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यततो ह्यपि कौन्तेय पुरुषस्य विपश्चितः ।

इन्द्रियाणि प्रमाथीन हरन्ति प्रसन्नं मनः ॥

Turbulent by nature, the senses even of a wise man, who is practising self-control, forcibly carry away his mind, Arjuna.

Bhagavadgita, Chapter 2, Text 60

Editorial

*Time to ignite spirit
of nationalism*

It looks as if India is getting orphaned day by day because those who should have inspired the nation with their intense commitment to nationalism are now getting drowned in the deluge of corruption from heads to toes. A mind sunk in corruption cannot be expected to work wonders for the country. Action needs purity of purpose. It should conform to the dharma. The spirit of social service should get reflected in every action. All the activities should be guided by the welfare of others. It should be free from distortion of any sort. Action should have the concern for society. For the last two-three months, a feeling has emerged that we are losing values and ideals which we used to uphold in the past.

The job of the Income Tax Department is to book the offenders and to collect the taxes but the situation is that high IT officials are themselves being arrested on the charges of corruption. The job of the CBI is to undertake raids and investigate crime but many high CBI officials are themselves under investigation and being raided upon. We can understand mistakes on the part of police but when CRPF personnel are found selling ammunitions and cartridges to Naxalites, then who is going to protect millions living in the Naxal infested areas. When one-and-a-half quintal of gold and 180 crore cash is recovered from the home of MCI chairman Ketan Desai then who will protect the interests of common Indian? Ketan Desai by his conduct has proved to be a butcher extorting crores in the name of opening new medical colleges. Management of these medical colleges recovers this amount from the students. During the last six-sever years insensitive individuals are being produced in these medical colleges instead of sensible and dutiful doctors.

If a lady in Indian High Commission in Pakistan accepts Islam and starts selling India by working for Pakistan, then who will save

India? If crores are being recovered not only from the houses of Joint secretary of Home Ministry and some other officials but IAS and IPS officers posted in states then who will defend the honour of the tricolour?

If UPA ministers show more interest in satta market in contravention to the oath of their office to please their lover, then who will wipe out the tears of *Bharat Mata*? If a man from PoK comes to an Indian Defence establishment (IDS) as a US citizen for research and stays on even after the expiry of visa then can we call it strength or weakness of India.

Counterfeit currencies have made the situation from bad to worse but even now printing of Indian currencies are outsourced to foreign countries. Hedley and Kasab are challenging India with impunity. Afzal is ridiculing every Indian even in the face of Supreme Court verdict. But the priority of the government lies somewhere else; it is to tap the phones of opponents.

The problem is that the being a foreigner the one running the government today has no idea of *swadeshi*. On the other hand, our Prime Minister understands the concerns related with currency but not with the country. The fault lies not entirely with him but with those who have voted for them are also responsible for it.

Indian politics is passing through a very crucial phase. A

time has come to change the very course of Indian politics. But this cannot happen only by talking about it. It is the rule of the nature. As long as we do not place the coin inside a weighing machine, the machine does not come out with the weight. Without dedication and sacrifice we cannot change the course of Indian politics. Dedication and sacrifice is always present in the mind but it is also important that these values become part of our action. India today needs humble, civilized, good natured people with social concerns in the politics. Ideological politics is always there but there are certain issues on which national consensus should be evolved. Any spot on India does not belong to any particular party only but to the entire population of the country. Sometime it appears that India is passing through a phase of culture of corruption and immorality. Otherwise how could incidents like father raping daughter, uncle raping niece, mass murders,

suicides after killing children may be taking place continuously. But the situation is that when government should be expected to be sensitive on these matters we find even society is getting insensitive and indifferent.

Every citizen of the country was filled with the spirit of nationalism before independence. Why is that spirit of nationalism waning day by day after independence? We will have to find answers. Party politics is for realizing the will of the people but peoples' will should be in line with the national interest because no one can deny that we exist only when India exists. Wherever collective will is required it should get reflected in the entire nation. Wherever ideology is required, ideological commitment should also get reflected in our actions. The country will have to come out of the phase of pessimism and it will happen only when our spirit of nationalism and civic sense are awakened. ■

Prabhat Jha lambasted UPA on naxalism

BJP MP Prabhat Jha, raising the issue of naxalism in Rajya Sabha, said, "The whole nation is worried about the problem of naxalism. Six jawans of CRPF have been recently caught in Uttar Pradesh in a case of smuggling more than six thousand cartridges and AK-47." He demanded that it should be probed as to from where the guns and cartridges killing 76 jawans of CRPF in Dantewada had come. He added, "They do not get any information from the intelligence agencies. No question is asked as to what work is being done by the intelligence agencies." Lambasting the UPA government on security issue he said, "Seventeen districts of Uttar Pradesh are engaged in the black-marketing of cartridges of arms and AK-47. The government should take action in this matter and exercise full control on its own department."

Stop misuse of CBI



To
Her Excellency the President of India
Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

Mahamahim Rashtrapati ji,

We have been constrained to encroach upon your time to highlight the blatant misuse of the Central Bureau of Investigation by the ruling UPA. The CBI was created under an Act of Parliament essentially to investigate cases against officers of the Central Government. 'Law and order' being a State subject, it was felt that the Central Government officers should not come within the jurisdiction of the States. Similarly, while respecting the federal structure of India it was felt that no offence relating to a State can be investigated by the CBI without the specific consent of the State Government.

However, in the last six years the UPA Government has completely destroyed the independence and autonomy of the CBI. The UPA Government has acted on the basis of three essential premises, namely-

- (a) If the accused is leader of the UPA, the case against him should be subverted and closed. There has been a cover up of several cases in this category.
- (b) If the case relates to a political party which can come to the aid of UPA to muster a parliamentary majority, a sword must hang on its leaders so that CBI can act as a bargaining counter between that party and the UPA.
- (c) If the case relates to the known opponent of the UPA, then the CBI should act in a vindictive manner.

In the first category the Bofors case was systematically finished by misusing the CBI. The case against Ajit Jogi for attempting to buy MLAs was systematically finished. Sanction for prosecution was not granted against Satish Sharma in a case of nepotism regarding allotment of petrol pumps. The CBI was even used in 2007 during Punjab elections to hold out a fake promise to the head of a religious sect that his prosecution would be withdrawn if he issued a direction to all his supporters/followers to support the Congress Party. The case of possessing disproportionate assets against Lalu Yadav was weakened by changing the Public Prosecutor. A special bench of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal was created to exonerate him of any tax liability and legitimize his wealth so that it can be used as the basis for acquittal in the criminal trial. When that did happen, the CBI was advised not to file an appeal before the High Court. When the State Government filed an appeal, the CBI took a plea that nobody else had the authority to file the appeal.

The case against the BSP leader Ms. Mayawati regarding the Taj corridor was diluted when the BSP support was required in 2007. However, at the time of no confidence vote in 2008 the case of disproportionate assets against her was activated when she was actively opposing the UPA. Suddenly in April 2010 a statement is made before the Supreme Court seeking to dilute the case of disproportionate assets against Mayawati when her support is required in the Cut Motion in the Lok Sabha. Affidavits in the case of Mulayam Singh Yadav were changed depending on the circumstances when he supported the Government or when he opposed the government.

A false case against Shri George Fernandes was registered in relation to Defence transactions even though the Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice Phukan had categorically opined that there was no

Gadkari takes exception to gross misuse of CBI by UPA government

Text of BJP National President Sh. Nitin Gadkari's press statement released on May 6, 2010.

The BJP objects to the gross misuse of the CBI in the last six years by the UPA government.

The UPA I and II have used the CBI for (1) Covering up or white washing offences of Congress and other UPA leaders, (2) Pressuring vulnerable opposition leaders, particularly those belonging to BJP, SP and RJD and (3) Harassing opposition leaders who were not vulnerable to government pressure.

Covering up or whitewashing offences of Congress leaders

Two notorious cases can be cited under this example.

1. The case against Shri Ajit Jogi (buying of MLAs) was systematically finished by misusing the CBI. (Outlook India Website, 27 April, 2010)
2. The Bofors case and the complete failure to bring the Italian Quattrochi to face the Indian courts was accomplished by misusing the CBI (Source : Outlook India 27, April, 2010)
3. A Delhi Court (23 Feb, 2010) criticised the CBI for its failure to arrest and produce former Congress MP Shri Sajjan Kumar. A judge remarked, "There is a slight suspicion on the genuineness of the effect of the CBI... Is this the manner CBI functions? Where have all the witness gone?" (Source : www.thehindu.com 24 Feb. 2010)
4. The Supreme Court had criticised the CBI for "acting at the behest" of the centre in trying to clear Shri Jagdish Tytler from the 1984 Anti-Sikh riots case. Several glaring loopholes marked the CBI investigation, very clearly indicating that the centre was directing the CBI to relieve Shri Tytler. (One India News 2 April, 2009)



Pressuring Vulnerable Opposition leaders

1. Susri Mayawati had stated "... the CBI has illegally and under political pressure been continuing the Disproportionate Asset case against me". (Source : Raj Thackeray News & Info, 23 April, 2010)

But while this was so on the eve of the debate on the cut motion during the Budget session April 2010 a statement was made before the Supreme Court seeking to dilute the same DA case thus misusing the CBI. (Source : Outlook India 27, April, 2010)

Shri Sharad Yadav JD(U) also accused the government of misusing the CBI. (Source : DNA News 28, April, 2010)

Again in the case of Susri Mayawati's Taj Corridor case the flip flops done by the CBI are well known and widely reported in the media. (www.outlookindia.com 27 April, 2010)

2. Shri Amar Singh reacting to DA case and the PIL in the Supreme Court said "The CBI has become Congress Bureau of Investigation." He alleged that the CBI was being used as a tool and that a question mark has risen over the impartiality of the investigating agency. (Source : The Indian Express website 11 Feb. 2009)

3. The case against Shri Lalu Yadav was weakened by changing the public prosecutor at a critical time. Shri Yadav was exonerated by collusively managing the Income Tax Department proceedings and misusing the CBI. (Source : Outlook India, 27 April 2010)
The CBI rubbished its own finding against Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav and his wife Smt. Rabri Devi. The CBI rubbished its original argument, went to oppose the Bihar government in the process. (Source : hindu.com, tehelka.com, timesofindia.com, dnaindia.com etc.)
4. The Supreme Court came down harshly on the CBI in the Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav's DA case. Earlier, it had criticised "the CBI was acting as the behest" of the centre. (Source : ibnlive.in.com : 11 Feb, 2009)
5. The UPA suppressed the charges against Shri Mulayam Singh as it required the support of the MPs from the Samajwadi party.

Harassing Opposition leaders not Vulnerable to Government Pressure

Cases of fake encounter killing of dreaded criminals by police are registered all over the country
Figures published by NHRC show the following :

Fake Encounters

- ♦ *The UPA Government has taken extra ordinary interest to entrust the case of the encounter killing in Gujarat to the CBI even after the Gujarat Police filed charge sheets against several senior police officers.*

- ♦ *Sohrabuddin was earlier accused of spreading terror and was arrested and remanded to police custody in 1995. 24 AK-56 rifles, 27 hand grenades, 5250 cartridges and 81 magazines were recovered from a well in the fields belonging to Sohrabuddin.*

- ♦ *Sohrabuddin was associated with the Dawood and Latif gangs.*

- ♦ *Associates of Sohrabuddin in various cases namely*

Sharif Khan (known as Chotta Dawood) and Rasul Bani are declared criminals and Anti-Nationals. Red

- ♦ *There are several cases pending against Sohrabuddin in different states.*

Year	Total	Gujarat	Remark
Until 2002	55	None	UP 44 case
2003-03	44		UP 38
2003-04	109	4	UP 68 AP 9 Bihar 5 Uttarakhand 6 etc.
2004-05	84	62	UP 307 AP 120b Bihar 7 etc.
2005-06	45	4	UP 29 AP Sect. 302 Bihar Sect. 25 & 27 etc. of Arms Act
2006-07 (Provisional)	80 Out of a total of 301 encounters (Provisional)	1	UP 16 AP Sect. 25, 27 Bihar 5 of Arms Act etc.
		Rajasthan 1	Sect. 147 302 IPC etc.

The State CID Crime has progressed steadily and charge sheeted 13 accused consisting of top police officers.

The UPA government acting in tandem, being pressured by NGOs and activists took up the case of an anti-national and a criminal like Sohrabuddin.

After filing of the charge-sheets by the state police the CBI entered the picture.

The four reasons identified as failure by Gujarat police in this case are quoted as the reason to hand over the case to the CBI.

After 12 January 2010 order of the Supreme Court and after the CBI take over even the CBI has made no progress till date on those very four points.

Can it be a coincidence that the supervisory officer in this case is Mr. Kandaswamy whose claim to fame is the arrest and ill-treatment of Mr. Karunanidhi at the behest of the then CM of Tamil Nadu. With the DMK coming to power the officer moved into CBI on deputation.

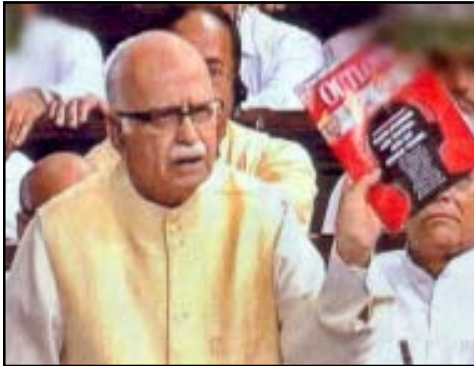
The CBI is being misused to suppress and defame the Chief Minister of Gujarat. The State of Gujarat is being punished for electing BJP successively in every election. ■

Bootleg Tapes : The Rulers Who Listen

By Saikat Datta

In its exclusive on phone-tapping, Outlook brings details of how the surveillance raj works.

Late on Thursday, April 29, as the irate debate on illegal phone-tapping raged in Rajya Sabha, Union home minister P. Chidambaram chose his words with care. "No authority was given to intercept the



conversations of any politicians," he insisted. And if illegal tapping had indeed been happening, he promised the government would get to the bottom of it. This line of defence—a careful separation of the official and the not-so-official—has been the government's refuge ever since the Outlook expose last week on the tapping of mobile phones by

the National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO). All legitimate cases of monitoring "are authorised by the Union home secretary", he told Parliament three days earlier—and till now, "nothing has been found in the NTRO records or elsewhere".

Now a continuing investigation by Outlook has thrown up startling details of more phones being tapped using the off-the-air-GSM/CDMA monitoring system and brings out fresh details about the intercepted conversations of political leaders mentioned in our earlier story (We, the Eavesdropped, May 3). Sample this:

There's a conversation between a UP minister and an engineer where they discuss postings of officers and also the money required to effect transfers.

A senior bureaucrat in a ministry in South Block is heard discussing the payment of a bribe for a deal. The bribe is fixed for Rs 8 crore—he has already received Rs 3 crore and is now busy negotiating the balance of

Rs 5 crore. A corporate boss is heard discussing the price for a young starlet who will fly in from Mumbai to Calcutta for seven days. The deal is struck for Rs 11 lakh.

An air vice-marshal with the Western Air Command is under watch for several weeks. The tapes show that his wife is in touch with a beauty saloon that is running a major prostitution racket. This was one of the longest surveillance projects carried out by NTRO officials in the winter of 2006 as they parked their cars outside Subroto Park and Shankar Vihar in Delhi recording conversations.

The conversation between Congress leader Digvijay Singh and the leader from Punjab occurred at about the time of the state assembly elections in early '07. Transcripts reveal that Digvijay got the call at about 11.30 am. They discuss the elections and then the state leader seeks Digvijay's help in getting into the CWC, the Congress's highest decision-making body. Digvijay is non-committal and discusses his own limitations in facilitating the request. Similarly, on October 27, '07, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar is

◆ PC denies any authorisation to tap phones, but NTRO isn't one of seven agencies mandated to tap.

◆ The minister calls NTRO a technical unit. But it was instituted by an intelligence task force post-Kargil.

◆ Narayanan was on the task force. Later, as NSA, he became the sole authority NTRO reported to.

◆ Home secy can authorise taps of specific numbers, with justification. NTRO's ops were entirely outside.

Furore & After

Claim: UPA government did not authorise telephone tapping or eavesdropping on political leaders

Response: Outlook did not say that the UPA government authorised the tapping. In fact, NTRO is not authorised to tap as per laws.

Claim: The NTRO machine was in Kashmir around the time Digvijay Singh was reported to have been tapped

Response: Outlook did not say there was only one machine at NTRO's disposal

Claim: There was no CWC meet in the air as mentioned in Digvijay's tap transcripts

Response: Transcripts are part of a longer conversation on the CWC and the Punjab elections

Claim: There was little to gain for Congress by tapping Nitish Kumar talking about central funds

Response: Before the 2009 general elections, Congress saw JD(U) as a potential partner in Bihar and would have been interested in keeping tabs

Question: If government has such cutting-edge technology, why does it not use it to stop terrorists or Maoists?

Response: There have been several successes — a team of 30 terrorists infiltrating from Bangladesh was neutralised by the BSF. Maoist areas may be too dense, too vast for this technology.

Digvijay Singh, Congress General Secretary February 2007

Digvijay Singh was driving from his house in South Avenue through Sardar Marg Patel having a conversation on his cellphone with a Congress leader from Punjab. The two were discussing possible candidates for 2007 chapter of the Congress Working Committee elections, which are held every three years. The leader from Punjab was seeking Digvijay's support for his possible candidature. Unknown to them, their entire conversation was being tapped and filed in a computer system. Digvijay had this to say about the surveillance: "I think it is illegal and unethical."

Nitish Kumar, Bihar Chief Minister October 2007

The Bihar CM was on his way in his official car from Bihar Bhavan in Chanakypuri to South Block for a meeting when his conversation—on a cellphone belonging to the then Bihar resident commissioner, who was travelling with him—was tapped. Nitish was discussing with a colleague how to get more funds from the Centre for his state. Other related issues like projects on the Kosi river also figured in his call.

Sharad Pawar, Union Agriculture Minister April 2010

Discussions between the minister and IPL commissioner Lalit Modi were tapped and taped last fortnight in the wake of the scandal in the cricket league. The recorded conversations allegedly threw up inside details of the deals that were struck in the bidding process for the various teams.

Prakash Karat, CPI(M) General Secretary July 2008

The cellphones of Opposition leaders were tapped to ascertain their plans regarding the Indo-US nuclear deal and the consequent no-confidence motion in Parliament at the time. Karat was targeted since he was leading the charge against the UPA government.

M.K. Narayanan, Then NSA

He was instrumental in bringing the new tapping technology to India in 2005-06. During a demonstration at an NTRO facility in Delhi on Jan 7, '06, his phone was tapped successfully.

heard speaking on the cellphone of a then resident commissioner. The conversation is short but Nitish mentions two specific requests—help with the Planning Commission and more funds for projects on the Kosi river.

The home minister's statement says there was no authorisation for both these taps. But how could the NTRO seek authorisation to tap phones in the first place? According to Indian laws, only seven agencies are allowed to tap phones and

NTRO is not among them. This raises a rather disturbing question: what was NTRO doing with these machines and how were they being deployed routinely in Delhi?

Chidambaram also states that all interceptions were authorised by the home secretary. But how could the home secretary authorise tapping by an agency not authorised to do so? Congress spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi took another tack—that it may have been a legitimate

...Continued on page 30

" IS THE EMERGENCY BACK? "

By L.K Advani

The latest issue of the **Outlook** (May 3rd, 2010) carries a shocking report describing how the Government of India has been making use of the latest phone tapping technology to prepare records of telephonic conversations of prominent political leaders including Chief Ministers like Nitish Kumar, Union Ministers like Sharad Pawar, communist leaders like Prakash Karat, and

Bihari Vajpayee. What surprised me even more was that those transcripts included tape-recorded conversations not only of opposition leaders but also of eminent journalists and some extremely distinguished VVIPs like Gyani Zail Singh.

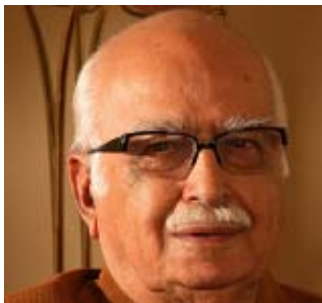
June 25th, 1985 happened to be the 10th Anniversary of the Emergency. Addressing a press conference on that day Shri Vajpayee not only recalled other

the President and the Chief Justice also. All this is not only politically immoral but unconstitutional and illegal also."

In 1996 when Shri Deve Gowda was the Prime Minister, a high level Congress delegation led by former Home Minister, S.B. Chavan complained to him that the telephone of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and several other senior congress leaders were being tapped by the U.P. Government. The Prime Minister told these Congressmen that their complaint was without substance. Notwithstanding this denial, Shri Deve Gowda himself later announced that the C.B.I. have been asked to inquire into the matter.

In 1988, a major phone-tapping episode created a stir in Karnataka. **The Times of India** published the photo copy of an order issued by the D.I.G. (Intelligence) mentioning the names of political persons and some institutions whose telephones were included in the tap-list.

I was a member of the Rajya Sabha at that time and I remember how vehemently Union Home Minister Buta Singh had condemned the Karnataka Government and affirmed that unlike the Hegde Government the Centre was not tapping the phones of any politician or journalist. This statement provoked me to stand up and say: "I cannot say what is being done today. But I have personal



*BJP Parliamentary Party
Chairman Shri L.K Advani,
writing on his blog on 25
April 2010 demands new
law to protect Privacy.*

the Congress party's own office bearers like its General Secretary, Digvijay Singh.

This reminds me of an interesting encounter I had 25 years back. In 1985, one morning a stranger arrived at my house carrying a brief case full of papers. This brief case, he told me, contained 'dynamite' which could blow up this Government. He opened his brief case and out poured some 200 sheets of closely typed records of telephonic conversations of many VIPS.

I scanned these papers. I did not find them as 'explosive' as that gentleman seemed to presume. Some of those papers were telephonic conversations which I had had with Shri Atal

excesses of the Emergency, but referring to the large-scale phone-tapping that used to take place during those nineteen months, told the press:

"I have known for long, that my phone as well as that of my party colleague Advani have been under surveillance. But lately I have gathered that the telephones of many other senior leaders like Chaudhary Charan Singh, Jagjivan Ram and Chandra Shekhar and journalists like G.K. Reddy, Arun Shourie, Kuldeep Nayar and G.S. Chawla also are being regularly tapped. But what has really left me flabbergasted is that the Intelligence Bureau has had the temerity to tap the telephones of

knowledge that at least until 1985 your government had been tapping my telephone and the telephones of many other politicians and journalists.”

In many democracies of the world the legitimacy and limits of phone tapping has been a matter of continuing debate. In the United States, this issue became subject matter of bitter acrimony during the Watergate days. Angry public opinion and the threat of impeachment led to Richard Nixon’s ouster from office. His successor Gerald Ford granted him full pardon. But three years later in a television interview with David Frost (May 19, 1977), Nixon made a sensational statement. He affirmed that burglaries and other crimes are not illegal if ordered by the President !

In 1977, **President Carter** asked Congress to approve a plan which would make it impossible for the executive to intrude upon a citizen’s privacy without judicial authorization. This plan, Carter contended, would successfully resolve the “inherent conflict” between national security and the basic right to privacy of a citizen. Subsequently legislation has been enacted wherein all security authorities, including the FBI, have been obligated to seek prior judicial approval for any wire-taps.

In Britain, there is no law governing wire-tapping. But several parliamentary committees have gone into the question in depth. In 1957, a three-man committee of Privy Councillors headed by Norman Birkett was set up to inquire into the “interception of communications”.

The **Birkett committee**

described wire-tapping, or for that matter, all forms of intercepting private communications as “inherently objectionable”, but felt that the practice may be permitted within certain clearly defined areas, and with appropriate safeguards. It laid down that wire-tapping may be allowed to the police and security agencies only for the purpose of crime investigation or to check subversive or espionage activity. Even for this field, the committee laid down rigorous guidelines. Till date, no one in Britain has ever accused their government of abusing these powers.

What is really required in

this context is to set up a **parliamentary committee** on the lines of the Birkett committee to examine all aspects of the problem, scrap the outdated **Indian Telephone Act of 1885** and replace it by a new legislation which forbids invasion of an ordinary citizen’s privacy, but which formally recognizes the right of the State to use the latest IT devices of interception to deal only with crime, subversion and espionage. The law must provide statutory safeguards which make it impossible for Government to abuse its powers against political activists and pressmen. ■

(Courtesy: blog.lkadvani.in)

MM Joshi is new PAC chairman

Former Union HRD Minister and at present Member of Parliament Shri Murli Manohar Joshi has been appointed the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. He will replace BJP’s deputy leader in Lok Sabha Shri Gopinath Munde. He also served as the home minister for 13 days government in 1996. Shri Joshi was a three-term M.P from Allahabad. He won election to the 15th Lok Sabha from Varanasi . He did his doctorate from Allahabad University. The subject of his doctoral thesis was Spectroscopy. He was the first scientist to submit his thesis in Hindi.



Sukhada Pandey appointed as National Vice-President

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has appointed Prof. Sukhada Pandey as All India Vice President of the party on April 23. She served the Party as Vice President of Bihar BJP. Dr. Pandey a former MLA from Buxar in Bihar was Principle of Magadh Mahila College (Patna University).



Manohar Parrikar is convenor of Governance Cell

BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari appointed Shri Manohar Parrikar as convenor of newly created Governance Cell of the BJP. Shri Manohar Parrikar is a former Chief Minister of Goa. He graduated from IIT Bombay in 1978. He is the first IIT graduate to become the Chief Minister of any Indian state.

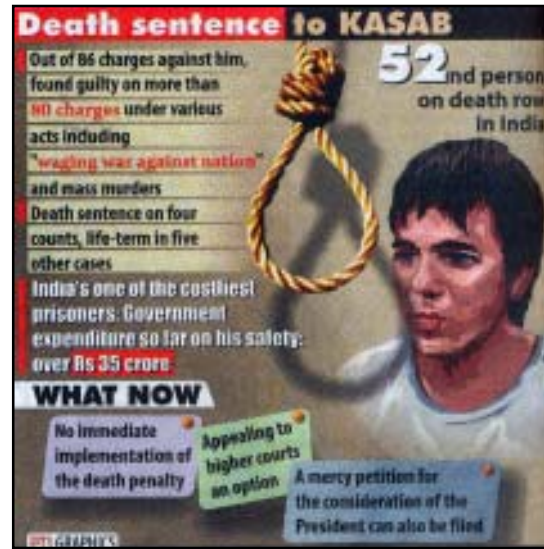


Kasab gets capital punishment

In a major boost to India's ongoing war against terrorism, a trial court in Mumbai on May 06 sentenced Pakistani gunman Mohammed Ajmal Kasab to death on four counts - mass murder, criminal conspiracy, waging war against the nation and committing terror activities - in the 26/11 attack case.

Maintaining that the convicted Pakistani terrorist was not only "lingering danger" to the Government and a "menace" to the society but had also "forfeited the right to live", Additional Sessions Court Judge ML Tahaliyani ruled: "Kasab shall be hanged by the neck till death." The court also sentenced Kasab to life imprisonment on five counts - attempt to murder, conspiracy to wage war, collecting arms with an intention to wage war against the nation, kidnapping in order to commit murder and causing explosion to endanger life or property.

"Keeping such a person (Kasab) alive is a lingering danger... (he) not only is a danger lingering over Government, but a menace to the society. He needs to be sentenced to death," the judge said. ■



the court DIARY

- Judge ML Tahaliyani's experience in criminal and civil laws came in handy during tricky moments in the trial — like when a lawyer had to be appointed for Kasab or when the gunman pleaded that he was a minor or when he pleaded guilty. Tahaliyani used fact and wit to ensure that the decorum of the court was always maintained
- Nikam: "I am happy with the verdict. It has helped us wipe tears of the family members of those killed"
- KP Pawar, lawyer of Ajmal Amir Kasab, says he tried his best to seek a lenient punishment for his client. "I have not spoken to him yet. It totally depends on him (whether or not to appeal)"
- "During the 26/11 attacks, public and private property worth Rs 155.73 crore was damaged. Since Kasab has been convicted under the provisions of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act which provides for compensation, we need to recover these losses from him," Special Public Prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam pleaded
- Kasab may have been sent to gallows but where is the hangman? Maharashtra does not have a hangman. The story is the same, be it in the national Capital's Tihar Jail (where the last hanging was carried out in 1985) or in West Bengal (which executed a capital punishment in 2004)
- The court ruled that keeping Kasab alive would be a lingering danger to India, keeping in mind the Kandahar plane hijack case
- For Rabbi Shimon Rosenberg, the death penalty to Ajmal Kasab is a welcome step but rues the verdict cannot help in bringing back his daughter and son-in-law, who lost their lives in the 26/11 attacks

SENTENCED UNDER Section 120 (b) read with Section 302 of IPC (conspiracy and murder); Sentenced to death. To be hanged by the neck if he is dead. Fine of Rs 10,000; Section 121 (waging war against India); Sentenced to death. Fine of Rs 10,000; Section 16 (a) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA); Sentenced to death. Fine of Rs 10,000; Section 302 (murder) read with Section 34 (common intention), 109 (abetment), and 120b (conspiracy); Sentenced to death. Fine of Rs 10,000; Section 307 of IPC (attempt for murder) read with 34, 109 of IPC; Life imprisonment with fine; Section 364 (abduction) of IPC; Life imprisonment with Rs 5,000 fine; Section 121 (a) (conspiracy to wage war against the nation); Life imprisonment with fine of Rs 10,000; Section 122 (collecting arms, men for waging war); Life imprisonment with fine of Rs 10,000; Section 3 (b) of Explosive Substances Act; Life imprisonment with fine of Rs 10,000

Gadkari unsure whether Kasab will be hanged in UPA regime



As the nation hailed the "hang Ajmal Kasab" verdict, BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said he is unsure whether the Pakistani terrorist will actually be hanged during the UPA's regime, since the ruling coalition believed in "minority appeasement". Talking to journalists during his two-day visit to Goa, BJP President on May 06, said, "I am not sure. Afzal Guru (convicted in the 2001 attack on Parliament) was sentenced to death but is still alive and there are many others."

He blamed the Congress and the ruling combine for their attitude towards those spreading terror. "By appealing terrorists, the Congress and the UPA feel it is secular," Shri Gadkari said. "Linking terrorism to vote bank politics is not right. Criminals are criminals. Terrorists are terrorists," he added. ■

Kasab be hanged without delay : Yeddyurappa



Karnataka Chief Minister Shri BS Yeddyurappa demanded that Kasab be hanged without delay and urged to avoid the waiting list or queue system in this regard. He was responding to media queries in Bangalore. ■

UPA failed to collect evidence and fight terror : Jaitley

The judgment on 26/11 terrorist attack trial has come as disappointment. The prime accused has been convicted; two alleged conspirators have been acquitted.

The Big Picture

What is the big picture? We could not have hoped for the worst. Obviously, the voluminous evidence and the

After 26/11, the Home Minister assured us that the National Investigative Agency (NIA) would now be the crack investigator. We were told that the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) has been strengthened. The BJP was not happy with the amendments. They were inadequate. We wanted the stringent bail

provisions of POTA and the law relating to admissibility of confessions as in TADA and POTA to be applied. The Home Minister was not prepared

for vote bank considerations. The two installments of amendments to the UAPA brought about by Shri Shivraj Patil and P. Chidambaram respectively did not achieve much.

The anatomy of a terrorist attack is such that ordinarily the fidayin either gets killed or escapes from the place of occurrence. It is the co-conspirators, who planned the attack or provided logistical support that are normally prosecuted and punished. The 26/11 was a rare case where one fidayin was arrested on the spot. To get evidence against the planners and logistical support providers, it is only the confessions made during investigations to senior officers which aid the trial. In the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, the actual assailants were killed on the spot. Confessions were used to punish the other conspirators. In the Parliament attack as also in Akshardham Case, the actual assailants died at the place of the occurrence. The conspirators were punished with the aid of confession due to the provisions, available in the POTA. When POTA was repealed, and during the debate on the subsequent amendments, the BJP had regularly cautioned the government that it was weakening the legal instrument available with our investigators and prosecutors to punish the conspirators. The proof of the pudding is, now, evident in eating.



Brief points made by Shri Arun Jaitley, Leader of the Opposition (Rajya Sabha) while speaking on the discussion of working of Home Ministry on May 06.

arrest of the principal accused while committing the crime made the task of Prosecution easier. The Prosecution need not have worked overtime for this purpose.

The rest is all bad news. Those accused who were active conspirators and are in Pakistan must be celebrating the judgment. We have not been given access to them. The other conspirators who are currently in custody in the USA will never be brought to justice in India. The co-conspirators, who were tried in India, have been acquitted after observing that the evidence against them is of 'doubtful character'. We have only Kasab's conviction for such a monumental crime.

to give the Indian investigators an adequate legal architecture to fight terror. The UPA was willing to compromise with National Security, while giving primacy to vote bank politics.

The history of anti-terror law in India

Shri Rajiv Gandhi pioneered the legislation of TADA. The terrorist attacks in Mumbai in 1993 started the process of TADA being repealed. It was repealed for vote bank considerations, while weakening the fight against terror. POTA was legislated by the NDA government to provide an adequate framework for legally investigating and punishing terror. The UPA repealed POTA

Distress sale leading to suicides and depression among potato growers : Rajnath

Raising the issue in Parliament of the plight of potato farmers in Agra, Ghaziabad, Bareilly, Varanasi (all Uttar Pradesh) Hoogly, Bardwan (all West Bengal) and other parts of the country Shri Rajnath Singh on April 30 said "Distress sale of potatoes in West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and other areas is leading to suicides and depression among the potato growers. Farmers are incurring huge losses because of abysmally low field price of potato. Due to non-availability of storage facilities, they are forced to sell their produce for measly Rs one to three per kg, which is much less than their input costs."

According to rough estimates he added, each potato farmer is incurring a loss of Rs 15000 to 30000 per acre.

Pointing out pathetic condition of Farmers Shri Singh said "Most of the farmers had taken debt to fund the input cost of growing potatoes in their fields. Even after a good harvest they are not able to repay their loans."

He alleged that prices of essential commodities like potatoes are manipulated artificially by the speculators at Commodity Exchanges. Against the total turnover of more than 40 lakh tones of potatoes the actual delivery taken is only of 7215 tones, which is less than 1 percent (.18 percent).

The rent of cold storage paid by the farmers should actually be borne by the Government, he said. He demanded that the

interest on loans to potato farmers should be waived of and Government should develop a mechanism to purchase the potatoes grown by farmers all over the country. He added, "The Government should come up with structural and procedural changes in its policies to ensure fair and remunerative prices for perishable items like Potatoes, Tomatoes and Onions. Speculation on essential commodities should be stopped by the Government."

Shri Rajnath Singh raised the issue in Parliament immediately after coming back from his visit to potato growing areas of West Bengal. The suggestions made by



Shri Singh during the Zero Hour were also welcomed by senior members like Shri Sharad Yadav and supported by several other members present in the House. ■

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### UPA misusing CBI against Gujarat government

Gujarat BJP on May 2 in Ahmedabad declared that it would launch an agitation against the UPA government for "misusing" the CBI for "political victimisation" of the state BJP government.

Alleging that the CBI had become the "Congress Bureau of Injustice", Gujarat State President Shri R C Faldu, BJP State General Secretary, Shri Vijay Rupani and former president Shri Parshottam Rupala said at an urgently summoned media briefing that the Congress-led UPA government was according an "out-of-turn priority" to the Sohrabuddin case, when investigation was pending in hundreds of such cases in states like Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.



# As population Increases, budget on health services decreases

By Prabhat Jha

In India both the state and the central governments need to pay attention to the basic issues concerning *aam aadmi*. Since ancient times the basis of governance has been to establish a welfare state. The best instance of this is the efforts made to provide medical facilities to poor and orphans. The Chinese traveler Megasthenese who came to India during the time of Chandragupta Maurya elaborately describes the existence of the *d h a r m a r t h a aushadhaalaya* (free medical centre) in Pataliputra. According to Megasthenese, the members of nobility and citizens of the city had constructed hospitals in the cities where people from foreign countries used to come for treatment. The Chinese traveler Hiuen-Tsang, a contemporary of Harshvardhan, has also described these hospitals extensively. According to him, the highways passing through villages and cities were dotted with hospitals (*punyashala*) run by the state.

Today after 62 years of independence when we ponder over to see where we stand in the matter of providing health services to the people, it appears as if either the governments have themselves been ailing or the

priority of the state has changed. Health is one of the foremost basic rights of an individual. In Article 21 of the Constitution, it has been laid down clearly that protection and nourishment of the health is the responsibility of State governments while Central government is supposed to play an important role in it.

In the present system (as per the Constitution) health is placed in the concurrent list. Three-fourth of the expenditure

***In the 2010-11 budget the government allocation in the field of health facilities is a paltry 0.30% of the GDP. It is even less than 2009-10 budget when allocation was 0.37% of the GDP. In the 2010-11 budget the Finance Minister has allocated 22,300 crore to health which is only 2,700 crore more than what was allocated in the last budget. If we take the requirements in the field of health then this increase is very meager.***

incurred in the field of health is borne by state and local governments. The central government is responsible for setting the national standard of health and also for monitoring and regulating it.

The growth rate of population of our country is around two per cent and according to an estimate India will move ahead of China in terms of population by 2030. By 2025, 189 million people of the country will cross 60 years of age

which will require higher expenditure on health. 18% of the population of the world lives in India and 21% of the world's ailing people also live in India. The government spends even less than one percent of the GDP on health. We will be able to provide basic and quality health facilities to our population only when we will be spending 2.3% of our GDP on health.

If we go through the Economic Survey report (2009-10), we find that if we want to provide basic health facilities in rural areas, we need more than 6,800 hospitals. As per 2001 population estimates, even now we are short of 20,486 primary health centres, 4,447 sub-centres and 2,337 community health centres. It is now amply clear that as per the estimates of 2010 population, the current requirement of hospitals and health centres has increased manifold compared to the estimates of 2001.

In the given situation the central government while discharging its own responsibility should help and advise the state governments in this regard. But the opposite has happened. In the 2010-11 budget the government allocation in the field of health facilities is a paltry 0.30% of the GDP. It is even less than 2009-10 budget when

allocation was 0.37% of the GDP. In the 2010-11 budget the Finance Minister has allocated 22,300 crore to health which is only 2,700 crore more than what was allocated in the last budget. If we take the requirements in the field of health then this increase is very meager.

In the context of medical care, there is not a single provision for construction of new hospitals while according to some estimates in the years to come the country will require around one lakh more hospital beds. The best medical college of the country stands neglected. All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has been allocated 800 crore for the year 2010-11 while it was given 886.50 crore for the year 2009-10. Similarly, Safdarjang Hospital in New Delhi has been allocated 237 crore for the year 2010-11 while it was given 284 crore for year 2009-10.

The hospitals under the government have been allocated 982.10 crore for the year 2010-11 whereas in the year 2009-10 the allocation was 1020.33 crore.

What is the message from such decisions? Population is increasing and government is decreasing budget on health. Who will say that such decisions are in the interest of *aam aadmi*?

According to World Health Organisation (WHO) nine lakh Indians die every year due to water and air pollution. Even our government admits that only 55% of Indian household have facility for sanitation.

Eighty per cent of the expenditure in the field of health is from private sources. These expenditures are related to

## C.P Thakur is new Bihar BJP President

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Nitin Gadhari on April 23 appointed former Union minister Shri C. P. Thakur as the New President of its Bihar unit.

Shri Thakur earlier has served as BJP National Vice President. He stood first and received gold medal in M.B.B.S. Honours. He revolutionized the concept of treatment of Kala-azar and is recognised as an international authority in this field.

He was elected to Lok Sabha from Patna constituency in 1991. He is currently a Rajya Sabha Member from Bihar.



## Arun Chaturvedi elected Rajasthan BJP president unopposed



In Jaipur Shri Arun Chaturvedi was on May 01 elected unopposed to the post of Rajasthan BJP President. Shri Chaturvedi, who was nominated as party state president in June last year following the resignation of Shri Om Mathur was the sole candidate to file nomination for the post.

Election in-Charge Shri Vinay Katiyar announced his name after the election process was completed.

Shri Chaturvedi, a lawyer, has been an active member of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. He worked in the Akhil Bhartiya Vidhyarthi Parishad (ABVP) from 1974 to 1988 and held the post of state vice president of Bhartiya Janta Yuva Morcha (BJYM) from 1988 to 1998. He was state BJP General Secretary from 2004 to 2007 and held the post of party spokesperson.

expenses on staffs by big companies and better health facilities availed by the richer sections of the society. This expenditure, directly or indirectly, is paid from the pocket of the poor people of the country.

We know that only one out of 10 Indians has health insurance in any form. 86.4% of the total expenditure on health is borne by the people themselves.

UPA government had claimed that it will increase the

expenditure from one per cent to three per cent of GDP in the field of health care and medical facilities. But the budget of 2010-11 is now exposing the claim of the UPA government. UPA government should read the following *chaupai* of *Ramacharitmanas* and implement it:

Goswami Tulsidas has said—

“*Jasu Raj priya praja dukhari!  
So nripa avasi narak adhikari!!*” ■

(The Writer is a BJP Rajya Sabha MP and a former national secretary)

## Congress-NCP responsible for plight of farmers : Gadkari

**B**JP President Nitin Gadkari on May 2 took a swipe at Sharad Pawar and Praful Patel said the two were more interested in cricket than in farmers' problems.

Addressing a massive farmers' rally in Bhandara (Praful Patel's Lok Sabha constituency), Shri Nitin Gadkari said 'Purti' an NGO run by him had bought the local non-functional Wainganga Cooperative Sugar factory recently to generate employment for the youth of the

Manmohan Singh cabinet and especially the Prime Minister himself- being a renowned economist- is responsible for the worsening condition of the farmers.

Shri Gadkari said the two NCP leaders were watching cricket in floodlights at night while there was load shedding up to 24 hours in the Vidharba region.

"If you vote for us, I assure you that if I do not stop power load-shedding in two years, I

(remove poverty) but population of people below poverty line has actually increased by 41 crore," he claimed.

Shri Gadkari accused Pawar and Manmohan Singh of being involved in a "sugar export-import scam" to the tune of thousands of crores. He alleged that sugar was exported at a lower price and was later imported at nearly three times the export price. The BJP Chief said once the sugar factory starts functioning it would generate employment to 5,000 people and generate income for two lakh sugarcane farmers. "Only the youth of the Bhandara and Gondia districts will get jobs in this factory. There is no politics here. We support politics for progress and politics for development," Shri Gadkari said.

He promised that farmers who sell sugarcane to the Wainganga Cooperative Sugar factory would get "100 per cent payment in eight days".

Shri Gadkari said he did want to stop farmer suicides in the district, create employment, and make farmers debt-free.

The factory bought by Gadkari's company at over Rs 14 crore is expected to generate direct employment for around 5,000 local youth, indirect jobs for more than double the number and benefit around 2 lakh sugarcane farmers in Bhandara and Gondia districts — stronghold of the NCP and the Congress. ■ (FOC)



region and to make farmers debt-free.

"Government wants to know who will run this sugar factory. Leaders from here are more interested in cricket than in running a sugar factory. NCP leaders Shri Sharad Pawar and Shri Praful Patel are more interested in cricket than problems of farmers, the unemployed, and the poor," Shri Gadkari said.

For rising prices of essential commodities, Shri Gadkari has maintained that the whole

will quit politics. Shri Sharad Pawar and Shri Praful Patel are watching cricket at night in floodlight. There it is Twenty-Twenty and here it is (power-cut) 24x24 (hours)," Shri Gadkari said. He also lambasted Congress President Smt. Sonia Gandhi for failing to remove poverty and give adequate power supply to people despite making these promises during polls.

"You all said Sonia aayi hai, roshni laayi hai (Sonia has come, she has brought power). Congress said garibi hatao



# Gujarat Golden Jubilee Mega Festival creates a golden milestone in history

Swarnim Gujarat Mahotsav was inaugurated by the Governor Dr.Smt.Kamla on May 1,2010 in the august presence of Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Chairman of BJP Parliament Party Shri L al Krishna Advani, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt Sushma Swaraj, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley, Chief Ministers of various States, Deputy Chief Ministers and eminent leaders. Gujarat Governor observed that the event is of immense importance for Gujrati community, it is truly a historic occasion. The fifty years journey in the life of a State is not considered a long period. It is also an occasion to reflect upon history, to take a glimpse on milestone achievements. The introspective process paves way



for future progress and prosperity, surely offers inspirations and insights.

Golden Jubilee Mega Festival opened to an overwhelming public response, Sardar Patel stadium was packed to its capacity.

Sardar Patel stadium was converted into cauldron of cultural diversity. Original and congenial Gujarati music and

songs pervaded the stadium-mesmerized audience. Golden Jubilee Mega Festival made a historic mark in the history.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Shri Lal Krishna Advani said on the occasion, "It has been my proud privilege that I am representing Gandhinagar in Lok Sabha. Gujarat is fortunate to have a visionary leader like Narendra Modi, who has a burning desire to realise his dreams. In a true sense, the celebrations have become people's festival. It is not just an official function. Shri Modi ji gives credit of Swarnim Gujarat to the people."

Fifty years since its inception, Gujarat stands out as one of the most progressive states, acclaimed nationally and internationally. On the occasion of Golden Jubilee, Gujarat Chief Minister extended warm greetings to the people. With meaningful and purposeful contribution from people, Gujarat has scaled new heights, added CM. He said, "I deeply value contribution from all. It is also

## Modi's able leadership taken Gujarat to new heights : Vajpayee

Former prime minister Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee praised the Gujarat chief minister Shri Narendra Modi, saying that his able leadership has taken the state to new heights. "Gujarat has had all-pervading and all-inclusive growth under chief minister Narendra Modi who has introduced new initiatives and schemes," Shri Vajpayee said in his message on Golden Jubilee celebrations of the state. "Fifty years have passed in a whisker (Gujarat and Maharashtra were separated from Mumbai state on May 1, 1960) and people of Gujarat are celebrating their golden jubilee. I would like to congratulate them," Shri Vajpayee said in the message. "Gujarat, which had played a pivotal role in freedom struggle, has once again emerged a leader in the country in establishing Suraj (BJP concept of good state)," he said. "The credit of this thing goes to hard work, liveliness and struggle of the people of the state. I am happy that this liveliness of people of Gujarat has got further momentum under the able leadership of Modi," Shri Vajpayee said.





an occasion to express our gratitude towards martyrs of Maha Gujarat Movement.

We have to realize the dream cherished by Ravishankar Dada and Induchacha, the land belongs to Pujya Bapu. We are inheritors of the great legacy that we inherited from Sardar Patel. It is an occasion to renew our pledge and commitment. People from the world over have come to participate in the golden jubilee festival. Gujarati Community spread over 50 countries and five continents have come to attend the event. The State government has identified 200 sectors. The state aims to act with full vigor to achieve golden goals, and to

enhance the human development index for the poor. We have concentrated on 50 issues, in the next ten years. The state government is all set to mark 50 Golden-Landmarks in next 10 years. Common vision, common goal, common dreams, Gujarat has potential to fulfill golden goals. "He inspired the youth to devote 100 hours of their time for Swarnim Gujarat. He outlined the theme of 'Vance Gujarat' and 'Khelkud Mahakumbh'"

The 5.5-crore Gujaratis ought to take one pledge, it would take Gujarat forward by 5.5-crore steps during the golden jubilee mega festival. He exuded confidence that Gujarat is sure to

reach such heights during the next 365 days, which no one dare compete. Representatives from states include Karnataka Chief Ministers Shri B.S. Yeddyurappa, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal, Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, Punjab's Deputy Chief Minister Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal and his colleague Shri Manoranjan Kalia and former Governor of West Bengal Shri Viren Shah attended the celebration. Gujarat's Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi had extended special invite to national and state leaders to take part in the 50th anniversary of Gujarat's Foundation Day. ■

## L. K. Advani on "Swarnim Gujarat"

The Sardar Patel Stadium in Ahmedabad is a huge stadium. In fact, with a capacity of 54000 seats, it is the largest stadium in Gujarat. I had last visited this place for the oath taking ceremony of Shri Narendra Modi and his Cabinet in December 2007 after the BJP's spectacular victory in the State Assembly elections.

So, on May 1 this year, the Golden Jubilee anniversary of the formation of Gujarat in 1960, I was astounded to hear when I reached this stadium, the venue for Swarnim Gujarat Celebrations, that the stadium was not only jam packed but that there were as many people outside the gates wanting entry as there were inside.

The Times of India, Ahmedabad, in its main story on page one reported:

"For a generation that has grown up knowing their home-

state of Gujarat only as a business-driven dry state on the west coast of the country, Saturday's (May 01) Swarnim show was an eye-opener. In brilliantly synchronized multimedia show that began with fireworks, the story of Gujarat from pre-historic era, through the era of Siddhraj Jaisingh, Sultan Ahmed Shah, the landing of Parsis at Sanjan and the separation of Bombay state to become a separate entity in 1960, was narrated before a jam-packed crowd at Sardar Patel stadium in Ahmedabad.

Something followed that may have never happened anywhere before. After profusely apologizing to the gathering Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced that the one and-a-half hour music dance cum laser show would be repeated on May 02 evening for those who had not been able to

attend that day !

In the last sixty years I have seen many government leaders celebrating silver jubilees, or golden jubilees of various events or institutions. But what Narendra Bhai Modi has done in Gujarat is something unique. Swarnim Gujarat Samaroh has been not just a government function. By his imaginative approach, and his innovativeness, and his charismatic appeal and hard work, he has actually made it a massive people's samaroh.

The *Jaya Nad*, for example which the Governor, the C.M., and I participated in at the University function of NRIs (from outside India) and NRGs (from other states of India) was organised at 7.30 PM on 30th April not only there, but at nearly 50000 places in all the cities, towns and 18000 villages of Gujarat at exactly the same time! ■

# House of scandals

By Balbir K. Punj

It looks like India is turning into a house of scandals. Last week, several skeletons tumbled out of the country's closet as allegations were being made of how in the Indian Premier League (IPL) money-laundering took place in the name of cricket and under the garb of "global entertainment". The question today is not who all were involved, but who among the celebrities are not involved.

institution has taken action against the auditors who were alleged to have colluded in the fraud, but what about the institution itself? The shadow of suspicion falls on it too when several cases of auditors not revealing the truth about corporate accounts surface.

Media reports say that other regulatory institutions have also been exposed. During the reign of senior Congress leader Arjun

demanding money to give recognition to an engineering college in Hyderabad.

Every day new fraudsters and scamsters are exposed by the media. The most recent one is the architectural regulator, the Council of Architecture. According to news reports, as many as 28 architects working with the world-famous Charles Correa have petitioned the government against this regulator of architectural education and practice. Apparently, the rot is far more widespread than we thought. The trail of sleaze and subterfuge is widening and reaches the government's altar. The government was revealed to be misusing the recently-installed technology for security agencies to tap the telephone lines of various politicians, including some United Progressive Alliance (UPA) members.

One newspaper reported that the role of telecom minister A. Raja in the high bids for 3G spectrum puts the focus on him once again. Last year he was accused of selling fresh telecom licenses at prices that were determined in 2001 when the mobile phone network was just expanding. The allegation against Mr Raja was that by deciding to sell 2G spectrum at a paltry Rs 1,651 crores to eight operators, he caused a loss of Rs 60,000 crores to the exchequer. But Mr Raja, who comes from the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, a coalition partner of the UPA-2, is stated to have used his political clout to sit pretty and safe in his

***The Congress fought tooth and nail to buy time on the Bofors scandal but even the joint parliamentary committee farce did not save it from the people's wrath. However, the time gained enabled some of the accused to transfer their money from one account to another, from one country to another, and finally when after a decade the account was zeroed in on, strange things started emanating from the government in New Delhi that helped the chief accused to cock a snook at the government. The Congress' saga of scams and sleaze is endless.***

As the curtain rose on the financiers behind the painted faces, we got a sneak peek at some dubious (Dubai-based) personalities. The drama is just beginning to unfold. But the IPL is not alone. Huge scams break out with every changing season. Last year we had the Satyam scandal. Its chairman B. Ramalinga Raju, who had received many awards for best entrepreneur, best management practitioner etc, turned out to be a crook who had defrauded the government and public of several thousand crores of rupees.

With the Satyam founder in jail, the focus turned to the very institution of auditors. The

Singh as Union human resources development minister, over 33 private institutions were recognised as "deemed universities". Now the curtain on this series of recognitions has been removed and the resulting exposure of muck has resulted in the University Grants Commission itself coming under the scanner. The regulator for technology institutions, the All-India Council of Technical Education, has already seen chairman Ram Avtar Yadav and secretary Narayan Rao guillotined for their role in awarding recognition to suspect or sub-standard institutions and departments. Rao was caught

chair despite the scandal.

The Congress-led UPA-2 government has let loose the income-tax sleuths on the IPL promoters. But this display of virtue is marred by the fact that all these IPL auctions had been going on for quite some months but the I-T authorities ignored the mystery — Who are they? From where do they bring so much money? Only when the Congress' blue-eyed minister was touched by the dispute were the I-T sleuths unleashed.

This leads us to the core of the rot. It is a part of the economic policy that is a wholesale adoption of the American model of growth. Look at the current controversies in the US involving financial companies like Goldman Sachs and Wall Street stock manipulators and the biggest fraudsters of them all, GM, who is said to have swallowed up to \$52 billion of investors' money. US President Barack Obama is fighting Wall Street operators to bring some probity to the American financial markets.

Goldman Sachs chief, Indiaborn Rajat Gupta, is alleged to have been accused by US investigators of using insider information to benefit certain people. Financial scandals, sexual shenanigans and corporate rape surface day after day in the US, some even touching the US Congress.

It is significant that from the day the Congress' Bofors scandal hit the headlines, successive Congress or Congress-led governments have all been blackened by scandals. Bofors, Harshad Mehta's market operations, the Bharat Shah scandal, the Sukh Ram residence turned-treasure house of ill-gotten money, the bribing of some tribal MPs for votes under the Rao

government, the deal of its senior leader Natwar Singh's relatives with the Iraqi dictator in the oil-for-dollar scheme and now revelations about favouritism during the days of Arjun Singh as HRD minister and the rot that festered in the educational regulators under him — the list seems endless. During Jawaharlal Nehru's regime, the first instance of misuse of office occurred with then finance minister T.T. Krishnamachari. This led the Prime Minister to demand Krishnamachari's resignation.

But his daughter Indira Gandhi promoted corruption in the name of socialism and secularism. We recall how the Pondicherry licence scandal report implicating the then money-spinner of the Congress government, L.N. Mishra, was

kept under wraps despite Opposition pressure to let people know the truth.

The Congress fought tooth and nail to buy time on the Bofors scandal but even the joint parliamentary committee farce did not save it from the people's wrath. However, the time gained enabled some of the accused to transfer their money from one account to another, from one country to another, and finally when after a decade the account was zeroed in on, strange things started emanating from the government in New Delhi that helped the chief accused to cock a snook at the government. The Congress' saga of scams and sleaze is endless. By the time this column appears, the country may have moved on to yet another scam. *(Courtesy : The Asian Age)* ■

## Modi urges PM to scrap committee on Narmada dam project

Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi has urged Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh to scrap the committee recently formed to review environmental measures of the multi-crore Narmada dam project, saying the new panel would serve no purpose.

In a letter to the Prime Minister, Shri Modi said that the April 28 decision of the Ministry of Environment & Forests was not in accordance with the present provisions of the Narmada project and the Supreme Court ruling on the subject in October 2000. "It is imperative to take the dam's height to the full reservoir level in order to extract benefits from this inter-state multi-purpose project," Shri Modi wrote to Shri Singh for raising the dam's height to 138 metres.

Shri Narendra Modi argued that it is paradoxical to form another committee as many Central bodies in the past have ruled in favour of the project. The Chief Minister said that as all aspects regarding security has been tackled properly, 48th meet of environmental sub-group of Narmada Control Authority (NCA), presided by Secretary to Ministry of Environment and Forest, has approved a height of 138 metres for the Sardar Sarovar Dam. He also said that as Narmada Control Authority had a complete monitoring set-up and the environmental sub-group was capable enough to take any step related to the project, there was no need for any other independent body to take decision on this issue. Taking all these points into consideration, the order to constitute one more committee on the Sardar Sarovar Project must be withdrawn, Shri Modi said. ■

# BJP demands judicial probe

**B**haratiya Janata Party demands judicial probe into the recent riots in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. The BJP also demands immediate release of compensation to all the victims, who lost lives and property in the riots perpetrated by MIM fundamentalists.

The fact-finding team led by Rajya Sabha Member Shri Prakash Javadekar presented its report on Hyderabad riots to BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari on April 23, 2010. Members of Parliament Shri Prakash Javadekar, Shri Shannappa, Shri Pralhad Joshi, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman (BJP National Spokesperson) and Shri Balasubrahmanyam Kamarsu (BJP National Media Co-convener), were also present.

The fact-finding team along with another member Dr. K. Laxman (National Secretary BJP) visited Hyderabad on 7th April



**BJP fact-finding team presenting its report on Hyderabad riots to BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari on April 23, 2010**

2010 and came to a conclusion that the riots were undoubtedly preplanned attacks on Hindus by the Congress and MIM combine. The committee interacted with the victims and cross section of people including reporters, NGOs, public representatives of various political parties and senior police officials. The team felt that international terrorists organisations with the help of local outfits unleashed systematic violence against Hindus with the larger design to change the demography of the old city.

“One of the factors that has come to our notice is that there was an attempt to intimidate a section of people to vacate the properties with an objective to occupy or buy them at throw-away prices. This is reportedly one of the reasons for the flare up of riots in the old city area. This

is also part of the larger design to effect a complete change in the demographic profile of the old city. Police and Government have been discriminatory. Instead of calling a spade a spade and booking cases on merits, the police are trying to balance the numbers which evidence discrimination. The way stones were pelted, the way people were stabbed point to hands of trained professionals”, the report said.

The report alleged that the intelligence department of the police miserably failed in tracking the activities of the ISI and the other terrorist organisations. “The government has succumbed to the pressure from the MIM. In fact the arrests of Hindus is being done at their behest, they are preparing the list. The helplessness of the police is visible in this aspect” the team charged. ■

## Cartoon Corner





# Petition to Human Rights Commission on Rotten Wheat and Rice

## BJP appeals for intervention

**W**ith BJP National Secretary Dr Kirit Somaiya & Dr Sudha Yadav filling a petition with an appeal to the Commission to intervene the issue of rotten wheat reached the Human Rights Commission on April 26, 2010.

In a 52, page document, the petitioners have also submitted samples of rotten wheat collected from various warehouses of the government. Petitioners have stated that till now more than 20 FCI/Govt. godowns across Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab and UP have been exposed for storing & mixing rotten wheat.

In the petition BJP leaders urged the Human Rights Commission to visit personally the open godowns and see the condition of stored wheat. Dr Kirit Somaiya stated that, 'it is a sad plight that on the one hand people are dying of hunger and on the other the Government is allowing wheat and rice to get rotten.'

The BJP observed that at some places the rotten wheat is being mixed with normal wheat and that is being distributed for human consumption. It is feared that a large portion of the 72 lakh tonnes of wheat that is lying in the open warehouse in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan are already rotten.

These incidents clearly portray that if poor people in India are starving and are forced to go to bed without meals then

the main reason behind this is not lack of production but the mismanagement and manipulation of the Government. The government is to be squarely blamed.

Respondents to the petition include Govt of India, Food & Consumer Affairs, Public Distribution Dept, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Corporation of India (FCI).

The petitioners had visited various open warehouses where it was observed that more than 1/3 quantity of all the grains stored had got damaged already. It was shocking to note that at various places the FCI has given out their own godowns to private parties. Wine bottles are stored in FCI godowns instead of wheat.

The Petitioners state that India has had bumper crop in successive years. The Government purchased/procured huge quantity of wheat and rice from farmers. Presently, Food Corporation of India is having 183.88 lac tonnes of wheat in the Central Pool against the buffer stock norm of 82 lac tonnes. Godowns of the government are overflowing with rice and wheat. As on 1st March 2010 against a buffer stock requirement of 200 lakhs tonnes, godowns were having a stock of 453 lac tonnes of grains.

As per the information of International Food Policy Research Institute India ranks 65th in the world in battling hunger. 10.5 percent of India's total food grain production goes waste.

The Petitioners request/ pray the Human Rights Commission:

- ◆ Respondents be directed to give correct account of the quantity of wheat and rice kept in open godowns by FCI and its agency. The Hon'ble Commission may appoint a committee including the Registrar, Petitioner and activist to visit and inspect every such open warehouse.
- ◆ Respondents be directed to immediately ban mixing of rotten wheat with normal quality of wheat and send it for distribution through PDS for poor people.
- ◆ Respondents be asked to obtain reports from laboratories about the quality, status, grade and shelf life of wheat and rice. ■



## NDA CMs criticise Centre's bias against non-UPA govts.

Chief Ministers of NDA-ruled States accused the Congress led Union government of adopting a non-cooperative attitude towards States where UPA partners are not in power and of hampering the process of development. "If you are ruling at the Centre and your party is not in power in the State, it does not mean you will try to obstruct the functioning of the State Government," said Bihar Chief Minister and JD(U) leader Shri Nitish Kumar at a function organised by Hindi daily Dainik Jagran on May 04. He further added the coalition government at the Centre should not disturb the coalition of the States and should not nurture the greed to finish the other coalition to form a Government of its own.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan from the BJP alleged that a number of development schemes in his State were pending due to obstructions by the Centre. "We were going ahead with construction of Maheshwar dam. All of a sudden, a letter came from Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh, asking for halting the work. I have been making rounds of Delhi Durbar since then but to no avail," he said.

"There are so many

obstructions. The thinking that a Government which is not of our own party should not be helped because it can again come to power if it gives results is wrong. This impedes development," Shri Chauhan said while speaking on the topic 'Coalition Government & Rapid Growth'.

The Bihar Chief Minister alleged that Central Ministers were also levelling unnecessary allegations against such State



Governments just to suit the interests of their party. Some people say no work is taking place in Bihar. Ministers say investment did not come. said Shri Kumar. "There are thousands of proposals for opening power plants in Bihar but where is the coal linkage? In the Eleventh Five Year Plan, there was not a single coal linkage for Bihar. Now, we are pinning our hopes on the Twelfth Plan. We have a number of proposals for ethanol but no permission from the Centre," he added.

Maintaining that "single party rule leads to dictatorship",

Deputy Chief Minister of Punjab Shri Sukhbir Singh Badal said his party, Akali Dal's experience in running a coalition Government with BJP had been encouraging.

Taking a dig at the Centre over the recent phone tapping controversy, he recalled how the Government led by late Prime Minister Chandra-shekhar had to go because two Haryana Police constables were found moving outside the residence of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Both Shri Kumar and Shri Chauhan welcomed the introduction of the Right to Education Act but said the Centre should meet the financial burden for it.

Shri Chauhan also favoured simultaneous elections for both Lok Sabha and State assemblies to ensure uninterrupted development, an idea which was supported by Kumar as well. He also demanded fixing the tenure of Lok Sabha and Assembly for five years and State funding of elections.

Praising Shri Nitish Kumar for creating employment opportunities in Bihar, Shri Badal said Kumar's good work had led to labour shortage in agriculture sector in Punjab forcing the State Government to take to mechanised farming. ■

## GUJARAT

## A book on 'Samajik Samarasta' by Narendra Modi released

During the release of his book '*Samajik Samarasta*' which is a compilation of articles and speeches on Dr. Ambedkar and various social issues in Ahmedabad on April 26 Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi said Dr. B R Ambedkar always worked for the unity of society and even when he converted, he converted to Buddhism, and not to Christianity or Islam.

Shri Modi said Dr. BR Ambedkar converted to a religion, Buddhism, which originated in Hindustan like Hinduism.

He further said Ambedkar and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel are two great leaders who have not received their due in post-independent India. Ambedkar always strived to achieve *Samajik Samarasta* (social assimilation) in the society which was divided into castes, sects and class Shri Modi said. The book was launched by Swami Sachidanand, who praised Shri Modi for his clean image and his efforts towards development of Gujarat. Swami Sachidanand said Gujarat has seen unprecedented level of peace and prosperity flourishing during Shri Modi's tenure as the Chief Minister. He said Shri Narendra Modi is a leader who is not bothered or deterred by his criticism.



## CHHATTISGARH

## State seeks 5% quota for weaker sections

Taking total job reservations for various sections of society to 80 per cent, a Cabinet sub-committee of Chhattisgarh Government has recommended 5 per cent reservation for economically weaker classes.

The sub-committee has recommended no change in 16 per cent existing reservation for SC and also increased the OBC quota from the present 14 to 27 per cent.

The State Government constituted the panel a couple of months ago. Home Minister Shri Nanki Ram Kawar was made the Chairman while senior

Ministers, including Shri Brij Mohan Agrawal, Shri Ram Vichar Netam, Shri Punnu Lal Mohle, Shri Chandrashekhar Sahu and Shri Kedar Kashyap were appointed its members. The committee in its final recommendation, to Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh, favoured five per cent reservation for the weaker sections.

## 14,000 MW power projects hanging fire

Thermal projects of more than 14,000 MW, at an estimated investment of Rs 70,000 crore, are embroiled in power play. The Chhattisgarh Government and Union Ministries for Power and Coal are ranged against Union Ministry for Environment & Forest for refusing clearances and putting the projects on hold.

Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh has already met Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh, Union Minister for Environment and Forest Shri Jairam Ramesh, Power Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde and others on the issue. The Chief Minister is likely to meet the Prime Minister in a bid to end the deadlock.

Official sources said the Chief Minister, during another meeting with Dr. Shinde will discuss ways to remove the hurdles "However, if the discussions fail the Chief Minister may meet the Prime Minister again," sources said.

The Union Ministry of Forest and Environment has intensenally not given clearance for 14 coal blocks in the Hansdev Forests, leading to about 14,000 MW power project hang in balance. Official sources said that power plant of private power companies proposed to be set up in the same forest for generating about 9,000 MW power had also suffered following decisions by the Union Ministry of Fores and Environment.

## MADHYA PRADESH

## As CM, Digvijay did nothing for Maoist-hit areas : Shivraj

MP Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan on April 26 raised serious doubts about AICC general secretary Digvijay Singh's intentions over the Maoist issue pointing that as Chief Minister, Digvijay was never serious about development and prosperity of the Maoist-infested areas.

Speaking to the media persons Shri Chouhan said that Maoism was not only a law and order

problem. Factually, no development was done in Maoist-infested areas earlier during the Congress rule. "Digvijay Singh never thought of development of Madhya Pradesh in the 10 years of his regime. Even after separation of Chhattisgarh, Singh never had any vision for development of Madhya Pradesh; otherwise the condition of Madhya Pradesh would have been quite different," he added. Shri Chouhan said that in 10-year rule, Digvijay Singh took Madhya Pradesh 50 years back in development.

Speaking on other issues Shri Chouhan stated that the campaign of BJP against price rise still continues after organising a huge rally in New Delhi on April 21. The signature campaign against skyrocketing prices of commodities was still on even at village level. Very soon, a memorandum in this regard would be sent to the President Smt. Pratibha Patil.

Regarding idea of conducting both parliamentary and Assembly polls simultaneously, he informed that he has already written to all the Chief Ministers, leaders of all the political parties and party presidents. A resolution in this regard was passed in Madhya Pradesh Assembly also. "Now, we are contemplating as how to accelerate our demand in this connection," he added.

### **CM writes to PM to revoke suspension of hydroelectric project**

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has written to Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh urging him to revoke the "arbitrary" order of the Union ministry of environment and forests to suspend work on the Maheshwar hydroelectric project on the ground that some environmental pre-requisites had not been complied with.

Shri Chouhan has pointed out that the MoEF decision to stop work on the Maheshwar project was "anti-development and anti-poor". He has even gone to the extent of telling the PM that the MP government has been "compelled to think that the MoEF was driven by some agenda that had driven it to put obstructions in the implementation of development projects. Maheshwar is one example; he has said adding that the MoEF had imposed the condition that two wildlife sanctuaries should be created to compensate for the submergence at Maheshwar when there was no forest land or wildlife in the area to be submerged. In his letter to

the Prime Minister, Shri Chouhan has said that stopping work on the project at this juncture would deprive the state 7.2 lakh units of power per day starting November this year and denial of 360 MLD water for the urban areas of Dewas and Indore. An investment of over Rs 2500 crores has been made on the power project and over 517 crore for the water supply project.

### **GOA**

### ***Police-politician-drug mafia nexus* Crime Branch trying to protect Congress Minister & his son : Parrikar**

BJP has alleged that the State Crime Branch was doing everything it could to scuttle a crucial criminal probe into a police-politician drug mafia nexus in the State. Speaking to reporters at the party headquarters on April 29, Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly Shri Manohar Parrikar, said although the Crime Branch knew the identity of the influential Minister's son, who was involved in drug trade, it was trying to protect both the Minister and his kin.

"Chandrakant Salgaokar, the Deputy Superintendent of Police probing the nexus is trying to sabotage the case on the instructions of police officers who are involved in drug trade," the former Chief Minister told a Press conference.

Shri Parrikar also said that Salgaokar was concealing the identity of the politician's son, whom a Swedish model had accused of having connections with the narcotics mafia. He also knows who the influential politician's son is with links to the arrested drug leader Atala (Yaniv Benaim alias Atala).

The police are only interested in covering up, Shri Parrikar charged, adding that the case should be handed over to the CBI. The Deputy SP had claimed that the official probe into the police-politician-narcotics mafia nexus had reached a dead-end. "There are no more names with us to follow up right now," Salgaokar said. Six policemen, including a former head of the anti-narcotics cell were arrested after the videos were broadcast on TV news channels and reported in the print media. In a recent e-mail interview, the Sweden-based model had alleged that she had videos establishing links of an influential Minister's son in the drug trade.



## KERALA

## BJP plans mass stir against Ranganatha Misra Commission report

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will launch a mass agitation in the State against the Ranganatha Misra Commission report, which will adversely affect Dalit and tribal communities.

Briefing the media on the proceedings of the three-day State-level leadership meeting that began in Kannur on May 02, BJP State General Secretary Shri A.N. Radhakrishnan said that the party would launch zonal level campaigns in Dalit and Adivasi colonies in all the 1000-odd panchayats in the State in the last week of this month to mobilise support for the agitation. The campaign would be held under the leadership of party leaders Shri O. Rajagopal, Shri C.K. Padmanabhan, Shri P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, Shri K.V. Sreedharan and Shri P.K. Krishnadas.

In June, the campaigns would be launched in all district centers against the Ranganatha Misra Commission Report. Panchayat level campaign would be held in July and on December 06. During this period BJP would organise rallies and hold seminar in four centers in the State. Party leaders and social activists in the country would participate in the seminars.

The leadership meeting attended by party District Presidents and Secretaries and State office-bearers discussed the consequence of Ranganatha Misra commission report, Shri Radhakrishnan said.

Asked about the party's strategy for the local body elections, he said the BJP had always approached the civic elections with an open mind because it viewed the elections to the local bodies as elections for development. To another question on the allegations of attempts to control temple administration, he said the party had always upheld its view that matters regarding temple administration should be decided after consultations with Hindu organisations.

## DELHI

## BJP demonstration against water crisis

Delhi BJP has staged a demonstration in North East Delhi and lambasted the ruling Congress Government of failing to sort out the water crisis in

the Bhajanpura and Jhilmil areas there. The party has accused Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee president and North East Delhi MP for diverting the water from Ghonda underground reservoir to Mustafabad for political considerations.

Delhi BJP President Prof. OP Kohli demanded that Delhi Government should work towards increasing the availability of water, preventing its misuse and wastage, and ensuring equitable distribution. He said that the Delhi Government was more concerned about organising cricket matches and the Commonwealth Games than the water scarcity which was acute and people have been compelled to come out on to the streets. On the issue of water, the area residents have already assaulted a Congress legislator in North East Delhi. It shows how much grave this problem is, he said.

Prof. OP Kohli criticised the alleged efforts by Shri Agarwal to divert the water from Ghonda UGR to Mustafabad terming it a 'step based on politics'. Stating that the people of Ghonda and Babarpur were already suffering due to scarcity of water, he said if more water were diverted away to other areas then the residents of these areas would be left craving for water. He also wondered why water is not being sought for Mustafabad from the Sonia Vihar and Bhagirathi water plants instead.

Delhi BJP President urged the party Karyakartas to organise demonstrations at ward and assembly level across all the areas that are facing a water crisis and on the issue of a proposed power tariff hike.

Besides Shri O.P. Kohli, Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Prof. V.K. Malhotra, BJP National General Secretary Shri Vijay Goel and party MLAs Shri Sahab Singh Chauhan and Shri Naresh Gaur addressed the demonstrators.

## ODISHA

## CBI probe a must for mining scam: Jual Oram

The Odisha unit of BJP has launched a massive campaign demanding a CBI inquiry into the multicore mining scam in Odisha. "Our workers have started writing graffiti demanding CBI inquiry into the mining scam," BJP State unit President Shri Jual Oram said in Bhubaneswar on May 05.

Shri Oram further said the BJP will write slogans against the mining scam on nearly 20,000

walls across the State. The BJP and other political parties are of the opinion that the scam has touched a whopping Rs 3 lakh crore.

Shri Jual Oram said another campaign has been started against the ongoing suicides among farmers and the Naveen Patnaik led BJD Government's failure to tackle the issue. "We will organise a huge yajna for the welfare of farmers on May 16 on the auspicious day of Askhay Tritiya," Shri Oram said.

## UTTARAKHAND

### Kumbh success is BJP Govt's biggest achievement: Nishank

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, who will soon complete a year in office has said that I am a happy man today. The Mahakumbh 2010 has successfully concluded on April 28 setting many records. The credit for this goes to my team and the people of Uttarakhand, especially those of Haridwar, who supported the administration in every way," Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank said.

It was one of the biggest challenges that a Government can face and meet, said the Chief Minister who has been receiving compliments from all over the country and world for the successful conduct of the Mahakumbh. More than six crore people from 140 countries participated in the event which will remain memorable for us, he said.

Speaking about his Government's resolve to clean the Ganga, Shri Nishank said that an

autonomous Ganga Protection Board would be constituted soon and the State Government was looking for support from the Centre. In December, the CM launched 'Sparsh Ganga', a movement to clean the river.

## UTTAR PRADESH

### BJP to launch *Bhanda Phod* campaign to expose Congress & other parties

The BJP has decided to launch a *Bhanda Phod* campaign next month in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar against the Congress, Samajwadi Party and the Bahujan Samaj Party. Speaking at the party headquarters in Lucknow on May 03, BJP National Vice-President Shri Kalraj Mishra said the month-long campaign will begin from the village level and go up to the state level. According to him, the SP and BSP are fooling the masses and BJP will show their real faces to the people in this campaign.

Shri Kalraj Mishra said while inside the Parliament these parties were seen supporting the Congress led UPA government on the cut motion, outside the Parliament, 13 parties, including SP and BSP were holding protests and setting buses on fire protesting against UPA's policies and price rise. This act primarily demonstrates that the SP and BSP are with the Congress.

He added that the ruling parties have always misused the CBI and perhaps these parties are scared of CBI probes against them. He said the *Bhanda Phod* campaign of BJP will finally expose the real faces of these parties in Uttar Pradesh. ■

## BJP to provide interest-free loan to every youth on coming to power : Varun

BJP National Secretary Shri Varun Gandhi MP took a dig at UP Chief Minister Sushri Mayawati for misrule in the state. Shri Gandhi was speaking in Sujanganj meeting, in Garwara Assembly of Uttar Pradesh.

Referring to the Dantewada tragedy, Shri Varun said that when he met the mother of one of the slain CRPF jawans from UP, she said her concern was not money but honour for her martyr son. She requested the administration to allow her to

install a martyr's statue but the Government denied it.

"When Mayawati is installing her own statues costing hundred of crores, how can a mother be denied to install the statue of her martyr son," Shri Varun asked the crowd.

Amid thousands of people, the newly appointed national secretary of the BJP said that Poorvanchal would become centre of the new revolution with the youth having the lead role.

Praising the youth for their bravery and self-respect, he assured them that even if they committed a mistake he would stand by them. He said the need of the hour was to make the youth self-reliant and if voted to power either at the Centre or at the State, the BJP Government will provide an interest-free loan of Rs 10 lakh to every youth. ■



...Continued from page 5

case against him. The case of Shri L.K.Advani relating to the incident of 6th December, 1992 is being proceeded on a factually false basis by changing the interpretation of Advani's appeal to the Kar Sewaks to come down from the disputed structure. The whole basis of the CBI case is that this appeal by Advani was intended to protect the Kar Sewaks from injury and does not indicate that he was not a part of the larger conspiracy to demolish the disputed structure.

Today the State of Gujarat is witnessing the tyranny of the CBI with a systematic effort being made to harass the functionaries of the State Government, particularly police officers, in order to intimidate them and take vindictive action against them. This is being done in cases which have already been investigated by the Special Investigative Team set up by the Supreme Court. The attempt of the CBI is to create false cases on the strength of political instructions of the UPA.

The CBI has lost its investigative integrity. It has become a political arm of the ruling party. The CBI has been used to strike political bargains with opposition parties during the Trust Vote of 2008 and the Cut Motion of 2010. Today the CBI is being used to harass senior leaders of the NDA and other Opposition parties.

We have been constrained to approach you in order to impress upon this Government and ensure that this gross abuse of the CBI ceases to take place. We urge you to caution this Government that in case this abuse of the CBI continues we in the Bharatiya Janata Party will be left with no option but to fight this abuse on all forums, in Parliament, before the courts and before the people of India.

Thanking you,

**L.K. Advani**  
Chairman,  
BJP Parliamentary Party

**Sushma Swaraj**  
Leader of the Opposition  
Lok Sabha

**Arun Jaitley**  
Leader of the Opposition  
Rajya Sabha ■

## J&K BJP protests against proposed hike in power rates

**B**JP District Jammu activists on May 5, under its president Shri Rajesh Gupta, took out a protest march from party headquarters, which culminated outside the PDD office at Parade, where the effigy of the Chief Minister, who holds the portfolio of Power Department, was burnt.

Rajesh Gupta, while addressing the party activists on this occasion, expressed grave concern over the proposed hike from the existing rupees 40 to rupees 200 for one Kilowatt.

Under this plan, a minimum of rupees 200 will have to be paid by every consumer. He said this high jump of 500 per cent increase by the department can not be justified in any way.

He said the people are already finding it difficult to manage their monthly budget due to price rise of essential food items and this all time hike has

created more problems for them.

Rajesh Gupta said that on one hand the government has hiked the tariff, on the other it has failed to ensure regular supply of electricity to the consumers. A minimum of five hours cuts is imposed to the areas, which are fully metered, and those, which are still unmetered there is power cut



of 13 hours in these days of scorching summers. The power cuts of such long durations have badly affected the housewives, students, patients and aged people. He said the revenue generation by the PDD is maximum from Jammu region while the department is more concerned for

regular supply to the valley, which is yet another glaring example of discrimination with the Jammu region. ■

...Continued from page 13

The weakness of our  
Legal architecture

The case against the 26/11 conspirators was tried under the ordinary laws of the land. Ordinary laws are not sufficient to fight terror. Even the liberal democracies of the Europe and the USA have special laws. But

investigators to reconstruct the crime and discover the truth with regard to the secret conspiracies has been crippled. The secret meeting of minds of the conspirators before the terrorist offence will have no eye witnesses or video recordings. They are proved either by circumstantial

consequences will be the judgment like the one rendered yesterday. Without the admissibility of the evidence, how would you have the Karachi limb of the 26/11 conspiracy established? In this case, at least, we had a part judicial confession from Kasab. What if in a trial, even that is not available.

#### **Muslim clerics and scholars welcomed the capital punishment**

In Lucknow, Muslim clerics and scholars have welcomed the capital punishment awarded to the Mumbai terror attack convict Kasab saying the court verdict has reiterated the faith of all countrymen in Indian judicial system. "There could not have been any lesser punishment than capital sentence to Kasab who is responsible for the killing of scores of innocent people and it is the right decision", Vice President of All India Muslim Personal Law Board and noted Shia scholar Kalbe Sadiq said.

The Home Minister should once again seriously introspect. Is the acquittal of these alleged conspirators a failure of Indian investigators and prosecutors? The unequivocal answer is - No. It is the failure of Indian Parliament, in which the ruling UPA failed to provide an adequate legal infrastructure, competent enough to collect evidence and fight terror. Our prosecutors and investigators are crippled for reasons of the vote bank compulsions of the UPA. ■

the Congress party's vote bank politics has prevented the enactment of the special Anti-terror law in India. The effect of this is that the ability of the

evidences or by confessions of one of the accused. If you cripple the investigators by treating the confessions made to senior officers as inadmissible, the

Continued from 9

security measure where inadvertently some other calls got recorded.

This was not the only discrepancy in PC's statement. He also calls NTRO a "technical organisation". In fact, the NTRO was set up as an intelligence-gathering agency in 2004 on the recommendations of a joint task force on intelligence headed by former RAW chief Girish Saxena (set up after the Kargil war). One of the members of the task force in 2000 was retired IB director M.K. Narayanan who later went on to become NSA in the first UPA government. Coming back to the home secretary's role, he can only authorise interceptions after the agency shows justification for tapping a specific phone. Instead, NTRO vehicles carrying the off-the-air GSM/CDMA monitoring devices would leave the base units regularly for routine "intelligence sweeps" in the heart of Delhi. Details of these trips are neatly recorded in an "operations logbook" marked "Top Secret". In eight columns, the logbook records the daily trips, areas of deployment and other details. Every day, the designated team leader would sign the logbook entries with remarks, if any. Project

leaders and centre directors would then put their signatures to the opening and closing entries for each month along with sundry details such as total kilometres clocked, fuel averages etc. If this is matched with the purported "written authorisations" by the home secretary, it will show that the NTRO was breaking the law and its machines were being actively misused.

It's entirely possible that the PM wasn't aware of these secret missions. In fact, the NTRO chief was reporting only to the then NSA, M.K. Narayanan. No one else, say sources, had access to NTRO's doings. "Till 26/11 happened, he controlled all the agencies," says an intelligence official. Ironically, Chidambaram, now in the dock, has spent the bulk of his time in the home ministry trying to prevent the misuse of intelligence agencies. Experience across the world shows that incidents of illegal tapping invariably lead to parliamentary committees stepping in to investigate and stricter laws coming into force. Unfortunately, PM Manmohan Singh's first reaction was to rule out a JPC to probe the charges. Therein hangs a tale. ■ (Courtesy: Outlook)