

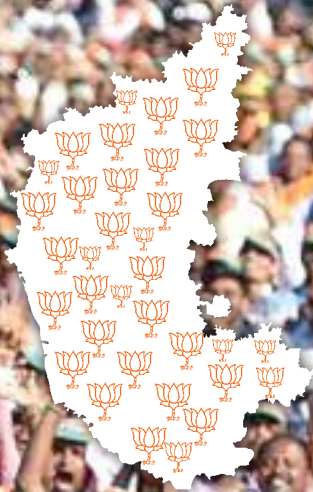
KAMAL SANDESH



PM INAUGURATES NEW BJP NATIONAL HEAD QUARTERS BUILDING

Vol. 13, No. 05 01-15 March, 2018 (Fortnightly)

₹20



'Karnataka to open doors of South for BJP'

BJP WINS 47 SEATS IN GUJARAT MUNICIPALITY ELECTIONS

'MAKE SURE PM MODI'S VICTORY MARCH ENTERS SOUTH THROUGH KARNATAKA'

MARK & DEENDAYAL: THE TWO APPROACHES



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressing a Fishermen Convention in Malpe, Udupi (Karnataka)



Shri Amit Shah waving at the gathering in Jowai and Shillong, Meghalaya



Shri Amit Shah visited BJP karyakarta Late Shri Deepak Rao's home and met his family members in Katipalla, Karnataka



Shri Amit Shah interacting with students of Vivekananda Institute, Puttur and shared his views on "Youth role in building New India"

Editor

Prabhat Jha

Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Associate Editors

Ram Prasad Tripathy

Vikash Anand

Creative Editors

Vikas Saini

Mukesh Kumar

Phone

+91(11) 23381428

FAX

+91(11) 23387887

E-mail

mail.kamalsandesh@gmail.com

mail@kamalsandesh.org

Website: www.kamalsandesh.org



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BJP National President Shri Amit Shah as part of the party's election campaign for the upcoming assembly election in Karnataka arrived for a two-day Pravas. After arriving in Mangaluru on 20 February, 2018, he addressed a small public meeting near the airport. He visited the Kukke...

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The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on February 19 dedicated to the nation, the...



twitter



@narendramodi

Globalisation is a reality of our times and to keep pace with globalisation, we need top quality infrastructure.

@AmitShah

Only the youth of this country can build a New India, so i urge the students to contribute their best in this mission and not to rest till it is achieved.



@nitin_gadkari



Hon'ble PM @narendramodi dedicated to the nation the 4th container terminal built at the cost of Rs. 9000cr at @jnport at Navi Mumbai. This capacity addition comes in time for Indian Manufacturing Exports which has shown a growth of over 10% in the last year.

facebook

Addressed public meetings in Jowai and Shillong, Meghalaya. The great enthusiasm among people of Meghalaya reflects their yearning for change and development.



— **Amit Shah**

Flagged off 'Jal Mitti Rath Yatra' from India Gate in New Delhi. This Yatra will spread awareness among the people about the issues related to security and prosperity of this nation. Let us make India 'Jagadguru' again.

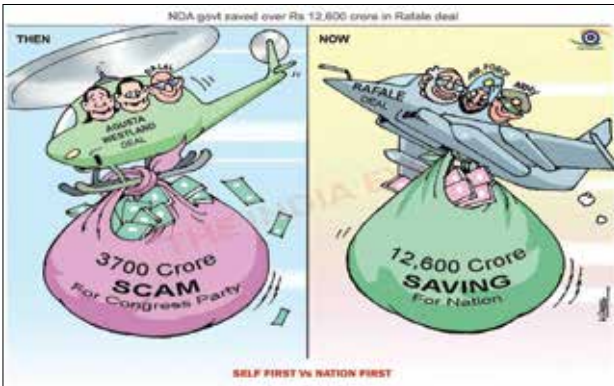


— **Rajnath Singh**

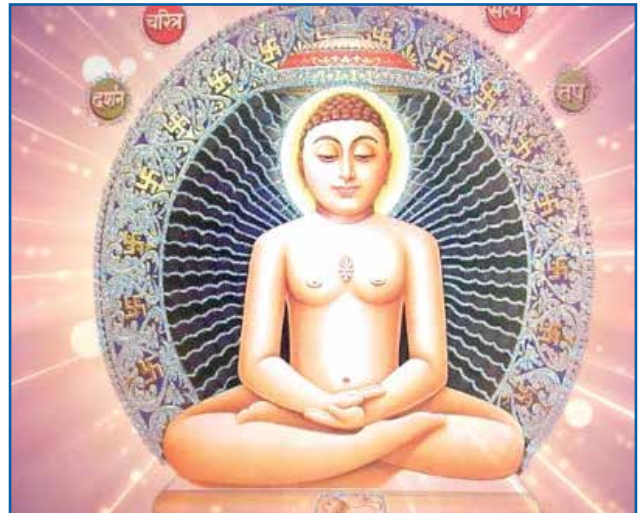
Govt. opens up commercial coal mining to private sector which will bring efficiency & competition in coal production, attract investments & best-in-class technology, and help create more jobs in the coal sector.



— **Piyush Goyal**



Courtesy: Social Media



Kamal Sandesh Parivar
wishes a very happy
MAHAVIR JAYANTI
to its readers

Congress can't absolve itself of corruption by resorting to false propaganda

The crackdown on corruption by Modi government has resulted in unearthing new scams in the country. No one is surprised to see that all these scams have their roots in the Congress led UPA regime. Congress is known not only for nurturing a non-transparent culture of non-accountability in governance but also as a protector and patron of the corruption and scams in the country. It shamefully refused to act when glaring evidences of wrongdoings in governance were brought to light. The nation has not forgotten that the Congress refused to budge even in the face of Supreme Court orders to form SIT on black money and openly blocked all moves to nail the scamsters and corrupt. Not only that it never took any initiatives to enact new laws or took any stringent measures to check corruption, it made it free for all while breeding a regressive system in the country. The system was allowed to rot at the cost of poor and deprived making it easy to loot public money and plunder the resources of the common people. It has caused massive damage to the country.

In a desperate bid to corner BJP, the Congress is trying to somehow level ridiculous charges of corruption against BJP government. The recent attempts to raise unfounded self-contradictory charges of corruption in Rafale deal has made Rahul Gandhi a laughing stock again with no one taking him seriously now. The PNB

scam which was recently unearthed has its roots in Congress led UPA regime under which many questionable and suspicious loans were dispensed by the nationalised banks leading to piling up of enormous NPAs while creating crisis in the banking sector. Instead of taking responsibilities of all these wrongdoings and scams, Congress is trying to rescue itself by resorting to the politics of falsehood and deceit. The frustration of Congress is understandable from the fact that both its top leaders, Congress President Rahul Gandhi and former President Sonia Gandhi are on bail in National Herald case and the investigation in Augusta Westland helicopter scam is gaining momentum with new evidences coming to light. Congress wants people to forget massive scams amounting to the tune of 12 lac crore during its regime and to achieve this aim it's relying on diversionary tactics. But it fails to realise that baseless allegations will further erode its credibility making it a non-serious player in politics. It seems that the Congress leadership still thinks that the people of India can be fooled and misled through false propaganda on Goebbelsian principles.

The Modi government is known for leading a sustained campaign against corruption, scams and black money in the country. The political will of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in carrying out Demonetisation and in the implementation of GST has left indelible imprint in minds of the people about his commitment to weed out corruption and black money from the system. In the very first cabinet meeting, SIT was formed against black money by the

Modi government and a strong resolve was displayed in negotiating new arrangements with countries like Switzerland known for its safe havens. Along with this, new laws against black money were enacted with stringent provisions seeking to plug loopholes in the system. The real estate sector which had become the hub of black economy and unaccountable to the people buying homes has been sought to be reined in by enacting RERA making it accountable to the law. The government has saved a large amount of public money by ensuring DBT in public welfare schemes. It was only because of the unflinching commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi against black money and scams that not a single case of corruption can be made out against his government. His uncompromising war on corruption has made India to move towards clean economy and transparent system ensuring accountable and hassle free governance. Attempts to attack Modi government through baseless and unfounded allegations further exposes the nexus of Congress and corruption in Indian politics. ■

CONGRESS WANTS PEOPLE TO FORGET MASSIVE SCAMS AMOUNTING TO THE TUNE OF 12 LAC CRORE DURING ITS REGIME AND TO ACHIEVE THIS AIM IT'S RELYING ON DIVERSIONARY TACTICS. BUT IT FAILS TO REALISE THAT BASELESS ALLEGATIONS WILL FURTHER ERODE ITS CREDIBILITY MAKING IT A NON-SERIOUS PLAYER IN POLITICS.

shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org

Choose between 'Commission Government' and 'Mission Government': Modi

Addressing a huge public meeting in Mysuru, Karnataka after dedicating various railway projects Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 19 February, 2018 said the welfare of the people was never a priority for the Congress government in Karnataka and it is a 'commission' government, but the state needs a 'mission' government under the BJP to ensure all round development.

As long as there is a Congress government in Karnataka, the state cannot progress. Karnataka does not require a 'commission' government but a 'mission' government led by the BJP which will ensure all-round progress of the state. Congress has ruined the state and people will teach them a lesson in these elections," he said.

The Prime Minister claimed that despite the Congress ruling the country for over 50 years 4 crore families in the country are without power. "For over fifty years, it was only one party that ruled the country. What is the reason that about 4 crore families still lack power supply? Why have they not ensured their well-being for all these years," he asked adding that the country can never repose faith in the Congress.

He said wherever the Congress ruled in the country; it tried to hamper the development of that state. "Over the years, several schemes were discussed and debated in Parliament but never implemented on the ground. When we came to power, we identified them and initiated work on such projects," he said.

He said in 2022, India will enter 75 years of its independence. We should work towards making an India which is just like what our freedom fighters had dreamt of.

The Prime Minister said that creating a railway system which is modern and technologically advanced is vital. "We are strengthening the railway networks across the country. Karnataka too is benefiting from it."

PM Narendra Modi said if we have to fulfill the needs of the poorest of the poor then we need to strengthen our railway network. We are working



towards this since last four years.

The PM flagged off the Palace Queen Humsafar Express Mysuru. This Palace Queen Humsafar Express train which connects Mysuru to Udaipur is a historical step and would boost tourism he said.

I would like to announce that the widening of Bengaluru-Mysuru National Highway will be done with an investment of Rs 6400 Crore the PM said. We would also build a world-class satellite station for Mysuru and more than Rs 800 Crore would be spent on it. This will be a modern railway station the PM said.

The PM further said Congress is working to divide the society. If the current government continues in the state, the downfall is guaranteed.

Post-independence Congress had ruled for 70-80% of the time. You are demanding things and facilities today. If you really feel about those things why didn't you do something when you were in power for 50 years Shri Narendra Modi asked the Congress party.

What do you need? A government of commission or a government of mission? A government which asks for 10% Commission to work or a government which works with the mission for development? Shri Modi asked. ■

Only Youth Can Build a New India: Amit Shah

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah as part of the party's election campaign for the upcoming assembly election in Karnataka arrived for a two-day Pravas. After arriving in Mangaluru on 20 February, 2018, he addressed a small public meeting near the airport. He visited the Kukke Subramanya temple in the morning. He addressed students at various rallies and addressed students of Vivekananda Institutions in Puttur on the role of the youth in building a 'New India'.

Shri Amit Shah also visited the family of BJP worker Shri Deepak Rao, a BJP worker who was murdered last month. After a press conference at Surathkal, Shri Shah attended the Fishermen Convention at Malpe before heading to the Sri Krishna Matt.

While addressing the students in Karnataka College, Sullia Shri Amit Shah said Youth of Karnataka needs to come forward to prevent forming a government that believes in vote bank and politics of appeasement. I appeal youth of Karnataka to form a corruption-free government that gives pace to development.

BJP is a party with different work culture. Other parties go for elections based on various ministers & their work. We, on the other hand not only have the world's most popular leader but also 11 crore members from Kashmir to Kanyakumari he said.

"This is an election not only related to the state but the interests of the entire nation. In this election a government will come in Karnataka which will open doors to the South for us," he said

If Siddaramaiah thinks politics of appeasement will be successful, he's wrong. Appeasement & polarization here reflects; for example where son of MLA Haris thrashed a man but there was no FIR. Why? Not only because he's Haris's son but because it involves appeasement of groups, the BJP President said.

Addressing students in Karnataka's Karavali Shri Shah said CM Siddaramaiah must answer where money meant for development of people of



Karnataka has gone. 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 he asked. Only the youth of this country can build a "New India", says Shri Shah.

While addressing students at Vivekananda Institutions in Puttur, Karnataka on the role of the youth in building a 'New India', Shri Amit Shah said in 2013, four years ago, there was despair in the country and people were worried about the future of India. PM Modi said that we are not here to rule the country but to bring about the change.

When we formed government in 2014, 60 crore people did not have a bank account, 15 crore people did not have LPG connection, 18,000 villages have no electricity, 11 crore families did not have toilet and only 10% people had healthcare services. Now, 3,000 villages out of 18,000 villages have been electrified. Every family has a bank account now. We carried out surgical strike, avenging the deaths of Indian jawans. This is only possible because of strong political will, he said.

In the field of space, we established a record by launching 104 satellites in the space. We have taken up a project where government will offer Rs. 10,000 crore to each university for world-class higher education he added. ■

BJP wins 47 seats in Gujarat municipality elections

The BJP continued its winning performance in Gujarat by bagging 47 out of 75 municipalities in the recently held Gujarat Municipality elections. The main opposition, Congress continuing its poor performance got 16 municipalities, while the NCP and BSP emerged victorious on one each.

Voting for the 75 municipalities was held on last on 17 February, 2018 and the results were declared on 19 February 2018.

“The BJP has won 47 municipalities, the Congress 16, the NCP and BSP one each. While Independent candidates won four municipalities, six others remained hung as no party gained a clear majority there,” State Election Commissioner said.

Three of the six municipalities that delivered a hung verdict are Khedbhramaha in Sabarkantha district, Gariadhar in Bhavnagar district and Pardi in Valsad district, where both the BJP and the Congress won 14 seats each.

“Of the total 2,060 seats in these 75 municipalities spread across 24 districts, the BJP won 1,167, Congress 630, NCP 28 and BSP 15 seats. Other small political parties won 18 seats, while Independent candidates emerged winners on 202 seats,” the Commission said.

In Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s home



@vijayrupanibjp



The result of Gujarat Municipality elections is the people’s referendum on development in the state.

Three of the six municipalities that delivered a hung verdict are Khedbhramaha in Sabarkantha district, Gariadhar in Bhavnagar district and Pardi in Valsad district, where both the BJP and the Congress won 14 seats each.

town Vadnagar in Mehsana district, the BJP won 27 of the 28 seats, while the remaining seat went to the Congress.

As the results were declared, BJP workers started celebrating at the party headquarters in Gandhinagar. “This is a victory against the negative politics and programmes of the Congress. The people of Gujarat have once again rejected the negativity that the Congress is generating,” BJP spokesperson Shri Bharat Pandya said.

This is the first major election held in Gujarat after last year’s high-decibel assembly elections, in which the BJP had registered a sixth straight victory in the state. ■

Manohar Lal Khattar has provided Haryana with an honest and transparent government: Amit Shah



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressed a huge 'Yuva Hunkar' rally in Jind, Haryana on February, 2018. Besides BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, Haryana Chief Minister Shri Manohar Lal Khattar, his ministerial colleagues, party legislators, BJP office bearers and lakhs of party Karyakartas reached the rally venue riding motorcycles. Before speaking at the rally, the BJP President also laid the foundation stone of BJP offices in 15 districts of the state.

At the beginning of his speech, Shri Amit Shah has asked the BJP workers present on the spot to raise their voice so loud that it reaches PM Modi's rally in Tripura. BJP National President said central funds used to go down the gutter of corruption under the Congress rule in the state, but CM Shri Manohar Lal Khattar has provided Haryana with an honest and transparent government. "Congress people ask us 'from where do you get so much money to give the state'. We tell them even they gave, but they distributed it among their cronies while we give it to the Haryana state," Shri Shah said.

Shri Shah indicted the previous Congress government in Haryana for ignoring the state on the development front and leaving it in unemployment and agrarian crisis. "This is the state whose chief minister has gone to jail," he said while targeting former Haryana chief minister from Congress, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, who is facing charges in the Manesar land scam. The BJP President also said the present Haryana CM has a blot-free career.

While appreciating the Modi government's efforts in successful execution of the OROP scheme, he said, "Long-pending One Rank One Pension given. Farmers, retired faujis are happy now."

Commenting on the healthy sporting culture in the state, he said "Maximum medals in sports are won by Haryana sportspersons." He also lauded Haryana farmers for ushering in 'green revolution'.

While concluding his speech Shri Shah, said "this is kumbh of party workers, not an election rally."

CM Shri Khattar also addressed the rally, saying that BJP government has eliminated regionalism in developmental works. ■



KISAN MORCHA ONE-DAY WORKSHOP HELD

Kisan Morcha has to work as bridge between people and party: Ramlal

BJP National Kisan Morcha organized one day national workshop on January 31 at BJP National Head Quarters in New Delhi. More than 100 representative from 25 states participated in the workshop. All Kishan Morcha's state media and social media in-charge participated in the one-day workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ramlal and BJP's Kisan Mocrha National President Shri Birendra Singh Mast. Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari graced the occasion with his presence as Chief guest. Addressing the workshop, Shri Gadkari said that Narendra Modi government brought the farmer, villager and poor in the core of government policies. Emphasizing on integrated farming Union Transport Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "Our agriculture has capacity to create alternative of petrol and diesel. We have run first ethanol-based bus in Nagpur. Till tomorrow, it was unbelievable. Farmers can increase their income manifold without depending on seasonal crops to produce energy from ethanol, waste management etc."

Addressing representatives of social media and media, General Secretary (Org.) Shri Ramlal said, Kisan Morcha will take the Modi's government achievements through social media and its workers to the people. He added, Kisan Morcha has to work

as bridge between people and the party. The BJP government in nine years has done work for farmers as much as not done in 70 years.

Addressing the workshop BJP's Kisan Morcha National President Shri Birendra Singh 'Mast' said, "We should take Modi's government achievements among people through our 'Samvad karyakram'." He added, through Samvaad karyakram we will get knowledge of ground reality of farmers. On the Occasion Minister of Sate(Agriculture) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched Kisan Morcha's website www.bjpkisanmorcha.org.

The whole workshop was organized in two sessions. First session was chaired by Kisan Morcha National President Shri Birendra Singh Mast and conducted by Morcha's media incharge Shri Rakesh Singh. The second session was chaired and conducted by its Vice-Presidents Naresh Sirohi and Shri Shailendra Sengar respectively. Other speakers who addressed the workshop were Union Minister of Agriculture Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Minister of State for Agriculture Shri Gajendra Singh Sekhawat, Haryana Government's agriculture Minister Shri Omprakash Dhankkar, BJP Journals & Publication Deptt. In-charge Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi, BJP's IT Department's in-charge Shri Amit Malviya, Kisan Morcha National Secretary Dusyant Lakada and its Co-media incharge Acharya S.K Mishra. ■

PM dedicates fourth container terminal at JNPT and attends Ground Breaking Ceremony of Navi Mumbai International Airport

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on February 18, 2018 attended the Ground Breaking Ceremony of Navi Mumbai International Airport. At a function in Navi Mumbai, he also dedicated the fourth container terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, the Prime Minister noted that he had come to Maharashtra, a day before the Jayanti of the great Shivaji Maharaj.

The Prime Minister said globalization is a reality of our times and to keep pace with globalisation, we need top quality infrastructure. He said the Sagarmala project is ushering not only development of ports but also port-led development. The Prime Minister said that the Government of India is devoting significant efforts towards the development of waterways.

The Prime Minister said that the Navi Mumbai airport project has been pending for years. He said delayed projects cause many problems, and the PRAGATI initiative had been initiated, to give priority to completion of projects.

He said India's aviation sector is growing tremendously, and there is a sharp increase in the number of people flying. This makes quality infrastructure in the aviation sector of prime importance, he added. The Prime Minister said that the Union Government has brought an aviation policy that is transforming the sector. He added that a strong aviation sector also gives more economic opportunities. Better connectivity leads to more tourists coming to India, he said.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated the Wadhvani Institute for Artificial Intelligence on the Kalina campus of the university in Mumbai. The Wadhvani Institute

for Artificial Intelligence is the first centre in the country to focus on research in artificial intelligence and is supported by the state government. The main goal of the centre is to integrate artificial intelligence in the field of social development.

Speaking on the occasion Prime Minister said "This institute is a prime example of how the public sector and the private sector, can combine with good intention, to build a world-class institute, aimed at benefiting the poor".

He added "With the arrival of Artificial Intelligence, Bots and Robots there is no doubt that our productivity



will further go up. But, there are also rising fears of human redundancy because there is a competition between the mind and the machine. Such fears are neither un-founded nor new. At every stage of technological evolution, we have faced such doubts and questions. This leads to two views of the future. First brings hopes and aspirations and second brings fears of disruption. Technology opens entirely new spheres and sectors for growth. It also opens up an entirely new paradigm of opportunities. With each wave of new technology, many new opportunities arise". ■

PM launches railway projects in Mysuru; inaugurates development works at Shravanabelagola

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on February 19 dedicated to the nation, the electrification of railway line between Mysuru and KSR Bengaluru. At a function at Mysuru Railway Station, he also flagged off the Palace Queen Humsafar Express between Mysuru and Udaipur.

Earlier the Prime Minister visited Shravanabelagola for the Bahubali Mahamasthakabhisheka Mahotsava 2018. He inaugurated the new steps carved at Vindhyagiri Hill by ASI. He also inaugurated the Bahubali General Hospital. Addressing the gathering at Shravanabelagola, the Prime Minister said saints and seers from our land have always served society



and made a positive difference. The strength of our society is that we have always changed with the times and adapted well to new contexts, the Prime Minister said. It is our duty to provide good quality and affordable healthcare to the poor, he added. ■

Exports shows positive growth

Exports during January 2018 have exhibited positive growth of 9.07 per cent in dollar terms vis-à-vis January 2017. Exports have been on a positive trajectory since August 2016 to January 2018 with a dip of 1.1 per cent in the month of October 2017. In January 2018 valued at US\$ 24383.97 million as compared to US\$ 22356.32 million during January 2017. In Rupee terms, exports were valued at Rs.155172.00 crore as compared to Rs.152202.70 crore during January 2017, registering a rise of 1.95 per cent.

During January 2018, Major commodity groups of export showing positive growth over the corresponding month of last year are Engineering Goods (15.77%), Petroleum Products (39.5%), Gems & Jewellery (0.89%), Organic & Inorganic Chemicals (33.6%) and Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (8.6%).

Cumulative value of exports for the period April-January 2017-18 was US\$247896.55 million (Rs1596591.91 crore) as against US\$221823.46 million (Rs1490544.21 crore) registering a positive growth of 11.75 per cent in Dollar terms and 7.11 per cent in Rupee terms over the same period last year.

Non-petroleum and Non Gems & Jewellery exports in January 2018 were valued at US\$ 17523.24 million

as against US\$ 16607.36 million in January 2017, an increase of 5.51%. Non-petroleum and Non Gems and Jewellery exports during April-January 2017-18 were valued at US\$ 181238.18 million as compared to US\$ 161281.88 million for the corresponding period in 2016-17, an increase of 12.37%.

Imports during January 2018 were valued at US\$ 40682.44 million (Rs258890.43 crore) which was 26.10 per cent higher in Dollar terms and 17.87 per cent higher in Rupee terms over the level of imports valued at US\$ 32261.14 million (Rs. 219635.13 crore) in January 2017. Cumulative value of imports for the period April-January 2017-18 was US\$ 379052.07 million (Rs. 2441180.27 crore) as against US\$ 310160.46 million (Rs. 2084786.99 crore) registering a positive growth of 22.21 per cent in Dollar terms and 17.09 per cent in Rupee terms over the same period last year.

Major commodity groups of import showing high growth in January 2018 over the corresponding month of last year are Petroleum, Crude & products (42.64%), Electronic goods (12.19%), Machinery, electrical & non-electrical (29.11%), Pearls, precious & Semi-precious stones (55.71%) and Coal, Coke & Briquettes, etc. (31.67%). ■

Increase of 41.03% in budget allocation for welfare of OBC in 2018-19 over 2017-18

There is an increase of 12.10% in the budget allocation for Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in the Union Budget 2018-19 over 2017-18. In 2017-18, it was Rs. 6908.00 crore which has now been increased to Rs. 7750.00 crore in 2018-19. Also there is an increase of 11.57% in the budget allocation for schemes in 2018-19 over 2017-18. In addition, there is an increase of 41.03% in the budget allocation for the welfare of OBC in 2018-19 over 2017-18.

A New scheme Venture Capital Fund for OBCs on similar lines as Venture Capital Fund for SCs to be launched with an initial corpus of Rs. 200 crore. Rs. 140 crore has been provided for it in 2018-19. The Skill Development Training has been given to 13,587 manual scavengers and their dependents. 809 manual scavengers and their dependents have been provided bank loans.

For the first time, National Survey will identify victims of drug abuse. The survey covers 185 districts, 1.5 lakh households and 6 lakh individuals. The survey is already underway and expected to be completed by March-April, 2018. For the first time, Rs. 200 crore has been provided for rehabilitation of victims of drugs abuse. 15 pilot districts across the country would be taken up for intensive activities. Under the scheme of rehabilitation of drug victims, outpatient facilities will be provided in all the centres supported by this Department. Instead of de-addiction centres, they will be renamed as Treatment Clinics. Such treatment clinics will be set up in major prisons, juvenile homes and major Government hospitals in the States.

For the Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBC, the income eligibility has been increased from Rs.44,500/- per annum to Rs. 2.5 lakh per annum. For Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC, the income eligibility has been raised from Rs.2.00 lakhs to Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Stipend

for day scholars has been raised from Rs. 150 to Rs. 225 and for hostellers it has been raised from Rs. 350 to Rs. 525/-. Top Class Education for Scheduled Castes has been raised from Rs. 4.5 lakh to Rs. 6 lakh per annum. For Free coaching for SC and OBC students, the income eligibility has been raised from Rs. 4.5 lakhs to Rs. 6 lakhs. Stipend has been raised from Rs. 1500/- to Rs. 2500/- for local students and from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 5000 for outstation students. For Pre-matric Scholarship for OBC, the rates of scholarships has been increased substantially.

The earlier rates of scholarships of day - scholars



from Class I to V, Class VI to VIII and Class IX to X of Rs. 25, Rs.40 and Rs. 50 respectively for 10 months has been revised to Rs. 100 per month for 10 months from Class I to X. Earlier rates of scholarships of hostellers from Class III to VIII and Class IX to X of Rs. 200 and Rs. 250 respectively for ten months has been revised to Rs. 500 per month for 10 months from Class III to X. Adhoc grant for all students under the scheme is Rs. 500 per annum. Under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes, the assistance has been increased from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 28,000/- per student. ■

ASPECTS OF ECONOMICS

Continue from the previous issue...

RESTRAINT OF FOREIGN AID

IT is also important that we should be self-reliant in the economic field. If the fulfilment of our programmes depends upon foreign aid it will certainly be a restraint, whether direct or indirect, upon us. We would be pulled into the sphere of economic influence of the aid-giving countries. In order to save our economic plans from difficulties we may have to many times keep quiet. A country which acquires the habit of depending upon others loses its self-respect. Such a nation can never assess the value of its independence. It is also certain that no country would give us aid to be used as we think fit.

It will examine our plans and then we would have to make such plans as can be in accord with foreign aid even if they are not in our interest.

FOREIGN CAPITAL

IT is suggested that the shortfall of capital in the country should be made up by foreign capital and we are importing foreign capital to a very big extent in different forms. Even if we keep aside the political aspects of foreign capital its economic utility extends to a particular point and not further. The popular idea is that foreign capital means money which we receive and which we can use as we think fit. This is not the truth. Foreign capital has to be used in foreign countries and hence it cannot be an alternative to domestic savings. When we invest domestic savings in the form of capital we are icing employment not only to the people in a particular industry but to many others outside it, such as those making the machines and other ancillaries required for the industry in which we invest.

Foreign capital can be obtained in three ways (a) from individual industrialists, (b) from international

organisations, and (c) from foreign governments. They can do this either by giving loans or by becoming partners. They can either set up their own industry in the country or collaborate with the Government or private industrialists within the country. In all these possible alternatives the basic point is that it is not for us to decide whether the machines or other implements on which we shall spend our money outside the country are useful to us. We shall even have to accept foreign technology. Foreign technicians and industrialists would produce goods in our country with processes and machinery available and currently used in their own country. This can help industrialisation to a certain extent but It cannot build a firm industrial base for the country.



EFFECTS OF URBANISATION

ACCORDING to Western economy the level of urbanization is considered the basis of development. In India too the number of big cities and their population are gradually increasing. In the life of the West cities have created a number of social, moral, political and health problems. A large amount of money is spent

on them. In the climatic condition of India, crowded living is all the more harmful for us. This is one of the main reasons of the spread of TB and other deadly diseases. Slums are also increasing in our cities. Hence the need of the times is not new cities but industrialisation of villages,

CAPITAL PROJECTS

MANY times capital industrial projects are taken into hand for the sake of prestige. It is felt that the capacity to produce capital goods would raise our prestige in the eyes of the world. But this is not an economic truth. For such capital production we shall not only



have to keep our standard of life at a low level for a long time but we will also have to sacrifice democratic principles in the political field.

LABOUR-INTENSIVE PRODUCTION PROCESS

WHEN we think of the means of production in India we arrive at the firm conclusion that our production process must be labour-intensive. In the first place we are short of capital and when we convert it into fixed capital on the basis of labour-saving projects this capital flows out of the country. Further our old machines become obsolete, which increases the speed of decapitalization and disemployment. The rising unemployment in turn depresses the standard of living of most people instead of raising it. A complex Western production process can give employment to a few people but it cannot set into motion a dynamic process which can bring about a revolutionary change in the country's economy. If we want such an industrial system, it should be in consonance with agriculture and should give adequate importance to small industries.

INDUSTRIAL CORPORATIONS

IF we are to conduct our industries with success, it is necessary that they should be conducted on a completely commercial basis within the interest of society. Hence they will have to be kept aloof from party politics, which changes from day to day. From this point of view they should be conducted by autonomous corporations. They should have freedom in their day-to-day conduct but should be under parliamentary control. In point of the participation of workers in the management public sector industries should give the lead to other industries.

WHO IS A TILLER?

LAND for the tiller does not by any means mean that he who ploughs the field will be the sole owner of the land and he cannot benefit from the services rendered by others. He should have the right to employ labour as required. The tiller should generally mean the person who is responsible for the production of crops in a particular field, invests money in it and takes care of it. It is not important how many agricultural jobs he performs himself and how many labourers he employs.

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COOPERATIVE FARMS

A FAMILY represents the ideal 'from every man according to his capacity and to every man according to his needs'. Tradition has helped to inculcate this feeling amongst the members. The karta of a family does not depend upon the votes of the members. No training classes have been, and need be organised to train him how best to discharge his responsibilities. He does it instinctively, following the ways his forefathers had followed. But in a cooperative we are faced with the crucial problem of how to distribute the produce. When people with all sorts of lands and with no lands and those with varying rights in land are joined together, it is practically impossible to divide the produce equitably. It may be done equally but that will not be equitably.

BASIC NECESSITIES

BY and large we can see that food, clothing, shelter, education and medical attention are the five basic necessities of every individual which should be fulfilled. If we want to assess the material standard of life of any country we could take these as a starting point. If any class of a society does not get these facilities, we may say that the standard of life of that society is not developed. ■

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

Uttar Pradesh BJP MLA Lokendra Singh dies in a road accident

A Bharatiya Janata Party MLA Shri Lokendra Singh was died on 21 February, 2018 in a road accident in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh while he was on his way to attend the 'Investors Meet' in Lucknow. His two security guards and the driver have also died in the crash.

The Noorpur legislator from Bijnore Shri Lokendra Singh was headed for Lucknow, when his SUV



rammed head on with a truck coming from the opposite direction at Kakaiyapara. While the driver and Shri Singh, 45, were killed on the spot, the two police gunners died during treatment at a nearby medical facility.

The gunners who lost their lives have been

@narendramodi

Anguished by the demise of BJP MLA from Noorpur, Shri Lokendra Singh Ji due to an accident. His service towards society and role in building the BJP in UP will always be remembered. My thoughts are with his family and supporters in this hour of grief.

@AmitShah

Deeply "pained to know about the demise of our MLA from Noorpur (U.P), Shri Lokendra Singh ji due to a road accident. Lokendra ji has served the organisation and society with passion & dedication, his passing away is a big loss to BJP. My condolences with his family & followers."

identified as Brijesh Mishra, 28, and Deepak Kumar, 30. ■

BJP MLA Kalyan Singh passes away in Rajasthan

Sitting BJP legislator Shri Kalyan Singh from Nathdwara, Rajasthan who had been suffering from cancer, passed away on 21 February 2018 in a hospital in Udaipur. He was 58.

Shri Singh passed away at 2 a.m. in GBH American Hospital after prolonged illness, hospital sources said. He was admitted for the last four days.

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, Chief Minister Smt. Vasundhara



Raje, BJP state president Shri Ashok Parnami, former Chief Minister Shri Ashok Gehlot and others condoled the death.

Smt. Vasundhara Raje in her condolence message said that Shri Chauhan was inseparable part of the BJP and his demise was a loss to her and the party. She also visited the grieved family members in Nathdwara .

His last rites were performed near Dagwara. ■

BJP to conduct nationwide trainings for SC Morcha and ST Morcha



As a part of the second phase of “Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Prashikshan Mahabhiyan,” Bhartiya Janata Party on February 9 held three National coordination meeting at its Delhi Head Office to chalk out the outline of training for Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribes and Weavers across India. The meeting was presided by Shri P. Muralidhar Rao, the National General Secretary and National Training In-charge of the party.

Shri Muralidhar Rao informed that the trainings would be held at three levels, i.e. National, State and District levels. While ‘Trainers-Training’ at the National level is proposed of 3 days duration, the training at the State & District level would be of 2 days. “BJP has emerged as the world’s largest political party with over 11 crore members and is known as party with difference. It’s the duty of the party to prepare trained political workers who can contribute to national development and ensure that the government

schemes and work reaches the last person in the queue. BJP is working to achieve the Bharat as visualized by great visionaries like Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar and carries on the great traditional thoughts of great saints like Rishi Valmiki, Sant Ravidas, Sant Kabir and others,” Shri Muralidhar added.

In the first phase of “Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Prashikshan Mahabhiyan,” Bhartiya Janta Party had held trainings across the country at Mandal level and trained over 11 lakh political workers, which is the largest training programme of political workers anywhere in the world ever.

Members of Parliament, legislators, political leaders, social workers and stakeholders from all over India participated in the meeting. Among others, Union ministers Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Shri Jaswantsinh Bhabhor were also present. ■

Visit aimed at strengthening ties with the region: PM



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 10 left India for his visit to Palestine, the UAE, and Oman. Before his departure Shri Modi described the Gulf and West Asia region as a key priority in India's external engagement. He said that his trip was aimed at strengthening ties with the region. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi became first Indian Prime Minister who officially visited to Palestine. He arrived in Ramallah city, the headquarters of the Palestine National Authority and met Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who has described the visit as significant.

Media wrote "Quite unlike other Indian leaders who had reached Ramallah in the past through Israel, PM Modi travelled straight to Ramallah in a chopper provided by the Jordanian government and escorted by choppers from the Israel Air Force."

During the visit both countries India and Palestine signed following Memorandum of understanding (MoU):

- MoU for setting up of India-Palestine Super-specialty hospital at Beit Sahour in Bethelhem Governorate at a cost of US\$ 30 million.
- MoU for construction of India Palestine Centre for Empowering women, "Turathi" at a cost of US\$ 5 million.
- MoU for setting up of new National Printing Press at Ramallah at a cost of US\$ 5 million.
- MoU for Construction of school in Muthalth Al Shuhada Village at a cost of US\$ 1 million.
- MoU for Construction of school in Tamoon village in Tubas Governorate in Palestine at a cost of US\$ 1.1 million.
- MoU for Assistance of US\$ 0.25 million for construction of additional floor to Jawahar Lal Nehru for Boys at Abu Dees.

During the foreign trip Shri Narendra Modi visited Oman. Here, he addressed Indian community Indian Community in Muscat and signed agreements which would give impetus to bilateral relations. Some

agreements are as follow:

- Agreement on Legal and Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Commercial matter
- Agreement on mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, Special, service and official passports
- MoU on Cooperation in the field of health
- MoU on Cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.
- MoU on Cooperation between Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, India and Oman Diplomatic Institute.
- MoU on Academic and Scholarly cooperation sectors between National Defence College Sultanate of Oman and the Institute for Defence Studies and the Analyses.
- MoU in the field of Tourism cooperation between India and Oman.
- MoU to enhance defence cooperation

Shri Modi tweeted before concluding his visit to Oman "This Oman visit is one I will cherish for a long time to come." He added "This visit has helped in building upon the centuries-old ties between our enterprising people, and will impart a substantial momentum to our relations in all spheres, including trade and investment relations." Shri Narendra Modi on the last leg of his three-nation tour, visited the 125-year-old Shiva Temple in Muscat, one of the oldest in the region. "Feeling extremely blessed to pray at the Shiva temple in Muscat," the prime minister tweeted. "PM @narendramodi performed Abhishekam at the historic Lord Shiva templ.

The temple was constructed 125 years ago by the merchant community from Gujarat and was subsequently renovated in 1999. It has three deities -- Shri Adi Motishwar Mahadev, Shri Motishwar



NARENDRA MODI CONFERRED 'GRAND COLLAR OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE'

During the visit Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred the 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine', the highest Palestinian honour for foreign dignitaries, recognising his contributions to promoting relations between India and Palestine.

President Mahmoud Abbas bestowed the "Grand Collar of the State of Palestine" on Modi after the conclusion of their bilateral meeting in Ramallah. Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to make an official visit to Palestine. The Grand Collar is Highest order given to foreign dignitaries—Kings, Heads of State/Government and persons of similar rank. During their joint press statement after their bilateral meeting, Abbas said the interaction was a good opportunity to express to prime minister Shri Modi "how much respect and how high of a standing you personally have through your wise and creative and brave leadership and in establishing peace and stability foundations in our region and the world.

"In recognition of that, we have had the honour today to decorate you with the highest order of honour in Palestine and that is the great the grand order of the state of Palestine," the Palestinian president said.

Shri Modi, on his part, said, that bestowing the honour on him was a matter of proud moment for India. This was also the reflective of the friendship between India and Palestine. The 'Grand Collar of the State of Palestine' has in the past been awarded to King Salman of Saudi Arabia, King Hamad of Bahrain, President Xi Jinping of China, among others.

The commendation reads "In recognition of his wise leadership and his lofty national and international stature, and in appreciation of his efforts to promote the historic relations between the State of Palestine and the Republic of India; in acknowledgment of his support to our people's right to independence and freedom so that peace prevails in the region."(PTI)

Mahadev and Shri Hanumanji. During auspicious days more than 15,000 devotees visit the temple for prayers.

PM Modi also visited the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque in Muscat, which is the biggest mosque in Oman. The mosque is built from 300,000 tonnes of Indian sandstone sculpted by 200 craftsmen from India.

Before his arrival in Oman Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid visit to United Arab Emirates. Prime minister Shri Narendra Modi received a ceremonial welcome in Abu Dhabi. It was his second visit as prime minister to the country. Shri Modi held talks with Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and signed several agreements to boost cooperation between both countries.

India and the UAE signed five Government-to-Government MoUs in the presence of PM Shri Narendra Modi and HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces on 10th February at Presidential Palace. The MoUs signed and exchanged are related to energy sector, railways, manpower and financial services.

An MOU between Indian Consortium (OVL, BPRL & IOCL) and ADNOC was signed for acquisition of 10% participating interest in the offshore Lower Zakum Concession. The concession will be for 40 years from 2018 to 2057, 60 % of the participating interest will be retained by ADNOC and remaining 30 % will be awarded to other International oil companies. This is the first Indian Investment in upstream oil sector



of UAE, transforming the traditional buyer-seller relationship to a long-term investor relationship.

To cooperate in the field of Manpower, Government of India and Government of UAE signed an MoU that aims to institutionalise the collaborative administration of contractual employment of Indian workers in UAE. Under the MoU both the sides will work to integrate their labour related e-platforms for ending the existing malpractices, combat trafficking and organize collaborative programs for education and awareness of contractual workers.

An MoU for Technical Cooperation in Rail Sector was also signed between Ministry of Railways, India and Federal Transport Authority - Land & Maritime of UAE. The MoU aims at cooperation in Infrastructure sector especially Railways. The MoU will facilitate development of Joint Projects, Knowledge Sharing, Joint Research and Technology Transfer. The MoU envisages formation of a Joint Working Group for institutionalising the cooperation mechanism.

To deepen bilateral cooperation in the field of finance, an MoU between Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX) was signed and exchanged. It aims at enhancing cooperation between both the countries in financial services industry. The MoU envisages information exchange, exchange of experts and training for mutual benefit of both the countries. The MoU would facilitate investment in financial markets by investors from both the countries. An MoU between Government of Jammu and Kashmir and DP World was also signed to establish multi-modal logistics park and hub in Jammu comprising warehouses and specialized storage solutions. ■

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'Make sure PM Modi's Victory March enters South through Karnataka'

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said there was public anger against the ruling Congress in Karnataka and asked party workers to make sure that the victory march of Narendra Modi enters the South through the state.

Shri Shah was on a three-day visit to the districts of Dakshina Kannada and Uttara Kannada, where the BJP is on a strong wicket and is trying to widen the base further.

Addressing those in charge of BJP's "Shakti Kendra" in Udupi on 21 February, 2018, he said BJP had been winning polls in several states and increasing its tally and it is Karnataka's turn now."

"There is anger among people against Congress, and if we cannot convert it into votes it will be difficult to take forward the party. This is an opportunity. There is public anger against Siddaramaiah government. There is no better opportunity to convert this anger into votes," Shri Shah said.

"Karnataka BJP workers have to make sure that this victory march of Narendra Modi enters southern India through the state." "I have seen and fought all these elections closely," he said.

"BJP has not just won elections. Winning just elections is easy as there will be a wave or some one's fault or anti-incumbency, but BJP along with winning elections has also worked for strengthening the party from deep bottom," he said.

He recalled the contribution of party workers with whose efforts BJP had earlier formed the government in the state in 2008 and said after the exit of the BJP government, "there was this corrupt government by the Congress."

He said BJP had not taken short cuts like Congress to win elections and lakhs and lakhs of party workers had put in hard work from the booth level.

Stressing the need for strengthening the party at

the booth level, Shri Shah said if this didn't happen, "government can just come and go, but can't continue like in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh."

He also asked BJP workers not to take party work lightly, and said response from people for the BJP is good.

But he had no hesitation in saying that reports that he has got about ground level work by workers was disappointing, he said.

The BJP leader pointed out that the party's success in Manipur and Uttar Pradesh was because of booth level strengthening of the party.

Asking the party workers to strengthen the



organisation at the booth level, he said he would come for review at the district level next.

Earlier in the day, Shri Shah visited the famous 800-year-old Krishna Mutt at Udupi.

The BJP President also held talks with senior pontiff of Udupi Pejawar Mutt Sri Visweshatheertha Swamiji.

At Honnavara in Uttara Kannada, the BJP President also visited the family of BJP worker Pares Mesta, who was found dead under mysterious circumstances in a lake in the district after he went missing, triggering violence. ■

A new Uttar Pradesh will play a pivotal role in the building of a New India: PM



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 21, 2018 announced a Rs 20,000 crore defence industrial corridor in Bundelkhand region to bring development in one of the most backward regions of Uttar Pradesh and said the Yogi Adityanath government has pulled the state out of prevailing negativity.

“Of one of the two defence industrial corridors mentioned in the budget, one is proposed in the Bundelkhand region of the state which will bring an investment of Rs20,000 crore and generate employment avenues for 2.5 lakh people,” the prime minister said after inaugurating the UP Investors Summit 2018 in Lucknow.

“Keeping in mind the development of Bundelkhand, the government has decided to extend the Uttar

Pradesh’s defence corridor to Agra, Allahabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Jhansi and Chitrakoot,” Shri Modi said. Finance minister Shri Arun Jaitley in the 2018 budget speech had said that two defence industrial production corridors will be developed in the country.

The government early this month announced the first corridor between Chennai and Bengaluru which would also pass through Coimbatore and several other industrial clusters. Defence minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman had said that the corridors will provide an impetus to the defence production industry in the country.

Referring to the views expressed during election campaign that state needs two engines for ensuring its development, the prime minister cited the various schemes launched by his government, specially



pointing out at the Mudra Yojana which he said could help achieve this objective.

The two-day mega event being organised in the state capital to attract investments is being attended by top industrial heads, foreign delegates and senior union and state ministers. Stressing that with such vast potential, diversity and availability of resources, Uttar Pradesh can become India's growth engine, the prime minister said potential, policy, planning and performance leads to progress and both chief minister Shri Yogi Adityanath and people of the state are ready to give this super hit performance.

Terming holding of investor's summit in Uttar Pradesh and congregation of industrialists from all over as a sign of a big change, Modi said the Yogi government has overcome the previous negativity and shown a ray of hope to people with positive changes.

"When there is a change, it starts showing ... this investors meet and coming of investors and entrepreneurs is a big change," he said adding that under the fearful and insecure atmosphere prevailing in the state previously the condition was not conducive for investments to come here.

"Uttar Pradesh has values and virtues, but it also needs value addition in all spheres.. I am happy that the Yogi government is taking decisions for value addition in the core strength of the state," the prime minister said.

"Policies are being made linking industrial development with employment opportunities... investors will now get red carpet instead of red-tapism," he said pointing at the new single window clearance app launched at the summit.

"In UP's economy, MSMEs have a major role After agriculture, MSME sector offers the highest possibility of employment," he said, adding that there are 50 lakh MSMEs operational in the state which have also earned the state name at the national and international level. "We are happy that keeping this important fact in mind the state government has brought 'one district-one product policy', this could be a game changer," he stressed.

Referring to Maharashtra and its development, the prime minister said, "Can there be a competition between Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra to achieve the target of trillion dollar economy...This kind of competition will lead to development and generation

of employment. Besides, this kind of healthy race will strengthen competitive cooperative federalism spirit."

Saying that there was no dearth of resources in the state, the prime minister said Uttar Pradesh has huge potential for ethanol and biofuel, and clean energy can resolve many problems in Delhi and national capital region (NCR), he said.

"I am sure the new tourism policy announced by the UP government would facilitate investment," he said and also referred to the Kumbh Mela in Prayag slated for early next year. "Tourism is a multiplier for growth. UP needs to strengthen its eco-tourism," he said.

"The Purvanchal expressway and Bundelkhand

"When there is a change, it starts showing ... this investors meet and coming of investors and entrepreneurs is a big change," he said adding that under the fearful and insecure atmosphere prevailing in the state previously the condition was not conducive for investments to come here.

expressway will ensure speedy development of Purvanchal and Bundelkhand region," he said and cited the 11 new coming airports in the state under the Udaan scheme besides two international ones coming up at Kushinagar and Jewar.

"It is my dream that those with hawai chappal (bathroom slippers) can have hawai yatra (air travel)", he said. "We have to find out ways to facilitate farmers quick access to the market and strengthen the connection between farmers and industry...If we produce world class product, we should also have world class promotion and marketing wing," he stressed. ■



PM INAUGURATES NEW BJP NATIONAL HEAD QUARTERS BUILDING

Bharatiya Janata Party, for the first time after 38 years of its establishment, shifted to its own new building at 6-A, Deendayal Upadhyay Marg in New Delhi on 18 February, 2018 after Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated it in the presence of party National President Shri Amit Shah, other senior party leaders and Karyakartas. With 1.70 lakh square feet, the new office is bigger than compared to the office of any other political party in the world.

With the launch of new office, senior BJP leaders recalled the party's political and historical journey made during the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and afterwards under the leadership of Shri LK Advani and others in the old BJP headquarters at 11 Ashoka road".

The new BJP premise is well equipped with modern facilities. A multi-storey building with three blocks, 70 rooms and is also equipped with digital libraries.

BJP is also the first major national party to shift its office outside Lutyens' Bungalow Zone, following a Supreme Court directive that party offices should be relocated from there.

The structure of the building is environment-friendly and its interior is 'traditional but grand'. Hollow bricks have been used to keep the interiors cool and solar panels will take care of most of the power requirements. Large windows have been built so that there is plenty of light. Rainwater harvesting and bio-toilets have been arranged in the building.

Wi-Fi connectivity will be there in the entire building complex. The new headquarters of the party will be connected to all the state headquarters and district headquarters. Many canteens have also been provided to cater to party office bearers and visitors.

There are three gardens where saplings brought from all over country have been planted. An



underground parking has been built for about 200 cars in the building.

Since the Prime Minister will come here often, the security system will also be kept at the highest level, and a large national flag will always be flying on a very high pillar.

‘OURS IS A PARTY COMMITTED TO RASHTRA BHAKTI’

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi after inaugurating the new BJP National headquarters in New Delhi said, “Ours is a party committed to Rashtra Bhakti. In thought, in action and in implementation, the BJP’s core is truly democratic.”

Remembering the founding leaders like Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, Shri Modi remarked, “Generations of Karyakartas have given their life for the party.”

He recalled how Jan Sangh and BJP leaders have always been at the forefront of all leading mass movements after Independence.

Recalling contributions of Former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, he said that the NDA government under Atal Ji ignited a ray of hope among

Indians.

Shri Modi also thanked Shri Amit Shah and his entire team that worked hard to complete the work on the BJP Head Quarters within the desired time frame.

‘BJP NATIONAL OFFICE BIGGER THAN ANY OTHER POLITICAL PARTY IN THE WORLD’

Addressing the Karyakartas on that occasion BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said the BJP is on the course of having its own office in almost every district of the country in a year and noted that the party, at its national executive meeting in 2015, had decided to own an office in 635 of 694 districts in the country.

Shri Shah added that the new headquarters is fitted with the latest communication technologies and hosts a spacious social media office. “The Prime minister can address a State executive meeting sitting here in the office”.

“I came to know that with an area of over 1.70 lakh sq ft the BJP National office is bigger than that of any other political party in the world,” he added.

The dream of workers of Jana Sangh, the BJP’s forerunner, and the BJP that they have an office of their own has been realized today, he said. ■

REVIEWING ADVANCEMENT, ADVANCING REVIEW

PRAGATI

VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE
& DHIRAJ NAYYAR

It is rare for prime ministers to delve deep into the nitty-gritty of project implementation and monitoring. For Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it's routine. The history of governments in India is littered with good intentions and faulty implementation. The buck of government stops with the prime minister. And Prime Minister Modi takes his responsibility seriously to ensure timely implementation of projects.

Every month, since March 2015, the Prime Minister conferences with the cutting edge of the government's implementation machine consisting of the secretaries of various ministries and departments and the chief secretaries/administrators of India's twenty-nine states and seven union territories (UTs). Over an hour or two, the Prime Minister directly addresses a wide array of public grievances, reviews key infrastructure projects and scrutinises the implementation of programmes. This is PRAGATI, or Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, a radical innovation which imparts much momentum to the usually slow business of governance.

PRAGATI takes coordination among ministries, central government departments and state governments to a whole new level. Through a combination of videoconferencing, digital data management and geospatial information systems, it enables the PMO to track the progress of central and state government ventures in real time, with current information on the ground-level situation and the latest visuals. For their part, officials are able to exchange information and discuss bottlenecks and work out how they can be addressed, often in advance of the meeting once the agenda has been circulated. The pressure of direct accountability to the Prime Minister delivers results.

The system makes for transparency and accountability and is in keeping with the spirit of cooperative federalism. It brings state-level officials face to face with central government secretaries and the PMO, thereby allowing tripartite, no-holds barred dialogues on how to tackle issues of implementation and delivery. It cuts through the

complex, multi-level decision-making mechanism and reconciles the conflicting priorities of stakeholders.

Consider the setting at one of the early PRAGATI meetings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's digital image dominates the conference room, where senior officials of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) have gathered to discuss the Kishanganga hydroelectric project in Bandipora district. Chief Secretary Braj Raj Sharma and his team are in suits and jackets; Srinagar can be bit nippy in late September. The Prime Minister is in his trademark 'Modi kurta', as Delhi is still too warm for long sleeves.

Ten analogue attendees are grouped around a table with the Chief Secretary at the head, directly facing the Prime Minister. Another ten participants are digitally present, sharing the screen with him. It is 2015 and the Prime Minister is keen that the Kishanganga plant be commissioned without any delays. So far, the project has had a rough passage, with Pakistan having sought to stymie it by petitioning The Hague, but India managing to carry on.

Describing the status of the 330 megawatt (MW) project, the Chief Secretary tells the Prime Minister that all but three of the 382 hectares required have been acquired, which involves displacing 185 families. The plan drawn up for their resettlement and rehabilitation was unfortunately found 'unsustainable' and has been revised. The Prime Minister tells the power secretary to coordinate with the J&K government to expedite the project, while paying particular attention to comfortably resettling the displaced population.

Kishanganga was just one of the many projects which received a gentle prod from the Prime Minister at the sixth PRAGATI meeting held on 30 September 2015. Face to face with the Prime Minister, officials across the country found themselves responding directly to him on projects under their purview.

Prior to PRAGATI, officials at the Centre and state levels struggled with time lapses in communication and gaps in available information to the detriment and delay of key projects. These setbacks resulted in escalating project costs and non-performing assets (NPAs), thereby putting



stress on the economy and failing to benefit the targeted beneficiaries. When infrastructure projects suffered from time and cost overruns, other sectors of the economy were affected.

The lack of coordination, information and timely communication led to a culture of procrastination. No clear ideas emerged on resolution of glitches, nor was there an urge towards speedy implementation. The laid-back attitude stemmed from the fact that projects were not subjected to regular review, so accountability for delays was never fixed.

It was evident that continual oversight and cognisance of project and policy-related grievances was urgently required in order to enhance the capacity of government to implement programmes. For infrastructure projects, videoconferencing supported by up-to-the-minute data

Kishanganga was just one of the many projects which received a gentle prod from the Prime Minister at the sixth PRAGATI meeting held on 30 September 2015. Face to face with the Prime Minister, officials across the country found themselves responding directly to him on projects under their purview.

and geospatial imaging, was needed for a comprehensive (rather than cursory) review.

Once the PMO had delineated its requirements for an interactive monitoring platform, the National Informatics Centre came up with the design for PRAGATI. The first step, naturally, was to ensure that each of the secretaries and chief secretaries had videoconferencing facilities. It was decided that reviews would be held every month, at 3.30 pm on the fourth Wednesday, henceforth dubbed as PRAGATI day.

The process is as follows: issues flagged by PMO (public grievances, ongoing programmes and pending projects) and state governments are uploaded a week prior to the videoconference. Each of the secretaries and chief secretaries has a user ID and password with which he/she logs in to view issues related to their department and posts comments or updates within three days. The

PMO reviews their entries before the meeting.

When the Prime Minister reviews a project, all the concerned officials are patched in and comprehensive details and latest updates are projected on one of the three screens in the PMO conference chamber, where officials sit around a U-shaped table, with the Prime Minister at the head. The cycle is repeated for each item on the agenda throughout the course of the meeting.

For instance, after discussing the Kishanganga project, the Prime Minister took up the 'undue' delay in processing patent and trademark applications. The procedures, he said, needed to be brought in line with global standards and overhauled, by drastically reducing the number of forms required. He also examined the solar energy parks in seventeen states and told supervising officials that it was for them to create conditions conducive to speedy implementation.

Moving on to Indian projects in Afghanistan, he was brought up to speed on the progress of the parliament building and the Salma Dam.

He emphasised the importance of expeditious delivery on all Indian ventures in the SAARC region.

Key infrastructure projects in the railway, metro rail, coal and iron mining, road, power, and aviation sectors came up for discussion. These included the Lucknow Metro Rail Project (Phase 1A)—which received a nod of approval from the Prime Minister—the Khurda–Bolangir broad gauge link in Odisha, the Mumbai Metro Project Line 3 (Colaba–Bandra–SEEPZ) and the Pakyong airport in Sikkim, which he described as being crucial for connectivity and development of tourism.

The maiden PRAGATI conference was held on 25 March 2015, just after record-breaking unseasonal rainfall had played havoc with the Rabi (spring) harvest in north India. The question of ensuring relief for the affected farmers was naturally top of the mind for the Prime Minister and was discussed at the outset.

He also took up two sets of public grievances, involving some twenty people and relating to (a) payment of Employees' Provident Fund by private sector entities, and (b) income tax refunds. The complaints were dealt with immediately (significantly, it's been found that intervention through PRAGATI itself leads to systemic improvements, so that such grievances do not arise in future). ■

(To be continued...)

(The above article is taken from recently published book 'The Innovation Republic'.

Marx & Deendayal: The Two Approaches

I D.B. THENGDI

I MARX

LIKE Deendayal Upadhyaya, Karl Marx was also a great basic thinker. Though like any other thinker, he also borrowed from diverse sources. He utilised findings of Newton and Darwin for constructing his cosmology, though he rejected the latter's law of natural selection. Besides the theories of Plato, he was influenced by the medieval heretics, Niklas Storch, Thomas More, Campanella, Winstanley, Vesras, Fontenelle, Meslier, Morelly, Diderot and Deschamps in his views on marriage, family, religion and private property. He used Hegelian dialectics and turned it upside down. Feuerbach's method of transformational criticism was adopted by him for inverting Hegelianism. Moreover, the idea of economic interpretation of politics, linkage of the state with class interests and property system coming "through a long line of heritage from Aristotle to Machiavelli, Locke and James Medis" were his arsenals for substantiating his verdict against capitalism. Lassalle's economic view of history came handy for his scientific formulation, Freud's concept of alienation and existentialism in psychology for elevating his economic determinism to the status of a collective socio-economic problem. He collected the facts of contemporary British economy to attack both the 'Laissez Faire' system and the tenets of Adam Smith's 'The Wealth of Nations'.

However, he was not a blind borrower. Marx's genius transformed ideas, Nothing on which he worked was left in its original form. Though economics, sociology, political theory, history and philosophy are all used in his sweeping analysis, he synthesised all these disciplines into his own basic thought-structure. English utilitarianism, French socialist thought and the beginning of German radicalism were suitably incorporated into his basic framework. All up-to-date knowledge was pressed into service of a single cause.

To be fair, one should not identify Marx with his more fanatic followers who carved a religion out of his thought system. They have gone so far as to assert that real science must flow from, and further substantiate the Marxian dialecticism. They are making a ridiculous attempt to prove that all scientists are unconscious

adherents of dialectical materialism.

According to orthodox Marxists, Faraday's discovery of electromagnetic induction, von Mayer's discovery of the law of the conservation of energy, Einstein's formulation of the theory of relativity, or the construction of quantum mechanics as a physical theory, could not have been possible had Marx not formulated his theory of dialecticism. These fanatics trace the source of the theory of relativity and quantum theory to 'Das Capital'.

But generally, the western scientists either ignore Marxism or positively reject Dialer Weal Materialism as the philosophy of modern science: some of them even actually oppose dialectical materialism whNh has not yet led to any major scientific discovery. Such assertions are certainly not in keetrinx with the scientific way of Manna thinking. What we are concerned with is original Marxian thinking and not its interpretation as presented by his dogmatic followers.

Nevertheless, any thinker can base his thought-system only on the contemporary level of human knowledge. But the frontiers of human knowledge are own-expanding. Consequently, an absolute truth of today bemmes a relative truth of tomorrow. For example, conclusions drawn on the basis of the nineteenth century science are bound to appear outmoded in the light of the twentieth century science.

II DEENDAYAL

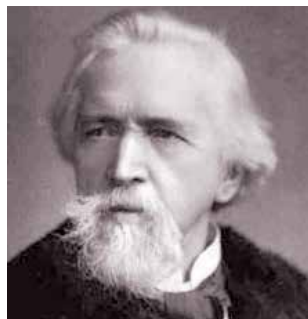
Long back Arnold Toynbee had observed; "On the surface, those Hindus who have adopted me, to them, extremely alien Western culture on the planes of technology and science, language and literature, administration and law, appear to have been more successful than the Russians in harmonising with their native ways of life a Western way that is intrinsically more . alien to them than it is to the Russians. Yet the tension in Hindu souls mud he extren-e, and sooner or later it must find some means of discharging itself."

"Whatever may be the relief that Hindu souls are going to find for themselves eventually, it seems clear that, for them, there can be no relief from the impact of our Western civilization by opening themselves influence Communism; for Communism—a Western heresy adopted by an ex -orthodox Christian Russia—is just as

much part and parcel of the Graeco. Judiac heritage as the Western way of life is, and the whole of this cultural tradition is alien to the Hindu spirit.”

It must, however, be noted that Deendayal ji was well conversant with all the thought-currents of the West.

Apart from Marxism, (and different versions of revisionists—from Edward Bernstein to Tito) he was very well acquainted with the direct or indirect social experiments of Robert Owen, Fourier and Cabet, theories of Saint Simon, socialist militancy of Gracchus Babeuf; agrarian socialism of O’ Connor; proletarian socialism of O’ Brien, ‘minority conscience’ theory of Blanqui, evolutionary socialism of Louis Blanc; the ‘self-help’ doctrine of Schulze-Delitzsch and ‘true socialism’ of the German Bruno Bauer, Moses Hess, and trio, Grün. He had also studied Lassalle, Sismondi, Lammar and Proudhon. He had critically analysed all the pre-and post-Marxian European thought systems ranging from capitalism to an-archism and including all the varieties of ‘Socialism’.



Deendayal ji had an additional advantage of being closely acquainted with different streams of traditional Indian thought. He had fully grasped the implications of the term ‘Charm’, which is the characteristic gift Hindu Seers to humanity. The claim of Shri Dange and Shin Bari Deshpande that most of the basic tenets of Marxism were anticipated by Vedanta may be controversial; but there can be no difference of opinion about the fact that Marxian thought-system would have been considerably altered had Marx been conversant with the Hindu view of life and universe.

Realisation of unity in the midst of diversity, on the rocklike basis of Advaita Darshana; understanding of complementarity between the material and the non-material; comprehension of truth along the line of ‘Syad. Patla, The art of dealing with immediate human problems

in the fight of the eternal universal laws; them, among other things, are some of the contributions of Hinduism which could have added valuable dimensions to Marxian thought and probably altered it beyond recognition. Both these thinkers were humanists of the first order, though their humanism assumed apparently different forms on account of differences in their mental backgrounds, sources of inspiration and contemporary world situations.

III. MARXIAN GOALS

According to Marx, “The goal for man is to realise his humanity, his human nature, and this carries the categorical imperative to overthrow all the relations in which man is debased, enslaved, helpless, contemptible creature”. He sought to put an end to dehumanisation and self-alienation which is characteristic of capitalist system. He was sorry to find out “man exists in this world as ‘Unmensch’ (Unman)”. For him, communism was “the actual phase necessary for the next stage of historical development in the process of human emancipation and recovery”. Again, “Communism is for us not a stable state which is to be established, an ideal to which reality will have to adjust itself. We call communism the real movement which abolishes the present state of things.” The fundamental principle of a higher type of society, Marx thinks, is “the full development of every individual.” The accumulation of wealth at one pole of society involves a simultaneous accumulation of poverty, labour, torment, slavery, brutalisation and moral degradation at the opposite pole. Money is the alienated essence of man’s work and his being. The end and aim of capitalist production is an endeavour to promote to the utmost the self-expansion of capital, meaning thereby the production of the largest possible amount of surplus value and, therefore, the maximum possible exploitation of labour-power by the capitalist. He wants to be liberated from the bondage of economics, to leave behind the ‘realm of necessity’, and to enter ‘the realm of freedom’. Under ideal conditions, “the productive labour”, says Engels, “instead of being a means to the subjection of man, will be their emancipation by giving each individual the opportunity to develop and exercise all his faculties, physical and mental, in all directions”. Marx observes; “The main principle which must guide us in the selection of a vocation is the welfare of humanity and our own perfection”. ■ **(To be continued...)**

(The writer was an eminent thinker & Founder-General Secretary of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh)

Gandhi, Lohia and Deendayal

| VASANT NARGOLKAR

(Continue from Last Issue...)

He had said: "The Russian economy has closely followed the latest Capitalist technique of large-scale production and has

thus produced certain traits which bear a family likeness to capitalism."

Lohia emphasized satyagraha as a weapon in the hands of oppressed peoples. But satyagraha had always to be nonviolent. Like many of his Socialist colleagues, Lohia had drawn closer to Gandhian Sarvodaya in some respects. "Non-violence," he once declared, "has almost always been one of my load stars."

Deendayal advised his countrymen not to get tied down either to "Marx or Marshall." He was opposed to borrowing ideas of economic reconstruction or political philosophy from the Western or Communist countries. While pleading for both economic and political decentralization, he had expressed his views about capitalism and Socialism in the following manner :

"A capitalist economy first acquires power in the Economic field and then enters the political field, while Socialism concentrates power over all means of production in the hands of the state. Both these systems are against the democratic rights of individual."

SWARAJ IS A VEDIC WORD

Gandhi did believe in the formal type of democracy which India borrowed from the West. But he also held that the law of majority did not apply in matters of conscience. Swaraj for Gandhi was a Sacred Vedic word and it meant self-rule and self-restraint. The highest type of democracy, according to Gandhi could only be evolved through non-violence. The ancient ideal of Ramrajya was one of true democracy in which the lowliest of citizens was assured of quick justice. The present state of unjustifiable inequalities with few rich people rolling in riches and the masses going hungry cannot be called a democracy.

Gandhi also insisted on making the village the unit of democracy. True democracy could not be worked by a few people at the top. It had to be worked from below by the ordinary people belonging to villages. Thus, Gandhi was not satisfied with the Western type of democracy. He expected India to evolve the true pattern of democracy and bequeath it to the world

Democracy, in Lohia's view, must, under all circumstances, be the sheet anchor of socialism. With a view to broadening the base of democracy, as desired by Gandhi, Lohia put forward his scheme of the "Four-Pillar State." According to this scheme, political power of the state was to be suitably distributed under an amended constitution among the four pillars, namely, the village (or the town), the district, the state and the centre. One of his many suggestions to bring this about was that one-fourth of the total revenues and plan money should be spent by the elected assemblies at the village and district level. The Four Pillar State is obviously a scheme for the decentralization of political power.

Deendayal on his part did not accept everything Western as "progressive," as some so-called radicals and intellectuals seem to do. At the same time, he was not an obscurantist clinging to outmoded Institutions and traditions of the past.

CULTURAL TOLERANCE IS INDIA'S FORTE

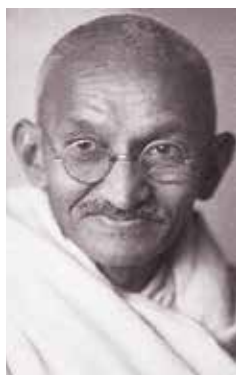
His concept of democracy was rooted in what he called Bharateeyata. The unique culture of Bharat teaches us to look upon illo as a whole, Western democracy divides people into political majority and minorities. Marxism or Socialism also divide society into warring classes. Under the Bharateeya scheme of things, nothing else, not even people, but Dharma is considered supreme. Dharma is that body of ethical and social principles which Sustains Society. Dharma tells every individual what is pleasurable (Fra) and what is beneficial (श्रेयस्) श्रेयश्च प्रेयश्च मनुष्यमेतस्त्वौ सपरीत्य वविनिक्त्त धीरः श्रेयोर्ह धीरोऽभि प्रेयसो वृणीते, प्रेयो मन्दो योगक्षेमाद् वृणीते ।।

कठोपनिषद्, 1/2/2 for him. It is Dharma which decides the limits of enjoyment of pleasurable objects (Kama), as also those of acquisition of wealth (Artha). Besides, Dharma shows the way to the fourth purusharth, namely, liberation of the Soul (Moksha).

Deendayal, interpreting this integral view of man's life and its objectives, subordinated every other value or principle to Dharma. He wanted Dharma-rajya instead of mere Janara/. The similarity between Gandhi's Ram-rajya and Deendayal's Dharma-rajya is too obvious to need any emphasis.

Dharma, according to Deendayal, is the repository of the nation's Soul. If Dharma is destroyed the nation perishes. Every nation has a soul, which Deendayal names as Chiti (चिति). Chiti means the ideals of a nation. The strength and energy which activates a nation, he calls Virat (विरट) Bharat, in his opinion, is a nation which has cherished and preserved some ideals which are unique to it. The uniqueness of Bharat can best be manifested through its Culture and not through its politics. Whatever this remark, Citi and Virat may mean, Deendayal was on Surer ground when he proclaimed :

"If we have anything that we can teach the world it is the feeling of cultural tolerance and a life dedicated to duty."



Cultural tolerance is indeed a message that India is in a position to pass on to the world. The great peculiarity of the Indian culture has been the philosophical realization of the fundamental unity of all humanity, of all life, nay, of the whole of universe. One who is conscious of this, will naturally give up the false notions of high caste and low caste and would cease to be chauvinistic or communal in his outlook.

BROTHERHOOD OF MAN, THE IDEAL

Gandhi, Lohia and the Hindu Sanghathanists, from their obviously different standpoints, opposed the partition of the Country before 1947. The Jan Sangh

did not then exist. But Deendayal and others who believed in the concept of "Hindu Nation, always advocated Akhanda Bharat (Undivided India) as one of their objectives. In 1964, Lohia and Deendayal issued a joint statement pleading for a federation of India and Pakistan. The situation, however, has changed much after 1971, when Bangla Desh established its independence from Pakistan. If ever there is to be an Akhanda Bharat which seems to be a remote possibility at present, it will come into existence only through Mutual love, trust and agreement among the Indians, the Pakistanis and the citizens of Bangla Desh. Cultural tolerance is the key stone of a feeling of mutual affinity and Trust. Indians will have first to put into practice Gandhi's concept of humble nationalism and not the arrogant and intolerant nationalism borrowed from the West Gandhi aimed much higher than a federation of the Sovereign states of the Indian Subcontinent. He said :

"Indian culture is Indian. It is neither Hindu, Islamic or any other wholly. It is a fusion of all, and essentially Eastern... (But) my idea of nationalism is that my country may become free, that if need be, the whole of the country may die, so

that the human Face may live...

My mission is not merely the brotherhood of Indian humanity. Through realization of freedom of India. I hope to carry on the mission of the brotherhood of man.

Lohia too saw the dream of one World and one World Parliament. It may take generations of volunteering world citizens' to propagate the noble idea through various types of non-violent direct action, but a beginning of efforts in that direction has to be made. Lohia himself had once entered Burma without a passport. He never aimed low, He always aimed high and like Gandhi strove hard to realize seemingly impossible ideals. ■ *(To be continued)...*

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

Radha Mohan Singh lays foundation stone for the first dairy plant of East Champaran District in Motihari

MILK PRODUCTION INCREASED BY 20.12% IN 2016-17 AS COMPARED TO 2013-14

The Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh on 13 February laid the foundation stone for the first dairy plant in Motihari of East Champaran District. Addressing the gathering, Shri Singh said that India has reached such a stage that it is providing opportunities galore for the entrepreneurs at the international level. Agriculture Minister said that the growth in the dairy sector is a result of the initiatives taken by the Government by implementing various schemes to increase productivity of milch animals. Shri Singh said that India is the prime producer of milk and has been holding the number one position globally over the past two decades. Milk production, which was around 17 - 22 million tonnes in the 1960s, has increased to 165.4 million tonnes in 2016-17. During the year 2016-17 milk production increased by 20.12% as compared to 2013-14.

Shri Singh further said that the Per Capita availability of milk grew by 15.6% during the year 2016-17 taking it to 355 grams from 307 grams in 2013-14. Likewise, the income of the dairy farmers grew by 23.77% during 2014-17 as compared to 2011-14. In the last three years, milk production in India grew by 6.3% every year thus surpassing the annual global growth rate of 2.1%.

Agriculture Minister also said that dairy farming has become a source of livelihood and food security at the rural level, especially for landless and marginal farmers. About 80 million farmers are connected with the dairy business and they rear 80% of the total milch cattle.

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries has initiated a number of schemes with the objective of doubling the dairy farmers' income in line with Hon'ble Prime Minister's mission to double farmers' income by the 75th anniversary of India's independence (the year 2022). In this direction, dairy farmers' income could be raised in two ways – first, by increasing milk production by improving their productivity and second, through raising the price of raw milk per kilogram.

Shri Singh said that for the first time in the country Rashtriya Gokul Mission was launched in



December 2014 for the conservation and promotion of the indigenous breeds. Under the scheme, so far Rs.1350 crore have been approved for the proposals from 28 states and Rs.503 crore have already been released for the same. The Agriculture Minister said establishing Gokul Grams is one of the components of the Rashtriya Gokul Mission. Gokul Grams will act as a centre for the development of the indigenous species and it will also supply animals to the farmers for breeding. Currently, 18 Gokul Grams in 12 different states are being established. Apart from this, the Government is undertaking the establishment of two National Kamdhenu Breeding Centres for the conservation and development of indigenous bovine breeds in Chintaladevi, Nellore in the Southern region and in Itarsi, Hoshangabad, in the Northern region. Out of the two, Chintaladevi Centre in Andhra Pradesh is complete. Under this scheme, 41 bovine breeds and 13 buffaloes will be preserved.

The Minister said that in November 2016 we have also started National Mission on Bovine Productivity Scheme under Rashtriya Gokul Mission with an allocation of Rs.825 crores. The aim is to accelerate milk production and productivity and to also make the milk production more profitable. Meanwhile, Pashu Sanjivn component is identifying 9 crore milch animals through UID, and the government has already sanctioned funds for this scheme. The scheme also includes the provision of providing 'Nakul Swasthya Patra' to all these animals. ■



FROM NEWSPAPERS

GOVT WILL TAKE STRICT ACTION AGAINST FINANCIAL IRREGULARITIES: PM MODI

On the Rs 11,400 crore frauds at India's second-biggest public sector lender Punjab National Bank, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 23, 2018 said that his government would take strict action against financial irregularities. He also appealed to those entrusted with the task of monitoring and vigilance to do their job with full diligence. "I wish to make it clear...that this government will take stringent action against financial irregularities... The system will not accept irregular accumulation of public money. This is the basic mantra of New Economy — New Rule," Shri Modi said addressing the Global Business Summit.

—(THE ECONOMIC TIMES, February 23, 2018)

WON'T TOLERATE CHALLENGE TO OUR UNITY: PM MODI TO CANADA

After an eventful and controversial week in India, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met Indian counterpart Narendra Modi on February 23, 2018. The two sides signed six agreements. However, the bonhomie of hugs between Trudeau and Modi, and pictures of the Canadian PM, wife and three children couldn't overcome some frostiness between the two sides because of Trudeau and his party's support to Khalistani groups in Canada. In his speech at the joint media conference after delegation-level talks, Modi didn't mince words about the pro-Khalistan approach of his Canadian counterpart. Modi said those challenging India's sovereignty, unity and integrity cannot be tolerated. The PM said there cannot be any place for those who misuse religion for political motives and promote separatism. India and Canada signed agreements to deepen cooperation in higher education, information communication technology and electronics, intellectual property rights, renewable energy, sports and science and technology.

—(THE ECONOMIC TIMES, February 23, 2018)

POLLING FOR 59 RAJYA SABHA SEATS TO BE HELD ON 23RD MARCH

The Election Commission has announced that polls to 59 Rajya Sabha seats will be held on 23rd of next month. In a statement issued by the commission today said, the counting of votes will take place on the same evening and

the notification will be issued on 5th of March. The term of the members representing these seats is going to expire in April- May this year. These seats include ten from UP, six each from Maharashtra and Bihar, five each from West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh, four each from Gujarat and Karnataka.

— (THE HINDUSTAN TIMES, February 21, 2018)

CABINET NOD FOR REMOVAL OF COAL NATIONALISATION

The Cabinet nod for commercial coal mining in the private sector is path-breaking and welcome. Some 70% of power generation capacity nationally is fuelled by coal. And after long years of stodgy public sector monopoly, the coal sector here seems to have fallen way behind in terms of efficiency levels, mining practices and technology adoption, in comparison to global norms. It is also very much in our interest to rev up renewable sources of energy going forward, but in the foreseeable future, we need to step up productivity in coal output and proactively raise thermal efficiency in power generation. The lapsed Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, 2013, surely needs reactivation.

—(THE ECONOMIC TIMES, February 21, 2018)

MODI'S VICTORY MARCH WILL CONTINUE IN KARNATAKA, AMIT SHAH TO PARTY WORKERS

BJP National president Shri Amit Shah on February 21, 2018 said there was public anger against the ruling Congress in Karnataka and asked party workers to make sure that the victory march of Narendra Modi enters the South through the state. "There is anger among people against Congress, and if we cannot convert it into votes it will be difficult to take forward the party. This is an opportunity. There is public anger against Siddaramaiah government. There is no better opportunity to convert this anger into votes," Shri Amit Shah said. Addressing those in charge of BJP's "Shakti Kendra" here, he said the BJP had been winning polls in several states and increasing its tally and "it is Karnataka's turn now." "Karnataka BJP workers have to make sure that this victory march of Narendra Modi enters southern India through the state," said Shri Amit, who has been on a tour of Dakshina Kannada and Uttara Kannada districts since Monday. "I have seen and fought all these elections closely," he said.

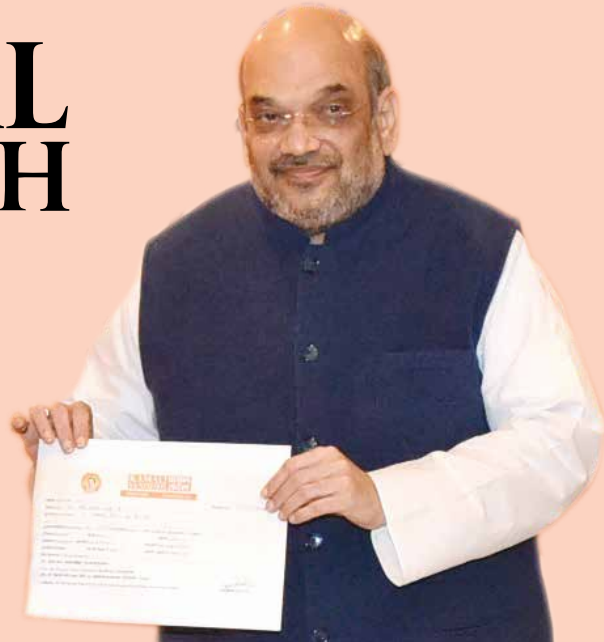
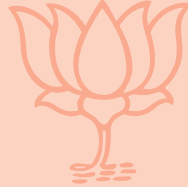
— (THE HINDU, February 22, Feb)
(Compiled by Pankaj Anand)



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KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressing a huge Public Rally in Phulbari, Meghalaya



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the Dorjee Khandu State Convention Centre in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with other senior leaders inaugurating the UP Investors Summit 2018 in Lucknow



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi with the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr. Hassan Rouhani at Hyderabad House in New Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the Community Event, at Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex in Muscat, Oman



Prosperous Farmers Progressive Nation

- Record production of more than **275 million tonnes** of food grain & **300 million tonnes** of horticultural produce
- Agricultural commodities valued at about **Rs. 36,000 crore** traded on e-NAM
- Work of completing **99 Irrigation projects** that were held up for decades is in progress
- Production bonus given on pulses and oil seeds, **record rise of over 38% seen**
- PM Kisan Sampada Yojana to **prevent damage to agriculture produce** before it reaches market
- Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund with a corpus of **Rs. 11,000 crore** being set up
- Production of urea increased, mandatory **100% Neem coating of urea** eliminated its black marketing



Enhancing Connectivity through Modern Transport

Airways

- 'UDAN' scheme launched to provide air connectivity to smaller cities
- Under 'UDAN', work has been initiated to connect **56 airports** and **31 helipads** in a short span of **15 months**
- Flights have commenced from **16 such airports**



Quality and Affordable Healthcare for All

- New 'National Health Policy' formulated to provide better and affordable healthcare facilities to the poor & middle class
- Traditional methods of treatment like Yoga and Ayurveda being promoted under the National AYUSH Mission
- Over **3,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras** opened across the country, **800 different medicines** being made available at affordable rates
- Over **5200 lifesaving branded medicines, surgical implants** being provided through **111 Deendayal Amrit Yojana outlets** at low rates



Uplifting the Weaker Sections

- A Constitution Amendment Bill introduced to provide Constitutional Status to the National Commission for Backward Classes
- MSP of several forest produce collected by tribal people increased
- Bamboo excluded from the category of tree, this provides freedom to cut, transport and use bamboo
- Adivasi Swatantrata Sangram Sangrahalayas being established to honour the invaluable contribution of tribal communities