

THIS MURTY DOESN'T AGREE WITH THAT MURTHY!

Though my admiration for him is of a high order, with the greatest possible respect to Mr Narayan Murthy, I beg to differ. His latest advice to young India that they should put in 70 hours a week to boost the productivity of the Indian economy so that it becomes globally competitive, is no doubt a well meaning advice. But it's not much different from Jack Ma's famous (or infamous) formula for a 9-9-6 routine i.e., 9 to 9 six days a week which comes to 72 hours. If we are assuming a 5 day work week, then Mr Murthy's 70 hour benchmark would mean 14 hours of work each day. Add to that a minimum 2 hours of commuting for work. That leaves you 8 hours for sleep and other essential activities like eating, grooming, bathing, dressing etc. Leave aside human beings, even your car would break down if you run it for 18 hours a day (assuming we are sleeping for 6 hours). So, Mr Murthy is expecting human beings to do which even machines can't do. Moreover, long hours do not mean high productivity. After 8-9 hours of solid concentrated work, the remainder amounts to nothing but warming the chairs and pleasing the boss. Neither of them count for competitiveness. Sitting on his well deserved high chair he has forgotten that there is something called Nature and natural laws. And now it's clear all that talk about Work-Life balance is nothing but bunkum.

This in a way explains why young people in their thirties are getting heart attacks (even dying) nowadays. It's not just that the body is in motion for a period of 18 hours; add to that the anxiety and stress of the work – the targets to be met, the competition and rivalry in the corporate world – and you have a lethal situation. Not only are we looking at Corporate Burnout – but a breakdown of mental and physical health. And of course relationships, family, bonding with friends, personal space – everything become non-existent. With this kind of a routine, if you simply don't sleep like a log in the weekends, you won't be able put on that harness on your neck on Monday morning. And what is the compensation? In the same breath, did Mr Murthy ask the corporate leaders that in exchange for this army of

robots who would collapse on the wheel at some point of time, they should be paying double the wages? Not even a whisper on this!

Mr Murthy, the solution is instead of making a man work like a machine for 14 hours, employ more people. More people with families to be taken care of and having the money to spend would boost the economy and the society in the most normal and natural way. We should understand that an economic system is there to serve human society. But this insane economic philosophy says that human society should serve the market place! If the economic system is not sitting well with human society, then human beings should cut themselves to size to fit into the system! The Economy not for the sake of man and human society but man for the sake of the economy! When insanity is collective, it becomes a rational philosophy.