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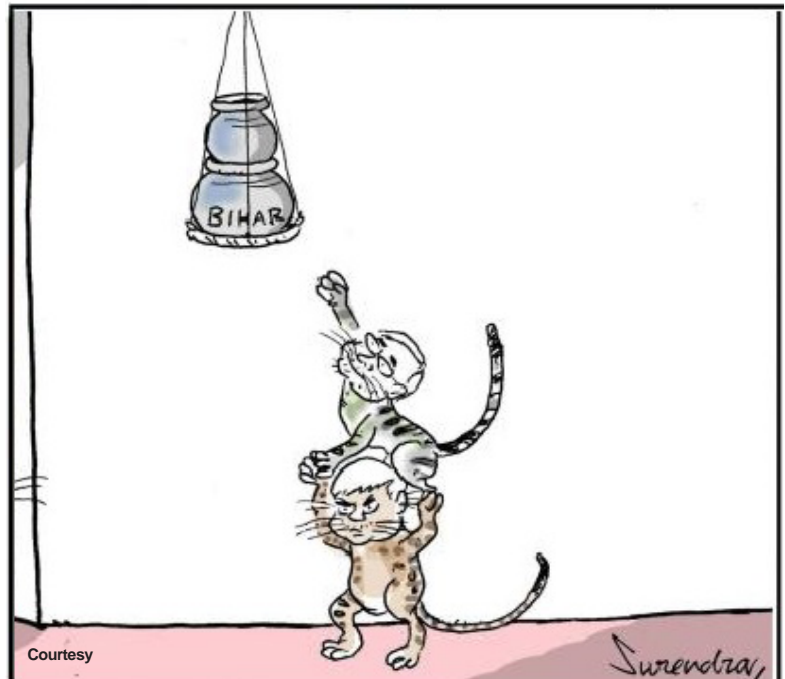
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*But anyone who regulates the senses by the mind O Arjuna, begins the science of uniting the individual consciousness with the Ultimate Consciousness by the actions of the working sense organs without desire for results; he is superior*

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-III, 7)

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“We will leave no stone unturned in fulfilling the aspirations of the dynamic & industrious people of Bihar.”

-Narendra Modi



“India cannot grow at 10% unless the East catches up, and manages to grow fast, and uneven growth within the country cannot be sustained.”

-Amit Shah

## Krishna Janmashtami : 05 September, 2015

**S**ri Krishna Janmashtami, also known as Srikrishna Jayanti or sometimes merely as Janmashtami, is a major annual Hindu festival celebrated on the birth of Lord Krishna.

Hindus celebrate Janmashtami by fasting and staying up until midnight, the time when Krishna is believed to have been born. Images of Krishna’s infancy are placed in swings and cradles in temples and homes. At midnight, devotees gather around for devotional songs, dance and exchange gifts. Some temples also conduct readings of the Hindu religious scripture of the Bhagavad Gita.

Janmaashtami popularly known as Dahi Handi in Maharashtra and is celebrated as an event which involves making a human pyramid and breaking an earthen pot (handi) filled with buttermilk (dahi), which is tied at a convenient height.

Places in Uttar Pradesh that are associated with Krishna’s childhood, such as Mathura, Gokul and Vrindavan, attract huge visitors from all over the world. People in the city of Dwarka in Gujarat – where Krishna is believed to have established his Kingdom, celebrate the festival by visiting the Dwarkadhish temple.

In Jammu, kite flying is an important part of the celebration on his day. In the eastern state of Assam, North East, West Bengali and Odisha, people celebrate Janmashtami by fasting and worship until midnight. Purana Pravachana from the Bhagavata Purana is recited. The next day is called Nanda Utsav.

In Southern India, floors in houses are decorated with footprints made from flour, to symbolize Krishna’s childhood sport of stealing butter from houses. About eighty percent of the population of Nepal identify themselves as Hindus celebrate Krishna Janmashtimi as a major festival.

Janmashtami is a national holiday in Bangladesh. On that day a procession starts from Dhakeshwari Temple in Dhaka, the National Temple of Bangladesh the procession dates back to 1902. Janmashtami is celebrated by Pakistani Hindus with singing of bhajans and delivering of sermons on Krishna. The festival is also celebrated widely by Hindus and ISKCON followers in all over the world. ■





## From the ramparts of Red Fort...

**P** *Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort has further strengthened the faith of the people in our political system and democracy. He has again emphasized that development is the only mantra which may be an answer to many problems like casteism and communalism. 'Vikas ke amrit se smapradayikta aur jativad ko mitana hai' should be welcomed and pursued with full strength. At the same time he highlighted the importance of people's participation to make democracy successful. It is a fact which is known to everyone but practiced rarely by the political leaders. The prime minister has reiterated his commitment towards 'Janbhagidari' and the manner he has tried to ensure it through myGov.in, Mann ki Baat, inviting letters in lacs from the people and different interactions and dialogues with the people. In fact he has tried to make democracy function in a more effective and meaningful manner because India may succeed only when we make our democracy successful.*

*In his speech he also highlighted the achievements and commitment of his government. It is true that Jan Dhan Yojana today has become a huge achievement of the government not only in term of the 17 crore bank accounts but the record time in which it was completed. He reminded the people that on the last Independence Day he had promised to ensure time bound completion of the scheme and after one year it may be said that the promise has been fulfilled. While talking about the need for financial inclusion he also talked about the pyramid of development the wide base of the which constituted of Dalit, exploited, oppressed, deprived and neglected people. He said that his government is committed to strengthen this section of the society by opening the door of their financial inclusion through bank accounts and thereby bringing them in the financial mainstream of the economy. He also talked about world's largest social security initiative taken by his government to include poorest of the poor sections of the society. Pradhanmantri Suraksha Yojana , Atal Pension Yojana and Pradhanmantri Jivan Jyoti Yojana – these are the three schemes which have created a new roadmap of social security through insurance and pensions. Swachh Bharat has also caught the imagination of the people and he thanked the children for acting as the most important brand ambassador by creating awareness about cleanliness both within and outside the family. He also talked about Shramev Jayate which has brought in revolutionalry change for the labourers of unorganized sectors by ensuring dignity of labour along with many social security schemes. By simplifying labour laws and reducing*

**Editorial...**

*them from 44 to four codes has further helped the labourers.*

*While talking about corruption the prime minister further resolved to make India corruption free and talked about various initiatives taken by the government in a very short time. The DBT scheme of the LPG cylinders has not only removed corruption in the system but also saved 15000 crore rupees while 20 lac people have voluntarily given up LPG subsidy. The nation has earned around 3,00,000 crore rupees through the auction of coal blocks and country has also earned enormous amount through transparent system of auction of spectrum. He also talked about the efforts made on the issue of black money which he raised during G-20 summit. The strong law enacted on black money has ensured that now no black money may be transferred outside the country while process of bringing in black money stashed in foreign countries is progressing. The other achievement of the government was on the front of price control – the inflation was kept in control even in the face of deficit rain last year. The double digit inflation was tamed and progressively brought down and the trend is continuing.*

*The Prime Minister touched almost all the issues related to villages, farmers, jawans, youth, Dalit, tribal and women. While talking about several initiatives taken for the farmers and improvement in agriculture he said that the name of Ministry of Agriculture will be changed to include 'Welfare of Farmers' with a focus on the farmers also. He further said that while steps are being taken to ensure supply of water and electricity to the farmers 18,500 villages which have not yet seen electricity will be connected with electricity lines. Announcing an innovating scheme of start of Start Up India and Stand Up India he called upon the 1,25,000 branches of the banks in the country to give loan to at least one dalit or tribal and a women and help nurture entrepreneurs from these sections as a tribute on the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar. He also called upon those who want to invest in India to create maximum employment opportunities which will entitle them to special packages. He also appealed to remove the provision of interviews for junior level government jobs as it will help in removing corruption also. He announced, that the government has accepted 'One rank, One pension' in principle and modalities for its implementation are being worked out and people will receive good news shortly.*

*The Prime Minister's address to the nation has further strengthened hope and confidence about the future and people are feeling encouraged to participate in the nation building process. The nation was assured of the good works done by the government and apprised of the fast progress that has been achieved on almost all fronts. The expectation of the people has been answered by the untiring efforts of Narendra Modi who is working day and night to ensure that India attains its desirable place in the comity of the nations. His appeal to every countrymen to contribute to the process of nation building and resolve to make India a developed, prosperous, corruption free and vibrant nation is finding resonance with every Indian. Prime Minister's address has not only motivated the nation but instilled every Indian with new energy to work for the great future. ■*

# Team India will take the country to new heights : PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15 hoisted the National Flag(tri-colour) from the ramparts of Red Fort on the occasion of 69th Independence Day. In his second Independence Day speech after taking oath as country's PM, Modi lauded Team India - a team of 125 crore Indians - for their efforts in the prosperity of the country and said the team will take the nation to new heights. "This is Team India, a team of 125 crore Indians. This is the team that makes the nation and takes our nation to new heights," he said in his Independence Day speech. "This country has progressed due to Team India. Had the world ever thought that when so many people become a team, it takes the country to new heights and saves the country," he said. People from all walks of life were gathered outside the Red Fort premises amid tight security arrangements to participate in the flag hoisting ceremony

and listen to the PM's speech.

Here are the highlights of the PM's Independence Day speech:

- ❖ I salute our brave freedom fighters today
- ❖ This is the Team that makes the nation and

Bhagidari is increasing", the PM said.

- ❖ The poor want to move away from poverty and that is why, all our programmes must be for the poor.
- ❖ Bank accounts are



takes our nation to new heights

- ❖ Be it casteism or communalism, there is no place for them. In no way can they be tolerated
- ❖ 'Jan Bhagidari' is the biggest asset of our democracy. "Be it MyGov, letters from citizens, Mann Ki Baat, communication with people...daily Jan

essential for integrating poor into the financial system, 17 crore people opened accounts under Jan Dhan Yojna.

- ❖ All our programmes and institutions should be helpful to the poor; have to empower them through financial inclusion.
- ❖ Last time from the Red Fort I spoke about toilets and cleanliness. People

wondered what kind of PM is he, talking about these issues.

- ❖ If there is something that has touched every person, it is the movement towards cleanliness.
- ❖ Almost 4.25 lakh toilets were built in 2.62 lakh schools nationwide in one year; this gives self-confidence that we can do what we want.
- ❖ Who has given maximum strength to Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan? It is the children of India.
- ❖ We have been very successful in our campaign to make toilets, especially for girls in schools across India.
- ❖ We introduced Shrameva Jayate Yojana. It is an effort to change the way we look at the workers of India.
- ❖ Dignity of labour has to be our national duty, it has to be a part of our nature.
- ❖ India can be free of corruption but we need lots of measures. We have to start from top.
- ❖ Some people like to remain in 'Nirasha'. And they are not satisfied till they have spoken about it to other people.
- ❖ 20 lakh Indians have given up LPG subsidy
- ❖ Coal block auction has been undertaken by the govt, national exchequer will get Rs 3 lakh crore.
- ❖ On the issue of black money, we took a lot of

steps within such a short time. We formed a SIT under the SC's guidance the day we took over.

- ❖ Some people are worried about tough law on black money. It has ensured that nobody dares to take

- *Government to club 44 labour laws into four codes to simplify them for the people.*
- *Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana launched with an outlay of Rs 50,000 crore.*
- *Ministry of Agriculture would be renamed as the ministry of agriculture and farmers' welfare.*
- *Boost to financial inclusion with 17 crore bank accounts opened through the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana.*
- *Scheme for direct transfer of LPG subsidy has resulted in savings of Rs. 15,000 crore.*
- *Promise of toilets in all schools had been almost fulfilled with the cooperation of states.*
- *Corruption cases probed by CBI have gone up from 800 before NDA government assumed office to 1800 now.*
- *Each of 1.25 lakh bank branches should encourage at least one dalit or adivasi entrepreneur and at least one woman entrepreneur.*
- *A house and access to basic services like electricity to all by 2022.*

black money out of the country.

- ❖ PM makes disclosure that Rs 6500 crores disclosed under compliance window of black money and foreign assets law.
- ❖ CBI has registered 1800 corruption cases after we formed government.
- ❖ India cannot develop till the eastern part of India develops.
- ❖ India will progress if Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha and the north east develop.
- ❖ Even after so many decades of Independence there are 18,500 villages in India which do not have electricity.
- ❖ We affirm our commitment to provide electricity to all those villages that do not have electricity.
- ❖ Agriculture ministry to be renamed as ministry of agriculture and farmer welfare for institutionalised care of the farmers.
- ❖ This is not just a change in nomenclature of the ministry. This means farmers issues would get prime importance in the ministry's scheme of things.
- ❖ A new vertical has been created to look after farmers' welfare and to help those farmers who are in distress.
- ❖ 'Start up India' and 'Stand up India', PM exerts in his speech.

- ❖ As part of the Skill India and Digital India initiative, the Prime Minister said a package of incentives will be given to manufacturing units for generating jobs.
- ❖ Our government has agreed to One Rank One Pension in principle, talks are in last stages.
- ❖ The Prime Minister reiterated his government's resolve to make India a developed nation by 2022, with a house and access to basic services like electricity, to all. He said the government had resolved to connect with electricity, all the 18,500 villages which still remain without power, within the next 1000 days. He also reiterated his vision for the development of eastern India.
- ❖ Questioning the practice of "interviews" for recruitments even at relatively junior levels, the Prime Minister called upon concerned departments to end this practice at the earliest, and to promote merit by recruiting only through transparent, online processes. ■

## Rededicate yourselves in creating a new and great India under the leadership of Shri Modi : Amit Shah

The BJP National President Shri Amit Shah on 15 August, 2015 urged the people of the country, especially the party workers, to pledge themselves to help create a strong India under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Unfurling the national flag at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi, Shri Shah paid rich tributes to freedom fighters who fought for the independence of the country and exhorted partymen to rededicate themselves in creating a new and great India."

Shri Shah said, "Let us again rededicate ourselves to the nation and move forward shoulder-to-shoulder under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi in creating a new and great India."

"I appeal to people of the country, especially the BJP workers, to take a pledge to help contribute and take forward the work carried out under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's leadership in building a strong India and taking it forward," Shri Shah said in his address.

Remembering the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation, he said, "I also pay my rich tributes to all those who participated in the country's freedom struggle and helped the country be independent and due to whose contribution our national flag is flying high."

He added that after this 68-year journey, the nation has once again committed itself to achieve the future goals.

Among others a number of BJP senior leaders including Union Minister Shri JP Nadda, Shri Vinay Sahsrabuddhe, Shri Shyam Jaju, Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, BJP Office Secretary Shri Arun Kumar Jain and other Karyakartas attended the function. ■



## People of Bihar want change and have taken the decision on Parivartan : Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed a massive rally in Gaya, Bihar on 09 August, 2015. Shri Narendra Modi said that the huge turnout clearly shows people of Bihar wanted change in the state. He added that people in the state have decided to make Bihar stronger and have also taken the decision on Parivartan, a change in regime.

“The increase in numbers show which way the wind is blowing. People have decided they want to make a strong Bihar and they’ve also taken the decision on Parivartan”, said the PM.

The Prime Minister said that coming elections were all about making Bihar free from Jungle Raaj and an arrogant government who have ruled for twenty five years. He added that in the yesteryears, political parties like JDU and RJD have destroyed the golden past of Bihar.

The PM said that these parties have shattered the dreams of people of Bihar and stalled the progress of the state.

“They have been ruling Bihar for twenty five years. If this goes on for five more years, the state will be destroyed”, added the PM.

He urged the people of

Bihar to elect a stable BJP Government for progress of the state. “Bihar has contributed the most in the country’s development. We see a Bihari IAS officer in almost every corner of the nation”, he said.

Taking a dig at JDU and RJD, Shri Modi said that they

BJP worker was killed. It happened under their nose. It’s a start of Jungle Raj again”, PM added.

Shri Modi said that the youth of Bihar needed skill development and technical education. He noted that there were only 25,000 engineering seats for over 80



stood for ‘Janata ka Daman aur Utpidan’, ‘Rozana Jungleraj ka Darr’ respectively. The PM said that the Chief Ministers, Lalu Prasad Yadav and Nitish Kumar have left people of Bihar in darkness.

He said that both the parties were driven by vote-bank considerations and caste-based politics. “Their politics is driven by votebank considerations and they did nothing for Gaya. In Patna a

lakh students in Bihar as compared to other smaller states where there were many more engineering seats. He also talked about boosting tourism in the state that would add the development of Bihar.

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, Union Ministers Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Shri Sushil Modi and other BJP leaders attended the event. (FOC)■



## Bihar is moving towards politics of development : Narendra Modi

**A**fter dedicating development projects worth Rs. 1.25 lakh crores in Ara district of Bihar, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed a mega Parivartan Rally in Saharsa on

him, he would never comment about them in public. "But when because of arrogance, the pain of the people is toyed with, I can't stop myself", he further added.

The PM said, the people

voice against corruption. He held the Congress party under Indira Gandhi's rule responsible for the same. "Who is responsible for the demise of JP? These people of the Congress who played these games with JP", said the Prime Minister.

In his address, the PM also took note on surge in crime rates under the current JDU Government. "In January 2015 the crimes in Bihar stood at 13,808. In 6 months the number has reached 18,500", said Shri Modi. He expressed concern over the number of riots in Bihar that rose steadily from around 866 in January to around



18 August, 2015. Speaking about the upcoming state elections, the Prime Minister said that it was very clear which way the wind was blowing in Bihar.

He noted that how seven years back the flood in Kosi River adversely affected the lives of lakhs of people in the entire state. Adding further, the Prime Minister quoted, "People across India stood with you during those times. But the arrogance of a few people in power is such they can't understand things." Adding further the Prime Minister said that if someone launched a personal attack on

from Gujarat had contributed Rs. 5 crore from their hard earned money for relief work after the devastating flood but those in power at that time refused the cheque. "See the arrogance. You were suffering while their arrogance was sky high. He sent the cheque back. Is this behaviour acceptable?" said Shri Modi. Speaking further, Shri Modi said that due to such arrogance, the dreams of people of Bihar were shattered completely.

Shri Narendra Modi also recalled the contribution of Jayaprakash Narayan who was put in jail during the Emergency period for raising

1500 by the month of June. The common people of Bihar, Shri Modi said were not safe. "These killings and riots have to stop", the PM added.

PM Narendra Modi said that today's Bihar was moving towards the politics of development. He exhorted the people of Bihar to elect a steady and development oriented NDA Government in the coming State elections. Shri Narendra Modi said that the Centre has been committed to Bihar's development and the special package worth Rs. 1.25 lakh crores would change the face of Bihar. ■

## People repose faith on BJP in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

BJP sweeps Madhya Pradesh urban body polls

**T**he Bharatiya Janata Party swept the Madhya Pradesh urban body polls by winning eight out of 10 chairpersons' posts which chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan described as the people's rejection of the Congress' propaganda against his party. With the victory, the party now rules all the 16 municipal corporations in the state. The voting to the 10 urban bodies was held on August 12 and the results were declared by the state election commission on August 16. The Congress has won the lone chairperson's post in Sarangpur municipality of Rajgarh district and the remaining one has been bagged by an independent candidate in Ghuwara nagar parishad of Chatarpur district.

The BJP has won the Mayoral posts in Ujjain and Morena, chairperson's posts in Vidisha and Harda municipalities and Kotar, Chaakghat, Bhainsdehi and Suvasara nagar parishads, the state election commission official said. An elated chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan visited the BJP headquarters in Bhopal to celebrate the victory with the party workers amidst fireworks, drums and slogan-shouting.

BJP registers an impressive win in Rajasthan municipal elections

**B**haratiya Janata Party registered an impressive win in municipal elections in Rajasthan. Elections results for the 129 civic bodies – including the Ajmer municipal corporation, 15 municipal councils, and 113 municipalities – that went to poll on August 17, were announced on August 20.

Out of the total 3351 wards, BJP won 1435 while the Congress won 1162.

Of the 113 municipalities, BJP won 62, leaving the Congress with 25. Independents won 17 while nine had hung assemblies. BJP also won the Ajmer municipal corporation, cornering 31 out of 60 seats.

Chief minister Vasundhara Raje thanked the people of Rajasthan for reposing their faith in "Sushasan" or good governance.

"Like always, this victory also belongs to the people and the BJP workers. Thanks for this unprecedented verdict," Smt. Raje tweeted. ■

### Victory of the developmental policies of BJP : Amit Shah

Congratulating the people of the state, BJP workers, organization officials and Chief Minister Smt. Vasundhara Raje Scindia on unprecedented and grand success of the BJP in civic body elections in Rajasthan, BJP President Shri Amit Shah said that this victory is the victory of the developmental policies of BJP and good governance in the state.

BJP President Shri Amit Shah has said that this victory is the mandate given by the people of Rajasthan against anti-developmental and negative politics of baseless allegations of Congress President Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Congress Vice-President Shri Rahul Gandhi and the people have shown the mirror of truth to Congress via this victory.

He said that there is an anger in public against the negative tendency of the Congress to obstruct country's development and economic progress and the people will continue to respond properly in the same manner in coming days. BJP President Shri Amit Shah said that the public court has dismissed the ongoing unrestrained and baseless allegations of the Congress and imprinted on BJP again expressing their allegiance to the development and good governance. He said that the Congress party standing at the sideline in the country's politics, needs to make serious soliloquy. ■

# Who is a Suitable Candidate?

-Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya

*An article published in Organiser on 4 December, 1961 discusses about the merit of a candidates selected for elections by the political parties. We are publishing it for our esteemed readers:*

The programme for the next General Elections, as announced early by the Election Commission, has been confirmed by the Government. Whatever the astrologers might predict, the people and the political parties have to be serious and business like in preparing to meet this great democratic challenge. Parties have finalised their list of candidates. While some of the order parties, notable the congress, experienced much difficulty in seeking an agreeable formula to satisfy the conflicting claims of factions and communal groups, the newer parties have had to make hectic efforts to find out 'suitable' candidates, to contest the elections on their symbol. A 'suitable' candidate is a term which is better understood than defend. However, for a correct appraisal of the political health of the country and the parties, it would be desirable to discuss some of the salient qualities of such a candidate.

A suitable candidate to a man of commonsense should be one who can represent the



party's views in the legislature, who has been nursing his constituency and can claim to air the feelings of its people. As an individual he should be devoted to the people and as a member of the party he seeks to represent, he should be disciplined and dedicated to its cause. If he has any other qualifications they may add to his stature, but they cannot be substituted for these basic ingredients of suitability.

But in India hardly any political party worries about these things. Their only consideration is that he should be able to win. Like race goers they have no love for a particular horse. They will bet on one which has brighter chances of winning. But they forget that in politics their association with the winner

does not end after the play. They have to carry the burden all through and it is through his medium that the party will be required to act in the legislatures and in the constituency.

Most of the political parties today have no grass-roots. The Congress which one day was a mass party in real terms has now ceased to have any hold on the masses. The newer parties have yet to work hard to endear themselves to the masses. Under these circumstances appeals other than those of the party have to be made. It is for this reason that the ex-rulers are being wooed by every party. Even minister have hesitated to oppose if any member of the ruling family is in the fray. And if they choose to go with the Congress, all other opposition candidates consider their chances of victory bleak.

Even granting that the ex-rulers have the citizen's right to participate in the elections, it must be admitted that the present state of affairs is not happy. The situation cannot be mended by ex-rulers but by the people and by the

various political parties. The ex-princely order must definitely be encouraged to take part in politics, but a ticket in the elections should not go to them by birth but by merit. People should also realise that a vote is not an instrument of expressing gratefulness to any candidate but a mandate to carry out their wishes.

Caste and communal considerations also play a great part in the selection of candidates. Congress is the worst sinner in this respect, but other parties also cannot escape the odium. This also is due to lack of a sound and solid organisation. It is no use abusing casteism. Those who do indirectly rely on it. Everybody in India belongs to some caste or community. By accusing the other party of indulging in casteism or communalism, you throw an indirect hint and make an unconscious and subtle appeal to these sentiments in the rest of the society. Experience of the last elections shows that candidates who tried to arouse caste feeling invited the antagonism and the united opposition of the rest and thus lost badly. But still that consideration weighs heavily with political parties. If other basic qualifications are there, I would not mind to what caste the candidate belongs. He cannot be a casteless human being at least not in India. But if the situation

develops to such an extent that even Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia had to forego his candidature only because he did not belong to the caste that numerically predominated in the constituency (this happened in a U.P. by-election, sometime back), it betokens a serious malady. The way out is to strengthen the party organisation, rather than accentuate appeal to caste

**Caste and communal considerations also play a great part in the selection of candidates. Congress is the worst sinner in this respect, but other parties also cannot escape the odium. This also is due to lack of a sound and solid organisation.**

considerations as the socialist doctor is trying to do by his promise of reserving sixty percent seats for backward castes and classes.

Financial viability is another big factor that influences the choice of candidates. A number of people are given tickets for no other qualifications than their capacity to spend money. These people come in the field at election time and then hibernate for five years in the crowded bustles of Calcutta and Bombay. They do not come to the people to solicit their votes but to purchase it. For them no price is too high. All that they want is to grease their way to the parliament. For them it is a business deal. The parties,

including the Congress, are so tight of fiancés that they are only too willing to oblige these aspirants for power and fame. The Congress has been reported to have struck a deal with some of the industrialists in Calcutta to give them some parliamentary seats if they promise to foot the election bill of the Assembly candidates. The Swatantra party is commonly charged as being a party of Dalal Street.

The financial stringency with the parties is so great that the Ganatantra Parishad has, just on that account, decided to merge with the Swatantra party.

All these are factors that are likely to give a wrong direction to the politics of the country. If steps are not taken to mend them, powerful lobbies will emerge in the country's legislatures and political decisions will hardly be taken in an objective manner taking into consideration only the welfare of the people and furtherance of national interests.

The parties that want to develop into major parties should be careful not to sacrifice principles for quick gains. People too have a duty, and if they exercise their franchise in a judicious and intelligent manner, they can also correct the distorted viewpoint of the political parties.

The voter should not complain; he should

command. He should not desire; he must demand. He should not grumble and grudge; but should assess and assert. The voter should see that he votes for a principle and not for a party, that he votes for a party and not for a personality, that he votes for a person and not for the purse.

Let him consider the cause and not the caste; go with the worthy rather than with the winner. Choose the right man and see that the man you choose wins; that will be your victory. If you simply go as a camp follower of the man who has created an impression that he win, you have already lost, whatever the result of the election be.

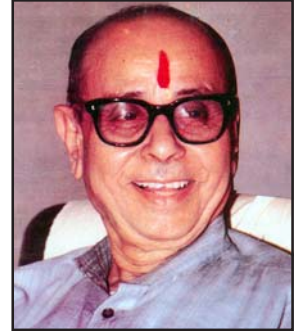
Vote is a matter of conscience. Do not sell it. Do not destroy it. When you vote take a momentous decision, please do not take it just on the spur of the moment.

Vote is an individual right to be exercised socially. It symbolises your freedom; use it freely. If you are a democrat do not be dictated by anybody but your conscience. Political parties that stand for the people also stand on the strength of the people. If the people want that nobody should bend them the people should lend them their strength.

It is the people who are the architects of political parties, and through them of their political destiny. Let them succeed in the great test they are faced with. ■

## Kushabhau Thakre Shat-Shat Naman!

**S**hri Kushabhau Thakre was born on August 15, 1922 in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh to parents Dr. Sundar Rao Shripati Rao Thakre and Smt. Shanta Bai Sundar Rao Thakre. He was educated at Dhar and Gwalior. In 1942 he was inducted as a Pracharak in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh then moved to the Ratlam Division (Ratlam, Ujjain, Mandsaur, Jhabua, Chittaur, Kota, Bundi, Jhalawad, Banswada(Raj.), Dahod (Gujarat)). Shri Kushabhau Thakre remains a guiding light to thousands of karyakartas of BJP who were inspired by him to dedicate themselves to nation building process. He is remembered as true karyakarta who held high offices in the party but always remained connected to the ground and committed to ideology and organization.



**RSS & Jana Sangh:** Shri. Kushabhau Thakre was associated with the RSS since 1942. He became Pracharak in 1942 at Neemunch (M.P.) and then moved to the Ratlam Division(Ratlam, Ujjain, Mandsaur, Jhabua, Chittaur, Kota, Bundi, Jhalawad, Banswada(Raj.), Dahod (Gujarat)).

A glimpse of his journey through the years in the Bharatiya Jana Sangh:

- 1956 : Secretary (Organisation) Madhya Pradesh since its inception.
  - 1967 : All India Secretary, Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Orissa and also additional in-charge of Gujarat.
  - 1974 : All India Secretary (Organisation).
  - 1977 : President, Madhya Pradesh Janata Party.
  - 1977 : Jailed for 19 months during Emergency.
  - 1979 : Elected to Lok Sabha in a bye-election from Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh.
  - 1980 : Was appointed All India Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party and in-charge of Gujarat, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. Remained on this post upto 1984.
  - 1984 to 1986 : All India Vice-President.
  - 1986 to 1991 : All India General Secretary and in-charge of Madhya Pradesh.
  - 1991 to 1993 : Vice-President and in-charge of Uttar Pradesh.
  - 1993 : General Secretary (Organisation) and in-charge Madhya Pradesh up-to-date.
  - 1998 to 2000 : President All India Bharatiya Janata Party.
- He left for his heavenly abode on December 28, 2003.

## Begining of a new and comprehensive strategic partnership



**P**M Narendra Modi was on 16th-17th August two-day historic visit to UAE by an Indian Prime Minister took place after 34 years of long period. Foreign affairs expert Shri C.Raja Mohan says, "There was nothing in the worldview of our first PM, Jawaharlal Nehru, which prevented India from undertaking a significant security role in Asia and the Indian ocean. However Pakistan played important role is sustaining the security legacy of the Raj in the region". As a result with deepening security ties with the region, Pakistan put India

on political defensive. PM Modi visit to UAE marked the beginning of a new and comprehensive strategic partnership between India and UAE in a world of multiple transitions and changing opportunities and challenges. He was warmly received by Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan at the Abu Dhabi airport. In a special gesture, five brothers of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan also accompanied him to welcome PM Modi at the airport. PM Narendra Modi was also accorded with

a Ceremonial Welcome. The Prime Minister also visited the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi. There was immense enthusiasm in the crowd seeing PM Modi at the mosque. PM Modi also reached out to Indian workers at the ICAD residential city and interacted with them. PM Narendra Modi thanked the UAE Govt for their decision to allot land in order to build a Temple in Abu Dhabi. A high level dinner was organised for PM Modi. Discussions were held regarding investment opportunities in India. India and the United Arab Emirates

agreed to elevate their relationship to a “comprehensive strategic partnership” with hefty security and economic content. “The two nations reject extremism and any link between religion and terrorism. They condemn efforts, including by states, to use religion to justify, support and sponsor terrorism against other countries. They also deplore

denounced terrorism “in all forms and manifestations, wherever committed and by whomever, calling on all states to reject and abandon the use of terrorism against other countries, dismantle terrorism infrastructures where they exist, and bring perpetrators of terrorism to justice”.

The UAE has signed up as part of an international US-led coalition against the

support efforts for peaceful resolution of conflicts and promote adherence to the principles of sovereignty and non-interference in the conduct of relations between nations and settlement of disputes”.

On the economic front, India will “encourage the investment institutions of UAE to raise their investments in India, including through the



efforts by countries to give religious and sectarian colour to political issues and disputes, including in West and South Asia, and use terrorism to pursue their aims,” said a joint statement released by the two countries at the end of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s two-day visit to the UAE.

The two countries will also “coordinate efforts to counter radicalization and misuse of religion by groups and countries for inciting hatred, perpetrating and justifying terrorism or pursuing political aims,” it said. Both countries

Islamic State, a Sunni hardline group, while India accuses Pakistan of sheltering anti-India Islamist militants. The statement also said India and the UAE would regularize security dialogue between their national security advisers, strengthen maritime security in the Gulf and the Indian Ocean region, reinforce defence ties through regular exercises of naval, air, land and special forces. The two countries “will work together to promote peace, reconciliation, stability, inclusiveness and cooperation in the wider South Asia, Gulf and West Asia region and

establishment of UAE-India Infrastructure Investment Fund, with the aim of reaching a target of \$75 billion to support investment in India’s plans for rapid expansion of next generation infrastructure, especially in railways, ports, roads, airports and industrial corridors and parks”, the statement said. India and the UAE will “promote strategic partnership in the energy sector, including through the UAE’s participation in India in the development of strategic petroleum reserves, upstream and downstream petroleum sectors, and

collaboration in third countries”.

Both countries will also cooperate in peaceful uses of nuclear energy in areas such as safety, health, agriculture and science and technology, it added. Earlier in the day, Shri Modi made a strong pitch for investments from the UAE, telling investors that India had the potential to absorb \$1 trillion immediately in areas like infrastructure, agriculture and warehousing. His Highness the Crown Prince and the Prime Minister resolved to maintain regular summits, high level ministerial dialogue and meetings of bilateral mechanisms to realize their vision of a strong comprehensive strategic partnership. They are confident that it would play a defining role in securing a future of sustained prosperity for their people and shaping the course of their region, and also contribute to a peaceful, stable, sustainable and prosperous Asia and the world.

PM's address at Dubai Cricket Stadium

On August 17, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed a very enthusiastic crowd of more than 50,000 Indian diasporas at the Dubai Cricket Stadium. Here are key highlights of the speech :

▶ I see before me here a mini-India. You are those people who have worked hard and are working here for many years. At the same time you are



enhancing India's pride.

- ▶ Even if it rains in India, people in Dubai open their umbrellas to keep us safe.
- ▶ When Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was the PM, India had conducted nuclear tests and the world was shocked. Sanctions were put on India. That time, Vajpayee ji had asked Indians all over the world to help the nation.
- ▶ Indian working in this Gulf country had the biggest contribution is filling the treasury of India.
- ▶ So many flights are there between India and UAE but it took 34 years for a PM to visit this nation.
- ▶ Crown Prince and five brothers received me at airport. I am very thankful to him. This love, this respect is not for an individual. This is the respect for India's changing perception. India

is slowly making its own identity in the world.

- ▶ His Highness has agreed to give us land for building a temple. People who stay here will realise the importance and significance of this decision.
- ▶ I am happy today about the joint statement released by India and UAE. You would also be happy to know, the Crown Prince has pledged an investment of Rs. 4.5 lakh crore in India.
- ▶ Today, I am also thankful to the top leaders of this country that they have backed the candidature of India's permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council.
- ▶ UAE and India have made a clear statement against terror in their joint statement today. This is very important... samajhne wale samajh jayenge (the message will be clear to those it's intended for).
- ▶ In their attempt to ensure that there are no more wars 70 years ago. But they have not been able to define terrorism. What is terrorism, who is a terrorist and which country supports terrorism. I am happy to tell you that his Highness crown prince has supported India's stand.
- ▶ 1.25 crore Indians have elected a majority government after 30 years. When a person shakes hand with Modi, that person



sees 1.25 crore Indians, and sees the fast growing economy of India.

- ▶ We had launched 'Make in India' a while back. We say, welcome, India is a country of opportunities. It is a lucky country which has 65% population that is below 35 years of age.
- ▶ Today be it IMF, Moody's or any other financial rating institution. All have said unanimously that the fastest economic reforms and growth is happening in India. In India, the Foreign Direct Investment has increased by 48 per cent.
- ▶ Today the world gets terrified with the name of terrorism. They hate this word.
- ▶ Our innocent people have been killed by the bullets of the terrorists.
- ▶ When I used to talk about terrorism with other leaders, they used to say it's a problem of your law and order. And now they understand that terrorism has no boundaries.
- ▶ Good terrorism, bad terrorism is not going to work anymore. Everyone will have to decide whether they are with terrorism or humanism.
- ▶ Nagaland has been reeling under the influence of insurgency. Slowly, it spread in the neighboring states with different names, groups. Today I can tell you with satisfaction that just a month ago, we

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**UAE and India have made a clear statement against terror in their joint statement today. This is very important... samajhne wale samajh jayenge (the message will be clear to those it's intended for)... In their attempt to ensure that there are no more wars 70 years ago. But they have not been able to define terrorism. What is terrorism, who is a terrorist and which country supports terrorism. I am happy to tell you that his Highness crown prince has supported India's stand.**

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have been able to talk to these insurgent groups and bring them into mainstream after 60-70 years.

- ▶ In the end, solution is found through talks. It doesn't matter for how long you fight, the final decision is taken after talks and on a table.
- ▶ Bangladesh and India had difficulty in deciding border. Infiltration was easy. With your blessings, India took the initiative to find a solution through talks. Last September, I met the President of Bangladesh and we signed the agreement to end the dispute.
- ▶ Today, there's a

government in Delhi that is visible everywhere. In a matter of few hours, whatever we could do, Indians went to aid the people of Nepal at the time of need.

- ▶ Some people (in SAARC) have problems with us. But are we going to stop our work because others have a problem. We are trying to put a fresh lease of life into SAARC. Earlier it was a forum to fight with each other.
- ▶ We have decided that we will send a SAARC satellite to the Space, the facilities of which will be given free to the SAARC countries.
- ▶ We work, not with arrogance of being big, but we work shoulder to shoulder with everyone towards development.
- ▶ I urge my people in the Gulf countries, on the occasion of Rakhi, give your sisters in India, the Jeevan Suraksha Yojana. Just deposit Rs. 600 in their account.
- ▶ If you have problems related to embassy, Govt has launched a platform called *Madad*. This can be used by Indians abroad so that they can reach the right authorities. e-Migrate portal can also be used.
- ▶ If there is an Indian anywhere in the world, we don't look at the colour of passports, the color of his blood, the relation with the motherland is enough. ■

PM announces a Rs. 1.25 lakh crore for Bihar

## Projects being launched today would transform the face of Bihar in the days to come : PM

Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on August 18 announced a Rs. 1.25 lakh crore development package for Bihar. He said an additional Rs. 40,000 crore was also being invested in the state through various projects under implementation.

He was speaking at the launch of several



| Sectors           | Amount         | Highlights  |
|-------------------|----------------|---|
| Farmer's Welfare  | Rs 3,094 cr    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up-gradation of Rajendra Prasad Agriculture University to Central University, creation of new Research Centre</li> <li>Development of Fisheries, Farm water management, Storage capacity, Farm mechanisation, Seed production systems</li> <li>Construction of new Godowns for foodgrains</li> </ul> |
| Education         | Rs 1,000 cr    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central University near Bhagalpur</li> <li>IIM at Bodhgaya</li> </ul>  |
| Skill Development | Rs 1,550 cr    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of Mega Skill University</li> <li>Training of 1 lakh youth</li> </ul>  |
| Health            | Rs 600 cr      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up-gradation of 3 medical colleges at Patna, Bhagalpur, Gaya</li> </ul>  |
| Electricity       | Rs 16,130 cr   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,300 MW new power plant at Buxor</li> <li>Electrification of villages under Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Vidyut Yojana (sufficient for farms, uninterrupted for homes)</li> <li>Electrification of towns-cities under Integrated Power Development Scheme</li> </ul>                                    |
| Rural Roads       | Rs 13,820 cr   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22,500 kms of Rural Roads</li> </ul>   |
| Highways          | Rs 54,713 cr   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2,775 kms of National Highways (four-laning &amp; widening)</li> <li>Construction of Bridges (across Ganga, Sone, Kosi)</li> <li>Construction of 12 Rail overbridges</li> </ul>  |
| Railways          | Rs 8,870 cr    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doubling and Tripling of 676 kms of Railway line</li> <li>Electrification of 574 kms</li> </ul>  |
| Airports          | Rs 2,700 cr    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of new airport at Patna</li> <li>Development of airports at Gaya, Raxaul, Purnea</li> </ul>   |
| Digital Bihar     | Rs 449 cr      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Software Technology Parks, Rural BPOs, Training Centres</li> <li>1,000 new Mobile towers to increase coverage and quality</li> <li>30 WiFi hotspots across prominent tourist places</li> <li>Common Service Centres to be scaled up from 8,800 to 26,000</li> </ul>                                  |
| Petroleum & Gas   | Rs 21,476 cr   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expansion of Barauni Refinery + new Petrochemical Plant</li> <li>Construction of Gas pipelines, new LPG plants and massive expansion in domestic LPG connections</li> <li>Petrol-Diesel pipeline from Raxaul to Nepal</li> </ul>   |
| Tourism           | Rs 600 cr      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of 7 Tourist circuits</li> </ul>   |
| Total             | Rs 1,25,003 cr |   |

development projects at Ara in Bihar. The Prime Minister unveiled plaques for the dedication to the nation and foundation stones of 11 National Highway projects. He also inaugurated 22 Skill Training Centres, and unveiled the foundation stone for Regional Vocational Training Institute for women, Patna. The Prime Minister said the projects being launched today would transform the face of Bihar in the days to come. He said his Government does not think in compartments.

The Prime Minister mentioned the Make in India programme and the fact that foreign investment was being promised. In this context he mentioned the commitment of the UAE Government. He added that skill development and assured power supply were essential for the success of Make in India and ensuring employment. He also

mentioned his call for Start Up India, Stand Up India. He said Dalit and Adivasi entrepreneurs should be encouraged by banks. He said this was the holistic vision with which his Government was working. The Prime Minister said farmer welfare is essential for agriculture to develop. He said the Agriculture Ministry was now being renamed and reoriented as the Ministry for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. The Prime Minister said that for India to progress, the eastern part of India had to move forward.

## Other Investments

| Category   | Amount              |
|--|---------------------|
| Unspent amount of 2013 Package (of Rs 12,000 cr)   | Rs 8,282 cr         |
| Ongoing works of National Highways                 | Rs 12,375 cr        |
| UMPP (Ultra Mega Power Project) in Banka under PPP | Rs 20,000 cr        |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>Rs 40,657 cr</b> |

*Prime Minister's Bihar Package over and above on-going national social sector schemes: Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Sukanya Samruddhi Yojana, MUDRA, Free LPG connections to BPL, Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan and so on. (FOC) ■*

## India Inc hails PM Narendra Modi's thrust on agri production, startups

India Inc on August 15 welcomed Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's emphasis on addressing issues related to agriculture in the country as well as the importance accorded to startups and social security.

"CII salutes Prime Minister for impressive implementation of new campaigns and schemes announced in 15 months. Social security, Startup India, and agricultural productivity, as stressed by the Prime Minister, are the foundations for the next growth trajectory," the industry chamber said in a statement.

The objective of offering incentives for investments is to promote employment. It makes eminent sense to give incentives directly as per employment generated, it added.

The parameter of employment in financial incentives to new manufacturing units, as stated by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day speech, can be a game-changer for the labour intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, food processing and so on," CII said.

Industry body FICCI also said the announcements on 'Start up India Stand up India' and for providing employment linked incentives to industry are welcome steps as these will boost entrepreneurship and create the much needed employment opportunities for the nation's youth.

Creating a few million entrepreneurs across the country will not only create many more million jobs but also provide livelihood opportunities for the poor in remote corners of the country," FICCI President Jyotsna Surri said in a statement.

Strengthening merit-based employment ecosystem by doing away interviews for low-end jobs is a step in the right direction, inculcating a sense of confidence and empowerment for all citizens, she added.

## There are huge possibilities of development in Bihar : Amit Shah

*If growth potential and capabilities of Bihar given the right direction, it will not only strengthen the state but also the entire country, says Amit Shah*



**B**JP President Shri Amit Shah has welcomed the announcement of special package of Rs.1.25 lakh crores with a total of Rs.1.65 lakh crores including 40,000 crore rupees allotted for already running schemes by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Bihar.

Shri Shah said that there are huge possibilities of development in Bihar. Not only this, there is unlimited potential in people. If these possibilities and capabilities met in the right direction then it will develop not only the people of Bihar but it will also strengthen the country. He said that the central government led by Modi Ji is committed that all the resources should be made available to all the eastern states of India including Bihar so that the inclusive development become possible of the region and the country can move forward.

He said that Hon'ble Prime Minister has granted a comprehensive economic package to establish Bihar in the list of developing states so that the state could become

a self-reliant state, to provide jobs for the younger generation and everyone will be able to achieve all-round development opportunities whether it will be farmers, laborers, women, downtrodden or backward class.

BJP President Shri Shah said that in this package approved by the center, special attention has been given to the masses of Bihar for their basic needs - power, roads and water. The priorities have been focused on roads, railways, airways, waterways and digital connectivity for the development of Bihar in this package so that it would lead to rise of industries in Bihar, the youth would have the opportunities of employment and the farmers would get the maximum returns on their products.

Rs.54,713 crores have been allotted for the development of national highways, construction of bridges on rivers, railway overbridges etc and the planning to construct 22,500 km of roads has been approved under

Pradhanmantri Gram Sadak Yojna. Development of the airports of Gaya, Purnia and Raxaul including a new airport in Patna has been proposed to connect Bihar with different regions at home and abroad. On the other hand, announcement has been done to establish Technology park in Darbhanga and Bhagalpur under Digital Bihar program, to provide facility for skill development, to establish skilled university and to establish an IIM in Bodh Gaya.

Energy production for revolutionary changes in power system, transmission and distribution system in Bihar has been emphasized enough in this package. A new power generating station of 1,300 MW is proposed in Buxar. Special attention is given in the field to better the life by bringing electricity to villages in Bihar, to provide better fuel facilities to women, to provide health facilities to the people of Bihar, to develop new tourist destinations for better job

*...Continued on page 26*

## India cannot grow at 10 % unless the Eastern Region grows fast : Amit Shah

India cannot possibly grow at 10 % unless the Eastern Region including States like West Bengal catches up with the rest of India, and grows fast, commented BJP National President Amit Shah, while addressing the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Kolkata on 12th August,

and the possible future growth path of Eastern India, in particular, the BJP President said that the UPA Govt. had created an atmosphere of policy paralysis, and when the previous Govt. went out of power, India's growth rate had plummeted to only 4.4%

community, and in about one year's time, GDP growth rate increased from 4.4% to 5.7% . He further elaborated how this reform-oriented Government is trying to improve ease of doing business in the country, and unleash the potential for an investment-led growth by addressing key economic challenges and infrastructure bottlenecks. Emphasising that the Union Govt. is serious about streamlining of processes and procedures, Shri Amit Shah said decision-making has become much easier now, which has led to improvement in Industry's perception about governance in the country.

Focusing on macro fundamentals, he said that overall inflation which used to be in the range of 5-7%, has come down to an extremely impressive -2.4%, thus proving the Govt.'s ability to undertake prudent fiscal & monetary measures & policies. The ambitious 'Make in India' campaign will go a long way in boosting technology-driven manufacturing & technology transfers to India, and will give a big push to employment generation, Shri Shah opined. Commenting that Manufacturing Excellence and employment generation will



2015.

Shri Shah was speaking at a high-profile Exclusive Interactive Session, titled "Economic Agenda For Development of Eastern Region", which was jointly organized by the ICC and the Chamber's Ladies' Study Group (LSG). The Forum saw huge turnout of people from the Industry, Media, Politics and other cross sections. Sharing his views on the Indian economy in general,

of GDP. While referring to the pro-active steps that are being taken by the BJP-led Govt. at the Centre, Shri Shah opined that a liberal FDI regime, the 'Make in India' Campaign to boost Manufacturing ; the coal and power sector reforms, direct transfer of subsidies, streamlined tax regimes etc. have created a new wave of enthusiasm about the Indian economy among the domestic & the international investor

need massive improvements in Infrastructure, Shri Shah said that while during the UPA regime, 4 km of road used to be built per day on an average, this figure has gone up to 13 km per day now. The Black Money Bill, the push to Agricultural Reforms, establishment of the Niti Ayog for ensuring Policy formulation through participative consultations with the States, the FDI reforms, among other things, will set the ball rolling for higher future growth & development, he emphasized. Commenting that the Govt. wants 24x7 electricity in every Indian village by 2019 under the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana, he added that there has been a 8.6% increase in production of electricity in this country, and 22,000 MW added to installed capacity over the last one year or so.

Talking about the East & North-East's future growth prospects and constraints, Shri Shah said once a leader, a State like West Bengal, and the entire East as a matter of fact, has now become a laggard due to economic mismanagement.

He said India cannot grow at 10% unless the East catches up, and manages to grow fast, and uneven growth within the country cannot be sustained. Emphasizing that the BJP-led Govt. believes that all regions and states across India should grow in tandem irrespective of whichever Party is in power

in those States, Shri Shah said that the Central Govt. is trying its best for ensuring that high-potential States like Bengal can usher in a steady process of industrialization.

**Lauding the absence of any corruption allegations against the current Govt., Shri Shah said that more than Rs 2 lakh crore has been added to the nation's treasury by transparent auction of coal mines, adding that this has tremendously benefited States like West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattishgarh in significantly augmenting their resources necessary for growth & development, and wiping out their fiscal deficits.**

Stressing upon the Central Govt.'s commitment to bring in balanced growth across States and co-operative federalism, the BJP National President highlighted that as per the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission, the East & the North-East will benefit the most, and States like Nagaland, which will get a post-devolution revenue deficit grant of Rs 18,475 crore for a 5-year period, and West Bengal which will get Rs 11,760 crore, are among top 5 beneficiary revenue deficit states.

Among the other beneficiary revenue deficit states are Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura, Shri Shah informed,

adding that this trend of benefitting the East & the North-East proves that the Union Govt. places immense importance upon this region's future progress.

The decision to increase states' collective share of taxes collected by the Union Government to 42 % from the earlier 32 % would give more freedom to the States, he said, adding that the cash starved East can now spend more on its developmental priorities.

Talking specifically about West Bengal, the BJP President said that Bengal used to be a leading State at one point, but due to several reasons ranging from economic mismanagement to political turmoils, the state is unfortunately now considered to be an unattractive investment destination. He said that while the Union Govt. is committed to handhold Bengal and partner the State in its future progress, it is of utmost importance that investment climate in the State improves considerably. Unless law & order, investment climate and business sentiments improve, the impact of pro-active policy making at the Centre will not percolate down to Bengal, Shri Shah said, adding that the political will to deliver, and take industrialization forward is lacking in West Bengal, and this has to be corrected if the state has to realize its true potential. ■

## India and Pacific Island Countries are setting an example of partnerships for this century : Narendra Modi



Inaugurating the Forum for India Pacific Island Countries (FIPIC) Summit in Jaipur on 21 August, 2015 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said it is truly a great honour and privilege to host you in India for the second Summit of Forum for India Pacific Islands Cooperation - FIPIC, as it is called now. This is the first regional summit that I am hosting in India. This one will always remain very special for me. It is also special because India and Pacific Island Countries are setting an example of partnerships for this century.

He said it is a partnership forged by shared aspirations and challenges. It is shaped by the belief that all nations, small and large, have equal stakes in this world. We also recognize that a globalised world has deepened inter-dependence and changed our

perception of geography. In particular, the centre of gravity of global opportunities and challenges are shifting to the Pacific and Indian Ocean Region. The fortunes of nations in and around the two oceans are inter-linked and for this reason, the tides that bear hopes and bring challenges to the shores in India and the Pacific Islands are the same that is why some call the region the Indo-Pacific Region, he added.

The PM said that is not all that brings us together. Small Island States may add up to small land area and even smaller population. But, they are as important for us as any other nation. We have and will stand with you in international forums. It is with this sense of solidarity that we made the strongest contribution to the SIDS

Conference in Samoa last year, which led to the evolution of the Samoa Pathway. We also supported the interests of SIDS on capacity building in the latest outcome document on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

He said India stands shoulder to shoulder with you for a dedicated seat for SIDS in an expanded and reformed United Nations Security Council in both categories. India will support the realization of your vision of Pacific Regionalism. It is a shining example of cooperative regionalism that should inspire others around the world. Excellencies, the world may see you as Small Islands with modest populations. I see you as Large Ocean States with vast potential, he said.

He said we are at the cusp of a new era, where oceans,

like Space, will become important drivers of our economies. Their sustainable use can bring prosperity; and, give us clean energy, new medicines and food security beyond just fisheries. Ocean is critical to India's future, too. That is why, in the past year, I have focused a lot on ocean economy, both in India and international engagement. I see huge potential for our cooperation in this area.

PM said India was pleased to stand with you in ensuring that sustainable use of oceans and marine resources constitute a distinct element in the Sustainable Development Goals in the United Nations that were finalized recently.

He said climate change is an existential threat to the Pacific Islands. It is also taking a toll on the teaming millions on India's shoreline of 7500 kilometers and its nearly 1300 islands. We both seek a concrete and effective outcome on climate change at COP 21 in Paris later this year. We worked together for a separate goal on climate change in the Sustainable Development Goals, and in a manner that addresses the interests of developing countries. We must also build closer partnership in pursuit of our shared aims in the WTO-for example on fisheries, he added.

Shri Modi said during the last Summit, India announced a number of new initiatives with the Pacific Islands

countries. I am pleased that we have been able to deliver on many of our commitments.

These include increasing India's grant-in-aid to Pacific Island countries from 125,000 to 200,000 U.S. dollars, e-tourist visas, deputation of Indian experts in the area of coir industry and a special training programme for diplomats of the Pacific Island countries. Trade, more than aid, is the enabler for development. I am pleased to announce the establishment of the FIPIC Trade Office in the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi.

He said this is just the first step towards promoting trade and investment

opportunities between India and Pacific Island countries.

He said I eagerly look forward to hearing your views. I will also share my thoughts on our future initiatives to take this wonderful partnership forward. I want to say a special word of thanks for your support for the record-breaking adoption of International Day of Yoga by the United Nations, and for making the first International Day of Yoga a grand success in your countries.

Shri Modi finally said we will work together to sustain and nurture some of Nature's most precious gifts and some of this world's most wonderful people. ■

*...Continued from page 22*

opportunities, to implement the process to make the youth self-reliant through new industrial investment, to apply special attention to better ongoing social security schemes, to provide bank loans to entrepreneurs, to clean schools, to construct toilets etc.

Shri Shah said that the steps taken by the Centre for the development of Bihar, if the state government implement this in right direction then Bihar will soon grow rapidly on the growth path and Bihar will secure special partnership in country's development and it prevent the exodus of youth and labour power from the state.

But the political parties especially JD(U) and RJD obsessed from party politics mentality is inexplicably opposing this package for political gains, they are not opposing only the package but also the development of Bihar and it is unfortunate. Shri Shah said that the people of Bihar should consider this that how the development of Bihar is possible when these political parties oppose such steps which has been taken for the development of the state by the centre? The people of Bihar will hit back and answer these parties in coming election. (FOC) ■



# Recovering an Integral Humanism

By Krishna Chaitanya

In a review of the last book of Schumacher, *A Guide to the Perplexed*, published just before his death in 1977, while paying a merited tribute, Theodore Roszak stresses the inadequacy of even the wisest comment of life when it does not begin by 'squarely confronting the vast negations of our times, when it has not looked into "the heart of darkness and seek the horror". He adds: "It is naive to summon us to self-knowledge without acknowledging that the deepest self-knowledge of our time begins in the experience of radical absurdity and cosmic abandonment. Self-knowledge for us must go through Nietzsche, Kafka, Sartre, Beckett, not around them." At some in the drama of the modern world, "the vertical dimension failed to provide a sure purchase upon the need for personal autonomy."

Actually, before regaining the freedom to be free to realise fully the potentialities of our being, all the possibilities of an integral humanism, we have to confront not only Beckett and comparable others, but also the reductionist reading provided by every specialised discipline from physics to psychology and sociology. This is because the fundamental question that can be asked regarding the world, man and man's destiny was met with an answer which was very limited right from the beginning and, when it was illegitimately

extended, gave rise to fatefully disastrous consequences.

This is the question: what is that which, when known, will make all things known?

Antiquity had raised this question. And it is because the most important aspect of the answer it had framed was lost sight of when the query was taken up in modern times that mankind in our age has been steadily slipping down a gradient towards

Democritus, the ultimate indivisibles of divisible matter, were held to have the intrinsic powers of animation, motion and sensation.

As in Thales, Anaximenes and Heracleitus of ancient Greece, water, air or fire is tried out as the primordial element in the *Bṛhad Aranyaka*, *Chhandogya* and *Katha Upanishads*. But whatever the element may be, it is held to be psychophysical. The

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nihilism in thought and possible annihilation in a nuclear holocaust.

Five or six centuries before Christ, the Philosophers of Ionia, the Greek settlement in Asia Minor, raised this question. they sought the primordial matter from -which by condensation, rarefaction and combination, all the plurality of the world, its material forms and their vicissitudes, could be derived. But it was always affirmed that primordial matter was psychophysical. Soul was held to be the principle of life, motion and sense perception. And the atoms of Leucippus and

Kaushitaki starts by positing Prana or air as the primordial element. But very swiftly, Prana is identified with life, with consciousness and with the self itself. Thus, Prana, which is originally a form of matter, becomes identified with life from the biological point of view, consciousness from the psychological and the self from the metaphysical points of view. A similar movement of thought is seen in the *Taittiriya* also.

But when the modern age took up the quest again, it missed the old insight and also its tremendous importance for an integral humanism. Galileo

nullified the brilliance of his analysis of matter by the dogmatic assertion that only the quantitative aspects of matter were real. The extension of matter is real ; sensations are illusory. An erroneous world-view was thus launched on a conquest of all disciplines of knowledge, physics or the science of matter being the vantage ground from which the attack began. Galileo studied the behaviour of material bodies on earth; Kepler studied extensive

the picture of the world as a machine which necessarily made man a robot. Cicero said long ago that there is no nonsense so crazy that some philosopher or other would not have sententiously pronounced it some time or other. Science wrested from philosophy the doubtful honour of being the target of this irony. But the danger now was immensely greater. Contrary to the fond beliefs of philosophers, nobody takes them seriously. But

glaring contradictions in this stance. For instance, if there is no such thing as consciousness, what precisely is the status of science as an epistemological system elaborated by consciousness? But a fantastic ability to ignore such contradictions was displayed. The classical example is the behaviourist who uses this consciousness to elaborate a theory that there is no consciousness. But let us not be too vociferous in marvelling at this stupidity. For prestigious philosophical traditions which, in a similar way, denied the reality of both the world and the psychophysical self which tries to understand itself and the world, have flourished for long, in East and West alike.

**The nuclear arsenals of the nations today have accumulated enough potential to kill every living thing in the world, flora, fauna and man, ten times over. This real threat to the survival of mankind and the world has stemmed directly from the amplification by a runaway technology of the libertinism of thought that denied all value in man and the macrocosm.**

agglomerations like planetary systems; Newton integrated both and enunciated universal laws whose implications were that matter was dead and insentient, had no capacity for self-movement, and moved only when it was pushed or pulled by external force. And this went for everything made of matter, and man is also made up of matter.

There was fantastic amnesia, and worse, here. Science is the creation of the mind which collects facts, forms hypotheses for explaining them, confirms them by testing. But, as the exploration of the reality “out there” gathered momentum, the self behind the quest and the exploration was at first forgotten and, later, denied. The denial emerged from the hardening of

science established its empire over mankind in its aspect of technology. And even if people did not bother about scientists when they philosophised, they were deeply affected by technology which derived its momentum and orientation from the basic outlook of science. And these led in the direction of the dissolution of man.

As Hans Jonas has put it, scientism brought out thinking under the ontological dominance of death. Deadness became the natural thing, life and consciousness became problems to be explained. The physicalist thinking based on a theory of matter which regarded it as dead and inert made man incomprehensible and the world normatively empty. There were

From physics, the basic discipline of matter, the anti-humanistic world-view started its conquest of all disciplines and coloured all phases of man’s life and activity. The result has been that the ontological domination of death, instead of remaining safely confined to highbrow theorising, has become a terrible incarnate apparition right in our midst threatening the physical survival of mankind. The nuclear arsenals of the nations today have accumulated enough potential to kill every living thing in the world, flora, fauna and man, ten times over. This real threat to the survival of mankind and the world has stemmed directly from the amplification by a runaway technology of the libertinism of thought that denied all value in man and the macrocosm.

Redeeming ourselves from

the predicament is not going to be easy. Perhaps that is putting it appallingly mildly and may really amount to a sick joke, for there is a very real chance of man being destroyed by the colossal energy that was safely locked up in the heart of matter and which he unleashed without the ability to control it. This ability is fundamentally a moral ability, the self-discipline in integrity. That sounds like a neat, simple formula. But it is no copy-book maxim. Analyse its terms and you will find that for its exegetical clarification, you need to recover the commanding perspective which philosophy gains by integrating all the disparate disciplines of knowledge. Self-discipline in integrity : Is there then a self, an awareness of awareness? How does one establish it in view of the undeniable fact that man has evolved from organic evolution which in turn was a continuation of an inorganic evolution, and in view of the claim of behaviourists and others that since matter lacks the capacity for awareness, man too lacks it as he is structured out of matter? Self-discipline: This assumes the volitional freedom of the self (once you can prove that there is a self) to work not only on the world, but on itself for its own growth. How does one establish this freedom when science claims to have established that nothing in the world has the power of self-movement but moves only under the irresistible pull or push of a force external to itself? Integrity: In a normatively empty world, what possible meaning can this word have when

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it envisages the self-disciplining itself in harmony with the truth of things and the imperatives that stem from its own truth or authenticity?

Here people may be sorely tempted to take the line that such questions are all academic and of interest only to philosophers who love endless and pointless disputation, and that one can easily solve all these unreal problems by returning to the simple good life prescribed by traditional religion. This is a pathetic illusion. For one thing, the negative world-view has entrenched itself deep in the life of mankind and prescribes its behaviour in every field. The full clarification of this will need considerable space. But briefly: Psychology reads man as motored by instincts, drives, rationalisations, all riveting his personality to a low, unenlightened level of self-interest; economics enshrines this self-interest, leaving it to an invisible hand to produce concord out of this basic discord like a

magician producing rabbits out of a hat; politics believes that power should be captured first, since only force is effective; communication theory has narrowed down to the view of human groups as target groups who can be conditioned and manipulated. This ambience cannot be wished away by a return to traditional religion. And let us be honest with ourselves: have not religions played a tragically divisive role, splattered the pages of history with blood? The good people will now hasten to point out that the blame here should be attributed, not to religion, but its misunderstanding. But what would that mean except that religion should become self-critical and clear its tremendous overburden of impurities if man is to be redeemed? And once you concede the need for radical critical reevaluation, one can claim that science too can be redeemed from scientism by similar cleansing.

As the Gita said, man needs for his redemption both Vijnana (Knowledge: Basically Science), and Jnana (Intuition: basically religious inner illumination). If integral humanism is to be realised, it is this integration which men of all temperaments, intellectual or religious, analytic or intuitive, have to take up. And immediately too, for we are running against the atomic dock. ■

*(The article was published in reputed journal 'Manthan' in September 17, 1979. We are publishing this for our esteemed readers for an understanding of philosophical context of Integral Humanism)*

# Caste problem in India

By Swami Vivekananda

**W**e are orthodox Hindus, but we refuse entirely to identify ourselves with "Don't-touchism". That is not Hinduism; it is in none of our books; it is an orthodox superstition, which has interfered with national efficiency all along the line. Religion has entered in the cooking pot. The present religion of the Hindus is neither the path of Knowledge or Reason - it is "Don't-touchism". - "Don't touch me", "Don't touch me" - that exhausts its description.

"Don't touchism" is a form of mental disease. Beware! All expansion is life, all contraction is death. All love is expansion, all selfishness is contraction. Love is therefore the only law of life. See that you do not lose your lives in this dire irreligion of "Don't-touchism". Must the teaching (Atmavat sarvabhuteshu) - "Looking upon all beings as your own self" - be confined to books alone? How will they grant salvation who cannot feed a hungry mouth with a crumb of bread? How will those, who become impure at the mere breath of others, purify others?

We must cease to tyrannize. To what a ludicrous state are we brought! If a bhangi comes to anybody as

a bhangi, he would be shunned as the plague; but no sooner does he get a cupful of water poured upon his head with some muttering of prayers by a padri, and get a coat to his back, no matter how threadbare, and come into the room of the most orthodox Hindu, I don't see the man who then dare refuse him a chair and a hearty shake of hands! Irony can go no farther.

Just see, for want of sympathy from the Hindus, thousands of pariahs in Madras are turning Christians. Don't think that this is simply due to the pinch of hunger; it is because they do not get any sympathy from us. We are day and night calling out to them "Don't touch us! Don't touch us!" Is there any compassion or kindness of heart in the country? Only a class of "Don't-touchiest"; kick such customs out! I sometimes feel the urge to break the barriers of "Don't-touchism", go at once and call out, "Come all who are poor, miserable, wretched and downtrodden", and to bring them all together. Unless they rise, the Mother will not awake.



Each Hindu, I say, is a brother to every other, and it is we, who have degraded them by our outcry, "Don't touch", and "Don't touch!" And so the whole country has been plunged to the utmost depths

of meanness, cowardice and ignorance. These men have to be lifted; words of hope and faith have to be proclaimed to them. We have to tell them, "You are also men like us and you have all the rights that we have."

Solution of the caste problem

Our solution of the caste question is not degrading those who are already high up, is not running amuck through food and drink, is not jumping out of our own limits in order to have more enjoyment, but it comes by every one of us fulfilling the dictates of our Vedantic religion, by our attaining spirituality and by our becoming ideal Brahmana. There is a law laid on each one of you in this land by your ancestors, whether you are Aryans, or non-Aryans, rishis or Brahmanas or the very lowest outcaste.

*To be continued .....*

*Courtesy: The Divine Life Society*