



Kamal Sandesh
Fortnightly Magazine

Editor

Prabhat Jha, MP

Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Editorial Team

**Ram Prasad Tripathy
Vikash Anand**

Creative Editor

**Dharmendra Kaushal
Vikas Saini**

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Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax: +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

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'Rahul Gandhi should tell his party and the Prime Minister, not the media, that black money should be brought back.

-Nitin Gadkari
BJP National President



Mr. PM, do you know how your government works? You preside over an empire of scandal and corruption and yet you say you don't know.

-Sushma Swaraj
Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha



”

Letters to the Editor...



Dear editor

I have been greatly encouraged by your new executive editor and new editorial team. All acting under your excellent leadership to make the Kamal Sandesh including re-introduction of "Letter to Editor" improved party organ.

All the best for yourself, Kamal Sandesh and the great party of Hindutva and Bhartiyata.

Basudeb Ghose,
MBBS, Dip.BMSC
MHSM, T.RSH(Retd.)
United Kingdom



Sir,

Throughout Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Congress President Smt. Sonia Gandhi had been claiming that the telecommunications minister A. Raja had not done anything illegal and that he is innocent. Now that Shri Raja has been arrested by the CBI it only proves that they were defending a person accused of a crime. Both Shri Manmohan Singh and Mrs. Sonia Gandhi should now tender an unqualified apology to the nation.

Manish Kumar
Barmer (Rajasthan)

Write to us
The Editor,
Kamal Sandesh
We welcome
Your views & Suggestions
Editor,
Kamal Sandesh
Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas,
PP-66, Subramanya Bharati Marg,
New Delhi-110003
e-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in



UPA's hall of shame scam after scam

Editorial...

Although the Congress had started indulging in corruption since the time of independence but the kind of loot which we witness today was never seen before. It appears as if a cut-throat competition of becoming the biggest scamster is going on between the ministers of UPA. The union ministers have no sense of shame in flaunting their newly acquired status of having surpassed others in corruption. They are looting the hard earned money of the people. All this brings shame to democracy.

There is no end to scam and loot under UPA government. After the CWG loot, Adarsh society scam and 2G Spectrum scam, now a scam in the sale of S-band has come to the fore. This scam has even left 2G spectrum scam for behind in magnitude. While the country was robbed of 1.76 lakh crores in 2G spectrum scam, in the S-Band sale scam loss of around 2 lakh crore is estimated. It is an issue related to Ministry of Space which works directly under the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. The role of the Prime Minister is increasingly becoming questionable. The CWG loot had also some connections with the PMO. Dr. Manmohan Singh always tried to defend A. Raja even by misleading the nation. Kapil Sibal claims unabashedly that there was no loss to the nation in the allocation of spectrum. But the truth was something else. A. Raja was arrested. The situation is very grim in view of the cases of corruption in the country. An FIR was lodged against former chief minister of Maharashtra Ashok Chavan in the case related to Adarsh society scam. Supreme Court has opined that Vilashrao Deshmukh does not deserve to be a member of the cabinet. It is an irony that CVC PJ Thomas is facing grave charges of corruption yet he is heading an institution supposed to fight corruption. The government is saying that it was not aware of the corruption charges against Thomas. It is a frivolous excuse. How come the government was not aware of the past of a person getting appointed to such a sensitive position? Such irresponsible approach is dangerous for the country. Even after that Thomas shamelessly remains clinging to the post crossing all limits of propriety and challenging the system. Such a situation is very disturbing. It is not good for democracy.

The Congress President cannot dare to initiate any action against corruption because the Congress is itself the fountainhead of corruption. It is not enough to divest the corrupt from their posts but they are also required to be proceeded against strongly under the provisions of law so that they receive stringent punishment for their misdeeds. It is then only that corruption can be checked. The Prime Minister under whom so many scams are taking place has no moral right to continue in the office any more.

BJP has launched a nationwide movement against corruption. Probity, transparency and accountability are today not the guiding principles of politics that's why people are losing faith in politics day by day. It is dangerous for the democracy. Corruption is a big roadblock to good governance. To make Bharat a *vishwaguru*, we will have to make the country free of corruption.

Raja's arrest not an end in itself : Gadkari

Under immense pressure from Opposition CBI had to arrest former telecom Minister Shri A Raja. Earlier pressure by BJP forced UPA government to get Raja resigned from the IT and communication ministry. A. Raja is accused of the biggest scam (2G spectrum) in the history of mankind. Due to the scam Public exchequer has lost unprecedented amount of Rs.1, 76,379 crore. BJP leaders lambasted Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh for not acting against Raja for three years, the party called his "silence" as an attempt to "save his chair".

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said Raja's arrest was not the end in itself. "Who is the godfather behind him. It should come to light who was his boss," he said.



Shri Gadkari added the decisions made by Raja and other ministers had the clearance of the Cabinet and the PM "somewhere or other during the process".

"The arrest of Raja would not dent its campaign against the UPA. "Others cannot get away by sacrificing Kalmadi and Raja, though the two may be guilty. The government cannot make them scapegoats and get away," Shri Gadkari said.

"You did not act for three years and allowed him to indulge in wrong doings and corruption. After three years, you arrest him but that money cannot be brought back," said Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha **Shri Arun Jaitley**.



"The allocation of spectrum at a grossly under stated value and selection of persons as an act of favoritism to whom it is to be allotted took place in 2007, early 2008. More than three years have elapsed and for over three years this government was in denial," Arun Jaitley said.

He maintained that the government kept defending Raja despite the opposition, media pressure and repeated debates in Parliament.

"The Prime Minister maintained even late last

year that Raja did nothing wrong, he did what his predecessor did. (Kapil) Sibal maintained a fortnight ago that Raja had caused no loss to the exchequer," Jaitley said.

Alleging that the government was involved in this "cover-up exercise", BJP insisted that Raja's arrest was a "belated action" which had come under pressure from the judicial system, Parliament, the public and media.

"I wish the Prime Minister, instead of living in denial, had acted three years ago so that this huge, monumental loss to the public exchequer had not taken place," Shri Jaitley said.

However, BJP maintained that its stand on JPC would not be diluted.

"Our stand on JPC remains because it is on much larger issues. Why was the Telecom portfolio kept only for DMK? Why within DMK it was kept only for A Raja? How and why some policies were framed? And the role of middlemen," Shri Jaitley said.

He claimed that these issues did not relate directly to the "culpability" of A Raja and so a JPC was needed to look into the larger issues.



Criticizing the telecom minister Shri Kapil Sibal, Rajya Sabha MP **Shri Venkaiah Naidu** said, "He(Sibal) had argued that in allocation of 2G spectrum there was zero loss to the exchequer. He had criticised the Opposition, taken on the CAG crossing all limits of parliamentary and constitutional propriety and had given a clean chit to Raja."

Continued on page 28...

String of scandals have exposed true face of Congress : Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

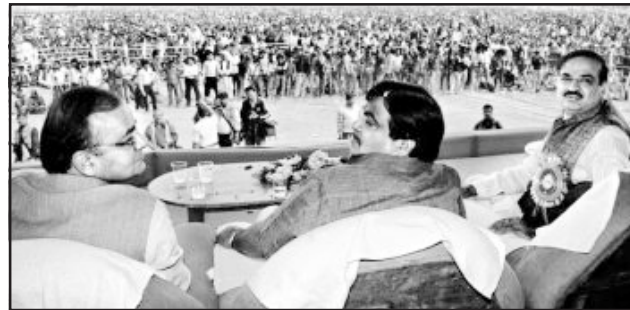
Addressing a massive rally in Patna on February 05, 2011 BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari severely criticized the Congress led UPA leadership for its inability to tackle surging inflation, sky-high corruption and said that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is the only alternative to the UPA government in the next Parliamentary elections. The rally was organized to felicitate party workers for the success in the recently concluded Assembly polls in Bihar where the BJP led NDA swept 207 of the 243 seats, with the BJP bagging 92 of the 102 it contested, and JD (U) winning 115, decimating the Opposition in the process.

Holding the Congress responsible for the CWG, the 2G spectrum, and the Adarsh Housing Society scams, Shri Gadkari said the money lost

could have been used to change the face of rural India. Criticising Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh for failing to name those who had stashed away money in Swiss banks, he said every Indian would have gained Rs. 2.34 lakh, had the money parked abroad been retrieved by the Central government. Instead, the Congress leadership has not made any effort to do so he said.

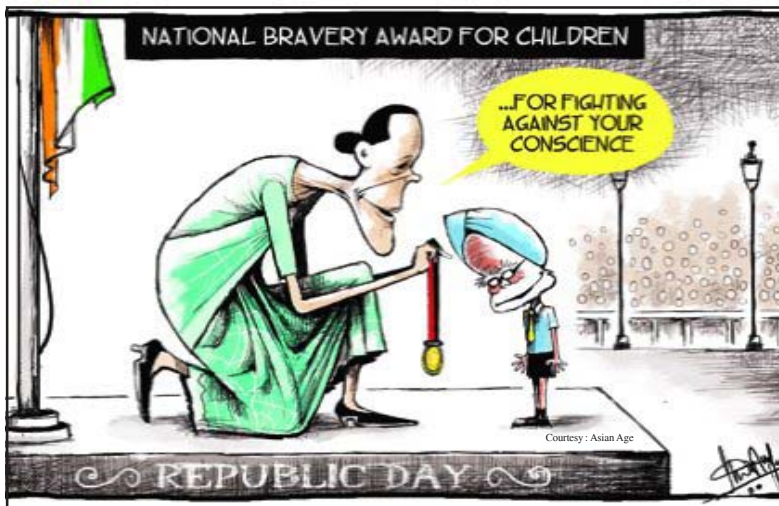
Shri Nitin Gadkari charged that regional parties such as Lalu Prasad's Rashtriya Janata Dal had been plundering the State, along with the Congress, for the last decade and a half, till the NDA formed its government in

2005. He said the people of Bihar has given fitting reply to these plunderers and expected that the NDA government will perform as per the expectations of the people. Addressing the rally Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley said that the 2G spectrum irregularities were unparalleled and the



scandals under the Congress led UPA regime had exposed the true face of the Congress party. He said owing to that the parliamentary elections could be held anytime in the near future.

Shri Jaitley commented that nepotism and expediency had always marked the Congress' policies. Why is it that the Telecommunications portfolio has been consistently allocated to a prominent member from the DMK? he asked, referring to the former Telecom Minister, A. Raja, while accusing the present Communications Minister Kapil Sibal of providing evasive and misleading answers that glossed over the losses incurred in the allocation of 2G spectrum licenses. ■





Rajnath flags off *Nav Jagran Rath Yatra*

From Our Correspondent

Former BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh on January 30 flagged off the party's 15-day *Nav Jagran Rath Yatra* from West Bengal's Cooch Behar district. The rally is to tour through several districts of the State and will be concluded at Rani Rasmoni Road in Kolkata on February 15.

Reason behind launching of the *Yatra* is to highlight the worsening law and order situation, rising prices and worthlessness of West Bengal's ruling Left Front and Opposition Trinamool Congress.

Launching the *Nav Jagran Rath Yatra*, Shri Rajnath Singh said the State should look for a viable alternative to the CPI(M), which had proved itself worthless. "It is time the people drive them out of Bengal," he said, calling upon the

voters to back the BJP.

The party had long term plans for Bengal, he said. "We have not come here as those who also ran," he said, adding that it was not going to "quit after the elections leaving back a faint footprint."

Rajya Sabha MP and party incharge of West Bengal Shri Chandan Mitra said, "No Party other than the BJP could deliver the state from the misrule of the CPI(M), apart from delivering the goods by bringing in all round development. For the first time during the NDA regime, the nation saw a record amount of developmental work taking place.

"West Bengal is a poor state and TMC is as much responsible for it as the Congress. The Left rule in the last 34 years has also affected the state. Similarly, corruption is a

big issue. The state government has given reservation to Muslims in jobs. We are opposed to reservations on religious grounds and will expose this pure votebank politics," said party's West Bengal in-charge Chandan Mitra.

The BJP could give the only viable alternative to the current regime by ushering in a plethora of development schemes, Shri Mitra said during the start of the rally even as thousands of locals thronged the two sides of the road till Alipurduar in Jalpaiguri district. The BJP -which had polled more than 7.5 per cent votes fighting alone in 1996 elections -came second in the Alipurduar parliamentary polls of 2009. The *yatra* would cover various districts and would culminate at Esplanade in Kolkata on February 15. ■



DMK was outsourced by Congress for looting people's money : Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

Addressing a huge rally in Chennai BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "For the 2G spectrum scam, the Congress had outsourced the DMK for making money with A Raja playing the lead role and Karunanidhi masterminding it."

Shri Gadkari was addressing the rally on the concluding day of the 40-day *Thamarai Yatra* (lotus yatra) which had been commenced across the State since November by BJP Tamilnadu State President Shri Pon Radhakrishnan to demand educational assistance to poor Hindu students.

Speaking in the rally Shri Gadkari said Congress is responsible for making 2010 "a year of scandals". The 2G scam, Commonwealth Games, Bofors case and Adarsh Housing Society scam, he said, placed the

total money swindled to 2,50,000 crore. He has alleged that the DMK was "outsourced" by the Congress for looting the people of the country in the 2G spectrum allocation. While Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi masterminded the "loot", former Union Telecom Minister A Raja played the key role.

He accused the Congress party for looting the people's money by using the DMK as a commercial shop. Shri Gadkari claimed that BJP was not making mere allegations on the spectrum scam, but was quoting from the CAG report.

Though AICC general secretary Shri Rahul Gandhi claimed that there was no dynastic rule in the country, Shri Gadkari observed that it was the young Gandhi who would benefit.

Talking about the black money, Shri Gadkari called upon

the UPA Government to disclose the names of Indians who have stashed away money in the Swiss banks.

"I want to ask a million dollar question to the Congress party. Why are you not declaring the names of those who have deposited the black money in Swiss bank accounts?" asked Shri Gadkari. He said that it was not just a issue of evading tax but a mind boggling crime.

"When NDA comes to power, we will bring all the black money back to India and spend it for the inter-linking of rivers to help the water-starved southern States," he said.

He asked the people to choose who they should follow – Rahul Gandhi who is against interlinking of rivers or former President APJ Abdul Kalam, who was for the interlinking.

Sympathizing with the

Tamils, Shri Gadkari said that it was the democratic duty of Sri Lanka to give fundamental rights to Tamils and assured that the NDA will support all efforts to get the fundamental rights for the Tamils. He not only promised to raise the issue in Parliament, but also announced a donation of '10 lakhs for the welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils from the BJP's Seva Committee.

"Being in power, both at the centre and the state the Congress-DMK combine has failed to control the rising prices," said Shri Gadkari. He added, "This rise in prices of essential commodities has made the life of common man miserable."

Addressing the media in Chennai, Shri Gadkari said: "It is very alarming to note that more than 500 fishermen have lost their lives in the bullets of Sri Lankan navy while fishing in the coastal water of Tamil Nadu. During this visit in Chennai it is noticed that there is sheathing anger in the fishing community."

People of Tamil Nadu have expressed anguish over the inaction of the DMK-led government in the state and the insensitive and casual attitude of the Congress-led UPA government at the centre, he said. He added, "It is sad to recall that we have lost two lives in the last fortnight alone. BJP has taken a serious note of the situation and would raise the issue in and outside the parliament."

He said, "The lack of administration is visible. It is appalling to note one industry after another is seeking destinations outside the state. The automobile industry, which developed around Sriperumbatur ("Detroit of

East") is unsure of its sustainability for reasons, which are extraneous to the market constraints. The failure of the state government in addressing these outstanding critical issues have resulted in this industry looking for greener pastures elsewhere. Skilled labour, which is in abundance in Tamil Nadu, are at the risk of losing their jobs."

He added "BJP believes that Tamil Nadu's fullest agricultural and industrial potential can be

realized if a permanent solution is found for its perpetual water shortage by inter-linking rivers. The secret of Gujarat's agricultural success has been the efforts taken by the BJP-led government in the state to inter-link its rivers. The state has so far inter-linked fourteen of its river to Narmada.

BJP would like to reiterate its position that this would be one of the first things it would address if it is elected to power." ■

BJP team visits Odisha to study *daal* scam

A BJP team, led by the party's national Secretary Shri Kirit Somaya, arrived in

Bhubaneswar on February 07 on a two-day visit to the State to study the multi-crore *Daal* scam before submitting a report to president Shri Nitin

Interacting with Somaya accused the Government of being

He said the BJP would prepare a memorandum on the *Daal* scam and other scams in Odisha to be submitted to the President of India.

A 12-member team, led by Shri Somaya along with State party leaders, would visit Ganjam, Deragarh, Balasore and Jajpur districts where the State Vigilance has exposed the large-scale irregularities in the procurement and distribution of *Daal*. The team is also scheduled to visit Jajpur, the home district of Pramila Mallick, who was virtually sacked from the post of Women and Child Development Minister for her alleged involvement in the scam.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, who was all along a silent spectator to the poisoning of the millions of kids should also come under the purview of the inquiry as an abettor, said State BJP President Shri Jual Oram. ■



party
Gadkari.

media persons Shri
Naveen Patnaik led State
corrupt and inhuman. He

said, *Daal men kala hai, our daal bhi kali hai.*

Sack Thomas immediately : Rajnath

The Congress led UPA Government's "policy paralysis" is pushing the country towards an unprecedented economic crisis. The poor and weaker sections of the society are forced to live a life of despair and distress. Even the people who belong to higher income groups are feeling the pinch of escalating prices stoked by rampant inflation. The incumbent Government at the Centre is completely clueless and its economic mismanagement has taken the inflation to all time highs.

Inflation coupled with corruption is taking its toll on Indian economy. The Government has been a big failure when it comes to dealing with both these issues. According to Transparency International, India today is one of the most corrupt economies of the world.

Last year we witnessed scams after scams but the UPA Government was seen reluctant to take concrete action against corruption and the corrupt. An entire Session of Parliament was washed away due to Government refusal to order a Joint Parliamentary committee (JPC) enquiry into the 2G spectrum allocation.

We continue to stick with our demand for JPC and the Government continues to run the risk of putting the forthcoming Budget Session in jeopardy. It is

the Government's responsibility to ensure Parliament's smooth functioning. Therefore it should institute a JPC enquiry into the 2G spectrum allocation before the commencement of Budget Session of Parliament. The

The Leader of Opposition Smt Sushma Swaraj had raised an objection when the issue of his appointment as the CVC was brought before the selection panel. However the Government decided to ignore her note of



Former BJP national President Shri Rajnath Singh issued a press statement while he was participating on January 29 in the 'Save Kerala Padyatra' in Kozhikode led by Kerala BJP President Shri V Muraleedharan

Government seems to be mistaken that the Opposition parties are not ready for elections. The BJP is ready to face the mid term polls if the situation arises.

The Government should understand that corruption not only presents a systemic risk to our economy but also puts the credibility of India at risk. The UPA Government's track record on action against corruption and the corrupt is shady, questionable and dismal. It appointed Mr PJ Thomas as the CVC of the country who was chargesheeted in Palmoline scam.

dissent and went ahead to appoint him as the CVC. It even defended the indefensible by filing an affidavit in the Supreme Court and declared Mr Thomas "a person of impeccable integrity." In spite of a sharp criticism from the civil society and Judiciary, the Government has not removed him from his post.

The manner in which Mr PJ Thomas has been appointed by the UPA Government indicates that the Government has ulterior motives. The Prime Minister should explain to the people that what kind of message the Government wants to give by

patronizing people who have tainted credentials?

Corruption needs to be dealt with integrity and firm conviction. The BJP demands that the Government should immediately sack Mr Thomas from his post. He should be sacked under Rule 6 (3) (e) of the CVC Act. This law states that the President of India can remove the CVC if he "has acquired such financial or other interests as is likely to affect prejudicially his functions as CVC".

India needs repatriation of 'Black Money'

According to the data provided by the GFI (Global Financial Integrity), India has more black money than the rest of the world combined. India has almost 22.5 lakh crores of black money stashed away in Swiss banks and other tax heavens. This amount is nearly half of the total GDP of the country and around 13-14 times of our total foreign debt. At a time when the Government is grappling with the malady of heavy fiscal deficit, bringing the black money back to the country will give our economy a much needed boost.

The Government has also acknowledged this fact on several occasions and even promised to work towards repatriation of Black Money to India.

Unfortunately the country is yet to witness the seriousness and tenacity to take any meaningful step in this direction. The Government seems to be hiding behind international treaties and other legal

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obligations to shield those who hold accounts in Swiss banks. The Supreme Court has directed the Government to reveal the names who were involved in plundering the country but it is reluctant.

Countries like the US and Germany have been successful in getting their money back by taking concrete steps and even

The Leader of Opposition Smt Sushma Swaraj had raised an objection when the issue of his appointment as the CVC was brought before the selection panel. However the Government decided to ignore her note of dissent and went ahead to appoint him as the CVC. It even defended the indefensible by filing an affidavit in the Supreme Court and declared Mr Thomas "a person of impeccable integrity."

made amendments in existing laws to bring the money back to the home country. The United Nations has passed a Convention on corruption and now laws are being drafted for the repatriation of money. The question arises what is stopping the UPA Government to work on similar lines?

The UPA Government has deliberately delaying and diverting the process of recovery because it is afraid that a quick response on this issue will expose many money trails which will establish its links to higher ups in the Congress party.

The BJP believes that the black money stashed away in Swiss banks is generated through illegal and corrupt means; hence the Government should make sincere efforts to bring it back by constituting a legal framework for its repatriation.

People in Kerala feel betrayed by the LDF-UDF

The development and prosperity of Kerala has come to a standstill during the incumbent LDF regime. Unemployment has increased manifold in the recent years.

Earlier people in Kerala used to find employment in Gulf countries but after the recession the "money order" economy of the State has taken a hit. Due to absence of employment opportunities in Kerala the people here are forced to migrate to the neighbouring states.

The inefficiency and insensitivity of the State Government was clearly evident in the recent tragedy of Sabarimala

Temple where more than 100 people died in a stampede as it was least bothered about the safety and security of devotees who throng in large numbers on religious occasions.

People in Kerala are disgruntled with the present LDF Government headed by Shri VS Achuthanandan. They have also been witness to the Congress led UDF rule which has ended on disappointing note. They feel betrayed now and looking for a third alternative in the Kerala.

Shri Rajnath Singh expressed his happiness on the Kerala BJP's decision to undertake 'Save Kerala Padyatra' to highlight the plight of people in the State.

"I firmly believe that the Assembly elections scheduled later this year will give the people much needed opportunity to teach the State Government a lesson," he said. ■



BJP priority to serve the poorest among the poor : Gadkari

A meeting of Scheduled Castes Ministers and other Ministers holding Social Justice Portfolio from BJP/ NDA ruled nine States took place on 3rd of Feb 2011 at Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi. This meeting was in continuation of the agenda adopted at National Convention on Good Governance held in June 2010 at Mumbai.

While inaugurating the meeting BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari called upon these Ministers to effectively and expeditiously implement various welfare schemes for the benefit of the downtrodden and needy sections of their respective States. He urged them to ensure corruption free administration in their respective Departments and Ministries.

Emphasizing the spirit of 'Antyodaya' Shri Gadkari asked them to craft policies to serve the last man in the queue and aim at reaching out to the most marginalized sections of the society.

He appealed them to execute development oriented schemes for the all round development of poor and oppressed by ensuring absolute transparency and performance audit of all welfare schemes.

Shri Gadkari emphasized the need for eradication of untouchability and bringing social harmony among various sections of society. The BJP President stated that the misleading and malicious campaign by the Congress and its allies being BJP as anti-Dalit and anti-poor has now been

dispelled as majority of these sections are satisfied with BJP/ NDA Governments which are committed for their overall development.

Addressing the meeting, Smt Sushma Swaraj, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, said that in BJP ruled States we have ministers holding key Portfolios from SC community, which establishes that the party values the capability & merit to govern rather than considering their caste background. She asked them to use this opportunity to serve the society at large and their community members in particular, as it is their responsibility to uplift these sections.

The Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha stated that "You have got an opportunity to serve the

people, so introduce and execute at least one welfare scheme that can modify the life style of the poor and oppressed sections which will revolutionize the whole community.

While emphasizing the need to educate Dalit youth she said that all the impediments should be removed.

All the Ministers narrated various welfare schemes being executed in their respective states and the progress thereof. They also highlighted the biased approach of the Congress led UPA Government in the matter of releasing funds to their States almost before the end of financial year with the result that they find it difficult to use the entire fund in time.

They requested BJP Central leadership to take up their grievance to Central Government.

All the participants agreed that the Rangnath Mishra Commission Report, if accepted by the Central Govt, it will adversely affect the development prospects of Scheduled Castes. They therefore decided to continue with their protest against the Rangnath Mishra Commission Report, which has recommended the inclusion of the converted Dalit Christians and Muslims in the category of Scheduled castes.

The meeting was also addressed by Shri Thavar Chand Gehlot, BJP National General Secretary and Shri Fakirbhai Waghela, Minister of Social Justice Govt of Gujarat and Convenor of this meeting which was presided by Shri Dushyant Kumar Gautam and conducted by BJP National spokesperson Shri RamNath Kovind. ■

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Inhuman treatment to Indian students in US condemnable : Anurag Thakur

BJYM strongly condemns the action of some US universities who are forcing Indian students to wear radio-tracking devices on their legs. BJYM National President Shri Anurag Thakur has said that BJYM opposes the action of US authorities for having allowed such inhuman and discriminatory practice against Indian students studying in US. We will register our strong protest by taking to the streets if needed, he said. He also criticised the Congress led UPA government in remaining a mute spectator to these humiliations being meted out to Indian students and failing to bring relief to the Indian students studying in US. As per reports, several students, who were being duped in California-based 'sham' university were being forced to wear radio collars around their ankles so that authorities could keep track of their movements. ■



Kalraj Mishra appointed as UP BJP election campaign committee chief

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari appointed party Vice-President and Rajya Sabha MP Shri Kalraj Mishra as the head of the election campaign committee for Uttar Pradesh where polls are due in May next year.

Shri Mishra, has earlier held the post of UP BJP President.

Shri Gadkari also appointed Shri Rakesh Kumar as General Secretary (Organisation) for Uttar Pradesh. Shri Nagendra Nath has been appointed to the same post in Bihar.

Gadkari announces name of Co-conveners of BJP Media Cell

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Nitin Gadkari announced the names of following Co-conveners of Media Cell.

1. Shri K.K. Sharma
2. Shri Hans Bhalla
3. Shri Rajiv Issar
4. Shri Shilp Kumar

It is to be noted that Shri KK Sharma was earlier a member of the Kamal Sandesh Editorial Team. Kamal Sandesh *parivar* wishes him success.

NDA endorses BJP Task Force Report on "Indian Black Money Abroad in Secret Banks and Tax Havens"

The NDA discussed the contents of the Second Report of the BJP Task Force on "Indian Black Money Abroad in Secret Banks and Tax Havens". Drawing on authoritative references, this report has dealt with the issue from multi-dimensional perspectives of global economy, geo-politics and global financial distress. It spells out some national efforts that are needed to stop this outflow and to retrieve the lost wealth. The First Report was submitted to the BJP in April 2009. The NDA has broadly endorsed the Task Force's Report.

A copy of the second report and its executive summary is being distributed to the media and will be put on the website of the BJP.

The IMF estimates the global black economy at US \$18 billion which is considered an underestimate. The Finance Minister of India too has estimated that the quantum of Indian wealth stashed away in various tax havens may total to several lakh crores in Indian rupees!

The Supreme Court of India has characterized the amounts stashed away as "theft" and "plunder". The Government of India tends to treat the issue as a matter only of tax evasion. The Global Financial Integrity, a global NGO committed to financial transparency, says that

the Indian monies stashed away abroad consist of "tax evasion, corruption, bribery and kickbacks and criminal activities". Simply put, black money and its being stashed abroad are unpatriotic acts and they tantamount to financial terrorism. As early as 2007, Shri MK Narayanan, the then National Security Advisor expressed his concern regarding

Congress party have not been investigated, or investigation into which are being stymied. Furthermore, even though the Enforcement Directorate had 'proposed' to arrest Ali in December 2008 he has not been arrested as yet.

The government declared in June 2009, through the Presidential address to the Parliament, that it will



Press Statement issued on February 1, 2011 by Shri LK Advani, Acting Chairman, NDA, at a Press Conference

the possibility of terror funds coming through financial markets.

The report states how not just powerful countries like the US, but even smaller countries like Philippines, Peru, Nigeria and Tunisia could move the global opinion and the Swiss government to assist them in recovering hundreds of billions of dollars stashed away by their corrupt leaders. As a contrast in India even well known cases of bribery and money laundering, including the Liechtenstein Bank disclosures, the hawala affair of Hasan Ali, the Quattrocchi case and the alleged foreign account maintained in the name of a former Prime Minister of India belonging to the

vigorously pursue all necessary steps in coordination with the countries concerned. The NDA observes with dismay that notwithstanding this, the government has made no significant progress in this matter. The Government of India has not even ratified the UN Convention against Corruption which provides for procedures to recover lost wealth.

It is important to note that on 19, January 2011, the Supreme Court of India has demanded an "action taken" report on all "faceless" Indians who had moved their ill-gotten money overseas and "not treat it as merely tax avoidance".

I consider the suggestion for moral and ethical response from

the political class suggested by the Task Force to be most critical, as the political class must rise above suspicion. The Task Force has suggested that the leaders and important office bearers of political parties and Members of Parliament should declare that they or their kith and kin do not hold any undisclosed wealth abroad and that they should give individual letters to the

letter has not received any reply as yet.

The NDA demands:

- The Government of India immediately ratify the UN Convention against Corruption.
- The National Investigative Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate must register an FIR/complaint (as it did in the

capital have been illegally stashed away from India by Indians without declaring the same to the Indian authorities. Through this new law, it should be declared that the Government of India is the beneficiary of all those monies, assets and bank accounts held abroad by or to the benefit of Indian nationals. The law may contain due process clauses suggested by the Task Force to make it acceptable to other nations. On the basis of the said law, the Government of India can ask the countries where secret banking exists like Switzerland, to recognize Indian government as the beneficiary of the undeclared wealth and disclose the monies held by them.

The leaders and important office bearers of political parties and Members of Parliament should declare that they or their kith and kin do not hold any undisclosed wealth abroad and that they should give individual letters to the Enforcement Directorate and Income Tax Department authorising them to make enquiries with any government or bank to find out whether they have any wealth abroad. This commendable suggestion is intended to restore public confidence in the polity.

Enforcement Directorate and Income Tax Department authorising them to make enquiries with any government or bank to find out whether they have any wealth abroad. This commendable suggestion is intended to restore public confidence in the polity.

It was in April 2008 that I had first written a letter to the Prime Minister on the issue of Indian wealth stashed in foreign banks. This was in relation specifically to the LTG Bank in Lichtenstein.

After the BJP Task Force had given its first Report I had sent him that Report and urged him in a letter dated 19th April 2009 to pursue the matter.

On January 6, 2011 the NDA considered the issue and addressed a comprehensive [letter to the Prime Minister](#). The February 16-28, 2011 ○ 16

case of Punjab terrorism and Nagaland insurgency) against unknown accused persons who had stashed away monies abroad under the money laundering and anti-terror laws and proceed to investigate by inquiry, interrogation and even arrest. This omnibus FIR will facilitate a continuous investigation and continuous progress. As the investigations proceed, this may facilitate many specific FIRs and prosecutions, but still continue as the umbrella FIR, which will facilitate the continuance of the campaign against black money.

- Recognizing reports of the IMF and GFI, the Government of India should enact a law as huge Indian

- On the basis of the said law, the Government of India may ask the world governments and the different banks committed to secrecy such as the Swiss Banks, to recognize Indian government as the beneficiary of the undeclared wealth, bank account and other assets of the Indian nationals till the owner of the wealth, bank accounts and other assets is able to prove that he had acquired it by fair means and from legally valid sources.

Finally I appeal to the people of India, the judiciary, media, intellectuals, academics, and all public-spirited citizens to exert pressure on the Government and political leaders and compel them to act decisively on the issue forthwith. ■



Flying the Republic's flag

By Arun Jaitley

What legal right does the J&K state government have to detain and deport the two leaders of the opposition?

The *Ekta Yatra* of the BJP's Youth Wing covered 3500 km and passed through 12 states. It was a peaceful display of nationalism. The Yuva Morcha wanted to assert every Indian's right to fly the national flag on every inch of Indian soil. "Why do it in Kashmir and not in Chhattisgarh?" asked J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. A good question, which he himself should endeavour to answer. The chief minister of no other state had an objection to hoisting of the national flag. It is only he who objected.

The environment he created in the Kashmir valley is such that an attempt to hoist the national flag in Srinagar will "provoke" the separatists. It will be seen as an anti-Kashmiri move. He, therefore, launched a war on the Yatra.

The national flag is a symbol of India's honour and pride. Pandit Nehru described it in the Constituent Assembly as "a flag of freedom not for ourselves but a symbol of freedom for all people who may seek it." The



member from the Anglo-Indian community, Frank Anthony said that "while this is a symbol of our past, it inspires us for the future. This flag flies as a flag of the nation and it should be the duty of and privilege of every Indian not only to cherish and live under it but if necessary, to die for it."

The Supreme Court, while hearing the case of Naveen Jindal, now a Congress MP, described flying the flag as free speech, intended to highlight nationalism, patriotism and love for the motherland. The use of the national flag to express these sentiments is a fundamental right. When several separatists met at an auditorium in New Delhi three months ago to assault the very idea of India, calling it an unnatural nation-state that is

bound to disintegrate, they openly advocated the segregation of its territory from the Indian union. This seditious exercise was described as free speech. The Central government expressed its inability to take any action. However, the Chidambaram Omar combination, while expressing their inability to take action against seditious speeches, decided to prevent the exercise of nationalistic free speech when it came to carrying the national flag in Jammu & Kashmir.

Many have asked the question as to why anyone should have an objection to the carrying of the national flag. The answer indeed is intriguing as I endeavour to search for it.

Along with two of my colleagues, I landed in Jammu on the afternoon of January 24. Some policemen entered our aircraft and handed me an order, ostensibly under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which read as follows: "Whereas it has been reported that Shri Arun Jaitley is also landing in the district and there are inputs that the persons of these profile individuals (sic) is proning (sic) to create law and order problem besides heightening tension in

the district. Moreover, the security forces are extremely tied up with the law and order duties and maintaining very high level of vigil and surveillance that any further assignment connecting (sic) with the law and order problem are (sic) providing necessary security as per SOP to the high profile individuals under security cover, may not be possible."

We were, therefore asked to leave the district and the state of

Several important political and constitutional questions arise with regard to the steps taken by the state government. Jammu Division is not a disturbed area. Why is the holding of political rallies prohibited there?

Jammu & Kashmir. I had no doubt on the receipt of this order that it was illegal. The intention of the state government was suspect as its grammar. How could the power to issue a prohibitory order be used to extern us from the state?

We were there only to address a public meeting in Jammu and return. We were illegally detained at the airport for over six hours. We were not allowed to move out of the airport. After this illegal detention, we were misinformed that we were being taken to prison, and were "abducted." We were put in separate vehicles and driven for the next two-and-a-half hours and dropped outside J&K, at Madhopur in Punjab, at midnight. Fortunately, our political colleagues in Punjab became aware of our presence at the border and arrived in large numbers to put us in their vehicles and find suitable lodging for us.

The next afternoon, we re-entered the state carrying the February 16-28, 2011 O 18

national flag, along with Anurag Thakur, the president of our youth wing, and were arrested for violation of the same prohibitory orders.

Several important political and constitutional questions arise with regard to the steps taken by the state government. Jammu Division is not a disturbed area. Why is the holding of political rallies prohibited there? Can CrPC's Section 144 be used for externing

the two leaders of the parliamentary opposition from the state? Where is the source of power to physically put the two of us, along with our colleagues, in a vehicle, and without a legal order in writing throw us outside the state? Can the power under Section 144 of CrPC to issue prohibitory orders be utilised to arrest people for holding the national flag in Srinagar -even a solitary political worker? Where is the source of power for committing all these illegalities? In Srinagar all those who reached the Lal Chowk and the Dal Gate holding the national flag were arrested and physically assaulted. Some have even suffered fractures. I have personally brought this to the notice of the CM and DGP of the state.

The BJP Yuva Morcha's exercise has energised the BJP cadres. It has exercised public opinion. The political consequences of the debate apart, what was the message that the Chidambaram Omar duo was

trying to convey? They hijacked trains to prevent political workers from reaching the Jammu border.

They shabbily treated the leaders of opposition with the utmost discourtesy, detaining them illegally and deporting them without authority of law. They reduced the republic to a relic: on Republic Day, holding a national flag became a ground for arrest and torture. Why did they do so?

Omar Abdullah wanted to convey a message to the Valley: "I stopped the BJP rally." He wanted to increase his acceptability there even if it created an adverse opinion against him in the rest of the country. The home minister apparently agreed without realising the longterm consequences. He joined Omar in psychologically surrendering to the separatists' psyche. They converted the flying of the national flag into a prohibited activity.

The fact that many BJP workers reached Lal Chowk and flew the national flag even at the cost of their personal safety was an assault on the arrogance of the state administration.

The Ekta Yatra is over. But the political debate continues. How do you politically and emotionally integrate the state of J&K with the rest of India? Is it by weakening the political and constitutional relationship, something that started in 1950, or by strengthening it?

Most of India knows the answer. I only hope that the Chidambaram-Omar duo abandons living in denial. ■

(The writer is the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha)

“Indian money in the foreign countries - way forward”

UPA neck-deep in corruption : Nitin Gadkari

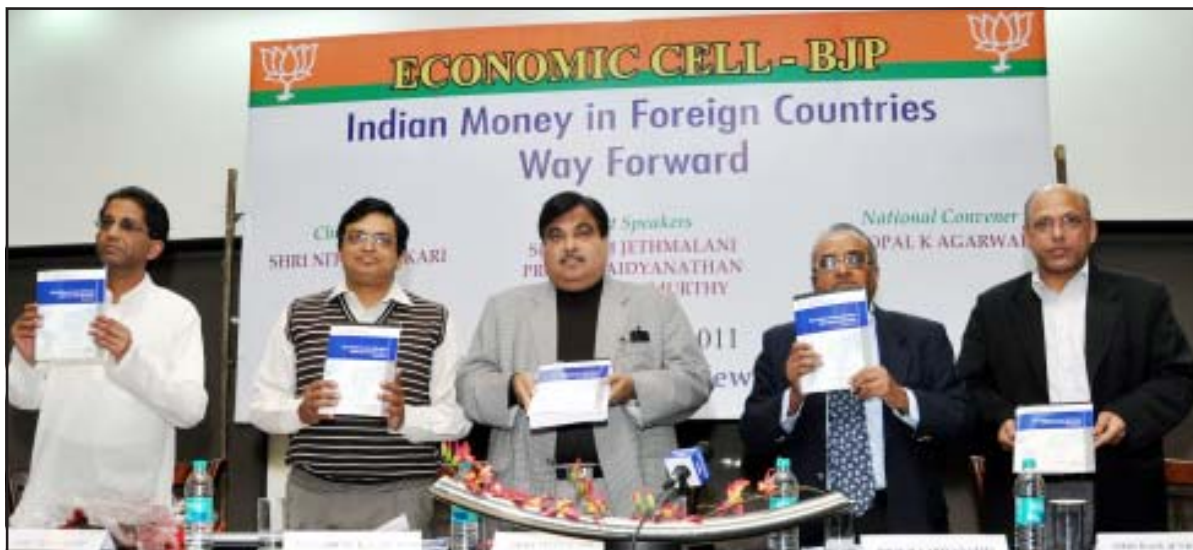
From Our Correspondent

All round corruption and recovery of Indian money in foreign countries is one of the biggest concerns of the people of the country and therefore one of the important agenda of the party. Economic cell of BJP organized a programme on the “Indian money in the foreign countries - way forward” on 2nd February

shortcomings and the ineffectiveness of the various legislations and institutions and the failure of the government to tackle the menace. Further, it analyses the successful international efforts to stop Tax Haven misuse and recovery of illegal moneys. It busts the myth generated by the present government that the money is not

sparrow imprisonment in the cage of corruption.

In his address, BJP President Shri Nitin Gadkari said that the government is neck deep involved into corruption and has no will to move against it. BJP has resolved to root out the problem and therefore urges the government to make public the names of the culprits and punish



2011 in New Delhi.

The chief guest of the function, BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, released a research report on ‘Ways and Means to recover Indian Money stashed away in Foreign Countries’ prepared by the Cell. The 50-page document outlines the state of existing anti-corruption mechanism in the country and brings out the

recoverable. Giving out the details about the strategy and process involved to move forward the report suggests legislations to be put in place. In the annexure, successful international case studies are also given.

Corruption can be removed by mass movement only. One logo was also released showcasing Indian golden

the guilty.

Speaking at the function Prof. R Vaidyanathan said that the amount is large enough to sustain economic development of the country and the recovery is very much possible.

Cell Convener Shri Gopal K Agarwal said that, the authorities create a stake of the elite in the establishment and therefore it is through mass

movement only that we can fight corruption. India is rising today. This money belongs to the people and we will bring it back. Slogans and posters were put at the venue demanding government to bring back our National wealth.

The Constitution Club Hall where the function was held was full to capacity. The programme generated lot of interest on the subject. Many NGO's like Human Rights Defense India (Shri Rajesh Gogna), Chetna (Shri Anil Sood), Transparency International (Shri Rajeev Kakaria), Vivekanand International (Shri Kanitkar), Depository Participants Association of India (Shri R C Maheshwari), Association of National Exchanges Members of India (Shri V D Agarwal), Samkalp (Shri Rajesh Jain), RSS (Shri Dattatrey Hosbole), Bhartiya Vitta Salahkar Samiti (Shri Praveen Kant, Shri Anil Gupta), Art of Living (Dr. J P Gupta), PHD Chamber of Commerce (Shri Vijay Mehta, Shri Vishwanath), Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (Shri Gopal Kedia) and many senior colleagues from the party organization and cells like BJP National General Secretary Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, BJP National Spokespersons Shri Ravishankar Prasad, Shri Rajeev Pratap Rudy and Shrimati Nirmala Seetharaman, BJP Morcha & Cell Prabhari Shri Mahendra Pandey, Shri Ravi Wig, Shri Sudhir Agarwal, Shri Rajesh Sharma, Shri Ashwini Kumar, Dr. Arvind Gupta, Shri Shrikant Sharma, Shri Amba Charan and many professionals like lawyers, Chartered Accountants, Lecturers and

activist attended the program in large numbers. The program was Webcasted live by the party. Media presence in large number also brought out the fact about the keen interest in the subject.

Cell Co-convener Shri Rajashekar welcomed the guests and Shri Anil Sharma thanked

everybody present. Due to large gathering, screen was also put in the adjacent hall. BJP President Shri Nitin Gadkari asked the cell to conduct similar programmes on the subject in other cities of the country and generate awareness on the topic amongst the masses. ■

BJP will take up rehabilitation process of the 25,000 fishermen of the Loktak Lake

The national committee of the BJP -comprising BJP National Vice President Smt. Bijoya Chakraborty MP, BJP National General Secretary Shri Tapirgao, BJP National Secretary Shri Kirit Somaiya completed its two-day visit to Manipur on January 30.

The team was in Manipur to scrutinize alleged scams under the SPF Government, including Phumdi clearance project of Loktak Lake and primary teachers' recruitment.

The team also looked into various other allegations against the Congress Governments in the northeastern States. The preliminary reports of 21 alleged scams in the North East have been published by the party under the banner "Loot in the North-East".

Speaking to mediapersons Shri Somaiya stated that there were as many as 21 scams in the North East under the Congress regime out of which 11 are in Assam, five in Arunachal Pradesh, three of Manipur and one each of Mizoram and Meghalaya.

The team will soon submit a final report to a high-level committee of the BJP on February 11, which will then, submit the reports to the President of India and other investigative agencies, including the CBI and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on February 15, he said.

Smt. Bijoya Chakraborty said the Congress-led SPF Government in Manipur has been siphoning off funds meant for the development of the State for quite a long time.

The team also assured the fishermen of Loktak Lake that necessary steps will be initiated by the party to revoke the Loktak Lake (Protection) Act, 2006 under which fishing and other activities will be banned.

They also urged the concerned State Government to take up rehabilitation process of the 25,000 fishermen of the Loktak Lake before they are flushed out from the lake in the name of conservation. ■

India's Name Sullied by Corruption Gujarat a Contrast

By L.K. Advani

On Republic Day every year, after witnessing the Parade at the Rajpath I have been having a mini flag-hoisting ritual at my residence also. The participants are mainly the security personnel on duty at my place. This year my daughter

family budget has been totally upset by food inflation and the cost of petrol diesel etc., but also because our country has come to be known all over the world as among the most corrupt countries of the world.

I well recall the few months

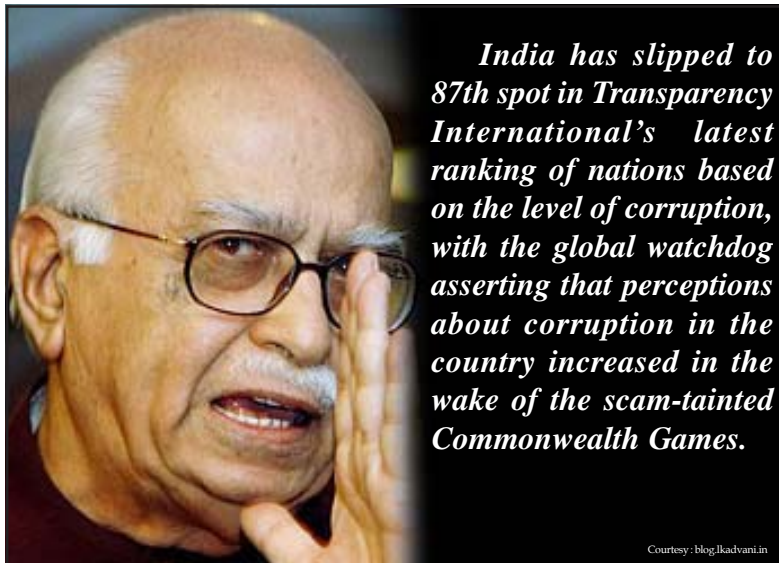
Transparency Corruption Index." The report reads, "India has slipped to 87th spot in Transparency International's latest ranking of nations based on the level of corruption, with the global watchdog asserting that perceptions about corruption in the country increased in the wake of the scam-tainted Commonwealth Games."

Transparency International's 'Corruption Perception Index' report covering the public sector in 178 countries shows that India fell by three positions from its ranking of 84th in 2009.

With an integrity score of 3.3, India is now ranked 87th in the world in terms of corruption. Neighbouring China is ahead of India in the list at 78th place, with a score of 3.5. It was at 79th position in 2009.

"India has gone down in the ranking as well as integrity score and this is a matter of concern and regret. It appears that the level of governance has not improved despite India having a skilled set of administrators," Transparency International India Chairman P S Bawa said here.

The rankings, on a scale of 0 to 10, are based on the extent of corruption and each government's ability to punish and contain corrupt activities, among other criteria. A score of



India has slipped to 87th spot in Transparency International's latest ranking of nations based on the level of corruption, with the global watchdog asserting that perceptions about corruption in the country increased in the wake of the scam-tainted Commonwealth Games.

Courtesy: blog.lkadvani.in

Pratibha had for them a screening of her one hour documentary "Vande Mataram".

To the media persons present I said, Republic Day is a day when every Indian should feel a sense of pride that he belongs to a great country that is respected the world over.

It can hardly be denied that the year just concluded has caused extreme distress and depression to the citizen not only because the common man's

that preceded the Commonwealth Games in Delhi. Most conversations with friends and acquaintances abroad would invariably touch the issue of Games and we would learn that all the news items shown on foreign TV Channels about the New Delhi sports event are only about scams and scandals. I am not at all surprised to see therefore a recent report on the Outlook website with the headline: "India slips to No.87 in

zero is perceived to be highly corrupt while 10 would indicate the lowest level of corruption.

According to the report: "The perception about corruption in India seems to have increased primarily due to alleged corrupt practices in the recently held Commonwealth Games (CWG) in Delhi."

As many as four investigating agencies – the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), Enforcement Directorate (ED), Income Tax Department and Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)- are looking into allegations of corruption against the organisers of the CWG, which concluded here earlier this month.

The top three countries with the lowest level of corruption globally, as ranked by Transparency International, are Denmark, New Zealand and Singapore.

Denmark was ranked first in the report, with an integrity score of 9.3, while New Zealand and Singapore came second and third with a similar score.

Bhutan was the best performer in the South Asian region and was ranked 37th, with an integrity score of 5.7.

The report is based on 13 surveys conducted throughout the year by various international bodies, including the World Bank, the European Union, the International Monetary Fund and the Freedom House Foundation.

New para for translate

On the national level, the scene is really depressing. In contrast one feels proud to hear the reports that have been coming from Gujarat lately.

Since 2003, every alternate
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year, Gujarat has been holding a Vibrant Gujarat programme.

Four programmes have been held till now—in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009. This year's Vibrant Gujarat attracted 101 countries, and about 1400 foreign delegates. MOUs worth Four Hundred Sixty Two billion US dollars, that is, roughly, one third of India's GDP were signed in two days flat.

In May 2010, I had written about the excellent *Swarnim Gujarat Samaroh* (Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Gujarat's formation) organized by Chief Minister Narendrabhai Modi. A new project announced on the occasion was the Mahatma Mandir in the capital Gandhinagar. It was also declared that the next Vibrant Gujarat programme in early 2011 would be held in the Mahatma Mandir. The project conceived was so ambitious that many

doubted as to how such a project could be completed so soon. But all credit to Narendrabhai that he saw to it that this monumental splendour located on a 34 acre plot was constructed in just 182 days.

The multi purpose column-free air-conditioned Main Convention Hall where the Vibrant Gujarat Conclave was held in great style can seat 5000 people and provides immense scope for flexible space management. Besides, the Business Centre constructed can accommodate 15000 people at a time. The achievements in Gujarat have a lot to do with Narendra Bhai's astounding success in making the State's administration effectively curb red tape and corruption. It is this success that attracts entrepreneurs, Indian as well as foreign very naturally to Gujarat.■

Country has lost a master strategist on national security affairs : Gadkari

The BJP President Shri Nitin Gadkari expressed his profound grief and sorrow over the demise of Shri K. Subrahmanyam and said the country has lost a master strategist on national security affairs.

In a condolence message, Shri Gadkari said Shri Subrahmanyam was a true nationalist who dedicated his entire life in promoting India's security mechanisms, both in the conventional segment as well as in the nuclear field.

The BJP always held him in high esteem, Shri Gadkari said.

Shri K Subrahmanyam passed away on February 2, 2011. Born in 1929, Subrahmanyam succumbed to his lung and cardiac ailment in Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). He was 82 years old. Subrahmanyam is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter.■



UPA forces *Aam Aadmi* to live a life of despair & distress : Rajnath

From Our Correspondent

BJP's Mahasangram rally was organised at Phoolbagh ground in Kanpur on February 5, 2011. The rally was part of a series of rallies which the NDA is holding nationwide to make masses aware about corruption prevailing in the country and about UPA's failure to check the spiralling prices of food and other essential commodities. The rally was attended by former National President Shri Rajnath Singh, the party National Vice-President Shri Kalraj Mishra and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, National General secretary and Party incharge of Uttar Pradesh Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, BJP state President Shri Surya Pratap Shahi, BJP National Vice President Smt Karuna Shukla, National Secretary Shri Santosh Gangwar and former UP BJP President Keshari Nath Tripathi.

Addressing the rally Shri Rajnath Singh said, whenever Congress comes to power, it brings *Mehangai (Jab-jab Congress satta me aati hai Mehangai lati hai)*. He added, "We stick to our demand for a Joint Parliamentary Committee probe into 2G spectrum allocation and other scams and will not allow Parliament to function during the Budget session."

"The Congress led UPA Government's policy paralysis is pushing the country towards an unprecedented economic crisis.

The poor and weaker sections of the society are forced to live a life of despair and distress", he said.

He lambasted Mayawati Government for mal-administration in the state.

Speaking in the rally at the Phoolbagh, Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said, "Not only Raja, there are many 'maharajas' and

President Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. They are not striving to stop spiralling prices of essential commodities. The price rise has broken all the previous records. Under the Mayawati rule parliamentarians and legislatures are indulging in rape and extorting money from



'maharanis' of corruption. Youth are dying for jobs and the policies of the government are not in the interests of the common man." Naqvi said that his party would raise the issues of corruption and inflation throughout the country. The days of the Congress government are numbered, he added.

He said, "Bugle of change in Uttar Pradesh has been sounded from Phoolbagh. Under the leadership of BJP next government will be formed and corrupts will be brought to book and jailed.

All corruption and scandal at center is taking place under the patronage of UPA Chairperson and Congress

common people. We all should pledge to bring an end to this tyrannical rule. BJP government in the state has become a necessity to bring an era of justice and prosperity.

Addressing the rally Shri Kalraj Mishra highlighted failures of UPA government and its corrupt practices. He said, "Mayawati government in UP and Congress led UPA at Center both are indulging in corruption. At center, every day a new scandal comes to light."

The rally ground was packed with people and party activists. People and party activist were raising slogans like *Bharat Mata Ki Jai and Vande Matrum*. ■

Buying time and secrecy?

By Rajiv Pratap Rudy

The apex court of the country had to once again come to the rescue of the country and fill the executive vacuum left by the Congress-led UPA. Its observations on the revelation of the names of Indians holding money in Swiss accounts are rather embarrassing. Adding to the shame is a wishy-washy press conference by the finance minister which obscured the issue, rather than clearing it up.

Usually the Supreme Court refrains from making harsh comments, but it seems that the judges were aghast at the government's arguments -hence phrases like "pure and simple theft" and "gigantic amounts plundered from national economy" and "how many zeros are there in that".

The necessity of such words, usually not part of court language, should turn any government red with shame. The bench vividly expresses bewilderment and anguish that, while the West is growing more active in producing evidence for illegal transnational transactions, India has taken a complete U-turn on the issue.

Worldwide, countries have joined ranks to battle against tax havens, and have consistently been working to end banking secrecy which veils underhand transactions. The most recent example: UBS, the largest Swiss bank, was compelled by the US administration to reveal the



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names of tax evaders under the threat of being sued. The Swiss authorities amended bank laws and gave the desired data to the United States.

Our prime minister instead says that black money information cannot be made public because of international treaty obligations. The worst was when he himself said that there is no instant solution to bring it back. While doing so, the PM had completely forgotten his earlier commitment to the nation: he said he would initiate steps to recover more than one lakh crore rupees illegally stashed in Swiss banks

within 100 days of assuming power.

The former Himachal Pradesh chief minister and Rajya Sabha MP, Shanta Kumar, raised this issue recently. In a parliamentary delegation to participate in the UN General Assembly on the anti-corruption convention in October last year, Swiss representative Matthias Bachmann told him the Swiss government was committed to returning what it considers to be "stolen money" -and, besides, they had signed and ratified the UN convention against corruption. Indeed, the Swiss ambassador has categorically stated that there is no request whatsoever from the Indian government to reveal the names of those people whose money has been kept in Swiss banks. Such absolute inaction in this regard makes the Manmohan Singh government in some way culpable.

Shanta Kumar stated that out of 142 signatories of the UN convention on corruption, only 22 have not ratified it; India figures prominently amongst them. A GoM is still debating whether corporate and private houses have to be brought under the convention or not -indeed a flimsy excuse.

Apparently, the government is overtly and covertly attempting to cover up the black money issue.

While no one knows the actual amount, several sources

claim more than Rs 130 lakh crore was stashed away by 2001, which exceeded Rs 285 lakh crore by 2007, showing an increase of more than 80 per cent in six years. There is nothing surprising about this; that several wealthy Indians have quietly siphoned money to Swiss banks and tax havens around the world, while evading taxes and being conduits for illicit deals, is obvious. There could be wild allegations made against the top brass of the Congress, a fine political opportunity to many for mudslinging. And the more time passes, the more time there is for those under the scanner to shift their cash to safer houses.

And this in spite of the fact that, on July 30, 2009,

The former Himachal Pradesh chief minister and Rajya Sabha MP, Shanta Kumar, raised this issue recently. In a parliamentary delegation to participate in the UN General Assembly on the anti-corruption convention in October last year, Swiss representative Matthias Bachmann told him the Swiss government was committed to returning what it considers to be “stolen money”.

Manmohan Singh categorically told the Rajya Sabha that action has already started for getting back money belonging to Indians from Swiss banks. He intervened, suo motu, to refer to the statement of the finance minister in his reply to the Finance Bill in the House, stating that the FM had specifically dealt with this aspect and had said that action has already started.

It is noteworthy that, whether it is the 2G scam, whether it is Swiss bank money, or any other issue related to corruption under the UPA, the SC has been compelled to intervene.

In the light of the SC's remarks, it would be desirable for the PM to clarify whether he chose to mislead the House by making a statement which has been contradicted by the SC. It is a matter of propriety and also a matter of privilege of the House. A straight answer from the PM would enable Mr Clean to keep his conscience clear.

The finance minister's press conference just raised more questions; his suggested five-pronged strategy fully establishes the government's intentions to postpone the core issue: disclosing the names of the guilty.

The delays and time-buying techniques all deserve a reply from no one other than the prime minister. ■

(The writer is a Rajya Sabha MP and national spokesperson of the party)

UPA caught up in a new spectrum scam

UPA Government at Center again was caught up in another new spectrum scam. This time this scam is related to allocation of 70 MHz of S-band spectrum by Antrix Corporation, the commercial arm of the ISRO, to a private firm, Devas Multimedia Private Ltd, owned by former ISRO scientific secretary M G Chandrasekhar.

The Hindu newspaper reported that CAG had estimated that the allocation without bidding had resulted in a loss of over Rs 2 lakh crore to the national exchequer — which would make it more than some of the estimates of the loss from the 2G scam.

It is pertinent to note that the Department of Space comes directly under the Prime Minister.

BJP nationalspokes person Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, reacting on this new episode of scandal said, “Whole affair was vitiated by fraud”. “The BJP demands that the government nullify the agreement for the allocation of S-band spectrum to a private firm and establish a comprehensive inquiry to establish the criminality behind the allocation. The government must recover the revenue lost to the government as well. We demand an immediate explanation from the Prime Minister,” She said, noting that the Department of Space that looks after ISRO is controlled by the PM. The party also pointed out that while government-owned BSNL and MTNL acquired licences for 20 MHz of S-band Spectrum for about Rs 12,487 crore, Devas was apparently allocated 70MHz in that band for just about Rs 1,000 crore.

“This is the first time allocation for this band has taken place. It is a unique band, relates to a very high MHz frequency. And this allocation was done very quietly, without any public auctioning,” Smt. Sitharaman said. ■

History repeating itself?

Autocracy & arrogance surfacing in Congress

By Amba Charan Vashishth

In the 1971 elections to Lok Sabha, the late Mrs. Indira Gandhi won a landslide victory. But that did not make her bend with the weight of people's love and support. On the contrary, it made her more arrogant, aggressive and autocrat. She started thinking, as the then Congress President the late D. K. Baruah, dubiously remarked, "Indira is India and India is Indira". That feeling got into her head.

She then started speaking of a 'committed' administration – committed executive, committed legislature and committed judiciary. To an extent she succeeded too in having it when she arbitrarily imposed emergency on the country in June 1975. All the organs were too pliant and too willing to serve her whims and fancies. It was after more than 35 years that the Supreme Court had to admit that "a majority decision of a five-member Constitution bench upholding the suspension of fundamental rights during the Emergency in the Additional District Magistrate Jabalpur vs Shivakant Shukla case (1976) was "erroneous". (*The Times of India*, January 3, 2011)

Of late, the old signals seem to be emerging once again from the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. History may be repeating itself. He too seems

to be indirectly hinting at what Mrs. Indira Gandhi then wanted: a committed legislature, a committed executive and a committed judiciary. The signals are all the more intriguing as these today emanate from the person of Dr. Manmohan Singh who has never been a man of the masses but product of a nomination. During the last

and who not.

Somehow or the other it has so far been able to carry its will in the two houses of parliament too, except perhaps with two exceptions in Lok Sabha on the Women Reservation Bill and the demand for JPC.

When the institutions of the constitution, like the Comptroller & Auditor General of India

For all intents and purposes the present Congress led UPA government has a pliant executive. It has been able to put in place men of its own confidence be it the bureaucracy at the highest level at the Centre, the constitutional offices of the Election Commissioners, governors in States, CVC, CBI and who not.

about seven years he has failed to identify, nurture and seek mandate of the people from any of the 545 parliamentary constituencies in the country.

Even late P. V. Narasimha Rao who had been denied a Congress nomination to contest the Lok Sabha elections in 1991 did contest and win a seat from Andhra Pradesh after he became the Prime Minister.

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(CAG) and the judiciary have tried to discharge their duty as enshrined in the Constitution and their conduct is sour to the peculiar taste of the Congress, Dr. Manmohan Singh has not hesitated from pontificating them. From the day one when the controversy over the illegal conduct of his telecommunications minister A. Raja surfaced, both Dr. Singh and Congress supremo Mrs. Sonia Gandhi had declared in no uncertain terms that Raja had done nothing illegal and against the policy of the Government. A few days after the CAG presented its report on 2G spectrum scam Dr. Manmohan Singh could not help hiding his feelings of dismay at the report

when addressing a conference of CAG officers he advised them to make a distinction between “genuine error” and “wrongdoing”. Obviously, Dr. Singh was trying to put what Raja did in the category of “genuine error” and not a crime. Subsequent events have just mocked at his words.

The Congress and its government at the Centre are feeling uneasy at the turn of events in the Supreme Court of

Conference at Hyderabad on February 6, Dr. Manmohan Singh said: “While the power of judicial review must be used to enforce accountability, it must never be used to erode the legitimate growth assigned to other branches of the government.” He kept harping on the diffusion of sovereign power. “It is necessary to preserve the integrity and sanctity of the constitutional scheme premised on the

the judiciary on the other. But it is the judiciary with which the people have stood by and not the executive. It also cannot be ignored that judiciary has not volunteered to act but was forced to intervene when the executive and the legislature crossed the *Lakshmanrekha* of ethics and morality.

The nervousness of the government can be gauged by the fact that while on the one hand Dr. Manmohan Singh stands by “the power of judicial review to enforce accountability” and, on the other, his government even challenged the authority of judicial review. In the Supreme Court on January 18 it strongly defended the appointment of controversial bureaucrat PJ Thomas, facing a corruption case in a Kerala court, as Central Vigilance Commissioner, saying he was an “outstanding officer” with “impeccable integrity”. In an affidavit it said there was no need for “consensus” of the three-member high powered committee for his appointment and claimed that no statutory norms were violated. It added: “It is well settled that a question of suitability should be left to the wisdom of the appointing authority”.

Our Prime Minister is alive to the provisions of the Constitution earmarking separate compartments of functioning for the legislature, executive and judiciary but is oblivious, ironically, of that Article which makes the council of ministers “collectively” responsible for all its acts of omission and commission to the house of the people. ■

Writer is National Convenor of BJP Literature & Publication Cell)

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India be it the CWG scam, 2G spectrum scam or the appointment of CVC that came before it for judicial review,. He has now a word of advice for the judiciary too. Addressing the national conference on ‘Law and Governance’ to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Bar Association of India in New Delhi on May 8, 2010 Dr. Manmohan Singh said: “Even though their (of judiciary, legislature and executive) jurisdiction may be separated and demarcated, it is expected that all institutions would work in harmony and in tandem to maximise the public good,” he said. “It is assumed that none of the organs of the state, whether it is the judiciary or the executive or the legislature, would exceed its powers as laid down in the Constitution,” he added. (*Zee News*)

Congress is nervous on the CVC appointment under judicial review in the Supreme Court. In the backdrop of this feeling, inaugurating the 17th Commonwealth Law

diffusion of sovereign power,” Dr. Singh said.

There is not gainsaying the fact that the three pillars of democracy should be strong in their own sphere and must not intrude into the domain of the other as defined by the Constitution. At the same time, one cannot ignore the fact that if one branch leaves a vacuum in its sphere of activity, it is but natural that the other must intervene to fill the space left vacant by the other. Even Dr. Manmohan Singh cannot deny the fact that for political considerations and reasons extraneous to the national interest, governments have failed to act and it was on an appeal by the people that the courts had to step in. The steps like introduction of CNG, ban on late night playing of loudspeakers, shifting of industrial units from residential areas and the like have had to be ordered by courts. There are numerous instances where the executive and the legislature were on one side and

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"Should that be the case, then why was Raja arrested. Sibal has lost all moral right to continue in office," Shri Naidu said.



Dubbing Raja's arrest as "too little too late", party spokesperson Shri Rajiv Pratyap Rudy

demanding that others involved in the 2G spectrum scam should also be brought to book.

"The arrest is too little too late. It is very unfair to say that Raja alone had gulped Rs 1.76 lakh crore. Who are the rest of the people? BJP categorically wants to know that," Rudy said, adding that the arrest was just the beginning of an exercise.

"Please don't give credit to the government for the arrest. Government has to answer many questions before this finally comes to an end," he said.

BJP spokesperson Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman maintained that though a "loot" of Rs 1.76 Lakh



crore had taken place in 2G spectrum allocation, the Prime Minister had remained silent. "Our demand for a JPC probe has been vindicated," she said and held the Congress responsible for the "complete washout" of the Winter session of Parliament. "The sheer arrogance and adamance of the Congress party is responsible for the wasting of the winter session," she said. ■

Shivraj Singh Chouhan to observe fast from Feb. 13 against neglect by Centre

Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan would commence his fast at the TT Nagar Community Hall area in Bhopal on February 13. The party also decided to organize an exhibition showcasing the discriminatory attitude of the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government toward the State, at the protest site. After inspecting the venue Madhya Pradesh BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha said, "The Chief Minister has repeatedly put forth public interest demands before the Prime Minister and the Central Government over the last five years, but unfortunately the Congress-led UPA has constantly overlooked the interest of 7.5 crore people of the State."



At a time when farmers in Madhya Pradesh are going through hard times due to extensive damage to their crops caused by the recent frost and the Chief Minister has been seeking a Rs 2400 crore relief package, the amount sanctioned by the Centre a few days ago makes a mockery of the farmers' woes, he said.

The manner in which the Congress is politicizing the Central assistance, by describing it as a result of State Congress president Suresh Pachouri's agitation is funny. It is unfortunate that the Prime Minister has insulted the sensibilities of the 7.5 crore people of the State by underestimating the head of a Government, elected by them, he added.

Shri Jha said in view of all these things, the BJP has decided to launch a massive State-wide agitation to coincide with the agitation of the Chief Minister. (FOC) ■



Courtesy : Asian Age

Avoid discrimination against BJP ruled states: Gadkari

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has written a letter to the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh highlighting the plight of calamity hit farmers of Madhya Pradesh and supporting the demand for financial assistance by the State Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan. In view of central government's apathy to the State's demand Shri Chouhan has threatened to go on fast on February 13, 2011. Seeking personal intervention the matter Shri Gadkari has appealed to the Prime Minister to rise above partisan considerations and avoid discrimination against BJP ruled states. We are publishing the full text of the letter below for our esteemed readers.

Date: February 3, 2011

Dear Dr. Singh

Namaskar,

As you are aware, Madhya Pradesh has been hit by extreme cold weather conditions causing immense damage to the standing crops in several parts of the state. Crops like Tur, Gram, pulses and Potato have been badly destroyed in many areas due to frost and icing cold. More than three million farmers have been severely affected. The State government survey reports have revealed that crops have been destroyed in 46 out of 50 districts, to an irrecoverable extent. According to the initial estimates of the State Government, Rabi losses have reached Rs. 7,600 crore.

The Madhya Pradesh government, under the leadership of State chief Minister Shri. Shivraj. Singh Chouhan has taken immediate measures to provide relief to the farmers. As an ad-hoc relief, the state has decided to waive the interest on Rs. 5,200 crore short term agriculture credit, nullify non-licensee moneylenders credit to farmers and fix the rate of interest for private moneylenders. The State Govt. has also increased relief funds from Rs. 500 crore to Rs. 700 crore for frost-hit farmers this week.

The Madhya Pradesh government has already placed its demand for financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 2,442 crore from the centre. Besides, the State Government has also demanded postponement of the bank loan recovery of public service undertaking banks and inclusion of farmer as a unit in the crop insurance scheme.

The State Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has apprised me of the serious situation in the state. He was thoroughly disappointed at the Central Government's total apathy towards the plight of the farmers in Madhya Pradesh and has threatened to go on fast on February 13, 2011 to protest against the Central government denial of adequate financial support to the state to provide relief to the farmers.

It is highly unfortunate that the centre chose to ignore the demands officially placed by a Chief Minister and announced a token relief through political emissaries to placate the state Congress party president for narrow political considerations. We take strong exception to such political gimmicks at the level of the Prime Minister's Office. The BJP takes a serious note of this unprecedented attitude of the central government which is against all norms of healthy centre-state relations.

I urge upon you to rise above partisan considerations and avoid discrimination against the BJP ruled states. The interests of the farmers in Madhya Pradesh facing adverse climatic conditions and resultant severe losses should be of paramount importance to both the central as well as the state government.

I seek your personal intervention in this serious matter and earnestly hope that the expectations of the people of Madhya Pradesh would be given a serious thought and adequate financial assistance released to the state government without any further delay.

With warm regards,

Yours truly,
(Nitin Gadkari)

Govt to strengthen Panchayatiraj Institutions : Dhumal

From Our Correspondent

It was a memorable event – the honouring of the recently elected representatives of Panchayati Raj institutions and local bodies in the State Party office in Simla. They added colour when they arrived at the function dressed in their traditional attire, particularly women who constituted half the gathering. Himachal Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal and incharge of the state and party national Vice-President Shri Kalraj Mishra were present on the occasion. It goes to Shri Dhumal's credit that Himachal has become the first State in the country to give 50 percent reservation to women in these elections.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Kalraj Mishra said, Panchayati Raj Sansanthyen are an important unit of development of village and village should be the center of any developmental planning. He added that under Shri Dhumal's leadership the Party had recorded a great victory in elections to Panchayatiraj and local bodies on account of his development oriented policy and planning.

He advised the newly elected representatives to be in continuous touch with people and solve their problems expeditiously, while stressing the need to accelerate the pace of

development in the State.

Addressing the gathering, Himachal Chief Minister Shri Prem Kumar Dhumal said it was a memorable moment in the life of the elected representatives to be part of the development process with the village as the base. In the spirit of *antnyodaya* it is the effort of the BJP government to ensure that the benefit of the development should percolate



down to the last man in the queue.

This was the dream of Mahatma Gandhi and Pundit Deendayalji Upadhyaya and we are determined to realize it. He said for his government power is the means to service (*seva*) of the common man.

To empower the newly elected representatives to give out their very best, Prof. Dhumal said, Himachal Government will soon upgrade the *panchayatiraj* training institutions at Mashobra in Shimla district and at Baijnath in Kangra district at a cost of 12.88 crores. He expressed the hope that with 50 percent women

in the panchayatiraj institutions and local bodies, the newly elected representatives will solve the problems of the people with a more humane approach.

Great win

Welcoming all the newly elected members, BJP State President Shri Khimi Ram Sharma claimed that out of 3183 panchayats, BJP has recorded a win in 2357 panchayats with a winning percentage of 74.04. He said till today elections in 71 out of 77 Block Development Committees have been completed out of which 50 have been won by BJP (victory percentage of 70.42). Elections in 10 out of 12 zila parishads are complete and BJP supported candidates have been successful as Chairman and Vice-President in 8.

The function was attended by all the members of the council of ministers, MLAs, Shri Virendra Kashyap MP, BJP State Vice-Presidents Shri Kripal Parmar and Smt. Rupa Sharma, Party Spokesperson Shri Ganesh Dutt, Social Welfare Board Chairman Smt. Veena Thakur, Shimla District President Shri Sher Singh Chauhan and other office-bearers. The programme was compered by State General Secretary Shri Ram Sarup Sharma and Shri Chander Mohan Thakur. ■