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75TH ANNIVERSARY OF AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT



'BJP SPEAKS LANGUAGE OF DEVELOPMENT'

BAD LOANS: IS THIS REALLY RESOLUTION OR JUST ANOTHER WAIVER?

WHY THE 'SWACHHATA HI SEVA' PROGRAMME IS A FITTING TRIBUTE TO MAHATMA GANDHI

2019 POLL CRUCIAL FOR CONG BEFORE INDIA DUMPS ITS ILK



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and other leaders waving at the gathering at the Booth Level Karyakarta Sammelan in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah paying floral tributes to Bilasa Devi in Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressing an intellectual's meet in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. CM Dr. Raman Singh also seen on the dais



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah flanked by BJP National General Secretary (Org.) Shri Ramlal, National General Secretary Shri Ram Madhav and others receiving the greetings of karyakartas at the Booth Level Karyakarta Sammelan in Aizawl, Mizoram



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah along with BJP National General Secretary (Org.) Shri Ramlal, Assam CM Shri Sarbananda Sonowal and others at Maa Kamakhya Devi Shaktipeeth in Guwahati, Assam

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twitter



@narendramodi

It is unfair that in the glorification of one family, the contribution of several other greats was deliberately forgotten. It is high time more Indians know about the historic role of stalwarts Sardar Patel, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar and Netaji Subhas Bose.

@arunjaitley

Those who advise Rahul Gandhi appear to have persuaded him that he is cut out only for beating the desk. Since it would not suffice, he must concoct an alternative, repeat the false narratives & convince himself that falsehood in fact is a truth. Thereafter live in self-delusion.



@nitin_gadkari



I appeal to all of you to become a part of the Namami Gange program and work with us to stop pollution in the Ganga.

facebook

Congratulations to karyakartas of @BJP4JnK unit and state President Shri Ravinder Raina for BJP's impressive performance in the recently held Urban Local Body polls. BJP has won 212 and 106 wards in Jammu and Kashmir region respectively. You have earned trust of the people.



— **Amit Shah**

In a solemn ceremony, Prime Minister of India dedicated the National Police Memorial (NPM) to the nation today (On 20 October, 2018). The NPM is commemorative of the supreme sacrifice that nearly 35,000 police personnel have made to maintain peace and public order in India.



— **Rajnath Singh**

PM @NarendraModi, being very passionate about climate change, was conscious that every unit of power saved is more valuable than every unit generated, given transmission losses. So, he said focus on energy saving, & it was then that we turned around our LED program. We had planned to replace 77 Crore bulbs in 4 years. In just three and a half years, we have replaced over 120 Crore bulbs.



— **Piyush Goyal**



Courtesy: Social Media



BJP set for a massive victory

The bugle has been sounded for assembly elections in five states. The people of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Telangana and Mizoram are going to elect their governments by casting their votes in different phases spread between the month of November and December, 2018. The counting will take place on 11th December. All the political parties having stakes in these elections have already geared up and going to the people seeking their support in the elections. The election campaigns have started to engage people on ground who are getting ready to exercise their franchise.

The people of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have been electing BJP governments for last three elections and in Rajasthan BJP registered a massive victory in the last assembly elections held in 2013. In Telangana where elections have been preponed due to early dissolution of the state assembly, TRS is in the government. Mizoram is currently ruled by a Congress government.

Madhya Pradesh has seen massive development under BJP government. A state which was once counted among BIMARU states, it has done wonders in every area of governance and development. The agricultural growth story of this state has seen sustainable high growth rates transforming the entire agricultural sector in the state. In the same manner the economy has also registered remarkable growth making Madhya Pradesh a leading state in many sectors. The leadership of chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has won hearts of the people who have reposed faith in him repeatedly.

Similarly Chhattisgarh has written its own saga of growth and development under the chief minister Dr. Raman Singh. A state having predominantly tribal population, treaded the path of rapid development after it was carved out of Madhya Pradesh. It was the visionary leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee that Chhattisgarh came into being on the lines of BJP support for small states. Its development story has not only quelled the fire of Naxalism in the area but also made possible rapid industrialization of the state.

In Rajasthan BJP received huge mandate after a period of Congress misrule. With the coming of BJP the state has again started moving on the path of good governance and development. A large number of welfare programmes are transforming the life of the people in the state. The state under the leadership of chief minister Smt. Vasundhara Raje has been progressing on every front.

In the entire Northeast, people in most of the states have been reposing faith in BJP and NEDA. Like other parts in the country, Congress has lost trust of the people in Northeast also. In Mizoram, people are looking for a change and BJP may gain here substantially. In Telangana also, TRS popularity is down which is evident from its gamble to prepone the elections in the state. BJP is set to make big gains in Telangana.

Under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, people are increasingly reposing their trust again and again on BJP. The deep concern of the BJP government for the poorest of the poor in the country has been reflected in countless innovative projects and schemes which are transforming the lives of farmers, Dalits, OBCs, women and youth. The hard work and visionary leadership of Amit Shah has taken the party organisation to new heights with millions of karyakartas feeling inspired to dedicate their lives in the service of Maa Bharati. It has completely changed the political landscape of the country and people across the states are looking towards BJP with hope and expectations. In the coming assembly elections BJP is set for massive victories strengthening the hands of Shri Narendra Modi at the centre. ■

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org

UNDER THE DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP OF PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI, PEOPLE ARE INCREASINGLY REPOSING THEIR TRUST AGAIN AND AGAIN ON BJP. THE DEEP CONCERN OF THE BJP GOVERNMENT FOR THE POOREST OF THE POOR IN THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN REFLECTED IN COUNTLESS INNOVATIVE PROJECTS AND SCHEMES WHICH ARE TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF FARMERS, DALITS, OBCS, WOMEN AND YOUTH. THE HARD WORK AND VISIONARY LEADERSHIP OF AMIT SHAH HAS TAKEN THE PARTY ORGANISATION TO NEW HEIGHTS.

'PEOPLE SUPPORTING BJP TO FORM GOVERNMENT IN CHHATTISGARH AGAIN'



During his Pravas in Chhattisgarh, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressed the booth level Karyakarta Sammelan at Ambikapur and Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh on 12 October, 2018. He also held key deliberations with senior party leaders and Party's in-charge for Chhattisgarh and BJP National General Secretary Dr. Anil Jain for Naxal-hit Bastar region and formulated strategies to improve the seats of the party in the upcoming assembly elections.

Noteworthy, in Bastar region between the seven districts, there are 12 crucial seats. BJP had won nine of them in 2003 and the vote share was 41 per cent. This had improved to 11 in 2008 but came down to four in 2013 though the vote share had jumped to 44 per cent.

During his address at BJP booth workers meet at Jagdalpur and later in the day at intellectuals meet at Raipur, the BJP National President credited the Chief Minister as an able administrator especially for fighting the Naxal menace in this region.

Talking to the booth Karyakarta sammelan in

Ambikapur and Bilaspur Shri Amit Shah said the people of Chhattisgarh have resolved to form a BJP Government in the State for the fourth time. This time the party will win more than 65 seats under the leadership of Shri Raman Singh.

The elections in Chhattisgarh is not merely an election of the State, but it is an election over the sacrifices and martyrdom of hundreds of BJP workers in West Bengal, Kerala and other States. The victory should be so strong that it becomes the foundation for massive victory of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the Lok Sabha elections in 2019, he said.

The BJP President said before seeking votes from people, Congress President Rahul Gandhi should clarify under whose leadership it is going to fight the assembly elections in Chhattisgarh. The Congress has neither the leader, nor the vision, neither the leadership nor any ideology.

Shri Amit Shah said, "Rahul Gandhi is going to contest elections in Chhattisgarh under the leadership of those people who have made fake and

forged CDs of women to malign them. This is enough to demonstrate dirty mind of the Congress leaders. Mothers and Sisters from Chhattisgarh would give a befitting reply to the dirty politics of the Congress”.

He said Chhattisgarh was considered an uneducated, dark and backward State under the regime of the Congress. Now it has become known for education, health, connectivity, industry and power hubs.

Unlike the Congress, the BJP does not speak the language of terrorists and extremists. We speak the language of development and also demonstrate how it can be achieved at the level of field. Topmost priority of the BJP is to rid the country of terrorism, infiltration and naxalism, he added.

Shri Shah said while Rahul Gandhi may stand up with those who dream of dividing the country into various parts, the BJP will have zero tolerance for these elements. Under the BJP regime, such anti-national forces would be behind the bars.

He said Rahul Gandhi's conspiracies are not going to help the Congress anyway. If the Congress returns to power this would mean leaving the State in the hands of the corrupt.

During the Congress regime, the budget for the State was Rs 9000 crore. Dr Raman Singh increased it by ten times to make it Rs 94,775 crore. During the Congress regime the per capita income in the State was Rs 13,000 only in place of Rs 92,000 under the leadership of Dr. Raman Singh he said.

The BJP President said the BJP Government under Dr Raman Singh has uprooted the parallel administration that the Naxals used to run. To tackle the problem on a permanent basis, the State has started working on a war footing with visible positive outcomes.

He said Rahul Gandhi is seeking what we did during the years we have been in power. The people of the State are asking what the Congress did in so many years it has been in power since independence. Four generations of Congress have ruled the State.

The BJP President said the 13th Finance Commission had allocated Rs 48,088 crore where as the Modi Government through the 14th Finance Commission has allocated Rs 1,37,927 crore for the development of the State which was almost three times of what was given by the UPA. The Modi

Government has fulfilled the much awaited demand of the farmers by raising the minimum support price to 1.5 times of the input cost. This has been a historic decision. Under the “Ayushman Bharat” scheme, 10 crore poor families which means 50 crore people were being given free assurance of up to Rupees five lakh.

He further said the Congress should explain why it was protecting those determined to divide the country. Whether the party was with Maoists-Naxals or with people of the country. The Congress may not be worried about security of the country but the BJP has always maintained zero tolerance towards anti-nationals.

The BJP President said the Congress is worried about Human Rights of infiltrators but it is not worried about the Human Rights of its own citizens. Before



seeking votes in Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, the Congress should clarify whether it was worried about infiltrators or its citizens.

The BJP National President said Rahul Gandhi may be dreaming about forming a government in Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh but since 2014 the BJP has been winning in all the elections and the Congress has been losing decisively in these elections. The same fate awaits the Congress in Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

The BJP National President Shri Amit Shah along with Chief Minister Shri Raman Singh and BJP Chhattisgarh President Shri Dharamlal Kaushik and others also visited Maa Danteshwari Temple in Dantewada to seek the blessings of Maa. ■



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah on a two-day visit to Madhya Pradesh addressed several party workers rallies in Satna, Rewa, Dindori and Jabalpur districts in the run-up to Assembly polls in the state.

Speaking to the Karyakartas on 14 October, 2018 at Hoshangabad Shri Amit Shah lauded BJP and said that it is only in BJP that a poor tea-seller's son can rise and become the Prime Minister of the largest democracy.

Interacting with the Karyakartas Shri Shah said now it is their responsibility to get a victory of BJP in Madhya Pradesh. The BJP should win with such a margin that even after 2019 Lok Sabha elections; BJP's flag should fly from Panchayat to parliament for the next 50 years he said.

Recalling that he was a booth in-charge in 1982, Shri Amit Shah said the Bharatiya Janata Party was the only party where an ordinary worker could rise to the President's post of the world's biggest political party. It is possible only in the BJP that a tea-seller's son can bring glory to the country by becoming Prime Minister, which is not possible in other political parties, he said.

He said, "The party can form the government with less than 200 seats, but we need to cross the 200-mark because our workers in West Bengal, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are looking towards Madhya Pradesh."

Shri Shah said the victories in the upcoming Assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh

should be so massive that they create a storm, which would turn into a tsunami in 2019.

"This tsunami would cover the entire country, including West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Kerala," he added.

The party has witnessed success due to the sacrifices of several workers and leaders in the last 50 years. We are lucky, but we also have a responsibility. After we win the 2018 Assembly elections and the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, we will have the responsibility of ensuring victory for the party from panchayat to Parliament for the next 50 years," Shri Shah said.

The BJP President charged the previous Congress-led UPA government of discriminating against Madhya Pradesh in allocation of funds. He told to party workers' that the UPA government had allocated Rs 1.34 lakh crore under the 13th Finance Commission, whereas the Narendra Modi government gave the state Rs 3.44 lakh crore as part of the 14th Finance Commission allocations. "If funds allocated to various schemes (in the state) are included, Madhya Pradesh has got Rs 4.5 lakh crore from the Modi government," he added.

The BJP President also slammed Rahul Gandhi on the issue of illegal immigrants and alleged that "Rahul baba and company" were "sympathising" with the "infiltrators".

The BJP government identified 40 lakh infiltrators by creating NRC (National Register of Citizens) in Assam. But Rahul baba and company raised a hue and cry,

sympathising with the infiltrators," Shri Shah said.

He said the BJP governments would drive "each and every infiltrator" out of the country after winning elections in 2018 (in MP) and 2019 (Lok Sabha).

REWA

'RAHUL GANDHI RAISED HUE AND CRY OVER ARREST OF 'URBAN NAXALS''

Addressing a rally on 15 October, 2018 in Rewa (Madhya Pradesh) the BJP President accused Congress chief Rahul Gandhi of raising a "hue and cry" over the arrest of "urban naxals", who allegedly plotted to assassinate Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and said the government would not tolerate those who speak about dividing the country. He alleged that the Congress, when in power, undermined the country's security.

"The Maharashtra government arrested urban naxals and found through their email exchange that they wanted mortar guns and machine guns. They were plotting to kill PM Shri Modi," Shri Shah said. "But when they ('urban naxals') were arrested, Rahul Baba (Rahul Gandhi) and company raised hue and cry". "The slogan 'Bharat tere tukde honge, Inshallah ek hazar, ek hazar' was raised at JNU (Jawaharlal Nehru University) but Rahul Baba says there is freedom of speech. Naxals were arrested, but he saw it as an issue of freedom of speech," he added.

Asserting that nobody would be allowed to harm the country's security, Shri Shah said, "Rahul Baba, you can see whatever you want to, but there is a rule of Narendra Modi government. The voices which talk of dividing the country would be sent behind the bars."

The Maharashtra police had arrested five rights activists on August 28 in connection with an FIR lodged following a conclave -- 'Elgaar Parishad' -- held on December 31 last year that had later triggered violence at Koregaon-Bhima village.

The BJP President alleged that opposition parties such as the Congress, Samajwadi Party, Bahujan Samaj Party and the Trinamool Congress sympathized with the infiltrators. "The BJP government identified 40 lakh infiltrators by creating NRC (National Register of Citizens) in Assam. But opposition raised a hue and cry," Shri Shah said, adding that the Congress, whenever in power, "weakened the country's security".

"Nobody remembers human rights when infiltrators plant bombs to kill country's mothers and sisters.

The country's youth remain unemployed as these infiltrators snatch away jobs. They are a vote bank for the Congress, but for us, they are a national security issue. They (infiltrators) are eating up the country like termites," he said.

DINDORI

AMIT SHAH SPOKE AT THE TRIBAL CONVENTION

The Modi government increased the budget for the welfare schemes for the scheduled tribes by 30 per cent, while the Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan government in the state increased the funds for tribal areas by over Rs 25,000 crore, he said.

The Modi government also set up 'mineral funds' (district mineral funds to which local miners contribute) for the development of tribal areas, he noted. The Congress ruled the country with the support of the tribal communities, but now they are with the Bharatiya Janata Party, Shri Shah said. Under Modiji's leadership India's economy rose to sixth place globally from the ninth spot in the last four years, he added.

SATNA

'TRIPLE TALAQ HAS NO PLACE IN COUNTRY'

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah on 15 October, 2018 at Satna said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has ensured that triple talaq has no place in the country despite facing opposition from the Congress which "never cared" for the honour of Muslim women. Shah was addressing an event, where a sizeable number of Muslim women were in attendance, ahead of the November 28 Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh.

"The Congress never cared for the honour of Muslim mothers and sisters. It has no courage to deal with issues like triple talaq. Despite stiff opposition from the Congress, (Prime Minister) Modi has ensured that it (triple talaq) has no place in the country," Shri Shah said.

The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Ordinance was promulgated on September 19 under which instant triple talaq has been declared illegal and punishable with a jail term of three years for the husband. Shri Shah said the BJP has encouraged women not just by words but by giving them important responsibilities, including as defence and external affairs ministers, governors and chief ministers. ■

BJP SWEEPS JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AND PERFORMS WELL IN KASHMIR

The BJP swept the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) elections and performed well in Kashmir valley, by winning 100 wards, in the four-phased Urban Local Bodies elections in the state for which results were declared on 20 October, 2018.

In Jammu, the Congress suffered a big loss in the election, winning only 14 seats in the 74-member house. Independent candidates won 18 seats in the JMC. But the Bharatiya Janata Party won 43 of the 75 seats of the powerful Jammu Municipal Corporation, a gain of 18 seats when compared with last municipal polls held in 2005. The previous strength of BJP was 25 in the House.

In rest of the 446 wards spread across Jammu region covering a total of 36 municipal committees and councils, the BJP had an edge over its rivals in 15 bodies followed by Independents in 12 and the Congress in five.

The BJP won a total of 169 seats in these bodies followed by independents at 167 and the Congress at 96, the election officials said.

The election in the 521 municipal wards in the 10 districts of Jammu was held in the first three phases of the elections in the state, which concluded on October 16, recording a high voter turnout of 68.4 per cent among the over 6.44 lakh electorate. Thirteen candidates were elected to different municipal wards unopposed, leaving a total of 2,137 candidates in the fray.

The JMC along with seven municipal committees of Jammu went to polls in the first phase on October 8, registering a turnout of 63.8 per cent.

The Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) failed to open its account in the majority of the



@narendramodi

"I thank the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their support to the @BJP4JnK in the urban local body elections."

wards, including the JMC.

In the seven municipal committees of Jammu, the BJP won Akhnoor with 11 seats, while two seats went to Congress. In Bishnah, the BJP won six seats against seven by Independents. In Arnia, the BJP won seven seats, independents five and Congress one, in R S Pura the BJP won nine, Independents three and the Congress one, in Ghmanhansan won the BJP two, the Congress two, in Khour won the BJP nine and Congress four and in Jourian the BJP won two, the Congress four and independent one, the officials said.

However, in Kashmir valley, as per elections authorities, independents emerged as the single largest group in the elections by winning 178 wards across 42 municipal bodies in Kashmir division, including Leh and Kargil. The Congress bagged 157 wards, while the BJP won in 100 wards in the valley. The NC and PDP boycotted the elections.

While the BJP emerged as the single largest party in 12 municipal bodies, it has majority in five of these bodies. The Congress was the single largest party in 15 bodies, having majority in 11 of them.

In the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), the independents bagged the 53 seats in the 74-member body, while the Congress won 16 and the BJP won in four wards. ■

@AmitShah

"These results are a reflection of aspiration of people of Jammu and Kashmir, who want to move away from politics of strife towards PM Modi's politics of development. I thank them for their continued support and assure them that the BJP will leave no stone unturned to realise their dreams".

'One lakh people benefitted under Ayushman Bharat scheme in first month'

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri JP Nadda on 21 October, 2018 informed that one lakh people were benefitted under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana - Ayushman Bharat (PMJAY-AB), the world's largest healthcare programme that was launched last month.

Talking to Media Persons, Shri Nadda said, "On August 15, the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) had announced PMJAY, a very ambitious programme that would cover 10.74 crore families, which amounts to 55 crore beneficiaries to get the benefit of annual health coverage of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year. After launching the programme by the Prime Minister in Ranchi on September 23, we are now completing one month. I am happy to say that one lakh beneficiaries have availed this scheme."

The Union Minister requested all stakeholders to cooperate and make the healthcare scheme successful. He also lauded the Ministry of Health and Welfare and national agencies for implementing the programme without any hiccups.

"All states and Union Territories have joined Ayushman Bharat and we have given benefits in all the regions



and to the marginalised sections of the society. We need your cooperation and stakeholders cooperation to make the programme successful. It is entirely paperless and cashless. The programme has now stabilized. We are trying to implement the Prime Minister's wish so that we can reach the last person who needs this benefit and we are able to give it," Shri Nadda elucidated.

The Ayushman Bharat scheme provides a yearly medical cover of Rs 5 lakh per family to around 10 crore families below the poverty line. It was announced by Prime Minister Shri Modi during his Independence Day speech in August.

The healthcare programme will provide cashless and paperless access to services for the beneficiary at the point of service. It will help reduce catastrophic expenditure for hospitalisation, which impoverishes people and will help mitigate the financial risk arising out of catastrophic health episodes. Entitled families will be able to use the quality health services they need without facing financial hardships. ■

India jumps 5 spots in WEF competitiveness index

The World Economic Forum released the Global Competitiveness Report 2018. According to the report, India has jumped five spots to become the 58th most competitive economy on the Global Competitiveness Index 2018 (GCI 4.0). India witnessed the largest gain among the G20 nations. The index covers 140 nations and it measures national competitiveness. The United States ranked number one again with a score of 85.6. India ranked highest among South Asian countries with a score of 62.0. Sri Lanka was ranked 86, Bangladesh 103, Pakistan 107 and Nepal 109. Top 5 countries on the Index include US, Singapore, Germany, Switzerland and Japan. It may be noted that this index captures determinants of long-term growth. ■

Job opportunities increase 13%

Hiring activity witnessed a 9 per cent growth in September compared to the year-ago period led by auto, insurance sectors and going forward with the festive season around the corner, the job market is expected to stay bullish in the coming months, according to a report. The Naukri JobSpeak Index for September, 2018 stood at up 9 per cent from September 2017. According to the report, auto industries recorded 39 per cent while insurance sector saw 28 per cent growth in the hiring activity on yearly basis. Moreover, construction, FMCG and oil and gas industry witnessed an increase of 12 per cent, 10 per cent and 9 per cent in the recruitment activity, respectively. Report said post an impressive 17 per cent growth in August, the Job speak Index has grown by 9 per cent in September, which is impressive. ■

'INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION WOULD LEAVE THE WORLD STUNNED'

P rime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on October 11 attended and delivered an address at the event to mark the launch of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution. He said the components of "Industry 4.0" actually have the ability to transform the present and future of human life. He said the launch of this Centre, the fourth in the world after San Francisco, Tokyo and Beijing, opens the door to immense possibilities in the future.

He said emerging fields, including Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Internet of Things, Blockchain, and Big Data, can take India to new heights of development, and improve the quality of life of its citizens. He said that for India, this is not just an industrial transformation, but a social transformation. He said Industry 4.0 has the strength to drive irreversible positive change in India. He added that it will help bring the required speed and scale to work being done in India. The Prime Minister mentioned how the Digital India movement has brought data to villages of India. He explained how tele-density, internet coverage, and mobile internet subscriptions have increased in the recent past. He spoke of the rapid growth

in number of Common Service Centres in India. He said that India has the highest mobile data consumption in the world, and is also the country where data is available at the lowest price. In this context he spoke of India's digital infrastructure, and its interfaces including Aadhaar, UPI, e-NAM, and GeM. He said that a national strategy for creating a robust infrastructure for research in Artificial Intelligence has been prepared a few months ago.

He said this new Centre will strengthen this process. He said that Industry 4.0, and the expansion of Artificial Intelligence, would lead to better healthcare, and reduce expenditure on health. He said it would also help farmers, and be of immense help in the agriculture sector. He mentioned other areas such as transportation and smart mobility, where it could play a key role. He said that as work progresses in India, in these areas, one of the targets is "Solve for India, Solve for the World."

He added that India would also make an immense contribution to it. He said that Government initiatives including Skill India Mission, Start Up India, and Atal Innovation Mission are preparing our youth for new and emerging technologies. ■

GROWTH IN INDIA FIRMING UP, PROJECTED TO ACCELERATE FURTHER: WORLD BANK

G rowth in India is firming up and projected to accelerate to 7.3 per cent in the 2018-19 fiscal and 7.5 per cent in the next two years, the World Bank said on October 07, 2018.

Growth reached 6.7 per cent in fiscal year 2017/18, with a significant acceleration in recent months, it said. "Prompted by the adoption of the 'Goods and Services Tax' (GST) and the recapitalisation of banks, growth in India is firming up and it is projected to accelerate further," the World bank said in its latest report on South Asia. Growth in India, it said, is expected to rise to 7.3 per cent in fiscal year 2018/19, and to 7.5 per cent in the following two years, with stronger private spending and export growth as the key drivers.

On the production side, the turnaround in the second

half was led by manufacturing (that grew at 8.8 per cent versus 2.7 per cent in the first half). Agriculture growth improved, and services growth held steady at 7.7 per cent, the report said.

On the demand side, the pick-up in growth was reflected in a sharp acceleration in gross fixed capital formation to 11.7 per cent in the second half, from 3.4 per cent in the first. Consumption, growing at seven per cent in the second half, remained the major driver of growth, the report said.

Fiscal consolidation is expected to resume in fiscal year 2018/19, but slippages could happen on both the revenue side (as the GST is still stabilising) and the expenditure side (ahead of state and federal elections), it said. ■

BIG PROUD MOMENT! India wins election to United Nations Human Rights Council

India was elected to the United Nations' top human rights body on 12 October, 2018 for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2019, getting 188 votes in the Asia-Pacific category. The 193-member UN General Assembly held elections at the UN for new members to the UN Human Rights Council. The 18 new members were elected by absolute majority through a secret ballot. Countries needed a minimum of 97 votes to get elected to the Council.

India was vying for a seat in the Asia Pacific category. Along with India, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Fiji and Philippines had also staked a claim in the same regional group. Given that there were five nations



vying for five seats in the Asia Pacific category, India's election to the Council was all but certain. ■

INDIA'S DEBT LOWER THAN BEST, EMERGING MARKET ECONOMIES: IMF

India's debt is lower than the best or emerging market economies in the world, a top IMF official has said as he cautioned that the global debt has reached a new record high of \$182 trillion in 2017. Vitor Gaspar, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Director of Fiscal Affairs Department, said India's debt was substantially less than the global debt as percentage of world Gross Domestic Product (GDP).



In India, private debt in 2017 was 54.5 per cent of the GDP and the general government debt was 70.4 per cent of the GDP, a total debt of about 125% of the GDP, according to the latest IMF figures. In comparison, debt of China was 247 per cent of the GDP.

In the last few years in India private debt has declined from almost 60 per cent to 54.5. "So, it's very stable. So, what you do see is that emerging market economies, which is where India is, there's a very fast buildup in private debt with a slowdown in the last two years, But India is basically steady. So, India is not an emerging market economy where leveraging is progressing fast," Gaspar said.

According to Gaspar, in emerging market economies private debt has risen much faster than public debt. "Take China, for example. Total debt is 247 per cent of the GDP. But the dividing line between what is public and private debt in China is blurry. This blurriness reflects the very large number of public units and corporations, the complex layers of government, and widespread sub-national off-budget borrowing," he said. ■

With inputs from PTI

National Democrats, Democratic Socialists & National Socialists



PT. DEENDAYAL
UPADHYAYA

The Political Development of the modern world has been influenced and shaped by the three concepts of nationalism, democracy and socialism. Chronologically, nationalism is the earliest, and socialism the latest. Taking Europe to be of representative character in this respect, we find that right from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century, its map was drawn and re-drawn according to national urges. Nationalism united the people and forced different united people and forced different principalities to forgo their autonomy in favour of a national government. It also differentiated one set of people from another, and slowly we find that national interests, rather than whims or wishes of an individual, increasingly guided the conduct of war and peace. As nations came to acquire a distinctive character, the form of government also became a matter of interest and controversy. When Alexander pope tried to summarily reject all controversies regarding form of government, he only exhibited his subconscious interest in the matter. He wrote :

“For forms of Government

let fools contend; What ever is administered best, is best.”

POPE DID NOT ANSWER THE QUESTION

Pope, however, did not answer the knotty problem: under which form of government we get, or can hope to get, or can hope to get, the best administration? Monarchy was the form in vogue then, and all the ills of the Government were due to, or could easily be made to look as due to, that system. Moreover and more political philosophers came forward to question the divine right theory of kingship. All men came to be regarded as equal. All this gave birth to democratic ideas. Interest in city republics of Greece was revived. By the time of the French Revolution democracy had become more than a century for democracy to take practical shape and strike root in the many countries of Europe.

With the growth of industrial revolution it was soon realised that real power rested in the hands of the few. There was exploitation not only in the economic field, but in the political sphere also. The common man was either denied franchise, or conditions in which the right of franchise could be freely exercised, did not exist. The urge for social justice gave birth to a political philosophy which was termed as socialism. Till Marx made a system of it, socialism was a vague tendency representing

the utopian ideals of a number of social workers, trade union leaders and political philosophers. Not that Marx's enunciation of his philosophy lacked any of these traits, or that socialism became any more practicable. But he contributed to socialist thought an analysis and a theory, which elevated it into a definite political philosophy. Even after Marx, there have been socialists who have differed from him. but in their main premises and ultimate objectives they have not been able to make any distinctive mark. The influence of Marxian methodology has made socialism an anathema to many people, and has made it incompatible both with nationalism and democracy.

NATIONALISM IS A FACT

Nationalism is still the single dominate factor influencing policies of the Governments of the world. But there are very few who expressly recognise its force; and some even want to put an end to nationalism, considering it a curse for humanity. The latter have not succeeded in freeing themselves from this elementary urge; they have only created a number of complexes and thus weakened their national policies. Today most people claim to follow a combination of the two ideals. Thus there are national democrats, national socialists, and democratic socialists. Taken

singly, there could be nationalists, socialists and democrats.

Most countries of the free world can be included in the first category, viz. national democrats. They take nationalism for granted and keep democracy as an ideal before them. There people are not very much enamoured of socialism and some even consider it to be detrimental to democracy. Nazism and Fascism were forms of national socialism. The communist countries USSR, China, Yugoslavia etc. could also be called national socialist. The only difference that is visible is that the latter do not deify nationalism. But impact of nationalism can easily be noticed. Hitler, by placing an undue stress on nationalism. Definitely roused his own people but antagonized the rest. The communist countries are acting in a subtler manner. By claiming to be a world movement they easily undermine national loyalties of other people and thus serve their own national expansionist designs.

SOCIALISM IS A FORCE

Bhartiya Jana Sangh Places Equal reliance on Nationalism And Democracy And Recognises That Socialism too has some part to play in the present stage or development of the country.

In countries of Asia and Africa that have got their independence from the western colonial powers, the political philosophy in vogue is democratic socialism. Having acquired freedom they seem to

have forgotten nationalism, which, in fact, had been the source of inspiration in their freedom struggle. Being associated with the West, they have some faith in democracy. But at the same time they cannot escape the demonstration effect of the fashionable slogan of socialism. Moreover socialism satisfies the lust for power of the cliques that rule and delude the masses. In a society which abounds in poverty and ignorance, socialism has an appeal but it is not a cure. Thus we see that the free

Bhartiya Jana Sangh Places Equal Reliance On Nationalism And Democracy And Recognises That Socialism Too Has Some Part To Play In The Present Stage Or Development Of The Country.

and developed countries of the world are national democrats; regimented developed or under-developed-ones are national socialists or communists; and free but under-developed countries are democratic socialists. These are broad categories. But there are exceptions which it is difficult to place in any of the three. Pakistan, for example, is neither national democratic nor national socialist.

DEMOCRACY IS A GOAL

India with the Congress Party in power, can be termed a democratic socialist country. Presently, in the under-developed

stage of the country's economy, and in the early period of our independence, due to the legacy of British Parliamentary institutions we can both afford to be socialistic and democratic socialism. Today it simply means assumption of certain responsibilities in the field of economic development by the State. There are certain field where in private capital, due to its limited capacities in an under developed country, cannot possible enter. The State has to come in. Then there are certain regulatory functions which are a must for a developing State. There is then the question of reducing inequalities. In these respects India has got to be socialist. But there are some harmful effects also. In the first place due to socialism the State definitely takes over a large sphere of enterprise and thus keeps away the entrepreneur even from activities which he can

legitimately discharge to the advantage of the State. The State activities become monopolistic. Here again, to satisfy the socialist craving of the fanatic few, the Government diverts its energies in taking up other industrial activities and/or nationalising what has already been developed by private enterprise. Instead of supplementing economic activity which, in a developing country, is a legitimate responsibility of the State it starts supplanting the already developed industries. ■

(To be continued...)
[Organiser, Diwali, 1963]

Lok Sabha MP and BJP leader Bhola Singh is no more



@narendramodi



Anguished by the demise of Lok Sabha MP from Begusarai, Shri Bhola Singh Ji. He will be remembered for his outstanding service to society and efforts towards the development of Bihar. My thoughts are with his family and supporters in this hour of grief.

@AmitShah



बेगूसराय से भाजपा सांसद भोला सिंह जी के निधन की दुःखद सूचना प्राप्त हुई। भोला सिंह जी का जीवन बिहार की जनता के विकास व उनकी समस्याओं के निवारण के लिए समर्पित रहा। वह बेगूसराय विधानसभा से आठ बार चुने गये। मैं दुख की इस घड़ी में उनके परिजनों के प्रति अपनी संवेदना व्यक्त करता हूँ।

Senior BJP leader and sitting MP from Begusarai Bhola Singh passed away at Delhi's Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital on 19 October. The 82-year-old leader was admitted to the hospital three days ago.

Bhola Singh's long political journey spanning almost five decades began as a left-supported Independent MLA in 1967 before being formally elected as CPI MLA in 1972. He, however, later joined Congress in 1977. Shri Singh has also served as the state home minister in the Chandra Shekhar Singh cabinet. He also held the position of the education minister from 1988-89 under Congress government in the state. However, his date with Congress finally ended after losing two successive assembly elections in 1990 and 1995 during the period when RJD supremo Lalu Prasad was at his prime. He also joined Lalu's party, the then Janata Dal, and was in it for a brief period. After getting annoyed with Lalu's style of functioning and his misgovernance in the state, Shri Singh joined the BJP and he again managed to win the Begusarai assembly seat in 2000 and retain it in 2005 also. During the period he remained deputy

speaker of the state assembly from 2003 to 2005. In 2008, he was made state urban development minister in the NDA government. In 2009, Singh was elected from the Nawada Lok Sabha seat while in 2014 he won from Begusarai.

Singh had been a lawmaker eight times. He was a professor of History before getting elected from Begusarai in 1967 as an independent candidate.

On the demise of the leader, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said his thoughts were with Singh's family. "Anguished by the demise of Lok Sabha MP from Begusarai, Shri Bhola Singh ji," Shri Modi tweeted. "He will be remembered for his outstanding service to society and efforts towards the development of Bihar."

The BJP National President Shri Amit Shah also condoled demise of the leader. He said his life was devoted to resolve the problems of Bihar. He was elected eight times from Begusarai assembly. Shri Shah expressed his sincere sympathy to bereaved family. Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Sumitra Mahajan said Singh's demise was a big loss for Bihar. Union Health Minister JP Nadda also offered his condolences. ■

'Central Government builds 12.5 million homes for poor in four years'

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that in four years, the BJP led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government had constructed 12.5 million homes for the poor, compared to 2.5 million built by the previous United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government in the same period.

Addressing an event in the holy town of Shirdi in Maharashtra on 19 October, 2018 the Prime Minister said that the Congress led United Progressive Alliance would have taken 20 years to build the same number of houses (12.5 million). "They (the Congress) cannot match the quality and the speed with which the schemes by us are being implemented," Shri Modi said, repeating his government's commitment to provide a home to every poor person in the country by 2022, when India will celebrate 75 years of Independence.



The PM also said that the average time for construction of a home has come down from 18 months during the UPA's rule to less than a year now. He added

that the National Democratic Alliance government gives Rs 1.2 lakh to a poor household for building a home as compared to Rs 70,000 offered by the previous government. "People and resources are the same, but since our government has a clean intention of welfare of the poor, the results are also faster," he said, while accusing the Congress of starting its own schemes for "vote-bank" politics. "They (the Congress) worked for giving publicity to one family whereas we work for poverty elimination," the Shri Modi said.

"Their schemes lacked sincerity and hence the houses built by the previous government had no electricity, toilets, water supply and gas connection." The NDA government renamed the Indira Awas Yojana started in 1996 as the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in April 2016 and added features such as institutional finance at lower interest rates and more money for building a bigger home with water and power connections he said.

In Shirdi, Shri Modi was participating at an event organised to hand over possession of 250,000 houses built under the scheme. He also launched welfare schemes worth Rs. 450 crore announced by Shri Shirdi Saibaba Trust on the occasion of the culmination of the centenary year of the Sai Baba's Mahasamadhi.

PM Shri Narendra Modi also interacted with the beneficiaries of PMAY in various districts of Maharashtra through video conferencing. ■

PM HANDS OVER KEYS TO AWAS YOJNA BENEFICIARIES

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi handed over keys to beneficiaries of the Prime Minister Awas Yojana- Grameen (PMAY-G) during the public event in Shirdi. Prime Minister Shri Modi also interacted with beneficiaries of 29 districts through video conferencing. Emphasizing on the significance of the PMAY-G scheme which is aimed at empowerment of poor, he said, "Own house makes life comfortable and gives greater conviction to fight poverty. When India will complete 75 years of Independence, every homeless poor citizen will get their own home. We are working with this target and in the last four years, we have taken strong steps in this regard."

Earlier after arriving at Shirdi, the Prime Minister had also visited the Saibaba Samadhi Temple Complex. He is in Shirdi to commemorate the centenary year of Saibaba Samadhi.

BAD LOANS: IS THIS REALLY RESOLUTION OR JUST ANOTHER WAIVER?



ARUN JAITLEY

After a few ill-informed, confusing and convoluted articles in the media, there have been many tweets and social media posts of late equating the write-offs of banks as loan waivers. This was further complicated by irresponsible statements by some politicians who projected the accounting exercise of write-offs as loan waivers and doling out of favours to corporates by the government.

It is, therefore, pertinent to put things in the right perspective and clear doubts in a simplified manner on what is a complex banking and accounting issue.

In the last 10 years, the banking sector has seen two distinct regimes of regulatory and legal framework. The first can be termed as a 'lending regime without accountability' that started in the last days of UPA-1 and was almost coterminous with UPA-2 (2008-14).

SKELETONS IN THE LOCKER

This period saw an exponential rise in the loan outstanding of the banking sector, especially of public sector banks (PSBs), which rose from Rs 18 lakh crore

in March 2008 to a whopping Rs 52 lakh crore in March 2014. This period was also characterised by aggressive lending, coupled with a laxity in the credit appraisal system.

Aggressive but careful lending could have seen a spurt of economic growth. But the lack of proper evaluation and a credit appraisal system saw a phenomenal rise in the loan outstanding and, subsequently, in non-performing assets (NPAs). The problem of NPAs was further worsened by the utter neglect of the Asset Quality Review (AQR) and frequent restructuring of the loans.

This practice of frequent restructuring led to a euphoric sense of growth in the banking sector. But, in reality, it was the growth of NPAs tucked under the carpet. This entire situation

led to a moth-eaten (read: wilful defaulters) and loan-bloated (baldly appraised advance) banking sector by 2014. This, in turn, led to unviable and reckless loan advances. It also eroded the capacity of debtors to service their loans.

There was a paradigm shift in 2014, when the NDA government started tightening the noose on growing NPAs. GoI started the process of recognising stressed assets and identifying NPAs by instituting an AQR initiated by RBI in 2015. This exercise unearthed NPAs through the lax and flexible loan reclassification and repeated loan restructurings.

The entire exercise of reclassification and transparent AQR can be understood from the fact that NPAs of PSBs increased from Rs 2.26 lakh crore in March 2014 to Rs 8.96 lakh in March



2018. The tightening noose, on one hand, and lack of any effective insolvency and bankruptcy mechanism, on the other, saw a series of wilful defaulters, who were, till then, able to restructure their loan in a flexible manner and hide it under the carpet without it being classified as stressed assets or NPAs.

The second most significant step taken by GoI was the promulgation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) in May 2016 for insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time-bound manner and with the maximisation of the value of assets. This was followed by the institutionalisation of the entire regulatory framework.

DEBT'R'US

This provided for a corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP), fasttrack resolution, corporate liquidation, voluntary liquidation, insolvency professionals (IPs), insolvency professional agencies (IPAs), insolvency professionals entities (IPEs), information utilities (IUs) and valuers to be set in place.

It quickly created an entire ecosystem of liquidation and dispute resolution, comprising the adjudicating authority, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), around 2,000 IPs, 81 IPEs, 31PAs, one IU and five registered valuers. Between June 2016 and July 2018, around 1,100 corporates having large

NPAs admitted into CIRP, and 250 admitted for voluntary liquidation.

CIRP of 45 corporate debtors have yielded resolution up to July 2018. Of the 12 large accounts referred by RBI, in four cases that have yielded resolution, a substantial amount has been

The second most significant step taken by GoI was the promulgation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) in May 2016 for insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time-bound manner and with the maximisation of the value of assets. This was followed by the institutionalisation of the entire regulatory framework.

realised.

IBC, and its strict compliance, led to behavioural change among debtors over this short duration. It has been the endeavour of debtors to repay dues on time or earlier. The data indicate that the banking sector, too, is making good recovery through resolution outside IBC. In respect of applications filed by financial creditors before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) under IBC, applications were withdrawn before admission of 12 loan accounts in which PSBs have recovered an amount of Rs 449.76 crore till September 2018.

During this entire exercise, GoI focused on both debtors and creditors. On the one hand, the emphasis was on compliance and recovery, and debt resolution.

On the other hand, there was a behavioural change of creditors as well. As a consequence of this legal and regulatory framework, promoters and debtors didn't want to be identified as defaulters.

To avoid resolution proceedings, many such debtors have withdrawn applications for initiating CIRP proceedings, and paid the default amount. As per RBI guidelines and policy approved by bank boards, non-performing loans — including those in respect of which full provisioning has been made on the completion of four years — are removed from the balance sheet of the bank by way of write-offs.

Writing-off of NPAs is a regular exercise conducted by banks to clean up their balance sheet and achieve tax efficiency. Writing off loans is an accounting exercise for tax benefits and capital optimisation. Borrowers of such written-off loans continue to be liable for repayment, and recovery of dues takes place as usual under the applicable law, such as the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act and Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs).

By reclassifying and revaluing loans and, subsequently by promulgating IBC, GoI has shown its resolve to deal firmly with the wilful defaulters and rogue debtors. It will strive to infuse more transparency and accountability among the bankers. ■

(The writer is Union Finance Minister, GoI)



‘Rail Coach Factory will contribute to the development of Haryana’

PM UNVEILS STATUE OF SIR CHHOTU RAM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, unveiled a statue of Deenbandhu Sir Chhotu Ram at Sampla, Rohtak in Haryana on October 9. At a public meeting, the Prime Minister unveiled a plaque to mark the laying of Foundation Stone of the Rail Coach Refurbishing Karkhana, Sonapat. Once complete, this will be a major repair and maintenance facility for rail coaches in the northern region. It is being set up using modular and prefabricated construction techniques, modern machinery, and environment-friendly features.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that Chaudhary Chhotu Ram ji was one of those social reformers, who made an important contribution for India. He described Sir Chhotu Ram as a strong voice for the oppressed and the deprived.

The Prime Minister said that the Rail Coach Refurbishing Karkhana will contribute to the development of not just Sonapat, but the entire State of Haryana. He said it will benefit small entrepreneurs in the region, besides generating employment for

youth.

The Prime Minister complimented Sir Chhotu Ram's vision. In this context, he also spoke of the Bhakra Dam. The Prime Minister mentioned Sir Chhotu Ram's initiatives to provide remunerative prices to farmers, and also spoke of the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard.

Speaking about the progress of the Ayushman Bharat scheme, the Prime Minister said that the first beneficiary of the health assurance scheme was from this State. He expressed satisfaction that in two weeks, more than 50,000 people have benefited from this scheme.

The Prime Minister mentioned success achieved under the "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" scheme. He observed that girls born in villages of Haryana are making the country proud in the global arena, and the youth of Haryana is helping make India a global sports power. He added that these are indications that we are progressing rapidly towards realizing the dreams of Sir Chhotu Ram. ■

'AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTED THE VISION OF A STRONG, UNDIVIDED INDIA'

PM HOISTS NATIONAL FLAG AT RED FORT, TO COMMEMORATE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORMATION OF AZAD HIND GOVERNMENT



P rime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on October 21 hoisted the National Flag at Red Fort, to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of formation of Azad Hind Government, formed by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Prime Minister congratulated the nation on the proud occasion of 75th anniversary of formation of Azad Hind Government. Speaking on the occasion, he said that Azad Hind government represented the vision laid down by Subhas Chandra Bose, of a strong undivided India. He added that Azad Hind government was actively involved in nation building and had even started its own bank, currency and stamps.

Recalling the contributions of Netaji, Shri Modi said that Subhas Chandra Bose was a visionary, who united Indians to fight against the powerful colonial British rule. He added that Bose showed patriotism right from a young age, as was visible from the letters he wrote to his mother.

Prime Minister said that Netaji was not just an inspiration for Indians, but for all those who were fighting for self-determination and freedom in countries all over the world. In context he mentioned how South African leader Nelson Mandela was inspired by Netaji.

Reminding the nation that there is a long way to go before building a new India as envisioned by Subhas Chandra Bose, Prime

Minister urged the citizens to get inspired by Netaji and work towards the development of the nation. He added that India achieved independence after lots of sacrifices and it is the duty of citizens to preserve that independence.

Addressing the gathering, Prime Minister said that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose laid down the foundation for equal opportunity for women in armed forces, through the formation of Rani Jhansi Regiment. Prime Minister said that the government is carrying forward this legacy in true means and reiterated that women will be given equal opportunity for permanent commission in armed forces. ■

WHY THE 'SWACHHATA HI SEVA' PROGRAMME IS A FITTING TRIBUTE TO MAHATMA GANDHI



TEMSUTULA
IMSONG

I didn't see Mahatma Gandhi but I grew up hearing all about him, reading stories about him.

About how he devoted his life for others. About how he left everything to devote his life for the upliftment of people who were not privileged. About how he led from the front in everything he did. About how he had a special interest in cleanliness.

When I left Nagaland and ventured out, I noticed the filth. Whether it was Delhi, Dimapur or other places that I went to, I saw garbage and felt that it was standard. I saw that we were totally used to it. We were at ease with how things were. Forget hope, we were not even thinking about changing anything.

Life was good. We had forgotten Gandhiji. We had forgotten his teachings. And 2nd October was all about garlanding his statue, singing a few bhajans and then celebrating the national holiday.

Being clean or want of cleanliness is something which is inherent to almost every living

being. I am sure that not a single day passed when our houses are not cleaned.

I started wondering if we were failing Mahatma Gandhi ji.

These words may not be adequate to express the pain, anguish and helplessness that I experienced seeing the very spirit of "vaishnava jana to, tene kahiye je peer paraayi jaane re" wither away. I could see how filth was maiming the poor and there was no escape for them. And my efforts were just a drop in the ocean.

Those were the most depressing days of my life, for I could not get used to the filth around me, could not give up doing something about

it and steadily saw all the willpower I had diminishing.

Then came 15 August 2014, I was listening to Prime Minister Narendra Modi speak from the ramparts of the Red fort. It was a speech which conveyed a sense of urgency, a sense of mission. As if he was clearly underlining the necessity of doing things in time. Every effort was to count. And then came the part which shook me from slumber and changed everything for me. I still remember the exact words – He said "I come from a poor family, I have seen poverty. The poor need respect and it begins with cleanliness. I, therefore, have to launch a `clean



India` campaign from 2nd October this year and carry it forward in 4 years. I want to make a beginning today itself!!” – I was intrigued, here was a PM who had dared to do away with the traditional ceremonial speech and turned it into a call for every Indian, at the risk of being mocked at, ridiculed for breaking a tradition of flowery speeches.

I listened to that speech over and over again, and when I look back now, I could clearly see that he had laid down a blue print of things to come before us. He had shown us a path to everyone who wanted to do something. He had so effortlessly conveyed to so many of us that he was there to spearhead every effort that was to benefit those who were just props in decision making, who were just numbers in the analytical jargon earlier.

We witnessed how he stood by each person doing his bit in this great effort of achieving Swachh Bharat by 2019, how he appreciated every single effort that contributed to the vision of Swachh Bharat. Every day we were listening about heroes from him, who were working to rid our nation of filth, everyday something was being done to change our attitude about how we looked at sanitation and the sanitation workers. He made us thankful to those were involved in keeping our surroundings clean. He gave them the much needed dignity and self respect. He got us out, beyond those gates of our

houses, out in the streets to take ownership of the sanitation around us. He made us strong enough that we stopped bothering about that “log kya kahenge” shackle. Four years later, the achievements speak for themselves.

We are no more used to living in dirty surroundings. We are no more used to see people defecating out in the open or peeing on walls. Filth is no more a norm but an aberration.

Every single person is involved, even those cynical ones who are not doing anything are talking

THEN CAME 15 AUGUST 2014, I WAS LISTENING TO PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI SPEAK FROM THE RAMPARTS OF THE RED FORT. IT WAS A SPEECH WHICH CONVEYED A SENSE OF URGENCY, A SENSE OF MISSION. AS IF HE WAS CLEARLY UNDERLINING THE NECESSITY OF DOING THINGS IN TIME. EVERY EFFORT WAS TO COUNT. AND THEN CAME THE PART WHICH SHOOK ME FROM SLUMBER AND CHANGED EVERYTHING FOR ME.

about sanitation. In such a way that they never did before. Never before have we discussed cleanliness so much.

From “what I will be able to achieve alone?”, citizens have successfully managed to be instrumental in massive cleanup campaigns which have transformed public places like never before. People are realizing the potential that they possess. Cleanliness has become a social and institutional priority.

The change is evident in the

clean railway platforms, tracks, in the newly constructed toilets which take account of the fact that there are females in this world too, in our expectation that our surroundings must be clean and we will not watch helplessly. There are avenues of resolution to our complaints. There are websites, apps which are being used. Technology is being explored to either minimise or do away with human contact while cleaning sewage or toxic garbage. Practice of home composting is spreading every single day with citizens vowing to manage their own garbage, at least whatever they could.

By answering the call of “Swachhata hi seva” we are living the spirit of “vaishnava jana to, tene kahiye je peed paraayi jaane re” for this is what Gandhi ji wanted us to strive for – to be sensitive to pain of others!!

And it’s just four years. We have just started. This war against filth has united us all. We are strongly heading in

the direction where we will be one of the cleanest nations on earth.

By answering the call of “Swachhata hi seva” we are living the spirit of “vaishnava jana to, tene kahiye je peed paraayi jaane re” for this is what Gandhi ji wanted us to strive for – to be sensitive to pain of others. I am sure, wherever he is, he looks upon us – blesses us and smiles. ■

Courtesy: www.narendramodi.in

(The writer belongs to Nagaland and runs an efficient Swachhta campaign to clean the Ghats in Varanasi)

PM MEETS GLOBAL OIL AND GAS EXPERTS

In meeting, PM makes a strong case to reduce energy cost

P rime Minister Narendra Modi on October 15 met CEOs and Experts from the Oil and Gas sector, from both India and abroad. During the meeting Prime Minister Modi made a strong case for a partnership between the producers and consumers, in the oil market, as it exists in other markets. This will help stabilise the global economy which is on path of recovery.

The gathering included Ministers from Saudi Arabia and UAE, and CEOs and experts from organisations including Saudi ARAMCO, ADNOC, BP, Rosneft, IHS Markit, Pioneer Natural Resources Company, Emerson Electric Company, Tellurian, Mubadala Investment Company, Schlumberger Ltd., Wood Mackenzie, World Bank, International Energy Agency (IEA), NIPFP, Brookings India and various Indian companies involved in both upstream and downstream operations.

Union Ministers Shri Arun Jaitley and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan; Vice-Chairman NITI Aayog Dr. Rajiv Kumar and senior officials from the Union Government and NITI Aayog were also present at the interaction.

Interacting with the global leaders of the energy sector, Prime Minister highlighted the significant positioning of India in the oil and gas market. He noted that the oil market is producer driven; and both the quantity and prices are determined by the oil producing countries. Though there is enough production, the unique features of marketing in the oil sector have pushed up the oil prices. Prime Minister Modi made a strong case for a partnership between the producers and consumers, in the oil market, as it exists in other markets. This will help stabilise the global economy which is on path of recovery.

Shri Modi drew attention of the experts on certain key policy issues relevant to India. Firstly,

he highlighted that the consuming countries, due to rising crude oil prices, face many other economic challenges including serious resource crunch. The cooperation of the oil producing countries would be very critical to bridge this gap. He appealed to oil producing countries to channel their investible surplus to pursue commercial exploitation in oil sector in the developing countries. Secondly, he spoke of higher acreage under exploration and sought cooperation of the developed countries both in terms of technology and extension of coverage. Thirdly, he sought the role of private participation in the distribution of gas sector. Talking of technology, he appealed for assistance in areas where high pressure and high temperature technology applications are relevant to commercial



exploitation of natural gas. Lastly and importantly, he requested for review of payment terms so as to provide temporary relief to the local currency.

Prime Minister also spoke about the various policy initiatives and developmental measures undertaken by his Government in the sector. He highlighted the liberalisation in gas pricing and marketing which has been particularly in deep waters and requiring technology for high pressure high temperature exploitation. He made a mention of open acreage licensing policy, early monetisation of coal bed methane, incentives for discovery of small fields and seismic survey at a national level. Talking of ongoing commercial exploitation, he made a special mention of extension of production sharing contracts. ■

PM NARENDRA MODI CONFERRED SEOUL PEACE PRIZE



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been conferred with the Seoul Peace Prize for 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth.

“PM Shri Narendra Modi awarded prestigious Seoul Peace Prize 2018 for contribution to high economic growth in India and world through ‘Modinomics’, contribution to world peace, improving human development and furthering democracy in India,” Ministry of External Affairs said.

The Ministry of External Affairs in a statement said that Shri Modi expressed his gratitude for the prestigious honour and in the light of India’ deepening partnership with the Republic of Korea, he has accepted the award.

The Seoul Peace Prize was established in 1990 to commemorate the success of the 24th Olympic Games held in Seoul. The award was established to crystallise Korean people’s yearning for peace on the Korean peninsula and in the rest of the world.

Pat for ‘Modinomics’ while conferring the award on Shri Modi, the award committee recognized his contributions to the growth of Indian and global

@AmitShah 

It is a matter of great joy and immense pride for 130 crore Indians that PM @narendramodi has been honoured with the prestigious Seoul Peace Prize. PM Modi’s efforts towards boosting global cooperation and raising global economic growth have been noted by the awarding committee.

economies, crediting ‘Modinomics’ for reducing social and economic disparity between the rich and the poor, the MEA said.

The committee also lauded Shri Modi’s initiatives to make the government cleaner through anti-corruption measures and demonetisation, it said. The committee also credited him for his contribution toward regional and global peace through a proactive policy with countries around the world under the ‘Modi doctrine’ and the act east policy, it said. He is the 14th recipient of the award and the past laureates included former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and renowned international relief organizations like Doctors Without Borders and Oxfam. ■

2019 POLL CRUCIAL FOR CONG BEFORE INDIA DUMPS ITS ILK



SWAPAN
DASGUPTA

It is entirely possible to be sympathetic to the argument emanating from the Congress camp that the alliance talks with the Bahujan Samaj Party in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan broke down on account of Mayawati's exaggerated demands for seats. From a purely psephological angle, the BSP seems to have insisted on seats where its presence was nominal and where it had little hope of winning. The Congress, or so the argument goes, could therefore hardly be faulted for abandoning all hope for a mahagathbandhan in these three States.

That part of the story seems correct, although Congress president Rahul Gandhi is still optimistic that when it comes to the 2019 general election, Mayawati will be on board. It is difficult to ascertain at this stage whether or not Rahul's confidence is warranted. What is certain, however, is that the Congress has to appear optimistic if it is to translate its internal self-confidence into a public belief that a Congress-led alliance is in with a chance.

It is worth mapping the shifts in the Congress narrative over the past few months.

In the wake of the BJP's defeat in five important parliamentary by-elections — two in Rajasthan and three in Uttar Pradesh — the Congress went out of its way to show that it was willing to be extra accommodative in the interests of a grand alliance. This was particularly so after traditional rivals Samajwadi Party and BSP stitched up alliances for the by-elections and inflicted defeats on the BJP, defeats that were particularly humiliating for UP Chief Minister Mahant Adityanath. Responding to reservations voiced by the likes of Mamata Banerjee, the Congress let it be known that it had no objection to the grand alliance approaching the general election

without an obvious captain. The important thing was to defeat the BJP and the rest would follow painlessly.

On the face of it that narrative has not been abandoned. In his interaction at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit last Friday, he repeated that a Prime Minister would be chosen after the election. However, he added that he was quite ready to assume charge if needed.

Part of this shift could be attributed to dispelling fears that Rahul is at the end of the day a casual politician who can't do without his occasional short breaks and a mandatory summer vacation, preferably to the First World. During both the terms of the UPA Government he didn't accept any line responsibility,



although that could be on account of the family convention of not ever working in a subordinate role. To be Prime Minister or, at least, to be seen to be a credible claimant, Rahul has to display both awareness and gravitas. At present his prime ministerial preparation is work in progress. He seems to swing between rash impetuosity and passable scripted interventions.

At the same time, it is important to record that the Congress has not reconciled itself to keeping the leadership of the proposed mahagathbandhan open-ended. The party's well drafted resolution issued at Sevagram, Wardha, calling for a second freedom struggle to oust the Narendra Modi Government is extremely revealing. According to the resolution, the Congress is the "only" party that "truly embodies the ethos of Bharat that is fundamentally inclusive, liberal, secular and assimilation of India's pluralities and diversities."

The inclusion of "only" is quite deliberate and significant. It suggests two things. First, that the Congress regards the regional parties that are targeted to be included in the grand alliance as expedient allies. The Congress, in effect, has equated them as (to use Lenin's evocative phrase) "useful idiots." Secondly, despite the huge drubbing in the 2014 general election and the loss of many States in the subsequent Assembly elections, not to mention its utter inability to recover any

ground in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the Congress hasn't given up on nostalgia. The party still believes that it has a divine right to be India's dominant party. It has still not accepted the cruel realities of post-2014 politics — a reason why the likes of Mamata Banerjee, Mayawati and Sharad Pawar are miffed.

As of today, there is a powerful section of the Old Establishment that sees the 2019 general election as a do-or-die battle for relevance. Apart from the professional

The outcome of 2014 was terrible news for a tribe that has always made hay while there are dark clouds over India. They have thrived on uncertainty and turbulence. Modi deprived them of their livelihood by securing a majority and providing India a commanding leadership. The 2019 election is their last before India moves to a different trajectory altogether.

middlemen rendered unemployed by Modi's strict approach to an anti-corruption agenda, these include notables that have lost their toehold in the decision-making process. For them, it is important that Rahul is projected as a credible alternative and seen to be so by the electorate. The Old Establishment seems aware that going into battle with the leadership issue undecided will allow Modi to run away with the stability card. Moreover, if Rahul doesn't accept his family calling now, it will be too late. To these

beleaguered left-outs, the issue is not the future of the Idea of India but the reality of power: How to ensure the return of an all-too-familiar Congress rule, headed by the personification of entitlement.

The Congress is, of course, battling Modi vigorously. However, at the same time it is also engaged in a crafty battle to show the regional parties their rightful places — as subordinate partners of the Congress. Mayawati knows this and has used the Assembly election as a warning shot. Rahul is right that she hasn't foreclosed her 2019 options and may be entirely willing to join a grand alliance — but on her terms.

The approach of a general election is the time smaller parties flex their muscles. Mayawati is a relatively big player, given her undeniable ability to determine electoral outcomes in UP. But even within the NDA there are the likes of Upendra Kushwaha, permanently scouting for opportunities to establish their relevance.

The outcome of 2014 was terrible news for a tribe that has always made hay while there are dark clouds over India. They have thrived on uncertainty and turbulence. Modi deprived them of their livelihood by securing a majority and providing India a commanding leadership. The 2019 election is their last before India moves to a different trajectory altogether. ■

(The writer is a Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha)

Mizoram will soon witness corruption free, pro-development govt.: Amit Shah



Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Amit Shah, who has kick-started campaigning in poll-bound Mizoram, said that the state will soon witness a corruption free and a pro-development government in the state.

Addressing a statewide booth level workers meeting at Dengthuama Indoor Stadium in Aizawl (Mizoram) on 17 October, 2018 the BJP National President said, "In Nagaland or Meghalaya, wherever BJP contested, it won. I am quite confident that the BJP will win the forthcoming state election and Mizoram will soon see a corruption free, the pro-development government in the state."

Shri Shah, who also inaugurated the Mizoram BJP headquarters, announced that the party will contest all the 40 seats on its own. "We will not go with the Congress or the Mizo National Front (MNF). We will fight all seats on the basis of the strength of our workers," he said. Shri Shah also inducted senior Congress leader BD Chakma into the party.

Hitting out at the Congress, the BJP President

said that poll-bound Mizoram has lots of possibilities in hydro-power and tourism but the Congress government failed on all fronts.

"Mizoram has lots of possibilities in hydro-power and tourism but Congress government failed on all fronts. The inefficiency of state government can be seen in the fact that let alone promoting new businesses, their corruption led to the closure of three existing PSUs," he said.

The BJP President further said that the next Christmas in Mizoram will be celebrated under the BJP's rule.

"After seeing so many of you here, I am reassured that the next Christmas Mizoram celebrates will be a Christmas under the BJP government," he said.

Mizoram is the only state in the entire North-East where the Congress is in power presently. The BJP has been reiterating that it would make all efforts to remove the corrupt Congress from power. Single-phase Assembly polls in Mizoram will be held on November 28. Counting of votes will be done on December 11. ■

PM DEDICATES NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL TO UNSUNG POLICE MARTYRS

On Police Commemoration Day on 21 October, 2018, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated the National Police Memorial (NPM) to the nation in recognition of the sacrifice made by police personnel since Independence. 21 October is observed as the Police Commemoration Day every year in memory of the policemen killed at Hot Springs in Ladakh by Chinese troops on this date in 1959. Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, Minister of State for Home Shri Kiren Kiren Rijiju and senior BJP leader Shri Lal Krishna Advani were also present at the event.

“It is the day to remember every jawan who maintains law and order in Jammu & Kashmir and fights against terrorism. Jawans on duty in Naxal-affected areas are doing a great service. It’s also due to them that number of Naxal affected districts are going down and youth is coming to mainstream,” PM Shri Modi said.

Hailing the police personnel of the country PM Shri Modi said it is due to their alertness that the elements which create unrest are unsuccessful in their attempts. The attempts to create fear and insecurity in the nation were foiled by you. The peace prevalent in the nation is possible only due to your services.

The memorial has been erected on 6.12 acres of land in Chanakyapuri, at the northern end of Shanti Path in New Delhi. This memorial represents all State

and Central Police Organizations of the country. The central sculpture of the NPM is a 30 feet monolith made of a single piece of granite, weighing 238 tonnes. Its weight and color symbolize the gravitas and solemnity of the supreme sacrifice. A 60-foot long river at the base of the sculpture reflects the continuous self-service of the policeman and woman,



to maintain peace and public order.

The Wall of Valour has the names of all 34,844 martyrs engraved on granite.

Since independence 34,844 police personnel have been martyred. Many of these brave lives were lost in the fight against terrorism in Kashmir, Punjab, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and left-wing extremism affected regions of the country. Further, a large number of police lives were lost in prevention of crime and in maintenance of law and order. ■

BJP RELEASES FIRST LIST FOR CHHATTISGARH, TELANGANA, MIZORAM ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

The BJP released its first list of 77 candidates for the Chhattisgarh assembly polls after extended deliberations at the party's central election committee meeting on October 21, 2018.

The party decided to field Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh from the Rajnandgaon seat at the meeting attended by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and party National President Shri Amit Shah. Union Minister Shri JP Nadda told reporters that 14 of the 77 candidates announced are women.

Shri Nadda then revealed that the BJP will contest the Mizoram Assembly elections from 13 seats.

The party also released a list of 38 candidates for the upcoming Telangana polls. "The party has considered the aspirations of our dedicated workers in Telangana region. Adequate representation has been given to representatives of

all communities," Shri Nadda said.

Elections in Chhattisgarh will be held on November 12 and November 20 in two phases, while the elections in Mizoram and Telangana are scheduled



for November 28 and December 07. The counting of votes will take place on December 11. ■

Foundation stone was laid for Second Generation (2G) Ethanol Bio-refinery in Odisha

The foundation stone for Second Generation (2G) Ethanol Bio-refinery of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited being set up at Baulasingha village, Bargarh district, Odisha was laid by Governor of Odisha Professor Ganeshi Lal on October 10. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, along with several dignitaries were present on the occasion.

The Bio-refinery, the first of its kind to be set up, will have a capacity to produce three crore litres of fuel grade Ethanol annually using Rice straw as the

feedstock. Ethanol produced from this plant will be blended with Petrol. The cost of the project is around Rs 100 Crore. The National Biofuel Policy of India 2018 targets 20% Ethanol blending to Petrol by year 2030. However, due to non-availability of Ethanol, the current Ethanol blending in Petrol is about 3 to 4%. Setting up of 2G Ethanol plants will help achieve the target of Ethanol blending in Petrol. The Bargarh Bio-Refinery will utilize about two lakh tonnes of Rice straw annually as feedstock which will be sourced from nearby locations like Bhati, Ambabhona, Sohela, Burla, Lakhanpur, etc. ■

E-FLOW WILL ENSURE GANGA'S 'AVIRALTA'

The Central Government notified the minimum environmental flows for River Ganga on 10 October, 2018 that has to be maintained at various locations on the river. Environmental flows are the acceptable flow regimes that are required to maintain a river in the desired environmental state or predetermined state.

Calling this a significant development, Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari said that the notification of e-flow for the river would go a long way in ensuring its 'Aviralta' or continuous flow. Reiterating the Government's commitment towards an Aviral and Nirmal Ganga, the Minister informed



that the draft Ganga Act will soon be sent to the Cabinet for approval.

"This is a very significant moment. The discussions on notifying e flow of Ganga have been going on for a long time. We have taken this step to ensure a minimum amount of flow in the river", Shri Gadkari said.

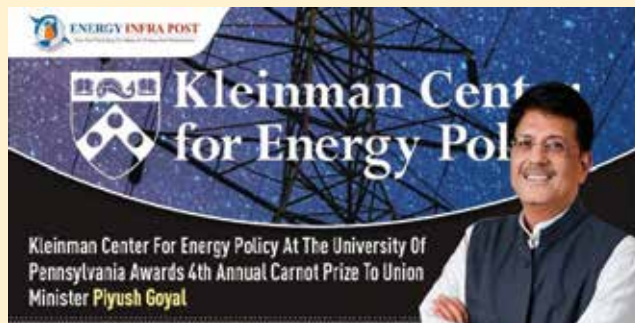
The notification issued by the Government will ensure that the river has at least the minimum required environmental flow of water even after the river flow gets diverted by projects and structures for purposes like irrigation, hydropower, domestic and industrial use etc. This is an important step taken towards maintaining the uninterrupted or Aviral flow of the river. ■

UNION MINISTER PIYUSH GOYAL GOT PRESTIGIOUS 4TH ANNUAL CARNOT AWARD

Recognising the pathbreaking transformations in India's energy sector under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design is awarding its fourth annual Carnot Prize to Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways & Coal and former Minister of Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Government of India.

The Carnot Prize is the Kleinman Center's annual recognition of distinguished contributions to energy policy through scholarship or practice. The most prestigious award in the energy sector, Carnot Prize is named after French physicist Nicolas Sadi Carnot who recognised that the power of the steam engine would "produce a great revolution" in human development. The Carnot Prize is intended to honour those leading revolutions in energy policy to further progress and prosperity.

The 2018 Carnot Prize is a recognition of India's efforts under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, as the nation charts the path towards eliminating energy



poverty with sustainable energy solutions. The rural electrification drive gave a significant breakthrough to the mission of '24x7 Affordable, Environment Friendly Power for all', as India eliminated decades of darkness in more than 19,000 villages on 28th April, 2018. With real-time monitoring, India's energy starved people in the remotest villages of 19,000 villages saw electricity for the first time. With the Saubhagya Programme, the last-mile connectivity to every household in the villages is being fast tracked, with 51% of the 3.1 crore rural households electrified. ■

Cabinet approves Productivity Linked Bonus for Railway Employees

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the payment of Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for the financial year 2017-18 for all eligible non-gazetted Railway employees (excluding RPF/RPSF personnel). The financial implication of payment of 78 days' PLB to railway employees has been estimated to be Rs.2044.31 crore. The wage calculation ceiling prescribed for payment of PLB to the eligible non-gazetted railway employees is Rs.7000/- p.m. The maximum amount payable per eligible railway employee is Rs.17,951 for 78 days. About 11.91 lakh non-gazetted Railway employees are likely to benefit from the decision.

The Productivity Linked Bonus on Railway covers all non-gazetted railway employees (excluding RPF/RPSF personnel) who are spread over the

entire country. Payment of PLB to eligible railway employees is made each year before the Dusshera/Puja holidays. The decision of the Cabinet shall be implemented before the holidays for this year as well. For the year 2017-18 PLB equivalent to 78 days' wages will be paid which is expected to motivate the employees for working towards improving the performance of the Railways.

Railways were the first departmental undertaking of the Government of India wherein the concept of PLB was introduced in the year 1979-80. The main consideration at that time was the important role of the Railways as an infrastructural support in the performance of the economy as a whole. In the overall context of Railway working, it was considered desirable to introduce the concept of PLB as against the concept of Bonus on the lines of 'The Payment of Bonus Act - 1965'. ■

HI-TECH CENTRAL WAREHOUSE FOR PMBJP INAUGURATED AT BILASPUR, GURUGRAM

Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Road Transport & Highways, Shipping, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the hi-tech Central Warehouse, setup by the Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI), on October 16 in Bilaspur, Gurugram. The hi-tech Central Warehouse would facilitate seamless distribution of Jan Aushadhi generic medicines to all PMBJP Kendra functional across the country.

One day before the Minister had inaugurated the Digital Cash Management System for Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), to be implemented as a partnership between BPPI and Bank of Baroda. This System will be implemented at all PMBJP Kendras for purchasing medicines and cashless payment system with BPPI. Bank of

Baroda will also provide loan to all PMBJP Kendra for purchasing medicines. The cashless transactions will be done only through unique virtual accounts opened by Bank of Baroda for each and every PMBJP Kendra, across the country.

Shri Mandaviya informed that presently, there are more than 4200 PMBJP Kendra functional in 34 States/UTs, across the country.

700+ medicines and 154 surgical and consumables are available in the basket for sale through PMBJKs. Shortly the basket will be enhanced to 1000 medicines.

Shri Mandaviya also released first edition of e-magazine of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana "JAN AUSHADHI SAMVAD" (September 2018 edition). ■

'Womens' participation is 75% in production of major crops in the country'

The government has allocated more than 30% funds for women under various major schemes, programs and development related activities in order to bring women in the agriculture mainstream. Stating this on the occasion of Mahila Kisan Diwas, on October 15 Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh informed that about 18% of the agricultural households in India are led by women. In addition to agriculture, women have been making exceptional contribution in horticulture, fisheries, animal husbandry, beekeeping etc. The Minister disclosed that a research by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) conducted in nine states shows that the participation of women is 75% in the production of major crops, 79% in horticulture, 51% in post-harvest work and 95% in animal husbandry and fisheries. He further said that a National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture, set up in the Department of Agriculture Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, has developed a women sensitization module to bring about change in the mindset and behaviour of male program operators. In 2017-18, DAC&FW's MANAGE, EEI, SAMETI and other institutions have trained 5645 people through 222 programmes. Besides, more than 98.14 lakh women farmers have been trained so far under the ATMA scheme.

Shri Singh said that special importance is being given to the role of women in achieving the goal of doubling farmers' income by 2022. Keeping this in mind, the inter-ministerial committee formed under the chairmanship of Dr. Dalwai has written a separate chapter on the empowerment of women to double the income of farmers. These efforts will certainly prove to be effective in enhancing the participation of women in agriculture. The Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar (Odisha), set up under the ICAR, has also been working in this direction.

The Minister stated that cooperative education programs of women are organized through State Cooperative Societies to ensure womens participation in various activities in the field of cooperatives. Under the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), 38.78 lakh women have been trained in the last two years. Similarly, 6.07 lakh and 7000 women have benefited through KVKs and skill training respectively. A total of 53.34 lakh women have benefited during the year



2016-17 and 2017-18. He said that government's revised ATMA scheme is providing support to the Food Security Groups of the farmers to ensure food security at the domestic and community levels. Under this, the Women's Food Security Groups are being given financial assistance at the rate of 2 groups / per block and at the rate of Rs 10,000 per group / per year. The Minister congratulated women farmers and praised their commendable contribution in taking India to the path of Second Green Revolution and in changing the landscape of development in the country. ■



THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI AND
 BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT SHRI AMIT SHAH
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BECOME PART OF A VIBRANT IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENT

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KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



PM Shri Narendra Modi hoisting the National Flag to commemorate the 75th anniversary of formation of the Azad Hind Government and honouring the veterans at Red Fort, Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi along with Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and others dedicates the National Police Memorial at Chanakypuri, New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi flanked by Union Ministers Shri Rajnath Singh, Shri Manoj Sinha and others inaugurating the Silver Jubilee Foundation Day function of the National Human Rights Commission in New Delhi



Haryana BJP welcomes PM Shri Narendra Modi with a plough at Sampla in Rohtak, Haryana



PM Shri Narendra Modi flanked by Maharashtra Governor Shri C. Vidyasagar Rao and CM Shri Devendra Fadanvis waving at the gathering in Shirdi, Maharashtra

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