

KAMAL SANDESH

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**'UP HAS FAITH IN DOUBLE
ENGINE GOVERNMENT'**



BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S UP PRAVAS

'BJP BELIEVES IN DEMOCRACY AS ONE OF ITS CORE PRINCIPLES'

**BJP BAGS LANDSLIDE VICTORY
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**TIME FOR INDIA
TO STAND UNITED**

**PM MODI CARES FOR THE INTEREST
OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY...**



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda paying floral tributes to Baba Sahab B.R. Ambedkar on Samvidhan Diwas in Imphal, Manipur



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressing a meeting of Vantangiya Community in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda inaugurating the newly constructed District Office in Thiruppur, Tamil Nadu



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah along with UP CM Yogi Adityanath and other senior leaders laying the foundation stone of 'Maa Shakumbhari University' in Saharanpur, UP



Rajasthan BJP welcomes Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah during 'Janpratinidhi Sankalp Mahasammelan' in Jaipur



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh addressing a meeting of Booth Presidents of Kashi region in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh

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SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER



@narendramodi

Our government is taking the best treatment, the biggest hospital, to the farthest areas of the country. Our goal is that every district of the country must have at least one medical college.

@JPNadda

It is a very emotional moment for me to see the realization of Modi ji's dream which is dedicated to the upliftment of Purvanchal. It is a matter of pride for us that we got an opportunity to participate in these works of national importance. The BJP, under the leadership of Modi ji, is dedicated to the development of Uttar Pradesh.



@AmitShah

In the history of mankind, no medal has ever been made to honor gallantry, the valor of our soldiers is itself a medal for the whole country.

@rajnathsingh

India deeply appreciates Russia's strong support for India. We hope that our cooperation will bring peace, prosperity and stability to the entire region. Glad that a number of Agreements/Contracts/Protocols were signed pertaining to small arms and military cooperation.



@Nitin Gadkari

India achieved another milestone in the war against #COVID19! Administered both doses to 50 percent of the eligible population of the country. #HarGharDastak

@B L Santhosh

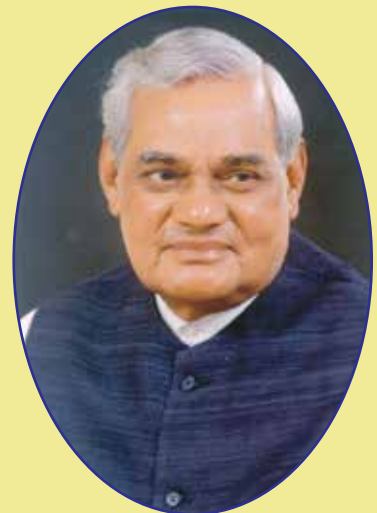
Himachal Pradesh becomes the first state in the country to administer two doses of vaccine to eligible adult population of the state. A remarkable feat indeed. Congratulations Sri @jairamthakurbjp, Health workers & all social organisations. #HimachalFullyVaccinated



**KAMAL SANDESH Parivar
pay tribute to
Former Prime Minister of India
Bharat Ratna SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE
on his Jayanti.**

SHAT SHAT NAMAN !

Birthday : 25 December



UNITED SPIRIT OF INDIA CAN OVERCOME ANY CHALLENGE

As more than 85% of eligible population receives first dose of Covid-19 vaccine and more than 50% of the eligible population gets both doses of the vaccine, the world watches India with a sense of amazement and admiration. While India is nearing 130 crore dose of vaccination, many new records have been created in the process making India one of the foremost countries leading fight against the pandemic in the world. The world's largest, fastest and free vaccination drive has seen record achievements when the vaccination crossed one crore mark in a day several times while crossing 2.5 crore vaccination in a single day as a gift to the Prime Minister on his birthday. The most incredible achievement is that these records have been made on the strength of 'Made in India' vaccines which were made available free of cost to everyone in the country. It was made possible by the faith of the nation in the capabilities of Indian scientists, researchers, entrepreneurs and pharma sector which produced these vaccines in record time. Today, these vaccines have not only proven a big boon for India but for the entire humanity across the world.

The Modi government has once again extended the free ration to 80 crore people under PM-GKAY making the scheme available till March 2022. It may be noted that the scheme was started in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic providing huge relief to 80 crore poor people who had to face extreme challenges of the lockdowns during the period. In the challenging times of Covid-19 pandemic, India under the dynamic and charismatic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi not only resolved to convert every challenge into opportunity but took care of poor, farmers, migrant labourers, women, divyaangs, senior citizens and other vulnerable sections of the society. Apart from providing many reliefs, initiatives like 'Aatmnirbhar Bharat' campaign was launched imputing a new confidence in the nation. The nation was made proud by the indefatigable spirit of doctors, nurses, medical staffs, lab workers, administrative officers and staffs and Corona warriors who committed themselves to the selfless service to the people.

As the nation took steps preparing for post-Covid world under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today we find India coming out of this global crisis making its presence felt in almost every sector of economy. Today, the GDP numbers are showing smart recovery, GST collections are boosting confidence as the economy as India seems to be poised for a huge leap in the

coming years. Even in the face of the challenges posed by the pandemic, most of the infrastructure related projects are getting completed ahead of their scheduled time while India is racing towards fulfilling its commitments on environmental concerns. In almost every sector India is moving ahead with hope and confidence.

India is resolved to move ahead on the path of a 'New India', which is 'Aatmnirbhar' and committed to the principles of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'. In the time of pandemic, India has taken initiatives to stand by every country in need by assisting them in every possible way – from, supplying medicines, PPE kits, vaccines and other necessities to providing experts and rescuing the people of other nations – India has proved to be a friend to every nation in need. While sceptics doubted the capabilities of the nation in successfully conducting the vaccination drive and Congress led opposition tried to create hindrances by spreading canards against the vaccines, India silenced all its critics by administering 100 crore doses in record time. Today, when India is about to administer at least one dose to every eligible citizens, the world acknowledges the power of India's national unity while appreciating its resolve to stand strong in the face of every challenge. There is no doubt that the united spirit of India can overcome any challenge. ■

India is resolved to move ahead on the path of a 'New India', which is 'Aatmnirbhar' and committed to the principles of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda visited Uttar Pradesh for two days from 22 November, 2021 to address booth President's meetings in Gorakhpur and Kanpur and to review the preparations for the upcoming assembly elections in the state. After reaching Gorakhpur, Shri Nadda visited the Gorakhnath Temple and followed by a brief visit to Gita Press in Gorakhpur, he addressed the booth President's Sammelan at Champa Devi Park of the city. On the same day the BJP President in a programme also interacted with families from the Vantangiya community.

On the second day of his Pravas, the BJP National President visited Kanpur where he inaugurated a regional office of the party along with seven district offices and offered prayers at Baba Namdev Gurudwara. Shri Nadda also addressed the conference of booth Presidents at Nirala Nagar, Kanpur

BOOTH PRESIDENT'S SAMMELAN, GORAKHPUR

Addressing the party's Booth President Sammelan in Gorakhpur, BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda hailed UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, for the massive work he has done for the development of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Nadda said BJP Karyakartas should feel proud of the party because here an ordinary worker from an ordinary family can become the CM of a state like Uttar Pradesh.

While praising CM Yogi Adityanath for his governance, the BJP President highlighted how the BJP government had put its best efforts for the all round development work of Uttar Pradesh.



BJP National President said that BJP functions on the principles of cultural nationalism and democratic values. We should be proud that we are part of a party that has democracy as its core.

Criticizing the functioning of the other parties in the state, he lambasted their working model while maintaining that they function on vote bank politics. Shri Nadda said, "We move forward with cultural nationalism and the opposition with 'vanshwad' (dynastic politics). For us nationalism is important and for them 'vanshwad' is everything".

While the BJP takes everyone along with the motto of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vishwas", Shri Nadda said that the opposition indulges in politics of vote banks and thinks about only a particular community and family.





PRINCIPLES OF CULTURAL DEMOCRATIC VALUES: JP NADDA

KANPUR PRAVAS

On the second day of the two-day Pravas to Uttar Pradesh, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda reached Kanpur on November 23, 2021 along with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and visited Baba Namdev Gurudwara in Kidwai Nagar.

While speaking at the event, Shri Nadda said work done by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for our Sikh brothers was never been done ever before. Speaking about Baba Namdev and his literary works, he added Baba Namdev's works are in Marathi, Punjabi and Hindi.

INAUGURATES PARTY'S REGIONAL OFFICE IN KANPUR

During his Kanpur Pravas, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda inaugurated a regional office of the party in Kanpur and seven district offices virtually.

Addressing on the occasion he said, "I am happy that 432 offices of BJP have been built across the country, they are operational. Today, you crossed the figure of 62 offices in Uttar Pradesh alone and seven more offices would be built by December. In total 69 offices will be available here in UP," he added.

Encouraging BJP karyakartas to do their best and engage in the upliftment of the party, Shri Nadda said we should be proud that we are part of a party that believes in democracy as one of its core principles.

Many people became farmer leaders, but if anyone has done anything for the farmers, it is only PM Shri Narendra Modi. Before 2014, the agriculture budget was Rs 20,000 crore, but today under Modi ji, the budget of agriculture is Rs 1.23 lakh crores," he said.

Referring to the state, Shri Nadda said, "Uttar Pradesh has now changed fully during the Yogi Adityanath regime. Earlier women were not safe in the state but now they can move around freely."

Addressing the regional booth convention Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said during India's freedom movement in 1857, Shaheed Bandhu Singh had made the supreme sacrifice on this land and many revolutionaries from time to time carried forward this legacy. This is the land where Pandit Ram Prasad Bismil had given up his life for the independence of India, he said.

He further said that all the problems faced by



the common man were resolved one by one. This is the same region where mafias and criminals used to dominate but today the goons have forgotten hooliganism and the mafias have left the state.

The BJP National President also held a state BJP core committee meeting with senior BJP leaders of Uttar Pradesh. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, BJP National Vice President and State In-charge Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister and UP BJP Election in-charge Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, BJP state President Shri Swatantra Dev Singh, Deputy Chief Ministers Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya and Shri Dinesh Sharma and other senior leaders of the party attended the meeting and discussed in detail the strategy for the upcoming assembly elections. ■

PM INAUGURATES VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN GORAKHPUR



'UP HAS FAITH IN DOUBLE ENGINE GOVERNMENT'

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the people of UP while inaugurating the AIIMS and fertilizer plant and for the new building of Regional Medical Research Center of ICMR in Gorakhpur on 07 December, 2021.

The Prime Minister remarked that when there is a double engine Government, then the speed of implementing developmental works is also doubled. He said when work is done with a good intention, then even disasters cannot become a hindrance. When there is a government that cares about the poor, vulnerable & disadvantaged, it also works hard and shows results by bringing them along. He said today's event is proof that when the new India is determined, nothing is impossible.

The Prime Minister said, in a three pronged approach, the Government stopped the misuse of urea by introducing 100% neem coating of urea. He said soil health cards are given to crores of farmers so that they can decide what kind of fertilizer is needed for their farm. He said the Government laid emphasis on increasing the production of urea. Closed fertilizer plants were also forced to reopen to increase the production. The Prime Minister informed that with the completion of 5 fertilizer plants in different part of the country, 60 lakh tonnes of urea will be available in the country.

The Prime Minister appreciated the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the unprecedented work done for the sugarcane farmers in the recent years. He lauded

the Government for increasing the remunerative price for sugarcane farmers, recently up to 300/- and for paying almost as much as the previous governments paid to sugarcane farmers in the past 10 years.

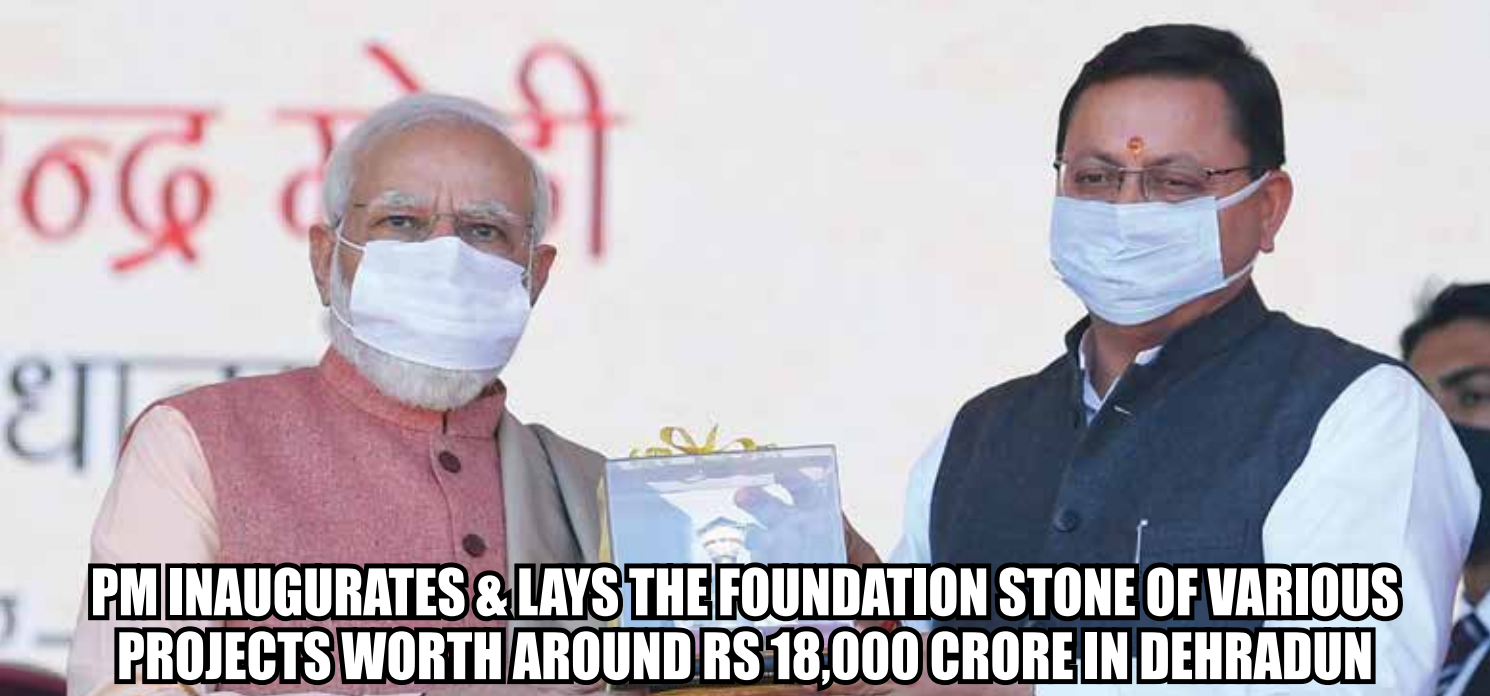
The Prime Minister said after independence till the beginning of this century, there was only one AIIMS in the country. Former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had approved 6 more AIIMS. The Prime Minister said work is going on across the country to build 16 new AIIMS in the last 7 years. He announced the goal of his Government is that every district in the country must have at least one medical college.

The Prime Minister criticized the politics of display of authority, power politics, scams and mafia that brought misery to the people of the state in the

past. He appealed to people to be vigilant against such forces.

Shri Modi said today our government has opened government godowns for the poor and the UP Chief Minister is busy delivering food to every household. He added that about 15 crore people of UP are getting its benefit. Recently, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana has been extended beyond Holi. Earlier governments had defamed the name of UP by giving protection to criminals. Today, the mafia is in jail and investors are investing freely in UP. That's the double development of the double engine. That's why UP has faith in a double engine government, he added. ■

Earlier governments had defamed the name of UP by giving protection to criminals. Today, the mafia is in jail and investors are investing freely in UP



PM INAUGURATES & LAYS THE FOUNDATION STONE OF VARIOUS PROJECTS WORTH AROUND RS 18,000 CRORE IN DEHRADUN

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects worth around Rs 18,000 crore in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. This includes the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor (from Eastern Peripheral Expressway Junction to Dehradun), the greenfield alignment project from Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor, connecting Halgoa, Saharanpur to Bhadrabad, Haridwar, Haridwar Ring Road Project, Dehradun - Paonta Sahib (Himachal Pradesh) road project, Najibabad-Kotdwar road widening project and a bridge across River Ganga next to the Lakshman Jhula. He also laid the foundation stone for the Child Friendly City Project, Dehradun, development of water supply, road & drainage system in Dehradun, infrastructure development works at Shri Badrinath Dham and Gangotri-Yamunotri Dham and a medical college in Haridwar.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that Uttarakhand is not just the centre of faith but is the symbol of hardwork and determination also. That is why, development of the state is one of the foremost priorities of the 'double engine government' of the centre and the state. He emphasized that at the beginning of this century, Atal ji started a campaign to increase connectivity in India. However, the Prime Minister said, after that for 10 years there was such a government in the country, which wasted valuable time of the country and Uttarakhand. He continued, "for 10 years there were scams, scams in the name of infrastructure in the country. We worked twice as hard to make up for the loss caused to the country and are doing it even today.". Talking about the changed

working style, the Prime Minister said "today, India is moving ahead with the intention of investing more than Rs 100 lakh crore on modern infrastructure. India's policy today is of 'Gatishakti', to work twice or thrice as fast."

The Prime Minister expressed happiness about laying the foundation stone of Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor. "When it is ready, then the time taken to travel from Delhi to Dehradun will be almost half", he informed.

Comparing the pace of development, the Prime Minister pointed out that between 2007 and 2014, the central government built only 288 km of national highways in Uttarakhand in seven years. Whereas the current government has constructed a national highway of more than 2 thousand kilometers in Uttarakhand in its seven years.

The Prime Minister criticized the politics of pampering only one caste, religion and discrimination in development policies. He also attacked the perversion of politics that does not allow people to be strong and make them dependent on the government for their needs. The Prime Minister articulated the thinking of his government which adopted a different path. "It is a difficult path, difficult, but it is in the interest of the country, it is in the interest of the people of the country. This is the path - Sabka Saath - Sabka Vikas. We said that whatever schemes we bring, we will bring it for everyone, without discrimination. We did not make vote bank politics the basis but gave priority to the service of the people. Our approach has been to strengthen the country", the Prime Minister stressed. ■

'MANIPUR SAW DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME UNDER BJP GOVERNMENT'



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 26 November, 2021 said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given 'Mazboot Sarkar' while there was 'Majboor Sarkaar' during the Congress led UPA regime.

While interacting with Ex-Servicemen in Imphal, Manipur, Shri Nadda slammed the UPA government for its inaction during the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai that claimed the lives of more than 100 civilians and other security personnel. Referring to Congress leader Manish Tewari's new book, he said, "The Congress leader in his book has said that not responding to the terror attacks was the 'insensitiveness of the UPA government'. The Indian Army was ready but the government did not take

a stand. This is living proof of 'Majboor Sarkaar'. We must understand where the strong leadership of PM Shri Modi has led us today and where UPA leadership had taken us. PM Shri Modi has given 'Mazboot Sarkar' while there was 'Majboor Sarkaar' during the UPA regime," said Shri Nadda.

"On one hand, PM Shri Modi reacts with surgical strikes and airstrikes, showing India's strength. One the other, there was no reaction after 26/11 under a weak UPA government," he added.

The BJP President further said that the Prime Minister has given the message that the country is safe only because of the soldiers who are standing on its borders. "32 new border roads, 683 km long, are being built on Indo-

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPEECH

- Defence corridors are coming up in Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh and the government is focusing on indigenous production in defence to further strengthen our forces.
- No purchase had taken place in the last 10 years before PM Shri Modi came to power. Under PM Modi, 36 Rafale Fighters have been inducted into the Indian Air Force. 28 Apache helicopters and 15 Chinook choppers have been purchased.
- MRSAM and 100 artillery guns have been purchased. 1.86 lakh bulletproof jackets have been purchased. 5 lakh assault rifles have also been brought. These purchases have been done after 22 years.
- There were no defence deals without commission during the previous governments. Our defence forces had to suffer a lot due to this.
- He further said that civilian casualties in the last six years have decreased by 79 per cent and casualties of the armed forces have gone down by 23 per cent.
- Under the PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana in Manipur, 11,110 pump sets have been installed, about 100 water harvesting ponds have been created.
- Under the Stand-Up India scheme, 5,477 entrepreneurs have been sanctioned Rs 114 crore and 60,000 people are being employed in Manipur.

BJP IS MOVING AHEAD CONTINUOUSLY IN GOA

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda who was on a two-day visit to the poll bound state of Goa, arrived in Panaji on November 24, 2021. Addressing party workers in Valpoi, Shri Nadda said new political parties had come knocking on Goa's doors ahead of the Assembly elections slated for February, 2022.

The BJP National President said opposition parties have misled the nation about Covid vaccination. He said there are new parties coming from far away. What did they say? They said don't take this vaccine. It has not had proper trials. It's a Modi vaccine! It's a BJP vaccine! They've all taken it now. How did you like the Modi vaccine? How did you like the BJP vaccine? Are you safe from the virus now?...they misled people. While opposing Modiji, they opposed the people of India. Now they come here to seek votes. It is the duty of the people of Goa to give them a befitting reply and I am sure you will do that," he said.

Listing the benefits of various schemes of the Central government and the state government, he said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had special affection for Goa. He also congratulated the Pramod Sawant-led government in Goa for achieving 100 percent vaccination with the first dose.

Addressing a karyakarta Sammelan in Bicholim, Goa BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said



in Goa BJP is moving ahead continuously. Here in 2017 we got 32% votes and we formed a coalition government. The people of Goa gave a lot of love to the BJP in the Zilla Parishad, local body elections, from which we are moving ahead.

BJP National President said the replacement of wood stoves with gas cylinders had empowered women. Now, just by pressing the lighter on the stove, women are making tea in just five minutes. It was the women who faced a lot of hardship earlier for it.

Earlier in the day, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda visited the Mahalaxmi temple in Panaji and the Shree Sateri temple in Amona. ■

China borders. 44 strategic bridges in sensitive areas are being developed. Daulet Beg Oldi road has been completed in 2019. It took 19 years, but work was done at full pace under PM Shri Modi," he said.

Further hitting out at the UPA government, Shri Nadda said that Rs. 42,000 crore was allotted for One Rank, One Pension (OROP). "The demand for OROP was started in 1972 by the Army personnel. The outgoing UPA government showed you a 500 token amount - a distasteful joke. After PM Shri Modi came, Rs 42,000 crore was allotted for OROP and all arrears were also cleared," he added.

Shri JP Nadda said Manipur has witnessed holistic development for the first time under the BJP-

led government headed by Shri N Biren Singh. He said the NDA government is ensuring the last-mile delivery of various government schemes in Manipur while the previous ones believed in blockades.

In the last five years, criminalization of politics has been stopped by the government. "Roads that used to see the flow of blood have been transformed into double-lane roads. Broken bridges have been replaced by all-weather bridges. Rail lines are being laid to connect the hills with the valley," the BJP President said.

He expressed hope that the people of Manipur will once again place their trust in the inclusive administration of the NDA in the state assembly election due next year. ■



'BJP STANDS FOR TAMIL PRIDE, TAMIL CULTURE AND FOR WORLD'S OLDEST LANGUAGE TAMIL'

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda visited Tirupur in Tamil Nadu on 24 November, 2021. Addressing the BJP State Executive Meeting Shri Nadda said, "When I come to Tamil Nadu, I feel that the challenge is more grave because democratic institutions are being challenged and threatened. All developmental works that are being started here with the support of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi are being stopped. There is a process to divert the development process which might be good for family rule, but not for the people of Tamil Nadu."

Criticizing the DMK government, Shri Nadda said the MK Stalin government was trying to throttle the cultural and sacred values of the state. They have always challenged the system. There is always an attempt to discourage and disrespect, and this is not the disrespect of Vetrivel or Lord Murugan; this is the disrespect of the cultural ethos of Tamil Nadu. We are the saviors and we have to fight it out. We stand for Tamil Nadu pride, Tamil culture and for the world's oldest language Tamil, he added.

The BJP National President said the DMK reeked of corruption and dynasty and the only way to fight dynastic parties is to have the BJP as the alternative. "DMK and corruption, dynasty, family are synonyms. They are the two sides of the same coin. Whatever you are fighting here on

the ideological issue, the challenge is nationwide. The only way to fight out the dynastic party is the alternative Bharatiya Janata Party," he said.

Shri Nadda said parties which talked about ideologies have been reduced to family parties. "You start from Kashmir and reach down South; you will find that in 70 years, a challenge has come to democracy. We find that parties which used to talk about ideologies have been reduced to family parties. This is a serious challenge to democratic systems. The only answer is the BJP. The national parties like the Indian National Congress are also reduced to a family party," he said.

Referring to criticism of the vaccination programme, BJP National President said, opposition parties were saying, it is a BJP vaccine and Modi vaccine. Now all Chief Ministers have gone through the Modi vaccine and BJP vaccine. By opposing PM Shri Narendra Modi, the leaders have opposed the nation. They have betrayed the people of this country. They have tried to create vaccine hesitancy," he added.

Shri Nadda said the BJP wants to give the people of the state clean and transparent governance. "We want clean and transparent governance with the basic principle 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas'. We have to work together for everybody. We have to take the support of everybody," he said. ■

BJP BAGS LANDSLIDE VICTORY IN TRIPURA CIVIC POLLS, WINS ALL 14 URBAN BODIES

BJP has bagged a landslide victory in Tripura civic polls, winning all 14 urban bodies which went to polls on 25 November, 2021. As per the results announced by election commission, BJP won 312 of 334 municipal seats in Tripura Municipal Polls, which is 98.50 per cent of the total seats. The BJP also got all 51 seats in Agartala Municipal Council and with this, for the first time Agartala Municipal Corporation will function without an Opposition. Of the total seats, the BJP won 112 seats uncontested and in the remaining 222 seats registered a healthy 81.54 per cent voter turnout.

In the remaining 222 seats across 14 urban bodies that went to polls, BJP emerged victorious in 217. Whereas, the CPI(M), which won in all the urban bodies in last civic body polls, was able to win only three seats across three urban bodies. Trinamool Congress and TIPRA Motha won only one seats each. Polls were held for 14 of 20 urban local bodies in the state on November 25.

THESE BLESSINGS GIVE US GREATER STRENGTH TO WORK FOR WELFARE: NARENDRA MODI

Saying that BJP's victory in the Tripura civic polls was a message from the voters in favour of good governance, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi tweeted, "The people of Tripura have given a clear message - that they prefer politics of good governance. I would like to thank them for the unequivocal support to @BJP4Tripura. These blessings give us greater strength to work for the welfare of each and every person in Tripura.

I would like to applaud the @BJP4Tripura Karyakartas who worked tirelessly on the ground and served people. Under the leadership of Shri Biplab Deb, the State Government has been at the forefront of many initiatives, which the people have duly blessed".

THIS IS A VICTORY OF DEMOCRACY: JP NADDA

Congratulating party Karyakartas over its



landslide victory in Civic polls BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said, "I congratulate Tripura CM Biplab Kumar Deb, State BJP President and all party workers for this historic win. This is a victory of democracy".

HISTORIC VICTORY: BIPLAB KUMAR DEB

Chief Minister Shri Biplab Kumar Deb said, "This was a historic victory and referendum of Tripura Urban Local Body Elections which shows the faith of people of Tripura in the developmental policies of PM Shri Narendra Modi. It also shows their belief in his motto of Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas."

the people of Tripura have given a fitting reply by casting votes which ensured that BJP won 98.50 per cent of the seats.

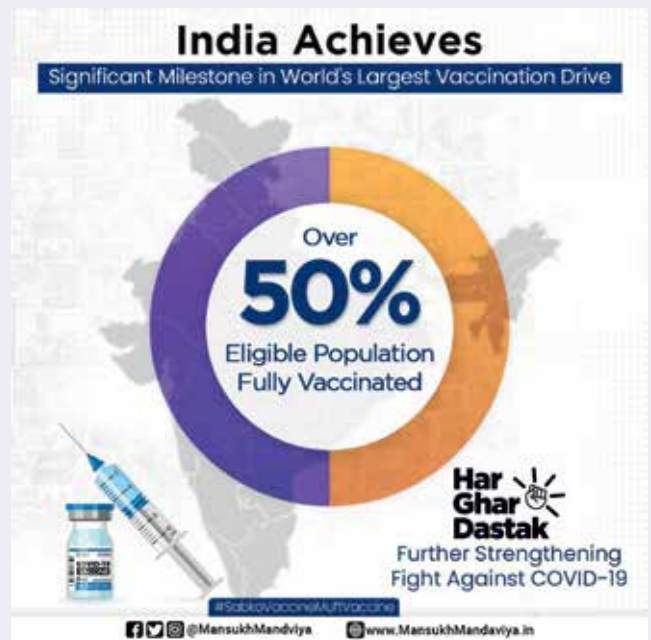
Shri Deb said those who tried to malign Tripura should see people from majority and minority communities together voted in favour of development under PM Shri Narendra Modi. The poll mandate was also a reply to those who tried to insult Tripura and demean it by conspiracies. ■

85% ELIGIBLE POPULATION GOT FIRST DOSE AND 50% VACCINATED WITH BOTH THE DOSES

As per the announcement of the Central government 85% eligible population got the first dose and over 50% of the adult population of India is now vaccinated with both the doses as on 05 December, 2021. It's a big achievement for democracy and the undying spirit of the Government led by PM Shri Narendra Modi and the society to scale new heights has made this possible.

Congratulating on this occasion PM Shri Narendra Modi said, "India's vaccination drive crosses another important milestone. Important to keep this momentum to strengthen the fight against COVID-19. And yes, keep following all other COVID-19 related protocols including masking up and social distancing".

Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya in his message said, "Congratulations India. It is a moment of great pride as over 50% of the eligible population are now fully vaccinated. We will win the battle against COVID-19 together".



MORE THAN 10 CRORE UNORGANIZED WORKERS REGISTERED ON E-SHRAM



PM Shri Narendra Modi on 1 December has expressed happiness over 10 crore registrations on e-Shram and called it as the journey from determination to accomplishment. More than 10 crore unorganized workers registered on E-shram portal in less than 100 days. The E-SHRAM Portal is launched to track and gather all information and statistics on unorganised sector labourers and employees. The information gathered will be utilised to build new plans, policies, and job possibilities for unorganised sector workers and labourers.

6 GREENFIELD AIRPORTS OPERATIONAL IN LAST 3 YEARS, 5 ARE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

During the last 3 years, following six Greenfield airports have become operational: Kannur Airport in Kerala (2018), Pakyong Airport in Sikkim (2018), Kalaburagi Airport in Karnataka (2019), Kurnool Airport in Andhra Pradesh (2021), Sindhudurg Airport in Maharashtra (2021) and Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh (2021). In addition, during the last 3 years, construction of Greenfield airports at Navi Mumbai in Maharashtra, Mopa in Goa, Hirasar in Rajkot, Jewar (Noida) in Uttar Pradesh and Hollongi in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh are being undertaken.

Additionally, a total of 42 airports/airstrips have been operationalized during the last 3 years under the "Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik" (UDAN) scheme of Government of India.

Government of India has granted "In Principle" approval for development of 13 greenfield airports.

GST REVENUE COLLECTION SURGES 25% HIGHER

Rs. 1,31,526 crore gross GST revenue collected in November

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of November 2021 is Rs. 1,31,526 crore of which CGST is Rs. 23,978 crore, SGST is Rs. 31,127 crore, IGST is Rs. 66,815 crore (including Rs. 32,165 crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is Rs. 9,606 crore (including Rs. 653 crore collected on import of goods).

The government has settled Rs. 27,273 crore to CGST and Rs. 22,655 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement. The total revenue of Centre and the States after regular settlements in the month of November 2021 is Rs. 51,251 crore for CGST and Rs. 53,782 crore for the SGST. Centre has also released Rs. 17,000 crore to States/UTs towards GST compensation on 03.11.2021.

For the second straight month gross GST collection crossed Rs. 1.30 lakh crore. The revenues for the month of November 2021 are 25% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year and 27% over 2019-20. During the month, revenues from import of goods was 43% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 20% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

The GST revenues for November 2021 have been



the second highest ever since introduction of GST, second only to that in April 2021, which related to year-end revenues and higher than last month's collection, which also included the impact of returns required to be filed quarterly. This is very much in line with the trend in economic recovery. ■

OVER 18.17 LAKH FARMERS BENEFITTED WITH MSP VALUE OF 57,032.03 CR

290.98 LMT OF PADDY HAS BEEN PROCURED IN ONGOING KMS SEASON

The paddy procurement is progressing smoothly in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2021-22 at MSP from farmers, as was done in previous years.

A quantity of 290.98 LMT of Paddy has been procured in KMS 2021-22 upto 30.11.2021 in the procuring States/UTs of Chandigarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Telangana,

Rajasthan, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Odisha, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

Till now about 18.17 Lac farmers have been benefitted with MSP value of Rs. 57,032.03 crore. So far, the maximum procurement in the ongoing KMS season is done from Punjab (18685532MT) followed by Haryana (5530596MT) and Uttar Pradesh (1242593MT). The procurement in other states is



also gaining momentum.

Pertinently, in KMS 2020-21, at least 13113417 farmers were benefitted with MSP value of Rs. 168823.23 crore (as on 30.11.2021) and procurement of 89419081 MT was done. ■

NEARLY 1,600 KISAN RAIL SERVICES OPERATED SINCE LAUNCH OF THE SERVICE IN AUGUST, 2020

In compliance to the announcement made in Union Budget 2020-21, Kisan Rail trains have been introduced by Indian Railways to enable speedy movement of perishables including fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, fishery and dairy products from production or surplus regions to consumption or deficient regions. Kisan Rail services are time tabled as well as demand based.

Since the launch of first Kisan Rail service on 7th August 2020 and upto 19th November 2021, Indian Railway have operated 1,586 Kisan Rail services, transporting approximately 5.2 lakh tonnes of perishables including onion, banana, potato, garlic, pomegranate, oranges, capsicum, cabbage, cauliflower, and other fruits and vegetables. These services have operated from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Telangana, Tripura,

Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Potential circuits for movement of Kisan Rail services are identified in consultation with Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Agriculture/Animal Husbandry/Fisheries Departments of State Governments as well as local bodies and agencies, Mandis etc., and based on demand, rakes are provided on priority for running of Kisan Rail services.

So far, no difficulties have been faced during the transportation of goods through Kisan rail services. Halts, number of trips and composition of time-tabled Kisan Rail services and introduction of new services are finalized in consultation with farmers and consignors.

This information was given by Union Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw in a written reply in Lok Sabha on December 1. ■

INDIA IS 2nd LARGEST PRODUCER OF FRUITS & VEGETABLES IN THE WORLD

As reported by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, India is the second largest producer of Fruits, as well as Vegetables, in the world in the year 2019.

Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are the major Fruits producing States, whereas Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Odisha are the major Vegetables producing States of the country.

The Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented w.e.f. 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber

crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew and cocoa. All States (including Assam) and UTs are covered under MIDH.

The Mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables through various interventions. Under MIDH, assistance is provided for activities such as production of planting material, vegetable seed production, coverage of area with improved cultivars, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming, including insitu

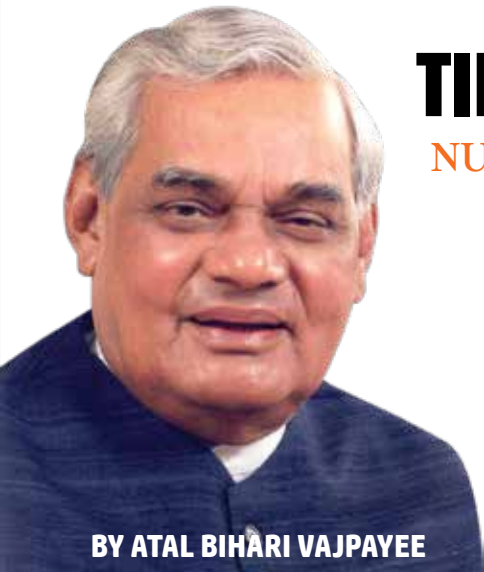
generation of organic inputs are taken up for development of fruits and vegetables. Capacity buildings of farmers and technicians are also provided for adopting improved technologies. The Scheme also envisages creation of Post Harvest Management (PHM) and marketing for better price realization of produce. ■

FRUITS & VEGETABLES



INDIA

2nd largest producer of Fruits & Vegetables in the world



BY ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE

TIME FOR INDIA TO STAND UNITED

NUCLEAR TESTS IN NATIONAL SECURITY INTEREST

THERE has always been a broad consensus on India's foreign policy, notwithstanding minor differences in opinion from time to time. There has been unanimity over the need to make India's foreign policy independent of external pressure+ a policy that encourages self-reliance, protects India's interests and contributes to world peace. Therefore, when it is argued post-Pokhran-II that this broad consensus has been done away with, it amounts to not seeing things in their right perspective.

Good relations with all our neighbours is integral to India's foreign policy. Right from the day my Government took charge, we have taken steps to strengthen relations with our neighbours. The President of India has returned from a successful trip to Nepal. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh recently visited New Delhi and discussions were held with her in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation. The President of Maldives also visited New Delhi. We had very cordial discussions with him. India's Foreign Secretary has visited Bangladesh and Bhutan in recent days. Given this backdrop, it would be unfair to say that India has been isolated.

Yes, we have problems with Pakistan. But India's efforts have all along been directed at normalising relations with Pakistan, establishing friendship with that country, opening new doors to economic cooperation and facilitating travel between the two countries. But we did not get Pakistan's cooperation, which is required for all this to happen. A dialogue with Pakistan had been initiated by the previous regime. India had made a proposal to Pakistan at Dhaka to set up the framework for discussions. But Pakistan did not respond. In the meanwhile, efforts were made to create disturbances in India, posing a threat to our internal security.

Critics at home have been saying that there is tension in the region. We don't want any tension. There is firing on the border, but this has been happening for some time. There are some unresolved issues which can be resolved through bilateral discussions. India and Pakistan have to live together. We cannot change our neighbours. We can change friends, we can reduce the number of those who are against us, but a neighbour is there forever. Our effort has been to ensure that India and Pakistan live as good neighbours. This effort shall continue.

Under the Shimla Agreement, all outstanding issues between the two countries have to be settled bilaterally. There is no scope for any third party intervention. To those who want to play a role, I have only this to say: Thank you, but we will deal with our problems in our own way and solve them through bilateral discussions.

As far as the charge of isolating India is concerned, the facts are to the contrary. At the G15 meeting, there was no such attempt. At the NonAligned meeting, there was a concerted effort to criticise India for conducting the nuclear tests — but these efforts failed as there was no support for the move.

The nuclear tests, Pokhran-II, were conducted bearing in mind certain security concerns. Even those who criticised us, those who are opposed to us, for conducting the nuclear tests, have begun to concede that India has genuine security concerns. This is not the first time that India is being criticised. When India refused to sign NPT, it seemed as if the entire world had turned against us and bitterly criticised the decision, but India stood firm and said that as a matter principle we will not sign a discriminatory treaty.

I recall that after Pokhran-I in 1974, some people had criticised the nuclear test and charged the then Congress Government with deflecting attention from other problems and influencing elections. The present Rajya Sabha Chairman, who was an MP in those days, had participated in a parliamentary discussion soon after Pokhran-I and said: "I personally feel a halting decision has been taken. We should have done it much earlier. But let us not say about UP elections, the President's rule..." This shows the diseased mind of the Opposition people as to how a good thing done by our scientists and by the Government, they want to lower it down".

History is repeating itself —

those who were in power in 1974 are now in the Opposition; those who were in the Opposition, are now in power. But fundamental issues pertaining to the nation's security cannot be linked to changing political situations; these issues cannot be made dependent on politics of the day.

It has been pointed out that India's publicity offensive has not been as powerful as it should have been. This is partly true. Those who oppose us, do so publicly; but those who support us, are often not vocal enough. This point had been made during Mrs Indira Gandhi's time, too. While answering to a debate in Parliament, she had said:

"And any incident or information that comes to the knowledge of Hon'ble Members of Parliament will always be useful to us in seeing how these services and Missions can be improved. But, when we talk of publicity abroad or of the image of India which our Missions are projecting, let us remember that we are dealing with sovereign independent states who have their own assessment of their national interests. They are not concerned with our national interests; they are concerned with what picture suits them and that is the picture which is normally projected in that country. Our task, therefore, is to seek their cooperation in matters where our interests converge as they do with many countries and to seek adjustment and accommodation wherever there are divergences... We hope that the country will now present a picture of unity and not of division; of progress and

not of stagnation; of purposeful activity and not of meaningless presumption. All this will condition and influence our external relations and what others think of us."

If we become victims of self-criticism, if we do not publicise and praise the achievements of our scientist, engineers and technicians, then we cannot blame others for criticising us.

I am not saying that there should be no criticism. If there are any lapses, then the Opposition should criticise the Government – we, too, have done it when we were in the Opposition. But there comes a moment when if this nation fails to stand united, then the nation's

If we become victims of self-criticism, if we do not publicise and praise the achievements of our entists, engineers and technicians, then we cannot blame others for criticising us

interest is harmed. Shri V.P. Singh, who is at present in London, gave an interview to BBC and said that the importance of the recent nuclear tests should not be minimised, that the achievement of scientists should be hailed. At the time of Pokhran-1, Shri Singh had said in the Lok Sabha:

"Deputy Speaker, Sir, if anything has been exploded by the Pokhran explosion, then it has been the myth that vital technology can be the exclusive possession of a few countries. It has unsettled some who had envisaged a world order on these premises. They throw up their hands in horror and accuse us of opening the nuclear Pandora's

box and turn pale at the thought of a puny little country, the little eleven with no sense of responsibility, will follow the lead of the tramp called India and start the entire dirty job of producing nuclear bombs, a job which was the sole monopoly of the nuclear weapon countries. What a pious thought! I wish it had occurred before the push-button was released to drop the nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The high priests who had installed the nuclear deity on the high pedestal of their global relations are now scared that some of their worshippers may build their own temples. Let it be known that if any country does build a nuclear bomb, it will be following the example of Hiroshima and not that of Pokhran."

These words are as much true today as they were then. Shri Singh is our political opponent, there are differences between us. But his reaction from his sickbed in London is that of a nationalist.

We have made it clear that whatever we did, we did out of our concern for the nation's security. Our action was not aimed against anyone. Whichever way we look, we find nuclear arms. India has prepared itself to meet this challenge on the strength of its indigenous talent and resources. We have to understand the true intentions of those who have put together a nuclear device with the help of others and illicitly acquired components.

(Excerpts from Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's speech in the Rajya Sabha on July 10, 1998.)

Courtesy: BJP Today (August 1-15, 1998)

CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF BIPIN RAWAT NO MORE

On December 8, Chief of Defence Staff Shri Bipin Rawat died after an Air Force helicopter carrying him and 11 other defence officials crashed in Tamil Nadu. General Rawat's wife, Madhulika Rawat, was also with him in the helicopter and died in the crash. The crash took place shortly after Mi-17 V5 chopper took off from the air force base in Sullur, Coimbatore, for Wellington in the Nilgiri Hills. 11 other officials who died were Brigadier L S Lidder, Lt. Col. Harjinder Singh, Wing Commander Prithvi Singh Chauhan, Squadron Leader Kuldeep, JWO Pradeep, JWO Das, Naik Gursewak Singh, Naik Jitendra Kumar, Lance Naik Vivek Kumar, Lance Naik B Sai Teja, and Havildar Satpal.

President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, expressed shock and anguish over the tragic demise. He said in a tweet, "I am shocked and anguished over the untimely demise of General Bipin Rawat and his wife, Madhulika ji." "The nation has lost one of its bravest sons. His four decades of selfless service to the motherland were marked by exceptional gallantry and heroism. My condolences to his family," he added.

PM Shri Narendra Modi expressing deep grief over the demise of Gen. Bipin Rawat, his wife, and other personnel of the Armed Forces, said in a series of tweets, "I am deeply anguished by the helicopter crash in Tamil Nadu in which we lost Gen. Bipin Rawat, his wife and other personnel of the Armed Forces. They served India with the utmost diligence. My thoughts are with the bereaved families. Gen. Bipin Rawat was an outstanding soldier. A true patriot, he greatly contributed to modernising our armed forces and security apparatus. His insights and perspectives on strategic matters were exceptional. His passing away has saddened me deeply. Om Shanti."

"As India's first CDS, Gen. Rawat worked on diverse aspects relating to our armed forces, including defence reforms. He brought with him a rich experience of serving in the Army. India will never forget his exceptional service."

In expressing condolences, **BJP National President Shri JP Nadda** said in a tweet, "Deeply

pained by the sudden demise of CDS Gen. Bipin Rawat, his wife & 11 other armed forces personnel in an unfortunate helicopter accident today in Tamil Nadu." A huge loss to the nation. I salute Gen. Rawat for his outstanding services. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families."

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah also expressed condolences on the demise of CDS General Bipin Rawat, his wife and 11 others. It is a very sad day for the nation as we have lost our CDS, General Bipin Rawat Ji, in a very tragic accident. He was one of the bravest soldiers who had served the motherland with utmost devotion. His exemplary contributions and commitment cannot be put into words. I am deeply pained, "Shri Shah said in a tweet.

Shri Shah added, "I also express my deepest condolences on the sad demise of Mrs. Madhulika Rawat and 11 other Armed Forces personnel. My thoughts are with the bereaved families. May God give them the strength to bear this tragic loss. We are praying for the speedy recovery of Gp Capt Varun Singh."

Expressing condolences, **Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh** said, "Deeply anguished by the sudden demise of Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, his wife, and 11 other armed forces personnel in an extremely unfortunate helicopter accident today in Tamil Nadu." His untimely death is an irreparable loss to our Armed Forces and the country. General Rawat had served the country with exceptional courage and diligence. As the first Chief of Defence Staff, he prepared plans for the jointness of our Armed Forces. My heart goes out to those families who lost their loved ones in this accident. Praying for the speedy recovery of Gp Capt Varun Singh, who is currently under treatment at the Military Hospital, Wellington. ■





'OUR RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES OF PANDEMIC, CLIMATE CHANGE & RADICALISM WILL SHAPE TRAJECTORY OF 21ST CENTURY'

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda addressed the 'Global Challenges of 21st Century: Interparty Dimension' seminar organised by United Russia Party via video conferencing on 01 December, 2021. The seminar was hosted by the United Russia Party as a part of the celebration of its 20th anniversary. The conference was inaugurated by the Chairman of the United Russia Party Shri DA Medvedev. Political leaders across the globe participated in the conference.

Addressing the seminar, Shri Nadda thanked Shri Boris Gryzlov, Chairman of the Supreme Council of the United Russia Party for the opportunity to speak at this forum on behalf of Bharatiya Janata Party.

KEY POINTS OF THE ADDRESS:

- India and Russia are steadfast and long-standing friends. The friendship and partnership between India and Russia has been the most stable in the international system after World War II. Indians admire Russia. Russia is considered as a special friend of India. Deeper and more fruitful party-to-party exchanges between the Bharatiya Janata Party and the United Russia Party will help in further strengthening the bond between the two nations.
- BJP is the world's largest political party with almost 200 million primary members, and the United Russia Party adds luster to the friendship between the two nations. Both the political parties draw inspiration from this friendship and mutual respect that President Shri Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi share.
- Our response to the three principal challenges – pandemic, the post pandemic rebuilding, climate change and threat posed by radicalism; terrorism and its sanctuaries – will shape the trajectory of the remainder of the 21st century. In all three areas what India and Russia can achieve together to meet common and global goals will determine peace and prosperity in our shared region as well as in the world system.
- In India there is great appreciation of the help Russia extended to us. Russia rushed support, particularly in the form of oxygen supplies and other emergency material during our second wave earlier this year.
- Today Covid situation is much better in India. We have given more than 124 crore doses of vaccines to our citizens and we have covered almost our entire eligible population with at least one jab.
- As the largest and socially responsible political party, the BJP responded during the Covid pandemic and carried out relief operations on a massive scale. The BJP carried out a special relief campaign which is called 'Sewa Hi Sangathan' which means 'organisation is for the serving the people'. Due to the enormity of the crisis all the BJP workers stepped out of their homes and served the sick and needy people without caring for their own health and wellbeing.
- We seek Russian investment and partnership in manufacturing, especially in crucial sectors like defence, healthcare, energy and technology that can be beneficial to both the countries.
- India is highly committed in the battle against climate change. India and Russia need to cooperate and collaborate in developing cleaner sources of energy.
- The stability of Afghanistan and the hope that it does not once again become the sanctuary of terrorism and narcotics is shared by both India and Russia. It is a matter of mutual concern for both the countries. As historical stakeholders of the region and as friends of Afghanistan, India and Russia need to work together to ensure stability and peace in the region.
- Deeper and more frequent party-to-party exchanges between the BJP and the United Russia Party will contribute even more to this understanding and addressing global challenges. ■

STAND UNITED AND START PREPARATIONS FOR MISSION 2023: AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah arrived in Jaipur, Rajasthan on 05 December, 2021 and attended the BJP State Executive Committee meeting. He was received by BJP National Vice President and former Rajasthan CM Smt. Vasundhara Raje, BJP State President Shri Satish Poonia and other senior BJP leaders of Rajasthan.



During the state Executive Committee meeting, BJP's organisational review, upcoming action plan, complete farmer loan waiver, electricity, health, education, unemployment, law and order, the strategy and mission of the movement among other things were discussed in detail.

At the BJP's state Executive Committee meeting Shri Shah asked the party Karyakartas to stand united and start preparations for Mission 2023 under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

While addressing 'Janpratinidhi Sankalp Sammelan' in Jaipur, Shri Amit Shah predicted a resounding victory for BJP in the next Assembly elections in the state. BJP will win 2023 Rajasthan Assembly polls with a 2/3 majority. This useless and



corrupt Ashok Gehlot government must go from Rajasthan and BJP should govern, he said.

A day before, Shri Amit Shah also attended "Bada Khana" (dinner) with Border Security Force personnel at the Rohitash Border during his visit to the border post in Jaisalmer. He addressed the personnel in the Sainik Sammelan and lauded the valour of the Jawans. Shri Shah's visit to Jaisalmer near India-Pak border coincides with the 57th Raising Day event of the BSF being celebrated there for the first time. He offered prayers at the Tanot Rai Mata temple after reaching Jaisalmer on 04 December, 2021.



Shri Amit Shah also met 1971 war hero Naik Bhairon Singh Rathod in Jaisalmer. Appreciating him Shri Shah tweeted, "I had the privilege of meeting 1971 war Longewala Post hero Veer Naik Bhairon Singh Rathod in Jaisalmer. Your valor and love for the motherland have created a place of immense reverence in the history of the country and the hearts of the countrymen". ■



PM ADDRESSES AT CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS

Our biggest strength, our biggest inspiration, is our Constitution: PM Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Constitution Day Celebrations organized by the Supreme Court in Delhi on 26 November. Chief Justice of India Shri Justice NV Ramana, Union Minister Shri Kiren Rijju, Senior Supreme Court and High Court Justices, Attorney General of India Shri K K Venugopal and President of Supreme Court Bar Association Shri Vikas Singh were among those present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said in the morning he was amidst the colleagues from the legislature and the executive. And now he was among all the learned members of the judiciary. "We all may have different roles, different responsibilities, different ways of working, but the source of our faith, inspiration and energy is the same - our Constitution", the Prime Minister emphasized.

Shri Modi said that our constitution makers gave us the constitution cherishing the great tradition of India of thousands of years and in the light of the dreams of the people who lived and died for freedom.

The Prime Minister stressed that even after so many years of independence, a large chunk of the citizens were condemned to suffer exclusion in the areas of basic needs like drinking water, toilets, electricity etc. Working to make their life easier is the best tribute to the constitution. He expressed satisfaction that a massive campaign to turn this exclusion into conclusion is underway in the country.

The Prime Minister remarked that Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas-Sabka Prayas, is the most powerful manifestation of the spirit of the Constitution. Government dedicated to the Constitution, does not discriminate in development and we have done this. Today the poorest of the poor are getting the same access to quality infrastructure, which was once

limited to the resourceful people. Today, the country has as much focus on the development of Ladakh, Andaman and North East as it is on metro cities like Delhi and Mumbai, he said.

Referring to recently released results of National Family Health Survey, the Prime Minister said that with regard to gender equality, now the number of daughters is increasing in comparison to men. More opportunities for hospital delivery are becoming available to pregnant women. Due to this the maternal mortality rate, infant mortality rate are decreasing.

Shri Modi said today there is no country in the whole world that apparently exists as a colony of another country. But this does not mean that the colonial mindset too is over. "We are seeing that this mindset is giving rise to many distortions. The most obvious

“We all may have different roles, different responsibilities, different ways of working, but the source of our faith, inspiration and energy is the same - our Constitution,”

example of this is seen in the obstacles faced by us in the development journey of developing countries. Efforts are being made to close the same means, the same path, for the developing countries,

by the means by which the developed world has reached today's position", he said. The Prime Minister noted that India is the only country in the process of achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement ahead of time. And yet, in the name of environment, various pressures are created on India. All this is the result of a colonial mentality. He said "unfortunately due to such a mentality, obstacles are put in the development of our own country. Sometimes in the name of freedom of expression and sometimes with the help of something else", he emphasized. He added that this colonial mindset is a big obstacle in further strengthening the determination that was created in the freedom movement. "We have to remove it. And for this, our biggest strength, our biggest inspiration, is our Constitution", he said. ■



UNION HOME MINISTER VISITS SAHARANPUR, UP

BJP GOVERNMENT HAS RESTORED UP'S PRIDE: AMIT SHAH

The UP government has rid its western region of goondism, riots and mafia and restored law & order and the prestige,' Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said while laying the foundation stone of Maa Shakumbhari University in Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh on 02 December, 2021.

Shri Amit Shah laid the foundation stone in the presence of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and other senior leaders. The university will be constructed at 92 crore over 50.43 acres and is named after Devi Shakumbhari, whose temple is in Behat and revered throughout western UP. The Maa Shakumbhari University will have 264 colleges affiliated and begin functioning next year. Maa Shakumbhari, an incarnation of goddess Parvati, has a temple dedicated to her near Saharanpur. The university is expected to help students of Saharanpur and neighboring districts of Muzaffarnagar and Shamli, who migrated to Chandigarh, Haryana and Dehradun for education.

Shri Shah also spoke of MSP dues for cane, end to sale of sugar mills, closure of illegal slaughter houses in UP. He said when I came to Saharanpur in 2017 during last assembly election; lot of people told me that they are forced to flee from the state due to under development and unemployment. Now, the scene has completely changed and UP is on the path of rapid progress under the BJP government. To continue this pace of development, I request the voters to vote for BJP in the upcoming assembly polls to keep away those who forced them to migrate earlier from UP, he added.

Shri Shah said compare to the previous governments, dacoity has gone down by 70% in Uttar Pradesh, loot has come down by 69%, murder by 30% and deaths due to dowry has come down by 22.5% and asked SP chief Akhilesh Yadav to weigh these statistics. He said during the SP rule there was rule of mafias in UP and now there is rule of law, and this is major difference between BJP rule and earlier rules. ■

BJP OBC MORCHA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD

The BJP OBC Morcha National Executive meeting was held from 3rd to 5th December at Kevadia, Narmada District of Gujarat. The meeting was presided over by OBC Morcha National President Dr. K Laxman and BJP National General Secretary and the party's in charge of the morcha, Shri Arun Singh. The meeting was addressed and guided by the BJP National General Secretary (Organization), Shri B.L. Santhosh. Those who attended the meeting were the OBC Morcha's national office bearers, national executive members, state presidents of the morcha and special invitees.

The meeting discussed the initiatives and schemes taken by the Modi government for the betterment of other backward classes (OBCs) at length. Its National General Secretary, Shri Nikhil Anand, briefed the future

programmes of the morcha.

While concluding the meeting, OBC Morcha gave a vote of thanks to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for extending the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana till March 2022 in a bid to bring relief to over 80 crore people during the COVID-19 pandemic and for crossing an inoculation milestone with the country administering 150 crore Made in India Covid-19 vaccine doses to citizens against the virus. ■



PMGKAY- LARGEST FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME IN THE WORLD

Programme ensures no one sleeps hungry in the country



RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY), considered as world's largest food security scheme, has ensured availability of sufficient food for the poor and needy during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the wake of nationwide lockdown caused by the unprecedented outbreak of COVID-19, the Government of India in March 2020 had announced the distribution of additional free-of-cost food grains to about 80 Crore beneficiaries, over and above the regular monthly NFSA food grains i.e., regular entitlements of their ration cards, so that the poor, needy and the vulnerable households do not suffer on account of non-availability of adequate food grains during the extreme challenges of lockdown and economic disruption.

PM Shri Narendra Modi is known for his vision, innovation and path breaking ideas to deal with challenging situations with a human touch. This he proved once again by launching the PM-GKAY scheme in the very initial stage of COVID-19 pandemic to save the poor and vulnerable, as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat scheme. Under this scheme, 5 kgs of free rice/wheat and 1 kg of free pulse was provided to each person per month. As per reports, the PM-GKAY scheme supported around 81.35 crore needy and poorest people of India during the pandemic.

The country today is marching ahead with Modi government's basic mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas' guided by the principle of Antyodaya or upliftment of the last men as the basic spirit of governance. Justifying this principle, the government included families belonging to the Below Poverty Line- Antyodaya

Anna Yojana and Priority Households categories, households headed by widows or terminally ill persons, disabled persons or persons aged 60 years or with no assured means of subsistence or societal support, as beneficiaries of the scheme. All primitive tribal households, landless agriculture labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans and persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector were also included in the scheme.

The scheme was initially launched by Prime Minister Shri Modi as part of the existing 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana' and it was approved for the period of April to June 2020, with a cost of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore to the exchequer. By the end of May

2020, the coverage under the welfare scheme was highly impressive and the food ministry estimated that the program had reached 740 million beneficiaries and it has ensured wider food security in the country.

Enthused by the success of this scheme, PM Shri Modi extended this scheme upto November 2020, which, according to government estimates, benefitted over 800 million beneficiaries and incurred an additional expenditure of Rs. 90,000 crore for its extension.

As per government data, the Phase-I of this scheme was operational from April to June, 2020 and Phase-II was operational from July to November, 2020 respectively. Phase-III of the scheme was operational from May to June, 2021. Phase-IV of the scheme was operational from July to November, 2021 and so far, under the PM-GKAY phase I to IV the government of India had allocated a total of almost 600 LMT food grains to the States/UTs equivalent to about Rs. 2.07 Lakh Crore in food subsidy. As per

The scheme was initially launched by Prime Minister Shri Modi as part of the existing 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana' and it was approved for the period of April to June 2020, with a cost of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore

reports, under PMGKAY-IV, total 93.8% food grains have been lifted and distributed to about 74.64 Crore beneficiaries respectively.

Most recently the Prime Minister announced the extension of PM-GKAY scheme for Phase-V from December 2021 to March 2022, with an additional food subsidy of Rs. 53344.52 Crore. The total outgo in terms of food-grains for PMGKAY Phase-V is likely to be about 163 LMT. Going by the experience of earlier phases, the performance of PMGKAY-V is also



PM Shri Modi's efforts to take everyone along through Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, keeping human sensibility and sensitivity as paramount, has certainly given a lot of strength to the poor, needy, small farmers and small businessmen

expected to be on the same high level as achieved before. Overall, the government will be incurring an expenditure of nearly Rs.2.60 lakh Crore in PM-GKAY Phase I to V.

Modi government has emphasized that benefits of these welfare schemes should reach everyone in need and until the end of the crisis. So, India is perhaps the only country in the world that provides free food grains for 24 months to 80 crore people without any discrimination. Owing to this noble vision and its tremendous outcome, the whole world has acknowledged the benefits of 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana'.

Appreciating the scheme, the WHO Director-General said, "PM Modi has addressed not only the health issues, but also economic issues and that should be replicated by other countries."

Applauding the near universal PM-GKAY scheme, UN Secretary General said, "India has taken two steps-Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana and AtmaNirbhar Bharat--which are taking care of the economic issues of the country and it is appreciable."

Undoubtedly, the COVID-19 pandemic was and continues to be a major crisis faced by the entire world during the last century, that did not spare even the most advanced countries of the world. Past experiences show, whenever a major tragedy strikes such a massive population, it leads to instability in the society. However, under the dynamic leadership of PM Shri Modi, what India did for the safety of its citizens proved all the apprehensions wrong. Even in such difficult times, India tried to ensure that not a single poor person should stay hungry. Additionally, India also provided financial assistance to the poor, helpless, elderly people directly to their bank accounts during the pandemic. The facility of 'One Nation One Ration Card' was started for migrant workers to ensure their food security regardless of where they lived in the country.

PM Shri Modi's efforts to take everyone along through Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, keeping human sensibility and sensitivity as paramount, has certainly given a lot of strength to the poor, needy, small farmers and small businessmen of the country during these difficult times. This free ration distributed over the past two years has definitely reduced distress for the poor and supported their lives and livelihood. This new found confidence of an entire population is the cornerstone of PM Shri Modi's governance that propels the grand vision of a "New India", an India that is more resolute and self-confident to face global challenges, than ever before. ■

'MODI 2.0 A RESOLVE TO SECURE INDIA' RELEASED

'PM NARENDRA MODI MAKES US PROUD'

BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri BL Santhosh launched a book 'Modi 2.0 A Resolve to Secure India' at India International Centre in New Delhi on 02 December, 2021. Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation in collaboration with Pentagon Press has published this latest volume on how Modi Government is ushering in a new vision of national security and has comprehensively transformed it.

Among others Chairman, Advisory Council to the Prime Minister Prof. Bibek Debroy, Former Director General, Indo-Tibetan Border Police Shri Ranjit Panchanda, Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses Dr. Uttam Sinha, Hony.

assure you that I will work in a way that none of you will have to bend your head while asking for votes next time". PM Shri Modi made us proud said Shri Santhosh.

He also said No matter wherever part of the globe Indians are, they are Indians. We will create a situation where they all will be proud to say they are Indians. This government's achievement is not policies, they were there already. The achievement is the change of mindset brought by this leader - Nation First."

Prof. Bibek Debroy said, "A sound and aggressive defence strategy is an absolutely necessary part of India's reform agenda. Strategies to counter insurgency on our national borders and police reform are essential for maintaining the momentum in development."



Director, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation Dr. Anirban Ganguly, and Managing Director, Pentagon Press Mr. Rajan Arya were present on the occasion.

At the book launch Shri BL Santhosh said what adds value to this book is the immense accomplishment of the contributors and editors. In modern times the sense of assurance was diminishing, these 7 years have brought that sense of assurance in the leader and the system. The potential that was not realized in 70-75 years has been unleashed in 7 years of Modi government.

"Today I am reminded by the words of our PM Shri Narendra Modi- "I don't know what I can achieve or deliver in the next 5 years, because achievement requires support and effort of many people. But I can

Shri Ranjit Panchanda said, "The Modi Government believes in keeping every citizen, who is an equal stakeholder in national security, secure from all kinds of threats, both external and internal."

Dr. Anirban Ganguly said, under the Modi Government "India aspires to emerge as a leading power standing on solid foundation of a new security vision."

'Modi 2.0 A Resolve to Secure India' captures noteworthy opinions and inputs of national security experts and thought leaders on the overall performance and strategies of the Modi government. This evocative volume brings out a comprehensive treatment of the important aspects of national security under Modi 2.0 government. ■

INDIA AND RUSSIA LOOK FORWARD TO GREATER INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION



President of the Russian Federation Shri Vladimir Putin, paid a working visit to New Delhi on 06 December 2021 for the 21st India – Russia Annual summit with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

President Putin was accompanied by a high level delegation. Bilateral talks between Prime Minister Modi and President Putin were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The two leaders expressed satisfaction at the sustained progress in the 'Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership' between both countries despite the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic. They welcomed the holding of the first meeting of the 2+2 Dialogue of Foreign and Defence Ministers and the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Commission on Military & Military-Technical Cooperation in New Delhi on 6 December 2021. The leaders underscored the need for greater economic cooperation and in this context, emphasized on new drivers of growth for long term predictable and sustained economic cooperation. They appreciated the success story of mutual investments and looked forward to greater investments in each others' countries. The role of connectivity through the International North-South

Transport Corridor (INSTC) and the proposed Chennai - Vladivostok Eastern Maritime Corridor figured in the discussions. The two leaders looked forward to greater inter-regional cooperation between various regions of Russia, in particular with the Russian Far-East, with the States of India. They appreciated the ongoing bilateral cooperation in the fight against the Covid pandemic, including humanitarian assistance extended by both countries to each other in critical times of need.

The leaders discussed regional and global developments, including the post-pandemic global economic recovery, and the situation in Afghanistan. They agreed that both countries share common perspectives and concerns on Afghanistan and appreciated the bilateral roadmap charted out at the NSA level for consultation and cooperation on Afghanistan. They noted that both sides shared common positions on many international issues and agreed to further strengthen cooperation at multilateral fora, including at the UN Security Council. President Putin congratulated Prime Minister Modi for India's ongoing non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council and successful Presidency of BRICS in 2021. Prime Minister Modi congratulated Russia for its

ongoing chairmanship of the Arctic Council.

The Joint Statement titled India-Russia: Partnership for Peace, Progress and Prosperity aptly covers the state and prospects of bilateral ties. Coinciding with the visit, several Government-to-Government Agreements and MoUs, as well as those between commercial and other organizations of both countries, were signed in different sectors such as trade, energy, science & technology, intellectual property, outer space, geological exploration, cultural exchange, education, etc. This is a reflection of the multifaceted nature of our bilateral partnership.

President Putin extended an invitation to Prime Minister Modi to visit Russia for the 22nd India-Russia Annual Summit in 2022.

On the accession Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that Despite the challenges posed by Covid, the pace of relations between India and Russia has not changed. Our Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership has been continuously strengthening. He added, the fight against Covid has also seen excellent cooperation between the two countries - whether in vaccine trials and production, in humanitarian assistance, or in the repatriation of each other's citizens. ■



BY VIKASH ANAND

PM-KUSUM TO DOUBLE INCOME OF FARMERS AND TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

What is PM-KUSUM Scheme?

In November, India achieved the target of 40% installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources. The twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-21) on climate change was held in Paris, France. In the session, India had made a commitment to achieve 40% of its installed electricity capacity from non-fossil energy sources by 2030. But the Modi government's dedication achieved the 40% target seven years before the set timing of 2030. The country's installed Renewable Energy (RE) capacity today stands at 150.05 GW, while its nuclear energy-based installed electricity capacity stands at 6.78 GW. This brings the total non-fossil-based installed energy capacity to 156.83 GW, which is 40.1% of the total installed electricity capacity of 390.8 GW. In line with the Prime Minister's announcement at the recently concluded COP26, the government is committed to achieving 500 GW of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by the year 2030.

The efforts being made by the Modi government are for increasing the share of solar energy in renewable energy (RE) capacity. Solar capacity has increased in the last 7 years from around 2.6 GW to more than 42 GW. When the Modi government came to office in 2014, it started various schemes to increase solar capacity in the country. Among those various schemes, the PM-KUSUM Scheme (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan) is one of the important schemes in that direction. It was launched in February 2019 by the Modi government and aims to double the

income of farmers.

How will it be helpful to farmers?

PM-Kusum scheme provides massive help to farmers for the installation of grid-connected solar power plants, each with a capacity of up to 2 MW in the rural areas; the installation of standalone off-grid solar water pumps to fulfill irrigation needs of farmers not connected to the grid, and the solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps to make farmers independent of grid supply and also enables them to sell surplus solar power generated to DISCOM and earn extra

income. Selected vendors for the installation of solar pumps and panels will be required to provide repair and maintenance for a period of five years from the date of commissioning of the pump. They will have one authorized service centre in each operational district and a helpline in the local language in each operational state. It will provide energy and water security to farmers and enhance their income, de-dieselize the farm sector,

and reduce environmental pollution. According to data released by the Ministry of renewable energy, about 19 times more solar pumps were installed between 2014 and 2019.

What are the main mechanisms of operation of the scheme?

The PM KUSUM scheme has three main mechanisms of operation: 1. The installation of grid-connected solar power plants in rural areas, each with a capacity of 500 KW to 2 MW; 2. The installation of separate off-grid solar water pumps

**IN THE COP-21, INDIA HAD
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to meet the irrigation needs of farmers who are not connected to the grid, and 3. The solarization of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps to make farmers independent of grid supply and to allow them to sell surplus solar power generated to DISCOM and earn extra income.

What are the features of the scheme?

- Another important feature is Day-time reliable power for irrigation. Farmers generally get power for irrigation at night. This not only causes them a great deal of inconvenience but also results in wastage of water as pumps are left running once switched on. Providing solar panels for irrigation under PMKUSUM would result in day-time reliable power to farmers, making irrigation easier for them and also avoiding over-use of water and power.
- Small solar power plants of capacity up to 2MW can be set up by individual farmers/cooperatives/ panchayats, / Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) on barren/ fallow/marshy/ pasture or cultivable lands. In case, cultivated fields are chosen for setting up solar power plants, Power generated from solar plants will be purchased by the distribution companies (DISCOMs) at tariffs determined by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs).
- According to government data, the country's eleven major electricity distribution companies (DISCOMS) consume 95% of the electricity used in agriculture and provide over Rs. one lakh crore in electricity subsidies to agriculture each year. This subsidy incurs on the State's exchequer. State government subsidies on account of free/subsidized electricity for agriculture is not being paid to DISCOMs in a time-bound manner. This adversely affects the financial health of DISCOMs and leaves little room for infrastructural improvements. PM-KUSUM will help address this issue by reducing the amount of subsidies required from states for electricity supply to agriculture.
- The PM-KUSUM scheme will avoid the high cost of transmission lines and losses.



- Today, climate change, due to carbon emissions is a burning issue before the world community. According to MNRE (Ministry of New and Renewable Energy), nearly 80 lakh pumps out of approximately 3 crore agricultural pumps installed in India are diesel pumps. The total diesel consumption of these pumps in a year works out to 5.52 billion liters per annum, along with an equivalent CO2 emission of 15.4 million tonnes. PM-KUSUM is leading to a reduction of carbon emissions by as much as 32 million tonnes of CO2 per annum.

PM-KUSUM IN A NUTSHELL:

Apart from doubling the income of farmers and improving their living conditions, the scheme will be very helpful in checking rising expenses on the import of petroleum and coal. India's expenses on import of petroleum are massive. It is continuously rising and culminates in a rising trade deficit. According to data released by the Finance Ministry, imports of coal accounted for \$3.6 billion of the total \$23.3 billion trade deficit in November this year, owing to domestic shortages of the coal. As coal is mostly used to generate electricity, schemes like PM-KUSUM will reduce our dependency on coal energy and will be helpful in reducing our trade deficit as well. While the cost of petroleum product imports was \$14.6 billion in November, under the PM-KUSUM, the replacement of existing diesel pumps with solar pumps will not only reduce the irrigation costs and India's expenses on imports but also lead to a reduction in pollution. ■

PM MODI CARES FOR THE INTEREST OF TRIBAL COMMUNITY THE MOST: SAMIR ORAON

Bharatiya Janata Party Scheduled Tribe (ST) Morcha National President and Rajya Sabha MP **Shri Samir Oraon** interacted with Kamal Sandesh Associate Editor **Sanjeev Kumar Sinha** & Member of Kamal Sandesh Digital team **Vipul Sharma** at length about the unprecedented focus of Modi government for the development of tribal communities in the country. He also highlighted the ongoing organizational works and future strategies of the ST Morcha to ensure the reach of diverse welfare schemes of Modi government to grassroot level for empowering the tribal population living in the different parts of the country. Excerpts of the conversation:



It has been decided to celebrate the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas'. The first 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' was celebrated under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 15th November. What is the thought behind this significant decision?

On November 10, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the union cabinet decided to uphold the honor of the tribal community across the country. It was decided that the birth anniversary of heroic tribal leader Bhagwan Birsa Munda, who played a vital role in the freedom struggle of the country to be celebrated as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas'. And as per the decision, on 15 November, 2021, the first 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' was celebrated in the country. On the occasion Bhagwan Birsa Munda Museum was also inaugurated at the jail where he was martyred mysteriously. The birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda was chosen because he used to worry about how the society should become organized, self-supporting and empowered along with the freedom struggle of the country. He visited from village to village and did public awareness work. Wherever, there was talk of any kind of problem, calamity or disease, people used to remember Birsa Munda and he used to resolve their problems. Thus, he was worshiped as a God.

Bhagwan Birsa Munda moved ahead with the spirit of nation, nationalism and patriotism. He started mobilizing the people against British rule. Due to this, the British created several problems against him and kept a close eye on his activities throughout his life. He

also raised his voice against the British from Dombari Buru. However, things are not properly recorded in the pages of history about Dombari Buru. Before the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, at around 1896 when the tribals held a meeting in Dombari Buru, the British soldiers fired indiscriminately on them. Hundreds of followers of Birsa Munda were reportedly killed in this firing. Bhagwan Birsa Munda who sacrificed everything for the country and society, was martyred mysteriously inside the British prison.

After this historic decision, the entire tribal society is feeling indebted and expressing its heartfelt gratitude to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for upholding the pride of Tribal community.

What are the steps taken by the Modi government in the interest of tribal community?

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi always cared for the interests of the tribal community and his concern on the issue is the biggest thing for us. Earlier, the then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee also thought about the welfare of tribal people. Therefore, he created a separate Tribal Ministry. Prime Minister Shri Modi took that work forward. In order to uplift the tribal society, PM Shri Modi is trying to improve the education system and on the lines of Navodaya Vidyalaya, Eklavya Model Residential Schools have been planned. And today, work of building around 750 schools has been started.

The life of the tribal people is connected with Jal, Jangal and Zameen. But when the British government came, they introduced the Forest Act in 1927, followed by the Act in 1960. In 2006, the Congress government, made FRA (Forest Right Act), CFR (Community Forest

Rights). These Acts actually deprived tribal people from their rights. But, this matter was taken care of by PM Shri Modi meticulously. He asked the Forest Department and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to simplify these rules. Keeping in mind the fact, that people can produce on their forest land within the limits of their village and can also market the things obtained from there. In this series the 'Van Dhan Kendra' was introduced which is promoting the forest produce. Its marketing work is being carried forward through TRIFED. Prime Minister is also working for the progress of all the citizens of the country by giving the slogan of 'Self-reliant India' and 'Vocal for Local'. In the same way a plan has been made through Tribal Finance Corporation to advance the tribal community. Whether it is the fisheries department, the animal husbandry department, connected to piggery or connected to poultry, they have been provided employment in this sector on the basis of fifty percent subsidy. Many provisions have been made under Start-up India too. With these initiatives PM Shri Modi is working to uplift the pride of the tribal community.

Congress Party accused BJP for misleading the tribal community, how do you see this allegation?

See, actually Congress should blame themselves for this. The injustice against tribal community has been happening since the independence. Even at the time of drafting the constitution, Congress party betrayed the tribals. Even today, Congress party is betraying the tribal community by misleading them. First of all, no clear definition has been made in our constitution regarding the tribals. On the contrary, the Scheduled Caste status has been clearly mentioned in the Constitution, in which it has been said that whoever renounces his faith, belief and traditional system of worship, he will be excluded from the list of Scheduled Castes. Therefore, today the Scheduled Castes are maintaining the same status in the whole country as it was earlier.

However, if we look at the Scheduled Tribes, today there is a list of about 729 Scheduled Tribes. There are many tribal people, who have given up their faith, belief, culture and traditions over the years but they still remain as Scheduled Tribes. Basically, Scheduled Tribes people worship the nature. They closely follow the nature i.e. they are directly related to it with the eternal sense, hence they are 'Sanatani'. But the illusion spread all over the country that they are not 'Sanatani'.

Who spread this confusion in this way? It was none other than the Congress party. Congress has been continuously assuring the tribals since independence that if they have any messiah in the country, it is the Congress party, but the truth is even after it remained in the governments at the Center and in the states since the independence, they did nothing for the tribals. Thus, our Prime Minister took this task in his hands and gave the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas' for the development of the country along with the tribal community.

Can you throw some light on the activities of BJP ST Morcha since you assumed the responsibility as Morcha National President?

Ever since I assumed the post of President, it has been our endeavor to convey the ideology of BJP to the tribal community so that they can be linked with the BJP family. Along with this we are also focusing on how to strengthen our organizational structure up to the booth level. We are working on it. At present, we are working in about 30 organizational states. Out of that, I have already visited 20 states. Our office bearers are also engaged in this work. Due to this, our organizational structure is being built down to the lowest level. Our karyakarta plays a crucial role in it. And by connecting with these karyarkartas, we are able to take all the programs, ideas and plans of the BJP to the grassroots level. Even during this pandemic, the ST Morcha karyarkartas played an important role through programs like 'Seva Hi Sangathan' and 'Seva aur Samarpan Abhiyan'. In October this year, the National Executive of ST Morcha was organised in Ranchi. So it can be said that our karyarkartas engaged in organizational work have become active.

Please elaborate the future activities of the Morcha?

Today, the major problem which the tribal community has been facing is the large-scale migration and unemployment. So we need to think for solution of these issues. The ST Morcha is also working on the parliamentary cluster development programme. So far we have selected 40 such parliamentary constituencies as a cluster. In this regard, some meetings and workshops have been held. Along with the selection of the cluster, the villages have also been identified. We are working to successfully implement these programs along with our organizational activities. ■

RAJYA SABHA PASSES LANDMARK 'DAM SAFETY BILL (2019)'

The Rajya Sabha on 2 December passed the landmark Dam Safety Bill (2019), paving the way for enactment of the Dam Safety Act in the country. The Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat had introduced the bill in Rajya Sabha on 1st December, 2021. The Dam Safety Bill (2019) was passed by the Lok Sabha on 2nd August 2019.

After China and USA, India is the 3rd largest dam-owning nation in the world. There are around 5,700 large dams in the country, of which about 80% are already over 25 years old. Nearly 227 dams that are over 100 years old are still functional. Although India's track record of dam safety is at par with that of the developed nations, there have been instances of unwarranted dam failures and of poor maintenance issues.

The Dam Safety Bill provides for adequate surveillance, inspection, operation, and maintenance of all the large dams in the country so as to prevent dam failure related disasters. The Bill provides for an institutional mechanism at both Central and State levels to address structural and non-structural measures required for ensuring the safe functioning of dams.

As per the provision of the Bill, a National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS) will be constituted to help evolve uniform dam safety policies, protocols, and procedures.

The Bill also provides for the establishment of a National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) as a regulatory body for ensuring the nationwide implementation of dam safety policies and standards. At the State level, the Bill prescribes for the constitution of State Committees on Dam Safety (SCDS) and the establishment of the State Dam Safety Organizations (SDSO).

The Dam Safety Bill also addresses in a comprehensive manner, critical concerns related to dam safety on account of emerging climate change related challenges. This Bill provides for regular inspection and hazard classification of dams. It also provides for drawing up of emergency action plans and comprehensive dam safety reviews by an independent panel of experts. There is provision for an emergency flood warning system to address the safety concerns of downstream inhabitants.

Through this Bill the Dam owners are required to provide resources for timely repair and maintenance of the dam structure, along with related machinery.

This Bill looks at Dam Safety holistically and provides for not only structural aspects, but also operational and maintenance efficacy through prescription of strict O & M protocols. This Bill has penal provisions, involving offences and penalties, for ensuring compliance of the provisions. ■

FARM LAWS REPEALED

President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to the Bill that completes the process of repealing the three contentious farm laws. The Law Ministry, on 3 December notified The Farm Laws Repeal Law, 2021, which negates all the farm laws passed by Parliament last year. Both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha passed the Farm Laws Repeal Bill on 1st December. Earlier on November 19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a address to the nation had announced that the government would repeal the farm laws. ■

RAJYA SABHA PASSES BILLS FOR REGULATING SURROGACY

The Rajya Sabha on 8 December passed two bills- the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2021 and the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2020. The Surrogacy (regulation) Bill had earlier been passed by the Lok Sabha, but was referred to a Select Committee by the Rajya Sabha. The Bill will now be sent back to the Lok Sabha for approval. While speaking in the Rajya Sabha, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said both the Bills seek to curb unethical practices related to issues of sex selection and exploitation of the surrogate. ■



MANN KI BAAT

'WHEN WE CONSERVE NATURE, NATURE ALSO GIVES US PROTECTION AND SECURITY'

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed his 83rd Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' on 28 November, 2021. In the episode, he mentioned 'Janajati Gaurav Saptah' which is being celebrated to highlight the contribution of tribal communities in attaining the Freedom. He also talked about a Vrindavan residing in the region of Swan Valley of Western Australia. Here, we are publishing major highlights of the address:

- All of us know that on the 16th of December, the country is also celebrating the golden jubilee of the 1971 War. On all these occasions, I remember the country's Armed Forces...I remember our brave hearts. And especially, I remember the brave mothers who give birth to such brave hearts.
- Ojaswi from Sitapur has written to me that he enjoys discussions touching upon the Amrit Mahotsav, a lot. He listens to Mann Ki Baat with his friends and is continuously trying to know and learn more about the Freedom Struggle.
- Friends, keeping in view the contribution of our tribal communities in attaining Freedom, the country has also celebrated the 'Janajati Gaurav Saptah'. Across different regions of the country, programmes related to that were held. In the Andaman-Nicobar archipelago, people from tribal communities such as Jarwa and Onge vibrantly displayed their culture. Miniature Writer Ram Kumar Joshi ji from Una, Himachal Pradesh too has done some remarkable work...

keeping in view the contribution of our tribal communities in attaining Freedom, the country has also celebrated the 'Janajati Gaurav Saptah'

on tiny postage stamps, he has drawn outstanding sketches of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

- On the word 'Ram' written in Hindi, a brief biography of both the great men has been inscribed. Some friends from Katni, Madhya Pradesh have conveyed information on a memorable Dastangoi, story-telling programme.

- A three-day Festival was organized in honour of illustrious luminaries such as Goswami Tulsidas, Sant Kabir, Sant Ravidas, Bharatendu Harishchandra, Munshi Premchand and Jaishankar

Prasad. In different periods, all of them played a major role in fostering public awakening in the country.

- It is said about Vrindavan that it is a tangible manifestation of God's love.
- My dear countrymen, I was just referring to the subject of Vrindavan, built at Perth, Australia. There's an interesting history as well...in that, Australia shares a bond with our Jhansi,

Bundelkhand. Actually, when the Queen of Jhansi Laxmibai was fighting a legal battle against the East India Company, her lawyer was John Lang. John Lang was originally a resident of Australia. Staying in India, he fought Rani Laxmibai's case.

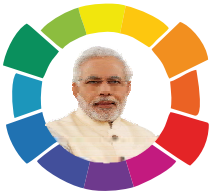
Australia shares a bond with our Jhansi, Bundelkhand. Actually, when the Queen of Jhansi Laxmibai was fighting a legal battle against the East India Company, her lawyer was John Lang was a resident of Australia

This is the example of Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu. We know that coastal areas are many a time prone to land submersion. There were many such small islands and islets in Thoothukudi too, which were increasingly in danger

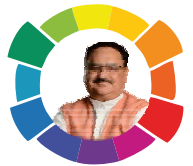
All of us know of the huge contribution of Jhansi and Bundelkhand in our Fight for Freedom. Veeranganas, brave hearts such as Rani Laxmibai and Jhalkaribai hailed from here...this region has given to the country legendary sports persons like Major Dhyanchand too.

of submerging in the sea. The people here and the experts found the mitigation from this natural disaster through nature itself. These people are now planting Palmyra trees on these islands. These trees stand firm even in cyclones and storms and give protection to the soil. Through this now a new confidence has arisen in saving this area. Friends, nature poses a threat to us only when we disturb her balance or destroy her sanctity. Nature nurtures us like a Mother and fills our world with vivid colors too. ■

- My dear countrymen, when we conserve nature, in return nature also gives us protection and security. We experience this in our personal life as well and one such example has been presented by the people of Tamil Nadu on a large scale.



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President Shri Ram Nath Kovind along with Speaker Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla, Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Constitution Day (November 26) celebrations at Parliament House in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi chairing an important meeting on the situation relating to Covid-19 & Vaccination with top officials, through video conferencing in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi laying the foundation Stone of Noida International Airport, Jewar, Uttar Pradesh. UP CM Yogi Adityanath Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia and other dignitaries are also seen



PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurating and laying foundation stone of multiple projects, in Dehradun, Uttarakhand



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the media ahead of the Parliament session in New Delhi



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Installed solar energy capacity in India increased by
over 18 times between March 2014-October 2021

Installed solar energy capacity



India's current share of non-fossil sources based installed capacity of
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AAI will spend nearly Rs 25,000 crore in next 5 years

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*AAI - Airport Authority of India
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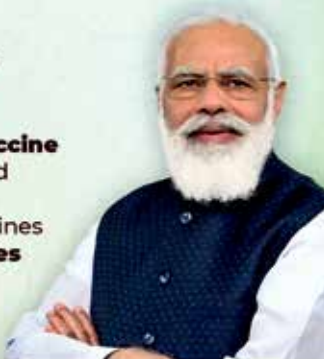


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Source: Govt of India



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