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Editor

Prabhat Jha, MP

Editorial Team

Amba Charan Vashishth

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Ram Prasad Tripathy

Vikash Anand

Design & Layout

Dharmendra Kaushal

Vikas Saini

Contact

Tel: +91(11) 23381428

Fax: +91(11) 23387887

For Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail address

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

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आवतुं ज्ञानमेतेन ज्ञानिनो नित्यवैरिणा ।

कामरूपेण कौन्तेय दुष्पूरेणानलेन च ॥

Arjuna, Knowledge stands covered by this eternal enemy of the wise known as desire, which is insatiable like fire.

Bhagavadgita, Chapter 3, Text 39

Editorial

ABVP punctures Rahul balloon Youth show 'heir apparent' his place

Myth created in the media now stands shattered. The students of Delhi University have delivered their verdict. In the Delhi University Students' Union elections held on September 3, 2010, ABVP has emerged a clear winner bagging three of the four central panel posts. NSUI stands humiliated managing to win only the post of Joint Secretary. The verdict is a clear signal that youths of the country cannot be fooled for too long. The much hyped 'charm' of the heir apparent Rahul Gandhi over young voters stands exposed. The hype created that youths are now getting increasingly drawn towards Congress has also proved baseless and misplaced. The DUSU results further prove the point that young people of India have their own mind and they are capable of delivering a verdict on the real issues that have badly afflicted the country in recent days.

The DUSU results are not just a lone instance. It is a continuation of a series of elections in Rajasthan University Students' Union and in colleges in Himachal Pradesh. Everywhere Congress students' wing NSUI was humbled and made to bite dust. It is not only that NSUI has been defeated in these University elections; the margin of defeat too is awesome. The results everywhere indicate that the students and youths of the country are sensitive to the plight of the common man and various problem that country is facing under the Congress led UPA rule. If we add to these, the results of elections of the local bodies in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, even a layman may conclude that people now feel neglected and alienated from the Congress rule and they are yearning to express their mind at any given opportunity.

Congress has tried to capture the imagination of the youth through short cut methods. In such a cosmetic makeover it has embarked upon different schemes which only widen the gulf that it enjoys with the youth. Apart from organizing Rahul Gandhi's tours to different college

campuses; it has adopted a ridiculous method of conducting interviews to recruit young people in the party. Such exercise is symptomatic of the rot that has crept into the party. It establishes the fact that party has no mechanism to attract younger people; it has no programme to involve youth and no ideology or leadership to inspire and channelise the youth power.

Congress has failed to learn its lessons from the past. Recruitment through interviews is not only an insult heaped on youth but it is one of the biggest mockeries of democracy in the recent past. It looks as if Congress is not attracting the youth to its organisation as dedicated workers but recruiting henchmen to do what it wants at its bidding at a price. True to its colours, Congress has also resorted to misuse its position in government to win student body elections by mobilizing muscle and money power on the campuses ignoring the recommendations of Lyngdoh committee. But this time its tactics could not work. The students have responded overwhelmingly to reject it. NSUI stands defeated in most of the campuses. This has been a great setback towards the Congress designs to impose Rahul Gandhi on the youth and the country through the backdoor with the help of false propaganda and media hype.

A party representing a culture of sycophancy and family rule cannot attract youth possessed of democratic and nationalistic virtues. Congress admits such shortcomings when Rahul Gandhi pledges to conduct elections for its youth and students wings. Such an admission is also implicit in occasional show of displeasure by Rahul Gandhi to the culture of sycophancy prevailing in Congress. But Rahul Gandhi has no qualms when his face appears in almost all the Congress posters beside Sonia Gandhi and even before Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. What is his official status in Congress party? Besides being an MP, he is just one of the junior most General Secretaries that the party has appointed within its organizational structure. Still no other General Secretary has such a prominent presence on the Congress posters but Rahul Gandhi's face is there just because he is the 'Yuvaraj' of the Congress, the term to which he sometime takes exception. Rahul Gandhi's much hyped displeasure to the culture of sycophancy and call for democratizing the party is merely a tokenism without having any sincere commitment to inner democracy within the party. Had it been so he would have never allowed himself being so prominently displayed on Congress posters in disregard to all others who are elders to him and some in party much older than his age.

All his pretence for inner-party democracy and abhorrence for dynastic politics are nothing more than a ploy to befool the gullible youth of the country. The election of Smt. Sonia Gandhi for the fourth time in a row to the post of Congress president is a case in point.

It is high time that Congress understands that mere tokenism would not address the problems of the country. People including students and youths have given strong message to the Congress led UPA-II on its failure to control prices, scams, scandals and corruptions of various kinds and its tacit support to hoarders and speculators. The primary failure of UPA is to solve the problem of unemployment which makes people run from pillar to post for employment and return home in the evening disappointed. The complicity of the Congress leaders in Commonwealth games scams is before the eye of the people. Everyone is witness to the open loot and the brazen support the scamsters are enjoying from the Congress top leaders. The media hype created while Rahul Gandhi takes a bath on a hand pump or picks a polythene bag during a function will no longer be able to befool the people and they will surely come forward to vote on the real issues. The people of the country are coming forward against the anti-people measures of Congress led UPA-II. ■

Strengthen India's sovereignty instead of weakening it

Monday, 06 September 2010

Dear Prime Minister,

We have been constrained to approach you on behalf of the Bharatiya Janata Party in view of the serious situation that has been existing in the State of Jammu & Kashmir for the past three months. The situation in the State is slipping out of control. It appears to us that the Central Government has no clear action plan to deal with the situation.



Kashmir has been a part of the unfinished agenda of Pakistan emanating from India's partition. Pakistan has never reconciled to the fact of Kashmir being an integral part of India. Its tactics have ranged from internationalizing the dispute, creating internal insurgencies through cross-border terrorism and supporting mob violence in order to create instability in the State. The Bharatiya Janata Party believes that historical mistakes committed in the past 63 years on the Indian side have further compounded the problem. Time has come to look back and review whether our policy in the past 63 years has led to a fuller integration of the State of Jammu & Kashmir into India or has generated further problems. Separate and special status, even though transient and temporary, gave rise to a psyche which prevented the full psychological integration as a State of India. It renewed the hopes of separatists that the political and constitutional relationship between India and Jammu & Kashmir could be further weakened. Demands ranging from autonomy to the pre-1953 status and self-rule emanating from some political parties of the State have only added to this psyche. We learn from the newspapers as also statements of government functionaries that some political steps are being announced purportedly to deal with the present situation.

While the Government is formulating its political position, it must necessarily ponder over the question whether its policy of the last 63 years has evolved the situation from separate status to separatism. Any step to be taken must be judged on the touchstone of whether it will fully integrate the State with India or will it weaken further the political and constitutional relationship of the State with India. The problems in the State emanate from cross-border terrorism, internal insurgency, lack of economic development and sub-regional discrimination. Does any of these problems or a proposed solution has anything to do with the inadequacy of power both legislative and executive in the State? The Central Government's powers are today confined to security, defence of India, currency, foreign affairs and telecommunications. Are we in a position to abdicate any of these? Are we in a position to go back to even suggest that the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and the Election Commission will not extend to the State as some have demanded? Let us not mislead ourselves. The demand for autonomy, self-rule or dilution of Central Government's authority have nothing to do with the present problem in the Kashmir valley. Autonomy or self-rule are only interim steps towards 'Azadi' The people of India will never accept either of these.

If you analyse the nature of the present demands, they are all intended to weaken India's sovereignty. Dilution of Army's presence in the valley, dilution of the provisions of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, dilution of the Line of Control and allowing legitimacy to infiltration are only some examples of this kind.

There is a need to strengthen the Security scenario in the State. It is only when the security scenario is strengthened that economic development can effectively take place in the State. Mainstream political process has to be resumed not by weakening India's sovereignty but by letting the separatists know that 'Azadi' is not even a distant dream, it is an impossibility which can never be realized. Additionally, the discrimination against Jammu, Leh and Ladakh has to effectively end.

Jammu & Kashmir stands at a historic turn. We hope you will take steps which strengthen India's sovereignty rather than weaken it.

(L K Advani)

(Smt. Sushma Swaraj) (Arun Jaitley)

(S SAhluwalia)

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## Parliament session reveals a drift in the functioning of the Government at Centre

The Monsoon Session of the Parliament concluded on August 31. The Bharatiya Janata Party expresses satisfaction on its performance in both Houses of the Parliament. The BJP's performance in the session was a synthesis of opposition, when required and cooperation when the situation so warranted. The UPA government cut a sorry figure many a time in the session. The Prime Minister decided not to actively participate in the session, except for a brief intervention on the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Bill. Individual ministers were concerned only with their own proposals and legislations. There was absence of floor coordination in the UPA. The Government had antagonized various sections of the House, which led to a strong polarization against several measures that the government had proposed.

The BJP effectively raised the issue of UPA's inability to control price rise and inflationary pressures on the economy. To avoid a vote the Government had to resort to a chair-sponsored special statement to be issued. The BJP's emphasis on price rise in both Houses was a continuation of the national campaign against

UPA government to control price rise. The Bhopal Gas Tragedy was an effective issue raised by the entire Opposition. Shri Arjun Singh's intervention made the search for truth become curiouser and curiouser. The situation in

Commonwealth Games and the diversion of funds meant for SC/STs towards the Games. The Government was compelled to commit that it was wrong (on the past) of the Delhi Government to have diverted these funds. The economic blockade in Manipur, the defence of Maoists by a union minister was the other issues highlighted by the BJP.

The Government was put to a severe embarrassment when it could not get Parliament approval to several legislations, such as The NDMC (Amendment) Bill-2009, The Prevention of Torture Bill-2009, The Enemy Property Bill (Amendment and Validation) Bill-2010, and The Education Tribunal Bill-2010. As against the above, the Government adopted a different approach in engaging the BJP and

other parties on The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill- 2010. The BJP takes satisfaction in the fact that the Bill, as originally introduced, had to undergo substantial change because of the suggestions made by the BJP and some other Opposition parties. The repeated effort of the government to covert this Bill into a 'suppliers' immunity law' were exposed and had to be ►►



*Statement issued by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Leader of Opposition (Lok Sabha) and Shri Arun Jaitley, Leader of Opposition (Rajya Sabha)*

Jammu & Kashmir featured through different modes of discussion in both Houses of Parliament. The misuse of CBI, by the Government, particularly in Gujarat, was highlighted by the BJP. The Union Home Minister's statement concocting a 'phenomenon' called 'saffron terror' was effectively criticized by the BJP in Parliament. The party highlighted the corruption in the organization of the

## Gadkari stresses need for education that generates livelihood

BJP National president Shri Nitin Gadkari laid emphasis on “Education for All”. Education being the great leveler would truly result in a developed India. Our present policy makers have not taken into account the true nature of the country while determining policy. He referred to the fact that even though many educational institutes have come up in India, meaningful education is still not within the grasp of the crores of people. There are more management institutes than agriculture and job related institutes even though the fact remains that the majority of India requires livelihood related education for improving their lot. Shri Gadkari was speaking at a meet of Education Ministers from BJP ruled states - “Shiksha Mantri - Shiksha Vid Samvimarsh” organized by the Bharatiya Janta Party’s Governance cell on September 01. The main agenda for the meet was discussing ways on effective implementation

of the National Literacy Mission’s - 100% literacy programme.

Meaningful policy and proper implementation of these policies is the need of the hour. Implementation of Private-Public sector participation in Education, can improve education - However proper laws need to be drafted to see that education does not turn into another line of business, driven by returns (ROI).

He requested the gathered ministers to draft plans on how to improve education in their respective states. Since the Central Government provides funds across many programmes like the National Literacy Mission, state governments should make best use of them - long term plans, mid-term plans and immediate plans are required to facilitate best implementation of these programmes across their respective

states. Meets similar to this would be an ongoing process and it is planned that a revisit meet would be held after three months to discuss implementation status of resolutions from this meet.

Smt. Arti Mehra, the BJP’s



representative on the National Literacy Mission (NLM) and Smt. Sumitra Mahajan explained the nuances of the NLM to attendees.

Convenor of the BJP’s Governance cell Shri. Manohar Parrikar gave introductory remarks. Also present were Shri. J.P. Nadda, National General Secretary, Prof. Bal Apte and ministers of education belonging to all BJP ruled states. ■

►reversed. The BJP sidestepped its differences with the UPA and decided to support this Bill only when the Bill was altered to its satisfaction.

This Parliament session revealed that there is a drift in the functioning of the Government. The Prime Minister’s ability to govern effectively and contain several crisis has taken a beating. The Home Minister is no longer pursuing his anti-Maoist line. The Finance Minister appears to have preferred Mamata Banerjee’s soft approach to Maoists. The Government appeared to be waiting for the Parliament Session to be getting over before the appeasement of hardliners in J&K. We understand that there is a proposal to dilute the provisions the Armed Forces Special Powers Act and announce certain other steps, which would be detrimental to India’s national interests. The Government has been unable to contain inflation. Its misuse of the CBI continues unabated. The manner, in which the Government reversed its decision and diluted its provisions of the Enemy Property (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance 2010, within three weeks of its promulgation, clearly showed that it could act under communal pressures only to help one single beneficiary. It is a classical case of vote bank politics by the UPA. The Government was dithering throughout the session. Skeletons and differences were coming out of its cupboards. The BJP shall continue to pursue these issues before the people. ■

## No power on earth can ever separate Kashmir from India : Dr. MM Joshi

*Dr. Murali Manohar Joshi, former HRD minister and MP spoke in Loksabha on J&K on August 26, 2010. We are publishing synopsis of his speech below :*

**K**ashmir has been an integral part of India ever since and I believe it would be so forever. No power in the world can ever separate Kashmir from India. Today, the issue is that the Kashmir, which adorned us with its literature, natural beauty, renowned pilgrim places, which also sports the crown of this country and which figure prominently in literature, religion and culture of the country, why is in flames today? I have the statement of the hon. Home Minister before me in which he has said that the present violence in Kashmir erupted due to stone pelting. In his statement, he stated that there was reliable intelligence that some armed militants might have mingled with the crowds and fired on the security forces. This intelligence report had been with the government since April.

Our Prime Minister and the Chief Minister of the State had appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to come for a dialogue to solve their political issues. But the question is what are those political issues? The people who have been behind this agitation there, will never like to have a dialogue on this issue because they think that dialogue is not a way out to their problem. The government must understand this thing. The government says that it would redress the genuine grievances of people by holding a dialogue. We have not understood till date how the government interprets genuine grievances. As regards the economic package, we have never heard any agitator demanding any economic package. If the genuine grievance of people there is the demand for Independence or autonomy then the government should tell them in unequivocal terms that this is not acceptable to it.

I would like to refer to a statement given by the hon. Prime Minister at an all-party meeting

in which he said that we should not do anything to demoralize the security forces. But what is the condition of the security forces there. They do not want to go on field duty. If a security personnel does not want to perform field duty, this means that he is feeling demoralized. Our security forces are getting demoralized and we are doing nothing to keep their morale up.

The government has been giving funds to the State but where these funds are going? If at all there is corruption in the use of these funds then it is the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to blame. There is no fault of the Government of India in it. If somebody says that the problem there relates to funds, it is not correct.

Today, the people in the valley do not have any faith in the government because it never delivers what it says.

I want to make a point here that there is an external dimension to stone pelting also. Some days ago the Indian Army Chief had said that there was a time when the troublemakers in Kashmir were quiet. Militants were on the margin and a number of people were ready to participate in the democratic process. If the Government of India had started the democratic process at that time, then, perhaps, the present conditions would not have cropped up. Since April the intelligence reports were coming that some new faces, particularly those belonging to the west, were being seen in Kashmir. There was a time when 10-15 thousand Mujahiddins had surrendered. But, sadly, the Government of India did not rehabilitate them and now the same people have joined the people in stone pelting. They had left the ideology of Jihad to align themselves with India but you could not keep even those elements with you. None of your policies has been

*Continued on page 27*



## Manner of preparation of this bill is a text book illustration of how not to legislate : Jaitley

This Bill has already been passed by the Lok Sabha. My Party supports this Bill in its amended form. We support this Bill though we have reservations with regard to the Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal. Even today, we are of the opinion that India's vast energy potential through alternative technologies and other means remains largely untapped. The cost of nuclear energy is higher than other competing technologies. However, we support this bill in its amended form only for three reasons. Firstly, the concerns that we have had against the bill in its original form as introduced have been substantially addressed. Secondly, this bill will only create an option for nuclear energy in India while still being unsure of its commercial viability in the current scenario. Thirdly, this bill is also about providing to the victims of a Nuclear accident an easier remedy for claims.

The manner of legislation

The manner of preparation of this bill and its evolution is a text book illustration of how not to legislate. Landmark legislations of this kind have to be a subject matter of a sustained national debate. They cannot be rushed through both in the Standing Committee and the Parliament without an adequate debate. It appeared that the Government somehow wanted to clear the Bill in the Monsoon Session since it would have otherwise defeated the deadline that it had set for itself on account of an important visit by an international dignitary.

The Bill, as originally introduced, was unacceptable. The Atomic Energy Act, 1962 categorically provides that nuclear reactors in India can only be operated either by the Government or by a Government company i.e a company in which Government has a majority share-holding. Yet, the structure of the Bill, as originally drafted, gave an indication that the Government was not forthcoming with its real intentions. It was structured for the Government

to assume the liability of a Private Sector operator, while the Government maintained that it had no immediate intention of allowing a Private Sector entry.

This bill does not deal with the question as to who can operate nuclear power plants in India. That issue is within the domain of Atomic Energy

*Synopsis of the speech delivered on August 30 by Shri Arun Jaitley, Leader of Opposition (Rajya Sabha)*



Act, 1962. This bill merely deals with the issue of bearing the liability of tortuous claims in the event of a nuclear accident/incident. The Bill was structured to put a cap on the liability of the Operator and the subsequent cap on the liability of the Government. The caps imposed were inadequate. The bill deviated from the principle of strict liability of defaulter which is otherwise applicable in India.

Dilution of the "Polluter Pays" Principle

The present legal framework in India, with regard to those who deal with hazardous material, has given rise to two judicial principles. They are:-

- a) If any form of pollution or injury is caused by a polluter, the polluter must pay.
- b) The principle of strict liability is imposed against the polluter. The victim does not have to prove negligence of the polluter. The fact that there is a leakage in the nuclear plant, which is capable of causing havoc itself is a conclusive proof, which must entail the liability of the polluter.

The Bill as originally framed sought to reverse both the above principles. It was, therefore,

extremely important for us, in the Opposition, to ensure that the balance is maintained between an internationally recognized system of channeling of legal liability to the Operator, in the case of a nuclear accident with the judicial principles applicable in India. The two need to be harmonized, for otherwise the Bill may even fall foul of Indian Constitutional obligations.

My party, therefore, offered concrete suggestion to be incorporated in the Bill while the same was pending consideration before the Standing Committee. The suggestions that we offered were as follows :-

1. The Government can certainly assume the liability of a Government company but it can not assume the liability of a Private operator. If that were so , the victims of a nuclear accident would be the Indian citizens, and the compensation would be paid by the Indian taxpayers. This was wholly unacceptable. Therefore, the BJP sought a declaration in the Bill, that it deals with only plants operated by the Government or a Government company, since that would involve the Government paying for a company, which it runs and controls. A corresponding amendment was also suggested for the definition of the word "operator" in the Act.
2. The capping of Operator's liability at Rs. 500 Crores was inadequate. We are glad that the liability has been increased to Rs. 1500 Crores or such other enhanced amount, which may be notified from time to time.
3. Similarly, we suggested the Government liability, which is presently capped at 300 million SDR to be made flexible by enhancing it through notification from time to time.
4. We wanted a special provision to be made with regard to the liability during transportation.
5. We wanted the right of recourse under Section 17 to be specifically extended to the Supplier for latent or patent manufacturing defects in the Reactors or for any insufficient or deficient services provided by the Supplier.
6. We wanted the structuring of the Bill in such a manner that the victims were entitled to an expeditious disposal of their claims before the Claims' Commissioners on the principle of - 'no fault liability', i.e a strict liability. We

did not want the multiplicity of proceedings before the Claims Commissioner and a Civil Court because that would have involved undue harassment and prolonged litigation to the victims.

7. We did not want any direct or indirect reference to any international convention such as the CSC (Convention on Supplementary Compensation) so that India could keep its options open.

I am glad that, after some reluctance, the Government did accept all these amendments. Unfortunately, what happened thereafter, again cast a shadow of doubt about the motive of the Government. Having accepted the above amendments, the discussions in the standing committee concluded on a note of satisfaction. However, there was a 'hidden hand' operating. This hidden hand was not of the 'aam admi.' The addition of the word 'and' in Section 17

The whole nation was surprised when the word 'and' appeared through 'a stapling and fixing exercise' on Page 30 of the report of the Standing Committee. The original page did not have the word 'and'. It is only the stapled page which contained this word.

The phoney argument of the Suppliers and their well wishers

The Suppliers and their well wishers were raising a phony argument that if liability of the supplier was mentioned in the Bill in Section 17 (b) , no Supplier would make supplies to India. This argument is devoid of any merit. Assuming that there was no Section 17 (b) in the Bill, the Law of Torts would still continue to hold the field between the operator and the supplier. This bill in that event would only be concerned with claim of the victims against the Operator. There is nothing in the Bill excluding the liability of the Supplier, if the Operator were to invoke the right to recourse. Clause 17 (b) is only a statutory incorporation of the existing Law of Torts.

In any case, India will now enter the global market as one of the largest potential buyers of the nuclear reactors. There are at least four, if not, more Suppliers eager to make supplies to India. The character of the bazaar is going to alter. It will be a market where Suppliers chase buyers rather than otherwise.

By introducing Section 17 (b). India is not



deviating from the international practice . India is not acting contrary to the international mainstream. It is only protecting the interests of the Operator i.e Government of India, or a Government company. Korea has a similar provision. India has been in the forefront on several issues pursuing the interests of the developing and poorer nations. When we took an independent position on elimination of agricultural subsidy in the WTO, it was alleged that we were acting contrary to international practice.

When we introduced section 3 (d) to the Patents Act in 2005 to make a provision for cheaper medicines and prevent evergreening of patents, it was alleged that we acted contrary to international practice. History has shown repeatedly that the direction of the mainstream 'had to alter' in favour of the direction that India was taking.

Deletion of the word 'and' in Section 17

Section 17 (a), (b) and (c) are alternatives. They are disjunctive. The inclusion of the word 'and' after Section 17 (a) made the operation of Section 17(b) contingent upon a written Contract between the Operator and the Supplier mandated by Section 17(a). This would have defeated the very objective of Section 17 (b) since a Supplier by simply refusing a right to recourse in the written contract would have escaped the clutches of Section 17 itself. The Government tried to

bring in the word 'and' surreptitiously through the backdoor. The word 'and' had to be exited through the front door.

The smuggling of the word 'intent' in Section 17 (b)

The ' hidden hand' of the nuclear suppliers and their well wishers did not give up. After the word 'and' was deleted in Section 17, the 'intent' to supply such equipment as would create a nuclear accident/incident was introduced in Section 17 (b). The introduction of the word 'intent' in Section 17 (b) rendered it as a dead letter. No manufacturer or supplier would create any equipment intended to create a nuclear accident. Suppliers are not saboteurs. It would be an impossible onus to discharge in proving this. Faced with criticism, and expose, the government was compelled to delete the requirement of 'intent' in Section 17 (b). It is clear that the intention of the Government was always suspect. It tried and failed. We, in the Opposition, take satisfaction in the fact that we protected India's national interest as an important watchdog of Indian democracy.

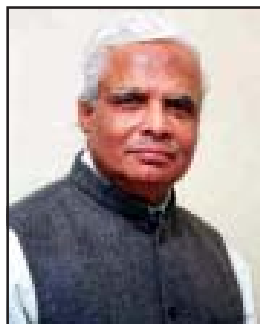
The Bill has come up before the House in its present amended version now. I would only urge the Government to draw the correct lessons from this legislative exercise. The lesson is not that that all is well that ends well. The lesson is that when you legislate in the interest of the Nation, be forthright and straightforward. ■

## *Discussion on the Educational Tribunal Bill*

# **Challenge is of quality, quantity, expansion, inclusion & regulation : Bal Apte**

*Synopsis of the speech delivered in Rajya Sabha by Shri Bal Apte*

**S**everal Committees have made recommendations, anticipating the country's role in the 21st century. The challenge is of quality, quantity, expansion, inclusion and regulation. But there are bigger challenges also. The response is Aligarh University campuses in Muslim majority districts. In anticipation of those Bill is not necessary at this stage. How are you going to select and nurture talent at the lowest level in the last village?



1500 universities and we should have 15 per cent gross enrolment ratio. Everybody has suggested that there should be one regulation. The present Educational Tribunals Bill is half-baked. We create tribunals. We have family courts, the consumer courts for speedy justice. All these are places where justice is almost never delivered. Therefore, why a tribunal is needed is a question which ought to be answered. When universalisation of

primary education was recommended. They did not

The knowledge Commission says, we should have  
September 16-30, 2010 ○ 11

have even a pie for this purpose. It is a legislation brought in only for the purpose of showing that they are doing something. I do not know when that regulatory authority will come. The Standing Committee recorded that this Bill is based on outdated recommendations. Only four States have said, 'yes' to it. The rest of the States did not respond. If the States don't want them, the Centre has to persuade them. Now when we are creating so many tribunals, it has become necessary to have a Judicial Impact Assessment because every Tribunal is amenable to the jurisdiction of the High Court and power to its decision will ultimately come under the jurisdiction of the High Court.

Ultimately the existence of a Tribunal creates litigation, and if that litigation is going to be pending in the High Courts for years together, then creation of the Tribunal becomes ridiculous. Clause 3 (1) (w)

talks about service matters and disciplinary matters. What is a service matter or what is a disciplinary matter may create a lot of litigations. Clause 15 talks about unfair practices. An unfair practice of an educational institution is not defined. Supreme Court has the power to interfere if it wants to interfere. Creating a right to appeal may again create litigation.

The provision for execution has been kept so vague deliberately. The clauses related to it are not clear. It is provided that the Tribunal is independent. Tribunal is not within the clutches of the procedure of laws like the Civil Procedure Code and the Evidence Act. So they think that they can do whatever they want. In this entire structure, the student is missing because we want to negotiate between the institutions. Student is irrelevant here. Minority institutions are excluded from such a vital structure of tribunals. Then, where are we going to lead the minority institutions. ■

### *Mahila Morcha office-bearers meet*

## ***Nari Shakti Kendras to be opened in every District : Smriti Irani***

The first meeting of the newly constituted BJP Mahila Morcha office-bearers was held on August 30 in New Delhi. BJP Mahila Morcha National President Smt Smriti Irani proposed various programmes for expanding the base of the organization by involving more and more women into the BJP. One of the highlights of her programmes was establishment of *Nari Shakti Kendras* in every



district in the country by Mahila Morcha. She explained that *Nari Shakti Kendra* will be a platform for Mahila Morcha in every district in every State to reach out to women and provide support and solutions in health care, education, law and order and employment. For this purpose, Smt. Irani disclosed that she proposed to visit every State in the country for implementing this programme.

The meeting unanimously decided that the 1st BJP Mahila Morcha National Executive will be held on the 29th and 30th of September 2010 in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt Sushma Swaraj, BJP General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ramlal, BJP Morcha & Cell Coordinator Shri Mahendra Pandey, Mahila Morcha Prabhari Smt Karuna Shukla, and Sah Prabhari Smt Kiran Ghai were present at the meeting. ■

# Illegal mining resulting in large scale tax evasion : Arun Jaitley

There are no two categories of those who indulge in legal mining and those who indulge in illegal mining. Those who have legitimate permission for lawful mining often extend the area available to them. They extract more than what they are permitted to and hence it is under the garb of legal mining that illegal mining in India continues to prosper. Consequences of excessive mining

Mining is an industry where large scale national resource is placed in private hands. The revenue received from royalty and taxes is minimal. On account of illegal mining there is large scale tax evasion. There is a tendency to encroach into neighbouring lands leading to unsavoury litigation and conflicts. There is admittedly a tendency to mine more than what is permitted. Mining has impacted adversely on environment. It has disrupted the lives of those living in the forest areas, thus creating social unrest. It has also placed a large economy resource in the hands of a few individuals.

If revenue departments, police administration, transfer/postings are areas which have increased corruption in governance, there are several sectors in the economy which have placed a large resource in the hands of private individuals. Originally, alcohol and liquor

trade had a corrupting influence on politics. Today, it is real estate and private sector Education which have corrupted the administration in many parts of our country. At least education creates a human

allocation of mines on basis of allotment to the first applicant when a mine is thrown open, has no logical rationale. It is this practice which has enabled traders rather than actual users to take control of mining.

*There is admittedly a tendency to mine more than what is permitted. Mining has impacted adversely on environment. It has disrupted the lives of those living in the forest areas, thus creating social unrest. It has also placed a large economy resource in the hands of a few individuals.*



resource. Real estate makes a contribution in terms of housing and makes other space available. On the contrary, mining is an industry where a large national resource gets into private hands. The State earns inadequate revenue for the same. Those who trade in minerals, acquire disproportionate wealth which enables them to have a disproportionate influence on both politics and governance. Suggestions

The principal question is – who should be doing the mining. Some members have in fact suggested that all mining in India should be nationalized. That is an extreme suggestion. However, the present system of

Mineral which is extracted by traders is then sold domestically and internationally at a profit. It is, therefore, worth considering whether allotment of mines as a preference should be done to those who are actual users of the mineral.

Allotment of mineral either through mining or sale to actual users should be incorporated as a part of the policy. Allotment to actual users will necessarily involve value addition. It will increase the utility of the mineral. It will give a fillip to Indian manufacturing sector. It will attract investment both domestic and foreign in the manufacturing sector. India's agricultural sector suffers from under-employment and

unemployment. People have to be subsumed in service sector and manufacturing sector from agricultural sector. It is therefore necessary to give an incentive to India's manufacturing sector by linking of allotment of mines and minerals to the manufacturers rather than mere traders.

India has a surplus foreign exchange. We do not foresee a crisis in this field. Thus, currently mindless export of extracted minerals is merely transferring our valuable national resources to our foreign competitors. Even such mineral which had lesser utility in India such as iron ore fines has now greater utility in India because the technology of converting it into pellets is now available. There is a need to import such technologies so that India can itself become a manufacturing hub through value addition of this mineral. It may be worthwhile for the Government to consider that export of certain minerals including iron-ore is prohibited.

In dealing with the valuable natural resources inter-generational equity has to be borne in mind. The present generation cannot use what nature gave for all times to come. Disproportionate mining by the present generation is going to affect the inter-generational equity. We must allow only such volumes to be mined wherein we will have left behind more than an adequate resource for the future generations.

The royalty and taxes on mineral are dismal. There is a need to review and increase the volume of these taxes.

A relevant question would arise if a policy to deal with this were ever framed, as to what would happen to the current leases. Would such leases lapse automatically by operation of law or should they be allowed to live their natural life and all future allotment be done on basis of the policy. I think equity needs to be weighed by the government while taking a policy decision in this matter. ■

September 16-30, 2010 ○ 14

## Nitin Gadkari decides to reconstruct a village in cloudburst hit Leh

BJP on September 01, 2010 decided to gift a reconstructed village to the people with 200 new houses in Leh, which was devastated in last month's cloudburst.



### *High Powered Committee formed to take up the work*

A high powered Leh Relief and Reconstruction Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Party President Shri Nitin Gadkari. Shri Jagat Prakash Nadha, General Secretary, BJP has been appointed of the committee while Shri Tarun Vijay, M.P. and National Spokesperson has been made convener of the committee.

The reconstruction of the 200 houses will be taken up immediately with the help of local engineers, architects and contractors who understand the traditional house structure, the climatic situation and have expertise to build houses which can withstand natural calamities like earthquake and sudden flash floods, party spokesperson Shri Tarun Vijay said.

He also informed that help has also been taken for designing Leh homes from world renowned Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee.

It is noteworthy that more than 103 were killed and over 350 injured in flash floods triggered by a massive cloudburst that hit Leh town of Jammu and Kashmir's Ladakh on August 6 washing away several buildings and houses of that region. (FOC) ■

## SC order is a slap on Congress govt. : Gadkari

Addressing a press conference in New Delhi on August 31, 2010 BJP national president Shri Nitin Gadkari said the Bharatiya Janata Party welcomes the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order directing the Central Government to arrange free distribution of food grain to the poor instead of letting it rot.

He said the apex court's order is a slap on the Congress government, which sought to defy the court's directive unsuccessfully argued, "It is not possible to implement the Supreme Court's order". Union Agriculture Minister had also said that this was just a suggestion by the court. In a clear snub to the Union Agriculture Minister, Shri Sharad Pawar, the apex court in its order today has told the Additional Solicitor General, "Tell your minister that free

distribution is our order not a suggestion by us".

He said today's development is a vindication of the stand taken by the BJP that the Central Government was a mute spectator to the criminal wastage of huge quantity of food grain rotting in the open in various parts of the country due to lack of storage capacity in the Food Corporation of India godowns and the government warehouses and that it would be prudent to distribute it among the poorest of the poor before it becomes unfit for human consumption.

He said the BJP in the last six months had launched a nation-wide campaign against the callousness of the authorities in handling the country's precious food reserves.

The BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari, had asked



the party National Secretary, Shri Kirit Somaiya, to organise surprise visits of senior BJP leaders to the FCI godowns in different states.

He said the BJP senior leader, Shri Rajnath Singh, launched the campaign with a visit to several FCI godowns and state warehouses at Faridabad in Haryana and picked up samples of the damaged food grain.

The BJP Team made surprise visits at 22 places in 6 states - Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra - and found to their dismay that a huge quantity of food grains was getting rotten in the open exposing the tall claims of the UPA government that the country's food reserves were safe & secured he added.

Shri Nitin Gadkari said the BJP also organised a picture expose' on "A tale of criminal wastage of food grain" at the party headquarters in New Delhi. The party plans to take this campaign to different parts of the country and mobilise public opinion against the UPA government's utter mismanagement on the food front. ■

### Janmashtmi celebrated at Mookerjee Nyas

Janmashtmi was celebrated in the premises of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Smruti Nyas, New Delhi, with great religious fervour and devotion on September 01.

BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal performed the pooja. The Nyas treasurer Shri Gopal Aggarwal and National Convener of Literature & Publications Cell, Shri Amba Charan and the persons working and staying in the premises with their families were present on the occasion. ■ (FOC)



BJP National General Secretary (organisation) Sh. Ramlal performing the pooja

# Recognise value of workers Gadkari tells party legislators

From Our Correspondent

**B**JP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari on August 26 in Bhopal called upon Ministers and party legislators to recognise the value party workers as they serve as the backbone of the party. Addressing the concluding session of a two-day training programme for party legislators at the party's State headquarters, Shri Gadkari advised members to act like a tree and not like a kite, which fell down after its strings were cut loose. Nobody values legislators and Ministers after they lose power, thus you should understand that they need to value workers, he added.

He said we are extremely lucky that we got the chance to associate and work with a nationalist political party. Our mission is to leverage politics to change society for the better and empower the nation.

Shri Gadkari called on all parliamentarians, legislators and other elected representatives of the party to remain dedicated to realise the party mission. You should take social service as a project in your respective parliamentary, legislative constituencies and districts and strive to eradicate illiteracy, unemployment and other social ills, he added.

The BJP president further said BJP is the only political party in the country to have

come into existence on the basis of nationalist thinking. For other political parties, including Congress, politics is the source of power, whereas for BJP

power is only the means of ringing in social change. Power is not our goal. As peoples' representatives we should become confident but should avoid complacency.

He said that people elect us and make us famous, but we should never forget that this fame stems from the efforts of the party workers and the organization.

Earlier Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and BJP State president Shri Prabhat Jha MP, BJP General Secretaries Shri Thanwarchand Gehlot and Shri Narendra Singh Tomar welcomed Shri Gadkari.

On the occasion BJP National general secretary (organization) Shri Ramlal called upon party legislators to be sensitive towards peoples' problems and remain ready to solve them.

He said, "Peoples'



"Karyakartas are Party's asset" - Gadkari

representatives are the face of the organization and the image of party is based on their conduct. It is their responsibility that they should act as a bridge between the party and the masses in return for the faith reposed in them by the party and people."

Perform or quit: Ananth Kumar

Earlier inaugurating the two-day training programme for party legislators on August 25 in the State capital Bhopal, BJP National general secretary and in-charge for Madhya Pradesh Shri Ananth Kumar along with Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, BJP State president Shri Prabhat Jha MP, Senior BJP leader Shri Ram Naik, Organizational general secretary Shri Makhan Singh, Shri Bhagwat Sharan Mathur and Shri Nandkumar Singh lighted the ceremonial lamp and

also paid floral tributes to Bharat Mata, Sh. Deendayal Upadhyay, Syama Prasad Mookerjee and Sh. Kushabhau Thakre.

Addressing the legislators on the occasion Shri Ananth Kumar said Power is not a post, but the trust invested by people and a responsibility to strive for bringing prosperity in the life of the poorest in the society. We have moved forward with a nationalist ideology and our mission is to provide good governance and give shape to Antyodaya. Legislators are the organisation's resource for realising the dream of making Madhya Pradesh a golden State and they should adopt the responsibility with zeal," he added.

He further said that alertness; activism, contacts, self-education and dialogue are the five necessary qualities of elected representatives.

Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the philosophy of inclusive humanism will pave the way for the all-around prosperity of the society. In the next three years significant growth would be made, IITs, polytechnics and other training institutes would be set up to train the youth and ensure that five lakh people could be established in employment. Describing the philosophy of inclusive humanism, Shri Chouhan said: "At a time when all prevailing social philosophies are marred by controversy, the philosophy

of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay is still relevant."

Madhya Pradesh BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha said we should make our political thinking sophisticated and become experts at understanding the society's mindset. Change in the society could be brought through our conduct and behavior.

Image is built by conduct and behaviour and image is more dynamic than the person, he said. The BJP State president further said we should be creative and remain positive. Smooth functioning of governments is not the responsibility of Chief Ministers and ministers, elected representatives would have to define their responsibility in it. They would have to create an environment for the successful implementation of government policies and ensure that the benefit of the initiatives reach the poor and dispossessed he said. Former Union Minister Shri Ram Naik said the training session was a part of similar workshops for parliamentarians and legislators, across the country. There are 116 Members of Parliament of the BJP in the Lok Sabha, 50 in the Rajya Sabha and 975 legislators in various State Assemblies of the country.

He termed the elected representatives as the capital of the organisation and stressed that training programmes were necessary to enhance their capacity, he added.

Shri Naik called on the legislators to be dynamic, polite, calm and remain in constant touch with people and party workers. ■

## Kamal Sakhi Manch holds discussion on "Self Help Groups"

The meeting of Kamal Sakhi Manch held on 12th August 2010 in Delhi was very fruitful. This time, the manch discussed "Self Help Groups".



BJP President, Shri Nitin Gadkari, graced the occasion with his presence at the meeting. He said Kamal Sakhi Manch was heading in the right direction and extended his full support to this cause. He also told how these self help groups were active in Chattisgarh and the other rural parts of India and we have to continue our efforts towards this cause and aware the maximum people and involve them with such Self Help Groups.

Member of Parliament Smt. Jayshreeben Patel expressed her views regarding the functions of Self Help Groups and how these groups can help towards the empowerment of women. She told us how these Self Help Groups are effectively running in Gujarat. From time to time, the govt. also provides financial assistance to these small scale help groups with the motive to empower the women of the country.

The Meet concluded with the vote of Thanks by the Convenor of the Sakhi Manch Dr. Prachee Prakash Javadekar. (FOC) ■

# BJP not against Muslims : Gadkari

Launching a State-wide Kamal Sandesh campaign to reach out to the minorities, organised by the Minority Front of the BJP State unit at Shahid Bhavan in Bhopal on August 26, BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said that the BJP does not believe in the politics of religion and caste. Party respects every patriotic citizen. The BJP, he said is not against Muslims. He claimed that the people who mislead Muslim community members have political interests as they do it for the sake of Muslim votes. He called upon Muslim community members to be aware of such people and misgivings by them.

Shri Gadkari said that the BJP does not doubt the patriotism of Muslim community. The contributions and supreme sacrifices made by the Muslim community leaders during freedom struggle prove that all are Indians first. He said the educational empowerment of the minority community is his party's priority. He informed that recently the BJP has urged



Shri Gadkari launches Kamal Sandesh campaign

the Prime Minister to hand over the Waqf properties to the Muslim community to set up educational institutions.

Shri Gadkari further said that Pakistan has started encouraging terrorism. He asked those present to cite any example of injustice to Muslim by the BJP government in the State or the Centre. He said that wrong economic policies and ill-governance are responsible for unemployment and inflation.

Addressing the gathering MP Chief Minister Shri Shivraj

Singh Chouhan said that though, he did not believe in the appeasement of the Muslim community, he was all for their empowerment. He described the BJP as the party of all communities with a firm resolve to provide education, health and employment to the needy, regardless of caste, creed or religion. Highlighting the BJP philosophy of reaching out to the most deprived, Shri Chouhan stressed that the Muslim community is not a vote for the BJP and they should be aware of those misleading them.

The Chief Minister recalled the contributions and sacrifices made by minority leaders like Bahadur Shah Zafar, Chandrashekhar Azad, Ram Prasad Bismil and Ashfaq Ullah all fought for the country.

BJP Madhya Pradesh State President Shri Prabhat Jha and all other senior leaders of the party were present on the occasion. (FOC) ■

## Six-phase Assembly election in Bihar announced

| THE 6 PHASES      |       |
|-------------------|-------|
|                   | Seats |
| Oct 21            | 47    |
| Oct 24            | 45    |
| Oct 28            | 48    |
| Nov 1             | 42    |
| Nov 9             | 35    |
| Nov 20            | 26    |
| Results on Nov 24 |       |

The Election Commission of India (EC) on September 6 announced a six-phase Assembly poll in Bihar from October 21 to November 20. According to the programme, the elections will be held on October 21, 24 and 28 and November 1, 9 and 20. The results will be announced on November 24. The Banka Lok Sabha constituency, which has fallen vacant following the death of former Union minister Digvijay Singh, will have a bypoll on November 1. ■



# Geelani's 'conditions' responsible for anarchy in Kashmir

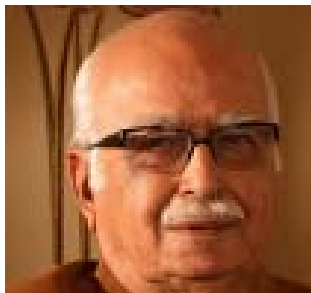
Last week I attended a conclave of Defence Services Veterans where the participants were extremely upset that even though right from 1947, when Pakistan mounted its first attack on Jammu and Kashmir State, it is the Armed Forces which have had to make the maximum sacrifices to protect this inalienable part of Indian

blundered from one folly to another on Kashmir and have been repeatedly scoring self-goals".

Gen. Sinha who has had the unique distinction of having been witness to all the major events in that State since 1947 when he as a young Major supervised the air lift of Indian troops from the Safdarjang airport, New Delhi to Kashmir

when the enemy was in full flight, the Army had reached Uri but was stopped from advancing to Muzaffrabad and diverted to Poonch.

4. We launched our summer offensive on 22 May 1948 and by 1 June 1948, we liberated Tithwal. We were tantalizingly close to Muzaffrabad. The operation was called off in the wake of UN appeal to India and Pakistan to refrain from offensive operations.
5. In December 1948 after our resounding success in Ladakh and Poonch, we were well poised to liberate Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, but we agreed to a Cease Fire.
6. After the 1965 war, we handed over the strategic Hajipir Pass, won at great cost, on a platter to Pakistan at Tashkent.
7. We were outwitted at Shimla in 1972 and surrendered our gains without settling the Kashmir issue.
8. Our Parliament passed a unanimous resolution asserting that the area of Kashmir in illegal occupation of Pakistan is an integral part of India. We have done nothing to assert this right. Even when there has been widespread unrest in Gilgit-Baltistan, we did not even express sympathy for the agitators who are



*It is the Armed Forces which have had to make the maximum sacrifices to protect this inalienable part of Indian territory, in every statement about J&K being made these days not only by the separatists in that state but even by Government leaders the security forces are being unabashedly demonized.*

territory, in every statement about J&K being made these days not only by the separatists in that state but even by Government leaders the security forces are being unabashedly demonized.

Gen. S.K. Sinha who delivered the key note address at this conclave opened his address thus: "Kashmir has been a festering problem for the last 63 years. We merely assert that Kashmir is an integral part of India and a solution will emerge through dialogue. We as a Nation, suffer from a Panipat syndrome which stands for lack of strategic vision, remaining unprepared to face crises and not learning from the past."

He added: "We have

to repel the tribesmen sent by Pakistan, right up to 2008 when as Governor of J&K he had to handle the Amarnath controversy, then went on to list the numerous follies committed:

1. With the enemy closing on Srinagar, Maharaja Hari Singh fled to Jammu and was desperately seeking Indian assistance. He signed the Instrument of Accession but through exchange of letters, Kashmir was given a special position not made available to any Princely State in India or Pakistan.
2. Thereafter, we committed the cardinal folly of taking the Kashmir issue to the United Nations.
3. On 14 November 1947

legally Indian citizens.

9. We agreed to road Srinagar-Muzaffrabad being opened but could not get road Kargil-Skardu opened.
10. In the name of freedom of the Press, we allow the Valley Press to constantly carry out anti-India false propaganda. The law on sedition does not seem to apply in Kashmir.

The list of our follies is endless, Gen. Sinha stated.

Not many outside the State are aware of the State's diverse demography. Kashmiri Muslims among whom separatist sentiments and separatist violence are generally confined, constitute a minority in the State. Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and non-Kashmiri Muslims like Gujars, Bakharwals and Kargil Shias are nearly 60% of the State's population. They do not nurture any anti-India sentiments.

Little wonder that a few years back, an opinion poll conducted under the patronage of Lord Avebury, a known British protagonist of Pakistan, found that only 6% Kashmiris wanted to join Pakistan, 61% wanted to remain in India and 33% were undecided !

More recently, in May 2010, King's College of London University, at the instance of the son of Col. Gaddafi of Libya, carried out another similar survey in Kashmir. This survey found that only 2% of the people of Kashmir wanted to join Pakistan.

During the last fortnight of the Monsoon Session of Parliament, the Lok Sabha had a day long discussion on the situation in Jammu and

Kashmir. I had referred in my last blog to the impressive contribution made by Dr. M.M. Joshi in the debate. Home Minister Shri Chidambaram was expected to reply to the debate the next day. But day after day kept passing by, the unconcluded debate on Kashmir would never find mention in the list of business. While rumours kept circulating that under guise of a political solution some package of concessions was being planned, on the last day of the session Dr. Joshi raised the issue as to why the Home Minister had avoided replying to this important debate.

There was an uproar on the issue and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs said he would ask the H.M. who was in the other House if he could come. Well, he did not come, and the House was adjourned sine die in the evening without Government telling Parliament what kind of package it had prepared for the azadi-seekers.

In a press conference at Srinagar Hurriyat Conference Chief Syed Ali Shah Geelani has stated brazenly last week that the means of 'resistance' may have been changing from time to time, but the objective has been consistent, namely: **FREEDOM FROM INDIAN RULE**

Geelani then spelt out five minimum conditions for reviewing the ongoing agitation which had created anarchy in the Valley.

1. India must accept that J&K State is disputed territory
2. Start demilitarization; scrap Armed Forces Special Powers Act
3. P.M. must guarantee that

hereafter there would be no police firing, no arrests.

4. All 'political' prisoners including Afzal Guru, sentenced to death by Supreme Court for planning the attack on Parliament, must be released.
5. Security men and police responsible for action against the separatists must be punished.

The separatists in Kashmir are led by the Hurriyat Conference. But the ferocious stone-pelting movement these days draws its strength more from the PDP than from the Hurriyat.

And so far as the Hurriyat Chief is concerned, these facts about his past show up the man.

In 2002, Syed Ali Shah Geelani was seriously ill in Ranchi jail. A state aircraft took him to Mumbai for treatment. Here a doctor who happened to be a Kashmiri Pandit, by name Dr. Sameer Koul performed a difficult surgery on him and saved his life.

In 2007 again he was diagnosed to be suffering from cancer of the liver. He wanted to go to U.S. for treatment. The U.S. embassy denied him visa because of his terrorist links. He did not go to Pakistan. He chose instead to go again to Mumbai where the doctors performed yet another life-saving operation on him.

On return to Srinagar, he was given a rousing welcome by his followers. At the function held he said that India was in illegal occupation of Kashmir, and urged the international community to impose economic sanctions against India! ■

(Courtesy : [blog.lkadvani.in](http://blog.lkadvani.in))

surplus waters of the four river basins mentioned, to water scarce basins in the southern and the western parts.

For all the rhetoric for and against the NRLP, it may become necessary that we plan inter-basin water transfers to meet future needs. However, we need to ensure that there is focus on policies that concern artificial groundwater recharge, a pragmatic approach to rain water-harvesting techniques that do not compromise on downstream flows, improvement in crop productivity and agriculture diversification along with looking at alternate sources for fresh water that include the setting up of desalination plants along our coastline.

Long-term Plan: Year 2050

According to the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), the total demand for water in India will have increased by 22 per cent by 2025, and a further eight per cent by 2050 due to population increase and lifestyle choices. It will be fuelled by industrial and domestic use even though agriculture use for irrigation is set to fall.

The challenge of increased industrial usage means that industry discharges need to be treated and reused. Policy making and planning around water resources management is complex and multi-disciplinary in nature. This work cannot be done in isolation and co-operation must ensue between disciplines.

In spite of a mandate to meet every quarter, the Committee of

# Make IT more user friendly : Nadda

From Our Correspondent



The 6th National Convention of BJP IT Cell was held at BJP headquarters in New Delhi on August 28.

Inaugurating the Convention BJP National Executive member Shri Vinay Sahastrabuddhe laid stress on the effective use of IT in citizen centric initiatives. He wanted that the governance cell and IT cell should coordinate in a greater measure in future to make this even more effective.

In his address National General Secretary Shri J.P.Nadda cited the e-samadhan initiative of HP government wherein the problems of citizens are lodged, which can be monitored right upto the Chief Minister's level. He also mentioned that IT needs to be made more user friendly and stressed that the *e-karyakartas* initiatives needs to be extended so that common workers and senior leaders alike get IT savvy and get comfortable with it.

Chhattisgarh Agriculture Minister Shri Chandra Shekhar Sahu also addressed the meeting.

Shri Arvind Gupta, National Convener, IT Cell, expressed satisfaction on participation from over 15 States in the convention. ■

Environmentalists, Social Scientists and other Experts on Inter-Linking of Rivers last met in March 2010, after seven months.

It is time that the government ensured that a concrete policy evolves that aims at transforming India into a '*Sujalam*' (richly-watered), '*Suphalam*' (richly-fruited), '*Sasya Shyamalam*' (richly-harvested) country.

(G. Kishan Reddy is the Andhra Pradesh State BJP president. The statistical, data and research inputs were provided by Yudofud Public Strategies, [www.yudofud.com](http://www.yudofud.com)) ■

## North-east India faced with 'external aggression' in form of massive infiltration : L K Advani

From Our Correspondent

**B**JP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri LK Advani asked the central Government to make it clear what steps it has taken to use the Unique Identification Authority of India for launching an effective drive for detection, deletion (of names from the voters' list) and deportation of illegal migrants. He said every care should be taken to ensure that foreigners are not enumerated in the ongoing 2011 census. Shri Advani was speaking at a function organised in New Delhi on August 23 to launch North-East India Sampark Cell of BJP.

Addressing at the first meeting of the North-East Cell Shri Advani said, "I am very happy to be participate in this first meeting of the newly constituted North-East Cell of the BJP. I feel that we should have had set up this cell long back. We have cells that are specific to different sections of society. We didn't have a region-specific cell. But India's North-Eastern region needs special attention. I congratulate President Shri Nitinji Gadkari for taking this innovative step. The BJP will certainly benefit from this."

He further said the north-east part is facing 'external aggression' in the form of massive infiltration from

Bangladesh. "The problem has not only endangered the very survival of Assam, but is also threatening other north-eastern states. Like previous Congress governments, UPA I and II have also chosen to be silent spectators to this aggression. Rather, they have aided and abetted this 'external aggression' for myopic vote bank considerations," he said. He further said that by forming the cell at the central office, the BJP has demonstrated the

employment to 86 people and much scope for tourism also there. But we failed to draw benefit from it due to lack of vision," he said. He declared the BJP would develop a Vision Document-2025 for North-East and it would implement it when its gets a chance. He appealed to the students studying in different parts of the country or visiting anywhere in the country to take the help of BJP workers if they are in any type of trouble or face difficulty. Leader of

Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley said the north-east region has been neglected by the Central Government. He cited the example of negligence in the construction of National Highways and milking of hydro

power in the region. "There is a need of 'emotional integration' of North-East today. The new Cell created by the BJP should strengthen it," he said, stressing the need to take all MPs to a tour of north-east so that they can realise the problems of those areas and the conditions in which the people live there. He said the attention that should have been paid to the problems of north-east was not paid by the successive governments. What we need today is to devote more 'mind space' for North-East. Talking about the 'physical distance' that has developed



importance it attaches to the challenges of development, security and national integration that the north-east faces.

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said strong will-power, team spirit, development oriented approach and sensitiveness are required to resolve the problems of North East. "The North East region has the scope for investment for Rs 2,80,000 crore in hydro power and other sectors. We can generate over 55,000 MW hydro power in the region. Similarly, the visit of a tourist gives

after the creation of Bangladesh in the region, he said Bangladesh should provide a corridor to India and it may charge for it, which will be financial benefit to it also.

Cell National convener Shri Sunil Deodhar said the Cell is an initiative to strengthen the emotional integration with other parts of the country and the north-east India. He said the Cell would try to provide active assistance to North-East people spread across the country for admissions, accommodations and city related information and employment counseling. "The Cell will also try to conduct various programmes to sensitize various audience about north-east and its people.

Earlier, Shri Tapir Gao, BJP National Secretary, said the gap between the national life and the North-East region is not good for the nation. He stressed the need to give more space to the life and contribution of some of the great personalities of north-east in school and college curriculum. Smt Bijoya Chakravarty, MP from Guwahati, proposed a vote of thanks. ■

## Three-day Study Camp of BJP MPs Successfully completed

The three days Study Camp of first-time Members of Bharatiya Janata Party in the Parliament was successfully concluded on August 29 with the valedictory speech of BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari. The three days camp held from 27th to 29th August in Balaji Nirogdham, Delhi was inaugurated by BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri Lal Krishna Advani.

The Study Camp was divided into eight interactive sessions. Shri L. K. Advani in his inaugural speech dealt with 'BJP-History, Development & Contribution'. While Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt Sushma Swaraj spoke on 'How to become effective MP'. Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley addressed on 'Media & Image Building.' National Convener, BJP MPs-MLAs Development Cell Shri

Ram Naik, gave 'Some useful Tips' and Prof. Bal Apte, Senior M.P. deliberated on 'Role of MP in Organizational Work'. Dr. Vinay Sahastrabudde's Power Point presentation on 'Management Techniques for Political Work' was followed by separate sittings for Lok Sabha M.Ps and Rajya Sabha M.Ps where discussions were monitored on 'Effective Participation in the House' by Shri Gopinath Munde, Deputy Leader in Lok Sabha and Shri S. S. Ahluwalia, Deputy Leader in Rajya Sabha.

The Study Camp was jointly organised by Shri Alok Kumar, Convener, National Training Cell and Shri Ram Naik National Convener, MPs-MLAs Development Cell. The administrative arrangements for the Study Camp were managed by BJP, Delhi Pradesh under the leadership of State President Shri Vijendra Gupta. (FOC) ■

## ABVP gets thumping victory in DUSU election



The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) swept the Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) polls on August 4 winning three of the four seats. Jitendra Chaudhary, Priya Dabas, and Neetu Dabas bagged the posts of president, vice-president, and secretary of DUSU respectively.

The post of joint secretary ABVP candidate Saurabh Uniyal lost by slim margin of 626 votes.

ABVP Presidential candidate Jitendra Chaudhary defeated NSUI candidate by margin of 1,943 votes. Priya Dabbas of ABVP for the post of Vice President defeated NSUI candidate by margin 1,518 and ABVP candidate Neetu Dabas for the post of secretary the bagged post by huge margin of 4,495 votes. (FOC) ■

# Making out a case for holistic river water management

*We must increase our water storage to regulate the vast amount of run-off.*

**By G. Kishan Reddy**

*Water, water, everywhere,  
And all the boards did shrink;  
Water, water, everywhere,  
Nor any drop to drink.*

(The Rime of the Ancient Mariner)

On August 9 this year, officials heaved a sigh of relief after 19.84 lakh cusecs of water was released into the Bay of Bengal, from the Dowlaisweram barrage near Rajahmundry. With this, the flooding caused by a swollen Godavari was no longer seen as a threat.

But there is the larger picture. This volume of water was the equivalent more than 170 tmc ft of water. It would be easier to understand what this means when you compare it with what the reservoirs of large dams in India hold. For instance, the reservoir that feeds the Nagarjunasagar dam in Andhra Pradesh is considered to be one of the largest man-made lakes in the world, with a capacity of around 410 tmc ft. The Mettur dam reservoir in Tamil Nadu has a peak storage capacity of 150 tmc ft. The recent dispute between Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh over the Bhabhli Project was over two tmc ft of water. In this context, the volume of water that was allowed to flow out was large.

Integrated flood management

Today, a retroactive approach to flood control is no longer the option. In its report, "Dams and Development", the World Commission on Dams (WCD) has suggested an integrated approach to flood management, and this was as early as 2000. The three-pronged strategy was through structural and non-structural means, isolating the threat of floods through structural, technological and policy alternatives; and increasing people's capacity to cope with floods.

An integrated flood management approach must look at river basins as a whole and not as

individual silos at a State-level. Therefore, it is distressing to note that the latest annual report of the Ministry of Water Resources (published at its website) sanctions 281 projects (worth ₹ 2,425.50 crore) but is silent on even a single project for flood management in the Krishna or Godavari basins. In hindsight, the floods of 2009, caused by the Krishna, which devastated parts of Karnataka and the Rayalaseema regions of Andhra Pradesh, and now what happened in August, show the retroactive approach of "flood control" rather than a proactive one of "flood management" being in place.

Integrated Water Resource Management in river basins

The hurdle to an integrated water management strategy is the lack of legislation. Article 246 of the Constitution establishes the federal structure of our Government in enacting

| (in cubic metre)                        |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Water storage created per person</b> |             |
| <b>Country</b>                          |             |
| <b>United States</b>                    | <b>5961</b> |
| <b>Australia</b>                        | <b>4717</b> |
| <b>Brazil</b>                           | <b>3388</b> |
| <b>China</b>                            | <b>2486</b> |
| <b>India</b>                            | <b>200</b>  |

legislation. The responsibilities of the Centre are declared through a Union list. In this list, the entry 56 states: the regulation and development of inter-state rivers and river valleys is a core

responsibility of the union. As 90 per cent of our rivers flow through States, it is important that there is legislation to protect the rights of all stakeholders.

The United Nations has been trying to ratify the Convention on the Law of the Non-

applied in India only if certain prerequisites are met. These include establishing a system of licensing and registering groundwater structures, a principle of developing a "user pays, polluter pays" method at the operational level, a rationalisation of electricity pricing and supply policies for agriculture and the creation of legal frameworks to facilitate institutional reform in irrigation systems, urban and rural water supply and sanitation systems.

#### Other alternatives

Other arid and semi-arid regions of the world have invested heavily in storage creation; Australia, Brazil, China and the U.S. have a per capita storage capacity that is 10-30 times that of India's capacity. In India, it is a mere 200 cubic metre/person, a figure on the decline because of a growing population.

As a country, we must increase our storage to regulate the vast amount of run-off. Some of this storage, especially that created in open basins, such as the Brahmaputra, the Ganga, the Mahanadi and the Godavari, may also need to be transferred to closed basins. For many years, policy makers have been suggesting the National River Linking Project (NRLP) to help sustain India's demand for water. The NRLP plans to transfer

| Water usage predictions in 2025 and 2050 |      |      |      |
|------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Water usage by sector                    | 2000 | 2025 | 2050 |
| Irrigation                               | 89   | 81   | 71   |
| Domestic                                 | 5    | 8    | 11   |
| Industrial                               | 6    | 11   | 18   |

navigation. Uses of International Watercourses to protect the rights of all stakeholders for rivers with international boundaries. It is important that the legislation enacted in India is based on similar general principles - equitable and reasonable utilisation and participation by all actors, obligation not to cause significant harm, a general obligation to cooperate, regular exchange of data and information and a notification concerning planned measures with possible adverse effects. The WCD report also warns about the risks in legislation that treat water as a finite commodity and which tries to allocate it on a proportional basis. In times of water scarcity, this approach does not give the flexibility needed to meet multiple claims along a river course. In such circumstances, it is helpful to extend sharing agreements to include the benefits, much like the 1968 Columbia Treaty between Canada and the United States.

The other area that requires attention is to move the responsibilities of managing water. There must also be a team of people - termed as the Basin Authority - that involves all stakeholders in the river-basin including governments. This is to manage water, plan future use and leverage benefits to the entire river basin. The use of Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM), as in the Murray-Darling River basin in Australia, can be sensibly

| Flood control plan in India |                                  |                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| State                       | No. of flood management projects | Estimated cost (Rs. Crores) |
| Arunachal Pradesh           | 9                                | 54.72                       |
| Assam                       | 82                               | 708.59                      |
| Bihar                       | 30                               | 798.13                      |
| Goa                         | 1                                | 8.84                        |
| Himachal Pradesh            | 1                                | 34.67                       |
| Jammu & Kashmir             | 16                               | 171.91                      |
| Jharkhand                   | 1                                | 20.12                       |
| Manipur                     | 12                               | 39.64                       |
| Nagaland                    | 5                                | 13.9                        |
| Orissa                      | 69                               | 163.63                      |
| Punjab                      | 1                                | 111.39                      |
| Sikkim                      | 24                               | 86.21                       |
| Tripura                     | 11                               | 26.57                       |
| Uttar Pradesh               | 7                                | 99.04                       |
| Uttaranchal                 | 4                                | 28.68                       |
| West Bengal                 | 8                                | 59.46                       |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>281</b>                       | <b>2425.5</b>               |

Source: Ministry of Water Resources (2008-2009)

## New Cell Conveners/Co-Conveners

BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari has appointed the following Conveners and Co-conveners of Cells.

### C.A. Cell

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Sh Rajesh Sharma (Delhi)       | Convener    |
| Sh Akhilesh Jain (M.P.)        | Co-Convener |
| Sh. Deen Dayal Agrawal (Delhi) | Co-Convener |
| Sh Sanjay Kapoor (Punjab)      | Co-Convener |
| Sh. G.V. Krishna (Karnataka)   | Co-Convener |

### External Affairs Cell

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| S.K. Arora           | Convener    |
| Sh. Sukumar Nambiyar | Co-Convener |

### Legal & Legislator Cell

|                               |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Sh Raghvendra Singh (Lucknow) | Convener    |
| Sh Bala Subramaniam (Delhi)   | Co-Convener |
| Sh M.B. Jigli (Karnataka)     | Co-Convener |
| Sh Ajay Dignpal (Delhi)       | Co-Convener |

### Litrature & Publication

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Sh Amba Charan (Delhi) | Convener |
|------------------------|----------|

### Weavers & Karigar Cell

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Sh Basant Kumar (Bihar) | Convener |
|-------------------------|----------|

### Samwad

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Sh Anupam Trivedi | Convener |
|-------------------|----------|

### Telecom Consumer Cell

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Sh Sanjay Bhalla | Convener |
|------------------|----------|

### Education Cell

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Sh Diwakar Kundu  | Convener    |
| Sh Jagdish Mittal | Co-Convener |

### Cow Development Cell

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Sh Jaibhagvan Agarwal | Co-Convener |
| Sh Jai Prakash Garg   | Co-Convener |

### Incharge Office Arrangement

|                   |
|-------------------|
| Sh Vikash Preetam |
|-------------------|

## State Treasurers training programme concluded

A two-day training program was organized for the BJP state treasurers at New Delhi on 16th & 17th August. It was presided over by Shri Piyush Goyal (National Treasurer).



A detailed presentation and discussion on upkeep of books of accounts took place and also How Corpus of the party can be built through AJIVAN SAHYOG NIDHI and VISHESH SAHYOG NIDHI was discussed. One sessions on 17th was addressed by BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari himself bringing out the importance of accountability, transparency and responsibility in the public life and important role that the Treasurer play for accomplishing this goal. National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal also gave some important tips in the matter. Mrs Veni Thapar gave a Presentation an maintenance of Accounts. Shri Mange Ram Garg spoke on the importance of Ajivan Sahyog Nidhi. The programme ended with the concluding remarks of Shri Piyush Goyal. The session was conducted and coordinated by Shri Gopal Krishna Agarwal, National Convener, Economic Cell. ■ (FOC)

## Various BJP Cells In-charges announced

Bharatiya Janata Party's National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has nominated following leaders as Incharge of various cells :-

|                                                              |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Shri Madan Lal Khurana</b> (Former Chief Minister, Delhi) | Incharge, Senior Citizen's Cell                                |
| <b>Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, MP</b>                                | Incharge, Medical Cell                                         |
| <b>Dr. Mahesh Chandra Sharma</b> (Former MP)                 | Incharge, Deendayal Upadhaya Samagrah                          |
| <b>Shri Murlidhar Rao</b> (National Secretary)               | Incharge, Fishermen, Weavers, National Artisans & Traders Cell |

## BJP Literature & Publication Cell

### Amba Charan Vashishth appointed National Convener

The BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has appointed Shri Amba Charan Vashishth as National Convener of BJP Literature and Publication Cell. Presently too, he was holding this office. Earlier, he had been the State Office Secretary in Himachal Pradesh BJP. ■



*Continued from page 8*

successful there. Stone pelting has not resulted from the refusal or the delay in giving economic package.

Had the Government of India not changed the policies pursued by the NDA Government under the leadership of Shri Vajpayee Ji, the present conditions would not have surfaced. The NDA Government had made it candidly clear that we are ready to talk within the limits of Insaniyat but autonomy and secession is not on the cards. There may be the devolution of powers and even that can be considered within a comprehensive framework of the Centre-state relationship for the entire country but you did not pursue the same path. Our Prime Minister first made the blunder when he said that Pakistan too is a victim of terrorism and linked it with Balochistan. Not only this, he also said that terrorism and talks can go on simultaneously. You allowed the Mujahiddins to vitiate the atmosphere of Kashmir.

You should pause and think why the present trouble has sprung up. America wants to flee Afghanistan and, for this, it needs Pakistan badly. Pakistan, in turn, seeks some concessions in Kashmir. Therefore, America pressurizes us to do something in Kashmir. You cannot sacrifice the interest of India for the sake of America and Pakistan. If America left Afghanistan at the mercy of Taliban, Pakistan will not be able to save itself from the clutches of Taliban. If, at that time, the Indian Army will not be around in Kashmir and your relations with the common people continue as they are now then Kashmir can slip out of your hands. The western countries need Pakistan and India is not a priority for them. China is also supporting Pakistan. India is alone and you are not showing courage and determination. You

should remember the Resolution adopted by this House in 1994 stating that Kashmir is an integral part of India. Are your negotiations on the same path? Whether you are diluting the Article 370 or making it more sturdy and making Kashmir a loosely bound state with India.

I would like to issue a warning to you that if you set in motion the process of autonomy then there will be trouble in north-east also. You should tell the people that Kashmir is an integral part of India and they should eschew the path of violence. Their genuine demands can be considered upon. But what you are trying to do? You want to oust the government elected by the people just because of stone pelting. You can advise the people in government how to conduct the affairs of the governance. They should go to the people and meet them. I would like to request you that it is not the Jammu and Kashmir alone which is in danger, the entire country is in danger with the Jammu and Kashmir. How are you going to solve this problem? The Prime Minister says that the problem has been around us for the last 60 years. It is very a complicated problem. But this complication is there because of you. Now you ask us about the ways to get this problem solved.

If your policies are right we shall help you. If you go along this path, you should think deeply about the Article 370. But instead of doing this, unfortunately you are talking about saffron terrorism. Saffron is the colour at the top of our national flag. It can never be the symbol of terrorism. It was the colour which made India the preceptor of the world and gave the message of peace and harmony. I would like to request you to stop making such utterances, otherwise, there will be a reaction in the country which will raise new problems in solving the issue of Kashmir. ■

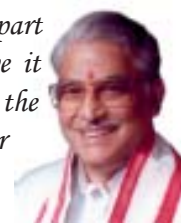
*“I do not believe that there is any such thing as ‘saffron terrorism’. The Congress talks about it only for its vote bank politics. Long ago, secularism used to mean respect for all religions, but for Congress today it means only appeasement of minorities. ”*

**Nitin Gadkari, National President, BJP**



*“Kashmir has been an integral part of India ever since and I believe it would be so forever. No power in the world can ever separate Kashmir from India. ”*

**Dr. MM Joshi,  
Former National President, BJP**



## CM a puppet in hands of big industrial houses : Dharmendra Pradhan

Bharatiya Janata Party National General Secretary Shri Dharmendra Pradhan has dubbed Naveen Patnaik Government in Orissa as puppet in the hands of big industrial houses in the light



of Center's rejection of mining in Niyamgiri.

Shri Pradhan said riding on numerical strength in the state Assembly, Orissa Government has violated all statutory environment and tribal laws to show undue favours to few big industrial houses in the state. While reiterating BJP's stand for rapid industrial growth of Orissa, he said state Government has to adhere to all environmental and tribal right laws before clearing industry or mining activities. On the other hand he accused Union Environment Minister Jayram Ramesh of double standard as he has closed his eyes on Andhra Pradesh's Pollavaram project which could adversely affect Orissa's forests and forest dwellers. Has the Union Environment Minister acted as Andhra's Rajya Sabha Member on Pollavam issue, Shri Pradhan questioned?

Shri Pradhan further questioned Naveen Patnaik's commitment for interest of the state vis-à-vis industrial houses as the Chief Minister rushed to Prime Minister while few industrial houses were pulled down by centre on environmental issue but choose to keep mum while centre gave environmental clearance to Pollavaram project.

He said while Pollavaram was cleared by centre neither Naveen rushed to Delhi nor his MP's protested vigorously on the floor of the Parliament.

Questioning Centre's intention on present ban on mining in Niyamgiri, he asked Jayram Ramesh to explain who has cleared mining projects in ITDA district like Keonjhar. Accusing central UPA Government of perusing dual policy Shri Pradhan said even Central PSU MCL has blatantly violated forest law in Orissa.

## Naveen should quit on moral grounds : Oram

In the wake of the blow of the Union Environment and Forests Ministry's rejection of the Niyamgiri mining project, BJP State president Shri Jual Oram demanded immediate resignation of Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on moral ground.

Shri Oram said BJP's position with regard to the VEDANTA, POSCO, Khandadhar and Kalinganagar issues stood vindicated in the light of the decision of the Ministry of Environment and Forests to scrap the Stage II clearance for mining at Niyamgiri.

Shri Oram told reporters that since months back apprehending the irregularities in allotting the Niyamgiri bauxite mines to Sterlite, the BJP has been demanding a CBI inquiry. Yesterday's verdict of the Central Environment and Forest Ministry has not only endorsed our apprehension but also exposed the real attitude of the State Government to lease out the valuable minerals to Vedanta at the cost of the State, he said.

He said the Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had flouted all laws of the Central Government and acted in the interests of the powerful lobbies by bulldozing the rights to livelihood and existence of the poor people. The Chief Minister should step down in view of these things

## ANDHRA PRADESH

### BJP demands official celebration of 'Telangana Liberation Day'

Bharatiya Janata Party has demanded the government to officially celebrate the liberation of erstwhile Hyderabad State on September 17 as 'Telangana Liberation Day'.

A delegation of the BJP leaders, including State unit president Shri G. Kishan Reddy and Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao, met Chief Minister Shri

K. Rosaiah and submitted a memorandum to this effect. The BJP leaders also urged the government to include lessons on Telangana freedom movement in school syllabus and install the statues of Shoebullah Khan and Komaram Bheem at Necklace Road in the capital.

Pointing out that various organisations and all political parties including Communist parties were observing September 17 as 'Telangana Liberation Day' and hoisting the national flag, the memorandum said it was intriguing why the government refrained from announcing that it would be celebrated officially. The governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka duly recognized the importance of September 17, 1948 and decided to observe the day as liberation day.

It said the liberation of erstwhile Hyderabad State and its merger with the Indian Union was not just an historical issue but inseparably linked to the hearts and minds of the people of the region. Ignoring such an important occasion becomes a constitutional and historical blasphemy

## KERALA

### A special Act to deal with terror needed : Muralidharan

Hundreds of Bharatiya Janata Party activists, defying a police ban, took out a march to the Popular Front of India (PFI) office at Manjeri near Malappuram, Kerala on August 26. The police stopped the march to Green Valley (a training centre of the PFI).

BJP State president Shri V. Muralidharan,



inaugurating the march, demanded a special Act to deal with terrorism as done in Maharashtra and Gujarat. Shri Muralidharan said in Kerala the Left Democratic Front and the United Democratic Front had been very soft on terror. Even the State government has failed to act against extremist elements.

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He said the Central Home Ministry should intervene to put an end to extremist activities in the State. He further said extremism should be dealt with strongly. They do not deserve any Constitutional protection as they do not respect the Constitution of the country.

## JHARKHAND

### Formulate famine relief committee to tackle drought : Yashwant

Terming the drought situation in Jharkhand alarming, the BJP on August 24 suggested the Government to formulate multi-level committees that would suggest ways to deal with drought in the State. Addressing media person in Ranchi senior BJP leader Shri Yashwant Sinha MP said that the situation in the State was not of drought but like a famine.

The situation is horrifying. Most of the farmers have not been able to transplant paddy in their fields. It is certainly a famine. Though I welcome the decision to declare Jharkhand as drought-hit, but I appeal to the Government that it should be declared famine-hit," he said.

Referring to his visit to Jarad village near Patraru, falls under his constituency, Shri Sinha said that majority of the villagers living there didn't have anything to eat. The situation is every where in Jharkhand, he said. The villagers have sought permission from the President to commit suicide at mass-level in the backdrop of their hardship. Peasants have broken their back. I demand formulation of a State-level famine relief committee in the leadership of the Governor comprising all the MPs (from the State) and representatives of different political parties. Similar committees should also be formed at the district level by inducting administration and political leaders. The committees would keep a vigil on the relief work and give suggestions, he said.

Shri Sinha also suggested that the Government should dig wells at mass-level under MNREGS and also utilise water available in the open cast mines to provide immediate relief to the people. Loans given to the farmers should immediately be waived. Government should also take measures to ensure drought-proofing as Jharkhand is facing the problem since last three consecutive years, he said

## CHHATTISGARH

### GDP growth highest in 2009-10 Posts a growth rate of 11.49 per cent

The state, which was carved out of Madhya Pradesh in November 2000, posted a growth rate of 11.49 per cent in constant prices to Rs 60,079 crore in 2009-10. Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh said better work plan and strategy powered with the commitment of the state government to deliver it to the people resulted in surpassing other states in terms of growth rate. The state was set to give better results ahead, he added.

Chhattisgarh had been dubbed as one of the worst Naxal-infested states in the country and left extremism had stranded the growth of the state. "But the data (of GDP growth) released underlined that state was on fast track of progress and prosperity," the chief minister noted.

In the process, it even performed better than industrialized states like Gujarat which emerged as the runner-up with a GDP growth rate of 10.53 per cent. Gujarat's GDP at constant prices over the last decade went to Rs 2,52,528 crore.

The third place was bagged by Uttarakhand, carved out of Uttar Pradesh in November 2000. Maharashtra, long known as the country's industrial and commercial powerhouse, secured the fourth rank, followed by Orissa.

Sources said that Chhattisgarh had recorded average growth of 10.9 per cent in last five years, while the same figure for the other states in the country stood at 7.44 per cent.

## UTTAR PRADESH

### BSP Govt. not discharging its duty : Shahi

Lambasting the state Government for its utter failure in providing relief and rescue work the state BJP has demanded the BSP Government to relinquish the office. It has also demanded the reintroduction of the ambitious project of linking the rivers across the country initiated during the NDA Government.

The state BJP President Shri Surya Pratap Shahi who visited the flood affected areas in

Lakhimpur Kheri alleged that collapse of Elgin Charsari Embankment was evident of government's failure as the Irrigation Minister Naseemuddin Siddiqui visited the area two days back and claimed every thing was under control.

Shri Shahi said that he himself witnessed the poor arrangements to counter flood in Kheri and in a welfare state this attitude of government was very disgraceful. He also expressed surprise that despite knowing full well that water used to be released from Nepal every year no dialogue was held with the neighboring nation either by state or central government.

The state BJP president alleged that the amount released by the state government to counter the flood situation was inadequate and irony was that most of this amount have gone to corrupt government machinery instead of flood victims. He demanded the state government to start the relief and rescue work on war footing or relinquish the office.

## ASSAM

### BJP seeks probe in subsidy scam

The Assam BJP leader and Guwahati MP Smt. Bijoya Chakraborty on August 24 said that government of India should take immediate step to stop the "loot" of industrial incentives by a group of corrupt businessmen in the northeastern states.

Referring the reports of the media published on August 24 on how 80 per cent of Rs 1,500 crores transport subsidy has been siphoned off by a select group of businessmen of the Northeast, Smt. Chakraborty warned that if government fails to take the action immediately, they may be compelled to take the legal course to defend the interest of people.

She regretted that industrial incentives flowing to the region have not only failed to bring in industrialization to the region, but also not percolating down to the genuine recipient of such incentives.

Expressing surprise over the role of the state governments, she said that there should be a high-level enquiry to force such businessmen to return the transport subsidy, which have been claimed fraudulently. ■