

SPECIAL ISSUE

TOWARDS AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT...



**KAMAL
SANDESH**

**ONE YEAR OF MODI
GOVERNMENT 2.0**





“ Under the charismatic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the nation stands united in its aspirations and a glorious future awaits India. Nation has come together to realize the dreams of Self-reliant India. ”

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA

National President
Bhartiya Janta Party



TOWARDS AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT...

ONE YEAR OF MODI GOVERNMENT 2.0

Foreword

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA

National President, BJP

30 May, 2020

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PREFACE

The Modi government at the centre will be known in the history for resolving longstanding problems in the country with great acumen. These were the problems which were considered impossible to find solutions and continued to stunt the onward march of the nation. These were the problems which required strong political will, unflinching commitment, single minded determination, long-term vision and national interest in the heart to resolve.

Apart from launching a large number of innovative welfare programmes for the poorest of the poor of the country, the Modi government has taken many political decisions which have created an environment of hope and trust in the country. One of the most shining example of the political commitment and determination of the government can be seen in the manner in which Article 370 was amended and implemented on the ground. It was always considered impossible to find a solution of the Kashmir problem and stop further alienation of the people of the state from the rest of India, but the government showed it was possible. The issue of Triple Talaq was avoided under the immoral pressure of the politics of appeasement but the stand taken by Modi government strengthened the case of gender justice facilitating the liberation of Muslim women from the scourge of such inhuman practice prevalent in the society. There were continuous attempts to block the judicial process and in paving the way for the building of grand Shri Ram temple in Ayodhya but the judiciary has come out with a verdict which has resolved this longstanding issue creating peace and harmony in the society.

The Citizenship Amendment Bill 2019 also seeks to correct a historical wrong and give relief to the persecuted minorities of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. The ways in which Congress and its allies have tried to oppose this bill have further exposed the vote-bank and appeasement politics of these political

parties in the country. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi should be congratulated for showing the political will and determination in resolving the longstanding problems that nation faced for decades. Now the time has come to take the nation to newer heights with commitment, dedication and hard work.

India is unitedly fighting against the Corona crisis with patience and determination in the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi drawing appreciation from the leaders across the world and from various international agencies.

While announcing a package of Rs 20 lakh crore, the PM has given a call for 'Atamnirbhar Bharat'. As the PM talks about pre and post Covid world, there is no doubt that the disruptions created by the Covid 19 crisis are set to haunt the world for a long time. He has rightly emphasised the Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand as areas which needs to be the pillars of a self-reliant India. The aim to secure quantum jump in economy, infrastructure as an identity of India, technology driven system, demography as source of energy and full utilization of the demand and supply chains can pave the path of an India of future, which is vibrant and self reliant. The bold reforms across sector with a package which is almost 10% of the country's GDP will build a self-reliant India. As the mantra of becoming 'vocal' about the 'local' products gaining momentum, India is set to become 'global' in the days to come.

The first year of Modi government 2.0 is full with numerous achievements. Many historic decisions were taken under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi which will have long term impact on the country. We have tried to take these achievements to our esteemed readers through a special issue of 'Kamal Sandesh', 'Towards Self-reliant India'. We hope that our readers will find this special issue engaging.

- Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

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FOREWORD

The first year of the 2nd tenure of Modi Government has been recorded in golden letters in the pages of history. In this one year, numerous historical decisions have been taken under the charismatic and visionary leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji. The problems which used to haunt the country till now, the problems which used to appear to be insurmountable, have been resolved in such a way as if they never existed. It is the result of the strong political will of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji that whether it was Article 370 or Citizenship Amendment Act, enacting law on Triple Talaq or paving the way for building the Lord Shri Ram temple at Ayodhya, Bru-Reang agreement or Bodo agreement, the nation registered victory over all such long pending issues.

The massive mandate in favour of BJP led NDA was the result of transparent governance hard work and inspiring leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji who liberated India from the quagmire of corruption, policy paralysis, indecisiveness, misgovernance and economic slowdown with high rates of inflation all pervasive during Congress led UPA era. The nation saw a hope in the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi ji and gave him a decisive and massive mandate with BJP getting majority of its own in 2014 Lok Sabha elections. It was the first time after around three decades that a single party could muster full majority on its own bestowed by the people

of India. It was outcome of 5 years of positive approach, persistence and perseverance, innovative ideas and result oriented policies while heralding a new work culture in governance, restoration of institutional mechanism, timely actions and sometimes tough decisions that helped in restoring credibility of the government. The impact of the conviction and commitment of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji to the nation was seen in a corruption free government which was able to deliver the fruits of welfare programmes directly to the poorest of the poor even in the remotest part of the country. It was for the first time that the last man in the society became direct beneficiary of the government welfare programmes and his basic needs were addressed in the form of pucca house, free electricity connection, gas cylinder, bank account and other essential amenities while bringing him under social security net and providing health security upto Rs. five lac.

While India with its rapid pace of development is mesmerising the world, the respect for our country has increased manifold on the international forums and the path for development of each & every section of society is being paved by innovative schemes. Covid-19 pandemic has affected almost every aspect of human life across the world. Today, when many countries are facing 'lockdowns', an ambience of hope and trust has been built in the country about the safe and secure future with the



announcement of the Rs 20 lakh crore package, which is about 10% of GDP, which is so inclusive and all-embracing that the interest of every section of the society has been taken care of with plan for bright future of every sector of the economy.

The allocation of money to farmers, women Jan-Dhan Account holders, labourers, senior citizens and others through Direct Benefit Trasfer in addressing the immediate cash problem of the most vulnerable sections of the society has got due recognition all over the world. The free supply of food grains including pulses is helping in reducing distress among the poor in the period of lockdown. At the same time the additional allocation of Rs. 40,000 crore to MNREGA will definitely help secure jobs for the migrant labourers returning their villages. The massive village centric support extended to agriculture and allied activities, agricultural loans and extension of Kisan Credit Card scheme will transform the rural economy in the days to come. The 'Shramik Special' trains have given huge relief to the migrant labourers. Under 'Vande Bharat Mission' the Indians stuck in foreign countries have also been brought back. Prime Minster Shri Narendra Modi ji's clarion call for 'Self-reliant India' is getting massive support in the entire country.

India has so far been able to fight the Covid-19 crisis with utmost patience and determination. Under the dynamic and visionary leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the efforts made by India have been appreciated worldwide. The lockdown period has provided an opportunity for the country to upgrade its health

infrastructure and become self reliant in many of the medical equipments. Apart from central and state governments the local bodies at city, town and village levels, innumerable social, cultural and religious organizations, philanthropists and people at individual levels are serving the masses and looking after the elderly & sick. Inspired by the clarion call given by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, BJP karyakartas are carrying our mammoth relief work at various levels. While covering 13,796 Mandals in 907 organisational districts, 8.25 BNP lakh karyakartas are incessantly working among the people. More than 4.90 crore ration kits, 19.28 crore food packets and 5.05 crore face-masks have been distributed so far. At the same time 8.30 lakh karyakartas have been assigned to look after sick and elderly people while making 53.90 lakh people donate to PM CARES fund. In 12.87 lakh booths, #Thank You Corona Warriors signature campaigns have been carried out successfully.

The massive mandate of 2019 has not only reposed immense faith in the Modi government but also enhanced responsibilities to carry forward the hopes and expectations of the largest democracy of the world. India is a nation which represents a civilization manifested through numerous traditions celebrating pluralism and diversity since ancient times. The people know that under the charismatic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the nation stands united in its aspirations and a glorious future awaits India. Nation has come together to realize the dreams of 'Self-reliant India'.

(JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
National President
Bharatiya Janata Party



HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER

My fellow Indian,

This day last year began a golden chapter in the history of Indian democracy. It was after several decades that the people of the country voted back a full term government with a full majority.

Once again, I bow to the 130 crore people of India and the democratic ethos of our nation.

During normal times, I would have been in your midst. However, the present circumstances do not permit that. That is why, I seek your blessings through this letter.

Your affection, goodwill and active cooperation have given new energy, and inspiration. The way you have showcased the collective strength of democracy is a guiding light for the whole world.

Back in 2014, the people of the country voted for a substantive transformation. In the last five years, the nation saw how the administrative apparatus broke itself free of status quo and from the swamp of corruption as well as misgovernance. True to the spirit of 'Antyodaya' the lives of millions have been transformed.

From 2014 to 2019, India's stature rose significantly. The dignity of the poor was enhanced. The nation achieved financial inclusion, free gas and electricity connections, total sanitation coverage, and made progress towards ensuring 'Housing for All.'

India demonstrated its mettle through the surgical strike and air strike. At the same time, decades old demands such OROP, One Nation One Tax- GST, better MSP for farmers were fulfilled.

In 2019, the people of India voted not merely for continuity but also with a dream of taking India to new heights. A dream of making India a global leader. The decisions taken in the last one year are directed at fulfilling this dream.

Today, 130 crore people feel involved and integrated in the development trajectory



of the nation. The light of 'Jan Shakti' and 'Rashtra Shakti' has ignited the entire nation. Powered by the Mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' India is marching forward in all spheres.

My fellow Indian,

In the last one year, some of the decisions were widely discussed and remain etched in public discourse.

The decision on Article 370 furthered the spirit of national unity and integration. The Ram Mandir judgment, delivered unanimously by the Honourable Supreme Court of India, brought an amicable end to a debate persisting for centuries. The barbaric practice of Triple Talaq has been confined to the dustbin of history. Amendment to the Citizenship Act was an expression of India's compassion and spirit of inclusiveness. But there have been many other decisions that have added momentum to the nation's development trajectory.

The creation of the post of the Chief of Defence Staff was a long pending reform that has improved coordination among the armed forces. At the same time, India has stepped up preparations for Mission Gaganyaan.

Empowering the poor, farmers, women and youth has remained our priority.

PM Kisan Samman Nidhi now includes all farmers. In just one year, more than Rupees 72,000 crore has been deposited in the accounts of over 9 crore 50 lakh farmers.

The Jal Jeevan Mission will ensure supply of potable drinking water through piped connections to over 15 crore rural households.

A huge campaign of free vaccination is being conducted for better health of our 50 crore livestock.

For the first time in our country's history, farmers, farm labourers, small shopkeepers and workers in unorganised sector are assured the provision of regular monthly pension of Rs. 3000 after the age of 60 years.

Besides the facility of availing bank loans, a separate department has also been created for fishermen. Several other decisions have been taken to strengthen the fisheries sector. This will boost the blue economy.

Similarly, it has been decided to constitute a Vyapari Kalyan Board for timely resolution of the problems of the traders. Higher quantum of financial assistance is being provided to more than 7 crore women attached to self help groups. Recently the loans without guarantee for self help groups has been doubled to Rs 20 lakh from the earlier 10 lakh.

Keeping in mind the education of tribal children, we have begun the construction of more than 400 new Ekalavya Model Residential Schools.

Several people friendly laws have been ushered during in the last year. Our Parliament has broken the decadesold record in terms of productivity. As a result, whether it be the Consumer Protection Act, the amendment to Chit Fund Law or laws to provide more protection to women, children and Divyang, their passage in the Parliament



was expedited.

As a result of the policies and decisions of the government, the rural-urban gap is shrinking. For the first time, the number of rural Indian using internet is 10% more than the number of urban Indians.

The list of such historic actions and decisions taken in national interest would be too long to detail in this letter. But I must say that every day of this year, my government has worked round the clock with full vigour, taking and implementing these decisions.

My fellow Indian,

As we were moving ahead at fast pace in the fulfilment of hopes and aspirations of our countrymen, the Coronavirus global pandemic engulfed our country as well.

While on one hand are powers with great economic resources and state of the art healthcare systems, on the other hand is our country besieged with problems amidst a vast population and limited resources.

Many feared that India will become a problem for the world when Corona hits India. But today, through sheer confidence and resilience, you have transformed the way the world looks at us. You have proven that the collective strength and potential of Indians is unparalleled compared even to the powerful and prosperous countries of the world. Be it clapping and lighting a lamp to the honouring of Corona Warriors by India's armed forces, Janta curfew or by faithful adherence to rules during the nationwide lockdown, on every occasion you have shown that Ek Bharat is the guarantee for Shrestha Bharat.

In a crisis of this magnitude, it can certainly not be claimed that no one suffered any inconvenience or discomfort. Our labourers, migrant workers, artisans & craftsmen in small scale industries, hawkers and such fellow countrymen have undergone tremendous suffering. We are working in a united and determined way to alleviate their troubles.

However, we have to take care to ensure that inconveniences that we are facing do not turn into disasters. Hence, it is very important for every Indian to follow all rules and guidelines. We have displayed patience so far and we should continue to do so. This is one of the important reasons for India being safer and in a better state than many other countries. This is a long battle but we have started traversing on the path of victory, and victory is our collective resolve.

In the last few days, a super cyclone has wreaked havoc in parts of West Bengal and Odisha. Here too, the resilience of the people of these states is noteworthy. Their courage inspires the people of India.

Dear friends,

At such a time, there is also a widespread debate on how the economies of various countries, including India's, will recover. However, given the way India has surprised the world with its unity and resolve in the fight against Coronavirus, there is a firm



belief that we will also set an example in economic revival. In the economic domain, through their strength, 130 crore Indians can not only surprise the world but also inspire it.

It is the need of the hour that we must become selfreliant. We have to move forward based on our own abilities, in our own way, and there is only one way to do it – Aatmanirbhar Bharat or Selfreliant India.

The recent Rs 20 lakh crore package given for Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is a major step in this direction.

This initiative will usher in a new era of opportunities for every Indian, be it our farmers, workers, small entrepreneurs or youth associated with start ups.

The fragrance of Indian soil along with the sweat, hard work and talent of our workers will create products that will reduce India's dependence on imports and will move towards selfreliance.

Dear friends,

In this journey of the last six years, you have continuously showered me with love and blessings.

It is the strength of your blessings that has made the nation take historic decisions and progress rapidly in the last one year. However, I am also aware that there is a lot that needs to be done. There are many challenges and problems that our country faces. I am working day and night. There could be deficiencies in me but there is nothing that our country lacks. So, I believe in you, your strength and your abilities even more than I believe in myself.

The source of strength for my resolve is you, your support, blessings and affection.

Due to the global pandemic this is certainly a time of crisis but for us Indians this is also a time for a firm resolve.

We must always remember that the present and future of 130 crore will never be dictated by an adversity.

We will decide our present and our future.

We will move ahead on the path of progress and victory will be ours.

It is said that- कृतम् मे दक्षिणे हस्ते, जयो मे सब्य आहितः

This means, if we have action and duty on one hand, then success is assured in the other hand.

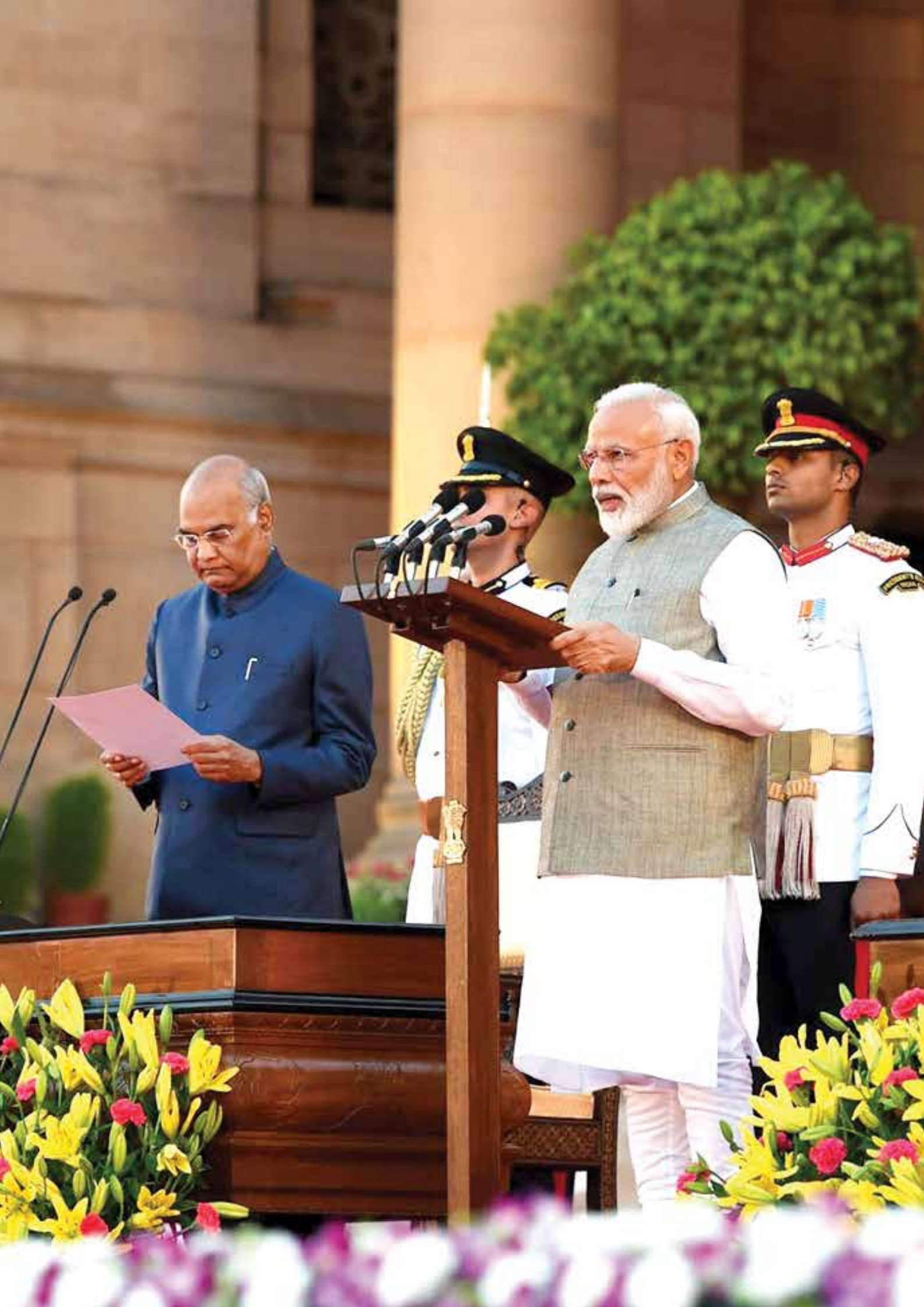
With prayers for our country's success, I bow to you once again.

My heartiest wishes to you and your family.

Stay healthy, stay safe!!!

Stay aware, stay informed!!!

**Your Pradhan Sevak
Narendra Modi**





'HONOURED TO SERVE INDIA'

**PM NARENDRA MODI AND 57 MINISTERS
TAKE OATH OF OFFICE AND SECRECY**

SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS, SABKA VISHWAS

After a landslide victory in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the leader of NDA Shri Narendra Modi was sworn in as the Prime Minister of India for the second term on 30 May, 2019 in New Delhi. Hon'ble President Shri Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath of office and secrecy to Shri Narendra Modi and his cabinet at a glittering and grand swearing-in ceremony.



Apart from the leaders of BIMSTEC countries, including Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan, heads of the states from Kyrgyzstan and Mauritius graced the ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena, Bhutanese Prime Minister Lotay Tshering, Bangladesh President Abdul Hamid, Special Envoy of Thailand, Minister Grisada Boonrach, Myanmar President U Win Myint also attended the swearing-in ceremony.

After Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Rajnath Singh, Shri Amit Shah, Shri Nitin Gadkari, Shri D V Sadananda Gowda, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and former foreign secretary Shri S. Jaishankar were administered the oath of office.

After taking the oath PM Shri Narendra Modi tweeted, "Honoured to serve India!"

Prior to the oath taking ceremony Shri Narendra Modi also visited Rajghat, Sadaiv Atal Samadhi and National War Memorial to pay homage.

This was the second time Shri Modi took the oath at the forecourt of Rashtrapati Bhavan. He was sworn-in by the then President Shri Pranab Mukherjee in 2014 in the presence of over 5000 guests including the heads of SAARC countries.

Earlier, Chandra Shekhar in 1990 and Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 1999 were sworn-in at the sprawling forecourt.

Notable, with a massive mandate in the Lok Sabha elections 2019, the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) won 353 of 543 seats in the lower house of Parliament. ■



PM NARENDRA MODI BOWS BEFORE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi bowed and respectfully touched the Constitution of India with his forehead, as he walked towards the podium after being elected as the leader of the NDA and BJP parliamentary party after a landslide victory in 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

Prime Minister Shri Modi humbly greeted the newly elected MPs with folded hands in the Central Hall of the

Parliament before walking towards the Constitution, which was placed atop a risen platform with a white cloth.

The gesture reminisced of his action in 2014. As he stepped into the Parliament for the first time after storming the BJP into power with massive majority Shri Narendra Modi bent down with his forehead touching the stairs of Parliament House, to register his high respect for the temple of democracy. ■

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF MODI GOVERNMENT 2.0





HISTORIC DECISIONS

Article 370 revoked, Two new Union Territories - Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh came into existence:

The Article 370 was revoked for the rapid development of the state. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Bill 2019 was approved by President Shri Ram Nath Kovind on 9 August. Two new Union Territories - Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh came into existence on 31 October.



Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019: The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 enabled the Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities who came to India due to religious persecution from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan to get Indian citizenship. This act will be written on the pages of history with golden letters.

Tripal Talaq: It is the strong will of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and his commitment towards the Constitution that the Modi government gave its opinion in favor of crores of Muslim women in the Supreme Court. With the Supreme Court's decision on Triple Talaq, today, crores of Muslim women are breathing free air from the stigma of this evil practice. In this regard, the Modi government empowered Muslim women by enacting a strong law 'Muslim Women (Protection of Marriage Rights) Bill, 2019' on Triple Talaq.



TRIPAL TALAQ BILL PASSED



Bru-Reang Agreement: A landmark agreement between the Government of India, the Government of Tripura and Mizoram and the Bru-Reang representatives was signed in New Delhi on 16 January. In a landmark decision on settling the Bru-Reang community in Tripura, this new agreement will provide permanent solution to this huge human problem that has been going on for nearly 23 years and about 34 thousand people will be settled in Tripura.



SEVERAL LANDMARK DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CABINET

- **Voluntary and contributory pension scheme** for small and marginal farmers (SMFs) across the country
- **14.5 crore farmers will be benefited from Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana:** additional 2 crore more farmers will get benefit from the revised scheme.
- **3 crore retail traders and shopkeepers benefited from the new pension scheme:** Under this scheme shopkeepers, retail traders and self-employed people have been ensured a minimum monthly pension of Rs 3000 after attaining the age of 60 years.
- **The government reduced the ESI contribution rate** from 6.5 percent to 4 percent. This will benefit 3.6 crore employees and 12.85 lakh employers.



Paved the Path for the construction of Ram temple: The Supreme Court in a unanimous decision on November 9, paved the Path for the construction of Ram temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya and directed the Center to provide a plot of five acres land to Sunni Waqf Board for the construction of the new mosque. The Modi government has announced a 'Trust' for the construction of the temple as per the court order.

- **Kartarpur Corridor Dedicated to the Nation:** Indian pilgrims can now go to Gurdwara Kartarpur Saheb in Pakistan with the commencement of check post of Kartarpur Corridor.
- **Bodo Agreement:** The historic Bodo Agreement has paved the path for surrender of 1500 armed Bodo militants helping them to join mainstream. The Government has also approved a special package of Rs. 1500 crore for the development of Bodo region.
- **More than 1 crore beneficiaries under 'Ayushman Bharat':** India has achieved a huge success in providing benefits to more than 1 crore people under 'Ayushman Bharat Yojana'.
- **5 years of Atal Pension Yojana:** Atal Pension Yojana has achieved extraordinary work by registering 2.23 crore people. The scheme was launched with the objective of providing old age income security to workers in the unorganized sector and guaranteeing minimum pension after the age of 60 years.
- **Huge jump in 'Ease of Doing Business'**



Report: India jumped from 142nd position to 63rd position as a result of continuous concrete measures taken by the BJP-led NDA government. India improved its ranking in World Bank's 'Doing Business Report' by leaping from the lower 142nd position in 2014. It has reached 63rd position in the year 2019.

• **Budget for \$5-trillion economy:** Soon after assuming office for the second term in 30 May, 2019 the Narendra Modi-led government set a target of taking the economy to USD 5 trillion over the next five years till 2024. India's GDP is currently estimated at around USD 3 trillion.

❖ At present, India is the fifth-largest economy in the world, with GDP of \$2.94 trillion in 2019, according to the IMF's World Economic Outlook of October 2019. The US, China, Japan and Germany are larger economics.

❖ The government is working hard to realize Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's dream of making the country a five trillion dollar economy by 2024 and has taken many steps in that direction.

❖ The government proposed to spend Rs 30,42,230 crore in the budget 2020-21, which is 12.7% higher than the revised estimate of 2019-20.

❖ Among big budget allocations Defence sector got 4,71,378 crore, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare got 1,42,762 crore, Rural Development got 1,22,398 crore, Health and Family Welfare got 67,112 crore, Human Resource Development got 99,312 crore etc.

❖ Start-ups are allowed to get a full tax waiver on profits for any three consecutive years.

• **Expansion of 'Pradhan Mantri Vay Vandana Yojana':** The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 20 May 2020 gave its approval to enable the welfare of senior citizens and old age income security.

Pakistan to reconsider the execution of Kulbhushan Jadhav sentenced to death: International Court of Justice

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled on 17 July that Pakistan should reconsider the death sentence awarded to an Indian citizen Mr. Kulbhushan Jadhav. This is a big victory for India.



• **Cabinet approves creation of 40 lakh metric tonnes of sugar reserves:** To create a safe stock of 40 lakh metric tons (LMT) of sugar from August 4, 2019 to July 31, 2020 (for one year) and for this a maximum of Rs. 1674 crores fund is estimated.

• **Bharat Ratna conferred on Pranab Mukherjee, Nanaji Deshmukh, Bhupen Hazarika:** Former President Shri Pranab Mukherjee, renowned social worker Nanaji Deshmukh and singer Shri Bhupen Hazarika

were awarded the country's highest civilian honour Bharat Ratna on 8 August.





- **Parliament approves RTI Amendment Bill:**

Parliament on 25 July approved a Bill amending the Right to Information (RTI) Act. The Modi government is committed to transparency, public participation and simplification.

- **Successful test of surface-to-air quick-response missile:**

Defense Research Development Organization (DRDO) successfully launched a state-of-the-art quick-response surface-to-air missile from Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur on August 4.

- **President approved the bill to increase the number of judges in Supreme Court:**

On August 10, President Shri Ram Nath Kovind signed a bill to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court from 30 to 33 besides the Chief Justice.

- **Eight Apache Combat Helicopters joined the Air Force:**

Apache Helicopter will increase the firepower of Indian Air Force. The Apache AH-64E is the world's most advanced multi-role combat helicopter.

- **Four big banks formed by merger of 10 banks:**

The NDA government announced the merger of 10 nationalized bank on 30 August 2019 in a big initiative to create world-class banks in the country. This initiative which came into effect on 1 April 2020 will not only accelerate economic growth, but will also help the country to build a \$ 5 trillion economy.

- **Big gift to sugarcane farmers in form of Rs 6,286 crore subsidy:**

On 28 August 2019, during the sugarcane season 2019-20 government gave its approval for providing export subsidy at the rate of Rs 10,448 per metric ton for sugar mills.

- **Prime Minister launches 'Fit India' campaign:**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the 'Fit India Campaign' on 29 August, terming fitness an

integral part of Indian culture.

- **Corporate tax reduced to 22% for domestic companies and 15% for new domestic manufacturing companies. Effective tax rate is down by around 10 percent:**

To accelerate economic growth and boost investment and employment generation, the NDA government led by BJP at the Center has on 20 September 2019, announced huge cuts in corporate tax. With this fresh incentive of the government, the effective rate of corporate tax has come down by about 10 percent.



- **National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons:**

This pension scheme is meant for the merchants (shopkeepers / retail traders and self-employed persons) whose annual turnover does not exceed Rs. 1.5 crores came into effect from 22 July 2019.

- **National Animal Disease Control and National Artificial Insemination Program:**

The expenditure of this program, fully sponsored by the Central Government, is Rs 12652 crore. In an effort to

reduce both these diseases, more than 60 crore animals will be vaccinated across the country. The programme was launched by PM on 11 September 2019.

- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana Reaches One Crore Beneficiaries:**

The government's flagship scheme for pregnant women and lactating mothers - Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) - has reached more than one crore beneficiaries. A total amount of more than 4,000 crores has been disbursed to the beneficiaries under the scheme.

- **Rural India became free from open defecation:**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi declared the country free from open defecation on



2 October in Ahmedabad. He said that construction of toilets is not enough, but it is also necessary to make their use part of the habit. The Prime Minister said that the country's productivity has also increased due to the cleanliness drive.

- **Making India free of single-use plastic by the year 2022:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that by 2022, we have to achieve the goal of making the country free of single-use plastic.

- **Financial assistance to the families of the martyrs increased four time from Rs. 2 to 8 lakhs:** The financial assistance given to the families of those who lost their lives in war or to the Divyang soldiers has been increased four times. On October 5, the proposal to increase the existing amount of Rs 2 lakh to 8 lakh was approved. This amount will be given under the Army War Casualty Welfare Fund (ABCWF).

- **More than 90 lakhs houses sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban):** The Central Clearance and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) approved the proposal to construct 1.23 lakh houses for the partner states with an investment of Rs 4,988 crore. Central assistance of Rs 1,805 crore will be provided by the Government of India.

- **Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express launched:** Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah flagged off the Delhi-Katra Vande Bharat Express train from New Delhi Railway Station on 3 October 2019.

- **India received the first Rafale aircraft from France on 8 October 2019:** In the ceremony organized to hand over the first aircraft in a series of 36 Rafale fighter jets purchased from France, Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh said that the French-made Rafale fighter aircraft will further strengthen the Indian Air Force. The ceremony

was held at the establishment of Rafale aircraft manufacturer Dassault Aviation in France.

- **INS Nilgiri launched:** On 28 September, Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the warship 'INS Nilgiri'. Shri Rajnath Singh said that the government is making concerted efforts to modernize the navy and equip it with the best platforms, weapons and sensors to deal with any traditional and unconventional threats to India's maritime interests.

- **Residents of 1797 unauthorized colonies of Delhi gets the ownership right: 40 lakh people will get benefit.**

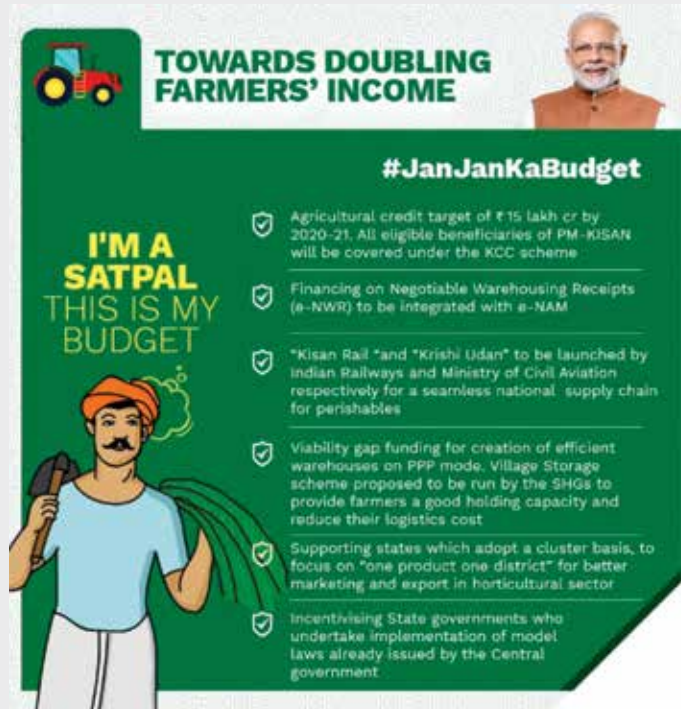
The Union Cabinet on 23 October approved the regularization of Delhi's unauthorized colonies which enabled residence of these colonies to get ownership right.

- **Merger of BSNL and MTNL:** Approval of Rs 68,751 crore revival package. The central government approved a Rs 68,751-crore revival package for public sector telecom companies BSNL and MTNL on 23 October, 2019. This includes merger of MTNL with BSNL, Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for employees and 4G

spectrum allocation.

- **Rs. 5.5 Lakhs given to 5300 Kashmiri families who came from Pakistan Occupied Jammu & Kashmir:** The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced financial assistance to 5300 families displaced from Pakistan Occupied Kashmir and settled in different states of India. Now these families will be given financial assistance of Rs.5.5 lakh from the center.

- **Rs 25,000 crore approved for 4.58 lakh unfinished flats:** It will help to complete 1,600 stalled projects. The Union Cabinet on 6 November approved the creation of Rs 25,000 crore Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) to complete 4.58 lakh unfinished flats. Government will give 10 thousand





crores rupees and State Bank of India and LIC will give 15 thousand crores rupees.

- **India among the top countries providing favorable environment for financial inclusion:** India is among the top countries in providing favorable environment for financial inclusion. A report released on 31 October stated that India has allowed its non-banking sector to issue e-money, providing an environment of proportional consumer scrutiny and effective consumer protection.

- **Rejection of RCEP in the national interest:** India rejected Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. Today's India is not one to bow before the international pressure, but is capable of protecting its own interests.

- **Inauguration of Kalaburgi Airport under Udaan / Regional Connectivity Scheme:** Significantly, 230 routes and 42 airports have been operated under 'Udaan' so far. The flight will connect all the states and union territories of India with about 700 air routes, laying the foundation for a new regional connectivity in India's aviation sector.

Social, Economic & Educational Progress of Minorities

- **Employment generated** for 2.65 lakh skilled artisans belonging to minority community
- **Scholarships granted** in large numbers to Muslim students
- **Unprecedented increase in Haj quota** ensured 2 lakh Indian Muslims perform Haj this time
- Entire process of Haj pilgrimage made **digital & online**
- Government undertaking **100% digitization of Waqf properties** across the country

- **Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2019 passed by Parliament:** In this bill, an attempt was made to make the Trust governing body apolitical by removing the clause relating to making the President of the Indian National Congress a permanent member of the Trust.
- **Approval to increase government accommodation for war-injured soldiers from three months to one year:** It was decided to increase the government accommodation for war-injured soldiers from three months to one year.

Keeping in mind the needs and demands of the armed forces, the government had reviewed the existing provisions.

- **Approval to start Bharat Bond Exchange Traded Fund: Bharat Bond ETF will be the first corporate bond in the country:** The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on December 4 approved Bharat Bond Exchange Traded Fund (ETF).

- **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Bill, 2019 passed:** The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Merger of Union Territories) Bill, 2019 was

passed in December. The merger of Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Bill was brought keeping in mind the requirements of meaningful utilization of officers and employees, increasing administrative efficiency, reducing administrative expenses, providing better services and ensuring better monitoring of schemes.

- **India successfully conducted flight test of two Pinak missiles:** Two test

firing were carried out by Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) as part of the series of flight tests of Pinak missile system. The mission objectives of this test were to test low range, test live warhead working systems with proximity fuses.

- **Appointment of the first Chief of Defense Staff:** The NDA government created a new Department of Military Affairs in the Ministry of Defense and the newly appointed Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat will head it. The new department will have functions related to the



three armies - the Army, Navy and Air Force.

- **'Atal Bhujal Yojana' introduced:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched 'Atal Bhujal Yojana' on 25 December, which will benefit 8,350 villages in seven states. He also named the tunnel connecting Leh and Manali as 'Atal Tunnel'.

- **Aadhaar allotted to 125 crore residents of India:** The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) announced on 27 December that the Aadhaar project has achieved a new milestone by crossing the 125 crore mark. This means that more than 125 crore residents of India have 12-digit unique identification.

- **Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Port Trust:** The Prime Minister also announced the name of Kolkata Port Trust after Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee.

- **Welfare scheme for pensioners of Kolkata Port Trust:**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi handed over a cheque of Rs 501 crore as last installment to meet the shortage of pension fund of retired and existing employees of Kolkata Port Trust. He also honored two of Kolkata Port Trust's oldest pensioners, Mr. Nagina Bhagat (105 years) and Mr. Naresh Chandra Chakraborty (100 years).

- **PM Modi launches E-GRAM SWARAJ app and SWAMITVA YOJANA on Panchayati Raj Day:** In another e-governance move the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on April 24, 2020 launched e-Gram Swaraj portal and Swamitva Yojana, which will conduct their operations online. The two new digital platforms are part of the central government's plan to push growth in villages.

- ❖ The new e-Gram app will help in accelerating projects in villages from planning to completion while Swamitva Yojana will use drones in mapping of properties in villages.

- ❖ According to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the new mode of e-governance will help in reducing disputes over property and the portal will make it easier for villagers to avail loans from banks.

- ❖ The Prime Minister said it is a step towards complete digitization of Gram Panchayats and in future, it will become the single platform which will keep the records of all the works taken up by the Gram Panchayats.

- **Central government defines domicile for Jammu & Kashmir:**

The central government in its latest gazette notification on 31 March, 2020 stated that any person who has resided in the Union Territory of J&K for the period of fifteen years or has studied for the period of seven years and appeared in secondary and higher secondary board examination would be considered as domicile of J&K and appointed in the services there.

- ❖ The new gazette notification states that a migrant registered by the Relief and

Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants) in the newly formed Union Territory would also be considered as domicile. The children of parents who have stayed in J&K for 15 years or are registered as migrants would also be considered as domicile.

- ❖ The children of those central government officials, All India service officials, Officials of Public sector undertaking, autonomous body of central government, public sector banks, officials of statutory bodies officials of central

SCHEME FOR FORMALISATION OF MICRO FOOD PROCESSING ENTERPRISES (FME)

TOTAL OUTLAY: RS. 10,000 CRORE

- 2,00,000 FPOs/SHGs/Cooperatives and working micro enterprises to be directly benefitted
- Expected to generate 9 lakh skilled and semi-skilled jobs
- To be implemented over a 5-yr period from 2020-21 to 2024-25
- Cluster approach
- Focus on Perishables.

MGFPI



universities and recognized research institutes of central government who have served in J&K for a period of ten years would also be considered as domicile for purpose of appointment to any service in J&K.

- ❖ The notification has been issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in exercise of powers conferred by section 96 of the J&K Reorganization Act, 2019, under section 14 referred to as the J&K Civil Services 'Decentralization and Recruitment Act'.

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

The country's GDP growth rate has been one of the highest in the world in the last decade - which has regularly increased at an annual rate of 6-7%.

- **Five years of 'Soil Health Card' scheme completed:** On February 2020, five years of the 'Soil Health Card' scheme were completed. Under this scheme, 10.74 crore soil health cards were distributed to farmers during the year 2015-17 (cycle-1) and 11.74 crore to soil health cards during the year 2017-19 (cycle-2).
- **Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) Phase-Two**

Approved: The Union Cabinet on 19 February approved the second phase of Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural). In this, after getting rid of open defecation, the focus will be on better facilities (ODF Plus) in public toilets. Approval of 'Establishment and Promotion of Farmer Producer Organizations' for the formation and promotion of 10,000 new FPOs. On 19 February, to ensure comprehensive benefits of the economy for the farmers, it approved the formation of 10,000 new FPOs during the five-year period from 2019-2022 to 2023-24. Assistance

will be continued for five years from the inception year of each FPO.

- **More than 81 percent women account holders under Stand-up India Scheme:** The Ministry of Finance has launched various schemes in the last six years, with special provisions to empower women. These schemes have empowered women financially to live better lives and fulfill their dreams of becoming entrepreneurs.

- **Stand-up India Scheme:** As on 17 Feb 2020, 81 percent account holders were women under the Stand-up India Scheme. 16712.72 crore has been sanctioned for women account holders. 9106.13 crore was disbursed to women account holders.

- **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY):** As on 31 Jan 2020, more than 22.53 crore loans have been approved after the launch of the scheme. Out of this, over 15.75 crore loans have been given to women, 70% of the total loan borrowers are women.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):** Out of 38.33 crore beneficiaries as on 19 Feb 2020, 20.33 crore beneficiaries are women, which is 53%.
- **Atal Pension Yojana (APY):** The scheme is open for membership through banks and post offices. As

INDIA'S ECONOMIC FIGHTBACK AGAINST COVID - 19

RBI DECISIONS TO INFUSE LIQUIDITY AND GIVE RELIEF TO DEBTORS

- **Moratorium on monthly instalments on all term loans extended by 3 months till 31 Aug.**
- **Repo rate (short-term lending) reduced by 40 basis points (bps) to 4.0%.**
- **The reverse repo (short-term borrowing) rate reduced to 3.35%.**
- **Rs. 15,000 crore line of credit extended to EXIM Bank.**

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on 22 Feb 2020, more than 93 lakh beneficiaries (43%) are women out of approximately 2.15 crore total subscribers under APY.

- **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):** Under PMJJBY, 40.70% of the enrollments are of women members and 58.21% of the beneficiaries are women. Of the total 4,71,71,568 names recorded (as on 31 Jan 2020), 1,91,96,805 women have registered their names. Out of a total of 1,69,216 claims, 95,508 claims of women beneficiaries have been paid.
- **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY):** Under PMSBY, 41.50% of the enrollments are of women members and 61.29% of the beneficiaries are women. (As on 31 Jan 2020) Of the total 15,12,54,678 names registered, 6,27,76,282 were registered by women. Out of a total of 38,988 claims, 23,894 claims have been paid to women beneficiaries. (As on 31.01.2020)

- **Govt approves changes in POCSO Act, includes death penalty for sexual offences against children:** To combat rising cases of child sex abuse, the Union Cabinet on 10 July, 2019 approved amendments to strengthen the POCSO Act by including death penalty for aggravated sexual assault on children, besides providing stringent punishments for other crimes against minors, officials said:
 - ❖ The proposed changes in the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act also provide for fines and imprisonment to curb child pornography.
 - ❖ The modification in the law will address the need for stringent measures against rising trend of child sex abuse in the country and combat the menace of relatively new kind of crimes and the strong penal provisions will act as a deterrent. ■

TOWARDS BECOMING A SPACE SUPERPOWER

- **India successfully launches 'Moon Mission-2':** India becomes the fourth country to land on moon after Russia, US, China
India successfully launched its second lunar mission "Chandrayaan-2" on 22 July 2019 from Satish Dhawan Space Center (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh with the aim of "taking countless dreams to the moon".
- **Chandrayaan-2 successfully orbited the Moon:** The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) successfully orbited Chandrayaan-2 on 20 August 2019, a major achievement.
- **Successful launch of Cartosat-3 and 13 commercial Nano satellites:** India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle has launched 13 Nano satellites of US with Cartosat-3 in its 49th flight (PSLV-C47) at Satish Dhawan Space Center (SDSC) on 27 November 2019.
- **Fifth flight of PSLV:** Successful launch of RISAT-2 BR1 and nine commercial satellites. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle successfully launched the RISAT-2 BR1 and nine commercial satellites in its fiftieth flight (PSLV-C48) from Satish Dhawan Space Center (SDSC), Sriharikota on 11 December 2019.
- **India's latest communication satellite 'GSAT-30':** India's latest communication satellite 'GSAT-30' was successfully launched from the French Guiana spaceport on 17 January 2020.





COVID-19 PANDEMIC CRISIS & MANAGEMENT



'JAAN HAI TOH JAHAN HAI'



'JANTA CURFEW'

PM Shri Narendra Modi in a televised address to the nation on 19 May, 2020 urged citizens to follow the 'Janta Curfew' on 22 March, 2020 from 7 AM to 9 PM to stop the spread of Coronavirus in the country. The PM urged the citizens to thank the Selfless Service Providers of the nation at 5 PM on the same day and said the success of such a people's movement and our efforts would be a symbol of our self restraint and determination to perform duty in the national interest.

'JAAN HAI TOH JAHAN HAI'

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in a televised address to the Nation on 24 March, 2020 called for a complete lockdown of the entire nation for the next 21 days beginning at midnight on 24 March, 2020 in an effort to contain the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Prime Minister said the social distancing is the only option to mitigate it.

PM JOINS THE NATION IN LIGHTING LAMPS ON 5 APRIL

PM Shri Narendra Modi joined the nation in lighting a lamp after turning off all lights at his residence in New Delhi on 5 April, 2020. Shri Modi, during his address to the nation

earlier had appealed to the citizens to switch off lights for 09 minutes at 09 PM to show solidarity in the fight against Coronavirus.

PM'S 07 STEPS IN FIGHT AGAINST CORONA PANDEMIC

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 14 April, 2020 announced the extension of lockdown till 3rd May, 2020. Addressing the Nation in combating the spread of the corona virus, PM said the extension of lockdown was decided keeping in mind suggestions from many states, experts and the people.

Shri Modi Exhorted the Citizens to Follow Seven Steps In their Fight Against the Pandemic.

- To take special care of the elderly, especially those who have chronic disease.
- To completely adhere to the 'Lakshman Rekha' of Lockdown and Social Distancing; use homemade face-covers and masks without fail.
- To follow the instructions issued by AYUSH ministry to enhance immunity.
- To download the 'Arogya Setu' Mobile App to help prevent the spread of corona infection. Inspire others to download the app as well.

MODI GOVT. REDUCES SALARIES OF PM, MINISTERS, MPs BY 30% FOR A YEAR & SUSPENDS MPLAD FOR 2 YEARS

The Union Cabinet approved a 30% cut in the salaries of all Members of Parliament and a two-year suspension of the MP Local Area Development (MPLAD) scheme so that the amount saved can go to the Consolidated Fund of India to fight COVID-19.

- The Cabinet, chaired by PM Shri Narendra Modi on 19 April, 2020 approved an ordinance to amend the Salaries, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, to cut the salaries of MPs by 30%.
- All MPs, including the Prime Minister and his Council of Ministers, would take the salary cut for financial year 2020-2021. In addition, the Cabinet had decided to suspend the MPLAD funds for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. The amount saved from scheme would be Rs.7,900 crore.
- Union Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar also informed that President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Vice-President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, as well as all Governors, had decided of their own volition to take a 30% salary cut.
- The entire amount saved would go to the Consolidated Fund of India.

GOVERNMENT CREATES PM CARES FUND

The Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES Fund) was created on 28 March 2020, following the



COVID-19 pandemic in India. The fund will be used for combating, containment and relief efforts against the Coronavirus outbreak and similar pandemic like situations in the future. The Prime Minister is the chairman of the trust. Trustees include the Defence, Home and Finance Ministers.

PM CARES Fund Trust allots Rs 3,100 crore for fight against Coronavirus on 13 May, 2020. Out of Rs 3,100 crore, a sum of around Rs 2,000 crore will be earmarked for the purchase of ventilators, Rs 1,000 crore will be used for care of migrant labourers and Rs100 crore will be given to support vaccine development.



- To take care of poor families; to fulfil their food requirements.
- To be compassionate towards the people who work in every individual business or industry. Do not deprive them of their livelihood.
- To pay utmost respect to our nation's Corona Warriors – our doctors and nurses, sanitation workers and police force.

PM MODI USES 'GAMCHA MASK'

Leading by example Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi used a face cover of Manipuri Gamcha, during his address to the nation on 14 April, 2020. Wherein, he announced an extension of the Coronavirus lockdown till 03 May. PM Shri Modi said Lengyan Gamcha is a symbol of unity.

SWISS ALPS LIGHTED WITH INDIAN TRI-COLOUR

Switzerland has expressed solidarity with India in its fight against the Coronavirus pandemic by projecting the Indian Tricolor of more than 1000 meters in size on the famous Matterhorn mountain in the Swiss Alps on 18 April, 2020 to give "hope and strength" after India under PM Shri Narendra Modi supplied HCQ tablets & leads the #Covid_19 battle.

INDIA EVACUATES 1444 NATIVE & FOREIGNERS BEFORE LOCKDOWN

As the Coronavirus epidemic spreads globally, Indian government left no stone unturned to help its nationals stranded in different countries hit by the virus. The Modi government has evacuated 1444 persons, including 48 nationals from countries such as Maldives, Myanmar, Bangladesh, China, US, Madagascar, Sri Lanka in the pre lockdown period.

INDIA BRINGS BACK OVER 28,000 STRANDED NATIONALS FROM 30 COUNTRIES

India has brought back over 28,500 nationals stranded in over 30 countries during the first two phases of a massive and complex repatriation process under the 'Vande Bharat' and 'Samudra Setu' missions. 4921 students, 3969 professionals, 5936 workers, 3254 tourists, 3588 visitors, 610 deportees, 429 who were granted amnesty in different countries, 551 crew as well as 5272 from different

#IndiaFightsCorona
STAY SMART, STAY SAFE
AAROGYA SETU
becomes world's largest contact tracing app
In just 40 days,
11 CRORE 54 LAKH
people downloaded the app
Download Now!
Available on the App Store
GET IT ON Google Play
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categories, altogether 28,532 Indian nationals came back from 30 different countries. Under 'Samudra Setu' Indian Navy Vessels brought back 1,488 Indians.

'VANDE BHARAT MISSION' BRINGS BACK 50 EXPECTANT MOTHERS

National Carrier Air India under 'Vande Bharat Mission' brought 50 expecting mothers in one flight from London to Hyderabad on 11 May, 2020. Due to prevailing pandemic situation in London, the gynecologists are not examining pregnant ladies. This is something which compelled them to return to India.

GOVT SET UP ROBUST HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COVID-19

Adequate health infrastructure and health facilities have been identified and set up for COVID-19 management in the country. Till today there are 7,740 facilities in 483 districts have been identified in all the states/UTs that include hospitals and facilities of the state/UT governments as well as the central government. There are 6,56,769 isolation beds, 3,05,567 beds for confirmed cases, 3,51,204 beds for suspected cases, 99,492 oxygen supported beds, 1,696 facilities with oxygen manifolds and 34,076 ICU beds.

1 TESTING LABORATORY IN JANUARY TO 610 IN MAY

Till 25 May, India has 610 testing laboratories — 432 public and 178 private which are currently testing 1.1 lakh samples daily. In January, 2020 the country has only 01 testing laboratory. The testing capacity has also been increased to 1.4 lakh samples per day.

INDIA'S COVID-19 FATALITY RATE LOWEST IN WORLD

The Covid-19 fatality rate in India is among the lowest in the world at 2.87 per cent, as per the government data on 26 May, 2020. Timely lockdown, early detection and management of Coronavirus infection cases are the main reasons for the low death toll. From 3.38 per cent in April, the fatality rate in the country has come down to 2.87 per cent as against 6.4 per cent globally.

Among other countries France has a fatality rate of 19.9 per cent followed by Belgium at 16.3, Italy at 14.3, UK at 14.2, Spain 12.2, Sweden 11.9, Canada 7.6, Brazil 6.3, the US at 6.0, China 5.5 and Germany at 4.6 per cent.



0.3 DEATHS PER LAKH IN INDIA AGAINST 4.5 DEATHS GLOBALLY

India has 0.3 deaths per lakh population as against the 4.5 deaths globally, which is among the lowest in the world. This has been due to lockdown, timely identification and better management of COVID-19 cases. According to WHO Report Belgium has 81.2 deaths per lakh population while Spain has 61.5 deaths per population and UK has reported 55.3 deaths per lakh population. Italy, France, Sweden, US, Canada, Brazil and Germany have 54.3, 42.3, 39.3, 29.3, 17.2, 10.5 and 10.0 deaths per lakh population respectively.

UNION GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES “AAROGYA SETU”

As a prominent preventive measure, the Modi Government has launched an application called ‘Aarogya Setu’. This is a toll-free service enables people to assess themselves the risk of their catching the Corona Virus infection. India’s ‘Aarogya Setu’ becomes world’s highest downloaded app in just 13 days.

INDIA SENT MEDICINES TO OVER 120 NATIONS

India, which is regarded as the “Pharmacy of World”, has sent Hydroxychloroquine medicines to over 120 countries on their request to counter Covid 19 pandemic.

6.39% COVID-19 CASE NEEDS HOSPITAL & RECOVERY RATE NOW AT 42%

In India the Corona recovery rate was 42% as on 25 May. Nearly 42 per cent of the total Covid patients were cured as per Health Ministry data. As per data, only which 6.9 per cent require oxygen, ventilator support in India. Globally, 62 people per 100,000 are infected and In India, the figure is much lower at 7.9.

‘LOCKDOWN REDUCED INTENSITY OF COVID-19 SPREAD BY MORE THAN 60%’

The lockdown has been largely successful in containing the intensity of the corona spread in India, shows a study by the University of Michigan in the United States. By the end of Lockdown 1.0, i.e. April 14, it came down to 1.71. On May 3, when Lockdown 2.0 ended, it reduced to 1.46, and on May 16, it further dipped to 1.27. This means the lockdown brought down the reproductive rate of the virus by almost three times.

AIR FORCE GIVES AERIAL SALUTE TO CORONA WARRIORS

Indian Air Force did a fly past in various parts of the country including Delhi and NCR to pay salute to those Corona Warriors who are at the forefront, bravely fighting COVID-19 on 03 May, 2020. PM Shri Narendra Modi hailed the mega exercise.

FROM ‘ZERO’ INDIA NOW PRODUCES MORE THAN 3 LAKH PPEs & N95 MASKS PER DAY

India has significantly ramped up its domestic production capacity of PPEs and N95 masks in just two months time and became the second biggest producer of the world. From zero production in February 2020, the country is producing more than 3 lakh PPEs and 3 lakh N95 masks per day till mid May.

INDIAN NAVY DEVELOPS PPE MADE OF SPECIAL FABRIC

In a major step a low cost PPE has been developed by Indian Navy at Institute of Naval Medicine, Mumbai. Towards rapid mass production of the Medical Personal Protective Equipment a Patent was also successfully filed by Min of Defence.

MICROWAVE STERILIZER ‘ATULYA’ DEVELOPED

Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune supported by DRDO has developed a microwave sterilizer named as ‘ATULYA’ to disintegrate (COVID-19). The virus gets disintegrated by differential heating in the range of 560 to 600 Celsius temperatures.

MOBILE DISINFECTION SPRAYER DEVELOPED TO COMBAT COVID-19

Scientists at CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur, have developed two mobile indoor Disinfection Sprayer units. These Sprayers can also be used to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, and cardboards.

“COVID KAVACH ELISA” TEST FOR COVID-19

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-National Institute of Virology (NIV) at Pune has developed and validated the indigenous IgG ELISA test “COVID KAVACH ELISA” for antibody detection for COVID-19. The robust indigenous IgG ELISA test for antibody detection developed by ICMR-NIV will play a critical role in surveillance of proportion of population exposed to SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus infection.

OVER 50 LAKH MIGRANTS FERRIED IN 3,736 ‘SHRAMIK SPECIAL’ TRAINS

More than 50 lakh stranded migrant labourers have reached their home states in 3,736 ‘Shramik Special’ trains in the last 29 days as on 29 May, 2020. In a constant endeavour to provide relief to migrants to reach home State, Ministry of Railways has also decided to operationalize 2600 more ‘Shramik Special’ Trains till first week of June and it is expected to benefit 36 lakh more stranded passengers across the country. ■



AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT ABHIYAN

TOWARDS A SELF-RELIANT INDIA

| DESCRIPTION | COST (IN CRORE) |
|---|------------------|
| RBI Measures | 8,01,603 |
| Tax concessions from March 22, 2020 | 7,800 |
| Prime Minister's Poor Welfare Package (PMGKP) | 170,000 |
| PM Announcement for Health Sector | 15,000 |
| Emergency W/C facility for businesses including MSMEs | 3,00,000 |
| Subordinate debt for stressed MSMEs | 20,000 |
| Fund of Funds for MSMEs | 50,000 |
| EPF Support for Business & Workers | 2,800 |
| Reduction in EPF rates | 6,750 |
| Special Liquidity Scheme for NBFC/HFC/MFI | 30,000 |
| Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme 2.0 for the liabilities of NBFCs/MFIs | 45,000 |
| Liquidity injection for DISCOMs | 90,000 |
| Reduction in TDS / TCS rates | 50,000 |
| Free food grain supply to stranded migrant workers for 2 months | 3,500 |
| Interest subvention for MUDRA Shishu loans | 1,500 |
| Special credit facility to street vendors | 5,000 |
| Housing CLSS-MIG | 70,000 |
| Additional Emergency Working Capital through NABARD | 30,000 |
| Additional Credit through KCC | 2,00,000 |
| Food Micro Enterprises | 10,000 |
| Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana | 20,000 |
| TOP to Total: Operation Greens | 500 |
| Agri Infrastructure Fund | 1,00,000 |
| Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund | 15,000 |
| Promotion of herbal cultivation | 4,000 |
| Beekeeping Initiative | 500 |
| Viability gap funding | 8,100 |
| Additional MGNREGS Allocation | 40,000 |
| Total | 20,97,053 |



PM'S Rs. 20 LAKH CRORE PACKAGE

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

- **Announcement of Special Economic and Comprehensive Package of Rs. 20 Lakh Crore:** Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced a special economic and comprehensive package of Rs. 20 lakh crore equal to 10% of India's GDP on 12 May 2020. He gave a clear call for a Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Along with this, he also outlined the five pillars of Aatmanirbhar Bharat such as economy, infrastructure, technology driven system and demand.

Massive relief to MSMEs:

- Rs. 3 lakh crore emergency working capital facility for businesses including MSMEs
- Loan of Rs. 20,000 crore for debt ridden MSMEs
- Equity of Rs 50,000 crore will be made accessible through 'MSME Fund of Funds'
- New definition of MSME and other measures for MSME
- No global tender in government tenders up to Rs 200 crore
- Employee Provident Fund support for professional and organized workers for the pay months of June, July and August 2020 increased by 3 months.
- EPF contribution will be reduced from 12% to 10% for next 3 months for employers and employees of all establishments

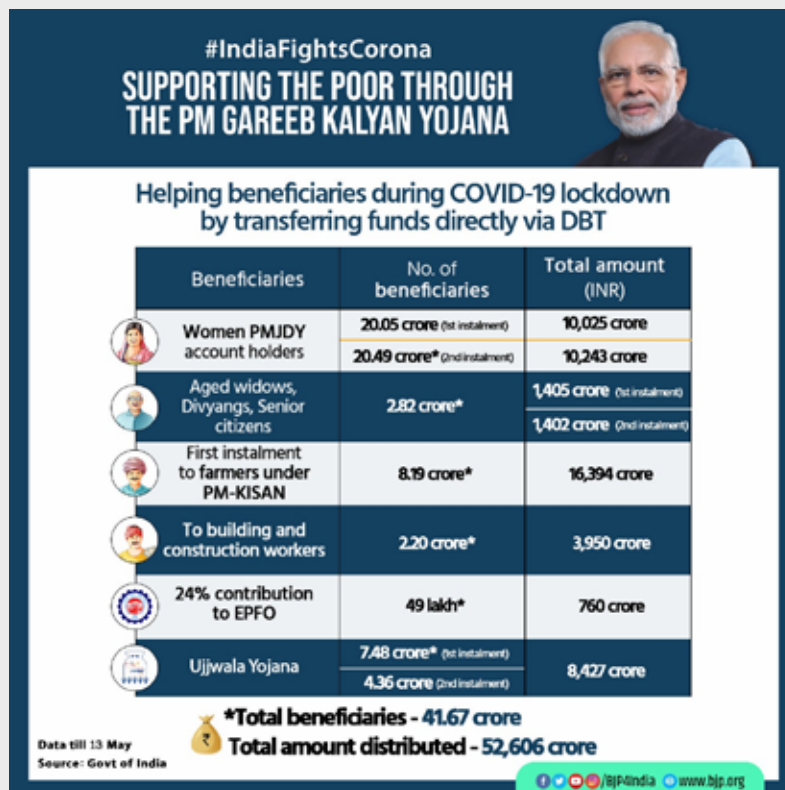
covered by EPFO

- Rs. 30,000 crore special liquidity scheme for NBFCs / HFCs / MFIs
- Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme 2.0 for the liabilities of NBFCs / MFIs at Rs 45,000 crore
- Rs. 90,000 crore liquidity to be made available for discoms
- Relief was given to contractors by extending the time up to six months to fulfill contractual obligations, including the obligations associated with EPC and concession agreements.
- Relief to real estate projects, registration for all registered projects and completion date will be extended by six months
- Tax relief for business, pending income tax refunds to charitable trusts and non-corporate businesses and businesses will be issued immediately
- 25% reduction in 'tax at source' and 'tax collected

at source' rates for the remaining period of FY 2020-21

- Union Finance Minister announces short-term and long-term measures for migrants, farmers, small traders and street vendors on 13 May 2020

- Free food grains to migrants for two months: One Nation One Ration Card. Using the technology system, it will be ensured that migrant workers can get ration (PDS) from





any fair price shop across the country by March 2021 - One Nation One Ration Card

- Scheme for affordable rent housing complexes for migrant workers and urban poor to be launched
- Interest subsidy of 2 percent for 12 months for the borrowers under 'Shishu Mudra'
- Rs 5000 crore loan facility for street vendors
- Rs 70,000 crore incentive to housing sector and middle income group through expansion of loan linked subsidy scheme for MIG under PMAY (urban)
- 6,000 crores for employment generation using CAMPA fund
- Additional emergency working capital of Rs 30,000 crore for farmers through NABARD
- Promotion of concessional loan of Rs 2 lakh crore to 2.5 crore farmers under Kisan Credit Card Scheme.

Key measures for strengthening agricultural infrastructure logistics, capacity building, governance and administrative reforms for agriculture, fisheries and food processing sectors:

- Agricultural infrastructure fund of Rs 1 lakh crore for farm-gate infrastructure for farmers
- Rs 10,000 crore scheme to formalize micro food enterprises (MFE)
- 20,000 crore for fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)
- Creating Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund - Rs 15,000 crore
- Measures for governance and administrative reforms for the agricultural sector
- Amendment in Essential Commodities Act to provide better prices to farmers
- Agricultural marketing reforms to

provide marketing options to farmers

Infrastructure reforms in eight sectors:

- Commencing of commercial mining in coal sector, diversified opportunities, liberal system, increasing private investment in mineral sector and policy reforms
- Increasing self-sufficiency in defense production Policy reforms in defense production
- 40,000 crore increase in allocation for MNREGA to boost employment
- The borrowing limit of the states was increased from 3% to 5% only for the year 2020-21 and promoted state level reforms
- Increasing investment in public health as well as other health-related reforms to prepare India for future epidemics.
- Defaults relating to Companies Act were removed from the category of crime
- Ease of doing business for companies
- Public sector enterprise policy for a new, Atmanirbhar Bharat

NO ONE WILL REMAIN HUNGRY

- Government directs FCI to also provide **food grains to non-NFSA beneficiaries with ration cards issued by state governments**
- Food grains of **5 Kg per person per month for 3 months** to be provided at the rates of Rs. 21/Kg for wheat and Rs. 22/Kg for rice
- Under PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana, 81 crore people are already getting **additional 5 kg rice/wheat and 1 kg of pulses FREE for 3 months**
- **NGOs and Charitable Organizations** can also buy directly from FCI at the same rate without any upper limit

#IndiaFightsCorona



#MODI20

GOVERNMENT'S HELPING HAND TO THE POOR

₹1.7 lakh crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri (PM) Garib Kalyan Yojana helping the poor during the lockdown

Under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, 80 crore poor people get 5 kg rice/wheat and 1 kg of pulse/family free of cost each month from April to June to ensure the food security

Extended treatment and testing of coronavirus under Ayushman Bharat to help the poor and needy

₹3.16 lakh crore set aside to focus on poor, migrants, and farmers to ensure they can restart their life with dignity

Aatmanirbhar Bharat

Rs 3 lakh crores Collateral-free Automatic Loans for Businesses, including MSMEs

- Businesses/MSMEs have been badly hit due to COVID19 need additional funding to meet operational liabilities built up, buy raw material and restart business
- Decision: Emergency Credit Line to Businesses/MSMEs from Banks and NBFCs up to 20% of entire outstanding credit as on 29.2.2020
 - Borrowers with up to Rs. 25 crore outstanding and Rs. 100 crore turnover eligible
 - Loans to have 4 year tenor with moratorium of 12 months on Principal repayment
 - Interest to be capped
 - 100% credit guarantee cover to Banks and NBFCs on principal and interest
 - Scheme can be availed till 31st Oct 2020
 - No guarantee fee, no fresh collateral
- 45 lakh units can resume business activity and safeguard jobs.



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PRADHAN MANTRI GARIB KALYAN YOJANA

Relief package of Rs 1.70 lakh crore announced on 26 March 2020

- Every health worker fighting Covid-19 will be provided an insurance cover of Rs 50 lakh under the insurance scheme.
- 80 crore poor will get 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg pulses of choice every month for free for the next three months.
- 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders will get Rs 500 every month for the next three months
- Under MGNREGA wages have been increased from Rs 182 to Rs 202 per day, 13.62 crore families will be benefited
- 3 crore poor senior citizens, poor widows and poor persons with disabilities will be given a amount of Rs 1,000
- Under the current 'PM Kisan Yojana', the government will pay Rs 2,000 to the farmers' account in the first week of April, benefiting 8.7 crore farmers.
- The Central Government has ordered the State Governments to use the 'Building and Construction Workers Welfare Fund' to give relief to construction workers.



MODI GOVERNMENT: 2014 - 2019

IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS OF MODI GOVERNMENT 1.0





MIDDLE CLASS : THE BACKBONE OF THE SOCIETY

- Increase in income tax exemption limit- Giving the biggest relief to the middle class, the limit for income tax exemption has been increased from 2.5 lakh to 5 lakh rupees for the first time.
- GST: One Nation, One Tax- With the introduction of GST, people got freedom from the web of various kinds of taxes and thousands of tolls have been closed down. This has made business easier.
- Low inflation rate - Retail inflation was recorded 2.05% in January 2019, which is the lowest in the last 19 months.
- Reduction in prices of Heart Stent - Heart Stents are now 85% cheaper saving 46,000 crores patients. Apart from this, 69% reduction in the cost of knee implants has saved Rs.1500 crores of public.
- Affordable and quality medicines through Jan Aushadi Kendra- More than 5,000 Jan Aushadi Kendra has been opened to provide cheap and quality medicines across the country. More than 800 medicines are available at these centers at very low prices.
- Air travel becomes cheaper - Air travel has become cheaper under the Udaan Scheme. Tickets are now available for Rs 2,500 for many domestic destinations.
- Approval of loans under Mudra scheme - In this scheme more than 16 crore poor and middle class people have been sanctioned loans of more than Rs. 7 lakh 74 thousand crore.
- 7th Pay Commission- The recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission have been implemented from 01 January 2016 under which the minimum basic salary has been increased from Rs. 7 thousand to 18 thousand rupees. This will benefit about 35 lakh government servants.
- House Rent Allowance (HRA) and Transport Allowance (TA) - In the 7th Pay Commission, House Rent Allowance and Transport Allowance has been increased. House Rent Allowance has been fixed at 24 percent of basic salary, which will increase to 27 percent when Dearness



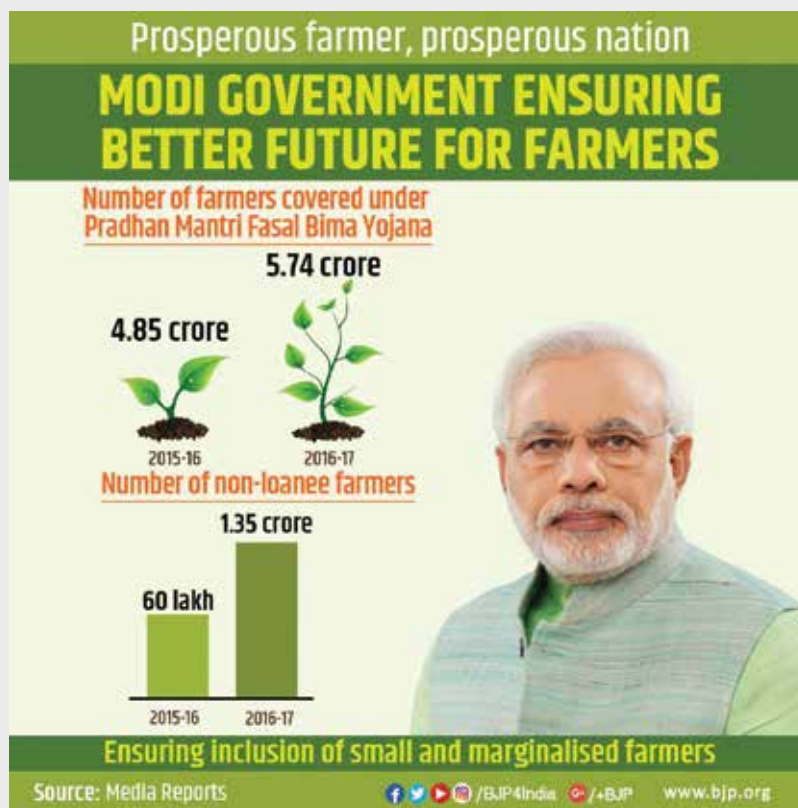
- Allowance becomes 25 percent. This is a new initiative.
- Government contribution enhanced in National Pension Scheme - In NPS, the Government has increased its contribution from 10 April, 2014 to 14 percent. Employee's contribution will remain only 10 percent. This will accumulate more money in the employees' pension fund.
- Minimum Pension- The government has increased the minimum pension from Rs. 3,500 to 9000 rupees per month, which has benefited lakhs of pensioners.
- Gratuity- Gratuity limit has been increased from 10 lakh to 20 lakh rupees. This initiative will benefit employees with more money at the time of retirement, which will make their future happier.
- Pension discrepancies related to retired employees removed - Pension is being given to the employees who retired before January 01, 2016, with new pay scale. With this, the discrepancies arose for the employees retired before or after this date is now removed.
- Incentives for housing loan- The limit of interest on loan taken for the house have been increased from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh under income tax. While under the Section 80 of income tax housing loan limit increased from one lakh to 1.5 lakhs.
- Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana- Under this scheme, an initiative has been taken to save the deposited capital of senior citizens from the decline in interest rate, under which the rate of interest of 8 per cent for 10 years has been ensured to them. The government will bear the difference if interest rate falls from 8 percent. By 28 January, 2019 around 3 lakh 43 thousand 295 beneficiaries invested Rs. 21 thousand 757 crores in this scheme.
- Senior Citizen Welfare Fund - The Senior Citizen Welfare Fund has been set up by the government under which, the unclaimed amount for more than 10 years of life insurance will be transferred to the Senior Citizens Welfare Fund. Under this scheme Rs. 81 crores 63 lacs have been transferred to this fund up to March 31, 2018, which will be used for the welfare of senior citizens.



- Life certificates now online too - Senior citizens have to give a life certificate every year to continue their pension, delay in this resulted many difficulties for them. With the new government initiative, now this life certificate can be made at any branch or online. From November 01, 2018 to December 31, 2018, more than 11 lakh pensioners have filed their life certificates online under this initiative.

PROSPEROUS FARMER, PROSPEROUS NATION

- MSP increased one and half times of the cost of production- For the first time, MSP of Rabi and Kharif crops are declared one and a half times of the cost of production due to they are getting good value of their crop.
- Farmers honoured by Prime Minister - For the first time financial assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana has been provided to the farming families holding land less than 5 acres. An annual support of Rs. 6,000 will be deposited in their bank account directly.
- Direct sale of crops through E-Nam platform- Farmers can sell their product in the market where the highest prices are available and not to be forced to sell their crops cheaply, 585 Mandis are connected with E-Nam platform. Farmers are now selling their crops at the highest price.
- Neem coated urea - Neem coating of 100% urea has been done to prevent black marketing of urea and make it available for the farmers, due to which the farmers are able to get urea on time and in sufficient quantity without any problem.
- Allocated highest amount in the budget to develop the



agriculture sector- Prioritizing the development of the agricultural sector, ensuring that farmers get fair value of their crop and adequate compensation is paid for the crop failure, in the last five years, Rs. 2 lakh 11 thousand 694 crore has been allocated, which is the highest ever so far.

- Budget allocation increased by 16.21% for Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana - Under this scheme, budget amounting to Rs. 5 thousand 460 crores has been allocated to provide water to every farm through 'per drop more crop' which is the highest ever so far.
- More protection against natural calamity- Earlier farmers used to get money in case where 50% of the crop got damage due to natural calamity but now it is being provided even after loss of 33% of the crop. Due to this, the total relief amount given to farmers has increased 6 times.
- Distribution of 18 crore 41 lakh Soil Health Card - Soil Health Card scheme has been started to check the soil health. Due to this soil check, farmers are getting the right advice to get more production.
- Annual milk production has increased by 49% increase- Due to the steps taken by the government for dairy farmers, the annual rate of milk production has increased by about

49% in last five years.

- Significant increase in the purchase of Pulses and Oilseeds - 78 lakh 61 thousand metric tons of pulse-oilseeds have been procured in five years of BJP government, which has been the highest purchase till date.
- Fish Production has increased by 42.22%- A total of 42.22% increase in fish production has been reported during last financial year. In this direction, India's export capacity has also increased by 180%.
- Kisan Credit Card offered to the fishermen, dairy farmers and cattle breeders -Kisan Credit Card was previously offered to farmers only but the ambit of the scheme has been raised and now being offered to



dairy farmers, fishermen and cattle breeders too.

- Approval to Cut Bamboo - With the amendment in the Indian Forest Act, 2017, the bamboo has now been removed from the tree category and has been put into the category of grass, resulting in facilitating the farmers to cut bamboo and move from place to place freely. There is no need to take permission. This has changed the fate of the farmers of the Northeast and farmers of other states have also go an additional source of income.

SHRAMIK: SHRAMEV JAYATE

- Pension scheme for the workers in unorganized sector- A historic 'Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana' has been announced for the people working in unorganized sector, who are self-employed. Through this scheme, these workers will receive a pension of Rs.3000 per month after completion of 60 years of age. If the beneficiary dies while receiving pension, then 50 percent of the pension received by him will be given as pension to the beneficiary's life partner.
- Increase in minimum wages - Modi Government has increased the minimum wage of workers by 40 percent, which is the highest ever so far.
- Increase in bonus limit of workers - The annual bonus for workers has been doubled, from Rs. 3500 to Rs. 7000, which is the highest ever so far.
- Determination of minimum pension- Earlier, 50 or 100 rupees were also paid to the workers as pension. It has been decided by the Modi Government that no employee will get pension less than Rs. 1000. Therefore, everyone has been ensured pension of at least Rs.1000 /- per month.
- Increase in the budgetary allocation of MNREGA- In the year 2018-19, the Modi government has increased the amount of MNREGA to 55 thousand crores and the government now puts the amount of wages directly

into the bank account of workers in every 15 days.

- Wages through electronic payment and cheque- Providing social security to the workers, payment of their wages is paid through cheque or electronic means.
- Dattopant Thengadi National Worker Education and Development Board - This board organizes training programmes for organized, unorganized and MNREGA workers.

UPLIFTMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

- Budgetary provision for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities- Budgetary provision of Rs. 95 thousand crore has been made for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, which is the highest ever so far.
 - Panchatirtha Yojana- Offering a unique tribute to the architect of our Constitution Dr. Ambedkar, the Modi government has marked five sites related to Dr. Ambedkar as Panchatirtha and redevelopment of these sites has been started.
 - STAND UP SCHEME- To set up the industry, Stand-Up plan has been started for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe youths, so that youth of these communities can stand on their feet. Under this



scheme, people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes getting a loan of Rs. 10 lakh to Rs. 1 crore for self-employment. Every branch of each bank of the country has been instructed to give this loan to at least one person of a Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community inevitably.

- Increase in income limit for scholarship - The annual income limit of parents for scholarship has been increased to two and a half lakh rupees for eligible students of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities.
- Number of students receiving scholarships increased- During the last 5 years, 5 crore 7 lakh SC / ST students got the benefit of scholarships of around Rs. 15,918



crore.

- Establishment of cultural centers in tribal areas: Cultural centers are being set up by the BJP government in different tribal areas for the promotion of their culture, arts and dialects and to protect the heritage of the tribes.
- Honorary amount for inter-caste marriages- In order to promote inter-caste marriage, it has been announced to give an amount of Rs. 2.5 lakh rupees for marriage in scheduled caste community. Until now under this plan, an amount of Rs. 219.4 crore has been provided to 71,387 married couples.
- Strong SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act) - Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act) has been made even stronger by amending the Constitution.
- Establishment of special courts - Special courts have been set up for speedy trial of cases of atrocities against members of SC / ST communities.
- Business Capital Scheme for Scheduled Castes - Business Capital Scheme has been started to provide loan of Rs. 50 lakhs to 15 crore rupees to promote Scheduled Caste entrepreneurs. Under this scheme, the interest rate has been reduced from 10 percent to 8 percent and loan of 322 crores 8 lakhs has been sanctioned.
- Establishment of Ekalavya Model Schools- 288 Ekalavya model schools have been sanctioned under this scheme and in the last five years, 2751 crores have been given to the State Governments.
- Skills Development Scheme - Under this scheme, funds of Rs.102 crores 54 lakhs have been spent for providing training to the Scheduled Castes for skill development. So far, 1,07,246 persons of Scheduled Castes and SafaiKaramcharis have got the benefit.
- Development of basic infrastructure for sports - Under this, 163 districts of the country in which tribal population is more have been selected for developing basic infrastructure related to sports.

- Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana- Under this, a sum of Rs. 530 crore 35 lakhs has been sanctioned for the development of identified 2,500 villages which have more than 50 percent population of scheduled caste community.
- National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Foreign Studies - The number of students to be selected annually has been increased from 60 to 100. During the tenure of Modi government, Rs. 398.77 lakhs have been sanctioned under the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for 484 students of SC / ST community.

WELFARE OF OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

- Constitutional status to National Backward Classes Commission (NCBC)— National Backward Classes Commission has been given constitutional status by amending the Constitution for the empowerment of people belonging to Other Backward Classes. The commission will no longer act as a consultant, but will be active partner in all the schemes.
 - Income limit increased for creamy layer - People with income above Rs. 6 lakh were not eligible for facilities given to backward classes. Now people earning up to Rs. 8 lakhs will also be eligible for the facilities



- Skill Development Scheme- Under this scheme, for the skill development of 62,874 persons belonging to the backward classes in the tenure of Modi Government, a sum of Rs. 69 crores 79 lakhs has been spent. Out of the trained persons, 31,822 persons have been given employment.
- Hostel scheme for Backward Classes - Under this scheme, 86 hostels have been sanctioned for students across the country, with the capacity of 9,069 seats, at the cost of Rs. 153 crores during the tenure of the Modi government.
- Benefits of various scholarships to Backward Classes students - Benefits are being provided to the Backward



Classes students under various scholarship schemes. So far, Rs. 3,797 crores 2 lacs scholarship has been approved for 2 crores 64 lakh students.

MODI GOVERNMENT DEDICATED TO ARMY AND EX-SERVICEMEN

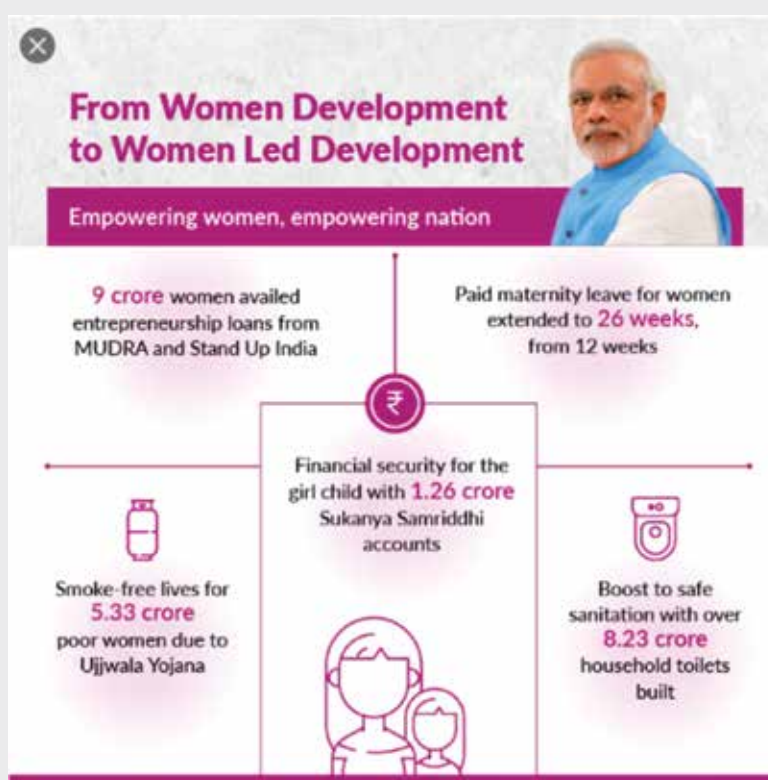
- INDEBTED NATION SALUTES THE MARTYRS - Showing gratitude towards the martyrs, 'National War Memorial' has been built in the country. This is a symbol of Bhavanjali given by the nation towards the martyrs who were neglected into the oblivion.
- 'ONE RANK-ONE PENSION' DEMAND FULFILLED - The decades old demand of 'One Rank-One Pension' has been fulfilled by the government to uphold the pride of our soldiers.
- MORE THAN RS.3 LAKH CRORE DEFENCE BUDGET -In the year 2019, the government has decided to make a defence budget of more than Rs. 3 lakh crore for the first time, which was the highest ever so far.
- FULFILLED THE DEMAND OF BULLET PROOF JACKETS - The demand of bullet proof jackets made by the army in the year 2009 has been fulfilled now. The purchase of 1 lakh 86 thousand bullet proof jackets has been approved.
- APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT OF STATE-OF-THE-ART WEAPONS- The purchase of Rafale aircraft state-of-the-art weapons for the army has also been approved.
- INCREASE IN INDIGENOUS CAPACITY IN WEAPON PRODUCTION -So far, India was dependent on weapons imported from abroad. Now we are moving forward with the ability of weapon manufacturing in our own country.

YOUTH : OUR FUTURE

We are fortunate that our 65 percent of population is under 35 years of age. That youth power is our energy. Here's a glimpse of the plans made by the Modi Government to

use their capabilities :

- Sanctioned loans for more than 16 crores people for self-employment- Different institutions have sanctioned Rs. 7 lakh 74 thousand crore to 16 crore people under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana for self-employment.
- Start-up scheme for self-employment- 15,649 Start-ups have been recognized by the government for self-employment. All these Start-ups will be given tax relief for 3 consecutive years in a 7 year block period.
- Established Prime Minister Skill Development Centers (PMKVY)- Prime Minister Skill Development Centers have been opened in every district of the country to train youth in 375 trades. Youth are starting their employment by getting training from these centers and taking loans under the Mudra Yojana.
- Established institutes like AIIMS, IIT, IIM and NIT across the country- 14 new AIIMS, 14 new IIIT, 7 new IITs, 7 new IIMs, 1 new NIT, 103 new KendriyaVidyalayas and 62 new Navodaya Schools have been set up so far to provide our young brains a world-class educational institutions, so that they can secure their employment in good institutions.
- Prime Minister's Research Fellowship for talented young students - Under this scheme, an annual scholarship of Rs. 70,000-80,000 per month and additional grant of Rs. 2 lakh for research is granted to the young students for the period of 5 years.
- Khelo India - This program is designed to promote sports culture at grass root level in India. Under this, efforts are being made to provide a comprehensive and robust system to the young players. It will help them to perform better on the world stage and establish a new identity of Indian players.
- Approval of the Atal Tinkering Labs - In order to provide innovative skills to more than 60 lakh students, 5,441 Atal Tinkering Labs has been approved in various schools.
- Financial Assistance to Talented Players - Under this





scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakh per annum has been provided to talented players for 8 years.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

From the unborn daughters to the old age of women, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made several plans for their welfare. Here's a glimpse of those welfare programmes:

- 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padoos Abhiyan' - Female feticide is a curse for us. The social equilibrium is deteriorating due to the abortion of a daughter in the womb. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padoos Abhiyan' to end this imbalance. This is not a government program but a social campaign. As a result, there has been a lot of increase in the birth rate of girls in 104 districts. The example of Haryana is very pleasant, earlier where 883 girls were born compared to 1,000 boys, now this number has increased to 914.
- Sukanya Samrudhi Yojana - This scheme has been initiated to take care from education to marriage of the girl child. Under this 1 crore 30 lakh accounts have been opened.
- Free education and hostel in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya providing free education and hostel facility until class 12 to the daughters of poor families.
- Pregnant Women Care - Under the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritv Yojana, more than 86 lakh 88 thousand pregnant women have been protected, with more than 70 lakh post pregnant check-ups on 13,161 health centers.
- Financial Assistance to Pregnant Women- Under the Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana, provision of financial assistance of Rs. 6000 during a year to more than 50 lakh pregnant women has been made.
- Increase in duration of maternity leave for women workers - Duration of maternity leave has been increased for female workers to 26 weeks (6 months)

so that they can take care of their newborn well. 1 lakh 678 crore rupees have been paid to 49 lakh 88 thousand women for maternity benefits.

- Free gas connections for the poor women - LPG connections have been distributed to 6 crore 26 lakh women for easing the lives of poor women and getting rid of smoke under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana.
- Loan facility for self-employment- With the objective of encouraging women workers, arrangements have been made to provide loans under the Mudra Yojana. So far, 16.5 crore loans have been sanctioned under this scheme out of which 72.25 percent of the loans amount is being received by the women entrepreneurs.

GOVERNMENT'S HELPING HAND TO WOMEN #MODI20

- ₹500/month for April, May and June transferred to Jan Dhan accounts of 20 crore women to allow them to run their livelihood
- 8.3 crore beneficiary families under Ujjwala Yojana get free cylinders from April to June
- 63 lakh SHGs supporting 6.85 crore households under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Antyodaya Yojana to get collateral-free loans of up to ₹20 lakhs to help rural women

- Ration card in the name of women - In a historical decision, it has been decided that after considering the woman as the head of the family, the ration card will be made in her name.

- Relief in Stamp Duty - If the property is registered in the name of a woman, then one percent discount will be given in stamp duty.

- Stand-up Scheme- A loan of Rs. 10 lakh to 1 crore rupees is given to women self-employment under this scheme. Every branch of every

bank of the country has been instructed to give loan to at least one woman inevitably.

- Reservation for Women Entrepreneurs in Increased Purchase - 3% of the total procurement raised by the government companies in MSME has been reserved for women entrepreneurs.
- Scholarship to minority students - In the last four and a half years, about 3 crore 83 lakh students of minority communities have been awarded with scholarships. In this 60 percent recipients were the girl child.
- Now women pilot inducted as fighter pilot in Indian Air Force- Women are also included in the Indian Air Force for the first time as fighter pilots.
- 1.5 times increase in salary of Anganwadi workers -Honourarium of 27 lakh Anganwadi workers and

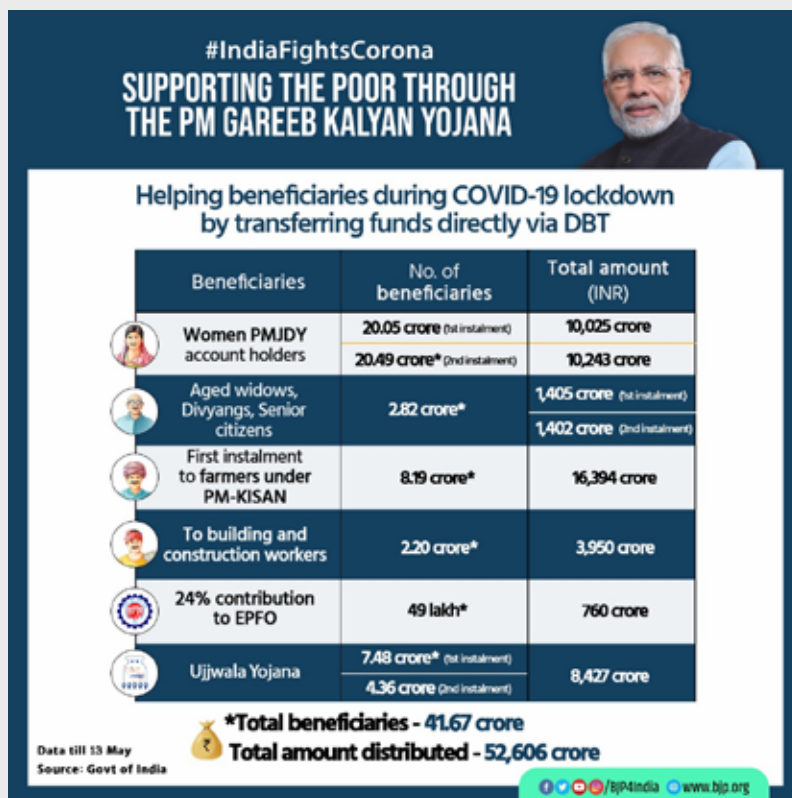


assistants have been increased by 1.5 times in the country. Following this increase, now the honorarium given to Anganwadi workers is as follows:

- Death sentence to person convicted of rape of a girl under the age of 12 years - A new law has been introduced to give death penalty to the person convicted for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years and rape with a teenager below 16 years of age, the minimum sentence for the convict has been increased from 10 years to 20 years.
- Empowerment of Muslim women against Triple Talaq- A bill that empowers Muslim women against Triple Talaq has been passed in the Lok Sabha. Apart from this, Muslim women have also been allowed to go to Haj without the male guardian.
- Passport rules amended for the divorced women- This amendment enable the women to discard the name of their ex-husband's, which has given them much needed relief from mental torture.

lakh 40 thousand Divyanjan have received a benefit of 737 crores 51 lakhs. During this period 6 Guinness Book of World Records have been established.

- Cochlear Implant Operation - A grant of Rs. 6 lakhs is given to each Divyanjan for the operation under this scheme. 186 hospitals have been paneled for cochlear implant operation. So far, 1,706 ADIP cochlear implant operations have been done due to which many deaf Divyanjan got the ability to listen.
- Pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship - Under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 17 crore 39 lakhs has been released in the last five years, which has benefited 24,545 students. In addition to this, amount of rupees 60 crores 62 lakhs has been released for scholarship after class 11 and matriculation, which has benefited 31,448 students.



DIVYANG : OUR SPECIAL CITIZENS

While expressing his compassion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has honoured those persons who are facing disability of any one part of the body by naming them as Divyang:

- Increase in the type of disability for the welfare of Divyanjan- Under Divyangjan Rights Act, 2016, 21 types of disabilities has been recognized instead of 7 types earlier.
- Increase in reservation in government jobs for Divyanjan- Reservations for government jobs for the welfare of Divyanjans have been increased from 3 percent to 4 percent.
- Increase in Reservation for Divyangjan in Colleges and Vocational Institutions - Increased reservation in the colleges and vocational institutions for Divyangjan has been increased from 3% to 5%.
- ADIP- More than 7,800 camps were organized throughout the country under this scheme, in which 12

National Action Plan for the skill development of Divyanjan - Under this, 266 organizations have been listed as training participants. An amount of Rs. 174 crore 48 lakhs has been released for the training of 1 lakh 58 thousand 468 Divyanjan from the year 2014-15.

- Divyangta Sports Center - Divyangta Sports Center in Gwalior has been set-up at a cost of Rs 170 crores.
- Establishment of Indian Sign Language Research Center- Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center (ISLRTC) have been set up to increase the capacity of deaf and dumb people.
- Construction of ramps and railing and special toilets for the Divyang students - 54,000 ramps and railing and 50,000 special toilets have been constructed for the convenience of the Divyang students across the country.
- Visually impaired friendly coins issued - The Modi government has released a new series of coins favorable to the visually impaired people. These new coins will be helpful for visually impaired people, and will enhance their confidence.
- Issue of Unique Identity Card to Divyanjan- Each



Divyanjan has been issued a unique identity card to create a national database of Divyanjan. The facility of this card has been given to take advantage of all the welfare schemes given to Divyanjan. So far, 13 lakh 23 thousand such special identity cards have been issued in 500 districts of the country at the expenditure of 15 crores.

MINORITY : NOW IN MAINSTREAM

All the facilities given to the poor are also being given to the poor of the minority community. In addition, the following schemes have been implemented only for the minorities :

- Skill development and employment opportunities were provided to about 7 lakh 50 thousand youth through the employment and skill development schemes like Learn and Earn, USTAD, NAYI MANZIL, GARIB NAWAZ KAUSHAL VIKAS Yojana etc. This includes about 50 percent of the girls.
- Through the HUNAR HAAT, not only the employment opportunities provided to the artisans/ craftsmen of around 2 lakh people of minority communities in the last two years, but also provided opportunities to

them to sale their product in the national-international markets.

- Under the NAYI ROSHNI Yojana, a large number of minority community women are being given various Skill Trainings, due to which they are moving ahead on the path of progress.
- Decrease in school dropout rate among girls- The efforts made by the Modi government is now showing result. The dropout rate of minority, especially Muslim girls, which was 70-72 percent earlier, has now come down to 35 percent. We are committed to bring it down to zero percent.
- Scholarship to students- In the last 4 years, about 2 crore 95 lakh students of poor and weaker sections of minority community have benefited from various scholarship schemes, which include almost 60 percent of girl students.
- National Scholarship Portal- All scholarships are being sent directly to the bank accounts of the students through 'Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)' through the National Scholarship Portal.
- Training for Madrasa teachers- In the year 2018, training program has been started for connecting





- Madrasa teachers with mainstream education system.
- Digitalization of Waqf properties - Under this scheme of Modi Government, 90% of Waqf properties have been digitalized.
- Empowerment of Muslim women against Triple Talaq - The bill terming Triple Talaq as an offense has been passed in the Lok Sabha.
- Muslim women are allowed to go for Haj without male guardian – Now Muslim women can go without any male guardian to Haj.
- Increase in Haj quota - In 2014, Haj quota allowed only one lakh 36 thousand people to go for Haj, which has increased in Modi government's tenure. Now it has increased to two lakh Hajjis. For the first time since Independence in the year 2019, two lakh Indian Muslims will go for Haj without 'subsidy'.
- Expansion of development schemes through 'Prime Minister Jan Vikas Program' - Under this scheme, during the last four and half years, 28-degree colleges, 2197 school buildings, 40,201 additional classrooms, 1213 hostels, 191 ITIs, 50 Polytechnic, 39586 Anganwadi centers, 3,48,624 Homes, 405 goodwill pavilion, 89 residential schools, 527 market shades, 17,397 drinking water facilities were constructed in the minority areas by the Modi government.

twice in a year.

- Reservation for Women Entrepreneurs in Increased Purchase - 3% of the total procurement raised by the government companies from MSME is now being reserved for women entrepreneurs.
- Membership of 'GeM' for central companies is mandatory- It has been mandatory for all Central Government companies to subscribe to 'GeM'. These companies will also register their vendor MSME on this platform, and it will be compulsory to purchase 25% of their requirement from small enterprises.
- Simplifying the redressal process - Under this, entrepreneurs associated with MSME will not have to go to court to rectify the minor mistakes. Inadvertently minor violations can be rectified through few simple procedures by approaching the concerned department.
- Decision to create cluster for Pharma companies- It has been decided to build clusters for Ease of Doing Business of MSME sector's pharmacy companies. 70% of the cost in establishing these clusters will be borne by Government of India. ■

SMALL ENTREPRENEURS : TORCHBEARERS OF SWADESHI

Small entrepreneurs generate majority of the jobs. Understanding their importance on Deepavali, the Prime Minister has given some benefits to these small entrepreneurs:

- Loan approval in 59 minutes for MSME sector- Loan amount upto Rs. 1 crore for MSME Sector is now sanctioned in one minute less than an hour.
- Increased GST exemption limit for small entrepreneurs – Giving relief to the small entrepreneurs, the limit of exemption on GST has been increased from Rs 20 lakhs to Rs 40 lakhs.
- Establishment of 'Hub and Spoke' for technological upgradation - 'Hub and Spoke' has been set up for technical assistance to MSME, under which 20 centers (hubs) and 100 tool rooms (SPOKES) will be set across the country.
- Facilitates to file returns only once in a year- Under this government has simplified laws in the MSME sector and now under 8 Labour laws and 10 central rules, option has been given to file the return only once instead of

DAWN OF A NEW ERA

JAMMU AND KASHMIR MOVING TOWARDS FULL NATIONAL INTEGRATION

Redefined domicile rules in Jammu & Kashmir

People eligible to get domicile certificates

- (a) Permanent Resident Certificate holder of J&K
- (b) Resided for 15 years /studied in J&K for seven years and appeared in class 10th/12th exams
- (c) Migrants registered by Relief and Rehab Commissioner
- (d) Child of several government officials who have served in the UT for 10 years
- (e) Child of parents who reside outside the UT but fulfil (a) or (b)

For migrants not yet registered by Relief and Rehab Commissioner

- Name in 1951/1988 electoral roll
- Proof of employment
- Ownership of property
- Proof of registration in other states/UT as a migrant/displaced person

West Pakistani Refugees and Safai Karmacharis and other such people eligible as well

Kashmiri migrants can get a domicile by either showing Permanent Resident Certificate or Certificate of registration as migrant

Read full at bit.ly/2z8vXSg

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GLOBAL APPRECIATIONS FOR MODI GOVERNMENT 2.0





WORLD BANK PRAISES PM MODI'S AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT MISSION

The World Bank praised Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Aatmanirbhar Mission and approved \$1 billion social protection package to India amid the Coronavirus pandemic that has affected people and its economy. World Bank's India director said, "I think PM's Atmanirbhar Mission is very important in terms of directions and India is not making a distinction between life and livelihoods in the aftermath of Covid-19".

MICROSOFT CO-FOUNDER BILL GATES PRAISES PM MODI

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates praised Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and gave a thumbs-up to the government's efforts to flatten the curve of the Coronavirus pandemic.

WHO PRAISES MODI GOVT'S EFFORTS IN HOLDING THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

The World Health Organisation (WHO) lauded Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi government's efforts in holding the spread of Coronavirus.

INDIA'S COMMITMENTS VERY IMPRESSIVE: WHO

Henk Bekedam, the representative of WHO to India

said, "The commitment from the Indian government and the Prime Minister's Office has been tremendous, very impressive. It is one of the reasons why India is still doing quite well. I am very impressed that everyone has been prepared."

US LAUDS IAF FOR EVACUATING 58 INDIANS FROM IRAN

The United States government praised the Indian Air Force for successfully evacuating Indians from Coronavirus-hit Iran.

PM MODI CONFERRED 'GOALKEEPER AWARD' FOR SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred the "Global Goalkeeper" award by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at the fourth annual Global Goals Awards on September 24, 2019 for his leadership in India's massive Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

MODI GOVT MAKING FANTASTIC EFFORTS FOR CLIMATE ACTION: UN

UN chief Antonio Guterres appreciated that India is making a fantastic efforts in renewable energy "India is an important actor and "fundamental partner" in international efforts on climate action and is making a "fantastic effort" to grow its renewable energy basket", UN chief Antonio Guterres has said.

ISLAMIC NATIONS HONOURED PM MODI WITH HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD

Several Islamic nations honoured PM Modi with their high civilian award. Here is the list:

1. The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance, Bahrain - August 2019
2. Order of Zayed, UAE's highest civilian awards August 2019
3. Grand Collar of the State of Palestine - February 2018
4. Amir Amanullah Khan Award, Afghanistan - June 2016
5. King Abdulaziz Sash Award, Saudi Arabia - April 2016



- The success of 'Digital India' offers new hope for poor and developing countries, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland, has said on 25 May, 2020.
- "... the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth has expressed her appreciation for this initiative and has called it as a new hope for other developing and aspiring countries of the Commonwealth," the statement added.



6. Rule of Nishan Izzuddeen, Maldives - June 2019

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY PRAISED UJJWALA SCHEME FOR PROVIDING FREE COOKING GAS CONNECTION TO POOR

- Launched by PM Shri Narendra Modi on 1 May, 2016, in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) aims to safeguard the health of women and children by providing free cooking gas (LPG) connection to poor families.
- Ujjwala is not just an energy achievement but also social and economic achievement, IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said.
- Last year, the World Health Organisation (WHO) had also hailed the scheme.

PM MODI IS 2019'S MOST ADMIRER MAN IN INDIA:

UK-based survey agency 'YouGov' Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the most admired man in India and sixth most admired in the world, according to a survey conducted by UK-based agency 'YouGov'.

WORLD BANK HAILS INDIA'S RURAL ROAD SCHEME

A World Bank report has hailed India's rural road scheme PMGSY, saying it has improved mobility, increased access to economic opportunities and boosted attendance of children in schools. It also claims the number of babies delivered at home has come down substantially in areas connected through rural roads, a major improvement in the health sector.

The report said PMGSY has changed the face of rural India along with schemes for housing, cooking gas and National Rural Livelihood Mission.

'PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI IS ALMOST A SUPERHUMAN', SAYS AUSTRALIAN ENVOY TO INDIA

Australian envoy to India Barry O'Farrell praised Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his commitment towards the fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

During an interview with DD India, Barry O'Farrell said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi is almost a superhuman." "In addition to managing a pandemic in the world's second-largest country, he also finds time every day to reach out to world leaders," he said on 4 May, 2020.

'PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI IS ALMOST A SUPERHUMAN', SAYS AUSTRALIAN ENVOY TO INDIA





Aatmanirbhar Bharat



Rs 3 lakh crores Collateral-free Automatic Loans for Businesses, including MSMEs

- Businesses/MSMEs have been badly hit due to COVID19 need additional funding to meet operational liabilities built up, buy raw material and restart business.
- **Decision: Emergency Credit Line to Businesses/MSMEs from Banks and NBFCs up to 20% of entire outstanding credit as on 29.2.2020**
 - Borrowers with up to Rs. 25 crore outstanding and Rs. 100 crore turnover eligible
 - Loans to have 4 year tenor with moratorium of 12 months on Principal repayment
 - **Interest to be capped**
 - **100% credit guarantee cover to Banks and NBFCs on principal and interest**
 - Scheme can be availed till 31st Oct 2020
 - **No guarantee fee, no fresh collateral**
- **45 lakh units** can resume business activity and safeguard jobs.



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RUSSIA AWARDS SHRI NARENDRA MODI ITS HIGHEST ORDER



KING SALMAN PRESENTS CITATION TO PM NARENDRA MODI AFTER CONFERRING ON THE INDIAN PRIME MINISTER SAUDI ARABIA'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD



AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT PACKAGE -2

EMPOWERING THE POOR, MIGRANT WORKERS AND FARMERS

- FOR MIGRANT WORKERS**
Nearly 8 crore non-ration card holders to receive 5 kg rice/wheat per person and 1 kg chana per family for next two months
Under 'One Nation, One Ration card' scheme, 67 crore beneficiaries (83%) of ration cards in 23 states can now use their PDS cards in any state in India; 100% coverage by March 2021
Development of affordable rental housing complexes in PPP model, will help in incentivizing manufacturing units
- INTEREST SUBVENTION FOR MUDRA-SHISHU LOANS**
Interest subvention of 2% for prompt payees for 12 months after loan moratorium is completed for MUDRA-Shishu loans; Relief of almost Rs 1,500 crore to MUDRA-Shishu loanees
- STREET VENDORS**
Rs 10,000 capital to be provided to nearly 50 lakh street vendors; to provide liquidity of Rs 5,000 crore
- BOOST TO HOUSING SECTOR**
Credit linked subsidy scheme extended till March 2021; 2.5 lakh middle class families to benefit
Will help investment of Rs 70,000 crore in housing sector and create a lot of jobs
- CAMPA FUNDS FOR TRIBALS**
Rs 6,000 crore CAMPA funds to be set up for activities like afforestation and other such activities to provide job opportunities in urban, semi-urban and rural areas for tribals/adivasis
- FARMERS**
NABARD to extend additional refinance support of Rs 30,000 crore for loan crop requirement
To be provided to 33 state co-operative banks in 351 district cooperative and 43 RRBs to help 3 crore farmers
Concessional credit to PM-KISAN beneficiaries through KISAN Credit Cards; will also include fishermen and animal husbandry farmers
Credit flow of Rs 2 lakh crore to benefit 2.5 crore farmers

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INDIA'S REPUTATION ON INTERNATIONAL FORUMS ENHANCED



- **Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit, Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan):** 14 June 2019: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi outlined the SCO's spirit and its ideas to strengthen cooperation in the fight against terrorism. He said that India advocates a terrorism-free society.
- **Prime Minister visits to Maldives:** Six agreements signed between India and Maldives: First Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for cooperation in the field of Hydrology (Water Science). The second agreement was in the field of health. Other agreements were signed to establish passenger and cargo services via sea route, cooperation between the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs of India and the Maldives Customs Service. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, was awarded the 'Rule of Nishan Izzuddin', the highest award in Maldives.
- **Prime Minister's visit to Sri Lanka:** After becoming the Prime Minister for the second time, Shri Narendra Modi visited the neighboring island country of Sri Lanka on 9 June in the second leg of his first foreign trip. Shri Modi chose the neighboring countries of Maldives and Sri Lanka for this visit. The visit reflects his policy of 'neighbourhood first'.
- **Asia-Pacific group supports India's candidature for two-year provisional membership in UNAC:** Important diplomatic victory for India
- **Prime Minister's successful state visit to Bhutan:** 10 agreements signed with Bhutan: State visit to Bhutan from 17-18 August 2019 at the invitation of Dr. Lotte Tshering, Prime Minister of Bhutan.
- **Prime Minister's visit to three countries and G-7 Summit:** Prime Minister's successful visit to France, UAE and Bahrain: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited France, UAE and Bahrain from 22 to 26 August. He attended the G-7 summit on 25 and 26 August in the French city of Biarritz. Shri Modi was awarded the 'Order of Zayed' in the United Arab Emirates and 'The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance' in Bahrain.
- **Visit to France:** Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, visited Paris on 22 and 23 August for the bilateral summit and G-7 French chairmanship in Biarritz on 25 and 26 August, 2019 and G-7 Summit on the invitation of President Emmanuel Macron.
- **G-7 Summit, Biarritz (France):** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met US President Mr. Donald Trump during the G-7 Summit in the French city of Biarritz. On 26 August, Mr. Modi rejected the scope of any third party mediation on the Kashmir issue, saying that it is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan and "we do not want to trouble any third country." Shri Modi made this remark during a media interaction in the presence of US President Mr. Donald Trump. Mr. Trump immediately supported Shri. Modi's statement. The US President said that he feels that India and Pakistan can solve the Kashmir problem themselves.



- **Visit to Bahrain:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi signed a number of agreements during the visit on August 24 in Bahrain. During a conversation with counterpart Prince Khalif bin Salman Al Khalifa in Bahrain, he spoke about giving a new dimension to their bilateral relations. Apart from this, Shri Modi also launched RuPay Card in Bahrain.
- **Howdy Modi, Houston:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed more than fifty thousand people at the 'Howdy Modi' event held at NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas on 22 September. President of the United States of America Mr. Donald J. Trump also attended the event with the Prime Minister.
- **'Global Goalkeeper Goals Award 2019':** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi thanked the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for honoring him with the Global Goalkeeper Goals Award 2019. The Prime Minister said that in the last five years, India has made several important efforts towards improving sanitation and hygiene, which fulfills Gandhiji's dream of a clean India.
- **Prime Minister's visit to America (Bloomberg Global Business Forum):** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave a keynote address on 25 September at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum in New York. Addressing the gathering of eminent people, the Prime Minister said that he would use this opportunity to talk about the future direction of India's development story. The Prime Minister said that India's development story is based on four pillars Democracy, Demography, Demand and Decisiveness.
- **India, Bangladesh signed seven agreements:** India and Bangladesh signed seven agreements in New Delhi on 5 October expanding their relations. Three projects including LPG exports were also launched during this period.
- **India-China Second Informal Summit, Mamallapuram (Chennai):** The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi and the President of China, Mr. Xi Jinping attended their second informal summit in Mamallapuram (Chennai), India on October 11-12, 2019. The two leaders exchanged views on strategic, long-term and important issues of global and regional importance in a friendly atmosphere. He also shared his perspective on the issue of national development.
- **Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid a one-day official visit to Saudi Arabia on 29 October. The two countries signed several agreements in different key sectors including oil and gas, defense and civil aviation on 29 October.
- **Prime Minister met the King of Jordan in Riyadh:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met Shah Abdullah-II bin el-Hussein of Jordan on 29 October during the Future Investment Initiative Forum (FII) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. It also included the memorandum of understanding and agreement signed during the visit of Shah of Jordan from 27 February 2018 to 1 March 2018.
- **Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel's visit to India:** India-Germany signed agreement in 17 areas including defense, agriculture, education
During the visit of Chancellor of Germany Dr. Angela Merkel to India, India and Germany signed 17 agreements and five joint resolutions on 1 November. The two countries agreed on issues like defense, agriculture, education, cleaning of rivers. The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and the Chancellor of Germany, Dr. Angela Merkel, co-chaired the Fifth India-Germany Intergovernmental Dialogue (IGC).
- **11th BRICS Summit, Brasilia (Brazil):** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the 11th BRICS Summit in Brasilia City, Brazil on 13-14 November. Describing India as the most 'open and investment-friendly' economy in the world, he urged companies and businesses of BRICS countries to invest in India and take advantage of the 'limitless' possibilities and 'countless' opportunities present in India.
- **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of Maldives inaugurate development projects in Maldives:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of Maldives Mr. Ibrahim Mohammad Saleh jointly inaugurated several important development projects in Maldives through video conference on 4 December.
This included giving Maldives a Coast Guard ship 'Kamal' built in India as a gift, launching RuPay cards, illuminating MAL using LED lights, community development projects and launch of fish processing plants.
- **Visit of Sri Lankan President to India: India will give a loan of \$ 450 million to Sri Lanka:** The new President of Sri Lanka, Gotabaya Rajapaksa held bilateral talks with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 29 November in New Delhi during his first official foreign visit. In this dialogue many issues including from terrorism to trade were discussed. At the same time, India announced \$ 40 million in aid to Sri Lanka to tackle the challenge of terrorism in addition to a \$ 400 million loan facility for development projects.
- **Prime Minister Modi, Nepalese Prime Minister inaugurated the Jogbani-Biratnagar monitoring post:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and his Nepalese counterpart Mr. K. P. Sharma Oli jointly inaugurated the second integrated surveillance post at Jogbani-Biratnagar near the border on 21 January. Significantly, Jogbani-Biratnagar is an important trade center between the two countries. This check post is equipped with modern facilities.
- **'NAMSTE TRUMP'**
India, America working to protect people from radical Islamic terrorism-Donald Trump: US President Mr. Donald J. Trump made a historic visit to India on 24-25 February. He reached Ahmedabad on 24 February. There he was given a grand welcome by large number of people. On the same day, he went to Agra to see the Taj Mahal with the family. In Delhi on 25 February, US President Mr. Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. ■



BEGINNING OF THE NEW ERA OF STRUCTURAL CHANGE



NITIN GADKARI

Creative thinking, social spirit and strong will give energy to take the task to the finishing line even in difficult situations. The government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has set new records in every field, because the work was done by setting goals with a new perspective in every field. Due to the co-ordination between government, organization and society, public confidence in government and dedication towards the organization has increased. All components of government have been functioning

keeping the society and the nation at the center. Due to the concept of national development with common prosperity, the country is moving forward in the show of new change.

The Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways is playing an important role in the economic and social development of the nation. Taking the work of highway to expressway, road construction up to 30 km a day and green mobility has taken the country to a new dimension.

The second innings of the Modi government is going to speed up development. I got an opportunity to carry forward the works which were started in the previous term by getting the responsibility of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways again. Our government

has taken several important steps towards improving infrastructure development. Reducing the road travel time is the most powerful means of reducing the cost of essential commodities along with fuel. The expressway is the most essential component to make the country's development dynamic. Therefore our main focus is on the expressway. We are constructing 3 new expressways in the country. Two expressways have been dedicated to the country. There is a record of construction of 35 km long 6 lane Eastern Peripheral Expressway in just 500 days. The 90-km Delhi-Meerut Expressway with 14 lanes is the first-widest expressway in the country. The construction of 1320 km long expressway between Delhi Mumbai has started. Apart from

this, 6 economic corridors are proposed in the country.

This period can be called as the new age of structural change in the country. With taking road construction to a new level, we are giving a new dimension to logistics. Delhi-Mumbai

Expressway will be a better model of logistics development. There is also a plan to run trucks, buses with electricity on this expressway.

There is a plan to create such a structure on the side of the expressway,



14 Lane Delhi-Meerut Expressway



so that grains, fruits and locally produced goods can be easily transported from one state to another and outside the country. In the last one year, road projects worth three and a half lakh crores have been approved. Between 2014 and 2019, road projects worth five and a half lakh crores had started. Prior to 2014, the road sector was struggling with lack of funds due to the wrong policies of the previous government. Work of more than six lakh crores was stuck. Such a gap of mistrust between the government and companies was created, which was not easy to bridge. Big companies had backed out of work. The problems were not only solved by co-ordinating between ministry officials, bankers, companies, but also created an atmosphere of trust that the companies that backed out of the road construction came forward and the banks also stepped in to cooperate with the lending. The length of national highways in the country has reached one lakh 50 thousand km. We are aiming to make it two lakh km. We are not just making roads, but also connecting backward, forested areas. The work of providing better connectivity to tourism, religious places is also being done. The Chardham Project, Ramvanagam Marg, Kailash Mansarovar, the beginning of the new era of structural change, the construction of the Buddhist circuit is part of it. The day is not far when we will be able to go to Mansarovar from

Uttarakhand. With the reduce distance from Jammu to Srinagar, people will be able to reach Lakbakh in all seasons. After the construction of Shyama Prasad Mukherjee (Chenani Nashri) tunnel route, a 10 km long tunnel connecting Jammu to Srinagar, work of Zojila

The Chardham Project, Ramvanagam Marg, Kailash Mansarovar, the beginning of the new era of structural change, the construction of the Buddhist circuit is part of it. The day is not far when we will be able to go to Mansarovar from Uttarakhand. With the reduced distance from Jammu to Srinagar, people will be able to reach Ladakh in all...

tunnel connecting Ladakh is going to start soon. Our government has passed the Motor Vehicle Amendment Bill and has brought transparency in many issues. This will reduce road accidents. Corruption of the Transport Department will be curbed. The general public is relieved of unnecessary trouble and discipline will come in those who drive vehicles arbitrarily. Vehicle speed has increased in the country, accidents have come down, we have also taken many steps to solve the problem of vehicle pollution.

We are promoting e-vehicles in the country. The government is encouraging two wheeler, four wheeler electric vehicles. Similarly, our ministry is also encouraging to convert trucks, buses into organic fuels. Green mobility is a beneficial option. It saves fuel, reduces pollution and makes this fuel cheaper than petroleum material. Our objective is to reduce the burden of import of 6 lakh crore petroleum products every year on the country. In Nagpur, we have successfully used gas to drive vehicles extracted from toilet water.

There are one thousand electric taxis, autos operating in Nagpur. We are now going to convert Vidarbha into Green Energy. I believe that if all the cities of the country extract gas from the contaminated water of their toilet, they can become self-sufficient by driving a vehicle from it.

We need to be 'Atmanirbhar' from every point of view. After the global epidemic of Corona, the world is looking at us with great hope. Many companies are eager to come to our country with which has plenty of electricity and water. They have faith in the leadership of the country, the power system. This belief has been achieved due to the transparent functioning of the government. The country is going through such a phase of transformation, which will create a golden India. ■

(The writer is Minister of Road Transport & Highways; Shipping; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India)



COMMITTED FOR THE WELFARE OF TRIBALS



ARJUN MUNDA

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was set up in 1999 with the objective of a coordinated and planned approach for over all development of Scheduled tribe communities in the country. The 1st year of National Democratic Alliance Government 2.0 under the dynamic leadership of Shri Narendra Modi has seen several significant steps taken by my Ministry towards tribal welfare.

SIGNIFICANT INTERVENTIONS BEING MADE AS BELOW:

1. Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Yojana:

Around 1205 Van Dhan Kendras set up in past one year for livelihood generation among tribal gatherers of minor forest produce which is expected to benefit 3.70 lakh beneficiaries. 18075 Self Help Groups are created and Rs 166 crore allotted. Broom Processing & Production Facilities at Van Dhan Kendra Tobu Tehsil, Mon District,



Nagaland

2. Minimum Support Price Price to Minor Forest Produce:

The MSP of 50 items categorized as MFP by the Ministry has been upwardly revised w.e.f May 1 this year to enable the tribal communities tide over the difficult situation created by Covid pandemic. As



a result, MFP worth Rs 40 crore has been realized in 17 states within a fortnight of price revision.

3. Tribal Education:

The Eklavya Model Residential Schools fully funded by my Ministry took a giant leap in the year with 69 being made operational and 100 new schools sanctioned across the country. As on date, there are 285 such schools with a total enrolment of around 73,000, an important attribute being 50:50 ratio of Girls to boy students.

For the Tribal students pursuing studies at pre and post matriculation level, my Ministry has during the past one year disbursed scholarships to the tune of Rs 2400 crore in 4 different schemes with total



beneficiaries to the tune of 32 lakh.

Certain special initiatives like Kayapalat Abhiyaan in Maharashtra benefitting 2.50 lakh students of 502 Ashram schools, strengthening of Kanya Shiksha Parisars in Madhya Pradesh and Prayas Avasiya Vidyalaya in LWE affected districts of Chhattisgarh





received financial assistance to the tune of Rs 4.30 crore in past one year from the Ministry.

4. Measures for all round development and Good Governance:

Funds to the tune of Rs 1600 crore has been disbursed to States for infrastructure projects including construction of public buildings, roads, schools, minor irrigation facilities, solar lighting among others. A nation wide capacity building programmes for elected representatives from ST community was also launched in association with UNDP in February, 2020.

5. Tribal Health Action Plan:

A Tribal Health Action Plan comprising of a comprehensive Tribal Primary Health Care model is ready for implementation to mitigate gaps in health infrastructure in tribal areas.

6. Initiatives by Tribal Affairs Ministry in Information Technology sector:

My Ministry holds the unique distinction of being the first to develop DBT portal (dbttribal.gov.in) for Pre and Post Matric Scholarship schemes that are Centrally sponsored. Data of 45 lakh beneficiaries of various scholarship schemes are now available on a digital platform. The National Fellowship and Overseas Scholarship schemes

have been integrated with Digi Locker tool to facilitate verification.

7. Tribal Culture & Research:

A searchable digital tribal repository (<http://tribal.gov.in>) is being conceived

held festivals in the name of 'Aadi Mahotsava' in 17 states across the country including at Delhi.

8. Tribal Healers & Tribal Medicine:

The Ministry as part of its initiative in Tribal Medicine aims to create a centralized knowledge hub in the subject. As part of same, Tribal Research Institute, Uttarakhand has been designated as a nodal centre. Projects have also been assigned to AIIMS- Jodhpur, Patanjali Research Institute, Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences and Mata Amritanandmayi Institute to document and conserve the traditional tribal healing techniques.

9. GOAL Initiative:

The Ministry has launched the unique initiative in partnership with Face Book India christened as 'GOAL- Going Online As Leaders' program which aims at enrolling around 5000 tribal youth from across the country as mentees who shall be groomed by mentors with focus on digital literacy, life skills and leadership traits for a period of 7 months followed by 2 months of internship with leading organizations. This initiative is expected to bridge the digital divide and empower the tribal youth. ■

**(The writer is
Union Minister of Tribal
Affairs)**

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to serve as one point reference for all research papers, books, reports & documents, folk songs, photo and video related to Tribal culture and knowledge.

Ministry has extended financial assistance to several states to organize tribal festivals like Pawl Kut in Mizoram, Horbill Festival in Nagaland, Medaram Jathara in Telangana where as TRIFED has



LAYING FOUNDATION STONE FOR 'AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT'



**PRAKASH
JAVADEKAR**

Modi ji has led this country successfully for the last six years. This is the first year of the Second term which has been completed. This year was eventful. Modi ji's work can be seen as a three-pronged activities. First, some historical national initiatives. Second, fighting COVID19 and, third, laying foundation stone for the future of India through "Aatmanirbhar Bharat".

Abrogation of Article 370, creation of Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir, passing of Citizenship Amendment Bill and abolition of Triple Talaq, facilitation of Ram temple, can be grouped into national and historical political initiatives. Kashmir situation has improved thereafter. Now, even the internet has been restored. Our forces are keeping watch on Pakistan's nefarious designs. A comprehensive agreement to end over 50 years of old Bodo crisis was done and all sections of the society are very happy. Likewise, Bru-Reang refugee crisis has been solved successfully with a tripartite agreement between Tripura, Government of India and Mizoram. Also, in one year, it ushered major social initiatives

in the form of six months' leave in pregnancy; Medical Termination of Pregnancy Bill, 2020; Assisted Reproductive Technology Regulation Bill, 2020 and amended Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

In fighting COVID, we held the longest and very strict lockdown which ensured minimum damage for the country. We had no capacity in many areas. We had zero COVID hospitals. Now we have more than 800. We had only one lab for testing and now we have more than 300. PPE suit, Mask and even the Swab

Stick was getting imported. We became 'Aatmanirbhar' and now it is a 'Make in India' story. Even ventilators are being produced in India. 165 distilleries and 962 manufacturers were given licence to produce hand sanitisers which resulted in production of 87 lakh litres of hand sanitisers. Government released Rs. 15,000 crore health package and Rs. 11,000 crores for State Disaster Relief Fund to enable the States to take up the challenge and fight it without borrowing. In COVID fight, 3000 trains have ferried nearly 45 lakhs migrant labours

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT PACKAGE -2

EMPOWERING THE POOR, MIGRANT WORKERS AND FARMERS



- 1 FOR MIGRANT WORKERS**
 Nearly 8 crore non-ration card holders to receive 5 kg rice/wheat per person and 1 kg chana per family for next two months
 Under 'One Nation, One Ration card' scheme, 67 crore beneficiaries (83%) of ration cards in 23 states can now use their PDS cards in any state in India; 100% coverage by March 2021
 Development of affordable rental housing complexes in PPP model, will help in incentivizing manufacturing units
- 2 INTEREST SUBVENTION FOR MUDRA-SHISHU LOANS**
 Interest subvention of 2% for prompt payees for 12 months after loan moratorium is completed for MUDRA-Shishu loans; Relief of almost Rs 1,500 crore to MUDRA-Shishu loanees
- 3 STREET VENDORS**
 Rs 10,000 capital to be provided to nearly 50 lakh street vendors; to provide liquidity of Rs 5,000 crore
- 4 BOOST TO HOUSING SECTOR**
 Credit linked subsidy scheme extended till March 2021; 2.5 lakh middle class families to benefit
 Will help investment of Rs 70,000 crore in housing sector and create a lot of jobs
- 5 CAMPA FUNDS FOR TRIBALS**
 Rs 6,000 crore CAMPA funds to be set up for activities like afforestation and other such activities to provide job opportunities in urban, semi-urban and rural areas for tribals/adivasis
- 6 FARMERS**
 NABARD to extend additional refinance support of Rs 30,000 crore for loan crop requirement
 To be provided to 33 state co-operative banks in 351 district cooperative and 43 RRBs to help 3 crore farmers
 Concessional credit to PM-KISAN beneficiaries through KISAN Credit Cards; will also include fishermen and animal husbandry farmers
 Credit flow of Rs 2 lakh crore to benefit 2.5 crore farmers

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back to their homes. Thousands of Indian residents stranded in foreign countries were evacuated successfully.

Modi Ji cares for masses first. In his very first package, he had given Food Security cover to 80 crore families with 25 Kg. rice / wheat and 5 Kg of pulses free of cost (for five months). It continued with earlier schemes of providing 5 Kg a month rice / wheat at a highly subsidised rate of Rs. 2 – 3 per Kg. For nearly 5 crore non-ration card holders, Government gave 10 Kg free rice / wheat and 2 Kg of pulses for two months. 20 crore Jandhan accounts of women received Rs. 30,000 crores. Each one got Rs. 1,500 (500 x 3) in their bank accounts. 8 crore families got 3 gas cylinders worth Rs. 2,000. Nearly 9 crore farmers received Rs. 2,000 into their bank accounts. 50 lakh Redi-Patriwalas will get Rs. 10,000 each. Lakhs of construction workers got fund from the Construction Workers' Fund. If somebody calculates, the 10% bottom of our society has received more than Rs. 10,000 in the family.

The third part of the development is, major reforms unleashed through "Aatmanirbhar" package. The five pillars of Aatmanirbhar Bharat are Economy, Infrastructure, Systems, Demography and Demand. It is a Rs. 20 lakh crore package which is 10% of the GDP. It cares for every section of the society. EPI contribution was reduced for both employers and employees to the tune of Rs.2760

crore. 2% interest subvention has been given on small and medium loans. 63 lakh self-help groups will receive collateral free lending upto Rs. 20 lakh which was restricted earlier to Rs.10 lakh.

The definition of small and medium industries was changed to accommodate more companies to benefit. They have been provided with Rs.4,45,000 crores for small and

UPA never crossed the expenditure on MNREGA by more than Rs. 37,000 crores. Our last five years' record is an average of Rs. 55,000 crores. Now we have nearly doubled it to Rs. 1,00,000 crores. Modi Government cares for the poor. Many concessions are given to the revamp of industries and tax payers.

medium industries and NBFCs put together. Rs. 1,00,000 crores for agri-infrastructure programmes, plus Rs. 20,000 crores for Fisheries Development and nearly Rs. 15,000 crores for vaccination and treatment of foot and mouth disease in the cattle population have been provided. There is credit link subsidy of Rs. 70,000 crores which is important.

Major reforms have been unleashed in this package. Self-reliance in Defence is a historical initiative. We were importing

100% weaponry, but were not allowing FDI in Defence. Modi ji brought the country out of this hypocrisy and allowed 74% of FDI into defence production and simultaneously banned import of defence spares and weapons which are made in India. 1,00,000 crore rupees for MNREGA is one of the best initiative as it provides jobs to the needy and, as migrant workers are returning, there will be more demand for jobs in the rural areas. UPA never crossed the expenditure on MNREGA by more than Rs. 37,000 crores. Our last five years' record is an average of Rs. 55,000 crores. Now we have nearly doubled it to Rs. 1,00,000 crores. Modi Government cares for the poor. Many concessions are given to the revamp of industries and tax payers.

Lastly, the headline of this package is the historical reforms in agricultural sector. Farmers have been freed from APMCs. They can sell anywhere by their choice. They can engage with anybody for any period his farm product and its captive marketing and he has been given relief from many anti-farmer provisions of Essential Commodities Act. Now, there will be no restricts on farmers when market offers them more price.

"Aatmanirbhar" package will decide the future of India. It is visionary, historical and prudent. ■

(The writer is Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Environment, Forest and Climate Change)



“DYNAMIC TENURE” OF AN INDOMITABLE LEADERSHIP



DHARMENDRA PRADHAN

The result to 17th Lok Sabha Election was announced on 23rd May 2019 and country voted in favour of BJP led by our people's leader, Narendra Modi, electing him for a second term with humongous majority. The coalition secured 353 seats of which 303 were won by BJP alone. This is an extraordinary achievement for any party in the political history of India. This mandate by the public to Modi Government-2.0 was a result of the commitment shown by Modi government in it's first term, which was evident in every decision that the government took. One would remember the destruction caused by cyclone Fani last year in May. Right before election results, when normally political parties are busy drawing up plans and analysing and dissecting the exit polls, Prime Minister Modi focused on providing relief to the citizens struck by the calamity. Similarly, a few days back when cyclone Amphan wrecked havoc in Odisha and West Bengal, PM Modi, while assessing the situation in these states, released a relief package of Rs 500 and Rs 1000 crores respectively. This very empathetic aspect of PM Modi binds him in one thread with every cast, sect, region and individual of

the country.

The countless decisions taken by Modi Government in past six years with the aim of providing benefit to the last man standing in the queue as propounded in 'Antyodaya' has bore fruit in every sphere of public life. Be it inculcating the spirit of duty towards nation with Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, propagating yoga as lifestyle in different parts of the world or providing housing, fuel, Jan Dhan Bank accounts and basic medical treatment to

The countless decisions taken by Modi Government in past six years with the aim of providing benefit to the last man standing in the queue as propounded in 'Antyodaya' has bore fruit in every sphere of public life.

the last man in most remote areas, PM Modi developed a roadmap, which has been successful in achieving all aspects of welfare politics.

No country in the world has a system to judge a government based on a year's working, but

Modi government, while working with credibility, has presented its day to day statement of account to the public for scrutiny. To honour the confidence that people have shown in our government in the second term, the government has taken decisions that have earned accolades and reputation across the world. Keeping personal benefits aside the Modi government- 2.0 scrapped Article 370 and 35-A, fulfilling the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. At the same time, the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) is an effort to curb the influx of people from Bangladesh and to provide citizenship to the thousands of Hindu, Sikh and Parsee minorities living in adverse conditions in terror encouraging Pakistan. The government also struck down the demonic and regressive Triple Talaq Act to put an end to the discrimination against the Muslim women, which had plagued them for decades. On the economic front, the government had accelerated the economic reforms started in the first term. With a motto of providing 'clean fuel, better life', Ujjwala Scheme that was started on May 1st 2016 from Ballia in UP, is currently benefiting more than 8 crore 50 lakh people. The linking of smaller areas and towns with City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network, and 10th round of tendering in CGD is surely a massive achievement. A



network of more than 10,000 CNG stations was developed to improve the cooking fuel and transportation facilities. In comparison to other big economies, gas share in Indian economy is quite less and we have taken steps to improve the situation in this sector. By the end of 10th round of bidding, 70% population of the country will be linked to City Gas network. To augment the supply and distribution of natural gas, an investment of Rs 4.2 lakh crore is being done.

By 2030, this will double up the share of Natural Gas in India's energy needs. While it will make fuel more affordable to consumers, we will also be able to meet our international environmental commitments towards cleaner energy. Importantly this path breaking development effort is again led by eastern part of India, which was once considered as the proud epitome of energy, mining and human resource for the country but due to disinterest of some previous governments, were wrongly labeled as backward and 'Bimaru' landscape.

Modi Government-2.0 led 'Mission Proorvodaya', which is Rs 102 lakh crore worth National Infrastructure Pipeline Scheme is progressing at a brisk pace. It will provide the infrastructure framework to cater to the needs of 21st century. By 2030, country will have 300 new Steel Manufacturing Units. This will help achieve the target of increasing per capita steel use from 70kg to 160 kg. This will immensely help small and medium scale steel units and will generate huge employment for thousands of people.

The commitments and empathy displayed by Modi Government during last 6 years, is also being witnessed by the world in the

current Covid-19 Crisis. Proactively acting on the experience of few other Covid-19 impacted countries, government announced lockdown at an appropriate time, which helped to save millions of lives and also earn exemplary reputation internationally, as a role model to the world. The patience with which our countrymen responded to the call for lockdown by PM Modi, itself shows the trust they have in the leadership capability of PM Narendra Modi.

The Ujjwala Scheme that benefits those living below poverty line, have be provided with three free gas cylinders and Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) under 'Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Yojana'.

To fight this P a n d e m i c , besides providing other monetary benefits, Modi government 2.0 has released one of the biggest stimulus packages in the world worth Rs. 20 lakh crore that will provide relief to labourers, farmers, middle class and industries that form the financial backbone of the country. In addition to this it is quite appropriate to highlight here that the Ujjwala Scheme that benefits those living below poverty line, have be provided with three free gas cylinders and Direct benefit transfer under 'Pradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Yojana'.

Ujjwala Yojana has not only helped accelerate the process of providing government help to the poor and needy, but also became the mainstay to provide the government assistance to poorest of poor with complete transparency. Before commencement of Lockdown 4.0, 6 crore 92 lakh people have received Ujjwala Gas cylinders and subsidy amounting to Rs 8432 Crores has been transferred to their bank account via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), resulting in the biggest relief package of the world.

As the Ujjwala Yojana is expanding its horizon in the society, India is gaining center stage of world's energy demands. Thereby India is coming up as largest supplier and consumer of energy.

As the world fights the Coronavirus crisis, the path towards "Atmanirbhar Bharat" shown by PM Modi, will certainly bring new opportunities and employment to not just in our cities but also in the villages. Credit for this goes to PM Narendra Modi led government, whose people centric policies are based on politics of welfare with the motto "Vasudeva Kutumbakam". There was a time when lots of debates happen on the lethargy of governments but now people no longer suffer from government inaction and Modi Government 2.0 has completely changed the perception that decisions in a democracy are always taken opportunistically and based on political benefits. This is the new welfare politics, which has instilled confidence among people for the current political leadership. ■

(The writer is Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of Steel)



MOVING AHEAD TO ACHIEVE GOAL OF A STRONG, SELF-RELIANT INDIA



MUKHTAR ABBAS
NAQVI

India has been strongly moving on the path to achieve the goal of a strong, self-reliant and safe nation under the exceptional, determined and dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who is tirelessly and honestly working with commitment to "Rashtraniti" of "inclusive prosperity and empowerment" of all citizens. Each and every Indian is feeling proud on courageous decisions of Shri Narendra Modi, taken in the interest of the country. Shri Narendra Modi's strong will-power and decisive, extraordinary, far-sighted leadership has made him a "Credible Brand" of "good-governance and inclusive progress".

While on one hand, every Indian is proud of credible achievements and effective leadership of India; on the other hand frustrated professional and traditional "Modi Phobia Club", has again launched a "false, fake funda & propaganda" by playing "Islamophobia" card to harm the fabric of eternal magnificent legacy of India and plurality of Indians.

The "India Bashing Brigade" needs to realise that "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", which means "the world is one family", is a cultural commitment of India and Indians. "सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामया। सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु मा कश्चिद् दुःखभाग्भवेत्॥" is India's legacy which means may all the people be prosperous, may all the people be healthy and may all the people witness happiness and be away from pain, sadness, this should be our commitment. This inclusive commitment full of human values has

connected the great India with a strong thread of "unity in diversity" which is committed to prosperity, happiness, well-being and safety of the entire humanity cutting across lines of religion, region and the country. While Pakistan chose the path of Islamic nation after the Partition, Indians chose the path of a secular democratic nation. Minorities' population in Pakistan, which was about 24 per cent of the total population during the Partition, has now been reduced to just 2 per cent. While in India, Minorities' population which was about 9 per cent of the total population during the Partition, has now increased to over 22 per cent. Minorities in India are flourishing equally with all the citizens with a sense of equality, security and prosperity. Misinformation against such gracious and tolerant country and its effective leadership is nothing but "height of ignorance and mental bankruptcy".

Unfortunately, some people due to their "prejudiced political insanity", linked the country's secularism exclusively with Minorities especially Muslims. These people unfortunately projected secularism as a "Patent Political Product" of Minorities. Their wilful "sin" has not only hurt India's plurality but it also became a reason that Indian Muslims left behind on the path of mainstream development for decades. These same people with "narrow-minded self-interests" are engaged in a conspiracy to defame India and hurt India's eternal commitment to "सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामया". This "Modi Phobia Club" has been unable to digest "popularity, performance" of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and India's inclusive progress under his able leadership. Since 2014, these "frustrated souls" are engaged in

nefarious campaign not only in India but also abroad through their "fake-fabricated funda & propaganda" of intolerance, communalism and discrimination against Minorities in India etc.

This "Modi Bashing Club" is frustrated as their nefarious and "fake, false, fixing factory" has been comprehensively exposed before the people of the country. After Modi Ji became the Prime Minister in 2014, this "Gumrahi Gang" (misinformation gang) projected that India's relations with Islamic nations will deteriorate, the countries influenced by Christianity will keep a distance from India, India will witness large scale riots, Minorities especially Muslims will lose their religious, social and economic rights. But the situation after Modi Ji becoming the Prime Minister has been completely opposite.

For the first time after the Independence, India has such close and strong ties with almost all the Islamic nations of the world, European and African countries have come much closer to India, countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, Afghanistan, Russia, Palestine, Mauritius, Maldives etc have conferred Shri Narendra Modi with their highest civilian awards. Besides, the United Nations has also conferred Shri Narendra Modi with prestigious "Champions of the Earth Award". Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's "global acceptance and popularity" doesn't need any certificate.

Not a single riot took place during about last 5 years of the Modi Regime. It is notable that before recent Delhi riots, there was a message in circulation during Shaheen Bagh protests, which said, "Modi claims.. his regime has not witnessed a single riot, we will demolish his pride.." After this nefarious teaching and preaching, the incidents, which



took place in Delhi, inflicted injuries to the entire humanity.

Those women who sat on protests at Shaheen Bagh cannot be termed as anti-nationals, but it's also a truth that they had been misguided by "Bogus Bashing Brigade" for its narrow minded self-interests. This brigade pushed these women on a path which had an "entry gate" but it didn't had an "exit gate".

This was a "calculated conspiracy" by the "Bogus Bashing Brigade" who has been crazy to defame and disgrace Shri Modi and India. This brigade tried to celebrate their "dirty drama" on dead bodies of innocent people, now they are writing letters to other countries to defame India to justify their false and fake claims and projections in 2014. Investigating agencies are able to reveal the key conspirators and the perpetrators will be taught such a lesson by the law that they will not think of such heinous crime even in their dreams.

Members of this "Consortium of Conspiracies" never raised any question on more than 5000 riots took place under the Congress regimes from Bhiwandi to Bhagalpur, Maliyana to Malegaon. They didn't even shed crocodile tears on these genocides because these people were members of the gang of "Selective Pseudo Secularists".

The Modi Government never planned development on the basis of Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christians or religion, region and caste. The Modi Government's priority has been the poor, weaker, needy and deprived sections of the society; each and every step has been taken keeping in view the welfare of these needy sections. Still, some people with "prejudiced mind set" are trying to defame India by raising the bogey of "Islamophobia".

These people needs to be informed about the known truths regarding the welfare works carried out by the Modi Government for socio-economic-

educational empowerment of all the citizens including Minorities. These development works for Minorities were never done for decades by the governments of "pseudo secular syndicate" who "politically exploited" a large community "mercilessly and blatantly".

There is not a single incident of discrimination against any section of the society including Minorities in the Modi Government. Socio-economic, religious, Constitutional, educational rights of every section of the society are absolutely safe and secure in India. All the sections including Minorities are strongly moving forward on the path

More than 10 lakh people belonging to Minority communities have been provided employment and employment opportunities through schemes such as "Hunar Haat", Garib Nawaz Self Employment Scheme", "Seekho Aur Kamao"...

of "Development with Dignity" under the Modi Government.

When our Government provided 2 crore houses to poor, 31 per cent beneficiaries are from Minority community. Our Government has provided electricity to a large number of about 6 lakh villages of the country which were deprived of electricity for decades. These villages include more than 39 per cent Minority community dominated villages who were in darkness and now have been provided electricity. Our Government provided benefits to 22 crore farmers under "Kisan Samman Nidhi" which

include more than 33 per cent farmers belonging to Minority communities. About 37 per cent of more than 8 crore beneficiaries of "Ujjwala Yojna" providing free gas connection belong to Minority communities.

Our Government provided easy loans to about 24 crore people under "Mudra Yojna" for small and medium business and other employment oriented economic activities and more than 36 per cent beneficiaries are from Minority communities. Besides, Minorities have also been benefitted significantly from other welfare schemes related to water, electricity, road, education, employment and employment opportunities. Beneficiaries of these welfare schemes obviously were Minorities who had been deliberately thrown into "quagmire of poverty" for decades.

Besides, more than 10 lakh people belonging to Minority communities have been provide employment and employment opportunities through schemes such as "Hunar Haat", Garib Nawaz Self Employment Scheme", "Seekho Aur Kamao" etc. More than 3 crore 50 lakh students, including 50 per cent girls, from Minority communities have been given various scholarships.

Our efforts ensured that school drop-out rate of Minority girls which was earlier 72 per cent, has come down to 32 per cent. We will bring it down further to zero per cent in the coming days. 100 per cent digitisation of waqf properties across the country has been completed and 100 per cent Geo-tagging of waqf properties will be complete soon. The number of Indian Haj pilgrims has been increased from 1 lakh 30,000 to record 2 lakh in 5 years of the Modi regime. For the first time after the Independence, the Central Government is providing 100 per cent funding for construction of hospitals, hostels, school, colleges, ITIs, community centres and different socio-economic and educational



activities across the country under Pradhanmantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJKV).

The Modi Government has also developed much needed various basic infrastructure in Minority concentrated areas across the country on war-footing for socio-economic-educational and employment oriented activities. Under PMJKV, during the last about 5 years, the Modi Government has constructed- 1512 New School Buildings, 22514 Additional Class Rooms, 630 Hostels, 152 Residential Schools, 8820 Smart Classes (Including in Kendriya Vidyalayas), 32 Colleges, 94 ITIs, 13 Polytechnics, 02 Navodaya Vidyalayas, 403 Sadbhav Mandaps (multi-purpose community centre), 598 Market Sheds, 2842 Toilet & drinking water facilities in schools, 135 Common Service Centres, 22 Working Women Hostels, 1717 Different Health Projects, 05 Hospitals, 08 Hunar Hubs, 10 Sports Facilities, 5956 Anganwadi Centres etc across the country.

Although, the Minorities have been benefitted equally by all the welfare schemes of our Government, still the Minority Affairs Ministry's Budget, which was Rs 3500 crore during the Congress regime, has now been increased by the Modi Government to more than Rs 5000 crore, an increase of 70 per cent. Besides, the representation of Minorities in the Central Government services, which was about 4 per cent in 2014, has now significantly increased to over 10 per cent under the Modi Government.

Similarly, for the first time in last about 60 years, a record number of people from Minority communities have been selected in administrative services. This has happened because of the Modi Government's transparent and impartial working and giving recognition and value to the talent.

More than 31 thousand crores rupees has been disbursed through direct benefit transfer to about 32 crore 32 lakh needy people amid the lockdown

during the Corona pandemic. These beneficiaries include a large number of Minorities.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, 5 crore 30 lakh needy people have been provided free ration. During the lockdown, more than 4 crore people have been provided free gas cylinders under the Ujjwala scheme. More than 8 crore 30 lakh farmers have been given financial assistance under Pradhan Kisan Samman Nidhi worth Rs 16,000 crore. About 20 crore women from low-income groups were given Rs 500 per month through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system. About 3.5 crore labourers engaged in construction activities have been provided financial assistance of Rs 31,000 crore. All these

**Prime Minister
Shri Narendra Modi's
Government has been
working with commitment
to "Sabka Sath, Sabka
Vikas, Sabka Vishwas".
"Ek Bharat, Shreshtha
Bharat"**

steps taken by the Modi Government have benefitted Minorities equally during these hours of crisis.

When the challenges of Corona were in initial stage across the world in early January this year; several countries including Pakistan had not been taking care of their people stranded abroad; then the Modi Government brought back thousands of Indians stranded in Wuhan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and other countries. Majority of these people were Muslims. In recent "Vande Bharat Mission" also, the Indian Government is bringing back thousands of Indians from countries such as Maldives, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Qatar and other countries which

include a large number of Muslims.

Our Government did not engage in chest thumping over steps taken for socio-economic and educational empowerment of poor, downtrodden including Minorities. We also never tried to take political mileage for this work. For the Modi Government, "Inclusive Empowerment" is "Rashtra Niti" and not "Rajniti". All sections of the society in India are working united in fight against Corona pandemic. All mass gatherings are restricted at Temples, Gurudwaras, Churches, Mosques, Dargah and other religious and social places. All sections are honestly following guidelines of lockdown, curfew, social distancing with a respect to every appeal made by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to deal with the challenges of Corona pandemic.

Further, like other various religious and social organisations; Dargah, Mosques, Imambada, Ajumans and other Minority institutions etc are helping the needy in this crisis. Still, "Consortium of Conspiracies" are involved in their nefarious design to create misinformation on social media and other platforms in connivance with "Cyber Conspirators"; they are also engaged in misinformation campaign through various misleading drives including writing letters to various foreign organisations against India.

But strong eternal commitment of my country will defeat & demolish "Fake-Fabricated Islamophobia Card" of "India Bashing Brigade" and their "Horror Hate Hubbub". Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Government has been working with commitment to "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas". "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" is the soul of my country, any attack on this eternal legacy is an assault on the soul of 135 crore Indians. Our united efforts to become equal partner of India's inclusive progress is our "Rashtra Dharma". ■

**(The writer is Minister of
Minority Affairs)**



MODI GOVERNMENT 2.0

A YEAR OF IDEOLOGY, A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENTS



PRABHAT JHA

On 30 May 2020, the NDA government at the Center, headed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is completing one year of its second term. In the first term, while the government has ensured the initiatives taken reaches the door of the last person in the last line of society, it has also succeeded in laying a strong foundation to make this decade India's decade and this century India's century. Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, a step was taken towards the creation of a 'New India'. We have witnessed a quantum change in thinking of the world regarding India. The NDA won a historic victory under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi on 23 May 2019 as a result of the public confidence generated by 'Sabka Sath-Sabka Vikas'. With immense public support, on 30 May 2019, Shri Narendra Modi took the oath of Prime Minister for second time. While the initial months of the first year of the second term have been dedicated to the ideology by the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and now uniting the entire nation together in the past few months against the challenges arising from the global pandemic Corona.

The PM turned this crises into an opportunity by taking bold steps which has attracted the attention of the whole world. This one year has emerged as a landmark for India which is full of achievements and challenges.

After independence, the policy of appeasement and arbitrariness brought many problems to the nation. A major problem was the provision of Sections 370 and 35A in the Constitution for the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Due to Article 370, Kashmir problem became a

Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, the first president of Bharatiya Jana Sangh. But the work which was not done in the last 70 years, was done by the Modi government within 70 days of its second term. The government proved that nationalism and national unity were paramount for it by passing a bill removing Articles 370 and 35A from the Constitution with a two-thirds majority in both houses of Parliament. As Union Territories of India, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have embarked on a new path of democracy and development.

This diversity and unity makes India unique in the world. It is the responsibility and duty of every government to strengthen this unity. As far as the Modi government is concerned, in the first term May 2014 to May 2019 and first year of the second term from May 2019 to May 2020, many steps have been taken to strengthen the national unity 'One Nation - One Tax', 'One Nation - One Mobility Card', 'One Nation - One Fast Tag', 'One Country - One Constitution' and 'One Nation - One Ration Card' in this era of global epidemic corona today. The feeling of national unity and Indianness is unprecedented in the country today. The Modi government has done the work of bringing the country out of the narrowness of regionalism uniting the entire nation together.

While the NDA government headed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi worked with the motto of 'Sabka Saath - Sabka Vikas'

challenger to Indian national unity and a center of terrorism moving away from the mainstream of nation and development. Those who have been in the leadership of the country, their indifference to nationalism paid a heavy price. 41,849 people have been martyred in Jammu and Kashmir including Dr.

The government proved that nationalism and national unity were paramount for it by passing a bill removing Articles 370 and 35A from the Constitution with a two-thirds majority in both houses of Parliament. As Union Territories of India, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have embarked on a new path of democracy and development.



in the first term, in the second term, 'Sabka Saath - Sabka Vikas - Sabka Viswas'. Free gas connections to 8 crore poor, 2 crore houses for the poor, bank accounts of about 38 crore poor, 50 crore people got free treatment facility up to Rs 5 lakh, insurance cover to 24 crore people, more than 2.5 crore people got free electricity connection provided with complete transparency and without discrimination. Discrimination against women employees has been eliminated by bringing salary code. While 'Pradhan Mantri Laghu Trader Maandhan Yojana 2019' has been approved so that small traders now avail minimum pension of Rs 3000 after attaining 60 years of age. All the farmers were brought under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Yojana. The Ministry of Jal Shakti was set up to provide clean water to all and to comprehensively address water related issues.

A law against Triple Talaq was enacted by the NDA government at the Center under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to give Muslim mothers and sisters their rights within ten weeks of their second term. The Muslim Women Marriage Protection Protection Bill-2019 was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. From August 1, 2019, instant Triple Talaq became a legal offense in the country. Over 8 crore Muslim women of the country got the much awaited justice. Also, while the POCSO Act was amended to protect child rights, the rights of bisexual persons were approved, taking historic steps towards social justice.

The government built the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor in record time and dedicated it to the nation on the occasion of the 550th Prakash Parv of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. It is a privilege for the country to get the

opportunity to celebrate the 550th Prakash Parv of Guru Nanak Dev Ji with full respect in the country and in the entire the world. It was pleasant that in the divine atmosphere of the inauguration of Kartarpur Sahib Corridor on 9 November 2019, the Supreme Court of the country gave a historic verdict on the issue of Ramjanmabhoomi. The verdict of the Supreme Court marked the end of centuries of Hindu-Muslim bitterness and paved the way for

Excavation and construction work has started at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi site and the construction of the temple will be completed as soon as possible. At the same time, according to the instructions of the Supreme Court, the Sunni Waqf Board has been given five acres of land in Ayodhya for the construction of the mosque.

R a m a n d i r construction.

In 1989, at its session in Palampur, the Bharatiya Janata Party passed resolution supporting the building a grand temple at the Sri Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya and remained fully committed to it. Shri LK Advani also took out a rath yatra from Somnath to Ayodhya for this cause. After the verdict of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Union Cabinet held a meeting headed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 5 February 2020, to discuss issues related to Shri Ram Temple as per the order of the Supreme Court, was prepared. As per the orders of the Supreme Court, a resolution was passed to establish

an autonomous trust 'Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Tirath Kshetra'. The Trust is working in Ayodhya at the birthplace of Lord Shri Ram fully independent to take decisions on the construction Grand and divine Shri Ram Temple. Right after 31 years, the promise made by the Bharatiya Janata Party to the country is being fulfilled. Excavation and construction work have started at Shri Ram Janmabhoomi site and the construction of the temple will be completed as soon as possible. At the same time, according to the instructions of the Supreme Court, the Sunni Waqf Board has been given five acres of land in Ayodhya for the construction of the mosque.

In his second term, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has proved his mettle by solving the Bodo problem and enacting the Citizenship Amendment Act. The Union Government and the Assam Government, led by Shri Narendra Modi, have recently entered into a historic agreement with the Bodo organizations to end the 50-year Bodo problem. With this agreement, such a complex problem, in which more than 4 thousand people died, has been solved. Another such historic agreement between Tripura, Mizoram, and the central government got formalised. The agreement has not only solved the decades-old problem, but has also ensured a safe life for thousands of Bru- Reang tribe.

In the atmosphere created after partition, the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi had said that 'Hindus and Sikhs of Pakistan, who do not want to live there, can come to India. It is the duty of the Government of India to provide them a normal life.' It was our responsibility to honor that wish of our nation builder. This was also



the call of humanity. The NDA government, led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, within one year of its second term, enacted a citizenship amendment law, liberated minorities from the Muslim country of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh and freed them from exploitation. This law also entitled these minorities to obtain Indian Citizenship with an ease.

The entire world, including India, is today in a critical situation due to the ill effects of the corona global epidemic. But under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India is moving ahead with the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Campaign' to turn this moment of challenge into an opportunity. 'Atmanirbhar' is the core concept of Bharatiya Janata Party ideology. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya had said that India's economic success is in the culture-oriented economy, whose foundation is self-reliance. On 12 May 2020, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said in his address that 'As a nation today we stand at a very important juncture. Such a big disaster has brought a signal to India... has brought a message... has brought an opportunity. India's fundamental thinking has become a ray of hope for the world. The culture of India, the tradition of India, speak of the Idea whose soul is Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. 'He has called on Indians to become self-sufficient. For this, 'Atmanirbhar Bharat campaign' has also been announced.

An economic package of Rs 20 lakh crores has also been announced for 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Campaign', which is about 10 percent of the country's GDP. As the Prime Minister said, 'This economic package is for that labourer of the country, for that farmer of the country who is working day and night for

the countrymen in every situation, every season, it is for the middle class of the country, which are honestly pays its taxes, contributes to the development of the country, it is for the Indian industry which is determined to give a boost to India's economic power. 'Provision of Rs. 3 lakh crore loan for 4 years without guarantee for micro, small and medium industries sector is announced. 20 thousand crore rupees have been given to micro,

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small and medium industries trapped in the crisis. 90 thousand crore rupees have been given to correct the situation of the distressed power distribution companies. It has been decided to give loans of 4 lakh crores to small farmers at concessional rates. During the lockdown (March-April), 63 lakh loans were sanctioned for the agricultural sector, amounting to Rs 86,600 crore. Interest waiver has been given on farmers' loans till 31 May 2020. Rs 11,000 crore has been provided to the urban poor. A provision of Rs 4200 crore has been made for rural infrastructure. Migrant laborers are being registered under MNREGA. The minimum wage in MNREGA has

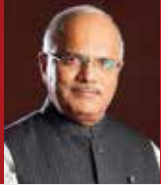
already been increased from 182 to 202 rupees. 2 percent discount has been given in the interest of borrowers of Mudra Shishu loan. A loan of up to 10 thousand rupees has been arranged for street vendors.

The biggest achievement of the year during the Corona Global Pandemic by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is to unite 130 crore people of the country and stand with the world and give the message of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' to the world. The leadership that Shri Narendra Modi has shown in fighting the epidemic and managing people around him, was seen earlier in Mahatma Gandhi. Preparation of lockdown-1 with Janata curfew, preparing the nation's mood for lockdown-2 with the national unity by lighting the lamp, and then implementing lockdown-3 in a controlled manner be done. But this work can only be done with the help of divine power. This divine power is rested in Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. During this time, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has emerged as a world leader by addressing the virtual conference of Non-Aligned countries and leading the virtual conference of G-20 countries. The world has appreciated his indomitable courage and amazing power to turn challenge into opportunity. The World Health Organization has handed over the chairmanship of the Executive Board in the hands of Dr. Harsh Vardhan, a senior aide of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's cabinet and Union Health and Family Minister. The future lies in the hands of the Indian leadership, today it is the message of the whole world. ■

(The writer is BJP National Vice President and former MP)



MODI-FYING GOOD GOVERNANCE THROUGH ART OF IMPLEMENTATION



DR. VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE

The concept of good governance is not confined to formulation of well thought and planned policies only. It is equally about effective implementation. History is evidence to the fact that most brilliant ideas and good policies, unfortunately fail on the count of implementation. Reviewed on this background, the performance of Modi 2.0 makes a significant mark as during just one year, this Govt has been able to implement key promises in with all dexterity at its command. Article 370 that had prevented Jammu and Kashmir from joining the mainstream of aspirational India is now a thing of the past, through CAA, India has discharged its trust with Humanity and while fighting with Covid-19, the Govt has shown remarkable alacrity in taking a comprehensive view of protecting both, lives as well as livelihoods. And now, the Nation is gearing up resolutely to become self reliant through Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan!

To those doubting Thomases and doomsayers who are always skeptical about the ability of the Govt to implement ambitious plans and schemes,

performance of the last six years is a testimony. None other than the Prime Minister himself knows it very well that good governance is also about mastering the art of implementation. Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power in 2014, the main focus of the administration has been to formulate strategies for efficacious delivery of the policies and schemes that the government has launched, particularly aimed at socio-economic welfare. Infact, the massive mandate secured by PM Modi in 2019 was the direct impact of effective implementation of these government schemes aimed at bettering the life of the most deprived sections of the society.

As the Modi government completes the initial months of the second stint, it is pertinent to analyse the factors that have helped such remarkable implementation of these game-changing interventions, leading to achieving most targets or at least moving very close to them. While even the World Bank launched its 'Science of Delivery' to overcome obstacles in global development, we believe that what was achieved in a country as complex as India is more an 'Art' than mere science.

MODI-FYING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN INDIA

Most countries and

international organisations confront struggle with implementation of government policies and schemes. India is no exception to this rule. In India, all these schemes were already under implementation for several years and in more than one form. They tried to address the most basic human needs such as a pucca house, with a toilet, and safe efficacious fuel to cook, affordable medicare, and an electric light in the household. Successive governments have funnelled trillions of rupees but failed to make a dent into living conditions so poor that even a pucca house was a far-fetched dream for millions of Indians. Additionally, there has been an upsurge of creativity in social entrepreneurship. Hundreds of start-ups have emerged with innovative solutions for specific social problems. Yet, in India, millions remained hungry, unhealthy, poorly educated, without a roof and unemployed.

In sharp contrast to this perennial problem, India's recent success, particularly after 2014, in implementing its flagship socialwelfare schemes has been quite astonishing. What is it that changed so dramatically after 2014?

What differed with the Modi led government is the single-minded purposefulness with which these



Table : Data as hard evidence of achievements

| UPA | | | | NDA | | | | Growth |
|---|---------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Scheme | Period | Data points | Per Year | Scheme | Period | Data points | Per Year | Per Year (average) |
| Indira Awas Yojana (housing) | 2010-14 | 89.65 lakh houses | 22.41 lakh Houses | Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) | 2015-19 | 1.01 crore | 25.25 lakh houses | 2.84 lakh houses |
| Nirmal Bharat Abhiyaan (Toilets) | 2009-14 | 429.87 Lakh IHHL built | 85.97 lakh toilets | Swachh Bharat Abhiyan | 2014-2019 | 10.89 crore IHHL built | 2.17 crore toilets | 1.31 crore toilets |
| Swavalamban Scheme (Pension Accounts) | 2011-14 | 17.71 lakh accounts | 4.42 lakh | Atal Pension Yojana | 2015-19 | 1.54 crore accounts | 38.5 lakh accounts | 34.08 lakh pension accounts |
| No-Frills Accounts as per RBI Notification (Bank Accounts) | 2010-14 | 16.9 crore accounts | 4.2 crore accounts | Jan Dhan Yojana | 2014-19 | 38.07 crore accounts | 7.6 crore accounts | 3.4 crore bank accounts |
| Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (Rural Electrification) | 2009-14 | 1.63 crore households | 32.6 lakh households | (Rural Electrification component of DDUGJY) + Saubhagya Yojana | 2014-19 | 3.07 crore | 61.4 lakh households | 28.8 lakh houses electrified |
| Comprehensive skill training | 2011-14 | 1.73 crore | 57.67 lakh candidates skilled | Skill India | 2014-19 | 4.52 | 1.50 crore candidates | 92.33 lakh persons skilled |
| Direct Benefit Transfer-LPG | 2013-14 | 3.2 crore households | 1.6 crore households | Pahal | 2014-19 | 24.76 | 5.51 crore households | 72% |
| Jan Aushadhi Scheme (generic medicine outlets) | 2010-14 | 72 | 33.1 outlets | Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana | 2014-19 | 6085 | 1361.7 outlets | 1328 outlets |
| National Optical Fibre Network | 2011-14 | 358 | 1792.6 kilometers | BharatNet | 2014-19 | 374041 | 93510.2 kilometers | 91718 kilometers of fibre laid |



schemes were ideated, fashioned and implemented. They have led to some stupendous successes. The number of beneficiaries, the quality and speed with which the benefits were received and accountability driven monitoring mechanisms differentiate these schemes from the earlier efforts.

Nothing brings this particular fact to the fore more effectively than the hard evidence of achievements so far (Table below). Table establishes beyond doubt that post 2014, in the case of several welfare schemes, the number of beneficiaries has seen an exponential growth along with improved quality of implementation.

THE KEY IMPLEMENTATION MANTRAS

The architecture of implementation that was thoughtfully adopted for a more Result Oriented Approach, included the following key common threads/implementation mantras to which we attribute the noteworthy success during 2014-19:

A unified comprehensive vision and design: While outwardly a particular scheme may appear as a standalone scheme, in most cases it is a part of a more holistic approach and hence a wider plan. This has provided a greater sense of purpose besides ensuring a systemic integration of the scheme. The 'No frills accounts' created by RBI, were transformed into the Jan Dhan Yojana, with a very long-term broad action plan to provide direct financial

assistance of various schemes through these accounts. PMAY mandated convergence of Swachh Bharat Mission, Ujjwala Yojana, and Saubhagya Yojana amongst others.

Keen interest and deep insight of political leadership:

Leadership matters the most and hence a keen interest by the apex level leadership, coupled with creative ideas and ways and means for effective implementation

There was a structured attempt to generate greater awareness about the scheme/programme. This ensured wider outreach and participation of beneficiaries and local officials. Schemes like Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) were structured around behavioural change which was a key differentiator from the previous attempts.

suggested adds to the importance of the scheme or programme. Eventually that seems to have played a key role in effective implementation. The comprehensive guidelines of all schemes tie up all loose ends to ensure timely delivery right upto the final beneficiary. Frequent reviews/interactions of apex level leadership with implementers and beneficiaries to improve/add to the schemes indicated purposeful involvement of the leadership.

Effective outreach and involvement:

There was a structured attempt to generate greater awareness about the scheme/programme. This ensured wider outreach and participation of beneficiaries and local officials. Schemes like Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) were structured around behavioural change which was a key differentiator from the previous attempts. Outreach leading to community acceptance and involvement was a pre requisite for its success. No scheme visualized passive acceptance by the beneficiaries. Rather their intrinsic involvement through outreach including some financial contribution has led to sustained success and several spin off benefits.

Aggressive use of info-tech:

Greater and more effective use of information technology, including ; among other things a mechanism of 24 x 7 monitoring through dashboards was a universal feature. All schemes mentioned above have been built on the solid foundation of Information Technology based independent reporting and monitoring platforms. Each scheme maintains frequently updated, interactive robust websites with a strong IT backbone. Such reporting narrowed the scope for manipulation unlike paper based reporting. Added to that was the unabashed enthusiastic use of private sector platforms like google play-store for downloading scheme related apps. It was these apps and mobile phone use that created an additional glamour, sense of belonging and



accountability for the beneficiary.

Use of space, drone and cutting-edge technologies: Use of latest technologies, including space technology and drone, has been the highlight of effective implementation. Geo-spatial tagging of assets created in PMAY or SBM has provided a tool for hard evidence of created assets, a gap in several previous schemes. National remote sensing capacities and geo spatial technology harnessed through ISRO's Bhuvan platform provide unparalleled public access to asset information, uploading, synchronizing and monitoring.

Single-minded focus on transparency : A more effective transparency mechanism —backed by 100% evidence based decision-making —led to credible selection of beneficiaries and effective plugging of loopholes for corruption. Adopting the direct benefit transfer process for fund transfers in all schemes was a stroke of genius which reduced pilferage to almost zero. Dashboards of progress in the public domain with ability to go down to the smallest unit of delivery added to transparency. The PAHAL Scheme uses transparent IT based processes to ensure removal of fake/duplicate connections, subsidy and cylinders reach genuine users, disincentives diversion and so on.

Stringent measures to ensure accountability: A robust mechanism of accountability ensured monitoring of progress

almost on daily or weekly basis. The PFMS has brought in efficiencies, flexibility, monitoring capabilities and oversight in government spending. Weeding out of ghost/fake beneficiaries has been an important collateral benefit. In addition, processes like the centralized public grievance redressal system, monitored regularly at the highest levels created responsibility and accountability through the entire hierarchy.

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Every scheme guidelines visualized a well thought out and structured delivery hierarchy and mechanism to monitor the progress of the scheme or programme, ensuring that the flawlessness of the implementation mechanism remains intact, all along.

Greater motivation of implementers: The enhanced level of motivation of officials and employees involved in implementation evolved a sense of collective responsibility of implementation in Mission Mode.

Prime Minister's Awards for best performance at various levels, state level rankings of performance, placing state /division/town performance in the public domain have provided public attention and created ownership of these schemes. PM and senior leaders highlighting these achievements in international fora brought a sense of achievement to those who have been instrumental in implementing these schemes. Encouragingly, implementers buoyed by their success, appear keen to take further leaps in their respective missions/schemes/projects.

The Modi-led government cultivated an art of implementation hitherto never seen in the history of this country. Applying these implementation mantras, it achieved astonishing results of far-reaching consequences through its flagship welfare schemes. The key features of this implementation design have been the single-minded purposefulness at the apex level, improved quality and extended reach of the coverage, targets set to achieve time bound results, evolution of a structured mechanism to ensure last mile delivery, and above all a evolving a system for a literally 24x7 monitoring of implementation where fudging of data is just not possible. This is a significant value added by the Modi Govt to public administration in India, making Good Governance a reality. ■

(The writer is BJP National Vice President, MP Rajya Sabha and Chairman, ICCR)



MODI GOVERNMENT'S STRONG INITIATIVE



SHYAM JAJU

The first year of the second term of the Modi government is coming to an end. The events that have happened and are happening in this year of 19/20 are going to surprise everyone. The whole country is marching towards Atmanirbhar Bharat under the leadership of Narendra Modi while battling a global epidemic like Corona.

However, this first year has been much talked about with many achievements. Many things have happened which no one had even thought of earlier. Since independence, Kashmir has been one of the most turbulent regions due to continuous terrorism, religious hysteria and anti-national activities. There were discussions all over the country about Article 370, the sacrifice of Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee also took place due to this, but no one ever thought that it will be solved with such promptness and a new dimension will be added to the unity of the country. The entire country is witnessing the history which has been created by passing the bill in both the houses despite being a minority in the Rajya Sabha. This happened due to the strong initiative taken by country's Home Minister Amit Shahji.

Keeping in mind the problem of Assam, the emergence of the

intruders in the northeastern states, the disturbing Brahmaputra, the national unity, the Modi government also passed the CAA Citizenship Amendment Bill, taking a pivotal role on patriotism and the security of the nation.

The subject of the triple talaq law was also pending for years. In Rajiv Gandhi's tenure as the Prime Minister, the government, which used minorities for their own selfishness, insulted the court and rejected the self-respect

Many things have happened which no one had even thought of earlier. Since independence, Kashmir has been one of the most turbulent regions due to continuous terrorism, religious hysteria and anti-national activities. There were discussions all over the country about Article 370, the..

and dignity of millions of Muslim sisters. This historic bill was passed in the House and Muslim sisters were in every household's role as a wife, sister or in the responsibility of a daughter-in-law, now live with dignity.

For years, the decision of Ram Mandir, which is associated with the identity of the entire country, having presence in every election, also

came in this year. The construction of the temple started in a very smooth manner in the country without any extreme reaction or riot, it has also created an atmosphere of satisfaction in the whole country.

The attitude of the government is very important for strengthening the country's economy and moving towards progress. Keeping this subject in mind, the steps taken by the government towards making the farmers of the country debt free and farming related activities stand on their own, are very important. To realize this government announced credit of Rs 6000 in the bank account of farmers, which was promised by the BJP in the election. The government has taken a strong step in the interest of farmers by fulfilling that too.

The steps taken by the government during the Corona are not only giving relief in times of crisis, but at the same time it is also creating strong infrastructure. With this, the country will also be successful in moving towards self-sufficiency, this government has taken such decisions. Health infrastructure used to cost only 2 percent of the budget till date. Taking the call of time and keeping in mind the need of the country, there is no comparison to the initiatives taken by the government.

As a result of this, despite being so populated, India encounters minimal damage due to Corona. Compared to other affluent countries, the courage that the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi has shown by taking the



decision on time, we are also able to face this crisis and a different image of our country has been emerged in the world.

In all decisions in the first year of the government, there is a continuity of one thing that the government has taken a very good initiative in the direction of empowering the poor of the country and succeeded in taking the country towards self-sufficiency. Through Skill India, the government has taken strong steps to use manpower in the right direction by training unemployed youth in the country.

Through the MNREGA, the government has done remarkable job of reducing hunger by providing employment in the villages. To provide ration to the migrant labourers wherever they are, the government has provided the facility of getting ration to them in the village by implementing the

'One Nation-One Ration' program.

In the last term, the government had done the work of making new laws by removing the old laws and making changes in the path of progress by taking timely decisions. That change had a positive impact in this year's decisions. The dream of making system business friendly has been fulfilled by the online initiative taken in India.

The steps taken in this year, not only enabled the entire system to become digital and transparent, but it also decreased the cost and became easier. There are no middlemen left in the system, this is a significant contribution of making the system transparent and efficient. While speaking about this budget, Prime Minister Modi has said that the economy of the country will be worth \$ 5 trillion. In the budget, the government has made a provision to spend more than Rs

100 lakh crore on infrastructure. Looking at the performance of five years and seeing the beginning of this first year, we have created many new records. Along with the largest cricket stadium in the world, the world's largest health insurance scheme is also running in India. The world's largest solar park is being built in India, along with which the largest sanitation program is going on.

India was ranked 142 in the 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking in 2014, and reached on 63rd position in 2019. India has recorded progress in 7 out of 10 parameters. The government has also taken steps towards creating new employment segment in MSME by creating opportunity of self-employment.

This first year of the second term has certainly been a very decisive and paved way for progress. Making remarkable progress in all fields, the work of increasing the pride and dignity of the country has also been done during this period. Shri Narendra Modi has created a new image of India in the world through his leadership. Today, even in the crisis time of Corona, American and other industrialists doing business in China are gradually seeing India as a potential contender for their business. It has been expressed by the American organization Advocacy Group that many companies have turned to India. Samsung has consolidated its business in China and expanded its plant in India. Sony has announced the closure of its plant in China. Apple has started its production unit in Bengaluru. So, we can say that the first year of the Modi government has definitely proved to be a pioneer in the progress of the country by setting a new record. ■

(The writer is National Vice President, BJP)





WELFARE SCHEMES OF MODI GOVERNMENT FOR SCHEDULED CASTE PEOPLE



**DUSHYANT
KUMAR GAUTAM**

Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Caste people on the completion of one year of Modi Government 2.0 under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Bhai Modi have brought huge change in their condition.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Yojana, the Modi government is extending various types of welfare schemes to all eligible beneficiaries of the country. Today, not only India, but the whole world is struggling with this Covid-19 epidemic i.e. Coronavirus. In the time of this crisis of Covid-19, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is taking tremendous steps to give relief to the people. Under the leadership Modi ji, the country's economy remains strong even during the crisis of Covid-19. India's foreign exchange reserves rose by 1.73 billion dollar to 487.04 billion dollar. Today, even during this crisis, it is a matter of great honour and pride for the countrymen with Modi government minister i.e Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan is unanimously appointed the Chairman of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO). Today, under the leadership of Modi ji, India is in a better position in view of Covid-19 by taking the right decision at the right time, and India's recovery rate is at the top.

The Modi government has done a wonderful job by announcing

'Atmanirbhar Bharat' package of Rs 20 lakh crore for financially strengthening every region of the country and turn the Covid-19 crisis into an opportunity. In this more and more scheduled castes will get benefits through various schemes.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, 6.8 crore LPG cylinders have been given free of cost to 8 crore beneficiaries from mid-April to May in which most of the people belong to SC / ST category. This scheme has

Under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, 6.8 crore LPG cylinders have been given free of cost to 8 crore beneficiaries from mid-April to May in which most of the people belong to SC / ST category. This scheme has proved to be a boon for scheduled caste families living in rural areas.

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Under the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana, about 9500 villages of Scheduled Castes are covered and the scheme is extended to an additional 3584 villages.

50% capital subsidy for projects up to Rs.5 lakhs related to sanitation for the target group to promote mechanized cleaning of sewers and septic tanks introduced.

Provision of Rs 536 crore for providing relief to victims and setting up state-of-the-art call centers under PCR and POA Act.

Due to the removal of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir under the leadership of the respected Prime Minister Modi ji, the Scheduled Castes (mostly sweepers), who lived there from generations, were not allowed common rights, today they have got them. Now, their residence certificates, caste certificates etc. are being issued and they are taking advantage of all government schemes.

Under the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' package, the street vendors are also facilitated in which most of them belong to scheduled castes community. A special credit facility of Rs 5000 crores has been provided for them. The scheme will support around 5 million street vendors.

According to the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' package, there is a provision of 'One Nation-One Ration Card' to empower the poor, migrant labourers, many of whom are from the Scheduled Castes category and those who are non-card holders will be given 5 kg of wheat / rice and 1kg gram per family.

The removal of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir under the leadership of the respected Prime Minister Modi ji, the Scheduled Castes (mostly sweepers), who lived there from generations, did not have common rights, today they have got them. Regardless of how educated a person belongs to the scheduled caste community from Jammu and Kashmir, whether he becomes a doctor, whether he



becomes an engineer, but in Jammu and Kashmir, he was employed as a sweeper, they were not only deprived from benefit of reservation, but even they were denied of general rights and they were subject of so much exploitation. Today the Modi-led government has removed Article 370 and the Scheduled Castes have got general rights along with the benefits of reservation.

Today, the Scheduled Caste community has also benefitted greatly from the CAA Act introduced by the Government of India under the leadership of Modi ji. The Hindu (Scheduled Castes) living in Pakistan, were suffering from atrocities, exploitation and their families were tortured. They are now benefited with CAA Act. Today, under the leadership of Modi ji, the Scheduled Caste community is feeling completely safe.

A package of Rs 10,000 Crore for Formalization of Micro Food Enterprises has been announced. This scheme enhances the Hon'ble

Prime Minister's vision of 'Vocal for Local with Global'. Unorganized Micro Food Enterprises (MFEs) units need technical upgrading to achieve FSSAI food

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standards, brand building and marketing. Cluster based approaches like Mango in UP, Tomato in Karnataka, Chilli in Andhra

Pradesh, orange in Maharashtra etc. are the need of hour.

With the promotion of herbal farming our scheduled caste community will get full benefits and their dream of self-reliant industries along with which employment will be ensured.

To promote entrepreneurship of scheduled castes, the Modi government has announced loans from 10 lakh to 1 crore.

Under the Standup India Scheme, the Modi government has made women businessmen belonging to the Scheduled Castes self-reliant and self-sufficient by arranging a bank loan of 1 crore rupees.

Under the Ayushman Yojana scheme, Modi government providing health insurance of upto 5 lakhs to each beneficiary under the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Yojana, in which the entire Scheduled Castes community has got full benefits. ■

(The writer is MP Rajya Sabha and National Vice President, BJP)

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Government of India

Babasaheb's Vision, Our Mission

Babasaheb stood for the upliftment of the weak, the oppressed and the excluded. And, he lifted us all to a higher cause in the service of humanity; to build a future of justice, equality, opportunity and dignity for all humans; and peace among people.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Inspired by Babasaheb's Vision, Shaping a New India by Ensuring All-inclusive Development

- Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi (DAKSH) Yojana to improve the all round competency and adeptness of marginalized persons of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Economically Backward Classes (EBCs), De Notified Tribe (DNT), Sanitation Workers, Waste Pickers, Manual Scavengers & Transgenderers.
- Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies and for OBCs & EBCs.
- Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for EBC Students.
- Dr. Ambedkar Pre and Post Matric Scholarship for DNT Students.
- Additional 10 lakh students to be added under the Post Matric Scholarship and budget allocation is doubled for Pre Matric Scholarship Scheme.
- Under Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana 9500 villages already covered and additional 3584 villages to be included.
- To promote mechanization of cleaning of sewers and septic tanks, 50% capital subsidy planned for the target group for sanitation related projects upto Rs. 5 lakh.
- Provision of Rs. 536 crore for strengthening of enforcement machinery and giving relief to affected person under PCR and POA Act and to set up Ultra-modern Call Centres.
- National level Helpline for Senior Citizens, 250 more senior citizen homes, 100 new day care centres, 15000 Elder Self Help Groups and training programmes to create a pool of trained Geriatric caregivers.
- Focused approach in vulnerable areas of the country under National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction.

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A YEAR OF DELIVERING ON PROMISES



BAIJAYANT 'JAY' PANDA

A year has passed since the thumping victory of Bharatiya Janata Party on May 23, 2019, with a bigger mandate than it got in 2014. I've keenly observed and written about the work done by the Modi government over the past 6 years and have no hesitation in saying that the fundamental changes brought in will have a lasting, positive effect.

Since the beginning of this term, the government is geared towards reform-based policies and decisions awaited by the populace for decades. If one reflects back on this term, it can undoubtedly be compared to a roller-coaster of a year filled with surprises. With the passage of the historic Triple Talaq Bill in the Indian Parliament, the promise made to Muslim women to end this discriminatory practice (which is even banned in major Islamic nations) was fulfilled. This also enlightened further discussions for a Uniform Civil Code in the country.

The big bang reform came in the decision to abrogate Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, the sole Article with the word "Temporary" attached to it. The irony being, this temporary lasted for about 70 years, curtailing basic human rights, access to justice, opportunities, and promoted terrorism and enhanced the illicit wealth of a select few families in

the Valley.

The mandate of the people was hugely in favour of Modi Sarkaar as they got on the streets to celebrate this abrogation, as well as the process to give rights to people of Ladakh by declaring it a separate Union Territory. Much recently, the domicile rules were rejigged to give a ray of hope to many SC communities and refugees, who gave their blood and sweat but awaited basic rights.

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Fast-tracking Citizenship for persecuted Minorities of three neighbouring countries, namely Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Pakistan was a turning point of this Government's grit to deliver what it promises. Again, this was a long pending promise to the nation, to bind it together. Though some sections tried to foster outrage by twisting facts, portraying half-baked 'theories' and fear-mongering,

it was widely welcomed by the people who reposed their faith in this government.

After the Supreme Court verdict on Ayodhya, the government proactively constituted the Ram Janambhoomi Trust to fulfil the grand dream of chores of Indians. This sheer determination to deliver what you promise epitomises the present government, as it formed a significant point of the election manifesto.

After a period of unbridled success, the biggest challenge that confronted this government came in the form of a pandemic, which is slowing but becoming a part of our lives now. Just when countries with high economic potential gave up their fight against the disease due to rising cases and mortality rates, the farsightedness and zeal of PM Shri Narendra Modi mixed with his power of exhortation were at the finest display.

Averting the calamity was his focus with timely graded and preemptive measures, starting January. The government stopped incoming flights from China, the source of the Corona virus that originated in Wuhan, and ensured that it doesn't spread as rapidly with the Janata Curfews and Lockdowns. This was crucial to nip it in the bud and avoid a major catastrophe. The result is evident; the Health Ministry reported that almost 216 districts are Corona free, and 60,490 patients recovered taking the recovery rate up to 41.61% as I write this. 80% of the cases are restricted to five cities. Several experts and the Government did a statistical analysis of lockdown



impact and a collective analysis deduced COVID-19 cases averted to be in the range of 14-29 lakh and lives saved in the range of 37,000-78,000. A demonstration of democratic values is seen in this management.

The big bang economic stimulus of INR 20,00,000 Crore, almost 10% of the GDP is a game-changer when most opposition leaders demanded 5%-6% of fiscal support. PM's emphasis on self-reliance, aimed at igniting national consciousness to be vocal for the local is the new mantra of life now with the grand 'Atmanirbhar Abhiyaan.'

Successive announcements by the Finance Minister laid the foundation of this Abhiyaan, a total of five tranches of this package

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relying on 5 pillars, the big ones being economy, infrastructure

and demand. After the 1991 liberalisation reforms, India hasn't witnessed such avant-garde measures. International players praised the Indian Government's economic package lauding it as the right dose to fix the economic downturn. Be it rural or urban, immediate cash transfers to the bottom of the pyramid, or new policies to help MSME's and big industries, a street vendor or a farmer all sections have been taken care of under this package. Special attention has been paid to healthcare workers insurance, healthcare supplies and production of PPE kits, testing kits etc. Naysayers might not credit it for obvious reasons but, deep down even they know that if anyone had the political resolve to save

India from a pandemic and an economic slowdown, it was Shri Narendra Modi and his able government.

Nevertheless, a big change awaits the world in coming years, the pandemic has undoubtedly affected the economic activity, but this government will not stop till we revive the economy and reach new heights. Equally, the Prime Minister's leadership has led India to achieve much goodwill in the worlds, particularly during this pandemic. That will surely only grow in the coming years, and be a key component of India's future trajectory. In the meantime, each and every supporter plays a pivotal role in ensuring the success of a New India, which is in the process of transforming the destinies of 130 crore Indians. ■

(The writer is National Vice President and Spokesperson of BJP)

BIG BONANZA FOR CENTRAL GOVT EMPLOYEES

Dearness Allowance hiked by 4% to 21%

- The move will benefit 48 lakh govt employees and 65 lakh pensioners
- Govt will incur Rs 14,595 crore additional expense

*Effective from Jan 1, 2020



Source : GOI     /BJP4India  www.bjp.org





SELF RELIANCE - PATH FOR 21ST CENTURY INDIA



**MURALIDHAR
RAO**

Mankind has witnessed several calamities and catastrophes. Earthquakes, epidemics, wars and so on. But in an unprecedented manner Covid 19 pandemic has loomed all over the world as a crisis of gigantic proportions, with almost all parts of the world and the entire human race severely affected. Throughout the course of history, many pandemic outbreaks have ravaged humanity, like Cholera, Plague etc. But global integration and increased mobility among nations have made Covid one of the largest pandemics faced ever, with 55 lakh cases reported in around 188 countries, resulting in nearly 3.5 lakh deaths.

Covid 19, along with creating a huge health crisis, has also caused a global disruption unseen before. Never the world had such levels of economic integration before, both at the supply as well as demand sides. Therefore the disruption is also more intense and extensive.

The world faces twin challenges of a massive scale. First, it has to combat Covid19 successfully, with minimum human loss. Second, it has to keep the economy moving and restore it as early as possible. Policy makers and leaders of nations are confronted with unique challenge of tackling both together, effectively. Responses to health challenges may have broad common grounds across nations. But for an economic revival a single model designed somewhere

seldom can be applied everywhere. It is neither desirable too.

India as well is passing through an unprecedented crisis situation with a health emergency on one hand and an economic disruption on the other. As it's leader, Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji has steered the nation adeptly and remarkably during the Covid crisis as well as before it. His framework and action plan for containing and combating Covid was unique and extra ordinary. The high recovery rates and low mortality rates speak volumes regarding the strategy gaining success.

Narendra Modi ji also took the initiative in bringing together the South Asian nations aimed at deriving a consolidated response to the pandemic. A similar initiative of taking the world leaders into confidence and imploring them to take responsibilities could create a common programme for the world in the interest of mankind.

The response from government to the woes of most vulnerable sections during the Covid crisis was instant. A 1.7 lakh crore Garib Kalyan package was announced in the early stage itself, which provided support to 39 crore people, especially through direct money transfer. RBI in March as well as April initiated sets of emergency measures for cash infusion and easing liquidity upto 8 lakh crores.

Narendra Modi ji's approach to the situation was unique and exemplary. He urged people to realize the challenge and thereby convert it into an opportunity. The response to the challenge should be superior to the threat, is his line of thinking. The vision of his government had been realising

the role that India should perform in the 21st century world. Hence, he appealed to 138 crore Indians to utilize this as an opportunity in making 21st century to India's century.

In an exceptionally bold manner, he announced the Rs 20 lakh crore Aatmanirbhar Bharat package, which is about 10 percent of India's GDP. This package was framed keeping the objectives of 21st century India well in mind. Instead of confining to requirements of two or three sectors or welfare needs, he addressed this bigger aspiration without compromising. Disregarding existing shibboleths, he founded it on 5 pillars of Economy, Infrastructure, Technology, Demography and Demand. He asserted on an economy of future which doesn't talk of incremental change but quantum jump. The package focused on land, labour, liquidity and laws. He stressed on infrastructure becoming the identity of modern India.

Realising the new context of post Covid world and India's aspirations of 21st century, he enunciated the concept of vocal for local. Self reliance is the core of India's economic policy. Prime Minister asserted that our model of self reliance should rebuild it's definitions. Self reliance doesn't mean self centeredness. It is driven by the principle of Vasudaiva Kutumbakam. This outlook of self reliance needs to be inculcated in the agenda of both the nation and society.

After coming to power in 2014, by transcending from an ecosystem steeped in corruption and policy paralysis to a transparent and corruption free governance, Narendra Modi ji laid the foundations for 21st



century India's aspirations. Within few months the government could open global record breaking number of bank accounts through Jandhan Yojna and altered the paradigm of financial inclusion. With more than 38.5 crore beneficiaries and a balance of Rs.1.35 lakh crores, Jandhan Yojna was one of the initial steps taken towards the larger goal. This has facilitated schemes like PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, through which Rs.6000 will be directly transferred to bank accounts of farmers every year as a minimum income support. As part of Covid relief, 8.19 crore beneficiary farmers received an installment of Rs 2,000. A digitised leak proof system for Direct Benefit Transfer was the much needed firm foundation for the nation's onward march.

Insuring the uninsured through various insurance schemes is another significant aspect of the strong foundation being laid. Important schemes include PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojna, PM Suraksha Bima Yojna, Ayushman Bharat Yojna. Over 65 lakh patients have availed treatment under Ayushman Bharat Yojna. PM Shram Yogi MaanDhan Yojna ensures protection through pension for a huge section of people from unorganized sector, whose monthly income is less than Rs.15000. PM Kisan MaanDhan Yojna ensures similar pension to small and marginal farmers, for which around 20 lakh farmers have already registered. 1.12 lakh houses have been constructed under PM Awas Yojna. Under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan 10 crore toilets were built. Farmers income doubling will be achieved by 2022.

Narendra Modi ji has given the nation the dream of a 5 trillion dollar economy. The firm foundations laid so far and the initiatives for self-reliance are all linked to the coherent objective of bringing back India's glory again. PM has recalled how India was once the 'Sone ki Chidiya'

of the world. India is the only nation to claim uninterrupted global economic leadership for more than 1700 years. Our share to world GDP from AD 1 to 1700 was highest at 32.9 percent and lowest at 24.4 percent. China's GDP share to the world was highest ever at 26.1 percent and lowest at 22.3 percent. The core of Modi ji's aspiration lies here. Based on this, since 2014 he has built the foundations and given shape to the aspiration of 5 trillion dollar economy.

A self-reliant India also means widening the security aspects of the nation. Security no longer will be confined to defence, but will include wider areas

A self-reliant India also means widening the security aspects of the nation. Security no longer will be confined to defence, but will include wider areas like food security and health security. Reforms and programmes as envisaged by the Aatmanirbhar Bharat

like food security and health security. Reforms and programmes as envisaged by the Aatmanirbhar Bharat plan comprises it. The government could achieve self reliance in food grains and become the top producer of milk in the world. Oilseeds, pulses and blue revolution finds thrust in our unfinished journey to food security. Rs.1 lakh crore agri infrastructure fund, Rs.2 lakh crore credit boost through Kisan Credit Card, Rs.30000 crore additional emergency working capital fund and a string of measures will enhance our efforts in achieving food security.

MSME sector, the backbone of India's decentralised economy,

provides second largest employment after agriculture and 40 percent of India's exports. Revised definition of MSME, collateral free automatic loans worth Rs.3 lakhs, equity infusion of Rs.50000, exclusive participation in tenders upto Rs.200 crores and many more measures were taken for empowering the sector and thereby furthering the nation's aspirations.

Watershed demarcation will distinguish pre Covid and post Covid health sector of India. A 360 degree transformation covering health infrastructure, Swachh Bharat, Ayushman Bharat, AYUSH etc is indispensable. Increasing life expectancy, reducing mortality, handling pandemics and making India health destination of the world is fundamental to fulfil 21st century India aspirations. A large work force of health professionals, immense capacity for innovation and production of bulk drugs have already placed India upfront in the Covid fight.

During the 1965 war, owing to shortage of food, Lal Bahadur Shastri gave the call for sacrificing one meal a day. It helped India stand back on its foot. In 2020, when we embarked upon the Covid fight, India was not manufacturing PPE or N95 masks. But within 60 days, we have become the second largest PPE manufacturer with 4.5 lakh pieces produced a day. Whenever this nation faces a challenge and has an able leader to guide, it has bounced back with more vigour and strength. After becoming a free nation in 1947 and long debates in the Constituent assembly, India decided to create an egalitarian society based on equity. The concept of Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on this unfinished dream of our freedom fighters, founding fathers and leaders who dedicated their lives to build a glorious India. ■

(The writer is National General-Secretary of BJP)



WELFARE OF THE POOR IS THE MISSION



**BHUPENDER
YADAV**

Today, when the central government is completing the first year of its second term under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country is fighting a formidable disaster in the form of COVID-19. Even the developed and resource-rich countries of the world have laid their arms in front of this epidemic. However, due to the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has been fighting against it with full force by minimizing the ill effects of this epidemic.

The vision of poor welfare and the objective of establishing an egalitarian society were mainly present at the center of the policies of the first tenure of the Modi government, that even continued in the second term. In the last two months, the government seems to be working with the same vision amidst the challenge posed by COVID 19. Along with dealing with this crisis, the Modi government is taking all possible measures to support the poor, backward and labourers of the country.

When the Modi government came to power at the Center for the

first time in 2014, the problem of economic disparity was complex. The gap between the rich and the poor was much larger than it is today. The standard of living of the poor was not rising up to the standards. The main reason for this was the predominance of economic disparity. In a way, it

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Under this scheme, more
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country.**

world be fair to say that the economic disparity was a major hurdle in the overall development of the country. As decades of ongoing economic disparity strengthened social inequality, fixing this was a major challenge before the new government in 2014. The Modi government first started

its policy efforts to overcome it. In the government's vision, the resolutions of Antyodaya were clear. The feeling of poor welfare was paramount. Prime Minister Shri Modi stated clearly, "Our government is dedicated to the poor welfare." Thus the government started the making of policies to reach the people standing at the last mile of the society based on the concept of Antyodaya of Deen Dayal Upadhyay.

Despite more than six and a half decades of independence, a large population of the country could not even become a part of the banking system. This population was of poor, backward, deprived sections of the country. They were denied mainstream economic activities for decades. On August 28, 2014, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana' under which accounts of the poor sections of society were opened. Through this, the government did a big job of incorporating the poor of the country into the mainstream of the economic system. Under this scheme, more than 35 crore accounts were opened in the country. But the opposition then ridiculed the scheme for not realizing the far-reaching benefits, but over time it has become clear that the scheme has proved to be extremely effective in empowering



the poor of the country and bringing transparency at the level of governance.

Under all government schemes, the amount given to the poor, farmers, etc. is now directly passed on to them through these accounts without the intervention of middlemen. Even in the time of this crisis, when the lockdown caused economic problems for the workers and the farmers of the country, the work of providing financial assistance directly to their accounts was immediately done under this system. According to a figure, between March 24 and April 17, an amount of Rs. 36659 crore has been sent to the accounts of 16 crore people. If the government had not opened the bank accounts of these people through Jan Dhan Yojana in 2014, it would never have been possible to distribute such huge amount of assistance to the poor and deprived sections on such a large scale and with such speed and transparency. Apart from this, through schemes like Mudra Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, Ayushman, the government has tried to protect the interests of the weaker sections of the society by empowering them.

There has been a lot of politics done in the country in the name of social justice, but the intention to implement it in the true sense was not among those who did politics on it. Those who were indulging in the vote bank politics in the name of social justice, only shaped it into 'casteism', whereas for BJP, social justice has meant 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' without affecting anyone's rights. At the policy level,

the Modi government ensured that equal opportunities are available to all in the society. Along with the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the government has taken steps like giving constitutional status to the Other Backward Classes Commission, ending interviews in class 3 and 4 post in government jobs and ensuring 10 percent reservation for the general class on economic grounds to give tangible

s h a p e

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to the real concept of justice. The BJP government stood with complete readiness with reservation provided for the SC, ST and backward sections of the society. At the same time, the government took the bold decision to give 10 percent reservation to the economically backward sections of the society without reducing the rights of anyone. Narendra Modi's government has fully committed itself to ensure that

there is no injustice to any section of the society.

Apart from this, keeping in mind the interests of women, the government announced the Ujjwala scheme on 1 May 2016, under which free gas connections were provided to poor women of the country, 8 crore women in 715 districts of the country got gas connections under this scheme. Also, through the schemes such as Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, Sukanya Samridhi, etc., it not only brought sophistication in social thinking towards women but also provided them opportunities to move forward. The government has also taken steps towards providing skill training to the disabled.

Bharatiya Janta Party does not work for class struggle in the society, we work for the all-round development of the society. The way of class struggle is being adopted by left parties, BJP's ideology based on Integral human philosophy also teaches us that no person is small or big in society, all are equal. This vision emerges in the policies and plans of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and his government. Whether it is the first five-year term of the government or this one-year term, or the functioning of the government during the current Covid disaster, the aim of the government has been to take all the citizens of the country together on the road of progress by giving opportunity to the people and communities who are lagging behind and craft India, a country, society with a happy, prosperous and equitable spirit. ■

**(The writer is National General
Secretary, BJP)**



MATH AND EFFECT OF MODI PACKAGE



S GURUMURTHY

The Modi stimulus package is in three parts — direct government spend, bank credit, and rate cut and lending by RBI to banks. Modi's detractors damn the package saying the bank credit part of the package is large and the government share is insignificant. But their criticism is founded on poor understanding of the Indian financial model and the fiscal relationship between state-owned banks and the government. Comparing the Modi package with those of the Group of Seven (G7) nations is also irrational as the Indian banking model differs vastly from G7's. Unless this vast difference is understood, the logic behind the Modi package math cannot be appreciated.

NO BANK LENDING IN G7, ONLY NOTE PRINTING

The US, which sets the philosophy and rules for global finance, has but one insignificant state-owned bank. The total US bank assets is \$20.4 trillion. The state owned bank's share is less than 0.03 per cent. In the UK, of the total bank assets of \$10 trillion, the share of the only one state-owned — but not state-run — bank is 8.6 per cent. In France, of the total bank assets amounting to \$8.3 trillion, the share of a state-owned bank is just 2.6 per cent. In Germany, which has a unique financial model, bank assets total \$9.16 trillion, of which the public sector bank's share is 26 per cent. Japan's bank assets

total \$17.42 trillion, of which state owned banks' share is just 8 per cent. Banks assets of the entire EU is \$47.6 trillion. And G7's total banks assets is \$86.4 trillion. The combined stock market capitalisation of G7 countries is close \$60 trillion. Despite the huge bank funds and stock market access, G7 nations do not borrow a farthing from the banks or stock markets; they instead resort to printing notes for the Covid package. That G7 nations do not borrow from banks for their package or access stock markets, but print notes, is hidden in the Indian discourse on the Modi package.

COVID-19 BANK CREDITS ARE EQUALLY GOVERNMENT RISK

India is a total contrast. In India, almost half the savings go into bank deposits and 70 per cent of it into state owned banks. And only 2.5 per cent of financial savings get into stocks, which is significant for foreign financial entities investing in India. The main driver of the Indian financial system is the banks, more specifically public sector banks. Public sector banks have to finance the Central government, state governments and also Indian business. Borrowings by Central and state governments have been crowding out Indian business from banks, forcing them to borrow from abroad through external commercial borrowings —which is a huge risk to the economy. For the current year, state and Central government loan demand on banks will be 60 per cent more than the deposits they added. There is no way the two governments could borrow more from banks. That is why the Modi government has to limit its borrowing for direct Covid-19

spend on its account.

A less known fact is more relevant now. Global rating agencies consider the credit risk of Indian public sector banks as contingent liability in their sovereign rating of the Indian government. A Moody's report said in 2016 that unprovided bad loans cause contingent liabilities to crystallise on the government's balance sheet. This virtually erases the dividing line between government guaranteed credit in the package and credit not guaranteed by government. The entire bank credit part of the Modi package, whether guaranteed or not by government, is sovereign risk. The government's direct spend and bank credit, a sovereign risk, constitute 62 per cent of the Modi package — the RBI liquidity window constituting the remaining 38 per cent.

TWIN PURPOSE OF MODI PACKAGE: INTENT AND AIM

The Modi package has a logical intent and an equally clear aim. Its explicit intent is to provide for the deprived and disturbed through direct fiscal spend from the budget. His Covid-19 relief target seems clearly defined and ordered - the distant poor first, the middle group next, and then the rest. And the aim is to restart the economy with the relief measures itself. This twin purpose is self evident from the package.

Modi promised on March 26 to double the entitlement of grains to 80 crore poor people for the next three months. In April itself, 36 states had lifted 67.65 lakh tonnes of food grains for delivery to the beneficiaries. He promised free gas cylinders for 8 crore people for the next three months. Out of 509 lakh requests booked, 482 lakh cylinders have



been already delivered. Through the 38 crore Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) bank accounts, the Modi government reached Rs 16,394 crore to farmers, Rs 10,295 crore to women, Rs 1,405 crore to the old, widowed and disabled and Rs 3,492 crore to 3.5 crore construction workers registered with the government, who constitute most of the migrant labour.

The March 26 announcement also offered those earning less than Rs 15,000 per month in MSMEs (with less than 100 employees) 25 per cent of their wages for three months; to organised sector employees a non-refundable advance equal to 75 per cent of their wages for three months; and to the MGNREGA poor a rise of Rs 20 in the daily pay out. The government could deliver all the relief without leakage because of the architecture it had created through PMJDY and Aadhaar linkage, which enabled the beneficiary to take cash from any ATM or other authorised person through use of biometrics. Imagine India being struck by corona without the 38 crore bank accounts of the poor and Aadhaar!

After March 26, Modi made the nation wait with bated breath on his next Covid-19 package. Till then he was talking about everything except the package. On May 12, after the expectation heightened, came his dramatic announcement increasing the package to Rs 20 lakh crore — most of it to restart the economy. The excitement he generated was kept alive for the next five days by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman mixing reliefs with reforms. The five-day show was also well rehearsed.

It had Rs 3 lakh crore collateral free loan, Rs 50,000 crore equity and Rs 20,000 crore subordinated debt

and debt relief of Rs 75,000 crore to NBFCs, and Rs 6,500 crore loans for street vendors and Mudra loanees — all for MSMEs — totalling to Rs 5 lakh crore. Food for migrant workers, provision for fishermen, animal husbandry, micro food processing, amounting to Rs 49,000 crore and another Rs 40,000 crore for MGNREGA, all for the poor, adding up to Rs 89,000 crore. For the farming class, Rs 330 lakh as agriculture loan and agri infra. And Rs 50,000 crore

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deduction at source deferment, Rs 9,550 crore PF payment by government and Rs 70,000 crore housing loan, for the middle class — Rs 1,29,550 crore. Even as his detractors keep issuing statements that he had not spent from the government's pocket — where there is nothing really to spend from — but only from the banks, Modi has actually delivered relief to his target audience by naming each of them and calling their attention.

The MSMEs do not bother whether credit is guaranteed or not, as long as it comes. The real challenge for the government is to ensure that the promised credit is delivered. Modi has been strategic in conceptualising and communicating his package. Yechury says it is all for the rich, when there is nothing at all for the rich! Even as Chidambaram says it is an empty sheet, Modi has actually delivered relief to the most.

NOT THE FINAL WORD ON STIMULUS PACKAGE

Now, a couple of good news. Women beneficiaries into whose account over Rs 10,000 crore had been delivered, have withdrawn less than half of it, indicating there is no extreme deprivation due to lockdown. Another good news is the PMJDY accounts have shown surge in deposits during lockdown. Between April 1 and 7, deposits went up by Rs 8,000 crore. And by May 15, it further rose by Rs 8,000 crore — a total of Rs 16,000 crore in 45 days of lockdown. In comparison, during the whole of 2019, PMJDY savings had risen only by Rs 26,000 crore. In a way it is bad news — but not that bad — that they are saving and not spending and to that extent there is no demand.

Finally, will the Modi package so far be the final one? Unlikely. The Covid-19 challenge continues. No one knows how much further damage it can cause. That is why Modi seems to have kept the powder dry for doing as a last resort what the G7 is doing. A hint has come from the RBI governor that he has not taken a call as yet on monetisation of deficit -- namely government borrowing from RBI. Right strategy indeed. ■

(The writer is Eminent columnist on political, economic issues & Editor, Thuglak)



VOCAL TO LOCAL AND FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL IS THE MOTTO



ANURAG THAKUR

The first measure of the prosperity of any country mostly depends on the relationship between the government and the public. The relationship between the government and the public should be that of the commander and the servant rather than the king and the subjects. We are proud that our country does not have a Prime Minister but a Prime Servant who has tirelessly served 137 crores Indians for the last 6 years with full devotion, honesty and fidelity.

Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modiji, who has been devoted to service, industriousness and welfare for five years, took the oath of office and secrecy as Prime Minister once again on May 30, 2019. Instead of I feeling, only with the we feeling one can meet the public criteria. After becoming the Prime Minister of the country, Shri Narendra Modi has changed even the definition of the scepter. With the transparent policy and public welfare works, the atmosphere of political trust in the public was created. This is the result of the same that BJP could win more seats than before in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. The second term of the Modi government started with challenges. But our Prime Minister with his honest thinking and a sense of national interest took these challenges as an opportunity. In the midst of the global economic downturn, the global epidemic

Covid-19 has shaken the economic condition of many countries, Modiji by giving a package of 21 Lakh crores for the poor, farmers and small entrepreneurs of the country, has done a good job of national self-reliance and an given an infallible mantra.

At the beginning of the second innings of the government, many such big decisions were taken which made it clear to the country that how will be this tenure of the Modi government. Just as the run rate is kept high by setting goals during the opening in a cricket match, on the same lines, Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah displayed a brilliant batting on the pitch as Team Modi's Opening batsman. Sections 370 and 35 (A), which had become a canker for the country, were treated with such a panacea that no one had imagined. For Muslim women, strict law was made on the cursed triple divorce to free them from the chains of slavery. Modiji had set the goal of India's renovation in the second term. For this, a blueprint has been prepared for foreign capital investment, infrastructure development and development of rural areas in the country. But even the first quarter was not yet complete when the global pandemic Covid-19 knocked the door. The whole world is struggling with this crisis. But since the leadership of India was in the capable hands of a person like Modiji, we were less affected with this epidemic than other countries. India has a very low infection and death rate due to the visionary decision of Modiji, despite the fact that India has more population than world's 15 most corona affected countries. Corona has created opportunities for us with challenge. We have become

self-sufficient in the field of PPE and mask manufacturing. Where in the country PPE and masks were not manufactured at all, India is now manufacturing 5 Lakh PPE kits and 5 lakh masks-95 every day.

In this hour of crisis, the central government gave priority to human security by keeping all the schemes aside, in which a step was taken to stop the spread of Corona infection by putting a lockdown, at the same time feeding the poors of the country were taken care of. The central government by taking over the management of the food grains, is working to deliver a total of 25 kg of grain (wheat or rice) and 5 kg of pulses to all 80 crore people for 5 months. The lockdown also created problems for the class, who went from one state to another in search of livelihood. Providing rice, wheat and pulses for two months to 8 crore such migrant workers were started. The Central Government also took care of migrant workers returning home besides their food. And for this, the Indian Railways is working by plying Shramik Express to transport lakhs of workers to their homes. 85 percent of the fare of the workers is being paid by the Central Government, besides, food and water is being provided to the workers during the journey by the Central Government. Workers play an important role in the renovation of the country, so the central government is taking care of them at every level. A budget of one lakh one thousand crores has been set by the Central Government under MNREGA to provide employment to the workers after they return home. The government has increased the wages under MNREGA from Rs 182 per day to Rs 202 per day. All this



was done by the government so that the workers do not face economic crisis. In this time of Corona crisis, the central government has taken several important steps for the poor. From June 1, National Portability of Ration Card i.e. One Nation One Ration Card is being implemented. It will cover 67 crores beneficiaries from 23 states by August 2020. In this scheme, ration card holders on a ration card will be able to get their share of ration in any corner of the country. This will benefit more than 80 crores ration card holders in the country. Apart from this, 21 thousand crores have been deposited in the 20 crores Jan Dhan account to provide financial help to the people from the Central Government. Under Ujjwala Scheme, a total of seven crores village and rural women were provided gas connection free of cost for three months and an aggregate amount of 9 crore rupees was deposited in their accounts as subsidy.

A farmer is a producer of grains in the country. He had to face natural as well as global calamities. The central government has deposited 18 thousand crore rupees in the accounts of 9 crore farmers in April, just to bail them out from their problems. To ensure appropriate prices to the farmers for their crops an amount of 75 thousand crore rupees was provided to the farmers in the in the minimum support price. To ensure that an indebted farmer does not feel financial problem, the government has granted moratorium for six months to the farmers to repay their debts. Along with, an amount of 86 thousand crore rupees was made available to the farmers as loans at low rate of interest. An additional emergency working capital fund was provided to NABARD for the welfare of small and marginal farmers. To promote the income of farmers and maintenance of agricultural produces, the government has taken various steps. The advancements

of these efforts, the government has announced a package of Rs. 1 Lakh crore for cold storage chain, warehousing, food processing centres and other storage houses. The government is encouraging the farmers for adoption of herbal organic and herbal cultivations. For the production of herbal plants, the government has chalked out a plan with an amount of Rs. 4000 crores. Approximately 10 Lakh hectares of land have been allotted for the herbal cultivation. With this step, the farmers shall earn Rs. 5000 crores as additional income. Rules are being amended to ensure reasonable prices to the farmers and to facilitate them to sell their produces in other states also. With this step a barrier free and interstate business environment shall be possible for the farmers. Thereby the farmer shall receive reasonable prices for their crops.

Various significant steps have been taken by the government to workers and small, micro and medium businessmen from the crises of Corona outbreak. In case of Employees Provident Fund, the government has directed to provide relief to both employees and employers under which the government shall deposit 12% of EPF on behalf of both employers and employees. To rescue the employees from financial crises, necessary amendments have been made in the EPF rules, so that employees have the exemption for the withdrawal of 75% of the amount from their account. With the 100% guarantee from the central government and the make small, micro and medium enterprises robust, a package of Rs. 3 Lakh crores has been announced at the rate of 7.5 % of the interest. As such businessmen can receive more than 20% of their working capital without any guarantee and co-laterals. The MSME sector is considered the backbone of the economy. This sector accounts for

28% (approx.) to GDP and 40 % to the total export, in terms of its contribution. Now to the agriculture this sector provides employment to as much as 11 crores of the people in the country. In addition to this, subordinate loans of an amount of 20 thousand crore rupees have been announced to provide relief to loan defaulter MSMEs. It is expected that approximately 2 Lakh entrepreneurs shall benefit from the scheme. More over a fund of Rs. 50,000 crores shall be for Equity Infusion in MSMEs. The government is to redefine the concept of MSMEs to attract more investment in the sector. At this very moment the ceilings of turnover have been increased up to 5 crore rupees for micro enterprises, 50 crore rupees for small industries and 100 crore rupees for medium industries. Besides, to provide help to MSMEs, the government shall invite Global tenders for up to Rs. 200 crores. It shall provide an opportunity to local business companies in an effective manner.

In the period of global recession when the entire world is making arduous efforts to bail out from these economic crises. India has resolved to make our country self-reliant by making an announcement of a package of Rs. 20 lakh crore and bringing it necessary reforms. The country believes that the nation is not only protected in the hands of our Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, a leader of creative aptitude and national mindset, but also it shall lead the countries in the direction of prosperity. For, with the international image of the country, Modiji has made in the last five years, a number of countries of the world are seeing India with great expectations. To make India self-reliant, Modiji has given a slogan - Vocal to Local and from Local to Global, thereby he gave a new motto to his countrymen for their Soil of the country. ■

(The writer is MoS, Ministries of Finance & Corporate Affairs)



MSMEs: THE GROWTH ENGINE OF INDIAN ECONOMY



PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) form the backbone of the Indian economy. At comparatively lower capital cost than large industries, the MSMEs help in industrialization of rural and backward areas, thereby, reducing regional imbalances, assuring more equitable distribution of national income and wealth. MSMEs are primarily ancillary units, complementary to large industries. Given the overriding importance of this sector in the country's economic development, the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) was set up to promote growth and development of the MSME sector, including Khadi, Village and Coir Industries.

GROWTH AND PERFORMANCE

Over the years, MSME sector has emerged as a highly vibrant and dynamic sector of our economy contributing around 30 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product. The sector contributes significantly to employment, manufacturing output, and exports of the country. MSMEs employ an estimated 11.10 crore persons, next only to Agriculture. It has been estimated that a lakh rupees of investment in fixed assets in the small scale sector generates employment for four persons. It is the only sector that provides maximum opportunities for both self-employment and wage-employment. In terms of value, the sector

accounts for about 33 per cent of the manufacturing output and 48 per cent of total exports of the country. Export promotion from the MSE sector has been accorded a high priority. To help MSMEs in exporting their products, preferences were given to MSME exporters to participate in international exhibitions; training and exposures were given to the MSME exporters in areas of packaging, sector specific market inputs and other export-related requirements.

The Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, recognized the inherent benefits of MSME sector and under several innovative policy interventions like Start-Up India, Stand-Up India and Make in India, the new MSMEs were set up and an entrepreneurial revolution was ushered in. Conscious efforts were made to put in place an MSME ecosystem to encourage new industries

MSME sector contributes not only to higher rate of economic growth but also in building an inclusive and sustainable society in innumerable ways through creation of non-farm livelihood at low cost, balanced regional development, women empowerment and social balance, environmentally sustainable development and above all, sustaining economic growth amidst growing uncertainties in global economy.

The Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, recognized the inherent benefits of MSME sector and under several innovative policy interventions like Start-Up India, Stand-Up India and Make in India, the new MSMEs were set up and an entrepreneurial revolution was ushered in. Conscious efforts were made to put in place an MSME ecosystem to encourage new industries to gain foothold and existing ones to flourish. As a result, today we have more than six crore MSME Units. The most striking feature of this sector is its easy interface with women entrepreneurs. Today, of the total Units, 1.24 crore Units are owned by women entrepreneurs.

CHALLENGES FACED BY MSMEs

It has been felt that MSMEs have enormous potential to growth, keeping in view the industrial base that has been created and a consistently conducive policy focus on MSMEs. With the experience, it has been recognized that unless measures are taken to address multiple constraints being faced by MSMEs, perhaps the growth of this sector will stagnate and even decline. Therefore, to leverage the potential of MSMEs, the 12th five-year plan focused on finance, technology, infrastructure and marketing support to MSMEs.

The Government remained always sensitive to the growth of MSMEs and, therefore, initiated actions to address the concerns of MSMEs in the areas of finance, technology, infrastructure and marketing. While the comprehensive measures were underway to create



a conducive business ecosystem for the MSMEs and with enhanced budgetary allocations in 2020-21, the Ministry of MSME was all geared to impart the much needed impetus, the COVID 19, the global pandemic, hit the economy hard, creating a havoc in the MSMEs.

IMPACT OF COVID 19 ON MSMEs

Covid-19 and the resultant lockdown has dealt a body blow to millions of small businesses in the country. Because of their size, scale of operation, limited finance and managerial resources, the MSMEs, in particular the MSEs, could not cope with difficulties brought on them by this pandemic. The lockdown in the country has affected the sector very badly in terms of shrinkage of exports, closure of production, non-availability of labour, uncertainty of consumption and liquidity squeeze in the market. This distressed sector has already rendered millions jobless and may lead to closure of a number

of industries for good.

After due consideration of the difficulties faced by the MSMEs due to the impact of COVID 19, the Government has come out with an economic stimulation package to breathe life into the MSMEs and in the process revive the economy, which has witnessed unprecedented shocks across the sectors.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE FOR MSMEs

The biggest challenge for MSMEs has been access to finance and this has been severely exacerbated in the current situation especially for meeting the working capital needs. MSMEs have taken the maximum hit and they need additional funding to meet operational liabilities built up, buying raw material and restarting business. The Government, therefore, announced a comprehensive stimulus package for the MSMEs, which include:

- Rs 3 lakh crores Collateral-free

Automatic Loans for Businesses, including MSMEs

- Rs 20,000 crores Subordinate Debt for Stressed MSMEs
- Rs 50,000 cr. Equity infusion for MSMEs through Fund of Funds
- New Turnover based definition of MSMEs
- Global Tender to be disallowed up to Rs. 200 crore
- e- market linkage for MSMEs to be promoted to act as a replacement for trade-fairs and exhibitions
- MSME receivables from Government and CPSEs to be released in 45 days.

These measures have the potential to help the MSMEs bounce back from the pandemic's impact. The stimulus will help many Units resume operations and gradually sustain them in the business. The Subordinate Debt Fund and the Fund of Funds have the potential to address the long terms concerns of credit to the MSMEs. These are unprecedented decisions in the history of MSMEs to scale up their profile by integrating them to more dynamic and credible sources of finance.

CONCLUSION:

MSMEs in the Indian Economy have shown tremendous growth and excellent performance with the contribution of policy framework and efficient steps which had been taken by the Government from time to time for the growth and development of the MSMEs. In the post – COVID 19 situation, the Government has remained far more committed than ever before to provide much safer and better ecosystem for the MSMEs to grow and excel. The vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister for shaping an 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' hinges greatly on the strong shoulders of our MSMEs. ■

(The writer is MoS for MSME and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India)

Huge boost to financial support for MSMEs, a major sector to generate employment

Loans worth over **Rs 14,000 crore** sanctioned by public sector banks under **psbloansin 59 minutes.com**

- In-principle approval to accounts **1.12 lakh**
- Sanctioned amount **Rs 14,088 crore**
- Accounts sanctioned **40,669**

The scheme, PSB Loans in 59 minutes, was launched on November 03, 2018 by the PM Modi

*Figures are as of December 25, 2018.



NEW INDIA IS GROWING ON THE STRENGTH OF WOMEN POWER...



VIJAYA RAHATKAR

The legislature, executive, judiciary and media are the four pillars of democracy. Anyone will tell. But who will be able to tell the four pillars of women's empowerment, which is half of the population and which plays an important role in nation building?

Probably no one. If we do not know these four pillars, how will we be able to march ahead in that direction? Probably the same happened in the last 60-70 years. The governments came into the power, and went away, but they did not make policies, nor implement them, keeping women in center. The words of empowerment and upliftment are only written in the pages of newspapers, speeches of politicians and on Women's Day in the 'vision document' of government because the woman was never a 'vote bank'.

'Chalta hai ...' this attitude was first rejected by that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi after the formation of the government in 2014. Modi ji's first big initiative was Jan Dhan and Beti Bachao - Beti Padhao ..! Both had priority only women. Today, there are about 20 crore bank accounts of poor women opened and the sex ratio has increased from 840 to 935 even in Haryana where sex ratio

was highly skewed. Modi ji did not stop here and slowly the caravan of women centric schemes grew which ensured the four pillars of women empowerment. These four pillars are security, health, social empowerment and economic empowerment. Several steps were taken by putting them in front. He not only made plans, but laid full emphasis on the implementation

process is now brought down to seven-eight months. Due to this, in many states, in two-three months, the rape convicts were sentenced to death. Anti-Trafficking Bill was introduced, use of Nirbhaya funds started effectively and opened more than 300 'one-stop centers' for women victims of violence, to provide shelter and medical facilities. More than 700 Swadhar Homes were built.

Protecting motherhood is the protection of the future, everyone knows this, but nobody bothered to implement it. Modi ji should be an exception, as he launched safe motherhood campaign. More than two and a half million pregnancy checkups were conducted in thousands of health centers, more than 8 lakh high risk pregnancies were detected. Under the Prime Minister Matruvandana, every pregnant woman was given financial assistance of 6000 rupees. Mission Rainbow began vaccination of mothers and infants. Its scope was expanded, 5 new vaccines (measles, rubella, pneumococcal rotavirus, inactivated polio and Japanese encephalitis) were added. It is benefiting millions of mothers and children. He started a National Nutrition Mission of nine thousand crores. Millions of mothers are getting its benefits. Modi ji took an important step forward and provided maternity leave for working women which has been increased from 12 weeks to 26 weeks. How much these 26 weeks are necessary

The most important was the provision of security. A provision was made to hang rape convict of girls under the age of 12 years. By amending the law, the time limit for the completion of the judicial process is now brought down to seven-eight months. Due to this, in many states, in two-three months, the rape convicts were sentenced to death.

Anti-Trafficking Bill was introduced, use of Nirbhaya funds started...

of the plans. From the birth of the girl child, various schemes have been launched in a systematic way for her education, nutrition, skills and development.

The most important was the provision of security. A provision was made to hang rape convict of girls under the age of 12 years. By amending the law, the time limit for the completion of the judicial



for maternal and child health after maternity, any working woman will tell. All these steps will reduce the maternal mortality rate by about 30 Percentage. The maternal mortality rate was 167 in 2011-13, which decreased to around 110-120 during 2016-18.

The steps that Modi government has taken for social empowerment of women, perhaps no one has taken so far. Ujjwala scheme is a great example of this social empowerment. This scheme of giving free gas cylinders to poor Dalit, tribal women brought unprecedented change ... Instead of living in suffocation, 'Ujjwala' gave more than eight and a half crore women, children the chance to breathe in clean air. Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna women were not only given priority in the allocation, but also made them the landlord or co-owner. This single step increased the confidence of the women, made them self-reliant. More than 10 crore toilets built on the mission mode in Swachh Bharat freed the embarrassment of crores of women. This happened in schools, when more than five lakh toilets were constructed. Girls are no longer afraid of embarrassment.

The triple talaq law is the crowning glory for Modi ji. It was not easy to save crores of Muslim sisters from this centuries old practice. In view of the opposition of Mullah-Maulvi as well as the pseudo secular parties that protected them, Modiji showed political will. For this strong will, the Muslim sisters will always be indebted to Modi ji. One such decision, which will make Muslim women feel more empowered. After independence, women were allowed to go on Haj Yatra without

Mehram (male guardian) for the first time. Keeping in mind the importance of education, more than three crore Muslim girls awarded with scholarships.

If there is no economic empowerment, then social empowerment probably does not have much use. Therefore, more emphasis has been given on economic empowerment in Modiji's women policy. As mentioned earlier, Jan Dhan

This indicates that...

Modi ji is building a new India. It is an India growing on the strength of womanism. Whether it is sports or science, our woman power is second to none. In Corona Fight, women are ahead of everyone. She is advancing rapidly in every field and enhancing the pride of India with her achievements. Modi ji has shown commitment in the last six years to empower women and equal

Yojana has enabled more than 20 crore poor women's to open their banks accounts. Now these poor women have accumulated more than one lakh crores in these accounts. Women have taken maximum benefit of Mudra Yojana. More than 25 crores of loans have been given in which there 17-18 crores borrowers are women. This single scheme has accelerated the pace of economic empowerment.

Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, Standup India, Strengthening Self Help Groups in National Rural Livelihood Mission, women 'e-Haat' scheme, promote

business women in 'MSME' ... Modi ji left no stone unturned to give financial strength to women.

When the world is talking only about women's development, then Modi ji is working towards women led development. He is desperately trying to bring it to the ground. I would like to present an example. Recently, the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana was announced to combat the Corona virus. If you look at it carefully, you will know comfortably, Modi ji has trusted women only in this crisis time! The government has offered Five hundred rupees every month in the account of 20 crore women of Jan Dhan account holders, three kitchen cylinders were given free to more than eight crore beneficiaries, cheaper and double loan to self-help groups...

This indicates that...

Modi ji is building a new India. It is an India growing on the strength of womanism. Whether it is sports or science, our woman power is second to none. In Corona Fight, women are ahead of everyone. She is advancing rapidly in every field and enhancing the pride of India with her achievements. Modi ji has shown commitment in the last six years to empower women and equal participation in the overall development of the country which no one has shown in 60 years. Modi ji showed this by doing, because the foundation of 'ModiNomics' is feminine. On complete one year in second term I congratulate Team Modi and I have a strong belief in the mind that in future as well, government will take better steps towards making women stronger. ■

(The writer is National President, BJP Mahila Morcha)



ONE YEAR OF MODI GOVERNMENT

AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT - OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN INDIA

‘NEVER WASTE A CRISIS’



GOPAL KRISHNA
AGARWAL

Modi government is finishing first year of its 2nd term. The 2019 mandate was historic. It was after thirty-five years that any government had been voted back to power with this thumping majority. The unprecedented mandate gives certain confidence and also throws some challenges.

The five years of our previous governance had given a hope that the process of structural changes creating a business ecosystem of transparent and level playing field would bear long term fruits of equal opportunities for all. Concentration of wealth, large-scale corruption, and leakages in social delivery mechanism and gaps in tax collection had become part of history. Modi Ji never came to manage economy; he made transformative changes in the ecosystem. Challenges always seemed to be an opportunity and he took the problems head on.

The first year of the second term is no less different. The focus of the Government is more on ‘ease of living’, formalization of economy and equal opportunities for all.

Building State Capacity: The Government has always been extensively using technologies to build State capacity. It identifies the problem, creating technical solutions around; integrating stakeholders’

into the ecosystem and creates a performance matrix for evaluation.

The Covid- 19 crisis has brought in sharp focus the aspect of state capacity. Use of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for good governance, policies and welfare programmes are bringing massive improvement in state capacity. India’s earlier digital story based on Aadhar is very different from other countries

The Covid-19 crisis has brought in sharp focus the aspect of state capacity.

Use of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for good governance, policies and welfare programmes are bringing massive improvement in state capacity.

and has set an example for the world. Indian talent in these areas is being nurtured and leveraged.

Ideological Precedence: It was a year where ideology took precedence over other things. Shri Amit Shah rightly said that we have not been elected for the second term to merely govern but to address India’s long-standing issues. India was bogged down by certain historical problems.

Article 370 which our constitutional forefathers had envisioned as a temporary measure was permanently intriguing us day and night. We were harping on Jammu and Kashmir being an integral part of India but on the ground it seemed otherwise. Wavering leadership of earlier times neither had the courage or the vision to unshackle the historical wrongs. Modi government removed it in one go. People wondered, what we were waiting for all these years? Bringing Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), dealing with Rohingya infiltrator or National Population Register and National Citizenship Register are pointing that India’s national interest are supreme.

The second budget: It was a landmark in laying a roadmap for five trillion dollar economy. Under the theme of Economic Development in the 2nd Budget, government provided for all the important sectors like technological textile centres, power and renewable energy, connectivity like airports, seaports and railways. Finance minister worked out a mechanism for the ambitious plan of investment of Rs 103 lakh crore under National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) identifying 6500 projects for financing through Center, State and foreign direct investments (FDI). Government has also opened up its bond markets, in rupee denomination, for investment from foreign sovereign debt funds, securing against exchange fluctuations. Financial market’s long pending demand for abolition of dividend distribution tax (DDT) has been accepted.



The budget focused on wealth creation, pro business policies and minimal government intervention. For resource generation it has desisted from increasing direct or indirect taxes. Announcement of Taxpayer's Rights Charter within the statute is an important step of bringing accountability in the tax administration. Provision for statutory taxpayer's right exists only in three other countries worldwide.

RCEP, FTA and Import Duties: Government's efforts of reduction in corporate taxes to 25 percent, decriminalisation of Company Act 2013, protection of domestic industries by refusing to sign Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) against all domestic and regional pressure, renegotiating and reworking on Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with ASEAN countries and increasing import duties in eight segments were all in the direction of protecting industries from onslaught of unfair global competition.

The Corona Challenge: Covid-19 is a nonlinear and uncertain event. The Government interventions are commensurate with the severity of the global recession. Demand in the economy will diminish due to economic uncertainty, job losses and financial problems. Therefore, Government's focus is on reviving demand.

Aatma Nirbhar Bharat: The trend of deglobalisation, which started after the global financial crisis and gained strength after the 2016 US elections, is expected to accelerate. India is also focusing on being self-reliant in critical products and areas. Looking into this, the economic reforms of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, focusing on all the factors of production, will make our domestic industries competitive, rebuild and catalyze growth in an unprecedented manner. There are certain challenges for the

manufacturing sector in India; like lowering of interest rate, reduction in logistical cost, labour reforms, ease of compliances, contract enforcement and FDI policy. Detailed reforms in these area as follows;

Private Capital formation: Government's efforts in the areas like Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code has resulted in reducing risk premium on interest cost and successive reduction in Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate have brought down prime lending rate.

National Logistic Policy: Presently the logistical sectors contribution to GDP is 14-15 percent in India, where as in developed countries this is about 9-10

Government's efforts in the areas like Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code has resulted in reducing risk premium on interest cost and successive reduction in Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate have brought down prime lending rate.

percent. Meaning thereby that the transportation cost for our manufacturing sector is about 40 percent. Government has announced National Logistic Policy aiming to bring it down by 2022.

Labour Law Reforms: Understanding the need of labour reforms, Government has worked on consolidating the existing multiple labour laws into four Labour Codes, easing compliances and streamlining welfare. Initiatives like Shram Suidha, Universal account number,

for real estate industry labour is also helping labour.

Compliance Mechanism: Easing compliance requires technological innovation. Government has announced, virtual E assessment for Income Tax Act. Most of the compliances of RBI, ROC and SEBI etc. have been computerized. Indirect taxes have been made online through GST Network. Government has brought manufacturing policy in which entrepreneur has to fill Entrepreneur Memorandum (EM) doing away with permission and licensing in all segments except for four sectors; tobacco, defence, alcohol and hazardous chemicals.

FDI Policy: Central Government has allowed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) through the automatic route in most of the sectors of the Indian economy, with sectoral caps in only some of them. Current account convertibility is in place; restrictions under the FEMA and repatriation rules have been relaxed, helping further foreign direct investment in the domestic manufacturing sector.

Emerging Segments: Central Government had set up robust Start-up ecosystem like Atal Innovation Mission, Atal Incubation Centres and Tinkering Labs. Emerging areas like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data and analytics have large scope in the future for India and government focus on five pillars of Aatma Nirbhar Bharat including economy, infrastructure, technology will create greater opportunities for the future.

The first year of 2nd term of Modi Government has laid the roadmap for the future and we will embark on it with full gusto. Watching over India's interest and nationalism is at the core of all the policies of our government and the nation should rest assure that we are in safe hands. ■

(The writer is National spokesperson of BJP on economic affairs)



THE QUEST FOR AATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT



**DR. ANIRBAN
GANGULY**

P rime Minister Narendra Modi's call for an Atma Nirbhar Bharat – a self-dependent – India is not a claptrap; it is a call for a comprehensive civilizational self-renewal. It articulates India's engagement with the world at a time when the contours and narrative of globalization is being sharply debated and examined. When public intellectuals are speaking of an unfortunate return to the fortress existence, when many are speaking of isolationism and a falling back upon oneself, Prime Minister Modi speaks of being self-reliant but not self-centered, and of a future which is about "togetherness and resilience." He speaks of delineating India's trajectory in shaping a post COVID19 world order. In fact, unlike the Congress party whose slogan of the seventies, "Garibi Hatao" which was a mere slogan to garner votes and remained unimplemented, the BJP's vision of a self-dependent India, has been articulated ever since the first days of the Jana Sangh.

In its first manifesto for the first general elections in 1951-52, the Jana Sangh, then under the leadership of its founding president Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, spoke

of making the country "self-sufficient in consumer goods through the widespread development of small-scale and cottage industries" among other things and spoke of the "encouragement of Swadeshi" and said that "to give fillip to national industry the party will take steps to re-awaken the national conscience in favour of

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Swadeshi..."

In his many writings, talks and public addresses Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, for instance, often spoke of the need to awaken the 'spirit of self-reliance in the country.' Deendayalji spoke of the need to rekindle "self-esteem", this rekindling had

to be comprehensive and all-around. "Self-esteem is a feeling of the heart. I believe this feeling is essential too for the development of the individual and the nation", he observed. In course of his writings and political discourses, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya emerged as one of the foremost exponents of his times arguing for the need to evolve a policy and economic framework that would lead us to national self-reliance.

To give just one more example, later, just the BJP, the party's economic resolution in July 1985, spoke of how the need for "self-reliance" was forgotten. The vision of an Aatma Nirbhar Bharat therefore has been driving and exercising the Jana Sangh's and BJP's policy horizon, right since inception. Prime Minister Modi has, in the last six years, systematically moved towards realizing that vision. DBT, Jan Dhan, Mudra, eliminating of delivery leakages are steps towards realizing that vision. His call for becoming vocal on local products, in encouraging their manufacturing, in supporting them and in disseminating them globally are to be seen and internalized against the backdrop of that vision and aspiration. The calls therefore of a "New India" and of an Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, are not hollow slogans, they are aspirations which are being realized.

PM Modi has also called for the need of a new globalization.



This globalization, he has argued, needs to be human centered. This stands in clear contradistinction to the current narrative of globalization which has evolved over the last so many decades – a globalization which is primarily focused on homogeneity, is at times hegemonic and has manifested in some, a propensity to exploit and impose uniformity. PM Modi, is perhaps among the few, or the only world leader, who while immersed in handling the Corona challenge, has also kept articulating fundamental thoughts and ideas on a post Corona world and the role India would play in shaping it.

PM Modi's "Atma Nirbhar Bharat" vision, his call for being "vocal on the local" are part of that unbroken chain of thoughts. He firmly feels that India's moment of shaping a new world order, post the pandemic has come. Indeed, the post-Corona world calls for a new world order. As thinkers and experts have indicated ad nauseam, never has the world, since the Spanish Flu pandemic a hundred years ago, or since World War two, seven odd decades ago, seen such a reversal, such upheaval and overturning of most of our established notions and beliefs. The dominant structure and narrative of the current wave of globalization is under intense scrutiny and PM Modi's call for a renewed look at globalization came early into the pandemic when most others were trying to fathom the extent of its impact on international dealings.

In a write-up towards the end of April and in his interactions with young professionals on the next major ideas which will shape the

post COVID world, PM Modi had indicated how India, a youthful nation with the zeal for innovation can alter and re-structure the terms and framework of globalization. He had written about India emerging as a crucial supply-chain hub, "India, with the right blend of the physical and the virtual can emerge as the global nerve centre of complex modern multinational supply chains in the post COVID-19 world," and had spoken of the need for

PM Modi had indicated how India, a youthful nation with the zeal for innovation can alter and re-structure the terms and framework of globalization. He had written about India emerging as a crucial supply-chain hub, "India, with the right blend of the physical and the virtual can emerge as the global nerve centre..."

"seizing the opportunity." His call for being vocal on the local, thus, has given the first impetus towards seizing that opportunity.

The emphasis on the "local" also rekindles our call to action whenever a struggle for our destiny has been in the offing. It is a call which has always galvanised our collective imagination, it is a call which has always remained intrinsic to the psyche of a free India. Despite facing decades of

ridicule and misinterpretation, that sense has survived and has seen India emerge today as one of the leading start-up and innovation hubs globally. The call for a self-dependent India was also a defining dimension throughout our struggle for freedom. PM Modi's call for being vocal about local, has a global dimension – it is to both to project India's material capacities and spiritual truths.

In fact, most of our epochal thinkers, who articulated or envisaged a free India also spoke of her role in the world. They spoke of being nationalist and internationalists and negated a rootless cosmopolitanism, a "rootless universalism", while also decrying a compartmentalized self-centeredness. They staunchly advocated the need for reviving and strengthening our cultural and industrial bases and genius that would turn India into a centre of global transactions – ideational as well as material.

The narrative of the twenty first century being the Asian century, is taking shape, and in shaping the Asian century India, has begun to play a pivotal, defining and a civilizational role. When PM Modi said, that "India's culture considers the world as one family, and progress in India is part of, and also contributes to, progress in the whole world" and "the world trusts that India has a lot to contribute towards the development of the entire humanity", he is exactly reiterating our civilisational aspirations articulated, over ages, by some of the leading shapers of our collective destiny. ■

(The writer is Director of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation)



MODI 2.0- FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES



DR VIJAY
CHAUTHAIWALE

After his mammoth victory in Lok Sabha elections in May 2019, Prime Minister Modi's agenda on foreign policy remained very hectic. It was comprised of strengthening bilateral ties, putting forward India's interests in multilateral forums, and later on, during COVID-19 pandemic, extending helping hand to every country that was in need for medicine or any other assistance.

After inviting SAARC leaders for his swearing-in ceremony in 2014, PM Modi invited the BIMSTEC leaders for the second oath ceremony. BIMSTEC, a grouping of Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan, the countries dependent on the Bay of Bengal, is a major foreign policy of PM. Additionally, Kyrgyzstan's President Sooronbay Jeenbekov (then chair of SCO) and to the Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Jugnauth were also invited for the occasion.

In the second term, his first visit abroad was to Sri Lanka, during which PM visited the St. Anthony's Shrine and paid homage to those who lost their lives during the cowardly terror attack on Easter and expressed solidarity with Sri Lankan people. It was followed by several bilateral visits to countries like Bhutan, France, Bahrain, Russia,

and Saudi Arabia. During these visits, he touched upon various topics of mutual interests as well as on the issues of global importance. For example, in France, he said "Nowadays we talk of 21st century 'INFRA'. That is 'IN' plus 'FRA' is the alliance of 'INDIA' and 'FRANCE'. ..The alliance of India and France is moving strongly." He also touched upon climate change and Solar

PM Modi was the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Bahrain. First ever prime ministerial visit from India to Bahrain. During his visit, Prime Minister was conferred the prestigious 'The King Hamad Order of the Renaissance', the highest honour of Bahrain. Prime Minister visited the Shreenathji Temple dedicated to Sri Krishna and also the "prasad" that he bought with the RuPay card.

alliance during his speeches. In Bhutan, he inaugurated 720 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric power plant and also launched RuPay card.

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During his visit to Saudi Arabia, PM Narendra Modi visited Saudi Arabia for a high-profile Future Investment Initiative Summit, dubbed as "Davos in the desert," an initiative of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

During Russia visit, PM Modi was greeted by Vladimir Putin at Vladivostok and the Russian President, Both the leaders participated in the 20th India-Russia Annual Summit. While addressing the press after the summit, PM Modi said that both India and Russia are against outside influence in the internal matters of any nation. The annual summit covered a number of regional and international issues of mutual interest including the situation in the Gulf region, the Afghan peace process and the possibilities to further strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the oil and gas sector. India and Russia also exchanged 25

agreements in the field of defence, trade, industrial cooperation, investments, connectivity corridors and energy. President Putin has also announced that PM Modi will be conferred by 'Order of St Andrew the Apostle' the highest civilian award of Russia.

In addition to abovementioned bilateral visits, PM Modi has also



participated several important multilateral platforms. First, he went to Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan to participate in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit. During the summit, PM Modi discussed the global security situation security, multilateral economic cooperation, people to-people exchanges and topical issues of international and regional importance.

PM Modi visited Osaka, Japan to attend G 20 Summit. Women empowerment, issues related to digitalization and artificial intelligence, progress in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and addressing major global challenges such as terrorism and climate change formed the rich agenda of the Summit. The PM also held bilateral and multilateral talks with several world leaders.

In addition to main G-20 meeting and several bilateral meetings on the sidelines, PM Modi joined two tri-lateral meetings one with Russia and China and other with USA and Japan.

PM Modi was a participant at the 45th G7 summit at the special invitation of French President Emmanuel Macron, as India is not a member of the group of seven. This invitation is seen as a "reflection of the personal chemistry" between the two leaders and also recognition of India as a major economic power. The G7 summit addressed a host of issues from climate change to India's membership for the Nuclear Suppliers' groups (NSG) and the global trade, taxation mechanism for technology companies among others. But the big focus was also on India's move to do away with Article 370 on Jammu and Kashmir. The move Pakistan has been trying to take up at the international level

but the world has once again thrown their weight behind India and reiterated that Kashmir is a solely an internal issue of India. In another major development, the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) understood India's position on its bid for Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and said that he is willing to help on the matter.

Prime Minister's most significant visit of this year was his seven-day long visit to USA. During this visit,

PM Modi also spoke at an event-- 'Leadership Matters: Relevance of Gandhi in Temporary Times'--organised by the Indian mission to the UN in New York to commemorate 150th anniversary on Mahatma Gandhi. He lauded Gandhi's teachings, social reforms and vision and said that they were relevant in contemporary times. As a friendly gesture, India also gifted a Gandhi Solar Park to the UN, which was installed with solar panels...

he addressed several small and big groups, had multiple bi-lateral meetings, plus he also addressed United Nations General Assembly.

The first engagement of PM Modi in Houston was with the top CEOs and representatives from sixteen energy majors of the US. The discussion was focussed on working together for energy security and expanding mutual investment opportunities between India and the US. In New York, PM Modi's first

address was Climate Action Summit on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). Even as PM Modi prepared to begin his address, there was a surprise guest in the audience, US President Donald Trump. PM invoked the teachings of Gandhi and appealed for behavioural changes to make climate sustainable. He spelt out all the initiatives taken by India with respect to environmental issues, not to leave his initiative to ban the use of single-use plastic in India on October 2.

PM also talked at a high-level meeting on Universal Health Coverage. "World welfare begins with people's welfare, and health is an important component of it. And in line with this global principle, India is laying great emphasis on health," said PM Modi. This was followed by a leaders' dialogue on strategic response to terrorism and violent extremists narratives.

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During this visit, PM was conferred "Global Gatekeepers Award" by Bills and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Swacch Bharat Abhiyan.

PM Modi, for the first time, met leaders from Pacific Island nations in New York in a plurilateral format. He demonstrated India's commitment



to advancing their development priorities,

PM Modi made a major push for foreign investments in the areas like smart cities, infrastructure and real estate, At Bloomberg Global Business Forum . He also interacted with over 40 business leaders and American CEOs at CEO Roundtable where he highlighted the steps taken by India to build a USD 5 trillion economy.

In his last day speech at the UN, PM Modi spoke about protecting the climate, fighting terrorism, maintaining global peace and his government's efforts at helping the marginalised. He repeated his message of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' from the podium as he spoke about India's culture. The prime minister went on to quote a 3,000-year-old Tamil poem to say inclusivity is India's strength and tradition. He also called on the world to unite in the battle against terrorism.

The most significant event of this visit was of course "Howdy Modi" which was attended by more than 50000 enthusiastic members of Indian Diaspora and was addressed by PM Modiji and US President Mr Donald Trump.

Later on PM Modi ji went to Bangkok to participate ASEAN summit and RCEP meeting. During this period, India has taken an important decision to opt out of RCEP treaty. He also went to Brazil to attend BRICS summit.

COVID-19 pandemic is one of the gravest crises the world is facing in its history. It is but natural that India shows its leadership with compassion and love for humanity. In addition to protect our own citizens, India has supplied

essential medicines to more than 133 countries in the world . (446 million HCQ tablets and 1.54 billion Paracetamol tablets).

PM Modi hosted the Video Conference of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Leaders on COVID-19 was held recently. All the members of SAARC (India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Pakistan) attended the conference.

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India has proposed to create a COVID-19 Emergency Fund which could be based on a voluntary contribution from all SAARC members and contributed \$10 Million to it.

India has also proposed a rapid response team of doctors and specialists, along with testing kits and other equipment for all the member countries.

During G-20 virtual summit Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged a

new approach to globalisation and multilateralism in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic . Prime Minister had one-to-one telephonic conversations with more than forty world leaders and External Affairs Minister Dr Jaishankar talked to his counterparts of more than sixty countries.

In last one year, India has taken several transformational initiatives on domestic front, such as abrogation of article 370, CAA, etc. Section of global media created a concerted campaign against these measures. It was therefore imperative for India to explain the rationale and importance of these measures. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, India has successfully navigated this challenge and convinced our global friends that these measures are not only non-discriminatory but also empowers weaker sections of the society and enables persecuted minorities of countries like Pakistan to restart their lives with dignity. Barring few notable exceptions, India has largely successful to bring global powers on board on these issues. Later on, during COVID-19 crisis, India has again shown its leadership with compassion by active exchange of information,

supply of essential medicines and even food grains, etc. Though foreign visits of Prime Minister have stopped for last few months, it didn't deter him from being active player in global geo-politics and also from being leading partner against the COVID19 pandemic. No wonder, PM Modi's leadership has been praised all over the world, bringing India to the new glory. ■

(The writer is National In-Charge, BJP Foreign Affairs department)



MOVING TOWARDS SELF-RELIANCE IN HEALTH SECTOR



RAM PRASAD
TRIPATHY

With the oath of PM Shri Narendra Modi and his ministry on 30 May, 2019 a golden chapter began in the history of Indian democracy. After decades the electorate voted back a full term government to power consecutively for the second time with an overwhelming majority. Following the historic performance of Modi government for last five years from 2014-2019 the country once again voted PM Modi undeniably with some more aspirations and desires. Their desire is further development of the country, a secure future and a respectful place to India in the comity of nations, with keeping the socio-cultural fabric and ethos of the nation intact. Undoubtedly, the people have unfathomable trust on PM Modi and everybody is hopeful that only PM Modi can bring this country to the new growth trajectory with his pioneering thoughts and visions.

Without disappointing, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has once again shown a new vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' to the country. Now it is evident

that Modi government has been working with a much bigger goal to create a Self-Reliant India. The recently announced Rs 20 lakh crore package is certainly a major step in this direction. 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' is a great and groundbreaking initiative which will usher in a new era of

PM Modi has given the idea of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' amidst India's fight against Covid-19 pandemic. When the fight against the pandemic began, the country lacked minimum facilities to counter it. Thus it is obvious, many raised questions that can India be Self-Reliant in health sector. Three months ago there was only one Covid-19 Testing Center in the country. The production of essentials like PPE...

opportunities for every Indian, be it our farmers, workers, small entrepreneurs, industrialists or youth.

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Three months ago there was only one Covid-19 Testing Center in the country. The production of essentials like PPE, N-95 mask was negligible and India had to import these essentials from abroad. In view of all these circumstances, the international media also raised questions on India's capability and how India will fight against the Corona pandemic. They feared that India would fail badly on the Covid front. However, the concerted efforts made by the government from the beginning in terms of preparedness and measures against the Covid-19 pandemic are commendable. Entrepreneurs and innovators from every sector of India have also responded to the challenge posed by the Covid-19 crisis very quickly. Whether it is Indian institutions and companies

making a significant contribution to the global development of vaccines/drugs against Corona or making hydroxychloroquine drugs available to more than 120 countries, India has raised its flag on every front. In these three months, significantly we



have increased the production of PPE kits, N-95 masks from the insignificant quantity of production to more than 3 lakhs per day and now India has become the second largest producer in the world.

Even scientific agencies, researchers, private and public research laboratories, start-ups, incubators, and entrepreneurs have done this miracle by PM's encouragement and their self-motivation to win the fight against Corona.

According to expectations, big research institutes of the country like IITs did commendable work no doubt, but smaller institutions, for example Odisha-based Berhampur ITI, which has no direct relation with Corona research is producing low-cost Aerosol Boxes, Face Shields, Sanitizers, Masks, Sanitizer tunnels, converting discarded microwave ovens into UV sanitizer chambers to disinfect mobiles, pens, laptops and other items for the frontline medical staff and use of common public beyond this pandemic is also equally admirable.



New Innovations

To win the war against the Covid-19 pandemic, India was the first to launch 'Arogya-Setu' app which helped against the Covid-19 detection. Pune's National Institute of Virology has successfully developed India's first indigenous antibody test kit "ELISA". A low cost Covid-19 test kit has been developed by IIT-Delhi scientists. A startup of IIT-Bombay has developed a digital

To win the war against the Covid-19 pandemic, India was the first to launch 'Arogya-Setu' app which helped against the Covid-19 detection. Pune's National Institute of Virology has successfully developed India's first indigenous antibody test kit "ELISA". A low cost Covid-19 test kit has been developed by IIT-Delhi scientists. A startup of IIT-Bombay has developed a digital stethoscope that can listen and record heartbeats from a distance.

stethoscope that can listen and record heartbeats from a distance. It reduces the risk of frontline medical staff who are fighting against this epidemic. Microwave Sterilizer "ATULYA", an electrostatic disinfection machine, Rapid Diagnostic Kit, Affordable Ventilator - Developed by NOCCA Robotics of IIT Kanpur has received public accolades. Large scale manufacturing of affordable ventilators by

Aerospace Research centre, Bangalore and involvement of 6 Indian companies under the guidance of ICMR in R&D of new Vaccines for Covid-19 has also received appreciations.

The Indian Army and DRDO developed "COVSACK" kiosks, an ultraviolet light-based sanitation boxe. The Laser Science and Technology Center (LASTEC), the prestigious laboratory of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) developed an ultra violet disinfection tower. Contactless sanitizers, remote controlled trolleys and special type PPE kits have been developed by the Indian Navy. Many Start-ups have also contributed to the fight against Corona by developing fever detection systems and portable ventilators etc.

The financial assistance package announced by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for research and development in health sector and to counter Covid-19 will also go a long way in maintaining and enhancing the innovative research mindset of our scientific community. Simply we can say that all

the innovations India has made so far during this pandemic has definitely made us self-reliant and persents the future path towards complete self-reliance in health sector. Whenever there has been a crisis in India, we stood with our head high. At present India is facing another crisis and we will surely succeed in achieving our goal. ■

(The writer is Associate Editor, Kamal Sandesh)



MODI GOVERNMENT TOWARDS VILLAGE SWARAJ



VIKASH ANAND

“Bharat” for Mahatma Gandhi was reflected in ‘village Swaraj’. He used to say the soul of Bharat resides in villages. When India got freedom, the Congress under the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru started ruling India. Unlike Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Nehru’s idea of India was neither village centric nor had village as a unit of development for the country. His concept of development for India was rather top to bottom. The lacuna in this idea gets reflected in the poor conditions of villages which resulted in widespread poverty in the country and poverty shocks amid the crisis. The idea of development conceived by Pandit Nehru and Indian National Congress later on, has left the country in cognitive dissonance, crushed moral judgements, entrenched economic discrimination and altered personal and social relationships thus leading to increased disparity in society.

When NDA came to power, under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi the idea of

development reversed the thinking of economic growth & development from bottom to top. The focus was laid on formulating a village centric visionary policy that will help to create the foundation of a self-reliant village and progressive nation. Prime Minister Shri Modi in his first tenure

When NDA came to power, under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi the idea of development reversed the thinking of economic growth & development from bottom to top. The focus was laid on formulating a village centric visionary policy that will help to create the foundation of a self-reliant village and progressive nation. Prime Minister Shri Modi in his first tenure launched Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY).

launched Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY). It is the world’s largest national flagship programme for financial inclusion to ensure access to financial services, namely, Banking/ Savings & Deposit Accounts, Remittance,

Credit, Insurance, Pension in an affordable manner to all poor. Account opened under PMJDY is opened with Zero balance. This provided poor, destitute, women and senior citizen with feeling of empowerment and participation in mainstream development discourse.

To put a check on the middlemen, who used to routinely siphon off large part of benefits meant for the poor and farmers, Modi Government executed policy of National Digital Policy and direct transfer of subsidies to farmers and other poor section of the society. This effort was appreciated world wide and reduced poverty substantially in India. Its effect is being witnessed in current situation of pandemic.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his second tenure launched Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN). This scheme proved to be very beneficial during lockdown. Total of 9.67 crore farmers amid the lockdown got benefit of the PM-KISAN scheme by 28 May, 2020. The Union Government has released more than 19 thousand crore rupees under the scheme in the last two months (March-April). The amount has been transferred directly to the farmers’ accounts through



digital transfer thus ensuring regular consumption pattern and ensuring social security. In the scheme, the amount of Rs. 6000 per year has been paid to each eligible farmer in three installments and the amount will be transferred directly to their bank accounts.

The Agriculture sector has always been the priority of Govt. The government has also provided agricultural seeds to the farmers. Timely availability of fertilizers, agriculture inputs, procurement of food grains and strengthening cold storage facility has been done on across states.

The scheme is supplementary in nature which takes care of financial needs of Small and Marginal Farmers so that they can procure inputs that will ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields. The vision behind the PM-KISAN Scheme is to protect the farmers from trap of moneylenders for meeting their farming investment and ensuring their continuance in the farming activities.

PM Modi in his previous tenure brought the Agriculture Export Policy 2018 focusing to double farmers' income by 2022. The Modi government new agriculture export policy has set the goal to double exports of agriculture products and to integrate Indian farmers and agricultural products with global value chains. To ensure doubling the agriculture export for making farmers stronger Modi government working on key measures like Infrastructure and logistics support, comprehensive approach to boost exports, greater

involvement of state government in agriculture exports, promoting value-added exports, marketing and promotion of Brand India. And the government has formulated policy to attract private investments into production & processing.

In 2016 the government launched online National Agriculture Marketing Platform called e-NAM. The platform facilitates farmers, traders and

In 2016 the government launched online National Agriculture Marketing Platform called e-NAM. The platform facilitates farmers, traders and buyers for trading of agriculture products.

The e-NAM is helping in finding better price. The e-NAM markets are getting popular as the crops are weighed immediately and the stock is lifted on the same day and the payments are cleared online.

buyers for trading of agriculture products.

The e-NAM is helping in finding better price. The e-NAM markets are getting popular as the crops are weighed immediately and the stock is lifted on the same day and the payments are cleared online. The platform obliterates all type hurdle whether be it bureaucratic or unwanted interference of middleman. Shri Narendra Modi

launched this platform aims making self-reliant villages on 14 April 2016.

Apart from above mentioned major initiatives of Modi Government, for making farmers financially secure in the case of poor crop growth, it launched Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna. To provide irrigation facilities to farmers across the country, it launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) and propelled money into the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to boost credit penetration to farmers.

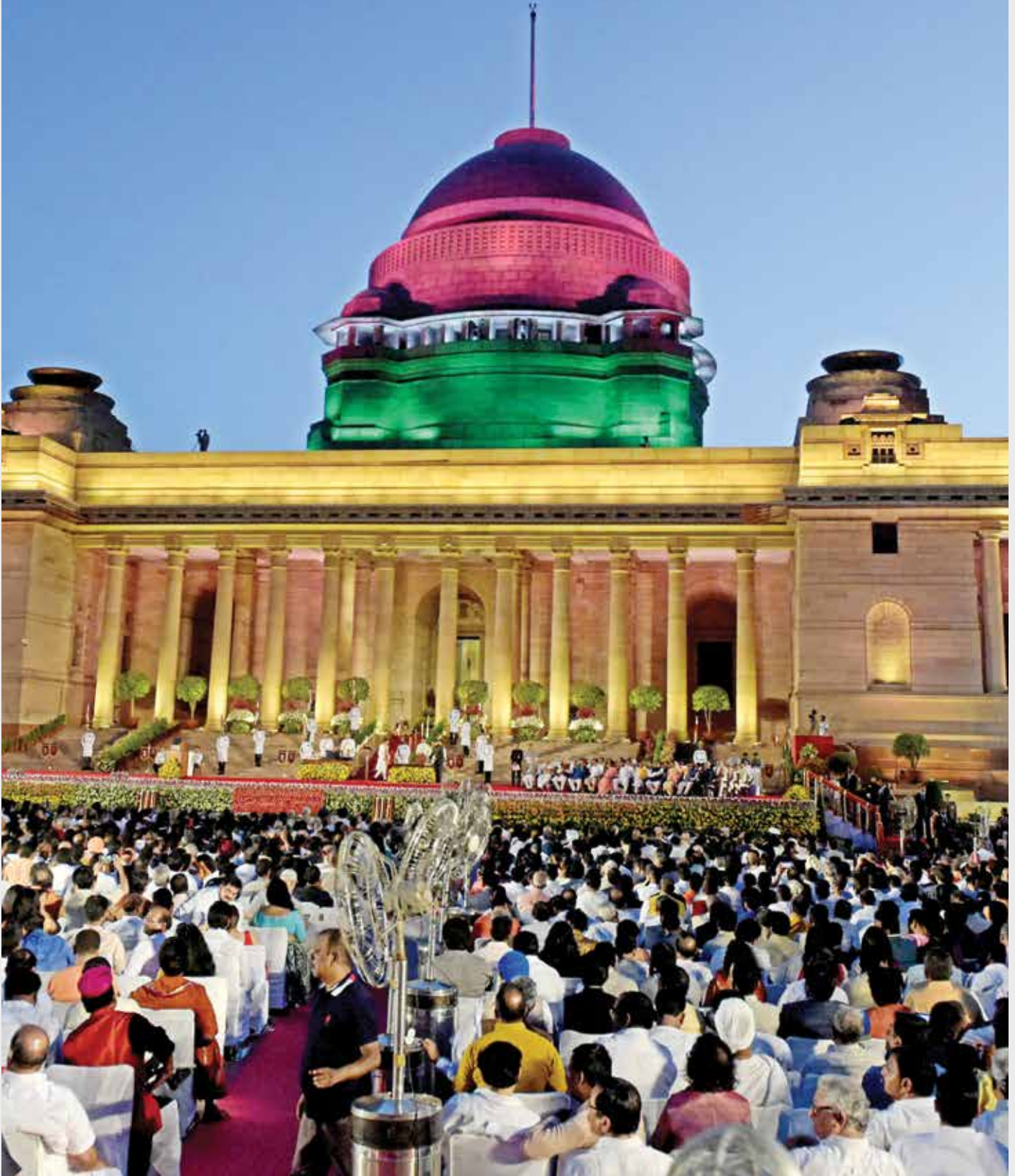
The Modi led BJP government also focused on electrification of every village of the country. Modi Government in its previous term has provided electric connection to every village. For this great achievement, the global energy watchdog International Energy Agency (IEA) in 2018 called India a 'star performer' in terms of achieving the big milestone of the providing power to each village. The institution praised Modi Government for taking electricity to every village.

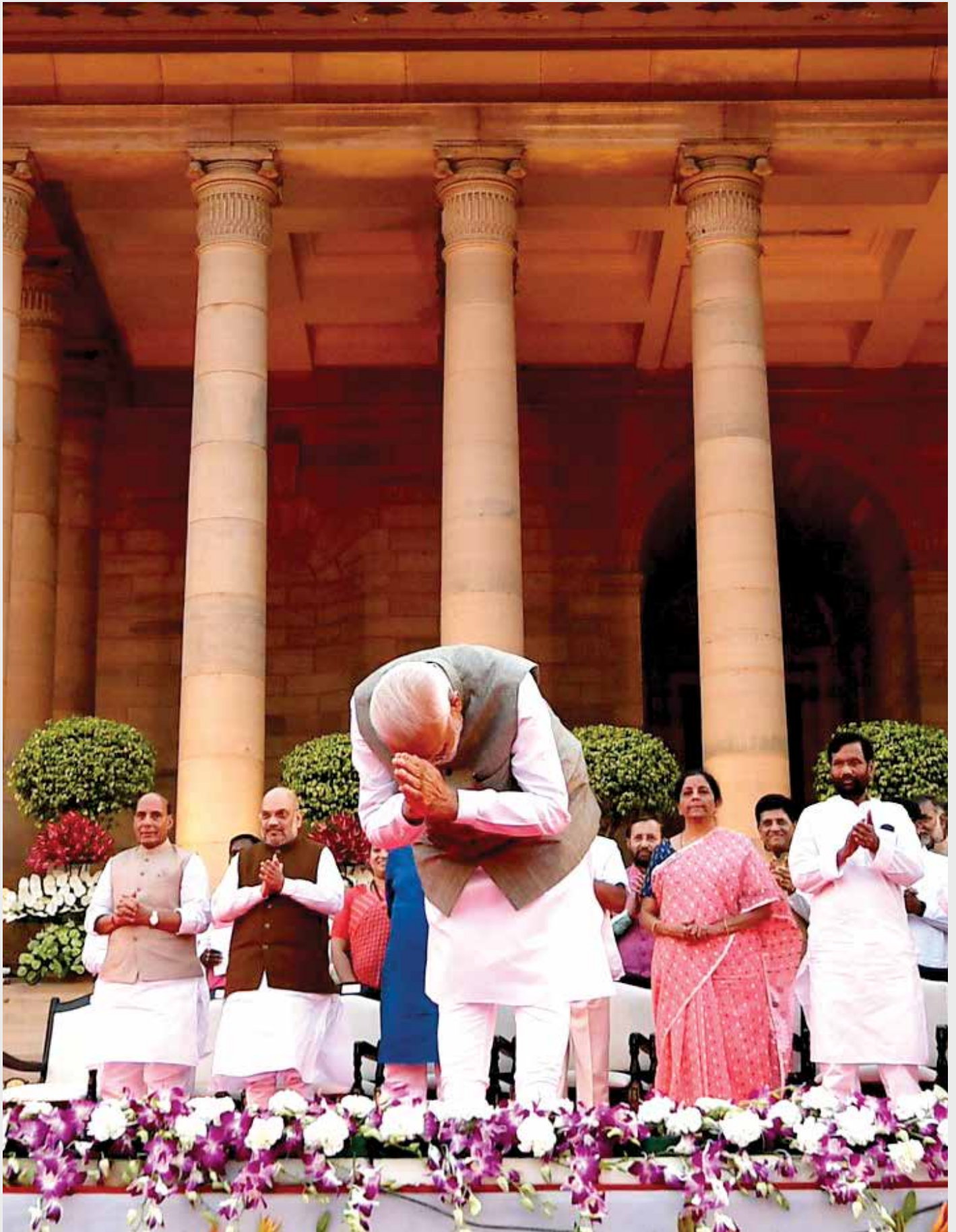
With IMF and World Bank reducing the World's GDP, India has been kept on Higher growth rate compared to many developed nations. The govt has given agriculture sector special focus in this period of crisis so that 57% of the total population engaged in this field don't suffer. With clear framework and determination, the Govt will revive the economy of the country.

(The writer is Associate Editor, Kamal Sandesh)



A GRAND VIEW OF THE RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN DURING THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY







BJP KARYAKARTAS SERVING THE SOCIETY TIRELESSLY





“ Back in 2014, the people of the country voted for a substantive transformation. In the last five years, the nation saw how the administrative apparatus broke itself free of status quo and from the swamp of corruption as well as misgovernance. True to the spirit of ‘Antyodaya’ the lives of millions have been transformed. ”

- Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

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