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PM AUTHORIZES KEY DECISIONS TO BOOST
AVAILABILITY OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL
TO FIGHT COVID-19



**'END POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN WEST BENGAL;
RE-ESTABLISH DEMOCRACY'**



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda protests at BJP state office at Hastings (Kolkata) against TMC sponsored post poll violence in West Bengal.



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda meets the family members of victim Sobha Rani Mandal in post poll violence at Rahuta, Jagatdal, North 24 Paraganas, West Bengal.



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda meets the post poll violence victim's family members in Gopalpur, Sonarpur North Assembly, West Bengal.



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda meeting and assuring all support to the family of Bengal violence victim Abhijit Sarkar at Sitala Tala Lane, Beliaghata Assembly, Kolkata in West Bengal.



Visuals of hardworking BJP Karyakartas of Chandigarh, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman-Diu who are making all efforts to help the needy under the 'Seva Hi Sangathan' program by distributing medicines, food, ration and other essentials during this Covid Pandemic.

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SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER



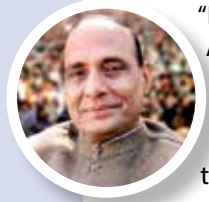
@narendramodi

"Reviewed various aspects of the COVID-19 response in the states and districts, including the ongoing vaccination drive and augmenting health capacities".



@JPNadda

"Protested against TMC sponsored post-poll violence at BJP office, Kolkata. Those who are supposed to protect the people are responsible for this violence. We take a vow to protect the Constitutional values laid down by Dr. BR. Ambedkar & stop this political violence from Bengal!"



@rajnathsingh

"Reviewed the efforts of MoD & the Armed Forces to support the civilian administration in India's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. I have asked the officials to closely monitor the progress of various initiatives undertaken by the Ministry".



@AmitShah

"A big decision to curb the oxygen crisis and help the people in need. I thank PM @narendramodi Ji for allocating funds to install 551 PSA Oxygen Generation Plants in public health facilities across the country through PM CARES".



@Nitin Gadkari

"There was a shortage of Remdesivir injection. Because of this, incidents of black marketing took place. Several people lost their lives as they have not received Remdesivir. So, Centre has decided to increase its production and it will be provided to people at government's price".




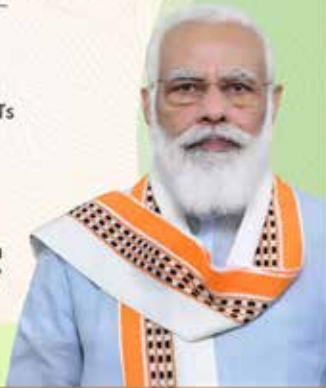
@bsanthosh

"When our National President Sri @JPNadda took to partition analogy to describe #BengalRiots many eyebrows were raised. But both are similar. Mass riots, targeting Hindu workers systematically, trying to instill fear in them, robbing them of their livelihood".


#IndiaFightsCorona

MODI GOVERNMENT ENSURING FREE FOOD SUPPLY TO NEEDY DURING SECOND COVID WAVE

Foodgrains being distributed under **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana - III**


5.88 LMT food grains supplied to 28 states/UTs for over 80 crore beneficiaries



The initiative has been re-started at an outlay of Rs 26,000 crore

Read full at bit.ly/war/daw3
Data till 3rd May*

www.facebook.com/indiafightscorona www.instagram.com/indiafightscorona www.twitter.com/indiafightscorona www.youtube.com/indiafightscorona



KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR

wishes a very happy

BUDDHA PURNIMA (26 MAY)

to all of its readers

DOOMSAYERS WILL BE DEFEATED, NATION WILL COME OUT VICTORIOUS

The violence in West Bengal by TMC goons in the wake of assembly election results is extremely unfortunate and highly condemnable. In West Bengal, selective targeting of BJP karyakartas and their families, arsoning of their houses and BJP offices, murder and rape speaks volumes of the culture of violence perpetrated by the Communists-Congress duo for decades and currently carried forward by the TMC hooligans. In any civilized society such incidents are highly deplorable and against the principles on which a democratic society rests. It is clear that the TMC does not believe in democratic culture and seeks to perpetrate its rule through brutal violence and use of naked force. As the people of West Bengal are watching these incidents of violence, and the entire country taking note of it, the BJP while acting as a responsible opposition will work tirelessly to realize the dreams of the 'Sonar Bangla' in the days to come.

The results of the assembly elections held to the five states have further strengthened the resolve of BJP to serve the people with full commitment and dedication. The people of Assam have blessed the BJP government again with their decisive mandate while in West Bengal BJP has become a formidable

opposition in the assembly for the first time. As Congress and Left failed to win even a single seat in West Bengal assembly, the manifold rise in BJP tally shows the heralding of an era of development and progress in the state. Now, it is certain that the politics of West Bengal is set to take a turn and BJP karyakartas will left no stone unturned in realising their dream of 'Sonar Bangla' in the coming days. The formation of NDA government in Puducherry further shows the faith of people in the programmes and policies of BJP. In Tamil Nadu and Kerala, DMK led front and LDF have formed the government respectively.

The second wave of Covid-19 pandemic is posing new challenges to people in many states. The scale of the second wave is so high that not only it has exceeded the limits of the existing medical infrastructure but also the requirements of doctors, nurses and other medical staffs are high. The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

has taken many decisions to boost availability of Covid-19 personnel to fight the pandemic. In a fire fighting mode, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi continuously spoke to chief ministers of affected states, concerned officials, experts and professionals of medical fraternity, leaders of industries and pharma sector and vaccine manufacturers to speed up the supply of oxygen, medical equipments and medicines while making arrangements so that more and more beds are available for the Covid-19 patients and spearheading the vaccination drive. In the meantime, the Prime Minister has also taken care of the poorer sections of the society by making food grains available to eighty crore people during the current wave.

While the entire nation is united in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic and many countries are extending helping hands to India, it is highly unfortunate to note that a section of opposition led by Congress is trying to break the morale of the people by resorting to false propaganda campaigns. The nation will never forget and forgive this handful of people who kept their political interests above the national interests and sought to reap political dividend out of the pandemic. The same group had resorted to same kind of mischievous campaign during the first wave of the pandemic with the aim of creating panic in the country. As they failed in their first attempt, so they are doomed to fail in this attempt also. The united spirit of nation cannot be defeated by spreading panic and negativity; it will further strengthen the will of the nation to tide over the crisis as before. The doomsayers will be defeated, the nation will come out victorious. ■

 shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org

**THE UNITED SPIRIT
OF NATION CANNOT
BE DEFEATED BY
SPREADING PANIC AND
NEGATIVITY; IT WILL
FURTHER STRENGTHEN
THE WILL OF THE
NATION TO TIDE OVER
THE CRISIS AS BEFORE.**

Assembly Election 2021 Results



THE ASSEMBLY ELECTION RESULTS FOR FOUR STATES; ASSAM, WEST BENGAL, TAMIL NADU, KERALA AND THE UNION TERRITORY OF PUDUCHERRY WERE ANNOUNCED ON 02 MAY, 2021. AS PER THE OUTCOME OF RESULTS, THE BJP LED NDA HAS REGISTERED A THUMPING VICTORY IN ASSAM AND FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME IN ASSAM'S HISTORY, A NON-CONGRESS GOVERNMENT HAS RETURNED TO POWER CONSECUTIVELY FOR THE SECOND TIME. THE RULING BJP-LED ALLIANCE EASILY WENT PAST THE HALFWAY MARK OF 64 SEATS AND GOT A TOTAL OF 75 SEATS IN THE 126-MEMBER HOUSE.

LIKewise, THE BJP HAS SCRIPTED A NEW HISTORY IN PUDUCHERRY TOO. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE BJP AND AINRC ALLIANCE HAS CAME TO POWER IN PUDUCHERRY BY WINNING A CONFORMABLE MAJORITY IN THE ASSEMBLY. AFTER KARNATAKA, THIS WILL BE THE SECOND STATE IN SOUTH INDIA WHERE THE NDA WILL FORM ITS GOVERNMENT.

IN WEST BENGAL, THE TMC HAS RETURNED TO POWER FOR THE THIRD TIME. HOWEVER, THE BJP HAS REGISTERED AN EXPONENTIAL GROWTH FROM MERE 3 SEATS IN 2016 TO 77 SEATS THIS TIME. THE DMK IN TAMIL NADU AND LDF IN KERALA HAVE REGISTERED VICTORIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE STATES DESPITE A STIFF OPPOSITION CHALLENGE.

ASSAM

BJP LED NDA BECOMES 1ST NON-CONGRESS GOVT TO WIN CONSECUTIVE TERMS IN ASSAM

In Assam's history, for the very first time a non-Congress government has returned to power following the 2021 Assembly election. The BJP-led NDA won consecutive second terms and retained power in the northeastern state. On the

day of result, the ruling alliance easily went past the halfway mark of 64 and got total 75 seats in the 126-member house.

As per the Election Commission data, the BJP won 60 seats, the same number it did in 2016, of the total 126 seats while its alliance partners Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and United Peoples Party Liberal (UPPL) won 9 and 6 seats respectively. A

Assam Result	
Party	Won
All India United Democratic Front	16
Asom Gana Parishad	9
Bharatiya Janata Party	60
Bodoland Peoples Front	4
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1
Independent	1
Indian National Congress	29
United People's Party, Liberal	6
Total	126

party or alliance needs 64 seats to form government in Assam.

On the other hand, Congress won 29 seats; while alliance partners All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) won 16, Bodoland Peoples' Front (BPF) won 4 and CPI (M) bagged 1 seat.

Key candidates from BJP, Chief Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal easily drubbed his Congress rival Rajib Lochan Pegu in Majuli, party senior leader and NEDA convener Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma won from his home constituency Jalukbari for a fifth straight time, BJP State President Shri Ranjeet Kumar Dass won in Patacharkuchi and Assembly Speaker Shri Hitendra Nath Goswami registered a thumping victory this time.

On the other hand, Congress State President Ripun Bora lost to BJP's Utpal Borah in the Gohpur seat and many other Congress leaders got humiliating defeat against BJP candidates.

Following the massive victory, Chief Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal in a statement said, "This election result is the testimony to the peoples' endorsement of the policies and performance of the government and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's principle of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas aur Sabka Vishwas'. The results also prove the party's popularity among the people".

After winning the Jalukbari constituency in Guwahati for the fifth consecutive term by more than one lakh votes, Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma while speaking to media persons said that the victory of the BJP is for the protection of culture, civilization and rapid development of the state.

Noteworthy, in 2016, BJP had won 60 seats and formed its first government in Assam with support

of AGP 14 seats and Bodoland Peoples Front (BPF), which bagged 12 seats. On the other hand, Congress had bagged 26 seats and AIUDF 13.

This time, Congress despite having an alliance of 10 parties didn't improve its performance and unable to challenge the BJP led NDA in the state. In 2016, Congress had secured nearly 31% votes but this time, the vote percentage of Congress slides to 29.7% votes while the BJP got over 33.2% of the total votes.

PM Shri Narendra Modi thanked the people of Assam for their blessings and in a twitter message said, "The people of Assam have again blessed the NDA's development agenda and the pro-people track record of our Government in the state. I thank the people of Assam for the blessings. I appreciate the hard work of NDA Karyakartas and their untiring efforts in serving the people".

PUDUCHERRY

AINRC-BJP ALLIANCE SWEEPS PUDUCHERRY ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Like Assam, the BJP has scripted a history in Puducherry too. For the first time, the BJP and AINRC alliance has swept in Puducherry by winning a conformable majority in the Assembly. After Karnataka, this will be the second state in South India where the NDA will form its government.

As per the Election Commission of India data, the AINRC had won 10 seats with 25.8 per cent votes while the ally Bharatiya Janata Party, which had no presence in the region until now, had secured six seats with 13.7 per cent votes.

Meanwhile, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) won six seats while its alliance partner, the

Puducherry Result	
Party	Won
All India N.R. Congress	10
Bharatiya Janata Party	6
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	6
Independent	6
Indian National Congress	2
Total	30

Congress, secured only two. Six independents were also declared winners.

The AINRC had contested in 16 seats and allotted nine seats to the BJP. There are a total of 30 assembly seats with an electorate of 10.03 lakh in the Union territory.

AINRC Chief and former Chief Minister Shri N Rangasamy triumphed in Thattanchavady constituency and wrested the seat from DMK. BJP leader Shri A Namassivayam also emerged victorious from Mannadipet constituency after defeating his DMK rival A Krishnan.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated All India NR Congress (AINRC) President N Rangasamy. In a twitter message, congratulating him PM Shri Narendra Modi said, "I would like to congratulate N Rangasamy Ji on taking oath as Puducherry CM. Best wishes for the tenure ahead".

WEST BENGAL

BJP MAKES SIGNIFICANT GAINS BY EMERGING AS A FORMIDABLE OPPOSITION IN BENGAL

The 2021 Assembly election results revealed that the BJP has registered its best performance in West Bengal so far. This election was politically the most polarized election the state has ever seen and it was also unprecedented in the history of West Bengal that only two major parties; the TMC and BJP won 290 seats out of the total 292 Assembly Constituencies of the state. Certainly, the BJP has failed to form the government in West Bengal but it has made significant gains by emerging as a formidable Opposition with 77 Assembly seats.

The major highlight of this election result was the defeat of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The TMC has returned to power for the third time but its

West Bengal Result	
Party	Won
All India Trinamool Congress	213
Bharatiya Janata Party	77
Independent	1
Rashtriya Secular Majlis Party	1
Total	292

supremo Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee lost her Nandigram seat to BJP rival Shri Suwendu Adhikari.

Another key point of this election was BJP's exponential growth. From mere three seats in 2016 the BJP has secured 77 seats this time with a vote share of 38.1 per cent and with BJP's emergence the bipolar polity in the state; from a TMC versus Left-Congress contest was also changed to a TMC versus BJP contest.

Curiously in 2016 elections, the Left-Congress alliance had won 77 seats and was defeated in 70 other seats by narrow margins of 150 to 4,000 votes. This election was also historic because the major political powers of the past like the Left parties and the Congress were completely lost the public support, decimated and wiped-out from the political scenario. They didn't even able to open their account this time in West Bengal.

PM CONGRATULATES MAMATA BANERJEE

Congratulating the TMC **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** in a twitter message said,

MAMATA LOSES NANDIGRAM AND CONCEDES DEFEAT

Bharatiya Janata Party candidate Shri Suwendu Adhikari after a day-long suspense and a nail-biting contest has finally defeated West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee from the Nandigram Assembly Constituency by a margin of 1956 votes.



Later, Mamata Banerjee conceded defeat in Nandigram.

When counting began on 02 May Shri Adhikari had taken the lead. After trailing for nearly 6 rounds, the TMC Chief managed to gain the lead for a while and at the end of the counting she trailed from Shri Adhikari by 1956 votes.

After victory Shri Adhikari said he is grateful to the people of Nandigram for choosing him as their representative and the MLA from the constituency.

Tamil Nadu Result	
Party	Won
All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	66
Bharatiya Janata Party	4
Communist Party of India	2
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	2
Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam	133
Indian National Congress	18
Pattali Makkal Katchi	5
Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi	4
Total	234

“Congratulations to Mamata Didi for @AITCofficial's win in West Bengal. The Centre will continue to extend all possible support to the West Bengal Government to fulfill people's aspirations and also to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic. @MamataOfficial”

In another tweet, the Prime Minister said, “I would like to thank my sisters and brothers of West Bengal who have blessed our party. From a negligible presence earlier, BJP's presence has significantly increased. BJP will keep serving the people. I applaud each and every Karyakarta (party worker) for their spirited effort in the polls.”

TAMIL NADU

BJP ENTERS IN TAMIL NADU ASSEMBLY & IMPROVES VOTE SHARE

Last time in 2016 the BJP didn't get any seat in Tamil Nadu Assembly election; however in 2021 elections it has secured four seats with an improved vote share of 2.62 per cent and entered in the Assembly. BJP National Mahila Morcha President Smt. Vanathi Srinivasan defeated actor turned politician and Makkal Needhi Maiam Chief Kamal Haasan on his poll debut in the Coimbatore South constituency in Tamil Nadu.

The Coimbatore South constituency, which gained huge attention from the day the candidates were announced, offered a nail-biting finish with BJP candidate Smt. Vanathi being declared winner.

This time, after being in the Opposition for

ten years since 2011, the DMK succeeded in wresting power in Tamil Nadu by scoring a win in the Assembly election. On the other hand, the AIADMK-led front that includes the BJP, the PMK, and the Tamil Manila Congress has won 75 Assembly constituencies.

PM CONGRATULATES MK STALIN

Congratulating MK Stalin **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi** in a twitter message said, “Congratulations to Thiru @mkstalin and @arivalayam for the victory in the Tamil Nadu assembly elections. We shall work together for enhancing national progress, fulfilling regional aspirations and defeating the COVID-19 pandemic”

Thanking the people of Tamil Nadu, PM Shri Modi said, “I would like to thank the people of Tamil Nadu who supported the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). I assure the people of Tamil Nadu that we will keep working towards the state's welfare and to further popularise the glorious Tamil culture. I applaud our Karyakartas for their hard work.”

KERALA

In Kerala, the electorate voted back the ruling LDF to power and leaving the leadership of Congress red-faced. The CPI(M)-led LDF won 99 out of the 140 seats and the Congress-led-UDF got just 41 seats. The BJP got 11.30 per cent votes but didn't get any seat this time.

PM CONGRATULATES PINARAYI VIJAYAN

Thanking the people of Kerala, **PM Shri Narendra Modi** said, “Gratitude to the people of Kerala who supported our party during these elections. I appreciate the efforts of our industrious party karyakartas, who will continue serving the people of the state and strengthen the party at the grassroots level.”

Congratulating CM Pinarayi Vijayan, **PM Shri Narendra Modi** tweeted, “I would like to congratulate Pinarayi Vijayan and the Left Democratic Front (LDF) for winning the Kerala Assembly elections. We will continue working together on a wide range of subjects and to ensure India mitigates the Covid-19 global pandemic.” ■

BJP PRESIDENT PROTESTS IN KOLKATA AGAINST TMC SPONSORED POST POLL VIOLENCE IN WEST BENGAL

VIOLENCE IN WEST BENGAL TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE: JP NADDA

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on 05 May, 2021 protested in the West Bengal BJP state office at Hastings in Kolkata against the large-scale violence by the Trinamool Congress party workers after assembly election results and to establish democratic ideals and principles in the state.

Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda along with other state leaders also visited Jagatdal where the goons of the Trinamool Congress party under the protection of the TMC government had killed Shobha Rani, the mother of the Bharatiya Janata Party booth president Kamal Mandal. The Bharatiya Janata Party National President spoke to the family members of Shobha Rani, offered his condolences and assured them that the BJP will ensure that all guilty people are punished severely.

Under the leadership of National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda all the elected BJP MLAs, all MPs, core committee members of the party and spokespersons also took oath to continue their struggle for the formation of 'Sonar Bangla', to end political violence in the state and to re-establish democracy and republic in West Bengal.

Addressing a press conference after the protest BJP National



President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said the people of West Bengal have strongly

THIS IS NOT ONLY AGAINST THE DEMOCRATIC IDEALS AND PRINCIPLES; IT IS ALSO INSULT TO THE RICH CULTURE AND ETHOS OF WEST BENGAL. THIS CANNOT IN ANY WAY REFLECT A PROGRESSIVE AND MATURE SOCIETY”.

Bengal have given the Bharatiya Janata Party responsibility to work as the main opposition party in the assembly and the state, we all will seriously take this responsibility as devoted workers of 'Sonar Bangla', and as citizens of India to fulfill our important duty of working as a constructive opposition.

He said, “Till now the Bharatiya

Party has strongly fought against political violence, appeasement and anarchy in West Bengal. We will not leave any stone unturned in our fight for 'Sonar Bangla' and will rest only after taking our fight to its logical end”.

He said, “What we saw during the last two days was mayhem, uncontrollable political violence that

engulfed entire West Bengal. This is not only against the democratic ideals and principles; it is also insult to the rich culture and ethos of West Bengal. This cannot in any way reflect a progressive and mature society”.

Shri Nadda said, “I went to the homes of our party members who were killed in the violence and met



their family members, I cannot narrate their sorrow and grief in words. We will take our fight to its logical end and will not rest till we ensure justice for our departed party leaders and workers”.

By following the principles laid down in our Constitution by Babasaheb Ambedkar ji and preserving our cultural and social

diversity. We will move forward towards growth and development and take West Bengal forward under the leadership and guidance of Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi by following the path of 'SabkaSaath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas', he added.

The BJP President said the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has taken several important and unique initiatives to bring West Bengal to the mainstream of development and progress. The Bharatiya Janata Party will act as a responsible and constructive

opposition party and help in progress, development and prosperity of West Bengal.

He said, “Today while taking oath, we want to tell the entire nation that whatever is happening in West Bengal today is totally unacceptable. The scenes which the nation saw during the Partition, it is being reflected again on the streets of West Bengal. Those who have the responsibility of providing peace and safety to the people West Bengal are themselves inciting violence”.

Shri Nadda said the Trinamool Congress party has won, its leader has the right to take the oath; but we also take a pledge that we will end political violence from West Bengal and work towards strengthening our democracy.



14 BJP WORKERS KILLED, THOUSANDS OF HOUSES RANSACKED AND LAKHS LEFT HOMES IN BENGAL POST-POLL VIOLENCE

West Bengal has reported several incidents of violence following results for Assembly elections were announced on 02 May, 2021. With the victory of

General Secretary Shri Kailash Vijayvargiya, who is the party's in-charge for the state, said four party workers have been killed and over 4,000 houses ransacked in incidents of post-

the brutal killings said that several BJP workers have been killed, many injured, women molested and raped in various parts of the state.

He said 80,000 to 1,00,000 people have left their houses and fled away to other states from different parts of West Bengal following the post poll violence. People in north Bengal districts have even fled to neighboring Assam to save their lives.

As per media reports, huge atrocities on BJP workers and destruction of villages also unleashed by TMC goons in Canning Purba constituency in South 24 Parganas district.

HOME MINISTRY SEEKS REPORT

The Home Ministry in a letter to the West Bengal Chief Secretary has asked him to submit a detailed report on the violence that broke out in parts of the state on 02 May, 2021 evening as trends and results from the Assembly election were pouring in.

“MHA has asked West Bengal Government for a report on the post election violence targeting opposition political workers in the state,” the Home Ministry Spokesperson tweeted. ■



Trinamool Congress, reports of attack on BJP offices and workers started pouring in from across the state. Vehicle of Shri Suvendu Adhikari, who defeated CM Mamata Banerjee was also attacked.

On the day of result only, four BJP Karyakartas were killed in the state in post-poll violence. In a tweet, BJP National

poll result violence”.

BJP National President during his visit to West Bengal and after visiting the houses of the victims of the violence confirmed that at least 14 BJP workers were killed and nearly one lakh people fled their homes in post-poll violence in West Bengal.

Shri JP Nadda condemning

BJP PRESIDENT MEETS FAMILIES OF BJP WORKERS KILLED IN POST-POLL VIOLENCE IN WEST BENGAL

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on 04 May, 2021 met the family members of the BJP workers killed in violence orchestrated by the Trinamool Congress party after its victory. He condoled the deaths of the BJP workers and ensured the affected families that the entire BJP was with them.

Starting his two – day visit to West Bengal on 04 May the Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda visited Gopalpur, Pratapnagar and Beliaghata and met the family members of the BJP workers who have lost their lives in the Trinamool Congress party sponsored violence after the election results in the state. He met the affected families and condoled the deaths of the party workers. Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda visited the mother of the party worker Shri Abhijeet Sarkar who was killed in the violence orchestrated by the Trinamool Congress workers and offered condolences on the death of her young son. He said the BJP will leave no stone unturned in ensuring justice for Shri Abhijeet Sarkar and ensure that his killers were brought to justice.

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President said the kind of violence and arson West Bengal has seen after the announcement of the results is unprecedented and has left everyone in the state and around the country worried. Such tales of gross violence and lawlessness in West Bengal we had heard during the times of Partition, but in Independent India no one has shown such intolerance after the declaration of the election results, India has never seen such large-scale violence and murders after the declaration of election results. Shri Nadda said the Bharatiya Janata Party is committed and firm on dealing with the large-scale violence and complete lawlessness sponsored and orchestrated by the Trinamool Congress party in a democratic manner. The sacrifices of the Bharatiya Janata Party workers will not go in vain. We will take our fight of ideology and rights of the people West Bengal to its logical end.

Those sitting in power cannot hear the cries and see tears of the mother of Shri Abhijeet Sarkar they are the ones who dare to mock such a mother who has lost her young son. They term her sorrow and tears as mockery,



stunt and acting and do not care for the rights and liberty of the people. Such people have no moral right to govern and be in power.

Mamata Banerjee does not reflect and represent the great ethos and culture of West Bengal. She is the epitome of intolerance. In West Bengal the kind of politics of violence and lawlessness that Mamata Banerjee plays has been carrying on in the state for ages now. The Bharatiya Janata Party will not at all tolerate the kind of politics of violence and lawlessness that the Trinamool Congress party does to remain in power in West Bengal. The kind of political repression that the people of West Bengal are facing every day is beyond tolerance level, it has crossed all limits, Shri Nadda said.

He said by grabbing the power in the state and then unleashing violence to demean and degrade the politics of the state is highly derogatory and unacceptable. This is not the culture of West Bengal. Can peace be brought in the state by indulging in acts of such gruesome violence? He asked. He said, “We will expose the bloodied politics of Mamata Banerjee and her Trinamool Congress party and we will awaken the people of West Bengal and tell them how she is going to rule the state for next five years. I want to tell each and every worker of the Bharatiya Janata Party that crores of their fellow BJP workers are firmly with them. We will fight it out in a democratic manner and ensure justice for all our workers”. Shri Nadda said, “All the Bharatiya Janata Party workers will leave no stone unturned to fulfill our mission of making West Bengal ‘Sonar Bangla’. We are highly committed towards conservation and promotion of the great culture and ethos of West Bengal and we will continue to do so always”. ■

'POST POLL VIOLENCE IS HIGHLY UNFORTUNATE, DEPLORABLE, A MATTER OF GRAVE CONCERN AND VERY SHAMEFUL'

Addressing a joint press conference on the Post-Poll Violence in West Bengal on 04 May, 2021 BJP National Spokesperson Dr. Sambit Patra and BJP leader Dr. Anirban Ganguly said the ongoing massive violence in West Bengal after the announcement of election result is surely a state-sponsored act of violence. People of West Bengal are being attacked and targeted for voting and electing BJP candidates on the behest of the ruling party. They said, "This is highly unfortunate, deplorable, a matter of grave concern and very shameful". Following is the salient points of joint press conference.

After the victory of the Trinamool Congress party entire West Bengal is up in flames. Under the patronage of the Mamata Banerjee government so many Bharatiya Janata Party workers have been targeted and killed. Houses



and shops of so many Bharatiya Janata Party workers and supporters have been ransacked and burnt. Several women have been targeted and treated in a very inhumane manner.

In a Democracy there is no place for such violence and ghastly acts. The Bharatiya Janata Party out rightly criticize and severely deplores such incidents of violence and killings in West Bengal and seeks immediate arrests of such goons and hooligans and stern penal action against them.

Under the leadership of Hon'ble National President of the Bharatiya Janata Party Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda ji the party is committed to ensure safety and security of each and every party worker and supporters of the Bharatiya Janata Party in West Bengal. None of the Bharatiya Janata Party worker of West Bengal needs to be afraid as our National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda ji will lead from the front and fight it out in West Bengal to ensure safety and security of

each and every party worker and supporter in the state.

In the middle of all the violence in West Bengal our Hon'ble National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda ji is reaching West Bengal on a two - day visit where he will meet the family members of the Bharatiya Janata Party workers who were killed and attacked by the Trinamool Congress party goons after the election results were declared. Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda ji will democratically protest against the state - sponsored violence that is going on in West Bengal.

In the just concluded assembly elections in West Bengal around 2.38 crore Bengali people have voted in favour of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Do these voters of West Bengal have no rights? Will they be targeted, attacked and killed just because they voted for the Bharatiya Janata Party and choose it as a strong alternative and a strong opposition in the state?

The brutal rape of women and





inhumane treatment of people is not the hallmark of any respected and civilized society and it's a big blot on the state. Mamata Didi, you call yourself Bengal's Daughter and Didi, but the women who are being raped and brutally attacked, are they not daughters and sisters of West Bengal. You should feel ashamed of yourself for such dastardly acts against women and people of West Bengal.

The act of gross violence and killings after the victory of the Trinamool Congress party is not just a coincidence but an experiment in West Bengal. In one of her election rallies Mamata Banerjee had herself said reflected upon the current acts of violence and said what would happen after the elections are over; she had said " what will happen after the Central forces withdrawal from West Bengal? We will be there and we will see then", thus directly threatening BJP workers and supporters.

The manner in which Mamata Banerjee has appealed for peace is itself an invitation to her party goons to incite more violence. In her appeal for peace Mamata Banerjee is fueling more trouble and violence in West Bengal. Mamata Banerjee is further dividing and fragment the civilized West Bengal society.

What was the fault of Shri Abhijeet Sarkar of Belaghat that he was brutally killed? Just before his murder he did a Facebook Live where he told how the goons of the Trinamool Congress party were hurling crude bombs at his home and office and were attacking him. His only fault was that he was a loyal worker of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Smt. Shova Rani Mondal of Jagdaal was brutally murdered because she was the mother of a Bharatiya Janata Party booth worker. BJP worker Shri Uttam

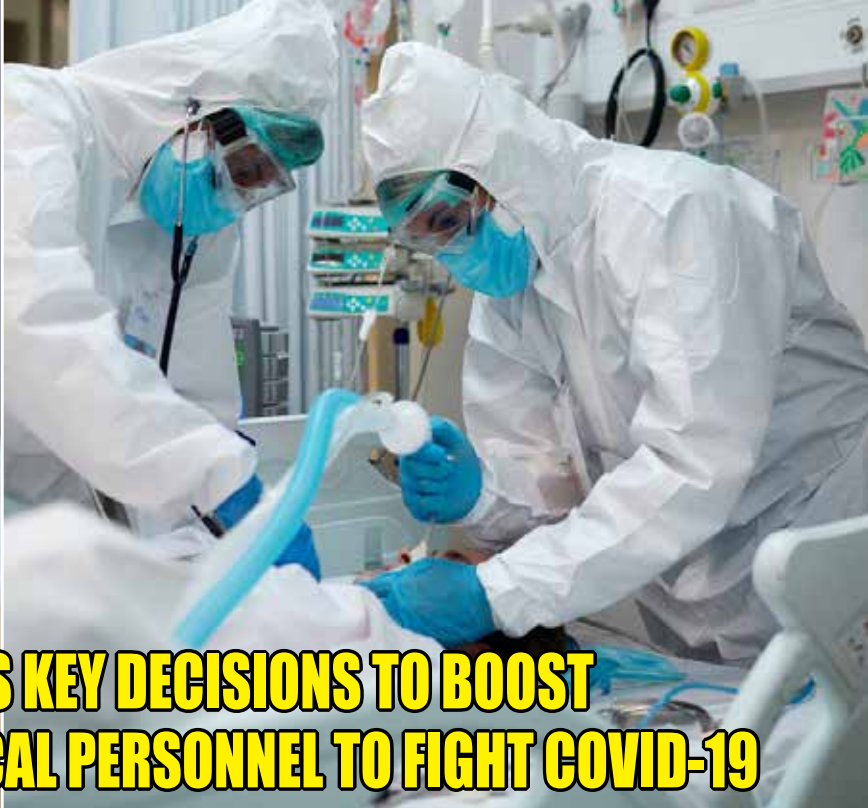
Ghosh from Ranaghat was also brutally hacked to death. Shri Horom Adhikari from Sonarpur South was also killed by the Trinamool Congress party goons. Similarly, the Bharatiya Janata Party workers Shri Momik Moitra from Sitalkuchi and Shri Gourab Sarkar from Bolpur were brutally killed under the patronage of the Trinamool Congress government in the state. There are reports of killings of several other party workers across West Bengal in post poll violence by the Trinamool Congress party goons.

We have seen in the past that if anything happens in any part of the state Mamata Banerjee immediately sends a delegation to play her petty politics, why has she failed to send delegation to violence - hit parts of West Bengal where the Bharatiya Janata Party workers and supporters are being targeted

Rahul Gandhi, your party workers are also dying in West Bengal, but you never tweet against it. Your leader in West Bengal Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and your hapless NSUI workers are pleading for your help to save lives of your party workers but you never respond.

In a Democracy violence is not an issue of a single party but it is a matter of entire humanity. In such matters all political parties should come together and should strongly raise their voice against the politics of violence.

It is due to the hard work of the great workers of the Bharatiya Janata Party in West Bengal that today the BJP is established as the main opposition party in the state. Today we take a pledge that the Bharatiya Janata Party will always firmly stand with the party workers and the people of West Bengal and take all steps to ensure their safety and security. ■



PM AUTHORISES KEY DECISIONS TO BOOST AVAILABILITY OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO FIGHT COVID-19

The Prime Minister reviewed the growing need of adequate human resources for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in the country on May 03, 2021. Many important decisions were taken which will significantly boost availability of medical personnel in Covid duty.

A decision was taken to postpone NEET-PG for at least 4 months & the exam will not be held before 31st August 2021. Students will also be given at least one month of time after announcement of exam before it is conducted. This will make a large number of qualified doctors available for Covid duties.

It was also decided to allow deployment of Medical Interns in Covid Management duties under the supervision of their faculty, as part of the Internship rotation. The services of Final Year MBBS students can be utilized for providing services like tele-consultation and monitoring of mild Covid cases after due orientation by and under supervision of Faculty. This will reduce the workload on existing doctors engaged in Covid duty and provide boost to efforts of triaging.

The services of Final Year PG Students (broad as well as super-specialities) as residents may continue to be utilized until fresh batches of PG Students have joined.

B.Sc./GNM Qualified Nurses may be utilized in full-time Covid nursing duties under the supervision of Senior Doctors and Nurses.

The individuals providing services in Covid

management will be given priority in forthcoming regular Government recruitments after they complete minimum of 100 days of Covid duty.

The medical students/professionals sought to be engaged in Covid related work will be suitably vaccinated. All Health professionals thus engaged will be covered under the Insurance Scheme of Government for health workers engaged in fighting Covid 19.

All such professionals who sign up for minimum 100 days of Covid duty and complete it successfully will also be given the Prime Minister's Distinguished Covid National Service Samman from Government of India.

Doctors, nurses and allied professionals form the backbone of Covid management and are also the frontline personnel. Their presence in adequate strength is critical to address the needs of the patients well. The stellar work and deep commitment of the medical community was taken note of.

The Central Government had issued guidelines on 16th June 2020 to facilitate engagement of Doctors/Nurses for Covid duties. A special Rs. 15,000 crore Public Health Emergency Support was provided by the Central Government to ramp up facilities and human resources for Covid management. Engaging personnel through the National Health Mission, an additional 2206 specialists, 4685 medical officers and 25,593 staff nurses were recruited through this process.

FULL DETAILS OF THE KEY DECISIONS WERE TAKEN:**A. RELAXATION/FACILITATION/EXTENSION:**

- Postponement of NEET-PG for at least 4 months: Considering the current situation in the wake of resurgence of COVID – 19, NEET (PG) – 2021 has been postponed. This Exam will not be held before 31st August 2021. At least one-month time will be given after the announcement of the Examination before it is conducted.
- The State/UT Governments are to make all efforts to reach out to each such prospective NEET candidates and request them to join the Covid – 19 workforce in this hour of need. The services of these MBBS doctors can be utilized in the management of COVID – 19.
- The State/UT Governments may now also deploy Medical Interns in Covid Management duties under the supervision of their faculty, as part of the Internship rotation. The services of Final Year MBBS students can be utilized for providing services like tele-consultation and monitoring of mild Covid cases after due orientation by and under supervision of Faculty.
- Continuation of services of Final year PGs: The services of Final Year PG Students (broad as well as super-specialities) as residents may continue to be utilized until fresh batches of PG Students have joined. Likewise, the services of the senior residents / registrars may continue to be utilized until new recruitments are made.
- Nursing personnel: B.Sc./GNM Qualified Nurses may be utilized in full-time Covid nursing duties in ICU, etc., under the supervision of Senior Doctors and Nurses. M.Sc. Nursing students, Post basic B.Sc. (N) and Post basic Diploma nursing students are Registered Nursing Officers and their services can be utilized to take care of COVID- 19 patients as per the Hospital protocols/policies.
- Final Year GNM or B.Sc. (Nursing) students awaiting Final Exam may also be given full time Covid Nursing duties at various Government/ Private facilities under the supervision of Senior

**THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
HAD ISSUED GUIDELINES ON
16TH JUNE 2020 TO FACILITATE
ENGAGEMENT OF DOCTORS/
NURSES FOR COVID DUTIES.**

Faculty.

- The services of Allied Health Care professionals may be utilized for assistance in Covid Management, based on their training and certification.
 - The additional human resource thus mobilized will be used only in facilities managing Covid.
- B. INCENTIVES/ RECOGNITION OF SERVICE**
- The individuals providing services in Covid management will be given priority in forthcoming regular Government recruitments after they complete minimum of 100 days of Covid duty.
 - The National Health Mission (NHM) norm for contractual human resource engagement by States/UTs may be considered for implementation of the above proposed initiative for engaging the additional manpower. Flexibility will be available with States to decide on remuneration as in NHM norms. A suitable honorarium for distinguished Covid Service may also be considered
 - The medical students/professionals sought to be engaged in Covid related work will be suitably vaccinated. All Health professionals thus engaged will be covered under the Insurance Scheme of Government for health workers engaged in fighting Covid 19.
 - All such professionals who sign up for minimum 100 days of Covid duty and complete it successfully will also be given the Prime Minister's Distinguished Covid National Service Samman from Government of India.
 - State Governments can make available additional health professionals engaged through this process to private Covid Hospitals as well in surge areas.
 - The vacant posts of doctors, nurses, allied professionals and other healthcare staff in Health and Medical departments be filled through accelerated processes within 45 days through contractual appointments, based on NHM norms.
 - The States/ UTs have been requested to consider the above incentives to maximise manpower availability. ■



COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEET TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION OF COVID PANDEMIC

The Union Council of Ministers met on April 30, 2021 to discuss the situation arising out of the second wave of COVID in the country. The Council of Ministers meeting noted that the present pandemic crisis is 'once in a century crisis' and has thrown a big challenge for the world.

Government of India's Team India approach to fight COVID, based on the collective efforts of the Centre, State Governments and people of India was highlighted.

PM Shri Narendra Modi said that all arms of the Government are working unitedly & rapidly to deal with the situation. He also urged the Ministers to stay in touch with people of their respective regions, help them and keep getting their feedback. He stressed upon the need to ensure that issues at the local level are promptly identified and addressed.

The Council also reviewed all the efforts made in the last 14 months by the Central and State Governments and the people of India.

The efforts by the Central Government in coordination with the states towards building up infrastructure in the form of ramping up hospital beds, PSA oxygen facilities etc, resolving issues in production, storage & transport of Oxygen, tackling matters relating to availability of

essential medicines were briefed. The measures being taken to further ramp up their supply and availability were also pointed out. The support measures to the vulnerable population in the form of provision of food-grains and financial support to Jan Dhan account holders were also pointed out.

It was also noted that India could successfully produce two vaccines and there are many candidates at the various stages of approval and induction. More than 15 crore vaccinations have been done as on date.

The council of Ministers also stressed the importance of Covid appropriate behavior—wearing a mask, keeping

physical distance of 6 feet and washing hands frequently.

The Council reiterated that the participation of society is a key aspect to accomplish the gigantic task ahead and expressed confidence that the country will rise to the occasion and defeat the virus.

The meeting, held through video conferencing, was chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi & attended by Ministers as well Principal Secretary to PM, Cabinet Secretary. Member (Health) NITI Aayog Dr. V.K.Paul made a presentation on Management of Covid-19 pandemic. ■

THE IMPORTANCE OF COVID APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR—WEARING A MASK, KEEPING PHYSICAL DISTANCE OF 6 FEET AND WASHING HANDS FREQUENTLY.

PM REVIEWS COVID RELATED SITUATION IN A MEETING WITH EMPOWERED GROUPS

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired a meeting to review the functioning of different empowered groups through video conference on April 30, 2021.

The Empowered Group on Economic and Welfare measures made a presentation to PM on steps taken such as extension of PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana. It was discussed that portability enabled due to One Nation One Ration Card initiative has helped to benefit more people. Insurance scheme for frontline health workers has been extended for another 6 months.

PM Shri Modi directed Central Government should work in close co-ordination with the states to ensure that the poor get the benefits of free food-grain without any issues. The PM also said that steps should be taken to expedite the settlement of pending Insurance claims so that the dependents of the deceased are able to avail of benefits in time.

The Empowered Group on issues relating to facilitating supply chain & logistics management gave a presentation on various advisories relating to measures to be taken to contain the pandemic. PM instructed officials to plan holistically to ensure seamless movement of goods so that supply chain disruptions are avoided.

The Empowered Group on coordinating with private sector, NGOs & International Organizations



briefed the PM on how Government is working in active partnership with private sector, NGOs & International Organisations.

Shri Narendra Modi asked the officials to explore how volunteers from civil society can be utilized to lessen the pressure on healthcare sector by invoking them in non-specialized tasks. It was discussed that NGOs could help to establish and maintain lines of communication between the patients, their dependents & health care personnel. Ex Servicemen could be encouraged to handle call centers for communicating with people under home quarantine. ■

PM MODI AND PRESIDENT OF EUROPEAN COMMISSION EXCHANGE VIEWS ON COVID-19 SITUATION IN INDIA

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a phone call with Her Excellency Ursula Von Der Leyen, President of the European Commission on May 03, 2021. The two leaders exchanged views on the prevailing COVID-19 situation in India, the EU and India's ongoing efforts to contain the second wave of COVID-19.

Prime Minister Shri Modi expressed his appreciation of the EU and its Member States for mobilizing quick support for India's fight against the second wave of COVID-19.

They noted that the India-EU Strategic Partnership was witnessing a renewed momentum since the last Summit in July. The leaders agreed that the forthcoming India-EU Leaders' Meeting on 8 May, 2021 in virtual format was an important opportunity to provide renewed momentum to the already multi-faceted India-EU relationship.

The India-EU Leaders' Meeting will be the first meeting in the EU+27 format and reflects the shared ambition of both sides for further strengthening the India-EU Strategic Partnership. ■

PM MODI REVIEWS PROGRESS OF CONVERTING NITROGEN PLANTS TO OXYGEN PLANTS

Considering the requirement of medical oxygen amidst the COVID-19 pandemic situation, the Government of India explored the feasibility of conversion of existing nitrogen plants to produce oxygen. Various such potential industries, wherein existing nitrogen plants may be spared for production of oxygen were identified.



The process of converting the existing Pressure Swing Absorption (PSA) nitrogen plants for production of oxygen was discussed. In the nitrogen plants Carbon Molecular Sieve (CMS) is used whereas Zeolite Molecular Sieve (ZMS) is required for producing oxygen. Therefore, by replacing CMS with ZMS and carrying out few other changes such as oxygen analyzer, control panel system, flow valves etc. existing nitrogen plants can be modified to produce oxygen.

On deliberation with the industries, so far 14 industries have been identified where conversion of plants is under progress. Further 37 Nitrogen plants have been also identified with the help of industry associations.

A nitrogen plant modified for the production of oxygen can be either shifted to a nearby hospital or, in case it is not feasible to shift the plant, it can be used for on-site production of oxygen, which can be transported to hospital through specialized vessels/cylinders.

Principal Secretary to PM, Cabinet Secretary, Home Secretary, Secretary Road Transport & Highways & other senior officials participated in the meeting. ■

NAVY CHIEF BRIEFS PM MODI ABOUT RELIEF EFFORTS, OXYGEN OPERATION

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh called on PM Shri Narendra Modi on May 03, 2021. He briefed the PM about various initiatives being taken by the Indian Navy to assist the countrymen in the pandemic.



The Chief of Naval Staff informed PM Shri Modi that the Indian Navy has reached out to all state administrations and have offered help in terms of hospital beds, transportation and other such things. He apprised the PM about Naval hospitals being opened for use of civilians in various cities.

He also informed the PM that medical personnel in the Navy have been redeployed at various locations in the country to manage Covid duties. Naval Personnel as being provided Battle Field Nursing Assistant Training to be deployed in Covid duties.

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh briefed Shri Narendra Modi that the Navy is helping increase oxygen availability in Lakshadweep as well as Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

He also apprised PM that the Indian Navy is transporting Oxygen Containers as well as other supplies from Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait & Singapore to India. ■



'GASEOUS OXYGEN TO BE USED FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES'

In line with his direction of exploring innovative ways to ramp up supply and availability of oxygen, PM Shri Narendra Modi May 02, 2021 chaired a meeting to review the usage of gaseous oxygen.

Many industries like Steel plants, refineries with petrochemical units, industries using rich combustion process, power plants etc have oxygen plants which produce gaseous oxygen which is used in the process. This oxygen can be tapped for medical use.

The strategy being used is to identify industrial units which produce gaseous oxygen of requisite purity, shortlist those which are closer to cities/dense areas/demand centers and establish temporary Covid care centers with oxygenated beds near that source. A pilot for 5 such facilities had already been initiated and there is good progress on this. This is being accomplished through PSUs or private industries operating the plant & co-ordination of centre & state governments.

It is expected that around 10,000 oxygenated beds can be made available in a short period of time by making temporary hospitals near such plants.

State governments are being encouraged to set up more such facilities with oxygenated beds to deal with the pandemic.

PM also reviewed progress on setting up of PSA plants. He was informed that around 1500 PSA plants are in the process of being set up through contribution of PM CARES, PSUs and others. He directed officials to ensure speedy completion of these plants.

Principal Secretary to PM, Cabinet Secretary, Home Secretary, Secretary Road Transport & Highways & other senior officials participated in the meeting.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Gaseous oxygen to be used for medical purposes.
- Temporary hospitals are being set up adjacent to plants with availability of Gaseous Oxygen.
- Around 10,000 oxygenated beds to be made available through this initiative.
- State governments being encouraged to set up more such facilities.
- 1500 PSA oxygen generation plants are in the process of being set up. ■

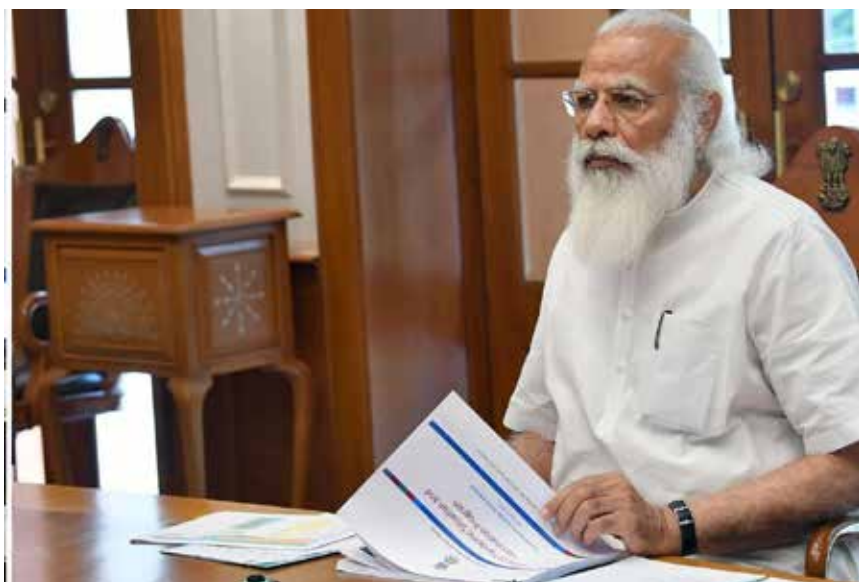
PM MODI REVIEWS INDIA'S VACCINE DRIVE

PM Shri Narendra Modi 06 May, 2021 undertook a comprehensive review of the Covid-19 related situation in the country. He was given a detailed picture on the Covid outbreak in various states and districts. He was informed about the 12 states which have more than 1 lakh active cases. PM was also apprised about the districts with high disease burden.

PM was briefed about the ramping up of healthcare infrastructure by the states. He directed that states should be given help & guidance about leading indicators to ramp up healthcare infrastructure.

The need to ensure quick & holistic containment measures were also discussed. PM noted that an advisory was sent to the states to identify districts of concern where Case positivity is 10% or more & Bed occupancy is more than 60% on either oxygen supported or ICU beds.

Shri Modi also reviewed the availability of medicines. He was briefed about the rapid augmenting of production of medicines



including Remdesivir.

The PM reviewed the progress on vaccination & the roadmap for scaling up production on vaccines in the next few months. He was informed that around 17.7 crore vaccines have been supplied to the states. He also reviewed the state wise trends on vaccine wastage.

PM was briefed that around 31% of eligible population over the age of 45 has been given at least one dose. Shri Modi spoke about

the need to sensitize states that the speed of vaccination doesn't come down. Citizens should be facilitated for vaccination despite lockdowns and healthcare workers involved in vaccination must not be diverted for other duties.

Union Ministers Shri Rajnath Singh, Shri Amit Shah, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Shri Piyush Goyal, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, other ministers and top officials were present in the meeting. ■

OXYGEN EXPRESSES DELIVER MORE THAN 2511 MT LMO IN 161 TANKERS TO DIFFERENT STATES

Overcoming all hurdles and finding new solutions, Indian Railways is continuing its journey of bringing relief by delivering Liquid Medical Oxygen(LMO) to various states across the country. As of 06 May, 2021 Indian Railways has delivered 2511MT (approx) of LMO in 161 tankers to various states across the country.

40 Oxygen Expresses have already completed their journey so far. It is Indian Railways endeavour to deliver as much LMO as possible in the shortest time possible to the requesting states.

Till date 174 MT has offloaded in Maharashtra, 689 MT in UP, 190 MT in MP, 259 MT in Haryana, 123 MT in Telangana and 1053MT in Delhi.

Presently 22 tankers are on the run with more than 400 tonnes of LMO which are expected to arrive in MP, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi. Running of new Oxygen is a very dynamic exercise and figures keep getting updated all the time. ■

BY-ELECTION RESULTS: BJP WON ONE PARLIAMENTARY & FIVE ASSEMBLY SEATS

The results of by-elections held in the Parliamentary constituency of Malappuram (Kerala), Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) and Belgaum (Karnataka) and 13 Assembly seats in different states were out on 02 May, 2021.

BJP won the Belgaum parliamentary constituency in Karnataka and five Assembly seats. Shri Angadi Mangal Suresh of BJP beat Satish Laxmanrao Jarkiholi of Congress by 5240 votes in Belgaum, Karnataka.

Likewise, the five Assembly seats BJP candidates won are Morva Hadaf (Gujarat), Basavakalyan & Maski (Karnataka), Pandharpur (Maharashtra) and Salt (Uttarakhand). ■

PM MODI SPEAKS TO MCANIPUR, SIKKIM, TRIPURA CMS ON COVID SITUATION

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 07 May, 2021 spoke to the Chief Ministers of Manipur, Sikkim and Tripura on the COVID-19 situation in their states, government sources said. Modi had on Thursday spoken to the chief ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand and Telangana besides the lieutenant governors of Jammu & Kashmir and Puducherry in this regard.



The prime minister's interaction with chief ministers is part of his exercise to deal with the pandemic situation. With a record 4,14,188 new coronavirus cases being reported in a day, India's infection tally climbed to 2,14,91,598, while the active case count crossed the 36-lakh mark, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Friday. The death toll from the pandemic has increased to 2,34,083 with 3,915 fatalities being reported in a span of 24 hours, the data updated at 8 am showed. ■

INDIAN ARMY ESTABLISHES COVID MANAGEMENT CELL TO COORDINATE ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL AUTHORITY



T he Indian Army has been at the forefront of COVID response at the national level. As per a release on 06 May, 2021 the Army has ensured own force preservation, medical care to veterans and their dependents, it has also deployed considerable medical resources to assist civil authorities especially at the five COVID hospitals already functional or in the process of being established at Delhi, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Varanasi and Patna.

In order to coordinate multiple facets of staffing and logistics support, an exclusive COVID Management Cell under a Director General rank officer has been established which reports directly to the Vice Chief of Army Staff. This will bring in greater efficiency in coordinating real time responses to address exponential rise in COVID cases across the country including Delhi where assistance to civil administration in the form of testing, admissions in military hospitals and transportation of critical medical equipment etc are already being provided.

Indian Army remains committed to support the National efforts in fighting the COVID pandemic. ■

UNION GOVT TO PROVIDE FREE FOOD TO 800 MILLION IN MAY & JUNE

The union government will provide 5 kilogram of free food grains to millions of poor covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013, due to economic disruptions caused by the Covid-19 outbreak in the country for the months of May and June under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana.

This will be over and above NFSA food grains for next two months i.e. May and June 2021 on the same pattern as the earlier 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana' (PM-GKAY), it added on 23 April, 2021. Under this special scheme (PMGKAY), around 80 Crore NFSA beneficiaries covered under both categories of NFSA, namely Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Householders (PHH), will be provided with an additional quota of free-of-cost food grains (Rice/Wheat) at a scale of 5 Kg per person per month, over

and above their regular monthly entitlements under NFSA. Government of India will bear all expenditure of over ₹26,000 Crore on account of food subsidy and Central assistance to states/UTs on account of intrastate transportation etc, it added.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi stressed that it is important that the poor of the country have nutritional support when the country is facing the second wave of corona virus pandemic.

The free food grains distribution scheme under the Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana was extended in June for five months till November 2020 with an additional estimated outlay of ₹90,000 crore. The extension of the scheme was announced by the Prime Minister last year when the country was entering the 'unlock' phase from the nationwide lockdown imposed to curtail the spread of the corona virus disease (Covid-19) and to



support the poor affected by the halt in the economic activities.

The scheme has been rolled out again for the next two months as the country's healthcare infrastructure has reached its capacity and several states have taken steps like complete lockdown, night curfew to contain the spread of the disease. The scheme comes as such measures affecting the economic activities of the country and the pandemic will cause a huge burden on the poor of the country. ■

RAILWAYS DEPLOY 4,000 COACHES WITH 64,000 BEDS FOR COVID PATIENTS

Strengthening the capabilities of the nation in the united fight against Covid, the ministry of railways has, amongst its multi-pronged initiatives, deployed nearly 4,000 isolation coaches with almost 64,000 beds. To work concurrently with the states and in a bid to reach out as swiftly as possible, the Railway has drawn a de-centralized plan of action empowering Zones and Divisions to work out their Memorandum of Agreement for cohesive action. These Isolation Coaches can be easily moved and positioned at places of demand on the Indian Railways network.

Accordingly, as per states' demand, at present 213 coaches have been handed over to various states for

Covid care with a bed capacity of nearly 3,400 beds. Isolation Coaches are presently utilised at Delhi, Maharashtra (Ajni ICD, Nandrubar), Madhya Pradesh (Tihi near Indore).

"The latest demand came from the State Government of Nagaland Isolation Coaches. Accordingly, the Railway worked swiftly to deploy 10 Isolation Coaches at Dimapur", read an official release by the Ministry.

The Railways has also positioned 50 coaches at major cities of Uttar Pradesh like Faizabad, Bhadohi, Varanasi, Bareilly and Nazibabad. As per district authorities demand, Isolation Coaches are being shifted from Nandrubar to Palghar. Isolation Coaches are also being deployed for Jabalpur. ■

GST COLLECTION SETS NEW RECORD HIGH AT RS 1.41 TRILLION IN APRIL

The goods and services tax (GST) collections touched a record high at Rs 1.41 trillion in April, surpassing the Rs. one trillion mark for the seventh straight month in a row during 2020-21. The mop up is higher than the previous record of Rs 1.24 trillion in March. These GST figures pertain to transactions in March, but collected in April. Hence, do not capture the impact of surge in lockdown instances in April across the country due to the deadlier second wave of Corona virus. However, the high growth trend is unlikely to sustain as the impact of economic activity disruption in April will reflect in May collections.

The collections remained over the Rs 1.1 trillion mark for the fifth time in a row, provisional data released by the finance ministry

on Saturday showed. Till now, GST revenues have crossed Rs 1.1 trillion six times since the introduction of GST.

The robust mop up could be attributed to government's tightened compliance measures and crackdown against GST evaders and fake bills. At Rs 1.41 trillion, the GST collections grew by nearly 24 per cent during the month compared to Rs 1.13 trillion in the same month last year. The collections were 14 per cent higher compared to Rs 1.24 trillion in the previous month.

"Despite the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic affecting several parts of the country, Indian businesses have once again shown remarkable resilience by not only complying with the return filing requirements but also paying their GST dues in a timely manner



during the month," said the finance ministry in a release.

The collections posted growth for the eighth straight month in April, indicating some reinstatement of normalcy in economic activity after months of disruption caused by the Covid-19 lockdown.

"GST revenues have not only crossed the Rs 1 lakh crore mark during successively for the last seven months but have also shown a steady increase. These are clear indicators of sustained economic recovery during this period," said the release. ■

'16.5 LAKH VIALS OF REMDESIVIR ALLOCATED TO STATES BETWEEN MAY 3-9'

The Centre on 05 May, 2021 informed that 16.5 lakh vials of Remdesivir were allocated to states between May 3 and 9 in wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers, DV Sadananda Gowda chaired a meeting to review the availability of drugs for Covid treatment and other essential drugs", informed an official release by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

Gowda during the meeting appreciated the efforts of all seven manufacturers of Remdesivir for increasing the production capacity

to 1.03 crore vials per month, up from 38 lakh vials per month a month ago. This increased capacity will augment the domestic availability of the injection.

He added that allocation of 16.5 lakh vials of Remdesivir has been made to all States for the period between May 3 and May 9. Since April 21, a total allocation of 34.5 lakh vials has been made so far. Allocation to States is a dynamic process and efforts will be made to further enhance supply in the coming weeks.

During the meeting availability



of other essentials, drugs was also discussed. Gowda stressed the need to continuously monitor the availability of other essential medicines and to check instances of black marketing and hoarding. ■

OVER 16 CRORE COVID VACCINE DOSES ADMINISTERED IN INDIA IN RECORD 109 DAYS

The cumulative number of COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country has crossed 16 crore, India reaching the mark in record 109 days, the Union Health Ministry said on 06 May, 2021. In comparison, the US took 111 days while China took 116 days to achieve a similar mark, it said.

The ministry said 6,71,285 beneficiaries in the age group of 18-44 years have received their first dose of COVID vaccine across 12 states and UTs. These are Chhattisgarh (1,026), Delhi (82,000), Gujarat (1,61,625), Jammu and Kashmir (10,885), Haryana (99,680), Karnataka (3,840), Maharashtra (1,11,621), Odisha (13,768), Punjab (908), Rajasthan (1,30,071), Tamil Nadu (4,577) and UP (51,284).

Cumulatively, 16,04,94,188 vaccine doses have been administered through 23,66,349 sessions, according to the provisional report till 7 am. These include 94,62,505 healthcare workers (HCWs) who have taken the first dose and 63,22,055 HCWs who have taken the second dose, 1,35,65,728 FLWs who have received the first dose, 73,32,999 FLWs



who have taken the second dose and 6,71,285 beneficiaries in the age group of 18-45 age group who have received the first dose. Besides, 5,29,50,584 and 1,23,85,466 beneficiaries more than 60 years old have been administered the first and second dose respectively, while 5,33,94,353 and 44,09,213 beneficiaries aged 45 to 60 years have taken the first and second dose.

Ten states account for 66.86 per cent of the cumulative doses given so far in the country. ■

GOVT. OF INDIA SO FAR PROVIDED 17.15 CRORE VACCINE DOSES TO STATES/UTS FREE OF COST

The Government of India is leading the fight against the COVID19 pandemic in collaboration with the States and UT through a "Whole of Government" approach. Vaccination forms an integral component of the five point strategy of Government of India of containment and management of the pandemic (including Test, Track, Treat and COVID Appropriate Behavior).

Implementation of the Liberalised and Accelerated Phase 3 Strategy of Covid-19

Vaccination has started from 1st May 2021. Registration for the new eligible population groups has commenced since 28th April. Potential beneficiaries can either register directly on the CoWIN portal (cowin.gov.in) or through the AarogyaSetu app.

The Government of India has so far provided more than 17.15 crore vaccine doses (17,15,42,410) to States/UTs Free of Cost. Of this, the total consumption including wastages is 16,26,10,905 doses (as per data available at 8 am on

06 May, 2021).

More than 89 lakh COVID Vaccine doses (89,31,505) are still available with the States/UTs to be administered. States with negative balance are showing more consumption (including wastage) than vaccine supplied as they have not reconciled the vaccine they have supplied to Armed Forces.

Furthermore, more than 28 lakh (28,90,360) vaccine doses will be received in addition by the States/UTs within the next 3 days. ■

DCGI APPROVES ANTI-COVID DRUG DEVELOPED BY DRDO FOR EMERGENCY USE

An anti-COVID-19 therapeutic application of the drug 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG) has been developed by Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), a lab of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), in collaboration with Dr Reddy's Laboratories (DRL), Hyderabad. Clinical trial results have shown that this molecule helps in faster recovery of hospitalised patients and reduces supplemental oxygen dependence. Higher proportion of patients treated with 2-DG showed RT-PCR negative conversion in COVID patients. The drug will be of immense benefit to the people suffering from COVID-19.

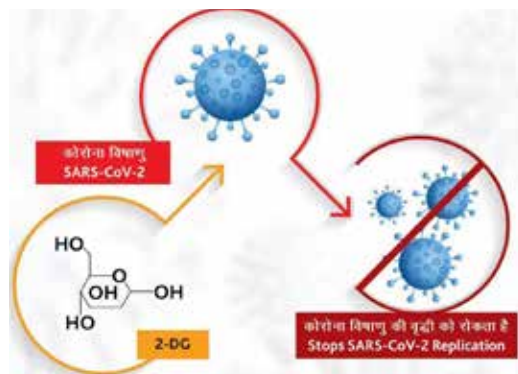
Pursuing Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's call for preparedness against the pandemic, DRDO took the initiative of developing anti-COVID therapeutic application of 2-DG. In April 2020, during the first wave of the pandemic, INMAS-DRDO scientists conducted laboratory experiments with the help of Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad and found that this molecule works effectively against SARS-CoV-2 virus and inhibits the viral growth. Based on these results, Drugs Controller General of India's (DCGI) Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) permitted Phase-II clinical trial of 2-DG in COVID-19 patients in May 2020.

The DRDO, along with its industry partner DRL, Hyderabad, started

the clinical trials to test the safety and efficacy of the drug in COVID-19 patients. In Phase-II trials (including dose ranging) conducted during May to October 2020, the drug was found to be safe in COVID-19 patients and showed significant improvement in their recovery. Phase II a was conducted in six hospitals and Phase IIb (dose ranging) clinical trial was conducted at 11 hospitals all over the country. Phase-II trial was conducted on 110 patients.

In efficacy trends, the patients treated with 2-DG showed faster symptomatic cure than Standard of Care (SoC) on various endpoints. A significantly favorable trend (2.5 days difference) was seen in terms of the median time to achieving normalization of specific vital signs parameters when compared to SoC.

Based on successful results, DCGI further permitted the Phase-III clinical trials in November 2020. The Phase-III clinical trial was conducted on 220 patients between December 2020 to March 2021 at 27 COVID hospitals in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The detailed data of phase-III clinical trial was presented to DCGI. In 2-DG arm, significantly higher proportion of patients improved symptomatically and became free from supplemental oxygen dependence (42% vs 31%) by Day-



3 in comparison to SoC, indicating an early relief from Oxygen therapy/dependence.

The similar trend was observed in patients aged more than 65 years. On May 01, 2021, DCGI granted permission for Emergency Use of this drug as adjunct therapy in moderate to severe COVID-19 patients. Being a generic molecule and analogue of glucose, it can be easily produced and made available in plenty in the country.

The drug comes in powder form in sachet, which is taken orally by dissolving it in water. It accumulates in the virus infected cells and prevents virus growth by stopping viral synthesis and energy production. Its selective accumulation in virally infected cells makes this drug unique. In the ongoing second COVID-19 wave, a large number of patients are facing severe oxygen dependency and need hospitalization. The drug is expected to save precious lives due to the mechanism of operation of the drug in infected cells. This also reduces the hospital stay of COVID-19 patients. ■

“INTEGRAL HUMANISM”

-PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA

...Continuing from previous issue

INDIVIDUAL WAS EXPLOITED

Every individual got a vote in the democratic setup. But real power stayed with those who had led the revolution. Industrial revolution had generated faith in the new methods of production. Instead of working in the freedom of home, workers had started working in the factories taking orders from the factory owners, the worker migrated from his home town to dwell in crowded cities. There was no provision of proper housing. There were hardly any rules in the factory to protect the worker. He was economically weak and not yet organized. He became a victim of exploitation, injustice and harassment. Those in whom political power was vested were members of the same group who exploited the workers. Hence there was no hope of redress from the state.

A number of persons led movements in protest against this injustice with the desire to improve the lot of workers. They called themselves socialists. Karl Marx was one of them. In an effort to lead the movement against the injustice, he studied the entire history and structure presented his analysis of the situation. He claimed to have given a scientific basis to his theories. All the subsequent socialists might not have agreed with Marx but they all considerably influenced by his ideas.

DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT

According to Marx analysis-dialectic materialism the root cause of exploitation lies in the private owners of the means of production. If these means are made the property of the society (for the Marxist, the Society synonymous with the State) then there will be no further exploitation. But before



this. The state should be redeemed from the hands of the exploiters and ensured against their influence in future. Towards this end, dictatorship of proletariat must be established. In order that people tolerate this dictatorship, it was held as an ideal that when the exploiter class has been finally liquidated, and possibility of its resurgence exists, the state will be replaced by a classless, stateless society. Marx also attempted to show that capitalism contains

seeds of own destruction and that socialism is inevitable.

In some countries of Europe there was social revolution. Even where, socialism was not accepted, politicians had to accept the rights of workers. “Welfare State” was accepted as an ideal. Nationalism, democracy, socialism or equality (equality is there at the root of socialism; equality is different from equability), these three doctrines have dominated European social political thinking. Every now and then apart from these ideals of world peace and world unity also cropped up. All these are good ideas. They reflect the higher aspirations mankind. But by itself each of these doctrines is incomplete. Not only that, each stands opposed to the rest in practice. Nationalism poses a threat to world peace. Democracy and capitalism join hands to give a free reign exploitation. Socialism replaced capitalism and brought with it and to democracy and individual freedom. Hence the West is present faced with the task of reconciling these good ideals. They have not succeeded to this day, in this task. They have tried combinations and permutations, by emphasis on one or the other ideal. England emphasized nationalism and democracy and developed her politico-social institutions along those lines, whereas France

could not adopt the same. There, democracy resulted in political instability. The British Labour party wanted to reconcile socialism with democracy but people have raised doubts whether democracy will survive if socialism gains strength. Hence the labour party no longer supports socialism as strongly as the Marxist doctrines advocate. If socialism has been diluted considerably, Hitler and Mussolini adopted nationalist cum socialism and buried democracy. In the end socialism also became a tool for their nationalism which posed a great threat to world peace and unity. We may indeed seek some guidance from the western world but the fact is, it has no concrete suggestions to offer. It is itself at crossroads unable to decide what is good. Under such circumstances we cannot expect guidance from the West. On the contrary we must consider whether in this present state of the world, we can contribute something to resolve its dilemma. Having taken note of the progress of the world, can we add to the common store of Knowledge? As a member of the world community, we must discharge our responsibilities. If we possess some thing that may prove helpful to world progress we should not hesitate in imparting it to the world. In this era of adulteration, instead of adulterating ideas we must on the contrary scrutinize and improve upon them wherever possible before accepting them. Rather than being a burden on the world, we must attempt to resolve if possible the problems facing the world.

We must also consider what contribution our tradition and civilization make to the world culture. We shall consider this tomorrow evening.

Yesterday we had seen that even after 17 years of independence, we have still to decide what direction we should adopt to realize our cherished dream of all round development in the lives of our countrymen. Normally people are not prepared to seriously consider this question. They think only of the problems which they face from time to time. Sometimes economic problems are viewed with concern

IN THE PAST ONE THOUSAND YEARS WHATEVER WE ASSIMILATED WHETHER IT WAS FORCED ON US OR WE TOOK WITH WILLINGNESS CANNOT BE DISCARDED NOW.

and an attempt is made to resolve them, and at other times social or political problems come to the forefront claiming attention. Not knowing fundamentally the direction in which we to go all these efforts are not accompanied by sufficient enthusiasm not do they give a feeling of satisfaction to the people engaged in these efforts. These efforts produce only a fraction of the results which they ought to have produced.

MODERN VERSUS ANCIENT

Those who advocates some define direction, include two distinct groups of people. There are some who suggest that we

must go back to the position when we lost our independence and proceed from there. On the other hand there are people who would like to discard all that has originated here in Bharat and are not ready to think about it. They seem to think that western life and thoughts are the last word in progress and all of it should be imported here if we are to develop. Both these lines of thought are incorrect, thought they do represent partials truths and it will not be proper to discard them altogether.

Those who advocate starting from where we left off a thousand years ago, forget that whether it may or may not be desirable. It is definitely impossible. The flow of time can not be reversed.

THE PAST CANNOT BE DISOWNED

In the past one thousand years whatever we assimilated whether it was forced on us or we took with willingness cannot be discarded now. Besides, we too have created originality not a little. In the life of our society, we did not remain always mere passive witness to whatever new challenging situations arose; nor did we merely react to every alien action. We too have attempted to reshape our life as required to face the new situations. Therefore, it will not do, simply to close our eyes to all that has happened in the past one thousand years. ■

To be continued...

(Excerpts of the Speech delivered on "Integral Humanism" in Bombay on April 22nd - 25th, 1965 by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya in the form of four lectures.)

FORMER J&K GOVERNOR JAGMOHAN PASSES AWAY

Former Jammu and Kashmir Governor Shri Jagmohan passed away after a brief illness in Delhi late on 03 May, 2021. He was 93.

IT A 'MONUMENTAL LOSS' : PM MODI

Expressing grief, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi termed Shri Jagmohan's death as a monumental loss for the nation. Condoling his death, Shri Modi said in a tweet, "Jagmohan Ji's demise is a monumental loss for our nation. He was an exemplary administrator and a renowned scholar. He always worked towards the betterment of India. His ministerial tenure was marked by innovative policy making. Condolences to his family and admirers. Om Shanti."

AN IMPECCABLE ADMINISTRATOR AND DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR: JP NADDA

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda also condoled Shri Jagmohan Ji's demise calling him 'an impeccable administrator and a distinguished scholar'.

In a Twitter message Shri Nadda said, "Jagmohan Ji was an impeccable administrator & a distinguished scholar. He was an Ex-Union Minister, served as the Lt. Governor of Delhi & Goa and Governor of J&K. His demise is a big loss to the nation. Saddened by his demise. Condolences to his family & admirers. Om Shanti."

WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR HIS DECISIONS FOR NATION'S PEACE & PROGRESS: AMIT SHAH

In his condolence message Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said, "Shri Jagmohan Ji will always be remembered for his remarkable tenure as the Governor of J&K. An able administrator and later a devoted politician who took key decisions for the nation's peace & progress. India mourns his sad demise. My deepest condolences to his family. Om Shanti."

Shri Jagmohan started his career as a bureaucrat and also served as the lieutenant governor of Delhi. He was appointed as Jammu and Kashmir governor in 1984 and completed his five-year tenure. As militancy erupted in Jammu and Kashmir, he was



Hon'ble President Shri Ramnath Kovind

tweeted, "In the demise of Jagmohanji, the nation has lost a unique town planner, able administrator and man of letters. His administrative and political career was marked by unparalleled brilliance. His death leaves a void that will be felt forever, he said. In the demise of Jagmohanji, the nation has lost a unique town planner, able administrator and man of letters. His administrative & political career was marked by unparalleled brilliance. His death leaves a void that will be felt forever. My condolences to his family and friends".

In his condolence message, **Vice President Shri M Venkaiah Naidu** said, "Shri Jagmohan's exceptional contribution to the nation as governor of Jammu and Kashmir will always be remembered. The country has lost an excellent administrator in his death.

made the governor again in 1990 but was removed within a few months as differences between him and the then V P Singh-led government at the Centre grew over tackling the militancy.

Shri Jagmohan then joined the BJP and represented the party in the Lok Sabha a number of times from New Delhi. He was also elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time in 1996 and served as the Union Minister for Urban Development and Tourism. His tenure as a Union Minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led government earned him praise from many quarters. ■

'INDIA, UK DECLARES ENHANCED TRADE PARTNERSHIP; UNVEIL 10-YEAR ROADMAP TO ELEVATE TIES'

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Hon'ble Mr. Boris Johnson held a Virtual Summit on May 04, 2021. India and the UK enjoy long standing friendly ties and share a Strategic Partnership underpinned by mutual commitment to democracy, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, strong complementarities and growing convergences.

An ambitious 'Roadmap 2030' was adopted at the Summit to elevate bilateral ties to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership'. The Roadmap will pave the way for a deeper and stronger engagement over the next ten years in the key areas of people to people contacts, trade and economy, defence and security, climate action and health.

The two leaders discussed the Covid 19 situation and ongoing cooperation in the fight against the pandemic, including the successful partnership on vaccines. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi thanked Prime Minister Mr. Johnson for the prompt medical assistance provided by the UK in the wake of the severe second wave of Covid 19 in India.

Prime Minister Mr. Johnson appreciated India's role in extending assistance to the UK and other countries over the last year, including by way of supply of pharmaceuticals and vaccines.

The two Prime Ministers launched an 'Enhanced Trade Partnership' (ETP) to unleash the trade potential between the 5th and 6th largest economies of the world and by setting an ambitious target of more than doubling bilateral trade by 2030. As part of the ETP, India and the UK agreed on a roadmap to negotiate a comprehensive and balanced FTA, including consideration of an Interim Trade Agreement for delivering early gains. The enhanced trade partnership between India and UK will generate several thousands of direct and indirect jobs in both the countries.

The UK is India's second largest partner in



INDIA AND THE UK LAUNCHED A COMPREHENSIVE PARTNERSHIP ON MIGRATION AND MOBILITY THAT WILL FACILITATE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MOBILITY OF STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

research and innovation collaborations. A new India-UK 'Global Innovation Partnership' was announced at the Virtual Summit that aims to support the transfer of inclusive Indian innovations to select developing countries, starting with Africa. Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation on new and emerging technologies, including Digital and ICT products, and work on supply

chain resilience. They also agreed to strengthen defence and security ties, including in the maritime, counter-terrorism and cyberspace domains.

Both Prime Ministers also exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest, including cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, and G7. They reiterated commitment to climate action to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and agreed to closely engage in the run up to CoP26 hosted by the UK later this year.

India and the UK launched a comprehensive partnership on migration and mobility that will facilitate greater opportunities for the mobility of students and professionals between the two countries.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi expressed his desire to be able to welcome Prime Minister Mr. Johnson in India as per his convenience after the situation stabilizes. Prime Minister Mr. Johnson also reiterated his invitation to Prime Minister Shri Modi to visit UK for the G-7 Summit. ■



CENTRE IS KEEPING VILLAGES AT THE CENTRE OF ALL POLICIES AND INITIATIVES: PM MODI

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 24 April, 2021 launched the distribution of e-property cards under the SWAMITVA scheme, with 4.09 lakh property owners across 5,000 villages given their e-property cards.

Land record digitization has gained prominence with the Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas (SWAMITVA) scheme launched by PM Shri Modi on 24 April last year. The scheme is aimed to help leverage property as a financial asset for seeking loans and other financial benefits.

Addressing virtually Prime Minister Shri Modi said that

Panchayati Raj Day is an occasion to rededicate ourselves to the pledge of redevelopment of rural India. This is a day to acknowledge and appreciate the extraordinary work of our Gram Panchayats.

Shri Modi appreciated the role of Panchayats in management of Corona and providing local leadership to stop Corona from entering the villages and spreading awareness. He reiterated the need to keep the pandemic out of rural India. Shri Modi asked the Panchayats to ensure complete implementation of guidelines that are being issued from time to time. He reminded that this time we have shield of vaccine. We have to

ensure that every person in the village is vaccinated and every precaution is taken, he added.

The Prime Minister noted the impact of SWAMITVA Yojna in the 6 states where it was launched within just one year. Under the scheme, the entire villages properties are surveyed by drone and property card are distributed to the owners. Today 4.09 lakh people were given such e- property cards in more than 5 thousand villages.

The Scheme has infused a new confidence in the villages as property documents remove uncertainty and reduce the chances of property disputes while protecting the poor from exploitation and corruption. This

PM LAUNCHES DISTRIBUTION OF E-PROPERTY CARDS UNDER SWAMITVA SCHEME



PROGRESS AND CULTURAL LEADERSHIP HAS ALWAYS BEEN WITH OUR VILLAGES. FOR THIS REASON, CENTRE IS KEEPING VILLAGES AT THE CENTRE OF ALL ITS POLICIES AND INITIATIVES. “OUR EFFORT IS THAT VILLAGES OF MODERN INDIA SHOULD BE CAPABLE AND SELF-RELIANT”,

eases credit possibility also.

“In a way, this scheme will ensure security of the poor section and planned development of villages and their economy”, said the Prime Minister. He requested the States to sign MoU with Survey of India and change state laws wherever needed. He asked banks to ensure easy credit by preparing a

format of property card that is easily acceptable for loan formalities.

The Prime Minister reiterated that progress and cultural leadership has always been with our villages. For this reason, Centre is keeping villages at the centre of all its policies and initiatives. “Our effort is that villages of modern India should be capable and self-reliant”, said the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister enumerated the steps for increasing the role of the Panchayats. The Panchayats are getting new rights, they are being connected by fibre-net. Their role in Jal Jeevan Mission to provide drinking water by tap to every household is very critical. Similarly, the movement to provide pukka village to every poor person or rural employment schemes are being run through Panchayats. The Prime

Minister also talked about the growing financial autonomy of the Panchayats.

Shri Modi said that the Government of India has allocated an unprecedented 2.25 lakh crore rupees to the Panchayats. This also leads to higher expectation of transparency in accounts. The Prime Minister said that

Panchayati Raj Ministry has made arrangements of online payment through ‘e-Gram Swaraj’. Now all payments will be through Public Finance Management System (PFMS). Similarly, online audit will ensure transparency. He said many panchayats have linked themselves with PFMS and asked others to do so quickly.

Mentioning the upcoming entry into 75th year of Independence, the Prime Minister asked the Panchayats to keep the wheel of development moving in the face of challenges. He asked them to fix goals for their village’s development and fulfill them within given time frame.

ABOUT SWAMITVA SCHEME

SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improved Technology in Village Areas) was launched by Prime Minister on 24th April 2020 as a Central Sector Scheme to promote a socio-economically empowered and self-reliant rural India. The Scheme has the potential to transform rural India using modern technical tools of mapping and surveying. It paves the way for using the property as a financial asset by villagers for availing loans and other financial benefits. The Scheme will cover around 6.62 Lakh villages of the entire country during 2021-2025.

The pilot phase of the Scheme was implemented during 2020–2021 in the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and select villages of Punjab and Rajasthan. ■

FIRST BATCH OF WOMEN MILITARY POLICE INDUCTED INTO INDIAN ARMY

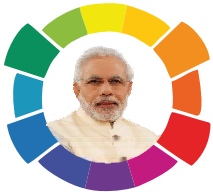
The Corps of Military Police Centre & School (CMP C &S) at Bengaluru held the attestation parade of the first batch of 83 women soldiers at the Dronacharya Parade Ground on 08 May, 2021. The parade was conducted as a low key event while observing all COVID protocols.



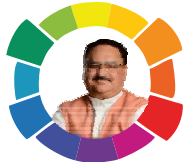
The Commandant of the CMP Centre & School while reviewing the parade complimented the newly attested women soldiers for their impeccable drill and congratulated them on their successful completion of the

intense 61 weeks of training on aspects related to Basic Military training, Provost training to include all forms of policing duties and management of prisoners of war, ceremonial duties and skill development to include driving and maintenance of all vehicles and signal communications.

While extolling the virtues of dedication to duty, righteousness and selfless service to the nation, he expressed his confidence that the training imparted to them and the standards achieved would hold them in good stead and help them prove to be a force multiplier at their new units. ■



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KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr. Boris Johnson at the INDIA-UK Virtual Summit in New Delhi.



Chief of Army Staff General MM Naravane calls on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to brief various initiatives taken by the Army to help in Covid management.



Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh calls on PM Shri Narendra Modi and briefing the PM about various initiatives being taken by the Indian Navy to assist the countrymen during the Covid pandemic.



Union Council of Ministers meet under the Chairmanship of PM Shri Narendra Modi to discuss the situation arising out of the second wave of COVID pandemic in the country.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi offering prayers at the Gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib on the 400th Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji in Delhi.



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#IndiaFightsCorona

MODI GOVERNMENT LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19



Number of plants producing Remdesivir also triples

Production

37 lakh	1.05 crore
12 April 2021	4 May 2021

Threefold increase in production of Remdesivir across India

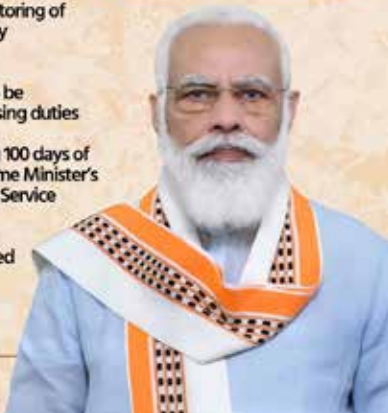
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#IndiaFightsCorona

PM MODI STRENGTHENING MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID

- Medical personnel completing 100 days of COVID duties to be given priority in forthcoming regular Government recruitments
- Medical interns to be deployed in COVID management duties under faculty supervision
- Final year MBBS students to be utilized for tele-consultation and monitoring of mild COVID cases under faculty supervision
- B.Sc./GNM Qualified Nurses to be utilized in full-time COVID nursing duties
- Medical personnel completing 100 days of COVID duties will be given Prime Minister's Distinguished COVID National Service Samman
- NEET-PG Exam to be postponed for at least 4 months



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#IndiaFightsCorona

The world's largest and fastest vaccination drive

First

16 CRORE vaccine doses administered in

CHINA	INDIA	USA
116 Days	109 Days	111 Days



Source - MoHFW
 *Figures updated till May 4, 2021

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INDIAN RAILWAYS SUPPORTING INDIA'S FIGHT AGAINST COVID

- 19 Isolation Coaches deployed at Sabarmati & Chandlodiya
- 22 Coaches with a capacity of 698 beds arranged in Madhya Pradesh
- 75 Covid Care coaches with a capacity of 1200 beds in Delhi provided
- 232 Isolation Coaches with nearly 4,000 bed capacity in use in different parts of India now



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PHOTOGRAPHER: AJAY KUMAR SINGH