



**Kamal Sandesh**  
Fortnightly Magazine

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**Annual Rs. 100/-  
For 3 years Rs. 250/-**

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**Publisher and Printer** : Printed by  
Dr. Nandkishore Garg for Dr. Mookerjee  
Smruti Nyas, at Excelprints, C-36, F.F.  
Complex, Jhandewalan, New Delhi-55 and  
Published by Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas,  
PP-66, Subramanya Bharati Marg, New  
Delhi-03. Editor : Prabhat Jha.

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*"The budget for 2011-12 lacks any broad vision and will only help the affluent sections of society".*

— Sushma Swaraj

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha

*"JPC must examine any possible collusion between the policy makers and the beneficiaries".*

— Arun Jaitley

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha

*"The judgment of the Supreme Court has restored the dignity of the office of CVC and upheld the rule of law and democratic propriety".*

— Ravi Shakar Prasad

National General Secretary BJP

*Letters to the Editor...*

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## Union Budget a slap on Aam Aadmi

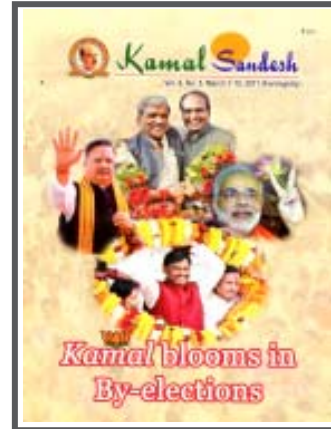
Dear Sir,

The Union Budget for 2011-12 is a slap on common man. It has nothing concrete to alleviate their misery and address their needs. The cut in subsidies on food, fuel and fertilizer by '20,000 crore is massive by any standard. It will make life more miserable for the poor.

The proposed cash transfer of subsidies for kerosene, LPG and fertiliser to BPL families is at best a token sop to offset the excessive favour shown to the corporate sector. The only bright spot is that it will reduce pilferage.

The Budget is deafeningly silent on the rise in prices of food and essential commodities, the need to release foodgrains in the market, revamp of the public distribution system, recovery of black money from tax havens and public investment in infrastructure. The Budget shows in no certain terms that the UPA Government puts interests of the corporate sector before those of the aam admi.

Vani Rao  
Hyderabad  
Andhra Pradesh



Write to us

The Editor,

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We welcome  
Your views & Suggestions

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## Supreme Court decision a big jolt to Congress

# Editorial...

*There was a time in Indian politics and democracy when the ruling party used to consider the issues raised by Opposition with sincerity and seriousness it deserved. The Opposition also used to act as national watchman. But for last two decades the issues raised by Opposition were considered to be raised only for the sake of opposition. It was therefore the Congress gradually developed dictatorial tendencies. Congress started taking the Opposition for a ride. If the Congress had been taking the Opposition sincerely, the Supreme Court would not have slammed it on the issue of appointment of PJ Thomas as Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) and questioned the motive of the government over his appointment. In fact the Leader of Opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Bharatiya Janata Party deserved to be congratulated for their principled stand on the issue. Smt. Sushma Swaraj had submitted a memorandum to the President on the issue along with the senior leadership of Bharatiya Janata Party. She not only raised her objections before the Prime Minister and the Home Minister in the High Powered Committee but also wrote her 'dissent-note' on the appointment of CVC. The objections raised by Smt. Swaraj was not intended to be personal but in the interest of the nation.*

*But the Congress now no more appears to be a political party and the UPA government now no more appears to be functioning as a government. Everyone knows that no one in the party or in the government has the guts to oppose the decision made by Smt. Sonia Gandhi. Was not the name of Thomas proposed by Sonia Gandhi? If the name was proposed by her then why was it not felt necessary to carry out the proper investigations about the background of Thomas? Should Congress and UPA government give its approval to any name proposed by Soniaji? It is now also true that UPA government and Congress have lost their face after having received a big jolt by Supreme Court decision. But has it not been a big blow to India too? What kind of image the government will now have in the minds of the people, will it now command respect any more in their eye? The common perception in the country that Manmohan Singh is merely a rubber stamp doesn't seem to be incorrect now. What kind of people are now at the helm of affairs of the country? Is India safe and secure in the hands of such a 'majboor' Prime Minister? Is it enough to accept the mistake? Should government be not punished for its deliberate mistake? These questions need to be answered.*

*The kind of cases of corruption which have come before the nation whether it is Adarsh scam, 2G Spectrum scam, Devas deal or CWG loot; can it be not said that*

*Congress and Congress led UPA government is giving open protection to loot of public money and rampant corruption in the country? In both houses of parliament the BJP repeatedly cautioned the government over 2G scam and other such instances of corruption. Dr. Manmohan Singh wearing a mask of honesty cannot now absolve himself from the charges of having patronized thousands of scamsters and corrupts. What message the government wants to send on the issue of black money by giving protection to Hasan Ali? Should the Congress led UPA government not act strongly against Hasan Ali? Why he has not been arrested till now? The Congress and Congress led UPA government may continue to remain in power but it has completely lost its credibility in the eyes of the people. Now it is high time that the Opposition should go to the people and tell them that if the Congress led UPA government is not forced out of power then the country instead of becoming a 'super power' will become 'super corrupt' in 21<sup>st</sup> century. The challenge given by a bureaucrat P J Thomas to the entire government only further indicates the kind of power exercised by Sonia Gandhi in the government. The responsibility to save the nation is on all of us. We all are responsible citizens of the country so we will have to come forward and make our contributions to free the nation from the Congress led UPA government and the scamsters and corrupts patronised by it. ■*

## **BJP Leader Vanam Jhansi dies in a road accident in Andhra Pradesh** *BJP leaders condole the death*

Senior Andhra Pradesh BJP Leader Smt. Vanam Jhansi Rani died in a road accident.

The accident occurred near Kadtal in Amangal mandal in Mahbubnagar district while she was returning

from her native village Acchampeta. She has held various responsible positions in the party including that of Party State Vice President, Party secretary and as



president of the state Bharatiya Janata Mahila Morcha. She has been active in BJP since 1985. She is currently a member of the National Executive of Bharatiya Janata Mahila Morcha. She is survived by her husband and two sons. Her elder

son Keshav is studying engineering in Chennai and the younger son Rahul is studying Intermediate second year.

Leaders cutting across parties have condoled her death and described her passing away as a great loss to women. BJP leadership across the state are mourning her death. Her death is an irreparable loss to Andhra Pradesh Bharatiya Janata Party. (foc) ■



# SC slams CVC selection panel headed by PM

## Strikes down appointment of P J Thomas as CVC

**D**ented by scams, the Congress led UPA government at the centre suffered a major blow on March 03 when the Supreme Court struck down the appointment of P J Thomas as CVC, slamming the Prime Minister-headed High-Powered Committee for the appointment of a person facing a criminal case. Holding that the touchstone for the appointment of CVC is the “institutional integrity” as well as the personal integrity of the candidate, the court also faulted the HPC’s decision to recommend Thomas (60) for appointment as Central Vigilance Commissioner on grounds of arbitrariness, ignoring “relevant material”.

A three-member bench of the court headed by Chief Justice S H Kapadia rejected the contention of Thomas and the government that the appointment of CVC cannot be brought under judicial review and said the legality of the recommendation can very much be reviewed by it.

Thomas, a former IAS officer of 1973 batch who was appointed as CVC on September 7 last despite a dissenting note by the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj in the HPC, is facing a corruption case in a Kerala court relating to Palmolein import scam that allegedly caused a loss of over Rs two crore to the state.

The 71-page verdict written by Justice Kapadia noted that not only the corruption case was pending against Thomas but there were notings by the Department of



Personnel and Training (DoPT) which had repeatedly recommended “penalty proceedings” against him between 2000 to 2004.

The bench, which also included justices K S Radhakrishnan and Swatanter Kumar, held that institutional integrity of the CVC is the primary consideration which the HPC failed to take into account while recommending Thomas for appointment as CVC.

“In the present case, this vital aspect has not been taken into account by the HPC while recommending the name of P J Thomas for appointment as CVC. We do not wish to discount personal integrity of the candidate,” said the bench. But, the court said, “What we are emphasizing is that institutional integrity of an institution like CVC has got to be kept in mind while recommending the name of the candidate. “Whether the incumbent (Thomas) would or would not be able to function? Whether the working of the institution would suffer? If so,

would it not be the duty of the HPC not to recommend the person.

“In the present case the entire emphasis has been placed by the CVC, the DoPT and the HPC only on the bio-data of the empanelled candidates. None of these authorities have looked at the matter from the larger perspective of institutional integrity including institutional competence and functioning of CVC,” it said.

In the context of dissent registered by Leader of the Opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj, who was a member along with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Home Minister P Chidambaram in the HPC, the court said if there was a dissent note by any of the members of the HPC it has to be given with sufficient reasons and has to be considered by the majority. Further, the majority should also give reasons for their decision as this will lead to a transparent process in public interest and also inspire public confidence.

It criticised the panel headed by prime minister that it took its decision only after considering Thomas’ bio data and failed to look beyond it, ignoring the corruption case pending against him. “Moreover, we are surprised to find that between 2000 and 2004 the notings of DoPT on June 26, 2000, January 18, 2001, June 20, 2003, February 24, 2004, October 18, 2004 and November 2, 2004 have all observed that penalty proceedings may be initiated against Thomas,” said the bench.(FOC) ■



## SC judgment restored dignity of the office of CVC: Ravi Shankar Prasad

The judgment of the Supreme Court has restored the dignity of the office of CVC and upheld the rule of law and democratic propriety. Integrity and independence are the most important qualities for appointment to the post of CVC. Integrity particularly is indeed very significant because the CVC is the most important institution in monitoring and inquiry into cases of corruption.

The Selection Committee, as is well known, consists of the Prime Minister, the Union Home Minister and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha. It is also now well known that when the name of Mr. P.J. Thomas was proposed for the post of CVC, Smt. Sushma Swaraj strongly objected because of the pendency of a criminal case relating to corruption against him. She was sought to be overruled when the Home Minister Mr. Chidambaram said that Mr. Thomas has been cleared. Smt. Sushma Swaraj yet insisted that this fact must be verified and decision be postponed for a day. She also suggested that if the Government so decides anyone of the other two included in the Panel can be appointed straightaway by excluding Mr. Thomas.

It is indeed surprising and curious that both the Prime Minister and the Home Minister insisted that the appointment had to be made on the date of the meeting itself and that it will be only Mr. P. J. Thomas.

Now, the Hon'ble Supreme  
March 16-31, 2011 ○ 8



***Press Statement issued by  
Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad,  
BJP General Secretary &  
Chief Spokesperson,  
regarding the SC  
Judgment quashing the  
appointment of CVC on  
March 03, 2011.***

Court has quashed the appointment and held that as all the relevant facts about Mr. Thomas were not furnished beforehand, therefore, he could not have been appointed at all.

In the light of all this, it is evident that the Government knew that his appointment because of his tainted record would give rise to controversy. Yet, it went about appointing him in a very determined manner. Obviously, there was a design behind this determination. The surrounding circumstances are too suspicious.

Mr. Thomas earlier was a Telecom Secretary and in that capacity he had sought the opinion of the Law Ministry that the CAG cannot examine the 2G Spectrum issue because it relates to a policy matter. What was exposed in the CAG report is too

well known. Obviously, the Government wanted a pliant CVC because the 2G scam was under investigation by the CBI and the CVC exercises a decisive influence and monitoring over the CBI. In fact, the CVC approves the appointment of the CBI Director.

The appointment of CVC was done by this Government in which the Prime Minister has a direct role to play. The country is entitled to know as to what was the coalition compulsion behind the appointment of Mr. Thomas. The Prime Minister must introspect whether he was misled or he intentionally and deliberately allowed himself to be misled. In either case, the accountability has to be fixed. Obviously, his moral responsibility and that of the entire Government including that of the UPA Chairperson is certainly there. We await the response of the Prime Minister.

Dr. Manmohan Singh often says that Caesar's wife must be above suspicion. Now that the Supreme Court has quashed the appointment of the CVC and that too on the ground that relevant information relating to his involvement in a corruption case was ignored while making the appointment, the country is certainly entitled to know as to on what benchmark the Prime Minister is going to judge himself. Today India's national aspirations against corruption stand vindicated and the Government stands indicted. ■

## Corruption is by-product of rotten system : Gadkari

From Our Correspondent



Speaking in a seminar on 'Corruption is Cancerous to the Society' BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said Corruption is by-product of rotten system; the system is borrowed from England, America.

The lecture was organised by Campus Law Center of Delhi University. Thousands of students were listening to Gadkari's speech with rapt attention.

He said, "I feel nostalgic among you. It recalls my student life. After a successful political career in student politics, I reached this position (president of BJP). I know, youth of our country is equipped with knowledge, which can bring reforms and transform the country. You are future of our country. Knowledge is great power, which will be invested to build the nation." He stressed on requisite improvement in education system so that it lived up to our expectation. "Because,

future of our country depends on what type of education, *Sanskar* is being imparted," He added.

Giving his own example he said, I am a law graduate and an MBA. However, I did work in the field of civil engineering. I'm not an engineer but I'm featured in Limca book of records for maximum use of concrete bridges. The point is that if you get right vision and strong will power you can do work in any field.

"When there is no will then there is only survey, seminar and discussion. If we have strong political will, we can make miracle. Strong political will give impetus to decision process", Shri Gadkari added.

He further said, "Now corruption has become cancerous to the society. If people are honest then why a leader elected by people become corrupt. It is a social problem. Political parties should train their leaders." "I do not want to

use educational platform for political purpose. As I am here to talk about national interest, I will say, students can bring the desired change. Join politics but with a political will. Youth should be encouraged and given opportunity. But they should earn adequate money to meet their requirement, other wise they will have to indulge in wrong practices," he said. Shri Gadkari said, "The car in which I travel, is not party's vehicle. It is owned by my company. Therefore, no body can trap me. I say, first establish yourself in business or in any profession and then come into politics."

He added, "Leaders do come in politics from among us. They are product of society. Who is responsible for good or bad products? Institutions like family, universities, political party, administrative system etc. are also responsible." Building good citizen is curing the corruption, he added. There should be also anger among

people against corruption. Then only corruption can be eradicated.

“A lot of tools are available to check practices of corruption RTI- Right to information is good example of such kind of tools”, Shri Gadkari said.

“Building of individual is not a natural process. But through education we are being built.” We have to reform our education system. Corruption is the by-product of rotten system, a problem for the society and to clean the system, a strong political will is required. “Had Prime Minister Manmohan Singh listened to the objections raised by Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Sushma Swaraj before the appointment of PJ Thomas, the Government could have saved itself from the embarrassment”, said Shri Nitin Gadkari.

The BJP leader was invited by the Campus Law Centre Students Union to speak in the seminar and to inaugurate its annual festival.

Among others present on the dais were BJP Lok Sabha Member Shri J.S Bundela and Executive member of BJP legal cell Advocate Shri Shailendra Pratap Singh. ■

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## Vasundhra Raje elected Leader of Opposition in Rajasthan assembly



BJP National General Secretary and former Chief Minister of Rajasthan Smt. Vasundhra Raje was elected unopposed as the Leader of the BJP Legislature Party and Leader of the Opposition on February 27. Smt. Raje’s name was proposed by Shri Nand Lal Meena MLA and approved by the rest of the legislators at a meeting of BJP State Legislature Party in Jaipur. (FOC)■

## Hema Malini elected to Rajya Sabha

BJP National Vice President and Veteran Bollywood actor Smt. Hema Malini was on March 3 elected to the Rajya Sabha from Karnataka.

She defeated noted Kannada writer K. Marulasiddappa who contested as an independent with the support of the opposition Congress and the Janata Dal-Secular (JD-S). The actor won by 106 votes to 94.

The ruling BJP has 106 members, including speaker, in the assembly while Congress-JD-S together have 97.

The poll was held to fill the vacancy created following the death of M. Rajashekara Murthy of the JD-S last December. Smt. Hema Malini would be a member till April, 2012, when Murthy’s term would have expired. She was a nominated member of the Rajya Sabha 2003-09. (FOC)■



## Makhan Singh is new National Co-Convenor of Antyodaya Programme

BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari, has assigned the responsibility of National Co-Convenor of Antyodaya programme to Shri Makhan Singh who will also be a Member of the National Team responsible for training. Till now, Shri Makhan Singh was General Secretary (Organization) in Madhya Pradesh BJP.



Shri Bhagwat Sharan Mathur has been entrusted the responsibility of being the Organizer of the National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe and Cooperative Cell of the party. Till now, Shri Mathur was Joint General Secretary (Organization) in Madhya Pradesh BJP. Shri Arvind Menon will assume the responsibility of General Secretary (Organization) in Madhya Pradesh BJP. Till now, Shri Menon was Assistant General Secretary (Organization) in the Madhya Pradesh BJP unit. (FOC)■



## BJP criticises callous attitude of Union Govt. towards brutal killing of Indian fisherman

From Our Correspondent



A Delegation of Bharatiya Janata Party, led by Hon'ble National President Shri. Nitin Gadkari met on March 4, 2011 the Chairperson of Human Right Commission Justice Sh. K G Balakrishnan and submitted a complaint about violation of human Rights of our Innocent fishermen from southern part of our Country. Sh. P.Muralidhar Rao, National Secretary and Incharge of Tamil Nadu & Fishermen Cell, Sh. Pon.Radhakrishnan, State President, Tamilnadu, Sh.Avinash Rai Khanna, MP(Rajya Sabha), Sh. Sudhir Aggarwal, National Convener of Human Rights Cell and Adv. Aman Sinha were also part of delegation.

The delegation raised the issue barbaric killings innocent Tamil fishermen by Sri-Lankan Navy Sri-Lankan Navy. The delegation discussed several instances of gross human rights violations of the Tamil fishermen by Lankan Navy. In the Complaint BJP criticized the behavior of Indian Government and mentioned that these are the atrocities committed on our fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy and the Indian Government

has a callous attitude toward the sufferings of these downtrodden and hapless people. The complainant had visited these areas and met their families and learnt the plight of these downtrodden families who need help and support. After experiencing their pain and plight the complainant in public interest and out of his individual anguish would like to draw the attention of the supreme body for protecting of human rights and lives of the innocent Tamil fishermen.

The Complainant categorically stated that genesis of this problem started when the Indian Govt. led by then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi ji ceded Katchatheevu Island to Sri Lanka without taking into account the ground realities and without consulting the Tamil Nadu Government and Parliament. It was a historic blunder.

In its complaint, BJP demanded that the Union and State Govt. should ensure to stop the brutal killings & torture of Tamil fishermen and appealed the Hon'ble Commission to conduct an inquiry/ investigation in the matter of recent killings of Pandiyan and Jaykumar

.BJP stressed upon awarding suitable compensation to the families of Tamil fishermen reportedly killed and requested the Union/State Govt. to provide adequate security to Tamil fishermen who venture into high seas for securing their livelihood. BJP also demanded the State Govt. should provide fishermen with alternative sources of livelihood in case they are not able to provide proper safety and security to the fishermen to earn their livelihood.

The Delegation appealed the Hon'ble Commission to enquire from the state govt. as to why no charge sheet have been filed or no person has been prosecuted in several of these and report the present status of these cases. The Hon'ble Commission may also direct the Union Govt. to ensure that Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Working Group (JWG) on Fishing which was non-functional to be reactivated. The delegation asked the Hon'ble Commission to pass any such order as it deems fit in interest of Justice and to protect the human rights of Indian Citizen. ■

## General Budget 2011-12 lacks vision, direction and sensitivity : BJP

The Union Budget, presented by the Union Finance Minister in the Lok Sabha on February 28 is a document without a vision. There is no big idea, which has guided and motivated the Budget presentation exercise. It is an unimaginative budget, which has little nexus to the issues confronting the Indian economy. The Finance Minister has merely utilized the expanding base of the Indian economy to marginally increase the allocations for different departments/schemes.

Inflation is one of the most serious issues confronting the Indian economy. Food price inflation has adversely affected the common man. Except for a routine monetary exercise of increasing the interest rates and curbing the money supply, the government has no idea as to how to deal with the issues.

This budget gives no impetus to job creation. It is a heartless Budget in as much as it increases healthcare cost in India. Public health care is overcrowded and inadequate. It is essentially meant for those who are unable to afford private healthcare. To make private healthcare costlier by inclusion in the service tax is a cause for serious objection. To the middle classes, salaried employees and others this Budget offers no cheers.

This Budget was expected to address the evil of Black money, which has corrupted even India's polity. Unfortunately, nothing has been done in that direction. Sucking black money out of the system would also reduce the additional liquidity for this colour of money from the market. Sectors, which are responsible for generating excessive black money had to be looked into and remedial measures found. The finance minister has ignored the extent of the problem that is eating into the very vitals of the Indian economy.



### Comments on Union Budget 2011-12

#### *Union Budget is directionless : Gadkari*

The BJP President Shri Nitin Gadkari has voiced his disappointment over the directionless union budget which has failed to provide any relief to the common man reeling under severe inflation and sky-rocketing prices of all essential commodities.

Devoid of any concrete and effective policy guidelines to generate employment, the finance minister has left it to the RBI to curb inflation and bail out the country from the mess created by the UPA government's bad governance & wrong economic policies.

The budget is silent on the rampant corruption and menace of black money. The personal income tax relief is cosmetic and has ignored the plight of working women. The budget is unrealistic for trade and industry and is insensitive to the farmers and unemployed youth as well as the under developed states



*Press statement by BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari on Union Budget 2011-12 on 28 February 2011*

## Budget insufficient to meet the challenges and demands of the Indian economy : Rajnath Singh



Calling the Union Budget -2011 proposals inadequate former BJP President Shri Rajnath Singh said, "The proposals made by the Finance Minister are insufficient to meet the challenges and demands of the Indian economy which needs more

emphasis and budgetary allocations in key segments like agriculture."

Highlighting the need for cheaper loans to farmers he said "Although the FM has increased the interest subvention to farmers from existing 2 percent to 3 percent which brings down the effective interest rate to 4 percent but the Budget has made this applicable only on crop loans. It has been our long standing demand to give loans to farmers at 4 percent interest rate. The Farmers Commission headed by Dr. MS Swaminathan has also recommended for it, therefore this provision should not be implemented in a patchy manner. He should have included other agriculture related activities like purchase of implements and other goods under

this interest subvention provision. Also he should have extended this benefit to larger number of farmers rather than focusing only on those farmers who are easily getting institutional credit. "

Shri Singh further said, "When agriculture in India is in dire straits the Government should have come up with a generous budgetary support and allocation to address the issues adversely affecting the sector. Unfortunately the Budget 2011 has not delivered on this front even after recognizing the problems faced by the sector."

Welcoming the Budget proposal to provide for direct cash transfer to beneficiaries of subsidies Shri Singh said, "This move will strengthen the delivery mechanism and reduce slippages in social welfare schemes. The Government should ensure that a bank account is opened in the name of each and every farmer of the country in which all subsidy transfers should be made including the subsidies given to them for consumption of power."

Shri Singh further said, "The Government could have helped the *aam aadmi* if it had increased the tax exemption limit to Rs 2,40,000. But the Government has increased the exemption limit only to Rs1, 80,000 which is nothing but a token relief to the tax-payers of the country. In an inflationary environment where double digit inflation is putting tremendous pressure on *aam aadmi* this token relief is nothing but a cruel joke." ■



### Dr. Raman Singh, CM Chhattisgarh

The Union Budget, is a document without a vision. The Finance Minister has merely utilised the expanding base of the Indian economy to marginally increase allocations for different departments/schemes.



### B S Yeddyurappa, CM Karnataka

Agriculture ministry plan budget has gone down by 3 per cent compared to revised estimates of 2010-11. There is no increase for food subsidy as compared to last year and it is not clear as to how the food entitlement initiative will be funded.



### Sushil K Modi, Deputy CM Bihar

Bihar, one of the poorest states in India, has been neglected yet again by the Finance Minister. He has also done nothing on the Food Security Bill, essential for the poor. The income tax rebates will benefit only those with income above Rs 3 lakh.



## Under Congress rule all the four pillars of democracy are under clouds : Sushma Swaraj

*Synopsis of the speech made by Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj on February 24, 2011 on the announcement of formation of JPC by the government.*

This House is not going to constitute the JPC for the first time. There are four instances when JPC was constituted. Whenever big scandals of corruption came to the fore, the then opposition party demanded for JPC and the then Government accepted the demand of JPC. But, I was surprised when the demand for constitution of JPC was raised this time, the Leader of the House termed our demand as illogical and advised us to join Maoists. Maoists do not have any faith in democracy and constitution and they want to change the system through armed struggle. Whether our demand for JPC is a violent one. Whether the behaviour of the Congress was Maoists when it was in opposition and stalled the proceedings of the House for several days.

At that time, the House had to be adjourned for a number of days at a stretch resulting in the loss of nearly 77 hours of business. When we were in Government and I was the Minister of Health and Family Welfare, at that time, I made a statement on Pesticides in Pepsi cola in the House. After that Statement, hon. Members demanded for constitution of a JPC in this regard.

We had constituted JPC immediately and appointed its Chairman from Opposition parties. To accept the demand of Opposition is not weakness of the Government, it demonstrates its maturity. If the demand is accepted immediately, it does not only demonstrate maturity but also magnanimity. The Opposition has demanded for constitution of JPC because a number of cases of corruption were exposed. And this time, three cases of corruption have been exposed. In these

cases, the opposition had not leveled any charges. These cases were unearthed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The figure of loss of Rs. 1.76 lakh crore in 2G spectrum allocation has not been given by us. This figure emerged out of four formula of the Comptroller and Auditor General. The CWG scam has been exposed in the

interim report of the C&AG. Adarsh Society scam is also exposed in the report of Accountant General of Maharashtra. ISRO-Devas scam has also been exposed by the C&AG. But the present Telecom Minister reacts on the C&AG Report claiming that there was Zero loss in the allocation of 2G spectrum. If there was Zero loss as to why former Telecom Minister is behind

bars? The present Telecom Minister has undermined the institution of C&AG by saying so. This JPC is being constituted in extra-ordinary circumstances.

The Prime Minister recently raised the issue of judicial activism. He said that the power of judicial review must be used to enforce accountability. It must never be used to erode the legitimate role assigned to the other branches of Government. But, whether this Government has allowed the constitutional institution to function. The Supreme Court has recently made three comments. The Court has demanded an affidavit from the Prime Minister and asked the CBI to show the charge sheet before filing it in the court of law. This has happened because the Parliament is undermined and instead of constituting JPC, the Government has started investigation by the CBI under the monitoring of the Supreme Court. The Government





has offered to attach investigating agency with the PAC and to widen its scope of examination but has not accepted the demand for constitution of JPC. Even today, the demand for constitution of JPC was not accepted for establishing supremacy of Parliament but for smooth running of the House.

The Court has made its another adverse comment about the appointment of CVC. In this case, the Government has undermined the Institution of the Leader of Opposition. I had simply advised to select anyone of the remaining two officers from the panel. Had the Government heeded this advice, it would not have to hear adverse comments in respect of CVC.

The Court has made its third adverse comment about black money wherein the Court said that it was not merely a case of tax evasion but a loot of the national wealth. In this case, the Government has undermined its responsibilities.

Therefore, it is a matter of introspection for the Government to see as to who is undermining the

constitutional institutions? There will never be judicial activism if the Government allows the constitutional institutions to function. The judiciary shows its activism when aggrieved persons do not get justice from the Government and go to the court. For this, the Government and we are to be blamed because we fail to discharge our responsibilities and leave it to the judiciary.

Today, all the four pillars of democracy – legislature, executive, judiciary and press are crumbling. All the four pillars are under clouds. The crisis of mistrust is deepening. Radia tapes have exposed the hollowness of this system. The industrialists are interfering in our polity and are deciding as to who should become a Minister, which portfolio should be given to whom, what should be printed on which column and which news should be printed on first page and the last page. Therefore, the third point of the terms of reference of the JPC should be widened. The question is not only of procedure of telecom.

## Rajya Sabha

### BJP will not allow the Telecom sector to be tainted : Arun Jaitley

*Synopsis of the speech made by Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley on March 01, 2011 on the resolution relating to JPC by the government.*

**I**rise to support the resolution. The opening out of the telecom sector for a public private partnership was a welcome step. The opening out has hugely expanded the availability of telecommunication facilities. It has introduced competition and removed inefficiencies. Services are now available at an affordable price. Unquestionably the telecom industry's revolution has been a success story.



The initial policy framed in 1993-94 had two essential limitations. It provided for payment of large quantum of license fee and made a provision for a duopoly that is two service providers in every circle. The inevitable consequences of these erroneous policy decisions led to the transfer of

burden on the consumers, extremely slow rollout of the services, excessive litigation and a limited competition. This was as an initial error of judgment of the then policy framers.

The NDA government was confronted with this problem of costly service, a slow rollout, limited competition and excessive limitation. In 1999, it issued the first corrective step by migrating from license fee regime to revenue sharing model. In the long term, this proved to be a hugely successful decision. It would eventually enable realization of larger revenue as also make the service economical to the consumers. The large revenue that this decision generated became instrumental in the success of the public private partnership in

telecommunications. Simultaneously, a concession was obtained from all service providers that the duopoly would be replaced multiple players.

The second major decision taken by the NDA government was to provide for a limited mobility to the fixed line service providers. This enabled multiple technologies to enter the telephony segment. The third major decision taken by the government was to provide a unified license mechanism by which irrespective of the technology used the service providers would have to pay a fixed amount as entry fee. This entry fee was fixed at the price determined by the market mechanism/bidding in 2001. It was these three decisions, which were instrumental in the growth of the telecom sector in the last one decade.

When the Hon'ble Prime Minister speaks about the expansion of tele-density under the UPA government, he must realize that the full truth is that but for these three decisions the same could not have been achieved.

Telecom thus became a big success story. However, despite the advantages of an expanding tele-density, efficient service, induction of investment, job creation and cheap telephony there were aberrations also visible in this sector. The advent of private players in this sector started influencing the formulation of policy. Policy formulation had a mechanism through the regulator TRAI with regard to consultation with the private players. But consultation was now replaced with lobbying- lobbying in relation to policy, lobbying in relation to personnel and policy makers and lobbying in relation to implementation of policy. It is these aberrations, which the Joint Parliamentary Committee has to seriously look into.

The JPC must look into the direction and evolution of the telecom policy in India. It is needless to say that it must look into any deviation from the decisions of the government. It must examine any possible collusion between the policy makers and the beneficiaries. If such collusion is influenced by any extraneous consideration, the same must be accounted for. Regrettably, middle men, lobbyists and corporate have tried to influence ministerial appointments and appointments of policy makers. They have tried to influence the formulation of the policy. In the telecom sector, this relationship has become too close for comfort.

Sir, while the JPC must exercise the Parliamentary control, and look into the above

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factors, it would be failing in its duty if it divides itself into partisan lines. The telecom sector in India was a success story of the post-liberalization era. Some people tried to subvert this success into a scandal. We, as a responsible parliamentary institution, must not allow this to degenerate into UPA v/s NDA battle. It is my regret that in order to dilute the taint brought upon by the developments of 2007-08 relating licenses and spectrum allocation, some people tried to bring a moral equivalence to what happened in 2003. 2001 witnessed price-determination of spectrum pricing through a market mechanism. No operator showed interest in areas such as West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar, Orissa and Bihar. J&K was not offered due to security reasons. In February, 2003 again a tender process was resorted to, but most of these areas, including Uttar Pradesh did not elicit any response. The market was then entirely different from the expanded market of 2007-08. Licenses were awarded in 2003-04 for the under-serviced areas. No one had made any allegation of personal or ethical impropriety. What happened in 2007-08 was entirely different. In a booming market, the date is advanced from October 1, 2007 to September 25, 2007. The impact of this was that the numbers of applicants were reduced from 575 to 232. The basis of the first come first serve was changed from the date of application to the date of compliance of the LOI condition. Bank drafts were deposited within minutes by those who had prior intimation of the policy. On September 22, 2007, the Finance Secretary had objected and yet on January 10, 2008 the licenses were awarded. On January 15, 2008 the Finance Minister put up a note to the Prime Minister objecting to the manner. The assertion in this House that the TRAI directions were complied with seems erroneous. The TRAI, in its recommendations of August 28, 2007 had clearly said "In today's dynamism and unprecedented growth of the sector, the entry fee determined then, i.e. 2001, is not the realistic price for obtaining a licence. Perhaps, it needs to be re-assessed through a market mechanism".

The government's assertion on tele-density and not revenue realization does not hold good in 2008. Tele density could be achieved while still seeking competitive price for the license in spectrum. Had this approach been followed, it would have added to the government's revenue and would not have enriched private pockets.

Those who came in through the subversion of the governmental policy could not be allowed a subsidy of this kind.

When the issuance of licenses along with spectrum, at a discounted price, was over in January 2008 how can it be said that the Finance Minister and the Telecom minister, who were at odds, finally reconciled seven months later on July 4, 2008?

Sir, the telecom sector is a grim reminder of how a success story can be hijacked for private gains. The institution of lobbyists has surfaced in India, in a structured manner in the telecom sector. The US, where there is far greater transparency, this institution is highly regulated. Our society lacks

that kind of transparency. We have still not reached that stage of maturity, where there is purity in electoral funding. The dividing lines between lobbying, advocacy, political fund collection and bribery are getting obliterated. This JPC should be an occasion to introspect on this issue to decide whether the institution of lobbyists ought not to be permitted in India at all.

Industry leaders, media persons, politicians and ministers must be made to realize where they erred. The success of the telecom sector cannot be allowed to be tainted because of the role of certain individuals. India should not pay for the misdeeds of some. ■

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## BJP leaders condole the demise of Arjun Singh

*With his demise Indian politics has lost a veteran : Advani*

Expressing condolence on the demise of Congress leader and former Union Minister on March 4 Shri Arjun Singh BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri L.K. Advani said,

"I am extremely sad to hear about the passing away of Shri Arjun Singh." He added "With his demise Indian politics has lost a veteran who had competently discharged numerous responsibilities in public life, and served his State, Madhya Pradesh and the country." "I convey my heartfelt condolences to his family", Shri Advani said.

*His political career has been eventful and momentous : Gadkari*

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari expresses deep sorrow on demise of the leader.

He said "I am extremely saddened to hear the news of the demise of veteran Congress leader Shri Arjun Singh. His political career spanning over five decades has been eventful and momentous. He added, "He served the State and the people of Madhya Pradesh, the national government and the Congress Party in various capacities. His sharp political acumen and a strong feel of the political pulse left an indelible mark on the political landscape of our country."

*His death has left a big void in Indian politics: Rajnath*

Former BJP national President Shri Rajnath Singh said on the demise of Arjun Singh "Arjun Singh commitment to his cause and development was remarkable."

He added, "His death has left a big void in Indian politics. I extend my heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family."

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## Former Congress MLC joins BJP

Former Bihar MLC and Congress leader Ram Kumar Singh joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at a simple function held at the party state office in Patna on March 3. BJP State President Dr. C. P. Thakur inducted Singh into the party in the presence of other party members. A member of the Bihar Legislative Council from Tirhut since 1984 until 2002, Shri Singh told the reporters that he was disappointed by the direction Congress had taken in the last few years. "The last Assembly election in Bihar was the last straw for me that compelled me to rethink my party affiliation with Congress," Shri Singh said. ■



*Motion of Thanks on the President's Address*

## Trend of family intervention in politics destroying fabric of democracy : Arun Jaitley

**I** rise to oppose the Motion which the hon. Member from the Ruling Benches, Shri Janardan Dwivedi, has moved. I am deeply disappointed with the Address prepared by this Government and delivered by the Rashtrapatiji. I have serious doubts about the propriety as also the integrity of this Government. There seems to be a trust deficit between the party in power and the government in power. Why the head of the Government has remained silent for three years when this was happening right under his nose? All you have to do is to distance yourself from the appointment of the gentleman as the Minister. You distance yourself from the policy formulation. You distance yourself from the implementation of that policy and all the unfortunate things that took place along with it and then ultimately say that he was not such a big culprit.

This was a complete abandonment of not only the principle of collective leadership, it was also an abandonment of collective responsibility, it was an abandonment of leadership itself where the Prime Minister tries to distance himself from the rot that has set in the Government itself. He is leading one of the most dishonest Governments in the history. Food inflation is skyrocketing, inflation is skyrocketing and all we have is just some subtle statements from the Government that by another six months or another five years, the inflation figures will moderate themselves. Your inflation figures for the last three years- I am talking of the Wholesale Price Index - hovers around the double figures. At times, it

marginally comes down. The Consumer Price Index is even higher. Your food price index is as high as 17 to 18 per cent at times.

Post-liberalization India has success stories. The areas like telecom and highways have great success. But we find that we have outsourced it in those hands where integrity quotient was lacking. These are two sectors which have precisely got discredited the most, notwithstanding their success. The inflation affects the common man,



*Synopsis of the speech made by Shri Arun Jaitley, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha on February 22, 2011 on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.*

you can't control it, and you are speaking of this 'Great India' story! Year after Year, we told the rest of the World that come and invest in India. Investment, if we make India into an attractive destination, has its own advantages. It will generate economic activity and jobs. You will have more money for infrastructure creation. But if India ceases to be an attractive destination, in that event, your ability to attract the world would fail. You should seriously introspect on it. For expanding our international trade, you need wide quality ports. Our infrastructure creation is not at the pace at which it ought to be. Our inflation is disproportionately high. We all welcome social sector spending. Our corruption index is very high. All of us would be of one view in protecting our environment. Every time, when the inflation is high, we keep hiking our interest rates as the only possible solution to such an extent that doing business in India will become non-competitive if we don't moderate

them at some stage.

All the opposition ruled states have to suffer from partisan attitude of the centre. Your attitude is not to participate in any developmental activity because you have a political problem with the



State. If people don't invest dollars, then others wouldn't invest rupees also. Investors always have an option. If you want to implement the Programmes of this Government or to generate economic activity, then you have to create an environment for it. The environment can't be partisan. Corruption is something which adds to the cost and is a great disincentive to investment. People will start losing confidence.

Everywhere the Facebook or the Twitter have become the most important instruments of opinion-making. The telecom portfolio is reserved only for one political party. Then corporates, middle persons, lobbyists, all plan their strategies accordingly. You give it to some people on a first-come-first serve policy at a fraction of the market cost. The Prime Minister cautioned the Telecom Minister but he did not listened to the caution. Subsidies should be merit-based.

There is an environment of festivity when sports events are held. Never have the games been held under a shadow of so much pessimism and cynicism. The kind of people in whose hands the games were entrusted to created an entirely negative environment around the organization of the games. Even four months after the games are over, we are still at odds as to what do we do with these infrastructure which are created. There are several areas of corruption. For the last one year, the CBI has been investigating into those matters. The CBI is not even allowed to interrogate that officer for months together, because the moment these people are interrogated, you reach its logical conclusion. The statement which the Prime Minister made entirely dealt with what happened after 2010, when a proposal was made to annul the contract. The correct issue is how this contract was awarded in the first instance. Our space organization has been one of the most respectable organizations in this country.

What was happening when this entire contract was awarded? This Department is directly under the Prime Minister's Office. We have a spectrum of a very high quality. 90 per cent of this satellite capacity, transponders and spectrum equivalent is to be used by a private party. Who is this private party? I would urge the Prime Minister not to close the issue with merely saying that we have decided to annul the deal. If 2G licenses are today cancelled, the criminality won't be wiped out. The Cabinet has approved this Agreement in December, 2005. These things have to come out in public

domain, and adequate answer has to be given.

The lack of a pro-active Government in detecting black money and assets held by Indians abroad has been a disturbing issue. The people, who hold money outside, whether it is crime money or money from tax evasion, they have to be prosecuted. The President' Address refers to the money, where some assessments have been made. This has nothing to do with monies lying in Swiss Banks.

The issue of Jammu and Kashmir has been a matter of very serious concern, which impinges on India's sovereignty. If you look at the last 64 years of history, the entire effort has been to weaken the political and constitutional relationship between the State and the rest of the country. Please introspect and see whether it is towards fuller integration or towards separation? The reports of two working groups headed by Dr. Rangrajan are overlapped. That would not resolve the issue. If jobs are created and people can be helped, it will be always welcome. Our suggestion to government is that to go ahead if the steps which help the people of the state remove inter-regional imbalances in the State but please do not take any step which goes in the direction of weakening this political and constitutional relationship.

The Maoist problem is a battle where India needs to be together. We need a pro-active Central Government as far as this issue is concerned. The approach of the Government that 'law and order is the state subject' is not going to overcome this battle.

Our party strongly supports the demand of Telangana State and we would urge the Government to immediately complete the consultation process and move in that direction. There is one area of deep concern to us as to what is the state of the various institutions which are required to function independently in a democracy. This government has been misusing the CBI. We have cautioned the Government not to make partisan appointments to the institutions like Election Commission. The CVC has been tainted in corruption. These are all institutions about which we have to be very careful. The people of this country want integrity in public life. They want inner party democracy. We need structured political parties. The trend of family dynasty in political democracy is destroying the fabric of democracy. There should not be any parallel power interests in the Government. The Prime Minister is the constitutional head of the Government. The power has to be vested in him, but it seems that kind of unstinting support is lacking. ■

## 'Rashtra Dharma' is more important than 'Coalition Dharma' : Rajnath Singh

*Synopsis of the speech made by former BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh, on February 22, 2011 on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.*

During President's Address, some Members raised the issue of Telangana State. So long as the question of Telangana State is concerned, our party and almost all the constituents of the NDA have been in favour of a separate Telangana State right from the beginning. A commission was constituted to explore the possibilities of creating a separate Telangana State. The said commission has submitted its report. But no member of this House knows as to what action the Government has taken on that report. It has never happened in the history of Parliament that an entire session ended without transacting any business and this happened in the last Winter Session. The Opposition had put up a small demand for constituting a Joint Parliamentary Committee on the issue of 2G Spectrum Scam. It is a common knowledge that ruling party owns big responsibility for smooth functioning of Parliament. And our demand was quite justifiable. Today, the hon. Prime Minister has announced for setting up a Joint Parliamentary Committee. I want to thank him for this.

Though it has been mentioned in the President's Address that a slew of legal framework would be put in place to tackle corruption in the country, the people of this country want some concrete action on the part of the Government on this count. The Comptroller and Auditor General is a constitutional authority. I am grateful to it that it has revealed a scam in the allocation of 2G Spectrum. So many cases of corruption have come to the fore but it seems that the Government is reluctant to take any strict action in these cases. I want to put a question mark on the intention of the Government to tackle corruption in the country. The Hon. Prime Minister had recently said that the coalition Government has its certain limitations. I want to know

from the hon. Prime Minister about these limitations when he gives a reply to Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I also want to know that whether we would like to keep corruption going on the pretext of limitations. We need to ponder over this. If there is a government, it should function the way a government functions. The country wants good governance through its government. Hon. President has made a mention of the black-money in her Address.

According to a report of the Global Financial Integrity, approximately 640 billion dollars of Indian money is stashed away in foreign banks as black money. The Government should have taken some concrete steps to bring back this black-money, but the



Government has not taken any effective steps in this direction. India signed the UN Convention against Corruption in the year 2005, but the Government has not taken any step to get it ratified by the Parliament. The Government content that it is bound by the international treaties.

If America, Germany, Britain and European countries are able to bring back their black-money despite having international treaties, it is beyond comprehension as to why the Government of India cannot do so. I demand from the Government to bring a White Paper on black-money. This Government has failed miserably on economic front. Inflation has been rising since this UPA Government came to power. Inflation is still above eight per cent. The NDA governed this country for six years. We succeeded in keeping the inflation between 3-6 per cent growth rate cannot be co-related with inflation. This Government attributes the reasons being global economic recession and GDP growth rate for price rise, but its main reasons are

wrong economic policies and wrong economic planning of this Government and corruption. The other reason is compulsions of coalition Government as the Hon. Prime Minister has stated recently. Compromises should not be made to run coalition Governments. 'Rashtra Dharma' is more important than 'Coalition Dharma'. The Government should observe 'Rashtra Dharma'.

The agricultural sector is facing crisis and the condition of poor people and farmers have aggravated after this Government came into power. Minimum Support Prices of wheat and rice have been increased. But while doing so, the Government has not taken into account input cost of our farmers. As per NSSO report, income of an agrarian family was Rs. 2115 in 2003-04 and it increased to only Rs. 2440 in 2011. It means that most of the farmers in India are forced to live below poverty line. Therefore, special attention should be paid towards agricultural sector. Food grains are rotting in open in warehouses of the Food Corporation of India.

When the Supreme Court has directed that this wheat should be distributed among the poor people free of cost, this Government said that it could not distribute this wheat free of cost to the poor. This Government also claim to have undertaken developmental projects. The NDA Government had decided that the work of National Highway Development Projects would be completed the year 2005. But, even the first phase of this National Highway Development Project has not yet been completed. The contracts for projects could not be awarded in respect of which detailed project reports (DPR) had been prepared in 2006-07.

The main reason of this is ascribed to as land acquisition problems. If it is so, the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill should be brought forward. MNREGA is a good scheme in itself but its auditing should be undertaken by Chartered Accountants at district level. Only then its proper auditing and monitoring could be possible. The hon. Finance Minister has decided to introduce Goods and Services Tax regime from 1st April, 2011.

The Government should make efforts to build a consensus before its implementation. Threat to internal and external security of the country has deepened during the regime of this Congress led UPA Government. The Hon. Home Minister had emphatically said that stringent action would be taken against Naxalism and terrorism. But, a General-Secretary of his own party had charged him of intellectual arrogance and opposed his moves.

What is the policy and planning of the Government

to combat Naxalism? The problem of Naxalism cannot be dealt with stringent action only but along with it, socio-economic efforts should also be made.

There is no mention of militancy in North-Eastern region in the Hon. President's Address. Infiltration from Bangladesh is continuing unabated in Assam and other States of North-East. What effective steps are being taken by the Government to check this infiltration? Sovereignty and self-esteem of the country is being assaulted, some parts of Jammu-Kashmir are shown under occupation of China, but no action has been taken in this regard, whereas if some youth want to unfurl our National Flag at Lal Chowk in Kashmir on the occasion of Republic Day, they are arrested.

The Congress led UPA Government's Jammu-Kashmir policy is not only confused but also self-destructive. The time has come to review Article 370 of the Constitution. Whether it helped in solving the problems of poverty and unemployment in Jammu-Kashmir. If Article 370 helped in solving the problems of poverty and unemployment and strengthened the security of the State, then it should be allowed to continue. But, if it is not the case, it should be repealed. The Government had sent some Interlocutors to Jammu and Kashmir. Instead of giving live commentary, they should submit their report. Troops should not be withdrawn from Jammu-Kashmir and Armed Forces Special Powers Act should not be diluted. The Chief of the Army Staff had also opposed this move.

This Government should desist from vote bank politics as the country is passing through a crisis. The Bharatiya Janata Party and the NDA will fully support the Government on the questions of security, unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country. We have never linked any religion to terrorism. But, these people have coined new term of 'Hindu terrorism' and 'saffron terrorism' and efforts are being made to disrepute the nationalist organizations like Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh and it is being alleged that conspiracy of 26/11 terrorist attacks has also been hatched by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. All communities live in India and this characteristic of India is possible only because of Hindu ideology. Our Prime Minister had said until Pakistan stops anti-India activities being carried out from its soil we will not have any dialogue with Pakistan. I want to know as to what progress Pakistan had made in this regard. Pakistan is our neighboring country and we want to have good relations with them but good relations with Pakistan at what cost we should ponder over it. This Government has totally failed on diplomatic front. There is a need to this Government to show the diplomatic courage and the entire Opposition will stand by the Government. ■

## Railway Budget lacks vision : Venkaiah Naidu

*Synopsis of the speech made by Former BJP National President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu on March 03, 2011 on the Railway Budget 2011-12*

The present Budget is populist Budget without any fresh and pragmatic ideas. There is no focus on expansion and modernization. Many of the Chief Ministers are unhappy with the Budget because



the interests of their States are not taken care of. The mandate of the Railways is forgotten. The Railways has to focus their attention on the core issues rather than the commercial activities. An economically unviable organization cannot truly afford the social responsibility. The Indian Railways finances have gone from bad to worse last year. Many of the projects and trains announced in the earlier two Budgets have not seen the light of the day. Other States also do deserve the generous treatment. Power plant at Adra, West Bengal is yet to be started. The projects at Madhepura and Marhaura in Bihar are still in the bidding stage. What is the use of announcing new ones when there are no resources for the old ones?

The backlog of ongoing projects requires an investment of Rs.98,000 crores. How many proposals have been cleared by the Task

Force? What is the status of pilot projects? Setting up of five wagon manufacturing factories in

PPP mode was the promise but only one joint venture has been signed. Some stations are yet to be provided with modern trolley. It has been announced this year also that the ACDs will be commissioned in three zonal railways. This year, there is no mention of TPWS. Where is the Mahilla

Hon'ble Minister? Whether all the twelve companies have been deployed?

Many of the new railway projects announced last year have not taken off. The Planning Commission is taking negative attitude. Some of the announcements made in the Budget of 2010 are yet to be approved by the Planning Commission. For Nalgonda-Macherla section, last year Rs.50 crore were allocated for that but not even one rupee was spent. The objective you have outlined in your Vision Statement has not been reflected in the budget. What are the steps taken to take the railways at number two position? In the Vision 2020, a target of 25,000 km of new lines in the next ten years has been set which means

that 2,500 km per year. But the figure is nowhere near it. What is the progress made in the PPP Model so far? The planning Commission has brought down the private investment. The PPP model in Railways should be expedited.

The Railways have not made any headway in achieving the vision goals. Out of the target of 1000 km of last year, only 700 km have been completed so far. Financial constraints are there. The targets of gauge conversion, doubling, electrification, etc. have fallen short of targets. Whether a performance sheet will be published? How are you going to mop up additional resources to service the debt? You are depending mostly on gross budgetary support. During the Eleventh Plan, the Railways could not spend the projected outlay. The Budget skirted a number of issues vital for restoring the financial health of the organization. Operational costs have risen. Three important heads of accounts have been revised downward in the Revised Budget Estimates for 2010-2011. Even the dividend has been reduced. The Development Fund head has been revised downwards. The Hon'ble Railway Minister should explain this vital issue about the operating ratio. Where is the capacity expansion? The unserved areas should be taken care of. The market and the industry were not enthused by the budget. Safety has been given the go by. There is no money for the Railway Safety Fund. The railway infrastructure was



strengthened during NDA regime. Most railway accidents occur due to old state of bridges. Substantial work needs to be done on safety. What happened to the implementation of the Khanna Commission recommendations?

The Railways has shown callous attitude towards track renewal. This year the amount is only Rs.330 crores. The target of doubling and gauge conversion in 2011-12 are all unrealistic. The dedicated freight corridors have been pushed to 2016. Our stations are overcrowded; food is substandard; hygienic standards are not satisfactory. What happened to green toilets? I will be happy if the Hon'ble Minister can make all stations in the country as Adarsh Railway Stations. Now I come to world-class stations. The Minister has claimed that because of their high costs are searching for alternatives. Now you say that feasibility is not there. Network capacity expansion is the biggest challenge railway is facing. Market share of rail transport has reduced drastically. It is a challenge. Nothing has been done to regain the share.

I would only urge upon the hon. Minister to please concentrate on cleaning the stations and toilet, provide safe drinking water, provide safety and security. A train was kidnapped. It is something very surprising. The White Paper and Vision 2020 are the two documents for the guidance of the Railways for the future and try to act upon these two documents. Let us not spoil the health of the Indian Railways for the sake of short-term political gains. Everybody will have compulsions of politics. As I told you, it is not a general speech or a political speech. I only hope that the Minister and her officers will be able to act upon them. ■

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## Railway Budget devoid of any vision or roadmap for the Indian Railways : BJP

The Railway Budget presented by the Railway Minister is symptomatic of the dismal state of this government. Its larger approach is to do nothing. It has run out of ideas. The Railway finances and performance are in a mess. No significant steps have been taken to strengthen the tracks and improve the security apparatus of the Indian Railways. These steps taken by the Union Railway Ministry during the NDA government, had helped the turnaround story of the Railways. It could strengthen the tracks, load higher freights and longer trains. The cash surplus of the Indian Railways, which was Rs. 25,000 crores in 2007-08 is just Rs. 1,328 crores. The Railway is depending upon extensive



BJP Statement issued on the Railway Budget 2011-12

borrowing. The turnaround story of the Indian Railways is over. Its annual plan is proposed to be financed through gross budgetary support of Rs. 20,000 crores, diesel cess of Rs. 1,041 crores, market borrowings of Rs. 20,594 crores through IRFCs, and

tax free bonds of Rs. 10,000 crores.

In her previous two budgets, the Railway Minister had concentrated on several non-core activities such as construction of hotels, hospitals, medical colleges, malls, sports stadium and even proposed to take over a newspaper in the West Bengal. She had proposed to start several trains. Most of these projects proved to be non-starters. Most of the proposed trains are yet to see the light of the day. The BJP demands that a performance budget should be presented by the government to inform the nation as to what its performance level has been in relation to the promises made by it.

The Railway Minister is understandably concerned about the projects in her home state, including at Singur and Nandigram. We expect her to clarify as to where the land for these projects would be made available for.

There appears to be a jugglery of accounts, in order to ensure that a profit is projected in the Railways. One such jugglery, on a preliminary reading, is reflected on Page 24 of the 'Explanatory Memorandum on the Railway Budget' (2011-12) wherein the amount of appropriation to the depreciation reserves fund has been consciously reduced from Rs. 7,600 crores to Rs. 5,700 crores, which does not appear to have any basis. Since the rolling stocks (assets), which are getting older, and need faster replacement to meet its growing business requirement, will ordinarily require higher depreciation. This budget is for status quo, devoid of any vision or roadmap for the Indian Railways. ■

## Gadkari calls for strengthening of Lok Ayukta

From Our Correspondent

**B**JP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari proposed an ambitious Common Minimum Programme, for the chief ministers of BJP-ruled states. It aims at providing a result-oriented and corruption-free administration.

"We are in the process of drafting a plan to provide better administration, tackle corruption and strengthen the institution of the Lok Ayukta. Chief ministers of BJP-ruled states have already initiated measures for the purpose, but we will further intensify our action plan," Shri Gadkari said in Mumbai on March 1.

BJP National President Shri Gadkari has proposed that a new law should be enacted for setting up special courts to try cases registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act within a time frame.

He said that once a chargesheet is filed against an accused under the Prevention of Corruption Act, the state government should have powers to confiscate the assets of the official.

He also highlighted corruption in the issuance of tenders. "In the recent scams that have rocked the country, it was found that the tendering process was fraudulently misused for the benefit of leading industrial houses. E-tenders will bring in more transparency," said Shri Gadkari.

Further, Shri Gadkari called for the strengthening of the Lok

Ayukta. "Persons in these posts should have powers to probe any politician or bureaucrat. He should be assisted by an official of the rank of additional director-general of police. The investigator should have the power to conduct an independent probe," he said.

Shri Gadkari also felt that cabinet ministers and legislators



should submit an annual statement of their assets and liabilities. ■

## Najma Heptulla's book 'Impressions' released

From Our Correspondent

**B**JP Vice President and former member of Rajya Sabha Smt. Najma Heptulla's Poetry book 'IMPRESSIONS' was released on February 21 in New Delhi in presence of BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari & BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri L.K Advani. The book is a collection of poems composed by Smt. Najma Heptulla.



Each poem in the book is expression about the particular place visited by Smt. Najma Heptulla during last 30 years.

BJP leaders like Shri Shatrughan Sinha, and Smt. Vasudhara Raje and actor Aamir Khan graced the book launch. Also present on the occasion were Farooq Abdullah and Smt. Maneka

Gandhi.

Shri Nitin Gadkari said on the occasion, "She is not only a poet but also a photographer. I especially liked the photos of Kashmir flowers." Shri L K Advani also congratulated her and wished her the best saying. "A poem is like a painting, a piece of art in words. I especially like the Silence of Terror (one of the poems in the collection)." Quoting Kennedy, Shri Advani added, "When power corrupts, poetry cleanses," to loud applause from the audience. ■

## Ban future trading in essential commodities : Modi Committee

Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi headed Working Group on Consumer Affairs on March 02 recommended Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to ban future trading in essential commodities and set up a price establishment fund at the Centre.

The group set up by the recommended unbundling India's operations of distribution besides time-marketing infrastructure capacities in food deficit processing and others.

"The Modi Committee document which gives 20 detailed actionable points expeditious Report," an official release

The Working Group liberalization of agriculture markets for improving efficiency of distribution channels by increasing participation of the organised sector and cooperatives in retail, agro-processing and post-harvest infrastructure. It also suggested setting up of Special Courts under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) for speedy trials and raising the detention period to one year from six months for black marketing under the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supply of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. Recommendation has also been made to increase competition by promoting retailing by organised sector and cooperatives.

Further, it has suggested that the Government evolve a single 'National agriculture Market' by setting up ministerial coordination mechanism at national and regional levels for policy making. The report has further recommended that the Government enlarge the scope of priority sector lending to agri-marketing activities and speedy reform of APMC Act across the country. (FOC) ■



PM in April 2010 also of Food Corporation of procurement, storage and bound development of agri-including storage regions, cold chain, agro-

Report is a precise recommendations with 64 that will facilitate implementation of the said.

has also recommended

### BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari appointed the Convener and Co-convener & Prabhari of new Cells on March 03

|                          |             |                                        |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1. Governance Cell       | Co-Convener | Dr. Jagdish Mukhi, MLA                 |
| 2. RTI Cell              | Prabhari    | Shri Shanti Prasad Agarwal             |
|                          | Convener    | Shri Vivek Garg                        |
|                          | Co-convener | Shri Vivek Goel                        |
| 3. Intellectual Cell     | Prabhari    | Shri Balbir Punj, (MP)                 |
|                          | Convener    | Shri Vijay Kapoor (Retd. Lt. Governor) |
|                          | Co-convener | Shri Pradeep Rawat, Ex-MP, Pune        |
|                          | Co-Convener | Capt. Vijay                            |
|                          | Co-Convener | Shri Mukesh Mishra                     |
| 4. Friends of BJP        | Convener    | Shri Rajesh Jain (Mumbai)              |
| 5. Heavy Industry Cell   | Co-Convener | Shri Suresh Khandelwal                 |
| 6. Aajiwan Sahyog Nidhi  | Co-Convener | Shri Ajay Maru                         |
| 7. External Affairs Cell | Co-Convener | Shri Sheshadri Chari                   |
| 8. Human Rights Cell     | Co-Convener | Dr. Pradeep Poswal                     |
| 9. Investor Cell         | Co-Convener | Shri Chandra Shekhar                   |
| 10. Doctor's Cell        | Co-Convener | Shri Vinay Agarwal                     |

## **Congress not amending laws to retrieve black money : Gadkari**

**From Our Correspondent**

**B**haratiya Janata Party National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has alleged that the Congress party is not keen on amending laws to retrieve black money stashed abroad and the Congress and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) conspired to loot public money in the auction of 2G spectrums.

Addressing a huge public meeting in Puducherry on February 26, 2011 Shri Gadkari said small countries like the Philippines had amended their laws to bring back black money to the country and utilise it, while India had failed to initiate any action in this regard. If the entire black money was brought back and distributed, an individual would get at least Rs two lakh, he claimed. On black money stashed abroad, he said the Congress was not keen on amending laws to retrieve the money. Flaying the Centre and the DMK for the plight of fishermen in Tamil Nadu, he said those who are not able to protect the lives of fishermen cannot protect the country. He said if the BJP was voted to power in 2014, its first task would be to bring back the black money and utilise it for drinking water schemes, inter-linking of rivers and generating employment, among other things. He alleged that the Congress and the DMK have conspired to overlook public money in the auction of 2G spectrum and the parties were only interested in the welfare of their families. He said the Congress was coining slogans like aam aadmi but not addressing problems faced by the nation. "It is a family rule for the Congress and the DMK," he said, adding the DMK was a "private limited company." He said he was an ordinary worker with the BJP and became the president with his handwork and dedication for the party. ■



### **EC announces dates for 5 Assembly polls**

The Election Commission on March 01 announced elections for Assam, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry will have a single-phase polls on April 13 and announcement of results would be a month later on May 13.

There would be two phases in Assam with 62 Assembly constituencies going to poll on April 4 and the remaining 64 polling on April 11.

The longest poll schedule was announced for West Bengal, set to take almost a month and comprising six phases. Chief Election Commissioner said elections in West Bengal would begin on April 18 (64 constituencies) and be followed by the remaining 50 on April 23. April 27 would be the next date for 75 constituencies, while May 3 (63 constituencies) and May 10 (14 constituencies) would follow. Counting of votes would be on May 13. (FOC)■

### **Bengal BJP demands no state cops be deployed near booths**

Welcoming the Election Commission's decision to hold Assembly elections in West Bengal in six phases, the Bharatiya Janata Party State President Shri Rahul Sinha at a press conference demanded on March 03 that personnel of the State Police should not be deployed at polling booths on election days. He also demanded that personnel of the Railway Protection Force not be deployed for election duty in the State altogether though several hundred companies of Central police forces will be posted during the elections.

"Our demand is that in no way should State Police personnel be deployed in and around polling booths for the sake of free and fair elections. We also demand that RPF personnel should not be used at all in the elections since we had bitter experience about their behaviour in the past," he said. He added that the party will field candidates in all the 294 Assembly seats in case talks for the alliance fail. They are hoping to announce the first list of candidates with around 60 names by March 20. (FOC)■



## Kidnap drama was a well-scripted plan of BJD Govt. to suppress the scam: Santosh Gangwar

From Our Correspondent



**O**peration Greenhunt against the Maoists was stopped in the State through a secret pact between the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) and naxalites, said BJP leaders during the two-day State executive body meeting of the party inaugurated in Berhampur, Odisha on March 05.

BJP National Secretary and party Prabhari in Odisha Shri Santosh Gangwar, alleged that the kidnap of the Malkangiri Collector by Maoists was part of a well-scripted plan by the ruling BJD and the Maoists. "It was an effort to suppress the mid-day meal dal scam during the Assembly session," he added. He asked the BJD government that how the Collector had gone to the Maoist-infested area without security. Why had the Chief Minister asked the Centre for a unified command if he took the decision himself to enter into an agreement with Maoists unilaterally. He said the State Government has bowed down before the Red rebels.

Addressing the delegates BJP State president Shri Juel Oram said that the BJD and the Maoists were working hand in hand in the State. He reiterated his allegation that the BJD leaders had links with Maoists as relatives of Maoist leader Sabyasachi. He further wanted a high-level investigation to find out the truth behind the 'abduction drama' in Malkangiri district. He also demanded that Collector R.Vineel Krishna be interrogated by investigating officials regarding his attitude to his security due to which Maoists could get an upper hand in the State. Shri Juel Oram said that BJP would go it alone in the coming Panchayat elections. Moreover, the party would also field candidates in all the 147 Assembly and 21 Lok Sabha seats in the State, he said while speaking to the media after the conclusion of the party's two-day State executive meeting.

He said that raising voice against corruption would be the top issue for the party. The party would

go to the people seeking their mandate by exposing the major scams of both Central UPA and State BJD Governments. Both BJD and Congress are our enemies, he said and alleged that the Congress is supporting the Naveen Patnaik government secretly. Shri Oram said one scam after the other are surfacing in the State. Even in the irrigation department, which is headed by Naveen Patnaik himself, is embroiled in corruption to the tune of hundreds of crores of rupees, he alleged. He said the State Government has achieved nothing for the people during these last two years of its rule.

In the Two-day State executive meeting it was decided to step up opposition against the State government both in the Assembly and at grassroots level. Corruption and Maoist issue would be major issues to take to people. All the senior leaders of the party and around 200 delegates of the party were participated in the meeting. ■

## BJP Govt. in Karnataka tables first-of-its-kind Agriculture Budget

**A** first-of-its-kind Agriculture Budget was tabled in the Karnataka Assembly by Chief Minister Shri B S Yeddyurappa, who proposed to provide crop loans at a 1 per cent interest rate and earmarked Rs 1,857 crore for agriculture, allied and irrigation sector development.



He said the rate of interest on crop loans of up to Rs 3 lakh from cooperative institutions could be reduced from 3 per cent to 1 per cent. In addition, an amount of Rs 1,000 crore would be provided for development of 10 lakh farmer's families under the 'Suvarna Bhoomi Yojana' scheme, Rs 200 crore for organic farming and Rs 125 crore for promotion of bio-fuels, he said.

Highlighting the woes of the farming sector, he said the Agriculture Budget would address their concerns. The government has also earmarked a Rs 100 crore subsidy for drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation and a Rs 100 crore subsidy for agricultural purchases. The Budget also set aside Rs 40 crore for extending the 'Bhoo Chethana' (soil enrichment) programme to all 30 districts of the state. Shri Yeddyurappa said the government proposes to hold a Global Agro-Investment Meet

for the first time in India and also plans to formulate a Karnataka Agri Business Development Policy. The other Budget highlights include a Rs 40 crore provision for making available a modern mobile unit in each taluk to carry out extension work in agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry, beside a Rs 10 crore special grant for floriculture development.

Among the other initiatives proposed to be taken in 2011-12 were the establishment of an Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs 500 crore and an increase in the Agriculture Revolving Fund corpus to Rs 1,000 crore. The Chief Minister said Rs 3,900 crore will be provided to supply quality power to irrigation pumpsets and Rs 1,000 crore to rejuvenate tanks and fill water in dried tanks.

The Karnataka government has proposed to declare 2011-20 as the 'Irrigation Decade' and will mobilise Rs 50,000 crore for water resources development. Out of this, the BJP-ruled government has allocated Rs 7,800 crore for the irrigation sector in 2011-12. To facilitate the education of farmers' children, interest-free loans would be given for their higher education, Shri Yeddyurappa said. Special emphasis has also been laid in the Budget on updating land records and amendment of the Land Reforms Act, he said. The Budget also contains a provision of Rs 5 crore for construction of 50 fish markets, Rs 100 crore for construction of small harbours and Rs 100 crore for construction of warehouses.(FOC)■

### Sushil Modi Presents Bihar Budget 2011-12



Deputy Chief Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Modi presented the state's 2011-12 general budget with an outlay of Rs. 65,325 crore that is more than Rs. 12,000 crore from the last year's budget.

The budget also proposes an increase in the Value Added Tax (VAT) from its current rate of 4% to 5% to meet the financial requirements of the state. The new budget makes provision for eliminating taxes on rice and wheat but due to an increase in the VAT, prices of consumer items, tobacco products, and cosmetics are expected to go up. In an attempt to offer some relief to the student community, the budget allocates Rs. 129 crore for stipends and scholarships to the students

belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Shri Modi said. For the building of Panchayat building in the rural areas, the budget allocates Rs. 1,000 crore while for promoting organic farming in the state; a provision for Rs. 225 crore has been made. On energy, the state would spend Rs. 1,086 crore while on the development of roads and highways; an amount of Rs. 3,800 crore has been earmarked.(FOC)■

MAHARASHTRA

## CM & his predecessor involved in a 2G-like big scam: Kirit Somaiya

**B**JP National Secretary Shri Kirit Somaiya accused both current Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan and his predecessor Ashok Chavan of gifting away a staggering 2.35 crore sqft of land in various parts of Mumbai to a few select builders in a dubious and non-transparent manner.

Interacting with media persons in Mumbai he said



t h e  
Congress-led  
Government  
had given the  
final land  
allotment  
directive on  
November 11,  
2010 – “the  
day Ashok  
Chavan

continued as the care-taker Chief Minister till 5 pm, while Prithviraj Chavan took over the reins of the State after 5 pm”.

Shri Somaiya announced that BJP would move the Bombay High Court against the Congress Government in Maharashtra and its beneficiaries in the alleged scam. He charged that the DF Government had given away “2,35,00,000 sq ft land in Mumbai with the project value of more than Rs 50,000 crore and a profit of Rs 31,500 crore to few select builders in a dubious manner”. He went on to add that the DF Government had not floated any tender, nor was there any transparency or due diligence in the allotment of prime land to six builders.

He also said that they had allotted the land arbitrarily and illegally under the Rajiv Gandhi Aawaas Yojana. The Maharashtra Government has in the process created new zamindars by making the most of the land meant for rehabilitation of slum dwellers, he said. “It is surprising that on November 11, 2010, final directives were issued by the Housing Ministry of the Maharashtra Government when both Ashok Chavan and Prithviraj Chavan happened to be CMs of the State at different points of times,” Shri Somaiya said.

Charging that both Chavans were equally

responsible for the scam, Shri Somaiya said that though the final directives were issued on November 11, 2010, the letters of intent were issued to a majority of the companies concerned later.

He identified the six companies, which benefited from the dubious land deals, as - Lashkaria Constructions, Sterling Buildcon, Aakruti City Ltd (which got an in-principle approval), Lokhandwala Infrastructure Pvt Ltd, Shivalik Ventures (project allotted includes Government of India/defence land) and Ruchipriya Developers.

Shri Somaiya further added that the saleable component of the land (admeasuring 2.35 crore sq ft) allotted to six projects is 446 lakh sq ft. The total value of the allotted land is Rs 6,652 crore, while the market value of the saleable property is Rs 41,840 crore, while the total profit to the builders has been of Rs 31,500 crore.

The first five plots of land that came to be allotted to six developers were at Malad, Chembur, Sion, Worli and Khar respectively. Given the current real estate prices in all these areas, the plots of land allotted to the six companies were prime properties, he said.

GUJARAT

## State passes Bill making voting mandatory in local body polls

The Gujarat Legislative Assembly has once again passed the Bill making voting compulsory in the local self-Government body elections in the State.

Governor Smt. Kamla Beniwal had last year sent this Bill back to the House, raising doubts about its Constitutional validity. The Bill was passed again by the Gujarat Assembly on February 28 in its original form, as passed in 2009. Called the Gujarat Local Authorities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2009, this legislation seeking to make voting in the local body polls mandatory was initially passed by the Assembly in December 2009 and sent to the Governor for her assent.

The same Bill also had provision for 50 per cent reservation for women in the





local bodies. The Governor had, however, sent back the Bill in April last year for reconsideration as, she said, it violates the individual's freedom. But, the Urban Development Minister Shri Nitin Patel introduced the Bill in the House once again in its original form.

**DELHI**

**BJP demands sack of Delhi Minister as per Delhi's Lokayukta Recommendation**

**B**JP Delhi Pradesh President Shri Vijendra Gupta demanded the immediate implementation of Delhi Lokayukta Justice Man Mohan Sarin's recommendation for the removal of Delhi Revenue Minister Raj Kumar Chouhan from his post on the charge of interfering in discharge of statutory functions under Delhi Value Added Tax Act, 2004 during the search & survey operations and also for breach of section 2(b) (i) (ii) and (iv) of the Act. The PWD Delhi Minister Mr. Chauhan has been held guilty for trying to protect a leading resort in a tax evasion case in the Capital last year. BJP demands the law of the land to prevail. It also demands registration of FIR and sacking of PWD Minister.



He said BJP is concerned on the fact that even after lapse of five days / 120 hours, the recommendations of Delhi Lokayukta for the removal of Delhi Revenue Minister have not been followed and acted upon by the

President of AICC Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. This is despite their hollow public pronouncements to fight corruption and misgovernance. In the present case, the commission of offences under section 89 (4) (i) & (k) of the DVAT Act, 2004 have been fully established against the accused Minister. Yet no action in terms of clause (5) of Article 239AA of the Constitution of India is a poor reflection on the constitutional working of Delhi Congress Govt.

He said the Chief Minister of Delhi Smt. Sheila Dikshit, her self is embroiled in the Common Wealth

Games corruption cases. She has also failed to follow the Lokayukta and sack her errant Minister till date. This is a sad political satire. But now the Chief Minister should have the courage to act failing which Smt. Dikshit shall be forced to resign on moral grounds by Delhi BJP.

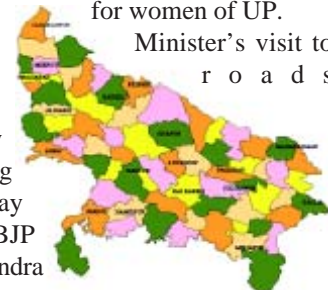
He said BJP has always advocated strict observance of ethics by elected members of parliament, legislatures & civic bodies in India. BJP demands not only the sack of PWD Minister Chouhan but also registering a FIR against the Minister for obstructing public servants in the discharge of their official duties. He said that the minister is also the prime accused in the collapse of a foot over bridge at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium just before the CWG. He sullied India's image but still managed to stay on. He shall be the first wicket, of Sheila's Delhi team, to be clean bowled & declared "OUT" soon.

**UTTAR PRADESH**

**The Chief Minister herself a big problem for women of UP : BJP**

Reacting sharply to the woes being faced by public during visits of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, State BJP said, the Chief Minister herself has become a big problem for women of UP.

During the Chief Minister's visit to Bulandshahr, as all leading into town were sealed by security personnel, an ailing women died on her way to hospital, said, State BJP spokesperson Shri Rajendra Tiwari on March 03



In another shameful incident at Hardoi where administration had put heavy barricading on roads in town, women Guddi was compelled to give birth to a baby in open on the road, he said.

Accusing State administration for being apathetic towards woes of public during visits of chief minister, Shri Tiwari said, in State capital while Chief Minister made inspection of Ambedkar Udyan, traffic towards Gomti Nagar was blocked completely leaving people in miserable condition for hours. Stressing the public have gone fed up with such visits, bringing public life to halt and even causing deaths, he said, despite a women being Chief Minister of UP, dalit women in large numbers have been the victims of crime. ■