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‘World looking at India for solutions’

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Gandhinagar: Himachal Pradesh governor Shiv Pratap Shukla said on Sunday that people from across the world are looking at India for solutions to their problems as the country's perception abroad has changed.

"I can say the outlook of India of the past and the present has changed. Today, people the world over are searching for solutions to their problems in India. It means the change in the world's perception (about India) is because of the country's strong leadership," Shukla said.

He was delivering a special lecture on 'Amrit Kaal Ka Bharat' organized by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) in collaboration with the India Think Council.

Shukla also targeted the "followers of Ram Manohar Lohia" for raising the issue of caste for politics, an apparent reference to the demand for caste survey by several opposition parties after such an exercise was carried out by the Bihar government.

“Does anyone think which caste one belongs to? This country gave us a great socialist named Dr Ram Manohar Lohia. He gave a call to break the shackles of caste,” he said.

Despite being a socialist, Lohia organized Ramayan mela in Chitrakoot and urged people in Parliament to visit Ayodhya and follow the ideals of Lord Ram, Shukla added. It is surprising his followers are running after caste for politics, the HP governor said.

The identity of Amrit Kaal is the increasing pride of tiranga (tricolour), Shukla said, adding that when one expresses a feeling of self-pride, people think they are communal.

Referring to the 2002 Godhra riots, Shukla said the then chief minister of Gujarat (Narendra Modi) was blamed but the top court exonerated him saying he had done nothing wrong.

Earlier in the day, Shukla was welcomed at the Raj Bhavan by governor Acharya Devvrat. The HP governor also visited the Statue of Unity, a statement said.