

KAMAL SANDESH



BJP AND SAD COMMITTED FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF THE NDA...

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दीनदयाल उपाध्याय
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'21st CENTURY INDIA IS WORKING FOR ANTYODAYA'



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda flanked by BJP National General Secy Shri Bhupendra Yadav and other senior leaders inaugurating 11 New Distt. Offices of Bihar at State BJP Office in Patna



Punjab BJP welcoming BJP National President Shri JP Nadda with grand procession after his arrival in Amritsar



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda paying a courtesy visit to Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri M Venkaiah Naidu, New Delhi



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah at the 34th Statehood Day celebration in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah and former Jharkhand CM Shri Babulal Marandi waving at the gathering after JVM's 'Milan Samaroh' with BJP in Ranchi



Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari addressing the '3rd Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety 2020' in Stockholm, Sweden

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WE ARE MOVING FORWARD WITH NEW APPROACH...

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BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 22 February, 2020 inaugurated, 11 new District Offices of the party across the State in Bihar...





@narendramodi



The programme 'Kashi Ek Roop Anek' brilliantly showcased the success of the Uttar Pradesh Government's 'One District One Product' initiative. This effort will go a long way in furthering prosperity in the lives of many, particularly those associated with the MSME sector.

@amitshah

Earlier North-east used to be identified with issues such as insurgency, extremism, drugs etc but now the region is known for its connectivity, infrastructure, sports and organic farming.



It is all due to PM @NarendraModi's vision and his resolve for a prosperous North-east.

@nitingadkari



With Prime Minister Employment Generation Scheme, competition is growing among the youth for self-employment in urban areas.

Under the PMEGP scheme, 25% subsidy is being given to special category people in urban areas.



BJP Karyakartas are going to be special contributors for a New India. Karyakartas will touch the ground with issues in their hand and with the potentiality to respond to everything. We will prepare for All vs One (BJP), and alone we will be victorious, I can assure you that no one can stop us.



— **Jagat Prakash Nadda**

The vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is that along the Highways, I-WAYS have to be built to connect 130 crore people of the country. For the efforts of the #DigitalIndia campaign today it has resulted in rapid digitization from rural India farmers to start-up entrepreneurs.



— **Om Prakash (Om ji) Mathur**

Look at the madness called anti CAA Protests... A left activist shouting Pakistan Zindabad slogan in Bengaluru .. Fringe has totally taken over the protests . Time to say ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.



— **B L Santhosh**

INDIA IS NOW WORLD'S 5TH LARGEST ECONOMY ON COURSE TO BECOME 5 TRILLION ECONOMY

India has added \$1 trillion in the last 5 years, standing at about \$3 trillion currently

WORLD'S ECONOMIC SUPERPOWER

www.bjp.org

KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR
wishes a very happy
HOLI
(10 MARCH)
to all of its readers

AS INDIA BECOMES FIFTH LARGEST ECONOMY, FIVE TRILLION ECONOMY SEEMS A REALITY NOW

India has achieved another feat by becoming the fifth largest economy of the world. Under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has been adding feathers after feathers to its cap, making the nation proud at international forums. There is no doubt that India is mesmerising the world with its newfound vigour, energy and aspirations to scale newer heights with every passing day. The commitment of the Modi government to take the nation forward is getting reflected in a new work culture and strong determination to realise the full potential of the nation on all fronts. The results are also encouraging with a number of achievements on various spheres of activities kindling a new hope in the heart of every Indian who are now moving ahead with confidence. A new India is beaming with the hope of charting a glorious journey towards its bright future.

Becoming the fifth largest economy is an achievement which is making every Indian proud. India has moved ahead of France and UK to become an economy having GDP of 2.94 trillion USD. It is a mark which according to experts has been decisively established and India is set to move ahead from here in the years to come. It was not long back that India was ranked at ninth position in 2010 and within ten years India has leapfrogged itself to fifth position now. In the last five years India has become around one trillion bigger economy setting the pace for India's increasing share in the world economy in the days to come. As India has embarked on its journey for 5 trillion USD economy, the pace of development and growth is set to increase unleashing the huge potential of the nation's economy. In Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) India is already considered to be more than 10.51 trillion USD economy, the third largest in the world after US and China. So far the figures of nominal GDP are concerned India is now at fifth place after US, China, Japan and Germany. India is supposed to improve its position further once it becomes a 5 trillion USD economy in the years to come.

India has set a wonderful example for the other countries in the world in heralding an era of 'reform, perform and transform' under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. India has come a long way in addressing the basic necessities of the life by working on the principle of 'Antyodaya' while addressing the problems of poorest of the poor in the society. It is the result of such continuous efforts that poverty has substantially reduced in the country and around 160 million people have been taken out of poverty in the last six years. The poverty which was 21.2% in 2011 was estimated to be just 6.3% in 2018, which is considered to be a huge achievement for the country. India has become a country which has scored on almost all parameters of development on international standards and became a symbol of hope and confidence for the people around the world.

The innovative schemes such as Jan Dhan, Swachta Mission, Ayushman Bharat, PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi, Ujjwala, Ujala, PM Awas Yojana along with many more have brought new empowerment to the poorest sections of the society. In addition to these, special emphasis given on rural economy along with agriculture and heavy investment on country's infrastructure with a long term vision is creating new waves of development and new success stories in the country. The result of the reforms are for everyone to see as India scored big on the parameters of 'Ease of Doing Business' with soaring forex reserve in the country. India is now writing its own growth story with confidence under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who is keen to transform the Indian dream into reality by achieving the goals of 'New India'. As India has become the fifth largest economy in the world, the dream of becoming a 5 trillion USD economy by 2024 seems a reality now. ■

IT WAS NOT LONG BACK THAT INDIA WAS RANKED AT NINTH POSITION IN 2010 AND WITHIN TEN YEARS INDIA HAS LEAPFROGGED ITSELF TO FIFTH POSITION NOW. IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS INDIA HAS BECOME AROUND ONE TRILLION BIGGER ECONOMY SETTING THE PACE FOR INDIA'S INCREASING SHARE IN THE WORLD ECONOMY IN THE DAYS TO COME.

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org

काशी एक केतप अनेक...

दिनांक : 16-17 फरवरी, 2020

स्थान : दीनदयाल हस्तकला मंदिर, वाराणसी



WE ARE MOVING FORWARD WITH NEW APPROACH: PM MODI

PM UNVEILS 63-FT-TALL DEENDAYAL UPADHYAY STATUE IN VARANASI, LAUNCHES RS 1,200 CR-WORTH PROJECTS

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited his Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and unveiled a host of projects for the region, worth Rs 1,200 crores on 16 February, 2020. He also unveiled a 63-foot tall statue of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya at the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Memorial Centre in Padoa on the Varanasi-Chandauli border.

Addressing a function at Varanasi he said facilitating and strengthening traditional handicrafts workers, artisans and MSME will help in achieving the goal of 5 trillion dollar economy. Shri Narendra Modi said that government will keep taking decisions to achieve the goal.

He appreciated the Uttar Pradesh Government for taking several initiatives in creating more opportunities for Indian products in the international market and for providing essentials such as machines, credit, loans to the weavers and handicraftsmen under several schemes. Prime Minister mentioned that due to UP Government's programmes like 'One District One Product' programme, exports from UP have been steadily increasing in the last 2 years. PM said the country will benefit from the products of UP, reaching abroad and online market of the world.

He said in India each and every district can be identified with some unique art, product such as different varieties of silk, spices etc. This, he said

is the biggest inspiration behind ideas like 'Make in India' and 'One District One Product'.

He noted that in the last 2 years more than 3500 artisans weavers from 30 districts were supported by UP Institute of Design (UPID). Toolkits were also given to over 1000 workers. He commended the efforts of UPID in extending support to weavers, artisans, handicraftsmen etc.

Stressing on the need for refining, improving quality of the products made in India, as per the demands of 21st century, Prime Minister said it is necessary to provide institutional support, financial assistance, new technology and marketing facilitate to our traditional industries. He said for the past 5 years, we have been making efforts in this direction. We are moving forward with a new approach that focuses on empowering every person in the country.

Highlighting several measures taken to facilitate industries and wealth creators, Shri Modi said this year's Budget has given utmost thrust to Manufacturing and Ease of Doing Business. He said National Technical Textile Mission has been proposed with the allocation of Rs 1500 crore. He said provision of Rs 3700 crore has also been made for the Defense Corridor in UP. Small industries will benefit from this corridor, and it would also create new employment opportunities.

PM Shri Modi mentioned that GEM (Government e-Marketplace) has made it easier for small enterprises to sell goods to the government. He said creation of Unified Procurement System would further enable the government to procure goods and services from small industries on a single platform.

He said for the first time in the country, National logistics policy is being prepared, which will create single window e logistics, thus making small scale industries more competitive and also helping in employment generation.

For CAA Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said his government stood by the decision despite all pressure. "Be it the decision on Article 370 or the Citizenship Amendment Act, it was necessary in the interest of the country. Despite pressure, we stand by our decision and will remain so," he said.

Prime Minister concluded the address by urging everyone to take concerted efforts to make India a manufacturing powerhouse.

'KASHI EK ROOP ANEK' EXHIBITION AT HASTAKALA SANKUL

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the 'Kashi Ek Roop Anek' program organized at the Deendayal Upadhyay Trade Facilitation Center, Bada Lalpur at Varanasi. Unveiling the arts and handicrafts exhibition 'KASHI EK ROOP ANEK', PM Shri Modi said that the cultural, arts and handicrafts exhibition will benefit the country, especially because the products, although being made in Uttar Pradesh, will be available online and thereby will be accessible to national and international markets.



During the function he visited an exhibition on the various products from Kashi and others districts of UP produced by the weavers and handicraftsmen. He not only inspected the stall of Handloom, Pink Meenakari, Wooden Toys, Chandauli Black Rice, Kannauj's Perfume, Moradabad's Metal Crafts, Agra Leather Shoes, Lucknow's Chikankari and Azamgarh Black Pottery under the 'One District One Product' but also interacted with artisans and craftsman. He also distributed kits and financial assistance to artisans and craftsman from different crafts.

PM Shri Modi at the launch of 'Kashi Ek Roop Anek' exhibition at the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Hastakala Sankul said, "For the first time in the country, a national logistics policy is being prepared. It will lead to the creation of a single-window E-logistics market. I've been told that in the last 2 years, Uttar Pradesh Institute of Design (UPID) has provided assistance in design-related artwork to 3500 craftsmen and weavers across 30 districts of the state. Also, for

enhancement in craft products, tool-kits have been provided to 1000 artisans,"

Artistes and weavers at the two-day event will be imparted skills for improving the quality and branding of their wares suitable for the larger national and international markets.

There are 23 lakh artisans and weavers residing in Uttar Pradesh. Of these, about 35,800 artisans and 1.5 lakh weavers stay in Varanasi alone. The Uttar Pradesh government had launched the ambitious scheme 'One District, One Product' (ODOP) in which one craft per district was identified.

The state government has established raw material banks, testing labs, common facility centres, and facilitated direct market access to artisans and weavers and helping them improve their income.

PM UNVEILS 63 FT TALL DEENDAYAL STATUE

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi unveiled the Statue of Deendayal Upadhyay and dedicated to the nation the 'Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial' in Varanasi.



Addressing a gathering at Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial Centre in Varanasi, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that today this region is further strengthening the significance of its name 'Padaav' by joining itself to the memorial site of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay. It will develop into a stage where service, sacrifice, injustice and public interest will all come together. Now with this memorial place and garden built here, PM said that the grand statue installed here will continue to inspire generations to follow the ethics and thoughts of Deendayal Ji.

The Prime Minister said that Deendayal Upadhyay Ji showed us the path of Antyodaya, which is the rise of the last person in the society. Taking inspiration from this idea PM said that 21st century India is working for Antyodaya. He added that on this holy occasion, about Rs.1250 crore worth of projects which have been launched, will benefit the entire Purvanchal, including Varanasi. "All these projects are part of the resolution of rejuvenation going on in the entire Purvanchal including Kashi for the last 5 years. In these years, development works worth about Rs. 25 thousand crores have been completed or in progress in Varanasi district," he said.

In line with the Deendayal Ji's thoughts that self-reliance and self-help should be at the center of all schemes, the Prime Minister said that efforts are constantly being made to bring these ideas into the government's plans and the government's culture.

Prime Minister stressed that the government is continuously working to reach the last person in the society, to bring the benefits of development to them. "Now the situation is changing and now the last man in the society is given top priority," he added.

PM MEETS VARANASI RICKSHAW-PULLER WHO INVITED HIM FOR DAUGHTER'S MARRIAGE

During his one-day visit to Varanasi, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met Mangal Kewat, the rickshaw puller who had sent his daughter's wedding invite to the PM. The Prime Minister enquired about the health and well-being of Kewat and his family and also commended him on his contribution to the Swacch Bharat Abhiyaan.

It is important to note that inspired by PM Shri Modi, Kewat has taken to cleaning the Ganga banks



in his village on his own. Kewat, had earlier expressed glee after receiving a congratulatory letter by the Prime Minister for his daughter's wedding.

KASHI-MAHAKAL EXPRESS FLAGGED OFF

On this occasion the Prime Minister also flagged off the Kashi-Mahakal Express connecting Baba Vishwanath's city with Omkareshwar and Mahakaleshwar near Indore in Madhya Pradesh. This is the third corporate passenger train in the country.

On the occasion the Prime Minister said a significant and visible improvement was made in cleaning the Ganga River; this, he said could be achieved only because of the public participation. He said under Namami Gange Programme, projects worth Rs 7000 crores have been completed while work on projects worth Rs 21000 crores is under progress.



The PM said further said that a few days ago, the President of Sri Lanka who came here was mesmerized with the divine atmosphere here.

PM RELEASED TRANSLATED VERSION OF 'SHRI SIDDHANT SHIKHAMANI GRANTH'

The Prime Minister attended the closing ceremony of the Centenary Celebration of Jagadguru Vishwaradhya Gurukul at Jangamwadi Mutt in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Karnataka Chief Minister Shri BS Yediyurappa were also present.

At the event, Shri Modi also released the translated version of 'Shri Siddhant Shikhamani Granth' in 19 languages. Addressing the gathering, he said that it's a coincidence that the centenary celebrations are

taking place at the beginning of a new decade and that this decade will once again establish India's role in the 21st century.

He appreciated people's contribution in creating awareness about cleanliness and taking the Swachhta Mission to each and every corner of the country. He urged them to use Made in India products. He also asked everyone to participate in Jal Jeevan mission to make it a success.

SUPER-SPECIALTY HOSPITAL IN BHU INAUGURATED

The foundation stone of the super-specialty hospital which was laid in BHU, in the second half of 2016, is now inaugurated.

Inaugurating it the Prime Minister said, "In just 21 months, this 430-bed hospital is ready to serve the people of Kashi and Purvanchal". ■

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPEECH

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi unveiled 63 ft tall statue of Deendayal Upadhyay in Varanasi.
- The 'Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial' in Varanasi dedicated to the nation.
- PM also flagged off the third corporate train Mahakaal Express which links 3 Jyotirlingas i.e. Varanasi, Ujjain and Omkareshwar.
- He inaugurated 36 developmental projects including a 430 Bed Super-Speciality Government Hospital.
- PM laid foundation stone for 14 developmental projects.
- PM Shri Modi also inaugurated an arts and handicrafts exhibition.
- PM said under Namami Gange Programme, projects worth Rs 7000 crores have been completed while work on projects worth Rs 21000 crores is under progress.
- PM said for the first time in the country, a national logistics policy is being prepared. It will lead to the creation of a single-window E-logistics market.

INDIA IS NOW THE WORLD'S 5TH LARGEST ECONOMY: IMF

Currently, Indian economy is of \$2.94 trillion in terms of GDP & \$10.51 trillion in terms of PPP.

Under Shri Narendra Modi's decisive and visionary leadership, India has become the world's fifth largest economy with a GDP of \$2.94 trillion. When Shri Narendra Modi took the reign of the country in 2014, India was on 9th position in the world economy. According to data released by the IMF's October World Economic Outlook, India now surpassed France, UK and became world's 5th largest economy.

The country's GDP growth has been among the highest in the world in the past decade – regularly achieving annual growth of between 6-7%.

This rapid rise has been fueled by a number of factors, according to a 2016 McKinsey Global Institute report, including urbanization and technologies that have improved efficiency and productivity.

As recently as 2010, India was in 9th place, trailing countries such as Brazil and Italy.

India's rise is even more dramatic across the past 25 years. Since 1995, the country's nominal GDP has jumped more than 700%.

Significant progress has been made. Poverty reduction rates are among the highest in the world, with more than 160 million fewer people living in extreme poverty in 2000 compared to 2015.

According to the World Bank, the country is also seeking ways to ensure its future growth is more sustainable and inclusive, adjusting its policies regarding social protections and infrastructure development.

A US-based think tank World Population Review in its report also said that India's economy is the fifth largest in the world with a GDP of \$2.94 trillion, overtaking the UK and France in 2019 to take the fifth spot. The size of the UK economy is \$2.83 trillion and that of France is \$2.71 trillion.

The report further said that in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms, India's GDP (PPP) is \$10.51

These are the world's largest economies

GDP, current prices - US Dollars

2010	2019
1 United States	United States
2 China	China
3 Japan	Japan
4 Germany	Germany
5 France	India
6 United Kingdom	United Kingdom
7 Brazil	France
8 Italy	Italy
9 India	Brazil
10 Russian Federation	Canada

Source: IMF

trillion, exceeding that of Japan and Germany. Due to India's high population, India's GDP per capita is \$2,170 (for comparison, the US is \$62,794).

The report observed that India's economic liberalisation began in the early 1990s and included industrial deregulation, reduced control on foreign trade and investment, and privatisation of state-owned enterprises.

"These measures have helped India accelerate economic growth," it said.

India's service sector is the fast-growing sector in the world accounting for 60 per cent of the economy and 28 per of employment, the report said, adding that manufacturing and agriculture are two other significant sectors of the economy. ■

BJP PRESIDENT EXPRESSES PRIDE OVER INDIA BECOMING 5TH LARGEST ECONOMY WITH \$2.94 TRILLION GDP

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 23 February, 2020 expressed his pride over India becoming the fifth-largest economy in the world with a GDP of \$2.94 Trillion.

In a press release Shri Nadda said that the Indian economy is steadily moving forward towards USD 5 trillion, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

He said India is now the 5th largest economy in the world with a GDP of USD 2.94 Trillion. Under the visionary leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji, the country is moving steadily towards USD 5 trillion economy goal. This is the impact of the progressive economic schemes and measures of the govt,

Giving credit to the Centre, the BJP President further said that the country has seen tremendous growth in all sectors due to the "visionary steps and futuristic budget."

"India has shown tremendous growth in all sectors, with a rise in purchasing power parity, reflecting the positive impact of visionary steps and futuristic budget of the government".

He also added that the country's progress is also clearly seen in all sectors, with a rise in purchasing power parity.

"India has shown tremendous growth in all sectors, with a rise in purchasing power parity, reflecting the positive impact of visionary steps and futuristic budget of the Central government," Shri Nadda added.

He said the country's next major target is



achieving a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. The Indian government on several occasions has stated that it has been setting the foundation of the ambitious target. Addressing the 2019 Republic Summit, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had said, "Along with constant efforts to improve the standard of living in India, the country has also set an aim of \$5 trillion economy, and I am confident that with the motto of 'Nation First' we will get the desired result of all our efforts and the country will also achieve all its goals."

Taking to Twitter, Shri Nadda stated that the country is "steadily" moving towards Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of becoming a \$5 trillion economy. ■



Jagat Prakash Nadda@JPNadda

India is now the 5th largest economy in the world with a GDP of \$ 2.94 Trillion. Under the visionary leadership of Hon PM @narendramodi Ji, country is moving steadily towards \$ 5 trillion economy goal. This is the impact of the progressive economic schemes & measures of the govt.



MAHARASHTRA GOVERNMENT UNNATURAL & UNREALISTIC: JP NADDA

BJP National President Shri J P Nadda on 16 February, 2020 dubbed the Maharashtra government led by Uddhav Thackeray as unnatural and unrealistic, saying it has put brakes on the state's development.

Addressing the State BJP Council Meeting in Mumbai Shri Nadda said the party needs to be ready to go solo in future elections. He said despite the BJP getting mandate after the state Assembly polls in October last year, some with selfish motives parted ways with it and joined hands with those in the opposition to come to power. "You should be ready for 'all versus one (BJP)' kind of political battle in future," he said addressing the party workers.

Shri JP Nadda said despite the state Assembly poll mandate being in favour of the BJP, "selfish motives prevailed" and some went to join hands with the opposition to form government. "The BJP is going to win the next Maharashtra Assembly election single-handedly. The state, under the leadership of Devendra Fadnavis, was making progress but sadly, the development is now getting halted," he said.

Shri JP Nadda, who took over as BJP's National President last month, was speaking at the two-day state BJP convention which began in Navi Mumbai on 15 February, 2020.

The BJP President also advised Karyakartas to play the role of serious grassroot-level workers to

provide a responsible opposition and turn adversity into opportunity. "...it is a fight of one versus all to come back to power," he added. He hailed the Centre's initiatives on Triple Talaq, Article 370 and Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which, he said, became a reality because of the massive mandate in favour of Modi Govt 2.0.

"We have not targeted any religion and it was our moral responsibility to abolish Triple Talaq since it does not exist in Muslim countries like Syria, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Similarly, nobody in the opposition has tangible answers to our questions on loopholes in CAA," said Shri Nadda.

Speaking on Jammu and Kashmir, he said now the people of this region will send representatives from the tribal community to Vidhan Sabha, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and this was made possible due to the abrogation of Article 370, which helped provide reservation for tribals.

Criticizing the Maha Vikas Aghadi government, Shri JP Nadda said, "People's mandate in Maharashtra has been insulted by Shiv Sena. And it was done for personal interest. We will hold protests against this unnatural alliance..." He also advised party workers that politics was a full time job. The BJP, he said, is the world's largest political force with 17 crore documented members besides 303 members in Lok Sabha and 82 in Rajya Sabha. ■



BJP WILL DO MORE WORK AS AN OPPOSITION: AMIT SHAH

FORMER CM BABULAL MARANDI REJOINS AND MERGES HIS JVM IN BJP

Former Jharkhand Chief Minister Shri Babulal Marandi has finally merged his Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (JVM) with the Bharatiya Janata Party at an event named 'Milan Samaroh' in Ranchi on 17 February, 2020. Shri Marandi joined BJP in the presence of Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah.

It is to be noted that the move from Shri Babulal Marandi comes at least 14 years after he snapped relations with BJP. During the 'Milan Samaroh', Home Minister Shri Amit Shah hugged Shri Babulal Marandi and welcomed him to the BJP fold.

Earlier the merger of JVM and BJP was announced a week before. Announcing it Shri Babulal Marandi told reporters that a formal merger ceremony will take place on February 17 at Jagannathpur maidan, which is also known as Prabhat Tara maidan, in the presence of BJP's former National President and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, BJP National Vice-President Shri Om Prakash Mathur and other senior leaders. "Office-bearers of the party, district presidents and members of the executive committee were present in the JVM(P) meeting when the merger proposal was unanimously passed and approved," he said.

Union Home Minister and former BJP President Shri Amit Shah who addressed the party's Milan Samaroh in Ranchi; Jharkhand said, Hemant Soren-led Jharkhand government was responsible for the brutal killing of seven tribal community people in West Singhbhum district in January.

The Home Minister said, "Seven tribals were brutally murdered at West Singhbhum in Jharkhand. But there is no action on that either. If similar law and order continue,

the BJP will fight against it on the road, in the Assembly and also in Parliament."

During his address, speaking about the result of the 2019 Jharkhand Assembly Polls Shri Shah said we respect the mandate of the people of Jharkhand. "BJP lost in the Assembly polls and we respect the mandate. We will do more work as an opposition. BJP does not work to grab power; it works to take the country forward. The Raghubar Das government implemented each scheme of the Narendra Modi-led government -- from electricity, toilets to providing gas cylinders to every household. Now PM Shri Narendra Modi has decided to take water to each household by 2024 and we will do it."

On Shri Babulal Marandi's return to the BJP, Shri Shah said, "Today is a matter of great joy for me because since I became the National President of the party in 2014, I was trying to get Babulalji back to BJP. With the arrival of Babulal Ji in BJP, the local leadership of the party will get experienced and this will also strengthen the BJP in the state."

Noteworthy, beginning his career as a teacher before joining the BJP and going on to become a junior minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee led NDA government, Shri Marandi was chosen by the BJP to become the first Chief Minister of the newly created Jharkhand State on November 15, 2000. Jharkhand was carved out of Bihar in that year. But Shri Marandi, who was a BJP MP, decided to walk away from the party and formed JVM-P along with some senior BJP leaders in September 2006. After forming the new party, he won an assembly election for the first time in the November-December 2019 polls. ■

NEW BJP STATE PRESIDENTS APPOINTED IN MP, SIKKIM, KERALA, MAHARASHTRA & MUMBAI

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda appointed new BJP State Presidents of Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Kerala, Maharashtra and Mumbai. BJP National General Secretary Shri Arun Singh made these announcements in official communications.

MADHYA PRADESH

Shri Vishnu Dutt Sharma appointed as the new Madhya Pradesh State President. Shri Sharma replaced Jabalpur Lok Sabha MP Shri Rakesh Singh, who had been serving as the State BJP President from April 2018.



Presently Shri Vishnu Dutt Sharma is the Lok Sabha MP from Khajuraho and is General Secretary in the MP State BJP team. The appointment of a new State BJP President in Madhya Pradesh had been pending ever since Shri Rakesh Singh's term came to an end.

Shri Sharma is credited for strengthening the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) in Madhya Pradesh in 1990s.

SIKKIM

Besides Madhya Pradesh, the BJP National President has also appointed Shri Dal Bahadur Chauhan as New President of the party's Sikkim unit.

Shri Dal Bahadur Chauhan was appointed on 15 February, 2020 as BJP Sikkim President for a second consecutive term. He thanked the party's leadership for reposing faith in him and said that the entire State unit will try to take the party to a new height with the support of Karyakartas and office bearers in the state.



KERALA

Likewise, Shri K Surendran has been appointed as the new BJP State President of Kerala. Party National President Shri JP Nadda announced the appointment of Shri Surendran through a press statement in New Delhi on 16 February, 2020.



The post of party State President has been lying vacant ever since former President Shri P S Sreedharan Pillai was appointed as Mizoram governor in October last year.

Shri Surendran started his political career as a worker of ABVP and rose through the ranks. He had been serving the party as one of its State General Secretaries since 2009. His active role in the Sabarimala agitation against the entry of women made him the face of BJP during Sabarimala agitation. He was jailed for 22 days during the stir.

MAHARASHTRA & MUMBAI

Party National President Shri JP Nadda also reappointed Shri Chandrakant Patil as Maharashtra BJP President. He will continue as the President of Maharashtra. Shri Chandrakant Patil was first appointed as the BJP's State President in July last year, just months before the Assembly election after then State President Shri Raosaheb Danve resigned from the post following his induction into the Narendra Modi led NDA government in Delhi.



Meanwhile, Shri Mangal Prabhat Lodha has been appointed as the Mumbai unit President of BJP. Shri Lodha will take over the post from former Education Minister Shri Ashish Shelar, who served two terms as the Mumbai unit President. The decision over the appointments has been taken ahead of the State Executive meeting. ■

UNION GOVT. APPROVES SWACHH BHARAT MISSION (GRAMEEN) PHASE-II

The Union Cabinet on February 19, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the Phase II of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) [SBM(G)] till 2024-25, which will focus on Open Defecation Free Plus (ODF Plus), which includes ODF sustainability and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM).

The program will also work towards ensuring that no one is left behind and everyone uses a toilet. SBM(G) Phase-II will also be implemented in a mission mode with a total estimated budgeted financial implication of Rs.52,497 crore for the period from 2020-21 to 2024-25 including the Central and State shares. In addition to this, the 15th Finance Commission has proposed earmarking Rs.30,375 crores for rural water supply and sanitation to be implemented by rural local bodies for the upcoming financial year. The ODF Plus programme will also converge with MGNREGA, specially for grey water management and will also complement the newly launched Jal Jeevan Mission.

Under the program, provision for incentive of Rs.12,000/- for construction of Individual Household Toilet (IHHL) to the newly emerging eligible households as per the existing norms will continue. Funding norms for Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) have been rationalized and changed to per capita basis in place of no. of households. Additionally, financial assistance to the Gram Panchayats (GPs) for construction of Community Managed Sanitary Complex (CMSC) at village level has been increased from Rs.2 lakh to Rs.3 lakh per CMSC.

The programme will be implemented by the States/UTs as per the operational guidelines which will be issued to the States shortly. The fund sharing pattern between Centre and States will be 90:10 for North-Eastern States and Himalayan States and UT of J&K; 60:40 for other States; and 100:0



for other Union Territories, for all the components.

The SLWM component of ODF Plus will be monitored on the basis of output-outcome indicators for four key areas: plastic waste management, bio-degradable solid waste management (including animal waste management), greywater management and fecal sludge management.

The SBM-G Phase II will continue to generate employment and provide impetus to the rural economy through construction of household toilets and community toilets, as well as infrastructure for SLWM such as compost pits, soak pits, waste stabilisation ponds, material recovery facilities etc.

The rural sanitation coverage in the country at the time of launch of SBM(G) on 02.10.2014 was reported as 38.7%. More than 10 crore individual toilets have been constructed since the launch of the mission; as a result, rural areas in all the States have declared themselves ODF as on 2nd October, 2019. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) has, however, advised all the States to reconfirm that there are no rural households that still don't have access to a toilet, and provide the necessary support to any such identified households to build individual household toilets in order to ensure that no one is left behind under the programme. ■

GOVT. ANNOUNCES CREATION OF 10,000 NEW FPOs TO ENSURE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 19 has given its approval for 10,000 FPOs to be formed in five years period from 2019-20 to 2023-24 to ensure economies of scale for farmers. Support to each FPO be continued for 5 years from its year of inception.

BRIEF OF THE SCHEME:

A new Central Sector Scheme titled "Formation and Promotion of Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)" to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs with a total budgetary provision of Rs. 4496.00 crore for five years (2019-20 to 2023-24) with a further committed liability of Rs. 2369.00 crore for period from 2024-25 to 2027-28 towards handholding of each FPO for five years from its aggregation and formation.

DAC&FW will allocate Cluster/States to Implementing Agencies which in turn will form the Cluster Based Business Organization in the States.

FPOs will be formed and promoted through Cluster Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) engaged at the State/Cluster level by implementing agencies. The CBBOs will have five categories of specialists from the domain of Crop husbandry, Agri marketing / Value addition and processing, Social mobilisation, Law & Accounts and IT/MIS. These CBBOs will be

platform for an end to end knowledge for all issues in FPO promotion.

There will be a National Project Management Agency (NPMA) at SFAC for providing overall project guidance, data compilation and maintenance through integrated portal and Information management and monitoring.

Initially the minimum number of members in FPO will be 300 in plain area and 100 in North East & hilly areas. However, DAC&FW may revise the minimum number of membership based on experience/need with approval of Union Agriculture Minister.

Priority will be given for formation of FPOs in aspirational districts in the country with at least one FPO in each block of aspirational districts.

FPOs will be promoted under "One District One Product" cluster to promote specialization and better processing, marketing, branding & export by FPOs.

There will be a provision of Equity Grant for strengthening equity base of FPOs.

There will be a Credit Guarantee Fund of up to Rs. 1,000.00 crore in NABARD with equal contribution by DAC&FW and NABARD and Credit Guarantee Fund of Rs.500.00 crore in NCDC with equal contribution by DAC&FW and NCDC for providing suitable credit guarantee cover to accelerate flow of institutional credit to FPOs by minimizing the risk of financial institutions for granting loan to FPOs. ■

INDIA REDUCES ITS POVERTY NUMBER FROM 27 CRORE TO 8.4 CRORE

India made strides in reducing its poverty number. According to findings of a new study only 84 million (8.4 crore) Indians are poor as on 2017 down from 270 million (27 crore) in 2011.

The findings of the study states that poverty, as per the Tendulkar Poverty line, reduced from 14.9 per cent in 2011 to 7.0 per cent in 2017 - the fastest pace the country has seen yet. The findings, which are part of the joint paper titled Poverty, Inequality and Inclusive Growth in India: 2011/12-2017/18 by Surjit S Bhalla, Arvind Virmani and Karan Bhasin, were presented to

the National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER).

The authors also conclude that the record pace of poverty reduction was due to high growth rate and government measures such as MGNREGA, Direct Benefit Transfers, PM Kisan Yojana, LPG subsidy and others. They further provide three additional estimates based on the India Human Development Survey at 7.4 per cent and at 3.8 per cent for the year 2017 while the fourth estimate based on national accounts puts poverty in India in 2017 at 3.4 per cent. ■

IN 2019-20 FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION IS HIGHER BY 6.74 MILLION TONNES THAN LAST YEAR

As per Second Advance Estimates for 2019-20, total Foodgrain production in the country is estimated at record 291.95 million tonnes which is higher by 6.74 million tonnes than the production of foodgrain of 285.21 million tonnes achieved during 2018-19. However, the production during 2019-20 is higher by 26.20 million tonnes than the previous five years' (2013-14 to 2017-18) average production of foodgrain.

Total production of Rice during 2019-20 is estimated at record 117.47 million tonnes. It is higher by 9.67 million tonnes than the five years' average production of 107.80 million tonnes.

Production of Wheat during 2019-20 is estimated at record 106.21 million tonnes. It is higher by 2.61 million tonnes as compared to wheat production during 2018-19 and is higher by 11.60 million tonnes than the average wheat production of 94.61 million tonnes.

Production of Nutri / Coarse Cereals estimated at 45.24 million tonnes, which is higher by 2.18 million tonnes than the production of 43.06 million tonnes achieved during 2018-19. Further, it is also higher by

2.16 million tonnes than the average production.

Total Pulses production during 2019-20 is estimated at 23.02 million tonnes which is higher by 2.76 million tonnes than the Five years' average production of 20.26 million tonnes.

Total Oilseeds production in the country during 2019-20 is estimated at 34.19 million tonnes which is higher by 2.67 million tonnes than the production of 31.52 million tonnes during 2018-19. Further, the production of oilseeds during 2019-20 is higher by 4.54 million tonnes than the average oilseeds production.

Total production of Sugarcane in the country during 2019-20 is estimated at 353.85 million tonnes. The production of sugarcane during 2019-20 is higher by 4.07 million tonnes than the average sugarcane production of 349.78 million tonnes.

Production of Cotton is estimated at 34.89 million bales (of 170 kg each) is higher by 6.85 million bales than the production of 28.04 million bales during 2018-19. Production of Jute & Mesta is estimated at 9.81 million bales (of 180 kg each). ■

EXPORTS FROM SEZs ACHIEVE USD 100 BILLION

The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) continue to take the lead in expanding the exports for the country. Even in the midst of volatile global economy, SEZs in India have shown resilience and have achieved 100-billion-dollar worth of exports in FY 2019-20, as on 17th February 2020. It may be mentioned that SEZs achieved this land-mark of 100-billion-dollar worth of exports in 2018-19 in full financial year.

It is observed that while the services segment, constituting majority of IT & ITeS services was driver of the export growth at 23.69 %. There was almost 4% growth in manufacturing segment also. This reflects overall expansion and interest in SEZs in the country. Number of operational SEZs have grown to 241 as against 235 at the end of FY 2018-19.

Important sectors that saw healthy growth in



this financial year include Gems & Jewelry (13.3%), Trading & Logistics (35%), Leather & Footwear (15%), Non-Conventional Energy (47%), Textiles & Garments (17.6%). Petrochemicals constitute a major segment of SEZ exports, however growth was muted in this segment; which may be attributed to softening of global crude prices. ■

ASPECTS OF ECONOMICS

Continue from the previous issue...

RESTRAINT OF FOREIGN AID

IT is also important that we should be self-reliant in the economic field. If the fulfilment of our programmes depends upon foreign aid it will certainly be a restraint, whether direct or indirect, upon us. We would be pulled into the sphere of economic influence of the aid-giving countries. In order to save our economic plans from difficulties we may have to many times keep quiet. A country which acquires the habit of depending upon others loses its self-respect. Such a nation can never assess the value of its independence. It is also certain that no country would give us aid to be used as we think fit.

It will examine our plans and then we would have to make such plans as can be in accord with foreign aid even if they are not in our interest.

FOREIGN CAPITAL

IT is suggested that the shortfall of capital in the country should be made up by foreign capital and we are importing foreign capital to a very big extent in different forms. Even if we keep aside the political aspects of foreign capital its economic utility extends to a particular point and not further. The popular idea is that foreign capital means money which we receive and which we can use as we think fit. This is not the truth. Foreign capital has to be used in foreign countries and hence it cannot be an alternative to domestic savings. When we invest domestic savings in the form of capital we are icing employment not only to the people in a particular industry but to many others outside it, such as those making the machines and other ancillaries required for the industry in which we invest.

Foreign capital can be obtained in three ways (a) from individual industrialists, (b) from international

organisations, and (c) from foreign governments. They can do this either by giving loans or by becoming partners. They can either set up their own industry in the country or collaborate with the Government or private industrialists within the country. In all these possible alternatives the basic point is that it is not for us to decide whether the machines or other implements on which we shall spend our money outside the country are useful to us. We shall even have to accept foreign technology. Foreign technicians and industrialists would produce goods in our country with processes and machinery available and currently used in their own country. This can help industrialisation to a certain extent but It cannot build a firm industrial base for the country.



EFFECTS OF URBANISATION

ACCORDING to Western economy the level of urbanization is considered the basis of development. In India too the number of big cities and their population are gradually increasing. In the life of the West cities have created a number of social, moral, political and health problems. A large amount of money is spent

on them. In the climatic condition of India, crowded living is all the more harmful for us. This is one of the main reasons of the spread of TB and other deadly diseases. Slums are also increasing in our cities. Hence the need of the times is not new cities but industrialisation of villages,

CAPITAL PROJECTS

MANY times capital industrial projects are taken into hand for the sake of prestige. It is felt that the capacity to produce capital goods would raise our prestige in the eyes of the world. But this is not an economic truth. For such capital production we shall not only

have to keep our standard of life at a low level for a long time but we will also have to sacrifice democratic principles in the political field.

LABOUR-INTENSIVE PRODUCTION PROCESS

WHEN we think of the means of production in India we arrive at the firm conclusion that our production process must be labour-intensive. In the first place we are short of capital and when we convert it into fixed capital on the basis of labour-saving projects this capital flows out of the country. Further our old machines become obsolete, which increases the speed of decapitalization and disemployment. The rising unemployment in turn depresses the standard of living of most people instead of raising it. A complex Western production process can give employment to a few people but it cannot set into motion a dynamic process which can bring about a revolutionary change in the country's economy. If we want such an industrial system, it should be in consonance with agriculture and should give adequate importance to small industries.

INDUSTRIAL CORPORATIONS

IF we are to conduct our industries with success, it is necessary that they should be conducted on a completely commercial basis within the interest of society. Hence they will have to be kept aloof from party politics, which changes from day to day. From this point of view they should be conducted by autonomous corporations. They should have freedom in their day-to-day conduct but should be under parliamentary control. In point of the participation of workers in the management public sector industries should give the lead to other industries.

WHO IS A TILLER?

LAND for the tiller does not by any means mean that he who ploughs the field will be the sole owner of the land and he cannot benefit from the services rendered by others. He should have the right to employ labour as required. The tiller should generally mean the person who is responsible for the production of crops in a particular field, invests money in it and takes care of it. It is not important how many agricultural jobs he performs himself and how many labourers he employs.

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COOPERATIVE FARMS

A FAMILY represents the ideal 'from every man according to his capacity and to every man according to his needs'. Tradition has helped to inculcate this feeling amongst the members. The karta of a family does not depend upon the votes of the members. No training classes have been, and need be organised to train him how best to discharge his responsibilities. He does it instinctively, following the ways his forefathers had followed. But in a cooperative we are faced with the crucial problem of how to distribute the produce. When people with all sorts of lands and with no lands and those with varying rights in land are joined together, it is practically impossible to divide the produce equitably. It may be done equally but that will not be equitably.

BASIC NECESSITIES

BY and large we can see that food, clothing, shelter, education and medical attention are the five basic necessities of every individual which should be fulfilled. If we want to assess the material standard of life of any country we could take these as a starting point. If any class of a society does not get these facilities, we may say that the standard of life of that society is not developed. ■

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

RASHTRA RISHI NANAJI DESHMUKH

By Vikash Anand

Bharat Ratna Nanaji Deshmukh, born on 11 October 1916 at Kadoli in Hingoli district of Maharashtra, came in contact with RSS at the age of 13. He made Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh his field of activities. On 15 August 1940, he was sent by RSS to Gorakhpur as pracharak. With only 14 rupees, he went to Gorakhpur. Gorakhpur was a challenge for him. Because, he was new to the place and there was no one known to him there. But he accepted the challenge and in a short span of three years, he expanded work of RSS and started 250 Sangh Shakhas in and around Gorakhpur. In 1950, he founded first Saraswati Shishu Mandir of India in Gorakhpur. Later on, he became Sah Prant Pracharak of Uttar Pradesh. From 1948 till the formation of Jana Sangh in 1952 he also worked successfully as Managing Editor of Lucknow based Rashtra Dharm Publication.

He strongly believed in not shunning of politics but its refinement. He spent three decades of his life in active politics. When Bharatiya Jana Sangh was formed under Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, RSS sent him along with Deendayal ji and some other karyakartas in BJS to help Dr. Mookerjee for expanding organization of the new party. Atal Bihari Vajpayee's oratory skill and Nanaji Deshmukh's organizational skill helped the Jana Sangh to expand its base of support in UP. Also, he was given responsibility of making organization strong in eastern India. Nanaji was one of the main architects of Jai Prakash Narayan's movement against emergency in 1975. On 20 June 1975, on the initiative of Nanaji Deshmukh four parties (BLD, Congress(O), Socialist Party and BJS) jointly held their executive meeting in Delhi and unanimously decided to form Lok Sangharsh Samiti to coordinate the movement. Nanaji was made General Secretary of Lok Sangharsh Samiti. He spent 17 months in jail during emergency. When emergency was lifted, he became a key person in formation of Janata government. He played main role in merger of Jana Sangh with Janata Party. In the Morarji Desai led Janata Party government, he was offered cabinet berth as he won Lok Sabha



election from Balrampur. He declined to accept the cabinet berth. He also represented Janasangh in Rajya Sabha.

Apart from politics, he worked in the field of education, health, and rural self-reliance and participated in Acharya Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan movement. At the age of 60, he took sanyas from politics and spent his remaining life of 34 years in constructive work. With the aim of integrated development of backward area of Chitrakoot, Nanaji Deshmukh founded Deendayal Research Institute (DRI). He also founded a rural university in Chitrakoot and acted as first chancellor of that university. Here, he started many prakalps like Arogyadham, Udyamita Vidyapith, Gaushala, Vanvasi Chhatravaas, Gurukul, Surendrapal Gramoday Vidyalay etc. In such a way after sanyas from politics, he devoted his remaining life in development of rural area and made successful experiment of making 500 villages as developed and empowered. Due to his selfless service to the society and the nation, he was called 'Rashtra Rishi'. Shri Nanaji Deshmukh was honoured with the Padma Vibhushan in 1999 and posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award in 2019 by Government of India. He left for his heavenly abode at the age of 94 in Chitrakoot on 27 February 2010. ■



RAM TEMPLE TRUST DELEGATION MEETS PM MODI, INVITES HIM TO AYODHYA

The officials of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust led by its president Mahant Nitya Gopal Das Maharaj on 20 February, 2020 met Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and invited him to Ayodhya.

“We met Prime Minister Shri Modi and invited him to visit Ayodhya. The Prime Minister has assured us that he will think over the proposal. He also said that the grand temple will be built soon,” Mahant Nitya Gopal Das Maharaj told media persons after the hour-long meeting with PM Shri Modi at his official residence in New Delhi.

Maharaj further said: “We requested that the wait for the Ram temple has become too long and, therefore, the construction should begin soon.”

Vishwa Hindu Parishad leader Champat Rai, who was also a part of the delegation, said: “This was a courtesy meeting. All of us came here upon the invitation of the Prime Minister.”

Shri K Parasaran and Swami Govind Giriji Maharaj were also part of the delegation, which met the Prime Minister.

The Trust members had nominated Mahant Nitya Gopal Das of Ram Janmabhoomi Nyas as its

president whereas VHP’s Champat Rai was made the general secretary.

Meanwhile after the formation of the trust the first meeting of the Ram Mandir Trust to oversee the construction of a Ram temple in Ayodhya was held on February 19, 2020 in New Delhi at the residence of K Parasaran, the head of the Trust.

Noteworthy, PM Shri Narendra Modi had announced the formation of the 15-member trust in Parliament on February 5. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has seven members, five nominated members and three trustees. The trust was formed in adherence to the Supreme Court verdict on the Ayodhya dispute in November last year.

Senior lawyer Parasaran has been named the head of the Trust and its other members include Jagatguru Shankracharya, Jyothish Peethadheeshwar Swami Vasudevanand Saraswati Ji Maharaj from Allahabad, Jagatguru Madhavacharya Swami Vishwa Prasannatheerth Ji Maharaj, Pejawar Math in Udupi, Yugpurush Paramanand Ji Maharaj from Haridwar, Swami Govinddev Giri Ji Maharaj from Pune and Vimlendra Mohan Pratap Mishra from Ayodhya. ■

TECHNOLOGY SHOULD HELP DELIVER SPEEDY JUSTICE: PM MODI

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the International Judicial Conference in New Delhi 22 February, 2020. Distinguished Judges of the Supreme Court as well as various High Courts, Eminent lawyers and delegates from overseas also took part in the Conference.

Cherishing his presence amongst the Judiciary which inspires trust and confidence to all the citizens of the World, the Prime Minister pointed out that the Judicial Conference is taking place at the beginning of the 3rd decade of the 21st Century.

The Prime Minister stressed that this is the decade of rapid changes not only in India but also the World. He said the changes are taking place in Social, Economic and Technological fields and that they should be based on logic, equitable justice. "Hence the topic of this conference, "Judiciary and The Changing World" is apt and significant", he said.

"The Conference is also happening at the same time when the country is celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi", he said.

Recalling how the Mahatma, refused his case a lawyer when had to pay commission to get it, the Prime Minister said that the Mahatma's belief in honesty and service were owing to his upbringing and his study of the Indian traditions and culture.

Shri Modi said that India's philosophy is based on the paradigm that "Law is King of Kings, Law is Supreme".

He said it is the belief in this philosophy made all the 130 Crore Indians accept in a calm and peaceful manner, the recent judgements of the Judiciary.

Quoting Dr B R Ambedkar that "Constitution is not a mere lawyer's document, it is a vehicle of life, and its spirit is always a spirit of age", Prime Minister said that this sentiment has been carried forward by the courts of our country and kept alive by our Legislature and Executive.

"Understanding each other's limitations, in the



midst of all the challenges, many times the three Pillars of the Constitution have found the right path for the country. In the last five years, different institutions of India have strengthened this tradition", he added.

The Prime Minister emphasized that about 1500 obsolete laws have been abolished in the country at a rapid pace and many new laws strengthening society have been enacted at the same pace.

Shri Modi expressed his happiness that the theme of 'Gender Just World' has been introduced in this conference. "No country in the world, no society can make full development without Gender Justice, nor can it claim justice," he said. PM listed the changes made by the Government for bringing about gender balance like the recruitment of daughters in military service, changes in the selection process of fighter pilots, and the freedom to work at night in the mines. He also highlighted that today, India is one of the few countries in the world that gives 26 weeks of Paid Leave to the country's working women.

Emphasizing the need for technology to deliver speedy justice, the Prime Minister said the government has made an effort to connect every court of the country to the e-court Integrated Mission Mode Project. "The establishment of National Judicial Data Grid will also make court procedures easier," he said. The synergy of artificial intelligence and human conscience will also give further impetus to judicial processes in India, he added. ■



BJP AND SAD COMMITTED FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF THE NDA: JP NADDA

After becoming the BJP National President Shri JP Nadda visited Punjab on 20 February, 2020. Shri Nadda landed at the Bathinda airport and got a grand welcome with flowers and the traditional bhangra from the Karyakartas.

He went to Muktsar village to meet Akali Dal patriarch and former CM Shri Parkash Singh Badal. When he reached Badal's village the natives extended a grand welcomed to Shri J P Nadda with the traditional bhangra. The BJP President met the former Punjab CM as a courtesy call and deliberated on strengthening the NDA in the state.

Coming out of the meeting, Shri Nadda told reporters that, "I had gone to the village to meet the veteran leader Shri Parkash Singh Badal Sahab, one of India's most respected statesman and it's a courtesy call. We have good relations with the Badals. Meeting with Badal Sahab always inspires us," he said.

Asked about the relations between the BJP and the SAD, he said, "BJP and SAD have old, important and strong alliance, we remained together in good and odd circumstances. BJP and SAD is committed for further strengthening of the NDA and we are committed for this cause."

He said, "A few days ago, I met with SAD president Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal. Alliance is very much strong and will remain intact in future too, Shri Nadda Said".

The BJP National President also went to Amritsar and being welcomed by the party workers during his visit. He paid obeisance at the Golden Temple, Durgiana Mandir and Ram Tirath. Later, he had a closed-door meeting with Punjab BJP leaders in Amritsar.

Shri Nadda was accompanied by BJP National Vice-President and party in-charge for Punjab Shri Prabhat Jha and other senior leaders of BJP. ■

PM-KISAN SCHEME: AN ASSESSMENT

- **Over 8 crore 46 lakh farmers covered under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi**
- **Central Government transfers Rs.6,000 in three tranches every year to beneficiaries**

The 1st anniversary of starting of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is 24th February, 2020. The scheme was started with a view to augment the income of the farmers by providing income support to all landholding farmers' families across the country, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs.

Under the Scheme an amount of Rs.6000/- per year is transferred in three 4-monthly installments of Rs.2000/- directly into the bank accounts of the farmers, subject to certain exclusion criteria relating to higher income status. The Scheme was formally launched on 24th February, 2019 by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at a grand function at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

The scheme is effective from 1.12.2018. The cut-off date for identification of beneficiaries with regard to their eligibility is 1.2.2019. The entire responsibility of identification of beneficiaries rests with the State / UT Governments. An exclusive web-portal www.pmkisan.gov.in has been launched for the Scheme. The financial benefits are released to the beneficiaries on the basis of the data of farmers prepared and uploaded by them on the PM-Kisan web-portal.

The Scheme initially provided income support to all Small and Marginal Farmers' families across the country, holding cultivable land upto 2 hectares. Its ambit was later expanded w.e.f. 01.06.2019 to cover all farmer families in the country irrespective of the size of their land holdings. Affluent farmers have been excluded from the scheme such as Income Tax payers in last assessment year, professionals like Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants etc and pensioners pensioners drawing at least Rs.10,000/- per month (excluding MTS/Class IV/Group D employees). Special provisions have been made for the North-Eastern States where land ownership rights are community based, Forest Dwellers and Jharkhand, which does not have updated land records and restrictions on transfer of land.

For enrollment, the farmer is required to approach



the local patwari / revenue officer / Nodal Officer (PM-Kisan) nominated by the State Government. Farmers can also do their self-registration through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Farmers can also edit their names in PM-Kisan database as per their Aadhaar database / card through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Farmers can also know the status of their payment through the Farmers Corner in the portal. Village-wise details of beneficiaries are also available on the Farmers Corner.

The Common Service Centres (CSCs) have also been authorized to do registration of the farmers for the Scheme upon payment of fees. The above facilities on Farmers Corner are also available through CSCs. The total number of beneficiaries expected to be covered under the Scheme is 14 crore on the basis of the Agriculture Census, 2015-16. Beneficiaries are entitled to their benefit from the 4-monthly period in which their name is registered by the State Nodal Officer (SNO) in the PM-Kisan Portal. The Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has also launched a 24x7 automated IVRS based helpline for status verification. Farmers can dial 1800-11-5526 or 155261 to know the status of their application. Besides, farmers can now reach out to the PM KISAN team on email pmkisan-ict@gov.in. State Governments are organizing camps periodically for the farmers to facilitate correction of application details. All installments falling due on or after 1st December, 2019 are being paid only on the basis of Aadhaar authenticated bank data of beneficiaries to ensure

BENEFICIARIES OF PM-KISAN AS ON 20-02-2020	
STATES/UTs	NUMBER OF FARMERS/FAMILIES
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	16,521
Andhra Pradesh	51,17,791
Bihar	53,60,396
Chandigarh	423
Chhattisgarh	18,80,822
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10,462
Daman and Diu	3,466
Delhi	12,896
Goa	7,248
Gujarat	48,75,048
Haryana	14,55,118
Himachal Pradesh	8,72,175
Jammu and Kashmir	9,34,299
Jharkhand	14,36,023
Karnataka	49,12,445
Kerala	27,73,306
Lakshdweep	-
Madhya Pradesh	55,19,575
Maharashtra	84,59,187
Odisha	36,28,657
Puducherry	9,736
Punjab	22,40,189
Rajasthan	52,04,520
Tamilnadu	35,34,527
Telangana	34,81,656
Uttar Pradesh	1,87,64,926
Uttarakhand	7,01,855
West Bengal	-
Total (1)	8,12,13,267

NORTH EAST STATES	
Arunachal Pradesh	50,823
Assam	27,04,200
Manipur	1,73,789
Meghalaya	70,236
Mizoram	67,540
Nagaland	1,70,334
Sikkim	1,372
Tripura	1,96,767
Total (2)	34,35,061
Grand Total (1+2)	8,46,48,328



genuine beneficiaries and avoid duplicacy in payments, except in respect of the States of Assam and Meghalaya besides the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh which are exempted from this requirement till 31.3.2020.

The Central Government has already released more than Rs. 50850 crores till now. Total number of beneficiaries to be covered under the scheme is about 14 crore, based on estimates of the Agriculture Census 2015-16. As on 20.02.2020, on the basis of the data of beneficiaries uploaded on the PM-Kisan web portal by the State/UT Governments 8.46 crores farmer families have been given the benefits. Statewise details are as given below:

A comprehensive Monitoring Mechanism has been put in place for effective implementation of the scheme. At the Centre a High Level Committee, comprising Union Ministers of Finance, Agriculture and Land Resources exists to make necessary modifications in the Scheme. A Review Committee at the National Level under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary with Secretaries of Department of Expenditure (DEA), Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Land Resources and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeITY) as members periodically reviews and monitors implementation of the scheme. The Central Project Monitoring Units (PMU) under JS-level CEO monitors implementation and publicity etc of the scheme. At the States/UTs level, Nodal Department and PMUs constantly monitor implementation of the scheme while there are State & District Level Monitoring Committees besides State and District Level Grievance Redressal Committees. ■



It's beginning of the next phase of sports movement in India: PM

PM INAUGURATES FIRST KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the first Khelo India University Games on 22 February in Odisha via video link. Addressing on the occasion, Prime Minister said that today is not just the beginning of a tournament but the beginning of the next phase of the sports movement in India. Here you are not only competing with each other, but also with yourself.

"I am connected with you through technology, but I can experience the atmosphere the enthusiasm, the passion and the energy there. The first Khelo India University Games in India's history are starting today in Odisha. This is a historic moment in India's sports history. It is also a big step for the future of India's sports", Prime Minister said.

Prime Minister added that Khelo India campaign has played an important role in increasing interest towards sports and recognition of young talent in every corner of the country. When the Khelo India Games started in the year 2018, 3500 players took part in it. But in just three years the number of players has almost doubled to more than 6 thousand.

"This year, Khelo India Schools Games has broken 80 records. Out of which 56 records have been in the names of our daughters, our daughters have won, our daughters have done wonders. The important thing is that the talent coming up under this campaign is not from the big city, but from small towns", Prime Minister said.

Prime Minister mentioned that since the past 5-6 years sincere efforts have been made for the promotion and participation of sports in India. Transparency is being promoted in identification of talent, training and selection process.

"These are the players who are likely to take part in the Tokyo Olympics. The players benefiting from this scheme have given more than 200 medals to the country in several sporting events such as Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, Asian Para Games, Youth Olympics. In the coming days, the goal is to win more than 200 Gold medals, and more importantly to improve your own performance and to give new heights to your own potential", Prime Minister said. ■



BJP IS SYNONYMOUS WITH DEVELOPMENT: JP NADDA

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 22 February, 2020 inaugurated, 11 new District Offices of the party across the State in Bihar through video conferencing and said all these new BJP offices are equipped with modern facilities. Speaking at the function he urged party Karyakartas in Bihar to spread the message that "BJP is synonymous with development".

Shri Nadda also asked Karyakartas to work towards ensuring the NDA's return to power in the assembly elections due later this year. The BJP National President called upon party workers to make use of technology at their disposal and explain to the people that "Bihar has the blessings of PM Shri Narendra Modi, who has provided assistance worth billions to the state and these have been effectively utilised on the ground through Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar".

Shri Nadda also asked party workers to dispel misinformation about the Modi government's measures such as abrogation of Article 370 provisions and making Triple Talaq a punishable offence. He said they should explain to the people that these decisive steps had brought happiness to residents of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir who were previously deprived of many rights and women who

were aggrieved by the practice of instant divorce.

Emphasizing the importance of political work Shri Nadda said, "Always do remember, politics is a serious full-time job where there is an entry point but no exit."

"Do not get swayed by concerns of individual benefits. Do remember that if the party thrives, the benefits will reach all," he added.

BJP President said that the BJP is the only outfit where the party is the family while for all others family is the party. He said, "Most of the political parties belong to "families" who propagate dynastic politics, while the BJP is the only party which does not do this. Here the party is the family and not the other way around".

Exhorting the party workers in Bihar to spread the message that the BJP is all for development Shri Nadda said, "BJP is unstoppable. May be for some time, some parties may gain prominence but it is the BJP's ideology which will emerge victorious ultimately."

Earlier, a large number of party workers, Office bearers and senior leaders gathered at the Patna airport to welcome Shri JP Nadda who arrived in the state for the first time after becoming the BJP National President. ■



NOBODY CAN REMOVE ARTICLE 371 FROM NORTH-EAST: AMIT SHAH

While addressing the gathering in Arunachal Pradesh on its 34th Statehood Day, Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said, “When Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took the decision of abrogating Article 370, rumours were spread in North-East that Article 371 will also be removed. But on statehood day of Arunachal and Mizoram, I want to assure you that nobody can remove Article 371 and nor it is anybody's intention.”

Shri Amit Shah also said that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, North-East is now connected with our heart and soul. “Before 2014, North-East was connected to India only geographically and through administration, but with Narendra Modi ji as Prime Minister, North-East is now connected with our heart and soul,” he further said.

Shri Amit Shah said at a public meeting at Indira Gandhi Park in state capital Itanagar on 20 February, 2020 that the Union government will not scrap Article

@AmitShah

Government under the leadership of PM @NarendraModi ji is focused on finding permanent solutions to the long pending issues of the Northeast region. By 2024 the entire region will become 'Samasya Mukta'. There will be no more disputes, but only a developed & prosperous Northeast.

371 of the Constitution, which accords special provision to most states in North-East to preserve their tribal culture.

Shri Shah had given the same assurance during his visit to Guwahati in September last year where he took part in a meeting of North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA).

“In the last 6 years, development in Arunachal Pradesh has seen fast pace due to collaborative efforts of the government at Centre led by Narendra



Modi and the state government headed by Pema Khandu,” Shri Shah said.

Union Home Minister launched the state's new industrial policy, inaugurated the Joram-Koloriang road constructed by Border Roads Organisation, laid foundation stones of the new police headquarters, housing complex for senior officers, a new truck terminal and flagged off sanitation vehicles.

He listed the development projects initiated by the Centre in northeast and specifically in Arunachal Pradesh in the past five years. He also listed the steps taken by the Khandu-led government. “Our government has sanctioned road construction projects worth more than Rs 50,000 crore in Arunachal Pradesh. An IIT campus in the state worth Rs 430 crores has also been sanctioned,” Shri Shah said.

In his speech, CM Shri Khandu thanked Shri Amit Shah for approving the Hollongi airport — foundation stone of which was laid by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi last year — and keeping the state

outside the purview of Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA).

“Despite completing 33 years of statehood, Arunachal Pradesh doesn't have a separate cadre for IAS and IPS. We need a dedicated team of bureaucrats as ours is a state full of challenges as well as potential,” Shri Khandu said.

Arunachal Pradesh became a full-fledged state on February 20, 1987. Till 1972, it was known as the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA). In 1972, it became a union territory and was named Arunachal Pradesh. Mizoram, another northeastern state, also gained statehood on the same day 34 years ago.

The event was attended by Governor Shri BD Mishra, Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu, Union Minister for Development of Northeast Region (DONER) Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju, Convener of North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA) Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma and Deputy CM Shri Chowna Mein. ■

NEW INDIA DOES NOT WANT TO FOLLOW THE OLD APPROACH: PM MODI

On 23rd February, PM Shri Narendra Modi in its 62nd edition of ‘Mann Ki Baat’ shared his experience of his recent visit to ‘Hunar Haat’ in Delhi. He said that nearly three lakh artisans have gained opportunities of employment through ‘Hunar Haat’. Here, we are publishing excerpts of the address for our esteemed readers.

My dear countrymen, I am fortunate to have got an opportunity once again to greet citizens from Kutch to Kohima, Kashmir to Kanyakumari; in fact across the length & breadth of the country. Namaskar to all of you. Reflecting on the expanse & diversity of our land, revering them fills each & every Indian with a sense of pride. And an opportunity to experience this varied diversity is one that touches the heart, filling it up with joy; it is a flower that radiates inspiration. A few days ago, at a small place at the Hunar Haat in Delhi, I witnessed hues of our country's diverse expanse, cultures, traditions, cuisines & the warmth of emotions. As a matter of fact the repertoire comprising traditional attires, handicrafts, carpets, utensils, Bamboo & brass products, Phulkari of Punjab, exotic leatherwork of Andhra Pradesh, beautiful paintings from Tamilnadu, brass products of Uttar Pradesh, Bhadohi carpets, copper work of Kutch, a number of musical instruments & innumerable stories; the vivid mosaic of pan- Indian art & culture was truly unique. The stories of the artisans' perseverance, zeal & love for their skill are equally inspiring as well. Listening to a divyang woman at the Hunar Haat was a source of fulfillment. She told me that earlier she used to sell paintings on the pavement. Her life changed after she connected with Hunar Haat.

Today, she is not only self-reliant; she has purchased a house too. At Hunar Haat, I got the opportunity to converse with many other artisans. I am told that over 50 per cent of the crafts persons participating at Hunar Haat are women.

An important piece of information connected with

Meghalaya drew my attention. Very recently, biologists have discovered a new species of fish whose habitat is within the caves of Meghalaya. It is believed that this fish is the largest among aquatic species found under the surface of caves. It lives in deep, dark underground caves, with little chance of light reaching in. Scientists are perplexed at the ability of this large fish to survive in such deep caves. It is a matter of joy that our India, and especially Meghalaya is home to a rare species.

It lends a new facet to India's biodiversity. We are surrounded by many such mysteries, which are still undiscovered. To discover such a phenomenal enigma calls for fierce detective passion.

The great Tamil poetess Avvaiyar writes: Kattat Kemaavoon Kalladaru Udgadvu, Kaddat Kamiyan Adva Kalladar Olaaadu.

Our biodiversity too is a unique treasure for the entire human kind. We have to preserve it, conserve it & explore further.

My dear countrymen, the beautiful valleys of Ladakh witnessed a momentous event on the 31st of January 2020, for History was made when an Indian Air Force AN-32 aircraft took off from Leh's Kushok Bakula Rimpoche Airport. A mixture of 10% Indian Bio-jet fuel was used in this flight and this was the first time that this mix was used in both engines. Not just that, but the airport from which this plane took off from Leh is not only one of the highest altitude airports in India but also in the world! Notably, the bio-jet fuel is prepared from non-edible tree borne oil. It is procured from various tribal areas of India. These efforts will not only reduce carbon emissions but may also reduce India's dependence on crude oil imports.



My dear countrymen, the entrepreneurship of women and daughters of our country, their courage, are a matter of pride for each one of us. We find many such examples around us which illustrate the manner in which our daughters are breaking age old shackles and attaining new heights. I would particularly like to share with you, the achievement of twelve-year-old daughter Kamyā Karthikeyan. Kamyā, at the age of just twelve years, has conquered Mount Aconcagua. This is the highest peak of the Andes Mountains in South America, which is about 7000 meters high. Every Indian will be touched by the fact that at the beginning of this month, when Kamyā conquered the peak, the first thing she did was to hoist our tricolour there. I have also been told that Kamyā, who has made the country proud, is now on a new mission, which is called 'Mission Saahas'. Under this she is trying to conquer the highest peaks of all the continents. Also, under this mission she will also be skiing on North and South poles.

I wish Kamyā all the best for 'Mission Saahas'. A Nation that is fit, will always be a nation that is a hit. By the way the oncoming months are very opportune for adventure sports. The geography of India is such that it provides many opportunities for adventure sports in our country. On the one hand, we have high mountains, on the other, there is a desert spread far and wide. Similarly on the one hand we have a network of dense forests, on the other, there is an infinite expanse of the sea. Therefore, I make a special appeal to all of you to visit the place of your choice, pick up the activity of your interest and ensure integrating of your life with adventure. Shouldn't there always be adventure in life? And on top of that friends, after knowing the success story of our twelve-year-old daughter Kamyā, you will be astonished, once you hear the success story of 105-year-old Bhagirathi Amma....

Our 105 year old Bhagirathi Amma, also gives us this inspiration. Now you would be wondering, who Bhagirathi Amma is! Bhagirathi Amma lives in Kollam in Kerala. She lost her mother when she was very young. Soon after her marriage at a young age, she lost her husband as well. But Bhagirathi Amma did not let go of her courage, did not lose her spirit. She had to quit school before she was 10-years-old. She restarted her school education at the age of 105! She started studying again! In spite of her advanced age,

Bhagirathi Amma wrote her level 4 exam...and then eagerly awaited her results. She scored 75 percent in her exams. Not just that, she scored cent per cent marks in Mathematics. Amma now wants to continue her studies; wants to appear for higher exams. It's obvious that people like Bhagirathi Amma are the strength of this country; a great source of inspiration for all of us. Today I specially salute Bhagirathi Amma.

Friends, our courage, our determination during adverse circumstances in life can help us completely alter the situation. Recently, I read one such story in the media, which I would surely like to share with you. This is the story of Salman who lives in Hamirpur village of Moradabad. Salman is divyang by birth. He is unable to stand on his feet. Despite this hardship, he hasn't lost hope, and decided to start his own business. On top of that, he resolved to help other divyang people too. And soon enough, Salman started manufacturing slippers and detergent in his village itself. And in no time, 30 divyang people joined him. Do also note, that while Salman himself found it difficult to walk, he decided to manufacture slippers, that help others walk easily. The important thing is that Salman trained his divyang colleagues himself. Now all of them jointly not only manufacture the products, but also market them. By dint of their hard work, they not only ensured employment for themselves, but also turned their venture into a profit-making one. Today, all of them together manufacture 150 pairs of slippers a day.

Not just that, this year Salman has resolved to provide employment to 100 more such divyang mates. I salute their courage and their enterprise. Recently the festival of Maha Shivaratri was celebrated throughout the country.

Friends, along with Mahashivaratri, now the splendour of spring will keep blooming day by day. In the coming days, we will celebrate Holi and soon after that, Gudi Padva will be celebrated. The festival of Navaraatri is also associated with spring. Ram Navami will also be celebrated. Festivals and celebrations are an inseparable part of the social fabric of our country. Every festival has a hidden social message which binds not just the society, but the entire country into a spirit of unity. After Holi, from the Chaitra Shukla Pratipada, the Indian Vikrami New year also begins. For that too, please accept my greetings in advance.

Many many thanks. Namaskaar. ■



PRIME MINISTER VISITS 'HUNAR HAAT'

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited "Hunar Haat" in New Delhi on 09 February, 2020. He visited the stalls of master artisans, craftsmen and culinary experts from across the country participating in Hunar Haat. More than 250 such stalls have been set up at India Gate lawns. Also, more than 50 percent of the artisans participating were women. The Prime Minister interacted with the participating artisans at the Haat and also witnessed the cultural programs.

"Hunar Haat" reflects the government's commitment to providing employment opportunities as well as preserving and promoting India's indigenous traditional legacy, several of which are on the verge of extinction.

The theme of this year's Hunar Haat is 'Kaushal ko Kaam'. About 3 lakh master artisans, craftsmen & culinary experts have been provided employment and employment opportunities through Hunar Haat in the last 3 years. These beneficiaries include a large number of women artisans.



Notworthy, there is a huge buzz on social media as Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi made a surprise visit to 'Hunar Haat' on Delhi's Rajpath, where he interacted with artisans and relished 'litti-chokha' and 'kulhad' tea. Taking to his Twitter handle, Shri Modi shared the photos of his surprise visit and tweeted, "Had tasty Litti Chokha for lunch along with a hot cup of tea... #HunarHaat". ■

YOGI GOVT PRESENTS RS 5.25 LAKH CRORE BUDGET WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON YOUTH AND WOMEN

RS 595 CRORE ALLOCATED TO ENHANCE TOURISM AND PILGRIMAGE IN AYODHYA

Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government on February 18 presented the Budget for the financial year 2020-21 in both the houses of UP assembly. A budget of 5.25 lakh crores has been approved by the council of ministers during the cabinet meeting. The budget was presented by UP's finance minister Shri Suresh Khanna. Presenting the budget in state assembly, Finance Minister Suresh Kumar Khanna said the state government was committed to give boost to tourism sector in the state by developing pilgrim centres and tourist spots.

To enhance tourism and pilgrimage in Ayodhya, the Uttar Pradesh government has allocated Rs 500 crore in its budget 2020-21 for the construction of an airport in the temple town.



An additional Rs 85 crore has been allocated for the development of tourist infrastructure facilities and another Rs 10 crore for the renovation of Tulsi Smarak Bhawan.

In the budget, a provision of Rs 783 crore has been made for the Prime Minister's Public Development Programme for Minority Welfare and Rs 479 crore has been allocated for madrasas and 'maktabs'.

Speaking on the budget, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said besides fulfilling the aspirations of the people, the state government had also respected the faith of the people by allocating funds for development of pilgrim centres. "Funds have been allocated for the construction of an international level airport in Ayodhya. The pilgrim centre there will have air connectivity with other cities in the country and the state," he added.

"Development of tourist and pilgrim centres will give thrust to the service sector in the state and pave the way for employment opportunity for the youth," Shri Yogi said.

Government has already announced construction of a bus station, water transport facility, digital museum, river front development and cobble stone pedestrian path in Ayodhya.

HIGHLIGHTS OF UP BUDGET 2020

MEDICAL BUDGET

- Rs 20 crores for Lucknow Civil Hospital
- Rs 12.50 crores for trauma centre
- Rs 919 crores for KGMU
- Rs 820 crores for SGPGI.
- Rs 187 crores for Cancer Institute in Lucknow
- Rs 477 crores for Ram Manohar Lohia hospital.
- Rs 70 crores for district hospitals
- Rs 50 crores for the betterment of rural CHC
- Rs 65 crores for CHC centres
- Rs 97 crores for Medical College in Azamgarh.
- Rs 30 crores for hospital establishment
- Rs 309 crores for Etawah Medical College
- Hospitals to be built in newly created districts
- Medical college proposed in Hardoi
- 122 crore allocated to provide police with the latest technologies
- Rs 650 crores for non-resident buildings of Police Department,
- Rs 600 crores for police colonies
- Rs 300 crores for the police department in newly created districts
- Rs 122 crores for police up-gradation
- Rs 97 crore for Safe City Lucknow scheme and 20 crores for UP Police Forensic University.

FOCUS ON RELIGIOUS PLACES

- 85 crores for the development of high-level facilities in Ayodhya for tourism
- 500 crores for Ayodhya Airport

- 10 crores for Tulsi memorial building
- 180 crores for the establishment of a cultural center in Varanasi
- Arrangement of 50 crores for promotion of tourism unit
- Arrangement of Rs 25 crore for water sports in Ramgarh Tal of Gorakhpur
- 200 crores given for Kashi Vishwanath temple
- Meerut, Ghaziabad, Firozabad, Ayodhya, Gorakhpur, Mathura-Vrindavan and Shahjahanpur will be developed as smart cities.

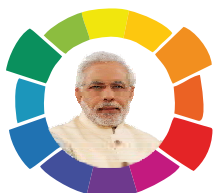
- Rs 60 crores for construction for Forensic Science Laboratory

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BUDGET

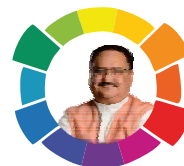
- Rs 270 crores to Atal Residential School
 - Rs 291 crores allocated for PM Matri Yojana
 - Rs 1500 Crore to State Road Fund
 - Rs 3524 crores for road maintenance
 - Rs 830 crores for the core road network
 - Rs 755 crores to the main district development
 - Rs 210 crores for Bundelkhand fund
 - Rs 3,300 crores allocated to provide water in Bundelkhand
 - Rs 2080 crore to the Central Road Scheme
 - Rs 2529 crore for the construction of bridges
 - Rs78.3 crores to PM Public Development Program
- This is the fourth budget of the Yogi Adityanath government of Uttar Pradesh, with a special focus on youth and women. ■

FOCUS ON YOUTH IN THE BUDGET

- Rs 1200 crores for youth
- New training centres will open for the unemployed people for skill development
- Proposal to open Law University in Prayagraj
- Improvement in ease of doing businesses
- Proposal to organise two investor summits in three years



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PM Shri Narendra Modi along with UP Governor Smt. Anandiben Patel, UP CM Yogi Adityanath and others flagging off the Mahakaal Express Linking 3 Jyotirling Centres i.e. Kashi, Mahakal & Omkareshwar



PM Shri Narendra Modi having the popular food of Bihar Litti-Chokha and interacting with participants during his visit to Hunar Haat, New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi handed over a Chaadar to be offered at Dargah Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Ajmer Sharif to the Union Minister for Minority Affairs, Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi and others in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi meeting members of International Judicial Conference in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi meeting the President of Portuguese Republic, Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, at Hyderabad House, in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi with the PM of Sri Lanka, Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa, at Hyderabad House, in New Delhi



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BOOSTING RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE

#JanJanKaBudget

- Setting up large solar power capacity along side rail tracks on land owned by railways
- More Tejas type trains to connect iconic tourist destinations
- High speed train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad to be actively pursued
- 148 km long Bengaluru Suburban Transport Project based on metro model fares
- Four station redevelopment and operation of 190 trains through PPP mode

TOWARDS DOUBLING FARMERS' INCOME

#JanJanKaBudget

I'M A SATPAL THIS IS MY BUDGET

- Agricultural credit target of ₹ 15 lakh cr by 2020-21. All eligible beneficiaries of PM-KISAN will be covered under the KCC scheme
- Financing on Negotiable Warehousing Receipts (e-NWR) to be integrated with e-NAM
- "Kisan Rail" and "Krihi-Udan" to be launched by Indian Railways and Ministry of Civil Aviation respectively for a seamless national supply chain for perishables
- Viability gap funding for creation of efficient warehouses on PPP mode. Village Storage scheme proposed to be run by the SHGs to provide farmers a good holding capacity and reduce their logistics cost
- Supporting states which adopt a cluster basis, to focus on "one product one district" for better marketing and export in horticultural sector
- Incentivising State governments who undertake implementation of model laws already issued by the Central government.




EMPOWERING MIDDLE CLASS

#JanJanKaBudget

- New optional tax regime proposed for Personal Income Tax to boost demand in the economy
- Date of loan sanction for availing the additional deduction of up to ₹1.5 lakhs for interest paid on loans taken for purchase of an affordable house extended by one more year
- Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) permitted to increase Deposit Insurance Coverage for a bank depositor from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh per depositor




BOOSTING FOREIGN INVESTMENT

#JanJanKaBudget

- 100% tax exemption to interest, dividend, and capital gains income in respect of investment made in infrastructure and other notified priority sectors, before 31st March, 2024 and with a minimum lock-in period of 3 years by the Sovereign Wealth Fund of foreign governments
- Extension of the period of concessional withholding rate of 5% under section 194LC for interest payment to non-residents in respect of moneys borrowed and bonds issued up to 30th June, 2023
- Extension of the period up to 30th June, 2023 for lower rate of withholding of 5% under section 194LD for interest payment to Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) and Qualified Foreign Investors (QFIs) in respect of bonds issued by Indian companies and government securities
- Extension of the concessional rate of withholding of 5% under section 194LD to the interest payment made on the Municipal Bonds
- Further reduction of the withholding rate from 5% to 4% on interest payment on the bonds listed on IFSC exchange