World Governance Issues — which need to be addressed ASAP
(3 Questions we need to ask World Leaders in Business & Politics)

This was as a result of a 2-day Global Summit on Social Business hosted by Nobel Laureate Prof. Yunus in Vienna in November 2011. We were 560 participants from 50 countries and the discussion was on various topics such as youth, poverty, unemployment, micro finance, skills, education, terrorism, black money, war, health care, inequality, conflict, etc.

The following are what I asked the Speakers and Panelists. i Watch works in four areas, see bottom of the page.

1. Tax Havens – why do we not need them in their present form?

World Leaders in Business & Politics talk of Ethics in Business, Corporate Governance, etc. BUT all of them allow Tax Havens to flourish in the present form?

Why should 99% of humanity suffer due to 1% or less of the world population?

These double standards need to stop as soon as possible. This money is probably deposited in these locations by less than 1% of the world population who probably control nearly 20% to 40% of the world's wealth...this is BLACK MONEY.

The G-22, United Nations, International Citizen Groups, etc., need to work on demolishing these 'citadels of blatant corruption' and see that all these funds are recycled into their respective governments, taxes paid and a small portion of this is recycled into areas like Education , HealthCare & Social Business for the 3rd World and developing economies of this planet.

These so called Tax Havens promote funding of illegal arms, terrorism, money laundering, tax evasion, covert operations, etc...

One would have no problem with any number of these so called Tax Havens provided they are transparent and comply with the Tax Laws of the originating country of the person who has placed funds with them.

2. Export of Arms & Ammunition since the last 66 years to the least developed countries of Latin America, Africa, ME and Asia... WHY? Why not export Relevant Education?

The least developed countries of the world needed education and primary healthcare after the 2nd World War but they received exactly the opposite and very freely – Arms, Military equipment, Bombs and Hardware for destruction of human beings.

Afghanistan, Iraq and the 9/11 incident were probably an after effect of all this.

The western border between Pakistan & India is lit up at night and can be easily seen by astronauts! We in India have been shouting from the rooftops about terrorism from Pakistan, to protect the people on both sides of the political border from constant terrorism but the USA gave billions in grants and aid to Pakistan.

Most was used for arms and ammunition against India. How sad for the two poor countries of this world with a combined population of 1.4 billion?

Similar stories have happened and known to all, in other 3rd world countries. What a shame for the ordinary citizen?

One hears that we now have children in Afghanistan of 10-12 years old who can beat a trained soldier in the operation of an AK-47 but cannot read and write! What exactly are we trying to prove?

3. Estimated expenditure of US$3,500 billion or US$3.5 trillion per year on worldwide Arms and Ammunition... WHY spend so much for misery for all?

The total GDP of all countries is about $70,000 billion about $70 trillion. This expenditure on arms is about 5% of world GDP. This is ONLY meant for fighting each other on this little planet. Why?

The younger generation needs to ask this question. The older generation is not asking too many questions. This defense is not meant for some external invasion from outer space or for fighting the biggest problems on our little planet... like poverty, healthcare, unemployment, educations, skills, ecology, global warming, housing, safe drinking water, etc.

Even if this arms race could be reduced by 10% and the funds diverted to Education, Vocational Training, Primary Healthcare and Social Causes, this beautiful world of ours would be truly be what it is meant to be.……. a Paradise.

Please do give us your feedback and comments? Our Foundation work’s with many Social Organizations.

Krishan Khanna
Founder & Chairman

*5 Watch is a not-for-profit organization located in Mumbai, India. *i Watch* stands for INDIA, Indians you and me. *i Watch* means that we are 'watching' what is happening in the country and reporting to the citizens, in order to create awareness for the sake of improvement. The 'i' is small, since our Gurus have taught always that only with humility can we perceive the truth. *i Watch* focuses on Human Resource Development, Governance & how it influences Economy & Enterprise. *i Watch* has four activities viz., *i Watch for Governance, i Watch for HRD, i Watch for Economy & Enterprise and i Watch for Employment Generation*