

KAMAL SANDESH

Vol. 13, No. 03 01-15 February, 2018 (Fortnightly)

₹20



'DEMOCRACY, DEMOGRAPHY AND DYNAMISM GIVING SHAPE TO INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT AND DESTINY'



'BJP is an ideology, a campaign and a resolve to build a New India'

PM MODI A REVOLUTIONARY LEADER

'BJP DOESN'T FOLLOW DYNASTY OR CASTE POLITICS'

GANDHI, LOHIA AND DEENDAYAL



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressing "Parivartan Yatra" at Holalkere, Karnataka



Shri Amit Shah interacting with the delegates of northern and southern Karnataka BJP unit in Bengaluru



Shri Amit Shah addressing a huge Yuva Udgoshh Rally in Varanasi, U.P.



Shri Amit Shah along with UP CM Yogi Adityanath and others inaugurating the Indian Institute of Gems & Jewellery in Varanasi



Shri Amit Shah flanked by UP CM Yogi Adityanath, BJP State President Shri Mahendra Nath Pandey and others launching the souvenir of Indian Institute of Gems & Jewellery in Varanasi, U.P.

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twitter



@narendramodi

My young friends, use your innovative zeal to help India overcome the major problems our country faces.

@manoharparrikar

Warm wishes to the people of Goa on the occasion of 50th anniversary of Opinion Poll Day (January 15). #AsmitaiDis



@Dev_Fadnavis

Not only in agriculture, industry and trade but we can collaborate with @Israel in the field of entertainment too. We have actors, stars & you have technology. Today entertainment sector is changing fast with greater use of technology & has opened new doors of opportunities.



facebook

The anger and dissatisfaction I have seen among all sections of the people of Karnataka against the Siddaramaiah government tells me that the countdown of its dethroning has started.



— **Amit Shah**

Inaugurated Samrat Ashoka Tropical Disease Research Centre (SATDRC) at RMRIMS, Patna. It will be state-of-art centre for research & tertiary level treatment for patients suffering from various tropical diseases of regional importance under single umbrella.



— **J.P.Nadda**

BJP is fully prepared to face the Assembly election in Karnataka due before may and will expose the misrule of the Siddaramaiah-led Congress Govt.



— **Muralidhar Rao**



Courtesy: Social Media



Kamal Sandesh Parivar
wishes a very happy
MAHA SHIVARATRI
to its readers

‘India will always remain a unifying and harmonizing force’

The ancient Indian wisdom of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” – ‘Entire world is a family’, is even more relevant today in cementing the fractured world as India always believed in uniting the people rather than dividing them - This was the message of India that found its way in Davos when the Prime Minister Narendra Modi started addressing the plenary session of World Economic Forum. Speaking on the theme of the event, ‘Creating a Shared Future in a Fractured World’, the Prime Minister in his insightful speech touched a wide spectrum of issues that need to be addressed from local to global levels. As the entire world listened with rapt attention the ideas which India represents and the concerns which engage it in making the world a better place, PM Modi’s words reverberated across the world making a global impact. While he presented his ideas reiterating the path shown by the ancient Indian ideas of harmony, amity and peace, he proposed a collective future out of the quagmire of divisions, dissensions and disputes. It was indeed a moment of pride for every Indian.

The PM has rightly pointed out climate change, terrorism and shrinking globalization as major challenges before the world community. While citing the Indian tradition wherein earth is regarded as a ‘Mother’, he quoted

from Ishopanishad to Buddha’s teaching of ‘Aparigraha’ and Mahatma Gandhi’s message of ‘need’ and not ‘greed’ based aspirations as a solution for the challenges posed by the phenomenon of climate change. He also informed as to how India was adhering to its commitments and taking initiatives on the issue of clean energy and climate change. The PM has been consistently raising the issue of Terrorism on almost all global summits and has been successful in making it an important part of the agenda in various forums. In Davos also he raised the issue of Terrorism and pointed out the fallacy in attempts to create artificial divide between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ terrorism. He gave a call for united fight against the menace of terrorism. He also raised the concerns about a new wave of protectionism impeding the process of globalisation with the creation of new tariff barriers affecting its natural flow. Expressing concerns over inward and self-centric approach of some countries he said the path ahead is globalization and not ‘isolation’. In fact the strength of the global order lies in engagement, cooperation and coordination at bilateral and multilateral levels on the principles of adjustment and accommodation of diverse interests. The world community has to prepare itself today to face these challenges and only united efforts can pave the way for the bright future of the humanity at large.

India today is an example before the world where diversity has thrived and democracy is further strengthened. In his speech he rightly pointed out that democracy and diversity are way of life in India and harmony, amity and resolve gave made democracy a unifying force in diversity. He said that democracy and inclusive development are the commitment of his government which has the motto of ‘sabka saath, sabka vikas’ having inclusive vision and

mission. India today believes in perform, reform and transform the results of which are evident in the policies of the government which has made a complete turnaround in just three and half years. The government is while committed to ending license-permit raj, red tape has given way to red carpet as the doors for investments are open mostly through automatic route. Big changes are taking place and accountability and transparency are being ensured through technology. Democracy, demography, dynamism and development are shaping the destiny of the nation. He further emphasised that the solution for all kinds of divisions and fractures lies in democracy, respect for diversity, harmony, mutual-support, coordination and dialogue through which world peace, stability and development can be achieved. He assured that amid various kinds of diversities, India will always remain a unifying and harmonizing force. ■

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org

DEMOCRACY AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT ARE THE COMMITMENT OF HIS GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS THE MOTTO OF ‘SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS’ HAVING INCLUSIVE VISION AND MISSION. INDIA TODAY BELIEVES IN PERFORM, REFORM AND TRANSFORM THE RESULTS OF WHICH ARE EVIDENT IN THE POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS MADE A COMPLETE TURNAROUND IN JUST THREE AND HALF YEARS.

Corruption has become rampant at all levels of administration under the Congress rule



Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Amit Shah addressed a huge BJP Parivartan Yatra convention on 10 January, 2018 in Holalkere town, Karnataka. Among others Union Minister for Human Resource Development and BJP election in-charge of Karnataka Shri Prakash Javadekar, BJP National General Secretary and in-charge of the party State Unit Shri P. Muralidhar Rao, BJP State President Shri B.S. Yeddyurappa, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly Shri Jagadish Shettar, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Shri K.S. Eshwarappa and other senior leaders also attended the Parivartana Yatra convention.

Choosing Holalkere in Chitradurga district, Karnataka for his first rally outside Bengaluru, Shri Shah tried to reach out to the backward castes people who are in majority in this reserved constituency.

Answering the Karnataka CM's questions regarding "Centre's contribution to the State" Shri Shah said,

@AmitShah

Development of Karnataka has been stalled since the Congress government came to power. Siddaramaiah government is doing nothing for the people of the state but working for the prosperity of Congress leaders only.

"CM Siddaramaiah ne humse hisaab maanga hai, hum unhein hisaab dene Karnataka aaye hain (The CM has asked for the accounts of the Centre's contribution, I am here to give the accounts)".

He said, "Corruption has become rampant at all levels of administration under the Congress rule in the State and now, the people of Karnataka are asking for accounts from you. Where has all the money gone? "

The BJP President said that after BJP-led National Democratic Alliance Government came to power at the Centre, more than three lakh crore has been sanctioned as financial grant to the State under various heads,



@AmitShah

Modi government has increased Karnataka's share in central revenues from Rs 88,583 crore under 13th Finance Commission to Rs 2,19,500 crore under the 14th Finance Commission. CM Siddaramaiah must answer where money meant for development of people of Karnataka has gone?

including 2.19 lakh crore sanctioned as 14th Finance Commission grants and 79,000 crore sanctioned for development works and welfare schemes here.

He expressed the displeasure that owing to corruption prevailing in various rungs of administration, the State government has failed to make proper utilization of funds. He said that the Chief Minister should make public the utilization of three lakh crore funds sanctioned by the Centre.

If you (the people) want to know where the money siphoned off by the Karnataka Congress government, look at the nearest Congress leader in your village. He would've constructed a four-floor apartment and has a brand new car in front of his home, whereas five years ago he was staying in a hut and had a Luna," Shri Shah added.

Referring to the allegations of illegal de-notification of land in the Arkavathy Layout in Bengaluru, Shri Amit Shah said that the State government had tried to push up the case without conducting proper investigation. He said that yielding to pressure exerted from the Opposition parties, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had to declare an expensive wrist watch he had received as gift from a businessman as State asset. It is apparent that the wristwatch was presented to Siddaramaiah for illegal favours he had extended to the businessman. By allowing D.K. Shivakumar to continue in the Ministry after his premises were raided by Income Tax sleuths, Siddaramaiah has set a bad precedence. Shri Shah accused CM Siddaramaiah of large-scale irregularities in the implementation of Anna Bhagya, the Congress government's flagship scheme.

Shri Shah said, 'The Siddaramaiah Government is indulging in vote bank politics; it is an anti-Hindu government. The Congress Government has withdrawn all cases against the SDPI, which is an anti-India organisation.'

He said that the incidents of farmers committing

HIGHLIGHTS

- Shri Shah said, "The CM has asked for the accounts of the Centre's contribution, I am here to give the accounts".
- Karnataka had received Rs 3 lakh crore from the Centre.
- 'The Modi Government has increased Karnataka share from Rs 88,583 crore (13th Finance Commission) to Rs 2,19,500 crore (14th Finance Commission)'
- "Corruption has become rampant at all levels of administration under the Congress rule in the State"
- "Now, the people of Karnataka are asking for accounts from you. Where has all the money gone?"
- Under 'Ujjwala Yojana', the Centre had provided free LPG connection to 3.33 lakh poor women of Karnataka.
- The incidents of farmers committing suicide have increased in Karnataka after the Congress government came to power.
- Karnataka people are upset with the misrule of the Congress and they will teach a lesson to the party in the forthcoming Assembly elections, he added.
- The Congress Government has withdrawn all cases against the SDPI, which is an anti-India organisation.'

suicide have increased in Karnataka after the Congress government came to power. Karnataka people are upset with the misrule of the Congress and they will teach a lesson to the party in the forthcoming Assembly elections, he added.

Development of Karnataka has been stalled since the Congress government came to power. Siddaramaiah government is doing nothing for the people of the state but working for the prosperity of Congress leaders only, he said.

Shri Shah said the anger and dissatisfaction I have seen among all sections of the people of Karnataka against the Siddaramaiah government tells me that the countdown of the Siddaramaiah led Congress government's dethroning has started. ■

BJP DOESN'T FOLLOW DYNASTY OR CASTE POLITICS: AMIT SHAH



Introducing the BJP to a huge gathering of new youth members, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah launched the 'Yuva Udgosh' programme in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 20 January, 2018. The aim of this 'Yuva Udgosh' programme is to bring to the party fold a new generation of voters who would be voting for the first time in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

The BJP has reached out to youth between the ages of 17 and 35 and at least 10 youth members each from 1,736 booths attended the rally in Varanasi. According to sources, BJP managed to get around 20,000 youths to register themselves digitally with the party as part of the new outreach strategy and of them, 77% also downloaded the Bhim App. The party has also started distributing Vidhan Sabha-wise responsibility to its Yuva Morcha members to reach out to voters who will vote for the first time in 2019, and to communicate to them the ideology and programmes of the BJP. The experiment will be followed in other districts as well.

Addressing youths at the Kashi Vidyapeeth sports ground Shri Amit Shah said, "I welcome all those joining the BJP now. The BJP is not only a political party but it is also an ideology, a campaign and a resolve to build a new India. Therefore, those who have associated with the world's largest party today have associated themselves with the campaign to build a new India under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi".

He said the BJP was the only party which gave a chance to a Chaiwala (tea vendor) to become Prime Minister of India and a booth level worker like Amit Shah to head the world's largest political party. "There is only one party that gives a booth worker an opportunity to reach the level of National President of BJP and only one party which gives the son of a poor tea-seller the opportunity to become the PM of 125 crore people," Shri Shah said.

"BJP does not run on the basis of caste nor is it governed by a Gharana (dynasty) but this party is run by workers," he said as he took a swipe at the



Congress. The Congress' politics of vote bank and Gharana (dynasty) has become obsolete. It will not work anymore, Shri Shah said.

Taking a jibe at the dynasty politics in Congress party, Shri Shah said that BJP doesn't believe in family politics. Under the guidance of Modi Ji, the party has only moved forward and that is the most remarkable part. BJP doesn't follow dynasty or family politics he said.

Hailing the historic Triple Talaq Bill, the BJP President said that BJP's move gave Muslim women the justice they were waiting for a long time. The BJP has hailed the bill passed by the Lok Sabha that makes instant Triple Talaq a punishable offence. The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill gives power to the victim to approach a magistrate seeking subsistence allowance for her and minor children. This bill is a historic step towards ensuring dignity for Muslim women. I thank all fellow Parliamentarians who have supported this bill, which will bring a new era of hope and respect in the lives of Muslim women.

The BJP President said the Congress did not do anything for Varanasi during its rule. "What PM Modi has done for Varanasi within the last three years, the Congress couldn't do during its rule of 70 years.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RALLY

- **'Yuva Udghosh' Programme focussed on enrolling youths, aged above 17, who will eligible for voting in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.**
- **BJP doesn't follow dynasty or family politics.**
- **Passing the Triple Talaq Bill in the Lok Sabha BJP gave Muslim women the justice they were waiting for a long time.**
- **Under the BJP government, the youth would get honour and jobs without any discrimination.**
- **UP CM said State government had enrolled 6 lakh youth in skill development programmes and 1.4 lakh of them had already been placed in various jobs.**
- **Now, India is among top 3 countries in world with US and Russia. When people discuss top 3 nations of the world, they will take India's name as well.**



Under PM Modi's leadership, developmental projects worth Rs 2,900 crore have been implemented in Varanasi," Shri Shah said.

He also lauded Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for ensuring transparency in the system and bringing about considerable improvement in the law and order situation in the most populous state.

Shri Amit Shah said UP will become the most developed state in India under Shri Adityanath's leadership when the state goes to polls in 2022. "The UP government is doing well under the leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. In less than a year, there has been a big, positive change in UP," he said.

The Yogi Adityanath government ensured timely purchase of wheat and rice from farmers and ended the role of middlemen, he said. "Yogiji has put the state on path of development," Shri Shah added.

INDIA'S PRESTIGE HAS INCREASED UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PM: YOGI ADITYANATH

While addressing the rally in Varanasi, CM Yogi Adityanath said that to connect the youth to the party, the National President Shri Amit Shah is launching the 'Yuva Udgosh Program' from Kashi's land. He said that in the last three years, India's prestige has increased under the leadership of PM Shri Modi ji. If the name of the three countries is taken in the world, then the name of India is included in it.

The CM said that Prime Minister Shri Modi has



Our government has done the job of providing accommodation to 11 lakh people in 10 months. Within the last 10 months, we have trained six lakh youth through PM Skill Development program. Now the youth are getting jobs. Recruitment process of one lakh 37 thousand teachers has been started in the province.

done the task of giving this glory to India. Earlier nobody had asked India, but today PM Modi has done the work of increasing the pride of 125 crore people in the world. Prior to the election, National President Amit Shah had released the Public Welfare Resolution, that work is now complete.

He said that our government has done the job of providing accommodation to 11 lakh people in 10 months. Within the last 10 months, we have trained six lakh youth through PM Skill Development program. Now the youth are getting jobs. Recruitment process of one lakh 37 thousand teachers has been started in the province.

He said that in the next three years, there will be one lakh 62 thousand vacancies in the state. He said that when young people will work on the strength with their talent while living in the home state, then the development of the state will be also. Our government is doing development without any discrimination. There will be no discrimination with any youth. The youth are ending the politics of familism and racism. We can complete the dream of a prosperous Uttar Pradesh by joining the youth.

Apart from BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, BJP State President Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey, State In-Charge Shri Om Prakash Mathur and State General Secretary (Organization) Shri Sunil Bansal also attended the rally. ■

WEF ranks India at 30 in Global Manufacturing Index

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has ranked India at 30th position on a global manufacturing index - below China's 5th place but above other BRICS peers, Brazil, Russia and South Africa.

It also took note of the government's 'Make in India' initiative to make the country a global manufacturing hub and of "a significant push" to improve key enablers and move towards a more connected economy with announcement of a USD 59 billion investment in infrastructure in 2017.

Japan has been found to have the best structure of production in the Geneva-based WEF's first 'Readiness for the future of production report' and is followed by South Korea, Germany, Switzerland, China, Czech Republic, the US, Sweden, Austria and Ireland in the top 10. Among BRICS nations, Russia is ranked 35th, Brazil 41st and South Africa at 45th place.

The report, which analyses development of modern industrial strategies and urges collaborative action, has categorised 100 countries into four groups - Leading (strong current base, high level of readiness for future); High Potential (limited current base, high potential for future); Legacy (strong current base, at risk for future); or Nascent (limited current base, low level of readiness for future). India has been placed in the 'Legacy' group along with Hungary, Mexico, Philippines, Russia, Thailand and Turkey, among others. China figures among 'leading countries', while Brazil and South Africa are in 'nascent' ones.

About India, the 5th-largest manufacturer in the world with a total manufacturing value added of over USD 420 billion in 2016, the WEF said the country's



manufacturing sector has grown by over 7 per cent per year on average in the past three decades and accounts for 16-20 per cent of India's GDP. "Home to the second-largest population in the world and one of the fastest growing economies, the demand for Indian manufactured products is rising. India has room for improvement across the drivers of production, except for demand environment where it ranks in the top 5," the WEF said.

It listed human capital and sustainable resources as the two key challenges for India and said the country needs to continue to raise the capabilities of its relatively young and fast-growing labour force. This entails upgrading education curricula, revamping vocational training programmes and improving digital skills, the WEF said, while adding that India should continue to diversify its energy sources and reduce emissions as its manufacturing sector continues to expand.

In terms of scale of production, India has been ranked 9th, while for complexity it is at 48th place. For market size, India is ranked 3rd, while areas where the country is ranked poorly (90th or even lower) include female participation in labour force, trade tariffs, regulatory efficiency and sustainable resources.

Overall, India is ranked better than its neighbours Sri Lanka (66th), Pakistan (74th) and Bangladesh (80th). Other countries ranked below India include Turkey, Canada, Indonesia, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Mauritius and the UAE. The countries ranked better than India include Singapore, Thailand, the UK, Italy, France, Malaysia, Mexico, Romania, Israel, the Netherlands, Denmark, the Philippines and Spain. (PTI) ■

In terms of scale of production, India has been ranked 9th, while for complexity it is at 48th place. For market size, India is ranked 3rd, while areas where the country is ranked poorly (90th or even lower) include female participation in labour force, trade tariffs, regulatory efficiency and sustainable resources.

GST Council cuts rate on 29 goods, 53 services and discussed approaches to ease 'Return Filing'

The Goods and Services Tax- GST Council has reduced the rates on 29 goods and 53 categories of services, Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley said following the Council's meeting on 18 January, 2018. The Council also discussed in detail various approaches to ease the return filing compliance burden, and the need for the implementation of anti-evasion measures.

Some of the services for which the rates have been cut include tailoring (18% to 5%), admission to theme parks (28% to 18%), and petroleum and natural gas mining and exploration (18% to 12%). The goods on which the rates have been reduced include biodiesel buses used for public transport (28% to 18%), sugar boiled confectionery, biodiesel, drinking water packed in 20 litre containers (all from 18% to 12%), and LPG supplied to domestic consumers by private distributors

(18% to 5%). The new rates would come into effect on January 25.

Shri Jaitley said that while the latest round of rate reductions would have an affect on the Centre's revenues, the impact would be small. "It was the opinion of the Council that so far we have relied on unilateral declarations by traders," he said. "It was agreed that there is a need to build in anti-evasion measures. The e-waybill system [to be rolled out on February 01] will be one of these. As these anti-evasion measures are implemented, the revenues should start picking up again."

Regarding easing the compliance burden, Shri Jaitley said that the Council was considering systems where the invoices of the buyers and sellers could be matched easily. "The suggestion was that the filing of the form 3B should continue," he added.

"The sellers or suppliers should also load their invoices and give the details of whom the supplies were made to. This should act as a deterrent [against evasion] that the details in the invoices and the form 3B must match. Initially, the system would be of the form 3B and a suppliers' invoice. It will be a very easy system." Shri Jaitley, however, said that no decision had been taken in this regard and that the Council would take it up during its next meeting, the date for which had not been decided as yet.



Exports exhibits positive growth

Exports during December 2017 have exhibited positive growth of 12.36 per cent in dollar terms vis-à-vis December 2016. Exports have been on a positive trajectory since August 2016 to December 2017 with a dip of 1.1 per cent in the month of October 2017.

Exports during December 2017 valued at US \$ 27030.27 million as compared to US \$ 24056.48 million during December, 2016. In Rupee terms, exports were valued at Rs. 173648.73 crore as compared to Rs. 163344.45 crore during December, 2016, registering a rise of 6.31 per cent. ■



590,000 jobs were generated every month until November: Study

A new study has found that 590,000 jobs were generated every month until November in formal sector in the current financial year. This means that seven million jobs will be created in the formal sector in 2017-18 if one expands the trend on a pro rata basis.

The study, authored by SBI group Chief Economic Advisor Soumya Kanti Ghosh and Pulak Ghosh, a professor with the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, calculated the number of jobs in enterprises from the membership of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Employees' State Insurance Corporation, General Provident Fund and National Pension System (NPS).

A report submitted by a task force on employment, headed by former NITI Aayog vice-chairman Arvind Panagariya, had also recommended using this kind of database. As such, this is the first study to estimate job creation using these kinds of data sets. So far as data from the EPFO is concerned, the study, titled "Towards a Payroll Reporting in India", estimated that 3.68 million jobs were generated till November of FY18, which would imply 5.5 million in the entire year. This would be higher than the 4.5 million created the previous financial year, a period which saw disruption from demonetization.

The top 10 sectors of the economy — manufacturing and usage of computers, chemicals,



textiles, contract engineering, garments, building and construction, trading, general engineering products and expert services — contribute about 75 per cent of total employment in the formal sector in India. The study found that there were 91.9 million employed people in the formal sector as of March 2017.

If one adds those which contributed nothing to these funds, the figure will turn out to be 100 million. This is not significantly different from the figures arrived at by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The study estimated that 15 million are added to labour force every year. Of this, around 6.6 million are possibly qualified manpower; the rest 8.4 million are non-graduates, non-qualified and dropout graduates. ■

Haj subsidy ended as part of policy to empower minorities without appeasement'

Union Government ended Haj subsidy as part of policy to empower minorities without appeasement. Union minister for minority affairs Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on January 16 confirmed that the Haj subsidy has been withdrawn.

"This is part of our policy to empower minorities with dignity and without appeasement," Shri Naqvi told reporters.

A policy to withdraw the Haj subsidy had been



drafted in light of a 2012 Supreme Court order asking the Centre to abolish it gradually by 2022.

Shri Naqvi said, "The cut in funds meant for subsidy will be used for educational empowerment and welfare of girls from minority communities." ■

OUR NATIONHOOD

NATION HAS PERSONALITY

THE name Bharat denotes a nation, while the names of such provinces as Uttar Pradesh and Bengal do not denote it. Hence we must be quite clear in our minds that although a definite territory is a must and the first essential of a nation, a territory by itself does not become a nation. The existence of a nation depends upon an element which though invisible is felt with the greatest intensity. A nation has a personality just as an Individual has a personality. It is this national personality that keeps a nation alive. When it grows weak, the nation becomes weak, and when it is forgotten or destroyed the entire nation heads for ruination. This is why many nations of the past have now become mere memories. Their territories are there and their people are still alive and yet ancient Persia, Greece, Egypt-all have faded. In other words they lost their basic national personality. It is in this personality that the nation resides.

THE BODY NATIONAL

THE nation does not come into being for the fulfilment of any selfish ends. The limbs of the human body have their natural functions and do not have to be tempted or encouraged to perform them. Similarly the units of a nation function as parts of one single whole and maintain its entity. Dissipation of the national feeling leads to a weakening of these limbs of the nation, and if they become completely inactive the result can be the end of the nation. But if the national feeling is aroused in these units they again start performing their natural functions. Hence we would have to accept as the basis of the nation a practical and natural organisation that is stable, strong and self-reliant. If the organisation of the State is strong enough its limbs would be equally strong.

NATION HAS A SOUL

A NATION too has a soul. There is a technical name for it-Chiti. According to McDougal, it is the innate nature of a group. Every group of persons has an innate nature. Similarly every society has an innate nature, which is not the result of historical circumstances.



'CHITI' IS NATION'S TOUCHSTONE

'CHITI' is the touchstone, on which each action, each attitude is tested, and determined to be acceptable or otherwise. 'Chiti' is the soul of the nation. On the strength of this 'Chiti', a nation arises, strong and virile. It is this 'Chiti' that is demonstrated in the actions of every great man of a nation.

An individual is also an instrument in bringing forth the soul of the nation, "Chiti". Thus apart from his own self, an individual also represents his nation. Not only that, he also mends the various institutions that are created for the fulfilment of the national goal. Therefore he represents these too. The groups larger than nation, such as "mankind" are also represented by him. In, short, an individual has a multitude of aspects, but they are not conflicting; there is co-operation, unity and harmony in them. A system based on the recognition of this mutually complementary nature of the different ideals of mankind, their essential harmony, a system which devises laws, which removes the disharmony and



enhances their mutual usefulness and co-operation alone can bring peace and happiness to mankind; can ensure steady development.

NATION'S IDEAL IS 'CHITI'

THE state is brought into existence to protect the nation; produce and maintain conditions in which the ideals of the nation can be translated into reality. The ideals of the nation constitute "Chiti" which is analogous to the soul of an individual. It requires some effort to comprehend Chiti. The laws that help manifest and maintain Chiti of a nation are termed Dharma of that nation. Hence it is this "Dharma" that is supreme. Dharma is the repository of the nation's soul. If Dharma is destroyed, the nation perishes. Anyone who abandons Dharma, betrays the nation.

'CHITI' IS CENTRAL TO NATION

CHITI is fundamental and is central to the nation from its very beginning. Chiti determines the direction in which the nation is to advance culturally. Whatever is in accordance with Chiti is included in culture.

AWAKENING NATION'S 'VIRAT'

WE have to undertake the task of, away, awakening our nation's 'Virat'. Let us go forward in this task with a sense of pride of our heritage, with a realistic assessment of the present and a great ambition for the future. We wish to make this country neither a shadow of some distant past nor an imitation of Russia or America.

OUR NATIONAL IDENTITY

IT is essential that we think about our national identity. Without this identity there is no meaning of independence, nor can independence become the instrument of progress and happiness. As long as we are unaware of our national Identity, we cannot recognise or develop all our potentialities. Under alien rule this identity is suppressed. That is why nations wish to remain independent so that they can progress according to their natural bent and can experience happiness in their endeavour. Nature is powerful. An attempt to go against nature or to disregard her leads to troubles. The natural instincts cannot be disregarded but it is possible to elevate this nature to the level of culture. Psychology tells

us how by suppression of various natural instincts different mental disorders ensue. Such a person remains restless and dejected. His abilities slowly deteriorate, and become perverted. The Nation too, like the individual, falls a prey to numerous ills when its natural instincts are disregarded. The basic cause of the problems facing Bharat is the neglect of its national identity.

CONDITIONS FOR NATIONAL GLORY

IF we have to take the nation to the pinnacle of glory we have to fulfil two conditions. The first is that this glory must be the result of our own national endeavour. For this the entire nation's capacity to work needs to be organised. If we fulfil this condition the prosperity we achieve for Bharat would be considered genuine. The second point is that while achieving this prosperity on the basis of organised capacity, Dharma has also to be protected. Organised force by itself is not enough. Even thieves may have a strong organization, but it will neither be permanent nor beneficial, hence it is necessary that our organised capacity should protect Dharma even while conquering glory.

EUROPEAN NATIONALISM DESTRUCTIVE

IN European countries nationalism led to ruination. But to call Indian nationalism destructive because of this reason is like being once bitten twice shy. It is wrong to presume that our nationalism would be as calamitous as that of these nations. This is not a mere claim, it is the truth, and this truth is supported by thousands of years of history of Indian nationalism. The history of these countries of the world for about a thousand years is full of scenes of destruction, while in the long history of India there is not a single page describing grief caused to man. The entire history of India is full of goodwill for the whole world. The remains of Indian history found in different parts of the world declare to this day the truth that India has striven only for the good of the entire creation. Hence the truth is that if the world is to be saved from the terrible effects of Western nationalism that have resulted from mutual conflict, hatred and competition, we shall have to organise and strengthen Indian nationalism. This way lies the good of the world. ■

(Excerpts from the book - "Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya A Profile" edited by Sudhakar Raje)

Deendayal Upadhyay

(1916-1968)

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was born on 25th September 1916 to Pt. Bhagwati Prasad Upadhyaya and Smt. Rampyari. Deendayal or “Deena” as he was known in childhood was born at his maternal uncle’s home in Dhanakia in Rajasthan, while his father belonged to Nagla Chandrabhan in Mathura, the land sanctified by Sri Krishna. At Nagla Chandrabhan today stands a grand memorial dedicated to the life and contributions of Deendayal Upadhyaya, recounting the saga of his inspiring life. Two years later, Deendayalji’s younger brother Shivdayal was born. Bhagwati Prasad, Station Master at Jalesar Road Station, died suddenly when Deena was just two and a half years old. The family was given shelter by his maternal uncle. But the series of bereavements in Deena’s life did not end with this, his mother Rampyari died when Deena was just four years old and his brother Shivadayaal, struck with pneumonia, died in 1934.

Destiny however had something else, something greater in store for Deena. An exceptionally brilliant student, a keen observer with a razor sharp mind and analytical skills, Deendayalji topped examinations, received accolades and prizes and repeatedly earned scholarship through the dint of hard work. Having passed the intermediate examination from Rajasthan, Deendayalji completed his Bachelors from the Sanatana Dharma College in Kanpur and enrolled at the St. John’s College in Agra for his Masters. Despite being a brilliant student Deendayalji chose not to take up a government job and instead focused on further studies, joining a B.T. course in Prayag.

It was at this crucial and formative period of his life that Deendayalji came in touch with the activities of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). This meeting, this discovery and association altered the direction of his life and transformed it altogether.

Henceforth he was determined to dedicate his life and all his energies to the upliftment of Bharatiya samaj and became a Pracharak of the Sangh dedicating his life to national regeneration.



Very soon Deendayalji was given the responsibility of organising RSS work in Uttar Pradesh – then known as United Province – and became district Pracharak of Lakhimpur Kheri in 1942 and eventually rose up to become the Sah Prant Pracharak of entire UP in 1945.

When the Bharatiya Jana Sangh was eventually formed in 1951, Deendayalji became one of its organisational pillars. He was among those select Swayamsevaks that Guruji Sri Golwalkar sent on request from Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee for organising the new party. Deeply impressed by Deendayalji’s organisational skills, political acumen and leadership qualities, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee selected him as General Secretary of the new party, in the historic Kanpur Conference of the Jana Sangh in December 1952. So moved was Dr. Mookerjee

by Deendayalji’s performance and capacities that he famously declared once that “If I had two Deendayals, I would have altered the map of Indian politics.” Deendayalji shouldered his responsibilities as General Secretary till 1967 and built the base of the new party, spread its ideals and organisation across the country and successfully articulated a new political vision for India. It was in the historic Calicut (Kozhikode) session of the Jana Sangh that

Deendayalji became the national president of the party. But his grand and tireless march towards realising the dream of a great and regenerated India came to an abrupt and shocking end when he was found dead, under mysterious circumstances, on the night of 11th February 1968 near Mughalsarai railway station.

His life was cut short just at the moment when he was starting to assume the mantle of an all India leader. Thus ended an inspiring, a dedicated and profoundly committed life of a leader whose sole aim was to rebuild a great Bharat. In his tribute, Sri Guruji described Deendayalji as an ‘ideal Swayamsevak’ to whom alone the credit must go for “starting from scratch and building up such an imposing organization [like Jana Sangh] from its very foundation up.” He asked all to make Deendayalji “an ideal for the kind of all round perfection he had attained.” ■

FM launches the country's First Agri-commodity Options Contracts in Guar Seed Agriculture sector is top priority for the government: Jaitley

The Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley launched the country's First Agri-commodity Options Contracts in Guar Seed on the occasion of Makar Sankranti in New Delhi.

Launching the country's First Agri-commodity Options Contracts in Guar Seed the Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley said that India ranks among the fastest growing major economies in the world today. He said that since a large portion of our population is dependent on agriculture, it is important to have equitable growth. Shri Jaitley said that farmers have helped the country to overcome a long period of scarcities to reach the present era of abundance.

He said that NCDEX Agri-options are an important tool which will contribute to the Prime Minister's vision of doubling the farmers' incomes by 2022. The Finance Minister said that the Guar seed is a major contributor to revenue generation, hence making it a suitable commodity to start with for Options. The Finance Minister congratulated the NCDEX for this initiative.

Speaking further on the occasion, the Finance Minister, Shri Jaitley said that this may appear to be a small step, but is a significant one, in the direction of agricultural trade as this will ensure that the farmers will receive a better price for their commodities.

Talking to media on the occasion Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley said that the agriculture sector is the top priority for the government because the country's economic growth is not "justifiable and equitable" unless the benefits are "clear and evident" in the farm sector. Therefore, the government's priority is to ensure the gains reach the farmers and the growth is visible even in the farm sector, he said.

NCDEX Agri-Options in Guar Seed aim to provide farmers better engagement in the commodity markets.

NCDEX also launched Mandi.com, a mobile app for farmers where they can learn more about Options and the commodity markets. For a commodity trader or member of a Farmer Producer Organization (FPO), this would be an additional tool to hedge your price risk and optimize your profits with the launch of Agri-Options by

the Union Finance Minister, Shri. Arun Jaitley, The First ever Agri-Options trade was executed in front of a panel of distinguished guests.

National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX) launched India's first Agri-Options on guar seed futures in the presence of SEBI, WDR, Industry Associations, Government Officials and FPO members. Farmers from various States across the country were present at the occasion to mark the commencement with a Live Trade by a farmer producer company.

Options contracts expiring in the months of February 2018, March 2018 and April 2018 would be available for trading w.e.f. January 14, 2018. The Guar Seed Options will be European type with a tick size of Re. 0.50 per



quintal. The Daily Price Range (DPR) will be based on the factors of DPR of the underlying Futures contract and volatility. Options contract shall be launched on the trading day following the day on which the underlying Futures contract is launched. The expiry date of agri-Options will be the last Wednesday of the month that precedes the month of expiry of the underlying Futures contract. If Wednesday happens to be a holiday, then the Expiry Date shall be the next trading day of the Exchange. In case of banking transaction closing days etc. close to the Options Expiry Date, the same shall be fixed to provide for sufficient time ahead of such days. However, launch calendar with exact date of expirations shall be notified in advance. ■

Israeli Prime Minister visits India

He calls PM Modi a revolutionary leader

On January 14, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi broke protocol to receive his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu. Under Shri Modi's leadership India and Israel have come closer. Benjamin Netanyahu's visit was first visit of any Israeli Prime Minister after a long gap of 15 years. In the six-days trip both country signed agreements in many areas like cyber security, energy, transport, cooperation in the field of Research in Homeopathic, Space Science and Technology etc.

On arriving in the Country Netanyahu said India-Israel relationship is a "marriage made in heaven. He said on India's vote at the United Nation that one negative vote would not affect India-Israel ties. He added "We are strengthening ties between Israel and this important global power. This serves our security, economic, trade and tourism interests, as well as many other areas. This is a great blessing for the State of Israel". Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Israeli PM held bilateral talks on Jan 15, 2018. Shri Modi said "Last year in Tel Aviv, you have expressed the intent to reduce bureaucratic red tape. I am happy to tell you that in India we are well on our way to doing just that". He added "We are committed to facilitate the flow of people and ideas between our geographies".

Netanyahu said that democratic values were the most important source of power. "If we are to live in a world that protects democratic norms, countries such as India and Israel needed to form an alliance to secure our future," he told. He said Israel's long struggle to survive had led it to understand a lesson: "The weak don't survive, the strong survive." He noted that "you make peace with the strong, you make alliances with the strong, you are able to maintain peace by being strong."

Calling Prime minister Shri Narendra Modi a revolutionary leader, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "You are a revolutionary leader and you are revolutionising India. You are catapulting this magnificent state into the future. And you have



revolutionised the relations between Israel and India," Netanyahu said after talks with Modi. He even offered to do some yoga stretches with the Indian PM. Etching out commonalities in their personas to emphasise convergence of Indian and Israeli interests, Shri Modi said, "I have a reputation for being impatient to get results and so do you, PM Netanyahu. We will strengthen our cooperation in areas that affect the lives of our people — agriculture, science and technology and defence."

On January 17 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi accompanied his Israeli counterpart Netanyahu on Gujarat visit.

Here, Both leaders dedicated to the nation, the iCREATE facility located on the outskirts of Ahmedabad. iCreate is an independent Centre created with the objective of facilitating entrepreneurship through a blend of creativity, innovation, engineering, product design and leveraging emerging technologies to deal with major issues such as food security, water, connectivity, cybersecurity, IT and electronics, energy, bio-medical equipment and devices etc. iCreate aims to develop an ecosystem in India to generate quality entrepreneurs.

The two leaders visited various stalls that highlighted technologies and innovations across diverse fields.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that innovation has a key role to play in bringing the people of India and Israel, closer to each other. He said the entire world has taken note of the technological prowess and creativity of Israel.

He said the youth of India has energy and enthusiasm. What the youth needs is a bit of encouragement and institutional support, he added.

The Prime Minister said that the Government is working to make the entire system innovation-friendly, so that intent can generate ideas; ideas lead to innovation; and innovation helps create a New India.

He said that the first pre-requisite of success is courage. He congratulated the courageous youth who are engaged in innovative activities at iCreate.

Quoting Kalidasa, the Prime Minister touched upon the dilemma between convention and innovation. He urged the youth of India to innovate to overcome the challenges facing the nation today, and to improve the quality of life of the common man at lowest possible cost.



The Prime Minister spoke of cooperation between India and Israel for innovation in areas such as food, water, health and energy. He said this cooperation between the two countries would write a new chapter in the history of mankind in the 21st century.

They also participated in a 10-km mega road show in Ahmedabad after paying homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Sabarmati Ashram. The two leaders attended a host of events during their one-day visit to Modi's home state.

During the trip Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also revived the deal to buy Spike anti-tank missiles from Israel just weeks after New Delhi had exited the \$ 500 million deal, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said "Following talks I have held with my friend, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Indian government has informed us that it is putting the Spike deal back on track. This is very important and there will be many more deals." Spike is an Israeli fourth generation man-portable fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile and anti-personnel missile with a tandem-charge HEAT warhead, developed and designed by the Israeli company Rafael Advanced Defense Systems. ■



Publication of 'National Register of Citizens': A historic achievement of Assam government

RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY

Fulfilling the poll promise made prior to the 2016 assembly elections in Assam, the Bharatiya Janata Party led Assam government published the much awaited first draft of the National Register of Citizens (NRC); a list of verified Indian citizens at the midnight on January 1, 2018. This initial list is the outcome of a long standing demand of the Assamese people to detect and deport the illegal Bangladeshi migrants from their state. This first National Register of Citizens (NRC) has been published with names of 1.9 crore people as state's legal citizens.

The NRC, for which a total of 3.29 crore people had filed an application, is aimed at identifying and root out illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in Assam. The unpublished names are still under stages of verification and as per the schedule, a second list containing the names of more numbers of citizens is slated to be published in March 2018. The final list containing the names of all Indian citizens in Assam is expected to be published by December 2018 after the disposal of all claims and objections in final registers at various levels.

Historically, illegal migration has been a perennial problem for Assam even during the colonial period and after India got the independence. The Liaquat-Nehru pact signed between PM Jawaharlal Nehru and his Pakistani counterpart Liaquat Ali Khan is also credited for contributing to migration into Assam. The treaty stated that "Minorities in both countries would be treated equally and also granted them freedom of movement".

To create a register for the bona fide citizens of Assam the NCR or National Register of Citizens, 1951 is prepared after the conduct of the 1951 Census, showing the houses or holdings in a serial order and indicating against each house or holding

the number and names of persons staying therein. These registers covered each and every person enumerated during the Census of 1951 and were kept in the offices of Deputy Commissioners according to instructions issued by the Government of India in 1951. Later these registers were transferred to the Police in the early 1960s.

Illegal migration to Assam continued during the first decade of independence and multiplied many folds thereafter and particularly during the 1972 war for the creation of Bangladesh. Till 1980 the demography has completely changed in Assam due to huge illegal Bangladeshi migration. Consequently, the demands to update the NRC of 1951 were first raised by the All Assam Students' Union (AASU) and subsequently the Assam Gana Parishad. The organizations had submitted a memorandum to the Centre on January 18, 1980, two months after launching the anti-illegal foreigners Assam Movement. During the student movement in Assam in early 1980s, BJP senior leaders like Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri LK Advani visited and supported the genuine demand of the students'. The AASU and the BJP were on the same side owing to the fear that Assam's demographic pattern could drastically change because of the illegal influx of migrants.

Whereas, during the entire period after independence the Congress party silently supported the illegal immigrants because they voted the party into power in Assam. Even though the demand was very old yet, the Assam Accord of 1985 did not contain any specific mention of updating the NRC. Bangladeshis were on the electoral rolls and formed the Congress' vote bank; therefore, the Congress Government at the centre took no initiative in this regard. Instead, it constituted a number of Tribunals and Appellate Courts under both the Illegal Migrants Act of 1983 and the Foreigners Tribunal Act of



1964 to detect illegal Bangladeshis. Consequently, nothing has changed in the decades since the Assam Accord till 1999.

During Atal Bihari Vajpayee led NDA government on November 17, 1999, at an official-level tripartite meeting to review the implementation of the Assam Accord, a decision was taken that the NRC would be updated and the Centre sanctioned the money to start the exercise. Thereafter, the government created a directorate for updating the NRC and the process of computerization of the NRC of 1951 and voters' list up to 1971 began.

In May 2005 during a review meeting for the progress made in the implementation of the Assam Accord though, it was decided that the Congress government in Assam will take up and complete the process of updating the NRC of 1951 within two years by including the names that appear in the 1971

closed and illegal migrants issue will be solved. Finally, it was the BJP government both at the Centre and in Assam which expedited the updation process of the NRC.

Currently updation of National Register of Citizens basically means the process of enlisting the names of those persons or their descendants, whose names appear in 1951 NRC or any of the Electoral Rolls up to 1971 or any of the admissible documents stipulated.

Parties with vested political interests and a section of media creating needless panic by asking, what will happen to those people, whose names have been excluded in the first list? Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal had flawlessly cleared this confusion and assured the genuine Indians, that they would get enough opportunities to get their names added to the list and urged people to not worry if they do not find their names on the first draft.

The CM also assured, "There is no question of discriminating against anyone whether he or she is a Hindu, Muslim, Bengali or Nepali. All will be treated equally and given opportunities to prove their citizenship so that their names could be incorporated in the subsequent drafts of the NRC". He added the NRC has given an opportunity to segregate the bona fide citizens from illegal immigrants and it is a win-win situation for those who have been living under the stigma of suspected illegal immigrants for the last four decades.

Subsequent to the final publication of the NRC list towards the end of this year what the Central government will intend to do with the persons whose names do not figure in the final NRC will certainly be decided and a mechanism will be devised in due course of time. But, unquestionably the publication of the updated NRC by the BJP government is indeed a positive step and historic achievement to put in rest the years of speculations about the extent of the illegal migrant Bangladeshi population residing illegally in Assam and the demographic upheaval it has created in this north east state. This historic step will further demonstrate the way to prepare similar NRCs for the other states in the North East region and particularly states like West Bengal, where illegal migration continues to be an annoyance and volatile security issue for India. ■

Historically, illegal migration has been a perennial problem for Assam even during the colonial period and after India got the independence. The Liaqat-Nehru pact signed between PM Jabaharlal Nehru and his Pakistani counterpart Liaqat Ali Khan is also credited for contributing to migration into Assam. The treaty stated that "Minorities in both countries would be treated equally and also granted them freedom of movement".

voters' lists and those of their descendants, yet, no honest efforts were made either by the Congress led State government or the Manmohan Singh led UPA government at the centre in subsequent years to update the NRC.

Prior to the 2014 Lok Sabha elections PM Shri Narendra Modi categorically said that, "I will make such an arrangement that all the roads that are today helping Bangladeshis enter and destroy Assam are

Democracy, demography and dynamism giving shape to India's development and destiny: PM Modi



Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi attended the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland on January 23, 2018 . While addressing the plenary session he defined Democracy, Demography and Dynamism as the guiding forces of development in India and underlined the achievements of the NDA government in India. He said in 2014 after 30 years, Indian voters provided complete majority to any political party to form government at the centre. We took the resolution for the development of everyone and not just a specific group.

Citing his government's motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' (Development of all), Prime Minister Shri Modi assured that political reforms taken in India are in cognizance of the welfare of the country, and not any particular community. Speaking in Hindi, the Prime Minister also mentioned the economic reforms undertaken by his government and appreciation India got in the form of an increase in global ranking by renowned organizations such as Moody's and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

We are publishing excerpts of the speech for our esteemed readers.



Friends,

In 1997, when PM Deve Gowda had come to Davos, our GDP was little more than USD 400 billion. Now it is more than six times. WEF forum continues innovation of ideas. Social media platforms have transformed the globe. Technology has ability to unite and divide. All nations must adapt to the changing technology.

Global unity in 21st century is of paramount importance and we can fight the challenges if we are united. India's mantra of Vasudeva Kutumbhakam has always stressed upon unity.

The world is facing challenges in maintaining peace, stability and security and new powers are changing the balance between economic and political strength.

Climate change is a global issue. It is a first threat towards humanity. Many societies and countries are becoming self-centred. It seems that globalisation, as opposed to its definition, is shrinking. Such misplaced preferences can't be considered any lesser threat than terrorism or climate change. We must admit shine of

globalization is fading, the PM said.

Snow in the arctic is melting, many islands are sinking or are about to sink. We can tackle climate change if we are united. Climate change, terrorism grave concerns before the world; everyone is aware of India's position on menace of terrorism. Today we are exploiting nature for our greed. We need to ask ourselves if this is our progress or regression. It is now time to use Mahatma Gandhi's principle of trusteeship, the PM said.

This year the topic here is 'Creating a shared future in a fractured world'. Terror has harmed every country in the world. Good terrorist versus bad terrorist is a harmful stand. Terrorism is dangerous. Worse is when people say there is a difference between 'good' and 'bad' terror. It is painful to see some youngsters getting radicalised, Shri Modi said.

He said in 2014 after 30 years, the 600 crore Indians provided complete majority to any political party to form govt at the centre. We took the resolution for the development of everyone and not just a specific group. We in India are proud of our democracy and diversity.

PM HOLDS MEETING WITH INTERNATIONAL CEOs AT DAVOS

At Davos, PM Narendra Modi interacted with top CEOs. He spoke about India's economic development and the investment opportunities in the nation.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson also tweeted the meeting of PM Shri Modi with international CEOs saying "the world applauds 1.3 billion people of India at the WEF in Davos, and appreciate the remarkable transformation in improving the business climate."



PM HOLD TALKS WITH PRESIDENT OF SWISS CONFEDERATION



On reaching Davos, PM Shri Narendra Modi held talks with the President of the Swiss Confederation, Mr. Alain Berset. The leaders discussed ways to enhance the bilateral cooperation between both the countries in host of sectors.

PM Narendra Modi's Davos speech a 'reason of pride' for Indians: Amit Shah



@AmitShah

PM @narendramodi's speech at @wef plenary in Davos is a reason of pride for all Indians. He has perfectly articulated India's strengths and aspirations in the multi-conceptual world!

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah called Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's speech at the World Economic Forum in Davos a "reason of pride" for all Indians, adding that the country offers opportunities to the entire world, Shri Shah in a series of tweets said Shri Modi has perfectly articulated India's strengths and aspirations in the multi-conceptual world at Davos. "India offers unique opportunities to the entire world. It offers wealth with wellness, health with wholeness of life, prosperity with peace... India welcomes one & all," Shri Shah tweeted.

Referring to Shri Modi's speech at WEF's opening plenary, he said the prime minister had superbly invoked how Indian culture has always believed in uniting, not dividing. "Our scriptures, written thousands of years ago, speak about 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. We are all united by our shared destinies," he said.

Citing PM's remarks on climate change, Shri Amit Shah said it is a potent global challenge. Under Shri

Modi's leadership, India has not only set ambitious targets in this regard but is also taking unprecedented initiatives to achieve them, he added.

Shri Shah said, PM had raised his voice against terrorism at every global forum. At WEF Davos 2018, too, he gave a clarion call to the world, to unite to defeat the menace of terrorism.

The surge of protectionism against globalisation is a challenge every part of the world is facing. The solution to this problem lies in understanding and accepting changing scenarios. Gandhi ji's example shows India's inherent open outlook.

India offers unique opportunities to the entire world. It offers wealth with wellness, health with wholeness of life, prosperity with peace... India welcomes one & all!



PM MODI HIT ALL THE RIGHT BUTTONS IN DAVOS SPEECH, SAY TOP INDIAN CEOs

The World Economic Forum was the biggest platform for Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to pitch the country as a global investment destination and tell the world that India means business. From the Prime Minister's strong-but-inclusive pitch at the plenary session of the World Economic Forum 2018, it was clear that he not only wanted the largest gathering of rich and powerful to hear India's growth story, but also see its blueprint to become the 'future superpower', said top CEOs of India.

After his speech at the mega event, the PM met a group of Indian CEOs including Chanda Kochhar, Uday Kotak, Rahul Bajaj, Naresh Goyal, N. Chandrasekaran, Sunil Mittal, Ravi Ruia, Chandrajit Bannerjee and Anand Mahindra. "Together we can! Working hand in hand towards a brighter future for the country Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said with Indian CEOs present at the WEF."

The motto of my Government is 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. He said real development and growth can be achieved if we all stand together. Red carpet has replaced red tape in India.

In the history of India's 70 years of independence, we rolled out Goods and services tax --a uniform tax system. We are using technology to increase transparency and accountability.

In India democracy, demography and dynamism are giving shape to development and destiny. Change in India's ranking is an indicator that the people in India have warmly welcomed the change in policies as the road to a better future for them.

He said India has always contributed toward global peace. Let us create a 'heaven of freedom', where there is cooperation and not division, fractures.

Lauding some of the recent economic reforms, which his government did, such as the Goods and Service Tax (GST), Prime Minister Modi said it has made working, travelling and living in India more seamless and plausible, while helping achieve a spike in exports.

"For the first time in the history of independent India, an integrated tax in the country has been implemented, which will increase transparency and accountability,"

he added. The Prime Minister mentioned the appreciation given to India in the form of an increase in global ranking by renowned organizations such as Moody's and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"Change in India's ranking is an indicator that the people in India have warmly welcomed the change in policies as the road to a better future for them," he said.

Citing his government's motto of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' (Development of all), Prime Minister Modi assured that political reforms taken in India are in cognizance of the welfare of the country, and not any particular community.

"In 2014 after 30 years, Indian voters provided complete majority to any political party to form government at the centre. We took the resolution for the development of everyone and not just a specific group," he said.

"Given all sorts of fractures and cracks in the world, we need to take note of the many directions we have for our shared future," he opined.

In this regard, India, he said, has been and will continue to be a flag bearer for global peace and stability, and a key contributor to the United Nations' peacekeeping missions. ■

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR YOUTH OF INDIA

PM Shri Narendra Modi led NDA Government at the Centre has taken a number of Key Initiatives for the benefit of youth of the country and Young India. Below mentioned schemes are some of the Key Initiatives which are widely debated and discussed from its initiation.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- 3.7 lakh schools students given National Means-Cum-Merit Scholarship
- 3.30 lakh scholarships granted to meritorious students of colleges in the last 3 years
- Total amount of scholarship given to students by UGC, AICTE and Central Government is Rs. 1273 cr
- 9.65 lakh school girls sanctioned incentive amount of Rs 3000/- under
- National Scheme of incentive to Girls for secondary education
- Special scholarship to 24,200 J&K students to complete professional courses in best colleges throughout the country
- National Scholarship Portal has been created as one stop solution for all scholarship needs. More than 2 Crore students have registered on this portal

STAND UP INDIA (FINANCE)

- To promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST and Women launched by PM on 5th April, 2016
- To benefit at least 2.5 lakh entrepreneurs.
- Loans of more than 15,000 entrepreneurs approved out of which more than 80% are women.
- Rs. 500 crores have been allotted in 2016-17
- 18,565 women and 4,756 SC/STs have so far benefited from Stand Up India scheme.
- Capital subsidy under New scheme ATUFS (Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme) in Textile Sector will create over 30 lakh jobs, especially for women

STARTUP INDIA (DIPP)

- Startup India Movement launched on 16th January 2016 for promotion of Entrepreneurship among youth.
- Action plan unveiled for encouraging startups.
- Tax relief for three consecutive years out of a block of seven year for startups.

- Start-up Fund of Rs. 10,000 Crore to be released over two Finance Commission cycles, that is, by 2025.
- Startups are allowed to issue ESOPs to promoters working as employees

STARTUPS APPROVED

- 4536 Startup applications have been recognized as Startups by DIPP as on 12th October, 2017
- 74 Startups have been approved by IMB for availing tax benefit
- 450+ Startups have been mentored for incubation and funding support by Startup India Hub

MUDRA (FINANCE)

- Pradhan Mantri MUDRA (Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency) Yojana
- Launched by PM on 8th April, 2015 to promote entrepreneurship spirit among the youth.
- Easy, loans without guarantee under three categories – Shishu, Kishore and Tarun by the banks.
- Loans more than Rs. 1.80 lakh crore disbursed to over 4 crore borrowers in 2016-17 FY as per data available till 13.04.2017
- Budget allocation for 2017-18 doubled to Rs.2.44 lakh crores against Rs. 1.22 lakh crores in 2016-17
- More than 70% of the loans have been availed of by women entrepreneurs

SKILL INDIA (MSDE)

Skill building is the basic and foremost step that would eventually lead to the success of Make in India. With this concept, the Corporation has taken up various activities for the upgradation of the skill set, especially of the rural masses and North – eastern territories.

The programme aims to reduce the drudgery of people in their daily lives belonging to rural and backward areas of the country, facilitate new avenues of employment generation and income generating activities through S & T intervention. NRDC has conducted over 100 EDP/ Skill Development programs in North Eastern States and other backward regions on coir, sericulture, dairy, pottery, sanitation and agri & food processing clusters to improve the livelihood of the rural population. More than 200 units set-up by trainees and thus creating employment for others as well. ■

IMF says India to be fastest growing economy in 2018 at 7.4%

India is projected to grow at 7.4 per cent in 2018 as against China's 6.8 per cent, the IMF said on 23 January, 2018 making it the fastest growing country among emerging economies. India is reclaiming its place as a growth leader after a short slowdown due to GST and demonetization, said IMF's David Lipton.

In its latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) update released in Davos, Switzerland on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum, the International Monetary Fund has projected a 7.8 per cent growth rate for India in 2019. Growth rate projections for both 2018 and 2019 remains unchanged since its October 2017 WEO projections.

China, during the same period, is expected to grow at 6.6 per cent and 6.4 per cent respectively, the IMF said.

The IMF said, the aggregate growth forecast for the emerging markets and developing economies

for 2018 and 2019 is unchanged, with marked differences in the outlook across regions. It projected India to grow at 7.4 per cent in 2018 as against China's 6.8 per cent.

Emerging and developing Asia will grow at around 6.5 per cent over 2018-19, broadly the same pace as in 2017," it said, adding that the region continues to account for over half of world growth.

"Growth is expected to moderate gradually in China, pick up in India, and remain broadly stable in the ASEAN-5 region," the IMF said.

Notably, with a growth rate of 7.1 per cent, India was the fastest growing country among emerging economies in the year 2016.

But due to the demonetization in late 2016 and implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), India's economy slowed down a little bit to 6.7 per cent in 2017. IMF said that India is reclaiming its place as a growth leader. ■



All 11,000 trains, 8,500 stations to have CCTV surveillance

In its endeavour to provide a safe and secure travel experience to passengers, India Railways is pitching for the procurement of about 12 lakh CCTV cameras to ensure state-of-the-art surveillance systems in all trains and stations across the country.

The Railways will make a provision of around Rs 3,000 crore in its budget for 2018-19 to install CCTV systems in all 11,000 trains -- including premier and suburban services -- and all the 8,500 stations in the Indian rail network, to provide safety and security at rail premises.

As per the plan, while each coach will have eight CCTV cameras covering the entry gates, aisle and vestibules, all crucial points at stations will have the systems. Currently, there are about 395 stations and about 50 trains that are equipped with CCTV systems.

"All mail/express and premier trains, including Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto and local passenger services, will be equipped with the modern surveillance systems in the next two years," said Railway Ministry.

Railways is exploring various options to fund the installation of the CCTV surveillance systems -- and may even raise resources from the market if needed.

Given the increased number of derailments last year, the Rail Budget this time is slated to give top priority to safety and prevention of accidents -- followed by improving passenger amenities to make the journey pleasant.

Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley would roll out the details of provision for strengthening safety mechanism in train operations in his Budget 2018-19.

Elimination of 4,943 unmanned level-crossings, replacement of all old tracks and strengthening of the remaining tracks are among other safety-related proposals that will be highlighted in the budget.

Besides track defects, unmanned level-crossings are among the reasons for a maximum number of train accidents. It has been decided to eliminate all unmanned level crossings by 2020, the department said. ■

PM Modi ranks amongst top 3 global leaders



An international survey Gallup International has ranked Prime minister Shri Narendra Modi among the top three leaders of the world. According to a report published in Gallup international website Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received a massive global endorsement ahead of his first appearance as PM at the World Economic Forum (WEF). Gallup has ranked him 3rd in its highly-regarded annual survey, Opinion of Global Leaders.

The ranking places India's PM ahead of the likes of China's Xi Jinping, the UK's Theresa May, Russia's Vladimir Putin, Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu and US President Donald Trump. The only two heads of state to have ranked higher than PM Modi are German Chancellor Angela Merkel and France's new President Emmanuel Macron. ■

Successful Fifth Flight Test of Agni-5 Ballistic Missile

Long Range Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile, Agni-5, was successfully flight tested for its full range on Jan 18 at 0953 hrs from Dr Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha. This was the fifth test of the Missile and the third consecutive one from a canister on a road mobile launcher. All the five missions have been successful. Agni-5 is the most advanced missile in the Agni series with a strike range of over 5000 kms.

The flight performance of the missile was tracked and monitored by radars, range stations and tracking systems all through the mission. All objectives of the mission have been successfully met. This successful test of Agni-5 reaffirms the country's indigenous missile capabilities and further strengthens our credible deterrence. ■



Govt. eased pension plan withdrawal norms

Modi led NDA's Government commitment to citizen friendly governance has brought relaxation in withdrawal norms. The Pension Fund Regulatory Development Authority (PFRDA) has relaxed the norms for partial withdrawal under the National Pension Scheme (NPS). NPS subscribers who have contributed for three years can now withdraw up to 25% of the corpus subject to conditions. Earlier, NPS subscribers were allowed to make a withdrawal from the corpus only after 10 years. ■



Tripura to go to the polls on February 18, Meghalaya and Nagaland on February 27 ; All results on March 03

Assembly elections in Tripura will be held on February 18, while Meghalaya and Nagaland will go to the polls on February 27, the Election Commission of India announced. The counting of votes in the States would be held on March 3, Chief Election Commissioner A K Joti said. The terms of the Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura Assemblies end on March 06, 13 and 14 respectively. They have 60 members each.

The three states — comprising 60-member Houses each are among eight states that go to polls this year. State elections to Karnataka, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are also due this year.

With the Election Commission announcing dates to these three states today, the model code of



ASSEMBLY ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS:

* Tripura

- Date of issue of gazette notification: January 24
- Last date of nomination: January 31
- Scrutiny of nomination: February 1
- Last date of withdrawal of candidature: February 3,
- Date of polling: February 18
- Date of counting: March 3

* Meghalaya & Nagaland

- Date of issue of gazette notification: January 31
- Last date of nomination: February 7
- Scrutiny of nomination: February 8
- Last date of withdrawal of candidature: February 12
- Date of polling: February 27
- Date of counting: March 3

conduct comes into play.

VVPATs and EVMs will be used in the three states. While EVMs have been used for the last 20 years in these three states, VVPATs will be deployed for the first time for the Assembly polls. ■

Government's New Anti-Maoist strategy brings down Red Corridor to 58 districts

Daily News paper 'Times of India' reported giving reference to latest data compiled CRPF that the number of districts under the grip of Maoist violence had dropped significantly since 2015, with over 90% of attacks being reported from only four states — Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha.

The report said new counter-insurgency strategy drawn by present dispensation at center yielded results in continuously shrinking area of red corridor.

In 2015 75, districts across nine states reported violent attacks by Naxals. In 2016 the number came down to 67 and dropped to 58 in 2017.

In an internal policy document of Naxals — 'Action Plan 2017-2022' — recovered by agencies recently, Maoists themselves admit that 140 of their comrades, including 30 women, were killed by security forces in 2017. The document, accessed by TOI, says many of its important leaders were also killed by the forces. ■

Gandhi, Lohia and Deendayal

| VASANT NARGOLKAR

(Continue from Last Issue...)

DEENDAYAL, THE ORGANIZER, PAR EXCELLENCE!

Deendayal Upadhyaya was a brilliant student. While studying, however, he was attracted to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh in 1937. After completing his B.A.B.T., he plunged into the organizational work of the R.S.S. in 1942 and was soon appointed the organizer for Lakhimpur district in U.P. Organization of the R.S.S. branches and spread of the idea of "the Hindu Nation" became his first mission. The 1942 'Quit India' movement does not seem to have interfered with his work. Dr. K. B. Hedgewar who founded the volunteer organization in 1925 with a view to awakening Hindus to the danger of Muslim communalism, used to participate in the satyagraha campaigns led by Gandhi before and even after 1925. But after his death in 1940, he was succeeded by Shri. M.S. Golwalkar alias Shri Guruji as the Supreme Director of the Sangh and it appears the earlier policy of participation in the national struggle for independence was abandoned. Be that as it may, Deendayal, between 1942 and 1947, in accordance with the policy of the R.S.S., carried on vigorous propaganda against the partition of the country. At the end of that period he rose to the position of Joint Provincial Pracharak in the organizational hierarchy of the Sangh in U.P.

After the cruel and cowardly assassination of Gandhi in 1948, the R.S.S. was banned by the Nehru government. Some time later, a countrywide satyagraha against the ban was started. The R.S.S. leaders disclaimed any involvement in the heinous crime. Deendayal was in charge of the agitation in U.P. As editor of a weekly *Panchjanya* which was published from Lucknow, he wrote strong articles in it against the policy of the government in respect of partition and Pakistan. The weekly was banned. After some time, the government lifted the ban on the R. S. S. and the branches of the volunteer organization started functioning openly again.

It was the policy of the R. S. S. to keep aloof from power or party politics. But it seems that those who wanted to protect the Hindu interests and promote the Hindu culture exclusively, began to feel the need for a political front to propagate their views through elections and representation

in the legislature. Deendayal himself was one of them. Soon enough, that is in October 1951, the Bharatiya Jan Sangh came into existence.

WHO SPOKE GANDHI'S LANGUAGE?

The Jan Sangh opposed Nehru government's policy of conferring on Jammu and Kashmir a special status under the Constitution. A satyagraha was also started. Deendayal, now the General Secretary of the Jan Sangh, was put in charge of the campaign. Dr. Mukherji, the first President of the Jan Sangh, offered satyagraha on the Kashmir issue. Unfortunately, while under detention in the Srinagar jail, he died.

The whole responsibility of building the party from the lowest units upwards then fell on Deendayal. In fact, between 1952 and 1968 when he met a mysterious death, he made it his exclusive mission to consolidate and improve the position of the Jan Sangh particularly in the northern states of India. He wrote articles in *Organizer of Delhi*. He also evolved an ideology for the Jan Sangh and named it "Integral Humanism."

Like Lohia, Deendayal was a bitter critic of Nehru, but the grounds of their criticism were not entirely the same. Gandhi, however, admired Nehru and had hoped that "after my death, Jawaharlal will speak my language." Nehru did speak Gandhi's language in respect of certain matters. But so far as planning, economic development and educational reforms were concerned, he rejected Gandhi's ideas. Strangely, some others who were not so close to Gandhi as Nehru, started speaking Gandhi's language. Among them were Lohia and Deendayal. They had long back realized that it would be difficult to banish poverty and unemployment from rural India, unless the country accepted wholeheartedly some of Gandhi's ideas on political and economic decentralization and rural development. The criticism levelled against Nehru by Lohia and Deendayal was thus not personal. Criticizing a ruling party is part of democracy, but in the case of Lohia and Deendayal, it was a part of their sense of duty towards their people and a part of their mission.

What then is Gandhi's message whether for India or

for the whole world? Besides, was there anything common between his message and the messages that both Lohia and Deendayal have left behind them through their lifelong missionary work, speeches and writings?

CRAZE FOR MACHINERY, WRONG

Gandhi had indeed left behind him a great legacy in the form the Sarvodaya ideology, every aspect of which could be construed as a message not only for the Indian people, but for the whole world. He had written extensively on democracy, freedom, decentralization of political power, decentralization of the means of production, ends and means, truth and non-violence, satyagraha, secularism, socialism, communism, swadeshi, man versus machine, evils of Western industrial civilization, trusteeship, education, self-restraint versus self-indulgence, nature cure, social and economic equality, brotherhood of man, war, atom bomb and peace and lastly, on spiritual development for self-realization which, according to him, should be the ultimate goal of man's life on earth, not only for Indians, but for all mankind.

One of the most important items of Gandhi's message to the world is the concept of bread labour and regulation of the extent of mechanization and automation in modern man's life. We must earn our bread, he said, "in the sweat of our brow." If the law of bread labour were followed, it would bring a silent revolution in the structure of society. His views on the limits to the use of machines have well been epitomised in the following passage thus:

"The supreme consideration is man. The machine should not tend to make atrophied the limbs of man. .. What I object to is the craze for machinery, not machinery as such.... Men go on 'saving labour' till thousands are without work and thrown on the open streets to die of starvation."

Lohia's views on Khadi and village industries could not be expected to be exactly the same as those of Gandhi. "I would rather have the spade". He said "as the sun around which the system of constructive action revolves." But he was opposed to the industrial system based on large-scale

production. He pleaded for the small unit technology which was conducive to economic and political democracy. There are other arguments also against the adoption of the pattern of large-scale industrial production, especially in countries where there is scarcity of capital and abundance of human labour. Besides, in a big factory or plant, a labourer becomes a mere cog in a huge machine which is incomprehensible to him. The work being mostly repetitive, is monotonous. Big industry, in order to keep itself going, makes periodical and very destructive wars in. viable. India cannot, and should not, imitate the development pattern of the Communist countries because it wants to preserve democratic values and a democratic system of government.

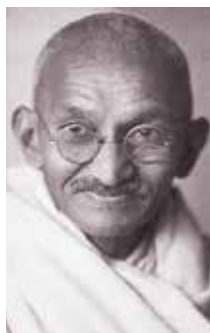
DOES PLENTY LEAD TO HAPPINESS?

The ultimate argument, which, not Lohia, but both Gandhi and Deendayal would put forward, is slightly spiritual in nature. It is agreed on all hands that poverty in itself is not a virtue and hence, must be abolished. But at the same time it must be borne in mind by the modern man, whether he be an American, Russian or

Indian that material plenty does not necessarily conduce to happiness. The typically philosophical advice given by the ancient Indian civilization seems to be quite relevant here. It is 'न जपतु कामःकामानामुपभोगेन शान्तिः' - The desire for pleasurable objects does not indeed subside as a result of enjoyment? The desire is endless and goes on increasing. All the most developed and rich countries like the U.S. illustrate the point. There is comparatively more unhappiness there than in poor and undeveloped countries. The incidence, for example, of adult crime, juvenile delinquency, violence, permissiveness, alcoholism, divorces and mental illnesses is greater in affluent nations of the world. Pursuit of happiness, therefore, through material plenty created by the industrial system based on large-scale production may prove a mirage for India as well as for other developing countries. ■

(To be continued)...

(Source: Gandhi, Lohia and Deendayal, Edited by- P. Parameswaran, Pub. by Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi)



Total milk production & egg production registers a growth of 4.7%

Dairy and poultry sector has been registering incremental growth under BJP led NDA government. The Milk production in the country during 2016-17 has achieved a remarkable progress by showing 20.13% growth as compared to 2013-14. Further, the production have been estimated to be increased by 6.4% in 2016-17 over 2015-16. In past the growth rate has been 6.3% in 2014-15; 6.3% in 2015-16 and 6.4% in 2016-17. Thus, there is concurrent high growth rate maintained over the past three years. Aligning with this progressive picture, in the current year (2017-18) also the Dairy sector gradually picking up its momentum towards the projected target of National Action Plan for Dairy Development.

The first five highest milk producing States during Summer Season 2017-18 are Uttar Pradesh,



Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh.

The total Egg production in the country during 2016-17 has been reported as 88.1 Billion showing a growth rate of 12.3% over 2013-14. Further, the productions have been estimated to be increased by 6.3% in 2016-17 over 2015-16. In past the growth rate has been 5.0% in 2014-15; 5.7% in 2015-16 and 6.3% in 2016-17. Thus, there is consistent improvement in the growth rate of Egg production during the past three years. The first five highest eggs producing States during Summer Season 2017-18 are Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, West Bengal and Haryana. ■

FTA crosses 10 million mark

Under the leadership of Modi led NDA government India sees considerable growth in tourism sector. At end of 2017 the number of foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) crossing the 10-million mark, which brought the country's earnings to over 27 billion dollars. ■





WORLD WANTS TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH INDIA: PM MODI

Before leaving for his first World Economic Forum meet in Davos, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said “the world wants to communicate directly with India”, underlining the importance of the country gained in the last few years. “World Economic Forum is world’s biggest financial forum. Davos has become the biggest congregation of economic world and I feel proud to present them the success story of 125 crore Indians,” Shri Modi said on January 19, 2018, adding that the world economy was focused on India, its big market and demographic dividend. The Prime Minister pointed out that India’s growth in economic reforms had been “tremendous”. He explained that after 30 years, the government at the Centre enjoyed a full mandate and that too “has attracted the attention of the world and changed the nature of interaction”. Shri Modi will be the first Indian Prime Minister to attend Davos in two decades — after HD Deve Gowda in 1997.

(THE DNA, January 20, 2018)

GST, DEMONETISATION NOT THE ONLY ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR GOVT: PM MODI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Jan 19, 2018 said GST and demonetisation are not the only achievements of NDA government and there are many others like financial inclusion, toilet construction and electrification that can be talked about for days together. Talking to media persons on expectations of a populist budget being in the offing ahead of the next general elections, Shri Modi said the only focus of his government is “development, development and development, whether it is the first or the last budget and whether there are elections or not”. “Sabka saath, sabka vikas (development for everyone) is my mantra” and whatever is required for that, government has been doing and will do, the Prime Minister said. Shri Modi said the discussions on Goods and Services Tax (GST) began during the first NDA government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, but the UPA regime could not address

the concerns raised by different states.

(THE DNA, January 20, 2018)

LIKE FESTIVALS, THE DATES FOR POLLS SHOULD BE FIXED: PM MODI

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on January 19, 2018 pushed for holding Lok Sabha and Assembly elections simultaneously, saying it will save a lot of time and money. In an interview to Zee News, he said like festivals, the dates for polls should be fixed so that the politicians and the bureaucracy are not involved in the exercise of campaigning and holding elections throughout the year. He also batted for having a single electoral roll for Lok Sabha, Assembly and Local Body polls. To a question, he said the agenda of simultaneous polls does not belong to the BJP or Modi, but everyone must come together to brainstorm.

(THE ZEE NEWS, January 20, 2018)

MODERN EDUCATION REQUIRED IN ISLAMIC INSTITUTIONS AND SANSKRIT SCHOOLS TO FACE COMPETITION: YOGI ADITYANATH

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said closing Madrassas is not a solution and said providing modern education not only in Islamic institutions but also in Sanskrit schools required to face competition. Shri Adityanath said the country was not able to utilise energy of those “misguided” in ‘rashtra nirman’ (nation building) and stressed that quality education was the solution. “We can think about modernization of Madrassas. Closing them down is not a solution but timely improvements should be considered. I also ask Sanskrit schools that besides imparting traditional education they should give computer, English, Science and Mathematics education to face competition,” he said. He was addressing a coordination meeting of minority welfare ministers of nine states including Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, Delhi and Punjab.

(HINDUSTAN TIMES, January 19, 2018)

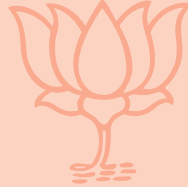
(Compiled by Pankaj Anand)



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PM Shri Narendra Modi with the President of the Swiss Confederation, Mr. Alain Berset and the Chairman of World Economic Forum, Klaus Schwab in Davos



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at a roundtable meeting with CEOs of various companies in Davos



PM Shri Narendra Modi welcomes the PM of Israel Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu & his spouse Sara Netanyahu at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi



Shri Narendra Modi and the PM of Israel Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu inaugurating the iCreate Center in Ahmedabad



PM Shri Narendra Modi and the PM of Israel Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu waving at the gathering after the inauguration of iCreate Center in Ahmedabad



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the huge Public Rally after the inauguration of Barmer Refinery in Rajasthan



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to the people of India for making

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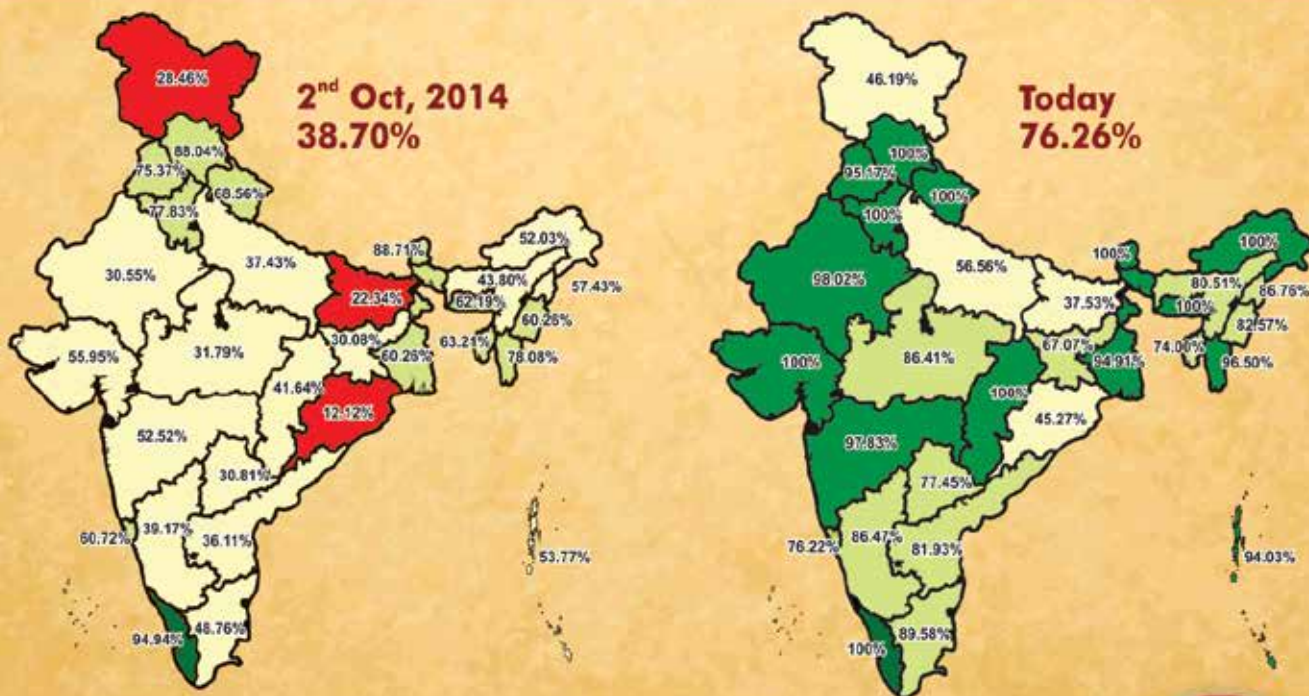
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