

# KAMAL SANDESH

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₹20



**"TAMIL IS THE WORLD'S OLDEST LANGUAGE; EVERY INDIAN IS PROUD OF THIS"**



**'BJP MEANS NATIONALISM AND DEVELOPMENT'**



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda paying floral tributes to Bharat Ratna Baba Sahab Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar on his Jayanti at BJP HQ in Delhi on April 14, 2023



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressing an intellectual meeting in Hubli, Karnataka on April 18, 2023



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda along with Karnataka CM Shri Basavaraj Bommai in a massive Road Show at Haveri on April 19, 2023



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing a huge public meeting in South Goa on April 16, 2023



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing the 'Booth President Sankalp Maha Sammelan' at Bharatpur, Rajasthan on April 15, 2023



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurating the 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' at Somnath in Gujarat on April 17, 2023. Governor of Telangana Smt. Tamilisai Soundararajan & Gujarat CM Shri Bhupendra Patel are also seen on the dais.

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**INDIA HAS TAKEN A QUANTUM LEAP UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PM MODI : JP NADDA**



During his Karnataka Pravas, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressed a huge public meeting at Shiggaon and...



**08 'DEVELOPMENT MEANS BJP'**

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda addressed a huge meeting of key voters and social influencers in Bidar...

**13 'BJP FOLLOWING AMBEDKAR'S PATH OF SOCIAL JUSTICE'**

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda paid floral tributes to Dr BR Ambedkar on his...



**24 WORKING WITH 'SEVA BHAAV' AND 'SAMARPAN' FOR THE PEOPLE: PM MODI**

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi remarked that anybody watching today's magnificent...

**32 PM ADDRESSES GLOBAL BUDDHIST SUMMIT**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of the Global Buddhist Summit at Hotel Ashok in New...



**VAICHARIKI**

THE LOTUS SHALL BLOOM / ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE 20

**INTERVIEW**

PEOPLE SEE MODI JI AS A VEHICLE OF THEIR ASPIRATIONS: JP NADDA 09

**ARTICLE**

A GEM THAT'S SAVED RS 40,000 CR OF YOUR MONEY 26

AS MANN KI BAAT REACHES 100, IT HAS SPARKED MASS ACTION ACROSS THE COUNTRY 28

G20 PRESIDENCY OF INDIA SHOWS PM MODI'S DETERMINATION TO ADDRESS ISSUES OF GLOBAL COMMON 30

**OTHERS**

KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTION- 2023: A REPORT 10

'LOTUS WILL BLOOM IN WEST BENGAL' 14

'NARENDRA MODI WILL BE PM FOR THE THIRD TIME' 15

TO BOOST RURAL ECONOMY PM MODI INTEGRATES E-GRAMSWARAJ - GEM ON NATIONAL PANCHAYATI RAJ DAY 19

PM MODI STORY 22

KAMAL PUSHUP 22

PM ADDRESSES NATIONAL ROZGAR MELA 23

"TAMIL IS THE WORLD'S OLDEST LANGUAGE; EVERY INDIAN IS PROUD OF THIS" 33



## SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

**@Narendramodi**



I am sure Maa Kamakhya corridor will be a landmark initiative. Kashi Vishwanath Dham and Shree Mahakal Mahalok have been transformative as far as the spiritual experience is concerned. Equally important is the fact that tourism is enhanced and the local economy gets a boost. *(19 April, 2023)*

**@JPNadda**



BJP has always worked with a sense of commitment towards the betterment of society, whereas Congress has had a long history of interrupting social welfare schemes established by either the Centre or the previous BJP governments. *(21 April, 2023)*

**@AmitShah**



My gratitude to PM @narendramodi Ji for approving the 'National Quantum Mission' with an outlay of ₹6003.65 Cr. This giant stride to make India a leader in Quantum Technologies & Applications will accelerate QT-led economic growth & create an innovative ecosystem in the field. *(19 April, 2023)*

**@Rajnathsingh**



India's strong and youthful human resources must be nurtured properly to leverage their strength in making the country stronger and self-reliant. *(21 April, 2023)*

**@SarbanandaSonowal**



Major Ports are not only drivers of economic growth but also major contributors toward a greener planet. In one such effort, 10,000 saplings were planted at @vocpa\_tuticorin *(22 April, 2023)*

**@BLSanthosh**



Look at the desperation of @INCKarnataka. Even leaders like @DrParameshwara are pleading for the support of @sdpofindia, a political front of banned PFI. Bereft of ideas, resolve for Better Karnataka, Cong is again trying to turn Karnataka into communal conundrum. *(15 April, 2023)*

**Ensuring Healthcare Saving Lives**

Year	Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)
2015-17	122
2016-18	113
2017-19	103
2018-20	97

Huge decline in Maternal Mortality Ratio

**Over 3.94 Crore** pregnant women examined under Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan till date

**KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR**  
wishes a very happy  
**BUDDHA PURNIMA** (05 MAY)  
to all of its readers



## Vision and mission are to change the face of Karnataka

As the poll bugle has sounded in Karnataka, the BJP is once again emerging as the most favourite political party in the state. While the achievements of the double-engine government are immense, the faith of the people in the development-oriented policies of the BJP and its commitment to the politics of performance has created a new trust and confidence in the government. The BJP has not only provided a government that has a vision for the future but has also made serious efforts to take the state out of the morass of regressive and corrupt politics of Congress and JDS. The people of Karnataka still remember the way the Congress and JDS tried to cling to power even after being rejected by the people in the last elections. It was under the massive pressure of the people that the unholy Congress-JDS nexus crumbled under its weight, and the BJP formed the government under the leadership of Shri BS Yediyurappa. The support of the people in the form of their blessings has continued to energise the efforts of the BJP government for the all-round development of the state.

The double engine government in Karnataka under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given new momentum to the state. The Chief Minister of the state, Shri Basavaraj Bommai, and his predecessor, Shri BS Yeddyurappa, not only pulled the state out of Congress-JDS misrule but laid a new foundation for its glorious journey ahead. Today, Karnataka is emerging as a new hub of aircraft

and helicopter manufacturing, along with a growing number of start-ups and unicorns. In Karnataka, thousands of kilometres of new national highways, new IITs, the world's longest railway platform, the Vande Bharat train, Kempegowda Airport terminal, the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway, an industrial corridor in Tumkur, and a robust start-up ecosystem are some of the achievements of the double engine government in the state. The sincere efforts made by the BJP government can be seen in Karnataka pacing ahead of other states in various parameters of development like FDI, innovation index, and ease of doing business. A large number of schemes like the Janasevaka scheme, Raita Vidya Nidhi, Stree Samarthya Yojana, Jagjivan Ram self-employment scheme, Swami Vivekanand Yuvashakti programme, Kayak Yojana were launched to empower socio-economically weaker sections of society and help them earn their livelihoods. The BJP government has also stopped the unconstitutional Muslim quota of 4% in government jobs and further empowered the Lingayat and Vokkaliga communities by

giving 2% job reservation to each of them. While initiating innovative measures for the empowerment of the poor, farmers, labourers, SCs, STs, OBCs, women, youth, and other deprived classes of society, the BJP government has launched futuristic projects with the aim of making it a leader in various sectors.

While the Congress government in the state remained embroiled in various scams, creating records in corruption, looting of public money, and scams of various hues, the development agenda always took a backseat in the government. Who can forget scams like the Arkhavati layout scam, the recruitment scam, the land use change scam, the teacher's recruitment scam, and many others during the Congress-JDS regime? The communal and appeasement politics of the Congress and JDS also saw the emergence of PFI in the state, which has now been banned by the BJP government. The divisive politics of Congress, which led to animosity between the castes, sects, religions, and regions, are still fresh in the people's memories. The mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas' has been instrumental in healing the wounds of the Congress era, as under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, a new Karnataka is taking shape with the resolve to march ahead in the 'Amrit Kaal.' As people are blessing the BJP overwhelmingly with their love and support, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda has rightly said that the vision and mission of the BJP are to change the face of Karnataka. ■

**The BJP has not only provided a government that has a vision for the future but has also made serious efforts to take the state out of the morass of regressive and corrupt politics of Congress and JDS**



## **INDIA HAS TAKEN A QUANTUM LEAP UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PM MODI : JP NADDA**

**D**uring his Karnataka Pravas, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressed a huge public meeting at Shiggaon and 'Shakti Kendra Pramukh Sammelan' at Dharwad on April 18, 2023. The BJP National President also interacted with the intellectuals in Hubli. While interacting with intellectuals at BVB Engineering College Auditorium in Hubli, the BJP National President praised the double engine government of Karnataka under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and discussed in detail the welfare, development policy and strong will to make Karnataka the number one state of the country.

He said India has taken a quantum leap under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra

Modi. There is a fundamental difference between the thinking of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress. BJP believes in 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' or all-inclusive development while Congress does the politics of 'Divide and Rule'.

Shri Nadda said in 70 years, the Congress only did division, division and division in the society. Congress divided the society on the basis of language, caste, religion and region, but the truth is that while dividing, the Congress itself got divided.

### **Main points of the speech**

- The Congress party means dynasty politics, whereas the Bharatiya Janata Party means nationalism and development-oriented politics.

- Bharatiya Janata Party believes in 'Unity in Diversity'. The BJP respects regional aspirations and, at the same time, works on national aspirations and needs. For us 'Unity in Diversity' is not a slogan but our spirit.
- In the UPA era, no PM dared to visit Israel because of their vote bank politics. The PM visited Nepal, and it was a visit by an Indian PM after 17 years. After 28 years, the PM of India visited Sri Lanka.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is highly committed for all round development and growth of Karnataka. He is working tirelessly for upliftment and empowerment of all sections of our society. He has only slogans -- development, development and development.

## India- essential partner in all multilateral forums

- Under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister the way the world looks towards India has completely changed. Shri Modi has strengthened ties with our neighbors and also opened new avenues in the fields of international relations.
- The PM undertook over 100 overseas journeys and visited over 60 nations. He gave new dimensions and strengthened India's relationships particularly with nations like the US, Japan, France and UAE. He enhanced bilateral relations by addressing global issues. He cemented traditional ties and developed new partnerships to address global issues.
- It is due to the efforts of Hon'ble Prime Minister that today, India is the essential partner in all the multilateral forums. India is leading the G20, India is a regular invitee to the powerful G7, we have contributed immensely to the QUAD, BRICS, SCO and I2U2. Today India is playing a very effective role in all the global multilateral platforms.
- The G20 Presidency has come to India when the world is facing very challenging issues.

## New chapters of growth and development in Karnataka

- The double engine government of the Bharatiya Janata Party is writing new chapters of growth and development in Karnataka. Highways are being constructed

across the state and all these highways are the highways of growth, development and prosperity. All this showcases the speedy development of Karnataka.

- The Bharatiya Janata Party has pledged to further speed up this speed of growth and development of Karnataka. We have come with the vision and mission to change the face of Karnataka. The Congress and the JDS, both parties are dynastic parties.
- Whatever the Bharatiya Janata Party says, it delivers and fulfills all its promises. We do whatever is necessary for the growth, development, progress and prosperity of the nation and the states. ■

## 'Stability and continuous development of Karnataka is our commitment'

Just before filing the nomination papers by Chief Minister Shri Basavraj Bommai from Shiggaon constituency in Karnataka BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda addressed a massive gathering on 19 April, 2023.

Speaking to the gathering Shri Nadda said today, our Chief Minister Shri Basavraj Bommai is going to file his nomination papers for the Karnataka assembly elections. This filing of nomination is not just for the assembly elections, it is in fact a nomination that will give an altogether new direction to Karnataka. The people of Shiggaon has once again decided to send Shri Bommai to the Karnataka Vidhan Sabha by ensuring his victory with a massive number of votes.

Shri Nadda said the Bharatiya Janata Party is committed to the stability and continuous development of Karnataka. With the blessings of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Karnataka will continue to grow fast.

He said the Siddaramaiah government had made Karnataka the ATM of Congress party. The Congress party wants that the money meant for the development and growth of the people of Karnataka, which is the right of the people of the state, should be diverted to the "darbaar" of one family in Delhi. The people of Karnataka will never allow this to happen. And to stop this the people of Karnataka have already made up their minds to let the Lotus bloom once again in the state and to give the BJP a massive mandate.

He said in this year's General Budget the Narendra Modi Government has allocated Rs 37,257 crores for the development and growth of Karnataka, which is far more than what the Congress party government used to give. Today, Karnataka is at the top in FDI investment. The double engine government of the Bharatiya Janata Party under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is developing various corridors of development in the state. ■

**BJP RALLY AT SHIGGAON, KARNATAKA**

# ‘Development means BJP’

**B**JP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda after completing a huge road show addressed a massive meeting of key voters and social influencers in Bidar, Karnataka on 21 April, 2023. Speaking to the gathering Shri Nadda said in order to



further increase the speed of growth and development of Karnataka, it is imperative that the double engine government of the Bharatiya Janata Party under the leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi is formed in the state. A full majority government of the Bharatiya Janata Party will be formed in Karnataka.

He said for us “Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas” is not merely a slogan, it is the soul of our party and our country, whereas the Congress party always took the growth and development of our society in reverse gear. Development means BJP.

Shri Nadda said if by default the Congress party government comes to power in Karnataka, all the funds given by the Modi Government for the development and progress of Karnataka will be usurped in corruption and the people of the state will be deprived of all the social welfare schemes.

Whenever the Congress party government is formed in Karnataka or the Congress party and JD-S party’s combined government is formed in the state, then the people of Karnataka are deprived of all the benefits of welfare schemes.

## **Congress means corruption, commission & crime**

- During the Congress party government in Karnataka the Rs 400 crore Malaprabha scam took place.
- Similarly, the Amaravathi land scam and the teachers and police recruitment scam also took place during the Congress party government.
- The Congress party means corruption, commission and crime.
- Since Independence the Congress party has divided our country and created rifts in our society, sometimes in the name of caste, sometimes in the name of religion, sometimes in the name of region and communities.
- The Congress party is so deeply involved in these dirty tactics of dividing our country and society that the party is now divided and it has nothing left to salvage.
- The Siddaramaiah government of the Congress party removed cases from over 1700 people belonging to radical group PFI, whereas the Bharatiya Janata Party government banned PFI immediately after coming to power.
- The Congress party government and its leaders always promote crime and divides our society.

## **Under BJP, Karnataka is far ahead from other states**

- The Bharatiya Janata Party government is developing an industrial corridor in Tumkur, while Asia’s biggest helicopter manufacturing industry is also coming up in Tumkur.
- Aircrafts are being manufactured in Karnataka.
- The Vande Bharata train is now operating between Mysore and Chennai.
- A new Nadaprabhu Kempegowda airport terminal has been constructed.
- New IIT is also coming up.
- This is the agenda of development and growth which the BJP government is implementing in the state.
- Today, Karnataka is far ahead from other states in various parameters of growth and development like FDI, innovation index, startup ecosystem and ease of doing business. ■





## PEOPLE SEE MODI JI AS A VEHICLE OF THEIR ASPIRATIONS: JP NADDA

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda is confident that the Bharatiya Janata Party will comeback with a thumping majority in Karnataka and break the trend of no party winning two consecutive terms since 1985. Shri Nadda also takes up other issues relating to Karnataka elections. Excerpts of the interview published in Tol:

*Since 1985, no party has come to power twice in a row in Karnataka. What makes you believe you will defy history?*

We came to office in Tripura and Nagaland twice for the first time. In Goa, we came to office for the third time. In Uttarakhand, we came to office for the second time running. In Uttar Pradesh, we won four consecutive elections. Our biggest advantage is Modi ji's personality. It has helped us earn people's respect and given us courage to achieve the unprecedented. People see Modi ji as a vehicle of their aspirations. Secondly, the party has also been growing.

*Several senior BJP leaders have joined Congress and JD(S). Seems like BJP is on a sticky wicket.*

Since the Jana Sangh days, no leader who left the party has flourished. Secondly, leaving the party is one thing, what about the ideology? When you revolt ideologically, you are standing against a school of thought. So, surely, the loss will always be yours. Lot of thought went into ticket distribution. Some people are bound to be replaced. However, the party is galvanised, enthused and most people liked the party's decisions.

*Last time, you projected*

*B S Yediyurappa as the chief ministerial candidate. This time, Basavaraj Bommai is the incumbent chief minister. But his name hasn't been properly announced.*

In the recent past, we haven't made such announcements in other cases. These things are decided by the parliamentary



**We came to office in Tripura and Nagaland twice for the first time. In Goa, we came to office for the third time. In Uttarakhand, we came to office for the second time running. In Uttar Pradesh, we won four consecutive elections**

board. However, Bommai is the chief minister and we are fighting the election under his leadership.

*The quota rejig, taking away the 4% of Muslim community and giving 2% each to Lingayat and Vokkaliga communities happened right before polls. Was it done in view of possible anti-incumbency?*

No, the demand had been pending for a long time. We were examining the issue. Such matters are resolved after intense consultations. The Muslim quota was unconstitutional. The decision has been lauded across the board.

*Congress has announced that it will reverse the decision if it is elected.*

That has always been the Congress way, divide and rule. Also, Constitution does not allow religion-based quotas. How will they bring it back? But dividing people, polarising a community has been their habit.

*Those who have left include senior Lingayats. Do you think that this will hurt your support among the community.*

No, not at all. Lingayats or anyone else, people's interest in BJP is only increasing. No party could give Lingayats what BJP has done. What did Congress do to Lingayat leader Veerendra Patil?

Continue on page 12

# KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTION- 2023: A REPORT

- Ram Prasad Tripathy

The Election Commission of India (ECI) released the schedule for the upcoming Karnataka assembly election on 29 March, 2023. This will be the fifteenth assembly election for the state of Karnataka. As per the announcements, the last date for filing of nomination was on 20 April, 2023 and last date for withdrawal of nomination was on 24 April, 2023. This time the elections in Karnataka will be held in a single phase on 10 May, 2023. The results of the election will be announced on May 13, 2023. Noteworthy, the term of the current Karnataka Legislative Assembly will come to an end as of May 24, 2023. Karnataka has 224 Assembly constituencies spanning six different regions – Bengaluru, Central, Coastal, Hyderabad-Karnataka, Mumbai-Karnataka and Southern Karnataka. Mumbai-Karnataka and Southern Karnataka are the largest regions of the state and consists of 50 and 51 Assembly seats, respectively. Of the 224 Assembly seats, 36 are reserved for SCs and 15 for STs.



## KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTION SCHEDULE

Sl. No	Poll Events	Date
1	Date of issue of Gazette Notification	April 13, 2023
2	Last date for filing nominations	April 20, 2023
3	Date for scrutiny of nominations	April 21, 2023
4	Last date for the withdrawal of candidatures	April 24, 2023
5	Date of polling	May 10, 2023
6	Date of counting	May 13, 2023
7	Date before which the election process will be completed	May 15, 2023

As per the ECI announcements, there are a total of 5.21 crore voters in the state, which includes 2.59 women voters and 2.62 crore male voters. Of the total voters, there are currently 12.15 lakh voters above the age of 80 and 5.55 lakh people with disabilities (PWD)

in the state. Interestingly, out of total Senior Citizens 16,976 are above the age of 100. 4,699 are third gender voters and 9.17 lakh are first-time voters. There are a total of 58,282 polling stations and the average number of voters per polling station is 883 in the state.

### This election in Karnataka will be known for many firsts

- For the first time, the ECI has made VOTING FROM HOME available in the state for people above 80 years of age and those with disabilities in the upcoming elections. The EC team will go to there Homes with a form-12D to exercise their franchise and all the political parties will be informed whenever there is a movement for Voting From Home (VFH), the EC informed.
- Special booths will set up for vulnerable tribal groups and transgender.
- For people with disabilities a mobile application called SAKSHAM has been introduced to vote.
- Another mobile application, SUVIDHA has been launched for candidates to file nominations and



affidavits.

- Candidates can also use the SUVIDHA portal for seeking permission for meetings and rallies.
- The ECI has also launched a campaign called KNOW YOUR CANDIDATE (KYC) for the benefit of voters. As per the EC, "Political parties have to inform the voters on their portals and social media platform as to why they chose a candidate with criminal background and gave ticket to contest the election".
- The Commission has introduced e-VIGIL mobile application for anyone to lodge complaint relating to election code violations. The response time will be 100 minutes.

Karnataka is the first southern state where the BJP has scripted history by registering a thumping victory in 2008 and formed the state government under the leadership of Shri BS Yediyurappa. From the very inception, the BJP government in Karnataka has focused on good governance and development and since then, the strength and acceptability of BJP in Karnataka state politics increased significantly. With the love and affection of the people, the BJP got victories after victories. Even in the 2018

assembly election, the BJP came out as the single-largest party by obtaining 104 seats in the 224-member legislature. On the contrary, the Congress received 80 seats and the Janata Dal (Secular) obtained 37 seats. While the Aam Aadmi Party, which contested 29 seats lost the deposits in all its seats. The BJP further improved its performance in 2019 Lok Sabha polls. It got 40 per cent of the votes with 26 Lok Sabha seats out of 28 seats.

With the announcements of the schedules and filing of nominations the political atmosphere of Karnataka is surcharged with election rallies, campaigns and road shows. The BJP has announced its final list of candidates on 19 April. Chief Minister Shri Basavraj Bommai from Shiggaon and others from their respective constituencies have already filed their nomination papers. Like other occasions, the politically vital Karnataka is likely to witness a three corner fight this time between the BJP, Congress and

JD(S). However, it seems, with BJP's phenomenal rise everywhere in the State, the JD(S) is facing its toughest challenge in the southern state this time.

In the last five years, the state under the Chief Ministership of Shri BS Yediyurappa and later, Shri Basavraj Bommai has seen remarkable growth and development on all fronts. Under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the double engine BJP government has delivered significant numbers of development projects like the much awaited industrial corridor in Tumkur, Asia's biggest helicopter manufacturing industry in Tumkur, Aircrafts manufacturing center in Karnataka, Vande Bharata trains, extension of Metro network & new Kempegowda Airport Terminal in Bengaluru, Bengaluru-Mysore Expressway etc. Thousands of kilometer new National Highway, New IIT, new Airports, World's longest Railway platform etc. were also inaugurated by the PM recently and these are a few from the long list of development

**In the last five years, the state under the Chief Ministership of Shri BS Yediyurappa and later, Shri Basavraj Bommai has seen remarkable growth and development on all fronts**

projects done by the BJP government. Today, Karnataka is far ahead from other states in various parameters of growth and development like FDI, innovation index, startup ecosystem

and ease of doing business. This is the agenda of development and growth which the BJP government has implemented in the state.

While riding high on the victory crest in Gujarat and recently completed three North-East states and with the magnetism and charisma of PM Shri Narendra Modi, this time the BJP is making all-out efforts to snatch a thumping victory in the upcoming Karnataka election. Last week, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has already made a strong pitch for the return of the ruling BJP after getting yet another rousing reception by lakhs of people in his seventh visit to Karnataka. The massive outreach to voters programs, road shows, rallies and meetings of PM Shri Narendra Modi, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and other senior leaders are also boosting the BJP's campaign enormously. BJP's performance has been very commendable last time and this time also it is heading for a clear victory. ■

Continued from page- 09

They unceremoniously removed him in nine months.

***Certain sections have condemned the decision to ban the radical Popular Front of India (PFI) as vindictive.***

You don't expect better from Congress. They always want to polarise. Congress patronised and indulged PFI and communal tensions grew under Siddaramaiah. ***This campaign also marked Congress's determined bid to win over Lingayats, an important 'first'.***

Who will listen to them? These are crocodile tears. We have not disrespected anyone. You humiliated a chief minister. We have a continuous process that senior leaders will move on to newer responsibilities. Didn't Yediyurappa come back? If Shettar had stayed, his responsibilities would've changed. Eshwarappa's responsibilities will change.

***You have reached out to the Vokkaliga community but the history in the area has recorded a struggle between the Vokkaliga and Lingayat***

***communities? Won't it affect BJP?***

That is not so. BJP has a powerful and credible 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' platform. We have a track record of safeguarding everyone's interests. That's why if we do something good for Lingayats, that is not at the expense of Vokkaligas and vice versa.

***About the Prime Minister, you said that people have confidence in him. Congress members have categorically stated that they will focus on state-specific issues.***

Such plans are a testimony to Modi ji's appeal in Karnataka. People have realised that BJP under Modi ji is the best option for them.

***There is a perception that a senior leader like Jagdish Shettar should have been obliged with a ticket considering his stature.***

This was a conscious, considered opinion that we will give senior leaders different responsibilities. It is important

that members understand this. Unfortunately, he couldn't.

***They said they were informed very late.***

That's the way it happens. I will say they didn't have the maturity to understand the party's decisions. Be it Anil Baluni or JP Nadda, we know and believe that those who make decisions about us will surely make right decision.

***The opposition have been levelling many allegations against the government in Karnataka.***

This is a malicious campaign against us. Not one case has been filed. Even the case against Eshwarappa was closed and he got a clean chit. Corruption is very much linked to Congress. They must answer on the Arkavathi layout scam, the recruitment scam, the land use change scam, teachers recruitment scam. Be it Siddaramaiah or DK Shivakumar, everyone knows about them. You would know about their head of media cell who in an unguarded moment blurted 'our sahab takes 10-12% commission'. ■

## **BJP National President appoints Rajeev Bindal as new Himachal BJP President**

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda has appointed five-time MLA Shri Rajeev Bindal as the new BJP President of Himachal Pradesh on 23 April, 2023. Shri Bindal, who hails from Solan, has been a minister and assembly speaker. ■



## **NEW ORGANISATIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

The Bharatiya Janata Party on 23 April, 2023 appointed Shri Pawan Rana as the General Secretary (Organisation) of Delhi BJP, replacing Shri Siddharthan, who held the office for eight years.



As per the official communication, the BJP National President Shri JP Nadda also appointed Shri Siddharthan as General Secretary (Organisation) of Himachal Pradesh. ■

# 'BJP FOLLOWING AMBEDKAR'S PATH OF SOCIAL JUSTICE'

**B**haratiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda paid floral tributes to Dr BR Ambedkar on his Birth Anniversary at BJP national headquarters in Delhi on 14 April, 2023. This year marks the 133rd Birth Anniversary of Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar. On 14 April, Ambedkar Jayanti is held across the nation to honour the father of the Indian Constitution. Born on 14 April, 1891, Dr Ambedkar was an Indian jurist, economist, politician and social reformer who campaigned against social discrimination and supported the rights of women and workers. In 1990, Ambedkar was conferred with India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna.

## Implement Babasaheb's ideals and ideas

Speaking on the occasion, BJP National President Shri Nadda said, "Today, on behalf of crores of Karyakartas of the party, I pay homage to Babasaheb and pay my respects to him. On this day, all of the BJP Karyakartas also take pledge to implement Babasaheb's ideals and ideas in our lives with a determined spirit".

He said, "Today, the people of India are remembering and celebrating Ambedkar's Jayanti. Lakhs of BJP workers are celebrating Babasaheb's Birth Anniversary at every booth. Babasaheb's contribution in terms of development, social upliftment and social justice in the country is unforgettable. BJP Karyakartas are determined to follow the path shown by Babasaheb, he added.

## Architect of the Indian Constitution

Shri Nadda said, "We all are aware that Bharat Ratna Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar was a great spirit. He has made a great contribution towards nation building, social upliftment and social justice which the people of India can never forget."

The BJP National President said, "Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar was the architect of the Indian Constitution and laid the foundation stone of social justice,



## HIGHLIGHTS

- All the schemes and programs taken forward by respected Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi are for social justice, economic empowerment and to give strength to the people standing at the last rung of the society.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has completed all the works that Babasaheb had dreamed of for future India.
- Even today, the Modi government is working for the welfare of the entire society by following the path shown by Babasaheb.
- For the first time, on the initiative of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the United Nations celebrated Babasaheb's 125th birth anniversary.
- For the first time five major places associated with the life of Babasaheb were declared as 'Panchteerth'. Also, it was developed.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi decided to celebrate 14th April every year as 'Harmony Day' in honor of Babasaheb.
- Commemorative coins were issued on the occasion of his 125th birth anniversary.
- The principles of Bharatiya Janata Party's 'Panchnishtha' envisage an egalitarian and exploitation-free society and today, the Modi government, under the dynamic leadership of Shri Narendra Modi, has been working for it through its policies, actions and plans.

economic justice and democracy. Bharatiya Janata Party is following the footprints of Dr BR Ambedkar".

Shri Nadda said, "If we want to pay tribute to Babasaheb in true sense and remember him, then we should follow the path shown by him. The nation will always be grateful to Babasaheb for his contribution and role in building a modern India". ■

## 'LOTUS WILL BLOOM IN WEST BENGAL'

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah who was on a two-day visit to West Bengal attended massive public rallies and told a huge 'Jansampark Samavesh' rally at Birbhum on 15 April, 2023 that the only way to end corruption, cow smuggling and recruitment scams in West Bengal was by ending the misrule perpetrated by Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee.

Shri Shah said, "Today, Bengal is a hub of corruption, appeasement, bomb blasts, infiltration, cow smuggling and if you want to end this misrule then Didi's government has to be brought down...the only way to free Bengal of the corrupt and tyrannical rule of the TMC then the BJP must get 35 MP seats from Bengal then only the rule of terror will end here."

He said with blessings and support of the people of West Bengal the Lotus will bloom in the state and the BJP will win 35 seats in the state. And this is because the people of West Bengal have already decided to make Shri Narendra Modi as the Prime Minister once again.

The only way to get West Bengal rid of the crimes and atrocities of Didi and Nephew is the entry of the Bharatiya Janata Party. The only way to end misrule and massive corruption of the Trinamool Congress party government in West Bengal is the Bharatiya Janata Party. The only way to end illegal immigration in West Bengal is the Bharatiya Janata Party. The only way to end smuggling of cows in West Bengal is the Bharatiya Janata Party. He added that the Bharatiya Janata Party is the solution to all the ills of the Trinamool Congress party government in West Bengal.

"I appeal to people of West Bengal to let the Lotus bloom in West Bengal once, and it will end bomb blasts in the state, no one will dare to attack Ram Navami processions, no one will dare to commit atrocities against women, there will be no killings, no illegal immigration, no smuggling of cows, and no corruption. The Bharatiya Janata Party government will bring good and efficient governance in the state," Shri Shah said. ■



## 'GEHLOT GOVERNMENT A HUB OF CORRUPTION'

While addressing a Booth-Level Party Workers meeting in Bharatpur, Rajasthan on 15 April 2023, Union Home Minister and Cooperation Shri Amit Shah said the infighting in Rajasthan Congress party is so severe that the party will always give precedence to Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot over Sachin Pilot as

his contribution is higher in filling its coffers with the corruption money from the state.

The Union Home Minister said, "Gehlot has made the Rajasthan government a hub of corruption and has looted

the state. This money of corruption has gone to the coffers of the Congress party".

On the acquittal of the accused in the 2008 Jaipur bomb blast case, Shri Shah said the Congress government did not present proper arguments in the High Court due to vote bank politics. "The government is doing vote bank politics on the deaths of blast victims," he added.

Shri Amit Shah said the Gehlot-led Congress government is a 3-D government in Rajasthan and three Ds stand for 'Dange', 'Durvyavhar' with women and 'Dalit' atrocities.

People will vote out the government in upcoming elections and the BJP will form the government with a 2/3 majority in the assembly elections and will again win all 25 seats in Lok Sabha elections in Rajasthan, he said.

He said the BJP will go to elections on the basis of the work of the Modi government, the party ideology and the popularity of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

He said, "Ashok Gehlot-led Congress government is one of the most corrupt governments in the history of Rajasthan. People are fed up". ■

## 'NARENDRA MODI WILL BE PM FOR THE THIRD TIME'

Addressing a huge public rally at Dibrugarh, Assam, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah on 12 April, 2023 said the BJP will once again form the government at the centre in 2024 and Shri Narendra Modi will become Prime Minister for the third consecutive term.

Criticising the opposition, Shri Shah said the more the opposition throw mud on BJP, the more the BJP will grow. He also questioned senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's patriotism, saying whenever he travels abroad, he criticizes the country, which no patriot would ever do. Shri Amit Shah said Congress has been wiped out from the northeast but if Rahul Gandhi continues to discredit the nation, the party will be wiped out from the entire country. "Rahul insulted India on foreign soil. The people of the country see and understand this as well. If he continues to spread lies and defame the nation, Congress will be wiped out off the entire country after being shown the door in the northeast," he said.

The Union Home Minister said the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act has been removed from 70% of Assam and stressed that issues like insurgency and protests have become a thing of the past in the state and attributed the situation to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Shri Shah said the current situation prevailed because of Prime Minister Modi who worked to make the once troubled northeast see an end to extremism and experienced all-round development. "Bodoland and Karbi Anglong have also become peaceful. Border disputes with other states are being resolved. Earlier, Assam was known for 'andolan' and 'ugrabaad' but now, there is peace and people are dancing to the beats of Bihu music," Shah said.

Shri Amit Shah also virtually laid the foundation of a regional office of BJP in Dibrugarh from the meeting venue. Chief Minister Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma and Union minister for ports, shipping and waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal were among those present in the rally. ■



## 'BJP GOVERNMENT IN GOA WILL FULFILL ALL ITS PROMISES'

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing a huge rally at Farmagudi, Ponda in Goa on 16 April, 2023 said, "I urge Goa to give both seats to BJP." "Today, I am here and the BJP karyakartas have assured me that they will win the South Goa seat for Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi", Shri Shah added.

The Union Home Minister said that Goa is a tiny state but small states in the country are just as important as the big ones. "Congress may see Goa as a small state but for us, it is like a bindi on Bharat Mata's forehead," Shri Shah said.

He further said that the BJP government in Goa will fulfill all its promises in the next four years.

Shri Shah said, "Shri Parrikar taught everybody about the virtues of simplicity, uprightness, and honesty. He is not among us today, but I am certain that the people of Goa will never forget him. His memories will always remain in the hearts of BJP karyakartas and the people of Goa."

Speaking on issues concerning mining, he said that the BJP government has resolved them and mining will resume in Goa in a year.

Chief Minister Shri Pramod Sawant was praised by the Union Home Minister for giving stability to Goa.

Before leaving for the airport, Shri Shah prayed at Nageshi temple.

In his speech Chief Minister Shri Pramod Sawant hit out at the opposition parties in the state and said the opposition presence is restricted to seven and they cannot do anything except criticise.

He also said that the Centre will give reservations for the STs from the 2027 assembly election.

BJP State President Shri Sadanand Shet Tanavade, Union Minister of State for Tourism Shri Shripad Naik, State Ministers and MLAs among others attended the rally. ■

## **WORLD BANK PRESIDENT MALPASS PRAISES INDIA FOR EMPOWERING WOMEN**

The world is leapfrogging in women's empowerment, World Bank President David Malpass has said and praised India's efforts, especially that of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, saying he is "deeply interested and concerned."

Participating in a panel discussion on "Empowering Women as Entrepreneurs and Leaders" organised by the World Bank on the sidelines of its spring meetings in Washington on 13 April 2023, Malpass and Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, along with other panelists, discussed the development and empowerment of women in India and the world.

Malpass commended the efforts of Prime Minister Shri Modi in India, where the World Bank has a massive programme. For women to be able to communicate, to have digital transactions without having to go to the bank where there might be a male clerk, that doesn't really receive them well, is hugely empowering, he said. "And also just the source of information that women can get on how other women are operating in other parts of the world, that's huge. And so, I think we should push that along as fast as we can," Malpass said.

Smt. Sitharaman said, "I'll give you the example of skilling programmes, which are happening in India wherein, I don't know what I can make out of this. If a hundred people are trained and they're trained in such skills which are useful for employment, immediate recruitment potential, 68 per cent of all those who have been recruited are women. "It just says a lot more about how women are ready once they have the skills in their hands to get going". ■

## **16.03 LAKH NEW EMPLOYEES ADDED UNDER ESI SCHEME IN FEBRUARY, 2023**

In Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESI Scheme) 16.03 lakh new employees have been added in the month of February, 2023, as per provisional payroll data released by ESIC on 18 April, 2023.

As per data, around 11,000 new establishments have been registered in the month of February, 2023 under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme ensuring social security cover to their employees.

Employees up to the age group of 25 years

constitute the majority of new registrations, as 7.42 lakh employees amounting to 46% of the total employees added in the month, belong to this age group. It shows that the youth of the nation are getting good employment opportunities in the country.

Gender-wise analysis of payroll data of February, 2023 indicates addition of 3.12 lakh female workers under ESI Scheme. The data shows that a total 49 transgender employees got registered under ESI Scheme in the month of February 2023. It shows that ESIC is committed to deliver its benefits to every section of the society. The payroll data is provisional since the data generation is a continuous exercise. ■

## **35.7 LAKH VACANCIES REGISTERED ON NATIONAL CAREER SERVICE IN YEAR 2022-23**

Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a Mission Mode Project for transformation of the National Employment Service to provide a variety of employment related services like job matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, internships etc. The services under NCS are available online which was dedicated to the Nation by The Prime Minister in 2015.

The NCS portal has registered highest vacancies during the year 2022-23 since its launch in July, 2015. Around 35.7 lakhs vacancies have been reported by employers on NCS during the year 2022-23 compared to around 13 lakh vacancies in 2021-22. The reporting of vacancies on NCS in 2022-23 has shown an increase of 175% compared to 2021-22. Further, year 2022-23 also witnessed highest active vacancies count of more than 5.3 lakh on 30th October, 2022.

The increase in vacancy posting on NCS has been observed across all the sectors. The Finance and Insurance sector has shown a phenomenal growth of more than 800% and registered 20.8 lakh vacancies during 2022-23 compared to 2.2 lakh vacancies in 2021-22. The vacancies in the Operations and Support sector has also registered a growth of 400% with 3.75 lakh vacancies reported in 2022-23 against 76 thousand in 2021-22. ■



## **INDIAN RAILWAYS REGISTERS RECORD REVENUE OF 2.40 LAKH CR FOR FY 2022-23**

Indian Railways has registered record revenue figures of Rs. 2.40 Lakh Crores for Financial Year 2022-23. This is nearly Rs.49,000 Crores more than the previous year, reflecting 25% growth. During this financial year 2022-23, Freight revenue too has leapfrogged to Rs.1.62 lakh Crores, a growth of nearly 15% on previous year. Indian Railways' passenger revenues have registered an all-time high growth of 61% to reach Rs.63,300 Crores. After three years, Indian Railways is able to fully meet the pension expenditures. Buoyancy in revenues and tight expenditure management have helped in achieving an Operating Ratio of 98.14%, well within the RE target. After meeting all revenue expenditure, Railways generated Rs 3200 Crores for Capital investment from its internal resources (Rs.700 Cr for DRF, Rs. 1000 Cr for DF and Rs 1516.72 Cr for RRSK).

In terms of Traffic revenue, Indian Railways earned Rs 63,300 Cr. as passenger revenue in 2022-23 as compared to Rs 39,214 Cr. in 2021-22 which is 61% higher than the last financial year. Indian Railways earned Rs 5951 Cr as other coaching revenue in 2022-23 as compared to Rs 4899 Cr during 2021-22 which is 21% higher than the last financial year,

During 2022-23, Gross revenue stood at Rs 2,39,803 Cr compared to Rs 1,91,278 Cr in 2021-22. Also, Gross Traffic receipts stood at Rs 2,39,750 Cr as compared to Rs 1,91,206 Cr in 2021-22. Total Railway Receipts during 22-23 is Rs 2,39,892 Cr as compared to Rs. 1,91,367 Cr. in 2021-22. Total Railway expenditure during 22-23 is Rs 2,37,375 Cr as compared to Rs 2,06,391 Cr. in 2021-22. Operating ratio during FY 22-23 is 98.14%.

Railways are focused on providing safety highest priority. An investment of Rs 11,800 Cr under Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh was made during FY23 for various safety works. ■

## **NAMAMI GANGE SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH 49 UNIVERSITIES TOWARDS WATER CONSERVATION & RIVER REJUVENATION**

The Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on 12 April presided over the Namami Gange: Universities Connect event where an

agreement was signed with 49 universities to foster awareness among the youth on water conservation in general and river rejuvenation in particular. The MoU aims to bring the student community to the forefront of the mass movement for creating a sustainable ecosystem of our rivers. Apart from seeking active public participation, the event will also be historical towards creating knowledge-based short-term programmes, training sessions, and fostering more research on the water sector. Through the NMCG initiative, many higher educational institutions pledged their support towards the cause of river rejuvenation and water conservation and create holistic platforms for younger generations to become conscious participants towards a sustainable ecosystem. The theme of the event was 'Igniting Young Minds, Rejuvenating Rivers'. ■

## **NHAI ENABLES FASTAG BASED PAYMENTS AT FOREST ENTRY POINTS**

To facilitate seamless and efficient entry process for vehicles entering into the forest area, Indian Highways Management Company Limited (IHMCL) a company incorporated by NHAI to carry out Electronic Tolling, on 14 April inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve spread across the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The initiative aims to provide FASTag based payment system at Forest entry points and will extend the benefit of collection of Ecosystem Management Coordination (EMC) fee via FASTag at various entrance points of the Tiger reserve.

This partnership between IHMCL and the Forest Department is a significant step towards promoting sustainable tourism and preserving natural resources by curbing vehicular emissions at the forest entry points. ■

## **NHAI TO CREATE AROUND 10,000 KM OF DIGITAL HIGHWAYS BY FY 2024 - 25**

NHAI is working towards development of around 10,000 km of Optic Fibre Cables (OFC) infrastructure across the country by FY2024-25. National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), a fully owned SPV of NHAI, will implement

the network of Digital Highways by developing integrated utility corridors along the National Highways to develop OFC infrastructure. Around 1,367 km on Delhi - Mumbai Expressway and 512 km on Hyderabad - Bangalore Corridor have been identified as pilot routes for the Digital Highway development.

Providing internet connectivity to remote locations across the country, the OFC network will help to expedite the roll out of new age telecom technologies like 5G & 6G. Recently inaugurated, 246 km long Delhi – Dausa – Lalsot section of the Delhi - Mumbai Expressway features a three-meter-wide dedicated utility corridor used to lay Optical Fibre Cables, which will serve as the backbone for the roll out of the 5G network in the region. OFC laying work along the National Highways has started and is targeted for completion in about a year. ■

### **PM MITRA PARK IN LUCKNOW & HARDOI TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO SKILLED MANPOWER OF UP**

PM Mitra Park in Lucknow and Hardoi will help generate employment opportunities for the skilled manpower of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Textiles, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Commerce and Industry during a programme of launch and signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of Integrated Textile Park in 1,000 acres in Lucknow and Hardoi districts under PM Mega Integrated Textile Sector and Apparel (PM Mitra) in Lucknow on 18 April.

While talking about the opportunities provided by the UP government to migrant labours who returned during Covid, he said that while the government made all efforts to provide livelihood opportunities in state, PM Mitra Park will help support that dream further. He said that the skilled manpower of UP is the backbone of various textile industries in Coimbatore and other places in the country.

While addressing the event, Shri Goyal highlighted the exemplary initiatives taken by the UP government with regard to good governance, enforcing law and order and building a holistic ecosystem in the state towards its development. He recalled former Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and said he was the ambassador of the state. However, in past 6 years,

under the leadership of PM and commitment of UP's CM, Shri Yogi Adityanath, the state has reported exceptional development in infrastructural areas.

Shri Goyal assured that PM Mitra Park in Uttar Pradesh will be the first Park in the country to be inaugurated after completion. He added that soon Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will be invited to do the bhumi puja following which within a fortnight SPV and tendering process should start thereby ensuring basic amenities like electricity and water supply. ■

### **CABINET APPROVES NATIONAL QUANTUM MISSION TO SCALE-UP SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL R&D**

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 19 April approved the National Quantum Mission (NQM) at a total cost of Rs.6003.65 crore from 2023-24 to 2030-31, aiming to seed, nurture and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology (QT). This will accelerate QT led economic growth, nurture the ecosystem in the country and make India one of the leading nations in the development of Quantum Technologies & Applications (QTA).

The new mission targets developing intermediate scale quantum computers with 50-1000 physical qubits in 8 years in various platforms like superconducting and photonic technology. Satellite based secure quantum communications between ground stations over a range of 2000 kilometres within India, long distance secure quantum communications with other countries, inter-city quantum key distribution over 2000 km as well as multi-node Quantum network with quantum memories are also some of the deliverables of the Mission.

The mission will help develop magnetometers with high sensitivity in atomic systems and Atomic Clocks for precision timing, communications and navigation. It will also support design and synthesis of quantum materials such as superconductors, novel semiconductor structures and topological materials for fabrication of quantum devices. Single photon sources/detectors, entangled photon sources will also be developed for quantum communications, sensing and metrological applications. ■

## TO BOOST RURAL ECONOMY PM MODI INTEGRATES e-GRAMSWARAJ - GeM ON NATIONAL PANCHAYATI RAJ DAY

On the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day, which is celebrated every year on 24th April, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated an integrated eGramSwaraj and Government eMarketplace (GeM) portal for public procurement at the Panchayat level.

This year's National Panchayati Raj Day is special as it marks 30 years of Panchayati Raj in India. It is a defining moment in the history of decentralization of power to the grassroots through the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992.

The eGramSwaraj-GeM Integration is aimed at enabling Panchayats to procure their goods and services through GeM leveraging the eGramSwaraj platform. The integration will encourage Panchayats to adopt digital procurement and payment platforms, and will also benefit local sellers by opening new markets for them. This initiative will give a major boost to the rural economy and entrepreneurship, and will also strengthen the Digital



India Program.

Salient features of the e-Gramswaraj - government e-Marketplace integration:

- The existing User base of GeM of nearly 60,000 is envisioned to increase to more than 3 lakhs in a phased manner.
- Bringing transparency in procurement by Panchayats by making the process digital, a major demand raised by Panchayats
- Encouragement of local vendors (Proprietors, Self Help groups, Cooperatives, etc.) to register on GeM as Panchayats procure largely from such vendors. Also, selling online by such vendors can open new markets for them.
- Mitigation of audit objections as procurements would follow

General Financial Rules (GFR) by virtue of GeM usage.

- Arbitrary award of contracts shall cease, compliant vendors will receive timely payments,
- Panchayats will have access to doorstep delivery of quality-assured goods at standardized and competitive rates
- Major Capacity building is being taken by MoPR where training has been conducted multiple times at both the Central and State level. GeM has also trained and appointed business facilitators in all States for the handholding of the Panchayat users.

The eGramSwaraj platform was launched on National Panchayati Raj Day in 2020 and was designed to operate as a single-window solution for all day-to-day functioning of Panchayats, from planning to online payments. The platform has almost 100% usage and adoption across the country, with more than 2.3 lakh Gram Panchayats and Traditional Local Bodies using it for online payments. ■

## PM flags off Rajasthan's first Vande Bharat

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 12 April flagged off Rajasthan's first Vande Bharat Express train via video conferencing.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister congratulated the land of valour Rajasthan for getting its first Vande Bharat Train that will not only ease the travel between and Jaipur Delhi but will also give a push to the tourism industry of Rajasthan as it will help the access to places of faith like Theerthraj

Pushkar and Ajmer Sharif.

In the last two months, the Prime Minister recalled getting the opportunity to flag off six Vande Bharat trains in the country including the Delhi-Jaipur Vande Bharat Express and gave the example of Mumbai-Solapur Vande Bharat Express, Mumbai-Shiridi Vande Bharat Express, Rani Kamlapati-Hazrat Nizamuddin Vande Bharat Express, Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express and Chennai. ■



# THE LOTUS SHALL BLOOM

- Atal Bihari Vajpayee

## Party with a Difference

We can organise the people only if we are able to establish our credibility in their minds. The people must feel convinced that here is a party different from the crowd of self-seekers who swamp the political stage, that its aim is not somehow to sneak into office and that its politics is based on certain values and principles.

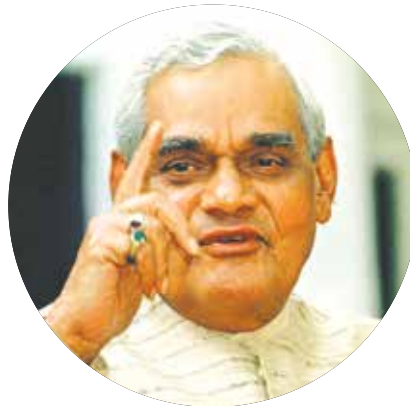
## Gandhian Socialism

The Bharatiya Janata Party has accepted the concept of Gandhian Socialism after due deliberation. Gandhiji did not propound any 'ism' as such. But his views revealed an integrated approach to life and even to modern problems.

Gandhiji did not regard man only as an economic being. Like all our ancient seers, Gandhiji wanted man to strive for the fulfilment of not only his material but also his spiritual needs. Earlier, we had Swami Vivekananda speak in terms of a spiritual socialism. The Bhagwad Gita refers to Samya Yoga. When the Ishavasya Upanishad remonstrates against casting covetous eyes on another's wealth, it is only commending a society based on aparigraha (non-accumulation). The adage, 'All land belongs to Gopal' also reflects the same spirit. Every aahuti (offering) at the yajna is followed by the chant *idan na mama* (This is not mine). Here too, it is the same non-accumulative idea that is stressed.

## Emphasis on Human Values

There is a basic difference between Gandhian Socialism and Marxist Socialism. Gandhian Socialism starts with human values as historically evolved and tested and then attempts to reconstruct the economic and social systems on the basis of these values. In



Marxist ideology, on the other hand, human values are made subject to social relations, material conditions and conditions of production. Both Gandhism as well as Marxism claim to end exploitation of man by man. But Marxist Socialism cannot tell us why it wants to do so unless it gets out of itself, whereas the basic premise of Gandhi's philosophy is that exploitation of man by man is a violation of human values.

## Exploitation is due to Loss of Values

The exploitation of man by man has not come on account of evolution and progress in human values. It is, instead, the result of loss of values during some

phase of the progress of the socio-economic systems and the material forces operating in that system. Gandhian socialism insists that if economic exploitation of man by man is to be ended it cannot be ended within any value-neutral and so-called scientific social system; it can be stopped only through a value system on which the changes in the social system are to be structured as well as tested.

Marxists are unable to tell us as to what will happen when Capitalism is abolished, except that they will establish a classless society. In practice, however, something far worse has been happening where they have succeeded as their system has turned out to be tyrannical, dictatorial and destructive of human values.

## Integrated way of looking at Reality

Marxists and many other so-called scientific socialists often describe Gandhiji as anti-science. This is an utter travesty of truth. Gandhiji's whole life was nothing but a grand search for truth. And what is science if it is not a search for truth? But scientific methods cannot be applied to the search of man for his inner self or his quest for understanding spiritual reality or the reality of the mind. Gandhian socialism emphasises the reality of both the material and the spiritual, and it is only through this integrated way of looking at reality that human

values can be discovered.

## **Violence is Self-defeating**

Another basic difference between Marxist socialism and Gandhian socialism is over violence. All communist revolutions have come through violence and, tragically, they have survived by still greater use of violence against their own people. A Marxist revolution eats its own children. Gandhiji did not rule out the use of violence in certain situations, but he had warned Indian politicians that to rely on violence as an instrument of social and political change or for the resolution of class conflict would ultimately be self-defeating.

## **Distribution of Power**

Yet another point of difference between Marxist views and Gandhian views is regarding the question of distribution of power, to which the problem of violence is related. Marxist socialism does not possess an independent theory of the state or of distribution of political power. That is why Marxists do not believe in democracy. Although Gandhiji, like Marx, believed in the ultimate withering away of the State, he warned against the danger of the immense concentration of power in the hands of the State without any countervailing checks. There is difference between Marxism and Gandhism also with regard to the path and process of this withering away. In communist countries, the state has acquired more and more power and is now using it against its own working class and the

proletariat in whose name it rules. Recent happenings in Poland provide a glaring example.

## **Decentralisation**

Gandhian socialism regards decentralisation as the basis of its political system. In this there are two streams of political institutions and processes, both running parallel to each other. On the one hand, there will be institutions of representative democracy and, on the other, there will be institutions of participatory democracy. Today in India there is no democratic participation below the level of Parliament and State legislatures. All powers vest in the bureaucracy. Under this system, therefore, it is not possible to involve

## **Panchayats and District Boards should be given real powers and adequate financial resources**

people in the efforts for national reconstruction and to make them feel responsible for shaping their own destinies. Panchayats and District Boards should be given real powers and adequate financial resources. Their autonomy should be guaranteed by the Constitution and should not be on the sufferance of the State Government.

These and other local bodies can be of service not only to their own members but also to one another and can be linked with the higher bodies. These institutions which Gandhiji used to describe as local republics can play a valuable role in curbing authoritarian tendencies and trends.

## **Decentralised Economy**

Gandhian socialism is totally against state monopoly of economic power, while in communist countries, socialism has become synonymous with such state monopoly. Concentration of political and economic power in the hands of the State have made communist regimes utterly repressive and antithetical to socialist humanism. In order to prevent the concentration of economic power either in the hands of the State or in the hands of a few individuals, we have to accept a decentralised economy. Both communism and capitalism have generated a new kind of inequality, inhumanity, violence, selfishness, greed, unrestrained consumerism and alienation. Gandhiji's idea of trusteeship points a third way to the world. It can imbibe good points of both capitalism

and communism while rejecting their bad points. If society is to harmonise the interests of consumers, producers, the state, owners of property and labour, joining in a common endeavour, then there is no other alternative except trusteeship.

Gandhiji's concept of trusteeship does not depend simply on the good sense of those who are in power. Its real importance can be understood only in the context of institutional changes and organised people's power.

**To be continued...**

**(Presidential address of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpeyee at BJP National Council, Bombay, 28-December, 1980)**



# PM Modi's courage to stand out against injustice

By: Nita Sevak

PM Modi story

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been courageous to denounce injustice and stand up for the people and their rights from the very early stage of his life. There have been several occasions where Shri Modi stood firm against injustice and fought for the rights of commoners throughout his public life.

Smt. Nita Sevak from Rashtra Sevika Samiti in Gujarat shares an anecdote on how Shri Narendra Modi in his early years denounced injustice at an occasion.

Shri Narendra Modi was once travelling by the state transport bus to Dhandhuka village in Gujarat to attend a program. Smt. Nita Sevak was also travelling with him. An elderly woman had mistakenly boarded the same bus. When conductor approached her for ticket, she told him her destination. The conductor then replied that the bus wasn't going to that route.

Poor woman already troubled by boarding the wrong bus wanted to get off but conductor refused to stop the bus stating that the bus would halt at the next stop only.

After sometime, the conductor got the bus stopped to allow a staff member board the bus midway without the allotted stoppage on the route.

Shri Narendra Modi then confronted the conductor over his attitude. He told him strictly that

the state transport bus is meant for public and not the personal use of the conductor. He also said that it is a facility provided to the common man by the government, being a staff doesn't mean that the conductor was entitled to run it in his own way.

Terming conductor's attitude inappropriate, Shri Modi scolded him and warned that he would complain against his behaviour.

Then, Shri Modi got the bus to stop and assisted the elderly woman deboard the bus.

Afterwards, Shri Modi came back to the conductor and asked him not to repeat such behaviour with anyone else. He also suggested him to lend a helping hand to those who are in need, more specifically if the person is an elderly and require assistance. ■



**KAMAL  
PUSHP**

Sahyog, Samarpan  
Aur Sanskar



## SHAHEED S. MADHUMANGOL SHARMA IMPHAL, MANIPUR (NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER)

Shaheed S. Madhumangol Sharma was a dedicated member of BJP. During the era of National Emergency, he was arrested and jailed for 19 months. Shri Sharma later joined BJP and continued working towards bringing peace in the region. He was murdered by terrorists. ■



**SHAHEED S.  
MADHUMANGOL  
SHARMA**

Date of Birth  
22/10/1938

Gender  
male

State  
Manipur

District  
Imphal West

Town/City  
Imphal

Level  
National

Post in Organisation  
National Executive Member

Active years  
1965-1995



# PM ADDRESSES NATIONAL ROZGAR MELA

**DISTRIBUTES ABOUT 71,000 APPOINTMENT LETTERS TO RECRUITS**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 13 April addressed the National Rozgar Mela via video conferencing. He distributed about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits in various Government departments and organizations. The new recruits selected from across the country will join various positions/posts under Government of India such as Train Manager, Station Master, Sr. commercial cum Ticket Clerk, Inspector, Sub Inspectors, Constable, Stenographer, Junior Accountant, Postal Assistant, Income Tax Inspector, Tax Assistant, Sr Draughtsman, JE/Supervisor, Assistant Professor, Teacher, Librarian, Nurse, Probationary Officers, PA, MTS, among others.

The newly inducted appointees will also be able to train themselves through Karmayogi Prarambh, an online orientation course for all new appointees in various Government departments. 45 places were connected with the Mela during the Prime Minister's address.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister greeted the nation on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi. He congratulated the candidates and their families for getting the appointment letter.

The Prime Minister remarked that the government is committed to providing the right opportunities for the talent and energy of the youth to achieve the resolutions of a developed India. The Prime Minister highlighted that the process for

government recruitment is taking place at a fast pace in NDA-ruled states from Gujarat to Assam and Uttar Pradesh to Maharashtra. He noted that recruitment letters to more than 22,000 teachers were handed out in Madhya Pradesh only yesterday. "This Rozgar Mela is proof of our commitment towards the youth of the nation."

The Rozgar Mela is a step towards the fulfilment of the commitment of the Prime Minister to accord the highest priority to employment generation. The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development. ■

## Madhya Pradesh has taken a big leap: PM

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister remarked that the campaign to provide government jobs to the youth in Madhya Pradesh is going on at a fast pace where thousands of youths have been recruited on various posts by organizing employment fairs in different districts. The Prime Minister informed that more than 22,400 youths have been recruited for the post of teachers and congratulated the youths who have received appointment letters for getting involved in such an important work like teaching.

Directing his address to the thousands of teachers

who have been appointed today, the Prime Minister asked them to make a place in their hearts for their students similar to a mother or a teacher's influence in our lives. "You should always keep in mind that your education will not only shape the present but also the future of the country", Shri Modi said. The Prime Minister concluded his address by mentioning that the education imparted by teachers will not only bring positive change in the student but also in the society. "The values that you inculcate will create a positive impact not only on today's generation but on many generations to come", the Prime Minister concluded. ■



## Working with 'Seva Bhaav' and 'Samarpan' for the People: PM Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated on the auspicious occasion of Bihu celebrations in Assam on 14 April 2023 and said that the Central Government has been working with 'Seva Bhaav' (spirit of service) and 'Samarpan' (dedication) for the people, and the efforts paid dividends as North-East has joined the national mainstream.

During his visit Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation various projects worth more than Rs. 10,900 crores at Sarusajai Stadium in Guwahati. Besides dedicating North-East's first AIIMS in Guwahati and three medical colleges Shri Modi also participated in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of Gauhati High Court. The Prime Minister also witnessed a colorful Bihu programme performed by more than ten thousand Bihu dancers.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi remarked that anybody watching today's magnificent spectacle would never forget this in his entire lifetime. "It is beyond imagination, it is phenomenal. This is Assam" the Prime Minister said, "The sound of dhols, pepas and gogonas can be heard all over India today. The efforts and synergy of thousands of artists from Assam are being witnessed by the country as well as the world with great pride." Highlighting the significance of the occasion, the Prime Minister applauded the spirits and enthusiasm

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Lays foundation stone of a bridge connecting Palashbari and Sualkuchi on Brahmaputra river and project for beautification of Rang Ghar, Sivasagar
- Inaugurates 500 TPD Menthol Plant in Namrup
- Dedicates five railway projects to the nation
- Witnesses mega Bihu dance featuring more than 10,000 performers
- Assam is finally becoming an A-One state
- Today, connectivity is a four-pronged Mahayagya, physical connectivity, digital connectivity, social connectivity and cultural connectivity
- The atmosphere of mistrust in the Northeast is going away

of the artists. The Prime Minister recalled his visit to the state during the Vidhan Sabha elections when he had remarked about the day when people will voice 'A for Assam', and said that the state is finally becoming an A1 state. The Prime Minister conveyed his greetings to the people of Assam and the country on the occasion of Bihu.

### Viksit Bharat is the biggest dream

The Prime Minister remarked that the speciality of India is its traditions which have been connecting every Indian together for



thousands of years. He observed that the nation stood together as one against the dark times of slavery and suffered numerous inflictions on India's culture and heritage. He emphasized that India remained immortal even though it saw numerous changes in powers and rulers who came and left. "The consciousness of every Indian is made from the soil and traditions of the country and it is also the foundation of the Viksit Bharat", the Prime Minister remarked.

### **Emphasis on road, rail and air connectivity**

Shri Modi said there was always the issue of lack of physical connectivity in the Northeast which is being addressed by the present government by laying emphasis on road, rail and air connectivity in the region. Highlighting the achievements in expanding connectivity in the last 09 years, the Prime Minister mentioned all-road connectivity to most of the villages in the Northeast, new airports that have become functional and commercial flights landing for the first time, broad gauge trains reaching Manipur and Tripura, new rail lines are being laid in the Northeast three times faster than before, and the doubling of rail lines taking place at almost 10 times

faster than earlier.

### **Permanent peace everywhere in the Northeast**

Shri Modi said that for development, the thread of trust should be equally strong. He said "Due to the efforts of our government, today there is permanent peace everywhere in the Northeast. Many youths have left the path of violence and started walking on the path of development. The atmosphere of mistrust in the Northeast is going away; the distance between hearts is disappearing."

He concluded, "In order to build a developed India in the Amrit Kaal of independence, we have to enhance this atmosphere. We have to move forward with the spirit of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas".

Governor of Assam, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma, Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union MoS for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Rameswar Teli and Minister from Government of Assam were present on the occasion among others. ■

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## **PM GatiShakti NMP receives PM's Award for Excellence in Public Administration, 2022**

The Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration, 2022, in the category 'Innovation-Central' was conferred by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on 21 April at the 16th Civil Services Day Celebration for the successful implementation of the prestigious 'PM GatiShakti National Master Plan' programme.

The Prime Minister appreciated the efforts made under PM GatiShakti and further set the vision ahead for all line Ministries and States/UTs. The Prime Minister further added that it will greatly benefit in identifying the needs of citizens, tackling issues related to education that might arise in the future, and enhancing communication between Departments, Districts and Blocks while also helping in the formulation of future strategies.

As on date, PM GatiShakti NMP has 1450+ data layers, belonging to Central Ministries (585) and States/UTs (870+). More than 30 Central Ministries /

Departments including Infrastructure, Economic and Social sector line Ministries / Departments and all 36 States/UTs have been onboarded. The institutional mechanism of Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS), Network Planning Group (NPG) and Technical Support Unit (TSU) is in place and fully operational at both national and sub-national level.

All Ministries / Departments and States/UTs are using and have benefitted from planning on PM GatiShakti NMP in terms of savings in time and cost, optimized planning, faster clearances, cost effective implementation, reduction in project pendency, ease of inter-ministerial coordination, etc.

Initiatives on comprehensive area development-PM GatiShakti Area Approach with a vision to create adequate infrastructure for catalysing socio-economic development in a sustainable manner within a rational geographical location through a convergence approach are also being undertaken. ■



# A GEM THAT'S SAVED RS 40,000 CR OF YOUR MONEY



PIYUSH GOYAL

The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) crossed a historic milestone at the end of 2022-23: Gol and state governments, official agencies, public sector undertakings and cooperatives purchased goods and services worth more than Rs 2 lakh crore (\$24bn) through more than 5mn online transactions in a single financial year – a testimony to PM Narendra Modi's commitment to inclusive development, transparency, efficiency and corruption-free governance. GeM is truly a gem that has replaced the obsolete Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals (DGS&D). Befittingly, Vanija Bhawan, the new office building of the commerce and industry ministry, has been built on the land once occupied by DGS&D. At the foundation stone laying ceremony of the building, Modi rightly observed: "Now this more than 100 years old organisation has been closed and it has been replaced by a body based on digital technology – Government e Marketplace. GeM has completely revolutionised the way the government procures the goods required by it."

## Seven spectacular years of GeM

GeM has grown spectacularly since it was set up in August 2016. The total value of transactions on the portal almost doubled in 2022-23 to Rs 2.01 lakh crore from Rs 1.07 lakh crore in the previous fiscal. The trailblazing journey began with business worth Rs 422 crore in 2016-17.

The portal was launched to align public procurement of goods and services with Modi's mission of 'Minimum Government

**GeM has grown spectacularly since it was set up in August 2016. The total value of transactions on the portal almost doubled in 2022-23 to Rs 2.01 lakh crore from Rs 1.07 lakh crore in the previous fiscal**

and Maximum Governance' and his strategy of using technology to make government systems honest, effective and accessible to all. GeM's transparent practices such as competitive bidding have helped government departments and undertakings save about Rs 40,000 crore of taxpayer's money. Such initiatives have helped the Modi government in substantially raising welfare expenditure without compromising on fiscal health.

## Transformation from manual to digital

In this context, GeM's significance goes far beyond its phenomenal growth in financial terms, which itself would make

any e-commerce major jealous. The new system replaces age-old manual processes that were riddled with inefficiencies and corruption. Government procurement used to be opaque, time-consuming, cumbersome and prone to corruption and cartelisation.

- Only a privileged few could break through huge entry barriers.
- Buyers had no choice but to purchase sub-standard goods at high, non-negotiable rates from privileged, often unscrupulous suppliers.
- Potential sellers had to run from pillar to post, completely at the mercy of the facilitating agency, to get empanelled, and then to get timely payments.

In contrast, there is hardly any human interface in vendor registration, order placement and payment processing through the technology-driven platform. At every step, SMS and e-mail notifications are sent to the buyer, the head of her/his organisation, paying authorities and sellers.

The paperless, cashless and faceless GeM gives buyers the freedom to buy goods and services directly from unlimited sellers at competitive rates. This new, competitive system has transformed public procurement and given MSMEs and small businessmen access to sought-after government orders.

## Independent research validates GeM

Hard data and insightful third-party analyses testify GeM's success. An independent study conducted by the World Bank and IIM Lucknow estimated an average 10%

savings from the median price. The World Bank noted that with the addition of every new bidder, savings increased by 0.55%.

A study by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) showed that annual cost savings in 2021-22 were in the range of 8%-11%. Modi appropriately summed up GeM's objective as "Minimum Price and Maximum Ease, Efficiency and Transparency".

The portal is home to:

- More than 11,500 product categories
- Over 3.2mn listed products
- It has over 280 service categories with more than 2.8 lakh service offerings

GeM is catering to diverse procurement needs

**GeM is catering to diverse procurement needs of more than 67,000 government buyer organisations, which have together saved about Rs 40,000 crore. It gives equal opportunity to all buyers and sellers**

of more than 67,000 government buyer organisations, which have together saved about Rs 40,000 crore. It gives equal opportunity to all buyers and sellers.

About 60% of orders by value from states have

gone to micro and small enterprises. States have also placed orders worth Rs 1,109 crore on start-ups, demonstrating the ease of access for relatively underprivileged business people, including those in far-flung areas.

Given the scale and complexities involved in realigning the old, deeply entrenched procurement processes, this is one of the largest change-management exercises globally. The portal's transformational success bodes well for the entire economy because the 'gem' is magnifying efficiency and integrity during the 'Amrit Kaal' as India marches to become a developed country by 2047 under the decisive and visionary leadership of Modi. ■

## India gains 16 places in World Bank's Logistic Performance Index

Expressing happiness over India's "spectacular rise" of 16 places in World Bank's Logistic Performance Index, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on April 23, 2023 said it will "make our businesses more competitive".

"An encouraging trend, powered by our reforms and focus on improving logistics infrastructure. These gains will reduce costs and make our businesses more competitive," the PM tweeted. He was responding to a tweet from Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal who had stated, "Spectacular Rise in Logistics Performance!".

Shri Goyal's tweet had a picture attached which mentioned that India has climbed 16 places in World Bank's Logistics Performance Index in eight years. While India stood at 54th rank in 2014, it jumped to 38th in 2022. ■





# AS MANN KI BAAT REACHES 100, IT HAS SPARKED MASS ACTION ACROSS THE COUNTRY

India's vaccine story owes its success in great measure to Mann ki Baat. That alone is tribute enough to its relevance and significance



ANURAG SINGH  
THAKUR

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi is universally acknowledged as an exceptionally gifted communicator who can establish instant rapport with the masses. His oratorical skills are only one explanation for this unique ability. The sincerity with which he speaks, the integrity which he is known for, and the trust-based relationship he has struck with the people over the past eight years all contribute to his success as a mass communicator.

His inclusionary approach has found unprecedented acceptance across demographics. It's PM Modi's people-centric model of development that has endeared him to the vast multitudes. And it's his non-elitist idea of a continuous dialogue with the people that led to what we now know as Mann Ki Baat, launched in October 2014. Over the years, it has become a last Sunday of the month fixture. It began as a radio talk; it is now broadcast from various platforms in multiple languages.

Mann Ki Baat shows that there are two Modis — the strong, powerful, purposeful PM Modi; and the soft,

kindly, gentle paterfamilias Modi. If you were to shut your eyes and listen to Mann Ki Baat, you would think that Modi-ji was sitting at a village chaupal, conversing with people — listening to them, speaking to them, and offering sage advice where needed, or complimenting someone for an exemplary deed. Recently, he shared his conversation with the families of accident victims who had bravely decided to donate the organs of their loved ones. Modi-ji used that conversation to promote the noble idea of organ donation.

One could cite numerous such examples, ranging from coping with climate extremes to health and

**The first episode of Mann Ki Baat was aired on October 3, 2014. It will complete 100 episodes on April 30, 2023**

hygiene to complimenting ordinary people with extraordinary hearts for their good deeds. PM Modi's Mann Ki Baat is essentially about real-life stories and experiences, stories that reflect the real India that exists beyond the narrow confines of Lutyens's Delhi. Which explains why each episode of Mann Ki Baat is wildly popular and receives tens of thousands of responses. It resonates with the people as it is about their concerns.

The first episode of Mann Ki Baat was aired on October 3, 2014. It will

complete 100 episodes on April 30, 2023. Mann Ki Baat is unique in terms of its subject matter, design, interaction, and innovative way of communicating with the people and society as a whole. Through the All India Radio — the largest radio network in the world with 262 stations and over 375 private and community stations — the PM reaches a vast spectrum of a socio-economically and culturally diverse populace, inspires and energises them not just on social, cultural, and economic issues but also on challenging problems that the world is facing today, such as the climate crisis, waste management and the energy crisis.

Prasar Bharati, the Indian public service broadcaster, undertakes the translation and broadcast of Mann Ki Baat in 52 languages and dialects, including 11 foreign languages, catering to the remotest regions in the country while also taking it to the Indian diaspora. Mann Ki Baat is India's first virtually enriched radio programme that is simultaneously broadcast by TV channels: 34 channels of the Doordarshan network and over 100 private satellite TV channels broadcast this innovative programme across the length and breadth of the country, creating renewed interest and awareness about this traditional

medium of communication. A smartly curated booklet, with articles of experts and changemakers from various walks of life, is also published each month since February 2022, reaching over 60 million people digitally.

With such a colossal impact, Mann Ki Baat has been termed widely (and rightfully so) as a social revolution and finds a solid base in jan bhagidari. The programme has been conceived and implemented on the idea of citizen engagement and participation, right from the formulation of the name of the show to the choice of subjects and calls to action that the PM includes in this programme.

The primary objective of Mann Ki Baat is to build a direct connection between the PM and citizens. Every month, the PM receives millions of letters from across the nation. It is also not uncommon for him to have telephonic conversations with the people during the show. Such a mode of communication between the elected leader and the masses significantly strengthens people's belief in democracy and governance.

Throughout its successful course of 99 episodes over eight years, Mann Ki Baat has endeavoured to not only generate awareness about important issues but also inspire them to take action on social and national causes. Since its inception, Mann Ki Baat has emerged as an effective tool of jan andolan. The social messages delivered by the PM become a social media trend in a matter of a few hours as well as a mass movement (jan andolan) in a few weeks. Swachh Bharat

## **Mann Ki Baat has been termed widely (and rightfully so) as a social revolution and finds a solid base in jan bhagidari. The programme has been conceived and implemented on the idea of citizen engagement and participation**

Abhiyan, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Covid-19 vaccination and Har Ghar Tiranga are a few glorious examples. Recently, in the 88th episode of Mann Ki Baat, the PM highlighted the importance of water conservation and urged citizens to build Amrit Sarovars in their locality. Within a few months, the message was converted into a jan andolan and numerous Amrit Sarovars emerged across the nation.

Furthering the vision of building a Sashakt Bharat (strong India), Mann Ki Baat is focused on highlighting the national and global successes of the nation, urging people to participate in the nation's development while

instilling a sense of pride, belonging and nationalism in the citizens.

In the 89th episode, the PM highlighted the number of unicorns in India reaching the figure of 100. The 91st episode celebrated the mass participation and nationwide success of the

Har Ghar Tiranga campaign. With Mann Ki Baat, the PM successfully established a mechanism to take welfare schemes and policies to the people at every level and generate awareness.

Even during times of crisis, the programme has played an important role in keeping people informed, as during the pandemic, and motivating them to get vaccinated. India's vaccine story owes its success in great measure to Mann ki Baat. That alone is tribute enough to its relevance and significance. ■

**(Writer is Union minister of Information & Broadcasting and Minister of Sports)**

## **UNION AGRICULTURE MINISTER LAUNCHES SEED TRACEABILITY PORTAL AND MOBILE APP**

Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar on 19 April launched the SATHI (Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory) Portal and Mobile App, a Centralized Online System for seed traceability, authentication and inventory designed to deal with the challenges of seed production, quality seed identification and seed certification. It has been developed by the NIC in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on the theme of 'Uttam Beej – Samridh Kisan'. On this occasion, Shri Tomar said that the Government of India is constantly trying to overcome the challenges and difficulties faced by Agriculture sector through various schemes and programmes. SATHI portal is an important step in this direction. When its use starts right to the grassroot level, it will prove to be a revolutionary step in the field of agriculture. ■



# G20 PRESIDENCY OF INDIA SHOWS PM MODI'S DETERMINATION TO ADDRESS ISSUES OF GLOBAL COMMON

VIKASH ANAND

Growing interdependence in the world as a result of globalization, no state pursues its interest in isolation. Multilateralism has become an important approach in foreign policy. Especially addressing the issues of global common, the approach becomes imperative.

Today, the G20 has become a prominent multilateral forum. It started its journey as a forum for international economic cooperation. Its agenda has now grown to cover issues such as trade, sustainable development, health, agriculture, energy, the environment, climate change, and anti-corruption.

## India's G20 presidency to create better world and better planet

For this year, India has grabbed the opportunity to host the G20 summit. In the closing ceremony of the 17th G20 leaders' Summit, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took over the presidency of 18th G20 summit from Indonesia. Indonesian President handed over the gavel to Prime Minister Shri Modi as a symbolic handover of the Presidency. India under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to create better world and better planet adopted the theme- 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' 'Vasudhaiva

Kutumbakam', of the summit. The G20 emblem, designed in the colours of India's national flag, represents India's pro-planet stance and growth in the face of adversities. The theme and emblem of the summit reflects Indian leadership's determination to address the issues of global common. India's year-long G20 Presidency began on 1 December 2022, would continue until 30 November 2023. In January Prime

**Till the writing of this article 100 meetings of G20 has been held in 41 cities, covering 28 States and Union Territories. During the events of G20, India has showcased its diverse rich culture, inclusive tradition, spiritual and material strength of emerging India, to the world**

Minister Shri Modi addressed a separate summit of the Global South in which 125 developing countries participated. Prime Minister Modi assured that India's presidency would be inclusive and a voice for developing countries. He said that three-fourths of humanity lives in the Global South. He added that we should also have equivalent voice and hence the eight-decade old model of global governance slowly changes, we should try to shape the emerging order. Till the writing of this article 100 meetings of G20 has been held in 41 cities, covering 28

States and Union Territories. During the events of G20, India has showcased its diverse rich culture, inclusive tradition, spiritual and material strength of emerging India, to the world. According to the government report, more than 150 cultural events featuring local and national art forms were held, with the involvement of over 7,000 artists. Many Jan Bhagidari activities are also being held concurrently with active public engagement in a whole-of-nation and whole-of-society approach, transforming India's G20 Presidency into a "People's G20."

The level of involvement in person during the Presidency is among the highest ever. So far, nearly 12,300 participants from over 110 countries have attended G20-related meetings. This includes G20 members, nine invited countries, and 14 international organisations. Meetings are being held across India, with the full backing and participation of state governments and union territories. Apart from interactions of ministers, businessmen, scientists, and so on there are other engagement groups such as youth20 (Y20), and civil20 (C20) is being organised. Through these interactions, the world is interacting with India's dynamic and aspirational youth,

which constitutes a large chunk of the country's population, and helping to write the growth history of the country. And world leaders are also seeing how vibrant civil society in India is deepening democracy in the country.

## **G20 Presidency and India's evolving approach to multilateralism**

If we look at Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's previous engagement at various multilateral forums which depict India under him is no longer just a rule taker or rule resistor; it has evolved into a rule shaper or rule influencer.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, following neighbourhood first policy, invited SAARC leaders and Mauritius Prime Minister to attend his first oath-taking ceremony in New Delhi. India, through this gesture, showcased its intention to deepen regional cooperation in the South Asia Region. Shri Modi's approach is more realistic and partnership oriented. Giving a fast pace to regional integration in South Asia, PM Modi initiated the grouping BBIN (Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal), which is playing a role in road connectivity, making borders paperless, and increasing cooperation in other connectivity projects in the region. For achieving India's economic and security interests, Modi seems to rely more on multi-alignment. Apart from QUAD, India and the US, Israel and UAE formed a

quadrilateral alignment I2U2 (India, Israel, United Arab Emirates, and the US).

During COVID-19 Pandemic India showcased the gesture of a world leader. Through its 'Vaccine Maitri' initiative it provided medical support and vaccines to 150 countries. Former UN under-secretary-general and Congress leader Shri Shashi Tharoor said on the vaccine diplomacy "India has enhanced its global standing by making vaccines that are readily available in the world's poorest countries. This effort may one day

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### **G20 presidency shows that India's multilateral approach has evolved in response to changes in the context and leadership priorities. Its leadership at the G20 Summits is driven by the necessity to bring in greater inclusivity in the financial system in order to avoid protectionist tendencies and to ensure that growth prospects of Global South do not suffer**

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help India secure recognition as a global power – with a permanent UN Security Council seat to go with it"

One of the important features of PM Modi's diplomacy at international organizations deals with post-material issues more vociferously.

The Modi government proposed the idea of recognizing June 21st as "International Yoga Day." With the support of 175 member nations, India introduced the resolution in the UNGA, declaring June 21st as International Yoga Day. It was

the highest number ever for any resolution of the UNGA.

At the initiative of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the United Nations declared 2023 the International Year of Millets. India is the biggest producer of millets. In addition to many health benefits, millets require low water and other inputs and are also good for the environment.

At climate change conferences, India is proactive in setting the global agenda. Through the Vision of 'One Earth, One Health', Shri Modi urged all countries to embrace sustainable lifestyles.

PM Modi was awarded with the United Nations' highest honour, the "Champions of the Earth Award," for his pioneering work in championing the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and promoting new areas of cooperation, and Modi's unprecedented pledge to eliminate all single-use plastic in India by 2022.

G20 presidency shows that India's multilateral approach has evolved in response to changes in the context and leadership priorities. Its leadership at the G20 Summits is driven by the necessity to bring in greater inclusivity in the financial system in order to avoid protectionist tendencies and to ensure that growth prospects of Global South do not suffer. Modi's participation in the world's multilateral forums and his approach to dealing with issues demonstrate that India is ready to play a larger global role. ■

## “India considers the sorrow of every human being as its own sorrow”

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the inaugural session of the Global Buddhist Summit at Hotel Ashok in New Delhi on April 20, 2023. The Prime Minister walked through the photo exhibition and offered flowers to the Buddha statue. He also offered monk robes (Chivar Dana) to nineteen eminent monks.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister welcomed everyone from different corners of the world to the inaugural session of the Global Buddhist Summit. He underlined that ‘Atithi Devo Bhava’ i.e. guests are equivalent to God, is a tradition of this land of Buddha and the presence of so many personalities who have lived through Buddha’s ideals makes us feel the experience of Buddha being present himself around us. “Buddha is beyond the individual, it is a perception”, the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said that Buddha is a sensation that transcends the individual, he is a thought that transcends form and Buddha is a consciousness beyond manifestation. “This Buddha consciousness is eternal”, he said. He said the presence of so many people from diverse areas represents the expansion of Buddha that binds humanity in a single thread. He also underlined the strength of the collective will and resolution of crores of followers of Lord Buddha globally to make for the welfare of the world. Noting the occasion, the Prime Minister expressed confidence that the inaugural Global Buddhist Summit will create an effective platform for the efforts of all nations and thanked the Ministry of Culture and International Buddhist Confederation for this momentous event.

Noting that the Global Buddhist Summit is taking place during India’s 75th year of Independence when the nation is celebrating Azaadi Ka Amrit Kaal, the Prime Minister underlined that India has a major goal for its future and new resolutions for the global good. He emphasized that the inspiration behind India achieving the recent global landmarks in various sectors is Lord Buddha himself.

Remembering the Buddhist path of theory, practice and realization, the Prime Minister elaborated on India’s

adoption of all three points in its journey in the last 9 years. Shri Modi said that India has worked with dedication for the propagation of Lord Buddha’s teaching with a sense of dedication. He talked about the development of Buddhist circuits in India and Nepal, the renovation of Sarnath and Kushinagar, Kushinagar International Airport, and India International Center of Buddhist Heritage and Culture at Lumbini in collaboration with the IBC.

The Prime Minister credited the teachings of Lord Buddha for an inherent empathy in India for the issues of humanity. He mentioned peace missions and India’s whole-hearted efforts in rescue work for disasters like the earthquake in Turkiye. “This emotion of 140 crore Indians is being seen, understood and accepted by the world”, he said. Platforms like IBC, he continued, are giving the opportunity to like-minded and like-hearted countries to spread Buddha Dhamma and peace.

The Prime Minister said, “The journey from the problem to arriving at the solution is the actual journey of Buddha.” Throwing light on Lord Buddha’s journey, the Prime Minister reiterated that he left his life of castles and kingdoms because he realized the pain in the lives of others. He emphasized the only way to achieve the goal of a prosperous world is when one gives away the idea of self and narrow-mindedness and realizes the totality of the Buddha Mantra of adopting the idea of the world. He stressed that a better and stable world can be achieved only if we consider the nations dealing with a scarcity of resources. “It is the need of the hour that the priority of every person and nation should be the interest of the world along with the interest of the country”, the Prime Minister remarked.

The Prime Minister said that the current time is the most challenging time of this century as there is war, economic instability, terrorism and religious fanaticism, and the challenge of climate change with species disappearing and glaciers melting. He said amidst all this there are people who believe in Buddha and the welfare of all creatures. ■





## “Tamil is the world’s oldest language; Every Indian is proud of this”

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took part in the Tamil New Year celebrations at the residence of his ministerial colleague Thiru L. Murugan in New Delhi on April 13, 2023. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister expressed happiness to be present among his Tamil brother and sister to celebrate Puthandu. Recalling one of the ‘Panch Pran’ that the Prime Minister spoke about from the ramparts of Red Fort - Pride in one’s heritage, Shri Modi said that older the culture, the more such people and culture are time-tested. “Tamil culture and people are eternal as well as global. The Prime Minister continued that “be it Pongal or Puthandu, they are marked all over the world. Tamil is the world’s oldest language. Every Indian is proud of this”.

Recalling the sterling contribution of the Tamil people in the freedom struggle, the Prime Minister also underlined the contribution of Tamil people in the growth of the country after independence. He remembered the titans like C. Rajagopalachari, K Kamaraj and Dr Kalam and said that in the fields of medicine, law and academics, the contribution of Tamilians is beyond comparison.

Shri Modi reiterated that India is the oldest democracy of the world and said that there are incontrovertible proofs for that including some important ones from Tamil Nadu. He talked about an 11-12 hundred year old rock edict at Uthiramerur that describes the democratic ethos and procedures from ancient times. “There is a lot in the Tamil culture that

has shaped India as a nation”, the Prime Minister said. He also mentioned Venkatesa Perumal temple in Kanchipuram and Chathuranga Vallabhanathar Temple for their astonishing modern relevance and their rich ancient tradition.

Shri Modi recalled with pride the opportunity to serve the rich Tamil Culture. He remembered quoting in Tamil at the United Nations and attending the Grih Pravesh Ceremony at Jaffna. Shri Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Jaffna and many welfare projects were undertaken for Tamils there during and after his visit. “This feeling of continuously serving the Tamil people fills me with new energy”, the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister expressed deep satisfaction of the success of the recent Kashi Tamil Sangamam. “In this program, we have celebrated antiquity, innovation and diversity simultaneously”, said the Prime Minister. Referring to the craze for the books of Tamil learning at the sangamam the Prime Minister said “In the Hindi speaking region, in this digital age, Tamil books are loved like this, it shows our cultural connect. I believe, the lives of Kashi residents are incomplete without Tamil people, I have become a Kashi Vaasi, and without Kashi, the lives of Tamil people are incomplete.” Shri Modi also mentioned the new Chair in the name of Subramania Bharati and place for a Tamil person in the temple trust of Kashi Vishwanath. ■



### HIGHLIGHTS

- “Tamil Film Industry has given some of the most iconic works to us”
- “There is a lot in the Tamil culture that has shaped India as a nation”
- “Feeling of continuously serving the Tamil people fills me with new energy”
- “In Kashi Tamil Sangamam we celebrated antiquity, innovation and diversity simultaneously”
- “I believe, the lives of Kashi residents are incomplete without Tamil people, I have become a Kashi Vaasi, and without Kashi, the lives of Tamil people are incomplete”
- “It is our responsibility to know about our Tamil heritage, tell it to the country and the world”.
- “This heritage is a symbol of our unity and the spirit of ‘Nation First’”

# INDIA DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB AS G20 PRESIDENT: IMF

As G-20 President India is doing an excellent job by focusing on issues that matters the most for the global community, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said on April 13, 2023.



told reporters at a news conference in Washington on the sidelines of the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

“What matters the most is to re-energize global growth and here India brings its fantastic track record on digitalisation

India assumed the year-long presidency of the G20 in December last year and aims to host a leaders’ summit in New Delhi in early September. The G20 is an important forum of the world’s 20 major developed and developing economies.

job in focusing the work of the G-20 on what matters the most. What matters the most is to move through very complex policy challenges, comparing notes and coming up with the right policy actions,” Georgieva

and how digitalisation can re-energize the economy,” she said in response to a question on India’s G20 presidency. “I very much look forward to continuing to be working with the Indian presidency,” she said. ■

“India is doing an excellent



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PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the gathering after flagging off Rajasthan's first Vande Bharat Express train between Jaipur and Delhi Cantt via video conferencing on April 12, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi distributes 71,000 appointment letters under National Rozgar Mela via video conferencing on April 13, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi attends Tamil New Year celebrations in New Delhi on April 13, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi pays tribute to Dr. B R Ambedkar on his Jayanti at Parliament House in New Delhi on April 14, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi attends the Bihu celebrations in Guwahati, Assam on April 14, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi offers floral Tributes to Lord Buddha statue at Global Buddhist Summit 2023 in New Delhi on April 20, 2023



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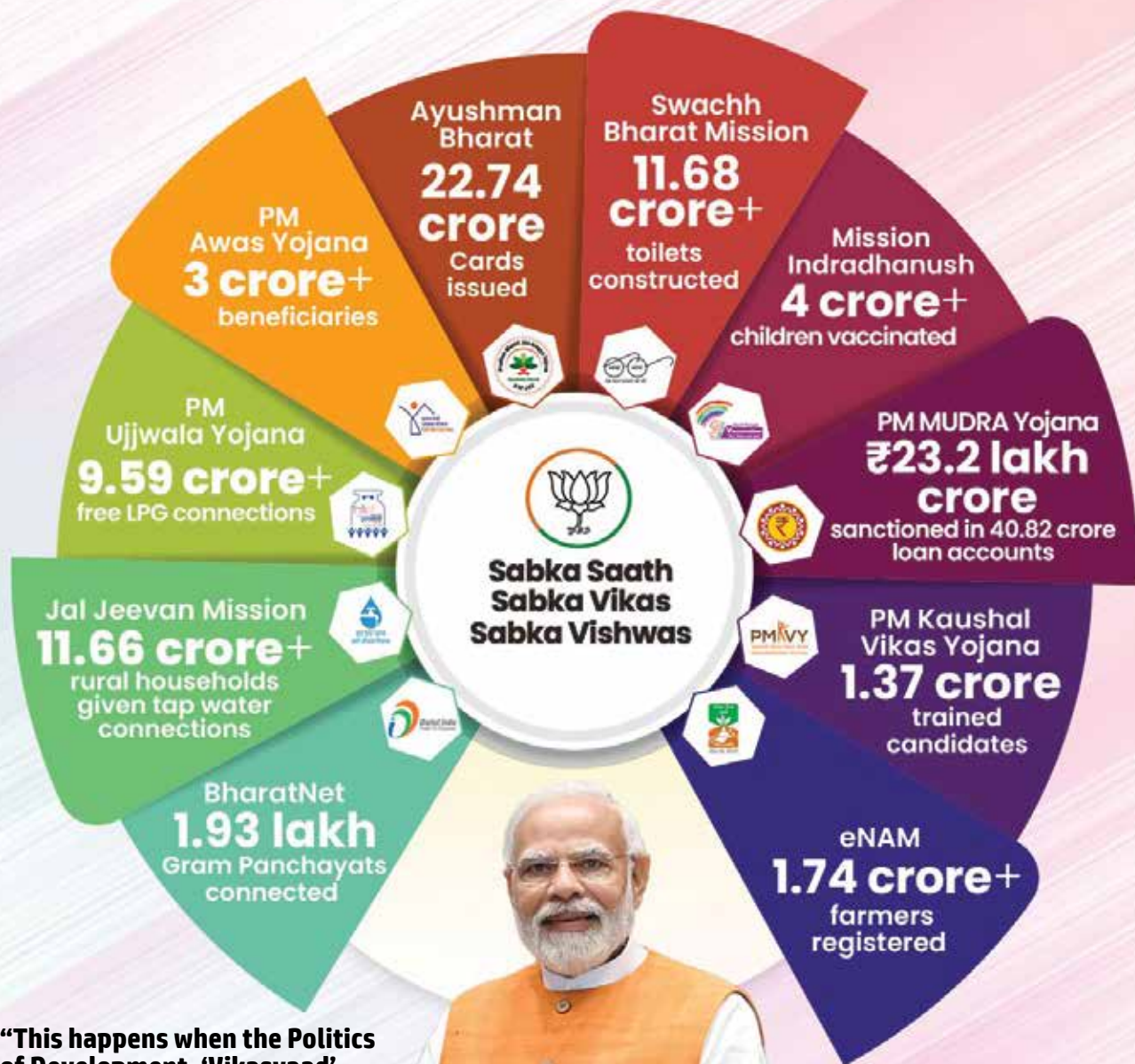
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