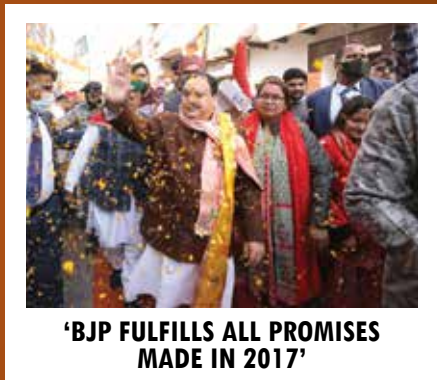


KAMAL SANDESH

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16-28 February, 2022 (Fortnightly)

₹20



BUDGET 2022



48,000 Crore
Housing Sector



60,000 Crore
Jal Jeevan Mission



25,000 KM
of Highways



7.5 lakh crore
Capital Expenditure



400 New
Vande Bharat Trains



60 lakh
New Jobs



100 New
Multi-Modal Terminals





BJP National President Shri JP Nadda hoisting the National Tricolour at BJP HQ, 6A DDU Marg, New Delhi



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda at a public meeting in Konch, Uttar Pradesh



After filing of nomination papers in Kaushambi, Uttar Pradesh BJP National President Shri JP Nadda holds a road show with UP Deputy CM Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya.



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah along with other senior BJP leaders waving at the gathering in Loni (Gaziabad), UP



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah at the filing of nomination papers of U.P CM Yogi Adityanath in Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)



Minister of Defence Shri Rajnath Singh at a public meeting in Agra Rural, Uttar Pradesh

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CONTENT



AATMANIRBHAR BUDGET FOR A 'NEW INDIA'

India's economic growth in the current year is estimated to be 9.2 per cent, highest among all large economies. The overall, sharp rebound and recovery of the economy from the adverse effects of the pandemic is reflective of our country's strong resilience. This...



VAICHARIKI

'WE' IS THE MOST IMPORTANT WORD / -PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA 21

SHRADHANJALI

"NIGHTINGALE OF INDIA" LATA MANGESHKAR IS NO MORE 22

CHANDUPATLA JANGA REDDY PASSES AWAY 22

ARTICLE

BJP'S POLITICAL JOURNEY IN UTTAR PRADESH: AN INSIGHT / RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY 26

PRO-YOUTH BUDGET / VIKASH ANAND 28

FOR THE THIRD TIME, THE BJP IS SET TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT IN GOA / VIPUL SHARMA 30

OTHERS

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET 2022-23 13

'VITAL TO BUILD NEW INDIA ON THE FOUNDATION OF SELF-RELIANCE' 15

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF ECONOMIC SURVEY 2021-22 18

ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT OF INDIA TO THE PARLIAMENT 24

PM'S REPLY TO THE MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS 25

WORKING FOR DEVELOPMENT OF UTTARAKHAND IS PRIORITY OF BJP GOVERNMENT: PM MODI 32

MANN KI BAAT 33

PM ADDRESSES 30TH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN FOUNDATION DAY 34



16 BJP FULFILLS ALL PROMISES MADE IN 2017: JP NADDA

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda conducted a door-to-door campaign and addressed the 'Prabhavi Matdata Samvad' in Hathras...

18 KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF ECONOMIC SURVEY 2021-22

The Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented...



29 PM DEDICATES 216-FEET TALL 'STATUE OF EQUALITY' IN HYDERABAD

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the 'Statue of Equality' in Hyderabad on February 5. The 216-feet tall...

24 GOVERNMENT BUILDING A STRONG INDIA FOLLOWING THE MANTRA OF 'SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS, SABKA VISHWAS, AUR SABKA PRAYAS'

The Budget session of Parliament 2022 commenced...





SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

@narendramodi

A slave mentality does not augur well for the growth trajectory of any nation. 19th century mindsets are redundant today. Our Government is bringing transformational changes, which are boosting economic prosperity. Our focus is also on timely completion of projects



@JPNadda

We have come to serve the public, and the opposition has come to enjoy power. We have come to wipe the tears of the poor and bring them into the mainstream of development. The opposition comes to snatch the rights of the poor.



@AmitShah

Three generations of Gorakshanath temple have done the work of protecting and beautifying Gorakhpur. I have had a very close relation with Mahant Avaidyanath ji, he has presented an excellent example in front of the country, how the whole society can be united by taking everyone along.



@rajnathsingh

The valour of our army personnel is being questioned by the leaders of Congress. If India's borders are secure, it is because of the bravery and valour of our army personnel.



@Nitin Gadkari

Construction of 4 lane (with paved shoulders) Thiruvayaru Bypass in NH 226 Extn. (New NH 136) in Thanjavur District of Tamil Nadu has been sanctioned with budget of 191.33 Cr. #PragatiKaHighway #GatiShakti @mkstalin @annamalai_k @BJP4TamilNadu



@B L Santhosh

2 Lakh Anganwadis to be Upgraded, 8.7Cr Households have access to Har Ghar Jal, with 5.5Cr getting Drinking Tap Water. Rs 50000Cr to cover 3.8Cr more Households in 2022-23. 80 Lakh Beneficiaries identified under PM Awas Yojana for 40000Cr #AatmaNirbharBharatKaBudget

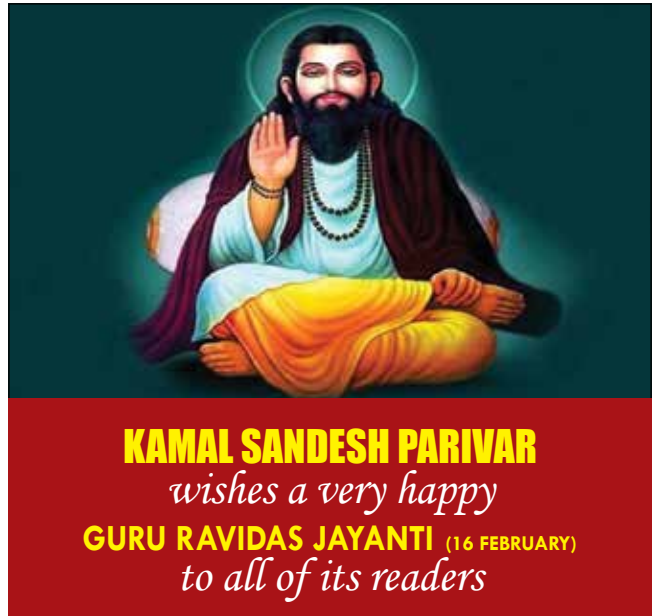



UNION BUDGET
2022-2023

For 2022-23, the allocation is **Rs 1 lakh** crore to assist the states in catalyzing overall investments in economy.

These 50-year interest-free loans are over & above normal borrowings allowed to the states. It'll be used for PM Gati Shakti-related & other productive capital investments of states.

#AatmanirbharBharatKaBudget



KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR
wishes a very happy
GURU RAVIDAS JAYANTI (16 FEBRUARY)
to all of its readers

A BUDGET FOR 'AATMNIKBHAR ARTHVYAVASTHA'

The Budget 2022 represents an aspiring India which believes in bold initiatives and is ready to scale newer heights even in the face of the multiple challenges posed by the prolonged period of the COVID-19 pandemic. It should be held as a budget which not only consolidates the policy initiatives taken during the pandemic years to fulfil the aspirations of an 'Aatmnirbhar Bharat' but it also lays a strong foundation on which self-reliance will be built in the years to come. While reflecting the futuristic vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, it promises to give impetus to development, create employment while empowering the poor, farmers, labourers, women and youth. It can be rightly described as a budget which heralds an era of 'Aatmnirbhar Arthavyavastha' with a renewed sense of faith in self and confidence in the future.

As the Economic Survey for the year 2021-22 projects a GDP growth rate of 9.2% in real terms, India emerges as the fastest growing nation among the major economies of the world. It is a huge achievement for India, which has not only faced the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic but converted them into opportunities, resulting in such a huge recovery. It was possible due to timely reforms, a futuristic vision, an inclusive approach, and strong political will amid the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Budget 2022 may be viewed as a continuation of those policies, as it also emphasises digital economy and Fintech, technology-based development, energy transition, and climate change-related actions. The commitment to generating new avenues of employment can be seen in the promotion of PLI in 14 sectors, incentivising them to yield Rs. 30 lac crore of extra production while creating 60 lac new jobs.

The budget for 2022 has been increased to Rs. 39.45 lac crore while aiming to reduce the fiscal deficit from 6.9% to 6.4%, which seems commendable when the entire world is facing the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, the colossal 35.4% hike in capex to a whopping 7.5 lac crore is expected to spur massive private investments too in the economy. The focus on seven engines of PM Gatishakti plan viz. roads, railways, airports, ports, mass transport, waterways and logistics infrastructure is set to immensely transform the entire economy with extraordinary impetus. Apart from these, the huge allocations for MSP, emphasis on natural farming, funds for start-ups in agriculture & rural enterprises, Kisan drones for crop assessment, digitization of land records and for spraying insecticides and nutrients is set to revolutionize the agriculture sector. The initiatives taken towards launching river linking projects, particularly Ken-Betwa project will bring huge relief to Bundelkhand region. The special initiatives in the area of MSME, education and health along with programmes for 'Saksham Anganwadi', 'Har Ghar, Nal se Jal', Housing for All, vibrant village programme makes the Budget comprehensive and inclusive in its approach and commitments.

The Budget 2022 is aimed at fulfilling the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who, from the ramparts of the Red Fort, has given a call for building a self-reliant India in the coming 25 year period, which he called "Amrit Kaal". The "Amrit Kaal", which will lead India to 100 years of independence, is to be utilised effectively to build a glorious India based on the pledge of building an 'Aatmnirbhar Bharat'. The Budget 2022 has rolled out programmes and projects in accordance with the vision of the Prime Minister that will not only build massive infrastructure but also meet the goals of self-reliance in various sectors, including the defence sector, where new industries, start-ups and R&D are being promoted and 68% of defence procurement is earmarked from the domestic sector. In almost every sector, the emphasis is on promoting 'Aatmnirbhar'. The Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, should be congratulated for laying a strong foundation of "Amrit Kaal" by heralding an era of 'Aatmnirbhar Arthavyavastha' through her Budget 2022. ■

 shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org

AATMANIRBHAR

government's focus has been on empowerment of citizens, especially the poor and the marginalized and measures have been taken to provide housing, electricity, cooking gas, and access to water. The government also have programmes for ensuring financial inclusion and direct benefit transfers and a commitment to strengthen the abilities of poor to tap all opportunities.

The Finance Minister informed that the Productivity Linked Incentive in 14 sectors for achieving the vision of AtmaNirbhar Bharat has received excellent response, with potential to create 60 lakh new jobs, and an additional production of Rs 30 lakh crore during next 5 years. Dwelling on the issue of implementation of the new Public Sector Enterprise policy, She said, the strategic transfer of ownership of Air India has been completed, the strategic partner for NINL (Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited) has been selected, the public issue of the LIC is expected shortly and others too are in the process for 2022-23.

PM GATI SHAKTI

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman emphasized that this Budget continues to provide impetus for growth. It lays a parallel track of (1) a blueprint for the Amrit Kaal, which is futuristic and inclusive, which will directly benefit our youth, women, farmers, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and, (2) big public investment for modern infrastructure, readying for India at 100 and this shall be guided by PM GatiShakti and be benefited by the synergy of multi-modal approach. Moving forward, on this

“India's economic growth in the current year is estimated to be 9.2 per cent, highest among all large economies. The overall, sharp rebound and recovery of the economy from the adverse effects of the pandemic is reflective of our country's strong resilience.” This was stated by Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman while presenting the Union Budget in Parliament on 01 February, 2022.

The Finance Minister said, India is celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and it has entered into 'Amrit Kaal', the 25-year-long leadup to India@100, the government aims to attain the vision of Prime Minister outlined in his Independence Day address and they are:

- Complementing the macro-economic level growth focus with a micro-economic level all-inclusive welfare focus,
- Promoting digital economy & fintech, technology enabled development, energy transition, and climate action, and
- Relying on virtuous cycle starting from private investment with public capital investment helping to crowd-in private investment.

Since 2014, the



BUDGET FOR A 'NEW INDIA'

parallel track, she outlined the following four priorities:

- PM GatiShakti
- Inclusive Development
- Productivity Enhancement & Investment, Sunrise Opportunities, Energy Transition, and Climate Action
- Financing of Investments.

RAILWAYS

In Railways, the Finance Minister said that 'One Station-One Product' concept will be popularized to help local businesses & supply chains. Moreover, as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat, 2,000 km of network will be brought under 'Kavach', the indigenous world-class technology for safety and capacity

augmentation in 2022-23. She also informed that four hundred new-generation Vande Bharat Trains with better energy efficiency and passenger riding experience will be developed and manufactured and one hundred PM GatiShakti Cargo Terminals for multimodal logistics facilities will be set up during the next three years.

AGRICULTURE

On Agriculture front, the Finance Minister informed that Chemical-free Natural Farming will be promoted throughout the country, with a focus on farmers' lands in 5-km wide corridors along river Ganga, at the first stage. Use of 'Kisan Drones' will be promoted for crop assessment, digitization of land records, spraying of insecticides, and nutrients. She said, to reduce dependence on import of oilseeds, a rationalised and comprehensive scheme to increase domestic production of oilseeds will be implemented.

As 2023 has been announced as the 'International Year of Millets', the government announced full support for post-harvest value addition, enhancing domestic consumption, and for branding millet products nationally and internationally.

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said,

implementation of the Ken-Betwa Link Project, at an estimated cost of Rs 44,605 crore will be taken up aimed at providing irrigation benefits to 9.08 lakh hectare of farmers' lands, drinking water supply for 62 lakh people, 103 MW of Hydro, and 27 MW of solar power. Allocations of Rs 4,300 crore in RE 2021-22 and Rs 1,400 crore in 2022-23 have been made for this project. Moreover, Draft DPRs of five river links, namely Damanganga-Pinjal, Par-TapiNarmada, Godavari-Krishna, Krishna-Pennar and Pennar-Cauvery have been finalized and once a consensus is reached among the beneficiary states, the Centre will provide support for implementation.





PEOPLE-FRIENDLY AND PROGRESSIVE BUDGET: PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has said that the Budget this year has come with a new confidence of development amidst the once-in-a-century calamity. "This Budget will create new opportunities for common people along with providing strength to the economy", he said.

In his remarks after the Union Budget was tabled in the Lok Sabha, the Prime Minister said that the Budget is "full of opportunities for more Infrastructure, more Investment, more growth, and more jobs." This will further open the green job sector. This Budget not only solves the contemporary problems but also ensures bright future for the youth, he added.

Shri Narendra Modi said that the quest for modernity and technology in every sphere of life through steps such as drones for farmers, Vande Bharat Trains, digital currency, 5 G services, national digital health ecosystem will hugely benefit our youth, middle class, poor, Dalit and backward classes.

The Prime Minister stressed that welfare of the poor is one of the most important aspect of this Budget. The Budget aims to ensure pucca house, toilet, tap water and gas connection for every poor household. At the same time focus is on modern Internet connectivity also.

Shri Narendra Modi mentioned that for the first time

in the country, 'Parvatmala' scheme is being started in regions like Himachal, Uttarakhand, Jammu Kashmir and the North East. This scheme will create modern system of transportation in the hilly areas, he said.

The Prime Minister said that along with the cleaning of Ganga, which is the centre of faith of millions of Indians, the Government will encourage natural farming on the banks of the river in five states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. This is a significant step for the welfare of the farmers and this will also help in making Ganga chemical-free, he said.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Budget this year has come with a new confidence of development amidst the once-in-a-century calamity.
- This Budget will create new opportunities for the common people along with providing strength to the economy.
- Budget is full of opportunities for more Infrastructures, more Investment, more growth, and more jobs.
- Welfare of the poor is one of the most important aspect of this budget.
- Budget's provisions aim to make agriculture lucrative and full of new opportunities.

Budget's provisions aim to make agriculture lucrative and full of new opportunities. Measures like special fund for encouraging new agriculture startups and package for food processing industry, will help in increasing income of farmers. More than 2.25 lakh crore rupees are being transferred in the account of the farmers through MSP purchase, the Prime Minister said.

Along with record increase in the credit guarantee, many schemes have been announced in the Budget. "India's MSME sector will be greatly benefitted by the reservation of 68 per cent of the Defence Capital Budget for the domestic industry. 7.5 lakh crore rupees worth of public investment will give new push to the economy and create new opportunities for small and other industries", he said.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi concluded by congratulating the Finance Minister and her team for a 'people-friendly and progressive Budget'. ■

BUDGET FOCUSES ON WELFARE OF POOR AND WEAKER SECTIONS: JP NADDA



Welcoming the Budget 2022-23, BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda thanked Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman for the Budget which is dedicated to Rural Development, Agriculture Development, Welfare of our workers, Infrastructure Development, and development and progress of our Himalayan and North-Eastern States.

Shri Nadda said as India celebrates Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Union Budget 2022-23 is focused on welfare and upliftment of the poor and weaker sections. It is the Budget that will empower the poor and make them self-reliant. It is a Budget dedicated to Rural Development, Agriculture Development, Welfare of our workers, Infrastructure Development, and development and progress of our Himalayan and North-Eastern States.

The Budget also emphasizes the commitment of the Narendra Modi government towards social justice, equality, life with dignity and equal opportunity to all. The Budget will further facilitate Ease of Living, which has been the hallmark of the Bharatiya Janata Party government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

HIGHLIGHTS

- In the Budget the expenditure has been pegged at Rs 39.45 lakh crore which showcases India's strength as a rapidly growing economy. The Government has also done a commendable job in reducing the fiscal deficit target from 6.9% to 6.4%.
- The Union Budget comes at a time when India, under the leadership of our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is fighting a decisive battle against the Corona pandemic. This Budget fulfills the hopes and aspirations of all sections of the society, particularly the micro, small and medium enterprises sector, besides giving India's Infrastructure Development a whole new

dimension.

- The Budget is not a one-year economic agenda, our Budget is a solid blueprint of the coming 25 years of economic development that will lay a strong foundation of making India world's strongest economy and a developed nation.
- In his Independence Day Speech from the ramparts of Red Fort, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had announced the launch of Rs 100 lakh crore Gati Shakti Yojna, and this Budget has given wings to this highly ambitious plan.
- This year's Union Budget also focuses on the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme which aims at meeting our goals of making Atmanirbhar Bharat. PLI scheme has received a very encouraging response which will lead to generation of 60 lakh new jobs and increased production worth Rs 30 lakh crore in next 5 years. It will keep the foundation of New India.
- The Budget has provision for constructing new 25,000 km National Highways with an expenditure of Rs 20,000 crores. Our Government has also made plans to interconnect 5 big rivers with the help of Jal Shakti Mantralaya. Rs 44,605 crore will be spent on the Betwa Link project which will be the lifeline of 62 lakh people living in the Bundelkhand region. I thank our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for this very important initiative.
- The Bharatiya Janata Party government at the Center under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is committed to agricultural development, welfare of farmers and doubling their income. The government has made a provision for record purchase on MSP in the budget. ■

BUDGET WILL BUILD A STRONGER, PROSPEROUS AND CONFIDENT INDIA: RAJNATH SINGH

Congratulating the Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman for presenting an excellent Union Budget for 2022-23, Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh said, "It is a Budget which would give fillip to 'Make in India', boost demand and build capacities for a stronger, prosperous and confident India".



The Budget outlines the Government's focus on Atmanirbhara and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision

for development and pro people reforms. It is a growth oriented Budget focused on harnessing the energies of New India.

Substantial amounts have been allocated towards Research and Development in several sectors including Defence. The proposal to reserve 25 percent of the R&D Budget for Startups and Private entities is an excellent move.

This year's Budget has increased the total outlay for effective capital expenditure by a massive 35.4 percent to more than 10.6 lakh crores with the bulk of the money going into the development of social and physical infrastructure in the country.

The 68 percent of defence capital procurement budget has been allocated towards local procurement. It is in line with the 'Vocal for Local' push and it will certainly boost the domestic defence industries. ■

BUDGET WILL MAKE INDIA 'ATMANIRBHAR': AMIT SHAH

Thanking Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on Union Budget 2022-23 Union Home & Co-operation Minister Shri Amit Shah said the Union Budget presented by Modi Government in Parliament is a visionary budget which is going to change the scale of the Indian economy in the years to come. This Budget will not only make India an 'Atmanirbhar' (self-reliant) country, but will also lay a strong foundation of a 'New India' as we move towards the 100th year of our Independence.



He said the scale of expenditure in our Budget has been scaled up to Rs 39.45 lakh crores, and it shows strong growth, strength and resilience of the Indian economy even in the trying times of the Corona pandemic. The target of reducing the fiscal deficit from 6.9% to 6.4% is also a remarkable achievement. Today, PM Shri Narendra Modi has taken a strong and important step by reducing AMT rate in the cooperative sector from 18.5% to 15% and surcharge from 12% to 7%, thus ending discrimination against the cooperative sector and bringing it at par with other sectors.

Zero budget agriculture, natural farming, river linking, 'One station - One product' and Kisan drone are some of key initiatives announced in the Union Budget that will give a big boost to the agriculture sector, modernize our agriculture, make our farmers self-reliant and empowered. ■

MSMEs

The Finance Minister underlined that the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) has provided much-needed additional credit to more than 130 lakh MSMEs to help them mitigate the adverse impact of the pandemic. She however added that the hospitality and related services, especially those by micro and

small enterprises, are yet to regain their pre-pandemic level of business and after considering these aspects, the ECLGS will be extended up to March 2023. She informed that its guarantee cover will be expanded by Rs 50,000 crore to total cover of Rs 5 lakh crore, with the additional amount being earmarked exclusively for the hospitality and related enterprises.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY EDUCATION

Dwelling on the subject of Skill development and Quality Education, the Finance Minister said that Startups will be promoted to facilitate ‘Drone Shakti’ through varied applications and for Drone-As-A-Service (DrAAS). In select ITIs, in all states, the required courses for skilling will be started. In vocational courses, to promote crucial critical thinking skills, to give space for creativity, 750 virtual labs in science and mathematics, and 75 skilling e-labs for simulated learning environment, will be set-up in 2022-23.

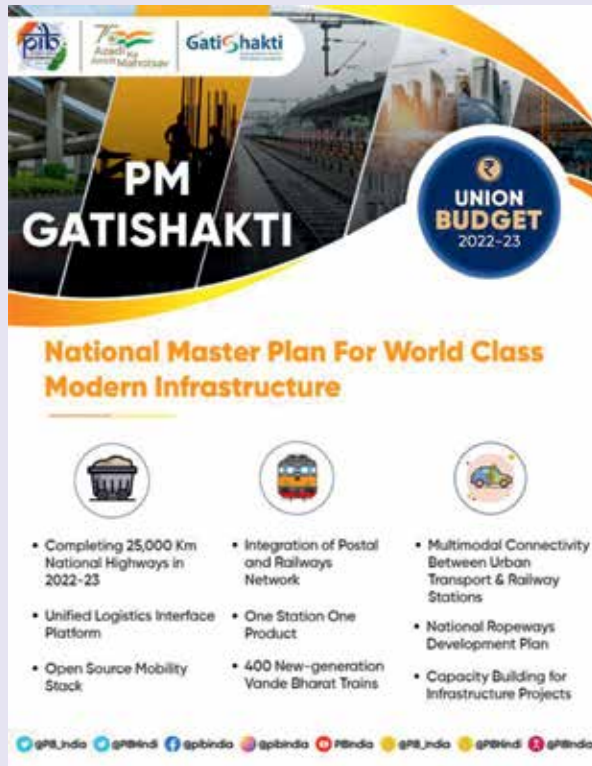
A Digital University will be established to provide access to students across the country for world-class quality universal education with personalized learning experience at their doorsteps. This will be made available in different Indian languages and ICT formats. The University will be built on a networked hub-spoke model, with the hub building cutting edge ICT expertise. The best public universities and institutions in the country will collaborate as a network of hub-spokes.

HEALTH

Under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, an open platform for the National Digital Health Ecosystem will be rolled out and it will consist of digital registries of health providers and health facilities, unique health identity, consent framework, and universal access to health facilities.

HAR GHAR, NAL SE JAL

Smt Nirmala Sitharaman announced an allocation of Rs 60,000 crore to cover 3.8 crore households in 2022-23 for Har Ghar, Nal Se Jal. Current coverage is 8.7 crores and of this 5.5 crore households were provided tap water in last 2 years itself.



PM AWAS YOJANA

Similarly, in 2022-23, 80 lakh houses will be completed for the identified eligible beneficiaries of PM Awas Yojana, both rural and urban and Rs 48,000 crore is allocated for this purpose.

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR NORTH-EAST

A new scheme, Prime Minister’s Development Initiative for NorthEast, PM-DevINE, will be implemented through the North-Eastern Council to fund infrastructure, in the spirit of PM GatiShakti, and social development projects based on felt needs of the North-East. An initial allocation of Rs 1500 crore

will enable livelihood activities for youth and women, filling the gaps in various sectors.

BANKING AND FINANCE

In 2022, 100 per cent of 1.5 lakh post offices will come on the core banking system enabling financial inclusion and access to accounts through 11 net banking, mobile banking, ATMs, and also provide online transfer of funds between post office accounts and bank accounts. This will be helpful, especially for farmers and senior citizens in rural areas, enabling interoperability and financial inclusion.

To mark 75 years of independence, the government has proposed to set up 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) in 75 districts of the country by Scheduled Commercial Banks to ensure that the benefits of digital banking reach every nook and corner of the country in a consumer-friendly manner.

DEFENCE

On the Defence front, the Government remain’s committed to reducing imports and promoting AtmaNirbharta in equipment for the Armed Forces. 68 per cent of the capital procurement budget will be

UNION BUDGET 2022-23

earmarked for domestic industry in 2022-23, up from 58 per cent in 2021-22. Defence R&D will be opened up for industry, startups and academia with 25 per cent of defence R&D budget earmarked.

Referring to Sunrise Opportunities, the Finance Minister said, Artificial Intelligence, Geospatial Systems and Drones, Semiconductor and its eco-system, Space Economy, Genomics and Pharmaceuticals, Green Energy, and Clean Mobility Systems have immense potential to assist sustainable development at scale and modernize the country. They provide employment opportunities for youth, and make Indian industry more efficient and competitive.

To facilitate domestic manufacturing for the ambitious goal of 280 GW of installed solar capacity by 2030, an additional allocation of RS 19,500 crore for Production Linked Incentive for manufacture of high efficiency modules, with priority to fully integrated manufacturing units from polysilicon to solar PV modules, will be made.

FISCAL DEFICIT

Concluding the Part A of her Budget speech, the Finance Minister said that the revised Fiscal Deficit in the current year is estimated at 6.9 per cent of GDP as against 6.8 per cent projected in the Budget Estimates. The Fiscal Deficit in 2022-23 is estimated at 6.4 per cent of GDP, which is consistent with the broad path of fiscal consolidation announced by her last year to reach a fiscal deficit level below 4.5 per cent by 2025-26. While setting the fiscal deficit level in 2022-23, she called for nurturing growth, through public investment, to become stronger and sustainable.

The Union Budget 2022-23, while continuing with

the declared policy of stable and predictable tax regime, intends to bring more reforms that will take ahead the vision to establish a trustworthy tax regime. Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said that proposals relating to taxes and duties will further simplify the tax system, promote voluntary compliance by taxpayers, and reduce litigation.

TAX

On the Direct Tax side, the budget allows taxpayers to file updated income tax return within 2 years for correcting errors. It also provides tax relief to persons with disability. The budget also reduces Alternate minimum tax rate and surcharge for cooperatives. As an incentive for startups, period of incorporation of eligible startups has been extended by one more year. The budget proposes to increase tax deduction limit on employer's contribution to NPS account of state government employees to bring parity with central government employees. Newly incorporated manufacturing entities will be incentivized under concessional tax regime. Income from transfer of virtual assets will be taxed at 30%. The budget proposes better litigation management to avoid repetitive appeals.

On the Indirect tax side, the Union budget says that Customs administration in Special Economic Zones will be fully IT driven. It provides for phasing out of concessional rates in capital goods and project imports gradually and apply a moderate tariff of 7.5%. The budget underlines review of customs exemptions and tariff simplification, with more than 350 exemptions proposed to be gradually phased out. It proposes that customs duty rates will be calibrated. ■



KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET 2022-23

- India's economic growth estimated at 9.2% to be the highest among all large economies.
- 60 lakh new jobs to be created under the productivity linked incentive scheme in 14 sectors.
- PLI Schemes have the potential to create an additional production of Rs 30 lakh crore.
- Entering Amrit Kaal, the 25 year long lead up to India @100, the budget provides impetus for growth and development.

PM GATISHAKTI

- The seven engines that drive PM GatiShakti are Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways and Logistics Infrastructure.
- PM GatiShakti National Master Plan
- The scope of PM GatiShakti National Master Plan will encompass the seven engines for economic transformation, seamless multimodal connectivity and logistics efficiency.
- The projects pertaining to these 7 engines in the National Infrastructure Pipeline will be aligned with PM GatiShakti framework.

ROAD TRANSPORT

- National Highways Network to be expanded by 25000 Km in 2022-23.
- Rs 20000 Crore to be mobilized for National Highways Network expansion.
- Multimodal Logistics Parks
- Contracts to be awarded through PPP mode in 2022-23 for implementation of Multimodal Logistics Parks at four locations.

RAILWAYS

- One Station One Product concept to help local businesses & supply chains.
- 2000 Km of railway network to be brought under Kavach, the indigenous world class technology and capacity augmentation in 2022-23.
- 400 new generation Vande Bharat Trains to be manufactured during the next three years.
- 100 PM GatiShakti Cargo terminals for multimodal logistics to be developed during the next three years.

AGRICULTURE

- Rs. 2.37 lakh crore direct payment to 1.63 crore farmers for procurement of wheat and paddy.
- Chemical free Natural farming to be promoted

throughout the county. Initial focus is on farmer's lands in 5 Km wide corridors along river Ganga.

- NABARD to facilitate fund with blended capital to finance startups for agriculture & rural enterprise.
- 'Kisan Drones' for crop assessment, digitization of land records, spraying of insecticides and nutrients.

KEN BETWA PROJECT

- 1400 crore outlay for implementation of the Ken – Betwa link project.
- 9.08 lakh hectares of farmers' lands to receive irrigation benefits by Ken-Betwa link project.

MSME

- Udyam, e-shram, NCS and ASEEM portals to be interlinked.
- 130 lakh MSMEs provided additional credit under Emergency Credit Linked Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)
- ECLGS to be extended up to March 2023.
- Guarantee cover under ECLGS to be expanded by Rs 50000 Crore to total cover of Rs 5 Lakh Crore.
- Rs 2 lakh Crore additional credit for Micro and Small Enterprises to be facilitated under the Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).
- Raising and Accelerating MSME performance (RAMP) programme with outlay of Rs 6000 Crore to be rolled out.

EDUCATION

- 'One class-One TV channel' programme of PM eVIDYA to be expanded to 200 TV channels.
- Virtual labs and skilling e-labs to be set up to promote critical thinking skills and simulated learning environment.
- High-quality e-content will be developed for delivery through Digital Teachers.

- Digital University for world-class quality universal education with personalised learning experience to be established.

HEALTH

- An open platform for National Digital Health Ecosystem to be rolled out.
- 'National Tele Mental Health Programme' for quality mental health counselling and care services to be launched.
- A network of 23 tele-mental health centres of excellence will be set up, with NIMHANS being the nodal centre and International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (IIITB) providing technology support.

SAKSHAM ANGANWADI

- Integrated benefits to women and children through Mission Shakti, Mission Vatsalya, Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0.
- Two lakh anganwadis to be upgraded to Saksham Anganwadis.

HAR GHAR, NAL SE JAL

- Rs. 60,000 crore allocated to cover 3.8 crore households in 2022-23 under Har Ghar, Nal se Jal.

HOUSING FOR ALL

- Rs. 48,000 crore allocated for completion of 80 lakh houses in 2022-23 under PM Awas Yojana.
- Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East Region (PM-DevINE)
- New scheme PM-DevINE launched to fund infrastructure and social development projects in the North-East.
- An initial allocation of Rs. 1,500 crore made to enable livelihood activities for youth and women under the scheme.

VIBRANT VILLAGES PROGRAMME

- Vibrant Villages Programme for development of Border villages with sparse population, limited connectivity and infrastructure on the northern border.

ATMANIRBHARTA IN DEFENCE:

- 68% of capital procurement budget earmarked for domestic industry in 2022-23, up from 58% in 2021-22.

- Defence R&D to be opened up for industry, startups and academia with 25% of defence R&D budget earmarked.

ENERGY TRANSITION AND CLIMATE ACTION:

- Additional allocation of Rs. 19,500 crore for Production Linked Incentive for manufacture of high efficiency solar modules to meet the goal of 280 GW of installed solar power by 2030.
- Five to seven per cent biomass pellets to be co-fired in thermal power plants:
- CO2 savings of 38 MMT annually,
- Extra income to farmers and job opportunities to locals

PUBLIC CAPITAL INVESTMENT:

- Public investment to continue to pump-prime private investment and demand in 2022-23.
- Outlay for capital expenditure stepped up sharply by 35.4% to Rs. 7.50 lakh crore in 2022-23 from Rs. 5.54 lakh crore in the current year.
- Outlay in 2022-23 to be 2.9% of GDP.
- 'Effective Capital Expenditure' of Central Government estimated at Rs. 10.68 lakh crore in 2022-23, which is about 4.1% of GDP.

DIGITAL RUPEE

- Introduction of Digital Rupee by the Reserve Bank of India starting 2022-23.
- Providing Greater Fiscal Space to States
- Enhanced outlay for 'Scheme for Financial Assistance to States for Capital Investment':
- From Rs. 10,000 crore in Budget Estimates to Rs. 15,000 crore in Revised Estimates for current year
- Allocation of Rs. 1 lakh crore in 2022-23 to assist the states in catalysing overall investments in the economy: fifty-year interest free loans, over and above normal borrowings
- In 2022-23, States will be allowed a fiscal deficit of 4% of GSDP, of which 0.5% will be tied to power sector reforms

COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES

- Alternate Minimum Tax paid by cooperatives brought down from 18.5 per cent to 15 per cent.
- To provide a level playing field between cooperative societies and companies. ■

‘Vital to build New India on the foundation of Self-Reliance’



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 02 February, 2022 addressed a conclave on 'Aatmanirbhar Arthvyavastha' organized by the Bharatiya Janata Party in New Delhi. Addressing the gathering virtually, PM Shri Modi said, "There is a possibility of a new world order post-COVID pandemic. Today, the world's perspective of looking at India has changed a lot. Now, the world wants to see a stronger India. With the world's changed perspective towards India, it is imperative for us to take the country forward at a rapid pace by strengthening our economy."

Talking about the striking features of the Budget 2022, the PM said, "Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman comprehensively explained the Budget in a timely manner given its vastness. The budget has been appreciated from all the corners. Even country's forex

PM'S ADDRESS AT AATMANIRBHAR ARTHVYAVASTHA

reserves have increased to \$630 billion from \$200 billion. All of this due to our government's effective policies."

POOR, MIDDLE CLASS AND YOUTH

The Prime Minister asserted, "This Budget focuses on the poor, middle class and youth and aims to provide them basic necessities. Our government is working on the saturation of basic facilities. With efforts from our government, nearly 9 crore tap water connections in rural households have already been installed. Out of this, over 5 crore connections have been installed under the Jal Jeevan Mission in the last 2 years."

Citing that the budget was more poor friendly, he said, "In this year's budget, there's provision for 80 lakh pucca houses for the poor. For the same, Rs 48,000 crore has been allotted. This will help them overcome poverty and take them forward. Our Government's housing project will make the poor lakhpatis."

"Last year, FDI in India has crossed 80 billion dollar. In 2013-14, India's exports stood at Rs 2.85 lakh crore.

Today, it has achieved Rs 4.7 lakh crore," he added.

ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

Highlighting the Union government's vision behind Budget 2022, Shri Modi stated, "In this budget, an announcement has been made that in Aspirational Districts, Aspirational Blocks will be worked upon in coordination with states. This will take developmental work to the lowest level of the society and empower them."

MODERNIZATION OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE

Expressing his happiness on the budget, the PM said, 'The budget also focused on modernizing Indian agriculture with a focus on organic farming. This will make farming more lucrative. Kisan drones and other machinery will be made available to the farmers at reasonable prices.'

Also, the Prime Minister talked about India having a new corridor for natural farming, he asserted that the natural farming corridor will run along the bank of River Ganga. The corridor for natural or organic farming will be 2,500 km long and 10 km wide. "We import edible oil worth Rs 80,000 Lakh. Hence, we have started a national project to stop the outflow of funds. This will help farmers. We have also started solar energy and Van Dhan Yojana for farmers. The Budget has boosted these efforts," he added.

MULTIMODAL LOGISTICS PARKS

Shri Narendra Modi said, "Multimodal Logistics Parks will be set up at 4 places in the country. 100 PM Gatishakti Cargo Terminals will be developed for multimodal logistics facilities. This will reduce the time taken to transport anything for industries, trade and will also help in increasing exports from India.

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda, senior leaders, office bearers of the party and Members of Parliament were present on the occasion. ■

BJP FULFILLS ALL PROMISES MADE IN 2017: JP NADDA

HATHRAS RALLY

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda conducted a door-to-door campaign and addressed the 'Prabhavi Matdata Samvad' in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh on 30 January, 2022. Addressing the rally he said the BJP government in the state has fulfilled all its promises to the people and the basis of development has been "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" in the state.

"One thing about the BJP, I can say, is that whatever the BJP has said in 2017, it has fulfilled. The party has not turned back in any way. All other political parties keep changing according to the seasons," Shri Nadda said during the rally.



Further, he also reiterated the ruling party's development agenda in the state and said that before the BJP came to power in 2017, leaders in the state talked only about caste and religion and development of their own family and people. "Today, all the leaders are talking about development. Earlier, these people used to talk only about caste and religion. Their model of development was 'Our family, Our people'. Ever since the BJP government came, the basis of development is 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas'," he said.

Urging the people to decide whom to vote based on their work; Shri JP Nadda said that every party makes popular promises during election times. "Take decision based on our work. We did what we said. We revoked Article 370. The oppositions gave protection to goons. No riots under CM Yogi Government. There

is no tension between communities," he said.

In elections, every political party and every leader tries to make his point in his own way. In such a situation, when politicians make popular promises, the voter gets confused. In such a situation, the basis for choosing a political party should be what that leader and that party have done in the past, he further said.

Prior to the rally, the BJP National President held a door-to-door campaign in the constituency and distributed pamphlets to the residents there, seeking support for the party's candidate.

SIRATHU (KAUSHAMBI) RALLY

'Samajwadi Party is a supporter of anti-nationals'

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 03 February, 2022 addressed a huge rally at Kaushambi's Sirathu after Deputy Chief Minister Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya submitted his nomination papers for the state Assembly polls. Speaking to the people he said 'Goons' is a small word for them. The Samajwadi Party is a supporter of anti-nationals. The party tried to withdraw cases against terrorists involved in bomb blasts in the state, when it was in power in Uttar Pradesh and a special court in Gorakhpur had awarded life sentence to one of them, Shri Nadda said.

In another incident, a CRPF camp in Rampur was attacked, in which seven soldiers were killed. The CBI arrested seven people in the case but Akhilesh Yadav tried to withdraw the case against them in the direction of Samajwadi Party leader Azam Khan, who is currently fighting the elections from jail.

"Of the seven, four were awarded capital punishment and three got life imprisonment. If such people rule state, there will be mafia raj," Shri Nadda said. "Their leaders are resting either in jails or are out on bail," he added.

SHAHJAHANPUR AND BAREILLY RALLY

'BJP is committed for the welfare of farmers'

In Shahjahanpur and Bareilly Shri JP Nadda highlighted the pro-farmers' schemes launched by the BJP government at the centre and in the state in



CAMPAIGNS IN BAGHPAT & AMROHA, UP

AKHILESH YADAV'S REGIME WAS KNOWN FOR RIOTS: AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah targeted the Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, accusing him of fielding criminals in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls. Addressing public meetings in Baghpat and Amroha on February 06, 2022 Shri Shah said the upcoming state election is being fought to put an end to the patronage of criminals.

He also praised Yogi Adityanath-led state government for action against criminals. "Today, criminals and mafia are seen either in jail, outside the boundary of UP



or in the list of candidates of Akhilesh Yadav. Today, Azam Khan, Atiq Ahmed and Mukhtar Ansari are in jail and it is so because there is a BJP government in the state," he said.

Shri Shah also claimed that not a single riot took place during the Adityanath government in UP while Akhilesh Yadav's regime was known for riots. The people of UP have not forgotten the sting of riots at the time of Akhilesh Yadav. At that time, owing to politics of appeasement and to please people of one section, the government had made the victim an accused and the accused a victim," he said.

He said the upcoming elections are being contested between two sets of ideologies. "On one side, it is an election to save a family and on the other side, it is to keep the country safe under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi," he said. ■

the 'Prabhavi Matdata Samvad' organised on January 28, 2022 in both the districts. Shri JP Nadda also gave momentum to the party's election campaign in western Uttar Pradesh by organizing door-to-door campaigns in Shahjahanpur and Bareilly.

Terming the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) as anti-farmers, Shri Nadda said farmers were harassed under the governments of both parties whereas under the BJP government, the minimum support price of crops was increased and subsidy was given on fertilizers.

"What Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has done for farmers has not been done by any leader in the country. The budgetary allocation to the agriculture sector has increased under the BJP government. It clearly shows that the BJP is committed for the welfare of farmers. The recommendation of the Swaminathan Commission was implemented with the increase in minimum support price for agriculture products," he said.

SHIKOHABAD RALLY

'SP giving tickets to candidates who are in jail or out on bail'

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on Sunday conducted a door-to-door campaign in Shikohabad, Uttar Pradesh ahead of Assembly elections in the state on January, 30. Massive crowds had gathered to welcome him.

"Over 11 crore farmers are registered under the PM crop insurance scheme in the country while 2.70 crore farmers in UP are associated with the scheme. Soil health card has been distributed among 3.70 crore farmers in UP," he said.

Shri Nadda said 45 lakh farmers in UP were getting pension while 36,000 crore loans of farmers had been waived. "The Yogi government has made Rs. 1.40 lakh crore payments to sugarcane farmers. Under SP and BSP governments, sugar mills were sold and closed, but new sugar mills have been set up under the Yogi government and farmers are getting 50% discount in power supply. Today, UP is number one in crop production," he said.

The BJP President said the SP was giving tickets to candidates who were in jail or out on bail however, criminals, gangsters and mafia have been severely punished under the BJP government," he added. ■

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF ECONOMIC SURVEY 2021-22

The Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Economic Survey 2021-22 in Parliament on 31 January, 2022. The highlights of the Economic Survey are as follows:

STATE OF THE ECONOMY:

- The Indian economy is estimated to grow by 9.2 percent in real terms in 2021-22 (as per first advanced estimates) subsequent to a contraction of 7.3 percent in 2020-21.
- GDP projected to grow by 8- 8.5 percent in real terms in 2022-23.
- The year ahead is poised for a pickup in private sector investment with the financial system in a good position to provide support for the economy's revival.
- Projection comparable with World Bank and Asian Development Bank's latest forecasts of real GDP growth of 8.7 percent and 7.5 percent respectively for 2022-23.
- As per IMF's latest World Economic Outlook projections, India's real GDP projected to grow at 9 percent in 2021-22 and 2022-23 and at 7.1 percent in 2023-2024, which would make India the fastest growing major economy in the world for all 3 years.
- Agriculture and allied sectors are expected to grow by 3.9 percent; industry by 11.8 percent and services sector by 8.2 percent in 2021-22.
- On the demand side, consumption is estimated to grow by 7.0 percent, Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) by 15 percent, exports by 16.5 percent and imports by 29.4 percent in 2021-22.
- Macroeconomic stability indicators suggest that the Indian Economy is well placed to take on the challenges of 2022-23.



- Combination of high foreign exchange reserves, sustained foreign direct investment, and rising export earnings will provide an adequate buffer against possible global liquidity tapering in 2022-23.

FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS:

- The revenue receipts from the Central Government (April to November, 2021) have gone up by 67.2 percent (YoY) as against an expected growth of 9.6 percent in the 2021-22 Budget Estimates (over 2020-21 Provisional Actuals).
- Gross Tax Revenue registers a growth of over 50 percent during April to November, 2021 in YoY terms. This performance is strong compared to pre-pandemic levels of 2019-2020 also.
 - During April-November 2021, Capex has grown by 13.5 percent (YoY) with focus on infrastructure-intensive sectors.
 - Sustained revenue collection and a targeted expenditure policy has contained the fiscal deficit for April to November, 2021 at 46.2 percent of BE.
 - With the enhanced borrowings on account of COVID-19, the Central Government debt has gone up from 49.1 percent of GDP in 2019-20 to 59.3 percent of GDP in 2020-21, but is expected to follow a declining trajectory with the recovery of the economy.

EXTERNAL SECTORS:

- India's merchandise exports and imports rebounded strongly and surpassed pre-COVID levels during the current financial year.
- There was significant pickup in net services with both receipts and payments crossing the pre-pandemic levels, despite weak tourism revenues.
- Net capital flows were higher at US\$ 65.6 billion in the first half of 2021-22, on account of continued inflow of foreign investment, revival in net external

commercial borrowings, higher banking capital and additional special drawing rights (SDR) allocation.

- India's external debt rose to US \$ 593.1 billion at end-September 2021, from US \$ 556.8 billion a year earlier, reflecting additional SDR allocation by IMF, coupled with higher commercial borrowings.
- Foreign Exchange Reserves crossed US\$ 600 billion in the first half of 2021-22 and touched US \$ 633.6 billion as of December 31, 2021.
- As of end-November 2021, India was the fourth largest forex reserves holder in the world after China, Japan and Switzerland.

MONETARY MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION:

- The liquidity in the system remained in surplus.
 - Repo rate was maintained at 4 per cent in 2021-22.
 - RBI undertook various measures such as G-Sec Acquisition Programme and Special Long-Term Repo Operations to provide further liquidity.
- The economic shock of the pandemic has been weathered well by the commercial banking system:
 - YoY Bank credit growth accelerated gradually in 2021-22 from 5.3 per cent in April 2021 to 9.2 per cent as on 31st December 2021.
 - The Gross Non-Performing Advances ratio of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) declined from 11.2 per cent at the end of 2017-18 to 6.9 per cent at the end of September, 2021.
 - Net Non-Performing Advances ratio declined from 6 per cent to 2.2 per cent during the same period.
 - Capital to risk-weighted asset ratio of SCBs continued to increase from 13 per cent in 2013-14 to 16.54 per cent at the end of September 2021.
 - The Return on Assets and Return on Equity for Public Sector Banks continued to be positive for the period ending September 2021.

PRICES AND INFLATION:

- The average headline CPI-Combined inflation moderated to 5.2 per cent in 2021-22 (April-December) from 6.6 per cent in the corresponding period of 2020-21.
 - The decline in retail inflation was led by easing of

food inflation.

- Food inflation averaged at a low of 2.9 per cent in 2021-22 (April to December) as against 9.1 per cent in the corresponding period last year.
- Effective supply-side management kept prices of most essential commodities under control during the year.
- Proactive measures were taken to contain the price rise in pulses and edible oils.
- Reduction in central excise and subsequent cuts in Value Added Tax by most States helped ease petrol and diesel prices.
- Wholesale inflation based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) rose to 12.5 per cent during 2021-22 (April to December).
 - This has been attributed to:
 - Low base in the previous year,
 - Pick-up in economic activity,
 - Sharp increase in international prices of crude oil and other imported inputs, and
 - High freight costs.
- Divergence between CPI-C and WPI Inflation:
 - The divergence peaked to 9.6 percentage points in May 2020.
 - However, this year there was a reversal in divergence with retail inflation falling below wholesale inflation by 8.0 percentage points in December 2021.
 - This divergence can be explained by factors such as:
 - Variations due to base effect,
 - Difference in scope and coverage of the two indices,
 - Price collections,
 - Items covered,
 - Difference in commodity weights, and

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE:

- India's overall score on the NITI Aayog SDG India Index and Dashboard improved to 66 in 2020-21 from 60 in 2019-20 and 57 in 2018-19.
- Number of Front Runners (scoring 65-99) increased to 22 States and UTs in 2020-21 from 10 in 2019-20.
- In North East India, 64 districts were Front Runners and 39 districts were Performers in the NITI Aayog North-Eastern Region District SDG Index 2021-22.

GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

- India has the tenth largest forest area in the world.
- In 2020, India ranked third globally in increasing its forest area during 2010 to 2020.
- In 2020, the forests covered 24% of India's total geographical, accounting for 2% of the world's total forest area.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD MANAGEMENT:

- The Agriculture sector experienced buoyant growth in the past two years, accounting for a sizable 18.8% (2021-22) in Gross Value Added (GVA) of the country registering a growth of 3.6% in 2020-21 and 3.9% in 2021-22.
- Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy is being used to promote crop diversification.
- Net receipts from crop production have increased by 22.6% in the latest Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) compared to the SAS Report of 2014.
- Allied sectors including animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries are steadily emerging to be high growth sectors and major drivers of overall growth in the agriculture sector.
- The Livestock sector has grown at a CAGR of 8.15% over the last five years ending 2019-20. It has been a stable source of income across groups of agricultural households accounting for about 15% of their average monthly income.
- Government facilitates food processing through various measures of infrastructure development, subsidized transportation and support for formalization of micro food enterprises.
- India runs one of the largest food management programmes in the world.
- The Government has further extended the coverage of food security network through schemes like PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY).

INDUSTRY AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

- The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) grew at 17.4 percent (YoY) during April-November 2021 as compared to (-)15.3 percent in April-November 2020.
- Capital expenditure for the Indian railways has increased to Rs. 155,181 crores in 2020-21 from an average annual of Rs. 45,980 crores during 2009-14 and it has been budgeted to further increase to Rs. 215,058 crores in 2021-22 – a five times

increase in comparison to the 2014 level.

- Extent of road construction per day increased substantially in 2020-21 to 36.5 Kms per day from 28 Kms per day in 2019-20 – a rise of 30.4 percent.
- Net profit to sales ratio of large corporates reached an all-time high of 10.6 percent in July-September quarter of 2021-22 despite the pandemic (RBI Study).
- Introduction of Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, major boost provided to infrastructure-both physical as well as digital, along with measures to reduce transaction costs and improve ease of doing business, would support the pace of recovery.

SERVICES:

- GVA of services crossed pre-pandemic level in July-September quarter of 2021-22; however, GVA of contact intensive sectors like trade, transport, etc. still remain below pre-pandemic level.
- Overall service Sector GVA is expected to grow by 8.2 percent in 2021-22.
- During April-December 2021, rail freight crossed its pre-pandemic level while air freight and port traffic almost reached their pre-pandemic levels, domestic air and rail passenger traffic are increasing gradually – shows impact of second wave was much more muted as compared to during first wave.
- During the first half of 2021-22, the service sector received over US\$ 16.7 billion FDI – accounting for almost 54 percent of total FDI inflows into India.
- IT-BPM services revenue reached US\$ 194 billion in 2020-21, adding 1.38 lakh employees during the same period.

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND EMPLOYMENT:

- 157.94 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccines administered as on 16th January 2022; 91.39 crore first dose and 66.05 crore second dose.
- With the revival of the economy, employment indicators bounced back to pre-pandemic levels during the last quarter of 2020-21.
- Expenditure on social services (health, education and others) by Centre and States as a proportion of GDP increased from 6.2 % in 2014-15 to 8.6% in 2021-22 (BE). ■

THE TRUE EGO

'WE' is the most important word. Everything depends upon a corporate life. Even prosperity is the name of a certain condition of collective life. Once a friend who had returned from a tour of a foreign country very sadly said, "All countries in the world have only one impression of India- that it is a country of beggars." I asked him, "Did you beg?" He replied, "No but how can people say India begs alms?" In other words an insult to the nation was an Insult to all of us. On the other hand when the Indian armed forces defeated Pakistan in the Indo-Pak war of 1965, everyone raised slogans of victory and felt proud of the nation's success. In other words our glory depends upon the glory of the nation.

EVILS OF MENTAL SLAVERY

THE truth is that mental slavery interrupts independent thinking. We must never forget that foreign influence on our outward life consumes our feeling of self-reliance and the time comes when the entire life of society is in danger of coming to an end. Many great societies in the world have been destroyed in this manner. We too would fail to make progress if in all fields of life we accepted blind imitation of foreigners as our basis. Such imitation checks development; hence self-respect alone can be the basis of our whole life and it alone can show us a balanced way of give and take with the outside world.

IMPORTANCE OF ORGANISATION

ORGANISATION means living together. It means an unbroken string of mutual cooperation. Organisation is also naturally necessary because no individual can do anything by himself. Whether you lead a physical life or a metaphysical one, the cooperation of many people is necessary. We may well say that we have done something by ourselves, but if we think a little we would realise that behind every act of ours and behind the result of every such act there is the hand of many of our brethren. Hence every individual must become a part of an organised social life. This is natural. In this lies happiness: prosperity and progress. There is strength in organization, and everything in this world can be achieved through strength. The greatness of organization lies in that

'WE' IS THE MOST IMPORTANT WORD

-PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA



When the Indian armed forces defeated Pakistan in the Indo-Pak war of 1965, everyone raised slogans of victory and felt proud of the nation's success. In other words our glory depends upon the glory of the nation...

it multiplies happiness many times and distributes unhappiness to an equal extent.

But organization does not mean a crowd. Many people confuse the two. The difference between a crowd and an organization is that in a crowd every individual considers himself alone, every individual has his own object and interest. They are all strangers to one another.

There might be activity but there is no oneness on the level of experience. This is not the case with an organization. Those who come together in an organization have one identity in spite of their being many in number. Their goal, their direction, their thought all these are one, hence their interest is common. Their actions produce a force that is a thousand times greater than their number. Every individual is an entity in himself and yet they are inseparable parts of one single whole. This is the secret of their success.

ORGANISED SOCIETY IMMORTAL

TO come together in an organisation is the way to progress. To live as separate, un-organised individuals is the way to destruction. For an individual can come to an end while an organization is eternal. Man is immortal so long as he is organised. When individuals scatter, the end of the individual is certain. Hence individuals must give up individualism and cultivate the force of organization. Man yearns for immortality. This immortality can be achieved only through organization. Organised social life is the way to immortality.

BODY AN INSTRUMENT

THE fundamental difference between our position and that of the West is that whereas they have regarded body and satisfaction of its desires as the aim, we regard the body as an instrument for achieving our aims. We have recognised the importance of the body in this light. The satisfaction of our bodily needs is necessary, but we don't consider this to be the sole aim of all our efforts. Here in Bharat we have placed before ourselves the ideal of the fourfold responsibilities, of catering for the needs of body, mind, intellect and soul, with a view to achieving the integrated progress of man. Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha are the four kinds of human effort. Purushartha means efforts which befit a man. The longings for Dharma, Artha, Karma and Moksha are inborn in men, and satisfaction of these give him joy. Of these four efforts, too, we have thought in an integrated way. Even though Moksha has been considered the highest of these Purusharthas, efforts for Moksha alone are not thought to give benefit to the soul. On the other hand, a person who engages in action, while remaining unattached to its fruits, is said to achieve Moksha inevitably and earlier.

MESSAGE OF BHAGWA FLAG

THE Bhagwa Flag gives us the message of our culture. It fills us with a sense of sacrifice. It is possible that some people may not be able to hear

this message, for only a heart burning with dedication can assess the importance of this message. This flag symbolized the entire history of our nation. It brings alive the words of Vedic Rishis and the lives of great men from Rama, Krishna, Buddha and Mahavir to Tulsidas, Nanak, Chaitanya and Ramdas. It includes the victorious epics of mighty warriors, the temples scattered all over this country and the sacred rivers washing its soil. This flag is the symbol of fire and the characteristic of fire is that not only is it pure by itself but it purifies everything consigned to it. The Bhagwa Flag teaches us to lead a life of such fiery purity.

MARTYRDOM AND SUICIDE

THERE is a difference between martyrdom and suicide. Suicide is wrong because it is confined to the feeling of 'I'. But when it is done for 'We', it is called martyrdom. When you offer your body for the country, for society, it is a matter of glory. It gives strength to society. Martyrs nourish a great cause. When a collective responsibility manifests itself in the form of 'We' it creates a tremendous force. Hence martyrs give new energy to the nation.

COMMUNIST TREACHERY

THE developments in Tibet and the policy followed in that regard by the Communist Party of India have once again exposed the un-Indian character of this party. Whatever the economic and political systems of Tibet be, no outsider has any right to forcibly change them. If Communists in India, echoing Peking, can justify Chinese aggression in Tibet on grounds of the allegedly reactionary character of the Dalai Lama's Government, they might as well welcome such an aggression in India if they feel that the Government here continues to be "reactionary". It is nothing but base treachery. It is the duty of every patriotic Indian to see that they are not allowed to develop a potential that may some day seriously undermine India's freedom and security. ■

The Bhagwa Flag gives us the message of our culture. It fills us with a sense of sacrifice. It is possible that some people may not be able to hear this message, for only a heart burning with dedication can assess the importance of this message

(Excerpts from the book - "Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya A Profile" edited by Sudhakar Raje.)

“NIGHTINGALE OF INDIA” LATA MANGESHKAR IS NO MORE

Lata Mangeshkar, the “nightingale of India,” is no more. She passed away on February 6, 2022, at the age of 92 in Mumbai. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, paid his last respects to Bharat Ratna Lata Mangeshkar in Mumbai. The Indian government has ordered two days of national mourning for the late singer. The national flag was flown at half-mast from February 6 to February 7. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has spoken to her family and expressed his condolences. He also said that the coming generations will remember her as a stalwart of Indian culture, whose melodious voice had an unparalleled ability to mesmerize people. The Prime Minister said,



“I am anguished beyond words. The kind and caring Lata Didi has left us. She leaves a void in our nation that cannot be filled. The coming generations will remember her as a stalwart of Indian culture, whose melodious voice had an unparalleled ability to mesmerize people.”

The BJP National President,

Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, said, “Today our respected Didi Lata ji is no more amongst all of us. On my behalf and on behalf of all of us, I offer my heartfelt tributes to her and pray to God to give her a place at his feet, rest her soul, and give strength to all the family members to bear this loss.”

Union ministers Shri Amit Shah, Shri Rajnath Singh, and Shri Nitin Gadkari also expressed their condolences on the demise of the legendary singer.

In 2001, she was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian honor. She was also awarded the Padma Vibushan in 1999, the second-highest civilian award in India. She has performed in over five languages for different movies industries. ■

CHANDUPATLA JANGA REDDY PASSES AWAY

The BJP senior leader from Telangana and former MP Chandupatla Janga Reddy passed away on February 5 at the age of 87. Shri Reddy was born on November 18, 1935. He worked as a teacher in Parkala Village, located in the Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh, for ten years, till 1967. He was a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party. He was a member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1967–72 (from Parkal as a Jana Sangh member), 1978–83 (from Shyampet as a Janata Party member) and 1983–84 (from Shyampet as a member of the BJP). He is best known for his time as a Member of Parliament in the 8th Lok Sabha in 1984. That year, the Bharatiya

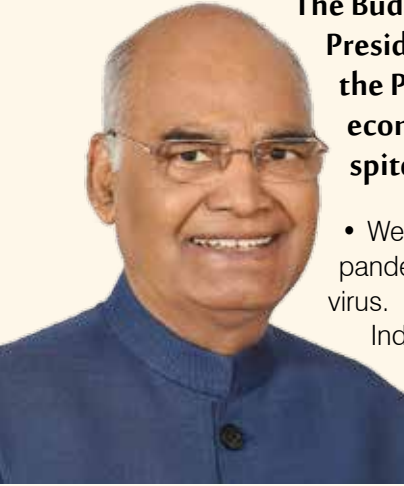


Janata Party won just two of the 543 Parliament constituencies; one was won by Chendupatla Janga Reddy, representing Hanamkonda in the then undivided Andhra Pradesh, and the other by AK Patel, representing Mehsana, Gujarat. He took an active part in the Telangana Satyagraha Movement and the anti-Malapumm district agitation in Kerala. He was arrested in 1970 for leading a group in Delhi in support of the recognition of Bangladesh, and imprisoned under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) from November 14th, 1975, to December 18th, 1976.

The BJP National President, Shri JP Nadda condoling the demise of the leader, said, “Pained by the demise of veteran Jana Sangh and BJP leader Shri C. Janga Reddy Ji.” He played an important role in strengthening the party. His inspiring journey of service to the country and party will not be forgotten. Om Shanti!” ■

Government building a strong India following the mantra of 'SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS, SABKA VISHWAS, AUR SABKA PRAYAS'

The Budget session of Parliament 2022 commenced with the address of the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind on January 31, 2022. In his address, the President focused on various initiatives undertaken by Modi Govt. for the economic growth of the country and the welfare of the common people in spite of the prevailing pandemic situation. Highlights of the speech:



- We are in the third year of the pandemic caused by Corona-virus. In these years, people of India have displayed profound faith in the democratic values, discipline and sense of responsibility. At a time, when India is celebrating the Amrit

Mahotsav on the occasion of 75th year of its independence, this willpower of every Indian creates immense confidence for India's bright future.

- My government is moving fast on building a strong foundation for the next 25 years following the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Aur Sabka Prayas'.
- In the fight against Covid-19 we have surpassed the record of administering more than 150 crore vaccine doses in less than a year. Today, we are among the leading countries in the world with the highest vaccine doses administered.
- The launch of Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission with an outlay of Rupees 64,000 crore is a commendable example.
- My government is providing free ration to each poor household every month under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana. This is the world's largest food distribution program with an outlay of Rupees two lakh sixty thousand crore reaching out to 80 crore beneficiaries for 19 months.
- More than two crore pucca houses have been provided to the poor under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana as a result of the efforts made in the last few years. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin, 1 crore 17 lakh houses have been approved at a cost of about Rupees one and a half

lakh crore in the last three years.

- Launched with the aim of 'Har Ghar Jal', the Jal Jeevan Mission has brought about a huge difference in the lives of the people. Nearly six crore rural households have been provided tap water connection despite the constraints imposed by pandemic.
- My government is working continuously to empower the farmers and the rural economy of the country. Despite the pandemic, our farmers produced more than 30 crore tonnes of food grains and 33 crore tonnes of horticulture produce in 2020-21.
- Women's empowerment is one of the top priorities of my government.
- My government is implementing a new National Education Policy across the country to give shape to the resolve and potential of Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Since 2016, sixty thousand new start-ups have been established in 56 different sectors in our country. More than six lakh jobs have been created by these start-ups.
- My government has integrated different ministries to work in a synergised manner under the Pradhan Mantri Gatishakti National Master Plan to accelerate infrastructure development.
- Today, the national highways too are connecting the length and breadth of the country from east to west and north to south.
- In recent times, we have witnessed a new resolve of Atmanirbhar Bharat taking shape in the country.
- Climate change is a major challenge confronting the whole world at present. India has emerged as a responsible global voice on the subject.
- My government is committed to sustainable development of all the states of the North East. In these states, basic amenities and economic opportunities are being developed at every leel. ■

“AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV’ IS THE PERFECT TIME TO THINK ABOUT HOW INDIA CAN PLAY A GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ROLE’

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, replied to the motion of thanks on the President’s address to Parliament, in the Lok Sabha on February 7, 2022. The Prime Minister underlined the importance of the current epoch in making new resolutions and rededicating to the task of nation -building. He said a new world order in the post-Corona period is taking shape rapidly. This is a turning point where we as India should not lose this opportunity. Highlights:

- 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is the perfect time to think about how India can play a global leadership role in the coming years.
- When poor person feels happy due to electricity in her house, her happiness gives strength to the joy of the nation. He also talked of the joys of smoke-free kitchen in poor household due to free gas connection.
- The Prime Minister recalled the flu pandemic hundred year ago and noted that most of the deaths were due to hunger. In the current pandemic, no Indian was allowed to die of hunger and one of the biggest social security measures was taken.
- Only effective way of dealing with poverty is taking care of the concerns of the small farmers. He lamented that small farmers have been ignored for very long.
- “Those who have ruled the nation for so many years and are used to living in palatial houses have forgotten to speak about the welfare of the small farmer. For India's progress, it is important to empower the small farmer. The small farmer will strengthen India's progress’.
- PM Gati Shakti presents a holistic approach to solve the infrastructure challenges and will reduce the logistics choice of the industry. The Prime Minister reiterated the emphasis is on proper connectivity.
- Our government changed the definition of MSMEs and this helped the sector.
- The Prime Minister also talked of Aatmnirbharta which has been pushed by innovative policies. He highlighted the harnessing of the talent and youth of country via opening new sectors.
- We do not believe only Governments can solve all problems. We believe in the people of the nation, the youth of the nation. Take the start-up sector for example. The number of start-ups has risen and this shows the strength of our people, he also highlighted the rise of quality unicorn in recent times.
- There were just 500 start-ups before 2014. In the last 7 years 60 thousand start-ups emerged and India is headed towards a century of unicorns. India has reached third place with regard to the start-ups.
- He said that mocking ‘Make in India’ amounts to mocking the entrepreneurship of India, youth of India and industry of media.
- He also maintained that being self-reliant in the defence sector is among the biggest national service.
- The Prime Minister concluded by exhorting political parties, citizens and youth to contribute with positive sentiment during the auspicious period of Amrit Kaal. ■



BJP'S POLITICAL JOURNEY IN UTTAR PRADESH: AN INSIGHT

(PART 2)



RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY

Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi tried to throttle democracy by imposing Emergency in 1975. The move threw India's democratic polity completely out of gear as several Opposition leaders were arrested and draconian measures undertaken to stifle free speech and press. The Emergency lasted for 21 months and ended with the announcement of elections in 1977. The Janata Party was formed by political leaders and activists of various organisations who had been united in opposing the State of Emergency in the country. The Congress (O), Swatantra Party, Socialist Party of India, Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Lok Dal and a small faction from the Indian National Congress known as the Congress for Democracy led by Jagjivan Ram formed the Janata alliance.

JANATA PARTY GOVERNMENT AT THE CENTRE

The Emergency, which was a dark chapter in the history of independent Indian, paved the way for the victory of Janata Party at the centre and Morarji Desai became the Prime Minister. Chaudhary Charan Singh was the Minister of Home Affairs and Jagjivan Ram became the Defence minister. Bharatiya Jana Sangh leaders Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee became External Affairs Minister and Shri LK Advani became the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. However, in a short span of two-years, the Janata Party became a victim of mutual rivalry, internal contradictions and as a result Morarji Desai resigned on 19 July, 1979 and the first non-Congress government at the Centre collapsed. Subsequently, the leaders of erstwhile Jana Sangh were forced to leave the Janata Party on the pretext of 'Dual Membership'.

THE BIRTH OF BJP AND AFTER

On April 06, 1980 the Jana Sangh leaders formed the Bharatiya Janata Party and Atal Bihari Vajpayee became the first President of the new party. Just two months after the formation of the party in June 1980, the

BJP made its electoral debut in Uttar Pradesh. It won 11 seats, while the Congress formed the government and VP Singh became the CM.

In the aftermath of the assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi in 1984 the elections were held in the country and it was the first election for Bharatiya Janata Party after its formation at the national level and it won two seats with 7.74 per cent of the total vote share.

The next Assembly election in Uttar Pradesh was held in 1985 and the Bharatiya Janata Party improved its previous tally in the state and secured 16 seats with 9.83 percent votes. But from 1980 to 1988 was a period of political uncertainty in Uttar Pradesh and six Chief Ministers came one after another during this period.

BOFORS SCAM AND JANATA DAL EXPERIMENT

In 1987, Bofors scam came to light in which the image of PM Rajiv Gandhi suffered irreversibly. The Shahbano case also exposed Rajiv Gandhi government's minority vote-bank politics. In January 1988, the BJP demanded the resignation of Rajiv Gandhi and declaration of mid-term elections. In August 1988, National Front was formed and NT Rama Rao became its chairman and alongwith the birth of Janata Dal.

By 1989, PM Rajiv Gandhi was severely tainted by charges of corruption and in the general elections held in November; he barely managed to retain his own Lok Sabha seat and his government was thrown out of power. However, the Janata Dal with 141 seats emerged as the second largest block, and VP Singh, with the support of the BJP (86 seats) and communist parties (44 seats), was able to put together a coalition majority that took office in December 1989. This election firmly established the BJP as a major political force in the country with 11.36 percent vote share and 86 seats in Lok Sabha. Along with Bofors issue, BJP focused on the slogan 'Justice for all, Appeasement of none' in this election.

Along with the general election the Uttar Pradesh

Legislative Assembly elections were also held in November 1989. In this election further strengthening its hold, the BJP won 57 seats with 11.61 percent votes and extended outside support to the Janata Dal government in the state. The Janata Dal won 208 seats and Mulayam Singh Yadav became the new Chief Minister. But for the Congress under ND Tiwari, this election proved disastrous and it suffered a historic defeat heralding the decline of Congress party which continues to this day without a semblance of revival in sight.

Throughout 1980s the BJP built up its ground in Uttar Pradesh and in other parts of the country. BJP started a Rath Yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya under the leadership of Shri LK Advani in September 1989 and this turned out to be the most significant political mobilization for the party towards the end of this decade. The Yatra also received unprecedented public support across the country.

FIRST BJP GOVERNMENT IN UP ON ITS OWN STRENGTH

With the dawn of 1990s the political scenario changed significantly in Uttar Pradesh and the dedication and hard work of BJP Karyakartas brought victories for the party. The Legislative Assembly elections were held in the state in 1991. The BJP with massive support of the people won 221 seats with 33.30% percent votes and formed its first government on its own strength in Uttar Pradesh. Shri Kalyan Singh became the new Chief Minister. On December 6, 1992 the illegal Babri structure in Ayodhya was demolished and immediately after it the Kalyan Singh government was undemocratically dismissed and President's rule was imposed in Uttar Pradesh.

In the next Assembly elections held in 1996, the BJP secured 174 seats. After a spell of President's Rule, the BJP and BSP formed a government in April 1997 for a brief period. In the later part of the decade till 2002, the BJP-led NDA government ruled the state with Shri Kalyan Singh, followed by Shri Ram Prakash Gupta, and then Shri Rajnath Singh, at the helm. Following this, the two main regional parties-BSP and SP took turns to form governments in the state till 2017. However, during

their reign, marked by nepotism, political violence, deteriorating law and order, politics of appeasement, casteism, corruption, and terrorism, Uttar Pradesh economy suffered pushing the state to the dubious category of BIMARU states.

LANDSLIDE VICTORY OF BJP IN 2014

The Bharatiya Janata Party snatched a historic and unprecedented victory in the General Elections of 2014 and secured more seats than it did in the last two General Elections combined, taking its tally to 282 seats, the highest by a single party since the 1984 elections. The NDA also won in 336 seats in the Lok Sabha. The party's 2014 vote-share too was over 1.5 times that of its 2009 vote-share, with nearly every third vote cast in the country going to the party. The Key factor behind this landslide victory was the wave in favour of the BJP

and PM candidate Shri Narendra Modi. The BJP succeeded in transcending regions, religious divide and caste boundaries and it happened for the first time since 1984. The BJP tsunami swept the nation, and the Congress was obliterated, slipping to its

“The Bharatiya Janata Party snatched a historic and unprecedented victory in the General Elections of 2014 and secured more seats than it did in the last two General Elections combined, taking its tally to 282 seats, the highest by a single party since the 1984 elections.”

lowest ever tally of 44 seats in the Lok Sabha.

The biggest impact of the BJP tsunami was felt in Uttar Pradesh, where the Party won 71 out of 80 seats with 42.3% vote share and 73 seats with its coalition partners. It was also the best performance by a single party in the State since 1984.

BJP SCRIPTS HISTORY WITH LANDSLIDE VICTORY

Three years later, in 2017, Assembly Elections were held in Uttar Pradesh. The 15-year exile of the BJP in the state ended with the colossal victory of the party, which secured around 40 percent votes and 312 seats- the second-highest number of seats ever won by a party in Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls. The BJP juggernaut rolled on in the state in such a way that stunned even the poll pundits, political analysts and the media alike. Yogi Adityanath became the Chief Minister and the state scripted new history in multi-pronged development under his dynamic leadership.

■
To be continued



BY VIKASH ANAND

PRO-YOUTH BUDGET

Youth constitute a large percentage of our country. Therefore, they play important role in the development and growth of the country. The budget presented by the Modi government in parliament creates many avenues for increasing employability. Capital expenditure increased by 35.4 percent in the budget for 2022–23. It has been increased from Rs 5.54 lakh crore in the current year to Rs 7.50 lakh crore in 2022–23. This is more than 2.2 times the amount spent in 2019–20, and it will amount to 2.9 percent of GDP in 2022–23. Through this sharp jump in allocation for capex, the government intends to create employment opportunities through the speedy growth of the country. Its strong focus on infrastructure development is bringing huge opportunities for entrepreneurship as well as for job seekers. As Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said while presenting the budget, PM Gati Shakti (Multi-modal Connectivity) is a transformative approach for economic growth and sustainable development. The approach is driven by seven engines, namely, roads, railways, airports, ports, mass transport, waterways, and logistics infrastructure. All seven engines will pull the economy forward in unison. These engines are supported by the complementary roles of energy transmission, IT communication, bulk water and sewerage, and

social infrastructure. Finally, the approach is powered by clean energy and Sabka Prayas—the efforts of the central government, the state governments, and the private sector working together—leading to huge job and entrepreneurial opportunities for all, especially the youth. The PM GatiShakti Master Plan for Expressways will be formulated in 2022–23 to facilitate the faster movement of people and goods. The National Highways network

The defence budget also envisages ample employability avenues for youths. The government, through the budget, reiterated its commitment to reducing imports and promoting AtmaNirbharta in equipment for the Armed Forces

will be expanded by 25,000 km in 2022-23 and Rs 20,000 crore will be mobilised through innovative ways of financing to complement the public resources. The Productivity Linked Incentive scheme has been increased to 14 sectors in the budget to achieve the vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat. It has the potential to create 60 lakh new jobs and has an additional production capacity of Rs 30 lakh crore during the next 5 years.

In view of creating employment

opportunities, especially for youths at local level, in the railways, the government has launched the 'One Station-One Product' concept. The scheme will be helpful in encouraging and popularising local businesses and supply chains. Similarly, the Credit Guarantee Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme will attract youth. The scheme will be revamped with the required infusion of funds. This will facilitate additional credit of Rs 2 lakh crore for micro and small enterprises and expand employment opportunities. The Finance Minister said that the Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme with an outlay of Rs 6,000 crore over 5 years would be rolled out to make the MSME sector more resilient, competitive, and efficient. Udyam, e-Shram, NCS, and ASEEM portals would be interlinked and their scope would be widened.

The Startups scheme, which is devoted to budding entrepreneurs, will be promoted under this new budget to facilitate 'Drone Shakti' through various applications and for Drone-As-A-Service (DrAAS). In select ITIs in all states, the required courses for skills will be started. In vocational courses, to promote crucial critical thinking skills, to give space for creativity, 750 virtual labs in science and mathematics, and 75 skilling e-labs for simulated learning environments, will be

set-up in 2022-23.

The budget envisages a plan for a digital university that will be established to provide access to students across the country to a world-class quality universal education with a personalised learning experience at their doorsteps. This will be made available in different Indian languages and ICT formats. The university will be built on a networked hub-spoke model, with the hub building's cutting-edge ICT expertise. The best public universities and institutions in the country will collaborate as a network of hub-spokes.

The budget has also proposed setting up an animation, visual effects, gaming, and comic (AVGC) Promotion Task Force as the sector has the potential to offer huge employment opportunities for youth. Smt. Nirjala Sitharaman said that telecommunications in general, and 5G technology in particular, can enable growth and offer job opportunities. She said that required spectrum auctions will be conducted in 2022 to facilitate the rollout of 5G mobile services within 2022-23 by private telecom providers. A scheme for designed manufacturing will be launched to build a strong ecosystem for 5G as part of the Production Linked Incentive Scheme.

The defence budget also envisages ample employability avenues for youths. The government, through the budget, reiterated its commitment to reducing imports and promoting AtmaNirbharta in equipment for the Armed Forces. The government is going to give more priority in defence manufacturing to Swadeshi manufacturers. 68 percent of the capital procurement of defence budget will be allocated to domestic industry in 2022-23, up from 58 percent in 2021-22. This Atma Nirbhar defence budget includes 25% of the defence R&D budget for industry, startups, and academia will be more beneficial to MSME. The proliferation of MSME in this sector has the potential to engage an increasing number of young people. ■



PM DEDICATES 216-FOOT TALL 'STATUE OF EQUALITY' IN HYDERABAD

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the 'Statue of Equality' in Hyderabad on February 5. The 216-foot tall Statue of Equality commemorates the 11th century Bhakti Saint Sri Ramanujacharya, who promoted the idea of equality in all aspects of living including faith, caste and creed. Governor of Telangana Smt. Tamilsai Soundararajan, Union Minister Shri G. Kishan Reddy were among those present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister greeted everyone on the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami and expressed happiness on dedication of the statue on such a pious occasion. He said "India is giving concrete shape to India's human energy and inspirations through this grand statue of Jagadguru Sri Ramanujacharya. This statue of Sri Ramanujacharya is a symbol of his wisdom, detachment and ideals."

The Prime Minister participated in the 'Purnahuti' of 'Vishwaksena Ishti Yagya'. The Yagya is for fulfilment of resolutions and goals. The Prime Minister offered the 'sankalpa' of the Yagya for the 'Amrit' Sankalp of the country and dedicated the yagya to 130 crore countrymen.

The Prime Minister recalled the Indian tradition of its scholars that views knowledge above rebuttal and acceptance-rejection. "If we have 'advait' then we have 'dvait' too and we also have Sri Ramanujacharya's 'Vishishtadvaita' that encompasses both 'davit-advait'", said the Prime Minister. He noted that along with the pinnacle of gyan in Sri Ramanujacharya, he is the founder of Bhakti Marg too. On the one hand he is a saint of rich 'Sanyaas' tradition, he presents the importance of action in Gita Bhashya, on the other. The Prime Minister continued "In today's world, when it comes to social reforms, progressivism, it is believed that reforms will take place away from the roots. But, when we see Ramanujacharya ji, we realize that there is no conflict between progressiveness and antiquity. It is not necessary to go far from your roots for reforms. Rather it is necessary that we connect with our real roots, become aware of our real power." ■

FOR THE THIRD TIME, THE BJP IS SET TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT IN GOA



VIPUL SHARMA

The dates for the upcoming Goa Legislative Assembly elections have already been announced by the Election Commission of India. As per the announcement, Goa will go to the polls on February 14, with all 40 seats to be voted in a single phase. The results of the election will be announced on March 10.

In Goa, the BJP began its political journey as a smaller alliance partner with the Maharashtra Gomantak Party (MGP). In 1989, the BJP tried to make inroads into Goa politics and managed to get 0.39 percent of the vote share. But the successful alliance with the MGP gave results for the party in the 1994 assembly elections. Soon the BJP's vote share soared to 9.5 percent, and the party added four assembly seats to its tally. Within the next five years, the BJP emerged as the main opposition in the state and won 10 seats. From 1999 to 2004, Goa witnessed the rise and fall of governments. Finally Shri Manohar Parrikar formed his first government in the year 2012.

In the last assembly election (2017), the state of Goa witnessed a hung assembly with the BJP securing a high vote share of 32.5 percent. The Bharatiya Janata Party won 13 seats in the 40-member assembly and, with the support of the Goa Forward Party (GFP), Maharashtra Gomantak Party (MGP), and two independents, who believe that the BJP is the only party that can lead the state on the path of development, formed the government in the state. And late Manohar Parrikar was sworn in as the chief minister of the state once again. The path shown by the late chief

minister, Manohar Parrikar, was perfectly received by Dr. Pramod Sawant, who is now building a strong state on the same path.

The previous Congress governments in the state and in the centre never spared a thought for Goa. Goa's annual budget under the previous Manmohan Singh-led government at the Centre in 2013-14 was Rs 432 crore. It was the Sonia-Manmohan government and the TMC was supporting it, but

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had allocated Rs 2,567 crore for the development of the state in 2021. The major infrastructure projects like the Atal Setu, the Zuari Bridge and the Mopa International Airport were possible in Goa only because of the "double engine" BJP government at the Centre and in the state. The previous Congress government in the state, led by then Chief Minister Shri Digambar Kamat, had nothing to show for infrastructure development and was only involved in corruption.

With the TMC, the NCP, and the AAP also in crosshairs, no party is

capable of giving a stable government. Someone wants to be an all-India political party, somebody wants to open their account, but they can't form a government. Only the BJP can form the government.

The double engine state government has achieved many successes in terms of implementing central schemes and state initiatives for development. The state government has launched "GoaOnline"—an e-governance digital portal where information on all government services is available at the tip of one's fingers. The portal holds and provides online facilities covering more than 42 government departments and boards. Goa is

It seems, the electorate of the state is unreservedly supporting the BJP double engine government under the great vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and able leadership of Dr Pramod Sawant for the third time in the state to continue with the ongoing pace of development and for the welfare of the poor

ranked third in the 'NITI Aayog's Good Governance Index 2020-21.'

Apart from this, Goa has provided 100% tap water connections and achieved the "Har Ghar Jal" target on October 9th, 2020, which is four years before the targeted deadline. It is a matter of pride that the state has achieved 100% electrification by providing free electricity connections under 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana' (SAUBHAGYA) to more than 1,28,208 households. As a result of effective planning and execution in line with the Swachh Bharat Mission, Goa has become "Open Defecation Free" in the first phase of the Swachh Bharat Mission by providing toilets to 1,56,743 households across Goa. The State government has successfully implemented the 'One Nation-One Ration Card' scheme across the State.

The Goa tourism industry has been the backbone of the state, catering to 40% of the state's population. The state hosts almost 12% of all the foreign tourists that visit India. With an aim to make Goa the most preferred destination by the year 2024,

"The Goa Tourism Policy 2020" has been framed by the government. The state government has hosted Asia's oldest and India's biggest international film festivals—the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI). More than 148 foreign films drawn from 73 countries were screened, including 12 world premieres, 7 international premieres, 24 Asia premiers, and 74 India premieres.

It seems the electorate of the state is unreservedly supporting the BJP double engine government under the great vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the able leadership of Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant for the third time in the state to continue with the ongoing pace of development and for the welfare of the poor. The common people also know that the BJP is the only party that is committed to making Goa one of the fastest emerging states in the country. Therefore, it is expected that the BJP is heading for a thumping victory in the upcoming assembly elections and will form a stable government that focuses on the all-around development of the state. ■

THE BJP-LED COALITION IN PUNJAB WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR A STABLE GOVERNMENT

The Election Commission of India (EC) announced dates for assembly elections in Punjab. The Punjab Assembly Election 2022 will be held in a single phase on February 20 for 117 constituencies. The counting of votes will take place on March 10. In Punjab, the Bharatiya Janata Party, Punjab Lok Congress and Sanyukta Akali Dal are jointly contesting the assembly elections where the BJP will field its candidates in 65 assembly constituencies, the Punjab Lok Congress in 37 seats and the Sanyukta Akali Dal in 15.

The people of Punjab are seeing the Bharatiya Janata Party-led coalition in the state as a means for change in government, which will pave the way for securing the future of the generations of the state to come and give stability to Punjab. While the congress is busy with infighting between Charanjit Singh Channi and Navjot Singh Sidhu, even the APP party chief minister candidate is not accepted by the people of the state. Despite being a progressive state, Punjab

is in a massive debt of Rs 3 lakh crores under the Congress government. Punjab is also sliding down in the development index. The Mafia raj has ruined Punjab. Land mafia, sand mafia, drug mafia, mining mafia---they all have ruined and destroyed Punjab.

In Punjab, the Bharatiya Janata Party, Punjab Lok Congress and Sanyukta Akali Dal have made a commitment to the people of the state that we will end all kinds of mafias in Punjab and bring transparency and accountability to governance.

Under the leadership and vision of our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, India is progressing fast in all parameters and all sections of society are taken care of. But some anti-national forces are trying to derail and disturb our growth and development. These anti-national forces are also trying to create unrest and disturbances in Punjab. But this can only be changed under the dynamic leadership of the BJP and the state will be once again taken on the path of development. ■

PM addresses Vijay Sankalp Sabha in Haridwar and Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Working for development of Uttarakhand is priority of BJP Government: PM Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed a virtual 'Vijay Sankalp Sabha' in Haridwar and Dehradun, Uttarakhand on February 7, 2022. "First of all, I bow to the country's first CDS General Bipin Rawat ji. I bow to every hero who took inspiration from the land of Uttarakhand and made their supreme sacrifice for the country," said PM Shri Modi while addressing the rally in the state.

Hitting out at opposition, PM said, "Uttarakhand is Dev Bhumi for us, but these people consider Uttarakhand as their vault. These people want to keep on looting the natural wealth and resources that God has given the state, they want it to fill their pockets. This is their mindset."

Elaborating on the benefits of 'double-engine' growth, Shri Modi stated, "Rishikesh-Karnprayag rail line is a great example of how things changed under the Double Engine Sarkar, how the brakes on development have been lifted. The work on the Rishikesh-Karnprayag rail line was to start a decade ago. But the previous 'Brake Wali' Sarkar continuously delayed the development work."

"The work of Delhi-Dehradun Highway also started in the year 2000, when this state was formed. But the Congress government left it in hanging. An excuse was made for not getting clearance from the UP government, while they were in the Centre and their partner was ruling in UP," he added while targeting the previous Congress government in the state.

PM Shri Narendra Modi also talked about several central schemes which are benefiting the people of Uttarakhand. He said, "When we came to power, we started Namami Gange campaign for Maa Ganga. Today Maa Ganga is becoming pure. But do you know what they (Congress Government) did when they were in power? They declared Maa Ganga as a canal at Har ki Pauri in Haridwar."

Amidst the ongoing election campaigning in Uttarakhand, Shri Modi said, "The central government is developing waterways in the country. Ships are now running in Ganga. Haridwar and the entire Ganga belt will be benefited at large from this. Rs. 1,500 crores



have been approved for Ring Road in Haridwar. Also, Rishikesh Railway Station has been modernized at a cost of hundreds of crores."

Addressing the gathering, the PM stated, "It has been 21 years since the establishment of Uttarakhand. The youth is now moving ahead with big dreams. With the state completing 25 years in next 3-4 years, your next government, under the leadership of Dharam Singh, will take the state to new heights of development. Therefore, it is imperative that the next government is honest, hardworking, and youth-led." ■



'DISPLAY OF NATION'S VALOUR AND STRENGTH ON RAJPATH FILLED EVERYONE WITH PRIDE AND ENTHUSIASM'

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 30 January addressed his 85th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' radio programme. He said in the episode that the display of the nation's valour and strength, which we witnessed on Rajpath in Delhi filled everyone with pride and enthusiasm. He added that a digital sculpture of Netaji has also been installed at India Gate. Here we are publishing brief highlights of the address:



- Just a few days ago, we celebrated Republic Day as well. The display of the nation's valour and strength, which we witnessed on Rajpath in Delhi filled everyone with pride and enthusiasm. One change you must have noticed is that now the Republic Day functions will start from the 23rd of January, i.e. the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and will continue till the 30th of January i.e. Gandhiji's death anniversary. A digital sculpture of Netaji has also been installed at India Gate. We can never forget the way the country welcomed this, the wave of joy that arose from every corner of the country; the kind of feelings expressed by every countryman.
- Friends, in the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the country is re-establishing its national symbols through these efforts. We saw that the 'Amar Jawan Jyoti' near India Gate and the Jyoti lit at the 'National War Memorial' in the vicinity, were merged. There were tears in the eyes of many countrymen and martyr families on this emotional occasion. At the 'National War Memorial', the names of all the bravehearts of the country who have been martyred since Independence have been inscribed. Some former soldiers of the army have written to me saying that - "The 'Amar Jawan Jyoti' lit at the memorial is a symbol of the immortality of the martyrs". Truly, like 'Amar Jawan Jyoti' our martyrs, their inspiration and their contribution are also immortal. I would urge all of you to certainly visit the 'National War Memorial' whenever you get an opportunity. Do take along your family and children too. Here you will feel a different energy and inspiration.
- My dear countrymen, all of you send a lot of letters and messages, including many suggestions in connection with The Amrit Mahotsav. Under this series something has happened which is unforgettable for me. More than one crore children have written to me through their 'Mann Ki Baat' post cards. These one crore post cards have come from different parts of the country; they have also come from abroad. I have tried to take time out to read many of these post cards. These postcards show how broad and wide is the vision of our new generation for the future of the country. I have shortlisted some postcards for the listeners of 'Mann Ki Baat' which I want to share with you. Like this one is the post card of Riddhima Swargiyari from Guwahati, Assam. Riddhima is a student of class 7th and she has written that she wants to see an India in the 100th year of independence which is the cleanest country in the world, completely free of terrorism, included in the 100 percent literate countries, Zero accident country, and be capable of food security with sustainable technology. Riddhima, what our daughters think, the dreams they see for the country, do come true. When everyone's efforts come together, when your young generation will work towards this goal, you will definitely make India the way you want her to be. I have also got a post card of Navya Verma of Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. Navya has written that her dream for 2047 is of an India where everyone has a dignified life, where farmers are prosperous and there is no corruption. Navya, your dream for the country is very commendable. ■

“The ‘Amar Jawan Jyoti’ lit at the memorial is a symbol of the immortality of the martyrs”

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PM ADDRESSES 30TH NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN FOUNDATION DAY

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed 30th National Commission for Women Foundation Day programme on 31st January via video conference. The theme of the programme 'She The Change Maker' is aimed at celebrating the achievements of women in different fields. The Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smt Smriti Zubin Irani; Ministers of State Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai and Smt Darshana Jardosh; Chairperson, National Commission for Women Ms. Rekha Sharma were among those present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister greeted on the 30th Foundation Day of the National Commission for Women. "The milestone of 30 years, whether in the life of an individual or of an

organization, is very important. This is the time for new responsibilities and for moving forward with new energy", he said.

The Prime Minister remarked that today, in changing India, the role of women is continuously expanding. Therefore, he said, the expansion of



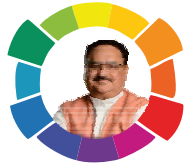
the role of the National Commission for Women is also the need of the hour. All the women's commissions of the country will also have to increase their scope and give a new direction to the women of their states.

Shri Modi noted that for centuries,

India's strength has been the small local industries or the MSMEs. In these industries, women have the same role as men. The Prime Minister said that the old thinking had restricted women and their skills to domestic work. It is necessary to change this old thinking in order to advance the economy of the country. Make in India is doing this today. AatmaNirbhar Bharat campaign is linking the ability of women with the development of the country, he said. This change is visible as about 70 per cent beneficiaries of Mudra Yojna are women. The country has seen a three-fold increase in the number of women self-help groups in the last 6-7 years. Similarly, in more than 60 thousand startups that have emerged after 2016, 45 percent have at least one woman director. ■



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PM Shri Narendra Modi at the 30th National Commission for Women Foundation Day programme in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the first meeting of India Central Asia Summit in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi briefing the media ahead of the Budget Session of the Parliament in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the National Cadet Corps (NCC) Rally, at Cariappa Ground, in New Delhi. Union Minister for Defence Shri Rajnath Singh is also seen.



PM Shri Narendra Modi paying homage at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi, on the occasion of Martyrs' Day, at Rajghat in Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi paying his last respects to Lata Mangeshkar in Mumbai



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