

Food for thought



US President, Barack Obama blames, partly, the 24-hour news cycle for 'the current mess' his country (US) finds itself as its political leaders tend to take decisions which fetch them few moments of high ratings on these channels.

There is a fundamental weakness in America's political system, Obama said in Washington on April 14, 2009 reminding one of his presidential campaign rhetoric that he wants to change the way things work in the nation's capital.

'For too long, too many in Washington put off hard decisions for some other time on some other day. There's been a tendency to score political points instead of rolling up

sleeves to solve real problems', Obama said.

'There is also an impatience that characterizes this town (Washington) an attention span that has only grown shorter with the twenty-four-hour news cycle, and insists on instant gratification in the form of immediate results or higher poll numbers', he said.

'When a crisis hits, there's all too often a lurch from shock to trance, with everyone responding to the tempest of the moment until the furor has died away and the media coverage has moved on, instead of confronting the major challenges that will shape our future in a sustained and focused ways,' the President said.