

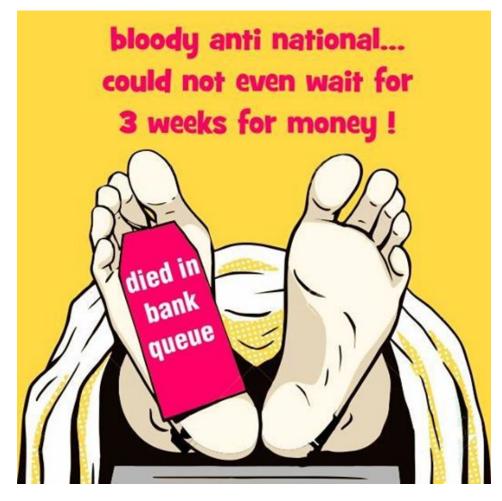
## Yes Prime Minister Modi: You Are Right. "In India Even Beggars are Going Cashless"

By Countercurrents.org Global Research, December 05, 2016 Counter Currents 4 December 2016 Region: <u>Asia</u> Theme: <u>Global Economy</u>, <u>Poverty & Social</u> <u>Inequality</u>

Prime Minister, you said that in India even Beggars are going Cashless. You are absolutely true. I keep seeing the Whaatsapp message that you work for 18 hours a day, haven't taken a single leave for the last many years, left your family. All these sacrifices you are making to take India to a digital world. Then why poor should be left out of this digital revolution. They should not. They should also go cashless.By this act they would only contribute to eradicating Black money. Of course, they have accumulated black money through years of hard earned savings, but just saved in a few thousands.

Yes Prime Minister, it is not a problem, if the poor do not earn even Rs. 32 a day (the official definition of poverty) to survive. It is not necessary if they do not get full employment and their income is erratic. They have solution at their hands. They still can go cashless and manage with Debit cards, Credit cards, e-Wallets with a Rs. 32 deposited into their Jan-dhan accounts.

Yes Prime Minister, in the Acche din that you have brought about and in this great digital revolution that you are bringing to the door step, digital needs precede the basic needs. It is not a problem if basic issues of Roti, Kapda, Makaan aren't solved. We highly regard your vision of an Indian poor with a Smart Phone, a Laptop, a wifi connectivity. Roti, Kapda and Makaan of course are less of a necessity and can become secondary priorities.



Yes Prime Minister, it is time to address the issue of digital hunger. According to the Global hunger index, India is ranked 97th in the world among 118 countries on hunger index. But not a problem. More than the hunger for food, it is the digital hunger which needs to be addressed first. The Indian poor is more concerned with digital hunger than the food hunger.

Yes Prime Minister, Indian farmers should take lending in the cashless way. Half of India's farmers, despite a banking system in place yet depend on Money lenders to get credit for their agricultural operations. There is no need for them to get better access to bank credit. Money lenders can lend the cashless way through depositing the credit into the jan dhan accounts of the poor. Money lending can be done in a new cashless way.

Yes Prime Minister, it is not a problem if basic education and health care needs of the poor aren't addressed. It is not a problem if affordable education and health care is not made accessible to the poor. Access to debit cards, credit cards, e-wallets will automatically provide them access to good quality education and health care.

Yes Prime Minister, you are right. India needs to take the digital way. Half of India's children are malnourished. 44% of children under the age of 5 are underweight, while 72% of infants have anaemia. Many of the sub-saharan countries are better placed in nutrition than India. But it is not a problem. More than the food malnourishment, it is the digital malnourishment which is a much needed necessity for Indian children. Children with I-Pads, a Smart phone but without proper food are a way to take India into to a digital world.

We completely stand with you Mr. Prime Minister

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