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Fortnightly Magazine

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*Spiritual persons partaking of vegetarian remnants offered in sacrifice unto the Supreme Lord get relief from all varieties of sins; but those who prepare food for their own consumption, those sinners eat only sin.* —(Bhagavadgita : Ch.-III, 13)

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"We are united in condemning the dreadful acts of terror in any part of the world. Need of the hour is to combat all forms of terror."

**-Narendra Modi**

"If India and China come together and 2.5 billion hearts meet on one common ground, there could be a sea change in the entire world, not just in the region."

**-Rajnath Singh**

## Guru Nanak Jayanti : 25th November, 2015

Guru Nanak Jayanti also known as Guru Nanak's Prakash Utsav, celebrates the birth of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak. Guru Nanak (1469-1539 C.E.) was the founder of the Sikh religion. Nanak Jayanti is one of the most sacred festivals in Sikhism. Apart from Sikhs, Hindus and other followers of Guru Nanak's philosophy also celebrate this festival.

The festivities in the Sikh religion revolve around the anniversaries of the 10 Sikh Gurus. These Gurus were responsible for shaping the beliefs of the Sikhs. Their birthdays, known as Gurpurab (or Gurburb), are occasions for celebration and prayer among the Sikhs.

Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, was born on April 15, 1469 in Rai-Bhoi-di Talwandi in the present Shekhupura District of Pakistan, now Nankana Sahib. His birth is celebrated on Kartik Poornima, the full moon day in the month of Kartik. In the Gregorian Calendar, the celebration usually falls in the month of November, but its date varies from year to year, based on the traditional dates of the Indian calendar.

Guru Nanak Guruparb is celebrated by the Sikh community all over the world. The celebrations are especially colourful in Punjab, Haryana, and Chandigarh. Even some Sindhis celebrate this festival.

This Kartika Poornima day (Kartika purnima) is also a Hindu and Jain holy festival day. Poornima day is celebrated on the Purnima (full moon) day or the fifteenth lunar day of Kartika (November-December). Hindus also celebrate this day as Tripuri Poornima and Tripurari Poornima. It is sometimes called Deva-Diwali or Deva-Deepawali - the festival of lights of the gods.■





## Comprehensive strategy against terrorism need of the hour!

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi while addressing British- Indian community in a packed Wembley stadium in London emphasized that India can show the world the right way to deal with two pressing global issues: terrorism and global warming. It was just on the following day that the entire world was shocked with the news of terror attacks in Paris which left more than 130 dead and 368 injured. It was one of the deadliest attacks that world has seen after the emergence of global terrorism. Narendra Modi has been raising the issue of terrorism on almost every global forum and asking the world to unite and defeat the terror at global level. He has rightly pointed out on several occasions that it is a global war and without all the countries joining hands it would be difficult to defeat it. It is not against some few countries but against humanity and so there is a need for global resolve to defeat terrorism at all levels.

India has been one of the worst victims of terrorism. India has been fighting terror attacks since time when the world was not fully exposed to its menacing realities. Thousands of innocent lives have been lost in course of terror attacks spanning over several decades. Prime Minister in the light of India's experience has been raising this issue prominently and urging the leaders to come out with a comprehensive strategy showing no tolerance to any form of terrorism. It was for the first time that in the wake of 9/11 attack, world wake up to the threats posed to the humanity at large. India had witnessed its horrible impact during several terror attacks. Now the Paris attack is being compared to Mumbai 26/11 attacks. In India Pakistan has been considered the biggest exporter of terror and many of the attacks have links in Pakistan. Many attacks were planned in Pakistani soil and executed from there through their terror operatives with involvement of ISI. There are also evidences of terror training camps in Pakistan but it is highly unfortunate that even in the face of clinching evidence Pakistan has remained in denial mode. Not only this it has refused to take actions against those abetting and encouraging terrorism in India from its soil and even sheltered the prime accused in the acts of terror. The world should take note of such activities and make every country accountable for their own acts of omissions and commissions in the war against terrorism.

It is highly unfortunate to note that while Prime Minister is speaking against terrorism and urging nations to unite against the dangers of terrorism, some Congress leaders are praising Pakistan and speaking against the Prime Minister on Pakistani soil. The nation has rightly condemned their acts in unison but the Congress Party is yet to initiate action against them. Salman Khursheed and Mani Shankar Aiyar are senior Congress leaders and former union ministers and their attempt to play cheap politics has further dented the image of the Congress which is seen as playing petty politics at the cost of national interest. Congress leadership will avoid acting against them only at their own peril.

The world leaders should now listen to India and its Prime Minister Narendra Modi who has called for comprehensive global strategy and approach. While delinking terror from religion he has called for strengthening intelligence cooperation, use of military force, for making international legal systems for making cooperation stronger and deeper. Narendra Modi has been raising the issue right from day one and also emphasized the cooperation on terrorism with almost all the countries he has engaged with during his one and half year in office. It's high time that the world should come out with a comprehensive strategy to combat terrorism and weed out this evil once and for ever. ■

## UK and India have known each other very well since several centuries : PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi was on a three-day visit to the UK from November 12 to 14. He arrived in London on November 12th, 2015. He was accorded a guard of honour and an official welcome by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr. David Cameron.

The Prime Minister held delegation-level talks with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. During his press statement after the talks, the Prime Minister said that he is delighted to visit the United Kingdom.

Speaking in Hindi, the Prime Minister said: "This is a relationship of immense importance to us. The familiarity of history, the extraordinary people-to-people ties and our shared values give it a special character. We also have vibrant and growing partnerships across all areas - trade and investment, defence and security, science and education, clean energy and health, technology and innovation, and culture. We have a broad range of shared interests at the international level that are vital to both countries.

We have agreed to intensify our political dialogue and hold regular bilateral summits. We have decided to



turn our shared values into a partnership to support development in other regions of the world. And, we have committed to deepen cooperation across all areas.

The conclusion of the civil nuclear agreement is a symbol of our mutual trust and our resolve to combat climate change. The agreement for cooperation in India's Global Centre for Clean Energy Partnerships will strengthen safety and

security in the global nuclear industry.

We attach great value to defence and security cooperation with UK, including regular exercises and defence trade and collaboration. This cooperation will grow. I am also pleased that UK will participate in the International Fleet Review in India in February 2016. UK will also be a strong partner in India's defence modernization plans,

including our Make in India mission in defence sector.

Our economic partnership is quite robust and a key pillar of our partnership. I expressed confidence that this relationship grow rapidly in the years ahead, given the size and scale of opportunities in a rapidly expanding India and Britain's own formidable economic strengths. UK is already the third largest investor in India. There is more investment from India in UK than in rest of European Union combined. We will launch a new fast track mechanism for UK investments in India. The revival of India-UK CEO Forum is a welcome step.

We will also increasingly raise funds in London's financial market. I am pleased, but also believe it is natural, that we will issue a Railways Rupee Bond in London. This is where the journey of Indian Railways began."

In the course of his interaction with media after the Joint Press Statement, the Prime Minister said India cannot tolerate any incident which violates the fundamental values of society. He said India is a vibrant democracy which is committed to protection of individual rights under the Constitution.

In his speech at the Parliament of UK, the Prime Minister said: "the motto of Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas, is our vision of a nation, in which every citizen belongs, participates and prospers.

It is not just a call for economic inclusion.

It is also a celebration of our diversity; the creed for social harmony; and, a commitment to individual liberties and rights.

This is the timeless ethos of our culture; this is the basis of our constitution; and, this will be the foundation of our future."

The Prime Minister addressed the business community of the City of London, at Guildhall.

The Prime Minister said, "UK and India have known each other very well since several centuries. Our system of Governance is also based largely on the Westminster model. - Our institutions know to interact with each other; - Our people know to work with each other; - Our businesses know to grow with each other.

That is the reason that UK is among India's major trading partners. UK is also the third largest foreign investor in India. And I must add- this is not one sided. India has emerged as the third largest source of FDI for UK. However, there is significant potential for India and UK to further strengthen their economic ties.

The Prime Minister paid homage at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Parliament Square. The iconic London landmarks of Tower Bridge and London Eye were draped in the colours of India - saffron, white and



green. Prime Minister Cameron hosted Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a private dinner at Chequers, his country-house retreat.

The two Prime Ministers endorsed a "Vision Statement" setting out the fundamental principles on which the UK-India partnership is built, and outlining a roadmap for deepening co-operation. They resolved to hold biennial PM-level summits to advance the partnership. They also resolved to agree

on a new Defence and International Security Partnership which will intensify cooperation on defence and security, including cyber-security, counter-terrorism and maritime security.

The two Prime Ministers noted that in an increasingly complex and interconnected world, deepening the already close partnership on global issues would be vital for safeguarding and promoting prosperity and security.

The two Prime Ministers emphasised their shared commitment and support for a stable, secure and successful future for a sovereign, democratic and united Afghanistan. They emphasised the importance of a sustainable and inclusive political order in Afghanistan which ensures that the gains of the past decade are consolidated and remain irreversible.

The two Prime Ministers stressed the need for inclusive political settlements in Syria and Iraq and committed to further support the victims in these brutal conflicts. They agreed to continue to hold regular annual senior officials dialogue on West Asia/Middle East, as a priority area for both countries.

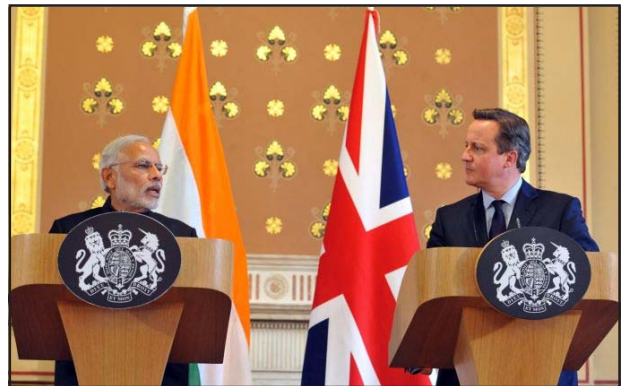
Prime Minister Modi and Prime Minister Cameron welcomed the ongoing collaboration by the India-UK Financial Partnership led by key industry figures on both sides. They look forward to considering the Partnership's proposals for deepening the links between the two countries' financial services. The two Prime Ministers welcomed the creation of a new Chevening Financial Services course, sponsored by Standard Chartered, aimed at mid-career professionals wanting to study in the UK. They also welcomed the initiative taken to launch the first-ever exchange programme between the economic services of our two countries to support economic policy making in both countries.

Prime Minister Cameron welcomed Prime Minister Modi's 'Make in India' initiative. Prime Minister Modi noted that this model of collaboration was already deeply ingrained in UK investments and partnerships with

India. The two Prime Ministers welcomed the initiatives taken by both sides to deepen defence technology and industry cooperation.

Prime Ministers Cameron and Modi noted the deep and fruitful business relationship between the UK and India and welcomed the £9.2 Billion of commercial deals between the UK and India announced during the visit and listed in the annex. The UK has accounted for 8.56% of total foreign direct investment in India during the last 15 years. Indian companies employ 110,000 people in the UK.

The two Prime Ministers announced three



UK-India city partnerships with Indore, Pune and Amaravati to support India's ambitious urban development goals through technical assistance, expertise sharing and business engagement.

The two Prime Ministers launched a new Thames/Ganga partnership for healthy river systems. This partnership will consist of a collaborative programme of research and innovation to enable the sustainable management of water resources in the Ganga basin and a policy expert exchange in 2016 supported by the UK Water Partnership.

Prime Minister Cameron offered to support Prime Minister Modi achieve his goal of preparing young Indians for the 21st Century. Under the new UK-India Skills pledge, 11 UK companies have committed to support skills development in India. Together, the UK government and UK businesses will establish new "Centres of Excellence" in key sectors, starting with a centre for Automotive

and Advanced Engineering in Pune. The UK will also support the Indian Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship to develop new models of skills training and entrepreneurship with a focus on digital delivery, women, the excluded and the disabled.

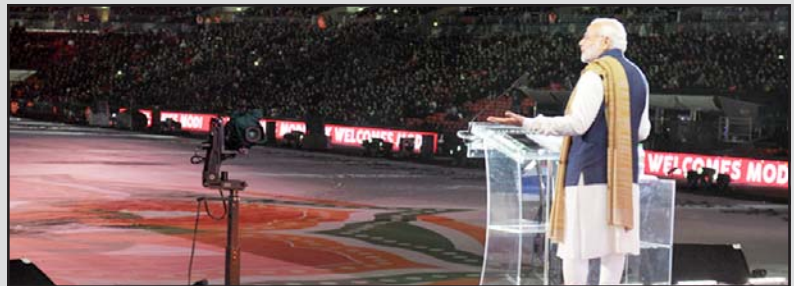
The two Prime Ministers were also happy to announce the setting up of joint India-UK Vaccine Development collaboration between the Department of Biotechnology and Research Councils, UK. The Department of Biotechnology would also work with Research Councils to establish a strategic group which would explore the mechanisms to develop the evidence base which would address anti-microbial resistance at the genomic level of the host-pathogen interactions to accelerate the development of new drugs and diagnostics.

The two Prime Ministers underlined their joint determination to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR), noting that it poses a grave public health and economic threat to both countries. Both Prime Ministers recognised that a global response is required and supported a high level meeting on antimicrobial resistance at the 2016 UN General Assembly. India and the UK will also contribute their scientific expertise to a global summit to be held in London in 2016 as part of the

'India is much bigger and far greater than what you see on TV screens and newspaper headlines'

### **PM addresses British-Indian Community at Wembley Stadium**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said India's immense diversity is its speciality, pride and strength. Addressing a massive gathering of the British-Indian Community at the Wembley Stadium in London on November 13 in the presence of UK Prime Minister David Cameron, the Prime Minister spoke of the great contributions of the Sikh community and of India's Sufi tradition. He recalled his meeting with the Sikh



community in London yesterday, and said he shared their pain, understood their problems and was working to resolve them.

Expounding his vision of India, in his speech which lasted more than one hour, the Prime Minister recalled Imran Khan of Alwar, Rajasthan, who has made about 50 education apps and distributed them free. He also recalled a Sarpanch in Haryana, who had responded to his Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao call, with a "Selfie with Daughter" campaign, which eventually became a global success. He said he was sure of India's bright future because his vision of India, was the India of Imran Khan who created and gave education apps for free; and of the Sarpanch who had conceived Selfie with India. He said there are countless such people in India.

The Prime Minister said all major religions of the world are present in India, and in big numbers too. He said the Indian diaspora carries these values with it wherever they go, and hence they are great ambassadors for India.

The Prime Minister spoke of his Government's initiatives so far, and of his plans especially on Swachh Bharat and Clean Energy, to transform the lives of India's citizens. He said India would lead a global "Solar Alliance" of countries blessed with abundant solar radiation, to pursue the goal of economical solar energy generation.

India is much bigger and far greater than what you see on TV screens and newspaper headlines, the Prime Minister said. ■

AMR initiative of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and the Research Councils, Government of UK.

The two Prime Ministers noted the finalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India and a leading UK institute for Integrated Medicine to strengthen and develop cooperation in the field of research and education in this area.

The two Prime Ministers announced that a UK-India Year of Culture will be organised in 2017 to celebrate our deep cultural ties and the 70th anniversary of Indian Independence. The two Prime Ministers committed support to the digitization of the shared archival collections housed in the British Library and the National Archives of India.

*Both Prime Ministers welcomed the posthumous reinstatement of Shyamji Krishna Varma to the bar, noting his key role in the Indian independence movement and the inspiration he has provided to subsequent generations.*

The two Prime Ministers welcomed the intention of the Indian Ministry of Tourism and the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Tourism to promote safe and sustainable tourism between the two countries.

Prime Minister Cameron and Prime Minister Modi noted that in an increasingly complex and interconnected world, enhancing cooperation to target criminals across borders will be critical for guaranteeing the security and safety of both nations. They agreed to work together to disrupt the flow of New Psychoactive Substances that harm both countries and to open the door for further negotiations on criminal record exchange to ensure greater collaboration between law enforcement agencies in both India and the UK.

The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed the importance of co-operation to tackle the trafficking of stolen artefacts/antiquities.

PM at British Parliament

**‘Strong as our partnership is, for a relationship such as ours, we must set higher ambitions’**

During his London visit Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Royal Gallery at the British Parliament. Prime Minister Narendra Modi became the first Indian PM who addressed the British parliament. The Prime Minister received a standing ovation when he arrived at the House of Commons. Here is the edited text of his speech:

Lord Speaker,  
Mr. Speaker,  
Mr. Prime Minister



I am delighted to be in London. Even in this globalised world, London is still the standard for our times. The city has embraced the world’s diversity and represents the finest in human achievements. And, I am truly honoured to speak in the British Parliament.

Strong as our partnership is, for a relationship such as ours, we must set higher ambitions: PM at British Parliament Modi in UK, London, United Kingdom, International, Energy, Defence, Security, Solar Power.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for opening the doors to us, here in this magnificent setting of the Royal Court. I know that the Parliament is not in Session. Prime Minister Cameron looks relaxed and relieved.

But, I want to remind you, Mr. Prime Minister, that you owe me royalty for an



election slogan. I know that you are hosting me at the Chequers this evening. But, I also know that you will understand if I am fair to both sides of the floor. Especially since British MPs of Indian Origin are evenly balanced between the Treasury and the Opposition benches. So, I also extend my good wishes to the Labour. Indeed, since these are still early days after the election, my warm congratulations to the Members of the House. And, greetings to the eminent leaders of Britain and great friends of India present here today.

So much of the modern history of India is linked to this building. So much history looms across our relationship. There are others who have spoken forcefully on the debts and dues of history. I will only say that many freedom fighters of India found their calling in the institutions of Britain. And, many makers of modern India, including several of my distinguished predecessors, from Jawaharlal Nehru to Dr. Manmohan Singh, passed through their doors.

On the way to this event, Prime Minister Cameron and I paid homage to Mahatma



Gandhi outside the Parliament. I was reminded of a question I was asked on a tour abroad. How is it that the statue of Gandhi stands outside the British Parliament? To that

question, my answer is: The British are wise enough to recognise his greatness; Indians are generous enough to share him; we are both fortunate enough to have been touched by his life and mission; and, we are both smart enough to use the strengths of our connected histories to power the future of our relationship.

So, I stand here today, not as a visiting Head of Government, given the honour to speak in this temple of democracy. I am here as a representative of a fellow institution and a shared tradition.

And, tomorrow, Prime Minister and I will be at the Wembley. Even in India, every young footballer wants to bend it like Beckham. Wembley will be a celebration of one-half-million threads of life that bind us; one and half million people - proud of their heritage in India; proud of their home in Britain.

It will be an expression of joy for all that we share: values, institutions, political system, sports, culture and art. And, it will be a recognition of our vibrant partnerships and a shared future.

The United Kingdom is the third largest investor in India behind Singapore and Mauritius. India is the third largest source of Foreign Direct Investment projects in the United Kingdom. Indians invest more in Britain than in the rest of European Union combined. It is not because they want to save on interpretation costs, but because they find an environment that is welcoming and familiar. It takes an Indian icon, Tata, to run a British icon and become your nation's largest private sector employer.

Mr. Speaker,

Strong as our partnership is, for a relationship such as ours, we must set higher ambitions. We are two democracies; two strong economies; and, two innovative societies.

We have the comfort of familiarity and the experience of a long partnership. Britain's resurgence is impressive. Its influence on the future of the global economy remains strong.

And, Mr. Speaker, India is new bright

spot of hope and opportunity for the world. It is not just the universal judgment of international institutions. It is not just the logic of numbers: a nation of 1.25 billion people with 800 million under the age of 35 years. This optimism comes from the energy and enterprise of our youth; eager for change and confident of achieving it. It is the result of bold and sustained measures to reform our laws, policies, institutions and processes.

Strong as our partnership is, for a relationship such as ours, we must set higher ambitions: PM at British Parliament Modi in UK, London, United Kingdom, International, Energy, Defence, Security, Solar Power

Mr. Speaker,  
Members and Friends,

The progress of India is the destiny of one-sixth of humanity. And, it will also mean a world more confident of its prosperity; and, more secure about its future.

It is also natural and inevitable that our economic relations will grow by leaps and bounds. We will form unbeatable partnerships, if we combine our unique strengths and the size and scale of opportunities in India.

We will see more investment and trade. We will open new doors in the Services sector. We will collaborate more - here and in India - in defence equipment and technology. We will work together on renewable and nuclear energy. We will explore the mysteries of science and harness the power of technology and innovation. We will realise the opportunities of the digital world. Our youth will learn more from - and with - each other.

But, a relationship as rich as this, with so much promise as ours, cannot be measured only in terms of our mutual prosperity.

Mr. Speaker,

In defining the purpose of our partnership, we must turn to a great son of India, whose house in London I shall dedicate to the cause of social justice on Saturday. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, whose 125th birth anniversary we are celebrating now, was not just an architect of India's Constitution and our parliamentary democracy. He also stood for the upliftment of the weak, the oppressed and the excluded. And, he lifted us all to a higher cause in the service of humanity; to build a future of justice, equality, opportunity and dignity for all humans; and, peace among people.

That is the cause to which India and the United Kingdom have dedicated themselves today.

Thank you very much, thanks a lot. ■

## Queen Elizabeth II hosts lunch for PM at Buckingham Palace

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met Queen Elizabeth II over lunch for the first time during his visit to the UK that saw Britain and India ink deals



worth 9-billion pounds. Shri Modi arrived at the Buckingham Palace on the second day of his maiden three-day visit to UK.

The 89-year-old Queen greeted Modi at the Grand Entrance of her London palace, shaking hands with him before they moved on to inspect items from the Royal Collection, brought out specially for the Indian Prime Minister's visit.

The luncheon with the Queen was an indication of the closeness of the ties between India and the UK. Soon after the lunch, Shri Modi headed to the iconic Wembley Stadium to address a 60,000-strong audience at the 'UK Welcomes Modi' event. ■

## NDA govt announces FDI reforms in 15 major sectors

**S**hri Narendra Modi led NDA government on November 10 eased FDI norms in 15 major sectors, including mining, defence, construction, real estate, civil aviation, broadcasting and LLPs to boost growth and drum up investment. It also raised FIPB approval limit to Rs 5,000 crore from Rs 3,000 crore. "The crux of these reforms is to further ease, rationalise and simplify the process of foreign investments into the country and to put more and more FDI proposals on automatic route instead of government route where time and energy of the investors are wasted," the government said.

While 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been allowed in DTH, cable network and plantation crop, overseas investment limit in uplinking of news and current affairs TV channels has been raised to 49 per cent from 26 per cent.

The government relaxed conditions for FDI in single-brand retail and allowed 100 per cent FDI under automatic route in duty-free shops and Limited Liability Partnerships (LLP) and eased foreign investment norms in the defence sector.

It has also raised the FIPB's monetary limit to Rs 5,000 crore from Rs 3,000

- **100 per cent FDI allowed in plantation of rubber, coffee, cardamom, palm oil tree and olive oil tree.**
- **Govt relaxes FDI policy in single-brand retail, allows cos to sell products through e-commerce**
- **Regional air services allowed foreign investment up to 49 per cent under automatic route**

crore for approving FDI proposals.

"The government's decision on liberalising FDI policy is a welcome step and is part of improving ease of doing business. These decisions come into force with immediate effect," Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das said.

In the construction development sector, minimum capitalisation norms and floor area restrictions have been removed. The government has also eased exit norms for foreign players in the sector.

"Hundred per cent FDI under automatic route has been allowed in completed projects for operation and management of townships, malls/shopping complexes and business centres," the commerce and industry ministry said in a statement.

In the defence sector, 49

per cent foreign investment has been allowed under the automatic route and anything beyond through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) nod. Earlier, the investors were required to take approval of Cabinet Committee on Security for foreign investment above 49 per cent.

"Portfolio investment and investment by Foreign Venture Capital Investor (FVCIs) will be allowed up to permitted automatic route level of 49 per cent," it clarified.

In case of infusion of fresh foreign investment within the permitted automatic route level, resulting in a change in the ownership pattern or transfer of stake by existing investor to new foreign investor, government approval will be required."

In the broadcasting sector, 100 per cent FDI has been allowed in DTH, teleports, mobile TV and cable networks. Of this, 49 per cent will be allowed under automatic route and beyond that will need FIPB nod.

In the case of terrestrial broadcasting FM (FM radio) and uplinking of news and current affairs' TV channels, the foreign investment limit has been raised from 26 per cent to 49 per cent under the approval route. ■

## Jan Dhan Yojana 5.37 crore bank a/cs deposits grow from Rs 4.27 lakh to Rs 27,000 crore in a year

**W**hat could have turned out to be another political rhetoric, may just turn out to be a profitable business proposition for the government after all. At least, that's the idea one gets if one looks at government's financial inclusion related figures in the name of Jan Dhan Yojana accounts.

Since its launch in September last year, the share

%." "This is a healthy sign, and will empower women in taking independent household decisions." "With saving deposits balance, banks can now target those healthy accounts offering new products," he said.

India's banking barometer SBI has conducted a large random sample study of Jan Dhan accounts opened by lenders. Pulak Ghosh, a professor at IIM Bangalore,

of the active" accounts where higher number of transactions taking place. The average balance in rural regions has increased to about Rs 2,000 from a mere Rs 250.

"With increasing throughput as well as deposit balances, these accounts are likely to become profitable in due course, particularly if credit products are also enabled by persisting balances," said Saugata Bhattacharya, chief economist, Axis BankBSE -0.13%.

"The significant drop in zero balance accounts indicates both increased transfers of central and state government subventions (NREGA, LPG subsidies, etc) via these accounts, as well a development of a savings habit."

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has earned global accolades for such a governmental flagship programme. With rising transactions, the use of indigenous RuPay card and Aadhar-based identification numbers too are deeply entrenched in the system.

The government's financial inclusion drive is now taking deep root, with more people opting for bank transactions than cash dealings, at least the latest data from Jan Dhan Yojana accounts signal that. ■

(By Saikat Das, Courtesy ET)



**Prime Minister's  
Jan Dhan Yojana**

**India's Biggest  
Financial Inclusion  
Drive**

of non-operative or zero balance accounts has slid to 36 per cent from 77 per cent earlier. About 19 crore accounts have been opened with about Rs 27,000 crore balance; it was a meagre Rs 4.27 lakh in 5.37 crore bank accounts more than a year ago, show government data.

"The dip in zero account is due to higher cash deposits from West India and rising remittances from Eastern India," said Soumya Ghosh, chief economic advisor at State Bank of IndiaBSE 1.16

was also part of the exercise.

The survey found faster growth in active accounts across all geographies. At least one transaction takes place in a month in an active account. The average of the number of active accounts has grown 25 times between August 2014 and May 2015.

Rural west has triggered most active accounts, followed by the rural north. Semi-urban regions in the east and south are also showing an exponential growth. The bank has also coined "active

## Sarbananda Sonowal appointed Assam BJP President

**B**JP National president Shri Amit Shah appointed Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal on 11 November 2015 as Assam BJP President and also as the head of election management committee ahead of next year's Assembly polls.

Making the announcement, Union Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar said Himanta Biswa Sarma, a state Congress heavyweight who had recently joined BJP along with many Congress MLAs, will be the committee's convener.

Shri Sonowal currently holds independent charge of Sports and Youths Affairs Ministry.

Shri Javadekar said, "This is the beginning of our election preparation for Assam. In 2016, BJP will return to its winning ways".

Shri Sonowal (53), who was All Assam Students Union president and AGP leader before joining BJP in 2011, headed the party's Assam unit before he was made a Minister in the Narendra Modi government.

BJP won most Lok Sabha seats in Assam in 2014 elections and expects to repeat its feat in the Assembly polls

likely to be held in April-May.

Noteworthy, the term of Siddhartha Bhattacharya, who was appointed head of Assam BJP, ended in October.

Shri Javadekar said



Bhattacharya has been appointed as the party's national spokesperson for north eastern states. He will also be one of the three vice-chairmen of the election management committee along with MPs Shri Ramen Deka and Shri Rajen Gohain.

SarvShri Bijoy Chakraborty, Kamakhya Tasha, Rajdeep Ray, Vijay Gupta and Mohammad Awal are the members of the election committee.

Shri Javadekar said Congress is in power in Assam for the last 15 years and Assam was ready for a change and cited BJP's victory in local body elections as an evidence of its strong position. "The way Congress has ruled in the state no section of society is

happy," he said.

"It is a huge responsibility, and I believe in taking all sections of people with me," Shri Sonowal said after his appointment. Shri Sonowal's appointment as state BJP chief is significant because it was under his presidentship that BJP had won seven of the state's 14 Lok Sabha seats, at the same time also restricting the ruling Congress to an all-time low of just three seats. Shri Sonowal had earlier given up the state president's post on

being made a union minister last year.

"Shri Sonowal is a very dynamic leader under whom we had won seven Lok Sabha seats in 2014. With Shri Sonowal at the helm of affairs once again, the BJP is sure of sweeping the ensuing state assembly election," Guwahati MP Shri Bijoya Chakravarty said.

"I congratulate Shri Sonowal and look forward to winning the assembly election in a big way under his leadership," Shri Bhattacharyya said.

The BJP meanwhile is launching its election campaign in Assam with National President Shri Amit Shah attending a huge rally in Dibrugarh. ■

## BJP victorious in various panchayats in Kerala

The BJP that was elated over the first ever instance of winning majority seats in two gram panchayats in Thiruvananthapuram got the control of two more panchayats on 19 November 2015. The BJP also emerged victorious in Vilavoor and Maranallur panchayats.

Likewise, BJP had won 10 seats in Kalliyoor grama panchayat that comprises a total 20 wards. LDF and UDF won five and four seats respectively. The lone independent candidate also voted in favour of BJP. R Jayalakshmi was elected the president of Kalliyoor panchayat.

In Venganoor panchayat, where BJP had clear majority, G S Sreekala was elected president. BJP has won two block panchayat seats and one district panchayat seat for the first time in local body elections.

With the election of BJP candidates as president and vice president of the Thiruvananthapuram Grama panchayat, the party has achieved a milestone in the district. It is for the first time that the party is able to ascend to power on its own in a panchayat in the district. The party has six members in the 13-member panchayat. The



UDF and the LDF have five and two members respectively. The LDF members kept themselves out of the election held on Thursday, paving the way for the election of BJP members.

BJP presidential candidate Jalaja Raveendran won the election by securing six votes against five polled by the UDF. Mohanan Valiaveetil of the BJP won the vice presidential election defeating the UDF candidate by a margin of one vote.

Asked about the future of the panchayat as the party does not enjoy absolute majority in the local body, Shri Velliampulam Parameswaran, BJP district president, told the media that there were no apprehensions on continuity in power for the next five years. Queried whether the LDF and the UDF would join hands to unseat the BJP regime, he said such a scenario was not expected. However, in case of such a development, it would expose the real political stand of both the fronts, he said.

BJP is also able to play a

decisive role in determining the fate of a number of local bodies in Alappuzha as well as other districts. It was part of a decision made by the State unit of the party not to have any alliance with the UDF or the LDF.

The BJP has improved its tally in the local body elections in the district in comparison to the 2010 polls. The party has 120 members in the grama panchayats in the district now as against 49 seats in 2010. As many as 107 won contesting on the party symbol while 13 as Independents with BJP support.

In the case of municipal elections, the party won 28 seats including five Independents. The party did not have members in municipalities in the district in the 2010 polls. The party has four members in the Alappuzha municipality now.

In Haripad, the party has one member and an Independent. It has seven members in Kayamkulam. In the Mavelikara municipality, it has nine members including an Independent. In Chengannur, the party has three members and an Independent. Two members belonging to the Kerala Congress led by P.C.Thomas, a partner of the BJP, also won in Chengannur. ■

## Prameela Sasidharan BJP's first chairperson in Palakkad, Kerala

**S**mt. Prameela Sasidharan had a choice of parties in 2000, when Puthoor division of Palakkad municipality became reserved for women. Until 2000, Smt. Prameela Sasidharan, now 51, had never planned to join

woman," said Smt. Sasidharan, a former insurance agent. "The Congress, the CPM and BJP had then approached me. Although my parents have been traditionally loyal to Congress, I decided to join



electoral politics. Fifteen years after she did, she finds herself making history as the first BJP member ever to head an urban municipal body in Kerala.

Now that the post of Palakkad municipal council chief became reserved for women, the BJP elected Smt Sasidharan its chairperson. The party has already emerged as the single largest in Palakkad municipality, the first urban governing body in Kerala that it is going to rule.

"In 2000, women reservation had sent political parties searching for a local

BJP at the behest of my husband."

In the next civic polls in 2005, she opted for a general seat and won. She changed

constituencies after every election, but luck remained with her. Over the last 15 years, she saw the BJP gaining strength in the municipal area. "When I contested in 2000, the party won only 15 seats. This increased to 17 in 2005 but came down to 15 in 2010. This time, the BJP has won 24 seats out of 52 in the municipality. We have emerged much stronger in a triangular contest," she said.

Smt. Sasidharan said Palakkad would become the showpiece civic body of the BJP. The party has high stakes in municipal governance since assembly elections are due in April, she said.

"By initiating development schemes, we will reach out to more people. The party and the municipal council have to work together to put up a fight in the assembly elections," she said. ■

### **BJP to provide one crore to the people affected by flood in Tamil Nadu**

Bharatiya Janata Party announced an amount of Rs.1 crore to the people affected by flood in Tamil Nadu in accordance with the decision of National President Shri Amit Shah. It may be noted that in recent past natural disaster, flood have resulted in loss of large amounts of public properties. The Party has constituted a three member delegation to estimate the loss of public properties affected by the disaster, which soon will submit its report to Hon'ble National President. ■

# BJS & Kashmir's Constitutional Position

-Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya

*The problem of Jammu-Kashmir has been haunting India since independence. Bharatiya Jana Sangha was in the forefront of addressing the problem of Jammu-Kashmir and questioned separatist tendencies fueled by faulty policies and misdirected approach. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya tried to address this question from BJS perspective in an article published in Organiser in 1960. We are publishing his ideas under the title "BJS & Kashmir's Constitutional Position" in two parts for better understanding of BJS position on Jammu-Kashmir. The first part is published below for our esteemed readers:*

**B**haratiya Jana Sangh can legitimately claim the credit for having saved the State of Jammu and Kashmir for India. While making this statement we do not mean to disregard the heroic part played by our valiant armed forces in defending and freeing the State from Pakistani invaders. If Pakistan still continues to illegally occupy a part of the State it is not because our military could not or cannot regain it but because they are not allowed to do so. But even that part which the Indian soldiers and the Indian people including those of Kashmir had liberated from the aggressor could not have existed as an integral part of India but for the vigilance and continued agitation involving great suffering and sacrifice of the Praja Parishad in the State and the Bharatiya Jana Sangh in the rest of the country. The Government had followed a policy which would have undone all that than military had done. Sheikh Mohd. Abdullah wanted to dispose what

**Abdullah wanted to dispose what Maharaja Hari Singh had proposed. How Pandit Premnath Dogra and Doctor Syama Prasad Mookerjee foiled his attempts and forced the Prime Minister to change his Kashmir policy is a story too well-known to need recounting. After the martyrdom of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah the direction of the Kashmir policy had changed.**

Maharaja Hari Singh had proposed. How Pandit Premnath Dogra and Doctor Syama Prasad Mookerjee foiled his attempts and forced the Prime Minister to change his Kashmir policy is a story too well-known to need recounting. After the martyrdom of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah the direction of the Kashmir policy had changed. Instead

of going farther and farther away from India, the Government of J & K began to move closer to the motherland. But it will be wrong to suppose that the integration of the State with Bharat has been achieved simply by a change in the direction a few steps since taken have, of course, furthered this process or integration, but still there remains much to do while people in general, being ignorant of details, are in different to the curious constitutional provisions, so long as things go on smoothly. Jana Sangh has all along been watchful of the provisions of the constitutional relationship of the State with India. And we shall not feel secure till the State stands on par with other states of the country.

The removal of the permit system, the extension of the full jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and that of the Election Commission are some steps in the right direction that have been taken recently. The legislature of the J & K State passed a bill to



that effect and consequently the President made an order in that behalf. It has fulfilled a long standing demand of the people in the State. It was in February last that Bharatiya Jana Sangh observed Kashmir Day throughout the country. It seems that Government of Jammu Kashmir felt that they could no longer continue these irksome provisions. They acted wisely, for may be by would have meant greater

of Articles 218, 220 and 222 have also been extended to that State. Articles 218 and 222 have also been extended to that State. Article 218 gives security to the judges of the High Court and they can act more freely in the discharge of their duties in dispensing justice. They cannot be removed excepting after an address by each house of the parliament. The President has also been empowered to transfer judges to and from

concerning Jammu and Kashmir State without the concurrence of the State Government. Declaration of an emergency in case of foreign invasion is the only exception to the rule.”

Sovereignty in Kashmir is supposed to reside in the people of Kashmir and the Government of State, People are not allowed to deal with the Union in their individual right. They are represented in all matters connected with the Union by, and through, the Legislative Assembly and the Government of the State. The Union similarly cannot exercise any right in the State except with the concurrence of the State Government and the State Legislature; so far as the Indian Constitution is concerned simply an order of the President under Article 270 is deemed sufficient to make all sorts or amendments in the provisions of the Constitution as applicable to J & K State.

The parliament is not asked to pass or discuss it. But the president cannot make this order unless the State Legislature has already enacted in that behalf. The real power is not with the President but with the State Government. Similarly the citizens of J & K State are not allowed to elect their representatives to the Lok Sabha. They are nominated by the president. But the nominees must be earlier elected by the State Legislative Assembly.

*To continue..*

**It was in February last that Bharatiya Jana Sangh observed Kashmir Day throughout the country. It seems that Government of Jammu Kashmir felt that they could no longer continue these irksome provisions. They acted wisely, for may be by would have meant greater agitation by the people. The permit system was abolished later on 1st April, 1959, and a few months later the amending bill with regard to other provisions was also adopted.**

agitation by the people. The permit system was abolished later on 1st April, 1959, and a few months later the amending bill with regard to other provisions was also adopted.

Article 136 of the Constitution is now applicable also to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Accordingly the Supreme Court can act not only as a court of appeal but also as an original court in certain matters. It can exercise discretion in “granting special leave to appeal from any judgement, decree, sentence or order in any cause or matter passed or made by any court or tribunal in the State of Jammu & Kashmir as in the rest of the country. Provisions

the High Court of the State, but he can exercise this power only in consultation with the Sadar-I-Riyasat. It is surprising why this limiting clause should have been added to the provisions of Article 222. The President issues an order of transfer only after consulting the Chief Justice of India. In the case of the J & K High Court he will be required to consult the Dadri-riyasat also. It may look simple, but it denotes a basic difference between the constitutional provisions of the J & K State and other States. While in respect of all other states the President can exercise power in his own discretion, he cannot do so with regard to any matter

## Ashok Singhal – architect of Hindu awakening

**S**hri Ashok Singhal, the architect of Hindu awakening and leading light of Shri Ram Janam Bhoomi Andolan who led the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to become largest Hindu organization in the world breathed his last at a hospital



in Gurgaon near Delhi on 17 November 2015. The 89-year-old leader was admitted to the Medanta Medicity Hospital in the city on November 13 in critical condition.

He was suffering from respiratory problems for over a month. In a message posted on Twitter, PM Narendra

Modi has said “The demise of Ashok Singhal ji is a deep personal loss. He was an institution in himself, whose life was centred around serving the nation.”

“Ashok” means ‘without sorrow’ or ‘not causing sorrow’ and “Singhal” means “L i o n ” .

This way the former Maharaja of Travancore His Majesty Late Uthradom Thirunal Marthanda Varma in God’s own Country Kerala, affectionately interpreted Ashokji’s name and eulogized him for being “Ashok” inside and a “L i o n ”

outside.

The rallying calls of Shri Ashokji Singhal during the Sri Rama Janma Bhumi Movement always thrilled and exalted the Ram devotees. We may call him a Sannyasin, Cyclonic Monk in white wear or a warrior, but he identified himself as a Pracharak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak

Sangh. He was born on Ashwin Krishna Panchami (September 27, 1926) in the home of his maternal grandfather in Agra. He was the fourth sibling amongst his seven brothers and a sister.

The Singhal family was a native of village Bijouli in Aligarh District, Uttar Pradesh. His father Sri Mahavir Singh Singhal held a high rank in the administrative services. The family often hosted visitors from the class of people endowed with character, spirit of service and sacrifice and dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge, who kept themselves away from positions of pelf and power, that is, monks, Yogis and religio-spiritual scholars. So, from his very childhood Ashokji developed a love for Hindu Dharma, that is, the Rishi-Krishi Kulaachar (Culture). While studying at Prayag (Allahabad), Rajju Bhaiyya made him a Swayamsevak in 1942. Rajju Bhaiyya rendered and elucidated the Sangh Praarthana (Prayer) to Ashokji’s mother Smt. Vidyawatiji. Impressed by it she allowed Ashokji to join the Sangh Shakha.

He earned an engineering degree in metallurgy from the Banaras Hindu University (BHU).

Sangh was banned in 1948

and he courted arrest under the Satyagrah movement and suffered incarceration. After coming out of the jail, he sat for his final examinations.

In 1950, renouncing the temptations of his family riches and splendours, he became a Pracharak.

In the capacity of a Pracharak, initially he served regions such as Gorakhpur bordering Nepal, Prayag, Saharanpur and mainly Kanpur. He was very close to Sarasanghachalak Sri Guruji. In Kanpur, he came in contact with the eminent scholar of the Vedas Shri Ramchandra Tiwari.



Ashokji considered these two outstanding personages as having profoundly moulded his life. In 1975 during the fight against the Emergency, ban on Sangh and autocracy of Indira Gandhi, he mobilised people on a large scale. After the Emergency, he became the Prant Pracharak of Delhi and Haryana.

In the VHP, Ashokji held posts of Joint General Secretary (1982-1986), Secretary General (1986-1995), Working President (1996-June 2005) and President (2005-December 2011).

After this, he played the role of Patron, continued with his itinerant life in Bharat and abroad, and oriented Karyakartas as a friend, philosopher and guide and had rendezvous with Sant-Mahatmas and like-minded leading figures from all walks of life. ■

“The demise of Ashok Singhal ji is a deep personal loss. He was an institution in himself, whose life was centred around serving the nation.”



**-Narendra Modi**

“Despite having born in a prosperous family, he gave up everything in his youth and took to the service of the nation. His entire life was dedicated to Mother India. It is an irreparable loss to the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, VHP and the entire nation.”



**-Amit Shah**

“Singhal remained international working president of Vishwa Hindu Parishad for over 20 years and was the chief architect of the Ramjanmabhoomi movement. I have had the privilege of interacting with him on a number of occasions. He was a man of sound knowledge and committed ideals. I mourn Shri Ashok Singhal’s passing away. May the departed soul rest in peace”



**-L.K Advani**

“Ashok Singhal ji was a modern saint, in his death, we have lost a saint-like person. He worked hard to set up VHP and expand it nation-wide and helped bring all religious leaders on one platform to create harmony. His death is a big loss to social and religious fields. His entire life was dedicated to the service of the nation and society.”



**- Sumitra Mahajan**

# Terrorism is the principle global challenge : Modi

After finishing his three days visit to Britain Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to Antalya in Turkey to attend two-day summit of G20.

During his interventions at the G20 Summit, Prime Minister Shri Modi said that terrorism is the principle global challenge and sought a

against radicalisation without any political consideration.

Shri Modi said terrorism is the main global challenge today and “from regions in conflict to the streets of distant cities, terrorism extracts a deadly price”.

“Old structures of terrorism remain. There are countries that still use it as an

legal framework to deal with the unique challenges of terrorism,” he said.

Shri Modi said the world is seeing a changing character of terrorism with “global links, franchise relations, home-grown terrorism and use of cyber space for recruitment and propaganda”.



unison global action to deal with the menace.

The two-day summit, which ended on November 16 was overshadowed by terror attacks in Paris which left over 129 people dead and more than 352 injured.

Pressing for the need to delink terror from religion, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said some countries still use terrorism as “an instrument of state policy” and the world must act

instrument of state policy.”

“The world must speak in one voice and act in unison against terrorism, without any political considerations. There should be no distinction between terrorist groups or discrimination between states.

“We must isolate those who support and sponsor terrorism; and, stand with those who share our values of humanism. We need to restructure the international

While there is a new level of threat to pluralist and open societies, the territory of recruitment and the target of attacks are the same, and that is society, he added.

Modi said the global framework for security was defined for another era and for other security challenges and there was no comprehensive global strategy to combat terrorism.

“And, we tend to be selective in using the

instruments that we have," he said and asked G20 leaders to adopt a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism "without any delay".

He also pressed for increased international cooperation in intelligence and counter-terrorism.

"We should strengthen efforts to prevent supply of arms to terrorists, disrupt terrorist movements, and curb and criminalise terror financing. "We have to help each other secure our cyber space, and minimise use of the Internet and social media for terrorist activities," he added.

Modi also called for involving religious leaders, thinkers and opinion makers for a social movement against extremism, particularly addressed to the youth.

"This is needed most in countries where it is most prevalent. We need to delink terror and religion and work together to counter radicalisation.

"It is equally important to promote broader peace and stability in West Asia and Africa," he said while adding this was also required for addressing the current refugee crisis.

Stating that there were an estimated 60 million people in need of protection worldwide, Modi said the West Asian crisis has directed global attention to this acute humanitarian challenge.

"It also has wide-ranging impact in receiving countries. We thank the countries that have opened their borders and shelters.

We also need a long-term approach and a stronger role for the United Nations in dealing with one of our greatest human challenges across the world," he added. Shri Modi raised the issue of terror on various occasions on the first day of the two-day G20 Summit.

Besides, he also held bilateral meetings on the sidelines, including with Australian Prime Minister Mr. Malcolm Turnbull.

The two Prime Ministers announced completion of procedures for the India-Australia Civil Nuclear Agreement to bring the pact into force.

Modi also met Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, and Jean Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, on the margins of G20 Summit, which ends today.

## PM Modi Features in Personalised Stamps for G20 Leaders

A personalised postage stamp featuring Prime Minister Shri Narendra was issued by Turkey in remembrance of the just concluded G20 Leaders Summit in Antalya, Turkey.

The stamp of 2.80 Turkish lira bears a picture of Shri Modi and the Indian national flag. It has 'Narendra Modi - Prime Minister of Republic of India' written at the bottom.

Personalised stamps of G20 Turkey Summit Leaders were presented by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in remembrance of G20 Turkey Leaders Summit, the official twitter handle of G20 Turkey Leaders Summit tweeted.

In all, 33 stamps including of the leaders of the 19 biggest and most powerful economies of the world and the European Union were issued.

PM Shri Modi attended the Summit in this Turkish resort town on November 15 and 16.

Other world leaders featured include US President Barack Obama, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, UK Prime Minister David Cameron, Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and European Council President Donald Tusk.

Even though French President Francois Hollande cancelled his visit to the Summit due to the Paris killings, a stamp in his honour too was issued. ■

# Terror is terror : Stop the game of alibis

By M.J. Akbar

**T**oo many protégés of big powers are selling that poison weed labelled 'Your gunman is a terrorist, my gunman is a freedom-fighter', and their mentors are buying into this fallacy.

The terrorist assault on cities began in Mumbai: not Mumbai 2008, but Mumbai 1993. A series of coordinated bomb blasts in February 1993 had an impact far greater than the destruction of half a dozen buildings. The thesis that a humungous metropolis constitutes a soft spot has been proved often since 1993 across the world. It is porous, and therefore particularly vulnerable to those whose only objective is terror, best achieved by the killing of innocents wherever they can be found. Nothing is sacrosanct: school, hospital, railway station, stadium, music arena. Terrorists are mass murderers; mass urbanization offers them a hunting ground. It once required armies to raze a city. Technology has changed the equation between offence and defence. A few can inflict the dread that once needed a host of uniforms.

The assault on New York, more familiar as 9/11, was perhaps the most dramatic, not least because of unbelievable visuals that still live on airwaves. But New

**The terrorist assault on cities began in Mumbai: not Mumbai 2008, but Mumbai 1993. A series of coordinated bomb blasts in February 1993 had an impact far greater than the destruction of half a dozen buildings. The thesis that a humungous metropolis constitutes a soft spot has been proved often since 1993 across the world.**

York was not alone. Equally famous Western cities were hit and hurt, leaving each one in uproar, rage, horror, pain – and, in all cases till date, still groping for a comprehensive answer to a vicious problem. Nations have improved their tactical capacity to defend their cities, but have been singularly unable to agree upon the counteroffensive needed to bring terrorist masterminds to justice.

This deadlock is a recipe for ruin. Terrorists have expanded their reach, improved their weapons and increased their recruits. We can no longer dismiss the possibility that nuclear

contamination might be within their reach. If we are hapless in a confrontation with conventional weapons, what will we do when they use unconventional ones? Those on a suicide mission do not care how they die. What they care about is how many they will take with them.

Responsible governments now know that you cannot wreck a country in search of elusive militias. Iraq was an expensive folly. Responsible leaders recognise that you cannot blame a whole religion, Islam, for the sins of a few Muslims. It was a coincidence, but just hours before the anguish of Paris hit our consciousness, Prime Minister Narendra Modi noted that the spirit of Islamic Sufism has been and remains the antidote to guns and terrorism. This is the kind of understanding that requires reinforcement. In practical terms, however, what next? We cannot deny a simple fact. Nations who have been worst hit by terrorism remain ambivalent about the hunt for the mastermind, pursuing a quarry only when it suits them rather than as a principle. We hear the same clichés on the day of a tragedy. Once memory cools, politics and clever advocacy of geostrategic options prevail. The killers in Paris

were puppets. The puppeteer is sitting in some sanctuary somewhere else. As long as he can survive with impunity, protected by vested interests that could include local governments, this malevolence will not ebb.

ISIS has been attracting volunteers from western Europe, particularly England and France. The Trojan horse does not have to be dragged through city gates by stealth. The horse is living quietly within its target city, if not with a regular job then at least with social security. This will have consequences in the whole of Europe, most emphatically in the next round of elections, further reducing liberal space.

Initial reports say that ISIS was behind the havoc in Paris. On paper this simplifies the search; in real life this extends the problem. ISIS has, uniquely, been attracting volunteers from western Europe, particularly England and France. The Trojan horse does not have to be dragged through city gates by stealth. The horse is living quietly within its target city, if not with a regular job then at least with social security. This will have consequences in the whole of Europe, most emphatically in the next round of elections, further reducing liberal space.

The present governments have only themselves to blame. There cannot be much hope if they are still unable to agree upon a definition for

**Why cannot Dawood Ibrahim, who does not bother to refute allegations that he heads a Mafia operation, be picked up from his sanctuary in Karachi and brought to trial? Why should Saeed continue to taunt India and the West from his safe haven in Lahore, and surely plan for a second Mumbai-style attack?**

terrorist that can be accepted by the United Nations. Language is not the problem. Too many protégés of big powers are still selling that poison weed labelled “Your gunman is a terrorist, my gunman is a freedom-fighter”, and their mentors are buying into this fallacy.

There has to be a beginning to the way forward. Perhaps we can return, logically, to where it all began, Mumbai. For

decades we have identified who organised Mumbai 1993, Dawood Ibrahim. Over the last few years, America has directly helped in the arduous collection of evidence against Hafiz Saeed, head of the Lashkar-e-Taiba and architect of Mumbai 2008. America has acknowledged as much in joint statements with India. Why cannot Dawood Ibrahim, who does not bother to refute allegations that he heads a Mafia operation, be picked up from his sanctuary in Karachi and brought to trial? Why should Saeed continue to taunt India and the West from his safe haven in Lahore, and surely plan for a second Mumbai-style attack? Instead of bringing both to justice, Dawood and Saeed have mentors in Islamabad who have upgraded their security.

When will this game of alibis get over? If it continues, Paris will continue. ■

*(The writer is BJP National Spokesperson)*

## Union Cabinet approves 4 Railway projects worth Rs 8,351.32 crores in Odisha

Union Cabinet approves 4 Railway projects worth Rs 8,351.32 crores in Odisha . 3 Railway lines to be doubled; one to get two additional tracks. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for doubling of Kottavalasa-Koraput Railway line of 189.278 km with a completion cost of Rs.2977.64 crore. Doubling of Kottavalasa-Koraput Railway line Doubling of this line will greatly ease the ever increasing freight traffic between these sections thereby increasing the revenue of Railways. The project is likely to be completed in the next seven years during 12th and 13th Plan period.

## Rajasthan will certainly gain from the new investment chapter that India is writing : Arun Jaitley

**R**esurgent Rajasthan Partnership Summit 2015 hosted by Government of Rajasthan in association with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was inaugurated by Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley. Shri Arun Jaitley said that, Rajasthan is a land of history. Its cities, villages literally symbolize that history.

One of the most important aspects of its history has been the ability of its people of Marawar region who specialize not only in earning but multiplying money. If you go to any part of India or

outside you will find thousands of those who migrated out of Rajasthan and they art of doing business. This investor summit shows that investments are flowing in Rajasthan and that the state has found its core areas.

He said India, in the last few months has been following a policy with renewed vigour of attracting investments into the country. Public investment has significantly increased and so has FDI increased

considerably, private sector investment is also slowly picking up. We have eased all the rules as far as investment is concerned he said.

He said I am sure Rajasthan as an extremely progressive state, is certainly going to gain from this new investment chapter that India

Rajasthan is being formed. Imran Khan's efforts at developing apps for educational purpose have earned Rajasthan a good name. Bhamasha Scheme will strengthen the state. The state is land of unending opportunities. Agriculture has contributed a lot towards



is writing.

Addressing the gathering CM Smt. Vasundhara Raje gave a picture of how there is overall development in the state and said on the occasion "It is a historical day for Rajasthan. For the development of the state I need support of all. With investments flowing in there will be ample opportunities for growth. When states will become strong India too will become strong."

She said a new identity of

development of the state. Now from agriculture we will move towards economics of manufacturing. Rajasthan is good state for mining and tourism sectors.

CM Smt. Vasundhara Raje said PM Modi has strengthened the institutions and ensured states can prosper well. Rajasthan will be a leading state in developing and supporting MSMEs. With the support of everyone we will grow. We all will reinvent Rajasthan.



Private sector will have to work hand in hand with the state government. Our efforts for development are bearing fruits. Skill development will improve chances of development. I wholeheartedly thank all the investors who have shown faith on us.

Urban Development Minister Shri Venkaiah Naidu said that, all Union Ministers have come here to show their solidarity with the initiative of Chief Minister Smt. Vasundhara Raje. He said the only mantra of Modi Government is development. Without the support of business leaders success can't be achieved. Request you all to support the development. If you want money, employment opportunities and growth you have to give importance to investments. He said Four cities from Rajasthan have been nominated for Smart City this is a big achievement. Our mission is housing for all.

He said Rajasthan has shown tremendous growth when it comes to Smart City or Mission Clean India. Government at the centre will always support journey of Rajasthan's development journey. PM Modi's policies are appreciated by the world and the image of India has greatly improved in the world recently.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by numerous ministers, foreign dignitaries and business leaders. (FOC)■

## PM Modi condemns attack & describes it as an attack on humanity

On the evening of 13 November 2015, a series of terrorist attacks, consisting of mass shootings, suicide bombings, and hostage-taking, occurred in Paris, the capital of France, and its northern suburb, Saint-Denis. The attackers killed 130 people, including 89 at the Bataclan theatre, where they took hostages before engaging in a three-hour stand-off with police. 368 people were injured, 80-99 seriously. Seven of the attackers also died, while authorities continued the search for accomplices. The attacks were the deadliest against France

since World War II and the deadliest in the European Union since the Madrid train bombings in 2004. The Islamic



State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) claimed responsibility for the attacks and French President François Hollande said the attack was "an act of war" by ISIL, "planned in Syria, organised in Belgium, perpetrated on our soil with French complicity."

France had been bombing various ISIL targets in Iraq and Syria since October.

Describing the terror assaults in France as an "attack on humanity", Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi asked the UN to define terrorism before it is too late so that the world knows who is backing terror and who is against it.

Shri Modi said, "What happened in Paris is an attack on humanity and the world should accept that it is not an attack on Paris, not an attack on French citizens, not an attack on France but an attack on humanity."

"It is an attack on humanitarian principles that is why all the powers that believe in humanity have to come together to condemn such attacks. All pro-humanity forces should unite to defeat anti-humanity forces. They will have to fulfil their responsibilities," he added. (FOC)■

# Legacy of JP

- P. Parameswaran

*Lok Nayak Jay Prakash Narayan is considered a towering figure in Indian political history who has inspired generations through his political commitment and steely resolve in bringing an end to the emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi on the country. He is remembered as a fearless freedom fighter, torch bearer of socialism and a Gandhian to the core. We are reproducing the IIIrd part of the article attempting to understand his political journey and his legacy from renowned journal Manthan published in December 1979 for our esteemed readers:*

## The Pattern

During his long years of struggle for the achievement of India's freedom and for its rebuilding, JP has given a good deal of thought as to the pattern India should evolve and the method she should adopt for it. Even though there were many developed countries in the world, JP did not believe that there was anyone of them which India could copy as a model. He was very well conversant with the two main categories of advanced countries— the affluent west and the communist. He conceded that there was much in both the western and eastern models that is of abiding value and that the developing countries should accept and assimilate. "But there are in both models essential characteristics that should be rejected. In the western model, the ruling ethic is that of individualism and competition, it being assumed that in the process the weaker will be driven to the wall. There is also an excessive emphasis on the satisfaction of material needs and their consequent multiplication, leading to serious imbalances.... The drive towards urbanisation, resulting in the monster of the megalopolis,

has destroyed the community, divorced urban from the rural and forcibly alienated man from nature. The result of all that is a distorted growth of man and society. On the other hand, the communist model also presents a distorted picture of human and social development. It strikes at the very root of man, by denying the primacy of his spirit and. by deliberately suppressing it."

After giving due weight to the experiences of these two models of development, JP came to the conclusion that "the new countries should, therefore, while rejecting both these models, must take from them what is of value and conducive to a balanced spiritual and material growth of man and society."

For India, JP believed, Gandhiji provided the ideas and inspiration for building up such a new model of development. "Gandhiji's political, economic and other ideas are parts of an integrated philosophy of life," says JP. Of course, he did not have the opportunity to put his ideas into practice, because at the threshold of his most creative period, his life was abruptly cut short. But JP believed that the essentials of his philosophy do

offer a basis for discussion; and a dynamic understanding of them might even help one to relate them to contemporary society.

According to JP, the supreme consideration for Gandhiji was man. Having placed man at the centre of the society, Gandhiji tried to solve the intricate problem of their interrelationship, which neither the individualism of the west nor the collectivism of the east could solve. "Gandhiji tried to resolve it by introducing a moral solvent, by assigning mutual moral responsibilities to both. While the well-being of the individual was a social aim, the well-being of society too was to be assured. In Gandhiji's concept of society, both were interdependent. Neither society was to grow at the cost of the individual, nor the individual at the cost of the members of the society.... Willing submission to social restraint for the sake of well-being of the whole society enriches both the individual and the society of which one is a member." Gandhiji's idea of the individual and the society is contained in a famous passage which reads thus:—"It (the world society of men) will be an oceanic circle whose centre will be the

individual, always ready to perish for the village, the latter ready to push for the circle of villages, till at last the whole becomes one line composed of individuals, never aggressive in their arrogance, but even humble sharing the majesty of the oceanic circle of which they are integral units."

The question that faced JP while considering the problem of rebuilding India was what shape the political, economic and social institutions of the future should take. What will be the pattern we evolve in order to embody the lofty ideas described above? He was firmly convinced that "every institution of society grows out of its own peculiar soil and is nourished and nurtured by its own unique climate and environment. He was clear that no borrowed institution can thrive unless it is properly acclimated and integrated. He knew that during India's long history her institutions have acquired a certain character which is uniquely Indian."

JP was also aware of the fact that "all our present political and administrative institutions are foreign transplantations in planting these to their precursors on Indian soil, the British paid no regard whatever to India's own political patterns, ancient or contemporary. After the end of the British rule, the fathers of the Indian Constitution, including the politicians and experts, again paid no heed to the traditions and deepflowing springs of Indian life. The result, to say the least, has not been happy." When the Constitution of free India was framed, the

**The question that faced JP while considering the problem of rebuilding India was what shape the political, economic and social institutions of the future should take. What will be the pattern we evolve in order to embody the lofty ideas described above?**

founding fathers never consulted Gandhiji, nor did Gandhiji take any living interest in it, so much so the village panchayats which according to Gandhiji were to be the main springs of India's democracy found no place in the Indian Constitution.

Based on Gandhiji's concept of Gramraj, which is also the primary basis of ancient Indian polity, JP had tried to sketch his ideas of the political set up of independent India in an article which he wrote with the title, 'Building up from the village.' He posed the question, "How the atomised village of today, which has no collective will of its own, can be integrated into a real self-governing community and make a stable foundation of Indian polity is the most important question of national reconstruction." The set up he visualised was thus:- "The primary political institution is naturally the primary community, the village with its appropriate political organs, including a council. The village council will deal with all local matters and would possess the maximum power and initiative

in regard to them. It would be natural for a number of these villages or municipal councils to be integrated together in an area council covering a large or small area as the circumstances might dictate. These area councils will be concerned with the local problems of their area and will be fully competent to deal with them. There may again be integrated in a district council and so on till we reach the national parliament, which will be the integration of the state assemblies." In one of his writings 'Gandhi and the Politics of Decentralisation', JP approvingly refers to Gandhiji's picture of ever-widening, never ascending circles of communities, and quotes from his speech at the Round Table Conference. According to Gandhiji, "700,000 villages of - India will be organised according to the will of their citizens, all of them voting. These villages, each having one vote, will elect their district administrations. The district administrations will elect provincial administrations which in turn will elect a president who will be the national chief executive." Summing up his impressions of Gandhiji's view in the matter, JP considers that his political structure would have been based on organised communities, rather than the amorphous mass of disparate individual voters. It also seemed to him certain that in his decentralised and self-regulated order, there would have been no place for power seeking political parties, though enough place for different schools of political thought.

*To continue...*

# Science of Relaxation

By Swami Sivananda

**Savasana:** "Sava" means 'dead body.' When one performs this Asana, it gives the appearance of a dead body. So it is named Savasana. This is a closing pose. You will have to do this after doing all the exercises.

**Technique:** Spread a soft blanket and lie supine (on the back). Keep the hand on the ground by the sides. Let the legs be straight. Keep the heels together and the toes separated. Close your eyes. Now relax all the muscles of the body. Breathe slowly and rhythmically. Forget all your bubbling emotions and direct all your thoughts internally. Relax all muscles, nerves and organs. Start the relaxation process from the toes. Then proceed to the calf muscles, gastronemius, solens and plantaris muscles, muscles of the neck, face, etc. See that the abdominal organs, heart, chest, brain are also relaxed. Have an order. Do not sleep. In this pose you will enjoy perfect peace, ease, comfort and relaxation. You will have to experience beneficial results of this Asana. This must be done at the end of all the exercises. Then only the course will be complete.

**Benefits:** The pleasant and exhilarating feeling can only be realised by those who can successfully do this Asana. Words cannot adequately



describe the feelings. Every one of you should enjoy it. If you are tired from a hard work, perform this Asana for 5 minutes. You will be fit again to continue your hard work with the same vigour. This is a blessing for all hard workers. If you like, you can practise the relaxation by lying in an easy chair after finishing your Asanas or exercises. Those who know relaxation can take a small nap for ten minutes at any time they like. Busy people, doctors and lawyers should know the science of relaxation. They can relax the mind also and take rest in the waiting rooms of railway stations and bar rooms as well. They will be quite fit for further activity in the courts or the dispensary. Relaxation refreshes a man completely.

Students, journalists, busy lawyers, doctors and businessmen should know the science of mental relaxation. They should practise it also

daily. Those who do not possess a knowledge of this science of internal and external relaxation waste their physical and mental energy considerably. Those who practise relaxation can conserve their physical and mental energy and utilise it to their best advantage. Yogis know this science well. They are perfect masters of this useful science. Those who practise relaxation will never experience fatigue. They close their eyes for a few minutes even while standing and get themselves ready for further work. Energy flows in their nerves when they relax just as water flows when the tap is opened.

Relaxation is a very important factor in muscular exercises. In Hala, Sarvanga, Paschimottan, Dhanur and Ardha-Matsyendra Asanas all the muscles of the body are stretched and contracted to an enormous degree. During intense muscular activity, the metabolism is increased. Metabolism is the anabolic and catabolic changes that take place in the body (wear and tear in the system). The muscles that are put under severe strain demand relaxation and rest. It is Savasana that promptly and efficiently ensures complete relaxation and perfect ease.

*(Courtesy: The Divine Life Society)*