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'TIRANGA YATRA IS TO AWAKEN THE SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM AMONG THE CITIZENS'

HAR GHAR TIRANGA



'MAKE HAR GHAR TIRANGA A MEMORABLE MASS MOVEMENT'



Glimpses of the Chief Minister's Council meeting in the esteemed presence of PM Shri Narendra Modi and BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda with Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers of all BJP-ruled states at the BJP Headquarter in New Delhi on 27 July, 2024



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and other senior BJP leaders of Gujarat on the occasion of "Tiranga Yatra" in Rajkot, Gujarat on 10 August 2024



BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda listening to 112th episode of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's "Mann ki Baat" with party's senior leaders & BJP Chief Ministers & Deputy Chief Ministers at BJP HQ, New Delhi on 28 July 2024



Union Home and Cooperative Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurating the 24x7 water supply project under the 'Smart City Mission' in Chandigarh on 04 August 2024



Union Home and Cooperative Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurating the 'e-sakshya' and 'Nyaya Setu'; cutting-edge technologies to power our criminal justice system in Chandigarh on 04 August 2024

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SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

@Narendramodi

Today (5 August) we mark 5 years since the Parliament of India decided to abrogate Articles 370 and 35(A), a watershed moment in our nation's history. It was the start of a new era of progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. It meant that the Constitution of India was implemented in these places in letter and spirit, in line with the vision of the great men and women who made the Constitution. With abrogation came security, dignity and opportunity for the women, youth, backward, tribal and marginalised communities who were deprived of the fruits of development. At the same time, it has ensured that corruption, which plagued J&K for decades, has been kept at bay. I assure the people of J&K and Ladakh that our government will keep working for them and fulfil their aspirations in the coming times. (05 August, 2024)



@JPNadda

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs Chaired by Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji has approved the development of 8 important National High Speed Corridor projects with a length of 936 km at a cost of ₹50,655 crore across the country. Infrastructure development is key to a country's economic success and the well-being of its people. Under the visionary leadership of PM Modi ji, our Government has focused on substantial investments in road infrastructure over the last ten years to realize the vision of 'Viksit Bharat@2047'.



(02 August, 2024)

@AmitShah

Over the last ten years, Modi Ji has elevated Bharat's infrastructural standards to a world-class level by building a sprawling network of highways across the nation. Further advancing this vision, the Union Cabinet today approved a ₹50,655 crore megaproject to develop 8 National High-Speed Road Corridors throughout Bharat. These corridors will unlock the nation's untapped economic potential by substantially reducing travel time and generating massive employment. My heartiest congratulations to Modi Ji on this decision.

(02 August, 2024)



@Rajnathsingh

On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of India's freedom fighter, Arthanareesa Varma, I pay my tribute to him. He was a visionary poet, fearless journalist, and spiritual leader. Through his writings and activism, he inspired a generation to rise against colonial British rule, kindling an unquenchable thirst for freedom in the hearts of many. His contribution to India's freedom struggle will always be remembered. (27 July, 2024)



@Nirmala Sitharam

There is a narrative about us 'not doing anything' about the middle class & them being 'angry' with us. I want them to understand that this country had 98% taxation in one of the earlier regimes, which also never cared about the fundamental rights of the citizens. The regime which brought in the Emergency. And, for the corruption that happened between 2004-14, the public of India would have been much better if that money would have been in the coffers rather than the pockets of a few dynastic leaders. (07 August, 2024)



@B L Santhosh

Selfless service has been the hallmark of BJP from the days of its inception. True to this spirit @BJP4Keralam Karyakartas lending their helping hand to Central & State relief agencies in Wayanad . #WayanadLandslide

(01 August, 2024)



8 years of GeM
POWERING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

9.8 lakh crore GMV to date

Rs 1 lakh crore public money saved

GMV: Gross Merchandise Value
Source: GeM



KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR
wishes a very happy
SHRI KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI (26 AUGUST)
to all of its readers



Aspirations of the country and its citizens are paramount

The 'Har Ghar Tiranaga Abhiyan' has become a mass movement rekindling the spirit of national unity and patriotic fervour among people since its inception. The appeal of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to change the profile picture on social media platforms with the tricolour has seen a huge response, with millions of people joining the movement. As millions of homes across the nation are seen hoisting tricolours, adding colours to the national festival, people full of enthusiasm carry forward the message of togetherness and solidarity, making the national flag a beacon of hope and trust in the nation's journey towards realising the dreams of 'Viksit Bharat'. The participation of children, women, and youth in this movement is not only remarkable but ensures that the coming generation of the nation is prepared to march on the path of development, peace, unity, mutual trust, and amity. The movement has also become an occasion to remember the national heroes and to take inspiration from their sacrifices by organising cleanliness drives on national memorials and garlanding the statues of great leaders. While the 'Har Ghar Tiranaga Abhiyan' has seen the entire nation celebrating the independence day with profound zeal and passion, the nation also observes 'Vibhajan Vibhishika Smruity Divas', remembering the horrors of partition and sharing the pains of millions of people who, along with their families, suffered miserably for generations.

As millions of homes across the nation are seen hoisting tricolours, adding colours to the national festival, people full of enthusiasm carry forward the message of togetherness and solidarity, making the national flag a beacon of hope and trust in the nation's journey towards realising the dreams of 'Viksit Bharat'

The budget session of parliament has concluded with 136% productivity in Lok Sabha and 118% productivity in Rajya Sabha. While discussions on budget saw the participation of a large number of members in both houses, many bills were introduced and passed in the parliament. The much discussed Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, proposed to amend the Waqf Act, 1995, to rationalise the extraordinary and arbitrary powers of the Waqf Boards while improving their administration and management. The Congress-led opposition's claim that the bill undermines the interests of the Muslims by diluting the provisions related to management of waqf property is devoid of merits on the grounds that the existing Act provided overbroad powers to the waqf boards to identify and declare any property as "waqf" on the basis of past claims. The existing Waqf Act, 1995, has vested the Waqf Boards with extraordinary powers that affected the lives

of many ordinary Muslims and their property while making extraordinary claims to appropriate land from non-Muslims. Moreover, in 2013 and 14, the then Congress-led UPA government made two successive efforts to make further malafide amendments to the Act to give unbridled powers and completely exempt it from any oversight, along with stringent penal provisions for unauthorised occupation of waqf land. As the bill has been sent to the Joint Parliamentary Committee now, it is expected that the Congress-led opposition will rise above vote-bank politics and help in building consensus for better administration and management of Waqf properties in the interest of women, children, and backward and poor sections of the Muslim community.

In the NITI Aayog meeting, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has rightly emphasised that the vision of 'Viksit Bharat' can be realised through 'Viksit States' and that the aspiration should reach the grassroot level. He called upon the NITI Aayog to focus on aspirational district programs, investment-friendly charters, river grids at the state level, demographic management plans, and creating a state vision for 2047. In his inaugural address to the CII session on 'Journey towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference', he emphasised the speed and scale of the work done in the last 10 years and the political will, intent, and commitment of the government in realising the vision of 'Viksit Bharat'. There is no doubt that the aspirations of the country and its citizens are paramount to the Prime Minister, who is working tirelessly to pave the path for 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. ■

BJP National President launches nationwide "Tiranga Yatra" at Rajkot, Gujarat

"TIRANGA YATRA" IS TO AWAKEN THE SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM AMONG THE CITIZENS: JP NADDA



BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda inaugurated the party's nationwide "Tiranga Yatra" from Rajkot, Gujarat on 10 August 2024. He flagged off the Tiranga Yatra and also participated in it. Prior to this, he paid homage at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi and also remembered Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the champion of national unity and integrity. The "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign will continue until August 15, aiming to celebrate the Tricolor by hoisting it in every home and establishment, spreading a message of unity and patriotism across the state. During the event, Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, State BJP President Shri C.R. Patil, former Chief Minister Shri Vijay Rupani, senior leaders Shri Raghav Patel, Shri Purushottam Rupala, Shri Vinod Chavda and Mayor Smt. Naina Ben, along with other party leaders were present

Addressing on the occasion, the BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said as we embark on this "Tiranga Yatra" and witness the Tricolor everywhere, it evokes memories of the freedom struggle and the era that shaped our nation. We must remember that Gujarat played a pivotal role in crafting the image of the Independent India we know today. This land, known for its heroes and saints, is also the land of those who fought valiantly for our freedom. The nation can never forget the immense contribution of Mahatma Gandhi, who was instrumental in leading us to independence.

Gujarat has a significant contribution to 'India in the Making'

The BJP National President said it is our privilege that Mahatma Gandhi's connection is also with the sacred land of Gujarat, who contributed to the country's independence. On this day, we cannot forget Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. It's easy to say, but remember when this country was gaining independence, it was divided into 562 princely states. Uniting 562 princely states was no easy task, but the 'Iron Man of India', Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, born from the soil of Gujarat, united all 562 states within just 2 years of independence, making



PM Modi urges citizens to change the profile picture having tricolour on social media

ALSO URGES TO SHARE SELFIE WITH TIRANGA ON HARGHARTIRANGA.COM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has urged citizens to change their profile picture having tricolour on social media platforms. Shri Modi changed his profile picture to tricolour to celebrate Independence Day. He urged everyone to do same to make Har Ghar Tiranga Movement a memorable mass movement.

Shri Modi also urged everyone to share selfie with Tiranga on harghartiranga.com. In a X post, the Prime Minister said; "As this year's Independence Day approaches, let's again make #HarGharTiranga a memorable mass movement. I am changing my profile picture and I urge you all to join me in celebrating our



Tricolour by doing the same. And yes, do share your selfies on harghartiranga.com" ■

India great. It is our privilege that the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, also has a connection to this sacred land. He has committed himself to realising the dream of 'Amrit Kaal' and 'Viksit Bharat'. Gujarat has a significant contribution to 'India in the Making' or 'India as a Developed Nation' or 'India as a Nation'.

Tiranga Yatra will reach every taluka and every mandal

Shri Nadda said this Tiranga Yatra commenced here in Rajkot, will continue tomorrow in Surat, and then move on to Vadodara and Ahmedabad. However, this Tiranga Yatra will reach every taluka and every mandal. It will cover every taluka, and the Tiranga Yatra will continue until August 15. We will make this program a success, with the slogan 'Har Ghar Tiranga'. Young friends must remember that our freedom was not easily obtained. It was not given to us just like that. Thousands of our young people sacrificed their lives for this freedom. Lakhs of families sacrificed themselves in the struggle for independence. They did not experience comfort, or peace, their sole focus was to bring freedom to our India. They contributed in every possible way to this cause. This is why today India obtained freedom.

Many individuals here embody the essence of Gandhi and Sardar Patel. I pay my respects to them for helping

@Jagat Prakash Nadda

As we approach this year's Independence Day, to celebrate and commemorate this day of national pride, I am changing my profile picture to our Tricolour under Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji's visionary initiative #HarGharTiranga. I also urge everyone to join this collective celebration by doing the same and sharing your selfies on <http://harghartiranga.com> to make this initiative memorable. This movement ignites a sense of unity, patriotism, and pride in every Indian, reminding us of the sacrifices made during our freedom struggle.

us remember Gandhi and Sardar Patel and for reflecting on our history. They remind us of how, with profound patriotism, countless people laboured relentlessly to secure our nation's freedom. Their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment ultimately compelled the British to leave India.

August 9: When Gandhi declared "Quit India"

The BJP National President remarked that India cannot forget August 9. It is a sacred day when Gandhi declared "Quit India." This was not just a slogan; it became the voice of every household, challenging the

British in every home. It signified that India belonged to its people, and the British had to leave. Many movements were carried out, but we must acknowledge that if the Quit India Movement had not taken place during that period, we would not have achieved independence on August 15, 1947. The Quit India Movement played a crucial role in our freedom, leading to the country's independence. Shri JP Nadda said under Shri Narendra Modi Ji's leadership, the country is progressing at a rapid pace, reaching new heights. Shri Nadda urged the young people present at the event to utilize this 'Amrit Kaal', as envisioned by the Prime Minister, and to work towards ensuring that by 2047, India will be a developed nation.

Transforming India into 'Viksit Bharat'

Shri Nadda stated that our brave soldiers sacrificed their lives to secure our country's freedom. Just as they protected the nation at its borders, keeping us safe and secure, it is our duty to make the most of this freedom. We must leave no stone unturned and dedicate ourselves fully to transforming India into 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047 during this Amrit Kaal. We should resolve to commit our lives to this goal. This is the very essence of the Tiranga Yatra.

3rd largest economy within next 3 years

The BJP National President highlighted that, under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership, while global economic powers are faltering and the economic situation of developed countries is shaky, India has surged from being the 11th largest economy in 2014 to becoming the 5th largest economy. It is now our responsibility under Prime Minister Shri Modi's guidance, to make India the 3rd largest economy within the next three years as part of this Tiranga Yatra.

India will stand as a developed nation by 2047

There was a time when India used to import iron from China and meet our steel requirements from abroad. Today, India has made a remarkable leap from being the fourth-largest steel producer to becoming the second-largest steel producer in the world. In the automobile industry, India has surpassed Japan to become the third-largest automobile market. Today, 97% of mobile phones are manufactured in India. There was a time when we used to import defence

Highlights

- The purpose of the Tiranga Yatra is to awaken the spirit of patriotism among the citizens, to foster respect for the national flag, and to remember the fighters associated with the freedom movement.
- The Tiranga is the pride, honour, and dignity of the nation, and we must always uphold it.
- The contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Chandrasekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose can never be forgotten.
- At the time of independence, India was divided into 562 princely states. Uniting them was no easy task, but Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel brought these 562 states together within two years of independence, creating "Mera Bharat Mahaan"
- Not a single Congress leader has visited the Statue of Unity in Kevadia to pay respect.
- Congress leaders display fake nationalism, view society through a political lens, divide communities for political gain, and serve their own interests.
- The goal and celebration of the "Tiranga Yatra" will only be complete when every citizen of the country pledges to advance India and work towards the creation of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047.
- Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country is advancing rapidly and reaching new heights.
- The nation has united to realize the dream of 'Viksit Bharat'.

equipment from abroad, including bulletproof jackets. Soldiers on the border, particularly from hilly regions, had lacked bulletproof jackets. Today, not only do we have bulletproof jackets, but we are also exporting them to the world. This is a reflection of India's changing image. Previously, India was known for scandals in defence deals and corruption. Today, under the "Make in India" initiative, India is manufacturing a significant portion of its defence equipment domestically. India is now producing fighter jets, helicopters, and automatic weapons. India is fully prepared to be 'Atma Nirbhar' in defence, and all this progress is happening under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Therefore, it is our responsibility to realize his vision and

Ensure the success of the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign: JP Nadda

**BJP will hold 'Tiranga Yatra' events in every assembly constituency
on August 11th, 12th, and 13th 2024**

In a Press Release on 08 August 2024, BJP National General Secretary Shri Tarun Chugh on the Party's Nationwide "Har Ghar Tiranga" Campaign said the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, in the 112th edition of his popular program "Mann Ki Baat" in July 2024, called for the celebration of the "Har Ghar Tiranga" program as a national festival. Since 2022, the Bharatiya Janata Party has been celebrating the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign with great zeal and enthusiasm alongside the people of the country. The "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign will once again see widespread participation from citizens across the country.



BJP made extensive preparations for this event

The Bharatiya Janata Party has made extensive preparations for this event. BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda will lead the celebrations on July 29th, 2024. A circular has been issued directing national officials to ensure the campaign's success by forming a seven-member committee, led by Shri Tarun Chugh, National General Secretary of BJP. The seven-member committee comprises the BJP National General Secretary Shri Tarun Chugh, National President of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha Shri Tejasvi Surya, National President of Mahila Morcha Smt Vanithi Srinivasan, National Secretary Shri Anil Antony, former Union Minister Shri V. Muraleedharan, MLA Shri Trilok Jamwal and the BJP National Spokesperson Shri Guru Prakash Paswan.

For the success of "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda

issued a circular on July 29, instructing officials to ensure the success of the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign. In line with these instructions, meetings with BJP state officials, Morcha teams, district heads, and district teams are being held continuously across the country. Meetings are also taking place with district and divisional committees for the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign. Following the National President's directive,

all states are conducting virtual meetings with BJP representatives, including MPs, MLAs, MLCs, Mayors, and council leaders. To ensure the campaign's success, party representatives, national and state officials, and local workers are working tirelessly around the clock.

BJP will hold 'Tiranga Yatra' events in every assembly constituency

Bhartiya Janta party will hold 'Tiranga Yatra' events in every assembly constituency on August 11th, 12th, and 13th 2024. On August 12th, 13th, and 14th, floral tributes and garlands will be presented to freedom fighters and war memorials nationwide. On August 14, Partition Remembrance Day will be observed in all districts, including a silent march.

On August 13th, 14th, and 15th, the Tiranga will be displayed at all homes and businesses, turning the entire country into a sea of saffron, white, and green. All party officials, leaders, and public representatives will take part in Independence Day events. Bharatiya Janata Party aims to ensure that the Tiranga reaches every booth across the nation. ■

work towards ensuring that by 2047, we achieve these goals. You will witness, and through your efforts, India will stand as a developed nation by 2047. This dream will become a reality, and your contribution will be crucial.

'Bharat Jodo Yatra'

Shri Nadda said on this auspicious occasion, there is no need to make any remarks about the opposition. However, it is important to remind the patriots and the Congress members that the nation can never forget Sardar Patel's contribution to the freedom struggle. The country will always remember it. Yet, through Congress lens, they seem to see only one family.

The Congress forgot the contributions of Chandrasekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and the contributions of lakhs of people and leaders who dedicated their lives to freeing India from British rule. They only remember only one family. Shri Nadda pointed out that not a single leader from the Congress party has visited the Statue of Unity to pay their respects to Iron Man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai who united the 562 princely states to create this great India. These individuals with such narrow and limited thinking were taking out 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'.

Country is progressing under PM Modi

BJP National President mentioned those individuals who view the country through a political lens, those who divide society for political gain, and those who break apart communities to serve their own interests. Indians and our youth will show them the clear difference between right and wrong. They will reveal the truth to them. And the truth is that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country is progressing.

Shri Nadda said the true spirit, purpose, and celebration of the Tiranga Yatra will be realized only when this resolution of a developed India is fulfilled. Shri Nadda voiced his confidence that school and college students, along with all participants, will join the Tiranga Yatra to strengthen and carry forward this resolution. He concluded by extending his best wishes to everyone involved in the Tiranga Yatra. ■

Ministry of Culture celebrate 'Har Ghar Tiranga' from August 9-15

Union Minister of Culture and Tourism Gajendra Singh Shekhawat announced on August 08, 2024 that the third edition of the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign will be celebrated from August 9-15 as part of the Independence Day celebrations.

Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, the Minister said that the initiative aims to instill a spirit of patriotism and national pride among citizens by encouraging every Indian to hoist the national flag, the Tiranga. The Minister urged the citizens to hoist the Tiranga at their homes and click a selfie with the flag.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister stated that the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign launched under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav in 2022 has grown into a people's movement, embraced by diverse segments of society across the country. In 2022, the national flag was hoisted at more than 23 crore homes and 6 crore people uploaded their selfies with the flag. In 2023, over 10 crore selfies were uploaded under the HGT campaign.

The Minister further informed that all states and Union Territories are actively participating in the celebrations, ensuring the campaign's success.

Key industry partners--e-commerce platforms, railways, civil aviation sectors, the Indian armed forces, and the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)--are also playing an active role in disseminating information and promoting the campaign. Self-help groups across the country are actively contributing to large-scale flag production and availability. This collaborative effort is turning the vision of honouring the national flag into reality and another milestone celebration of the people of India, he added.

The statement added that a special Tiranga bike rally featuring Members of Parliament is set to take place in Delhi on August 13 at 8 am. The rally will start from Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi and end at Major Dhyani Chand Stadium, passing through India Gate.

In his latest 'Mann Ki Baat episode' on July 28, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also urged the citizens to hoist the Tiranga at their homes to mark Independence Day and continue the tradition of 'Har Ghar Tiranga' which has seen huge public participation in the last two years, the statement added. ■



PM CHAIRS 9TH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING OF NITI AAYOG

Collective efforts of Centre and States will lead to realising the vision of 'Viksit Bharat': PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog on 27 July 2024. The Meeting was held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi. It was attended by Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors representing 20 States and 6 UTs.

Work together in order to achieve the vision

The Prime Minister emphasised on cooperation and collective effort of all States and the Centre to work together in order to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. The Prime Minister observed that India has achieved steady growth in the past ten years. Indian economy, which was ranked 10th largest economy in the world in 2014, has risen to become the 5th largest economy by 2024. He added that now the collective aim of the government and all citizens is to become the third largest economy in the world.

This is the decade of change

The Prime Minister said that this is the decade of change which brings a lot of opportunities across sectors. He encouraged States to utilise these opportunities and make policies and initiate governance programmes that are conducive for development through innovative approaches in policy making and execution.

He observed that the vision of Viksit Bharat can be realized through Viksit States, and that the aspiration of Viksit Bharat should reach the grassroot level i.e. to each district, block, and village. For this, each State and District should create a vision for 2047 so as to realise Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

Aspirational Districts Programme

The Prime Minister appreciated the Aspirational Districts Programme anchored by NITI Aayog, and observed that the key to its success was continuous and online monitoring of measurable parameters, which led to healthy competition among districts to better their performance in different government schemes.

Prime Minister emphasised skilling and training of youth to make them employment-ready as the world looks favourably towards India for skilled human resource.

'Investment-friendly Charter'

He encouraged States to provide an investor-friendly environment. He directed NITI Aayog to prepare an 'Investment-friendly Charter' of parameters which would include policies, programmes and processes to be put in place for attracting investments. The States may be monitored on the achievement in these parameters to promote healthy competition among them for attracting investments. He also underscored the importance of law and order, good governance and infrastructure as vital for attracting investments, rather than just incentives.

River Grids at State level

The Prime Minister encouraged the creation of River Grids at State level for effective utilization of water resources. He suggested that we must target Zero Poverty as a priority for Viksit Bharat. He emphasized that we need to tackle poverty on an individual basis rather than just at a programme level. He observed that removing poverty from the grassroots would bring about a transformational effect in our country.

Demographic Management Plans

The Prime Minister encouraged States to initiate Demographic Management Plans to address the issues of population ageing in future. The Prime Minister asked the States to take up capacity building of government officials at all levels and encouraged them to collaborate with the Capacity Building Commission for the same.

Create a State Vision for 2047

The Chief Minister/Lt. Governors gave various suggestions for the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 and also discussed steps being taken in their States. The Prime Minister directed NITI Aayog to study the suggestions of States and UTs made during the meeting. ■

“The speed and scale at which NDA government is building infrastructure is unprecedented”

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference' organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on 30 July 2024. The conference aims to present the outline for the Government's larger vision for growth and the industry's role. More than 1000 participants from industry, government, the diplomatic community and think tanks among others attended the conference in person while many connected from the various CII centers across the country and overseas.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that the nation can never fall back when its citizens have achieved stability in every aspect of life and are filled with enthusiasm. He expressed gratitude towards the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for inviting him to address the occasion.

Putting forth some facts from the recently presented Budget, the Prime Minister compared the current Budget of Rs 48 Lakh Crore with the Rs 16 Lakh Crore Budget of 2013-14, an increase of three times. Capital Expenditure, the biggest measure of resource investment was 90 thousand crore rupees in 2004, which was taken to 2 lakh crore in the 10 years upto 2014, a 2 times increase. In comparison, this important indicator has reached beyond Rs 11 Lakh crore today a more than 5 times increase.

Record increase in every sector's budget

Reiterating that his government is determined to look after every sector of the Indian economy, the Prime Minister said, "If you will look at different sectors, you will get an idea as to how India is focussing on each one of them." Drawing a comparison with the previous government, Shri Modi said in the last 10 years, the budgets of railways and highways have seen an increase of 8 times. Meanwhile, the agricultural and defence budgets have witnessed a jump of more than 4 and 2 times, respectively.

The Prime Minister emphasized that the record increase in every sector's budget has been carried out after record deductions in tax. The Prime Minister informed, "In 2014, MSMEs earning Rs 1 crore had



to pay presumptive tax, now MSMEs with income up to Rs 3 crore can also take advantage of this. In 2014, MSMEs earning up to Rs 50 crore had to pay 30 percent tax, today this rate is 22 percent. In 2014, companies used to pay 30 percent corporate tax, today this rate is 25 percent for companies with income up to Rs 400 crore."

25 crore people have risen out of poverty

"Nation is moving forward with the resolutions of

Viksit Bharat”, PM Shri Modi said as he mentioned that 25 crore people have risen out of poverty in the last 10 years, and emphasized the government’s efforts to increase ease of living and boost quality of life.

The Prime Minister said that the government is highly focused on skill development and employment keeping in mind Industry 4.0 standards. The Prime Minister gave examples of Mudra Yojna, Startup India and Stand Up India campaigns, and informed that more than 8 crore people have started new businesses. He stated that India is home to 1.40 lakh startups employing lakhs of youth. Referring to the much-praised PM Package worth Rs 2 lakh crore in this year’s budget, the Prime Minister said that it will benefit more than 4 crore youth.

Commitment of ‘Nation First’

The Prime Minister said that the government’s intent and commitment are very clear and there is no diversion in its direction. The Commitment of ‘Nation First’ is reflected in the 5 trillion dollar economy goal, saturation approach, emphasis on Zero Effect-Zero Defect and pledge of Aatmnirbhar Bharat or Viksit Bharat. He highlighted the focus and emphasis on expansion and monitoring of schemes.

The Prime Minister touched upon the aspect of manufacturing in the Budget. He mentioned Make in India and simplification of FDI rules in various sectors along with multi-purpose logistics parks, PLI for 14 sectors. This Budget has announced plug-and-play investment-ready investment parks for 100 districts of the country. “These 100 cities will become new hubs of Viksit Bharat”, he added.

MSMEs

Sharing his government’s vision to empower the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), the Prime Minister said they have addressed the challenges faced by them along with providing them with the required facilities.

Bhu-Aadhar card

The Prime Minister underlined some points in the budget such as increased allocation for nuclear power generation, Digital Public Infrastructure for agriculture, Bhu-Aadhar card for providing number to land parcels of farmers, Rs 1000 crore venture capital

fund for space economy, Critical Mineral Mission, and upcoming auction of offshore blocks for mining. “These new announcements will open new avenues of progress”, he said.

Sunrise sectors

Highlighting that opportunities are being created, especially in the sunrise sectors as India is on the onset of becoming the third-largest economy in the world, the Prime Minister expressed the need to make a name in the Semiconductor Value Chain to play a crucial role in the future. Therefore, the Prime Minister said, the government is laying emphasis on promoting the semiconductor industry.

Aspirations of the country and its citizens are paramount

The Prime Minister stressed “Our government has no lack of political will. For us, the aspirations of the country and its citizens are paramount.” Calling India’s private sector a strong medium for creating a Viksit Bharat, the Prime Minister said that wealth creators are the main driving force of India’s growth story. He said India’s policies, commitment, determination, decisions and investments are becoming the basis of global progress.

Highlights

- “Today we are discussing - journey towards Viksit Bharat. This is not just the change of sentiment, this reflects change in confidence”
- “India’s growth and stability is an exception to this uncertain world”
- “We are ensuring 'Ease of Living' and 'Quality of Life' for all our citizens”
- “India’s fiscal prudence despite the pandemic is role model for the world”
- “The intent and commitment of our government is very clear. There is no diversion in our direction”
- “Our government has no lack of political will. For us, the aspirations of the country and its citizens are paramount.”
- “I consider industry, and also the private sector of India, as a powerful medium to build a developed India” ■

India is a food surplus country today: PM Modi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE) at National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex, New Delhi August 3, 2024. The theme for this year's conference is, "Transformation Towards Sustainable Agri-Food Systems." It aims to tackle the pressing need for sustainable agriculture in the face of global challenges such as climate change, natural resource degradation, rising production costs and conflicts. Around 1,000 delegates from around 75 countries took part in the conference.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister expressed delight that the International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE) is taking place in India after 65 years. He welcomed all the dignitaries on behalf of 120 million farmers, more than 30 million women farmers, 30 million fishermen and 80 million animal keepers from India. "You are in the land which is home to more than 500 million livestock. I welcome you to the agricultural and animal-loving country of India", Shri Modi said. He mentioned the existence of whole science behind the medicinal properties of food.

'Krishi Parashar'

The Prime Minister stressed that agriculture grew on the foundation of this thousands-year-old vision, mentioning 'Krishi Parashar', an almost 2000-year-old treatise on agriculture based on this rich heritage. The Prime Minister pointed to a robust system of agriculture research and education in India. "ICAR itself boasts of more than 100 research institutes", he said. He further informed that there are more than 500 colleges for agriculture education and more than 700 Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

Highlighting the relevance of all six seasons in agricultural planning in India, the Prime Minister mentioned, "Be it farming on the land, the Himalayas, in the desert, water-scarce regions or coastal regions, this diversity is crucial for global food security and makes India a ray of hope in the world".



India is a food-surplus country

Recalling the last International Conference of Agricultural Economists that took place in India 65 years ago, the Prime Minister mentioned that India was a newly independent nation making it a challenging time for India's food security and agriculture. Today, the Prime Minister said, India is a food surplus country, the largest producer of milk, pulses and spices, and the second largest producer of food grain, fruits, vegetables, cotton, sugar, tea and farmed fish. He recalled the time when India's food security was a matter of concern for the world while today, India is providing solutions to global food and nutrition security. Therefore, the Prime Minister said that India's experience is valuable for discussions on food system transformation and is sure to benefit the global south.

'Vishwa Bandhu'

PM Shri Modi reiterated India's commitment to global welfare as a 'Vishwa Bandhu'. He recalled India's vision for global welfare and mentioned various mantras put forward by India on various fora including 'One Earth, One Family and One Future', 'Mission LIFE', and 'One Earth One Health'. Shri Modi underlined India's approach of not viewing the health of humans, plants and animals in silos. "Challenges before sustainable agriculture and food systems can

only be tackled under the holistic approach of 'One Earth, One Family and One Future'", he said.

"Agriculture is at the center of India's economic policies"

"Agriculture is at the center of India's economic policies", the Prime Minister underlined as he mentioned that the 90 percent of small farmers of India who own little land make for the biggest strength of India's food security. He pointed out that a similar situation is prevalent in several developing countries in Asia making India's model applicable. Giving the example of natural farming, the Prime Minister said that the positive results of promoting chemical-free natural farming on a large scale can be seen in the country. He also mentioned a big focus on sustainable and climate-resilient farming in this year's budget as well as developing a complete ecosystem to support India's farmers. Highlighting the government's emphasis on research and development related to climate-resilient crops, the Prime Minister informed that nearly nineteen hundred new climate-resilient varieties have been handed to the farmers in the last 10 years. He gave examples of rice varieties in India that require 25 percent less water than traditional varieties and the emergence of black rice as a superfood. "Black rice from Manipur, Assam and Meghalaya is the preferred choice due to its medicinal value", he said, adding that India is equally eager to share its related experiences with the world community.

Shri Anna

The Prime Minister also acknowledged the seriousness of the nutrition challenge along with water scarcity and climate change. He presented Shri Anna, Millet as a solution given the superfood's quality of 'minimum water and maximum production'. PM Modi expressed India's willingness to share India's millet basket with the world and mentioned the last year being celebrated as the International Year of Millets.

Mentioning the initiatives to link agriculture with modern technology the Prime Minister talked about Soil Health Card, solar farming leading to farmers turning into energy providers, Digital agriculture market i.e. e-Nam, Kisan Credit Card and PM Fasal Bima Yojana. He also touched upon the formalization of agriculture and the allied sectors ranging from

traditional farmers to agri startups, from natural farming to farm stay and farm-to-table. He informed that in the last 10 years, ninety lakh hectares were brought under micro irrigation. As India is fast moving towards the goal of 20 percent blending of ethanol, he said, both agriculture and the environment are benefiting.

Throwing light on leveraging digital technology in the agriculture sector in India, the Prime Minister mentioned PM Kisan Samman Nidhi where money is transferred to the bank accounts of 10 crore farmers with a single click, and a digital public infrastructure for digital crop survey that provides real-time information to farmers and enables them to take data-driven decisions. He emphasized that crores of farmers will benefit from this initiative and improve their economic condition. He also touched upon a huge campaign for the digitisation of land where farmers will be given a digital identification number for their land, and promotion of drones in farming where 'drone didis' are trained to operate drones. He further added that these steps will not only benefit the farmers of India but also strengthen global food security.

Concluding the address, the Prime Minister noted the presence of a large number of young people and expressed confidence that the next five days will witness ways to connect the world with Sustainable Agri-Food Systems. "We will learn from each other and also teach each other", he concluded.

Highlights

- "In the Indian agricultural tradition, priority has been given to science and logic"
- "India has a robust system of agriculture education and research based on its heritage"
- "India is a food surplus country today"
- "There was a time when India's food security was a global concern, today India is providing solutions for global food and nutrition security"
- "India is committed to global welfare as a 'Vishwa Bandhu'"
- "Challenges before sustainable agriculture and food systems can only be tackled under the holistic approach of 'One Earth, One Family and One Future'"
- "Small farmers are the biggest strength of India's food security" ■

PRIME MINISTER LAUDS INDIA'S PROGRESS IN ELECTRONICS EXPORTS PUBLISHED

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed immense joy over India's progress in electronics exports on 5 August, 2024. Electronics exports have reached among the top 3 positions globally. Shri Modi gave this credit to innovative Yuva Shakti. India remains committed to continuing this momentum in the times to come, the Prime Minister further added.



Union Minister for Electronics & Information technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw in a X post informed that Bharat's electronics export is now among the top 3. He has also shared a news article of Business Standard newspaper stating that driven by a surge in Apple iPhone exports from India, electronics has surged past gems and jewellery to secure the third spot among India's top 10 exports by the end of the April-June quarter (Q1) of 2024-25 (FY25).

Responding to the X post of Union Minister, Shri Modi said; "This is indeed a matter of immense joy. India's prowess in electronics is powered by our innovative Yuva Shakti. It is also a testament to our emphasis on reforms and boosting @makeinindia.

India remains committed to continuing this momentum in the times to come." ■

PRIME MINISTER CONGRATULATES CITIZENS FOR RECORD GAS PRODUCTION

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has congratulated citizens on 4 August, 2024 for a



new record towards self reliance in the field of gas production. Shri Modi said that self-reliance in the field of energy is very important in achieving the resolve of a developed India.

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri in a X post informed that the country has achieved a new record in the field of gas production. The gas production in 2020-21 was 28.7 BCM. In 2023-24, it has been increased to 36.43 BCM. The data shared by Union Minister projected that the gas production in 2026 will be 45.3 BCM.

Responding to the X post of Union Minister, the Prime Minister said; "Many congratulations to the countrymen for this achievement! Our self-reliance in the field of energy is very important in achieving the resolve of a developed India. This record of gas production is direct proof of our commitment in this direction". ■

PM EXPRESSES HAPPINESS AS ASSAM'S 'CHARAIDEO MAIDAM' IS ADDED TO UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed his happiness and pride as Assam's Charaideo Maidam added to UNESCO World Heritage list. Shri Modi said that it is a matter of

GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

immense joy and pride for India.

The Moidams at Charaideo showcase the glorious Ahom culture, which places utmost reverence to ancestors, Shri Modi further added.

The @UNESCO in an X post on 26 July 2024 announced the inclusion of Moidams in the list of @UNESCO #WorldHeritage sites. In a post, it said, "New inscription on the @UNESCO #WorldHeritage List: Moidams – the Mound-Burial System of the Ahom Dynasty, #India.

Responding to the X post of UNESCO about aforementioned UNESCO World Heritage list, the Prime Minister said;

"A matter of immense joy and pride for India! The Moidams at Charaideo showcase the glorious Ahom culture, which places utmost reverence to ancestors. I hope more people learn about the great Ahom rule and culture. Glad that the Moidams join the #WorldHeritage List." ■

CABINET COMMITTEE APPROVED THE DEVELOPMENT OF 8 NATIONAL HIGH-SPEED CORRIDOR PROJECTS

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs Chaired by Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi

8 New National High-Speed Road Corridor Projects

Cabinet approves 8 Important National High-Speed Road Corridor Projects of Total Length: 936 km at Total Cost: Rs. 50,655 crore

- 8-Lane Agra – Gwalior National High-Speed Corridor
- 4-Lane Kharagpur – Moregram National High-Speed Corridor
- 8-Lane Tharad – Deesa – Mehsana – Ahmedabad National High-Speed Corridor
- 4-lane Ayodhya Ring Road
- 4-Lane Section between Patalgaon and Gumia of Raipur–Ranchi National High-speed Corridor
- 8-Lane Kanpur Ring Road
- 4-Lane Northern Guwahati Bypass and Widening/Improvement of Existing Guwahati Bypass
- 8-Lane Elevated Nashik Phata – Khed Corridor near Pune

1/3

CABINET DECISION 26th August 2024

PM NARENDRA MODI

ji has approved the development of 8 important National High-Speed Corridor projects with a length of 936 km at a cost of Rs. 50,655 crore across the country. Infrastructure development is key to a country's economic success and the well-being of its people. Under the visionary leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi ji, the NDA Government has focused on substantial investments in road infrastructure over the last ten years to realize the vision of 'Viksit Bharat@2047'. ■

NUMBER OF MEDICAL COLLEGES IN INDIA ROSE TO 731 FROM 387 IN 2014

Noting that the NDA government has strengthened health infrastructure in India, Union Health Minister JP Nadda in Lok Sabha on Monday, said that the number of medical colleges in the country has risen to 731 from 387 in 2014. He said this during the discussion on demands for grants under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for 2024-25. "There were 387 medical colleges in the country. The number now stands at 731," Nadda said.

In addition, undergraduate medical seats have also "increased from 51,348 to 1.12 lakh, marking a 118 per cent rise, while postgraduate seats have grown by 133 per cent," the Minister said.

Shri Nadda also described people's health as the priority of the Narendra Modi government and claimed that under the leadership of PM Modi, the world's largest health scheme is being run in India. He added that "the allocation of the health budget has also increased by 164 per cent."

"The health budget in the year 2013-14 was Rs 33,278 crore, today that budget has been increased to Rs 90,958 crore," Nadda said.

He further noted that "before the first NDA government (Atal Bihari Vajpayee government), there was just one AIIMS in the country, during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led government, six AIIMS were opened.

"In the last 10 years of the Modi government, 22 AIIMS have been approved". Of these 18 are operational and four are under construction, the Health Minister informed the Parliament.

The Union Minister said that under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, "about 12 crore families, that is

more than 55 crore people, have been provided free treatment facilities up to Rs 5 lakh. And 1.73 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs have been established”.

Nadda said that the scheme, which provides free medicines and other health-related facilities including testing’ has also “reduced out-of-pocket expenditure from 62 per cent to 47.1 per cent” in the country. ■

2.60 LAKH TONS OF ONION EXPORTED

IN 2024-25, TILL 31ST JULY, 2024

Centre procures 4.68 lakh tons for price stabilisation buffer

Government on 7 August lifted the onion export prohibition from 4th May, 2024 and has allowed the export with minimum export price of (MEP) of USD 550 per MT and export duty of 40%. Till 31st July, 2024, a total quantity of 2.60 lakh tons of onion had been exported in current financial year 2024-25. Further, the Government had procured 4.68 lakh tons, majorly from Maharashtra, through NCCF and NAFED for the price stabilisation buffer. In comparison with last year (2023), the price realisation by onion farmers in current year has been much higher. The average monthly mandi modal prices of onion in Maharashtra between April and July, 2024 were in the range of Rs.1,230 to Rs.2,578 per quintal as against Rs.693 to Rs.1,205 per quintal for corresponding period last year (2023). The average procurement price of onion for the buffer in current year was Rs.2,833 per quintal which is 64% higher than the procurement price of Rs.1,724 per quintal last year.

India is a net exporter of onion and earns income from the export. The net export value earned by India for each of the last three years were Rs.3,326.99 crore in 2021-22, Rs.4,525.91 crore in 2022-23 and Rs.3,513.22 crore in 2023-24. ■

15.53 LAKH DIRECT JOBS CREATED

BY RECOGNIZED STARTUP

The Government, with the objective of building a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation, startups and encouraging investments in the startup ecosystem of the country, launched the Startup India initiative on 16th January 2016.

As per eligibility conditions prescribed under G.S.R.

notification 127 (E) dated 19th February 2019, entities are recognized as ‘startups’ under the startup India initiative by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). As on 30th June 2024, DPIIT has recognized 1,40,803 entities as startups. Since the launch of Startup India initiative in 2016, the recognised startups have reportedly created over 15.53 lakh direct jobs. ■

52.81 CRORE PM JAN-DHAN ACCOUNTS WITH

DEPOSIT BALANCE OF 2,30,792 CRORE

OPENED UNDER PMJDY

The Government initiated the National Mission for Financial Inclusion (NMFII), namely, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) in August, 2014 to provide universal banking services for every unbanked household based on the guiding principles of banking the unbanked, securing the unsecured, funding the unfunded and serving the unserved and underserved areas. This was stated by Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Pankaj Chaudhary in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha.

Since 14.08.2018, the objective of PMJDY has been to cover all unbanked adults, the Minister stated.

The Minister further stated that the PMJDY has been successful in increasing banking penetration to promote financial inclusion across the country. A total of 52.81 crore Jan-Dhan accounts with a deposit balance of Rs. 2,30,792 crores have been opened as on 19.07.2024 under PMJDY. Out of the same, 29.37 crore (55.6%) Jan-Dhan accounts belong to women and about 35.15 crore (66.6 %) PMJDY accounts have been opened in rural and semi-urban areas.

Giving more information, the Minister stated that the Government has launched various social security schemes, the coverage of which, as on 19.07.2024, is as under: -

Under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), 20.48 crore cumulative enrolments have been done to provide life insurance cover of Rs. 2 lakh for death due to any reason;

Under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), 45.08 crore cumulative enrolments have been done to provide one-year accidental cover of Rs. 2 lakh (death or permanent total disability) and Rs. 1 lakh (permanent partial disability);

Under Atal Pension Yojana (APY), 6.71 crore cumulative enrolments have been done to provide monthly pension to eligible subscribers.

Further, the Minister stated, with the objective of "Funding the Unfunded" and to promote entrepreneurship, the Government has launched various credit linked schemes, the progress of which is as under:-

Under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), 48.92 crore cumulative loans amounting to Rs. 29.93 lakh crore (as on 12.07.2024) have been sanctioned to provide collateral-free institutional finance to micro/small business units up to Rs.10 lakh for income generating activities.

Under Stand-Up India Scheme (SUPI), 2.36 lakh cumulative loans amounting to Rs. 53,609 crores (as on 15.07.2024) have been sanctioned to Scheduled Caste / Schedule Tribe and Women entrepreneurs for setting up greenfield projects.

PM Vishwakarma Scheme, launched on 17.09.2023, aims to provide end-to-end holistic support to traditional artists and craftspeople engaged in 18 identified trades through access to skill training, collateral-free credit, modern tools, market linkage support and incentive for digital transactions.

Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi) was launched on June 01, 2020 with the main objective of providing relief to street vendors affected by Covid-19 lockdown. The Scheme envisages empowering street vendors by not only extending loans to them but also for their holistic economic development.

There is a periodical review mechanism to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of these Schemes with the Banks and other concerned Stakeholders, the Minister stated. ■

8875 FPOS HAVE BEEN REGISTERED ACROSS THE COUNTRY

The Government of India is implementing the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for the "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)" scheme to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs. As on 30.06.2024, 8875 FPOs have been registered across the country. The state-wise number of FPOs registered is at Annexure.

Under the Central Sector Scheme (CSS) for the "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)", the total paid up capital to above mentioned FPOs is Rs.630.3 Crore. As on 30th June 2024, cumulative amount of 210.1 Cr. was released to eligible FPOs as matching equity grant under the aforesaid 10,000 FPOs scheme.

The scheme provides supports for a credit guarantee fund, under which loans worth Rs.50.4 crores have been issued to these FPOs. As on 30th June, 2024, 19,68,868 number of shareholder farmers registered in FPOs formed & promoted under 10,000 FPOs scheme. As on 30th June, 2024, 6,374 CEOs appointed in 8,875 registered FPOs under the scheme.

This information was given by the Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare Shri Ramnath Thakur in a written reply in Rajya Sabha on 2 August. ■

CBDT RELAXES PROVISIONS OF TDS/TCS IN EVENT OF DEATH OF DEDUCTEE/COLLECTEE, BEFORE LINKAGE OF PAN AND AADHAAR

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has relaxed provisions of TDS/TCS in event of death of deductee/collectee, before linkage of PAN and Aadhaar.

In view of genuine difficulties being faced by taxpayers, CBDT issued the Circular no. 8 of 2024 dated 05.08.2024, and vide the same, the Government has relaxed the provisions of TDS/TCS as per the Income-tax Act, 1961 (the 'Act') in the event of death of deductee/collectee before linking of PAN and Aadhaar.

In order to redress the grievances of the taxpayers wherein instances have been cited, of demise of the deductee/collectee on or before 31.05.2024 and before the option to link PAN and Aadhaar could have been exercised, the Circular provides that there shall be no liability on the deductor/collector to deduct/collect the tax under section 206AA/206CC of the Act, as the case maybe pertaining to the transactions entered into upto 31.03.2024.

This is in continuation of Circular no. 6 of 2024 dated 23.04.2024 issued earlier by CBDT wherein the date for linking of PAN and Aadhaar was extended

upto 31.05.2024 for the taxpayers (for the transactions entered into upto 31.03.2024) to avoid higher TDS/TCS as per the Act. The Circular No. 06 of 2024 dated 23.04.2024 and Circular No. 08 of 2024 dated 05.08.2024 are available on www.incometaxindia.gov.in. ■

COAL MINISTRY ACHIEVES 74.07 MILLION TONNE PRODUCTION IN JULY 2024

The Ministry of Coal has achieved a significant upswing in overall coal production during the month of July 2024, reaching 74.07 Million Tonne (MT). This surpasses the figures of 69.42 MT of the corresponding month during the previous year, representing an increase of 6.69 %.

The production of Coal India Limited (CIL) has risen to 55.04 MT in the month of July 2024 marking a growth of 2.54 % as compared to 53.67 MT in July 2023. The Cumulative Coal Production (up to July 2024) has seen commendable leap of 321.45MT (Provisional) in FY' 24-25 as compared to 292.80 MT during the same period in FY' 23-24, with a growth of 9.78%.

Cumulative Coal dispatch witnessed a significant boost in July 2024, touching 79.54 MT, compared to 76.05 MT recorded in July 2023, with a growth rate of 4.58%. The Cumulative Coal dispatch (up to July 2024) stood at 341.61 MT (Provisional) in FY' 24.25, compared to 316.54 MT during the corresponding period in FY' 23-24, with a commendable growth of 7.92%. ■

CREDIT AND INSURANCE SCHEME FOR FISHERMAN

The Government of India in the year 2018-19, extended the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) facility to fishers and fish farmers to meet their working capital requirements. As on date, 4,26,666 KCCs have been sanctioned to fishers and fish farmers in all States/UTs.

Further, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, with effect from financial year 2018-19 is also implementing a scheme namely 'Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF)', which

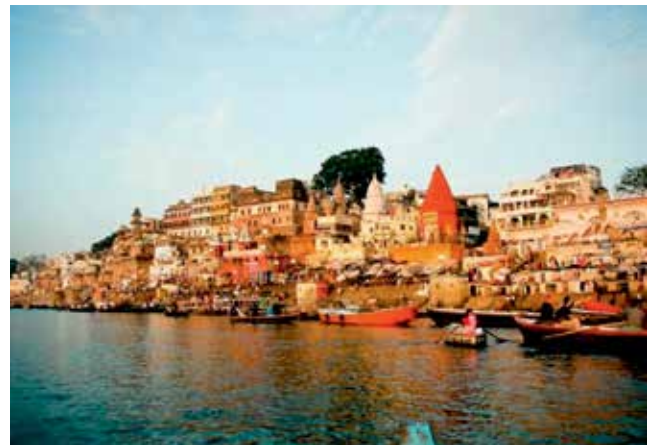
provides concessional finance for development of various fisheries infrastructure facilities with an interest subvention up to 3% per annum with the repayment period of 12 years inclusive of moratorium of 2 years for repayment of principle amount.

The Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) provides Group Accidental Insurance coverage to fishers and fish farmers, wherein the entire insurance premium amount is borne by the Central and State Government, with no contribution from the beneficiary. The insurance coverage provided under the Group Accidental Insurance Scheme (GAIS) includes (i) Rs.5,00,000/- against death or permanent total disability, (ii) Rs.2,50,000/- for permanent partial disability and (iii) hospitalization expenses in the event of an accident for a sum of Rs. 25,000/-. During the last three (from 2021-22 to 2023-24) and current financial year (2024-25), 131.30 lakh of fishers, have been provided the insurance coverage under the scheme. ■

FOUR MAJOR PROJECTS WORTH RS. 920 CRORES OPERATIONALIZED IN UTTAR PRADESH AND BIHAR UNDER NAMAMI GANGE MISSION 2.0

Projects to augment sewage treatment capacity by 145 MLD

In a significant stride towards rejuvenating and conserving the sacred River Ganga, the Government of India has successfully completed and operationalized four major projects under the



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Namami Gange Mission 2.0 in the first quarter of fiscal year 2024-25. These initiatives located across the mainstream of the river Ganga in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, are pivotal in the ongoing efforts to curb pollution and enhance the ecological health of the Ganga and its tributaries.

These projects built for Rs. 920 crores, will add 145 MLD of sewage treatment capacity, provide better sewer networks, and intercept numerous drains. Designed to meet the stringent discharge standards prescribed by the National Green Tribunal, these initiatives ensure substantial improvements in the water quality of the Ganga and its tributaries.

The project at Munger (Bihar) will improve sewer network, and establish Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at an estimated cost of Rs. 366 crores. This comprehensive project involves the development of a 175 km sewerage network and the construction of a 30 MLD capacity STP. The project has been implemented using the DBOT (Design, Build, Operate, and Transfer) Model. It will benefit approximately 3,00,000 residents by connecting their households to the sewer network, significantly improving the city's sanitation infrastructure and preventing the discharge of untreated sewage into the River Ganga. ■

NHAI SAVES AROUND RS. 1,000 CRORE OF INTEREST THROUGH ITS ROBUST DEBT PAYMENT PLAN

In a major step to reduce its overall debt liability, NHAI achieved a significant financial milestone with the successful pre-payment of bank loan amounting to Rs. 15,700 Crore. Retiring this debt ahead of schedule will result in an estimated interest savings of around Rs. 1,000 Crore. With this pre-payment, the outstanding debt liability of NHAI has come down to around Rs. 3,20,000 Crore.

As per Government of India directions, InvIT monetization proceeds are to be exclusively used for NHAI debt repayment. The sum of Rs. 15,700 Crore was generated in FY 2023-24 through InvIT. During the Financial Year 2024 - 25, NHAI intends to monetize projects worth Rs. 15,000 – 20,000 Crore through InvIT. With this, the overall debt liability of NHAI is expected to further reduce to around Rs. 3,00,000 Crore at the end of fiscal 2025.

As a part of the robust debt payment plan and

using InvIT monetization proceeds, NHAI has been actively engaging with the lender banks to reduce the interest rates. As a result, banks have reduced their interest rate from 8.00-8.10% to 7.58-7.59%. In this process, bank loans where interest rates could not be reduced have been repaid Rs. 15,700 crore and this will result in significant interest savings of around Rs.1,000 crores.

NHAI remains steadfast in its mission to enhance the efficiency of India's National Highway infrastructure. Robust asset monetisation proceeds along with effective financial planning indicate strong financial performance of NHAI. The savings realized from this debt reduction will play a pivotal role in advancing ongoing and future National Highway projects. ■

NORTH EASTERN REGION AGRI-COMMODITY E-CONNECT WEB PORTAL LEVERAGING THE UNIQUE AGRICULTURAL STRENGTHS OF NORTH EAST INDIA

North Eastern Council (NEC) under the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) in collaboration with North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Limited (NEDFi) has recently introduced a digital initiative called North Eastern Region Agri-Commodity E-Connect (NE-RACE) to provide market linkage for agricultural and horticultural products from the North Eastern Region (NER) in both fresh and processed forms. This initiative, available as a web portal and mobile app was launched by Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Minister of Communication & MDoNER, on 12th July 2024 at Shillong. The NE-RACE digital platform is funded by NEC and is developed and managed by the NEDFi.

Through this portal/app, producers such as Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs)/farmers collectives, Self-Help Groups, progressive farmers, and entrepreneurs in the agri and food processing sectors can directly showcase their products to prospective buyers minimizing the role of middlemen and fostering trust and long term business relationships. These buyers include exporters, aggregators, organized sector buyers, wholesale and retail buyers and individual consumers.

The benefits that are likely to accrue under the NE-RACE initiative include:

Leveraging the unique agricultural strengths of North East India by promoting exotic and premium agro-horticultural crops that have high demand.

Enabling producers to negotiate directly with buyers, ensuring fair compensation for their products.

Advance booking of upcoming products under mutually agreeable terms and conditions between producers and buyers.

Addressing the critical challenges of logistics by onboarding service providers and facilitating their services.

Providing a one-stop shop for products from North East India that have been produced under various missions and projects.

Providing empirical evidence on the potential and prospects of the agri-horticultural sector in the North East, enabling the government to undertake more data-driven initiatives for farm sector development, particularly in agri-infrastructure development.

This information was given by the Minister of State of Development of North Eastern Region Dr Sukanta Majumdar in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha on 7 August. ■

OVER 7.97 LAKH UNIQUE DISABILITY IDENTITY CARDS GENERATED FOR ST CATEGORY PwDs

As on 15.07.2024, a total of 1,09,55,968 Unique Disability Identity (UDID) cards have been generated out of which 7,97,698 UDID cards have been generated for ST category Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), as per the category shown by applicant PwD on the portal <https://www.swavlambancard.gov.in/>. Out of the number of UDID cards generated for said ST category, 1,17,541 UDID Cards have been generated for the PwDs having age 60 years and above.

Further, the Department implements the UDID Project with a view to issue certificates of disability and Unique Disability Identity cards to PwDs through competent medical authorities notified by respective State Governments/Union Territories. The project aims to encourage transparency and efficiency in the system of delivering the government benefits to PwDs. This was informed by Union Minister Of State

For Tribal Affairs, Shri Durgadas Uikey, in written replies to questions in Rajya Sabha on 7 August. ■

4,11,222 FARMERS BENEFITED IN THE COUNTRY THROUGH THE PM-KUSUM SCHEME

The Government launched PM-KUSUM scheme in March, 2019, which has been scaled-up in January 2024 with the objective to provide energy and water security to farmers, enhance their income, dieselize the farm sector, and reduce environmental pollution.

The following are the three components under the PM-KUSUM scheme benefiting the farmers:-

- i. **Component-A:** Farmers can set-up Decentralized Ground/ Stilt Mounted Grid Connected Solar or other Renewable Energy based Power Plants on their land up to the capacity of 2MW. The Renewable Energy Power Plant (REPP) can be installed by the farmers on their own land either directly by themselves or in partnership with group of farmers/ cooperatives/ panchayats/ Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO)/Water User associations (WUA), or through a developer. The renewable power generated from these power-plant is purchased by DISCOMs at the pre-fixed levelized tariff. In case farmers lease their land to the developer they are also eligible for lease rent.
- ii. **Component-B:** Under this Component farmers can install the Stand-alone Solar Agriculture Pumps for irrigation. The Government provides the Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of 30% (or 50% for North Eastern Region/Hilly region/Islands) for the stand-alone solar Agriculture pump.
- iii. **Component-C:** This Component enables solarisation of grid-connected Agriculture Pumps under its Individual Pump Solarisation (IPS) mode & also Feeder Level Solarisation (FLS) of agricultural load. The Government provides the Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of 30% (or 50% for the North Eastern Region/Hilly region/Islands) under Component-C for both IPS & FLS. This enables the farmers to access day-time assured solar energy.

The total numbers of farmers benefited in the country through the PM-KUSUM scheme as on 30.06.2024 is 4,11,222. ■



AJATSHATRU - ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE

Atalji has left a unique and glorious legacy in Indian politics. He in fact represented the spirit of India where democratic traditions have shaped the socio-cultural fabric of the nation. While believing in the democratic functioning within a political party and in governance, he was quick in opposing emergency and dictatorial tendencies in politics. His nationalism was imbued with democratic spirit wherein the diversities of Indian society were to be addressed through tradition of evolving consensus on various issues of national and international concerns. In his long parliamentary life, he was able to leave his indelible mark on important issues even while being in opposition.

It was by dint of his grasp over the various problems afflicting the nation that he tried to find solutions within the framework of national ethos and value system. A leader rooted to soil he was known for having political insights which was even valued by his political opponents. The nation had so much faith in him that in time of crisis his advice was sought even by his political adversaries. As a true son of Maa Bharati, he on occasions preferred to rise above the partisan politics as he chose to sacrifice interests of the party on the altar of national interests. When emergency was declared, Jansangh was merged with Janata Party in the national interest. As an uncompromising leader on principles and ideology, he came out of Janata Party along with his colleagues to form Bharatiya Janata Party. He had unflinching faith on principled and value based politics.

Born in the family of a humble school teacher on December 25, 1924, in the erstwhile princely state of Gwalior (now a part of the Indian State of Madhya Pradesh), Shri Vajpayee's rise in public life is a tribute

to both his political acumen and Indian democracy. Over the decades, he emerged as a leader who commanded respect for his liberal worldview and commitment to democratic ideals.

An orator par excellence, he mesmerised the masses with his magical appeal. The nation wanted to see him as prime minister and this dream was realized with the increasing support of the people in the country. As prime minister he led the country on every front with remarkable success. India emerged

as a peaceful nuclear power state which became confident of itself even in the face of international economic sanctions. As a true 'Atal' he never buckled under pressure rather it was an opportunity for him to prove India's internal strength at global level. He wrote a new saga of good governance and development while giving a massive boost to infrastructure sector and making India self reliant

on various fronts. As he rightly said in one of his speeches, he has left ineffaceable imprints on the canvas of time. The path shown by him has become guiding light for the emerging New India.

Atal ji inspired generation after generation to contribute to the national life with intense feeling of patriotism and love for the nation. The political movement which started with the aim of giving alternative in Indian politics culminated in him as he became the first non-Congress Prime Minister of India who completed his full term in office. It was a history created under his leadership and a legacy cherished by millions of people in the country. A true statesman, democrat, a leader, a consensus builder and above all he was a gentleman in politics. He left for his heavenly abode on 16 August 2018 at the age of 93. We pay our rich tribute to the memory of our Atalji. ■



It was start of new era of progress and prosperity in J&K and Ladakh: PM Modi

The 5th anniversary of abrogation of Article 370 and 35A in J&K was celebrated across Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of the country on 5th August, 2024. The BJP organized a series of events including flag hoisting at multiple locations, whereas in J&K Senior party leaders including Union Minister Shri G Kishan reddy, National General Secretary Shri Tarun Chugh addressed the gatherings and made statements about how abrogation has been beneficial for people of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The leaders highlighted the phenomenal growth and development happened at Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh under the dynamic leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi after the abrogation 5 years' ago.

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi recalled the Parliament's 5-year-old decision to abrogate Articles 370 and 35(A), calling it a watershed moment that led to the beginning of a new era of progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Shri Modi posted on X: "Today we mark 5 years since the Parliament of India decided to abrogate Articles 370 and 35(A), a watershed moment in our nation's history. It was the start of a new era of progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. It meant that the Constitution of India was implemented in these places in letter and spirit, in line with the vision of the great men and women who made the Constitution. With abrogation came security, dignity and opportunity for the women, youth, backward, tribal and marginalised communities who were deprived of the fruits of development. At the same time, it has ensured that corruption, which plagued J&K for decades, has been kept at bay.

I assure the people of J&K and Ladakh that our government will keep working for them and fulfil their aspirations in the coming times."

Abrogation a decisive move to deliver all-round development and bring peace to the region: JP Nadda

In a message on X BJP National President and Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Chemicals and Fertilizers Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said, "Today marks the 5th anniversary of a transformative moment in Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh's history—the abrogation of #Article370 and 35(A). Five years ago, our government, under the decisive leadership of Hon. PM Shri @narendramodi ji, took the bold step to mainstream Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh by abrogating these articles.

Prior to this historic decision, Articles 370 and 35(A) had kept the people of the region deprived of progress and development, acting as stumbling blocks on our path to comprehensive growth. The abrogation on August 5, 2019, was a decisive move to deliver all-round development and bring peace to the region.

Since then, Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh has witnessed transformational growth and progress. This monumental change has opened doors to millions of opportunities for young minds and significantly boosted the region's economy. The abrogation has truly set Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh on a path of sustained development and prosperity.

Abrogation of Article 370 and 35A strengthens grassroots democracy in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh: Amit Shah

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah said that the transformative decision of abrogation of Article 370 and 35A has ushered in a new era of empowerment for marginalized sections and strengthened grassroots democracy in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

In a post on X on 05 August 2024, Shri Amit Shah said, "Today marks five years since the historic abrogation of Article 370 and 35A under PM Shri Narendra Modi's leadership. This transformative decision has ushered in a new era of empowerment for marginalized sections and strengthened grassroots democracy in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The region's youth have driven socio-economic growth and cultural revival, making the Modi gov't's efforts to foster peace and comprehensive development a grand success. We thank Modi Ji for this landmark decision and reaffirm our dedication to advancing the region's aspirations and transformative progress." ■



'LIVE UP TO WHAT PARLIAMENTARY STANDS FOR'

When disruption in legislatures becomes a regular feature, it not only results in loss of taxpayer money, but also projects a negative image of legislatures, which can lead to erosion of faith in these institutions. Lack of discipline and decorum in legislatures cannot augur well for the health of our parliamentary democracy.



OM BIRLA

Legislatures have a sacrosanct responsibility of oversight, law making and ensuring financial accountability. Over the decades, there has been a manifold increase in roles and responsibilities of legislatures, especially in a developing country like ours. Ensuring discipline and decorum in legislatures has assumed critical importance for orderly and seamless conduct of business of the House and for virtuous outcomes and success of our parliamentary democracy.

When disruption in legislatures becomes a regular feature, it not only results in loss of taxpayer money, but also projects a negative image of legislatures, which can lead to erosion of faith in these institutions. Lack of discipline and decorum in legislatures cannot augur well for the health of our parliamentary democracy.

The All India Presiding Officers'

Conference (AIPOC), apex body of presiding officers of legislatures in the country, has played an important role in the evolution of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in our legislatures. Through dialogue and discussion, it has come up with solutions to complex problems.

At a Nov 2001 conference, AIPOC deliberated on discipline and decorum in Parliament and

The Handbook for Members and Practice & Procedure of Parliament serve as guides on desirable conduct. Members are expected to be well conversant with these rules and guidelines. There are also parliamentary customs and conventions based on past precedents

state and UT legislatures. A resolution and a code of conduct for members were unanimously adopted. In 2000, with AIPOC's efforts, an ad hoc Ethics Committee was constituted, which became a permanent standing committee of Lok Sabha in 2015. Its recommendations have a significant bearing on conduct of

members.

Parliamentary decorum encompasses a set of rules, conventions, and etiquette governing behaviour of members within the legislative chamber. Key aspects relate to respect for the chair and fellow members; relevance of speeches and questions to matter under discussion; orderly conduct; refraining from interrupting other members, creating commotion, or engaging in other disruptive behaviour. Members should use appropriate and dignified language in the House.

Rules and standards of conduct for Lok Sabha members are provided in Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, directions issued by Speaker under Rules of Procedure, and rulings from the Chair.

The Handbook for Members and Practice & Procedure of Parliament serve as guides on desirable conduct. Members are expected to be well conversant with these rules and guidelines. There are also parliamentary customs and conventions based on past precedents. ■

(The writer is Speaker, Lok Sabha)

Middle class stands to benefit under the tax regime devised by our government: FM

Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on 7 August replied to the discussion on the Finance Bill in the Lok Sabha. In the reply she said that the government have actually simplified the taxation regime with greater transparency and ease of compliance and middle class stands to benefit under the tax regime devised by this Government. We are publishing synopsis of the speech for our esteemed readers:

The vision of the hon. Prime Minister has been to establish a simple, efficient, fair and technology-driven taxation regime in this country. The approach to taxation has been to reduce the burden on the taxpayers. We have actually simplified the taxation regime with greater transparency and ease of compliance. Several hon. Members have spoken about the tax burden on the middle class. I believe the middle class stands to benefit under the tax regime devised by this Government. In the year 2023, the slabs for the personal income tax were significantly liberalized. This Government has again revised the slabs in the new tax regime. The standard deduction for the salaried employees has also been increased from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 75,000. In the last two years, substantial relief has been given to the middle class. We have brought in the faceless system, which is taxpayer-friendly and has infused confidence in the taxpayer. With the help of the 'Vivad Se Vishwas'

Scheme the pending litigation and demands have all been sorted out and relief has been brought in to a wide range of taxpayers. For start-ups, the removal of the angel tax has come as a big relief. The UPA Government introduced this tax in 2012 and now they are sitting in opposition and the



In the year 2023, the slabs for the personal income tax were significantly liberalized. This Government has again revised the slabs in the new tax regime. The standard deduction for the salaried employees has also been increased from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 75,000

Leader of the Opposition called it an exploitative tax. We have worked on it so that the burden, because of this angel tax, does not fall on small businesses. Eventually, we have now removed it. On the Customs side, we have taken several steps to facilitate international trade, ensure processes

become simpler and faster, and also to lead to lower logistics costs and compliance costs. This would certainly boost domestic production and enhance export competitiveness. Bringing down the Customs Duty on several of those items listed in this Budget was aimed at reducing the prices of raw materials and inputs, thus making domestic production far more cost-effective.

To promote trade and employment, we have in this Finance Bill proposed rate cuts on certain inputs for labour-intensive industries such as leather and textile sectors. That will boost job creation and address duty inversion issues which are prevalent in the textiles sectors. We have brought down the duty rates on 27 critical minerals, which are necessary for this country's strategic autonomy, and on precious metals, gold and silver because India

is one of the largest hubs for cutting and polishing diamonds and it creates jobs in big numbers. Duty rate cuts have also been made on certain inputs for the aqua-farming area and the marine industry so that we will be able to export more marine products, especially shrimp. I have also announced that there will be a comprehensive review of the rate structure

over the next six months and hopefully, at the end of that exercise, we will have a greater simplified tax structure for our country as a whole. I would like to highlight that four major steps have come for the taxpayers' convenience. If an income tax assessor goes to his portal to file his returns, pre-filled income tax returns based on verified thirdparty information have made income reporting faster and easier. The second thing is a faceless regime of assessment and appeals has automated major IT-related processes and reduced human interface. Now, refunds are issued within days as opposed to several months. A record number of 7.28 crores of income tax returns for the year 2024-25 were filed till 31st July 2024 and 58.57 lakh income tax returns were received from first-time income tax filers

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indicating a widening of the tax space for which a lot of effort to nudge people has been taken up by us. Litigation mechanism is also something to which we have given a lot of attention. Reopening and reassessment of taxes have been simplified.

I want to highlight that assessment may be opened up to only five years post-assessment, but for the fourth and the fifth years, only if unreported income exceeds Rs. 50 lakh. In search cases, the period of assessment now stands reduced from ten years to only six years. We have brought in a Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme for the settlement of all pending appeals. Also, the monetary limit for filing appeals related to direct taxes, excise and service tax in tax tribunals or in High Courts or in the Supreme Court has been enhanced. This will reduce litigation and promote ease of doing

business. Regarding the rationalisation of TDS rates, we have proposed in this Budget to reduce TDS rates from five per cent to two per cent – no different rates– and to eliminate Section 194F where the TDS rate is 20 percent. This will improve cash flow issues for small businesses. We have also decriminalized late payment of TDS if it is made before the deadline

for filing the TDS statement itself.

Our tax proposals are aimed at inducing growth, creating employment, and bringing in investments. A few steps have been taken for the shipping companies and mining companies. Different MPs have spoken about the topic 'tax burden on the middle class'. I would like to highlight that one narrative that corporate taxes are lower than individual taxes is not well founded. It is not based on facts. I just want to highlight that we have created new mechanisms in the last two years to deal with the pendency of appeals. It was mentioned by several Members that Income Tax deductions have been done away with, hence middle class is at a loss. I just want to highlight that the new tax regime which we brought in is

simpler, and lower in rates. It also gives flexibility to the taxpayer to see where he wants to put his money in the absence of exemptions. But the old regime has not been dissolved. It is still on and is still available for people to benefit from. The new tax regime is actually helping people to see that they are paying less, they stand to benefit from the simple system. The middle class is losing out is not a right argument. Due to the fintech growth, there is greater awareness and ease of investment is happening. The investments in mutual funds have also increased tremendously. A group of hon. Members' concern was on the capital gains tax that it is high and that the indexation has been removed. The logic of the budgetary proposal on capital gains is that it has to be standardised, simplified, and also treat equally all asset classes, so that it is easy for computation, for filing, for record-keeping.

The current Amendment that we are bringing is for land and building assets acquired by individuals and HUFs before 23rd July, 2024 and it stipulates that in the case of transfer of the long-term capital asset, being land or building or both, by an individual or HUF which is acquired before 23rd July, 2024, the taxpayer can compute his taxes under the new scheme, which is 12.5 per cent without indexation, and the old scheme, 20 per cent with indexation, and pay such tax which is the lower of the two. Rollover provision exists if the capital gains amount is invested in one or a second property as well. The provision of investment up to Rs. 50 lakh annually in those bonds or items which are notified under 54 EC of the Income Tax Act exists even now, and it stands to benefit the middle class.

A lot of Members have given us suggestions on GST which, certainly, I will take to the Council because the ultimate decision is in the Council. There are suggestions on GST regarding very many

items. To curb the misuse of the CTH 9802 chapter in the current Budget of 2024-25, this BCD for this particular category, CTH 9802, was increased to 150 per cent in the tariff. Similarly, the bound rate for any item is determined by WTO. But tariff and ceiling rates are decided by this Parliament.

So, 150 per cent of the tariff rate under this Customs Tariff Act, 1975, which operates as a ceiling, is approved by the Parliament. Again, on the import of rare minerals, these minerals are not available in this country. Therefore, the Ministry of Mines is of the view that we need to get them at concessional or zero per cent rates. That is why we have brought its customs duty down. There was a demand to give relief on excise duty on petrol and diesel. So, the petrol and diesel prices were cut

by Rs. 2 per litre across the country even in March 2024. Again, the request was received from the State of Uttar Pradesh to increase the GST rate on synthetic menthol so that the natural menthol, which is produced in this country, can be treated fairly. In this Finance Bill, it is proposed to create a separate HS code for natural menthol, and, therefore, after this, the

GST Council can consider and take its decision on the matter. There was a provision regarding pre-GST for every state before GST on medical insurance. This matter was discussed during the 31st, 37th, and 47th meetings of the GST Council, indicating that it was reviewed on three separate occasions. Health insurance is subject to an 18 percent GST, with 9 percent allocated to the States and 9 percent to the Centre. In total, approximately 73 to 74 percent of this premium benefits the States. Specifically, out of every Rs. 100 collected as GST, Rs. 50 is immediately transferred to the States. Additionally, Rs. 29.55 of the Rs. 50 received by the Centre is also redistributed to the States. Thus, Rs. 74 out of every Rs. 100 in GST revenue ultimately supports the States. ■

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Bill respects constitutional freedoms and does not infringe on religious rights: Kiren Rijiju

Union Minister for Parliamentary & Minority Affairs, Shri Kiren Rijiju, introduced the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, and expressed his confidence that all members would support the Bill once they were fully informed about it. He emphasized that the Bill respects constitutional freedoms and does not infringe on the religious rights guaranteed under Articles 25 to 30 of the Constitution. Following is the highlights of Union Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju's address in the Lok Sabha on August 8, 2024:

The Union Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju highlighted that the primary goal of the Bill is to provide opportunities and empowerment for women, children, and marginalized individuals within Muslim society, addressing systemic issues within the current framework. He noted that the Waqf Act of 1995 had proven ineffective in achieving its intended goals and had numerous shortcomings that this new Bill seeks to address.

According to the 1976 Waqf Inquiry Report, the Waqf Board was dominated by Mutawallis, which necessitated disciplinary measures, and the establishment of a tribunal system was recommended to streamline and resolve litigation issues. The Report also called for improvements in the auditing and accounting practices of the Waqf Board and better management of Waqf-Alal-Aulad (waqf given to children).

The Hon'ble Minister stated that there are approximately 872,320 Waqf properties, with their actual market value likely being much higher than current estimates. He referenced the Sachar Committee's recommendation to expand the Waqf Board and include two women in both the Central Waqf Council and State Waqf Boards to improve representation.

Shri Rijiju also mentioned that the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) reported that the Waqf Board suffers from inadequate infrastructure, an ineffective workforce, and insufficient funds, which hampers its functionality.

The proposed reforms include conducting a comprehensive survey of Waqf Boards across the country, improving management practices, introducing expert legal advice, and implementing full computerization and centralization of Waqf records.

He emphasized that no law can supersede the Constitution and that the Bill aims to rectify deficiencies

in justice for all communities, ensuring fairness and adherence to constitutional principles. The Bill proposes removing the Law of Limitation, similar to the 1995 Waqf Act, to address long-standing issues more effectively.

He stated that extensive consultations were carried out at various levels, including with state Governments, Waqf Board officials, and different Muslim communities, to ensure broad-based input before introducing the Bill. He also stated that many representations from Ahmadiyyas were received. These include representations from the Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana and Tamil Nadu.

The Minister also informed the House that the Bill addresses several notable issues and disputes involving Waqf properties, including misuse in Mumbai, controversies in Tamil Nadu, and improper declarations in Surat, reflecting widespread concerns.

The Bill will be renamed to 'United Waqf Act Management Empowerment and Development Act, 1995,' highlighting its revised focus and objectives. It introduces a new tribunal system with one judicial and one technical member to expedite case processing, aiming for a 90-day period for appeals and a six-month timeline for case resolution.

While concluding the speech, Shri Rijiju stated that technological advancements will be integrated to manage Waqf properties transparently and efficiently, including a centralized portal for record-keeping and account management. He also stated that the Bill ensures mandatory representation for women in the Central Waqf Council and State Waqf Boards. Representation would also be ensured for Bohras, Aga Khanis, and Backward Classes. With proceeds from Waqf properties directed towards the welfare of poor and marginalized Muslim women and children. ■

Union Budget along with the Budget of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir was presented in Lok Sabha

The Budget Session, 2024 of Parliament which commenced on 22nd July, 2024 has been adjourned sine die today i.e. on 9th August, 2024. After the constitution of 18th Lok Sabha, this was the first Budget Session and the Union Budget along with the Budget of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir was presented in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, 23rd of July, 2024.

After the Presentation of Budget, General Discussion on the Union Budget was held in both Houses. This engaged the Lok Sabha for 27 Hour 19 minutes against the allotted 20 Hours and Rajya Sabha for 22 Hours 40 minutes against the allotted 20 Hours. General discussion on the Budget of Jammu and Kashmir for 2024-25 and discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir-2024-25 along with connected Appropriation Bill were also taken up together and passed in Lok Sabha along with General discussion on Union Budget for 2024-25 in Lok Sabha.

In Lok Sabha, Demands for Grants relating to Ministries of Railways, Education, Health and Family welfare and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying were discussed and adopted individually. Thereafter rest of the Demands for Grants of the Ministries/ Departments were put to the vote of the House on Monday, the 5th of August, 2024. The related Appropriation Bill was also introduced, considered and passed by Lok Sabha on 05.08.2024 itself. The Finance (No. 2) Bill, 2024 was considered and passed by Lok Sabha on 6th and 7th August, 2024.

In the Rajya Sabha the working of the Ministries of Housing and Urban Affairs, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and New and Renewable Energy were discussed. The Rajya Sabha returned the Appropriation Bills related to Demands for Grants for the year 2024-25 and Demands for Grants for the year 2024-25 in respect of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Finance (No.2) Bill, 2024 on 08.08.2024.

Lok Sabha passed the Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024 to provide for regulation and control of the

design, manufacture, maintenance, possession, use, operation, sale, export and import of aircraft and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto on 09.08.2024.

Short Duration Discussions on "India's preparedness for upcoming Olympic Games" and "Tragic incident of death of students in a coaching institute in Delhi due to alleged negligence of authorities" were taken up in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, respectively.

Calling Attention motions regarding loss of lives and property due to landslides and floods in various parts of the country and Situation arising out of devastating landslide in Wayanad district in the State of Kerala were also taken up in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, respectively.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 has been sent to the Joint Parliamentary Committee for examination on 09.08.2024.

A list of Bills introduced in Lok Sabha/Rajya, Bills passed by Lok Sabha, Bills passed by Rajya Sabha, Bills passed by both Houses is attached in Annex.

The productivity of Lok Sabha during the Budget Session, 2024 was approx. 136% and that of Rajya Sabha was approx 118%.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS TRANSACTED DURING THE 2ND SESSION OF 18th LOK SABHA AND 265th SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA

BILLS INTRODUCED IN LOK SABHA

- The Finance (No.2) Bill, 2024
- The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2024
- The Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024
- The Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- The Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes in Assembly Constituencies of the State of Goa Bill, 2024
- The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2024
- The Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024

- The Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill, 2024
- The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- The Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, 2024
- The Bills of Lading Bill, 2024
- The Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2024

BILLS INTRODUCED IN RAJYA SABHA

- The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024
- The Boilers Bill, 2024

BILLS PASSED BY LOK SABHA

- The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2024
- The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2024
- The Finance (No.2) Bill, 2024
- The Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024

BILLS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

- The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2024.
- The Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2024, as passed by Lok Sabha.
- The Finance (No.2) Bill, 2024

BILLS PASSED BY BOTH THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

- The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2024.
- The Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2024, as passed by Lok Sabha.
- The Finance (No.2) Bill, 2024

BILLS WITHDRAWN IN RAJYA SABHA

- The Waqf Properties (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants), Bill, 2014 ■

Union Home and Cooperation Minister inaugurates 24x7 Water Supply Project at Chandigarh under Smart City Mission

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Shri Amit Shah on 4 August inaugurated the 24x7 water supply project completed at a cost of about Rs 75 crore at Manimajra in the Union Territory of Chandigarh under the Smart City Mission. The Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, the Rajya Sabha MP, Shri Satnam Singh Sandhu, the Union Home Secretary and the Director of the Intelligence Bureau were among the dignitaries present on the occasion.

Addressing the inaugural event, the Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said more than one lakh people will be benefitted with this project and this settlement spread over 855 acres will now be able to get water round the clock through a new pipeline having total length of 22 km. He said that arrangements have been made to ensure 24-hour water availability by building two huge reservoirs. He also said that with the installation of smart meters, the cost of leakage will no longer be borne by the consumers, further water leakage houses will be immediately identified and a VFD pump has also been



installed to ensure a good water pressure.

He said that water is life and if water is contaminated or not available in the required quantity, then people face difficulties and suffer from diseases. He said that from today filtered water will be provided to the people of the area through one of the most modern filtration plant, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Shri Amit Shah said that the resolve of the citizens of the country will take the country forward on the path of becoming a developed nation. He said that a child's resolve not to leave food on his plate, or his resolve to touch feet of his parents everyday, or, a businessman's resolve not to evade taxes, or people's resolve to follow traffic rules strengthens the country and takes it forward. He said that one step taken by 130 crore people is equal to 130 crore steps forward taken by the country this is the miracle brought about by Modi ji.

Shri Amit Shah said that 130 crore resolute people are committed to make India a developed India and today in Chandigarh, we have taken another step in this direction. ■

IN THIS OLYMPIAD, STUDENTS OF INDIA PERFORMED EXCEPTIONALLY WELL: PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 28 July addressed the 112th episode of Mann Ki Baat marking his second Mann Ki Baat in the new term. In the episode he said that the Paris Olympics are the flavour of the season in the whole world. During the episode Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also connected over phone with the winners of the International Mathematics Olympiad who won 4 gold and 1 silver medal for the country. The following are highlights of the address:

Prim Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressing the Mann Ki Baat said, "At this moment, the Paris Olympics are the flavour of the season in the whole world. The Olympics give our players a chance to hoist the tricolour on the world stage; give them a chance to do something for the country. He appealed to motivate our players.



Venkat Ganesh from Pune, Siddharth Chopra from Pune itself, Arjun Gupta from Delhi, Kanav Talwar from Greater Noida, Rushil Mathur from Mumbai and Anando Bhaduri from Guwahati."

- On the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' Prime Minister said, the day 15th August is not far away. And now another campaign has been added to the 15th of

- He adds, "Besides these Olympics in the world of sports, a few days ago, Olympics have also taken place in the world of mathematics... the International Mathematics Olympiad. In this Olympiad, students of India have performed exceptionally well. Our team performed her best in that and won four Gold and one Silver Medal. Youth from more than 100 countries participate in the International Mathematics Olympiad and in the overall tally, our team has been successful in reaching the top five. The names of these students who have brought glory to the country are - Aditya

- August, 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan'. For the last few years, everyone's fervour for the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' remains high in the entire country. Be it the poor... the rich... small households, big households, everyone feels proud waving the Tricolor.
- The PM said the Tiger Day will be celebrated all over the world tomorrow. In India, Tigers have been an integral part of our culture. We all have grown up listening to stories of incidents related to tigers. In the villages around forests, everyone knows how to live in harmony with the tiger. In our country, there

BJP National President & senior leaders listening to 'Mann Ki Baat'

@Jagat Prakash Nadda, "Listened to the 112th edition of Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji's 'Mann Ki Baat' program with the party's senior leaders and @BJP4India Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers at BJP headquarters, New Delhi on July 28, 2024. Through the #MannKiBaat program, Prime Minister Modi ji brings attention to the success stories of individuals and different initiatives. Campaigns like #HarGharTiranga and #EkPedMaaKeNaam



exemplify his efforts to promote social cohesion and environmental awareness. Our government has also taken significant steps to preserve our rich cultural heritage, evident in the inclusion of the Moidams in the UNESCO World Heritage list and the unveiling of the tallest statue of the great Ahom warrior Lachit Borphukan. These stand as testaments to our dedicated efforts in preserving and celebrating our heritage".

are many villages where there is no conflict between humans and tigers. But where such a situation arises, unprecedented efforts are being made for the protection of tigers there as well. One such effort of public participation is "Kulhadi Band Panchayat". The "Kulhadi Band Panchayat" campaign that started from Ranthambor of Rajasthan is very interesting. The local communities themselves have taken an oath that they will not go to the forest with axes and will not cut trees. Due to this one decision, the forests here are becoming green once again, and a better environment is being created for the tigers.

- Friends, along with the increase in tiger population, the forest area in our country is also increasing rapidly. In that too, great success is being achieved through community efforts. In the last 'Mann Ki Baat' program, I discussed with you the program 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'. I am happy that a large number of people in different parts of the country are connecting with this campaign. A few days ago, a splendid programme was held in Indore, the city famous for cleanliness. More than 2 lakh saplings were planted here in a single day during the programme 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'. You must also join this campaign of planting trees in the name of your mother and take a selfie and post it on social media.
- The PM said the day 15th August is not far away. And now another campaign has been added to the 15th of August, 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan'. For the last few years, everyone's fervour for the 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' remains high in the entire country. Be it the poor... the rich... small households, big households, everyone feels proud waving the Tricolor.

- "There is also a craze of taking selfies with the Tricolor and posting them on social media. You must have noticed that when the Tricolor flutters atop each house of the colony or society, within no time the Tricolor starts appearing on other houses as well. That is, 'Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan' - has become a unique festival in upholding the glory of the Tricolour. Now, various kinds of innovations related to that are also taking place. As the 15th of August approaches, various kinds of products are seen for displaying the Tricolour in homes, offices, cars. Some people even distribute the 'Tricolour' to their friends and neighbours. This joy, this enthusiasm with the Tricolour connects us with each other."
- "Friends, like earlier, this year too you must upload your selfie with the Tricolour on 'harghartiranga.com' and I want to remind you of something more. Every year before the 15th of August, you send me a lot of your suggestions. You must send me your suggestions this year as well. You can also send your suggestions on MyGov or NaMo App. I will try to cover as many suggestions as possible in the 15th August address."
- My dear countrymen, it was very nice to connect with you in this episode of 'Mann Ki Baat'. We will meet again next time, with new achievements of the country, with new efforts of public participation. You must keep sending in your suggestions for 'Mann Ki Baat'. Many festivals are also on their way in the near future. Best wishes to you for all the festivals. Enjoy the festivals with your family. Keep up the energy to do something new for the country. Thank you very much. Namaskar. ■

PM congratulates Nobel Laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus on assumption of new responsibilities in Bangladesh

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 08 August, 2024 congratulated Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus on the assumption of his responsibilities as the chief advisor to the newly-formed interim government of Bangladesh.

Shri Modi also wished a return to normalcy and safety of Hindus and other minority communities in the neighbouring country.

The Prime Minister posted on X: "My best wishes to Professor Muhammad Yunus on the assumption of his new responsibilities. We hope for an early return to normalcy, ensuring the safety and protection of Hindus and all other minority communities. India remains committed to working with Bangladesh to fulfill the shared aspirations of both our peoples for peace, security and development." ■

Committed for the welfare and Empowerment of SC/ST Communities: PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 9 August met a delegation of SC/ST MPs and reiterated the Government's commitment and resolve for the welfare and empowerment of the SC/ST communities.



layer does not apply to reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (ST).

Taking to X Shri Kiren Rijiju said, "BJP's SC/ST MPs met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on reservation issue. PM reiterated

Shri Modi in a post on X wrote: "Met a delegation of SC/ST MPs today. Reiterated our commitment and resolve for the welfare and empowerment of the SC/ST communities."

Union Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs, Shri Kiren Rijiju said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has reiterated his commitment and resolve for the welfare and empowerment of the SC/ST communities.

After meeting the ST/SC MPs of BJP, PM Shri Narendra Modi chaired the cabinet meeting and categorically asserted that the principle of the creamy

his commitment and resolve for the welfare and empowerment of the SC/ST communities."

Noteworthy, the Bharatiya Janata Party MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha belonging to ST/SC communities met with PM Shri Narendra Modi at the Parliament House. The MPs jointly submitted a memorandum regarding the Supreme Court's observation on the creamy layer for ST/SC and demanded that this decision should not be implemented. PM assured them that he would look into this matter. ■



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PM Shri Narendra Modi conducts aerial survey of landslide affected areas at Wayanad in Kerala on August 10, 2024



PM Shri Narendra Modi visits the landslide affected areas at Kalpetta, Wayanad in Kerala on August 10, 2024



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with the senior colleagues of his cabinet addressing the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi on July 27, 2024



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the 32nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists at National Agricultural Science Centre in New Delhi on August 03, 2024



PM Shri Narendra Modi attends the Ceremonial Reception of the Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Mr. Pham Minh Chinh at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi on August 01, 2024



PM Shri Narendra Modi interacts with the farmers and scientists at the Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi on August 11, 2024



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CABINET DECISION
FULFILLING DREAM OF OWNING A HOME
 PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA-URBAN 2.0 SCHEME APPROVED



Investment: ₹10 lakh crore
Government Subsidy: ₹2.30 lakh crore
 under PMAY-U 2.0

₹1 crore
 urban poor and middle-class families to be provided financial assistance in 5 years

CABINET DECISION
EMPOWERING RURAL INDIA

Implementation of PMAY-G approved during FY 2024-25 to 2028-29

TOTAL OUTLAY: ₹3,06,137 CRORE

Housing Target: Construction of 2 crore more houses over the next five years, benefitting nearly 10 crore individuals



PMAY-G Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Grameen

ESCALATING FIGURES OF ELECTRONIC EXPORTS



ELECTRONIC EXPORTS
 FY24: 6.84 billion
 FY25: 8.44 billion
 +23%

MOBILE PHONE EXPORTS
 FY24: ₹3.7 billion
 FY25: \$4.8 billion
 +30%

Source: Media Reports

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सशक्तिकरण: कार्यों को प्रभावी ढंग और कुशलता से पूरा करके अपनी क्षमता का अनुभव करें।

पहचान: अपने काम को पार्टी के अन्य सदस्यों के साथ साझा करें और अपनी पहचान बनायें।

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