

Modi is once again the Chief Minister of Gujarat, and that is good news for Yeddyurappa. Why? Because, Modi is and has been Yeddyurappa's idol for a long time. When Yeddyurappa was the DCM a journalist asked him why he was not very keen about tv interviews. Instantly came the answer, 'Modi has been able to do good work inspite of the media, why should I do anything different?'. Quite a convincing answer if Yeddyurappa was indeed even a mini Modi, by any standards.

Does Yeddyurappa know that Modi responds to calls even in the dead of the night, does not have any dimwitted and ambitious children, and has not been pandering to the wishes and emotions of his caste brethren? Does Yeddyurappa know that Modi is a hard worker not only in his party-men's eyes but also in the eyes of his opponents? Modi may avoid giving interviews to the media, but does the former DCM of Karnataka know that the Gujarat CM dedicates a few hours of his day to reading newspapers to update himself with the reports in the media? Modi is a postgraduate and has intelligent and definite plans for the development of Gujarat, and can someone like Yeddyurappa, blindly imitate him? Even if it is possible in some way that Yeddyurappa can make do the shortcomings in himself and emulate Modi's qualities, insights and attitudes, still, to end with, is Karnataka in any way Gujarat? The fundamental difference may have evaded the BJP leader's intelligence. Yeddyurappa has time and again proven that he has forgotten the word wisdom since mostly he is only known for his experience. He seems to have secured himself a ticket to fool's paradise even before the BJP decides to give tickets to his followers.

Karnataka has tried the BJP only because of the desire to see an alternative and not because of the great love for the BJP ideology. There was this strange belief in many, for a long time, that the BJP was indeed a party with a difference. Some Congressmen too had harboured a quiet sympathy for committed BJP workers, believing, that inspite of their hardcore Hindutva agenda the party had some credibility and the leaders were honest. In some cases some Congressmen even offered invisible support for some of the BJP agitations, with an intention of not being seen as anti Hindu. It is only after recently some big leaders of the BJP declared that the party was no different from any other political party and hinting that the image of the BJP leaders being incorruptible was false, the voters of Karnataka started opening their eyes to the truth. Hence, the loss of sympathy for the saffron party from its own loyal well wishers leave alone from the opposition.

The recent poor showing in the Baba Buden Giri – Datta Peetha holds testimony to the real state of the BJP in Karnataka. Shallow morals and dubious cultural tenets visible in the BJP leaders have made many question the credentials of the party. Most Bajarang Dal volunteers have now found shelter under the banner of Sri Rama Sena led by Pramod Mutalik who himself is an erstwhile Bajarangi, and currently a loud critic of the BJP.

Modi campaigning for the BJP in Karnataka may attract the eyeballs of some young, energetic and restless BJP supporters but an election cannot be won with just a band of trouble mongering youth. Yeddyurappa and his friends should not forget that some loyal BJP sympathisers though are unflinching in their love for the party may still not support Modi brand of politics in Karnataka. The BJP senior in Karnataka must not delude himself into believing that Karnataka is not happy with the kind of BJP that has been existent in the State. Most loyal BJP supporters are secular to a great extent and though they may stand by a soft non disruptive Hindutva, they will never back any dispensation that foments trouble. Time and again people rejecting

any communally sensitive issues should serve as a rude reminder to Yeddyurappa if he has plans to make Modi the darling of BJP voters in Karnataka.

Modi in Gujarat has taken care of all Ananth Kumars and no leader is bigger than him and even all the dissidents have never been independent of his influence. Yeddyurappa, habitually counting his chicks before they hatch has openly discounted the eggs in his detractor's basket. Modi has a spotless personal life and if Yeddyurappa thinks that by just wearing a white shirt he can match the Gujarat strongman then he can never be more wrong. Modi does not have a Shobha Karandlaje on one side and many shameless nincompoops on the other. Though Modi is a vociferous supporter and backer of Hindutva, he is rarely seen in temples performing poojas and rituals. Modi's idea of development is to work towards it and to ensure the same and not to expect development like Yeddyurappa by praying to gods and falling to the feet of godmen.

Modi is available to even the common man just not for a chat but to solve the problems. Yeddyurappa too is available to a common man, that his mobile number is known to a lot of people. But, with the BJP leader behaving like a busy body all the time and nodding even before he has understood the full gist of any matter, a poor farmer talking to the former DCM directly on the mobile phone is not of any use at all. Modi believes in his performance and not on any divine intervention. He for sure knows it is the people of Gujarat who vote for him and it is they who make him the CM, contrary to the Karnataka leader's belief that it is the gods who write political wills and it is the caste swamis who turn one's political destiny.

Modi is not known for making compromises and changing opinions midway. Yeddyurappa is everything that Modi is not, apart from the only one fact that both belong to the same party. How comfortable both will be with each other and what the end result will be in the next Karnataka election, is something that the whole State will not miss to watch.