with the complexities of the modern world. Our vision—"Reimagining Bharat's civilisational wisdom for a resilient and progressive nation"—serves as our guiding light as we navigate the path toward a Viksit Bharat by 2047.



The month of April 2026 has been a landmark period for BKS, marked by deep intellectual churning across various initiatives. We began the month by engaging with Shri Sriram Balasubramanian, who introduced the compelling framework of "Dharmic Capitalism" through his work on Kautilyanomics, illustrating how wealth creation and social welfare are harmoniously linked. We then transitioned to the realm of holistic health with Shri Madhusudan Chauhan, exploring the evolution of Ayurveda into a data-driven science essential for universal health coverage.

A pivotal moment in our discourse occurred mid-month, as Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri and Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi led a powerful discussion on the "Duties of a Citizen for Viksit Bharat". This session underscored that the journey to 2047 requires a cultural shift from a rights-based mindset to one rooted in Dharma and civic responsibility. We concluded our April calendar with a transformative two-day national conference on Local Health Traditions,

where the speakers highlighted the profound contributions of indigenous knowledge systems to our mainstream healthcare system.

As we move into May 2026, our journey of rediscovery continues with an equally thought-provoking schedule. We are looking forward to host Shri Amitabh Kant for a Mantraṇā session titled "Shedding Our Colonial Vestiges: Lessons for a Viksit Bharat." Further, we will convene for a two-day Mantraṇā dedicated to the critical themes of Agriculture and Food Security.

I invite you to remain an active partner in this intellectual movement. By reclaiming our indigenous traditions and applying them with contemporary rigour, we are not just looking back—we are building a resilient, ethical, and self-reliant future.

RK Pachnanda

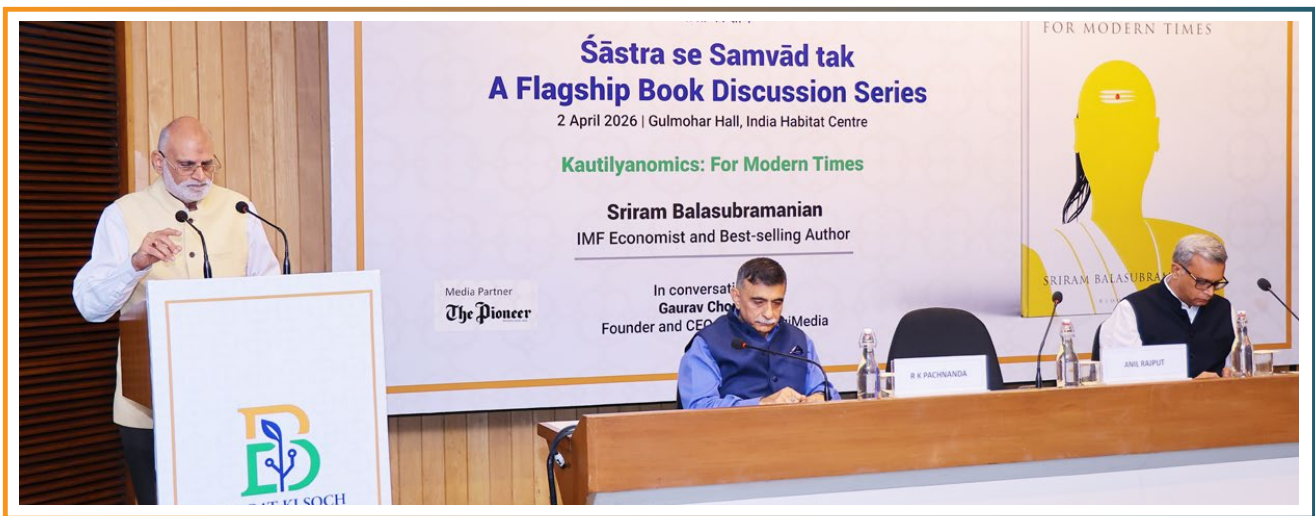
ŚĀSTRA SE SAMVĀDA TAK

TOPIC

Kautilyanomics for the Modern Times

02 APRIL 2026

Shri Sriram Balasubramanian
Former IMF Economist & Best-selling Author



The book discussion session explored the contemporary relevance of ancient Indian economic thought through the lens of the book “Kautilyanomics For Modern Times”, by author and keynote speaker Sriram Balasubramanian. The author proposed a framework of “Dharmic Capitalism”, which harmonises wealth creation with social welfare through three pillars: rule-based governance, global growth and sustainable inclusivity. Shifting away from rigid models, the discussion emphasised that Kautilya’s Arthashastra offers principles-led guidance where economic prosperity and the “common good” are not opposing forces but interconnected goals. Ultimately, the panel concluded that achieving a Viksit Bharat requires “civilisational confidence”—reclaiming indigenous intellectual traditions to build a resilient, ethical and multidimensional economic future that balances self-reliance with global engagement.

MANTRANĀ

TOPIC

Ayurveda: Civilisational Roots, Global Policy, and India's Soft Power

09 APRIL 2026

Shri Madhusudan Chauhan
CEO, Jiva Ayurveda



The Mantranā session focused on the evolution of Ayurveda from an “alternative” practice to a data-driven “Science of Life.” The discussion highlighted how modern technologies like artificial intelligence and big data are providing the empirical validation necessary to integrate Ayurveda into mainstream universal health coverage. Beyond clinical outcomes, the speakers emphasised Ayurveda’s emerging role as a cornerstone of India’s global soft power, supported by policy initiatives like the AYUSH Visa and the WHO Global Center for Traditional Medicine, ultimately positioning India’s holistic “whole-person” philosophy as a critical solution to 21st-century healthcare challenges.



MANTRANĀ

TOPIC

Duties of a Citizen for a Viksit Bharat

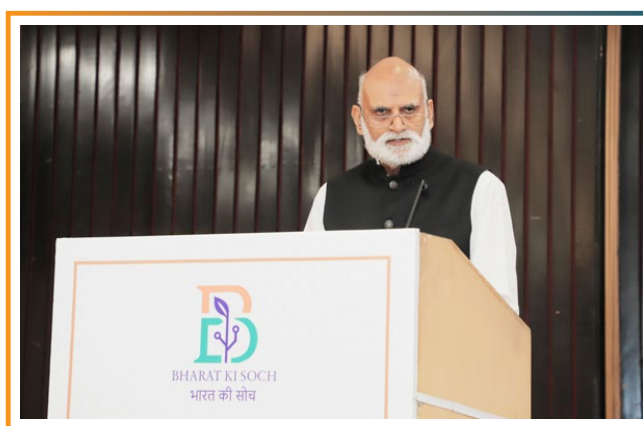
16 APRIL 2026

Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri

Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India

Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi

*Former Minister of State for External Affairs
of India*



This session explored the shift from a rights-based discourse to a duty-centric framework, essential for India's 2047 vision of a Viksit Bharat. Featuring Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri (former judge of the Supreme Court of India) and Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi (former Minister of State for External Affairs of India), the panel discussed how the classical Indian concept of Dharma and Kautilya's Saptanga theory underpin modern civic responsibility. Justice Sikri emphasised that democracy cannot function on rights alone and requires a cultural awakening of obligations toward society and the environment. At the same time, Smt. Lekhi illustrated that fundamental duties are the necessary "other side of the coin" to fundamental rights. The dialogue concluded that true national development is not merely a policy outcome but a collective effort co-created by a responsible, enlightened citizenry committed to the principle of "what can I give" rather than "what do I get."

MANTRANĀ

TOPIC

Local Health Traditions in India: Recognition, Legitimate Space, and Policy Pathways

22-23 APRIL 2026

The two-day national conference on “Local Health Traditions in India: Recognition, Legitimate Space and Policy Pathways” set a transformative agenda for India’s public health discourse. Led by Prof. Amitabh Pande (Director, IGRMS), the discussion centred on dismantling colonial-era narratives that marginalised indigenous knowledge. The panel advocated for a “health-pluralist” policy framework to formally integrate non-codified traditional healers—who provide vital, cost-effective care in rural and tribal regions—into the mainstream healthcare system. Distinguished participants included Dr. Sunita Reddy (Associate Professor, CSMCH, JNU), Prof. G. Hariramamurthi (University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology), Dr. Imlikumba (Medical Officer, NEIAFMR), Prof. Ritu Priya (Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, JNU), Prof. V. Sujatha (Centre for Study of Social Systems, JNU), Prof. Nemthianggai Guite (JNU), Shri Anil Jauhri (AYUSH), Prof. P. Unnikrishnan (Member-Academic Research and Outreach Council, TDU), Shri Manjeet Singh Saluja (WHO Regional Centre), Shri Nand Kumar (National Convenor, Pragya Pravah), Dr. J.R. Bhatt (Senior Fellow, Vivekananda International Foundation), Shri Saurav Roy (TATA CSR Head-SAMVAAD), and Prof. Rupesh Chaturvedi (School of Biotechnology, JNU). Closing the session, Shri R. K. Pachnanda mentioned that local health traditions are dynamic, living knowledge systems that continue to inform healthcare practices across diverse socio-cultural contexts. The 2-day conference was part of a larger and ongoing endeavour to engage with India’s rich intellectual and cultural heritage in a meaningful way.



Social Media Campaigns

Timeless Wisdom

BHARAT KI SOCH
भारत की सोच

धर्मार्थौ यत्र न स्यातां शुश्रूषा वाऽपि तद्विधा ।
तत्र विद्या न वप्स्यता शुभं बीजमिवोषरे ॥

- मनुस्मृति 2.112

Where there is neither Dharma nor Artha, nor even a sincere desire to learn (service), there sacred knowledge should not be sown; just as a farmer does not throw good seed into barren, salty soil

BHARAT KI SOCH
भारत की सोच

परस्परपग्रहो जीवानाम् ।
-Tatthavārtha sūtra chapter 5, verse 21

All life is bound together by mutual support and interdependence

Timeless Wisdom

BHARAT KI SOCH
भारत की सोच

विद्या ददाति विनयं विनयाद्याति पात्रताम् ।
पात्रत्वाद्धनमाप्नोति धनाद्धर्मं ततः सुखम् ॥

- हितोपदेशः

Knowledge gives humility; from humility comes worthiness (capability). From worthiness, one attains wealth; from wealth, one can perform righteous deeds (Dharma), and from that, one attains true happiness.

BHARAT KI SOCH
भारत की सोच

इमे जनपदाः स्वल्भाः सुपक्वौषधिवीरुधः ।
वनाद्रिनद्युदन्वन्तो ह्येधन्ते तव वीक्षितैः ॥ ४० ॥

- Bhagavat Purana, Canto I. Chapter 8. Verse 40

All these cities and villages are flourishing in all respects because the herbs and grains are in abundance, the trees are full of fruits, the rivers are flowing, the hills are full of minerals and the oceans full of wealth. And this is all due to your glancing over them.*

BHARAT KI SOCH
भारत की सोच

CIVILISATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

More than a place of worship, Konark reflects Bharat's advanced understanding of astronomy and mathematics, where scientific knowledge and sacred expression coexisted seamlessly

The Pioneer **BHARAT KI SOCH**
NEW DELHI MONDAY 20 APRIL, 2026

DID YOU KNOW?

Rashis, Nakshatras and Navamsha Wheel

The ancient Indian text *Krishī Parashara* is one of the earliest texts that tries to systematize how farming should be done. It was likely composed around c. 400 BCE. It reflects how actual farming practices were mixed with cosmological beliefs. It was not just about soil and seeds—farmers were advised to plan ploughing, sowing and harvesting according to nakshatras (lunar constellations), planetary movements and phases of the moon. Rainfall prediction was linked to planetary alignments and cloud formations. It showed a fascinating blend of environmental awareness and cosmological beliefs. This tells us that ancient Indian agriculture was highly systematized, deeply observant, and rooted in a worldview where humans, nature and the cosmos were closely connected.

BHARAT KI SOCH
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National Panchayati Raj Day
dedicated to
Progressing villages, strengthening local governance
and Empowering Indian democracy

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MANTRAṆĀ
A Flagship Discussion Series

**Shedding Our Colonial Vestiges:
Lessons for a Viksit Bharat**

7
May, 2026
3:00 PM

Mr. Amitabh Kant
Former CEO, NITI Aayog,
Former G20 Sherpa

Scan to Register

Multipurpose Hall, India International Centre

Media Partner
The Pioneer

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MANTRAṆĀ
A flagship discussion series

**Local Health Traditions in India: Recognition,
Legitimate Space and Policy Pathways**

Prof Ritu Priya
Center of Social Medicine and
Community Health, JNU, New Delhi

Effective integration requires convergence, linking local health traditions with biodiversity laws, agriculture systems, and forest governance.


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सोचें और बढ़ें

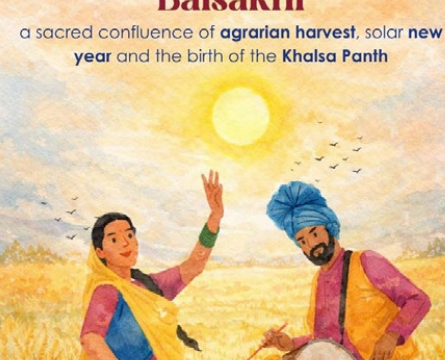
Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Jayanti
14 April



A Homage to the
"Father of the Indian Constitution"


BHARAT KI SOCHI
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honours the spirit of
Baisakhi
a sacred confluence of **agrarian harvest**, solar new
year and the birth of the **Khalsa Panth**




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सोचें और बढ़ें

MANTRANĀ
A Flagship Discussion Series

Duties of a Citizen for a Viksit Bharat



Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri
Former Judge,
Supreme Court of India



Mrs. Meenakshi Lekhi
Former Minister of State for
External Affairs Govt. of India

April
16
2026

2:00 PM
Multipurpose Hall, India
International Centre,
New Delhi.

Media Partner
The Pioneer



Register Here




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सोचें और बढ़ें

commemorates
**International
Mother Earth Day**

Dedicated to nurturing, sustaining and harmonising with our
shared natural environment.
Earth is not a resource to exploit. She is a living presence to
be respected, protected and nurtured.




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सोचें और बढ़ें

MANTRANĀ
A flagship discussion series

**Local Health Traditions in India: Recognition,
Legitimate Space and Policy Pathways**



Prof Amitabh Pande
Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya
Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal

In heterogeneous villages, where
tribal and non-tribal populations
live together, local health
practitioners often act as a
bridge between communities.
They provide continuity of care
where formal systems cannot
penetrate. Their role is not limited
to treatment, it extends to social
cohesion and access.




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A TRADITION OF MEDICAL EXCELLENCE

In ancient Varanasi, Sushruta developed a system of
medicine that combined theory, practice and ethics

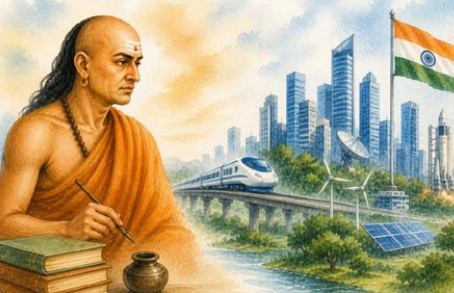
His approach placed equal emphasis on healing,
precision and patient care




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**Kautilya's Blueprint for
Modern India**

Understanding Yoga-Kshema in today's
national security context




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extends its warm wishes on this significant occasion dedicated
to strengthening India's commitment to accessible, affordable,
and equitable healthcare for all.

Ayushman Bharat Diwas




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MARVELS OF INDIA
BRAHMOS: INDIA'S SUPERSONIC EDGE



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